



The Mayor of Barnet and R A Chairman sweep up.

ENVIRONMENT WEEK

The RA sub committee, Janette Harris, Rosalyn Kritegan, Anne Lawson, Ron Phillips and headed by Eileen Whelan, was justifiably pleased with the results of their efforts to organise events to mark Environment Week in May.

It started with a Clean Up that was probably the least successful aspect, despite being opened by Cllr Dennis Dippel who, with RA Chairman Tony Mandelson, 'swept' Central Square.

This was followed by a 'Planning' meeting on the Monday evening, report below, and an illustrated lecture by Dr Mervyn Miller.

The Town Trail walks, led by Chris Kellerman and Stuart Gray, were well attended as were the Tea House activities.

The poster competition was won by: Junior section, Piers Barnett and Asayo Higashi, joint first and Taina Galis and Sara Sweiry runners up, all from Brooklands School. Senior section, first Catherine Sargent, joint second L Mukhey, Eleanor Gordon and Dominique Astruc from Henrietta Barnett.

RA Chairman and Vice Chair attended morning assembly at both schools to present prizes.



Inaugurating Environment Week in Central Square

DON'T PLAN ON IT

Our Environment Week Activities included a stimulating evening of information and debate at the Free Church Hall on 27th April. We were fortunate indeed to have an impressive line-up of panelists who were willing to be grilled by us on planning policy and procedure.

Robin Pearson and Philip Wilson gave us an interesting and valuable account of Barnet's official role in so far as planning applications are concerned. Much comfort was derived from their obvious concern and commitment to our Conservation Area. The ever faithful Councillor Malcolm Davies put his role as our elected representative and chairman of the planning committee, into clear perspective.

The vital necessity of obtaining planning permission from both Barnet and the Trust was spelled out yet again for the uninitiated, and reiterated for 'those in the know'.

The New Hampstead Garden Suburb Trust's point of view was put forward by Dr Mervyn Miller and Chris Kellerman. Dr Miller reminded us of the aesthetic considerations always before us in this area, he has done so much to disseminate historical and architectural information about the area for us. Chris Kellerman, the Trust Manager, enlightened us on the day to day problems faced by the trust.

Norman Wheatley and Peter Phillips from CAAC explained

their important link in communications on planning applications etc in this our conservation area.

Gerald Priestland was a marvellous chairman, his razor sharp intellect and wit rose to the occasion so fittingly. He cleverly steered contentious points to their rightful place on the panel and it was a joy to witness his handling of the one or two sticky situations.

The penultimate thanks delivered by RA chairman, Tony Mandelson, spelled out warnings for the future and pointed to the possible erosion of standards in our lovely HGS. Tony did however thank everyone for what they were doing yet warned us to look to the future with care.

Eileen Whelan (RA Vice Chairman) delivered the ultimate more conventional thanks with sincerity and good cheer! It was certainly an evening well spent and there was something for everyone to learn.

RJK



Gerald Priestland chairs the planning panel.

GIANT DUSTBINS FOR SUBURB?

The RA has reacted quickly to a proposal by Barnet that a refuse collection system involving the use of large wheeled dustbins collected from front gates be introduced on the Suburb.

The bins, 2½ times the size of a conventional dustbin, would be extremely difficult to manoeuvre round, or in many cases through,

many Suburb houses.

The RA has said that the proposal is unacceptable on both practical and environmental grounds and the RA Council passed a unanimous resolution that Barnet should be asked, at the very least, to carry out a pilot scheme before the new system is introduced.

RW

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RNLI

The Hampstead Garden Suburb branch of the RNLI writes to ask us to thank all those who helped their cause during their Flag Week by collecting house to house or patiently standing with a flag box on Flag Day. Thanks also to those who gave so generously as to raise £945 for the lifeboatmen.

EDWIN TABER

Edwin Taber died on May 29 at the age of 82. He had long been involved with many Suburb activities including; the formation of Abbeyfield; the Residents Association; CAAC and the Wellgarth Nursery Training Centre. He was a Quaker and Clerk to the Meeting Premises Committee, and an organising member of the Vivaldi Society.

Alfred Lester writes:
I want to tell you about Edwin Taber.

We met in the Summer of 1976. Edwin had retired from a distinguished career as chief architect of British Rail. We sat on a bench on the Heath Extension gazing at the silhouette of the Central Square and the tiled roof and chimneys of the Suburb. We mused on what made those turn-of-the-century architects tick.

I could sense that Edwin was a man with a hot line to Parker and Unwin and thus began his second distinguished career - his involvement in the 1977 Study Group booklet, HGS, The Care and

Appreciation of its Architectural Heritage, and with Suburb conservation.

I wasn't wrong. We went to Letchworth, to Parker's house, now a museum. Here we met the full force of the Quaker purity of design, the simple materials, white walls, sensible craft furniture, peace and tranquility. This was Edwin, this was his faith and his spirit of design. He took the Study Group to Jordans and again showed us the happy influence of Parker and Unwin, the joy that flowed from their designs and his love of the Friends.

Edwin worked diligently for us behind the scenes. He served on the Conservation Area Advisory Committee as RA representative and to the day he died he remained Treasurer of the Study Group.

Edwin was a big man in every sense and a gentleman but too modest. He built nothing in the Suburb and we are all poorer as a result. Now one of the last links in the chain of Suburb designers has been severed.

AL

ENID HOPPER

Enid Hopper, who lived in Temple Fortune Lane, has died at the age of 80. An early example of the successful businesswoman she joined the Holborn department

store, Gamages, as the Chairman's private secretary when she was 23 and rose to become joint and eventually sole Managing Director, a position she retired from in 1969.

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NEW RESIDENT?

If you have just moved to the Suburb your solicitor or your estate agent may not have informed you of the various problems and constraints that can arise as a result of living in a conservation area.

For a minimum subscription of £3 per annum - join the Residents Association and obtain help and advice.

For further information please get in touch with Tony Mandelson, RA Chairman at 12 Bigwood Road NW11. Telephone 458 2763.