

SUBURB NEWS



The Newspaper of the Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association SPRING '87

HENLY'S CORNER RESIGNATIONS

Dissension amongst RA Council members over the Henly's Corner scheme, reported in the last issue, continued during meetings of Council in February and March.

Opinion amongst Council members and, according to reports, also amongst residents has been sharply divided over what stance the RA should be adopting over the matter.

At the March meeting David Rapson, Traffic Committee Chairman reported that, by a majority view, his Committee was broadly in favour of the scheme whilst appreciating that there was widespread concern about its possible effect on the Suburb.

The Executive Committee had earlier, again not unanimously, voted to oppose the scheme owing to its scale, lack of forecast of the effect of the M25 and the increase in Falloeden Way and Finchley Road traffic flows. None of the Executive spoke for or against the scheme, having decided to leave it to Council to decide except for the chairmen of Traffic and Wardens who were obliged to report the decisions of their respective committees.

Traffic had appended a resolution to their written report to Council supporting the scheme.

Anne Lawson reported from her committee, Wardens and Membership, that there was very strong feeling that the RA should be clearly seen to support residents, particularly those living near Henly's Corner and on the North of the Suburb, in opposing the scheme.

Following heated discussion it was decided, by a majority vote that the Traffic Committee's resolution be not put.

A counter motion proposed by David de Saxe and seconded by Douglas Blausten that opposed the scheme for similar reasons to those advanced by the Trust in its letter to the Department of Transport was carried by a vote of 15 to 6 with one abstention. See page 6.

Asked whether, in the light of the vote, he felt he should resign as Chairman of Traffic; David Rapson said that in fact he had been one of those in a minority

on his committee who had been opposed to the scheme. He had been recommending the decision of his committee as its chairman.

Three other members said they would resign, Rosalind Kriteman, David Bogush and Sir John Walley, and at the end of the meeting RA Chairman Tony Mandelson made a plea to Council to keep working together for the Suburb and abide by a decision democratically taken. RW

TELEPHONE KIOSK THREAT

British Telecom are modernising the public payphone system. All traditional red kiosks are being replaced on a nationwide basis by new American-style boxes of an inferior quality and design.

The traditional K6 or 'Jubilee telephone' box was designed by Giles Gilbert Scott and introduced from 1935 onwards. It is a classic example of 20th century British design. These kiosks make a significant contribution to the character and appearance of many Conservation Areas throughout the country, including the Garden Suburb, where they complement the architecture of the period. The Department of the environment



has recognised that they are of special architectural and historic interest, but at present, only examples installed before 1939 can be listed.

British Telecom are ignoring government guidelines and will not keep good examples, even where special local circumstances prevail. The only safeguard is to have the kiosks listed.

In order for this to be done information is required urgently from any resident who recalls

the existing boxes being installed, or who has information, old photographs or other documents showing them in place before 1939. There are seven boxes on which information is required — at Emmott Close, Meadway Gate, Willifield Way (outside Fellowship House), Northway (outside the Tea House), Northway at Market Place, outside 132-134 Hampstead Way and outside the old Express Dairy building at

Hoop Lane.

Please contact Philip Davies on 458 4659 as soon as possible. You can also help by writing direct to The Payphone Services Manager, British Telecom (London North West), Telephone House 1-5 Shoot-up Hill, London NW2 3BA to insist that local views are respected and that the existing red boxes are kept and refitted with new equipment. PD

SUBURB'S ENVIRONMENT WEEK

What is Environment Week (actually Environment *ten days* — from 25 April to 4 May)?

For the third year running the Civic Trust is promoting local events up and down the country to encourage *everyone* to make a real effort to involve themselves in their local environment — either to improve it, or simply to take some time to find out more about it.

To this end the Residents' Association have two main themes to their Environment Week activities —

Improving comes first, with a massive Clean-Up Campaign during the first weekend (25/26 April). We want to involve *all* residents in looking with a really critical eye at their own immediate environs — whether it is the road in front of their house or the open space behind it — and spending a few minutes retrieving that bit of litter from under the hedge, or that old tyre or petrol can dumped on the backlands. We want to involve organised groups — the Youth Clubs, Scouts, Guides etc. — in helping to tidy up the communal open spaces (Big and Little Woods, Central Square, and Lyttelton Playing Fields); and we are asking the London Borough of Barnet, as *their* contribution, to undertake some more work on Mutton Brook, to do some maintenance on the Children's Playground in Northway Gardens, and to complete the refurbishment of the Henrietta Barnett Memorial.

Finding Out: Three major events — the Public Meeting on Planning Policy on 27 April; the Mervyn Miller lecture on 29 April; and the Town Trail Walks on the afternoons of Sunday, 26 April, and Monday, 4 May — afford an opportunity for *all* residents (not just new residents) to get better acquainted with this historic area in which we all live. Come on now, admit honestly, how many of you have *actually* walked the Suburb Town Trail?

Backing up these three events, on the afternoons of 25 and 26 April, and 2, 3 and 4 May, there will be continuous activities at the Tea-House in Northway. The Tea-House was originally conceived as a focal point for neighbourliness on the Suburb, and as a sort of "drop-in centre". We shall have on display there a number of things related to the Suburb's history. In addition the Suburb film will be shown on video throughout each afternoon.

Too caught up in your career, life, family to *bother* with the area in which you happen to sleep? Just remember that — putting it at its lowest — a sense of pride in one's neighbourhood makes crime and anti-social behaviour rare events — so, if only out of self-interest, come along and *participate* in Environment Week, and if possible offer to lend a hand. Above all, let us as a community try and ENJOY it. GNM

Shock Decision

The Trust Council has, after all, given planning permission for a hard standing and widened entrance and gates to Mr & Mrs Saber at 27 Willifield Way. See story page 3 and Trust advertisement on page 7.

BUYING SELLING RENTING



That
says it
all!

EXECUTIVE HOMES

... THE MATCHMAKERS

458 8644

1109 Finchley Road, London NW11 7HB

Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association

PROGRAMME FOR ENVIRONMENT WEEK
25th April to 4 May

Saturday, 25 April

Inauguration of CLEAN-UP WEEKEND 10 a.m. in Central Square with the Mayor of Barnet.
Tea-House open from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. for — Regular showings of the Suburb film; etc

Sunday, 26 April

The Hampstead Garden Suburb TOWN TRAIL, Led by Chris Kellerman, New Hampstead Garden Suburb Trust Manager. Starting from Wyldes Farmhouse at 2.30 p.m.
2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Tea-House Activities as on 25 April.

Monday, 27 April

"DON'T PLAN ON IT" — a forum of experts who can answer all the queries you have ever had about planning constraints on the Suburb; to be chaired by GERALD PRIESTLAND
7.30 to 9.30 p.m. at FREE CHURCH HALL.

Wednesday, 29 April

ILLUSTRATED LECTURE: "Lutyens and the Suburb Salubrious" to be given by Dr. Mervyn Miller (Member of the HGS Trust Council; and of the Lutyens Trust) 7.30 p.m. in Bigwood Hall. Tickets (price £1.50) available in advance from the Trust Office.

Saturday, 2 May

MARY LUTYENS will plant a tree in Central Square. 12 noon.
2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Tea-House Activities as on 25th April.
(Members of the LUTYENS TRUST will be visiting the Suburb all day)

Sunday, 3 May

2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Tea-House Activities as on 25th April.

Monday, 4 May

The Hampstead Garden Suburb TOWN TRAIL. Led by Stuart Gray. Starting from Hampstead Way (Finchley Road end) at 2.30 p.m.
2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Tea-House Activities as on 25 April.

DON'T FORGET THE POSTER COMPETITION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE