



## Outstanding Archer

Just six years after opening, the Archer Academy has been judged an outstanding school by Ofsted in all the areas they rate, which is, leadership and management, quality of teaching, learning and

assessment, personal development, behaviour and welfare, and outcomes for pupils.

Lucy Harrison, the school's head, gave thanks to her fantastic staff team and all the

hard working students, who have already, over the last academic year, shown their considerable talent and skills in drama and dance.

TONY BRAND

## Literary Lives – talk at Suburb Community Library



CHRISTINA JANSSEN

Gill Paul and Tracy Rees spend their working lives writing about historic times and the people (Gill, non-fictional; Tracy, fictional) who lived in them. But on June 6, the centenary of the D-Day landings, before a packed house at the HGS Community Library, they had a chance to talk about themselves. This included their backgrounds, subject matter, working methods, and the highs and lows of their entrancing careers in historical fiction.

Gill trained in medicine before becoming an editor of

other author's books of art and history, and was eventually tempted to try her own hand. Tracy has always been a writer, but had recently completed her training as a counsellor for families dealing with cancer when she learnt that she had won the 2014 Richard and Judy Search for a Bestseller competition for her debut novel, *Amy Snow*.

Characters come first for Tracy, but with *Amy Snow*, written in the first person, it was an image: a young woman in Victorian mourning dress. In the 1850s, a

foundling is left in the snow and rescued. A legacy leads this young woman on a treasure hunt in this Gothic mystery complete with Dickensian class hopping.

Gill chooses characters who are well enough known to be internationally appealing, such as Wallis Simpson and Lady Diana in *Another Woman's Husband*. Sometimes the choice is dictated by its topicality, such as *Women and Children First* (2012), timed to coincide with the centenary of the sinking of the Titanic. However Gill's personal

## RA's new litter initiative



TERRY BROOKS

A select group of Suburb residents gathered at Fellowship House on the evening of June 20 to inaugurate the RA's new litter picking initiative. Many of the more than 50 volunteers involved in the scheme were present to get their litter grabbers and answers to any questions.

Michael Green, co-ordinator of the group, and Emma Howard, Chair of the RA, thanked Suburb Ward Councillor, John Marshall, for taking the time to turn up at the meeting and helping to arrange for Barnet Council to supply the equipment.

Volunteers usually pick up any rubbish from the area around their house as often as they choose to, and are free to range as far as they want. Michael said the scheme was

not intended to be in any way prescriptive.

There was a lively discussion around litter; how to deal with it; worries about disposing of any litter collected; stories of litter bins going missing; what to do with clothes (some volunteers wash and donate them to charity shops); using the blue bins for bottles and cans, and more.

The general rule when residents have a litter related problem is to report it on Barnet Council's website at [www.barnet.gov.uk](http://www.barnet.gov.uk), or e-mail [first.contact@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:first.contact@barnet.gov.uk), and, if that does not produce results, then e-mail our councillors.

The RA hopes the initiative will encourage residents to be more mindful of their environment. Leading the way, the 2nd

Golders Green Girl Guides group, who meet in Fellowship House on a Monday evening, have volunteered to help and had already cleared Willifield Green and much of Willifield Way before the meeting began, using their own litter pickers.

There used to be a group of RA litter pickers in the Suburb some years ago, which some readers will probably remember being part of. Perhaps there are even some still using their old grabbers to keep their surroundings clear of litter.

The RA would like more volunteers, young and old, to come forward and if you would like to find out more about RA litter picking, please contact Michael Green at [litter@hgstra.uk](mailto:litter@hgstra.uk).

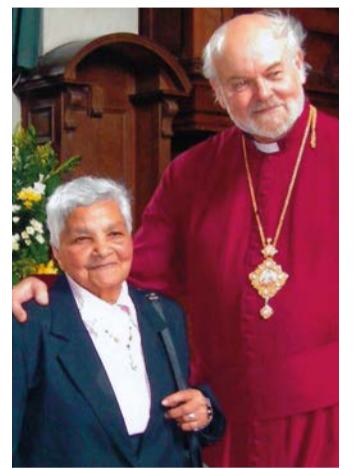
TERRY BROOKS

## A Suburb centenarian

Suburb News would like to let residents know that Hilda Williams will be celebrating her 100th birthday on August 10.

She is best known for her stewardship of Fellowship House for more than 30 years, and some readers will remember the feature we did in the winter 2017 issue of Suburb News (SN129, page 9).

Born in 1919 on the island of St Helena, she is off to South Africa on August 2 to be with her family, but will be back.



Hilda & Bishop of London on his 2011 visit to St Jude's

## BRILL OWEN

CHARTERED ARCHITECTS

We are able to offer a complete service from conception to completion helping you to create a unique home that fulfils your needs

Contact us for a free no obligation consultation on

0208 349 0037

Or email at [architects@brillowen.co.uk](mailto:architects@brillowen.co.uk)

View our recent work at [www.brillowen.co.uk](http://www.brillowen.co.uk)



We are Chartered Architects based in North London specialising in refurbishments, extensions and new build houses and flats within conservation areas and to listed buildings.



# We'll cross the t's and dot the i's.

Act now for Power of Attorney, Wills & Probate.

You'll want us on your side.

For practical, expert advice call Monica Cervellini on 0208 209 2651

[www.gadlegal.co.uk](http://www.gadlegal.co.uk)  
@GAD\_Legal  
[info@gadlegal.co.uk](mailto:info@gadlegal.co.uk)

**GREGORY ABRAMS DAVIDSON SOLICITORS**

Gregory Abrams Davidson Solicitors is a trading name of National Law Partners Limited authorised and regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority [www.sra.org.uk](http://www.sra.org.uk) and registered in England and Wales under Company number 08312439.