

SUBURB NEWS

THE HAMPSTEAD GARDEN SUBURB RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION NEWSPAPER ■ AUTUMN 98 - ISSUE 61

Institute and School finally agree

The long, and at many times, bitter battle between the Institute on one side and Henrietta Barnett School, Barnet Council and the DfEE on the other, is hopefully at an end.

The deal, agreed on by the School and the Institute, was accepted by the Institute Society at an extraordinary general meeting on September 17.

The Institute will sell the entire site for £9 million and have a rent free period of five years in Central Square using the same amount of space as it does now. The Institute will also receive £750,000 from the DfEE for equipping a building on another site.

After five years the Institute will pay rent, if the School agrees. Both sides stress that they want the Institute to remain but under the agreement the school does not have to offer a lease and the Institute need not remain.

The Residents Association has always, as has the Trust, argued that any arrangement

should allow for both to remain on the site.

The RA Council issued a statement, read out at the Institute EGM by the RA representative on the Institute Council Alan Brudney, which while welcoming the agreement also said "The RA strongly supports the continued presence of the Institute and the School on the Suburb so that both adult and secondary education remain available to residents in perpetuity. The wider education of society was a basic aim of the founder of the Suburb and The Council therefore greatly regrets that under the proposal the Institute may be ejected from its present property at the

end of only five years and that adult education may disappear."

At the EGM, attended by 74 out of nearly 300 Society members, and only members were allowed in as is usually the case for an EGM, Fay Naylor, Jane de Swiet and Malcolm Davis assured members several times that there was every intention for the Institute to keep a presence here although they were looking for other premises. This assurance of a presence seemed to reassure the doubters and there were only a few no votes to the proposals from those present and a few of the 90 plus proxies.

Barnet Council and the DfEE have only to give their formal approval and the dispute which started nearly six years ago will be over.

The full RA statement is on page 6.



Warmly welcoming windows shining from the Suburb at dusk are the theme of Annie Walker's new card for Christmas. Available from the Garden Suburb Gallery towards the end of November.

Litter free Suburb!

The Litter Free Zone scheme on the Suburb is being given a new lease of life by the RA.

John Davis, 3 Ruskin Close, is putting together a team of litter wardens willing to pick up litter from a small patch near their homes on a regular basis.

He has written to over 100 people who have been involved in the past, many of whom have never stopped keeping their patches clear, and is waiting to hear from new volunteers. If you can help, or perhaps do it anyway, call him on 458 2277.



Linda's long service

Our Neighbourhood Watch liaison officer, WPC Linda Bailey, was recently awarded the Police Long Service and Good Conduct Medal at the Peel Centre, Hendon, for 22 years of meritorious service in the Metropolitan Police. She was accompanied by Peter Loyd, the Suburb's Area Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator, who was 'standing in' for her father!

New Suburb architect joins Trust

In welcoming members to the AGM of the Hampstead Garden Suburb Trust, chairman Eddie Caplin, having introduced Council Members, said he was pleased to be able to introduce David Davidson, the Trust architect who is replacing David Pickles who, after two very good years with us, is leaving to join English Heritage.

"David," he explained, "has exactly the right experience for the Suburb job having come from a similar position in Birmingham looking after Bournville."

Pia Duran steps down
At the end of her second three year term of office Pia Duran said it had been a fascinating period. Having been brought to the Suburb at only six months

old she was pleased to have been involved with the work of the Trust. "It's not easy," she said, "some people complain that nothing can be changed, others complain that everything seems to be allowed." Eddie Caplin said Pia's input would be much missed and thanked her for her years on the Council.

New member unopposed
To fill the vacancy amongst local elected members the Council were nominating another life long resident Stephen Licht who lives in Wildwood Road who said he was looking forward very much to working with the Trust.

Management fee unchanged
The report and accounts were approved and it was announced that there will again be no

change in the management fee for the coming year.

Should Trust promote insurance?

Some members were concerned that the Trust was promoting the building's insurance policies offered by Sun Life and, through Brownhill Morris and West, General Accident. Instances were quoted of lower rates being obtained by residents from other insurers. The Chairman said the Trust had been working with these companies for many years and that Brownhill Morris and West backs Neighbourhood Watch. "There seems to be a price war going on at the moment but I suspect rates will even out" he said, but promised the Council

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Home Sweet Home

We at Glentree, who live and work in the Suburb regard it as our home and we would like to believe that all our clients feel at home with our service.

Buying or selling a house needs very careful handling and over the past quarter of a century we have endeavoured to provide the kind of service which is professional, understanding and sensitive to the needs of our clients.

We are an unusual company in that although we are locally based, we procure purchasers from a worldwide international network which may enable us to achieve a fulsome price for you, which we hope fully justifies the value to you of your home.

We have produced a guide to selling and renting your home and also one which refers to the various aspects of the recent listing of 500 properties in the Suburb of architectural merit.

If you would like a copy or just an in principle discussion, we would welcome your call.



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OBE honour

Congratulations to John Freeborn, who received an OBE in the birthday honours list for services to museums. John, an ex-RA Chairman and now chairing the Trust's Charitable Committee, spent ten years at the Science Museum, another ten at the London Transport Museum but most recently as deputy director at the Royal Air Force Museum at Hendon. You can hear him talk about the air museum, and the interactive 'fun-n-flight' gallery he has been working on, at the Free Church Hall on Nov 18 in aid of Toynbee Hall.

Lottery bid fails

The RA/Trust/Barnet bid for Heritage Lottery funds for greening the Suburb and changing road junctions has been turned down. "It is very disappointing" said RA Chairman Richard Wakefield "after



Well-known Suburb resident David St George turned up on the TV show Can't Cook Won't Cook recently. David's unflappable style and quick wit stole the show.

all the effort that has been put into the application, it appears to have been a victim of moving goal-posts." More next issue.

Big Wood needs you and your oak seedlings

Following a good response to the call in the last Suburb News for residents to donate garden oak seedlings, two dates have now been arranged for planting in the new Big Wood glades. Please bring your young oaks along on Sunday 13 December and Monday 14 December from 10.00 am Meet at the Temple Fortune Hill entrance, and experts from the British Trust for Conservation

Volunteers and local groups will be on hand to help you plant your oak(s). Tools provided if you do not have your own.

To ensure your seedlings survive, please take the following precautions:

1. Dig deep around the roots, to prevent damaging the tap root and side roots.
2. Have a plastic bag on hand and place sapling with soil

around its roots straight away. Secure the neck of the bag. This stops the roots drying out.

3. If bagging up more than a day before the planting, ensure the roots/soil are kept moist.
4. Do not dig up your seedling if the weather is frosty, or there is a drying wind.

For further information, please contact the Countryside Officer at Barnet Council on 0181 359 3052.