

# Suburb



# News



**Peter Cosmetatos speaks at HB School Open Meeting, p3**



**Usual trouble-makers show up at Fun Day, p1&5**

**Suburb Time Capsule reveals it's secrets, p7**



## A sunny summer Fun Day

Sunday June 10 turned out to be a fine sunny day which meant all the gazebos, stalls, picnic tables and bunting went up in record time, thanks to the many helpers and volunteers organised by the ever hard-working RA Events team.

Once again our locally based charity, All Dogs Matter, took over the corner of Central Square near St Jude's for its dog show and competitions for various categories, such as 'Cutest Pup' and 'Golden Oldie'. It was hardly surprising that there was a record number of entries.

Local band Sound of the Suburb provided live music during the afternoon for their many fans. Traditional Punch and Judy was put on by one of

the famous Styles family, and our regular entertainer Fizzie Lizzie occupied the young with balloon modelling and drama.

Esra, of Painted Penguin, and her assistant had the usual long queues for face painting and glitter tattoos, while a team of four donkeys worked hard all afternoon giving small children rides in the Square.

Arts and Crafts were strongly featured this year and well-known locals, Vera Moore, Lynda Cook and Diana Brahams from HGS Art gave expert tuition and advice, which was very popular with the large numbers of children involved.

The plant stall was kept busy with a constant stream of plants going to good homes.

*(continued page 5)*



*Punch & Judy never fails to attract a large crowd of enchanted children, affectionately watched over by loved ones*

PETER McCLUSKIE

## Why you should join the Residents Association

to over 2,000 over the next five years. The greater the membership, the greater the influence we can have on those local organisations whose decisions have an impact on the Suburb and the more we can counter the many and varied threats to our way of life here.

There are both direct and community benefits to being a member of the RA.

### DIRECT BENEFITS

Direct benefits include access to the:

- RA Discount scheme: offering discounts at local businesses as

shown in the Suburb Directory.

- HGS Master Tradespeople List: 200 types of services, locally recommended by RA members.

- HGS List email group (Chatline): exchanging information, making recommendations, keeping each other informed on local issues, including security and traffic incidents.

- eNews: regular email updates on local events and other matters of interest.

### COMMUNITY BENEFITS

Community benefits include the support of our volunteers in these areas:

- Events: bringing residents together to foster community spirit – so important in uncertain times – including the New Year's Eve Fireworks, Summer Fair and children's Halloween party. The



CISAR RODRIGUEZ-DUAN

RA sponsor local events such as free lunchtime concerts at the Proms at St Jude's in June. We hold open meetings on topics of interest to residents, including hustings for some elections. We also erect and maintain the Suburb's notice boards.

- Publications: producing this newspaper and the annual Suburb Directory delivered free to every home on the Suburb.

- Grants: support local projects including Northway Gardens, Central Square flowerbeds and collecting funds each year for Fellowship House community centre and more.

- Conservation and Amenities: developers would love to build high-density housing in the Suburb and, sadly, some residents seem unaware of the special rules which apply in the Suburb. The RA talk to and hold to account planning authorities, e.g. the HGS Trust and Barnet Council, to maintain the nature of the Suburb as one of the UK's most significant conservation areas.

- Trees and Open Spaces: insurance companies love to take the axe to fine trees as a supposed quick fix for subsidence and other issues. We strive to maintain our green environment including, in partnership with Barnet

such as Golders Green, and Hampstead Heath.

We would love you to join us. On page 5 is our membership form. Please fill it in or join online at [www.hgs.org.uk/ra/joinnow.html](http://www.hgs.org.uk/ra/joinnow.html). If you have some spare time and would like to volunteer to help in our work, please contact [rachair@hgs.org.uk](mailto:rachair@hgs.org.uk) who would be delighted to hear from you.

PETER McCLUSKIE, HON SEC,  
HGS RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION



MICHAEL JACOBS



The Hampstead Garden Residents Association would like to thank all 1,740 existing members for their continued support; it is very much appreciated and has allowed us to offer an array of support and services to the Suburb community. Now, our aim is to increase membership



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*Pothole gardening; this photo of a rather original approach to filling potholes was posted on the RA's Facebook page. Will it spread, we wonder?*

# Joyce Littaur 1925-2018



Joyce was the youngest of three sisters. She was born in 1925 in Aberdare Gardens, West Hampstead and her parents were Cecil Fox, well-known locally as a successful property developer, and his wife Evie. The family moved to 31 Bracknell Gardens a few years later and they became good friends with people called Littaur, who lived a few houses away at No 21.

Joyce and David, from the age of about 10, used to meet each other when accompanying their respective mothers on local shopping expeditions. They liked one another and David was drawn by Joyce's big smile. But that was as far as it went in those early days and it would be an exaggeration to say it was "love at first sight".

At that time, Joyce was attending South Hampstead High School. When WW2 started, in 1939, the school was evacuated to Berkhamstead, but Joyce's parents decided to stay in London and sent her to The Henrietta Barnett School in the Suburb. Little did she know then that Hampstead Garden Suburb would become her home in the final 20 years of her life.

David became a boarder in the preparatory school of Clifton College, Bristol. In the holidays, he would occasionally be invited over to see Joyce and these invitations were reciprocated.

In September 1939, his family went on holiday to Buenos Aires in the Argentine. Their ship left from Southampton, not far from Bournemouth, where the Fox family happened to be staying. David and Joyce have a photo of Joyce and her parents, standing on the dockside, looking up to the ship and waving goodbye to the Littaurs.

The War started a few days afterwards and they were stranded in the Argentine until November 1942, the year the Littaurs returned to Britain. Of course, there was a reunion between Joyce and David.

By now, Joyce had volunteered for the Women's Auxiliary Air Force and became a radio operator, mainly on RAF stations in the West Country. David became a trainee navigator in the RAF and in 1945 did a course of training in Canada. At the end of the war, both of them were obliged to await the turn of their respective demobilisation numbers and they went back to civilian life in 1947.

They became increasingly close to one another, announced their engagement in 1947 and were married in 1948. They lived in Stormont Road, Highgate, where they raised a family of two children and this was their home for 50 years until 1998. Joyce and David's daughter,

Glen, was born in 1949 and Gavin, their son arrived in 1950.

For some years, Joyce involved herself in the orchestra David conducted, Philomusica of London, in a managerial capacity. She helped to plan concerts as well as booking venues and artists. This work continued until 1998, when David retired and the couple downsized to their home in Wildwood Road on the Suburb. At this stage, Joyce began to play an important part in hosting meetings for the Events Committee of the Residents Association, which her husband chaired, and providing them with refreshments. Unlike David, she did not enjoy serving on committees – "I am not a committee person" – and much preferred the social and catering elements. Joyce played a similar role in Proms at St Jude's, Abbeyfield, at the Fellowship Club and, on occasions, at Alyth Gardens.

Joyce and David enjoyed travelling together. Their travels included ski holidays in Switzerland, tours to Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Iceland and Hungary, as well as visits to David's parents in South Africa and her sister in Los Angeles. She especially enjoyed seeing her much-loved granddaughter and her husband, Rachel and Petter, and her great-grandchildren and step-grandchildren in Norway. Joyce and David went there many times.

Joyce loved people, and she enjoyed visiting the elderly and chatting to them about their lives. During the week, she would pay regular visits to lonely people,

needing companionship and an opportunity to confide in an open listening ear. Her visits continued until her nineties, when several of her 'protégés' were far younger than herself.

Another activity, meaningful to Joyce, was her involvement in volunteer reading help in schools. She assisted pupils in Wessex Gardens School for many years; it was only her deteriorating eyesight that caused her to step down. She was much admired and appreciated by everyone she assisted.

She made many friends from these activities and was much loved by all who knew her, especially members of the Suburb community. They will miss her terribly. Joyce's voluntary work at the North London Hospice for many years provides yet another example of her charitable activities.

Like most people's lives, there have been some painful passages. In 2015, her dear daughter Glen was seriously injured in a traffic accident. Joyce was overjoyed when she began, slowly, to make a recovery and she would have been so proud and grateful to her for taking the long journey from her home in Sussex to say goodbye to her at her funeral.

There have been a large number of recent tributes to Joyce received by David, her adoring and grieving husband. They share a common theme: repeated references to her kindness, gentleness, sweet nature, service to others and, above all, her lovely smile.

*The above is taken from the eulogy given at Joyce's funeral.*

### David shared the following memory from his great-nephew Jonathan with Suburb News

My great aunt Joyce, my Grandma's sister, was a smart, selfless and incredibly wonderful human being; Joyce could talk to anyone and was kind to everyone. She and her husband David recently celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary. Together, they always loved to travel, and to meet new people wherever they went.

When I visited them in London, Joyce would wake me up – usually around 6am – to have tea, and then we would take long walks together. Every place we went to, somebody who knew her would come over to say hello.

There is one wonderful memory I want to share, especially timely with the royal wedding: one time my great uncle David was telling me the story of how as a child he

actually went to the same French tutor as the young princesses, Elizabeth and Margaret (this must have been back in the 1930s or early 1940s). One day, the tutor had the princesses over and they were all playing hide and seek when he knocked one of them over (*David adds: Princess Margaret was very reticent on my visit and hardly spoke. Princess Elizabeth, our present Queen, spoke a great deal and we had been instructed to do so in French! Then we played hide-and-seek or some such game and it was she whom I knocked over by accident.*) I said to David that if he had played his cards right at that moment, he could have married a princess. David put his arms around Joyce and, with a big smile, said, "But I did marry a princess!"

# David Cohen 1939-2018

David was born in Gresham Gardens, Golders Green on the 27 February 1939, the youngest of three children. He went to Golders Hill School and then to Beaconsfield Prep School from the ages of 7 to 11. David then attended the City of London School until he joined his father in the family retail shoe business in 1956.

David married Judith in 1962 and moved to Hampstead Garden Suburb, where they have lived for 56 years, starting in Hill Rise, before moving to Northway and then to Sheridan Walk. Their two boys, Richard and Peter, had a wonderful childhood in the Suburb and made many lifelong friends.

David always took a very active role in local community events including Neighbourhood Watch, annual cricket matches on the Heath with the residents of Northway – the Odds v. the Evens – battling it out, classes at the Institute and the Proms, to name just a few.

After spending 26 years in the family business, David and Judith formed David Cohen Fine Art in 1984. They spent 32 years dealing in First World War art supplying major museums and clients around the world.

David joined the Rotary Club of Paddington in November 1963 and became President in 1980. When his business in Bayswater ceased trading, David became a member of the Rotary Club of Golders Green where he made many lasting friendships. He served as both President and Secretary of the Club and was very proud to have done so.

Since 2009 David led the annual November Ceremony of Remembrance at the Clock Tower at Golders Green. This was an event started by the



Rotary Club of Golders Green, which has grown from year to year and is now usually attended by around 100 people with the police stopping the traffic around the Clock Tower for the Two Minute Silence.

Sport always played a large part in David's life – an Arsenal Season ticket holder, a Saracens supporter, as well as playing rugby, cricket and hockey in his early years. David coached rugby and cricket for seven years at St. Anthony's Prep School in Hampstead where Judith worked for 30 years. He also gave a yearly talk to the Year 8 boys on Remembrance and the First World War.

David ended his days in the North London Hospice – a haven of peace and tranquility – and the family will always be grateful for the love and care that David received there.

The many cards, letters and e-mails that Judith has received all talk of David being a very special man. He had a way of making people feel comfortable whenever he met them and there were many references to his warmth, his smile, his laughter and his generosity. David was a real character and a true gentleman.

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## Welcome to St Jude's

Sundays:  
8am Said Eucharist  
10.30am Sung Eucharist

All Welcome



# Stormy start to Henrietta Barnett School expansion plan

Henrietta Barnett School's main hall was the scene of an Open Meeting on the evening of July 12 to start the debate on the proposal to construct additional buildings to increase pupil numbers. The meeting was opened by the vice-chairman of the school, Peter Cosmetatos, who explained there would be brief presentations by Del Cooke, the school head, and Richard Paynter, architect partner at Barker Associates, before a short Q & A session.



Peter Cosmetatos and Richard Paynter area and a demand from parents for more selective places; and

- schools have ambitious and realistic plans for increasing access for disadvantaged pupils (by which we mean pupils eligible for the pupil premium), and
- they have plans to work with other local schools to increase access for disadvantaged pupils and to raise attainment."

The meeting would be an opportunity to hear some questions and opinions from residents and parents. There was a consultation using an online survey for those who wished to have their opinion taken into account. The school wanted to stress that it was still undertaking a feasibility study on a possible application.

The background is a DfE initiative, the Selective Schools Expansion Fund (SSEF), which was announced in May and asks for applications from grammar schools for a part of a £50 million fund. Bids have to be submitted by August 2, and the results will be announced in the autumn.

The introduction to the government guidelines states, "The purpose of the SSEF is to support the expansion of selective schools where:

- there is a need for additional places, both in terms of a shortfall of secondary places in the local

If the bid for some money from the SSEF is successful and the school can find the additional funds needed, it intends to increase the size of the school by 35% from its present 779 pupils to 1050. To accommodate this increase in numbers the school anticipates building two science labs, one technology lab, one general classroom, an expanded canteen, 22 more toilets and, if possible, additional sports space.

The recent constraints on school funding, the increase in costs and the predicted

continuation of these trends means that the present size school is not sustainable. We were later told that a soon to be announced rise in teachers' pay, if substantial and unfunded, would mean the school, at its present size, going broke within two years.

Richard Paynter explained that any design would respect the original, take account of the heritage status, have a minimal impact and be complementary to what already exists. Some feasible options had been considered and he shared them with those present for some initial comments and observations.

He showed a plan to build on the two undeveloped corners of the site by Bigwood House, and a preferred alternative, which created extensions at the side of Bigwood House leaving the corners open.

Then there was a plan which developed the two courtyards at the back of Bigwood House, and a more innovative design which created a sunken building in the centre of the HBS site with a grass roof so as not to lose the open space.

Time then for questions and it was very clear that for many of those present the lack of places for Suburb (2%), or even Barnet (31%), girls was the main source of concern. It was a concern clearly understood by Del Cooke but one she showed little sign of being able to address; she

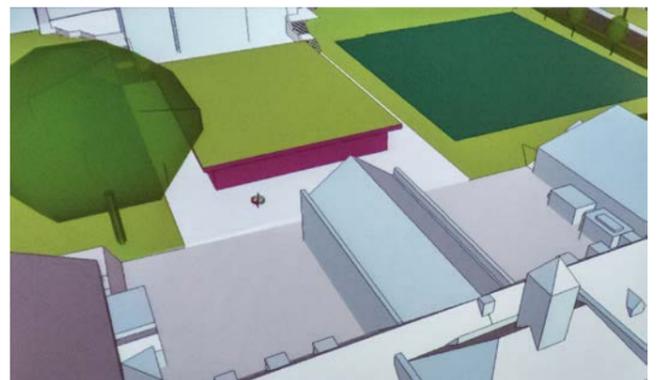
seemed to be a prisoner of the strict criteria laid down in the admissions policy, apparently in stone.

Another point was the effect the increased numbers would have on the already difficult traffic situation around the school. We were told it is hoped that with the help of Barnet, the RA's Roads & Traffic Committee and an increased use of buses the problem could be mitigated. There was no indication of how this would help.

The questions for the architect were focused on the processes of planning and building. The building work should be complete within a year of starting and there would be a plan for managing the disturbance caused.

Residents were worried about openness and consultation in the planning phase. Although there were details of the proposals posted on the RA's e-mail forum, the HGS List, this is still limited to its subscribers, and a number of people were angry at the lack of publicity. The School would do well to consider using a mail drop of the Suburb before each step to avoid further bad feeling.

The architect said they were not responsible for the previous expansion and wanted to try a different approach – being broad-based, collaborative, open and transparent. They were committed to taking into account the results of their survey.



The low point of the evening was the heckling, to the point of shouting down, the views expressed by a young former pupil of the school, who wished to praise the education she and her fellows had received. The strength of feeling in the audience was evident and the way it was expressed demonstrated how divisive grammar schools can be. The arguments over how the school selects its pupils and the legacy of feeling from the controversial Hopkins extensions 10 years ago persist. These themes will doubtless echo through future

meetings should the feasibility study result in a successful application to the fund being made, and a planning application eventually materialise.

RA Council will be following events, and its Conservation & Amenities Committee will be keeping a very close eye on the situation as it changes. The RA will hold Open Meetings on the subject when it feels it is appropriate.

Suburb News will, as always, attempt to keep residents fully informed as developments occur.

TERRY BROOKS



## Hedgehogs on Hampstead Heath

In early June this hedgehog was spotted on the Heath Extension near the play area one afternoon. It is unusual to see hedgehogs during the daytime, so perhaps this was a female going out to find food – becoming scarce in the drought – for her young.

Readers may remember that the Zoological Society of London,

in partnership with the City of London Corporation, have been carrying out a study of the hedgehog population on Hampstead Heath. Hedgehogs have declined by about 30% over the last ten years, particularly in rural areas.

London Zoo are keen to increase their knowledge of the urban hedgehog population so

as to develop a programme to help conserve them. An initial survey in 2016 revealed that hedgehogs were quite widespread across the Heath and a more detailed study was carried out last year in Golders Hill Park. This involved setting up cameras and recording encounters with hedgehogs and other mammals

at night. From this data the population can be estimated. The trial was a success and London Zoo concluded that the area appears to be a significant refuge for hedgehogs in North London.

They are carrying out another survey this year across the whole of the Heath, including the Heath Extension. So far hedgehogs have been sighted at seven of the thirteen locations on the Extension. A report will be produced towards the end of the year.

The City would be very interested in any hedgehog sightings on Hampstead Heath or in neighbouring gardens. They would like to see how well connected the Heath is with other larger open spaces or indeed the wider area and will be doing

further work with London Zoo and other local authorities to improve the scope for hedgehogs to move around.

A key element of this involves homeowners ensuring that their gardens allow the easy passage of hedgehogs: a 13cm x 13cm gap is sufficient. And do put out water for them.

If you spot one, please let Suburb News know (see SN129 winter 2017 for previous hedgehog news).

COLIN GREGORY



PHOTOS: GEORGE JENKINS

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### Daphne Berkovi chats to our new Chair of the RA



*I was very fortunate in being able to secure some time with Emma Howard, fitting in with her heavy work schedule as the new Chair of our Residents Association and hearing about her varied and interesting career coupled with her vision for the HGS community.*

Emma's early period started in the Suburb, where her parents rented a flat on the top floor of Meadway Court when she was born, and Emma recalled that Meadway Court had its own nursery in a basement room where "I loved going to collect my older sister." The family then moved out to Mill Hill when Emma was 2½, the family comprising five children (three girls, two boys).

Primary school in Mill Hill was followed by secondary school at St. Michael's Convent

Grammar School in North Finchley. Thereafter Emma studied Politics with German at Loughborough University.

After graduating from University, Emma spent a year teaching English as a Foreign Language in Germany near Frankfurt. She explained: "I then spent most of my career working in taxation, initially as a VAT Inspector with HM Customs & Excise, as was, before joining the profession as a VAT consultant.

I enjoyed a full and challenging career with top professional firms in London, and spent 17 years as a tax partner at BDO Stoy Hayward in Baker Street doing senior VAT roles. In my last four years, I was on BDO's Global Leadership Team with various responsibilities, which involved a lot of travelling.

My office was essentially in Brussels, and I also had the opportunity to develop our business in Africa. I travelled to Hamburg and Lucerne a lot in this role so my German came in useful at last. I retired in 2012 and now do some freelance consulting and property work."

So what brought Emma back to the Suburb? "Well I needed somewhere to rent short term in late 1989 and a flat in Waterlow Court belonging to a friend of my brother was available. I loved it there, and that was my first real taste of living in the Suburb. I then bought a cottage in Willifield Way in 1992; moved on to Corringham Road in 1996 by which time I was engaged to my husband, Peter Jenkins. We started a family in 1997 and have two sons (plus

more recently a dog – also male!). We moved to Meadway Close in 2004. Our sons attended King Alfred School where they had a fantastic time – my younger son is doing 'A' Levels this year and both my sons hope to go off to university this autumn."

When I asked Emma what she liked about the Suburb, she told me that "most of all I love the greenness, and the beautiful blossom in the spring time. There is no London suburb that can beat this one from that point of view. Also, we are so close to Central London and that was essential for me for work. I think this feels like a small town in the countryside, yet we can get everywhere really quickly, and there is lots going on in the local area as well as in Central London.

I feel very lucky to have the Heath Extension on our doorstep. I walk our dog every day and love the different parts of the Heath and also Big Wood. In fact, the more time I spend on the Heath, the more I appreciate it.

"Peter and I also really like the feeling of community here. I sometimes attend St Jude's or the Free Church for services and my husband is very involved with Proms at St Jude's as he heads up their sponsorship programme and is a Trustee. Tomorrow I will be helping out at the Summer Fair on Central Square which is a fantastic community event."

Similarly, in 2012 Emma's mother came to live at The

Orchard in one of their units and Emma related that she had seen at first-hand how brilliant this has been for her mother as she goes to events at Fellowship House several times a week, and loves the easy access to the local shops in Temple Fortune and to public transport, especially the tube at Golders Green and the H2 hopper bus.

Emma endorsed the ideology of Henrietta Barnett in looking after the full community of people on the Suburb. She says "This was amazingly far-sighted and I hope we can sustain and retain that in looking after people in our community."

So how did the new role of Chair of Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association transpire? "Well 18 months ago I joined the Roads and Traffic Committee of the RA. Previously I had been a Governor of Brookland Schools for some years and was also involved with the local Proms at St Jude's. I was then asked to join the RA Council standing in March 2017 and was quickly voted onto the Executive Committee of the RA and then Treasurer on a temporary basis (although I am still doing that too!). So I became immersed in the RA very quickly and realised that the RA was doing good things yet there was scope for improvement. So, I decided to take up the challenge and try to move things on, becoming Chair in March 2018."

Emma explained that there are some challenges to tackle,

including the recruitment of more volunteers. She would like to see greater involvement from the local community in areas such as some new blood on Council; increasing our membership numbers and thereby our influence; getting more people onto our standing committees (Events and Trees & Open Spaces in particular).

Equally Emma explained that: "I would like more open meetings so that Residents can attend on matters of local interest, e.g. Traffic issues and crime; pushing Barnet Council for a better refuse service." She is also passionate about improving links with local organisations, such as those represented at the recent and very successful Summer Fair on Central Square, including the local community library, HGS Archives, HGS Heritage, Abbeyfield, Fellowship House (for whom the RA collects donations) and Proms at St Jude's.

It was very apparent throughout our conversation that Emma's objective to foster a good community atmosphere was palpable. Despite being very new in her role, Emma brings not only a wealth of experience and enthusiasm but also the enormous energy needed to ensure that the tasks ahead will be realised.

We wish her success in her new position, and if you would like to support Emma and the RA by volunteering in any of the wide variety of roles, please contact her at: rachair@hgs.org.uk or on 8458 3883. She would be delighted to hear from you 

## Opt-in to receive notification on Trust applications subject to more extensive consultation



Any resident or owner of a property on the Suburb who wishes to register for optional email notifications on more extensive consultations from the Trust, should contact [mail@hgstrust.org](mailto:mail@hgstrust.org) with details of their name and residential address, requesting to opt-in to receiving correspondence on any or all of the following:

1. Trust events (e.g. Winter Lecture)
2. Consultation on certain applications, in line with our consultation policy
3. Trust e-newsletter

Please note that it is not possible to register to receive notification of more extensive consultation notifications by post as these are only sent out by email. Routine notifications will continue to be sent to nearby neighbours by post.

Any resident of the Suburb who is not a member of the Trust, and wishes to become one, may do so by completing and returning the form available on our website under 'Membership'. There is no cost and liability is limited to £1 per member.

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# Residents Association Fun Day

(continued from front page)

Also in demand was the Suburb Community Library which made £65 from book sales, and the Archives Trust with a popular quiz by Micky Watkins.

Abbeyfield Housing Society and the Heritage Trust both had tables on the Square to provide residents with information. Food and refreshment stalls were kept busy all afternoon with Pimms being a very popular feature on this hot day.

One of the aims of this year's Fun Day was raising money for local charities. As a result, £50

will go to All Dogs Matter, and the same to the Free Church towards sundries for their Night Shelter Project for the homeless starting in December. The cake stall produced a magnificent sum of £458.20 which will go to the Mayor of Barnet's charity, Homeless Action in Barnet.

A big thank you is due to St Jude's and the Free Church for providing the power supply, and to Henrietta Barnett School for the use of their toilet facilities.

Two pairs of tickets to see the sell-out 'Last Night of the

Proms' at the Proms at St Jude's Music Festival were very popular raffle prizes (The RA sponsors the free lunchtime concerts each year). Thanks go also to Nita Modi of Vibrant Chiropractic, Statham's Dog Groomers and Sherrards, all from Market Place, who generously donated vouchers as raffle prizes.

Finally, none of this would have been possible without the support of our generous sponsor, Volvo Cars North London, who had two of their latest models on display and were available to answer all questions. They also offered a very generous raffle prize – the lucky winner got the use of a Volvo of their choice for a long weekend!

TONY BRAND



PETER MCCLUSKIE

## Pets Corner: "Beau, our local Sheltie"

Mike and Adrienne Franklin are the proud owners of 'Beau', their adorable Shetland Sheep Dog, otherwise known as a 'Sheltie'. I wanted to interview Beau's owners as I live in the same road and see Mike frequently

walking Beau, either along our road or to Market Place.

Beau is a beautiful looking dog and I can fully understand why Mike and Adrienne, who have been dog owners since they were married, have always

owned 'Shelties'. Indeed Beau is their seventh and they have owned him since 2007, when he was adopted as an 11-week-old puppy and they said, "We loved him instantly." They had visited a breeder, Dane Moore in Boston, Lincolnshire to adopt a puppy – not an easy process as they were 'interrogated' for one and a half hours to ensure the puppy would be accommodated in a suitable home.

Beau's father was a Champion (winning dog shows) and, although Beau may not be in the same league, he has passed Silver and Bronze medals for the Kennel Club Good Citizen Scheme. 'Shelties' are obedient, loving dogs, which are easy to train, highly intelligent and loyal. They are good with children and protective of their owners, barking vociferously when strangers come to the house.

Adrienne explained that Beau has a regular routine. "He wakes around 7am for breakfast, which can consist of chicken and vegetables, and then walks down to Market Place with Mike for a coffee and croissant

at Sherrards. For the rest of the day Beau is fully occupied enjoying playing ball and has a habit of visiting the tennis courts in Northway gardens and bringing them home to his owners; Beau can sense tennis balls anywhere!"

Beau likes living on the Suburb because "he loves the woods and the heath extension." Asking them about Beau's pet hates they disclosed that, "Beau does not like foxes or cats in our garden and chases them out. But he really objects to having his photograph taken; he senses immediately if we are searching for our camera."

This is a trait I witnessed first hand, when Mike tried to take a photograph for Suburb News. Despite Beau's quick disappearance, we have been very fortunate in acquiring a delightful photograph of him for this publication.

I am sure our readers will agree that Beau is a magnificent looking dog, but it is equally heartening for me to personally witness the joy that a pet can bring to their owners' lives.

DAPHNE BERKOVI



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# A hot year for Proms at St Jude's



Proms founder, Susie Gregson at the Last Night of the Proms

What an outstanding season! Not only did the sun shine throughout the Proms at St Jude's 2018 festival, but there was also a spirit of success and enjoyment that was hard to beat.

## MEMORABLE

There were many memorable moments. The Kanneh-Mason Trio – comprising the Royal Wedding performer Sheku on cello, sister Isata on piano and brother Braimah on violin – playing not only to a packed church but also to a picnicking crowd of 250 on Central Square. Dame Henrietta Barnett would surely have been delighted to see the centrepiece of her garden suburb creation used so productively and with so much entertainment.

The Aurora Orchestra, who played Mozart's Symphony No. 40 from memory, astonished the audience by creating a magical 'surround-sound' experience, when they fanned out among the aisles of the church to perform their encore.

The Simply Dylan concert led to dancing in the aisles – something seen rarely in St Jude's, but a testament to the exuberance of the music from John O'Connell and his band.

Sopranos ruled supreme this year. Sky Ingram as the Countess and Aoife Miskelly as Susanna in Nevill Holt Opera's Marriage

of Figaro, and then the Suburb's own Grace Davidson singing Vivaldi and Handel with the Academy of Ancient Music, were all exhilarating to listen to, with the clarity and purity of their renditions.

## VARIETY

Jacqui Dankworth and Counterpoise entertained with a great evening of jazz, singing and playing arrangements by pianist Iain Farrington that were lively and original. Charles Court Opera offered a well-produced HMS Pinafore, and the Septura Brass Septet showed how well-known pieces could be successful when scored for trumpet, trombone and tuba.

As always, the Last Night went down a storm, with flag-waving and hearty audience participation singing Land of Hope and Glory, Rule Britannia and Jerusalem. Soloist Grace Durham – a former St Jude's chorister – ably led the revels alongside conductor Robert Max, whose son Noah had taken the baton at the opening lunchtime concert of the festival a week earlier.

## LUNCHTIME

Something that makes Proms special is its running of free lunchtime concerts – made possible through the generous support of the Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association. These provide a platform for young, up-and-coming stars and wonderful entertainment for all ages.

Asagi Nakata gave a particularly impressive piano recital, and Milo Harper lived up to his name with the recital that he had been awarded through winning the 2018 Camac Harp Competition.

## YOUNG PEOPLE

Proms is increasingly developing its education offering. This year, the schools concert, inspired by art from the Impressionists' room at the National Gallery, involved about 300 children from 10 local schools. Alongside this, Proms ran two Teeny

Proms events for under 5-year olds to get a taste of close-up live music and participation; a family concert for primary school children, where they could dress up in animal face masks and listen to Carnival of the Animals; a Fantastic Fanfares competition for 14-18 year old budding composers; and a spoken word competition, supported by Proms principal sponsor, Investec, open to young people from schools in East London working with one of Proms' target charities, Toynbee Hall.

Theo Gill, 17, won the fanfare prize, presented by Robert Max, and had the privilege of hearing his winning entry played – twice – by the Covent Garden Chamber Orchestra on Proms' Last Night.

Nicole Barrios, Henoc Lingomba and Volkan O'Grady were chosen by a panel of judges from Investec, Toynbee Hall and Proms at St Jude's as winners of the spoken word competition, and read out their winning entries in front of a Proms audience of 500 at the Kanneh-Mason Trio concert.

"Our aim was to offer something for each age group and to ensure work of quality and character, hoping that the children and young people's experiences could be something lasting and meaningful," said Michelle Groves, Proms Trustee. "In an age when children see so much of the world through a small screen, we hope that a visit to Proms gave them 'live' inspiration and an insight into the world of musicians, music making and the delight of being an audience."

## LITFEST

The Proms Literary Festival took place with seven events across the first weekend. The biggest audiences were for ITV political editor, Robert Peston – interviewed by former Prime Ministerial spokesman Simon Lewis – and former National Theatre Director, Nick Hytner, interviewed by journalist Nicolette Jones.

Other sessions by authors who were a little less well-known turned out, as often is the case, to be at least as fascinating. Radio Three breakfast presenter Clemency Burton-Hill explained how she had chosen the 366 pieces of music contained in her book *Year of Wonder*, and played some extracts from the complementary Spotify playlist. Former Times editor Simon Jenkins used a slideshow to take us on a whistle-stop tour around his 100 favourite railway stations, and journalist Viv Groskop set out how her surname had led to her fascination with Russia and its literature. Lynne Truss shook off her reputation for grammatical stringency and amused audiences with her comic detective novel set in Brighton in 1957.

All this took place around the most congenial LitFest café stocked with homemade goodies supplied by Proms volunteers. Sitting in the shade of the trees in the Henrietta Barnett School yard, sipping a cup of tea and nibbling a Florentine while musing over the pages of the new paperback just purchased from West End Lane Books and signed by the author was indeed a luxurious experience.

## EXERCISE

But Proms at St Jude's is not all about sitting down. Enthusiasts were able to delight in as many as nine Heritage walks this year – all under sunny skies – led by individual volunteer guides, whose commitment, awe-inspiring depth of knowledge and enthusiasm were palpable.

Walkers trod the streets of Belsize Park uncovering 'intrigue and spies'; visited Toynbee Hall to look at the work of philanthropists in the East End; and surveyed the 'revolutionary' modernist homes of Hampstead. The other walks all took place in and around the Suburb and Hampstead Heath, proving how many hidden corners you can discover in your own area however long you may have lived here.

## INNOVATION

Not letting the grass grow under its feet, Proms is always trying something new. This year, there was pizza before the concert on the last Saturday and stand-up comedy to follow. That it was described as 'late-night' comedy was called into question by MC Jim Daly – but he accepted that finishing by 11.15pm was indeed past the Ovaltine hour in this part of the world.

## CHARITY

Central to Proms is its raising of funds for good causes. Speakers for the two beneficiary charities, Toynbee Hall and the North London Hospice, set out to audiences over the course of the festival how their support would take effect – from instilling self-esteem in previously withdrawn teenagers to providing solace and comfort to individuals at the end of their life and their families and friends.

On two occasions, generous donors doubled the cash collected in buckets at exits at the end of the



evening, adding to the sums that Proms will be able to contribute. "Our cautious Treasurer estimates that it will be at least £45,000 this year," said Proms founder Susie Gregson. "Our thanks go to our sponsors, advertisers, Friends and to you, the audience, for making this possible."

RON FINLAY



Mike Freer MP and the Mayor of Barnet, Councillor Reuben Thompstone



The sun sets on another successful Proms – cheers!

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# Another message from the past

The autumn 2017 issue of Suburb News (SN132, page 5, Message in a bottle) reported on discovery of an unofficial capsule in the St

Jude's weathercock. We can now follow up on this story with the news that conservators working on the restoration of the spire and weathervane have discovered

the 'time capsule' placed in the spire in 1913 at its dedication.

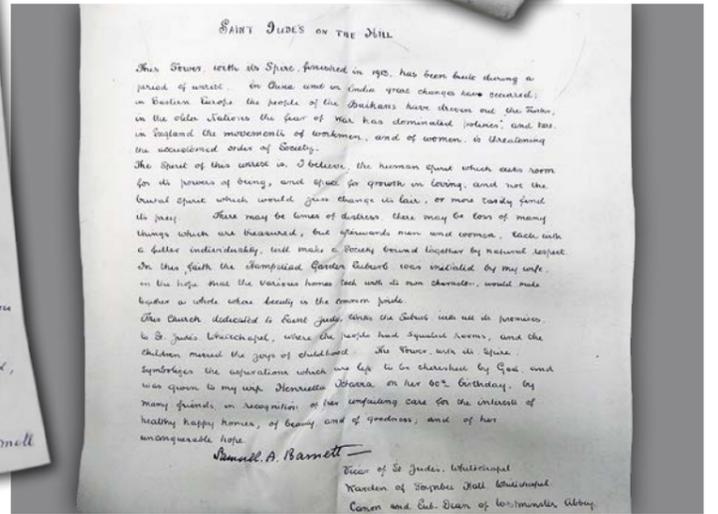
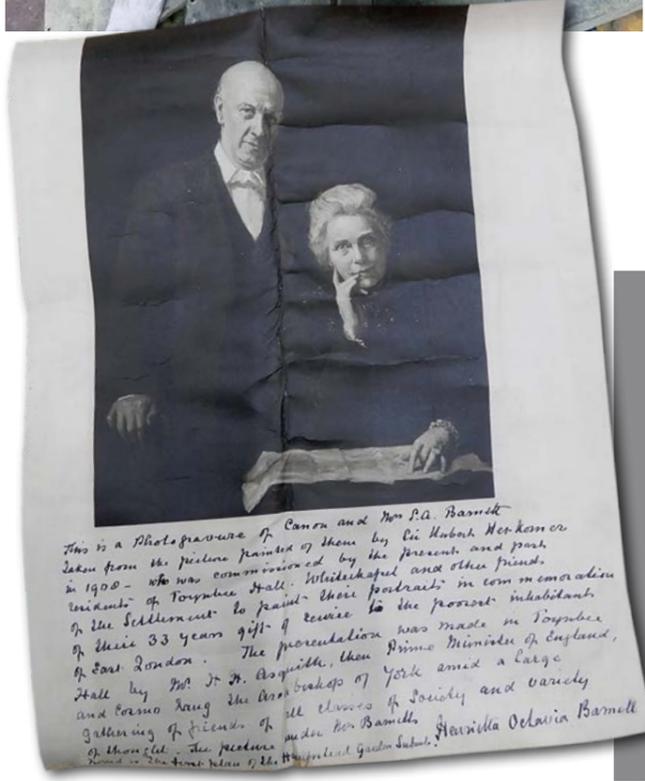
We knew of its existence from Henrietta Barnett's The Story of the Growth of the Hampstead Garden Suburb 1907-1928, which describes it as "a hermetically sealed copper cylinder", and records that "with prayer and thanksgiving" by the first vicar, the Reverend Basil Bourchier, it was placed in the pummel of the spire.

The capsule contains a message ("engrossed on vellum") from Canon Samuel Barnett on the state of the world in 1913 ("the

last thing that Canon Barnett wrote"), and a "photogravure" of a portrait of the Barnetts by Hubert Herkomer (1849-1914) from Toynbee Hall. There was no record of Henrietta's accompanying text until the discovery of the capsule.

The conservation team also found on the removal of lead from the orb a number of signatures on the timber, which are presumably those of the plumber and lead workers.

We hope, after conservation, to add a contemporary note and, again with prayer and thanksgiving, to restore the capsule to the restored spire.



An insider look at this year's Proms

## Mrs Shaw Herself in the Library

The Garden Suburb Community Library was, once again, full to capacity for a very special evening in April. 'Mrs Shaw Herself' was a delightful hour-long theatrical event which gave a fascinating insight into the life of Charlotte Payne-Townshend—a remarkable woman, born into great wealth, a political activist, Suffragette, passionate about alleviating poverty and promoting women's education, who chose to seek out causes which would benefit from her fortune.

Drawn into the company of the Fabians, she met George Bernard Shaw, and although her 40-year marriage to him was

unconventional, it was in many ways a success as her fortune gave him domestic comfort, stability and the freedom to explore fully his creative ideas.

Written and performed by actress Alexis Leighton and Helen Tierney who provided music on Celtic harp, 'Mrs Shaw Herself' is drawn entirely from Charlotte's own writings and letters, as well as those of George Bernard Shaw and his contemporaries, and it aims to bring Charlotte out from behind her husband's shadow. This very original piece of theatre certainly captivated the library audience.



## SN134 Wordsearch answers and winner

The answers to the Shakespearian characters in the last issue's Wordsearch were as follows: Banquo, Cordelia, Desdemona, Falstaff, Horatio, Juliet, Lysander, Macbeth, Malvolio, Mercutio,

Oberon, Ophelia, Perdita, Petruchio, Polonius, Portia, Prospero, Puck, Shylock, Titania and Yorick. Yvonne Oliver from Brim Hill is the winner of a £20 book token: congratulations!

We urgently require a volunteer to take on the role of Wordsearch editor. There are free Wordsearch generators to be found online (just use your usual search engine to find them)

which would make life easier for anyone who would like to take over the role. Anyone who is interested please get in touch with the Suburb News Editor at [rapublications@hgs.org.uk](mailto:rapublications@hgs.org.uk).



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# The first Garden City



The annual Michael Rowley lecture this year was given on May 20 in the Meeting House on the subject of Letchworth Garden City by Graham Fisher, the Chief Executive of the Letchworth Garden City Heritage Foundation.

The talk started with a brief overview explaining some of the history of Letchworth, its constitution and governance. It covers some 5,500 acres with a population of around 34,000 and as the first garden city it influenced future town planning greatly.

Graham Fisher explained that the present body is a charitable trust with its endowment being the estate itself. The Foundation is Letchworth's largest landlord and has an annual income of some £8 million. So it is very different from the HGS Trust which we know.

Its mission statement says it exists "to create, maintain and promote a vibrant, quality environment in Letchworth Garden City, for all those who live, work and visit the world's first Garden City." We were told it acts as a custodian with stewardship to ensure the maintenance of the residential, industrial, commercial and rural environment.

parts of our own city and the rest of the country.

The town, with its industry and housing kept separate, would be situated within a belt of open countryside – the first 'Green Belt'. The competition for the town design led to the appointment of Richard Barry Parker and Raymond Unwin as the architects. The original Arts and Crafts housing design and border hedges would look familiar to Suburb residents.

The original town has also seen expansion with housing estates being built; two, in 1947 and 1961, being municipal estates built by the LCC with residents coming from London; and two more in the 1970's, although these were for private housing. Graham Fisher told us that 35% of the residential property was for social housing while 40% of residents work in Letchworth. Much of the Foundation's property is commercial, either industrial, office or retail with these sectors contributing 80% of its income.

We were told Letchworth faces the same challenges present in the rest of the country. There is much old property which needs looking after and a programme of retrofitting has started to make its housing stock eco-friendly.

Then there are concerns over increasing inequality and an increasingly elderly population, while there is less participation in civic community life – a common problem as our own RA knows – and a struggle to maintain economic vitality. The decline in the High Street is being met, in part, by converting to residential.

The term 'hollowing out' was used to describe the effect of being squeezed between London and Cambridge on the town's economic vitality. Trying to attract wealth creators into the town has become a priority so as not to rely on a proliferation of ubiquitous low-wage distribution centres.

We learned that the Foundation has thirty governors. Six are elected, ten are nominated by registered clubs, societies and the local county and district councils, and fourteen are appointed by the Board of Trustees, which has a membership of nine and is appointed by the governors. Trustees can serve for a maximum of two terms of three years.

The management of the estate is the responsibility of a leadership team under the chief executive, Graham Fisher, and they ensure the resources

available are used to the benefit of the community.

To that end money is spent on promoting the environment, heritage, culture, leisure, learning, health and wellbeing, leading to the support of a working farm, the town cinema and theatre, a health centre, the Greenway around the town, community transport and much more.

Graham Fisher gave his lecture the sub-title: Sustainability and Community. It is a miracle Letchworth has survived and it is a fine advertisement for the ideals of a civic movement, which some mourn for having disappeared in an age which prizes the self and mammon above community and charity.

TERRY BROOKS



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# Trustee election in September

The next Annual General Meeting of the Hampstead Garden Suburb Trust is on September 5, and this year it will be followed by the election of one new member to the Trust Council. As we go to press there are two declared candidates for this seat on the board, and we have a short statement from each candidate for readers.

A trustee has to ensure a charity remains true to its charitable purpose and objects as set out in its governing documents. For us this means that our trustees ensure the Trust does all things possible to maintain and preserve the present character and amenities of the Suburb using the tools at its disposal. Trustees also have to ensure the Trust remains solvent and has the resources necessary to do its job.

We need trustees who will ensure the Trust continues to be properly resourced and not just look to reduce its income and

hamper its effectiveness. The management charge has remained in its target range for the last nine years and remains cheaper than my TV licence or daily newspaper; I would say that is good value for money.

The Trust has the responsibility of maintaining an important example of twentieth century suburban design, and is also our best protector against potential inappropriate development.

We need trustees who are prepared to use the law to defend the Suburb when needed. If owners and developers think that the Trust lacks the will or resources to do so, they will be quick to exploit the weakness. It is up to us to show by our votes that we are prepared to support those who will protect us.

It is worth remembering that Trustees' actions are constrained by the Memorandum & Articles of Association and the Scheme of Management. There are many

things the Trust is unable to do, however worthy.

I think trustees should also encourage the continuation and development of the policy of communication and consultation with residents.

So, if you are a member, please use your vote for a candidate who, by supporting the objectives of the Trust, will put the Suburb first.

If you are not a member and have lived in the Suburb for at least three years, you are eligible to become a member of the charity; go to [www.hgstrust.org](http://www.hgstrust.org) to find out more. Just paying the management charge or your ground rent does not make you a member, and there is no restriction just because you rent from a landlord.

Finally it is very important for me to say that the above represents my personal views and not those of anyone else or any group.

TERRY BROOKS

# New courses at HLSI



The Highgate Literary and Scientific Institution has opened its doors for 2018-9 booking for its popular educational courses. This year it has adjusted its schedules to provide for longer courses in the autumn and spring term with a shorter four week summer term, followed by a number of two day courses.

Anne Jamieson, the Chair of the Education Committee, said, "We take great pride in the quality of courses and lectures which we can offer at the HLSI. They are open to anyone.

"We have found that a lot of our students have difficulty with summer attendance because of holidays and other commitments.

As a result we have decided to lengthen the autumn and spring terms to 12 weeks (with a half-term break) and have a short four week summer term which we hope will suit our students better.

"Overall, this means a slight increase in the number of classes offered, and in addition, there will be a significant expansion of our short one and two day courses, which will be on offer throughout the month of June. There will be a range of new and exciting short courses, enabling people to 'dip into' a subject area.

"This summer we have repeated our Dante's Divine Comedy option because of popular demand, and in the autumn we have two short courses – 'Homer's Iliad in translation' with Isabel Raphael, and an architectural programme – 'The Development of the Modern Home'.

"The HLSI is in some ways North London's hidden secret. But it is easily accessible by

public transport, with regular bus services stopping only a few yards from our front door."

Courses at the HLSI are open to anybody. Membership, which currently starts at £91 a year, allows priority booking and provides access to a members' room with newspapers and all the major periodicals, as well as one of London's best libraries with over 25,000 books and an active new acquisitions programme. It offers the opportunity to attend weekly lectures and occasional debates on current issues as well as the literature and topical science for which the Institution was founded over 175 years ago.

Other activities include a Film Club, a Science Group and an Opera Circle.

New members are welcome, as is anyone who just wants to look round the facilities.

Further information can be found on their website at: [www.HLSI.net](http://www.HLSI.net).

# Trustee election Statements



RAYMOND TAYLOR

I am standing for election to the Trust Council at the AGM and this is the first time I have stood for election. I have lived in Hampstead Garden Suburb since 1983. My wife, Beverley, and I both enjoy the community and unique character of Hampstead Garden Suburb where we have brought up our three sons and where we now enjoy our grandchildren.

It was to protect the character of Hampstead Garden Suburb that I became involved with the formation of the Central Square Residents Association in 1996, made up of families living in close proximity to Henrietta Barnett School to add our opposition to the then planning application made by Henrietta Barnett School.

Over the past 12 months I have served on the Estate Committee and the Finance Committee and I am very impressed with Nick

Packard and his professional team as well as my fellow committee members.

As a practising corporate solicitor and having served as the chairman of the board of governors of a private school for many years, I see the role of a trustee as providing advice and support to the professional staff whilst also providing constructive criticism where necessary.

If elected I would look to work with the professional staff and the trustees to continue to advance the amenity and character of Hampstead Garden Suburb.



BRIAN INGRAM

"Oh please don't let it be him!" might be the current Trustees' view of my candidacy for election to the Trust Council. So I seriously ask readers to encourage other suitable people to stand alongside myself. New blood is needed for Trustees, and for the various Trust Committees.

I would also encourage as many residents as possible to become (voting) members of the Trust; it is free and the only qualification is three years residence in the Suburb whether as a freeholder, a leaseholder or a tenant. You can download a membership form from this link: [www.hgstrust.org/documents/trust-membership-form-2018.pdf](http://www.hgstrust.org/documents/trust-membership-form-2018.pdf).

I love the Suburb and want the Trust to be more positive in our community: to be more amenable, approachable and – vitally – far more transparent and open.

It is said that in the Suburb you are only six feet away from a lawyer. For the last five years a retired lawyer has been Trust Chairman. Now I want to see modern financial controls and better management of Trust staff activity by making use of my business experience.

The Trust should review its conservation policies to become stronger and more interested, as it used to be, and I would be happy to lead that review. You can ask me about current Henrietta Barnett School proposals, the Tea House, those HBS extensions (2008/9), the Bute Mews development or even 17 Holne Chase. Just email me at: [ingrambluebird@hotmail.com](mailto:ingrambluebird@hotmail.com).

Many will know I am one of the leaders of Suburb volunteers restoring the Suburb's Northway Rose Gardens.



National Lying Down Day - Monday, October 8 is the day and local Alexander Technique teacher, Carolyn Simon, demonstrates in the semi-supine position at Sunshine Corner. International Alexander Awareness Week is October 8 to 12 ([www.carolynsimon.com](http://www.carolynsimon.com)).

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# Steve's helping Make Beaumont Brilliant

The Archer Academy's Make Beaumont Brilliant campaign got a boost this month, with the help of EastEnders star and parent at the Archer Academy, Steve McFadden.

The school is hoping to raise £250,000 through the campaign, to fund the building of a library and study centre at Beaumont Close for its GCSE students. As part of the fundraising effort, the school's Friends Association put on a Quiz Night and Auction, and were delighted when Steve offered to donate an Albert Square road sign, signed by the cast.

Steve also encouraged others at the event to make a donation to the campaign, as he himself has done. Anyone wishing to support Make Beaumont Brilliant should visit <https://tinyurl.com/archermbb>.



Chetna Patel, auction winner with Steve McFadden

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# WHAT'S ON



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

## THURSDAY 2 AUGUST

**HGS Horticultural Society's coach trip** to RHS Hyde Hall Flower Show in Essex. Specialist nurseries and the chance to explore the garden in full bloom. Details from Diane Berger - 020 8455 0455.

## FRIDAY 3 AUGUST

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

## SATURDAY 4 AUGUST

**10.30-12.30pm Traidcraft Sale, Clothing Exchange and Coffee morning** in Free Church.

**2.30pm The Hampstead Heath Extension** A Heath & Hampstead Society walk, led by Tony Ghilchik, Trustee of the Society and member of the Heath Sub-Committee. Minimum donation of £5 per adult. Meet at the cattle trough and flower stall, Spaniard's End, near the Spaniard's Inn. Info, 07941 528034; email: hhs.walks@gmail.com.

## FRIDAY 10 AUGUST

**1pm Piano Recital** by Masa Tayama in Free Church.

## SATURDAY 1 SEPTEMBER

**10.30-12.30pm Traidcraft Sale, Clothing Exchange and Coffee Morning** in Free Church.

## SUNDAY 2 SEPTEMBER

**9.30am Birds of the Heath - A Heath & Hampstead Society walk** led by John Hunt, member of the Society and former Chairman of the Marylebone Birdwatching Society. Minimum donation of £5 per adult. Meet at Burgh House, New End Square. London NW3 1LT. Info 07941 528 034; email: hhs.walks@gmail.com

## TUESDAY 4 SEPTEMBER & EVERY TUESDAY

**10.15-10.45am RA Library Story/Song Time** Garden Suburb Community Library, 15 The Market Place, NW11 6LB. We welcome toddlers and their carers into a warm, friendly group. We provide rhythm and rhyme making activities alongside both new and familiar songs, and an introduction into the world of exciting and boundless stories beyond home provision. Come and join us for some fun with your little ones. Admission free.

## TUESDAY 4 SEPTEMBER

**10am-12noon Hampstead Garden Suburb University of the Third Age (HGS U3A)** welcomes new members at its Open Day at North Western Reform Synagogue Alyth Gardens, NW11 7EN. There are over 60 interest groups covering a wide range of topics. Ideal for retired and semi-retired people. Please visit website: <https://hgsu3a.uk>.

**2.30pm John Freeman in conversation with John Osborne BBC DVD** A Fellowship House Event, 136a Willifield Way, NW11 6YD. Suburb residents are welcome. Members £1, Non-members £3 (including tea and biscuits). Become a Member for £20 pa. [www.fellowshiphouse.co.uk](http://www.fellowshiphouse.co.uk) for any updates or changes.

**7-8pm Entry Night for the HGS Horticultural Society's 287th Flower Show** Fellowship House 136a Willifield Way, NW11 6YD. Are you going to bake a cake? Have you made some delectable jam? Have you grown some succulent veg or fabulous flowers? Have you taken some outstanding photographs? All good enough to enter for the Flower Show on Saturday? Check the members' Handbook and submit your entry forms. There will be help on hand if you are new to showing.

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

## THURSDAY 6 SEPTEMBER & EVERY THURSDAY

**10-10.30am & 10.45-11.15am RA Library Sing Song Time** Garden Suburb Community Library, 15 The Market Place, NW11 6LB. A first library activity for under-threes and their grown-ups. Rhyme, rhythm and repetition are all fundamental to a baby's speech and language development. Sharing rhythms and singing songs help babies to develop listening and concentration skills. Admission free.

## FRIDAY 7 SEPTEMBER

**3.30pm Book Club** Garden Suburb Community Library, 15 The Market Place, NW11 6LB. A different book every month discussed over cake and tea. Pick up a copy of the Friday current book at the HGS Library and join us on the first Friday of every month. Admission free.

## SATURDAY 8 SEPTEMBER

**3-5.30pm Horticultural Society's 287th Flower Show** with live music from Grimsdyke Brass Band at Free Church Hall Northway, NW11 6PB. Season of mellow fruitfulness, reflected in the mature fruit and vegetables on display. Also cakes, preserves, photography, etc. Home-made teas, raffle and live music from Grimsdyke Brass Band. Members free, non-members £2.

## TUESDAY 11 SEPTEMBER

**2.30pm 'Hawaii' - A Fellowship House Talk** by John Williams Fellowship House 136a Willifield Way, NW11 6YD. Suburb residents are welcome. Members £1, Non-members £3 (including tea and biscuits). Become a Member for £20 pa. [www.fellowshiphouse.co.uk](http://www.fellowshiphouse.co.uk) for any updates or changes.

## MONDAY 16 SEPTEMBER

**5pm Borough Councillors' Surgery** Fellowship House, 136a Willifield Way, NW11 6YD. Opportunity to ask for advice on local problems.

## TUESDAY 18 SEPTEMBER

**2.30pm 'Truffles of the World' - A Fellowship House talk** by Christian Xingreen. Fellowship House 136a Willifield Way, NW11 6YD. Suburb residents are welcome. Members £1, Non-members £3 (including tea and biscuits). Become a Member for £20 pa. [www.fellowshiphouse.co.uk](http://www.fellowshiphouse.co.uk) for any updates or changes.

## THURSDAY 20 SEPTEMBER

**2.30pm Thursday Fellowship** Tea and Rev Derek Lindfield sharing his Desert Island Discs in Free Church rooms.

**8pm 'The Treaty of Versailles' - An Historical Association talk** by Professor Tony Lentin, Wolfson College, Cambridge. Fellowship House, 136a Willifield Way, NW11 6YD. In the centenary year of its ending, and to complete our series of lectures on the First World War, Professor Tony Lentin will address us on the subject of the Treaty of Versailles. Formerly a Professor of History at The Open University, Tony is a Senior Member of Wolfson College, Cambridge and a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society. He has published several books on the Paris Peace Conference and Treaty of Versailles and is working on another. A barrister and former law tutor, Tony has published two judicial biographies, Lord Sumner (2008) and Mr Justice McCardie (2017). His other main interest is 18th century Russia, on which he has published widely. Members £3, Associate Members £10.

## SATURDAY 22 SEPTEMBER

**10am-6pm Open House** Free Church open.  
**Residents Association Last Copy Date** for What's On in November, December and January. Details to David Littaur, 84 Wildwood Road, NW11 6UJ. 8731 6755 or 07510 308 997. Email: [dvdlttr@gmail.com](mailto:dvdlttr@gmail.com).

## SUNDAY 23 SEPTEMBER

**1-6pm Open House** Free Church open

## TUESDAY 25 SEPTEMBER

**2.30pm The Françoise Geller Trio** A Fellowship House event, 136a Willifield Way, NW11 6YD. Suburb residents are welcome. Members £1, Non-members £3 (including tea and biscuits). Become a Member for £20 pa. [www.fellowshiphouse.co.uk](http://www.fellowshiphouse.co.uk) for any updates or changes.

## THURSDAY 27 SEPTEMBER

**8pm The Story of the London Buses** Dr John Hodgson The Finchley Society, Avenue (Stephens) House, East End Road, London N3 3QE.

## FRIDAY 28 SEPTEMBER

**1pm Free Church Piano Recital** by Madeleine Jones at The Free Church. Lunch in support of Christian Aid served at 12.15.

## SUNDAY 30 SEPTEMBER

**11am Harvest Festival Service** in Free Church.

## TUESDAY 2 OCTOBER

**2.30pm The Ruth Foxton Singers** A Fellowship House Event, 136a Willifield Way, NW11 6YD. Suburb residents are welcome. Members £1, Non-members £3 (including tea and biscuits). Become a Member for £20 pa. [www.fellowshiphouse.co.uk](http://www.fellowshiphouse.co.uk) for any updates or changes.

## FRIDAY 5 OCTOBER

**3.30pm Book Club** Garden Suburb Community Library, 15 The Market Place, NW11 6LB. A different book every month discussed over cake and tea. Pick up a copy of the current book at the HGS Library and join us on the first Friday of every month. Admission free.

## SATURDAY 6 OCTOBER

**10.30-12.30pm Coffee Morning** Free Church. Fairly traded goods available for purchase.

## SUNDAY 7 OCTOBER

**2.30pm Hampstead Heath from the 1820s to the 1920s: a century-long campaign** A Heath & Hampstead Society Walk, led by Thomas Radice, Trustee of the Society and member of the Heath Sub-Committee. Minimum donation of £5 per adult. Meet at the Flagstaff, Whitestone Pond. Info: 07941 528 034; email: hhs.walks@gmail.com.

**7.30pm Mill Hill Music Club presents ConTempo Quartet** Iulian Pusca - pan flute; Mozart - Flute Quartet arr. for pan flute; Brahms - String Quartet Op. 41 No. 1; Boccherini - Pan flute Quintet in D major; Pugnani - Venetian Carnival for pan flute. The Hall, The Henrietta Barnet School, Central Square, NW11 7BN. Tickets £15. To book 020 8959 1047 [www.millhillmusicclub.co.uk](http://www.millhillmusicclub.co.uk).

## TUESDAY 9 OCTOBER

**2.30pm 'Syria Notes' by Kellie Strom** A Fellowship House Talk, 136a Willifield Way, NW11 6YD. Suburb residents are welcome. Members £1, Non-members £3 (including tea and biscuits). Become a Member for £20 pa. [www.fellowshiphouse.co.uk](http://www.fellowshiphouse.co.uk) for any updates or changes.

## THURSDAY 11 TO SUNDAY 14 OCTOBER

**7.30pm on 11-13 Oct, 4pm on 14 October Garden Suburb Theatre presents Muswell Hill** by Torben Betts January 2010 - one night an earthquake in Haiti results in the death of around 100,000 people and almost two million are left homeless. At the same time, in leafy Muswell Hill, six friends meet over avocado, prawns and a monkfish stew. They worry about their mortgages, careers, phone tariffs, Facebook friends, diets, love lives, alcohol intake... and whether or not history will remember them. Tickets: £13/£11. Upstairs at the Gatehouse, Highgate, N6 4BD. Box Office: 020 8340 3488, [www.upstairsatthegatehouse.com](http://www.upstairsatthegatehouse.com).

## THURSDAY 11 OCTOBER

**7:30pm The Making of Henstead Exotic Garden** by Andrew Brogan at Fellowship House. Horticultural Society members on the 2017 three-day trip were bowled over by their visit to Henstead in Suffolk and want to share their experience of listening to Andrew Brogan describing how he made this amazing exotic garden about ten years ago, with plants that would normally be happy growing in a jungle. Members free, non-members £3.

## SATURDAY 13 OCTOBER

**7.30pm The Haywood Trio Charity Concert** in aid of the HGS Night Shelter project in Free Church.

## SUNDAY 14 OCTOBER

**4pm Garden Suburb Theatre presents Muswell Hill** by Torben Betts January 2010 - one night an earthquake in Haiti results in the death of around 100,000 people and almost two million are left homeless. At the same time, in leafy Muswell Hill, six friends meet over avocado, prawns and a monkfish stew. They worry about their mortgages, careers, phone tariffs, Facebook friends, diets, love lives, alcohol intake... and whether or not history will remember them. Tickets: £13/£11. Upstairs at the Gatehouse, Highgate, N6 4BD. Box Office: 020 8340 3488, [www.upstairsatthegatehouse.com](http://www.upstairsatthegatehouse.com).

**10am-2pm Open Day at Chandos Tennis Club** 120 East End Road, N2 0RZ. Come and see our new club and play Tennis on Indoor Courts for the Winter Season running to 31 March 2019, reduced rates apply for all categories with a 10% reduction on the day. Four artificial floodlit grass courts, four indoor acrylic courts, top standard coaching from age 3 upwards from LTA licensed coaches. Team tennis for all. Facilities include a lounge and cafe, gym and on site parking. Wigmore Sports on site for the day for racquet testing and clothing for the winter season. 020 8343 1755/020 8346 2856.

## MONDAY 15 OCTOBER

**5pm Borough Councillors' Surgery** Fellowship House, 136a Willifield Way, NW11 6YD. Opportunity to ask for advice on local problems.

## TUESDAY 16 OCTOBER

**2.30pm 'The Art of the Heist: Nazi Art Theft in WW2' by Martin Aaron** A Fellowship House Talk, 136a Willifield Way, London NW11 6YD. Suburb residents are welcome. Members £1, Non-members £3 (including tea and biscuits). Become a Member for £20 pa. [www.fellowshiphouse.co.uk](http://www.fellowshiphouse.co.uk) for any updates or changes.

## THURSDAY 18 OCTOBER

**2.30pm Thursday Fellowship** tea and social afternoon in the Free Church rooms.

**8pm 'Britain's Role in Slavery and the Slave Trade'** An Historical Association talk by Dr Philip Woods, New York University in London. Fellowship House, 136a Willifield Way, NW11 6YD. In 2007, an unprecedented amount of Government money, museum and media attention were given to the bicentenary of the British abolition of the slave trade. But what exactly was being commemorated, and how did this commemoration differ from previous ones? How has the memory of Britain's role in slavery and the slave trade been marked in different British cities: London, Bristol and Liverpool for example? Can commemoration be linked to practical acts of recompense for the suffering caused? Dr Philip Woods has taught at the Universities of West London and Kingston and now teaches part time at New York University in London on British national identity, and Britain and slavery. He is an historian of British Imperial history with particular reference to India and Burma. His latest book Reporting the Retreat: War Correspondents in Burma was published by Hurst & Co in 2017. Members £3, Associate Members £10.

## TUESDAY 23 OCTOBER

**2.30pm 'Judaism and Business Ethics'** A Fellowship House Talk by Rabbi Mark Goldsmith, 136a Willifield Way, NW11 6YD. Suburb residents are welcome. Members £1, Non-members £3 (including tea and biscuits). Become a Member for £20 pa. [www.fellowshiphouse.co.uk](http://www.fellowshiphouse.co.uk) for any updates or changes.

## FRIDAY 26 OCTOBER

**1pm Free Church Piano Recital** by Asagi Nakata (piano) and Kilian Von Rooij (violin) at The Free Church. Lunch in support of Christian Aid served at 12.15.

## SATURDAY 27 OCTOBER

**3pm RA Events - Childrens Halloween Party** Ghostly stories and facepainting for 4-7 year olds. Fellowship House 136a Willifield Way, NW11 6YD.

## SUNDAY 28 OCTOBER

**7.30pm London International Orchestra Charity Concert** in aid of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, in Free Church.

## TUESDAY 30 OCTOBER

**2.30pm 'The Life of Emma Hamilton'** A Fellowship House Talk by Tamara Rabin, 136a Willifield Way, London NW11 6YD. Suburb residents are welcome. Members £1, Non-members £3 (including tea and biscuits). Become a Member for £20 pa. [www.fellowshiphouse.co.uk](http://www.fellowshiphouse.co.uk) for any updates or changes.



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# Follow your garden's natural rhythms

One thing I have noticed, working as a plantswoman within the gardens of The Suburb, is that Mother Nature has Her own unstoppable rhythms and cycles. She doesn't recognise boundaries as we do; it's just one big nature reserve to Her. As the seasons come round again and again, almost every week is characterised by particular plants and flowers. As I return to work in the New Year I am welcomed back by the flaming stems of cornus, willow and acer. The chill of late winter is laced with the fragrance of witch hazel, daphne and winter-sweet. Snowdrops and aconites fill the soul with optimism even as it snows.

As I potter away in the borders I am aware of seasonal bird song: In spring blackbirds and blue tits flitter around me industriously gathering nesting

material and food for their young. At the peak of the summer foxes stroll nonchalantly past me, neither of us bothered by the other. As autumn comes, the sound and feel of gentle rainfall soothes me. In winter, a robin, twittering away gently, head cocked, looks for rich pickings in my wake.

Spring for me is blue and yellow; early summer lime green; mid-summer white, pink and lilac; high summer red, orange and yellow; late summer burnished bronze, gold, purple and magenta.

The first mow of the year usually coincides with the spring solstice, when the tempo hots up along with the temperature. Just as I've battled, and lost, with the spread of wild garlic in early April, returning home every day smelling like an Italian restaurant,

by the end of the month I find myself on hands and knees prising out sycamore seedlings from every nook and cranny.

During May I can almost set my spring watch to Spanish Bluebell Week, followed by aptly named Forget-Me-Not Week, when every hair on my head and every layer of my clothing is peppered with seeds.

By June I am looking askance at the yellowing leaves of the daffs, tugging them gently to see if I can get away with pulling them up before their allotted six week span. The lime green flowers of euphorbia amygdaloides Robbiae fade roughly around the summer solstice. Philadelphus has celebrated its floral fortnight; by July 1st it's time for its annual prune.

There are several markers that herald the end of early

summer. Having flowered their hearts out, hardy geraniums, trailing bellflower and alchemilla mollis are sprawling lazily all over lawn edges and paths, the flowers of perennial erysimum Bowles Mauve have reached the tips of their etiolated stems, the first flush of roses has come and gone. Spent blooms hang onto their hosts for dear life. The garden fades to Shabby Chic.

July is the time when many gardeners lament the hiatus of high summer. No need. Judicious pruning will restore the vigour of the garden. But be ruthless, don't wait for a total fadeout: cut back now and fresh new foliage will start to emerge after about a fortnight. Early flowering evergreen shrubs can have a trim now for restoring a hint of discipline amongst the blowsy blooms of summer. I always

mark the transition between early-to-mid and again mid-to-late summer by shaping up the pittosporums and euonymus. Dainty seedheads are not for me. I'm always chasing the next wave of flowers. All through July I'm constantly playing Catch Up: On the one hand, twice daily watering just to keep everything from losing vigour, and don't even think about going on holiday! On the other hand, especially if it's been hot and sultry, keeping a machete handy to stop everything from growing into a jungle!

Ah, and then we are into August. The tempo slows. The bees buzz. A breather at last! A bit of gentle deadheading every day, feed the containers once a week, wander around enjoying the peace and quiet of the school holidays. You might find yourself

wondering what's happened to this or that plant, it was there this time last summer surely. The strong urge you had in June and July to fill every gap with a new plant suddenly doesn't seem so urgent after all. Mail order catalogues will be plopping onto your mat with monotonous regularity now, warning you to order your Spring flowering bulbs Before It's Too Late.

Savour this lackadaisical respite, because come September, the long steady autumn tidy up starts in earnest. Before you know it, it will be the winter solstice; seeds of anticipation will be sown as the garden goes full circle. I find the ebb and flow of it all very reassuring: Whatever the weather, world events, personal dramas, it all just keeps rolling along in its own time.

CAROLINE BROOME



Spring



Summer



Autumn



Winter

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## Summer Show with added spuds

At their summer flower show on 16 June, Horticultural Society committee members were thrilled to bits with the success of their brand new 'Grow a Potato in a Bag' competition, launched last February. In the dark days of winter, ninety adults and children had queued up to pick up a special small black sack and a 'Lady Christl' potato. All they had to do was chit (sprout) the potato, fill their sack with compost, plant the potato on 29 March,

provide a bit of water and TLC, and bring the results of their labours for judging on 16 June.

Obviously, not everyone who had entered originally was able to come to the show. But when it opened, another queue formed in the garden of the Free Church Hall, Northway, as 16 children and 29 adults lugged their now heavy bags to the hall to have their crops weighed and assessed. A large, excited crowd formed as the rain held off, and society

Chairman Chris Page tipped all the potatoes out in turn to see who had grown the heaviest single potato and the heaviest crop of potatoes in the months of peculiar weather since 29

March, before handing them to Ruth Beedle, who was operating the digital scales.

Of the children entering, the potato crop grown by Sebastien Eames, aged three, tipped the scales at 933 grams, and he also had the heaviest potato, weighing 145 grams. Erin Hodgson and Charlie C came second and third. Adult first prize went to Anthony Hewstone, with a crop weighing 980 grams, but the heaviest potato prize was won by Jane Herbert, whose single potato weighed in at 102 grams. Second and third were Yvonne Oliver and Marjorie Harris.

Meanwhile, in the Free Church Hall itself, the show was ablaze with row upon row of roses giving off wonderful perfume,

as well as lots of other flowers, fruit, veg, jams and marmalade, cookery and photography, with Horticultural Society members vying for first, second and third prizes in many categories.

The 286th flower show will take place on 8 September, when Grimsdyke Brass will be paying a return visit to play live music in the Free Church Hall garden.

MARJORIE HARRIS



Sebastien Eames (aged 3) hands over his crop for weighing



(Top and above) Prize winning vegetables and cactus

## Calling all Suburb photographers

The HGS Horticultural Society would love you to exhibit your photos at their next Show on 8 September 2018 – the photographs add an extra dimension to an already beautiful show.

The categories for the show for adult entries are 'Friends

Forever' and 'Seeing Double', while for children from 9-11 years old it is 'Wild Flowers', and for those who are 12 years old and more, 'Summer Holidays'.

If you are not a member of the Society it is very easy to join, just contact David Broome, 8444 2329.



## Suburb rainfall

At the time of writing this we are in a dry heat-wave and

those of us with gardens are, no doubt, praying for rain or

wondering how to do a rain-dance that works. June's rainfall, at 0.02 inches, is the lowest recorded for that month since these records began in 1980. June is normally an average sort of month for rainfall, with a rather higher total than the three preceding months. This year, April was reasonably wet but May was well under average. So a very dry last quarter of 2017 has been followed by a distinctly dry first half of 2018.

We now have the possibility of thunderstorms. Those that

did occur nearby at the end of May were away to the north west, giving us little rain, but a little lightning for those who like watching it. By the time readers get this, they will know whether there really was some excitement in July. The ground is so hard with the lack of rainfall that there may well be some local run-off and mini-flooding. Gardens will be easier to dig and weed, but do we really want to be back to the rainy weather we all know and love?

DIANA IWI FROM MEADWAY

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## Annemount school fete

It was a warm and sunny afternoon on June 16 when a large number of happy young children with their parents gathered at Annemount, Holne Chase, for the annual School Fete. Apart from the usual activities such as face painting, hook a duck, sand art, bouncy castle and craft

work, the highlight was a fantastic raffle with superb prizes, including a Hugo Lloris gloves & football kit. The wonderful selection of homemade cakes did a brisk trade and adults were not forgotten with Prosecco, Pimms and beer available in a separate tent!

TONY BRAND



## League success for Suburb table tennis teams

It was a great season for the Suburb Table Tennis teams, in only their second season in the Barnet League. The first team won Division One and gained the only promotion slot to the Premier Division. Things will get tough for them next year, as there are many national ranked players in the Premier Division. The outstanding performance went to Jonathan Gibson (aged 15) who only lost two games all season with an average of 94%.

The second team also did really well and came 5th in Division Two. David Grunberg only lost four games all season with an average of 90%.

The third team managed to come fourth in their division, which was an excellent feat, considering the number of children playing in that team.

The Barnet League has gone through a restructure, partly to accommodate the Suburb teams,

as the league is now one of the only growing leagues in the country. All teams are being merged with the division above so all the teams are going to have a tough season next year.

Last season 26 players were in the squads, of whom six were children.

The Club is always looking for new players to join the teams. The home matches are played on a Wednesday at the Free Church Hall on Northway NW11, and away matches are mainly at the Barnet Table Tennis Centre.

Next year we are also entering a team into the North Middlesex League, as we have too many players in the second team, so there will be more opportunities to play. This will also be on a Wednesday night.

If you are interested in playing for the teams, please email [rgrethe@gmail.com](mailto:rgrethe@gmail.com). The

season starts in September and finishes in April.

The normal club night run by coaches is now having a summer break but will resume in the first week of September, running from 6.30 for children and 8pm for adults. For details go to [www.suburbttc.com](http://www.suburbttc.com).

RICHARD GRETHE



Richard Grethe and James Swede collecting the Division One Trophy

## Combat Stress cakes sell well



Adrienne King, Anne Cooper, Yvonne Oliver, Ruth Smith, Liz Backham – ready for action

Again this year, the organisers of the wonderful second Suburb Art Fair very kindly decided that all the refreshments on offer over the weekend of 14/15 April at

Fellowship House, could be sold in aid of Combat Stress. Generous Suburb bakers produced an enormous number of cakes, scones and cheesecakes to suit every

taste throughout the two days and it is thought that at least 350 cups of tea were sold by the HGS Combat Stress Committee and their many extra volunteer helpers. Including the money in collecting tins scattered around the venue, the amazing total amount raised for the forces' mental health charity was £1,030.04!

Many, many thanks to the Suburb Art Fair organisers, to the helpers and to those who made and sold the cakes and other refreshments. But a special thank-you must go to the stallholders and visitors to the fair, who had a seemingly inexhaustible appetite for tea and cake and bought them, thereby producing this very special result for a very special charity.

MARJORIE HARRIS

## A Woman of No Importance

The Garden Suburb Theatre group put on four fantastic performances of Oscar Wilde's play at the King Alfred Phoenix Theatre over 12-14 April, which were much enjoyed by enthusiastic audiences.

A number of musical and drama events have been held this year at the new theatre. It is not, however, based in King Alfred School, but is situated behind St Anthony's School for Girls, Ivy House, North End Road, which is nearly opposite King Alfred's.

The theatre group have also just finished a very popular run

of Shakespeare's Measure for Measure in the Little Wood open air theatre and were very lucky with the weather.



## Rose Garden News

Residents using Northway Gardens will have noticed how the Rose Garden beds have changed over the past few years. What was once a haphazard selection of uncared for roses is now an area full of plants and colour.

Recently more colourful shrubs that extend the seasons have been planted and some money was spent on tree works that were perhaps 20 years overdue, so there is a lot more sunshine and fresh air. There are also several replacement and new benches.

A spokesperson told Suburb News that our Councillors had remarked that Northway Gardens

was a prime example of the difference enthusiastic volunteers could make, and added, "We

are very grateful to our sponsors Streathers Solicitors and Ellis & Co. for their support."



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**EDITOR: Terry Brooks, [rapublications@hgs.org.uk](mailto:rapublications@hgs.org.uk)**

**WHAT'S ON EDITOR: David Littaur, [raevents@hgs.org.uk](mailto:raevents@hgs.org.uk).**

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

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800 finchley road hampstead garden suburb london nw11 7tj

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