

Peter Haig Loyd

1922 - 2022

ROSEMARY LOYD

Peter Loyd, who died on 13 May 2022 aged 99, was a long-standing resident and champion of Hampstead Garden Suburb. Conscientious, organised



Photo: Daniel Elkan

Judith Elkan

1929 - 2022

MARGARET HARRIS

One of the Suburb's truly 'gentle' women, Judith Elkan, died in February at her home in Coleridge Walk at the age of 92. Judith had lived in the Suburb for 53 years. Her house was a treasure trove of books and souvenirs of her travels; the large garden abundant in carefully nurtured roses, vegetables and flowers. There was even an olive tree flourishing in a sheltered corner. In the right season, Judith would take delight in harvesting a juicy apricot or two for you.

The peaceful garden reflected Judith's warm personality. Everything in it responded positively to Judith's thoughtfulness and kindness as well as to her gentle but firm direction. Although Judith was always humble and quiet in manner and voice, she had enormous determination and charisma. She turned the many challenges of her own life into

and community-minded, he was instrumental in the establishment of a very active Neighbourhood Watch Scheme in 1987.

Peter spent his earliest years at the family home in Belgravia. At the age of six he went to boarding school. One of the highlights of his childhood was crossing to the Isle of Wight by paddle steamer aged 12 – an experience which sparked his lifelong love of the ocean. After leaving school, he joined the Royal Marines as an officer in September 1941. He served for 16 years, first in HMS Belfast in the Arctic and on Russian convoy duty, then as

reasons to do good and promote positive relationships.

Judith was the youngest of eight children born into an Arabic and Hebrew-speaking family, which moved from Aleppo, Syria to Jerusalem in the 1920s. She was nine when she arrived in London with her widowed mother, who was seeking medical treatment for her brother. Unable to return to Palestine due to the outbreak of the Second World War, the family settled in Maida Vale. There Judith attended school until the age of 18, when she returned to the newly-founded state of Israel.

Judith studied psychology at university in Israel, returning to London in the late 1950s to do a postgraduate degree in child psychoanalysis at the Tavistock Clinic. There she met her husband, psychologist and musician, Geoffrey Elkan (who died in 2002). The Tavistock training was the foundation for her lifelong commitment to working with children who had suffered trauma, including those who came to Britain in the 1930s on the Kindertransport.

Judith regularly travelled to Israel to teach Infant Observation and was glad to be able to share her specialist skills with Palestinian colleagues. Speaking both Hebrew and Arabic fluently, Judith was able to build rapport with both Israelis and Palestinians. She became convinced through her work that the fears and myths that each side held could be dissolved through sharing personal stories face to face. In the mid 1990s, Judith heard a talk by Israeli Yitzhak Frankenthal, who had lost a son in the ongoing conflict and, in response, had founded the 'Bereaved Families Forum' to bring together Palestinians and Israelis who had suffered a similar loss. Judith wanted to support this project from England and founded the registered charity 'UK Friends of the Bereaved Families Forum'. The UK FBFF raises awareness and funds to support the work being done in Palestine-Israel, organising speaking tours in the UK in which Palestinians and Israelis in pairs share their bereavement stories and their search for a resolution to the conflict in the Middle East. Judith remained the Chair of the UK FBFF until her death and worked tirelessly to raise funds and elicit support for the cause.

Judith is survived by her children, Miriam and Daniel, and two grandchildren.

Captain of Marines in HMS Nigeria, and in India, Burma, South Africa, Malta and Malaya.

On leaving the Marines in 1958, he accepted a role at ICI. It was at this time that Peter discovered Hampstead Garden Suburb. He embraced Dame Henrietta Barnett's vision of a community planned to suit people of different circumstances, the open spaces, and houses designed by the Arts and Crafts movement.

Peter married Rosie Moir in 1961 and moved from Waterlow Court to Meadway, along with Julie and William, the children of his first marriage. The arrival of Tony and Sophie completed the family. Peter continued to develop a career in industry and commerce: from ICI to BTR Industries, the Industrial Society, and finally with the British Institute of Management. Holidays were spent with friends and family aboard his successive boats each named Dyola. Later he also volunteered with the Ocean Youth Club teaching disadvantaged young people to sail. Other pastimes included carpentry, topiary and membership of the Magic Circle.

In retirement, his attention turned to Suburb life. The inaugural meeting to create a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme (NWS) in December 1987 attracted considerable support. He was invited to join the Residents' Association Council and later became vice-chairman. In 1985, on a visit to this area, Margaret Thatcher met Peter and discussed

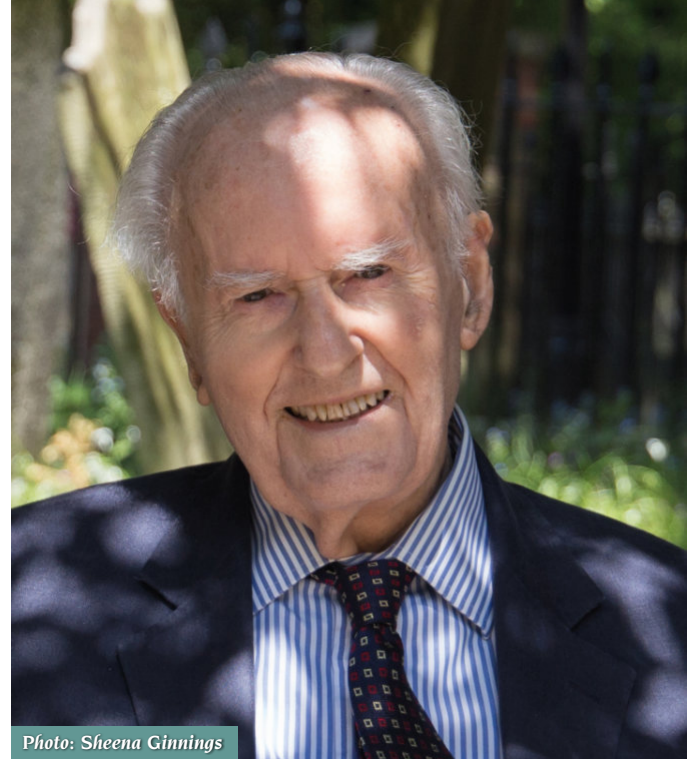


Photo: Sheena Ginnings

the progress of the NWS which he continued to develop until 1999. At its peak the NWS covered 6,500 homes and was credited with being responsible for a major reduction in burglary rates. He worked closely with the regional police force which awarded him a Certificate of Appreciation.

Meanwhile in 1988 Suburb News published a letter from Peter calling for residents to take responsibility for clearing litter dropped near their homes. It was the start of an energetic campaign and in 1989 John Marshall MP formally launched Litter Free Zones

on the Suburb. This campaign earned Peter the Queen Mother's Award for Environmental Improvement. In 1998 Peter was named one of the Ham & High's six 'people of the year'.

Peter's wife Rosie was very active and supportive throughout their marriage but sadly died in March 1997. In October 1998 he married Rosemary Markham and they remained at Meadway until 2013 when they resettled in Brookland Garth. Peter's life was celebrated with a service of thanksgiving at Hampstead Parish Church on 27 May 2022.

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