

ENVIRONMENT WEEK



John Marshall MP and the Mayor of Barnet get down to the business of tree planting.

The Residents' Association marked Environment Week 1988 with a full programme of activities organised by a special committee headed by Eileen Whelan.

Two lime trees were planted in Central Square by John Marshall MP and the Mayor of Barnet.

An anti-litter drive was spearheaded by Donald Sinden who gallantly joined other residents in a clean up of the ditches in Temple Fortune Lane.

Stuart Gray and Chris Kellerman led well attended Town trail walks and throughout the week the Tea House played the part originally intended for it as a local meeting point where teas were served and slide and video shows told visitors of the life and history of the Suburb.

Two very successful meetings on trees and crime prevention are described below. **RJW**



Donald Sinden, Ernest Howie and neighbours get down to litter clearing.

TALK ABOUT TREES

This delightful evening of education and entertainment was enjoyed by some seventy people as part of our Environment Week Activities. We gathered enthusiastically in the Free Church Hall on the Tuesday of Environment Week.

Mr Swabey, Barnet's tree expert delivered an informative and stimulating talk on both the causes and effects of the October Hurricane. We learned that in fact the damage to trees in Hampstead Garden Suburb was less severe than in other parts of Barnet, and Barnet itself fared much better than other boroughs. Also Barnet was the first of the London Boroughs to clear all its main roads on the morning after the storm. The peculiar circumstances leading to the particular vulnerability of the trees at that moment, included the previous long, wet summer, the large covering of leaves on the trees at that time and the unusual wind direction (S/SE) that fateful night. One useful word of warning was the reminder that owners have a legal responsibility for their own trees, so Mr Swabey urged us to look for tell tale signs of decay and possible danger such as fungus, split limbs, cavities and cracks in the soil around the base. He gave us some reassuring words on replacement and emphasised that Barnet's replacement plans would include public consultation; we the consumers do count!

Turkey Oaks in Erskine Hill would not be planted nowadays as they would be considered too large for 'street' trees. Mr George concluded by pointing out how we should be planting for future generations and not so much for immediate benefit, therefore perhaps we should avoid some of the quick growing varieties. He personally preferred Woodland trees.

The second half of the evening followed a pleasant interval with wine. 'A Celebration of Trees' was presented by Cyril and Violet Luckham; they read poems and extracts from mainly English literature on this delightful subject. Cyril Luckham's rich, mellow voice introduced and concluded the presentation with stirring biblical extracts from the Books of Job and Jeremiah respectively. Violet Luckham's clear musical voice regaled us with old favourites. We enjoyed readings from a wide spectrum ranging from Edward Lear to Gerard Manley Hopkins, from Hans Christian Andersen to Thomas Hardy. How enjoyable it was to alight on old favourites, so beautifully revived for us.

Tim Neal, the retiring Chairman of our Trees and Open Spaces Committee stepped chaired the evening. Ron Phillips wound up the happy proceedings with grateful thanks to all concerned. **RJK**

Mr George from the Trust, gave us a talk on the aesthetic aspects of our trees, he drew attention to the suitability of some species for this area. He pointed out how some of the trees we enjoy, such as the

Dear Sir,

On the question of the planting of trees on the Suburb roads, I do not think the Council should plant any trees bearing red berries. There are many of these already planted, including one outside my own house and there is no doubt they are an awful nuisance at certain times of the year, mainly in the autumn when the red berries continually fall and make an awful mess on the pavements. The crushed berries, and many residents do not bother to sweep berries as they fall, are slippery and can be a dangerous hazard to the unwary passer by. I wrote to the Council protesting at the time my tree was planted and the only reply I received was that it was 'a nice tree'.

Cyril S. Bridges
30 Erskine Hill
London NW11 6HD

SUBURB SDP

We are asked to let residents know that, despite being left out of the Suburb Directory, the SDP is "very much alive and kicking in the Suburb". The SDP contact is Marily Teacher, 7, Gurney Drive, N2 458 2659.

INSTITUTE WEEK

Dame Henrietta Barnett's much quoted vision of the Institute as an educational and social centre for all ages 'from four to fourscore' found contemporary expression during Open Week at the end of June, when the prizes for the Dorothy Copey Memorial Competition were presented by the Deputy Mayor of Barnet, Councillor Lipman.

Winner of the adult competition was Len Potiphar, who has already comfortably exceeded the upper limit of the Dame's vision, but can still amaze with the flawlessness of his technique and his eye for detail. His winning entry was 'Lilies, China and Fruit', and he freely admitted that it was his first prize for art since before the First World War. In the Junior Section of the competition the youngest winner was eight year old David Winkler, for his work entitled 'Secret of the Sword'. Let us hope he will still be winning prizes when he reaches Len Potiphar's age.

Despite some poor weather and the rival attraction of Wimbledon on the television, Open Week still drew a substantial number of visitors over its three days including local MP John Marshall, who spent some time exploring the various exhibitions, demonstrations and open classes, and talking to the staff and students involved. There is, inevitably, an emphasis on the work of the Arts and Crafts section of the Institute in Open Week, because of the visual appeal of subjects like Sculpture, Pottery, Art, Creative Embroidery and Calligraphy; but many

POLICE PRESENTATION PACKS THEM IN

Extensive prior publicity in *Suburb News* and by the distribution of 3,000 hand bills ensured very full attendance for a presentation by the Police in the Institute Hall on April 25.

In the event 300 seats were taken early on and at least a further 100 stood all round the hall.

Residents commented on the relaxed but professional presentation by the Chief

Superintendent and his team and the particular relevance of the material to the problems and concerns of Suburb residents.

The presentation was felt to have achieved the objective of enhancing the public image of the police and helped to demonstrate their desire to have a constructive and friendly relationship with Suburb residents.

It was also clearly demon-

strated that this was a successful evening organised for residents on the initiative of the Residents Association.

At the end of the meeting the police presented a certificate to Peter Loyd in recognition of his services to Neighbourhood Watch.

Eileen Whelan proposed a vote of thanks on behalf of the R.A.

PLEASURE FROM LEISURE

Why not use some of your Leisure Time in developing a new interest.

The W.E.A. offer a Variety of Classes starting this September in Literature, Art, Music, Philosophy, International Affairs and Creative Writing.

Brochures are available in the Local Libraries.

For further details phone: 452 8850.



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