

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 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.

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.

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.

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).

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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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