

SUBURB NEWS

THE HAMPSTEAD GARDEN SUBURB RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION NEWSPAPER ■ SPRING 03 - ISSUE 79

New Chairman promises new look committees

Taking the first AGM since she became chairman of the RA, and the Association's 91st, Georgina Malcolm promised a radical new look at the committee structures. "You will know that, at the invitation of the Trust chairman at their AGM in September 2001, Consam has been meeting with the Trust to discuss the Trust's planning and communications procedures. Consam has worked very hard to produce a report full of suggestions which they hope will improve matters for everyone. This report has been approved by the RA Council but has yet to be agreed by the Trust. As we have been looking at Trust procedures," she said, "perhaps now is the time for the RA to look at its own procedures. Our working orders and standing orders have not been amended for seven or eight years and the standing committee structure seems to have been the same for much longer. Most of the time

the system works well enough as do the existing committees, but at the moment none of them cover recycling for example, or security which are now such important issues. The future of the Suburb's allotments and the way Barnet and the Trust look after, or fail to look after, our open spaces are matters of, I think, urgent concern. It's time for a long hard look to see if we manage our affairs in the most efficient way possible."

Members missed

Earlier Georgina Malcolm said "this past year we have lost several much loved Suburb residents. Val Gregory died suddenly at the end of the year. She crammed so much into her life that there really wasn't room to cover everything she did in the *Suburb News* obituary. Two Life Members: Bill Bailey and Alan Lawson. Ann and Alan Lawson ran the Suburb between them for longer than anyone can

remember so now that Ann has moved to Kew, this really is the end of an era. And only yesterday I heard that Ruth Gumb, who lived on the Suburb for 60 years, died last month. We knew her as Membership Secretary of the Suburb Theatre Club and a Membership Rep for the RA, but she had an incredibly active life, particularly in her connections with *Jewish Chronicle*."

Official business

The approvals of minutes and adoption of report and accounts went through with no queries or dissents and the meeting moved swiftly on to the election of officers and council members for the coming year. Georgina Malcolm, Chairman, Jean Barraclough Vice Chairman and Siddiek Meer were the Council's choice and the chairman welcomed George

(cont. page 6)

RA's traffic chairman resigns

RA Council meetings occasionally have their dramatic moments. One such was the occasion in March of a debate over the Consam committee's proposals for changing the Trust's procedures on planning and communications. In September 2001 Trust chairman Stephen Licht had invited the RA, and Consam in particular, to join in discussions on updating Trust procedures and said he expected to be able to report back at the following AGM and publish the result in *Suburb News*.

After a number of meetings Consam felt that not enough progress had been made in answering the concerns of residents especially over open files and the rights of objectors

to plans that were passed by the Trust. Consam in March therefore circulated a confidential report, for debate by the RA Council prior to meeting further with the Trust, setting out its proposals for improving procedures.

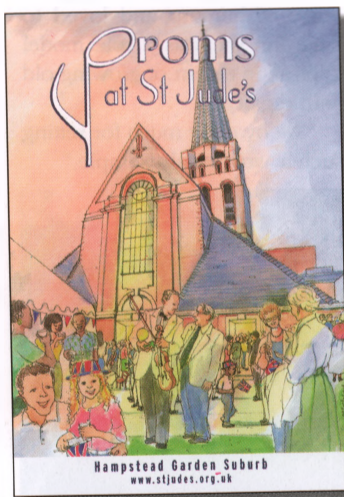
Ken Murrell, Chairman of Roads and Traffic, sent Consam's report to the Trust manager, Chris Kellerman, before the March Council and at that meeting attempted to circulate further papers relating to the subject.

When Vice Chairman Jean Barraclough, who was in the Chair, ruled that circulation of such papers was improper, Ken Murrell resigned from Council and left the meeting.

RICHARD WAKEFIELD

Arts on the Suburb

This May and June see a feast of arts events brought to us by the Ham and High Festival and the increasingly successful Proms at St Jude's. Details of both are inside and at the Gallery where this free Proms postcard can be obtained.



Street sign shock

Residents have been shocked by the sudden appearance of Barnet's idea of how to enhance this 'outstanding conservation area'. Suburb News understands that a joint protest to the Council is being mounted by English Heritage, Hampstead Garden Suburb Trust and the Residents Association. Trust manager Chris Kellerman said "They are dreadful, it's really very distressing, there's no consultation and no coordination. Barnet have a responsibility not to do this sort of thing in a conservation area."



Suburb Farmers' Market

Around 50 turned up for the Garden Suburb LA21 public meeting in February. Apologies to those whose Suburb News was delivered too late for them to attend.) Many of those attending were residents of Bimbeck and the Pantiles (who received invitations to the meeting as it was expected that they might have concerns). They were vehemently opposed to the idea of a Farmers' Market anywhere near where they live. Alan Everitt, Barnet's Town Centre Strategic Co-ordinator, gave a balanced presentation of his experience with other markets in the area. He outlined the

benefits but also the challenges that the setting up of a farmers' market entailed. He offered his opinion that The Farmers' Market in Whetstone (held once a week on wide pavements similar to those between Willifield Way and Childs Way) had a positive impact on local residents and traders. Alan Everitt said that other sites were being considered by Barnet and that a number of criteria had to be met.

Nancy Boulicault, LA21 chairman, reminded the meeting that the LA21's project for a Farmers Market in Temple Fortune was driven by a desire in the community for such a facility. The meeting was also treated to a presentation by girls from King Alfred's School. Julia Brownlow and Louise Ng described how the school and pupils were embracing

LA21 principles and had won a Young Visionaries Award for their work on recycling, buying Fair Trade products, converting vending machines to green products and installation of solar panels with grants from Scottish Power and the government.

Progress

At LA21's March meeting it was learnt that Temple Fortune is now more likely to be chosen as the site for a Farmer's Market. It was agreed that the market should be held on a weekday between 10am and 3pm so as to avoid both the morning rush hour and children leaving the Garden Suburb Schools.

It was proposed that a visit to Whetstone or a video film be organised for objectors to see for themselves how a similar market works.

20 years of Suburb News

Suburb News is 20 this summer. To mark the occasion our next issue will attempt to look back to 1983 and the years between then and now. Do you have

memories to share or ideas on how the paper should be evolving to reflect the changes on the Suburb. All contributions will be welcome.

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
WEBSITE www.glentree.co.uk

Retrospective

Judy Bermant, one of the Garden Suburb Gallery's most distinguished artists, has a one woman show running at the Gallery to 25 May.

Work in a variety of media reflects her travels as well as her love of the London and indeed the Suburb scene.

Consam report available

A limited number of copies of the Consam's Report on Planning and other Proceedings of the Hampstead Garden Suburb Trust are available from the Garden Suburb Gallery or electronically by request to report@consam.org.uk

Time for subs

Members are reminded that subscriptions are due for 2003. The more households belonging to the Residents Association, the stronger our voice can be in influencing the local authority and others whose policies and actions affect the Suburb. Please return your card in the envelope provided.