

SUBURB NEWS

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE HAMPSTEAD GARDEN SUBURB RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION Winter '90

MAKE A DATE FOR ENVIRONMENT WEEK

Make a date now in your new diaries for the week of 28th April to 7th May 1990. The Social Committee of the Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association is already planning a programme of Walks, Talks, Childrens Parties, Music, Theatre and Exhibitions for Environment Week the theme of which is "Hampstead Garden Suburb Heritage week".

Stuart Gray, Michael Holton and Christopher Kellerman will be leading the walks through the Suburb which in previous years have proved so interesting. A childrens' party "Madders" is planned to take place at the Teahouse, on 7th May, with all sorts of fun prizes.

There is to be an emphasis on Litter, Re-cycling and, it is hoped, that an area like Bigwood can be tackled with per-

mission from the London Borough of Barnet. Watch out for a complete diary of events in the next issue of this paper. Offers to help run some of these events will be very welcome and volunteers should contact the chairman of the committee, Rupert Terry, on 455 9243. LS



ALLOTMENT WINNER

Mrs Jessie Eason, whose allotment plot was judged to be the Best Cultivated of the Year, receives the Phyllis Young Memorial Trophy from Bob Holme, the previous holder. Except at the Asmunds Place site, the turnover in plots is quite brisk. Thinking of having a go? Contact David Meyler, 455 0691.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

The Residents Association has greatly expanded the scale of its expenditure over the past two years. In 1988, for the first time in a decade or so, the Association's funds were run down instead of being further built up. The Association has been spending more in a good many directions, including the annual Environment Week, tree planting, Suburb Charities, the institution of the Litter Free Zones and, most prominently, campaigns against the roads development at Henly's Corner and the introduction of the front gate wheeled bin refuse collection system. The Association has also established its own office in the Free Church Hall.

In order to maintain the scale and scope of this expenditure, the Council of the Association would like to raise suggested subscription rates. This suggestion was floated at last year's AGM and met with a favourable reaction. Accordingly a formal motion will be presented at the next AGM in March. For many years the suggested minimum subscription has been £3, with £1 for senior citizens, though a great many households have given more, and often much more, than this. The Council would now like the suggested minimum to be raised to £5 per household, though for those of limited means the suggested subscription would remain at £1.

Working for the Suburb is a bit like singing in the Royal Albert Hall - most of the time we do not know whether the "notes" we are hitting are the right ones. The exception was the wheeled bins campaign, during which numerous letters of support and literally dozens of telephone calls were received from residents.

Please come along to the AGM on Monday, 26th March, and give us your views, particularly on this issue of finance: your endorsement will mean that the Council of the Association can go forward with confidence in their main task of defending and advancing the interests of the Suburb. EW

AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Residents Association will take place on 26th March 1990 at 8 p.m. in Bigwood Hall, Bigwood Road, NW11.

Any motions for inclusion on the agenda must be received by first post on 12th February 1990.

Nominations for the posts of officers and members of Council must be submitted, in writing, signed by the proposer and seconder, and have the Nominee's consent. These must be received by 16th March 1990.

Notice of motions and nominations should be sent to the Assistant Secretary, Mrs R. Goldstein, 1a Church Mount, N2.

THEY'RE HERE



Despite a sustained campaign, during which hardly a voice has been heard in their defence, the wheeled bins arrived on the Suburb in December.

It is probably true to say that very early on no one quite realised the seriousness of the threat, certainly not our Councillors. By the time we did it was too late for a judicial review.

It is probably also true to say that we realised too late that it is

not so much the wheeled bins that are the problem it is front gate collection that means we must inevitably have bins left on pavements and in front gardens, at the very least whilst some residents are out, away or at their places of work on collection day.

Perhaps Alan Coren (p3) is right when he says that we were too genteel in our opposition; maybe more of us should have

had the strength of our convictions as had Peter Loyd who, when the green bin he had ordered did not arrive, deposited his black one on Councillor Usher's doorstep.

The RA will continue to oppose but urges residents to keep the things out of sight so that the Suburb does not resemble those roads in Woodside Park that we photographed six issues ago. RW

LINNELL DRIVE EXTENSION

In our last issue we reported on an extension being built to a house in Linnell Drive that, despite its size and effect on near neighbours had received approval from the Trust and Barnet and slipped through all the other safety nets.

Since then the solicitors for Mr & Mrs Hadjipateras, who live at 5 Linnell Drive, have sent letters threatening legal action to the Suburb News, the Ham and High, Hendon Times, Daily Express and Mr & Mrs Stanley Black, whose house overlooks the extension.

Readers will remember that the extension applied for and approved was for a single storey behind the garage. When construction was in progress it was apparent that the roof pitch was 75° not 55° as approved and

that the building was three feet over length.

Once this was pointed out the building was altered to comply with the permission granted.

However a further application was then made so that the access to this one storey extension via the first floor of the main house could have a roof pitch of 75°.

The RA's objection to these proceedings and that of the neighbours is not in any way directed at the residents of 5 Linnell Drive but at the planning

authorities, who as we said in the last issue, appear to pass major building works without consideration of the effect on near neighbours. It would facilitate such consideration if plans had to show surrounding buildings.

This particular case concerning one house tucked away at the end of a close and overlooked by few neighbours may not seem to be all that significant. But the RA, which has forcibly made its views known at meetings with the Trust, is concerned over a principle that could have a disastrous effect on the Suburb as a whole. RW

CHESS MEET

Hi chess players of all standards and ages! There will be a second Open Day at Fellowship House, Willifield Way, on Saturday, 17th February between 2.30 p.m. and 5.00 p.m. Do come along with your chess set and have some fun.

APOLOGY

"Our article on page 1 of the autumn edition 1989 was not intended to suggest that Mr and Mrs Hadjipateras had used improper means to obtain the consent of the London Borough of Barnet, Hampstead Garden Suburb Trust and the Conservation Area Advisory Council. Mr and Mrs Hadjipateras had used all the correct channels to obtain all the necessary consent from the aforesaid organisations."

EXECUTIVE HOMES

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