

Suburb



News



Barnet Mayor, Cllr. Brian Salinger at Pre-Proms Party, p7

Sculpture at the HGS Art Fair, p6



"How long now to the Summer Fun Day?", p12



105th Residents Association AGM



The 105th AGM of the Residents Association was held on March 27 at the Henrietta Barnet School Hall and this year was an occasion for change, but with no hustings as there was no contested election. Chairman, David Lewis, welcomed everyone and mentioned that this was his last year in the job. It was his second term as chairman and he was pleased to be handing over the reins to a younger team.

He went on to thank Max Petersen (Vice-Chairman), Peter McCluskie (Hon Sec), Emma Howard (Hon Treasurer) and Rosemary Goldstein (Assistant Secretary) for their service, and then looked forward to the election of the new team of officers later in the meeting.

The meeting then moved on to the usual early business of apologies and approvals of minutes, reports and accounts, all of which was swiftly dealt with. The next item on the agenda was the election of officers and members of the council.

Although there was no contested election for the officers, ballot papers had been handed out to members so that they could express their approval, or not, of the proposed officers and members of council. There was no need for the combative arguments of the two previous AGMs as there was no contest, and the ballot papers were collected and taken away for counting.

Members voted to keep the annual subscription at a

recommended minimum of £15, and to re-appoint Paul Hartley as the association's Honorary Accountant for the coming year.

The Chairman then introduced Michele Roiter, who had agreed to take over the vital role of Membership Secretary from Janet Elliott. Janet had filled this position for 13 years, and combined it with chairing RA council for a time. She was thanked for her contribution and presented with a fine bouquet of flowers.

A way for the Residents Association to reward members of our community for their commitment and contribution to life here is through making them RA Honorary Life Members and this year David and Joyce Littaur, Valerie Codron and

Micky Watkins were proposed and accepted as life members.

David, with the unfailing support of Joyce, has worked hard on RA council and as chairman of its Events Committee, and for many years has helped organise many of the talks, meetings and other gatherings such as the Summer Funday or New Year's Fireworks.

Valerie Codron was a mainstay of the Hampstead Garden Suburb Theatre Club, which organised theatre outings for 28 years from 1989 until last year, and was much-loved, giving a great deal of pleasure to Suburb theatre goers.

Micky Watkins has spent over 20 years working on the HGS Archives helping to collect periodicals, photos, press cuttings and other records relating to the Suburb. She also helped organise the wonderful Suburb centenary exhibition.

David Lewis then invited those present to join in the traditional session of questions from the floor, which proved to be the liveliest part of the evening's proceedings. The subject of potholes was clearly the topic that was most on people's minds, with the state of Suburb pavements and cyclists using them running close behind.

Members of the RA who also use its web e-mail forum, the HGS List, will be aware that for many the Suburb feels as if it has become one huge pothole. The questions asked at the meeting left no doubt that residents think that Barnet has lost control of the situation and is unable to cope with the ravages this winter has wrought on the Suburb's already dilapidated roads.

There were unfavourable comparisons made with roads in developing countries, and



Spring finally breaks through at The Northway Rose Gardens. Article back page

Trust grant giving

Most residents of the Suburb will know of the Trust's role in regulating alterations to Suburb properties and the maintenance of some communal areas. One of the less well-known aspects of the Trust's operation is its modest grant giving. Charity grant giving is an area that has been in the news recently, and the Trust has recently reviewed its own procedures following a mistake that was pointed out by a member.

The Trust's Memorandum of Association allows the Trust to assist, promote or support an organisation with charitable objects whose activities, at least in part, are carried out within the Suburb and which are likely to benefit residents. Whilst the

organisation given the Trust's support must have charitable objects, it does not necessarily have to be incorporated or a registered charity. However, the Trust is not able to make grants to an individual person.

So far as collective memory goes, the Trust has given grants to various bodies. Successive Trust Councils have decided, whilst being mindful that the Trust is spending some of its reserves generated by one-off sales of balance sheet assets each year, that the Trust should contribute towards the wider Suburb community by way of grant giving. In recent years the Trust has established the Grants & Amenities Committee to advise

(continued page 3)

WE DELIVER

For almost 40 years now we have been serving the needs of the Suburb and we have enjoyed every moment of it. Our service extends from Cottages to Castles and there is no property which is too small or too large for us to handle.

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We are the longest serving agents in the area, under the same Management for over 40 years and if you want to know what's going on in the market or check the value of your home, please feel free to pop in and you are welcome to use our private clients' car park (at the rear of our offices).

No obligation, no fuss, just good old fashioned service.



Letchworth Garden City

Sustainability and Community

An illustrated presentation by Graham Fisher, Chief Executive of Letchworth Garden City Heritage Foundation, and formerly of Toynbee Hall. **3:30pm Sunday 20 May 2018** Friends Meeting House, 17 North Square

Tea and biscuits at 4:30pm



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.



www.hgs.org.uk

(continued back page)

Derek Chandler 1938-2018



Derek was an only child, born to Dick and Peggy in Southgate, on 7 December 1938. He and his family were lucky to survive the Blitz – in 1940 a blast blew the back of the house through the front. Fortunately, they were in the shelter in the garden, although the infant Derek did disappear for a time under a pile of sand. The family moved to Oxford, and returned to the house when it was rebuilt in 1947.

An intelligent child, with 'a memory like a dustbin', as his wife Sue describes it, he got a scholarship to the Mercers' School in Holborn. But his reports suggest they may have been a little disappointed in him – describing him as 'erratic', 'lazy', 'perfectly capable but not always prepared to put the effort in'. What they missed is that he already had clear views about what was worth doing and what not. If it was worthwhile, he put the effort in and he did it well. One of the things Derek did particularly well, was to make lifelong friends.

Derek progressed to take a degree in electronic engineering at Kings College, Durham, what is now Newcastle University. Derek now had to earn a living, and he did so firstly as an electrical engineer, moving on to become a patent attorney, retiring in 1995.

He was a dedicated family man. It started with a group of friends, of which Sue was a part. They finally got together as a couple in March 1964 and married the next August. They moved around north London a little before settling in the

house in Golders Green where they stayed.

The house was in a bad way and they set to and put it to rights – Derek concentrating on the plumbing, heating, rewiring, fixtures and fittings, while Sue did the decorating – all of it, inside and out. It was years before Derek allowed a workman anywhere near the house, let alone in it.

The couple's first daughter, Helen, arrived in 1973, followed by Janet in 1980. They remember Derek as strict but fair. He had clear ideas on how they should behave and communicated them robustly. There were the inevitable tensions, particularly when the girls became teenagers, and some of their friends were just a bit scared of Derek – something to do with his height, perhaps, and the rather intimidating habit he had of becoming more and more quiet the angrier he became.

It was a close family. They always ate together and often took off to the Isle of Wight for a break. This meant it wasn't practical to have animals in the house. But put Derek next to a cat, and there was no separating them. And when Janet brought one of her rabbits to stay for a while, Bob Bunny and Derek bonded immediately – and sat watching the TV together.

He also liked to relax with music or a good book – preferably non-fiction but occasionally a Terry Pratchett or other fantasy novel – a taste he picked up from his daughters. He had a wry attitude to life, and a dry sense of humour, and he certainly enjoyed a good joke.

He kept his friends from school, university, and the workplace, and to those he added new ones near where he lived. Derek saw John the Barber, just round the corner, nearly every day for 20 years. They loved to chat, and Derek would take him the Evening Standard if he was passing his shop in the evening.

In his retirement he was able to devote more time to organisations promoting the general good. It included the local ward panel for the Safer Neighbourhood Team, the London Forum of Civic and

Amenity Societies, and Probus, for retired professionals. As Secretary of the Benevolent Association of the Chartered Institute of Patent Attorneys, he was, for 16 years, the main point of contact for anyone asking for their help in the form of a grant.

Derek liked to make sure people were comfortable, even finding seats for strangers on the bus. And the source of his good manners and his courtesy was his full engagement with everything and everyone around him.

KATE HOBSON

Peter Neville, chairman of the BTG Pensioners' Association, pays tribute

In my lifetime, I have been privileged to meet a handful of individuals who were entirely good and helpful, and of whom nobody had a bad word to say. Derek was one of them.

More than that – he had the gift, when you spoke to him, of making you feel you were the only person of interest to him. This is not to suggest he was some unworldly guru – he was intensely practical and knowledgeable.

Thus, a typical 'household problem' conversation with him might go like this: "Derek, my washing machine

won't empty properly."

"Oh, what model is it?"

"Whizzo 66."

"The 66E or 66F?"

"66E I think."

"Ah well, take off the switchgear cover plate, you'll see a row of copper contacts. Go to the seventh from the left, you'll see it's pitted. Just burnish it with fine sandpaper and you should be all right."

Problem solved. Of course.

He was the best Chairman the BTG Pensioners' Association has ever had, and the best Head that the BTG Patents Department never had."

Roger Cullis, long standing colleague and friend, reflects on what made Derek special

Derek, who died of systemic cancer, and I go back a long way together. In the 1960s, patent trainees were often recruited from corporate R&D departments.

We were originally engineers at Standard Telephones & Cables Ltd. I moved to the London Patent Department of International Telephone & Telegraph Corp. (STC's parent company) in 1963 and Derek a year or two later.

We shared an office and a double desk in Glasshouse Yard, overlooking the Barbican. Our entertainment was watching the wrecking balls demolishing the bomb site in preparation for redevelopment.

We both developed similar filing systems, based on the mnemonic value of adjacent documents in a heap of papers. A paper read at the British Association for the Advancement of Science later called this the Volcano filing system because the heaps were apt to collapse like a magma eruption.

We moved on, Derek to Westinghouse, EMI and the then National Research Development Corporation (NRDC, later BTG). His interpersonal skills are reflected in the following comments by some who worked with him.

Malcolm Carter (former NRDC Records Manager) said "Receiving his Christmas card with the note saying that palliative care was all that was left, made me aware of his plight but I am still shaken by the speed of his decline. Warm and generous just about sums Derek up.

"On a very personal note about his generosity and kindness, he

offered me use of his IoW flat when my son, Jamie, was just 2 months old and we had the first of many lovely holidays there and in the subsequent house overlooking the Solent. Those holidays over eight summers were a joy for us and I like to think gave Derek some pleasure knowing we enjoyed it so much."

My daughter Gemma wrote, "I look back on my holiday work at BTG with fondness – especially the mind-expanding and wide-ranging lunchtime discussions. He, in particular, was always kind, patient and indulgent of my questions.

"I often remember with a chuckle, an occasion on which Sam Radley decided to test whether he actually read the 'Powers' that she prepared for him as he signed and passed them back with barely a glance. She inserted the words "and verily, I do declare that I am a small aquatic mammal named Bill," in the middle of the text. He glanced at it and said "Nice try Sam, I'm not going to sign that!" We were all astonished, but he shrugged and explained that it made the text the wrong shape! I have to sign those documents myself these days and always do so with a smile."

Derek spent his life helping others. A huge congregation of friends from all stages of his life bade him farewell at a Humanist ceremony at Golders Green Crematorium on February 24. He leaves his wife, Sue, daughters Janet and Helen and three grandchildren who will all sorely miss him.

It is with regret that, due to lack of space, Suburb News has had to edit this issue's obituaries. Editor

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Beryl Druce 1931-2018



Beryl was born in Guayaquil, Ecuador in 1931 and lived there, and in Santiago, Chile, until 1945 when her family came back to the UK on the troop ship SS Rangitiki.

The Heselton family eventually settled in West Hampstead in early 1946, and Beryl with sister Evelyn started at Henrietta Barnett School.

After school, she worked as a secretary in town and met Neville Druce, whom she married in August 1954, with her sisters Evelyn, Agnes and Mary as bridesmaids. The couple, with their daughters Katrina and Nicolette, moved to 68 Erskine Hill in 1960, where she lived for the rest of her life.

Beryl supported Neville's decision to leave the BBC to start a company, Better Sound, which led to the formation of Audio Engineering in 1965. Former neighbour from Coleridge Walk, Molly Davies, lent them £100 to help start their company, and Molly's faith in the couple was rewarded many times over.

Employees were valued as if they were family, and she kept the company going as long as possible after Neville's death in 1999 with it closing in 2015 – Beryl was really proud of all that had been achieved and of her many loyal staff.

Beryl loved cruising. She went around the world with husband Neville in the 90's, stopping off to see Nicolette in Turkey.

There were other cruises to all corners of the world, including a trip to Antarctica to see her favourites – the penguins! She thought they were a bit smellier than expected and although she was advised to keep away from them, the curious penguins had other ideas. Beryl continued cruising until 2017 and in fact had another one booked for the end of January 2018.

Beryl loved her garden. She spent hours de-heading her favourite "rhodos", which Neville

had planted decades back, and which give a wonderful display of blooms in Spring. Spending time in her garden gave Beryl great happiness.

A well-known face on the Suburb, Beryl often stopped to chat whilst out shopping on a Saturday; Dr Vadgama in Temple Fortune was a regular stopping place of hers.

She made many good friends at Abbeyfield when she stayed there whilst work was done on her house, and she felt it a wrench to leave. However, Beryl remained a regular for lunch after an invitation from Lynn and Lucy. She felt welcome at Abbeyfield and considered it a privilege to go there; she valued the company and friendship.

Family and work colleagues will remember Beryl's love of Post-Its to communicate. When the offices closed, yellow notes were on the walls from front to back of the building – reminders to remember keys, put out milk bottles, lock up.

Known for her lovely smile and sense of humour, she was always polite with a "Thank You" to finish. Beryl felt that she had had a happy life and done everything she wanted to do. She was always grateful, cheerful and laughing to the end of her life; loved, admired and respected by all who knew her.

NICOLETTE DRUCE

Ian Tutton adds a personal tribute

I knew Beryl for the last few years of her life. To me she was the epitome of a 'nice' lady – 'nice' being a word that my English teacher forbade us to use when writing – find another word she would say ...well, how about kind, considerate, patient, thoughtful, generous, polite, engaging, delightful, humble, straightforward, welcoming and so on... all words that could be used to describe Beryl, she was indeed, a very nice lady indeed.

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Holocaust Memorial event at the Suburb Library



The Suburb's Community Library marked Holocaust Memorial Day on January 27 in two ways:

- A fortnight's display of posters and available books, a majority of which were borrowed during the period.
- A talk on January 31 by Anita Peleg – Suburb resident and Trustee of the Government-funded Holocaust Memorial Day Trust (HMDT) – about her mother, Naomi Blake, holocaust survivor and member of the Royal Society of British Sculptors, currently living in Muswell Hill.

The library was packed to capacity for the talk. Anita gave the audience a unique, as well as inspiring, experience. The factual background on the effect of the Holocaust on her mother's town and of the 'death marches' of 1945, briefly but graphically illustrated by the black & white photos of the time, combined with her mother's personal story, from happy schooldays through to the death march and then escape, gripped the audience;

with that grip strengthened by the maintenance of her belief in the possibility of goodness, and her subsequent artistic growth to a huge oeuvre now visible in so many public places.

The story brought hope that humanity can be kind as well as ghastly, and that art and nurture can save one's spirit. Her mother always believed in a 'Glimmer of Hope', the title given by Anita to one of her books about her mother, now in the library.

After the war Naomi journeyed to British-ruled Palestine, staying for the establishment of the State of Israel, until she married her London-based husband, who had escaped Nazi Germany. After enrolling at the Hornsey College of Art she eventually became today's renowned sculptor, with works in cathedrals, churches, synagogues and parks across the country, as well as abroad.

The chairman's introduction mentioned to those present three other things. Firstly the originating effect in 2016 of the HMDT

invitation to the library trustees to a workshop, which resulted in the library displays for Holocaust Memorial Day in 2017 and 2018.

Secondly the information received at the workshops about local boroughs' Community Engagement Officers, which led the trustees to research and then attend Barnet's impressive (but poorly publicised) Holocaust Memorial Day commemoration in Hendon on Sunday January 28 this year.

Thirdly he drew attention to the information from HMDT that the post-war genocides in Cambodia, Bosnia, Rwanda and Darfur, like the Holocaust, were planned and carried out in the stages illustrated by the key poster in the library; the lessons are still there to be learned, and the signs need to be recognised.

He pointed out that in these days of 'fake news', the testimony of the historical record needs to be remembered, and the annual HMD is an opportunity to bring this to mind.

Naomi Blake had survived Auschwitz and, after being caught up in the international chaos following World War II, she finally made her home in North London. Much of her sculpture has focused on the expression of her experiences – but her work also promotes a principally optimistic vision for uniting faiths, building understanding and hope. "An artist is a mediator, a channel through which motivations of the past... hopes for the future are subconsciously transmitted into forms and lines" and so her art affirms enduring human values.



Naomi's sculpture has been extensively exhibited and collected. Her sculptures are permanently exhibited at over fifty public sites including Hampstead Garden Suburb Synagogue, Fitzroy Square,

Great Ormond Street Hospital, Bristol Cathedral, the Holocaust Centre, Nottingham and Tel Aviv University.

JONATHAN SERES

PHOTOS: MARC HULL

Saving Suburb seats

We are fortunate in the Suburb to have many benches for residents to use to watch the world go by or for rest if they have mobility problems, whether caused by respiratory disease, which, given London pollution levels, are often in the news, or simply old age.

Many of our benches are the result of bequests by residents, or memorials funded by the RA, and others have been installed by Barnet.

The passage of time and the ravages of the elements can have a destructive effect on these useful pieces of street furniture and, as our photo demonstrates, they can become virtually unusable.

There is an RA initiative that tries to rectify the dilapidation of benches. So please report any broken benches by e-mailing,

with the location and preferably a photo, to Harry at rabenches@hgs.org.uk and the RA will try to have them fixed or replaced.



Post Office raided by thieves



There has been a worrying spate of burglaries recently at some of our local shops including a serious theft from the post office in Market Place.

In the early hours of February 25 the popular W H Smith newsagent and sub-post office run by Jitendra Dave was raided and a large quantity of cigarettes was stolen. Cash was

also taken from the till. CCTV footage of the burglary shows three men arriving by car at 2.30am. With faces covered they can be seen forcing open the protective metal shutter covering the shop front and then smashing the glass door to gain access.

Police were alerted by a neighbour who heard the noise

of the forced entry, and who assumed there was a fight taking place on the street. Unfortunately the thieves had made their getaway before police arrived on the scene. The shop front was so badly damaged that the newsagents could not open for business the next day.

Mr Dave said, "I'm astonished that the men were able to force open the shutter, which was meant to be burglar-proof."

The police are examining CCTV footage but the car used for the burglary is thought to have been stolen. There were no clear images of the men's faces in the recording and few eyewitnesses to the event. At the time of writing there have been no arrests.

Several shops in Temple Fortune have suffered similar recent raids so it seems likely that a gang is targeting local businesses.

GARY SHAW

Trust grant giving

(continued from front page)

the Trust Council on its grant giving. The Committee usually meets twice per year to review applications submitted by organisations and to make recommendations to the Trust Council, who make the decisions on all grants.

Over recent years the Trust has given grants to bodies such as Fellowship House, the Orchard Housing Society, Abbeyfield House, Proms at St Jude's, Garden Suburb Theatre, HGS Archive Trust, St Jude's Church, the Free Church, Resources for Autism, Alyth Synagogue, the Youth Music Centre and Northway Gardens Organisation.

Amongst other things the grants have contributed towards performing plays, replanting important communal gardens and refurbishing a playground open to all on the Suburb, preserving historic Suburb archives, taking elderly residents on outings, the repair of important Suburb buildings, improvement to communal facilities for elderly residents, providing communal dining for residents and the staging of an international quality series of Proms events.

The annual amount granted by the Trust has risen from under £3,000 in 2006/7 to an anticipated £29,835 in 2017/18 (the final accounts are being prepared at the time of writing).

To raise awareness of these activities, the Trust publicises grants in the Annual Report & Accounts and Trust Gazette, which are sent to freeholders and members of the Trust each year. Copies of each are available on the Trust's website www.hgstrust.org

Following the publication of last year's accounts some members contacted the Trust about a grant that had been given to a member of Trust staff, correctly pointing out to the Trust that such a grant was not allowed under the Trust's Memorandum.

It was agreed that grant would be repaid and subsequently the Trust Council asked the Grants & Amenities Committee to review the Trust's procedure for future grants. The Committee did so, also reviewing the recently published Charity Commission Guidance on grants to non-charities, recommending that each meeting be provided with a summary of the relevant parts of the Trust's Memorandum and the Commission guidance, to ensure compliance with the Trust's obligations.



Any resident with a query regarding the Trust's grant giving is invited to contact me, the Trust Manager, via the Trust office.

NICK PACKARD

DAVID JOHNSON



Trust grant recipients: Orchard Housing Society (top), Proms at St Jude's (above)

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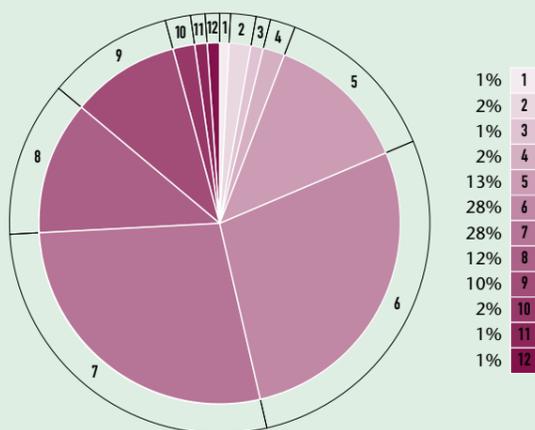
A snapshot of Hampstead Way from the 1911 Census

By the time of the 1911 Census taken on April 2/3, 145 of the eventual 179 houses in the Hampstead Way, right up to Reynolds Close, had already been built, although eight were still unfinished buildings. One of the houses had been subdivided, so for that address there were two census returns submitted. Eight of the properties were unoccupied on census night, as presumably their tenants were away from home. So there were 130 returns filed for the road.

The original numbering of Hampstead Way began at the Temple Fortune end of the road with adjacent houses numbered in sequence on the east or north side from 1. However further along the road the numbering crisscrossed the road with little logic. Early in 1913 the whole road was renumbered, and no house retained its original number. The new numbering, given here italicised, began this time at the opposite end of the road, at the North End Way end of Hampstead Way. The west/south side of the road was numbered with odd numbers beginning at 1, up to 221 just before the entrance Farm Walk. Even numbers were used for the east/north side beginning at number 6, the house at the bottom of Hampstead Heath Extension, then called Winnepesaukee (which had previously been 200), up to 164 (which had been number 1) at the Temple Fortune end of the road. Note that some numbers do not exist.

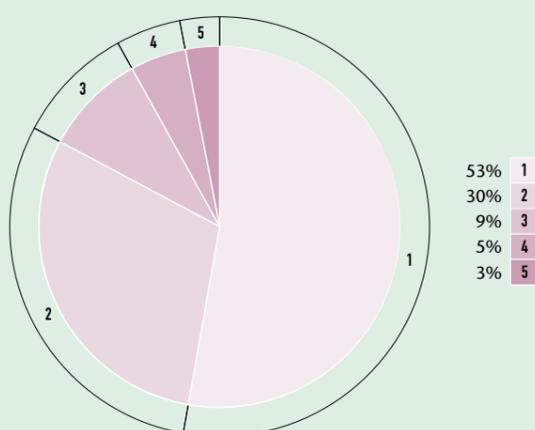
The houses/properties came in a variety of sizes and had between one and twelve rooms (see chart above). For census purposes halls, landings or bathrooms are not considered as rooms, but kitchens, studies, as well as living rooms and bedrooms are. The largest houses were those near the Extension. 119 houses had between 5 and 9 rooms, and the average number of rooms was 6.7.

PROPERTIES PER NUMBER OF ROOMS



There were 535 people residing in the road on census night: 201 males, and 334 females. 66 of the households, or 50.8%, were families with children under 16. Not all were nuclear families, as the children were not always living with their parents: one lived with her older brother and sister and widowed grandmother, another with her grandmother, four were nieces or visitors, and one four-year old boy lived with his single mother. There were 115 children under 16 (or 21.5% of the total number of residents) living in the street. 35 families had only one child aged under 16, 20 had two, 6 had three, 3 with four and 2 with five. The average number of children per family was 1.74. There were, of course, some families with children aged 16 and over still living at home with them. These older children were mostly part of the workforce.

FAMILIES PER NUMBER OF CHILDREN



22 of the heads of household were women, seven of whom were married, five were widowed and ten were single ladies. 107 heads of household were men, 95 of whom were married, five were widowed and seven were single. The sex of one head of household was not known. Eight of the married households only had one partner at home that night. The average length of a marriage was 10.9 years.

Households contained a variety of family members other than sons and daughters and there were 25 visitors staying in the road on census night. There were also 22 boarders, or paying guests. There were 78 live-in staff, mostly servants (two of whom were only 15 years old), but also employees who were housekeepers, family helps, companions, private tutors, nurses and cooks.

23, or 4.4%, of the 535 residents had been born abroad, including ten in Europe. Ten hailed from Scotland, five from Wales and two from Ireland, with another four from the Isle of Wight. But by far the majority, 296 or 55.3%, had been born in London, with another 65, or 12.1%, in the Home Counties. 122, or 22.8%, came from elsewhere in England, and the birthplace of five was not given. Two of the servants did not know where they had been born and one of these was listed as a foundling.

The average age of the heads of household was 41.1 years, with 29 being the average age overall for the street. Only eleven residents were over 65. The oldest inhabitant, and the only one in her eighties, was 82.

287 people (53.6% of the residents) had occupations and this included the live-in staff, who formed 27.9% of the employees. The next most common career was that of a clerk; there were 67 people, or 23.3% of the workforce, with that occupation living in Hampstead Way, many working in the Civil Service, but in other industries too. There were thirteen artists (mostly painters, but also an actress, an authoress, a concert pianist and a draughtsman), twenty teachers, nine architects or surveyors, three doctors and a dentist. The Post Office employed ten. There was an accountant, a stockbroker, a barrister but also those employed in the building trade such as a plumber, a house painter and a carpenter. One person managed a cinematograph company, another was a jeweller, another a silversmith. Five of the wives worked.

The resident at house number 57 (*now 121*) had refused to fill in the census return. She was a female suffragette with the surname Kelsey, aged approximately 52, and living with her two grown-up sons and a servant. The scant information given had



Larger houses on Hampstead Way by the Heath



Hampstead Way gardens

been collected by the Registrar who had amended the return and added: "Particulars inserted from information obtained by instructions from Registrar General".

Interesting observations noted on certain occupants of the road in 1911 are:

- At 12 (*now 142*) – a builder's foreman for the Co-Partnership Tenants, Herbert Cecil Wood
- At 21 (*now 124*) – a concert pianist, George Woodhouse
- In Litchfield Square – several civil servants, and also several artists
- At 84 (*now 173*) – a professional singer, James Saker
- At 92 (*now 89*) – the Brooks Club hall porter, John Storer
- At 81 (*now 142*), 98 (*now 201*), 118 (*now 70*), 130 (*now 46*), 158 (*now 30*) – architects, respectively James Rogers, Francis Hart, Arthur Stratton, Thomas Wilson, Charles Tate (as well as both Charles Simmons and Raymond Unwin living up in Wyldes Close)
- At 146 (*now 40*) – an actress, Mabel Thomas
- At 175 (*now 101*) – the Free Church Minister, Rev James Henry Rushbrooke
- At 248 (then called Heath Close Corner) (*now 51*), the Keeper of the Wallace Collection, Dugald Sutherland MacColl
- At 251, (called Nine Elms) (*now 45*), The HM Medical Inspector of Prisons, Dr Thomas Legge, who had been born in Hong Kong.
- Others who were born abroad included: at number 100 (Briarcot) (*now 205*), William Thorn Spettigue, who was a hosier and outfitter, born in Ontario, Canada; at 119 (*now 68*) Carl Kinzbrunner, secretary of a learned science society, born in Austria; at 185 (*now 81*), James Walter Smith, a publishing editor and journalist, born in the USA. an activist in the Co-Partnership and Garden City movement.

Janice Blackstaffe, Garden Suburb Archives



Foundation cottages pre WW1



Hampstead Way towards Finchley Road



Hampstead Way near junction with Willifield Way

The Hampstead Garden Suburb Archives Trust
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Practical help for the homeless

The need for night shelter for the homeless is increasing. Will you do something to help?

The HGS Free Church has been approached by the charity Together in Barnet who run a night shelter project across the Borough every night of the week at different venues. The project runs in the winter months from October to April, and each

venue hosts one night a week for ten consecutive weeks.

Together in Barnet works with Homeless Action in Barnet (HAB). Clients from HAB are vetted and referred to the night shelters; only those registered with HAB are accepted in the shelters. People who have problems with alcohol or drugs or who have complex needs are not referred.

Prior to the host night a list of the guests expected is sent out by HAB to the venue, and they sign in on arrival. No alcohol or drugs are allowed in the venues and HAB do carry out spot checks.

On average 17 guests, mainly men and a few women, are accepted each evening. The guests eat a meal and sleep in the building and have breakfast before leaving; the Free Church would use the Hall in Northway.

During the day volunteers from the previous night shelter deliver the mattress 'rolls' to the Hall. This roll is a thin mattress, sleeping bag and pillow all in a bag with the client's name on it. The following day our volunteers take these rolls by car to the next night shelter venue.

Each evening we would need a team of five or six volunteers who would run a shift system.

The first group of volunteers start at 6pm to set up, laying the table for supper and setting out drinks. Guests arrive at 7pm. They are provided with an Oyster card by Together in Barnet. Supper is served at 8pm.

Volunteer cooks prepare the evening meal in their own homes for delivery to the Hall.



Menus consist of a hearty main course (with a vegetarian option) and a hot pudding. Volunteers eat with the guests.

At 9.30pm the night shift arrives, one male and one female

volunteer who sleep the night with the guests. The doors shut at 10pm and lights out is 11pm.

At 7am breakfast is served and guests leave at 8.30am. Breakfast is cereals, fruit and toast with a hot drink. There are facilities and services at HAB and clients can go there to shower and have a hot breakfast.

Whilst many may not be able physically to help with the shelter, support may be offered by making a donation towards costs of food. The Church will hold a dedicated night shelter fund.

Together in Barnet are coming to talk to a group at HGS Free Church and anyone is welcome to join us and perhaps to consider supporting us. We will form a committee to organise our night, and training (two hours) for volunteers will be held at HAB in Woodside Avenue N12. Together in Barnet will check our H&S policy, fire procedures and carry out a risk assessment.

Next winter the plan is to have three, 10-week cycles: October 8 to December 16, December 17 to February 24, and February 25

to May 5. We would be in the second cycle starting December 18 as HGS Free Church has agreed to host Tuesdays.

If you would like to become involved please e-mail either itutton@aol.com or jo_morris@btinternet.com or ptrafford07@gmail.com.

JO MORRIS

STOP PRESS:

The initial meeting about this Homeless Project will take place in the Free Church at 8pm on Tuesday, June 5. Anyone interested in helping or supporting us either come along to the meeting or get in touch using the e-mail details above.



Pets Corner: Holly Golightly – a tabby cat

Following in the 'paw steps' of 'Tudor' the marmalade cat who appeared in a previous issue of Suburb News in our Pets Corner feature, we are delighted to introduce Holly Golightly.

Holly Golightly, who is known mostly as Holly, with nicknames Sweet Pea (when she's being adorable, which is most of the time), and Smudgy (when she's being a little naughty!) came to live with her owner, Debra Young, who has lived in Hampstead Garden Suburb for 20 years. Debra was asked to adopt Holly by a family friend of her original owner in November 2010. At the time Holly was 10 months old, very timid and a little traumatised. Debra adopted her because sadly, her original owner died. Originally called Molly, Debra renamed her after the iconic character that Audrey Hepburn played in 'Breakfast at Tiffany's'.

Holly's routine: she wakes early – usually around dawn, and in fine weather goes outside to check out the garden. When the weather is cold or rainy, she shimmies behind the blind in the bedroom and looks out over the garden.

Holly used to wake Debra by

sitting on her or tapping her face with her paw until she woke her up, but has learned to be patient until the alarm goes off. Holly waits with Debra until they are ready to go downstairs just to ensure Debra does not forget to give her some breakfast.

After breakfast, if the weather is good, Holly will stay outside for hours, if not a quick visit outside, then a lot of napping in the sunniest spot, interspersed with requests for attention and some play. As Debra works from home and is usually in her office, she finds keeping Holly keeps her company, while Holly sits on office papers and types badly as she walks across the keyboard.

Originally only a downstairs cat with a limited realm, she was allowed the run of the house some time ago. She rules over every room now.

Everything about Holly is special; she's sweet and feisty and owns Debra, her home and everything in it!

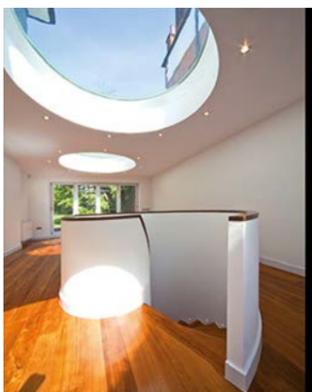
What are Holly's particular quirks and habits? Well, she has lots of toys to play with, but her favourite game is played at the top of the stairs with a ball of string – the simple things in life!

Given half a chance, she will be found in the airing cupboard snuggling in the freshly washed and ironed linen. When this princess has had her fill of being tickled under her chin, a favourite occupation, she will use a paw to push away Debra's hand!

Holly's pet hates and dislikes: She hates fish! She's not keen on dogs either!

What does Holly like about living in the Suburb? She loves being outside in the summer. Her favourite places are sitting on top of the garden shed, snoozing in the sun on the garden bench, and visiting the neighbours' gardens.

A special thank you to Debra Young for relating this story to her neighbour Daphne Berkovi.



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10.30am Sung Eucharist

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Second HGS Art Fair

Hampstead Garden Suburb Artists held their second annual art fair in Fellowship House over the weekend of April 14 & 15.

A successful event, it exhibited the work of 25 members of the group to the several hundred people who turned up to enjoy and, for some, buy the art on show.

Suburb events often involve the consumption of very tasty cake and the Art Fair is no exception. Tea, coffee and cake were sold in support of Combat Stress, the Service's mental health support charity.

There was a wonderful selection of paintings, ceramics, sculptures, jewellery, textiles, silk paintings and glass work on

display. The group has solid roots in the community, and we can hope that it will continue to flourish with a third successful spring show next year.

TERRY BROOKS



PETER MCCLUSKIE



PETER MCCLUSKIE



TONY BRAND

HGS Virtual Museum helped by Garden Suburb Library

You probably remember reading that the HGS Virtual Museum was launched a few months ago (Winter Suburb News, p5) and is now open for everyone to explore at www.hgsheritage.org.uk.

The Museum has already made a splendid start on recording a large amount of precious Suburb memorabilia for posterity. This is an on-going project, so if you or anyone you know are able to contribute more pictures, objects or memories to the collections, please contact Marjorie Harris at info@hgsheritage.org.uk or call 020 8455 6507.

At the AGM of the Suburb's Community Library, in Fellowship House on March 13, a full screen demonstration of the Virtual Museum was given, resulting in three library volunteers now assisting the curators to organise the most recent finds.

If you have some spare time and would like to volunteer, either to collate the finds or, if you have IT skills, to upload material to the website, again, please e-mail Marjorie with your name, postal address on the Suburb, and phone number.



PETER MCCLUSKIE

TONY BRAND



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What to choose at Proms 2018

SUSAN PORTER



CLARE PARK



The two Graces, Davidson (left) and Durham (right)

Did you know that public booking for this year's Proms at St Jude's festival, which runs from June 23 to July 1, is now open?

The launch reception, with cellist Joely Koos, took place at the end of March. Tickets are now going fast for this music and literary extravaganza held at the centre of the Suburb, so make sure you order yours before it's too late.

STARS

The centrepiece of Proms of course is its music. And what a great offering there is this year.

As well as stars such as the Aurora Orchestra, which sold out its BBC Proms appearance, favourite Nevill Holt Opera, performing The Marriage of Figaro, and the chart-topping Kanneh-Mason Piano Trio, our local Proms is presenting a wide variety of really excellent concerts.

Whether or not you're a Gilbert & Sullivan regular, you're bound to enjoy HMS Pinafore, being brought to the Suburb by Charles Court Opera. This is one of the leading chamber opera and music theatre companies in the UK, and has been described as providing, "A sparkling fresh package of laughs, pathos, foolery and high-class music making".

If you'd like to try something different, you're in for a treat with the Septura Brass Septet. Septura's members are the leading players of the new generation of British brass musicians, holding principal positions in major UK orchestras. They aim to re-cast the brass ensemble as a serious artistic medium, and at Proms they will be performing arrangements of works by Handel, Prokofiev and Stravinsky.

Jazz fans will love the effervescent Jacqui Dankworth, playing 'A Touch of Cabaret' with Counterpoise, featuring Suburb resident and trumpeter, Deborah Calland. And for a fun Saturday night, don't miss the tribute to Bob Dylan, which can be combined with Proms first-ever late night stand-up comedy in a special offer deal.

AMAZING GRACE(S)

Two home-grown singers are gracing Proms this year – each one a Grace.

The first, Davidson, is an internationally known soprano who was brought up in the Suburb and at St Jude's, and will be performing with the Academy of Ancient Music in the first live performance of works from her new CD, including pieces by Handel and Vivaldi. It promises to be a really special evening. In the words of composer and conductor, Eric Whitacre: "Grace Davidson has one of the most beautiful and pure soprano voices on earth."

The second, Durham, is a mezzo-soprano who was formerly a chorister at St Jude's. Having sung with the Welsh National Opera, Scottish Opera and Glyndebourne Festival Opera, she will appear with the Covent Garden Chamber Orchestra on the Last Night, when the flags come out and the sea shanties and hymns raise the roof.

MAX IMPACT

Another coup is to have two members of one Suburb family open and close Proms. While the well-known cellist and musical director, Robert Max, will conduct on the Last Night, his son, Noah, a graduate of the

Purcell School of Music, will be conducting the Echo Ensemble, which he founded, in the first lunchtime concert. "I am very proud," said Wendy Max, mother and grandmother of the two respectively.

Free lunchtime concerts will be taking place all week and, as an innovation, a special family-friendly performance of Carnival of the Animals will be held at 3pm on the final Sunday of the Festival – 1 July.

LITFEST

If you're interested in books, the LitFest on the first weekend – 23 and 24 June – offers the chance to see some great writers from the worlds of politics, theatre, music and broadcasting.

Viv Groskop bridges several of those worlds. A broadcaster and stand-up comedian, she will be talking to Ham & High features editor Bridget Galton about her new book, The Anna Karenina Fix, a tongue-in-cheek memoir which compares her own problems with those of famous literary characters.

Two more well-known names from TV and radio will be appearing. ITV pundit, Robert Peston, will be in conversation with Suburb scion, Simon Lewis, about his book, WTF: What Have We Done? And John Tusa, who became Managing Director of the BBC World Service before running the Barbican Centre, will be discussing his memoir, Making A Noise, with BBC presenter and Proms patron, Sue MacGregor.

You can also see former National Theatre director, Nick Hytner; Tony Blair's speechwriter,



(l-r) Richard Clegg Chairman of Proms; Joely Koos; Barnet Mayor Cllr. Brian Salinger; Susie Gregson, Proms CEO

Philip Collins; Aurora Orchestra co-founder, Clemency Burton-Hill; columnist Simon Jenkins; and famous grammarian, Lynne Truss, who has just had her first crime novel published.

As a little incentive, Proms is offering free tea or coffee and home-made cake in its delightful LitFest café if you book tickets for at least three events on Saturday, 23 June or on Sunday, 24 June.

WALKS

Even if you've lived in the area for years, you'll get to know the Suburb and its surroundings much better through the Heritage Walks on offer – all led by experts in their field.

For example, English Heritage volunteer guide Tamara Rabin will be leading a walk through Kenwood, making links with landscape depictions in the House's collection.

Thomas Radice, Heath & Hampstead Society Trustee, will be tracing the homes of famous inhabitants of Hampstead Heath and the Suburb in his walk

starting at the café in Golders Hill Park.

And Lester Hillman, urban planner, lecturer and accredited guide, will lead a tour to uncover 'intrigue and spies in Belsize'.

These are just three of nine walks that will take place between Monday, 25 June and Sunday, 1 July.

FANFARE

Education is an important part of Proms' mission, and 11 schools from the local area will be taking part this year in the Schools Prom. They will be performing 'From the Impressionists' Room at the National Gallery' – music inspired by famous paintings by Monet, Rousseau and van Gogh.

Proms is also running a 'Fantastic Fanfares' composing competition for young people aged 14-18, who are invited to compose a fanfare lasting between 20 and 30 seconds. The winning piece will be performed on the Last Night.

Another competition – this time for young people from three schools in East London, challenging them to write a piece of poetry inspired by the music and themes from the Marriage of Figaro – will see winners read out their entries in front of the Proms audience. This has been made possible through the generosity of Proms' principal sponsor, Investec, working with Toynbee Hall, one of the two charities to which Proms donates its surplus.

"It's a privilege to have the chance to introduce young people to classical music in this way," said Niamh O'Donnell-Keenan, Proms Trustee, "and a wonderful way of keeping up the connection with the Suburb."

For more details on the events and competitions, and to book tickets (including concessions for under-25s), go to www.promsatstjudes.org.uk.

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Father and son Robert (above) and Noah (below) Max



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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**

MICHAEL EIFFERHADES

No margin for error with CCTV enforcement in Temple Fortune



When Barnet Council consulted residents in 2014 on the use of CCTV enforcement for moving traffic offences the RA responded by saying that we opposed the idea. Our reasons were that we expected CCTV powers would be used indiscriminately and without regard to circumstances.

We added that we sensed the public was becoming increasingly unhappy about an apparent disparity between the rigid enforcement of minor motoring offences and the authorities' lack of ability or willingness to solve or prevent much more serious criminality.

Many residents have told us they believe it far more likely that the owner of a stolen car will receive a parking or speeding ticket incurred by the thief than that the thief himself will be caught or punished for stealing the car!

Unfortunately our comments were ignored and CCTV cameras have proliferated across the borough over the past few years with several being sited in and around the Suburb to enforce

school zig-zags, banned turns and box junctions.

One of the sites under camera observation is the Finchley Road/Bridge Lane box junction in Temple Fortune about which the RA's Roads & Traffic Committee has heard many complaints. Whilst it is important that motorists should not block the junction, most local people would expect the regulation to be enforced with common sense. However the case of Oakwood Road resident Gill Gould suggests this is not happening.

Mrs Gould received a penalty charge notice of £130 after following a car across the junction whilst heading north on Finchley Road. The first car unexpectedly stopped just ahead so that part of her car was briefly stationary whilst still within the box. Barnet's video recording showed that she had come to a halt for no more than five seconds.

A very annoyed Gill Gould said "I was almost at the extremity of the box and so was not preventing the movement of any traffic either behind me or exiting from Bridge Lane. I feel this is bureaucracy gone mad and it's very unfair to penalise a pensioner for such a small misdemeanour; at £130 this will

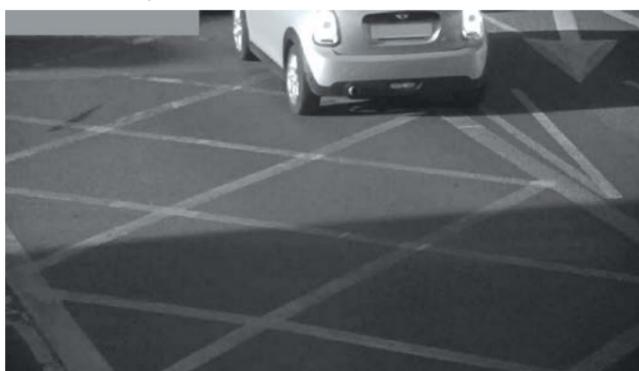
cost me approximately £30 per second."

It's hard to think of any crime that might be committed where the perpetrator would suffer such a disproportionate penalty as that facing Gill Gould. She has been given no quarter over this minor matter, the camera has caught her and with the press of a button Barnet Council and the DVLA have co-operated in penalising her. Yet despite a CCTV presence in the Market Place the post office raiders have not been troubled by the authorities.

The Market Place camera, which for ten years has been so effective at issuing parking tickets for Red Route contraventions, was useless when it was most needed because the robbers covered their faces. This sort of thing is hugely corrosive to the trust that should exist between citizen and state and in the long run it may be the state's agencies that will suffer most from the undermining of the confidence of those who should be its natural supporters.

Anyone uncertain of box junction regulations can find them under Rule 174 of the Highway Code or can contact the R&T Committee at ratraffic@hgs.org.uk for an explanation.

GARY SHAW



TfL: "No reason for any changes..."

The lead article in our last issue on the safety of pedestrians in The Market Place concluded by noting that, "Suburb News feels Transport for London (TfL) are very slow at responding, even when the safety of road users is at stake, and seem to make change very difficult to accomplish. We should all wish the RA's Roads & Traffic Committee and our Councillors the best of luck."

The RA's Roads & Traffic Committee have added a link (see below) to their webpage so that residents can now see the result of TfL's investigations on The Market Place and Falldon Way. They looked at speeds, right turns and pedestrians. Readers will probably not be surprised to hear that TfL can see no reason for any changes to the present arrangements.

There will be no speed cameras, or speed activated road signs, installed on Falldon Way as the speeds recorded were not above the set enforcement schedules.

The statistics clearly trump the observations of those who live on the road. Likewise with the pedestrian crossing arrangements; there will be no change. TfL remarked that, "Pedestrians were not waiting an excessive amount of time at any of the crossings, all waiting times were under 30 seconds. This shows that the facilities are good for pedestrians particularly considering they are crossing a major road."

Your Editor uses the crossings at Ossulton Way and Kingsley Way every day and feels this misses the point by not addressing the danger to pedestrians of using the Lyttelton Road side of the junction, where there was a fatality last year.

Crossing where the lights are pedestrian controlled will take two phases of the lights if you are elderly, have respiratory problems, children in tow, or are using a pushchair; users are obliged to wait in the middle of the road for the lights to change again.

So saving time is one of the reasons those crossing the road will risk crossing the uncontrolled Lyttelton Road rather than The Market Place with its pedestrian lights. Another reason could be the unavoidable spray from vehicle wheels in wet weather when waiting in the pen for the 'Green Man' to appear.

In any event TfL are not willing to change anything despite a lot of pressure from the RA's Roads & Traffic Committee and our GS Ward Councillors.

Residents can consider how difficult it is to get TfL to change their existing arrangements in response to the concerns from outside their own agency; they only seem to be interested in self-generated initiatives such as – if you remember this lengthy and costly fiasco – removing the bus stops in Falldon Way!

TERRY BROOKS

www.hgs.org.uk/ra/roadsandtraffic/other/201804tflfalldonwaysummarynote.pdf

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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18 Oxbridge offers for Woodhouse



Most of the hard-working Woodhouse eighteen

Woodhouse College near Tally Ho Corner had both a record number of Oxbridge interviews this year with 57, and a record number of offers of places. 18 students were offered places in colleges at Oxford and Cambridge Universities in January this year.

It is easy to forget that it is possible to get a place at our top universities from a local sixth form college when so much attention is given to schools such as the top girls school we have in the Suburb.

The Principal, John Rubinstein, remarked, "We put a lot of effort into supporting students with their choices, whatever they are, and for Oxbridge we've done a lot of work in preparing them for their

applications and interviews to make them as ready as we possibly can. We'll keep improving on our Oxbridge support network and are aiming for 20 offers next year."

Some of the successful students expressed how they felt. Among them was Orli Vogt-Vincent, 18, from East Finchley who has an offer to study History & Modern Languages at Emmanuel College, Cambridge, and said, "I was convinced I wouldn't get a place, so I'm over the moon! It's a dream come true for me. Getting a place feels particularly amazing because before I came to Woodhouse, I would never have put myself forward for anything like this, as I never thought I could be good enough."

Issy Darlington, 17, from Upper Holloway has an offer from Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford to study Physics. She said, "After all the stress and work of the last few months, I am very pleased to have been given an offer. My family were very emotional and happy for me. It is an amazing opportunity." She added, "I hope to do an integrated masters at Oxford. In my fourth year I hope to study the 'Maths and Theoretical Physics' master's course that they offer as a continuation of the physics degree. After that I'd like to do a PhD and possibly go in to research."

Woodhouse is a popular and oversubscribed sixth form college in Barnet. It has been given 'outstanding' status by OFSTED. Students, aged 16-18 years, come from over 180 different schools across North London and 95% go on to university. The College acts as a bridge from school to university, giving students a chance to grow in confidence and develop independent learning skills. All students study A levels, offered in a wide range of subjects, and can study them in almost any combination.

It could clearly be one of the options to be considered when thinking about where to study for A Levels in Barnet. It can be a difficult time for parents and students alike so they could find that adding this establishment to their list might make the choice easier.

TERRY BROOKS

WORDSEARCH

In this Wordsearch we have included 20 characters from Shakespeare plays. One of them is highlighted to start you off but please don't count it in your total! Names may be read in all directions, straight or diagonally. Please send your entries by email to terrybrooks1951@yahoo.com with your name and contact details. The closing date is June 16. All correct entries go into a draw to win a £20 book token. Good luck!

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SN133 WORDSEARCH ANSWERS, FACTS & WINNER

The answers to the last issue's stage and film musicals Wordsearch were as follows: Cabaret, Candide, Cats, Chicago, Chess, Evita, Grease, Gypsy, Hamilton, Hello Dolly, Matilda, Oliver, Pippin, Rent, Showboat, Taboo, The Producers, Tommy, West Side Story and Wicked.

DID YOU KNOW?

- The Phantom of the Opera is the longest-running Broadway show. Opening in 1988, Phantom has been staged over 11,400 times and it's still running.
- Lion King is the biggest Broadway show money-maker to date having grossed \$1.09 billion.
- The first nude Broadway musical was Hair, which opened in 1968 and ran 1,750 performances.

Tina Janering from Harford Walk is the winner of the Joseph's Bookstore £20 voucher: congratulations! Thank you also to all of you who also sent your answers.

This is my last Wordsearch at Suburb News: thanks to everyone who participated and got in touch with me through e-mail over the past three years, it's been great meeting you!

CRISTINA LAGO

Suburb News would like to say a big thank you to Cristina for her contribution to the paper for the last few years. Any Wordsearch fan who is interested in taking her place, please get in touch with the Editor.

SUBURB NEWS IS PRODUCED AND DELIVERED TO YOU BY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION VOLUNTEERS



Thai Massage in Temple Fortune

Despite the demise of some local shops, a welcome addition has appeared in Temple Fortune.

Kotchawan Thai Massage Therapy opened in November 2017 at 1185 Finchley Road, replacing a retail unit that had been empty for some time.

The owner Julian Lewis explained that the business is named after his wife Kotchawan (translates as beautiful skin) but is known by her nickname Rium. She is a Thai national and is very highly qualified in Thai massage. Mr Lewis explained that Thai massage has been in existence for some 3,000 years, emanating from Wat Po Temple in Bangkok; the most famous school of massage. Buddha was a doctor before he started his path to enlightenment and Thais believe that massage is integral to good physical and mental health.

All the women who practise here have been trained in Thailand and are highly qualified and experienced. One of the assistants has a Masters in Osteopathy, and although not practising this at Kotchawan Thai massage, she combines her anatomical and skeletal knowledge within her massage. All the products that are used are of the highest quality. They also sell some gifts that are sourced from Thailand, although the tiger balm is made by Kotchawan herself.

Thai massage eases muscular and skeletal pain and allows more easy movement again; this is something that I can certainly vouch for, as I was given a treat of a 30 minute massage, which I can only describe as stupendous, and can't wait to go back again.

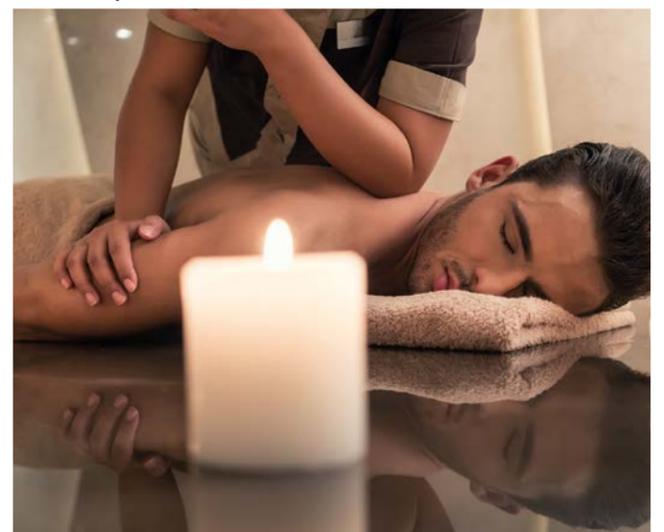
Afterwards I relaxed in their reception and was presented

with a tray of cold water and herbal tea. The studios are delightful, peaceful and calming and there are some singles and doubles, if couples want a massage at the same time. Reflexology, Thai herbal and Aromatherapy are also available.

Kotchawan is a unique and welcome addition to the local community. There is a discount

of 20% for seniors aged over 60 on a Monday. Gift vouchers and discounts for block advance hours are also available. The added bonus is that the hours are from 10am-10pm, seven days a week. So check out their website at: www.kotchawanthai.co.uk or email info@kotchawanthai.co.uk, tel: 020 3490 2824.

DAPHNE BERKOVI



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Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association

What's On

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WHAT'S ON



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EVERY TUESDAY 1MAY - 24 JULY

10:15-10:45am RA Library Story/Song Time Garden Suburb Community Library, 15 The Market Place, NW11 6LB. Toddlers and carers welcome. We provide rhythm and rhyme making activities to new and familiar songs, and an introduction to exciting and boundless stories beyond home provision. Join us for some fun with your little ones. Admission free.

TUESDAY 1 MAY

2:30pm 'Face to Face' a Fellowship House event, DVD of BBC John Freeman interview with Cecil Beaton.

8pm Residents Association Council Meeting at Fellowship House. Hear Suburb issues debated and raise your concerns at Question Time (8.05pm).

EVERY THURSDAY 3 MAY - 26 JULY

10-10.30am & 10.45-11.15am RA Library Sing Song Time Garden Suburb Community Library, 15 The Market Place. For under-threes and their carers. Rhyme, rhythm and repetition are fundamental to a baby's speech and language development. Sharing rhythms and singing songs help babies to develop listening and concentration skills. Admission free.

EVERY FRIDAY 4 MAY - 27 JULY

Fellowship House Club at Fellowship House. Enjoy an hour of classical music on disc, followed by a friendly cup of tea. Admission for members £1.

SATURDAY 5 MAY

10:30am Free Church Traidcraft Sale, Clothing Exchange and Coffee Morning at The Free Church.

SUNDAY 6 MAY

2:30pm 'Nature and wildlife of Hampstead Heath' A Heath & Hampstead Society walk led by Lynda Cook and Melissa Fairbanks. Meet at Burgh Hse. Suggested min. donation £5. Info 07941 528034; hhs.walks@gmail.com.

7.30pm Mill Hill Music Club presents Pražák String Quartet at The Hall, The Henrietta Barnett School, Central Square, NW11 7BN. Tickets £15, 8959 1047, www.millhillmusicclub.co.uk.

TUESDAY 8 MAY

2:30pm 'River Blindness & Other Fascinating Stuff' a Fellowship House talk by Aubry Waddy, clinical researcher and novelist.

SATURDAY 12 MAY

10:30am-12noon Horticultural Society Annual Plant Sale Fellowship House 136a Willifield Way. Discounted annual flowers and plants, perennials and vegetable and herb seedlings. Bring your own bags if possible. Cash or cheques; no credit cards. All welcome. Entry free. 8455 0455.

10.30am-12 noon Coffee Morning and Open House at Abbeyfield House, Homesfield, Erskine Hill, An opportunity to visit the House and meet the residents, staff and volunteers. Free.

6pm Youth Music Centre Prizewinners Concert in the HGS Free Church, Central Square, entry free. This is a concert which follows YMC's concerto prize competition. String and wind players of different age groups will be playing their winning concerto pieces with a full orchestra.

SUNDAY 13 MAY

11am Free Church Junior Church Festival Service at The Free Church.

TUESDAY 15 MAY

2:30pm 'The Work of Psychoanalytic Child Psychotherapists in the NHS' a Fellowship House talk by Jenifer Wakelyn.

THURSDAY 17 MAY

2:30pm Thursday Fellowship social afternoon and '150 year anniversary of Holborn Viaduct' an illustrated talk by Lester Hillman in Free Church Rooms.

SUNDAY 20 MAY

10am Borough Councillors' Surgery at HGS Trust offices. Ask for advice on local problems.

3:30pm Letchworth Garden City, sustainability & community a talk at Fellowship House (see advert on front page).

TUESDAY 22 MAY

2:30pm 'Impressionists in London: French Exiles Abroad' a Fellowship House talk by Lucrezia Walker.

FRIDAY 25 MAY

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

TUESDAY 29 MAY

2:30pm 'The Challenge of Judging Literary Prizes' a Fellowship House talk by Dr A Niven OBE, an eminent figure in the world of literature.

THURSDAY 31 MAY

3pm HGS U3A Topical Talk 'The Huguenots - Our First Immigrants' Speaker: Dr Kathy Chater at Alyth Synagogue. Booking via hgsu3a.uk/events.

SATURDAY 2 JUNE

10:30am Free Church Traidcraft Sale, Clothing Exchange and Coffee Morning at The Free Church.

SUNDAY 3 JUNE

2-6pm HGS Horticultural Society member's Garden Open in aid of the National Garden Scheme charities at 48 Erskine Hill, NW11 6HG, 2-6pm, £4 (children free). Teas, plants for sale, children's quiz. (Also open by arrangement from May-Sept 8455 6507.) Details: www.ngs.org.uk.

2:30pm Flora of the Heath a Heath & Hampstead Society walk, led by David Bevan. Meet at Burgh House. Suggested minimum donation £5 per adult. Info 07941 528 034; email hhs.walks@gmail.com.

TUESDAY 5 JUNE

2:30pm 'My Ancestors The Pirates' a Fellowship House talk by Jeremy Berkoff.

THURSDAY 7 JUNE

HGS Horticultural Society Suburb in Bloom Competition 2018 closing date for entries Enter to win the best garden in Hampstead Garden Suburb. Prizes for the first three winners and the overall winner will be awarded the Millennium Cup at the AGM 2018. Judging on Thursday 21 June. Contact Caroline Broome carosgarden@virginmedia.com/8444 2329.

SATURDAY 9 JUNE

HGS Horticultural Society's coach trip to Standon Open Gardens, Herts Visit 15 open gardens. Try your hand at croquet. Lunches and teas available. Live music. Plant Sale. Details, Diane Berger, 8455 0455.

SUNDAY 10 JUNE

9am-5pm Youth Music Centre Assessment day for all string and wind players who would like to be part of a YMC orchestra. For information, phone Marina (administrator) 020 8450 9290.

SUNDAY 10 JUNE (cont.)

12.30pm Residents Association Summer Picnic Fun Day Central Square NW11. Hi-energy Rock-n-roll Band 'Sound of the Suburb', Face Painting, Donkey Rides, Punch & Judy and much, much more. Tables and chairs must be booked in advance. raevents@hgs.org.uk. 07793 000283.

TUESDAY 12 JUNE

2:30pm 'Piaf' a Fellowship House event Francoise Geller will sing songs made famous by Edith Piaf.

7-8pm HGS Horticultural Society Entry Night for the 286th Flower Show at Fellowship House 136a Willifield Way. Submit your entry forms or deliver forms before 16 June to 4 Asmunds Hill, NW11 6ET. There will be help on hand if you are new to showing. Don't forget to mention if you are growing a potato for the competition at the show.

SATURDAY 16 JUNE

Residents Association last copy date for What's On in August, September and October For insertion in the Summer edition of Suburb News. Details to David Littaur, 84 Wildwood Road NW11 6UJ. 020 8731 6755 or 07510 308 997, dvltr@gmail.com.

3-5pm HGS Horticultural Society's 286th Flower Show Grow Potatoes in a Bag competition and all the sights and scents of the country at the Free Church Hall, Northway, NW11 6PB. Home-made teas and raffle. Members free, non-members £2. Details: www.ngs.org.uk.

SUNDAY 17 JUNE

2-6pm Horticultural Society member's Garden Open in aid of the National Garden Scheme charities at 18 Park Crescent, N3 2NJ. £4. (children free). Teas. Details www.ngs.org.uk.

MONDAY 18 JUNE

5pm Borough Councillors' Surgery at HGS Trust offices. Ask for advice on local problems.

TUESDAY 19 JUNE

2:30pm 'Astronomy: A Personal Perspective' a Fellowship House talk by Andrew Glendinning.

THURSDAY 21 JUNE

2.30pm Thursday Fellowship social afternoon and talk to be confirmed in Free Church Rooms.

SATURDAY 23 JUNE

To book any Proms at St Jude's event: www.promsatstjude.org.uk

11am-12noon Proms at St Jude's LitFest in The Henrietta Barnett School. Lynne Truss, the acknowledged 'tsar' of correct punctuation. A Shot In The Dark, published in June, is the first in a new series of crime novels.

12.45pm Proms at St Jude's The Echo Ensemble conducted by Noah Max. Shostakovich and Mussorgsky and original composition by Noah Max.

2-3pm Proms at St Jude's LitFest in The Henrietta Barnett School. John Tusa's memoir Making A Noise is an honest account of battles won and lost. He talks to Sue MacGregor.

3.30-4.30pm Proms at St Jude's LitFest in The Henrietta Barnett School. Clemency Burton-Hill's book, Year of Wonder, offers a playlist of classical music for every day of the year. In conversation with Hannah Beckerman.

5-6pm Proms at St Jude's LitFest in The Henrietta Barnett School. Robert Peston's new book, WTF: What Have We Done? seeks to find a solution to the huge social divisions in our society. Interviewed by Simon Lewis.

7.45pm Proms at St Jude's Aurora Orchestra: an Evening of Mozart Nicholas Collon (conductor) with Cédric Tiberghien (piano).

SUNDAY 24 JUNE

2-6pm Horticultural Society Member's Garden Open in aid of the National Garden Scheme charities at 74 Willifield Way, NW11 6YJ, £4 (children free). Teas. Details www.ngs.org.uk.

3pm A. Graudina's Violin Class Students' Concert at the Free Church. £1, children free, 07931 902923.

7pm Proms at St Jude's Opera Night with Nevill Holt and the Royal Northern Sinfonia playing Le Nozze di Figaro (The Marriage of Figaro) Artistic Director Nicholas Chalmers.

MONDAY 25 JUNE

10:30am Proms at St Jude's Heritage Walks: Pioneers and Philanthropists including visit to the recently restored Toynbee Hall (subject to building works). Meet at the Kindertransport Memorial, Hope Square, Liverpool Street Station, EC2M 7GH.

12.45pm Proms at St Jude's Piano Recital Asagi Nakata, prize-winning pianist.

2pm Proms at St Jude's Heritage Walks: Lesser-known Suburb highlights David Davidson, HGS Trust's architectural adviser, on a walk to cottages and houses by Herbert Welch and Michael Bunney. Meet St Jude's car park NW11 7AH.

7.45pm Proms at St Jude's Charles Court Opera presents Gilbert and Sullivan's HMS Pinafore with piano accompaniment.

TUESDAY 26 JUNE

10.30am Proms at St Jude's Proms Heritage Walks: Intrigue and Spies in Belsize Lester Hillman, urban planner, lecturer and accredited guide, will lead a walk and uncover spies - real or imagined. Meet at Waitrose Swiss Cottage, Finchley Road NW3 6NN, near Finchley Road underground.

10.30am (under 3 years) & 11.30am (3-5 years) Proms at St Jude's Teeny Prom led by Rachel Groves in the St Jude's Church Rooms.

12.45pm Proms at St Jude's Cello recital: Jamal Aliyev with Jäms Coleman (piano).

2:30pm 'An Armchair Cruise down the River Fleet' a Fellowship House talk Speaker: Bosun Lester Hillman.

19.45pm Proms at St Jude's A Touch Of Cabaret Counterpoise with Jacqui Dankworth, a jazz-influenced programme, including songs from the Great American Songbook and cabaret songs by Kurt Weill.

WEDNESDAY 27 JUNE

10.30am Proms at St Jude's Heritage Walks: The trees of Golders Hill and West and Sandy Heaths Richard Payne, Hampstead Heath Conservation Supervisor, shares his knowledge and enthusiasm for the Heath. Walking shoes advisable. Meet Golders Hill Park café, NW3 7HD.

12.45pm Proms at St Jude's Choral Concert Imperial College Chamber Choir. Conductor William Glendinning.

2pm Proms at St Jude's Heritage Walks: The Suburb's verdant spaces Join Paul Capewell, the Trust's Assistant Estate Manager, on a tour of some of the Suburb's open spaces. Sturdy footwear is advised. Meet St Jude's car park, NW11 7AH.

WEDNESDAY 27 JUNE (cont.)

7.45pm Proms at St Jude's Septura Brass Septet Borrowed Baroque Septura brings to life the 18th-century orchestra of Handel's Rinaldo and Rameau's Dardanus, as well as works of both Prokofiev and Stravinsky.

THURSDAY 28 JUNE

10.30am Proms at St Jude's Heritage Walks: A marriage of Art and Landscape. English Heritage volunteer guide Tamara Rabin leads a look at the famous Humphrey Repton landscapes of Kenwood. Meet in the Kenwood car park, NW3 7JR.

12.45pm Proms at St Jude's Schools' Prom Pupils from local schools perform 'From the Impressionists' Room.

2pm Proms at St Jude's Heritage Walks: More Architectural Highlights of the Suburb: Nick Packard, HGS Trust Estate Manager, leads a walk looking at the work of less well-known Suburb architects, Geoffrey Lucas & Courtenay Crickmer. Meet at St Jude's car park NW11 7AH.

3pm HGS U3A Topical Talk 'Crossrail - Countdown to Operation' Richard Storer, at Alyth Synagogue. Book via hgsu3a.uk/events.

7.45pm Proms at St Jude's Kanneh-Mason Piano Trio Isata (piano), Braimah (violin) and Sheku Kanneh-Mason (cello).

FRIDAY 29 JUNE

10am Proms at St Jude's Heritage Walks: Notable Residents of the Garden Suburb's Southern Fringes Thomas Radice, Heath & Hampstead Society Trustee, traces the homes of philanthropists, architects, artists, musicians and other famous inhabitants. Meet outside Golders Hill Park café (opens 9am) NW3 7HD. Ends at Free Church for lunchtime harp recital.

12.45pm Proms at St Jude's in the Free Church: Harp Recital by 1st prize winner, Camac Harp Competition, North London Festival of Music, Drama and Dance 2018.

7.45pm Proms at St Jude's Grace Davidson Soprano with The Academy of Ancient Music.

SATURDAY 30 JUNE

12.45pm Proms at St Jude's Beaten Track Percussion: Hands Up! Hear percussion in ways you have not experienced before!

6pm Proms at St Jude's Pizza on the Square Before Simply Dylan and our new Late Night Comedy show, join us for a delicious pizza supper.

7.45 Proms at St Jude's Simply Dylan John O'Connell and his Band. A 'tribute to Bob Dylan, not a Bob Dylan tribute.'

10.15pm Proms at St Jude's Late-Night Stand-Up Ed Night and Gráinne Maguire open Proms' first ever stand-up session in the refreshments marquee.

SUNDAY 1 - TUESDAY 3 JULY

Horticultural Society three-day tour of the gardens of Kent and Sussex Trip will be offered to members of the Horticultural Society first. Non-members contact Diane Berger, 8455 0455.

SUNDAY 1 JULY

11am Proms at St Jude's Heritage Walks: Modernist Hampstead City of London guide Marilyn Greene, leads this walk around the revolutionary modernist homes of Hampstead. Meet at Hampstead Underground [High Street entrance] NW3 1QG.

2-6pm Horticultural Society: Two new local gardens to visit: 18 Dorchester Gdns, NW11 6BN, £4 (children free) and 121 Erskine Hill NW11 6HU, £4 (children free). Details www.ngs.org.uk.

2:30pm Spider Foray a Heath & Hampstead Society walk, led by Edward Milner. Meet at Burgh House. Suggested minimum donation £5 per adult. Info 07941 528034; email hhs.walks@gmail.com.

3pm Proms at St Jude's Family Fun: Saint-Saëns' Carnival of the Animals (in the Free Church) John Aston Thomas conducts the PSJ Festival Orchestra, with a guest narrator.

7.45pm Proms at St Jude's Last Night of the Proms Robert Max conducts Covent Garden Chamber Orchestra with mezzo-soprano Grace Durham.

TUESDAY 3 JULY

2.30pm 'Stirring The Emotions: Words and Music' a Fellowship House talk by Ruth Waterman violinist, conductor, speaker and educator.

8pm Residents Association Council Meeting at Fellowship House. Hear Suburb issues debated and raise your concerns at Question Time (8.05pm).

FRIDAY 6 TO 14 JULY

7.30pm (6-8 July & 11-14 July) 3pm (7, 8 & 14 July) Garden Suburb Theatre presents 'Measure for Measure' by William Shakespeare at Little Oak Wood Open Air Theatre, Addison Way, Hampstead Garden Suburb, NW11 6QS. £12, £10 concessions. To book 3582 1333, www.ticketsource.co.uk/gardensuburbtheatre.

SATURDAY 7 JULY

10.30am Traidcraft Sale Clothing Exchange and Coffee morning in Free Church.

TUESDAY 10 JULY

2:30pm 'Hive of Bees' a Fellowship House talk by Dr Pat Morgan.

TUESDAY 17 JULY

2:30pm 'It'll Be Alright On The Night' a Fellowship House talk by Roger Rose Experiences in the amateur theatre in HGS and beyond.

THURSDAY 19 JULY

2:30pm Free Church Thursday Fellowship Summer Party Free Church Rooms.

SUNDAY 22 JULY

10am Borough Councillors' Surgery at HGS Trust offices. Ask for advice on local problems.

2-6pm Horticultural Society Member's Prizewinning Garden Open in aid of the National Garden Scheme at 86 Willifield Way NW11 6YJ. £4 (children free). Teas. Details www.ngs.org.uk.

TUESDAY 24 JULY

2:30pm 'Surrealism and Us' a Fellowship House talk by Cedric & Rachel Day.

THURSDAY 26 JULY

3pm HGS U3A Topical Talk 'The Thames Discovery Programme' Speaker: Helen Johnston, at Alyth Synagogue. Book via hgsu3a.uk/events.

FRIDAY 27 JULY

1pm Free Church Music Recital by Makoto Nakata at The Free Church. Lunch in support of Christian Aid served from 12.15pm.

SUNDAY 29 JULY

2-6pm Horticultural Society Suburb News gardening correspondent and Horticultural Society members' prizewinning garden open in aid of the National Garden Scheme charities at 79 Church Lane N2 0TH. £4 (children free). Teas, raffle. Details www.ngs.org.uk.



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Ringling the changes



Pulmonaria Diana Claire



Erysimum Sweet Sorbet



Pulmonaria Trevi Fountain

The urge to get outside into the garden is very strong at this time of year. You can almost hear the plants growing in the borders. Every day reveals something new and exciting – instant gratification! This is the ideal time to make adjustments by enhancing your existing displays with new and exciting alternatives.

We are creatures of habit, often more comfortable sticking to the tried and tested and perhaps not confident enough to try out new ideas. I know that I can worry over an ailing plant for a whole season before changing it, and once replaced, I don't even miss it. Subtle changes can be very effective without altering the overall theme of your borders.

By now everything should be showing signs of new growth, even shrubby salvias and hardy fuchsias. To those of you who have the patience to wait and see, I say there is no hurry, they

have until the end of May to redeem themselves. For myself, I like to hedge my bets by digging up and potting on any *doubtfuls*. That way you still have the option of replanting if they recover whilst freeing up space to replace with new additions.

Take advantage of the numerous local and regional spring plant fairs to revitalise your planting schemes and don't be afraid to ask the nursery folk about suitability for local conditions, such as semi-shade and clay soil.

We are all guilty of hope over experience. Lavender never seems to live up to expectations. Considering its natural habitat is the thin stony soil of the Mediterranean it's not surprising it sulks in our heavy clay soil. The bushy fragrant shrub of last summer inevitably degenerates into a brittle leggy specimen with wispy stems and sparse flowers by the following spring.

If you must have lavender then plant it in a pot in a sunny aspect, and opt for a more suitable alternative for the border such as nepeta Walkers Low (catmint) or Prostanthera cuneate (Alpine mint bush).

And then there are hostas. Hostas in borders are not for the faint hearted. Pulmonarias and brunneras, whose marbled and veined silvery grey leaves and long-lasting spring flowers, make far superior substitutes, with new varieties being introduced all the time.

If you know that semi-hardy agastache returns as a mere shadow of its former self or penstemons put on new growth only to wither at the first sign of a late frost, why persevere? Be ruthless! If you simply Must Have them then treat them as annuals. Of course, there are exceptions to every rule: whilst small shrubby salvias are readily available and generally hardy,

giant salvias are semi-tender and too cumbersome to lift for overwintering, so I am prepared to put in the extra effort to keep them going.

I take cuttings in the autumn as insurance against loss, leaving the parent plant in the ground, top growth intact, with a thick protective ring of mulch. In milder winters it's worked, this year not so well. That's the thing about gardening – no two years are ever the same. And instead of mourning the loss of a beloved plant try and see it as an opportunity to try something else.

Some plants can be more trouble than they are worth. I love heucheras for their seemingly limitless range of colours, their evergreen foliage and surprisingly decorative flowers, but their neat habit tends to be short lived. Heucheras remind me of cabbages run to seed; after a year or two their crowns protrude whilst surrounding leaves become sparse

and worn. Now, you can chop out their elongated central crowns and hope that this encourages regeneration, or you can bin them and buy new varieties.

At this time of year, garden centres sell young plants in 4" pots at around £4.99, which fill out quickly and often establish better than more mature specimens at upwards of £14.99.

Fancy trying something new but with similar habits? Then opt for francoa and tellima grandiflora, whose mound forming foliage is topped with sprays of tiny flowers on tall, upright stems.

The all-time *Good Doer* erysimum Bowles Mauve, perennial wallflower, is another favourite but again, short life span. After a couple of years it gets leggy and so we dig it up and replace it – with exactly the same thing. Why? Because there's always been one there probably.

Why not replace it with a newer variety like Sweet Sorbet

or something entirely different, such as a small evergreen dwarf hebe; Silver Dollar or Purple Pixie are just two examples with grey leaves and purple flowers.

Go on, I urge you to have a go: "A change is as good as a rest!"

CAROLINE BROOME



Semi tender Salvia Confertiflora

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Horticultural Society News

This spring, the Hampstead Garden Suburb Horticultural Society has a calendar packed full of events for you and your family to enjoy.

On Saturday May 12 from 10.30-12, at Fellowship House, we have the ever popular annual plant sale. There will be discounted annual plants for your summer displays, perennials for your borders and vegetable and herb seedlings for your allotment or garden plot. Bring your own bags if possible.

On Saturday June 16, from 3-5pm, at the Free Church Hall we will be holding the 286th Flower Show including our inaugural 'potato in a bag' competition. We were astonished by the number of contestants who collected their potatoes and grow bags this spring, so we can't wait to see how our green-fingered contestants have



Summer Flower Show 2017

done. Our June show is renowned for the impressive displays of roses, soft fruit and spring flowers on show. There will be a raffle, and some of the best tea and cake the Suburb has to offer. Members free, non-members £2.

If you are looking for a bit of inspiration for your own garden, several of our members will be opening their gardens for charity over the next few weeks. 48 Erskine Hill will be open on Sunday June 3; 18 Park Crescent

on Sunday June 17; 74 Willifield Way on Sunday June 24 and both 18 Dorchester Gardens and 121 Erskine Hill on Sunday July 1. All of the gardens are open from 2-6pm and entry to each is £4, which will go to the charities supported by the National Garden Scheme. For more details go to www.ngs.org.uk.

We are always keen to accept new members in to our growing community. If you are interested in joining the society contact our membership secretary at membership@hortsoc.co.uk. Members get free entry to talks and shows as well as a 10% discount on plants at local garden centres including Moyses Stevens in Temple Fortune Lane, Finchley Nurseries in Mill Hill and for gardening products at Shutlers in Bridge Lane, NW11. We are

always looking for people who would be interested in taking on roles in the committee. Our society survives by the commitment of its members and next year, being our 110th, we are looking to make

it our best one yet. If you'd be interested in taking on a role on the committee or helping out in any way, please contact the society at HGSHortsoc@mail.com.

JAMES ROBBINS



Open Garden Marjorie & David Harris 2017

Suburb rainfall

Spring seems to have lost its way this year. In January's report it was suggested that the real winter weather was still to come and it was certainly much colder than average in February and March. The rainfall which was needed to refill the soil's groundwater obliged in January and March,

though there was still a shortage in February and the six winter months as a whole were much drier than usual. There was snow at the end of February and again in mid March. However, it did not really cause much disruption here and the threatened slippery pavements never really materialised.

October is normally the wettest month of the year, followed by January. This October, at 0.64 inches was the second driest since these records began. However, October has also, in the past, been the month with the highest rainfall, at 7.44 inches. November and December, at 3.1 and 2.72

on average, are the next wettest months and so it is nice to think we may be coming up to the drier, as well as the warmer, part of the year. Hyacinths, daffodils, primroses, and other spring flowers are brightening the gardens in the usual splendour.

DIANA IWI FROM MEADWAY

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Secret Suburb

Lyttelton Playing Fields

Everyone knows the Suburb began in 1907, but what was here before that? It was farmland for the most part, and if you know where to look and have the right maps you can still see where some of the roads respect the old field boundaries.

However, there's one boundary that anyone can see. There's an old hedgerow, which would have marked the boundary between fields, in Lyttelton Playing Fields.

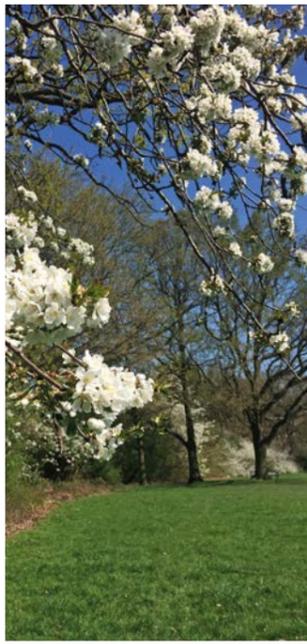
If you enter from Kingsley Way, follow the path round the Millennium Wood (that's the wooded area with an illegible sign) and stop before you get to the children's play area. On either side of the path there is a slightly scruffy looking curving belt of trees and shrubs. It's a hedgerow: a mix of standard trees and lower-growing 'under storey' trees or shrubs.

There's a rule of thumb, called Hooper's Hypothesis, invented in the 1960s to calculate the age of a hedgerow. Very simply, you count up the number of trees and shrubs in the hedge and multiply that by 100. So three species of tree – 300 years old, eight species – 800 years old.

It's more complicated than that of course. The official government leaflet on how to survey a

hedgerow is over 100 pages long. But even a not very expert survey (and no leaflet) on one hot day in April I spotted oak trees, elder, holly and yew, horse chestnut (not a native but it's very successful locally), hawthorn (possibly two types of hawthorn but I can't tell them apart if they're not fruiting), hazel, wild cherry, blackthorn and hornbeam. Plus a lot of ivy and bramble. And I didn't even think about the plants that might be growing under the trees.

That's 10 different species of tree without trying too hard. So this feature in Lyttelton Playing Fields could, perhaps, be a thousand years old and surely



The ancient hedgerow qualifies as an ancient hedgerow. Which is quite exciting for an area only 110 years old.

GEORGINA MALCOLM



Blackthorn in bloom



Wild cherry blossom

Sunday Summer Fun Day

This year the RA's annual Sunday Summer Fun Day takes place on Sunday June 10 at its usual location in Central Square. The animal charity All Dogs Matter has again agreed to hold a 'dog competition' to find the 'Cutest Pup' and the 'Waggiest Tail,' as well as many other categories.

There will also be a much larger Children's Arts and Crafts section (ages 3-11) this year, which will be organised by experts from

local HGS Art groups. Come along and show your original artistic talents and skills. Photos of the best may appear in a future issue of Suburb News!

The event would not be complete without the ever popular Donkey Rides and there are also the usual attractions: Face Painting, Punch & Judy, Fizzie Lizzie. There will be a Plant Sale, Raffle and a variety of Refreshments with a Cake Stall selling wonderful,

home-made Suburb cakes. Music will be provided by the ever popular 'Sound of the Suburb'.

An exciting display of cars will be hosted by Volvo Cars North London who have kindly agreed to sponsor our event. Picnic tables are available to book now for £17 for a table and 6 chairs. With promises of a good summer, we hope to see many of you on Central Square to enjoy the festivities.



Last year's Summer Fun Day

Northway Rose Garden bursts into spring

The Volunteers at the Northway Rose Gardens are looking forward to Spring openings! "Already to be seen are Snowdrops, Daffodils, Hyacinth, and Wallflowers as well as many spring shrubs, such as the amazing yellow Forsythia," say Moses and Monika two of the keenest volunteers. The many beds of Roses are ready for their best summer display in many years. Visitors will see a lot of new colour.



With fundraising under way for 2018, the Northway Gardens Organisation already have formal sponsorship from Ellis and Co. Estate Agents, Streathers Solicitors as well as the HGSRA and HGS Trust. All residents donations are also much appreciated, allowing us to go that extra mile in helping to develop these historic 1910 Suburb Gardens.

"We hope to buy and bring in some 300 sacks (over 15,000 litres) of organic material with the physical muscle of all the great young people from The Harington Scheme and Good Gym," says Kristin Green.

Local volunteers do tasks such as planting, pruning, composting and watering with more than 100m of hosepipe. Visitors can see how many leaves have been collected for leaf mould. If you have a suggestion for the NGO, do let them know of it using the contact information that is on the site.

Working with Barnet Parks, there are three new benches

made from local trees, and 4 new traditional benches to replace broken ones. Locals are looking to add one more bench in the sunniest place for evening and autumn sunshine.



105th RA AGM

(continued from front page)

comments about how poorly repairs were carried out so that the holes reappeared soon after the repairs were finished.

The councillors present acknowledged the feelings of residents and said they responded to all the complaints they received by logging them with the appropriate officers. They told the meeting that there was a programme of road renewal due to start in April. All reports were investigated and repairs prioritised by the severity of the problem.

For some people the reason for the council's inability to keep our roads and pavements in reasonable condition lay in the relentless succession of cut, cut, cut by the Treasury over the last eight years in the central government grants, which used to bolster local government

budgets. If this is the case, then we should expect the situation to get worse in the future.

Terry Rand's perennial complaint about cyclists using the pavement in Fallosen Way was left unanswered. There seems to be little that can be done to help him avoid being struck down outside his own home by pavement cyclists. Like potholes in the road and fixing broken pavements it is a question of available resources in a time of shrinking budgets and increasing spending on statutory obligations.

It was time to end the questions and get the results of the ballot. Emma Howard was elected as the RA's new Chairman, with Hella Schrader as her deputy. Peter McCluskie was confirmed as the Honorary Secretary and Tony Ghilchik, Colin Gregory, Max

Petersen and Simon Sackman were all re-elected to RA Council.

The position of RA Treasurer remains unfilled and any reader who thinks they would be suitable for the post should get in touch with the RA.

The meeting concluded with Emma Howard thanking her predecessor, David Lewis, for his contribution to the RA over the years, and inviting those present to enjoy the refreshments available and a chat with their Suburb neighbours.

TERRY BROOKS

Residents who wish to report potholes, faded road markings or missing signage can do so directly to Barnet Council at: <https://www.barnet.gov.uk/citizen-home/council-and-democracy/report-it-now.html>, or phone 020 8359 2000.



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

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The RA website is www.hgs.org.uk