

SUBURB NEWS

Issue 47 THE NEWSPAPER OF THE HAMPSTEAD GARDEN SUBURB RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION Spring '95

EDITOR'S FILE

"Suburb News biased"

Once again *Suburb News* has been accused of bias in favour of Henrietta Barnett School in the matter of the Institute's dispute with the School, Barnet and the Dept of Education.

As reported in the *Ham & High* Malcolm Davis, at the RA's AGM, said that "much of what appears in *Suburb News* is biased against the Institute".

The RA and *Suburb News* are wholly supportive of the work of the Institute and the important role it has always played in the life of the Suburb.

It cannot be denied however, as we have reported, that many residents feel strongly that the Institute's handling of the affair could have been better conducted.

We do try to be objective, reporting or publishing letters and articles on both sides of disputes be they with the Institute, the Trust, Barnet or indeed the Residents Association!

Interiors

We've been given an idea for a regular series on interiors of Suburb houses. If you have an original or sympathetically restored home which you wouldn't mind sharing with our readers please let me know.

Great Thanksgiving

If you are not apprehensive at the thought of waking to the sound of celestial choirs tune your alarm to Radio 3, 8 am on Sunday. From now until June 4 you can hear the last of a series that started in November celebrating 2000 years of music at the Eucharist. You'll hear Rev Alan Walker, Vicar of St Jude's in conversation with Paul Guinery.

Wartime memories

Do you have items that bring back memories of wartime on the Suburb?

If so you might like to lend them to the Archives Trust for the exhibition in St Jude's at the same time as the Proms. Please ring Harry Cobb 458 3688.

Coincidences

With a long profile each Elizabeth Taylor and Peter Mandelson shared a recent Guardian Weekend.

They have something else in common, both were born on the Suburb in Wildwood and Bigwood Road respectively.

VE Day

Talk of VE Day celebratory fireworks fizzled out when it seemed there just wasn't enough interest despite the fact that the RA had voted a budget for a Central Square lunch party.

SUMMER ISSUE
Please send your contributions for the next issue by June 17.



Mothers Day. Yugi Kawai, Tony Chan and Sakeshi Kawai collect flowers at St Jude's.

Institute vs School judgement

The case between the Institute and the Henrietta Barnett School finally went to the High Court in February, and was heard by Mr Justice Carnwath. The School and Barnet were represented by the same QC. Since the case had implications for other Voluntary Aided Schools the Attorney General and Secretary of State for Education were also represented by their own barristers. In total there were 2 QC's and 5 other barristers in Court. The 74 page judgement was delivered on 21 March. It analyses in detail the whole history of the relationship between the Institute and the School and the areas of disagreement are clearly set out.

Although the judgement does not solve the problem between the two organisations it defines the framework within which a solution needs to be found. By spelling out the legal relationship that exists between the Institute, the School, local and national government it has given the participants an ideal opportunity to settle their differences, and produce a viable long term solution.

The reasons why the dispute went to Court are explained in a letter the Acting Chairman of the Institute sent to all Suburb residents in April 1994. Legal

advice was sought concerning the presence of the School on the Institute site.

"The advice was that the Deed of 1956, which sought to govern the manner in which the School would be permitted to use certain of the Institute's buildings, did not constitute a Trust; that even if it did, in any event the Deed itself contains provision for revocation; that the provisions of the Deed could be revoked and Notice to Quit given to enable the Institute to repossess the entire site for its own use. That advice was

unequivocal and the Institute Council would be failing in its duty if it did not act upon that advice. As a result last March the Institute duly revoked the provisions of the Deed of 1956, notified the School of this and gave Notice to Quit to the School expiring on 31 December 1993.

The Judge disagreed with the advice which the Institute had been given and decided that the repossession notice issued by the Institute was invalid.

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Golders Green gaming centre threat

A planning application to install an arcade of gaming machines at 107 Golders Green Road was turned down by the London Borough of Barnet but upheld on appeal to the Department of the Environment. The case now returns to Barnet for a gaming licence and may end up in the High Court.

Many different local organisations, including Neighbourhood Watch, are campaigning against this, and large numbers of local residents have written personally to Barnet expressing their opposition. In February, there was a public meeting at which John Marshall MP was present and, in March, a further meeting arranged by the action group opposing this. Both of these meetings were packed to capacity with, in all, over 500 Golders Green residents determined to do all possible to prevent this going ahead.

The concern of Neighbourhood Watch is primarily with the prevention of crime. The major purpose of Neighbourhood Watch is, in partnership with the Police, to take all possible steps to prevent crime taking place. One way of doing this is for us to secure our homes, cars and other property and to protect our families so that the criminal is prevented from achieving his objectives. And we can claim some considerable success in doing this. *cont on page 3*



The BBC Omnibus team filming at the RA AGM. Sharon Maguire, Nicki Bolster, Andrew Carhrae and Adrienne Solley

BBC Omnibus looks to Suburb

BBC Omnibus, which filmed at the Residents Association AGM last month, is seeking help from Suburb residents in its research for a 50-minute documentary tracing the history of Hampstead Garden Suburb.

The programme, which is being made to mark next year's centenary of Dame Henrietta Barnett's original idea to create the Suburb, will be following the Suburb's development

through the eyes of people who live here.

Director Sharon Maguire would like to hear from anyone with interesting stories to tell about life on the Suburb, past and present.

Letters, marked clearly "Hampstead Garden Suburb Omnibus" should be sent to Sharon Maguire at EM21, East Tower, BBC, Television Centre, Wood Lane, London W12 7RJ

Calling all Membership Representatives Tuesday 16 May

Please do your very best to attend this evening meeting. This is your chance to meet not only your Ward Organiser but also to discuss things with the Membership Committee, and to share any problems you encounter in doing your vitally important work for the Residents Association.

Fellowship House, Willifield Green, 6.30 pm.

SUBURB WEEKEND '95 June's Big Event

Hope that everyone has the 24th and 25th June clearly marked in their diaries and calenders as that is the weekend that you should all remain in the Suburb come what may.

The HGS Residents Association, in liaison with the Trust, have organised two days of fun and pleasure and have tried very hard to see that all members of our community, both young and old, have interesting and pleasurable things to do.

Festivities start at 10.30 on Saturday morning when the Mayor of Barnet will open the proceedings. From then until Sunday night there is a continuous stream of events.

On Saturday afternoon there will be juggling (try your hand at plate spinning), Punch and Judy, inflatables, a fancy dress competition and displays by schoolchildren. Percy, the Police Car, has promised to turn up and you can also

experience being handcuffed.

Later the first of the Proms at St Jude's is a concert given by Ebony Steel Band. Later still dancing in the Square to live music.

On Sunday, apart from another concert forming part of St Jude's Proms, there are walks, tennis, exhibitions of dancing, bridge and refreshments.

A full programme will be published shortly.

Léonie Stephen

Watch Out there's a bogus 'RA collector' about, he called on Meadway houses recently. All our Representatives are local people and carry identification.

From Cottages to Castles We are at home in the Suburb

A home is a very special place, particularly so in the Suburb. It is filled with a lifetime of experiences. A safe haven, a welcoming friend.

Alas, eventually even homes need to be sold or let. We feel it is incumbent on the agent handling the transaction that they not only have an intimate knowledge of the area, but recognise that a home is much more than bricks and mortar.

Glentree is such an agent. For many years we have been handling Suburb properties and we are at home with everything from "cottages to castles".

A further benefit to the Suburb's residents is our extensive contacts with potential buyers outside the immediate area.

At some time in the future, without obligation, we would be pleased to give you advice on your property.

You will be talking to us in the knowledge that we too are at home in the Suburb.



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