

Hampstead & Highgate Festival

In just four years the Hampstead & Highgate Festival with its Artistic Director, Barry Millington, has established itself as one of the foremost events in London's musical calendar. The 2003 festival, 10-24 May, with concert programmes which draw on neglected treasures of the repertoire, and held in venues rich in cultural associations, offers an unequalled experience. A roster of other cultural activities exhibitions, lectures, guided walks, family events, etc makes this a fortnight not to be missed. There is also a full programme of outreach events rooting the festival in the local community.

The following highlights are a snapshot of the events and concerts in an action-packed fortnight here in North London. The festival opens at Kenwood on Saturday 10 May at noon, when the house and grounds come alive with music. Stephen Montague's 60th birthday is celebrated with two performances of his Horn Concerto, with an 'orchestra' of vintage cars and celebrity klaxon horn soloists Timothy West and Simon Callow. Ensembles of young local musicians will be playing in strategic points around Kenwood.

All eyes will be on Hampstead Parish Church that evening for the world premiere of a cantata attributed to Rossini. This major coup will be one of several fascinating items in a concert given by the world-renowned Choir of New College, Oxford, conducted by Edward Higginbottom. Another is an extraordinary piece by Goldschmidt, written 70 years ago, but forecasting the end of the world in 2003 by means of chemical warfare. Finally, Deborah Calland and William Whitehead give another world premiere, that

of the Canzona and Toccata for trumpet and organ by Robin Holloway, also celebrating his 60th birthday this year.

"Two world premieres, one by Rossini, plus this remarkable, apocalyptic piece by Goldschmidt forecasting chemical warfare in 2003, which could not have come at a more chillingly appropriate time: this is an event which has already generated a lot of interest. It's going to be a truly memorable occasion," said Barry Millington, the festival's Artistic Director.

On Wednesday 14 May the author Deborah Moggach and an expert on Dutch masters, Dr. Christopher Brown, Director of the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, talk about the pictures in the Dining Room at Kenwood, including Vermeer's the Guitar Player. In the Orangery there will be a recital of music associated with Vermeer and his time.

The Britten Sinfonia conducted by Nicholas Cleobury return to the festival on Friday 16 May with an exciting concert in St Jude's. Stravinsky was inspired by Bach's Brandenburg Concertos to write Dumbarton Oaks and the two can be heard together in this concert. Robin Holloway's nostalgic Serenade in Eb and Aaron Copland's buoyantly appealing Appalachian Spring, a folksy evocation of the prairies, complete an attractive programme.

That day there will be also an exhibition of sculpture by local artists in St Jude's and a lecture on the controversial Starmer murals in the church. A guided walk through the Suburb, led by Chris Kellerman, will highlight its many architectural features, listed buildings and pleasant views.

Highgate Choral Society and the New London Orchestra, conducted by Ronald Corp, are

regular annual visitors to the Festival and give a concert on Saturday 17 May, performing the monumental Missa Solemnis by Beethoven in All Hallows' Church, Gospel Oak.

A locally-based young Greek pianist George-Emmanuel Lazaridis is rapidly making a name for himself on the world stage and will be giving the UK premiere of a prelude by Chopin, no less, along with music by Schumann and one of his own compositions in the morning of Sunday 18 May. Also included is One to Tango by David Matthews.

"David Matthews, one of Britain's leading composers, now lives locally," said Barry Millington, "and we're delighted to be able to include some music by him in his 60th birthday year. He's also agreed to write an anthem for the Festival Eucharist at Hampstead Parish Church on 11 May."

Many local people remember Berthold Goldschmidt with much affection and respect and the Goldschmidt Discovery Day on Sunday 18 May will bring together people who knew and worked with him for an afternoon of music, discussion and reminiscence, followed by an evening concert.

"We're particularly honoured to welcome the distinguished clarinettist Gervase de Peyer to play the Clarinet Quartet, written for him by Goldschmidt, as well the celebrated Mandelring Quartet, renowned worldwide as the leading exponents of his music," said Barry Millington.

The London Jewish Cultural Centre will host an evening in association with Poems on the Underground on Monday 19 May. Lord Byron and the composer Isaac Nathan worked together on a collection of short settings, called the Hebrew Melodies, for which Byron provided the poems

and Nathan adapted ancient Jewish chants. The poems will be interspersed with songs by Schumann and Mendelssohn. A lecture on Blake and a staged performance of Tennyson's Maud by Sebastian Harcombe, plus a series of Literary Lunchtimes with prestigious names such as Timothy West, Fay Weldon and Norman Lebrecht, offer a feast for lovers of literature.

On Tuesday 20 May, the prizewinning young Fidelio Piano Quartet, one of the most talented ensembles to have emerged in recent years, play a programme of Mozart, Fauré and Schumann at Lauderdale House in Highgate.

The elite Royal Academy Soloists under Clio Gould offer an atmospherically crepuscular programme on Friday 23 May. Composers from four different centuries evoke the lengthening shadows of the close of day with music by Mozart, Andrew Morgan, Dvorak and Schoenberg.

The festival closes on Saturday 24 May when Stephen Kovacevich returns to the festival with a group of outstanding young musicians to join him in a delectable programme of Mozart and Brahms in aid of the Burgh House Restoration Fund.

The festival box office is open from 24 March: 020 7794 0022, Mon-Sat 11am-4pm (from 28 April: Mon-Sat 10am-5pm & Sun 12-3pm). The postal address is: New End Theatre, 27 New End, Hampstead, NW3 1JD.

For further details contact Carolyn Pascall (020 8883 8740, email cdpascall@aol.com) or Barry Millington (020 8458 6837, email bmillin397@aol.com).

Join the mailing list by email: mailinglist@hamandhighfest.co.uk, or telephone 020 8864 6816.

The website address is www.hamandhighfest.co.uk

Good news for bowlers

In these days of disused tennis courts everywhere and falling memberships of many clubs, it is refreshing to hear of one, Bishopswood Bowling Club, that is thriving.

Raphael Rosenfeld, the club's membership chairman told *Suburb News* that 275 Bishopswood boast the largest outdoor membership in the UK. He says, "Our original bowling green was so successful that when another bowling club situated in Summers Lane (adjacent to the Warner Entertainment Centre and David Lloyds Leisure Centre) fell on hard times, the London Borough of Barnet offered us this bowling green to accommodate all of the bowlers, because of our amazing growth in the eighties.

This outdoor season extends from the last week in April to the end of September - a total of some 22 weeks. Members can use the club's facilities to play from 10am to 9pm and the only cost is the yearly membership fee.

We have found that the best way to interest people in Lawn bowling is to let them try. Excellent health is not essential and a lot of people with physical handicap play. Lawn bowls is played with a special bowl that is contoured so that it won't roll in a straight line. Several sizes are available to suit each individual's requirements.

We can arrange to meet you at our bowling green, we will

tell you about the rudiments of the game and we will lend you all the necessary equipment to enable you to try out the game. We can arrange a training course by a qualified coaches and, once of the opinion that you are able to participate in normal bowling sessions (roll-ups), you will be passed out to play.

One of the big advantages of participating in this wonderful sporting pastime is the relatively low cost when compared to other sports. After you have committed yourself to joining the club and have paid your fees, you will be given coaching and would, then, probably wish to purchase your own bowls. Every set of four bowls has its own distinctive design and is available in nine different sizes and weights. Your coach will guide you in making your choice.

We hope that we will be able to convince you to participate in one of the oldest of sports. We would also like to encourage all members of your family to take part as there is no actual age restriction though it has been found that, due to the weight of the bowls, 15 years or over would be recommended."

One phone call is all that is necessary to change your life forever. You will be so glad you did. Please contact Raphael Rosenfeld (Membership Chairman) on 8883 2114 or Mrs Zena Newton (President 2003) on 8958 2280.

Hampstead Rugby Club

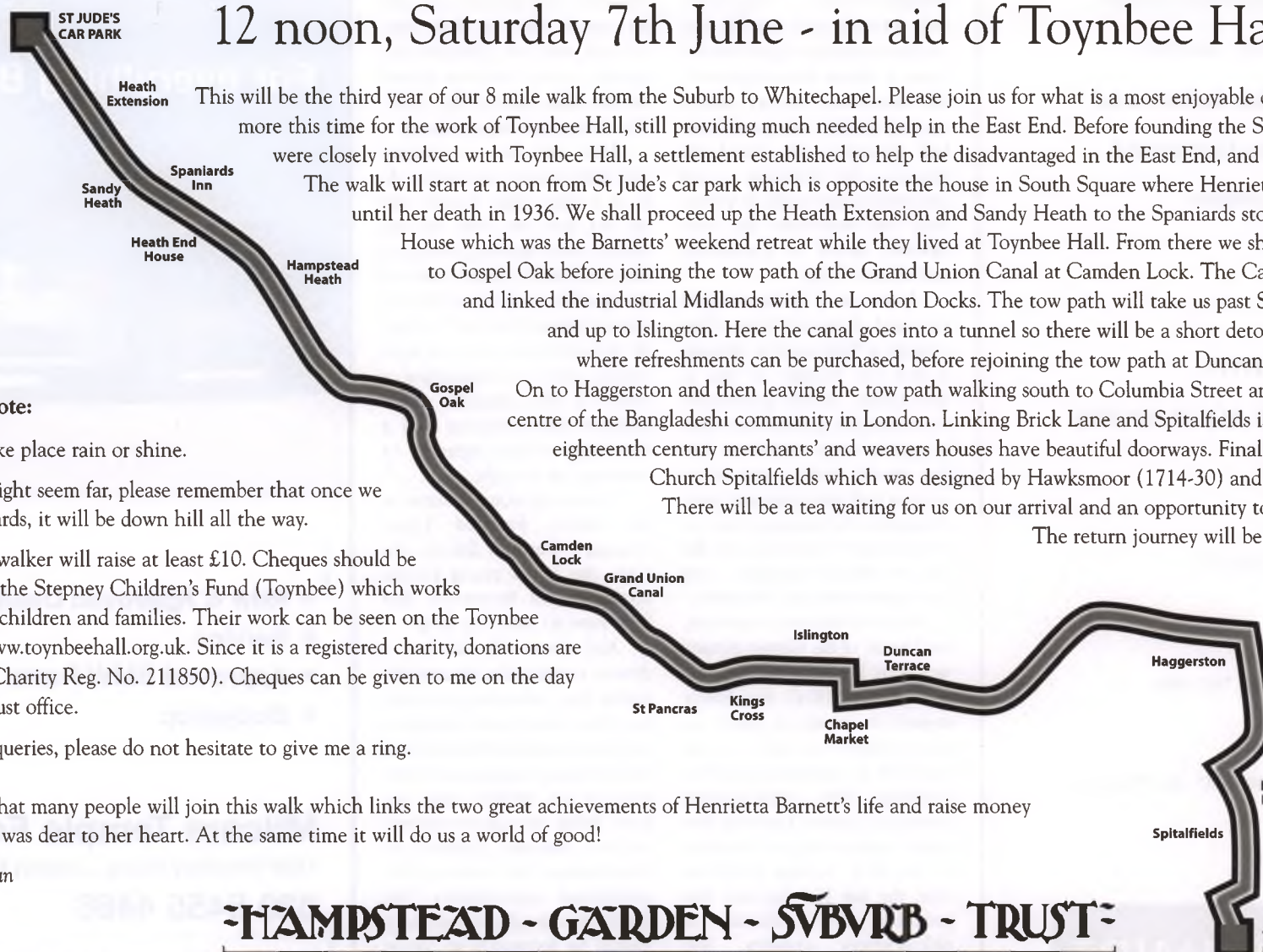
The club has had a very successful season. With one match to play in the London League division 4, they were standing third with the Civil Service and St Albans above them. On 12 April the vital match against St Albans took place away - whichever team won would be promoted to Division 3.

The game was evenly fought but unfortunately for Hampstead, St Albans won 13-8, due to Hampstead's poor goal kicking. Next season Hampstead will again be playing on the Heath Extension. Please turn up and support the club.

TOM SALES

Henrietta Barnett Day - Sponsored Walk

12 noon, Saturday 7th June - in aid of Toynbee Hall



This will be the third year of our 8 mile walk from the Suburb to Whitechapel. Please join us for what is a most enjoyable day out and help raise even more this time for the work of Toynbee Hall, still providing much needed help in the East End. Before founding the Suburb in 1907 the Barnetts were closely involved with Toynbee Hall, a settlement established to help the disadvantaged in the East End, and still very active to this day.

The walk will start at noon from St Jude's car park which is opposite the house in South Square where Henrietta Barnett lived from 1915 until her death in 1936. We shall proceed up the Heath Extension and Sandy Heath to the Spaniards stopping briefly at Heath End House which was the Barnetts' weekend retreat while they lived at Toynbee Hall. From there we shall cross Hampstead Heath to Gospel Oak before joining the tow path of the Grand Union Canal at Camden Lock. The Canal was completed in 1793 and linked the industrial Midlands with the London Docks. The tow path will take us past St Pancras and Kings Cross, and up to Islington. Here the canal goes into a tunnel so there will be a short detour through Chapel Market, where refreshments can be purchased, before rejoining the tow path at Duncan Terrace, dating from 1761. On to Haggerston and then leaving the tow path walking south to Columbia Street and Brick Lane, which is the centre of the Bangladeshi community in London. Linking Brick Lane and Spitalfields is Fournier Street where the eighteenth century merchants' and weavers houses have beautiful doorways. Finally a brief look round Christ Church Spitalfields which was designed by Hawksmoor (1714-30) and has recently been restored. There will be a tea waiting for us on our arrival and an opportunity to look round Toynbee Hall. The return journey will be by tube from Aldgate East.

Other points to note:

- The walk will take place rain or shine.
- While 8 miles might seem far, please remember that once we get to the Spaniards, it will be down hill all the way.
- Hopefully every walker will raise at least £10. Cheques should be made payable to the Stepney Children's Fund (Toynbee) which works specifically with children and families. Their work can be seen on the Toynbee Hall web site: www.toynbeehall.org.uk. Since it is a registered charity, donations are tax deductible (Charity Reg. No. 211850). Cheques can be given to me on the day or sent to the Trust office.
- If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to give me a ring.

I very much hope that many people will join this walk which links the two great achievements of Henrietta Barnett's life and raise money for a project which was dear to her heart. At the same time it will do us a world of good!

Christopher Kellerman

HAMPSTEAD - GARDEN - SUBURB - TRUST

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