

Henrietta Barnett Memorial Lecture

This year, the Institute revived what was once its annual Henrietta Barnett Memorial Lecture.

It was delivered by Martin Bell MP as part of the Suburb's Toynbee Hall Month.

To a packed hall and prolonged applause at the end, he gave a memorable address on the role of an independent MP today. He is the only one, and the first for 47 years.

'I can vote as I please and say what I want: I am my own Chief Whip and Party Leader (of by far the most united Party!). A maverick can think and say the unsayable and be a much needed thorn in the flesh of authority.'

He has used this freedom of action to expedite ratification of

the landmine treaty which the Government and its obedient MPs would have delayed. With his first-hand knowledge of war, he acts as a break on precipitately committing our Forces to action ('Is America to be sheriff and Britain deputy sheriff to the world?'), and he finds himself the MP for soldiers in trouble - such as the two still jailed in Northern Ireland for an error of judgement while terrorist killers are being freed.

He deplores the extreme Party discipline now prevailing in the House of Commons, with set answers to set, sycophantic questions; and political posters with such false claims that even the advertising industry has complained of 'politics giving

advertising a bad name.' (The legal restraints on commercial claims do not apply to Party claims.)

He wants to see not only higher standards of truth but the limitation of election expenses to £2 million (to curb the evil big donors and their subsequent influence on decisions): something no Party MP would dare to propose. He can and does say openly 'Murdoch is a greater threat to our democracy than all of the Brussels commissioners combined.'

Martin Bell is emphatic that a lone individual can make a difference ('look at Henrietta Barnett') and will be using his years as a MP to press for such parliamentary reforms as a reduction in the unremittingly confrontational style of debate in the House, the blind support of one's Party right or wrong, the reform of the voting system and the selection of more candidates with real experience of the world (as opposed to the university-to-Party-to-Parliament types); but he doubts whether the reform of the Lords will lead to anything but the appointment of Party stooges in place of hereditary peers.

Parliament should be admired and its activities not referred to as 'the politics of the pig trough' while huge disparities between rich and poor still exist in Britain, and a vast indifference prevails to genocide elsewhere, with some of the worst war-crimes in 50 years unchecked. 'Good and evil are not just ideas but actual forces in the world, and principles must not be sacrificed to narrow national interest.'

But despite all his criticisms, he still believes in the Party system. The most corrupt politics were in the 18th century before it evolved, and the 'sleaze' campaign he fought against Neil Hamilton showed that the public (especially younger people) do care about honesty in public life; it cost the Conservatives about 50 seats when the Tatton election made sleaze a national issue.

Though Martin Bell has given himself only five years in which to 'make a difference' in Parliament, he has a considerable list of differences he wants to make in that time.

ELIZABETH GUNDREY

SUBURB DIRECTORY ERRATA

Please make the following corrections to your Yellow Directory from the Residents Association:

PAGE 2
Georgina Malcom's address is 16 Southwood Court
Camilla Raab is at 19 Hogarth Hill
Graham Cunnold is at 55 Middleway

PAGE 14
The Trust's phone number is 455 1066

CROSSWORD WINNER

Bernard Marks from Brookland Hill wins his second bottle of bubbly for the last cryptic crossword. Congratulations.

This time there's a half bottle for the first Quick solution drawn on 12th August. 26 Hampstead Way, NW11 7JL.



Institute Principal Fay Naylor with Barnet's Mayor, her consort and Cllr John Marshall.

All in the Open

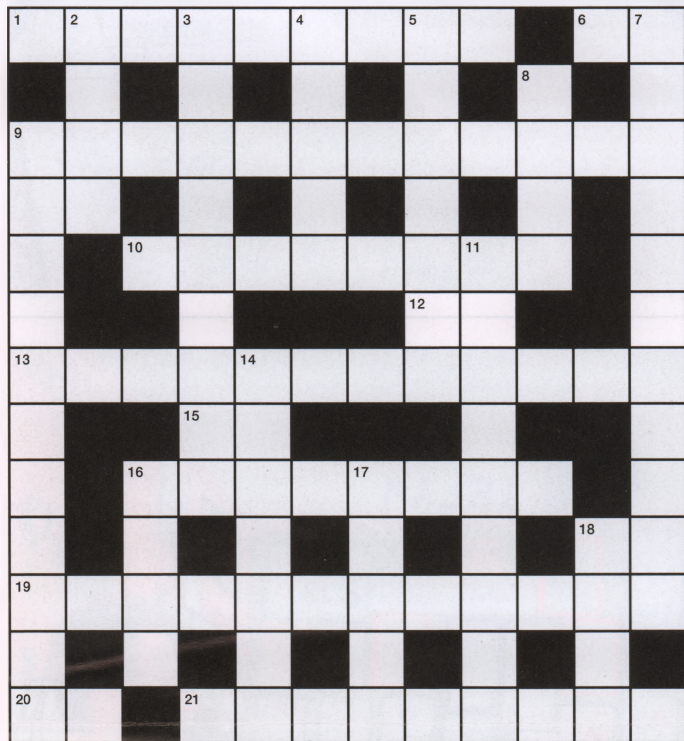
The annual Open Day took place at the Institute on 20 June. As well as extensive displays of art and craft work, including paintings, sculpture, stained glass, pottery and jewellery produced by students during the year, there was a large photography exhibition. Teachers of many different subjects from foreign languages to aromatherapy were available to give advice to prospective students. In the

forecourt visitors were treated to performances by students from Step Aerobics, Limber Stretch and Dance, Drama and Creative Connections, the Institute's learning disabilities group, who previewed their forthcoming show 'On Tuesdays We say Wow!', which they were due to take to the Bull theatre in Barnet on 2 July. The Crowndale Orchestra played in the main hall, while in the grounds there was golf tuition,

one of the newer elements in the Institute's programme of courses. A large number of people took advantage of the opportunity to enrol for courses starting in the Autumn.

The event was attended by the Mayor of Barnet, Usha Chopra, former Mayor, Agnes Slocombe, Rudi Vis MP and local councillors John Marshall and Yasmin Naghar, among others.

RICHARD BRADBURY



CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 William's taking up campanology, you said? An architect would get better results! (9)
- 6 Chaplin made a film of this (2)
- 9 Feared clout, so nearly managed to do this to it (7,3,2)
- 10,20 Stupid? The reverse? No, dim. Must be, to stand there! (5,3,2)
- 12 French, and from outer space too! (2)
- 13 Stop, my boy - put the finishing touches in the centre, and keep it for yourself (4,4,2,2)
- 15 Knock out? Knock back! (2)
- 16 South, with the magic makers of electricity (8)
- 18 They'll keep check on the elevenses (2)
- 19 Get from point to point with a cigarette in the desert? (4,3,5)
- 20 (See 10 across)
- 21 Paltry American shirt worn inside out and back to front by one's best mate (6,3)

DOWN

- 2 Some beau Glyndebourne rejected as unprepossessing? (4)
- 3 Drag messily through ideal town (4,2,3)
- 4 Starter for card game - just the thing! (5)
- 5 Usual state of fiancé on his wedding day? (7)
- 7 One free dental operation on offer for the respectful! (11)
- 8 Press-button procreation available here? (4)
- 9 What Kanga did - sounds as if she might have done it for you, too (5,3,3)
- 11 Travel plan that's messed up by train on short line (9)
- 14 Skip awkwardly in winter sports race before the queen (7)
- 16 The team exhaled noisily (4)
- 17 Departure of the French leaves lady on the game (5)
- 18 Twisted nemesis of a dairy product? (4)

QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1(& 2D) Suburb road (9,4)
- 6 S.A. (2)
- 9 How a learner may be appointed to a job (2,10)
- 10 Pertaining to a main route (7)
- 12 Cornwall or Kensington? (2)
- 13 Camping holiday essentials (12)
- 15 Denial (2)
- 16 Resolution (8)
- 18 The best road? (20)
- 19 Annual party (3,4,5)
- 20 "You old ___!" (2)
- 21 In good health (6,3)

DOWN

- 2 (See 1 across)
- 3 Appropriate (9)
- 4 Big (5)
- 5 Conventual (7)
- 7 Initiation (3,5,3)
- 8 Satisfy (5)
- 9 Welsh town (11)
- 11 Overwhelmingly (9)
- 14 Without success (2,5)
- 16 Nightly precipitation (4)
- 17 Support, march (5)
- 18 Italian wine (4)



Young musicians taking part in Young Musicians Educational Trust's first Playathon on 13th June at the Youth Music Centre. Instrumentalists of all ages, including non YMC players, took part in the three and a half hour event which raised nearly £800 for YMET.

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