

EDMUNDS WALK DEANSWAY MEETING

The Traffic Committee has been very concerned over the past ten years by the parking situation in Edmunds Walk and matters were brought to a head before Christmas, when an old lady's tyres were slashed.

Dawn Orr of the New Hampstead Garden Suburb Trust and the Chairman Martin Jaskel decided that the best way of tackling this problem was to have a Public Meeting, chaired by the R.A. at which all the people concerned could exchange views.

The meeting was arranged for the 12th March and was attended by 65 or so residents of Deansway and Edmunds Walk. The local 'beat' officer P.C. Crowther and his Inspector, Inspector Surridge, from Golders Green Police Station attended, as did Inspector Main from Traffic Division of Scotland Yard. The principal traffic engineer from the London Borough of Barnet, Mr. M.D. Briggs came to put forward the Council's views and Councillor Halfon (who is a member of the Public Works Committee and our local Barnet Councillor) also came.

The main points were put forward by Mr. Segal of Deansway and Mrs. M. Kaye, who is the Warden of Edmunds Walk. The



residents who spoke all complained of the same problem, parking by commuters in an insensitive and uncaring manner and the difficulty of access to Edmunds Walk, and the dangerous corner of Edmunds Walk and Deansway and Vivian Way and Deansway. These comments had all been recorded in numerous letters in reply to a questionnaire circulated by Mrs. Kaye.

Mr. Briggs, who was very helpful and sympathetic to the resident's problems, put the current situation very clearly.

Unfortunately, there is no very quick remedy that can be employed since any proposals have to go to the GLC and Scotland Yard. With the current uncertainties surrounding the GLC any permanent solution would take about two years to implement. He said that Barnet were considering a 'no parking' or 'resident's parking' scheme for the quarter mile radius around East Finchley Station, which would involve yellow lines on all roads, resident's parking bays (for which residents would pay approximately £2 per car, per year), and provision for visitors' parking. He said that in most schemes of this sort there is usually provision for 60% of cars owned by residents within the boundaries of the scheme and since many of the houses inside the scheme all had garages, this may be quite advantageous.

Inspector Surridge pointed out very forcefully that if such a scheme were introduced the police would not be able to differentiate between a resident's car illegally parked and commuter cars illegally parked — all would be treated the same i.e. booked! Before anybody becomes very agitated about this scheme suddenly being imposed, Mr. Briggs made it quite clear that if any scheme is approved in principle by the Public Works Committee, no implementation would take place without fullest consultation with all the residents within the affected area (with

which of course the R.A. would be very pleased to help).

Barnet has undertaken, as a matter of urgency, to try to improve the Edmunds Walk and Deansway Junction and also to paint white lines and 'no parking' indications around the driveways of all the houses in Edmunds Walk. As a matter of interest, when seven cars' tyres were slashed in February, it was found that most of the commuter parking was being done by residents of H.G.S., not people who live very far away. Mr. Briggs said that this was probably because of the success of the GLC's Fares Fair Scheme.

Martin Jaskel has agreed that once the outcome of the May Public Works Committee Meeting is known he will convene another meeting to examine the progress so far, and also to write, as a matter of urgency, to the London Fire Brigade and the London Ambulance Service to ask them to check on a normal weekday whether emergency vehicles can gain easy access to Edmunds Walk.

Thanks must go to Mr. Segal and Mrs. Kaye and especially to Mr. Briggs of Barnet, and the Officers from Golders Green Police Station. We are sure it is just this sort of problem that the R.A. is there to handle and with goodwill on all sides, it does look as if the problem that has plagued this part of the Suburb for the last ten years, may be in sight of a solution. MSJ

WATCH OUT FOR CONMAN

Two years ago we warned Residents of the appearance on the Suburb of a confidence trickster who visited both old and new Residents. He purported to represent the Residents Association, spoke in glowing terms of the good work done by the R.A., collected subscriptions (anything up to £30) made an excuse and left.

In February he struck again and could well repeat the performance so PLEASE DON'T BE CONNED. Verify carefully anyone claiming to represent the R.A. Your Warden should wear the Wardens badge. If you are not satisfied ask your visitor to call back and in the meantime check with your Chief Warden.

Man of the Suburb

Dr. Stephen Coffin, who had close and affectionate links with Hampstead Garden Suburb for more than 70 years, died in hospital in Windsor in February. He was 93.

Brigid Grafton Green, the Suburb's archivist, writes:

When his parents moved into Meadway Close before World War One he was just beginning the medical studies which led him later to specialise in anaesthesia.

It was in the Suburb that he met his future wife, Iris Murray, daughter of writer and scholar Frank Stuart Murray, who lived in Willfield Way; and father and daughter introduced Stephen to what was to be one of the great joys of his life, the Play and Pageant Union (now merged in the Suburb Dramatic Society).

His wife was a fine actress; Dr. Coffin was an outstanding stage manager, lights and props man for many PPU productions of the 1920-50s.

He had watched the Suburb grow from small beginnings. His own house, in Turner Drive, was built for him in 1920, on his return from war service abroad.

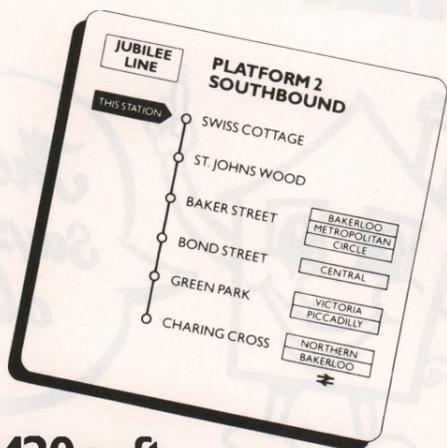
He took part in many Suburb activities, and was in later years on the Council of the Residents' Association and a founder member and joint secretary of the Suburb Protection Society which fought the Clore take-over in 1961. For the R.A. he began to make an archive collection which now forms an important part of the whole Suburb Archives.

When he moved to Windsor some 12 years ago, after his wife's death, to be near his only son and grandsons, he gave to the archives a splendid collection of photos, designs for costumes, programmes, press notices, handbills and prompt-books from the earliest days of the PPU.

His interests, to the day of his death, were deeply felt and widely ranging: he could talk equally well on the theory of Stonehenge as a Bronze Age astronomical laboratory, the highspots of the London theatre in the '30s or how to design and lay out a family tree.

Above all, he did nothing by halves — if something wasn't worth putting his heart into, then it wasn't worth doing at all; and he had no time for a slipshod approach to a problem, either intellectual or practical. BGG

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HENRIETTA BARNETT MEMORIAL LECTURE

This year's Memorial lecture, entitled "The Brotherhood of Man: Some Thoughts on a Caring World", will be delivered by John Enderby in the Institute Theatre on Tuesday 22 May at 8.00 p.m.

The invitation to Mr. Enderby to give this lecture is a particularly happy one, because at the end of next August, after 30 years of unstinting service to the Institute and the Suburb, he has decided to take early retirement. When he first joined the Institute, photographs show him as a rather shy and very youthful figure: that was in May 1953, just before the Coronation. It was just as well he was youthful because, as he recalls, 'My first job was to climb all over the roof and make sure the Coronation bunting was

properly put up. I did it so thoroughly that some of it stayed there for years!' A year later, in 1954, the retiring Principal, Harold Lacey, left John Enderby in sole charge — and that's how it's been ever since.

This year's Henrietta Barnett Memorial lecture is therefore one that no one should miss. It will be chaired by Miss Leslia Marjoribanks. Admission will be free, by ticket obtainable in advance from the Institute office from Monday 30 April.

BGG

HGS FELLOWSHIP NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT

The annual donations which Suburb residents make to the Fellowship Fund will again be collected by the R.A. Freepost or by the Wardens when they make their house to house collections for R.A. subscriptions. The Fellowship Committee are grateful to the R.A. and the Wardens for their help each year, and hope that residents will contribute generously.

The main object of the Fellowship is to help the elderly

and disabled of the Suburb, and Fellowship House on Willfield Green is the centre for their activities. However, an increasing number of members are finding difficulty in getting to and from Fellowship House as they become less mobile. Offers of regular transport on any day (Monday to Friday) between 2pm and 4pm will be gratefully received. Offers of visiting will also be welcome. Please contact the Club Secretary Mrs. Jean Dyson (455 8193), if you can help.

Are you a member of the Residents Association?
 The annual membership of the Residents Association is now due and membership requests have been distributed to all homes in the Suburb.
 We need your support to be able to represent the views of Residents and to pay for our activities such as this Suburb Newspaper.
 If you have not done so already, please post your card and remittance back to the Membership Secretary as soon as possible before May 13th.
 If you have lost or not received a card, please complete panel below and send with your remittance to: Membership Secretary, Freepost, London NW11 6YU (no stamp is required). A receipted card will be issued.
 With thanks for your support.

Name _____
 Address _____

 Contribution to R.A. (suggested minimum £3.00 per household, £1.00 OAP _____ (enclosed)