

SUBURB NEWS

THE HAMPSTEAD GARDEN SUBURB RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION NEWSPAPER ■ SPRING 00 - ISSUE 67

At last a crossing for Falloden Way

Pupils of Brookland Junior School were the very first to use the sophisticated new Toucan pedestrian crossing of Falloden Way between Addison Way and Brookland Rise on the 28th March.

Led by our local MP Dr Rudy Vis and the Traffic Director for London, Derek Turner, they pressed the button, stopped the roar of London's traffic and trooped across our busy road waving to the cars and the cameras! - on a day which marked the successful conclusion of over five decades of seeking a safe pedestrian crossing at this point - the last three conducted by the Lorry Route Joint Action Committee and supported by the RA's Roads and Traffic Committee.

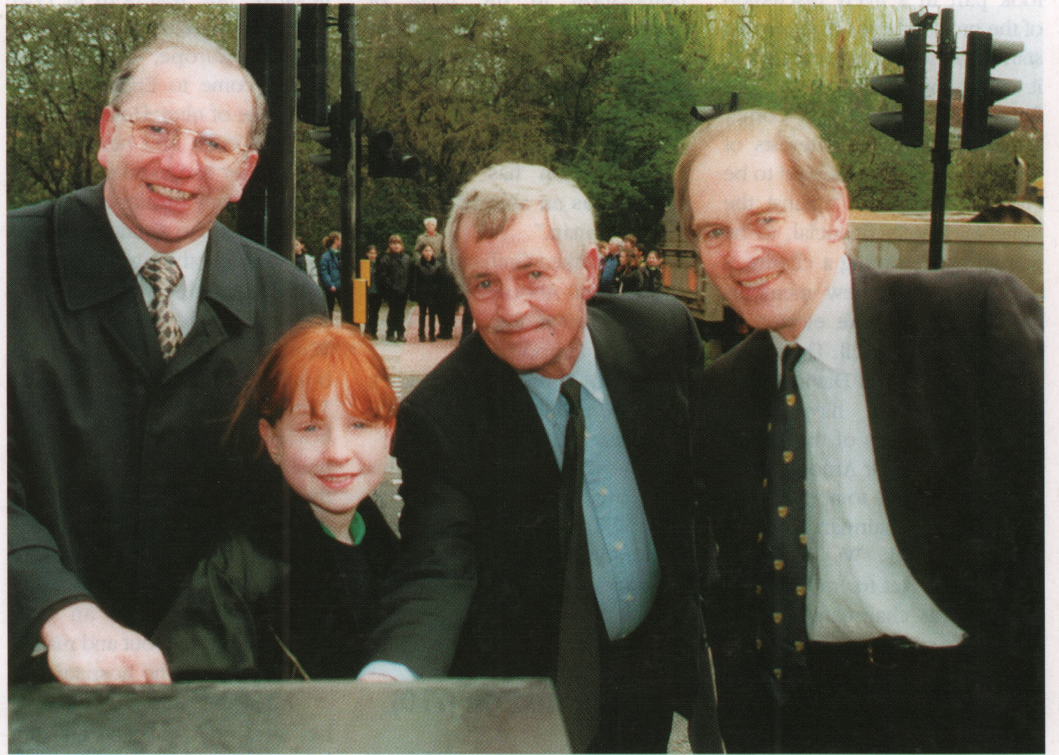
That unforgivable delay has cost a number of lives and a great number of serious injuries. The argument, always advanced by purblind pen-pushers in successive Ministries of Transport, was that Trunk Road through traffic must never be inconvenienced by having to pause for pedestrians, who, if they were misguided enough to wish to cross such a road without the protection of a motor vehicle, should be prepared to scuttle through underground tunnels or scale elaborate elevated walkways.

It is a measure of how far government attitudes to traffic and social planning have moved recently that the authorities were themselves anxious to take part in marking such a notable about-turn. The only sadness on a day of great celebration was that

the Joint Action Committee's indefatigable secretary and vice-chairman Jill Rutland and Dennis Pinder are no longer with us to share the satisfaction. John Parfitt who led the committee so vigorously in its early years would, I'm sure, agree that their inspirational contributions laid the foundation for much that the committee has achieved since.

N.B. On a purely technical note: The pedestrian "crossing phase" might appear unduly short on first use, but it does not represent the time available for crossing. There are computer-controlled sensors mounted on the posts which monitor the presence of pedestrians actually on the crossing and hold the lights at red until it is completely clear.

TERRY RAND



The Traffic Director for London, Derek Turner along with Dr Rudy Vis MP and Terry Rand help a Brooklands pupil turn on the lights. Below Ken Murrell waits to lead Brooklands pupils across Falloden Way via the crossing for the first time.



Notable neighbours

Temple Fortune newsagents don't usually sell all that many copies of Hello! magazine but were said to be caught on the hop when the April 18 issue started to sell in unprecedented numbers. Suburb residents were believed to be surreptitiously taking them home, probably discreetly folded inside the Guardian, and poring over no

less than ten pages of pictures of the latest celebrity recruits to the Suburb in their new home on "the edge of Hampstead Heath". The Residents Association sends a Welcome Pack to every new resident but extends a special welcome to Jane Goldman, Jonathan Ross and their three children.

RICHARD WAKEFIELD



Richard Baker hosts a Gilbert and Sullivan evening on July 20 as part of the Suburb's Millennium Year of Music which includes the Ham & High Festival in May; see p5, The Proms at St Jude's in June see p3, and superb concerts in the Autumn organised by the Residents Association p8 and What's On p11.

Play area welcomed

The call for comment on the Garden Suburb LA 21 Partnership proposal for a play area for toddlers and young children in Central Square elicited 29 replies to Michael Rowley by the beginning of March. Of these 23 were in favour, 4 against, and 2 made other suggestions for

siting on the Square. Michael, who has subsequently been seriously ill, has been in correspondence with all who took the trouble to write and was very impressed with the quality of the arguments both for and against.

RICHARD WAKEFIELD

Charitable grants committee saved

When members of the Trust's grants committee arrived for a routine meeting in March it was to find that the main item on the agenda was the surprise winding up of the the committee on the grounds that there were few applications for grants.

Members representing the Residents Association and Fellowship, Leonie Stephen and Eileen Whelan, were horrified and insisted that the committee continue and its work be publicised. RA nominee Leonie

Stephen was elected chairman and told Suburb News "I am convinced that there is genuine need for an independent charitable grants committee but that residents are unaware of the fact that we have money for Suburb projects or to help residents in need" The Grants committee was set up when when the Trust itself became a charity, and the separate Charitable Trust was wound up, so that there could still be independent charitable giving. See p10.

Photo competition

Last call for your photographs showing life on the Suburb in millennium year. The RA Events Committee and the HGS Archives Trust are offering prizes and a chance for your pictures to be exhibited in the Gallery. Entries 7 x 5in. in four classes; events and public occasions; family life; open spaces and gardens; transport and shopping. Prints, colour or black and white, labelled with your name and address, to the Garden Suburb Gallery by end of August, please. Later entries will be accepted.

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.



SALES: 020 8458 7311 • LETTINGS: 020 8209 1144
698 FINCHLEY ROAD, LONDON NW11 7NE



SUBURB FESTIVAL 2000

SATURDAY 8TH JULY 11am - 5pm

A Fun Day out on and around Central Square, come and find out what your neighbours are up to and meet the clubs and societies active on the Suburb today.

- Stalls with curiosities for sale and delicious foods, teas, drinks, etc.
- See an exhibition of how we live on the Suburb today 'Life in the Year 2000' by the HGS Archives
- The Horticultural Society is mounting a floral display and an exhibition of past activities.
- Visit the Institute's 'Open Day' with exhibitions from their students, music and dancing displays.
- Children's activities include face painting, tombola, lucky dip, free balloons, games and teas.
- HGS Theatre Group presents an original 1930's pageant 'The Stars'