

LETTERS

154 Falloeden Way  
Hampstead Garden Suburb  
London NW11 6JE

Dear Sir,  
Re: Videotron Cable Network  
Like many others I attended the talk given by a representative of the above company last year. In due course I had a look at what they provided, copy of card enclosed, and wrote a long letter to them saying I was more interested in receiving European programs than the film channels etc. They do offer 2 German, 1 Italian, 1 French channel, but that is all. There are several other German channels available and some others which would cost Videotron nothing to provide since they are transmitted clear and free. I pointed out that in the Suburb there are quite a lot of Europeans plus the Institute with its large language classes. However, my letter was ignored and no answer received. Two other residents have since told me that their efforts at talking to Videotron have been a waste of time and no results obtained. Clearly, this company's policy seems to be "We will offer you something - take it or leave it".  
Yours faithfully,  
Tony Brand

4 Willifield Way  
NW11 7XT

Dear Editor,  
May I through your columns enquire if there is anyone among your readers who could help a national organisation, locally based, which has recently been awarded charitable status, with covenants? The work is not onerous, but some accountancy experience is desirable.  
Yours faithfully,  
Joanne Bower  
455 0634

43 Hill Top  
London NW11 6EA

Sir,  
On Sunday 14th June, our garden will be open to the public from 2-6pm, under the National Garden Scheme. We have one-third acre of garden with lawns, large rockery, herbaceous border, rose bed and shrubbery, and with a productive vegetable and fruit garden. Admission 60p, children free, teas will be available and plants will be for sale. A share of the takings will go to the North London Hospice. If it is a fine day, do come and visit us.  
Joe and Gwen Webb

Royal National Lifeboat Institution  
Hampstead Garden Suburb Branch

Sir,  
Would you be kind enough to put in a "Thank You" in the next edition of "Suburb News"? To all the kind people who collected for RNLI Flag Week and Flag Day and to those who so generously put money into the collecting boxes. We raised £1450.51p. 10% up on 1991 which is a wonderful result.  
Every good wish  
Caroline Smith

26 Hogarth Hill  
London NW11 6BA

Dear Sir,  
Whilst a strictly enforced 20mph limit sounds like a good idea it is just not practical. I've tried with my 1000cc Metro and it, as thousands of cars like it, will not run properly at 20mph in 'top' gear. Running for any length of time in a lower gear overheats the engine and wastes petrol. A 25mph limit is more practical, provided it does not in practice permit speeds up to 40mph.  
With best wishes,  
Yours sincerely,  
Paul Eisler

When I receive the Suburb News,  
I sit down quietly and peruse,  
All the interesting notes,  
And all the little anecdotes.  
I have learnt a lot and been surprised,  
At things I had not realised.  
Had taken place, not far from home,  
Just goes to show, no need to roam.

The Institute in Central Square,  
Provides for all who visit there,  
From culture, music and the arts,  
To making cakes and bread and tarts.  
From making dresses, knitwear too,  
And customs from India to Peru.  
There are many things to learn about,  
You need not be in any doubt.

The Suburb News brings to the fore,  
The many things we worry for.  
Some things get done, some never do,  
But they are usually very few.  
It's nice to know that you're around,  
When any info must be found.  
About events that are taking place.  
To go and see a friendly face.

Keep up the work, you're doing swell,  
In fact you're doing rather well.  
I hope this rhyme - it will amuse,  
The readers of The Suburb News.  
ANON

49 Middleway  
London NW11 6SH

Dear Editor,  
I thought it might be of interest to the Residents that whenever I take a walk to Temple Fortune shopping I always carry an empty carrier bag and put any discarded drinks cans into it. I am thus cleaning up the Suburb and helping charities which are crying out for these cans!  
Yours faithfully,  
Hannah Cotton (Mrs)

3 Ruskin Close  
NW11 7AH

Dear Sir,  
A Home for unwanted household furniture  
The Kings Cross Homelessness Project runs a furniture store that puts to good use any reasonable condition household effects - from cookers to chairs and cutlery (plus anything useful) including cupboards.  
When a homeless family gets unfurnished accommodation, it is the Kings Cross Project that provides the furniture - at a rate of many homes each week.

If you or a neighbour have several items for collection please phone 071 833 3775 (Monday-Thursday 10am-5pm).

You will enjoy the knowledge that your discarded furniture is helping another family to live decently. You might even be talking to a local resident, because several Suburb Volunteers man the furniture store.  
Sincerely,  
John M David

Tennis Club

News from beyond Suburb borders from Philip Kennedy who is the Hon. Sec. of the HGS Lawn Tennis Club which plays in Lyttelton Playing Field where they have the use of two tennis courts all week and one more on Sunday mornings. There is a club house with refreshment facilities and balls are provided for Sunday morning and Thursday and Saturday afternoon sessions.

Philip Kennedy says that the club atmosphere is very friendly and they would welcome new members. The fee is £75 a year and there is a joining fee of £5. More, 081 886 5723.

Institute Buildings

The Institute  
Central Square  
London NW11 7BN

Dear Mr Wakefield,  
I would readily acknowledge that it is the right and duty of any editor to be outspoken and provocative, but I was nonetheless surprised by the content of your article in the last edition of Suburb News about the temporary buildings at the Institute, especially the observation that "The Institute keeps its plans very close to its chest".

Two of the most active and influential members of the Institute Council are the Residents' Association representatives, Christopher Kellerman and Douglas Blausten, Council Vice-Chairman, both of whom vigorously pursue the interests of local residents at Institute Council meetings.

Although the need for more accommodation is recognised by both the Institute and the Henrietta Barnett School, no plans yet exist which could be discussed with residents. The accommodation problems which have necessitated the presence of the temporary buildings are partly due to the success of the Institute and the School and partly due to the requirements of the National Curriculum for which it is essential to provide more specialist accommodation.

Many local residents have expressed to me their wish that the Institute buildings are preserved in a good state of repair because of their contribution to the ambience and beauty of the Suburb and their centrality to the vision of Dame Henrietta.

As a comparative newcomer, I am staggered by the achievements of this voluntary organisation which has not only provided quality education for adults over six decades but has also founded a highly successful School and made great sacrifices to ensure that its needs are met as far as possible. It has carried out a very ambitious building refurbishment programme which, although partly funded by the Department of Education and Science, has resulted in costs of £500,000 which are not recoverable and which have been met solely by the Institute.

The grant from the London Borough of Barnet which represents 10% of the Institute's budget has halved in real terms since 1976 at a time of increasing expenditure and demanding changes in education.

I can understand completely the irritation which residents feel at the presence of these ugly huts which are so out of harmony with the beauty of the surroundings and I know that everyone connected with the Institute wants to remove them as quickly as possible. Unfortunately, the Thomas More Centre annexe is not the answer to this particular problem. It is a small building which offers invaluable extra teaching space and student facilities, but it can do little more than provide an overspill for the many successful parts of the Institute curriculum. It cannot provide the urgently needed specialist accommodation for the School.

I was sorry that your article did not acknowledge the special relationship which exists between the Institute and the community. There are, I am sure, many local residents who are indifferent to the Institute, but it is worth remembering that more than 2,000 local residents attend classes here and 62 of our employees live on the Suburb. This indicates strong links with many members of the local community and does not provide evidence for the arguments made by a few people that the Institute is irrelevant to the Suburb.

In our efforts to preserve the functions and ethos of this educational charitable trust, we need the help and support of the local community. We would welcome contributions from local people who have expertise and time to offer in a voluntary capacity. The rewards would come from seeing daily evidence of the fact that what the Institute provides actually makes a difference to the lives of many people who come here. Our students are not all affluent and successful, but include many who badly need the opportunities offered to gain skills, qualifications and confidence.

I acknowledge that the relationship between the Institute and the local community is vital and would only ask that facts are presented in full so as not to mislead readers.

I hope that you have the space and the inclination to print this letter.

Yours sincerely,  
Fay Naylor, Principal

TEMPORARY!?

In the course of an extremely interesting and amusing address to the RA Council this month John Enderby, revealed that their first 'temporary' building was erected in 1953!  
RW

Touchstone

"TOUCHSTONE" WAS A NEW SHOW FOR A DRAMA GROUP WITH A NEW NAME

The Hampstead Garden Suburb Dramatic Society has changed its name after twenty-five years. It will in future be called the Garden Suburb Theatre and for its first production under this snappier title it presented Terry Rogers' new musical "Touchstone", set in the East End of London and in the West Country between September and December 1940. The plot which married the early days of World War Two with Arthurian legend is on the whole happier with fact than fiction. The opening scenes are very evocative of the times and there must have been many in the audience who remembered how it felt to send one's children away. Some of Terry Rogers' best songs were in this first half. Numbers such as the moving "Some Day I Know"

set at Paddington Station; "Stand in Line" when the children are picked out by the villagers and Kay's lovely "What will happen to me?"

After the interval the plot involving the Black Knight, Morgan Le Fay, King Arthur and Merlin took over in which the two children, Kay and Arthur, outwit the German spies to get the touchstone to the King of England to save the country from invasion.

Terry Rogers not only wrote the words and music (with Jenny Bennett) but also directed the huge cast. There were some very effective performances from Lillie Mead and Daniel Finnerty as Kay and Arthur; Sara Robinies as their Mother Gwen, and Lynn Radnedge as Gwen's lively friend, Rose. The chorus work was very good and as usual there was lots of energy and enthusiasm.  
LS

JAPANESE SOCIETY

このたび、RESIDENT ASSOCIATIONでは「日本協会」を設けることになりました。  
この協会の目的は、この地域に住んでいる日本人相互の親睦を図るだけでなく、RESIDENT ASSOCIATION の様々な活動-シアター・クラブ、グルメ・ソサエティー、チェス/スクラ、ブル・クラブ等々への参加も目的としております。  
また、この地域には数多くの日本人が住んでいますが、地元の英人との付き合いが比較的少ないとの声もあり、これらの活動を通じ、日常レベルでの文化交流を促進することも考えております。  
本協会にご賛同のおありの方は、  
広田 (まき) CORNWOOD CLOSE, N2 ☎ 081-455-7978  
迄、ご連絡下さい。  
尚、「日本協会」に入会される際はHAMPSTEAD GARDEN SUBURB RESIDENT ASSOCIATIONのメンバーにもなりたいこととなります。

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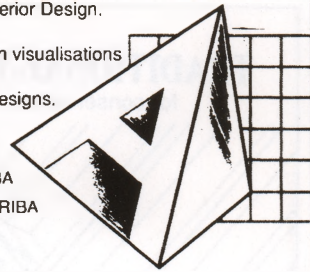
Computer Aided Design visualisations

Low Energy Designs.

Contact: Christopher Tebbutt B.Sc.

Dip.Arch Dip TP. RIBA

Jane Collins B.Sc. Dip. Arch. RIBA



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Rooms in the Suburb  
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Having truly established ourselves  
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. . . we feel that we can say we know how you like to be treated. That is why our Hampstead Garden Suburb Staff are patient and prepared to spend as much time and effort as is necessary to find your exact requirements - whether it takes one week or one year.

If you are looking for a home - come in and let us prove that we are the Property Professionals.

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