

Email from Brand Jul 17, 2015

*Wonderful memories of being a youngster and enjoying the facilities. The pond water was crystal clear for swimming. In fact, you might see a fish beside you or even a turtle. The park area was well maintained and family members gathered there for picnics and fishing. I recall the old wooden outhouse, then a modern one with brick blocks (no running water but a real improvement). My mother even pondered the idea of buying and running the convenience store on the main street. As I 'matured' into a teenager, I would bring my girlfriend and sister for swims at the pond. Even our cat, harnessed on a leash, took a walk with my wife while I fished. On becoming a parent, our young daughters would run to their heart's content, roll in the grass and then sit at the picnic table for some refreshments. At times, we would stroll around the pond, remarking on the history of the area. Later as our girls also matured, they took up the hobby of fishing beside their dad.*

*It is by chance that I became a member of the Tavistock Rod and Gun Club some nearly fifteen years ago. Over the years, the club has held the annual Kids' Fishing Derby on the grounds and stocked the pond with trout. We always had good rapport with the Upper Thames for permits and also with the Harrington Pond Committee. Our Club focus is for the children to fish and enjoy the conservation area. Hopefully this will also encourage the parents to bring them back year after year. Many 'city slickers' were not aware of the pond and the peaceful country setting.*

*Dave Franks*

