

# RA REPORT

While it has been some little time since the RA last summarised its activities in *Suburb News*, there has been no lack of ongoing activity within the RA Council and the numerous standing committees. Following the AGM earlier in the year at which Léonie Stephen (Chairman), Richard Wakefield (Vice-Chairman) and John Boulter (Treasurer) were re-elected as officers, the Council elected five members to its Executive Committee. These were Mervyn Mandell, David Rapson, Hugh Hamilton, David Bogush and Eileen Whelan; also Neville Silver agreed to act as the Hon. Secretary.

Two important and notable events have taken place in recent months. Firstly there was the Suburb Weekend which was held in June under the very expert organisation of Joyce Morrison; those who attended will not need to be told how enjoyable and successful this was, but those who missed it should make sure that they do not do so next time.

The RA has also been very busy organising the opening of the Suburb Gallery in Hampstead

Way. This is in partnership with the Trust, and much time and effort in sorting out the legal aspects of such a venture has been handled most enthusiastically by Richard Wakefield. Further details of this most ambitious venture appear elsewhere in *Suburb News*.

The CONSAM Committee continues to monitor planning applications and infringements, but is also currently busy producing a series of walk booklets, the first of which should be published later this year.

The Roads & Traffic Committee are investigating the possibility of a one-way system around the Institute buildings and also various traffic-calming measures within the Suburb.

The RA has set up a joint working party with the Trust to investigate possible millennium projects. Any ideas that readers might have in this respect would be very welcome and these should be passed to either Carol Boulter (455 7802) or Hugh Hamilton (455 8318)

Neville Silver



John Enderby accepts a cheque from pupils of Hendon Prep.

## Hospice AGM

There could not have been anyone unmoved by the talk given by Jane Thompson, Head of the Bereavement Support Service of the North London Hospice, when the North West Support Group held their AGM.

She explained to the well-attended meeting that the Hospice provides valuable information on immediate practicalities and a map for the bereaved to find a pathway towards a positive future. Continued support, individual or in a group, is available and encouraged. It is a valuable and dependable rock on which to lean when there is a radical change in lifestyle and the inevitable loss of companionship after the death of a partner. Special care is offered to the bereaved parents of children and to grieving children who have lost a parent. How do you explain "for ever" to a young child?, asked Ms Thompson.

Gerald Cane, Honorary

Treasurer, presented Ms Thompson with a cheque for £10,000 to finance training and the continued service of the Bereavement Section. He further presented £20,000 to Penny Montgomery, Hospice Administrator, and announced that the North West Support Group had also recently purchased a new computer for the fund-raising office at the Hospice.

The Chairman, Dr Chris Donovan, in the presence of John Enderby, President of the Group, in thanking the committee, told of the enormous success, both social and financial, of all the functions, but still promised to try to do even better in the coming year with the accent on small functions in peoples' homes which are especially valued.

Children from the Hendon Preparatory School presented a cheque for £85, and Mr Enderby expressed deep appreciation for their wonderful effort.



## SUE McCARTHY an appreciation



Sue McCarthy came to London from Cheshire at the age of 18, to train as a nurse at the Middlesex Hospital. She then married and spent happy years on the Suburb, bringing up her children and becoming a key player in the local community, particularly in activities to do with the young. Her flair for making things happen and her boundless energy benefited among other things the Childs Way School PTA, of which she was for a time the Treasurer, the Catalyst Youth Club which she helped to set up and run on Central Square, and a project for teenagers run at the local medical practice. For several years she led children

from the Suburb on skiing trips to France and Italy.

For the last thirteen years, she worked in medical research programmes, most recently to do with risk factors in cardiovascular disease. She was Research Sister in a joint project for University College London, Great Ormond Street Hospital and the Royal Postgraduate Medical School, Hammersmith. She was also Assistant Secretary of the British Hyperlipidaemia Association.

Life was never dull when Sue was around: every day was crammed with activity and her many and varied interests. She had a creative eye for antiques, she loved to travel, and she could make a room or a garden look wonderful. But she was always available for her dearly loved children, her family and her friends, and always ready to give kind and practical help in any emergency.

Her death is a terrible loss to her three children, Kate, Beth and Ben, her mother Doreen and sister Carolyn, her colleagues and her many friends.

## Times past

Seeing the resurfacing of Asmunds Hill reminded me of Temple Fortune Hill when I was five years old. I lived in Leaside Crescent and used to walk up to Miss Ironside's kindergarten in a hut in the Institute grounds. The road was unmade gravel, and the pavement was a cinder track. The kerbs were boards placed on edge with pegs to keep them upright.

I walked with Douglas Dobell, who in later life ran a jazz and folk record shop in the West End. We called him 'slow

Douglas' because he was always late! Alas he is longer with us.

Later, my journey to Childs Way was across fields where Yew Tree Court, Belmont Court and the Orpheum, renamed the Odeon and now flats, are. I remember being part of a guard of honour for the Queen and Prince Philip at a Gang Show.

Does anyone remember when Addison Way ended at Market Place, where Gladys Kemp ran a general store? Happy days!

David St George

## MARGARET PINDER

It is sad that six months, almost to the day, after losing its loyal servant Dennis Pinder, the Suburb should be facing the loss of his dear wife Margaret. Her warmth and friendliness were the perfect complement to Dennis's wide knowledge and expertise, and when she first became ill in 1986 her necessary absences from the shop robbed it of a vital part of its character.

Margaret was born and lived at Little Heath near Potters Bar and visited her married elder sister in Meadway Court, and it was while seeing her sister's new baby there that she first met Dennis delivering a christening present. A friendship arose out of their mutual love of music and

the ballet and when they married, the Suburb gained one of its wittiest and warmest-hearted residents.

Not being a mother, she became instead the perfect auntie, not only to her several nephews and nieces, but also to the children of many of her friends, and with her deep sense of family she was renowned for never having forgotten a birthday.

Margaret to her friends, Peg to her family, it is the clearest clue to her true character that her husband Dennis only ever addressed her as Faith. Her many friends on the Suburb and beyond will miss her joyous spirit greatly.

Terry Rand

### Yellow Directory, 1995-6 Errata

Under **DOCTORS**, the out of hours emergency phone number for the Temple Fortune Health Centre should be 556 1821.

Under **ARCHIVES**, the phone number for Harry Cobb should be 458 3688. Would residents please make these corrections in their copies, and accept our apologies.

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