

Letters to the Editor

Hogarth Hill,
NW11 6AY

Sir
May I congratulate the resident for reporting my transparent Sky dish to Barnet.

When the planning officers came to view the offending article, I was told that they had to re-visit because they could not find it on the first visit.

But lo, an Enforcement Order was served on me and in spite of a number of residents offering to give me their expert legal service pro-bono to fight the Order, I decided to comply with it and, in so doing, was placed in the position of having to re-site the dish on a metal pole, in a flower bed, in my front garden, in full view of the pavement and in what I would describe as an unsightly position.

The above action is quite within my rights, as the dish is now not attached to the building and so does not require planning permission.

I hope that the lady in question is much happier now as a result of her actions.

Maybe I should tell her that I have left my massive, hideous, conventional and redundant TV aerial in place on its huge pole, strapped to the chimney, because no one has yet complained about that....

Yours
Marc Sinden

Meadway
NW11 6PP

Sir
Looking back on the summer, pensioners like myself should show appreciation for the memories our former working lives which are revived by some of our neighbours' activities. For instance, a particular mower reminds one resident of desert service in a Battalion equipped with the old 'FK80', elliptical geared armoured cars; 'Pharaoh's Roarers' they were nick-named. It was rumoured their cheerful noise actually woke a mummy in a nearby tomb from a three thousand year sleep. The mower's

explosions and puffs of burnt oil makes the effect even more poignant. Then there is a gentleman who hedge cutter, skilfully driven (or should it be flown?) by his au pair (or so I like to think) reproduces the exhilarating note of a power-diving Spitfire - memories of 'our finest hour'. My old friend Dr Joe Liverish, enjoys those machines with a sort of 'trunk' which blow rubbish out of the owners' gardens into the street and sometimes up and down the pavement as well. The roaring noise reminds him of happy times in charge of a clinic for disturbed elephants in Kenya. Mrs Jocelyn Mandible relishes the effect of the multiplicity of noisy machines. "As soon as one stops another starts - just like the old munitions factory," she says. Her memories are most intense when she turns the radio on very loudly and 'sings along'. Housewife's Choice indeed!

I hope there is to be no nonsense about outlawing or limiting the use of these splendid machines.

Yours
M B McMullan

Asmunds Place
NW11

Sir
The arrival of Marks & Spencer at Temple Fortune was considered a boon for Suburb residents. Unfortunately, for those of us in Asmunds Place, it has proved to be less of a boon.

We no longer enjoy peace and quiet due to car alarms, the rattle of trolleys, the booting and abuse from impatient customers in their cars.

Out of shopping hours, in the early morning, our sleep is interrupted by the bleeping of reversing delivery lorries and the drone of their refrigeration units. The store was closed on Sundays, but no longer.

We now face an additional threat to our environment: M & S has applied for approval to install a new, bigger and more powerful refrigeration system consisting of two units (HP80) to be placed above the second floor roof at the height of 2.70 metres (nine feet).

We strongly object to the positioning of the new units outside and projecting above the flat roof of the building by 2.70 metres (nine feet).

We are very worried that in making their decision the Trust - as Mr Kellerman stated himself - is solely interested in the visual aspect of the project. We accept that the units are not going to be visible from the pavement level of Finchley Road, but they most certainly will be visible from a number of adjoining properties. The Trust should also be aware that the level of disturbing noises from M & S's car park is even more important than whether the new system is visible from the high street or not.

We would have hoped that the HGS Trust would play a more important role in defending the interests of the Suburb's residents.

Yours
Mr & Mrs Bertini

Suburb gallery shows local artists

The gallery exhibition for November features new work from one of the Suburb's most successful artists in oils, Jennie Dunn. It was only after moving to the Suburb 11 years ago that Jennie started to learn to paint oils. After her first few lessons in the studio of a practising artist, she needed a major operation. Faced with long house-bound convalescence, her husband brought oil-paints to her bedside and suggested she used the opportunity to paint. She became absorbed with an interior scene of her bedroom for hours on end, and was then hooked. She has since written articles for 'The Leisure Painter' magazine and for a best-selling book 'Art Class'.

The picture 'The Yellow Deckchair', painted from her first floor window, was shown in her last exhibition at the gallery and became an instant success. She is now producing it as a limited edition print, available from the gallery for £35, unframed, well in time for Christmas. There will be other Suburb scenes and a variety of original work for sale in both oils and mixed media. Her subject matter ranges from seascapes, poppy and sunflower paintings to flowers and still-life scenes. Other paintings available from her home, 8455 0636.

Later we will be showing a wide selection of pictures and ceramics from our 30 or so local artists that would make ideal seasonal gifts.

There will be all the usual popular cards, beautiful botanicals from Chloe Hilary Gear and Suburb views from Freda Bolton, Shizue Takahashi, Annie Walker and others as well as these Christmas cards from Annie Walker and Ellen Gilbert.

The Gallery is manned by volunteers from 11-5pm most days. If you would enjoy a morning or afternoon helping the RA by 'minding the shop' please call 8455 9132 or 8201 8366.

The Gallery is at the Temple Fortune end of Hampstead Way.



November's exhibition includes Jennie Dunn's 'The Yellow Deckchair' (left) and 'Red Room with Sunflowers' (above)



Christmas cards: Annie Walker's 'Dusk in Erskine Hill' (below left) and Ellen Gilbert's 'Hampstead Way' (below)



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International Food Day at Garden Suburb Infant School

The PTA organised a most successful fund raising event. There was delicious food from 28 countries, including sushi from Japan, pilau rice and chicken curry from India and sachertorte from Austria.

There were also fun games and activities, including face

painting, henna painting, a bouncy castle, pot painting and much more. The school raised a wonderful £1600 which will go towards playground equipment.

The school was very well supported by local businesses who donated food and raffle prizes.

KATHY BRODBECK

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Edward Coke - 1628

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