

Suburb News

Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association



Ruth Smith wins big for charity work, p3



Mayor of Barnet visits Northway gardens, p3



Fellowship party girls just wanna have fun, p5

Suburb News saved!

I am sure readers will be as relieved as I am that, as a result of our plea for volunteers to step forward to save Suburb News, we have found two residents who are willing to take on the job as Co-editors of the paper.

Marie-Christine O'Callaghan along with Shelley-Anne Salisbury answered the call and are ready

to ensure the survival of this paper, which is much valued by many Suburb residents.

Marie-Christine wrote an article on Avenue House in our last issue and has contributed another on bilingualism in this one. Shelley-Anne is responsible for the article on (and baking) cakes for the Horticultural Society

on page 11 of this issue. These are no doubt the first of many contributions they will be making to this paper, and I wish them as much enjoyment and satisfaction as I have had as Editor.

So, from now on, please use suburbnews@hgsra.uk for all your future correspondence.

TERRY BROOKS

No surprises at the Trust AGM

Hampstead Garden Suburb Trust members gathered in Henrietta Barnett School Hall for half an hour of chat and a drink before the Trust Chairman, Richard Wiseman, opened the 51st Annual General Meeting on the evening of September 11.

He started the meeting by thanking the Trust staff and his fellow trustees for all their work, support and guidance over his six

years as a member, and chairman, of Trust Council, with particular reference to Nick Packard and David Davidson.

His greatest regret was not being able to finalise the change of ownership of Central Square before the end of his term of office. Although all the details had been agreed, a combination of bureaucratic and legal delays meant that, although the deal is

done in principle, the paperwork had not been completed.

There was a question on the report and accounts over the cost of a dispute concerning Waterlow Court to do with the apportionment of costs on an unadopted road. The Trust was trying to find a way to get a binding agreement, when the parties involved had a diversity of views, and there was no hope



Taken earlier this year, this photograph demonstrates that Sunshine Corner, the gateway to the Suburb in The Great Wall on the Heath extension, has seen a great improvement since it was taken in hand by the HGS Trust. The work was done in association with Stephen Crisp of SPC Design.

of unanimous agreement. The Trust needed to take advice.

A donation of £16,000 to St Jude's for help with the repair of the fabric of the building was also questioned. It was pointed out that the funds for such grants were not part of the Scheme of Management and so not paid by charge-payers. The financial situation of the church was precarious with the liabilities that come with the upkeep of such a large iconic building.

David Iwi had provided attendees with a sheet of questions and comments, titled 'The Empire', relating to the increase in staff numbers since 2006; the effect of this on the management charge; the trustees' lack of action; the silence of the auditors; the refusal to have a management review; and the consequences for the Suburb

should there be a successful challenge to the Trust on the grounds that the management was not operating in a economical, efficient and consistent manner.

The meeting moved to the election of trustees. Nick Packard first gave the results for last year when Raymond Taylor was elected with 292 votes against 130 for Brian Ingram.

Michael Franklin, a retiring trustee, had some words to say about his time as a trustee and the 170 meetings he had attended. He thought the staff to be terrific, hard-working and talented, and the Trust was very lucky, in particular, to have David Davidson. He thought Nick Packard had grown into his job and it was good that he was able to take a salary cut to have a four-day week to balance his work and

family life. He had enjoyed his time at the Trust and wished the new trustees the best of luck.

This year there were three candidates, Brian Ingram, Maralyn Roberts and Richard Townley, for two vacancies (see page 4 for the result). Each candidate was given three minutes to speak about their candidature and up to five minutes to answer questions.

Brian Ingram, a Suburb resident for over 40 years, was most concerned about the neglect of green spaces in the Suburb and thought the Trust should take more care of them all, and not just its own spaces. On being asked what added value he would bring to the Trust, he mentioned the role of trustees vis-à-vis the staff, the problems of litigation, lessening

(continued on page 4)



Richard Wiseman



Nick Packard



David Davidson



Michael Franklin

WE ALWAYS DELIVER ON OUR PROMISES

For more than 40 years now, we have been serving the residents of the Suburb and we have enjoyed every moment.

Whether your property is a cottage or a castle, destined for sale or for rent, we can surely handle it.

We have the most comprehensive selection of properties under one roof. From our Global connections, we find the best buyers/tenants from all over the world – not just from the immediate area.

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New Year's Eve

Fireworks Party

FREE DRINKS

Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association

Residents are warmly invited to the Residents Association party in St. Jude's from 10:45pm, followed by a fireworks extravaganza on Central Square at midnight.

There will be a collection to help with the cost of fireworks

Organised by the Events Committee of the Residents Association.
With thanks to St. Jude's for hosting the event.