

Institute/School contracts exchanged

Contracts were exchanged on 2 March and completion takes place on 16 March 1999 for The Henrietta Barnett School to purchase the Central Square building from The Hampstead Garden Suburb Institute.

I am delighted that we are approaching the end of our long negotiations and that the future of the School and the Institute will be secure. Throughout the dispute we have shared the buildings amicably and Fay Naylor and I are very pleased that Dame Henrietta Barnett's vision for the suburb will continue to flourish.

The protracted dispute has been a great drain on the Governing Body and I am enormously grateful for their loyalty and commitment. I have had a small negotiating team, all of who have very heavy workloads but who have given their time unstintingly in order to reach a solution. This has involved frequent breakfast and weekend meetings. The Governors now have the important and challenging task of making the solution work.

I would also like to acknowledge the support of the officers of the London Borough

of Barnet and the Department for Education and Employment, Members of Parliament and local councillors past and present who have all given their guidance.

The buildings will be purchased with funds from the central government allocation for voluntary aided schools and with 15% from the London Borough of Barnet. The Governors will assume responsibility for their upkeep and although they will be able to apply for grant aid from Barnet and central government for major works they will have a liability for 15% of the costs.

It will be a pleasure to concentrate on planning the educational way forward for the School. I am very proud of the standards maintained consistently by the staff and pupils and they deserve my undivided attention. Recently the school won one of the first Evening Standard Awards and we are looking forward to receiving it from David Blunkett on 10 March. I am pleased we shall be able to continue to make an important and valuable contribution to the education of girls in Barnet and neighbouring boroughs.

JANE DE SWIET



Suburb's farewell to WPC Linda Bailey

This party, which was arranged with support from the Residents Association and the Trust, was, perhaps, an almost perfect example of what the neighbourliness in Neighbourhood Watch is all about, as well as demonstrating generally all that is best in friendliness and co-operation in Hampstead Garden Suburb. It took place in the Institute Hall and was organised and run by Kaye Morgan, the Co-ordinator of Vivian & Widecombe Watch, with a team of thirty Neighbourhood Watch volunteers who dispensed food and drink to some 240 people from most of the 56 Neighbourhood Watches on the Suburb and its adjacent areas. We were also indebted to Helen Roose and her Mosa Quintet who played for us so delightfully throughout the evening, thereby enhancing a very special occasion.

Many tributes were paid to our guest of honour, both formally in speeches and informally in approaches from grateful residents who took the opportunity to express to Linda their personal gratitude for her help and support over the years.

Special mention was made of the sensitivity, tact and good humour with which Linda carried out her work in different settings:- talking to our schoolchildren about personal safety and aspects of citizenship; dealing with, at times, almost intractable local traffic problems; giving guidance and advice at innumerable Neighbourhood Watch meetings and other gatherings; and helping individuals who had become victims of crime or other community problems.

The hope was expressed that Linda would not be moving too far away from this area, and that she would return to visit us often - no longer as our Community Beat Officer, but as a much loved friend of us all.

PETER LOYD

P.S. During the course of the evening, it was announced that the special fund for a leaving present for Linda now stood at over £700. The fund is still open and further contributions can be sent to Eric Townley, our Hon Treasurer. Cheques should be made payable to 'Suburb Neighbourhood Watches'.

Good memory for flowers

The RA would like to know how the flower beds in Central Square were planted during the early days of the Suburb. Perhaps you remember what was there during Queen Mary's

visit or even have some old photographs showing the flower beds in the background. If so, please leave your name and number at the Gallery or ring Georgina Malcolm 455 7100.

There was an Old Woman 'a real panto'

Terry Rogers's 'There was an Old Woman' was in the real Pantomime tradition - there was even the old cooking routine - and it was a great success. This was one of the best HGS Theatre's musical productions, full of life and good humour. The characters were well conceived and the attention was held throughout. The wicked Mountain King (Declan Leary) wants the Princess Eleanor as his bride and sends his three witches to bring her to him. His plans are thwarted by George, the Dame's eldest son, and by Rose, the trainee witch, amusingly portrayed by Liz Travis.

David Rance made a wonderful Dame and Omri Gotterman and Tom Josephs as her sons Rudyard and Kipling, were also very funny. As George, Emma Solomons made a dashing hero.

The surprise was the characterisation of Princess Eleanor, a very strong-willed girl played with panache by Sarah Connell. She would have given the Mountain King a hard time! Her father, Rufus, well played by Simon Ramsay, obviously found her exhausting.

Apart from those with speaking parts, great pleasure is given by the talented and enthusiastic chorus of villagers, trolls and courtiers etc. Faced with such enjoyment, what can one say, but that this yearly show enhances the life of the Suburb. This is Community Theatre and it brings us all together, actors, dancers, musicians, set designers, stage staff and audience.

An enjoyable panto directed with skill by Tim Solomons, aided by Jo Davis, and musical director, Lyndon Radnedge.

LEONIE STEPHEN

Wordsearch winner



early 1990s, she was a member of the Residents Association Council, and active on the Roads and Traffic Committee. Happily for her, she still has family living in the Suburb close by.

She enjoys classical music and opera, and has been a member of the London Philharmonic Choir. She is delighted that her grandson is following in her footsteps as one of the Finchley Children's Choir which contributes to performances of the English National Opera.

Mrs Deacon is considering putting the money from her book token towards a further book on opera; so clearly she will be a keen competitor in the current Wordsearch!

SHEILA McMICHAEL

The last Wordsearch brought good returns from Suburb dog lovers, and Mrs Nina Deacon of Addison Way was the one drawn as the winning entry.

Mrs Deacon has been a Suburb resident - except for a short break - since 1948. She will be known to many as the Secretary of the Henrietta Barnett Junior School until it was phased out, and latterly for her work in the English as a Foreign Language Department of the Institute. In the

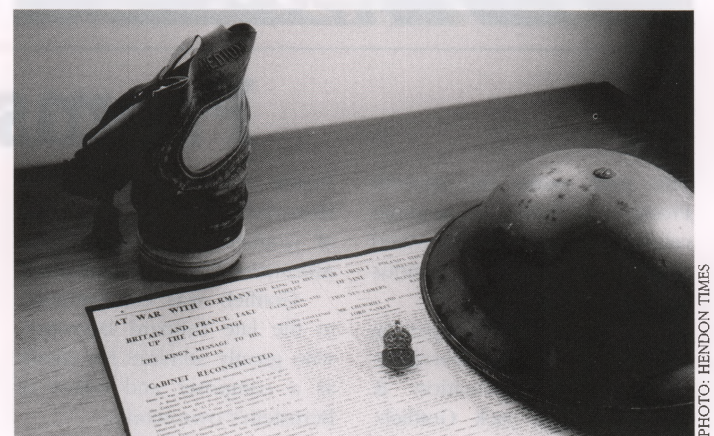


PHOTO: HENDON TIMES

The day the war broke out!

Friday 3 September 1999 will mark the 60th anniversary of the start of the last World War. Rob Wilton, a comedian on stage and wireless, made a career out of a series of monologues which invariably began 'The day war broke out...' followed by some ordinary story made more exciting by its connection with that historic date. However, in retrospect, for many of that generation their lives were changed by events connected with that single day. If you were

one of these, living at the time on the Suburb, would you like to get in touch with Michael Holton or send him your memories in time for a report in the Autumn issue. The national events at that time are well known now but were you for example a recent refugee from the Continent, or about to be evacuated, start military service, involved in war work or a housewife shortly to be left alone to bring up the family? 4 Ludlow Way N2 0LA, 444 8582



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For further information contact:
Community Director, Lynette Chazen
on 0181 455 6763

WORDSEARCH

OPERAS

The dogs have had their day.

It is now the turn of opera lovers in the Suburb!

Find and ring the titles of 20 operas which are hidden in the box of letters below. All have single word titles, which may read forwards, backwards, up, down or diagonally. Carmen has been ringed to start you off; can you find 19 more?

Entries should be sent to 2 North Square NW11 7AA, and should give the name, address and telephone number of the sender. The closing date for entries is June 5. The first correct entry drawn after the closing date will receive a £20 book token.

A R T K E L E O M Y N D A R T
N I V C K O I I V O P U K L E
B Z E P A L T O N L F N L D R
I W N L E R S A R C L O A O Z
S L U D I E M N W A H N S I A
E P I D Y R A E K E G G U L Z
X F A R O B S N N O F I R E L
R T R I T N I G A Q D M F F I
E J I Y O U R L T I A Z O F B
X A N R S I C U L F R N P I X
K L E F N E P Q U A N O W T A
S B G O S R L N L U I R L S T
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