

GEORGE WENGER MEMORIAL PLAQUE

Saturday afternoon on 23rd August, 1986 was fine and sunny — just such a day which George himself would have enjoyed. It was not too hot, but warm enough for the residents of Abbeyfield House to be outside and join members of the Abbeyfield Society Committee and other Friends of Abbeyfield in honouring the memory of one who had given so much time, expertise and energy to provide a comfortable environment for the Suburb Abbeyfield.

It was a special tribute to George that three of the residents who were not quite well enough to risk the capricious summer temperatures nevertheless came downstairs and watched proceedings from the sitting room windows.

Our special guests of honour were Mrs Babs Wenger and her son and how very pleasurable it was to be able to tell them personally of our gratitude to George and our admiration of all that he did for Abbeyfield. There was never any doubt about what would happen when George was asked to do some-



thing — it was done almost before the request had been made. Not only did he respond willingly and speedily to requests, but he spotted things that needed doing and often did them without anyone realising who had been at work. Such a man is rarely found and cannot be easily done without, but we all find inspiration to carry on by remembering the many things

which he did.

It is not surprising that it was the residents themselves who came first with the suggestion that some sort of tangible memorial should be made to him. It was not easy for the Committee, in consultation with Mrs Wenger, to find something suitable, but the small plaque affixed to the pergola in the back garden (the pergola which was

his own idea and which he himself designed and built), looks well. Although he might have brushed aside the tributes in his usual modest way, he would certainly have been pleased to see residents and visitors enjoying the garden with his own family.

Mrs Norma Blausten, Chairman of the Suburb Abbeyfield Society, introduced Mrs Wenger and expressed the Society's deep respect for George, and before "unveiling" the plaque, Mrs Wenger spoke movingly of her husband's interest in the residents and in the development of the garden which was his especial endeavour. The additional words from Mr Wenger helped us all to remember that George was a family man whose great energy and kindness we had been privileged to share. It is fitting that his name will be seen by residents, and visitors now and in the future, and will be remembered and honoured in the garden which he envisaged and worked to create.

New residents and wardens party

How very pleasant it was to have the opportunity of meeting other wardens, together with new residents at the party held in the Free Church Hall, on Saturday, 27th September. We were warmly welcomed by the Chairman of the Residents Association, Tony Mandelson, and were soon enjoying the delicious food provided by the members of the Wardens Committee, and wine dispensed by James Webster, ably assisted by his grand daughter.

One quickly spotted old friends with the resulting exchange of news and views, and the friendly atmosphere of the party is just another example of our Suburb being such a wonderful place in which to live, and I am sure the newer residents must have been happy to meet so many Suburb enthusiasts, and get to know some of their neighbours. It was my pleasure to bring a friend for the evening, who happens to be the chairman of her local residents association, and she was so appreciative of our party, and only wished her association was of the same calibre!

Tony Mandelson reminded us of the help we can receive, whether it comes from the Residents Association —

perhaps for more personal problems, or from the Hampstead Garden Suburb Trust who try to keep our Suburb in the way it was originally designed. He also gave us a very timely warning of a "bogus warden", who knowing smething of our organisation, calls upon new residents and extracts cash from them, they believing they are paying a subscription to the R.A.

Our thanks go to Anne Lawson, who has now taken over from her husband Alan, the arduous job of the organisation and running of the Warden and Membership Service, which must be a huge task, but so necessary in providing the valuable service that it does. She and Alan were busy as usual, looking after the guests and ensuring a very pleasant gathering.

The new venue for our party proved to be a convenient and central place for all, and gave us ample space in which to move around and meet our friends and fellow wardens, and I am sure all who attended would wish to extend their thanks to those who worked so hard to provide the refreshments and give us such a happy evening. JC

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What services does the local Council offer?

On the Rates

The Council provides a weekly refuse collection service for the 114,000 properties in the Borough and will remove all household waste generated and placed in bins, bags or receptacles within the property.

In addition small quantities (up to one-third of a bag per week) of garden waste will be collected with the household refuse.

The service provides for bins being returned complete with lid to the point of collection.

To meet the additional needs of the public, two Civic Amenity Sites are provided at Brent Terrace, Tilling Road, NW2 and Summers Lane, N12.

These are open 7 days a week from 8.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. even on Bank Holidays, the only exceptions being Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day.

Not only can you take your excess garden rubbish and old furniture there, but facilities are available to deposit rags, cardboard and paper, metal, drink cans, waste oil and bottles (Tilling Road only) for recycling, the money from

aluminium cans going to charity.

There are in addition three Bottle Banks in the Borough at:

1. Stapleton Road Car Park in Barnet
2. Tesco's — Ballards Lane, N3
3. Lodge Lane Car Park, North Finchley

where one can deposit glass for recycling.

Outside the Rates

If you cannot manage to get to the Civic Amenity Sites for whatever reason, the Council offers a Special Collection Service for the removal of bulky items such as old settees, washing machines, etc. at fairly nominal charge.

Telephone 361 0013 — ask for Special Collections

In addition should you wish to surrender an old car the Council will tow it away for £8.00.

Telephone 446 8511 extension 4325

On the other hand if it is driveable you can deliver it yourself to the Car Compound at Tilling Road, NW2 from where the North London Waste Authority will arrange disposal. There is no charge for this service. RS

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