



OVER DEVELOPMENT

Residents using the footpath linking Hampstead Way with Wild Hatch will have noticed that it has been diverted. This is a temporary measure to enable the owner of Ferniehurst, 85 Hampstead Way, to construct a tunnel joining his garden with Garrick's Glebe, where a new tennis court has been laid. The tunnel is the last of a long list of alterations carried out by Michael Gross, Chairman of Sonic Fashions, since he acquired the property in 1985 for over three quarters of a million pounds. The house was then completely gutted and stood empty for over two years whilst it was reconstructed. Although much larger than the other houses in this part of Hampstead Way and Wild Hatch, the accommodation provided by Ferniehurst was inadequate for Mr. Gross's needs. There followed a series of planning applications including a 1500 sq.ft. basement under the terrace to house a music room, saunas, gymnasium and billiard room. This was refused by both the Trust and Barnet. The next application involved an extension to the garage at the end of Wild Hatch. Despite the overwhelming opposition of residents in that road, Barnet has given approval to a 1000 sq.ft. 'leisure centre', to be linked by a covered walkway with the garage. Since most of this land is outside the jurisdiction of the Trust permission has neither been sought nor granted by that body. The person most affected by this development is Claudia Roden, who lives at 8 Wild Hatch.

The lifestyle of the new owner

has created conflicts in other areas. To provide complete privacy and security 30 feet high conifers have been planted round Garrick's Glebe and other mature trees have been planted on the boundaries. In terms of both species and size they are out of keeping with the Suburb. Additional problems have been caused by the barking of two large guard dogs which patrol the garden.

Ferniehurst provides an interesting example of the problems caused by a house which has been allowed to develop in isolation from the neighbouring properties. Originally it was a brick house in the English vernacular style similar to 83 Hampstead Way. In the 1930s the first owner, Sir John Braithwaite, who was Chairman of the Stock Exchange from 1949 to 1959, rebuilt the house in what Stuart Grey describes as the French Riviera style. A whole new floor was added and the floor area was almost doubled. Sir John had already extended his garden by buying some additional land from Hendon Urban District Council. This gave him a frontage on to Wild Hatch and a large piece of land between Wild Hatch and the Crematorium, which is known as Garrick's Glebe. The owners of 8 Wild Hatch have been most adversely affected by these developments since at one time they had uninterrupted views of the Crematorium Gardens. These views were first eroded by the garage and will not be further restricted by the 'leisure centre' complex.

BLACK BAGS BLACK SPOTS

When our deputation went to the Town Hall this summer to discuss Wheeled Bins, we were amazed to be shown photographs of heaps of black plastic sacks containing garden waste discarded by residents on the verges of Suburb roads. Subsequent investigation revealed that some Suburb residents do, indeed, dump their garden refuse in this way and often on a regular basis expecting it to be collected. By mid August some parts of the Suburb had become so disgusting that, because of the health hazard, the London Borough of Barnet was forced to act and a total of 1098 dumped sacks weighing 7.54 tonnes were collected. Since then the situation has not materially improved and the Borough had to carry out a further collection on September 24.

The RA and the Trust are aware that the great majority of residents deplore this behaviour, and fully support the decision of the London Borough of Barnet now to cease the special collections and to take steps in future to seek to prosecute those committing this offence.

Because the environment and the special position of our Suburb can only be protected if we all play our part, we ask all residents to dispose of their garden refuse correctly making use of the arrangements and facilities provided by the London Borough of Barnet, by:-

- placing not more than the equivalent of a third of a sack of garden refuse with their normal domestic refuse for weekly collection; or
- taking it to one of the two recycling centres at Tilling Road, Brent Cross, NW2 and at Summers Lane, Finchley, N12; or
- making arrangements for a special collection for which there is a small charge.

If you are a household that employs contract gardeners, please make sure that they, too, make arrangements for the correct disposal of all garden refuse.

Both the RA and the Trust are confident that residents want to keep the Suburb tidy and will cooperate in observing these procedures.

SKILLS NEEDED

The collective erudition and skills of members of the RA Council are not to be gainsaid. Nevertheless we, from time to time, would welcome assistance from residents who feel able to offer professional or expert advice and help on a number of matters.

If you would like to put your name forward for possible inclusion on a list of such helpers, please write to Eileen Whelan, 101 Willifield Way, NW11.



Spaniards Field

Godfrey Bradman has obtained approval from both the Trust and Barnet for the demolition of the existing property and the construction of a new 12,000 sq.ft. house with swimming pool. Spaniards Field at the end of the Wildwood Rise is one of the

largest plots on the Suburb with its own private lake. The house has been empty for over five years and has become riddled with dry rot and damp. The owner is presently deciding whether to build the new house or sell the site with the necessary approvals. **CMK**

SIDNEY MEAD

We are sorry to record the death of Sidney Herbert Mead, who died on the 26th May after a long illness. He will be remembered well by many long term residents of the Suburb, as he spent most of his working life at the old Copartnership Tenants (Coparts) office, latterly becoming Estates Manager. Over the years he worked unflinchingly in trying to maintain the interests and original ideals of the Suburb.

His quiet, good-natured humour made him a very popular Secretary of the Suburb Bridge Club for many years.

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WINDOW OFFENCE

Barnet are taking enforcement action against Mr. and Mrs. Pandya, the owners of 37 Brim Hill. In April of this year they replaced all the original leaded light windows in steel frames by plain glass double glazing units in PVC. This was done without the approval of either the Trust or

Barnet. While the replacement of windows is 'permitted development' in other parts of the Borough, the Suburb is covered by an Article 4 Direction, and planning approval is required before doors and windows are changed.



NACRO CP digging up the 'twitten' to the Woodside allotments to enable water to be connected.

Half-day Conference
at
Friends Meeting House, North Square
on
Saturday October 22nd at 3pm

The Light that is Shining
The Quaker message today

Speaker: Harvey Gilman
(secretary of Quaker Peace and Service)

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