

Suburb

Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association

News



Fun Litterbin at Lyttelton playground, p3



Liz Pulman sings Streisand at Proms, full listing p7



Geraldine Maidment celebrates 25 years as Annemount's Head, p8

Rubbish, pavements, police and trees prevail at RA Open Meeting

The latest Open Meeting organised by the Residents Association brought together councillors and residents in Fellowship House to ask questions and discuss matters of local interest. All three Garden Suburb ward councillors, Rohit Grover, John Marshall and Gabriel Rozenberg, were present as was our MP, Mike Freer.

The event was very ably chaired, while standing at the lectern, by the Reverend Alan Walker of St Jude's Church, who must be getting used to the job of maintaining order at meetings bringing residents and political representatives together. Questions had already been harvested from those attending at the door so there was already a list of topics to be aired.

The meeting started with a question from the Chair asking how, in its fiftieth anniversary year, the politicians saw the conservation area in the past, present and future. All were aware of the special nature of the Suburb and how different it is; its population density; its number of long-term residents; its strong collective organisations; the problems of conservation in difficult financial times; and the role of the Trust in planning.

The next question concerned the proposals of the Boundary Commission on the re-organisation of wards in the borough. Garden Suburb ward would elect only two councillors although it would represent more of the conservation area than before. Conservatives and Labour had made very different submissions

to the commission. The changes remain a proposal at this stage, and the consultation is open until May 13.

Rubbish collection followed with the fortnightly green bin collections and the suspension of the brown bin system under the spotlight. Having to put food waste in with general rubbish caused the most concern, with some residents particularly upset by this, and asking why Camden could manage to make brown bin collections and why vegetable waste could not be put in the green bins.

John Marshall said most people in the borough had not been using their brown bins, and Gabriel Rozenberg added that using food waste for heat to power did not count in the recycling statistics. Mike Freer offered to write to North London Waste to discover why vegetable waste could not be included with garden waste.

Next were questions about trees with Alan Walker asking why trees were being cut down. Unfortunately this was not answered as the time was taken up by a complaint about street tree planting taking place in the wrong season. Rohit Grover suggested taking the question to the next meeting of the Finchley and Golders Green Residents Forum.

The perennial concerns about the state of our pavements followed with complaints not restricted to broken paving stones but including the damage done

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The Secret Garden of two small hideaways at 84 Oakwood Road, that's soon to become an Open Garden on Sunday July 7. See article on page 11.

TERRY BROOKS

The 107th Residents Association AGM

The 107th AGM of the Residents Association was held on Tuesday March 26 in the Henrietta Barnett School Hall. The Chair, Emma Howard, warmly welcomed everyone including the three Suburb Councillors, Marshall, Grover and Rozenberg and Raymond Taylor, HGS Trustee, who also attended.

Emma firstly explained about the voting procedures and then introduced the RA Officers; Steve Morris (Hon. Treasurer), Peter McCluskie (Hon. Secretary) as well as long-serving secretary,



TONY BRAND

Rosemary Goldstein. She thanked all the volunteers for their continued efforts in supporting the RA and the Events Team led by Hella Schrader, who had organised the AGM.

Moving onto the Agenda, all the proposed amendments to the Constitution were approved. The Minutes of the previous AGM were also approved, as well as the level of the annual subscription. Peter Hartley the RA's Honorary Accountant was, again, reappointed.

Elections to Council and the Officer positions were then taken. Emma introduced Helen Leiser, who was standing for Council, who explained that she had lived in the Suburb for 30 years and had volunteered for the Trust; she had then been appointed to CONSAM. Helen spoke of her commitment to the high standards on the Suburb and, as a previous magistrate, she cared about crime prevention in the area. Helen reiterated her concerns for residents and the need for dialogue between the police and residents.

Emma thanked Tony Ghilchik for his long service as Chair of the Trees & Open Spaces Committee for nearly 10 years, which was received with a hearty round of applause. Tony

was duly presented with a bottle of wine in appreciation of his service. Emma reminded the audience about Suburb News and its

(continued page 5)

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Heritage Now and Then

An illustrated presentation by James Stourton to mark the 50th anniversary of the designation of the Suburb as a conservation area in 1969.

3:30pm Sunday 2 June 2019
Friends Meeting House, 17 North Square

Tea & biscuits at 4.30pm



James Stourton was Chairman of Sotheby's UK from 2007 until 2012.

He is a Fellow of the Institute of Historical Research and a member of the Panel of the Heritage Memorial Fund and is the author of Great Houses of London (2012) and the official biography Kenneth Clark: Life, Art and Civilisation (2016).

No entry charge
A donation of £5 however would be welcome to cover our costs

This is a popular annual event organised by the HGS Residents Association in memory of Michael Rowley.

Keith Sambrook 1925-2019

Publisher and Suburb resident Keith Sambrook died peacefully in hospital on New Year's Day 2019, following a short illness.

Born in Birstall, Leicester, in 1925, Keith was educated at Loughborough Grammar School, where he remembered fire-watching from the school tower as a sixth-former during the War. Keith served in the Royal Navy from 1944-47, first on Russian convoys (which he hated) and then in the Mediterranean, an experience of seminal importance in his life. Although he saw little action, the war in the Mediterranean being largely won by that time, he gained a lifelong affection for the Navy and his first visits to Italy and France inspired him with a love for European landscapes and culture.

Demobbed in 1947, Keith went up to Cambridge to read English Literature, graduating in 1950. Here he took his first steps in publishing, via one of the university's literary magazines; he remembered travelling to Oxford to interview the young Kenneth Tynan. His first job after graduation was with Manchester University Press, where he worked on academic titles in the social sciences.

In 1954 Keith moved to Edinburgh to take up a post with the leading educational publishers, Thomas Nelson where he worked on school and university textbooks. His work now often took him abroad and he experienced at first hand the 'Wind of Change' blowing over Africa, spending much of 1957, the year of Ghanaian independence, establishing a university press there and much of the following year in Lagos, establishing a Nigerian office for Nelson.

While in Edinburgh Keith met Hana, who shared Keith's love of the world of books, and they married in 1956. Born in what was then Czechoslovakia, she had come to Edinburgh



University in 1946, staying on in Scotland after the Communist coup of 1948 in her homeland.

Keith and Hana enjoyed their life in Edinburgh, where they had a wide circle of friends, but in 1963 Keith was invited by its chairman, Alan Hill, to take up a senior position at Heinemann Educational Books (HEB) in London, and he and Hana moved to the Suburb. Alan was himself a Suburb resident (in Northway) and Keith and Hana took an instant liking to the area and moved to their house in Farm Walk.

As overseas director at HEB, Keith was instrumental in the firm's international success, setting up Heinemann companies around the world. Perhaps his greatest achievement, however, was to oversee, in partnership with the novelist Chinua Achebe, the transformational African Writers Series. The inspiration of Alan Hill, it aimed to provide students in African schools and universities with imaginative works by their fellow Africans and to introduce African writers to an international literary audience. On his first day at HEB Keith found the manuscript of Ngugi wa Thiong'o's first novel, *Weep not, child*, on his desk, and Ngugi, Achebe, Wole Soyinka and Kwame Nkrumah were among the many leading African writers whose works were published in the series.

At Keith's funeral at St Jude's his former colleague James Currey read out a moving tribute from Ngugi wa Thiong'o: *Keith Sambrook contributed to the brook that streams through literary Africa ... He is part of the soul of a continent. And this ameliorates a*

little, the pain I feel at losing a friend, a great literary editor, and, for me, a literary mentor.

Keith's years at HEB were full and rewarding. Keith and Hana's daughter Katie remembers the family home as a frequent gathering place for authors and publishers from all over the world and Keith made numerous trips abroad, particularly to Africa, the Caribbean and the Far East.

After retirement Keith lectured in publishing at University College London and in book history at the Institute of English Studies, University of London, where he was an Associate Fellow. With characteristic generosity he refused to accept any fees for his teaching, asking instead that the funds saved be put towards supporting student bursaries. The university has honoured his wishes by creating a bursary scheme in his name.

Keith loved living on the Suburb. A keen gardener, he was a member of the Horticultural Society and won prizes for his roses. He was also a competent cook, with home-made ice-creams a particular forte, and enjoyed playing tennis.

Keith retained throughout his zest for life, his intellectual acuity and his keen interest in the world around him. In the last days of his life, though in intensive care with pneumonia and heart failure, he engaged the hospital staff in conversation about Brexit and made sure that he was up to date with the fortunes of Leicester City football club. A devoted husband and father, a supportive mentor to authors, publishers and students, Keith was an unassuming man of unfailing courtesy with a keen sense of humour. He will be much missed by his family and friends.

Keith is survived by his wife Hana and daughter Katie.

KATIE SAMBROOK
(with contributions from James Currey)

Free Church Night Shelter

The Night Shelter project ran in the winter months from October to the end of April, with each venue hosting one night a week for 10 consecutive weeks, in three cycles.

The HGS Free Church started its nine Tuesday nights of the middle cycle of the winter shelter on December 18 last year and completed on February 19, when we sadly said goodbye to the people we had got to know a little and gave them our best wishes for the coming months.

A total of 22 different guests had stayed with us. Being in the Suburb on the first night some guests inevitably got lost but all eventually arrived, wet, cold and very glad to find a friendly welcome, a hot meal and a warm, safe place to sleep.

It was a salutary experience but for the 50 volunteers who came forward to help from all communities within the Suburb, and a few beyond, it was a pleasure to be doing something to help, however little that felt. Each Tuesday night a new team bonded over a fine supper shared with the guests.

On average 15 guests, mainly men and a few women arrived at the Free Church Hall for a hearty 3-course meal prepared and donated by volunteers. We provided a range of small sized toiletries, tissues and sometimes socks for the guests to take away with them. After eating, some enjoyed scrabble or table tennis and then settled to sleep. We served them breakfast before they left.

During the day volunteers from the previous night shelter, in our case it was the New North London Synagogue, delivered the bedrolls to the Hall. These rolls were a thin mattress, sleeping bag and pillow all in a bag with the client's name on it. The following day our volunteers took these rolls by car to the Islamic Association of North London in North Finchley, which was hosting Wednesday night.

We have since been advised by the organisation Together in Barnet, who sent the guests to us through Homeless Action in Barnet, that a total of 13 people using the shelters this winter have been rehoused.

Now the last cycle of the 2018/9 Winter Shelter is coming to an end we have been asked if we are willing to help the Homeless through the summer months with a new 'Light Shelter'. This entails offering the space for the night, with two volunteers sleeping over as before, with no arrangements for meals, but with the usual transport of bedrolls. At the time of writing the Free Church has offered the premises and will organise this again at the hall, and the volunteers are being canvassed for their help.

If anyone else can offer to sleep overnight in the hall on a Tuesday night or can help with bedroll transport during May, June and July then please email jo_morris@btinternet.com. Volunteers must be over 18 years old, you do not have to be DBS checked but you will have to attend a training session (a couple of hours) at Housing Action for Barnet.

To our existing volunteers we offer our very warmest thanks for all of their help and support.

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PLAYFUL LITTER BIN Thank you to LB Barnet for removing the old bins in the playground at Lyttelton and replacing them with new ones. This is the first to arrive and it looks very handsome indeed.

Car keying

In March Suburb News posted on the RA's e-mail forum, the HGS List, about a message from a resident which concerned 'car keying', a nasty habit of using a car key to scratch a car's paintwork. We asked if List subscribers had been affected by this.

The answers we got show that there have been well over 30 cases recently, centred around Litchfield Way, Meadway and Thornton Way, with an outlier on Temple Fortune Hill near Big Wood. These are just responses from residents subscribing to the RA's HGS List, and therefore

considerably understates the full problem.

The police when advised end up, understandably, closing the case for lack of evidence, and there is little that can be done without hard evidence.

Acting with impunity it seems that until the culprit is caught red-handed, this will continue. The police however would like everyone concerned to report incidents of damage, which can be done online at met.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/.

TERRY BROOKS



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Military Wives Choir to support Combat Stress

For more than ten years, Suburb residents have generously supported the Veterans' mental health charity, Combat Stress, at the annual Christmas Fair. This year, to celebrate 100 years of Combat Stress providing mental health rehabilitation for Armed Services Veterans, the HGS Combat Stress committee is proud to present the North London Military Wives Choir and the Royal Naval Volunteer Band - Northwood Headquarters in concert at the Free Church in North Square at 7.30pm on Saturday 5th October.

Long-time Combat Stress supporter and local resident

Martin Bell OBE will open the proceedings at the concert, and there will be reduced prices for anyone who buys tickets before 31 July. Discounted tickets cost £12 (£15 after 31/07), concessions (over 65 and under 16) cost £10 (£12 after 31/07). All children must be accompanied by an adult. Please email hgscombatstress@gmail.com with details of your ticket requirements and contact information.

Tickets will also be available to buy at:

- the HGS Art Fair at Fellowship House, Willifield Way, on Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 May from 11am-5pm;

- the Horticultural Society's Plant Sale at Fellowship House, on Saturday 18 May from 10.30am-12 noon;
- the Horticultural Society's Flower Show at the Free Church Hall on Saturday 15 June from 3-5pm. Payment is by cash and cheques

only (cheques payable to Combat Stress).

Please do come and support Combat Stress on this special evening and help us to make this the year we reach our fundraising target of £50,000.

MARJORIE HARRIS



Let's tidy up the Suburb

The Residents Association is embarking on a new initiative to clean up the Suburb. The beauty of our local environment is often marred by the presence of litter on our streets and open spaces and, with limited Council resources to clear it up, it seems to be a constant blight.

The plan is to set up a group of volunteers, each of whom would take responsibility for an area within the Suburb that they will periodically patrol in order to clear up litter.

Suitable equipment will be provided, and our new volunteer Litter Coordinator, Michael Green, will liaise with volunteers to seek to achieve a comprehensive and consistent approach.

Anyone interested in joining to help us is invited to respond to our dedicated email address, litter@hgsra.uk, and they will be contacted in due course to discuss how to proceed. You will not be required to undergo any formal training; you just pick it up as you go along!

Fraud alert!

We are all aware of increasing levels of fraud in our lives and in Hampstead Garden Suburb, this is no exception. The Suburb is, in fact, a prime target for fraudsters, with an aged and affluent population.

I would like to share some of my experiences as a warning to residents. Although I have practised as a Chartered Surveyor in the area for 30 years, it is only recently that I have received instructions to help fraud victims.

In a recent case on the Suburb, the resident's bank refused a request to withdraw £10,000 in cash until he provided a surveyor's report and good justification for the withdrawal.

In this instance, my inspection confirmed the roof works were largely unnecessary, exorbitantly priced and in consequence, with assistance, he was able to terminate works.

It is all too easy for many people to be taken in by articulate and credible conmen. I would like to explain how fraud often begins, so that the reader is on their guard.

A TYPICAL FRAUD

Someone will knock on your door, advising that you have slipped roof tiles or brickwork to your chimney needs repair. You will be provided with a low verbal quotation and once works have commenced, the costs will be ratcheted up.

A large quantity of tiles will be stripped, making your property vulnerable to water penetration,

and you will be told that timber battens below tiles are rotten. In order to carry out the works properly scaffolding will be erected to the front and at a later date, thousands of pounds is likely to be demanded for moving it.

Invariably, the works will be carried out to an abysmal standard by inexperienced contractors using sub-standard materials, often in breach of Trust requirements. Few, if any, reputable experienced and qualified roofers have the time and inclination to seek work in this manner.

The Trust office has details of competent and approved roofers, able to carry out good quality work, in compliance with the Trust's requirements.

If you are told by a possible fraudster that roof work is required, then seek advice from a qualified Surveyor. This practice would happily provide brief reports on the state of standard-sized roofs for no more than £300+VAT.

Any contractor who requests a large down payment of cash is not someone to be trusted. One cannot expect high quality workmanship from cowboy contractors.

Do not be taken in by these fraudsters. Repairs to most pitched roofs should not cost tens of thousands. A new roof lasting 50 plus years to small properties in the area is likely to cost no more than £25,000 + VAT. Our advice is not to give the time of day to any contractor who knocks on your door uninvited.

IAN HYMAN

A competition for young writers



Suburb News has decided it is time to hold another writing competition for Suburb children after the one three years ago. This is by way of a challenge for younger readers to prove there is more to their lives than the usual relentless social media on a smartphone.

We are inviting three age groups to produce a piece of writing, be it either poetry or prose, of up to 500 words on a subject with some relationship to the Suburb. We decided on giving prizes of £20 book tokens

(suitably old-fashioned to be coming from a paper paper) to the winners of the groups, which are 6 to 8 year olds, 9 to 11, and 12 to 14.

So get your pencils sharpened, find a pad of paper, and get to work writing. Or perhaps that should read, "fire up your device and get typing."

And if there are any writing competition judges out there, we'd like to hear from you too. Just email me at suburbnews@hgsra.uk.

TERRY BROOKS

G Cohen
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We wish to purchase items of silver in any condition. As a long standing resident of the Suburb, Gideon Cohen is happy to view your silverware at home and will make an offer to purchase, free of any obligation.

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Third HGS Art Fair

HGS Art are delighted to announce that their third annual Art Fair at Fellowship House will take place over the weekend of May 11 and 12.

We have had good weather for the last two years and

hopefully the sun will shine so that everyone can enjoy a leafy walk along Willifield Way to Fellowship House, and take their refreshments on the terrace as well as indoors. If the weather is fine there are plans for a gazebo

on the front lawn with a table and chairs, and a stack of paper and coloured pens for younger children to do some Art, and a jigsaw for older kids and, indeed, anyone who wants to help with it. Admission is free, and a variety

of delicious sweet and savoury refreshments are to be served all day by the wonderful ladies of the charity Combat Stress (celebrating its centenary this year), so put the dates in your diaries, and come along with your families and friends. You can meet up with people you know and some you don't while you take a look around the original work of some of our talented members most of whom live locally.

Works on display will include original paintings and drawings, prints, photographs, sculptures, silks, decorated glass artefacts, hand-made jewellery and other amazing hangings and craft works for home and garden. We expect it to be an enjoyable social occasion at the same time as a potential shopping treat. See you there?

DIANA BRAHAMS



PHOTOS: TONY BRAND

Summer shows in Little Wood

This July, Garden Suburb Theatre will be returning to one of our favourite venues – the Little Wood Open Air Theatre, NW11 6QS (entrances from Denman Drive, Oakwood Road and Addison Way), for our annual set of summer performances. But this time there's a big difference: we'll be putting on not one but two shows, so there'll be plenty of opportunity to experience some top-notch outdoors amateur theatre.

Over the next few months, a pair of talented casts will be getting their teeth into The Merchant of Venice by William Shakespeare, directed by Diana Bromley, and Our Country's Good by Timberlake Wertenbaker, directed by Kayne McCutcheon.

These two very different plays will be running in rep, with nine performances each between the

4th and 20th July – and as an added extra, if you book to see both shows we'll be running a Buy One Get One Half Price deal which will give you great value for money as well as the chance to see two moving, exciting and engrossing pieces of theatre.

The Merchant of Venice probably needs no introduction – this Shakespeare classic explores the universal and always relevant themes of justice, intolerance and law, alongside a number of romantic subplots. We're really looking forward to bringing this well-known text and characters like Portia and Shylock to life in a new, exciting way. Anyone who has seen one of Garden Suburb Theatre's previous Shakespeare productions (like Measure for Measure last year) will be aware of just how well

his plays work in the Little Wood Open Air space, so this is one not to be missed.

Our Country's Good, by female playwright Timberlake Wertenbaker, tells the amazing true story of the first penal colony in Australia, focusing on a group of convicts who put on a play under the guidance of Second Lieutenant Ralph Clark.

With a variety of colourful characters based on real people, actors playing multiple roles, and a brilliant mixture of comedy and tragedy, this dramatic and insightful play shines a light on the power of theatre to combat prejudice and bring people together.

For more information and to book all your tickets online, please visit our website at: gardensuburbtheatre.org.uk.

MICHAEL REFFOLD

PERFORMANCE DATES

The Merchant of Venice:
Thursday 4 July, Saturday 6 July (matinee & evening), Wednesday 10 July, Thursday 11 July, Sunday 14 July (matinee), Tuesday 16 July, Thursday 18 July, Saturday 20 July (matinee).

Our Country's Good:
Friday 5 July, Sunday 7 July (matinee), Tuesday 9 July, Friday 12 July, Saturday 13 July (matinee & evening), Wednesday 17 July, Friday 19 July, Saturday 20 July (evening).

TICKETS

Single show: £12/£10 concessions
Both shows: £18/£15 concessions (Buy one get one half price!)
Groups of 10: Single show £100, both shows £150.
Families: Single show £40, both shows £60.



The Garden Suburb Theatre's outdoor venue, awaiting transformation!

Anyone for tennis? Come to Central Square

With the improving weather, The Trust's two tennis courts on Central Square are a great place to improve your ball skills, or just have a friendly match.

Both courts, which have recently been refurbished, are free to use for all Suburb residents and their guests. Advance booking is advised as the courts are both very popular.

Just visit tinyurl.com/hgstc to make your free booking.

Please note that these courts are only to be used by those people who have booked for a specific time period. They are strictly not to be used for coaching/lessons, by non-residents, nor for any other purpose than tennis.

If you have any queries, please contact the Trust office at mail@hgstrust.org or ring 020 8455 1066.



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Orchard Housing Society committee members needed

The Orchard Housing Society is a sheltered housing scheme in the heart of the Suburb.

The Society is a charitable non-profit organisation providing accommodation for Suburb residents, or those with a Suburb connection, over the age of 60. The scheme is run by a voluntary committee supported by two members of staff, and we are currently looking to recruit three new Committee members.

We would particularly like to hear from people with property/housing management, IT, legal or finance skills. We would also welcome applicants who have experience of working with older people or in social care, and good all-rounders with relevant management experience.

Applicants must be able to commit to a minimum of five hours participation per month including one early evening

meeting and a daytime meeting approximately every six weeks, plus occasionally other additional meetings and hands on activity such as interviewing new and existing residents.

If you would like to apply to become a Committee member please e-mail Beatrice Boussard, Tenant Support Manager, by Monday, May 20 at bboussard.orchardhousing@btconnect.com, explaining what relevant skills or experience you have, and how you feel you could contribute to the Committee.

Although these are voluntary, unremunerated positions, you would be playing an important role in helping to provide a high quality housing service to local older people.



RA Open Meeting

(continued from front page)

by heavy vehicles, leaves blown onto the pavement by gardeners then becoming slippery in the rain, and the use of tarmac to replace paving stones.

Rohit Grover told us Barnet had a budget of £50 million over five years for road and pavement repairs, with £3 million to be spent on pavements this financial year. Mike Freer reminded us that Barnet was a large borough with over 500 miles of roads and associated pavements to look after, but it had to live within its means.

There is to be a new system for a £1000 deposit to be taken when development work is being done so that pavements repairs can be paid for when work is completed and damage has been evaluated.

Parking is another Suburb problem and there were questions about why the extension to the Garden Suburb CPZ was so limited, why so many Blue Badges were issued and why there was so little enforcement.

CPZ extensions took place after consultations showed there was a demand. Consequent increased parking in the surrounding area often led to a demand for a new consultation and a further extension.

Gabriel Rozenberg maintained that Barnet took a strong line

on Blue Badge fraud and was willing to prosecute when the evidence was there, and Mike Freer added that he received lots of letters about Blue Badge problems and that it was easy to be mistaken when making judgments about levels of disability.

The final subject to come before the panel concerned crime and policing; police station closures; lack of police on the streets; and recent muggings and burglaries.

Mike Freer said the old police stations were no longer fit for purpose, and in Temple Fortune five officers were needed to man a station that received 40 visits a week from the public.

Gabriel Rozenberg said he understood the concerns of residents and added there were now emergency response teams and high visibility patrols in Barnet. He also suggested attending the regular ward police panel meetings for a better understanding. Emma Howard added that the next meeting was in Fellowship House on May 30 at 7pm.

He also introduced Councillor Roberto Weeden-Sanz from Brunswick Park ward, who is intending to stand as the Conservative candidate for Barnet and Camden in the next London Assembly elections, and has a

special interest in policing. He maintained that Barnet is short changed as it is the largest contributor to the Metropolitan Police but has the fewest number of officers. He went on to say he did not want to make political points, but then continued by blaming the Mayor of London for not increasing police funding, and all the other political parties in the Assembly for not agreeing to add to the number of police officers in London.

Residents were reminded throughout the meeting that whenever they had complaints about trees, bins, pavements or other matters, they should e-mail their councillors to let them know of their concerns so that where possible remedial action could be taken.

The meeting could not fully cover all the topics put forward, but it ran for well over an hour and could easily have gone on for twice that long. It was the latest in a series of Open Meetings organised by the RA in order to give residents a chance to express their views. Residents can keep up to date with future meetings by looking in Suburb News, reading the posters on our notice boards in Suburb front gardens, or visiting www.hgsra.uk.

TERRY BROOKS

A letter from the Editor

Richard Wakefield founded this paper in the summer of 1983 and created something that is much loved by many Suburb residents. He was in advertising rather than journalism and had doubts about whether a regular paper could be maintained; his doubts were unfounded. This is issue 138, and editing it is a true privilege.

What I have to write is difficult for a number of reasons, but someone who had a better way with words than me wrote about parting being a sorrow, and for me there is a great deal of sorrow in writing that I intend to give up editing this wonderful paper, Suburb News, at the end of the year.

Of course this leaves Suburb News with a problem, but I also hope it will give one of you, dear readers, an opportunity to do something very satisfying, and very useful for the community you live in. Suburb News needs a volunteer to do what I have been doing every three months since January 2015.

And now quickly before you think, "Oh no, that's not for me; I know nothing about..." let me tell you that I had, and still have, absolutely no experience or qualifications in journalism, publishing or anything similar.

When Richard Wakefield died at the end of October 2014 just after he had put issue number 120 to bed, I had absolutely no idea what to do or how to do it! And yet Suburb News appeared as scheduled three months later.

The very professional paper you are holding in your hands is a collaborative effort, but the design and layout, the 'look', is the creation of Trevor Hutton of 1st Impression. I provide him with a bunch of Word documents and jpeg photos from which he creates the paper – I think of it as an infernal jigsaw puzzle – but Trevor works his magic every time.

I also rely on a number of dedicated and resourceful correspondents from the numerous societies and organisations on the Suburb, whose reports you read in each issue. Then there are our fearless in-house reporters, who interview Suburb residents (and pets), and write reports on Suburb events.

I, too, write some of the reports on Suburb events and meetings which you read, and also provide some of the photos; I have discovered that if I take enough photos, at least one of them is probably going to be good enough to print – with a tweak from Trevor.

The editor does not even have to be in the country for the paper to appear, thanks to e-mail. Those of you who know me will testify that I have managed to spend much of my time from New Year's Day to Easter every year in the mountains and on my skis.

I have very much enjoyed producing Suburb News and found it to be a really satisfying job. I firmly believe the paper is an irreplaceable community resource, and plays a vital role in informing residents of what is happening on the Suburb.

If you think you might be interested in giving it a go, why not drop me a line at suburbnews@hgsra.uk, or call me on 020 8458 2248. I will happily divulge the secrets of my success to my replacement, who can then develop their own way to do the job.

As I wrote at the beginning, Richard founded this newspaper in the summer of 1983, and it has been informing our community ever since; it would be a great shame if it were to founder for the lack of a volunteer to come forward and take a turn at producing it. I deeply regret feeling I need to quit.

TERRY BROOKS

RA AGM

(continued from front page)

invaluable contribution to our community. She acknowledged the wonderful work that Terry Brooks had done as Editor, and his incredible memory, always being able to locate past information. Lorna Page was also acknowledged for her unstinting work as co-ordinator of a small army of volunteers who distribute the paper to all Suburb residents. It was also mentioned that Terry Brooks was retiring and the RA was looking for a successor.

There was a mention of future events: the Open Meeting with Elected Representatives at Fellowship House on April 25 (see main article, front page), the Summer Fair on June 16, and a meeting with the Police on Road Safety awareness on September 24.

Next were the traditional questions from the floor with the first question about the policy on the application for expansion of Henrietta Barnett. Emma responded that there would be a meeting with the school for residents to air their views on the two proposed new buildings at a future date.

Then it was the turn of the Tea House in Northway. We were told there was a tenant living upstairs and it was understood that the owner of the freehold was not doing anything to the building at present.

Residents were concerned about rumours that Freshwater were planning to develop flats in Chatham Close and the garages in Denman Drive. Peter McCluskie responded that the owners of the garage had been given notice to quit, but nothing else had yet materialised.

Vans parking in the Suburb and the issue of CPZs were brought up. John Marshall responded that he would support more CPZs if there was a desire for them. Although there had been proposals for a CPZ in Erskine Hill, historically the RA had been anti-CPZ.

Further questions related to parts of Temple Fortune Lane and the issues of bin collection. Emma asked if other residents had problems with emptying of their bins. There was general discussion about problems in placing bins for collection, which was an ongoing issue that Emma and the Councillors were trying to address.

There were questions about security of cars on the Suburb, as many had been scratched, vandalised or stolen. One area specifically targeted was Litchfield Way. Richard Davis, Chair of the local Police Ward Group, said one should report to the Police, and use the Suburb WhatsApp or LCS service, but the police had limited resources. Councillor Rozenberg stressed that it was essential to report even seemingly minor incidents to the Police.

Among traffic problems on the Suburb there were issues with the width restrictors in

Addison Way and speeding in Temple Fortune Lane. Flashing speed warning systems could be installed there and in other roads. Emma and the Roads & Traffic Committee had worked with Councillors to monitor speed using a speed gun.

The fact that less than half of Suburb residents were members of the RA was raised. Emma confirmed that the membership had been in decline, due in part to the lack of interest shown by those in the growing rental sector, and proposed using social media to promote the RA to attract residents in blocks of flats and large houses.

Finally, the results of the ballot were received and all those standing for Council were declared re-elected. This was followed by Emma thanking everyone for attending. The meeting kept to time and was efficiently led, with a pleasant atmosphere.

DAPHNE BERKOVI

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New HLSI short courses

A new summer initiative is being launched by the Highgate Literary and Scientific Institution for people who would like to sign up for its popular courses but can't commit because of their holiday plans or work commitments. A new collection of short summer courses lasting just one, two or three days includes a crash course in Italian for holidaymakers and hands-on art classes.

The programme which ranges through literature and science to garden history, music and embroidery will run throughout June at the Highgate Literary and Scientific Institution (HLSI) in South Grove, Highgate. It includes London walks and gallery visits.

The Chair of the HLSI Education Committee, Anne Jamieson, said, "Our existing courses are incredibly popular in the autumn and winter months. We have over 300 students. But we know that many people don't want to commit to long courses in the summer because of their holiday plans, and others can't take more than a day or two off work. So as an innovation we have reorganised our programme and devised a wide palette of

short courses, which we hope will appeal to all tastes. They range from the history of art and literature to creative arts activities, music and science. They start in June following a four-week summer term for our existing courses."

The courses are open to all, with general enrolment starting on March 19. Booking for members is already open, and if you want to be sure of a place, you are welcome to join the HLSI now.

Details of the courses are available on the HLSI website, www.hlsi.net or from the HLSI office at 8340 3343, and there is also a printed programme.



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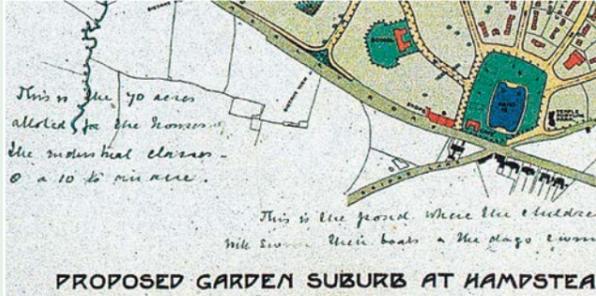
Golden Charter



EST. 1980 H.G.S. SUBURB ARCHIVES FROM THE ARCHIVES

Temple Fortune Farm

Our archivists were contacted recently by the editor of *The Cat*. She was curious about Jesse Wade, founder of the Cats' Protection League. The 1911 census recorded Miss Wade as living at 3 Temple Fortune Farm. She was listed as head of the household, but had refused to fill in any details as part of the suffragists' 'No Vote, No Census' campaign.



Our records show Temple Fortune Farm on a map (above) dated 1822, and it is clearly marked as an existing building on Unwin's 1905 plan for Hampstead Garden Suburb. We have a copy of a lease dated 26th November 1906 under which the land, belonging to Eton College, was leased to William Charles Yells of Temple Fortune Farm. Hampstead Garden Suburb Trust Ltd. subsequently acquired the land and Hampstead Tenants Ltd. was to develop housing on it. They invited guests to the ceremony of the cutting of the first sod, performed by Henrietta Barnett on 2nd May 1907.

Five different routes to the farm were suggested. One was from Broad Street to Hampstead Heath using the North London Railway. The two and a half mile walk across the Heath from the station was described as charming in fine weather. Those with invitations were to be admitted through the gate of Temple Fortune Farm on Finchley Road.

By the time of the 1911 census most of the farm buildings on the site had been demolished. Today's residents of Farm Walk still hit building remains when digging their gardens, and an apple tree there is thought to pre-date the present buildings. Round the corner in Hampstead Way, owners report finding the remains of animal feeding bottles in their garden; they think that it may have been the site of a pig sty.

In December 1908 the land immediately around the farmhouse was let to William Moss and Sons and D.R. Paterson Ltd. for use as builders' yards. On the drawing attached to the Moss agreement (below) we see Farmyard Road where Farm Walk is now. The farmhouse is coloured yellow, and the farm buildings and sheds are coloured pink. One of a pair of semi-detached farm cottages is coloured brown. The second cottage was to be let with the Paterson yard.



Thanks to the work of our census team, we know that the 1911 census shows Farm Walk numbers 1- 6, Temple Fortune Farm numbers 1- 4 and Farm Cottages numbers 1 and 2. Number 1 Farm Cottages was occupied by Charles Sibley, who was a horse-keeper in the building industry. He lived with his family, two labourers and a carman: carmen unloaded goods. Number 2 Farm Cottages housed Arthur Abrahams (also a horse-keeper), his family and two carmen.

We have a photograph which shows the Moss builders' yard, and a building with chimneys which is part of the old farm outbuildings (below).



Mr Ives, a clerk in the civil service, lived at number 1 Temple Fortune Farm; Miss Kelsall, a suffragist, lived at number 2; and Stuart Neame, a press photographer, lived at number 4 with his wife (a vocalist) and one domestic servant. It seems unlikely that Miss Wade was living in farm outbuildings, but where was this dwelling? Was it part of the original farm complex and soon to be demolished?

Our 1913 Street directory shows Mr Ives at 217 Hampstead Way, Miss Kelsall at number 219 and Miss Wade at number 221. Had they been re-housed? Perhaps the Temple Fortune Farm addresses were for new buildings which were renamed and numbered by 1913, numbers 1-3 becoming part of Hampstead Way, and number 4 becoming number 7 Farm Walk. It is often difficult to date plans and photographs; however, the *HGST Heritage Trail* tells us that "Numbers 219 and 221 Hampstead Way attract the eye with their brick staircase bays which extend above the upper floor creating the appearance of a turret." They can be seen to the right of our photograph of the builders' yard. Fortunately, we were able to find an early photograph of 221 Hampstead Way (below) and send it to the editor of *The Cat*.



Once we start looking in the Suburb Archives all sorts of things turn up.

We found a couple of poems about Farm Walk from early editions of the *Town Crier*.

Denman Drive.
Through the slimy oozy sludge,
Home down Denman Drive I trudge;
Another beastly mess 'twill mean
To get my boots and trousers clean.
The lady who condemned Farm Walk
Should come to Denman Drive—then talk!
Slushy, squaggy, fat black mud;
Worse than Fenland after flood.
And on this November day,
Worse than Dante's hellward way!
But as to paradise you'd stalk
From Denman Drive to your Farm Walk.

Ode to Farm Walk.
Short and sharp and little sweet
Are thy stones unto my feet.
Short and sharp the words I say
As I go my morning way.
Gingerly o'er thee I stalk,
Oh! petriferous Farm Walk!
Black the mud along thy side
Where the valiant grass has died;
Mud or stones, I scarcely know
Over which I'd better go.
Little good of thee they talk
Who must traverse thee, Farm Walk.

We answer many enquires each year using the knowledge and skills of our trustees together with the information in our archives. If you have a query you are most welcome to make an appointment and visit us. We also encourage people to use our archives for their own research. Would you like to write an article for *Suburb News* using our resources? Come and see the fascinating items we hold here in the Trust's Offices on Finchley Road. You may be able to help our team with new research.

THE REVEREND ALAN WALKER

The Hampstead Garden Suburb Archives Trust

exists to preserve the history and culture of the Suburb

Website: www.suburbarchives.com · Contact: 020 8455 8813 or 8455 2877 · Email: suburbarchives@gmail.com

Proms at St Jude's 2019

If you're a long-standing Suburb resident, you'll know the fantastic reputation of the Proms at St Jude's summer festival and will be curious about what's coming up this year. For new readers, you have a great treat in store!

Proms is a music and literary festival – with Heritage Walks and late-night comedy too – taking place on Central Square every June. This season runs from 22-30 June. It's all run by volunteers to raise funds for two good causes – the North London Hospice and Toynbee Hall, the charity set up by HGS founder, Dame Henrietta Barnett, over a century ago.

"We've raised £900,000 for charity over our 26-year history," said Proms chairman, Richard Clegg, "and you can help us drive that even higher by attending this year."

EVENING CONCERTS

The evening concert programme this year opens with Mozart's *Così fan Tutte*, sung by Nevill Holt Opera with Royal Northern Sinfonia under the baton of Artistic Director Nicholas Chalmers. This will be the latest in a series of operas performed by Nevill Holt at Proms, and it's a privilege to have such an accomplished company performing here in the Suburb.

The following night is a feast for Gershwin lovers, as top clarinetist, Julian Bliss and his Septet take to the stage. Then, on Monday 24th, you can hear both an original Vivaldi piece and Max Richter's stunning 2012 reimagining of Vivaldi's most famous work, entitled 'The Four Seasons Recomposed'.

On Tuesday 25th, the talented Jack Liebeck and Katya Apekisheva perform favourites such as Fauré's Sonata No 1 and Debussy's Clair de Lune, as well as works by two female composers. This is likely to be broadcast live on BBC Radio Three.

Following last year's sell-out concert by the Kanneh-Mason Trio, Isata Kanneh-Mason is back with the Fantasia Orchestra, some of the country's most exciting young musicians, in a programme including Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 3 and 7th Symphony.

The renowned guitarist, Milos, who has achieved major global



Robert Max conducts

chart success, is likely to sell out his concert at Proms, with a programme stretching from Bach to the Beatles. Another famous ensemble, the King's Singers, are also promising to fill St Jude's as they present 'Royal Blood', inspired by the turbulence of life in Tudor England.

On Saturday 29th, Liza Pulman of Fascinating Aida and her six-piece band pay homage to the talent and music of Barbra Streisand. This production won a four-star review from The Times at The Lyric Theatre in April. "Pulman may look bright and beautiful and demure, but she knows how to wield a flick-knife", it said, explaining that "much as she adores Barb, she can't resist having fun at her expense."

The Last Night of the Proms is always highly popular. This year, Robert Max and the North London Symphony Orchestra add Bizet's Carmen Suite and Mendelssohn's Piano Concerto No 1 to the usual Proms at St Jude's last night favourites.

LITFEST

Hampstead Garden Suburb's own literary festival takes place on the first weekend of the Festival – Saturday 22 and Sunday 23 June. For political bite, you can come and hear columnist, journalist and presenter, Steve Richards; constitutional expert Vernon Bogdanor in conversation about Brexit with his former Oxford pupil, Simon Lewis; and former editor-in-chief of The Guardian,

Alan Rusbridger, interviewed by HGS councillor and former journalist, Gabriel Rozenberg.

Psychoanalyst and former cricketer Mike Brearley will be speaking to Proms patron, Sue MacGregor, about his book 'On Cricket'. And if you are a cookery lover, you'll enjoy Israeli husband and wife, Itamar Srulovich and Sarit Packer of Honey & Co. discussing their latest cookbook.

For those who prefer fiction, Proms is proud to have attracted overall winner of the 2018 Costa Prize, Bart van Es, to talk about 'The Cut-Out Girl', a Jewish girl kept hidden in Holland throughout the war. He is interviewed by Proms stalwart, Hannah Beckerman, who will separately be discussing her new novel, 'If Only I Could Tell You', with journalist and author Nicholas Clee.

As a special offer, if you buy tickets for three events or more on Saturday or Sunday, you'll get a free tea or coffee and cake in the lovely LitFest cafe.

HERITAGE WALKS

Eight guided walks are on offer. Most of these are around the Suburb and Hampstead, led by experts who will enable you to discover more about the history, architecture or wildlife of the area, while enjoying some pleasant exercise. One walk, led by the fascinating Lester Hillman, celebrates the 150th anniversary of Holborn Viaduct, taking you through Farringdon and the 'London Fen'.

There is also a self-guided 'treasure hunt' walk through the Suburb, lasting an hour or so, which you can take any time during the first weekend. Equipped with a clue sheet, you can win a prize of a meal for four at The Spaniards for the most correct answers.

FAMILY-FRIENDLY

As well as the walks, there are plenty of events that are suitable for all ages, and some especially for children. For babies and toddlers, there are two Teeny

Prom concerts; for slightly older children, the Junk Orchestra will be running a series of three half-hour workshops, when participants will get the chance to make music out of recycled household objects.

A full lunchtime concert sees the BBC Elstree Band perform movie themes from E.T., Superman and Star Wars as well as Holst's Jupiter, in a programme dedicated to space on the 50th anniversary of the Moon landing.

On the afternoon of Sunday 30th June, the Magnard Ensemble will be putting on a lively family concert for children of all ages, interspersed with musical demonstrations and fun activities to fully engage the young audience.

There's also a Schools Concert, where children from local primary and secondary schools will be performing on the theme of Planets, Moons and Stars, following preparatory workshops organised by the Proms education team and the Da Capo Music Foundation.

COMEDY

Late-night comedy returns to Proms for the second year, with a show at 10.15pm following the Liza Pulman concert on Saturday, 30th June. Tickets are only £7.50, or £5 if combined with the earlier concert. Pizza will be available to eat from 6pm that night, so you can make a real evening of it.

FREE LUNCHTIME CONCERTS

There are six free lunchtime concerts, thanks to the generous sponsorship of the Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association. Thanks also go to the Hampstead Garden Suburb Trust, title sponsor Argent-Related, and a whole range of other commercial sponsors and kind donors.

BOOKING

For details and to book tickets, go to promsatsjude.org.uk. Also telephone booking opens from 28 May on 020 3322 8123.

Milos Karadaglic



Alan Rusbridger



Liz Pulman

The King's Singers



RIBBCCA REID



ANDY EARL, MERCURY CLASSICS

WHAT'S ON PROMS AT ST JUDE'S 2019

SATURDAY 22 JUNE

11am-6pm Proms at St Jude's LitFest The Henrietta Barnett School.
11am-12noon Restaurant owners Itamar Srulovich and Sarit Packer talk about their third book 'Honey & Co: At Home: Middle Eastern recipes from our kitchen'. **2-3pm** Hannah Beckerman discusses her second novel 'If Only I could Tell You'. **3.30-4.30pm** Bart van Es talks to Hannah Beckerman about his book 'The Cut Out Girl'. **5-6pm** Steve Richards talks about his new book 'The Rise of the Outsiders'.
During LitFest Hours: How Well do you know The Suburb? Self-guided walk and treasure hunt. Route and entry form (£5) from LitFest Café (Henrietta Barnett School) and return on completion. Allow about 1 hour.
7pm Proms at St Jude's Opera Night with Nevill Holt Opera and Royal Northern Sinfonia: *Così fan Tutte*.

SUNDAY 23 JUNE

12.30-6pm Proms at St Jude's LitFest The Henrietta Barnett School.
12.30-1.30pm Mike Brearley talks to Sue MacGregor about 'On Cricket', published last Autumn. **2-3pm** Vernon Bogdanor's 'Beyond Brexit', is certain to be relevant for months to come. He is in conversation with Simon Lewis. **3.30-4.30pm** 'Prague Spring' will not disappoint Simon Mawer's many fans. **5-6pm** Alan Rusbridger talks to Gabriel Rozenberg about his book 'Breaking News'. **During LitFest Hours: How Well do you know The Suburb?** See June 22.
7.45pm Proms at St Jude's: Celebrating Gershwin with the Julian Bliss Septet. A transportation to George Gershwin's glorious Jazz Age.

MONDAY 24 JUNE

10.30am Proms at St Jude's: The Suburb's Early Residents Kate Webster, Proms Heritage Walks Coordinator, shares discoveries of the pre-First World War Suburb. Meet at Fellowship House, Willifield Green NW11 6YD.
12.45pm Proms at St Jude's: Violin and Piano Recital Sophie Rosa violin, Sholto Kynoch piano perform Spanish music.
7.45pm Proms at St Jude's: The Four Seasons Recomposed Ben Palmer conducts the Covent Garden Sinfonia. Featuring Vivaldi's Sinfonia al santo sepolcro and Max Richter's stunning 2012 reimagining of Vivaldi.

TUESDAY 25 JUNE

10.30am Proms at St Jude's: Golders Hill and its Gorgeous Trees Explore Golders Hill, with Richard Payne, Hampstead Heath's Conservation Supervisor. Meet at Golders Hill Park café NW3 7HD
10.30am Proms at St Jude's (under 3 years) & 11.30 (pre-schoolers 3-5 years Teeny Prom Church Rooms, St Jude's. Led by Rachel Groves.
12.45pm Proms at St Jude's: Cello and Guitar Recital Catherine Lee cello, Ahmed Dickinson Cárdenas guitar.
2pm Proms at St Jude's: From Cottage to Villa Charlotte Curtis leads a gentle walk looking at the varied styles of architecture of the early Suburb. Meet at St Jude's car park NW11 7AH.
7.45pm Proms at St Jude's: Jack Liebeck and Katya Apekisheva. Jack Liebeck (violin) and Katya Apekisheva (piano) mark anniversaries of Clara Schumann and English composer Rebecca Clarke.

WEDNESDAY 26 JUNE

10.30am Proms at St Jude's: Viaduct Voices Holborn Viaduct 150th anniversary Heritage Walk. Meet Farringdon Underground Station.
12.45pm Proms at St Jude's: Piano Recital Chiyun Wong performs Liszt's Bénédiction de Dieu dans la Solitude and Réminiscences de Don Juan, as well as pieces by Bach, Chopin and Kurtág.
2pm Proms at St Jude's: All Classes in Neighbourliness Together? Heritage Walk with Tara Murphy. Meet St Jude's car park.
7.45pm Proms at St Jude's: Fantasia Orchestra Tom Fetherstonhaugh (conductor), Isata Kanneh-Mason (piano).

THURSDAY 27 JUNE

10.30am Proms at St Jude's: The Wonderful World of Charles Paget Wade Heritage Walk by Paul Capewell. Meet at Willifield Green (opp. Fellowship House).
12.45pm Proms at St Jude's Schools' Prom: Planets, Moons and Stars. Led by Will Dollard, pupils from local schools perform, accompanied by violin, double bass, flute, oboe and horn.
7.45pm Proms at St Jude's: Miloš - The Voice of the Guitar with Ensemble 7. 'The hottest guitarist in the world' (Sunday Times).

FRIDAY 28 JUNE

10am Proms at St Jude's: Henrietta Barnett and the Heath Extension Thomas Radice leads Heritage Walk. Meet Golders Hill Park café.
12.45pm Proms at St Jude's: Harp Recita (In the Free Church) Performed by prize winner, Camac Harp Competition.
7.45pm Proms at St Jude's: The King's Singers, Royal Blood The world-renowned vocal group present their programme inspired by the turbulence of life in Tudor England.

SATURDAY 29 JUNE

10.30am, 11.15am, 12noon Proms at St Jude's: Junk Orchestra Workshops (suitable for children of all ages, in the Hospitality Marquee, next to St Jude's. Building and playing junk instruments. £3 per person.
12.45pm Proms at St Jude's: Family Fun - Lift Off! (suitable for children 5+) A Journey Through Space performed by BBC Elstree Concert Band.
7.45pm Proms at St Jude's: Liza Pulman sings Barbra Streisand, accompanied by her six-piece band.
10.15pm Proms at St Jude's: Late Night Stand-Up (in the Refreshment Tent) with Athena Kugblenu and Zahra Barri. MC is Jim Daly. £7.50 or £5 if bought with Liza Pulman concert ticket.

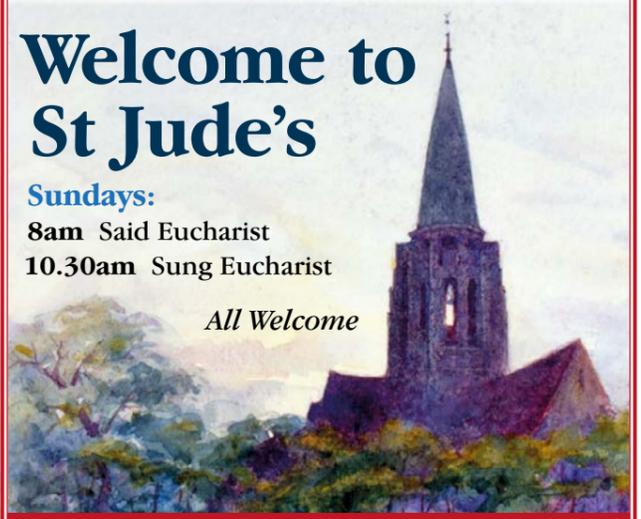
SUNDAY 30 JUNE

11am Proms at St Jude's: Constable's Hampstead Marilyn Greene reveals the Georgian and Regency houses and landscapes which Constable knew, and will illustrate the walk with Constable's pictures and quotes from his letters. Meet at Hampstead Underground (High Street entrance).
3pm Proms at St Jude's: The Magnard Ensemble Explore Music (suitable for children 5+) The Henrietta Barnett School Hall. £5 per person.
7.45pm Proms at St Jude's: Last Night of the Proms North London Symphony Orchestra, Robert Max conductor, Magdalene Ho piano, Oksana Lepaska soprano.

Welcome to St Jude's

Sundays:
8am Said Eucharist
10.30am Sung Eucharist

All Welcome



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Triumph for the Archer Academy

Every year Welwyn Garden City holds a Youth Drama Festival featuring groups from Hertfordshire and its adjoining counties. This year, their 75th anniversary, it took place from March 4 to 9 at the Barn Theatre. Eighteen

different drama groups entered with three short one-act plays performed each night before a panel of expert judges.

The Archer Players featured 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' by William Shakespeare. They ended

up winning first place and an additional technical award for all aspects of their performance.

Congratulations to the whole cast for their hard work and to their drama director, Anja Rodford.

TONY BRAND



Brookland School at Fellowship



TONY BRAND

On April 4, Hampstead Garden Suburb seniors were entertained at Fellowship House by Year 2 pupils from Brookland School performing a selection of dances and songs with members of the audience sometimes joining in.

It was a delightful afternoon with a group of dedicated six and seven year old boys and girls making a big effort for the local community.

Congratulations and thanks to all of them and their teacher.

TONY BRAND

Mental Health, Gardening... and a Seed Swap



Fellowship House was packed on the evening of March 7 for a joint initiative of the HGS Horticultural Society and the Allotments Committee. It started with a very interesting and informative conversation between Jenifer Wakelyn and Chris Page, both doctors who are gardeners living in the Suburb, on The roots to mental health, why gardening is good for you.

Jenifer started by talking about her work with children in care and the importance of play. She described how gardening has a long history of helping with depression, anxiety and other mental illnesses. Chris added that recent studies show that physical, mental and social health improve with being

outside and close to nature, and how allotments help with loneliness. Gardeners are more aware of weather and seasons, such as noticing the first butterflies or cuckoo, or identifying the many different birdsongs.

They both made interesting connections between gardening and mental health, drawing from a range of different theoretical perspectives, history, nature, medicine, psychology and encouraged us to think privately about our love of gardening and how it helps us in our everyday lives.

Jenifer explained how 'playing' in the garden is inherently creative and expressive. It helps us in life through the constructive dialogue between

our intensely private and sometimes difficult to access internal world, as well as controlling and understanding our external worlds.

An interesting Q and A session followed with several members of the audience talking movingly about the importance of playing outside when they were young; how children are fascinated by nature and enjoy gardens, but sometimes appear disinterested during adolescent years; how the original love of nature can reappear later in life.

The Seed Swap itself was a terrific success with four long tables heaving with an enormous selection of vegetable seeds, perennials, annuals and some seedlings. Everyone behaved themselves, with no sharp elbows!

Many allotmenters were delighted that Terry Rand had brought along a supply of his St George and Cobra runner bean seeds, and Caroline Broome had dozens of Thompson and Morgan vegetable and flowers seeds.

Diane Berger and her team looked after us with refreshments, and it was heartening to see such a large turn out of both Horticultural Society and Allotment Committee members and residents. It was a wonderful evening, with pockets full of seeds to sow, and no money was exchanged at any stage!

Many thanks to all involved, especially Jenifer and Chris.

Annemount Head celebrates 25th year

Annemount School has only ever had two heads. The first, Miss Jamaiker, was there from 1936 to 1993, when Geraldine Maidment (right) took over after Miss Jamaiker's death.

Geraldine is celebrating 25 years at the school and has asked Suburb News to make it known that the school is inviting families with links to it to share their memories by e-mailing the school at headteacher@annemount.co.uk.

TERRY BROOKS



Signs indicate you can now get the right price for your Suburb property



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10 Waterlow Court
Monday, February 4

Dear Sir

I cannot begin to describe the waste of time and effort, and sheer frustration over at least five long weeks in trying to get the Council to respond to their failure to collect the four large paladins and ten recycling bins from Waterlow Court.

Firstly, the new crew had no idea we existed and had not been briefed at all on how to access Waterlow Court from the rear. Then, a missed bin collection cannot be logged on the website for blocks with more than 10 flats; a telephone call has to be made to a number on which no message can be left & no-one answers, as it has a pre-recorded message. So how would they ever know about a problem? Clearly they prefer not to know. A Kafkaesque situation.

Secondly, while willing to report a complaint on our behalf, our ward councillors appeared impotent to actually make anything happen, or hold their officers to account. Our excellent constituency MP also tried and was fobbed off with a misleading e-mail that failed to remedy matters.

Letters to the Editor

Finally, after 26 years of collecting our bins from the rear of our site along a back alley, which entails a slope and right angle bend, to pick up in the car park of the adjacent block of flats in Corringway, the Council's Assistant Director decreed that this constituted a Health & Safety concern and could no longer be countenanced: we would have to bring the bins down ourselves (we have no porter) or pay for a special collection: the additional cost – over and above our 54 individual council tax contributions – an insupportable five figure sum!

While I appreciate councils have been severely constrained financially by this government, we are all being made to pay for the lack of what should be a cost-effective and efficient public service.
Yours
Alexandra Rook

Suburb News decided to look further into the circumstances and forwarded this letter to the three HGS ward councillors and our MP for comment.

It's interesting to note that the Health and Safety concerns

which don't allow for the bins to be moved can be magically overcome by the application of money.

Councillor Rohit Grover sent the following statement to Suburb News:

"We acknowledge the difficulties residents of Waterlow Court face as a result of this re-organisation and will work with them in order to find a satisfactory resolution. We are meeting with the Chairman of the Environment Committee and the Assistant Director of Street Scene at the site next week in order to examine options."

Dear Sir

As I mentioned in a question at the RA Council meeting on Tuesday evening, April 2, it is an offence in law to blow garden waste from your private property onto public property. Private contractors should be informed by the owners of the property they must dispose of any garden waste material and taking it to the nearest public dump. If the owners of the property allow their contractors to blow waste into the road, or onto the pavement, they are then breaking the law.

Yours

Mr T F Youlden

P R HARTLEY
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Memories of the Minsk Ghetto

An audience of 24 gathered in the Garden Suburb community library to listen to Debra Brunner, CEO of The Together Plan Charity, talk about the work of her charity and their latest publication.

As part of her work Debra was in Minsk and was invited to have tea with a group of elderly

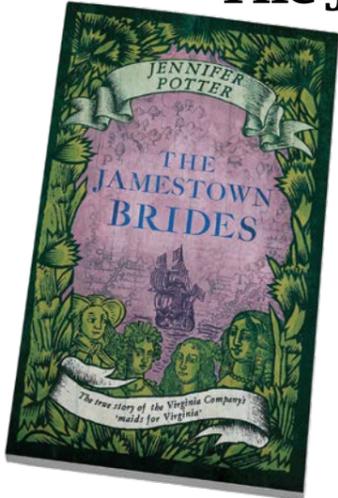
residents. She was presented with a book in Russian which she brought back to England, and once translated she found it was the individual memories of the people she had tea with, all of whom survived the Minsk Ghetto.

After much work, and also discovering additional survivors,

the book, *We Remember Lest the World Forget – Memories of the Minsk Ghetto*, has now been published in English.

Debra's charity works with Jewish communities in the region, revitalising them with the help of both adults and young people from the UK. A fascinating talk.

The Jamestown Brides



was sending out young women of good reputation as brides for planters. They were the 'maids for Virginia' of Jennifer Potter's *The Jamestown Brides*.

Local author Jennifer Potter was born in Devon, and spent time in Malaysia, Jordan and Indonesia, reading French at Bristol University. She worked in journalism before turning her hand to writing. *The Jamestown Brides* is one of four novels and five non-fiction works. It traces – as much as it can, given the paucity of surviving records – the lives of 56 young women shipped to Virginia to become planters' wives in exchange for tobacco, the profits from which were to line the coffers of Virginia Company speculators.

The book searches for the women's motivation for leaving what was doubtless a less than idyllic life in England for an unknown, but certainly dangerous land across the Atlantic, as well as for what befell them after they arrived. First-hand information on the women is scarce – they were not the type to write letters and memoirs and probably could not write at all. Instead, Potter starts from lists of their names, parentage, age, birthplace and testimonials from trusted sources, and then finds what she can about them and their families in parish and court records.

While little can be learned directly about the women, Potter ably describes their general circumstances, gives us insight into the men who ran – and ran into the ground – the Virginia Company, and the environment in England that would make such a perilous journey into the unknown less of a hare-brained

scheme than it might seem from a 21st century viewpoint.

We get to understand what the journey across the ocean must have been like, and then what confronted the women once they arrived. Jamestown must have seemed a dismal, small and poor place. The women's story is not, for the most part, one of triumph. Not all of them found men willing to pay the bride price – though women were scarce, there were other, cheaper, ways to find a wife. And their fates are almost impossible to track, partially because relevant records were destroyed. Many of the 56 simply disappear from any records; Potter is only able to trace with some certainty the fates of four of them. Some will have been killed or taken captive in the Indian uprising that took place a mere three months after the women arrived – this is the book's most harrowing incident. Many must have succumbed to the diseases and hard living that early 17th century Jamestown offered.

The reader is left amazed that the colony actually survived. Certainly the people who settled in Virginia seemed less prepared to face New World circumstances than their contemporary fellow exiles in Massachusetts (founded in 1620), not that New Englanders had it easy, either.

WORDSEARCH

In the first of our new series of Wordsearch in 2019 we have included the names of 20 modes of transport. One of them is highlighted to start you off. Names may be read in all directions, straight or diagonally. Please send your entries by email to suburbnews@hgsra.uk with your name and contact details. The closing date is June 17. All correct entries go into a draw to win a £20 book token. Good luck!

MARILYN GROSSMAN

J V D T F A R C R E V O H Z S
 Y D G U M T R A A M E S B T H
 B Q L J C O C G C G N E I N O
 D O A V F B E N E D I D C E T
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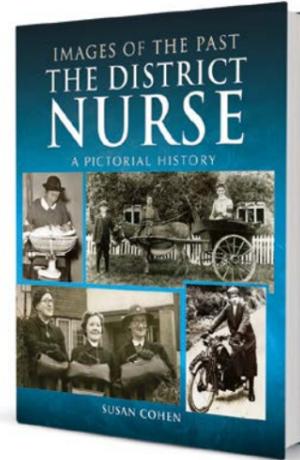
Contact: 07811 254061

The District Nurse

The district nurse has always been part of the community, but when did district nursing really begin? After reading and looking at Susan Cohen's revealing new pictorial history, we can really understand how it evolved. Sick men, women and children have always been cared for at home since time immemorial, but it was not until the late 1800s that these dedicated women took on the role of the district nurse.

In those days life expectancy was short, infant mortality was high and medical knowledge was unscientific, and there was no professional training for nurses. As we know Florence Nightingale 1820-1910 was largely responsible for permanently changing the face of home nursing care and introduced professional training for nurses in 1860.

In 1887, when Queen Victoria celebrated her golden Jubilee, district nursing had been elevated to a new status. They were provided with resplendent uniforms. The wonderful black and white photographs in this



The book is a compelling read – meticulously researched and well written. Like Potter herself, I longed to know more about the individual lives of the women who willingly left one fairly stable if not particularly happy life for another undoubtedly unstable and probably perilous one. In lieu of these stories, Potter provides the reader with interesting and evocative contextual stories, vivid descriptions and insightful legal proceedings.

TINA ISAACS

The Jamestown Brides: the untold story of England's 'maids for Virginia', Jennifer Potter (2018). London: Atlantic Books, £20.

book, bring back a nostalgia for nurses in crisp white starched aprons, sky-blue dresses with stiff white collars, black lace-ups with thick black stockings. A sharp contrast to the nurses' scrubs of today.

Before the National Health Service, raising money to cover the cost of district nursing was a grave problem. How was the cost of wages, travel, accommodation, as well as expenses for essential items such as medicines and dressings to be provided for? There were the usual fêtes, flower shows and concerts but it was always a problem. The poor over-worked nurses earned between £25 and £30 per year.

Getting about was another difficulty. Their transport could be by donkey, bicycle, pony and cart, or even a tractor. In bad weather they had to walk for miles to remote areas to reach patients only to be confronted with epidemics of children with chicken-pox, influenza, blood-poisoning, typhoid and even head lice. Delivering babies was part of the nurse's role, 10% were home births. District nurses were available to 75% of the population.

During the wars, district nurses volunteered for active service. They helped in air raid shelters and first aid posts. Some joined the armed forces and civilian defence forces. They were very brave, refusing to give up on their patients even when caught up in air raids. Babies were born under bombardment. Mothers delivered

babies in dreadful circumstances. One district nurse recorded in her daily notes that visits were concluded with prayer and bible reading. Some nurses were so brave that they were awarded the George Medal for the courage and persistence with which they managed to save lives.

After the war things began to improve. They received a better, more practical uniform. Married women were able to remain in the profession. Infant mortality dropped to 1 in 1000. Male nurses were recruited, though they were only permitted to nurse male patients.

In 1948 with the inauguration of the National Health Service the provision of the district nurse became the responsibility of the county authority. Their services were now free to anyone and the nurses were paid by the state. Life became easier. Houses had telephones, nurses had cars and there was an emergency squad. However the role today of the district nurse is still as challenging as ever. The 19th Century slums may have gone, but poverty and deprivation still exist. Many of the diseases and ailments the early patients suffered from have been replaced by more complex illnesses and medical conditions, which make the job of the district nurse even more challenging.

STEPHANIE HURST

Images of the Past: The District Nurse, Susan Cohen. Pen & Sword, £14.99.

Become part of the community

Complete and return the form below, join online, or download a standing order form from hgs.org.uk/ra/joinnow.html. Alternatively, if you own a smart phone, scan the QR code. Our Privacy Policy can be viewed at www.hgs.org.uk/ra/dataprotection.pdf



MEMBERSHIP FORM

one subscription covers everyone at the address

I would like to join the HGS Residents Association.

PLEASE USE CAPITALS THROUGHOUT

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Email _____

(Giving your email address helps us keep in touch and reduce costs)

Phone _____

Subscription amount: £ _____ (Minimum payment £15)

Fellowship donation: £ _____ (To support Fellowship, a Suburb charity, in its work for Suburb senior citizens) (Optional)

Total: £ _____ (Total amount for cheque, standing order, PayPal or credit card via www.hgs.org.uk/ra/joinnow.html)

Standing order is best – it stays unchanged unless you alter/cancel it!

* I declare by making this donation that I want to Gift Aid my donations to Fellowship House and am a UK taxpayer paying sufficient tax to meet the Gift Aid on my donation. I agree to Fellowship receiving my details for this purpose.

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Account number: 91605747, Sort Code: 40-03-11

at HSBC, 897 Finchley Road, NW11 7NX

Quoting Reference (leave blank, RA to complete) _____

Signed _____ Date _____

Please return this form with the bank standing order section completed or your cheque made payable to HGS Residents

Association to: **HGSRA, PO BOX 67700, LONDON NW11 1NS**

WHAT'S ON



GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY GODFREY & BARR, HAMPSTEAD GARDEN SUBURB'S LEADING ESTATE AGENT

THURSDAY 2 MAY & EVERY THURSDAY

10-10.30am & 10.45-11.15am **RA Library Sing Song Time** Garden Suburb Community Library, 15 The Market Place. A library activity for under-threes and carers. Rhyme, rhythm and repetition all help a baby's listening and concentration skills, speech and language development. Admission free.

FRIDAY 3 MAY

3.30pm **Book Club** Garden Suburb Community Library, 15 The Market Place. A different book every month discussed over cake and tea. Pick up a copy of the current book at the HGS Library and join us on the first Friday of every month. Admission free.

SATURDAY 4 MAY

10.30am **Traidcraft Sale, Clothing Exchange & Coffee morning** in Free Church.

SUNDAY 5 MAY

2.30pm **Heavenly Herbs and Wondrous Weeds** on Hampstead Heath. Heath & Hampstead Society walk led by Lynda Cook and Melissa Fairbanks, members of the H&HS Heath Sub-Committee. Meet at Burgh House, New End Square, NW3 1LT. 07941 528 034; www.heathandhampstead.org.uk.

TUESDAY 7 MAY & EVERY TUESDAY

10.15-10.45am **RA Library Story/Song Time** Garden Suburb Community Library, 15 The Market Place. Rhythm and rhyme making activities alongside new and familiar songs, and an introduction into the world of exciting and boundless stories for toddlers and their carers. Admission free.

TUESDAY 7 MAY

2.30pm **What's in a Piece of Silver? The Twilight of the Cavalry** A Fellowship House talk by Michael Barcroft. Fellowship House, 136a Willifield Way. Suburb residents welcome. Admission (incl tea and biscuits): Members £1, non Members £3. Become a Member for £20 per annum. Updates at www.fellowshiphouse.co.uk.

THURSDAY 9 MAY

6pm **Hampstead Outdoor Fitness Training** See details for Monday 13 May.

SATURDAY 11 MAY

5.30pm **YMC Concerto Prize - prize winners concert** HGS Free Church, Central Square. Entry free. String and wind players of different age groups will be playing their winning concerto pieces with a full orchestra. You will hear concertos by composers like Mozart, Stamitz, Bruch and Telemann.

SUNDAY 12 MAY

11am **Junior Church Festival Service** in Free Church.
3pm **Christian Aid Concert** in Free Church.
7.30pm **Mill Hill Music Club presents Smetana Piano Trio** The Henrietta Barnett School, Central Square. £15. 8-25s admitted free by arrangement with Cavatina Chamber Music Trust. 8959 1047, www.millhillmusicclub.co.uk.

MONDAY 13 MAY

6pm **Hampstead Outdoor Fitness Training in Central Square** Every Monday & Thursday. Meet at St Jude's car park. First session free and £10 thereafter, for details www.hoftraining.co.uk or 07867 505884/07557 149701.

TUESDAY 14 MAY

2.30pm **Chinese Attitudes to Europe** A Fellowship House talk by Francis Wood. Fellowship House, 136a Willifield Way. Suburb residents welcome. Admission (incl tea and biscuits): Members £1, non Members £3. Become a Member for £20 per annum. Updates at www.fellowshiphouse.co.uk.

THURSDAY 16 MAY

2.30pm **Thursday Fellowship social afternoon** Medecins sans Frontieres (Doctors without borders) talk about their work. Free Church Rooms.

SATURDAY 18 MAY

10.30am -12noon **HGS Horticultural Society Plant Sale** Fellowship House, 136a Willifield Way. Entry free. Colourful annuals plus perennials, veg and herb seedlings etc. Cash and cheques only. Bring your own bags if possible.
11.30am -1pm **Abbeyfield House Open Day Coffee Morning**

SUNDAY 19 MAY

9.30am **Borough Councillors' Surgery** Fellowship House, 136a Willifield Way. Opportunity to ask for advice on local problems. Councillor Gabriel Rozenberg will be in attendance.
10am-2pm **Chandos Tennis Club Open Day** 120 East End Road, N2 0RZ. 10% off subscription on the day. Four indoor courts and four artificial-grass courts, all floodlit. Clubhouse, small gym, onsite parking. Tennis for all ages.
1pm-5.30pm **Circle the City Christian Aid sponsored walk** Meet at St.Mary-le-Bow Church, EC2V 6AU to visit some of the City's beautiful Churches (two routes - 3 or 6 miles). Rosemary Birch, 8446 9393.

TUESDAY 21 MAY

2.30pm **Van Gogh** A Fellowship House talk by Lucrezia Walker. Fellowship House, 136a Willifield Way. Suburb residents welcome. Admission (incl tea and biscuits): Members £1, non Members £3. Become a Member for £20 per annum. Updates at www.fellowshiphouse.co.uk.

TUESDAY 28 MAY

2.30pm **A Potpourri of Poetry** A Fellowship House talk by Rabbi Dr Jeffrey Cohen. Fellowship House, 136a Willifield Way. Suburb residents welcome. Admission (incl tea and biscuits): Members £1, non Members £3. Become a Member for £20 per annum. Updates at www.fellowshiphouse.co.uk.

WEDNESDAY 29 MAY

7.30pm **Robert Hooke** HGS Astronomical Society presents a talk by Dr Patricia Fara, President - British Society for the History of Science, at the Oriol Room, Free Church Hall, Northway. 0775 130 5056.

FRIDAY 31 MAY

1pm **Piano Recital by Asagi Nakata** Free Church. Lunch in support of Christian Aid served from 12.15pm.

SATURDAY 1 JUNE

10.30am **Traidcraft Sale, Clothing Exchange & Coffee morning** in Free Church.

SUNDAY 2 JUNE

2.30pm **Spider Foray** Heath & Hampstead Society walk led by Edward Milner. Meet at Burgh House, New End Square, NW3 1LT. 07941 528034, www.heathandhampstead.org.uk.
3.30pm **HGSRA Michael Rowley Event** Friends Meeting House, 17 North Square. Guest speaker James Stourton, former Chairman of Sotheby's and a writer and broadcaster.
3.30pm **Strings Concert: Anete Graudina with friends** Fellowship House. Works by Bach and Vivaldi. Admission free, donations welcome.
7pm **Opera through the Ages - Purcell to Gershwin** Alyth Synagogue, Alyth Gardens. 6.30 for drinks and nibbles. Robin Osterley, conductor; Kelvin Robertson, accompanist. Tickets, including refreshments, £15 at www.alythchoralsociety.org, under 16s free. Info: alythchoralsociety@gmail.com.

FOR PROMS AT ST JUDE'S 2019 WHAT'S ON LISTING SEE PAGE 7.

TUESDAY 4 JUNE & EVERY TUESDAY

10.15-10.45am **RA Library Story/Song Time** Garden Suburb Community Library, 15 The Market Place. Rhythm and rhyme making activities alongside new and familiar songs, and an introduction into the world of exciting and boundless stories for toddlers and their carers. Admission free.

TUESDAY 4 JUNE

2.30pm **The Road to Dunkirk and Where it has led A** Fellowship House talk by John Rimington. Fellowship House, 136a Willifield Way. Suburb residents welcome. Admission (incl tea and biscuits): Members £1, non Members £3. Become a Member for £20 pa. Updates at www.fellowshiphouse.co.uk.
8pm **Residents Association Council Meeting** Fellowship House. Hear Suburb issues debated and raise your concerns at Question Time (8.05 to 8.20pm).

THURSDAY 6 JUNE & EVERY THURSDAY

10-10.30am & 10.45-11.15am **RA Library Sing Song Time** Garden Suburb Community Library, 15 The Market Place. A library activity for under-threes and carers. Rhyme, rhythm and repetition all help a baby's listening and concentration skills, speech and language development. Admission free.

FRIDAY 7 JUNE

3.30pm **Book Club** Garden Suburb Community Library, 15 The Market Place. A different book every month discussed over cake and tea. Pick up a copy of the current book at the HGS Library and join us on the first Friday of every month. Admission free.

SUNDAY 9 JUNE

HGS Horticultural Society coach trip to Aldham Open Gardens Colchester, Essex. Approx. 18 gardens, large and small, will be open. Visitors ferried round village by minibus, lunches available. Teas in several gardens. Details 8455 0455. Priority booking for members of the Horticultural Society.

MONDAY 10 JUNE

5pm **Borough Councillors' Surgery** Fellowship House, 136a Willifield Way. Opportunity to ask for advice on local problems. Councillor John Marshall will be in attendance.

TUESDAY 11 JUNE

2.30pm **Extracts from the play 'The Return of George Meadows'** (the fictional poet who faked his own death) A Fellowship House presentation by Peter Phillips & Dinah Livingstone. Fellowship House, 136a Willifield Way. Suburb residents welcome. Admission (incl tea and biscuits): Members £1, non Members £3. Become a Member for £20 per annum. Updates at www.fellowshiphouse.co.uk.
7-8pm **HGS Horticultural Society entry night for submission of entry forms for 287th Flower Show.** Bring your entry forms to Fellowship House 136a Willifield Way, where members will advise first-timers exhibiting at the show on Saturday. Or post forms at 4 Asmunds Hill by Friday 14 June. Two special classes - make, ice and decorate a birthday cake to mark the society's 110th birthday and/or create a miniature garden on a dinner plate (see Members' Handbook, classes 54a and 60a for details).

THURSDAY 13 JUNE

Residents Association Last copy date for What's On in August, September and October. Details to David Littaur, 84 Wildwood Road NW11 6UJ. 020 8731 6755 or 0751 0 308 997. Email: dvltr@gmail.com.

SATURDAY 15 JUNE

3-5pm **HGS Horticultural Society's 287th Flower Show** celebrating The Society's 110th Birthday! at Free Church Hall Northway. Children's and photography competitions to enter. Meet friends and family for home-made teas in the small hall. Members and under-18s free; non-members £2.

SUNDAY 16 JUNE

12.30-5pm **HGS Residents Association Fun Day Picnic** on Central Square. Attractions include: Dog show, Sound of the Suburb, Highland Games, Donkey rides, Punch & Judy and Face Painting.

TUESDAY 18 JUNE

2.30pm **A Museum under a Mountain: The National Gallery's Wartime Home** A Fellowship House talk by Suzanne Bosman. Fellowship House, 136a Willifield Way. Suburb residents welcome. Admission (incl tea and biscuits): Members £1, non Members £3. Become a Member for £20 per annum. Updates at www.fellowshiphouse.co.uk.

THURSDAY 20 JUNE

2.30pm **Thursday Fellowship social afternoon** and listening to your two favourite pieces of music in Free Church Rooms.

SUNDAY 23 JUNE

Assessment Day for string and wind players who would like to be part of a YMC orchestra, For details phone or email Marina (administrator) 8450 9290, ymcmusiccentre@btinternet.com.

TUESDAY 25 JUNE

2.30pm **Eaten by a Lion and other Cautionary Tales** A Fellowship House talk by Roger Rose. Fellowship House, 136a Willifield Way. Suburb residents welcome. Admission (incl tea and biscuits): Members £1, non Members £3. Become a Member for £20 pa. Updates at www.fellowshiphouse.co.uk.

WEDNESDAY 26 JUNE

7.30pm **HGS Astronomical Society: Apollo 11+50 Years** Talk by Mark Yates in the Oriol Room, Free Church Hall, Northway. Info 0775 130 5056.

SUNDAY 30 JUNE

11am **Anete Graudina's violin class students' (age 3-17) concert** Fellowship House. Admission £1, children free. Come along, will be fun!

SUNDAY 30 JUNE TO TUESDAY 2 JULY

HGS Horticultural Society's Three-day Trip to Gardens of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. Hotel for 2 nights. 8455 0455. Priority booking for members and partners/friends (waiting list only).

TUESDAY 2 JULY & EVERY TUESDAY

10.15-10.45am **RA Library Story/Song Time** Garden Suburb Community Library, 15 The Market Place. Rhythm and rhyme making activities alongside new and familiar songs, and an introduction into the world of exciting and boundless stories for toddlers and their carers. Admission free.

TUESDAY 2 JULY

2.30pm **A Trip to Greenland via the Orkneys and Faroes** A Fellowship House talk by Bernard Johnson. Fellowship House, 136a Willifield Way. Suburb residents welcome. Admission (incl tea and biscuits): Members £1, non Members £3. Become a Member for £20 pa. Updates at www.fellowshiphouse.co.uk.
8pm **Residents Association Council Meeting** Fellowship House. Hear Suburb issues debated and raise your concerns at Question Time (8.05 to 8.20pm).

THURSDAY 4 JULY & EVERY THURSDAY

10-10.30am & 10.45-11.15am **RA Library Sing Song Time** Garden Suburb Community Library, 15 The Market Place. A library activity for under-threes and carers. Rhyme, rhythm and repetition all help a baby's listening and concentration skills, speech and language development. Admission free.

THURSDAY 4 JULY

7.30pm **Garden Suburb Theatre: The Merchant of Venice** by William Shakespeare. Little Oak Wood, Addison Way. Single Show £12 (conc £10). Both shows £18 (conc £15). Groups 10 or more £100 for single show, £150 for both. Family (2 adults, 2 children) £40 single show, £60 for both. Please check www.gardensuburbtheatre.org.uk or 3582 1333. Info 8731 7725.

FRIDAY 5 JULY

3.30pm **Book Club** Garden Suburb Community Library, 15 The Market Place. A different book every month discussed over cake and tea. Pick up a copy of the current book at the HGS Library and join us on the first Friday of every month. Admission free.
7.30pm **Garden Suburb Theatre: Our Country's Good** by Timberlake Wertenbaker Little Oak Wood, Addison Way. For prices see Thursday 4 July. Please check www.gardensuburbtheatre.org.uk, book www.gardensuburbtheatre.org.uk or 3582 1333. More info 020 8731 7725.

SATURDAY 6 JULY

10.30am **Traidcraft Sale, Clothing Exchange & Coffee morning** in Free Church.
3&7.30pm **Garden Suburb Theatre: The Merchant of Venice** Details see 4 July.

SUNDAY 7 JULY

11.30am-5.30pm **HGS Open Gardens** for National Garden Scheme charities. Tickets, maps, refreshments and two nurseries at Fellowship House 136a Willifield Way. 11 private gardens and an allotment site plus other attractions. Tickets: Fellowship House and selected gardens. Combined entry tickets £12 (children free). www.ngs.org.uk/find-a-garden/garden/18140.
2.30pm **Heath Astronomy: A Down to Earth Transit** A Heath & Hampstead Society walk with Lester Hillman (meet at Bus terminal, Parliament Hill Fields - entrance to Heath at bottom of Highgate West Hill). Restricted numbers - advance booking essential. Enquiries 07941 528 034; hhs.walks@gmail.com, www.heathandhampstead.org.uk.
3pm **Garden Suburb Theatre: Our Country's Good.** Details see 5 July.

TUESDAY 9 JULY

2.30pm **A Little Concert: A Fellowship House presentation by the pupils of Brookland Infant School** Fellowship House, 136a Willifield Way. Suburb residents welcome. Admission (incl tea and biscuits): Members £1, non Members £3. Become a Member for £20 per annum. Updates at www.fellowshiphouse.co.uk.
7.30pm **Garden Suburb Theatre: Our Country's Good** Details see 5 July.

WEDNESDAY 10 JULY

7.30pm **Garden Suburb Theatre: The Merchant of Venice** Details see 4 July.

THURSDAY 11 JULY

7.30pm **Garden Suburb Theatre: The Merchant of Venice** Details see 4 July.

FRIDAY 12 JULY

7.30pm **Garden Suburb Theatre: Our Country's Good** Details see 5 July.

SATURDAY 13 JULY

HGS Horticultural Society coach trip to Parham House, West Sussex A visit to the Plant Fair at one of the country's finest Elizabethan houses, with four acres of walled and pleasure gardens. Info: 8455 0455. Priority booking for Horticultural Society members.
3&7.30pm **Garden Suburb Theatre: Our Country's Good** Details see 5 July.
5pm **YMC end of term concert and picnic** in the HGS Free Church, Central Square. Entry free. All YMC orchestras and Choir will perform.

SUNDAY 14 JULY

9.30am **Borough Councillors' Surgery** Fellowship House, 136a Willifield Way. Opportunity to ask for advice on local problems. Councillor Rohit Grover will be in attendance.
3pm **Garden Suburb Theatre: The Merchant of Venice** Details see 4 July.

TUESDAY 16 JULY

2.30pm **Hollywood and Interfaith Dialogue** A Fellowship House talk by Rabbi Professor Jonathan Magonet. Fellowship House, 136a Willifield Way. Suburb residents welcome. Admission (incl tea and biscuits): Members £1, non Members £3. Become a Member for £20 per annum. Updates at www.fellowshiphouse.co.uk.
7.30pm **Garden Suburb Theatre: The Merchant of Venice** Details see 4 July.

WEDNESDAY 17 JULY

7.30pm **Garden Suburb Theatre: Our Country's Good** Details see 5 July.

THURSDAY 18 JULY

2.30pm **Thursday Fellowship Summer Party** Free Church Rooms.
7.30pm **Garden Suburb Theatre: The Merchant of Venice** Details see 4 July.

FRIDAY 19 JULY

7.30pm **Garden Suburb Theatre: Our Country's Good** Details see 5 July.

SATURDAY 20 JULY

3pm **Garden Suburb Theatre: The Merchant of Venice** Details see 4 July.
7.30pm **Garden Suburb Theatre: Our Country's Good** Details see 5 July.

TUESDAY 23 JULY

2.30pm **The Joys & Frustrations of being Principal of an Oxford College** A Fellowship House talk by Sir Ralph Waller. Fellowship House, 136a Willifield Way. Suburb residents welcome. Admission (incl tea and biscuits): Members £1, non Members £3. Become a Member for £20 per annum. Updates at www.fellowshiphouse.co.uk.

FRIDAY 26 JULY

1pm **Music Recital** Free Church. Lunch in support of Christian Aid served from 12.15pm.

TUESDAY 30 JULY

2.30pm **Desert Island Discs - A Fellowship House illustrated edition** Sally Botterill in conversation with eminent Suburb resident and philanthropist, David Cohen CBE. Fellowship House, 136a Willifield Way. Suburb residents welcome. Admission (incl tea and biscuits): Members £1, non Members £3. Become a Member for £20 pa. Updates at www.fellowshiphouse.co.uk.



Is good taste just a question of fashion?

Lately I've been musing on what is considered *good taste* in the garden. One dictionary definition of good taste is, 'satisfying generally accepted social or aesthetic standards', while bad taste is, 'something that is offensive and is inappropriate for the situation'. The Union of Beauty and Functionality.

But surely Taste is purely subjective? When I think Good Taste, I visualise The White Garden at Sissinghurst, box balls and neatly clipped lavender hedges. Understatement, sophistication and simplicity. But it's not exactly challenging, is it? Dare I say boring even. Christopher Lloyd was the first renowned horticulturalist in my lifetime



Understated or boring

to push the boundaries and say To Hell with convention, when he ripped out his mother's prized rose garden in favour of an exotic extravaganza! Swap *outrageous* for *eccentric* and you're considered a trend setter. *Beyond the pale* or *pushing the boundaries*? Justify your *unconventional* combinations as *experimental* and you become avant-garde.

The Chelsea Flower Show is renowned worldwide for showcasing innovative garden design and extravagant floral displays. In many ways it can be compared to London Fashion Week: cutting edge creations that gradually filter down to the high street and ultimately into the domestic setting.

Up until the 1970s gardening was considered by the majority to be an elite hobby, but that was about to change: In 1972 influential designer John Brookes' showcased his minimalist space-saving designs at Chelsea, and kickstarted a national trend for socialising in the garden. And by 1979 the popular TV show 'The Good Life' sparked off a new gardening trend throughout the UK. Funny how growing fruit and veg on the allotment, once the preserve of the retired – dare I say it – working classes, is now the ultimate go-to hobby of every aspiring young family in the land!

Have you ever wondered why purple is the new black, last year's kitten heels have conceded to this year's flat pumps? It's Fashion my dears, Fashion! Is it



Vibrant or vulgar

that different from the introduction of the prairie planting style by Dutch nurseryman Piet Oudolf in the late '90s? Numerous Gold Medals surely denote the pinnacle of good taste. Ground breaking at the time, now twenty years later, some form of ornamental grass is almost compulsory in your herbaceous border.

So is good taste just a question of fashion, or is it a class issue? Discuss!

If it were merely a question of championing new trends, then why is Sissinghurst, created in the late 1930s, still lauded by the majority for its tastefulness? And why do some trends become *passé* while others remain timeless? Annual bedding schemes, showcased by the elite as the pinnacle of style and opulence in the Victorian era, have become synonymous with

municipal carpet bedding displays, sniffed at as kitsch and gaudy by the Taste Police. One can only assume that the newly discovered exotic bedding plants of the mid-to-late 19th century, such as heliotropes, pelargoniums, petunias, verbenas and salvias, raised in state-of-the-art conservatories and greenhouses, are now so mainstream that it's a case of 'been there, done that, got the t-shirt'.

Certain plants are denounced simply on the basis that they are very commonly used. I raise my hand to this: 'Begonias', I exclaimed, referring to bedding semperflorans, 'nasty little things!' In my case it was ignorance that caused me to decry all begonias, that is until I discovered the exuberant, voluptuous, citrus coloured begonias of the Hanging Basket.

So is it ignorance that is responsible for stereotyping? (Mind you, I still don't like semperflorans.) Now, hanging baskets, there's a subject that divides opinion! I'm guessing that a single variety of foliage plant in a sustainably sourced coconut shell will win hands down in the taste stakes against a rattan basket crammed full of multicoloured, trailing annuals.

Surely we, the gardening public, are discerning enough to adopt relevant new trends such as biodiversity, organic culture, sustainability, compost heaps, wild flower meadows, whilst disdainfully shunning other less practical fads –

James May's plasticine garden of 2009 & Dermot Gavin's Colourful Suburban Eden, with its sea of brightly coloured lollipops in 2004 spring to mind – in the name of good sense rather than good taste.

My embroidery teacher used to shudder at the sight of red and yellow together, so for years I kept them apart in the garden. That is, until I combined red salvia confertiflora, yellow rudbeckia Goldsturn and red, orange & yellow rudbeckia Prairie Glow. Oh the liberation! One of the joys of maturity, in my opinion, is that you no longer seek validation from your peers.

CAROLINE BROOME



Salvia confertiflora and Rudbeckias

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Allotment walkabout

On Saturday March 23 eight representatives of the Allotments Committee took part in an early season walkabout of the Suburb allotment sites. Traditionally termed as a 'walkabout', the visit in essence is aimed at carrying out an inspection to ensure that the sites are in good order and that the tenants of the plots are abiding by the obligations of their contracts. The group's observations and recommendations are duly passed on to the Trust.

This particular visit was the first to have taken place in springtime and will be followed by a second in the summer. The decision to have two annual inspections follows a period of concern over the neglect of some plots and the consequent condition of some sites.

The aim of the summer visit, as well as choosing the winner of the best plot award, will be to assess the high-season condition of the sites and plots, and to measure progress in those areas where recommendations have been made.

The group concluded its tour with expressions of satisfaction that there had been improvement



TERRY BROOKS

in the appearance and general condition of most sites, benefitting from the Trust's various hedging and tree work as well as from the attentions of the site secretaries, and the enthusiasm of a core of newly-arrived allotmenters.

A campaign of publicity has led to an upsurge in interest with many newcomers filling vacancies, and creating a demand, which in turn puts pressure on those existing tenants whose adherence to their contract terms may have faded. Some sites now have waiting lists.

After its tour the group put forward its opinions to the Trust on the state of hedges, trees and pathways, as well as making recommendations regarding general tidiness and those plots which were clearly not being worked.

It was felt that a simple document detailing the principles and duties of plot-holding could be presented to new tenants as a way of re-enforcing the contract, and emphasising the pleasures and privilege of having an allotment on the Suburb.

PETER HODGSON



PHOTOS: TERRY BROOKS



Open Gardens for charity

Sunday, July 7 is when 14 Suburb residents will be participating in the National Garden Scheme Open Gardens. Readers are advised of the following key attractions:

- 14 Open Gardens, 4 of which are new and several are award winners, plus one allotment site.
- Every visitor will receive a free packet of seeds donated by Marshalls (while stocks last) and an NGS bookmark.
- At least a dozen raffle prizes, including a subscription to Garden News, David Austin Roses gift vouchers, and national garden gift vouchers donated by local nurseries.
- Two local professional plant nurseries selling unusual, seasonal perennials – Essex based Rose Cottage Plants, and The Plant Specialist from Buckinghamshire.
- Home propagated plants for sale in various gardens.

• Award winning afternoon teas served at Fellowship House, with a piano accompaniment, as well as refreshments at 15 North Square.

• A party to join on the Willifield Way allotments, where drinks and cake will be available, and home grown veg & herb plants will be on sale.

Suburb rainfall

The first three months of 2019 have continued the trend towards lower rainfall noted in the last two years. Over the period, a total of just under 5.5 inches compares with a norm of 6.8

inches. Similarly, for the winter months of October to March, 12.6 inches compared with an average of 16 inches. Certainly, the gales that caused so much havoc in the first half of March

seem to have given way, by the time of writing in early April, to some wonderful days with unbroken sunshine. These then merged into so many really glorious sunsets. Even the red sky at night seemed to cover a much greater area than used to be normal. It is, of course, wonderful to enjoy this and the fact that we can walk on the Heath without changing into wellies or go down to the shops without taking an umbrella.

But, if climate change means that we no longer get the level of rainfall we used to, this will become a very different country to live in.

DIANA IWI FROM MEADWAY

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Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association

Sunday Summer Fun Day

What's On

Music from **Sound of the Suburb** · Face Painting · Punch & Judy · Fizzie Lizzie Children's Arts & Crafts · Cakes · Donkey Rides · Fire Engine Display
Raffle · Plant Sale · Refreshments

All Dogs Matter

After last year's phenomenal success, **All Dogs Matter** are back with a new competition. Why not try again! Watch your beloved four-paws win one of this year's champion rosettes. www.alldogsmatter.co.uk

Table & 6 chairs: £17 **Advance booking only**, or bring your own rug.
 Book your picnic table now at raevents@hgsra.uk, 07793 000283



Night at the Opera: A full house on Sunday, March 24, at the Free Church, as the London International Orchestra played a wonderful selection of extracts from some of the best known operas, supported by three soloists from Hampstead Garden Opera. The whole evening raised much needed funds for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Suburb life through picture postcards

The latest exciting collection to hit the HGS Virtual Museum is the extensive Raymond Lowe Collection of picture postcards. These cards tell the story of the Suburb's development from its very beginnings, and also trace the history of one particular extended family of early residents and their neighbours and friends.

Raymond was an avid collector, who, over many years, enjoyed searching through boxes and boxes at postcard fairs for Suburb scenes, "as rare as hens' teeth". He then mounted and annotated them in several large albums, the contents of which have now been painstakingly scanned into the Virtual Museum. Other local people augmented his collection by giving him any Suburb cards that they owned or found. As with the museum's First World War Collection, Raymond's postcards also depict the repercussions of

big world events and little local ones on the lives and people of Hampstead Garden Suburb from 1907 onwards.

We know of at least two more Suburb postcard collections waiting to join this one in the museum. The Virtual Museum seeks to preserve any unique memorabilia or artefacts relating to Suburb people, activities and history that Suburb families may still have at home, by scanning and digitising them without families losing ownership.

You can find the Raymond Lowe Collection in the 'Collections' section and explore the rest of the museum at hgsheritage.org.uk. And if you have anything you would like to share yourself while retaining ownership, or if you would like to help with inputting information, please get in touch with me – info@hgsheritage.org.uk, 8455 6507.

MARJORIE HARRIS

RA and Barnet in joint tree initiative

Lyttelton Playing Fields is one of the green lungs of the Suburb, less well known than the Heath Extension or Central Square, but a much used open space. The playing fields are named after

the Liberal politician and first chairman of the HGS Trust, Alfred Lyttelton, who was one of the great sportsmen of his generation, and the first to represent England at both football and cricket.

The playing fields were added to the Suburb in its second phase of development after World War I. A few mature oaks survive, as well as remnant of a hedgerow (see

SN134, back page) that once marked the boundary to the Bishop of London's medieval Hornsey Park. The small area of woodland by Mutton Brook is known as Watery Wood and is shown on Rocque's map of 1754.

In 2000 a Millennium Wood was planted as part of a scheme promoted by the Woodland Trust. The area is well known to users of the children's playground, outdoor gym and tennis courts, all provided by Barnet Council, and Keren's Nursery School and the Gaya Cafe in the pavilion.

The Residents Association has been working with Barnet Council to plant some additional trees in the playing fields and the photographs illustrate a group of cherries, hawthorns and a silver birch planted last month. More trees will be planted next season in the playing fields and the Residents Association is very pleased at Barnet Council's commitment to maintaining the Suburb's trees in the playing fields and elsewhere.

COLIN GREGORY



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Views expressed in Suburb News are not necessarily those of the publishers the Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association.

Deadline for the Summer issue is July 6, for publication on August 3

The RA website is www.hgsra.uk