

Message in a bottle

Steeplejacks working on the spire of St Jude's in August made a surprising discovery: a 'time capsule' which had been concealed in the finial ball which held the (recently flown) weathercock.

At first it was assumed this would be the "sealed copper cylinder" containing a 'Message to the Future' written on vellum by Suburb founder Henrietta Barnett's husband Samuel, and placed in the "pommel of the spire" on its completion in 1913. It turned out to be a more unofficial record.

Inside what is presumably a whisky bottle, marked 'Ye Olde Bell Pall Mall', the builders who worked on the spire had commemorated their work with some notes, cards (of

architect Edwin Lutyens and his manager Albert Thomas) and photographs of the commencement (on 9 October 1909) and completion of the work (showing the foreman standing on top of a dormer window overlooking Central Square).

Along with these were two pictures of the first vicar, The Reverend Basil Bouchier, torn from a parish magazine and church Yearbook.

It is hoped that all the items will eventually be displayed in the church; in the meantime they can all be seen on the parish website – just visit www.stjudeonthehill.org. Maybe a new capsule will be placed in the spire on the completion of the present work!

REV ALAN WALKER



TfL electric taxi proposal will damage trade in Market Place

Traders in Hampstead Garden Suburb are furious with Transport for London who, with little more than a day's notice, issued parking suspensions throughout the centre of the Market Place at the end of September. The suspensions were in connection with a planning application that TfL has submitted to London Borough of Barnet. TfL's proposal is for taxi bays and electric charging points to take the place of two parking spaces in Market Place, one outside Medivet and the other on the north side near the corner of Ossulton Way.

Gary Shaw, chairman of the RA's Roads & Traffic Committee said, "Even though the application would not be considered by Barnet Council for several weeks, TfL suspended parking for a couple of weeks to install the infrastructure.

Many residents and traders are wholly opposed to ordinary parking spaces being taken away in favour of electric taxi usage and there will be many objections. We are concerned that TfL spent public money and caused so much disruption without knowing whether their application would be approved. It is also particularly unsatisfactory that the south side disabled bay has been unusable throughout the time TfL have been carrying out this work."

If the proposal gains consent the two spaces in question will be dedicated to black taxi use only. RA Chairman David Lewis said, "There is almost no demand for black cabs in the Market Place. Most customers are locals who walk or drive to the shops. There is a mini cab office in the heart of the Market



Place which already adequately serves the needs of those few visitors who need a taxi."

Jitendra Dave who runs the Market Place post office said "With only around a dozen spaces on each side of the road we can ill afford the loss of well used general parking places in favour of what are certain to be

little used electric taxi bays. This scheme appears to be part of a London-wide project but it is taking little account of local circumstances and it's likely to be highly damaging to trade."

The RA lodged a strong objection to the proposals prior to the closing date of October 5.

GARY SHAW

Suburb wildlife



Suburb resident Gary Shaw managed to capture this stunning picture of a Burnet moth he spotted by Heathgate. If you have any wonderful wildlife pictures taken on the Suburb that you'd like to share, please email a high resolution copy of it to rapublications@hgs.org.uk.

HGS U3A news

Open Day for the new HGS U3A, a first for the new group, was held on September 5 at Alyth Gardens, and got off to a resounding start. The main synagogue hall was full and there were many prospective new members, as well as those who had already joined. Some had brought their smartphones, tablets and laptops to use whilst the use of the website was being illustrated. David Powers, our brilliant webmaster, explained to the audience how to use and navigate the website. There has been a great response from members commending the site for its appearance, navigation and modernity; all thanks to him for his splendid work.

The rest of the afternoon was spent with the chair, Jack Berkovi, explaining about the new courses that are evolving, some of which were so recently added that there had not been time to include them in the new handbook. At the end of

the session new members enrolled and members collected their handbooks, which is the first edition for HGS U3A.

The new U3A is striving to meet the needs of the local community and making many alliances with local venues and organisations. It is using the Free Church and its hall, Fellowship House, Golders Green library, Alyth Gardens in Temple Fortune and the Michael Sobell Centre.

The website is constantly being updated and new courses are being added all the time. Some groups have a few spaces available; others are newly formed. There are around 60 groups with a wide variety of topics ranging from history, literature and languages to music, art, crafts and outdoor activities.

So, for the latest updates, please check out the website regularly at <https://hgsu3a.uk>.

DAPHNE BERKOVITZ



MICHAEL JACOBS



Become part of the community

Become part of the Suburb Community and join the Association. It's a friendly group of 1,800 households in which you can either play an active role preserving the Suburb or just support it with a small subscription of just £15 per household per year. Complete and return the form below, join online, or download a standing order form from hgs.org.uk/ra/joinnow.html. Alternatively, if you own a smart phone, scan the QR code.



MEMBERSHIP FORM

one subscription covers everyone at the address

I would like to join the HGS Residents Association.

PLEASE USE CAPITALS THROUGHOUT

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Email _____

(Giving your Email address helps us keep in touch and reduce costs)

Phone _____

Subscription amount: £ _____ (Suggested minimum payment £15)

Fellowship donation: £ _____ (To support Fellowship, a Suburb charity, in its work for Suburb senior citizens)

Total: £ _____ (Total amount for cheque, standing order, PayPal or credit card via www.hgs.org.uk.)

Standing order is best – stays unchanged unless you alter/cancel it!

BANK STANDING ORDER FORM To the Manager:

Bank Name _____

Bank Address _____

Post Code _____

Sort Code _____ Account No. _____

Account Name _____

(If different to name above)

Please pay the 'Total' amount entered above now and then annually on 1st February until further notice to:

The Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association.

Account number: 91605747, Sort Code: 40-03-11

at HSBC, 40 Temple Fortune Parade, London NW11 0QU

Quoting Reference (leave blank, RA to complete) _____

Signed _____ Date _____

Please return this form with the bank standing order section completed or your cheque made payable to HGS Residents Association to: **HGSRA, 40 TEMPLE FORTUNE LANE, NW11 7UE**

Christmas at St Jude's

Sunday December 17

6pm Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols followed by mulled wine and mince pies

Christmas Eve Sunday December 24

11.30pm MIDNIGHT MASS

Christmas Day Monday December 25

8am Dawn Mass

10.30am Parish Celebration followed by seasonal refreshments

All Welcome

SAINT JUDE-ON-THE-HILL • THE PARISH CHURCH OF HAMPSTEAD GARDEN SUBURB

www.stjudeonthehill.com