



WURA

# Welcomes & Uplands Road Association

Summer 2006

## Newsletter

### Welcome

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Well, it seems that the new style newsletter has met with much approval – thank you to all who have made such nice comments, it certainly helps to make the extra effort worthwhile!

As you will see from this newsletter we have received some contribution and a couple of advertisements. Please do take the time to contact us if there is anything at all you think worth sharing with the rest of our community. I hope our first advertisers will find the inclusion of their advertisements bears fruit – I know a lot of people including ourselves refer to the adverts in the Kendra magazine and find them most helpful when looking for local services.

Enclosed with our newsletter is a copy of the AGM minutes, our revised planning policy and the invoice for annual levy (for those who are not paying by standing order, that is). Whilst on this subject can we urge everyone to consider taking up the standing order option – just think, sign up just the once and no further action needed at all in subsequent years (unless the levy changes) – and best of all no more reminders from a frustrated treasurer dropping on your door mat at regular intervals.

On a more serious note though – do please try and settle your levy on time, it is very frustrating and time consuming for the treasurer to have to be constantly searching through the database to see who hasn't paid and then raising reminders and tramping the streets with them. We do all have our own lives to live too!! At the same time very many thanks to the majority of you who do pay promptly, we can assure you that it is very much appreciated.

\*



Keep the words flowing in!! We can only keep this going with your input. Just to reiterate in case any of you have mislaid the last newsletter - contributions to:

## Planning Policy

Enclosed is a revised copy of our stance on this subject. Those who were present at the AGM will be aware that there was a lengthy discussion, mainly focusing on the involvement of the committee and the level of communication with residents. As a result we have amended the relevant paragraph (bullet point 3) and added a rider at the end stressing that the onus must still be on the individual resident(s) to communicate any concerns to the committee if they want their views taken into consideration.

Also please accept that once the committee has been approached and considered the views of all parties any decision (a) whether or not to become involved and (b) what action will be taken, will be final. Remember that the committee has been elected by the residents and will therefore

do its utmost to support the majority view.

When no view has been put forward the committee will consider all available facts and make a decision accordingly.

We always try to do our best to safeguard our surroundings on behalf of the community as a whole. As stated in the policy we are reluctant to get involved in applications for relatively minor changes and extensions to individual properties (unless it is considered they seriously adversely affect the environment / street scene as a whole) as it is neither our role or fair for the committee to make judgement between one neighbour and another. Such issues will need to be dealt with individually by the resident(s) concerned.

## Chestnuts—157 Welcomes Road by John Carr

In March of this year one of the most attractive houses in Welcomes Road was demolished to make way for two large modern houses.

'Chestnuts', built in 1908 for Mr Swann, was built on part of the Welcomes Farm estate, originally a 30 acre field known as Kings Close. It was divided into ¾ acre plots and sold to individuals who chose their own style of house. Mr Swann's house still looked as it was throughout its life, both inside and out.

In 1917 ownership passed to Mr Hyde Parker, who stayed for six years. Then Mr Arthur Dear became the new resident, but at the outbreak of war he moved away.

Very little information is available regarding ownership until 1939, when Rev. N D Fowell purchased the house through Gilbert and Thomson, estate agents of Croydon for £1,400. He converted a bedroom into a chapel and had much of the landing decorated in murals. In 1947 he moved to Guernsey.



In May 1947, Anders and Jill Westman purchased the property for £4,750.

Anders parents lived in Firs Road, in a large house called Torrington which is still standing. The family, who originally came from Sweden, were iron and steel foundry owners.

Jill and Anders met while both serving in India, she a nurse and he an army officer. All four of their children were born at Chestnuts.

Both keen gardeners, they spent a considerable amount of time developing the garden. In Spring a blanket of bulbs covered the ground. The orchard that ran along the rear of the property, was, in the late 1970s, owned by a lady market trader from Croydon, who used it as a retreat. When she

offered it for sale, they jumped at the chance to add an additional acre of land, turning the grounds into a park like setting and a haven for deer and foxes.

Jill devoted much of her time to charity work and was very active with 'Save the Children', being the local area representative for many years until her death in January 2002.

Anders stayed on with the help of a residential housekeeper. He always said he wanted to end his days at Chestnuts, but in his last few months had to move into a care home. He died in December 2002.

Now the orchard has been demolished, ground flattened and all but the protected beech trees gone, just to build one additional house.

## Road Ownership

You may or may not be aware that the current ownership of the roads is not known and all previous attempts to trace ownership have fallen upon stony ground (excuse the pun!). It would seem from the archives that the land on which our estate is built and much of the surrounding land was once owned by Welcomes Farm and Kenley House but when these substantial properties were split up in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century ownership of the roads, or tracks as they then were, was not registered.

Following up on possible solutions to try

for the proposed substantial development at 8-10 Welcomes Road and any future applications of this nature the committee decided to once again look into the possibilities and practicalities of road ownership. We consulted with Andrew Barsby (an ex barrister) of Private Roads Services and subsequently with a solicitor recommended by him as a specialist in matters of private roads.

Surprisingly the advice received did not concur with that obtained when the matter was investigated a number of years ago. The case continues, so to speak, and we will circularise residents of the conclusions once these are

**Dates For Your Diary**

Perhaps you would like to note and support the following:

**Countryside and Community Fun Day**  
 This is usually great fun for the whole family  
 Kenley Common  
 Sunday 2nd July (11.00 am to 4.30 pm)

**Annual Memorial Flypast**  
 A couple of circuits by a Lancaster, Hurricane and Spitfire  
 Always an emotional and much loved event  
 Kenley Airfield  
 Sunday 20th August (2.20 pm)  
 Weather permitting of course

The local paper informs us that on 7th August archaeologists are

The logo for Linker's Restaurant features the name 'Linker's' in a stylized, lowercase font with a horizontal line through the middle of the letters, and the word 'RESTAURANT' in a smaller, uppercase font below it. The logo is set against a dark purple, curved background element.

Linker's  
RESTAURANT

299 HIGH STREET, SOUTH CROYDON, CR0 1QL  
TELEPHONE FOR RESERVATIONS: 020 8686 5624

**Local family run restaurant Offers**  
**Modern European Cuisine**

**SET PRICE MENUS AVAILABLE WEEKDAYS**

£10 FOR 1 COURSE, £14 FOR 2 COURSES AND £17 FOR 3 COURSES  
(EXCEPT DINNER ON FRIDAYS)

IT IS A BARGAIN MENU WITH DISHES SUCH AS SEA BASS,  
SIRLOIN STEAK AND A VEGETARIAN OPTION OF PASTA

**REASONABLY PRICED A LA CARTE MENU FRIDAY  
AND SATURDAY EVENING**

**EXQUISITE TRADITIONAL SUNDAY LUNCH AVAILABLE**  
(FROM 3RD SEPTEMBER 2006)

**Opening Times**

Tuesday - Friday Lunch 12.00 - 2.00 pm

Tuesday - Thursday Dinner 6.30 - 10.00 pm

Friday and Saturday Dinner 6.30 - 10.30 pm

Sunday Lunch 12.00 - 3.00 pm (from 3rd Sept 2006)

## Letter from a Resident

I am a regular walker on Kenley Airport (without dogs). I was absolutely incensed last week to find that not only were there piles of dog mess on the grassy areas but also on the tarmac. But what really got to me was that a woman was walking three Golden Retriever type dogs and happily watched one of them adding to the piles and merrily walking on by. There really is absolutely NO excuse for this any longer with the new system of having plastic bags at some, if not all, the entrances to the airport. If I had been nearer to her I would have spoken out. I think a fellow dog walker did speak out but again, was too far away to know what was said. The demeanour of both said to me that he did speak up and it appeared he got a mouthful from her!

I am an animal lover and am aware of the fact that the airport is absolutely ideal for dogs to run off excess energy off the lead and be safe but does it have to be at the expense of the enjoyment of all other users, especially children? It is also an ideal place for kids to

safety and also just to run off their excess energy. Unfortunately, it is not pleasant when these little ones step in, ride over and sometimes, fall in, the increasing piles of dog poo.

I have walked my daughter's dogs on the Airport and once, because I had forgotten a plastic bag (in the days before we were supplied with them) after we had had our walk, I returned to the airport and picked up their mess.

I appreciate that people who will not receive this Newsletter might be to blame and I wonder if anyone has any ideas that could be implemented to try and stop this bad owners/walkers from getting away with spoiling a superb area for all of us. Maybe we could all make these people aware of how we should all feel if we see them ignoring their dogs piles of poo.

Jeannie Inglis.

(9 Uplands Road)



## Letter Boxes

A strange title you may think! Well, we mention this, slightly tongue in cheek. Members of the committee (who it must be said, on the whole, are not in the first flush of youth), having on many occasions trudged up and down long and hilly driveways delivering various notices etc thought maybe some of you may like to consider installing letter boxes at the gateways of your 'estates'. We are sure that our local postman, although possibly considerably fitter than us, would appreciate this thought even more than us, to ease his daily grind and it may mean we would receive our post a little earlier too!

## Kendra

In a recent Kendra newsletter WURA was criticized for not fully supporting them on the Kenley House issue. We supported their main issue of additional traffic flow in Kenley Lane but of even greater concern to us was the likely use of Royal Lane (the lane from Welcomes Road opposite the bottom of Uplands to the top end of Kenley Lane) and the resultant additional traffic on our roads. As a result of this controversy / misunderstanding WURA's relationship with Kendra was damaged and the issue was raised by one of our residents at the AGM.



Phone: 020 8645 0939

Mobile: 07958 288943

*Curtains by Pat*

*Make up service for curtains  
& all other soft furnishings*

*Supply your own fabrics or  
I can bring along fabric  
sample books*

It was stressed that we have no wish to be at loggerheads with Kendra and will try to rebuild the bridges and will always try to work with them when appropriate. It must be pointed out though that Kendra are a RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION representing the whole of the Kenley area whereas WURA are a ROAD ASSOCIATION whose principal remit is to protect, maintain and, as far as possible, to restrict the use of our private roads to residents and other traffic associated with them.

WELCOMES & UPLANDS ROAD  
ASSOCIATION

**Committee Members' Contact Numbers:**

Colin Brown (Chairman)	020 8668 2101	Liz Copeland	020 8763 8947
Bill Tolman (Treasurer)	020 8660 1130	Doug Haigh	020 8668 1741
Joan Tolman (Secretary)	020 8660 1130	Robin McCallum	020 8763 2738
Dave Barrell	020 8668 9555	Peter Runacres	020 8660 4542
Brian Clinton	020 8668 4700		

**NOTICES**

**Contact Details**

Now that electronic communication is becoming the norm it would be most helpful if residents could advise us of their email addresses, or for the minority who do not have access to a computer their telephone number. This information will make it much easier for the committee to communicate with residents and could save us a lot of leg work. Ultimately, with the increasing need to minimise global warming and prevent wastage of the world's resources it would be nice to join the 'paperless society' and issue newsletters, AGM notices and

minutes electronically. In the more immediate future it will make it easier to communicate with you over planning issues etc. We will not start to issue regular notices and newsletters electronically until such time as we receive a reasonable percentage of email addresses.

Could you please either email your details to [wura@grado.demon.co.uk](mailto:wura@grado.demon.co.uk) or complete the attached slip and return it to the secretary at 51 Welcomes Road.

Thank you.

Name .....

Address .....

Email Address .....