

# Dr E H T HOBLYN MBE

Edward Hoblyn died on 12th November 1990 aged 80. He was born on 3rd January 1910.

After leaving Luton Modern School he had a distinguished university career at Imperial College where he achieved a B.Sc honours degree in chemistry in 1930 and a Ph.D in chemical engineering in 1933 and met Ailsa Ikin, a fellow student whom he married on 6th January 1940.

After working for BX Plastics from 1934-1944, Dr Hoblyn joined the British Chemical Plant Manufacturers Association - at first as its secretary and later, in 1950, its director. When that association merged with the Tank and Industrial Plant Association he became the deputy director of the merged body, the Process Plant Association. He was awarded the MBE in 1947 for his work in relation to the return by the British chemical plant and food machine industries from wartime to peacetime production.

He moved to London in 1944 where, after living for a while at his wife's family home at Wildwood Rise, he and Mrs Hoblyn moved to Erskine Hill

in autumn 1945 - where he continued to reside until his death.

His first involvement in Suburb affairs was as the treasurer, for many years, of the Farm Walk Tennis Club. In 1958 he was elected to the committee of the HGS Residents Association. He became chairman of the RA in November 1963 - a post which he held with distinction for over six critical years during a period which saw the sale of the freehold of the Suburb, the passing of the Leasehold Reform Act and the setting up of the Scheme of Management now administered by the New Hampstead Garden Suburb Trust. He continued to serve on the RA Council until 1979 and over a long period was responsible for the compilation of the annual Suburb Directory. The present strength and structure of the Residents Association owe much to changes which he initiated.

He was a governor of Battersea Polytechnic and of the National College of Food Technology. He was a liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Salters continuing a relationship

which began with the award to him, by the Worshipful Company, of a Fellowship during his postgraduate studies.

From 1975 until his death he was an active member of the Council of the Hampstead Garden Suburb Institute which benefitted greatly from his deep knowledge and understanding of the Suburb.

There was powerful thought behind everything which he did and a command of English which left no room for misunderstanding. He was a large man of powerful and impressive appearance but always gentle and always a gentleman. It came naturally to him to think of others and, despite his obvious mental pre-eminence, there was always a kindly understanding of and for those who were not his mental equal. He was intensely proud of his country and serious about his religion but was also a tolerant and kind man and one who, in his contributions to the affairs of the Institute, showed a constant understanding of the aspirations and thoughts of the young.

He is survived by his widow Ailsa, his son John, daughter Mrs Lindsey Clarke and two grandchildren. MM.

**Dr E. H. T Hoblyn an appreciation**

Although I have lived on the Suburb more or less since 1915, it wasn't until I retired in 1972, and when I joined the RA Council, that I became aware of Ted Hoblyn. I can remember the impression of my first Council meeting in Fellowship House, when I noticed this rather tall and seemingly fierce gentleman, who seemed to have the measure of everybody present. He did not suffer fools, and I soon realised the need for careful thought before putting forward any ideas or proposals. Ted appeared to be not prepared for any changes, for I think that he had seen so many schemes go wrong on the Suburb. As I become more experienced as the RA Secretary, I become aware that it was Ted who had revitalised the RA with a kiss of life in 1956, when he managed to make a clean sweep of the past and lay the foundations for a new and vigorous RA, becoming its Chairman and also Hon. Secretary. He continued to play a very full role on the Suburb until his death; he was a tower of strength not only for the RA but for the Suburb generally, and in particular for the Institute. He will be greatly missed by all the Committee on which he served or helped. His death was a very sad blow to us all. AL



## MEMORIAL REINSTATED

There hadn't been a gathering like it in Central Square probably since the Henrietta Barnett Memorial, designed by Lutyens, was first unveiled.

The occasion was the long awaited inauguration of the

restored Memorial, with completely renewed ironwork.

The gathering of residents saw the Mayor of Barnet Cllr Roy Shutz cut a ceremonial ribbon escorted by his Lady Mayoress and our MP John Marshall and

RA Chairman Eileen Whelan.

Later a reception laid on by the RA's Social committee was attended by 150 or so in St Jude's church rooms, a real Suburb party. RW

## HORTICULTURE SOCIETY AGM

HAMPSTEAD GARDEN SUBURB HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY AGM

The Society held its 76th Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 20 November 1990. The Chairman, Norman Wheatley, praised the standard of the three shows, but wished attendance had been better. He thanked the committee for all their hard work at the shows and in supporting all the other activities undertaken by the Society. He spoke with regret and gratitude of two longstanding members of the committee who had decided to retire - Miss Nan Wilson, who had been a member for 46 years, and Len Potiphar, who at a youthful 89 had been Show Secretary for 19 years. Both were made Vice-Presidents amid much applause.

The Treasurer reported that 1990 had been a successful year financially, and the Society had been able to send over £170 to the National Fruit Collection at Brogdale after two fundraising events.

Winter Lectures will be held on the second Tuesday of the month, starting in January (see Diary), and the 1991 Flower Shows will take place on 29th June, 27th July and 14th September, at the Free Church Hall. The Plant Sale will take place on 18th May at 10am.



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