

# Suburb's Virtual Museum launched

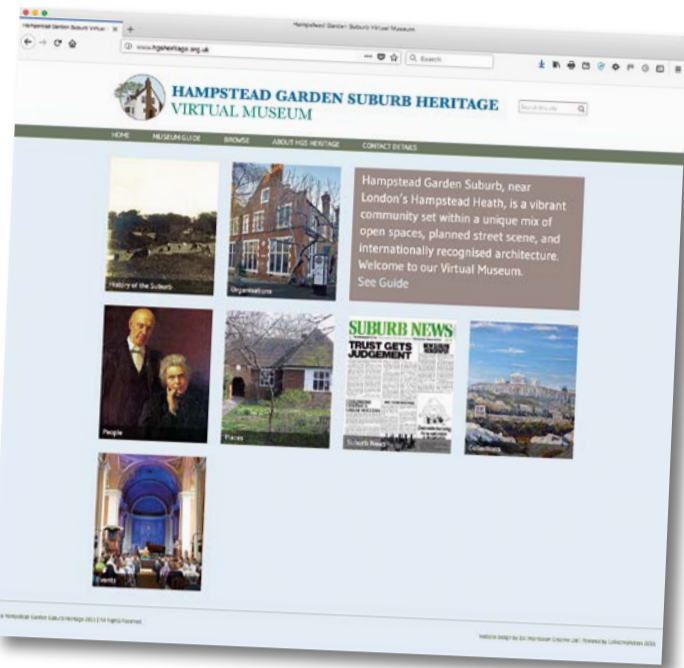
As foreshadowed in Autumn's Suburb News, the Virtual Museum was launched on 29 October, in Fellowship House, by Patron Martin Bell in the presence of the Mayor and Mayoress of Barnet and other dignitaries.

The museum's website, [www.hgsheritage.org.uk](http://www.hgsheritage.org.uk), had almost 300 visitors within days of launch, and interest in it continues to grow. The home page, pictured here, leads into local history, and also to 26 organisations, some historical, some very active, for example Garden Suburb Theatre which performs every summer in Little Wood and shows on its museum page its origins in two earlier drama groups, one stemming from a predecessor committee formed in 1908. The museum aims to add to these 26 organisations, and is already in discussion with three of the Suburb's primary schools to emulate Kerem which is in the museum with full history and a link to its own website.

Another aim of HGS Heritage is to encourage local people, and organisations that are not yet

involved, to track down, register and even donate the Suburb's memorabilia, so that they are not lost for posterity. Suburb News can report that the launch has already borne fruit, with a local resident coming forward with original postcards and papers

inherited from her grandparents who were residents from the Suburb's beginnings. If readers have similar goodies to share, e-mails can be sent to [info@hgsheritage.org.uk](mailto:info@hgsheritage.org.uk) and Marjorie Harris or another volunteer will respond with pleasure.



# The Emeralds in Henrietta's Crown



An allotment opened as part of the HGS Open Gardens day this year organised by the National Gardens Scheme Flower Show

These are the eleven allotments, hidden gems, which are oases of tranquillity in the heart of the Suburb. You enter through shrouded twittens and alleyways, to discover entrancing secret worlds, where over a hundred plot holders realise their horticultural dreams. The allotments are a retreat from the hurly-burly of metropolitan life as well as a source of wholesome organic fruit and vegetables.

The allotments were a core element of the pioneering urban planning of this outstanding conservation area, as much as the gardens and houses themselves. The philosophy behind them was social; they provide a communal, and a healthy, activity. They expanded during the Dig For Victory years of World War Two, and they remain to this day a cohesive force in the community.

2017 marks the centenary of the formation of the Allotments Committee which operated independently for one year before amalgamating with the Suburb's branch of the Royal Horticultural Society. Although links with the HGS Horticultural Society remain close, the committee operates under the auspices of the Suburb's Residents Association.

The allotments are managed by a thriving committee, which works hand-in-hand through its site secretaries, with the Hampstead Garden Suburb Trust who are

the landowners of nine of the eleven sites. The strong links with the Horticultural Society are evident from several joint events, including the biennial Suburb Seed Swap.

The Allotment Committee meets three or four times a year at the Trust office to ensure the efficient management of the sites and discuss issues such as water availability, overhanging trees and hedges, rents and allocation of plots. The committee members divide up responsibilities for the various jobs and administration.

There are several social events a year including a Harvest Supper where allotmentees bring dishes to share, often prepared using their produce. There is an annual walkabout by the committee and a trophy is awarded for the best plot. Individual sites have their own social events during the year such as summer BBQ's.

The good news is applications to become plot holders are

always welcomed. Plots become available more often than you might expect. So if you are interested, make yourself known. Applications to enter this enchanting world can be made by contacting Peter Hodgson at [peter\\_hodgson@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:peter_hodgson@hotmail.co.uk), our committee secretary Margaret Lancaster for general enquiries at [m.lancaster1@talktalk.net](mailto:m.lancaster1@talktalk.net), or you can contact Paul Capewell at the HGS Trust at [paul@hgstrust.org](mailto:paul@hgstrust.org) or on 8455 1066 and 8458 8085.

RUTH BEEDLE



A tray containing allotment vegetables entered into the Horticultural Society Flower Show

# Farm Walk Tennis Club



Tennis Coach Lucy Dean and Player Jenny Manson

Farm Walk Tennis club is a secluded haven of peace where you can escape from the busy world of Temple Fortune.

Established over 75 years ago, it has 160 Adults and 80 Juniors, ranging in age from 5 to 88.

Newly appointed coach, Lucy Dean, told me how impressed she

was with the enthusiasm she felt among the members, especially the ladies, whom she coaches in groups several times a week. She also gives one to one sessions or doubles whenever needed. Experiencing first hand her skills, in a short time she gave me tips on my forehand, backhand, and

serving, and even got me playing double-handed!

There are five courts, three artificial grass, and two clay, four of which are floodlit. Visitors can play free on Wednesday evening from 7 to 9. There is also a clubhouse with table tennis and table football, and there are a number of social events organised for this year.

At a recent charity tournament over £700 was raised for Breast Cancer. Social tennis takes place on Saturday afternoons when members can mix in, there is also tea provided once a month. There are several teams playing in the Middlesex league and intermittent tournaments. Check the website [www.farmwalktennis.net](http://www.farmwalktennis.net) for further information.

SIMONE HALFIN

# Suburb Table Tennis Club is growing fast!

Thanks to donations from the Hampstead Garden Suburb Trust and from local individuals, the Suburb Table Tennis Club is now in its third year, and has three teams in the local Barnet League.

The club has seen over 250 people through its doors in that time and wants to see more people pick up a bat and play. The club actively welcomes new members of all standards, and has eight Olympic level tables

to use. Some of the members that started with no knowledge two years ago are now playing in the League teams. There is no membership needed so just pay and play.

There is a children's session from 18.30-20.00 every Thursday of the year and costs £8.

The adults session is from 20.00-21.30 (although some play later). That is £8 for over 70s and £10 for all others. The location

is the Free Church Hall, Northway, NW11 6PB.

The club has three coaches that play internationally and also Darius Knight who represented England at the 2012 Olympics.

We hope you come along and hopefully look forward to seeing you at the club!

This is the second year we have had teams in the Barnet League, in divisions 1, 2 and 3. Currently the first team is sixth,

but with one game in hand, hopes top the league. The second team is also sixth, and hopes to gain promotion.

The beginners' team is now fourth, with a lot of children in the team, some only nine years old! This combination of kids and adults is really great to see!

If you need any information on the club, please go to [www.suburbttc.com](http://www.suburbttc.com).

RICHARD GRETHE



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This magnificent medieval organ was briefly in St Jude's for a recording session.



PHOTOS: MICHAEL ELFHERADIS



St Jude's and the Free Church nativity plays were as captivating as ever.