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Dear Mr Williamson

It is very remiss of me not to have acknowledged earlier your letter to me in November asking whether I could possibly provide a short paragraph for the Bridge Parish Magazine. I am afraid that it arrived at a desperately busy time for me in London, I was then struck down badly by flu just before Christmas.

In the hope that it will not be too late to be of any use, I enclose something which the Vicar is welcome to use or edit as he sees fit.

With kind regards.

Yours sincerely

Angela Appleton
ff
TONY GIRLING

NOTARIES PUBLIC



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LAW CHIEF'S EARLY DAYS IN BRIDGE

Last July I won a contested election to become the first Kent solicitor ever to be President of The Law Society of England and Wales. During my year in Office I have had to leave my colleagues at Girlings, solicitors, and live in London and I am responsible for governing the affairs of 80,000 solicitors.

It could be said that I owe my success to 60 Western Avenue, Bridge! It was there that Lynne and I made our first home after being married in March 1965 at Barham Church. At the time I was still studying at the College of Law and many hours were spent in our bungalow with Lynne testing me on all the law that I was revising for my examinations in 1966! Happily our joint efforts led to me qualifying as a solicitor, subsequently becoming a partner and now Chairman of Girlings, and finally the great honour of the national presidency.

We lived in Bridge for three years. Lynne worked as a medical receptionist for Dr Grahame Miles in Canterbury and I was fully occupied with my studies and sadly we had little time for community life. Close neighbours and friends were Malcolm Mitchell (then with the Kentish Gazette in Canterbury) and Judith. We also knew quite well Norman Fowler, the distinguished veterinary surgeon. The major excitement during our time in Bridge was probably the arrival of Mike Loveday and Peter Malkin with their proposals to turn Bridge Place into a Club. None of us at that time knew just what this might mean but I was shown round the premises and I remember being very impressed with the care being taken over the conversion of the old building.