

# BYEWATERS RESIDENTS NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2014



This one has come a long way!

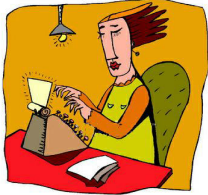


The long wait



Well worth it!

PLEASE SEND ARTICLES, ADVERTISING, PHOTOGRAPHS ETC. FOR THE SEPTEMBER  
2014 NEWSLETTER to Fran, 78 Byewaters or email [fran.koster1@gmail.com](mailto:fran.koster1@gmail.com)



Hi all,

This has been an eventful time for us - our first grandchild was born. Mia was born 9 weeks early so initially quite a worrying time. Luckily her Mum had gone off to hospital as she felt something wasn't quite right and being a first time Mum wanted some reassurance. The hospital assured her she was not in labour but suggested she stay in hospital for awhile under observation. This was at 8.30 am and then suddenly she went into labour at around 12.30 and Mia arrived at 2.54 pm. Mum and Dad were in shock as there was another 9 weeks to go! We got a phone call a short time later to tell us that we were grandparents, and for a few moments could not quite comprehend what we were being told. Mia is fine but rather small and therefore has spent her first few weeks in an incubator at Watford General Hospital. The care has been

fantastic and everyone at the hospital has been tremendous. Baby Mia is thriving and with the wonderful care she is getting hopefully will be home very soon for even more cuddles. Our eldest son has just surprised us with the news that he is getting married in September and so arrangements are now in full swing as time is short, quite a year for us but all nice things.

I almost did not talk about the weather, almost! We are hoping for a good summer (as always) and our annual picnic will be on Sunday, 6th July, and let us hope the weather stays fine for that, see article below. The AGM went off well unfortunately we had to change the venue as Harvey Road School was unable to accommodate us. Everyone was informed on 1st April of the new venue when a notification regarding the meeting was sent out by MCS Next year I will not quote the venue, and let the meeting notification letter announce this. I am sorry if this caused any confusion.

P.S. I must also apologise to Croxley Green U3A who also contributed to the money we raised for the Peace Hospice last Christmas, thank you all.

Don't forget our 7th Byewaters Picnic, Sunday 6th July; a good time is always had by all, a day to remember with photos as a memento of the day on the September Newsletter cover. **Fran - Editor**

Your Newsletter has Extra pages of trades etc. on [www.byewatersnews.co.uk](http://www.byewatersnews.co.uk) (and in full colour) or air your views on [www.byewaters.blogspot.com](http://www.byewaters.blogspot.com) or Byewaters original website on [www.byewaters.co.uk](http://www.byewaters.co.uk) or if you need to contact the directors, email [directors@byewaters.co.uk](mailto:directors@byewaters.co.uk)

Thanks go to:- Mike Weintraub (Page layout), Les Koster (Cover photos), Byewaters Residents for their contributions, David Whittaker (web version) Image Link Ltd (Printing), Newsletter delivery helpers Beth & Mary and James Estate Agents (Sponsorship).



The Starlight Walk is taking place on Saturday 21 June, the longest day of the year and the numbers taking part are being kept to 1,000 ( women). It takes place at night, hence the title 'starlight' and is for a very good cause, our local hospice. It is the biggest and best sponsored walk in South West Herts! Friends and family join in the 6 or 13 mile night

time walk around Watford. You need a good pair of walking shoes and your special flashing head boppers for a 'fun filled fundraiser'. For more information contact the hospice Starlight team 01923 335371/330330 or look on their website [www.peacehospice.co.uk](http://www.peacehospice.co.uk) Watford's Vibe FM hosts the entertainment and the Hospice Patron, actor and musician Martin Kemp is normally there with his wife Shirlie.

Another event raising money for two good causes is the **CLASSIC CAR SHOW** Saturday 28 June 11am to 4pm Christ Church Field, Watling Street, Radlet, WD7 7JJ. This event is raising money for the Peace Hospice and Leukaemia Research. Vintage and cherished cars, vans, motorcycles etc. are on display. **FREE ENTRY** although donations are invited. There will be a Ukulele band, refreshments, Battle of Britain Memorial Spitfire flypast (subject to weather). Sounds like 2 great events for June. **Fran**



### BYEWATERS 7th ANNUAL PICNIC

Important note for your diary Sunday, 6th July 2 pm our 7th annual picnic; we have booked good weather for the day (fingers crossed) and would love you to join us. It is a fun afternoon where you can meet your neighbours, bring your friends and family and spend a

few hours chilling out. You can have a picnic on the grass area near the lock, River Gade and Common Moor and just generally enjoy living on Byewaters. Watch the cows grazing on the moor, the ducks swimming on the river and the boats going through the lock. The best thing is we have only to walk a few hundred yards from our homes to enjoy these sights. Please come, all are welcome, hope to see you there. **Fran**

### REVELS ON CROXLEY GREEN

Another great event taking place on Saturday, 21st June is the annual Croxley Revels, 1.30pm to 5pm. The first modern day Revels took place in 1920 and is a very traditional summer fayre. It is always held on the closest Saturday to the summer solstice, which is the longest day of the year. There are usually between 65 and 90 stalls, an arena that stages all manner of entertainment and activities from judo exhibitions, Morris dancers and Maypole dancing to name but a few. The aim is to appeal to all age groups and to promote family entertainment for the whole community. More information can be found on [www.croxleyrevels.co.uk](http://www.croxleyrevels.co.uk)

P.S. Don't forget the 4th **CROXFEST** on Croxley Green 6th September 2014 12 noon to 8 pm. [www.croxfest.co.uk](http://www.croxfest.co.uk)

### A Note from the Directors BEMC (Byewaters Estate Management Company)



Each year we hold our Annual General Meeting to review and approve the activities and finances of the company for the past year and to vote on the appointment of directors. The meeting also provides an opportunity for members who attend to discuss the way the estate is managed and maintained. This year the meeting took place on 30th April and topics discussed included parking and road safety and the need for all residents to park considerately and to drive slowly and carefully around the estate. We also discussed if any movement had been made to enable the roads on the estate to be adopted by the local council. The directors reported that Barratt had not managed to make any significant progress towards this since our meeting last year. Two of the current directors, Fran Koster and Martin Hurley, offered themselves for re-election and were re-appointed at the meeting. Minutes of the meeting were taken and will be sent to all members. If you would like to contribute to the operation of BEMC, please do let us know. If you have any comments or questions you can email us at [directors@byewaters.co.uk](mailto:directors@byewaters.co.uk). Other information is available on the [www.byewaters.co.uk](http://www.byewaters.co.uk) website.

**David Whittaker**

## The plight of the bumble bee

Bees are under threat like never before, with their numbers declining. There is strong evidence that **neonicotinoids** - a class of pesticide first used in agriculture in the mid 1990s at exactly the time when mass bee disappearances started occurring - are involved in the deaths. Another major factor is intensive agriculture - monoculture's and the widespread use of pesticide and herbicide contribute to a loss of habitat and food for bees. Organic farming, by contrast, encourages higher levels of wildlife - including bees - on organic farms. **Keep Britain buzzing** - ways you can help. The Soil Association has been working to highlight these problems and protect bees. Our Keep Britain Buzzing campaign aims to highlight the threats bees face and encourages us all to take action to protect bees. We want to see all **neonicotinoids** banned, and promote better farming to help ensure the health and future of our bees. **Garden pesticides:-** Neonicotinoid pesticides have been banned or suspended in France, Germany and Italy - but not yet in the UK. In April 2013 the EU decided to suspend three types of **neonicotinoid** pesticides - **clothianidin, imidacloprid** and **thiametoxam**. The suspension will be implemented for two years from December 2013. On the back of our research we've also written to retailers, asking them to withdraw this type of pesticide from their shelves. You can read our letters (Soil Association website), and if you see this type of product in your local store feel free to borrow the text to contact them directly. Get involved and take action today.



## THE RICKMANSWORTH FESTIVAL 2014

The Rickmansworth Festival, organised by Rickmansworth Waterways Trust, is both a terrific local celebration and as a vital fund-raiser for the heritage education work of the Trust. As I

write this we're on the edge of the 2014 Festival. The weather has turned fine, and looks promising for the weekend. Byewaters residents might be interested to know what's gone into getting us to this point. Led by the Festival Director David Montague, the team is only about 15 strong, and is all voluntary. We've met, as usual, only three times in the year - this event has to run on rails, and more meetings make for more disturbance of the plan, which evolves rather than changes. But the work undertaken by each of the team members goes on through the year, with everyone knowing what they have to do and doing it. And evolve it does. The Festival has grown hugely, and is now the biggest canal-related event in the south-east. But this isn't a game of comparisons: we have around 25,000 visitors, 100 traders and exhibitors, 50 bands, and 100 boats: so there's plenty for

everyone to do, hear and see. The largest of the locations is of course the Aquadrome, and Three Rivers DC are vital to the Festival in allowing us to use it. Batchworth Lock is a smaller, more private area, and of course the canal towpath connects the two. And now: the "heavy infrastructure" has gone in (Wednesday and Thursday), the stages have been built, the marquees erected, the PA is being prepared. The water system is in place, the whole site has been marked out, the boats are arriving, and the mains power runs will go in on Friday. The traders and exhibitors are starting to arrive and set up, and the promotional material has been distributed. We're set to go! That was written before the weekend. And now, afterwards - wow! What a weekend it was - warm and sunny, Spitfire in fine form, bands playing well, and just thousands of people all having a good time. So the Festival team is tired but very happy - all that hard work has been rewarded. And you can be part of it: it's not easy, but it's hugely satisfying, whatever the skills you bring to it. Give David Montague a call on 077457 600065 to discuss your involvement in the Rickmansworth Festival team

**Fabian, Byewater**



Well it's the end of another season and a completely different one to last. Appears a bit subdued against the excitable War and Peace missives written up to last year's play offs. As usual the

Watford FC fans had a short roller coaster of a ride a few weeks ago with "yes we can get into the play offs with a few points to spare" on to "yes we can get in there by one point" moving to "mathematically we can do it by goal difference" and ending with "at least we are still in the Championship". Watford lost a lot of games in the last quarter of several matches which, if we discounted opponents goals scored in about the last 15 minutes, we would have been giving Leicester a run for their money. Notable wins at home were Blackpool, Barnsley and Leeds with the away game against Sheffield Wednesday but the worst game of the season was saved until very last match at home against Huddersfield. It was against the Terriers that

the Hornets saved for one of the biggest defeats losing 4-1 with Deeney scoring a late penalty and finishing 13th in the Championship. Apparently, Beppe Sannino had a few words to say about that to the team afterwards. Probably best that he isn't fluent in English yet! Deeney won Player of the Year Award as well as the Players Player of the Year after scoring 25 goals this season, the second season running (scoring over 20 goals) which was last achieved by a Hornet about 31 years ago. Ex-Watford manager Sean Dyche took Burnley up in to the Premiership via second place which many a Watford fan were pleased for him. On the other side of things the team that shall not be named, have made it back into the football league again so who knows, the cup games may have that extra little pep in them? Oh well, the close season is here and we leave Watford FC to sort themselves out ready for the next seasons campaign where the fans will be able to enjoy sitting in the new Watford FC Community Stand or the newly named Graham Taylor Stand. Have a good Summer everyone.

**Ralph - Evensyde**

## CASSIO BRIDGE LODGE

South of the residential Gade Avenue, a former entrance to Cassiobury Park is a timbered lodge (grade II listed). Cassio Bridge Lodge is a two storey cottage, 1900 picturesque style, with timber cladding and a prominent ornamented brick chimney stack. Plain tiled roof, the central brick and stone chimney with cluster of 4 stacks, gable ended with gabled side wing to left and 2 storey porch to right. The Lodge is entirely clad in small split logs. They are set in patterns of squares and lozenges and applied in short vertical lengths to the bargeboards, with leaded light casements. It also has a three sided window bay with tiled roof, ground floor, looking out onto the front garden. Originally built for 2 families, and illustrated in Britton's Account of Cassiobury 1837. From the Lodge a path leads north alongside the east bank of the river into the park. Does anyone have any more information on this unusual style of house that we see on our journey to Watford most days? **Fran**



## Canal Boats near Lock 79 – UNBELIEVABLE

Further to the article in the last newsletter regarding long stay boats. As David Gauke MP had copied me in on his correspondence regarding this, I therefore had a contact at Three Rivers, Matthew Roberts. A resident emailed me asking if I had seen a boat by lock 79 that had a car on it!! If a photograph had not been attached to this email I would not have believed it. This was reported to Three Rivers who came down immediately to investigate, and the boat did eventually go. Here is a copy of the email from Three Rivers after they had investigated.

----- Original Message ----- **From:** [Matthew Roberts](mailto:Matthew.Roberts@three-rivers.org.uk) **To:** [fran.koster1@gmail.com](mailto:fran.koster1@gmail.com) **Cc:** [Rebecca Emmett](mailto:Rebecca.Emmett@three-rivers.org.uk); [John Scott](mailto:John.Scott@three-rivers.org.uk)  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 20, 2014 2:09 PM **Subject:** RE: Lock 79 Grand Union Canal - Byewaters Watford

Dear Fran,

Further to my email sent on 13 March 2014, I have been informed that the craft was made safer and no evidence of any fuel was on board. Although it seems very bizarre, after inspections by the Canal and River Boat Trust the craft has been deemed safe for travel as the vehicle was well fitted and secure.

Following my visit to the area this morning I note the boat in question has now left the area.

Thank you for your patience in the matter.

Kind regards,

Matthew Roberts Acting Principal Planning Officer Projects and Compliance [Development Management](mailto:Development.Management@three-rivers.org.uk) Three Rivers District Council Tel: 01923 776611

## News from St. Oswald's Church, Malvern Way

A number of events and activities involving St Oswald's over the next few months may be of interest to Byewaters residents. The World Cup will be occupying the attention of many in June. Some of our members will be participating in the Croxley World Cup Service, taking place over at the Baptist Church in Baldwins Lane on Sunday 8th June at 6.30pm. This is a great chance to dress up, join in some community hymn singing and learn about and pray for some of the countries involved. At the Revels in June we shall be represented by a float in the procession and Café O (transposed from its usual Monday morning slot). Look out for the Churches Together stall "Love Croxley, Love 2 Listen", with an opportunity to chat to a local church minister, find out more about what the churches are up to, including the recently launched food bank. At St Oswald's, Sunday 22nd June, 6.30pm, is the annual "Chanticleers Service" at which our talented songsters perform at a service based on themes from a big musical - this year, "Mary Poppins". In August, the thoughts of many will turn to the 100th Anniversary of the outbreak of the First World War, a tragic event which still reverberates these many years later. We shall mark the occasion with a reflective service on the evening of Sunday 3rd August at 8pm. Incidentally, a group in the village are planning to commemorate the War and its impact on Croxley later this year. For more details, contact Brian Thomson (01923 226850). Finally, our annual holiday club for children aged 4 to 9, runs from 4-8 August. This year it's called "Mega Makers" and will apparently feature a mad inventor and a crazy machine, with lots of other fun activities designed to expand our understanding of God's love. We expect a high demand for places. For more details, please email [office@stoswaldschurch.org.uk](mailto:office@stoswaldschurch.org.uk) or consult the church website [www.stoswaldschurch.org.uk](http://www.stoswaldschurch.org.uk). Wishing all readers a happy and rewarding summer.

**Robert Riley-Braley** - Vicar, St. Oswald's Church



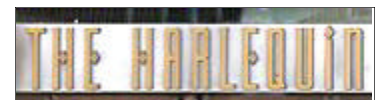
## Problems only people from Watford and Croxley will understand

Watford is a unique place with unique problems that only a Watfordian and Croxarians would understand...

The 15 minute hike from Watford tube station to the town centre and Mill Lane's mighty Hill to Croxley Station.

Watford roads:

if you want to go left, you have to go right. You used to go into Watford to go to The Harlequin, now you have to go into Watford to go to 'INTU' Watford.



Sighing for the thousandth time when someone new says "oh Watford, isn't that where Eastenders is filmed?"

The new Croxley Rail link which is expected to ease congestion on local roads, improve access to Watford General Hospital, Watford Football Club and the Watford and Croxley Business Parks. The planning applications for the station designs were recently passed. The trains are set to be operational on the new Rail Link at the end of 2017, I thought it was 2016! When Byewaters was being built Buyers were told the Croxley Rail link was coming soon - it's getting closer! Have you got anymore niggles/suggestions to add to this list?



## Neighbourhood Watch



It is a good thing to have good relations with your neighbours - to look out for each other. Bin collections are a regular occurrence and when you go away and leave your bin out for collection, it is a good idea to let a neighbour know so they can bring the bin back from the collection point and thus avoiding any suspicious activity. This is a simple and effective way to possibly divert break-ins and burglaries from your road. Even if you were not aware of any neighbour being away, please think about

bin collection day and look out for bins still hanging around on the path, kerb or pavement at the end of the day or following day, and bring it nearer to the dwelling. Thank you, Jenny Morris *Watch Liaison Officer, Neighbourhood Watch* [jennifer.morris@herts.pnn.police.uk](mailto:jennifer.morris@herts.pnn.police.uk)

Why not sign up to Neighbourhood Watch? The image of curtain-twitching is gone and you can now join online. Visit [www.owl.co.uk](http://www.owl.co.uk), or call the police non-emergency number on **101**. or Alan Waller *PCSO Neighbourhood Watch*  
Email: [alan.waller@herts.pnn.police.uk](mailto:alan.waller@herts.pnn.police.uk)

### REMINDER – Don't be the cause of an accident – reduce your speed! (20mph or less)



I recently saw an item on the news and it showed a blind woman with her guide dog, pulling a buggy with her baby in it, having to walk in the road as cars were parked on the pavement. It made me realise how dangerous it could be for mother, baby and guide dog. Please try when possible



not to park on the pavements especially all four wheels. Besides baring the way for buggies and wheelchairs, vehicles can damage pavements causing trip hazards, oil leaks can cause slippages. Please keep your speeds down and keep everyone safe, don't be the cause of an accident, always think of others.

### FOOD WASTE BAGS



As previously mentioned cornstarch bags are available for your brown food scraps caddie and large brown bins. A great alternative to using old newspapers. They can be bought from Parish Council Offices and other places. The Hardware store at the beginning of Baldwins Lane (near the Harvester) is selling them at £2.50 for a roll of 52 bags which should last a year if you use one a week.

## POETS CORNER

June by Elaine Goodale

For stately trees in rich array,  
For sunlight all the happy day,  
For blossoms radiant and rare,  
For skies when daylight closes,  
For joyous, clear, outpouring song  
From birds that all the green wood throng,  
For all things young, and bright, and fair,  
We praise thee, Month of Roses!  
For blue, blue skies of summer calm,  
For fragrant odours breathing balm,  
For quiet, cooling shades where oft  
The weary head reposes,  
For brooklets babbling thro' the fields  
Where Earth her choicest treasures yields,  
For all things tender, sweet and soft,  
We love thee, Month of Roses!



Still collecting email addresses, which are always very helpful when information needs to be sent out quickly to Byewaters residents or if there is anything that you wish to raise. You can contact me at [fran.koster1@gmail.com](mailto:fran.koster1@gmail.com) By sending emails out to everyone on my list we have been able to locate two missing cats, so you never know when this might be helpful.

### Our growing Trades List

Our trades list has grown and at the moment takes up four pages.

Please take a look on the web at [www.byewatersnews.co.uk](http://www.byewatersnews.co.uk)

It was suggested that details of tradesmen that have been used by homeowners on Byewaters be listed. If you would like to submit the details of someone that you have used and would like to recommend, please send me their details. It may help others when trying to find the right tradesman.



Fran

### DOG FOULING CONTINUES

Unfortunately, some dog owners are still not picking up after their pet. Bio-degradable bags are **FREE** from the Parish Council Offices and the Library. Be considerate to people who are blind or partially sighted as they cannot see the fouling to avoid it. Please, please think of others and use the **FREE** bags and pick up after your dog.



### REMEMBER

As you get older, your secrets are safe with your friends because they can't remember them either!

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**and**

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The Peace Hospice now has a revamped Hospice Lottery, you can download a form online at [www.peacehospice.org.uk](http://www.peacehospice.org.uk) or telephone Terence Smith on 01923 330341 or email [tsmith@peacehospice.org.uk](mailto:tsmith@peacehospice.org.uk)

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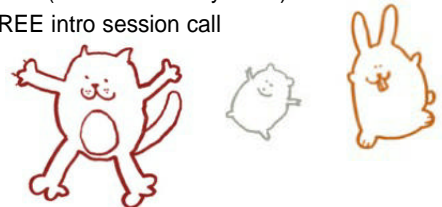
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