

The Fellowship and Fellowship House

We have been trying to keep abreast of the "Care in the Community" plans of the Borough. We realise that in what is probably the biggest London Borough with a larger proportion of over 60s than other boroughs Barnet's problems are immense. Also with the present legislation being in its infancy there is inevitably a measure of uncertainty in the way the new system of "Care" will work.

One thing that has emerged from our discussions with those in authority is that there is to be a concentration on help for the most disabled to enable them to remain in their own homes. Already we see that Home Care is a priority and with the shortage of resources and staff the old Home Help area of work is likely to suffer. We have been told Home Helps as distinct from Home Care workers will normally only do cleaning once a month.

The Fellowship always tries to fill in gaps in social and welfare work and in this matter we are hoping to develop a scheme of supplying extra cleaning help if the right helper or helpers can be found. This would be offered on the same principle that we supply gardening assistance, that is the recipient pays what is possible and we subsidise the rest. At present the scheme is only in

embryo.

We are glad to report that from the Autumn, Mrs Moya Page has agreed to be the Secretary of the Fellowship.

As most people know the meetings of the Fellowship Committee are private since we deal with confidential matters. However we circulate with the Residents' Association Report our own Annual Accounts and Report. We are not a "Secret Society" and are willing to have observers at our Annual Meeting on the 3rd Tuesday of November at 7.30 p.m. at Fellowship House.

FELLOWSHIP HOUSE. It has always been the tradition that Fellowship House shall be available to Suburb Organisations at a reasonable cost or at the discretion of the Committee free of charge. This is embodied in its Constitution. At times it has been let to individuals for private parties. This is something not in the Constitution that has developed. In view of a number of difficulties it has been decided that this help to individuals shall not be offered after this year. Recognised groups on the Suburb can still apply for regular or occasional use and this should be done by a written application to the Bookings Secretary, Fellowship House, 136A Willifield Way and the request will be dealt with. RYB



Eileen Whelan presents a cheque to Ralph Baldry which was a result of an RA appeal to furnish a room at the North London Hospice

Internationalists Launch

Enthusiasts for a new group - The HGS International Society - were due to attend its inaugural meeting on 14th July. This follows the response of Suburb residents to the mailing by the RA Membership Committee promoting the existing clubs and societies - Chess & Scrabble, Gourmet and Theatre - and the proposed new International Society.

Topics for future planned events which will be designed to interest Suburb residents from both home and overseas include: history of Hampstead Garden

Suburb, visits to interesting local gardens, musical evenings from different cultures, events featuring national cuisines and costumes, discussions on current social and cultural topics, plus other topics which emerge from the inaugural meeting.

The joint co-ordinators of the HGS International Society would welcome enquiries from anyone interested in joining or offering assistance.

Please contact: Mrs Yuki Norikoshi on 081-455 7619 (evenings/weekends) or Mr Azim Husain on 081-458 6729 PO

York Stone Alert - The Mystery of the Missing Slabs

Some time last year a concerned resident informed Consam that two and a half York paving stones had disappeared from the footway off Hill Close leading to South Square, and that the empty spaces had been filled with concrete. Barnet's Charles Fox told Consam that he was aware that "some persons unknown" had removed the slabs. He had inspected the area in question, was satisfied that it was safe for pedestrians to walk on and, as the Council did not stock York stone slabs owing to their excessive cost, he was unable to take any action. Consam then asked whether there was any insurance covering stolen slabs and their reinstatement. The Director of Technical Services replied that it was not the Council's policy to insure paved surfaces as damage to these is normally recovered under the insurance of others; the theft of paving is "a fairly unusual occurrence". Though no money was available, a suggestion over the telephone by a Barnet official that the Residents Association supply/donate the stones and Barnet would supply the labour was never confirmed by letter.

In the meantime we heard from English Heritage that such thefts are, in fact, quite common these days owing to the value of

second-hand York stone for paving in forecourts and gardens. As these thefts often take place in broad daylight, with the thieves posing as workmen, all members of the Residents Association should be alerted to the possibility of further thefts and call the police if they see any workmen removing York stone from pavements in suspicious circumstances. Works of repair to stone-flagged pavements should not normally entail the removal of slabs from the sites in lorries or vans. Furthermore, English Heritage would inform Barnet that York stone was readily available from quarries in the York and Doncaster areas, was far more durable than modern concrete slabs and ought to be cheaper in the long run, and would request clarification areas: they would expect repairs to match existing or adjacent work.

A few months later, the same closely observant resident reported that the missing York stones had been replaced.

Consam phoned Mr Fox to thank him, but he did not know it had been done, and was as surprised as we were. Who took them? Who replaced them? An unknown benefactor? Or a secret works department in the Borough? The mystery remains. CB

GORDON MURRAY

Gordon Murray, who died in June aged 84, epitomised an old style neighbourliness, public service and conviviality. Not so many people will now remember the rather lame but indomitably energetic figure who, between 1973 and 1979, ran the HGS Trust as its Managing Agent and helped to establish its finances on a firm foundation. Although, typically, he often said he was "just there to watch the bawbies", he brought as robust an attitude to expenditure, as he did to problems between neighbours.

Gordon Murray was born in Cape Town of Scottish parents and came to Glasgow at the age of 18 where he qualified as an accountant. He subsequently pursued accountancy on his

uncle's sugar estates in Jamaica, and with the Aerated Bread Company in Camden Town. During the war, as a civil servant, he travelled widely in charge of catering for several governmental departments including the Ministry of Supply and Service Departments. He continued these responsibilities as Director of Catering after the war, and was awarded the CBE.

Neighbours and friends who went down to his funeral in Sonning, to which he and his dear wife Mary, a talented musician who died a few years ago, had moved from North Square, to be near their daughter Helen, were reminded of his great capacity for friendship and continuing interest in life, despite failing health and eye sight. DW

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR SUBURB

If you can identify the location of these Suburb features put your answers on a postcard to the Editor, see What's On. The reader with the first correct answer to be drawn on September 26 will receive a £5 book token.



Enchantment in Little Oak Wood

The first night of Diana Bromley's production of Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night" in Little Oak Wood was blessed with good weather and not too many unwelcome overhead noises. Hers was delightful production, played well forward on the green stage in a setting, designed by Roy Byrne, which framed the actors and prevented the words from getting lost in all that shrubbery. Under her direction the play moved swiftly and amusingly along with some really well thought-out performances. Mary Penwarden made a romantic and ardent Viola and her scenes with Jessica Miller's love-lorn Olivia were enchanting. Also excellent was Susan Quine, whose pert Maria took great pleasure in laying the trap for the hated steward Malvolio. Fred Griessen has

physically ideal for this pompous steward and handled the famous letter scene in fine style.

Michael Sabine-Bacon, as Olivia's uncle Sir Toby Belch could have been a little more rumbustious and Mick Orme's Sir Andrew a little more plaintive, but they interacted well with each other. Olivia's jester, Feste, was portrayed as a slightly sinister imp by Colin Gregory and there was real spite in his voice when he justified his part in tormenting of Malvolio. What was particularly pleasing about this "Twelfth Night" was that the words were spoken as if they had only just been thought of.

A little footnote: How long do butterflies live? Is Little Oak Wood haunted by a butterfly which likes to sit on actors' heads? This was his third season. LS

Architect required

An architect with some spare time would be welcome to join the Conservation and Amenities Committee of the Residents Association.

An opportunity to monitor developments in the Garden Suburb before they happen and to help maintain its present condition as an outstanding Conservation Area.

Congenial working conditions - no pay!

Apply to David Morrison, Chairman of CONSAM, 138 Willifield Way, NW11 6YD, telephone number 081-458 1677.

Sir,

Is it in to be on?

May I make one very small observation on Spencer Hudson's excellent and most perspicacious article in the last issue of Suburb News concerning whether we live ON or IN the Suburb?

He writes "One might grammatically say 'I live . . . ON the Ark Royal' ". However, in *The Royal Navy and Royal Marines*, it is always customary to speak of being IN one of H.M. Ships, never ON a ship - and this is regardless of whether the ship in question happens to be afloat or a shore establishment!

Yours
Peter Loyd
In 12 Meadway, NW11

Gordon Hudson

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