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Docs. 3(d)
(Copy → Oliver R., ULV)
JBD

THE UPPER LEA VALLEY GROUP

In 1970 the County Council's "Countryside Plan" described the Lea Valley between Wheathampstead and Harpenden as an "area of great landscape value"; this is re-stated in its "Hertfordshire 1981" proposals. The valley is certainly one of Harpenden's great natural assets but, because there has been no overall plan for the area, its development is haphazard. Many of its natural features are obliterated by buildings and what is left of its legacy of trees and meadows has been allowed to deteriorate. In consequence its general appearance is run-down and neglected and gives the impression of being under attack. The Upper Lea Valley Group has come into action to reverse this process.

As Doc 3(e) 2
under the
"1971/72" section
of the Commentary
written in 2010

A working party of Harpenden Society and Urban Design Group members made a survey of the valley in 1970 and published their findings in "The Lea Valley in Harpenden"; the "Upper Lea Valley Group" was set up to see how this report could be implemented. We want to clean up the valley, screen unsightly development with trees, plant new trees where the old are dying and preserve more open spaces and improve those in use already. We also want to create a through walk along the old railway track from East Hyde to Leasybridge, and a riverside walk through Batford. At each stage the approval and support of the Local Authorities is being sought.

People enjoy working together for the betterment of their surroundings if given the opportunity and the Group arranges workparties of volunteers to carry out a programme of conservation and planting. It publishes an "Occasional Newsletter" about future plans and progress. If you are interested please sign and return the slip below.

To the Hon. Treasurer, Upper Lea Valley Group, 16 Marquis Lane,
Harpenden.

I am interested in the work of the Group: please enrol
me as a subscriber for a year and send me your "Occasional
Newsletter" for which I enclose 25p

NAME Mr. _____
Mrs. _____ BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE
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ADDRESS _____