

RON PHILLIPS

RONALD PHILLIPS, M.B.E.
Ronald (Bunty) Phillips of Willifield Way died on August 22nd.

As he had lived all his life in this area he was well known in a number of ways. In the Residents Association of which he was a Council Member he was acknowledged as someone who was prepared to speak up and work in its best interests. As a "street warden" as he would still have entitled himself he believed in the personal link between himself and those in Addison Way, taking up issues and following up problems like a social worker. For the council he was working as Membership Secretary almost up to the time of his death.

Outside the R.A. Ronald was a regular worshipper at St Albans Church, Golders Green and for many years Churchwarden. There his interest in people was manifest. He knew everyone and was a zealous visitor of the sick. Under several Vicars he showed the same outspokenness, keeping everyone on their toes. Here again he was a doer, feeling that work and worship went together, and he joined many work parties even if it revealed that he had two left hands, and inevitably

when hedge-cutting the cable shared the same fate as the hedge!

Ronald had a distinguished war service for which he was awarded the M.B.E.

He was a keen sportsman playing for and later linked to the Haberdashers Old Boys Rugby Club. Up to his last years he was always present at the Middlesex Seven-a-sides at "Twickers". When he could he attended Cricket Test Matches and he had obtained a ticket for the test at the Oval on the day of his death. For many years he belonged to the Brondesbury Sports Club where he made life-long friends.

Ronald was very much a family man and he never got over the death of his wife Margaret a few years ago and he was devoted to his children Sandra and David and grandchildren Thomas, Jonathan and Lucy.

His death came after a depressive illness but rather gloriously he had a last few weeks when he entered into many of his old activities and then one night went to sleep and never woke up.

Ronald certainly will be missed by so many who knew him over his 79 years. **RB**

ABBEYFIELD HOUSE

After plans fell through last year for building an Extra-Care unit it was decided to use our resources and upgrade the present building.

For a long time we have felt the need to have easy access to the first floor on the side of the building not having a lift. It was proved structurally impossible to install a lift that side; instead we are to have a passageway linking the two first floors. For the information of those not knowing Abbeyfield, it should be pointed out that originally it was two "cottages", of generous

size. This will leave only the second floor on one side wholly relying on a staircase. To make a passageway we are going to take out of use two of the smallest rooms and use half of the space for the linking corridor and the rest to provide toilets linked to two adjoining rooms.

However, before we do this structural work on the main house we need to provide rooms for those dispossessed, and this will be done in the "Annexe" just outside the main building. Here we will make two rooms with their own "facilities". This

building was originally one of Henrietta Barnett's social welfare activities, a laundry where working women could earn a living. In the time of the Children's Society's occupation this was their games room. Structurally its condition is not as bad as once feared and it can be restored worthy of its Grade 2 listing and permission is being given to link it to the main building.

Once these two rooms are ready then the passageway mentioned and adjoining toilets can be dealt with.

After that, in rotation, the other four first-floor rooms will be provided with their own toilets. The idea of having a shower in each room was contemplated but ruled out by experts, and shared bathrooms will still be the norm.

The final stage will be on the ground floor where on one side three rooms will become two with their facilities and an extra bathroom, though sadly for lack of space one room on the other side will have to stay "unequipped".

In all this rather long-drawn-

out process the present residents will have to live in something of a turmoil as they did last year when being re-roofed, but they are a noble lot! We will finish up with one room less, but a vacancy we are not going to fill means that no-one will be turned out.

The final result will be an upgraded building, using the neglected Annexe, and all much nearer to today's standard requirements.

If perchance you hear of requests for financial help it will be to aid us in this project. Fortunately, thanks to legacies we have received there is capital in hand, but, as all property owners know, something needs to be left in the kitty for emergencies.

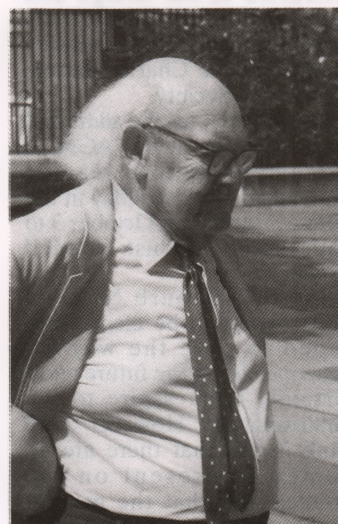
At present the house is full but we never know when a vacancy will occur, so if you or your friends are interested in joining us please get in touch with us.

Ralph Baldry
Chairman

DERRY ABBOT

DERRY ABBOT was indeed the "Grandfather of Constable Close". He and his wife, Dame Elsie, bought number 4 during the early war years when the adjacent Heath Extension was used as an anti-aircraft gun site, and many were the fascinating stories he had to tell of those austere times. He was at that time a senior civil servant and right up to the time he died, aged 81, in July this year, he maintained an excellent grasp of world events. However, it was as plain "DERRY" he would like to be remembered, for there can hardly have been a less pretentious person in Hampstead Garden Suburb!

Families came and went: children arrived and grew up but always Derry was there - as unchanging as the superb bust of himself, sculpted by an ex-neighbour, which stood on his front window sill for as long as I can remember. He was a much loved figure in Constable Close - invariably amiable, calm and a marvellous listener at all times, yet with quite a twinkle in his eye. All the children liked him. He would mend their toys, cast an



appreciative glance over their "works of art", sponsor them for every conceivable good cause, hand out the odd biscuit when Mum was late home and even act as "scoremaster" at several somewhat impromptu sports events on the Heath Extension.

Even when he left to spend his last two years in the Northgate Nursing Home, he enjoyed nothing better than to hear the latest goings-on in his beloved Constable Close.

AN

DAVID MICHAELS

David Michaels, a special husband and father, died on September 19th after being ill for a year. He had lived with his wife Diane in Constable Close for sixteen years, having moved during that time, as his family expanded from No. 2 to No. 7. Born in 1943, he was raised in North London and went to Christ College School and on to University College London to read Statistics. He worked at N. M. Rothschilds for ten years and began to specialise in venture capital. In 1981 he

founded the finance house, Guidehouse. He was a member of the National Consumer Council and a director of the Open Air Theatre in Regent's Park. David loved jazz, played the guitar and the clarinet and was a musical inspiration to family and friends, especially the young ones. He was always supportive of local events, being a keen follower of Suburb traditions. His sociable personality and happy wave will be sadly missed by neighbours & friends.

EGW.

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Following the election to fill one vacancy on the Trust Council we hereby declare that:

- The number of valid voting papers received was 406
 - The number of voting papers rejected was 12
 - The number of votes cast for each Candidate was
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- Mairi M. Howie has been duly elected as an Elected Member of Council

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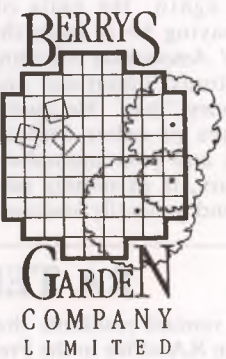
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