

MAISEMORE GARDENS LIMITED

Registered in England, No.714547

Dear members,

Our lovely summer is fading to autumn now, so it's definitely time for another newsletter.

The Council of Management

The project to provide each house with a 'home pack' has been completed and a pack containing information both specific to your house and the management of Maisemore Gardens, has been delivered to each house.

The COM hope you will find the information helpful as well as answering many of your questions. As we are always keen to stress, we act as representatives of the whole community to preserve the architectural coherence of the estate. We are volunteers from amongst the residents, as many have been before us. It's not always easy to balance what individual members ask for with the expressed desire of the majority to manage the estate in a way that is sensitive to its overall ethos.

Gardens – an update from Sarah Harrington

At last, the lawns are green again; this is the first year that they have been affected by the lack of rain. However, most of the planting has stood up to the drought. Andy and I will be assessing how the gardens have responded to it to enable us to plan for the future. I have noted that roses seem to have done very well this year and wonder if we should plant some more.

The apple trees, too, have done well, though the lack of rain means that the fruit is rather small. When they are ready to pick, I will let residents know.

Dinghy Park



We have renewed the rather battered surface of the slipway and work to keep the area neat and tidy continues after the successful workday earlier in the summer. There are always considerable space challenges to be dealt with and so Andy (Maxted, no 14) requests that you talk to him before putting anything into the dinghy park or if you are considering buying anything.

Also, if you have not used something that you are keeping in the dinghy park this year, would you consider moving it on. Andy is happy to help.

MGL Committee of Management Directors 2024

Christine Richardson, James Leeming, Martin Gebbett, Suzy Daniels, Sarah Harrington, John Watt, Judith Morgan
Co-opted; Andy Maxted, Mike Austen

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Pat Haysom remembered by her friends and family



When Pat died on Thursday 7th August after a long illness, we lost an extremely talented lady, with a charming personality and great sense of humour. She was always active in our community (and twice chaired the Council of Management).

Her son Bill has generously shared the text of the tributes prepared by the family for what sounds like an amazing commemoration event at the Slipper Sailing Club that she'd been so involved with over the years on 27th September. I wish I had room to include it all here but the event clearly

honoured a life filled with creativity, compassion, and resilience. Born in 1937, Pat's early years were shaped by wartime movement and a lively upbringing in a family-run hotel. She was adventurous, sociable, and spirited—traits that remained with her throughout her life.

Pat trained as a physiotherapist and hydrotherapist, dedicating her career to helping others, often inventing rehabilitation tools from everyday items. Her commitment to the NHS was unwavering, and she actively campaigned for its protection.



Art was an enduring passion throughout her life, spilling out as paintings, sketches, carvings and pottery, leaving a lasting legacy with friends, family and at the Slipper Club, where her work—such as the “House That Jack Built” carvings—still decorates the building. She was also deeply involved in community theatre, pantomimes, and pottery, and her creativity touched many lives.

Family tributes highlighted her humour, resourcefulness, and enduring influence, as her granddaughters testified:

April shared this:

“She taught me that there’s always a solution to any problem and whatever problem you’ve got, you’ve probably already got everything you need to solve it in the back of the cupboard.”

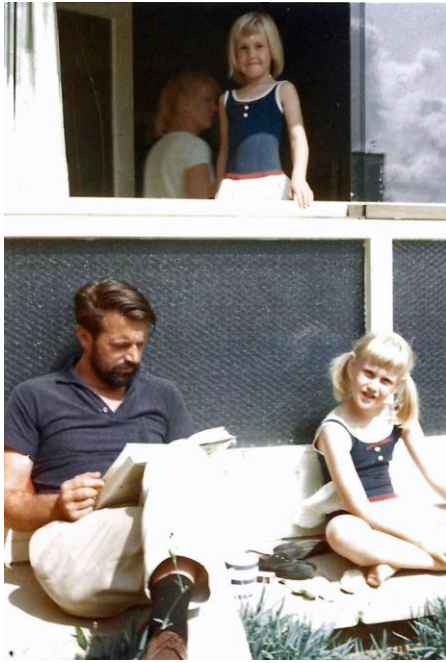
Matilda added:

“Her kindness left brushstrokes on our hearts, and her humour left its carvings on our minds.”

Even in illness, Pat remained pragmatic and joyful, painting her favourite view so she could enjoy it from her hospice room. Her legacy lives on in her art, her family, and the many lives she touched. The ceremony closed with music, poetry, and heartfelt reflections, celebrating Pat’s enduring belief in love, laughter, and the beauty of everyday life.



Alan Werge-Hartley remembered by his daughter Amanda.



Born in Headingley, Leeds in 1931, Alan Werge-Hartley, Sailor, Artist and Lecturer had been living in Emsworth for over 63 years when he passed away Monday 7th July this year. Born in Headingley, Leeds and trained at Leeds College of Art, Alan was a prolific painter of seascapes, boats, clouds and buildings, a great many featuring Emsworth. He fell in love with the south coast for its sailing, first for the Dorien-Smith sisters to race 'Ivy', their Solent Sunbeam out of Itchenor and then eventually on his own boats in Chichester harbour and beyond.

His teaching career started at the newly built Oak Park School in 1957 before moving to the Teacher Training College in Milton, Portsmouth.

Our family of four plus Tigger the stray cat, arrived at 5 Maisemore Gardens in July 1962 (purchased for £4,140). The road was unmade and our house at the end was surrounded by the cows field at the rear and a woodland to the west. This was an exciting space to build dens and explore the outer reaches to a field, which seemed a world away. One time we trekked across the furthest field to see the sheep and were told off by Captain Baxter in the big house (now at the end of Far Meadow Way)

My sister Sarah's birthday in August was a highlight and often took place on the beach, as children were not allowed on 'The Green', with a splendid cake made by Mum (Jeanne). The beach was also the venue for fireworks night with a bonfire below the high tide mark.

In the 1960's to be free to play on the beach and in the woods all day, just coming home when hungry, wet or tired was a magic time. The Mace shop was a very useful addition to the community, and we were often sent down to collect something 'on tick' while Mum was cooking.

Our first wooden clinker-built boat bought in about 1965 called Zarabanda was moored at the bottom of Beach Road and in the back garden in winter. Later we had dinghies in the Dinghy Park and later tenders to Alan's bigger boats.

At this time Alan joined the Local Round Table, allowing him to build rafts, dress up and do other crazy things in aid of charity.

After Tigger we had a succession of cats who arrived uninvited and stayed. The most famous was Henry Gresham CBE (well his real owner had one, so we thought he should too, C obviously for Cat) On leaving number 2 the family said "well he is always around your house so you might as well keep him".

In about 1970 Captain Baxter sold the wood and field for housing. Unfortunately for us this allowed the road outside our house to be punched through to Brook Gardens and our tranquil cul-de-sac was lost. An inheritance allowed my parents to build an extension for their art studio and by 1978 both my sister and I had moved to college, jobs and our own homes.



Over the next 50 years the family had a number of boats and when not sailing or teaching Alan was

honing his incredible draughtsmanship and painting skills, designing houses and painting scenes around the south coast. The family boats included Biffa, Fizgig and lastly Rockabill, the easy option Motor Sailor, which allowed Alan and Jeanne to keep sailing into their 80's. Rockabill was sold in 2006 and with his inimitable style he focussed on what he could still do, not what he had given up.



Alan participated in local art exhibitions and was invited to give talks and crits to a number of Adult Art Clubs as far away as Worthing and more local clubs, where he always found something positive to say about all the members efforts.

Alan's involvement in the Maisemore Community was always wholehearted and began with annual tidying of the dingy park,

fixing gates and locks and progressed to a desire to protect the estate from the inescapable changes to accommodate a draughty house design and owners' personal needs. After becoming the chairman of the Council of Management, he later became disillusioned with the process and wanted a more inclusive community approach to decision-making.

During the last three years as the elderly parents needed full-time support to allow them to stay in their beloved home, my husband and I moved into their studio. Having helped to look after his wife Jeanne for a long while Alan spent his last few months quietly reading sea-faring novels, sitting in the garden and being pampered by his carers.

In 2007 Alan wrote a letter to Jeanne to be given to her when he died. In it is says

"If I have any luck at all, death will catch me unawares, so I thought I would write a letter to you and update it from time to time until I am caught out"

He was caught out in July, aged 94, and with no pain having made his wishes known.

Thank you, Alan, from all your family and friends, it has been a delight to be part of your journey. His motto "Make Life from what you have, not what you are missing" will stay with me forever.

Friends of Maisemore Gardens

Pimm's and Puddings

The Summer Lunch Party on the Green was held on 19th July. Weather was pleasant and about 40 people bought picnics. All tables were given a jug of Pimm's and treated to a wonderful array of puddings.

Music was provided by the "Jazz Bandits", two guitarists playing gentle summer jazz.

There was a raffle with several prizes including, surprisingly, a very large courgette! Thanks to Gwen for her usual enthusiasm for selling tickets and to those who provided prizes.

There's been sporadic attendance to the Boules/Get-together on Wednesday evenings but enjoyable when games were played and/or drinks taken. Andy, the Gardener, has done a great job of keeping an area of the Green cut short but the lumpy ground made games unpredictable

Pop-up Sailing Club report by Alex Maxted

This year, the Friends have been keen to broaden and refresh the range of social offerings for the Maisemore community, as well as encouraging more neighbours to consider volunteering to facilitate activities and harness and develop some of their own interests and skills. Part of the brilliance of our community is how varied we are in our interests, lifestyles, experiences, skills and our physical abilities, so bringing this diversity into how we socialise together is a real benefit - from sea swimming and Pilates to boules or luncheons on the green (and more) - and it will be great to see what other things we can support in the coming year.

This year we also decided to harness one of the other interests our community holds dear - watersports! And so, our "Pop-up Sailing Club" was born. With our location and the extraordinary facilities of our dinghy park and private slipway, we are the envy of the town. However, some of us are less able to engage with this element of Maisemore life - whether through physical limitations, lack of confidence or simply lack of equipment or time. Others of us love to get on the water communally - and to facilitate others to do so.



The concept was simple - bring together people who want to get on the water in some way but who may need some form of support or encouragement to do so with those who have equipment, skills and confidence - and those who just want to spend time meeting friends and enjoying our location for an inclusive, relaxed social involving the sea.



It was a great afternoon - the sun, sea and wind could not have been more perfect for the occasion, the "pop-up clubhouse" hosted superbly by number 51 could not have been more hospitable and those in the community who were determined to use this opportunity to get on the water even if they didn't usually could not have been more game! Those of us there to offer some support and encouragement (and to broker some

equipment sharing) were delighted to realise that, for some, it meant their first time doing anything like it - and they loved it!

There were many partakers - around 50 I believe - some who soaked up the sun and watched others embark on their first sailing adventure and others who brought the whole family and got out there together. One of my great pleasures is building others' confidence and opportunity to get on the water - so this was just a really joyful event - with one neighbour's sheer joy at her first sailing experience being something that will stick with me for a long time.



We will definitely be looking to do similar again - and also to consider how to do some smaller events that just nudge people to head down to the water and have a go amongst friends more regularly. It will be essential for all involved to understand that this is just friends and neighbours sharing and socialising - there is nothing professional to the set up and everyone remains responsible for themselves and their children at all times. With that said, part of the joy is partnering up those who want to try something or develop their confidence with those who can help encourage and make it happen - so

we are also reflecting on whether a more structured communication option could make it easier for people to arrange to go on the water together at other times.

Anyway, one way or another many people contributed, either before or on the day, including those who couldn't attend but lent kayaks and boards and boats freely. Thank you to you all and to everyone for coming along and joining in!

Next event



We look forward to seeing you there!