

SUBURB NEWS

THE HAMPSTEAD GARDEN SUBURB RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION NEWSPAPER ■ AUTUMN 04 - ISSUE 85

Trust AGM, manager for twenty years retires

Stephen Licht started his last AGM as Trust chairman with the news that Chris Kellerman, manager of the Trust for twenty years, would be retiring at the end of the month.

He went on to list some of the matters that have been occupying the Trust Council since the last AGM including commenting on the safety aspects of the Temple Fortune scheme about which they would be making their views known to Barnet. He said there had been no demolitions last year and thanked Dr Mervyn Miller whose expert testimony had helped in a case where a house was due to be demolished. In the case of the St Jude's Church Rooms in Central Square the Trust had asked for independent advice on the value of this site where the Trust

owns the freehold and the church a lease with over 900 years to run.

Retiring Council members
Teddy Bourne, nominee of the Law Society, was retiring after ten years at the Trust. Stephen Licht thanked him and said how valuable his service had been. He was presented with a framed Suburb map and a Malcolm Sowerby watercolour.

The chairman then thanked Barbara Woda of the Royal Town Planning Institute who was also retiring and elected member Sylvia de Peyer, who had stepped down earlier in the year to make way for Mervyn Mandell's co-option to the council.

The Law Society was nominating Wendy Miller in Teddy Bourne's place – "she has a glittering cv," said Steven Licht.

Elections

There being two vacancies for elected members and nominations for three candidates received, election papers had been sent to Trust members before the AGM. David Bogush, Mervyn Mandell and Michael Rowley were asked by the chairman to stand to identify themselves. Michael Rowley pointed out that it was customary for candidates to be given an opportunity to speak. The chairman refused and moved on to the next business.

Busy year

Steven Licht said there had been 248 planning applications during the year, many of them substantial. Many newcomers were buying small properties with the intention of enlarging them to too great an extent. "We must encourage new

residents to talk to the Trust before they plan changes," he said. "In the coming year," he said, "the Trust will be more active in chasing up and correcting infringements." He went on to tell us that they would be installing an up to date computer and accounts system and to cope with the increase in work load a new assistant to the architectural adviser would be appointed.

In thanking the staff for their hard work during the year he said, "Residents don't understand how much work goes into it. Without them the management charge would be much higher."

Retiring chairman

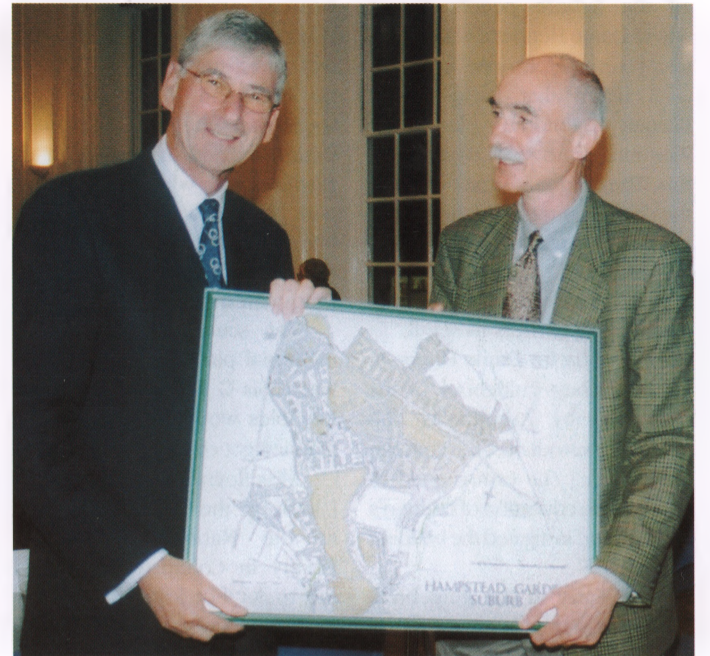
Mervyn Mandell, presenting him with a parting gift, thanked Steven Licht for his six years service on the Trust Council.

Questions

A number of members asked questions. John Freeborn expressed concern that no donations had been made to Toynbee Hall recently. He asked what plans the Trust had for approaching the Charity Commission on this. Eddie Caplin, a past Trust chairman, said that when the Trust became a charity the ability to continue to support Henrietta Barnett's charity had been specifically written in.

Eva Jacobs asked the Trust to consult residents and the RA before making any decisions over the St Jude's Church Rooms.

RICHARD WAKEFIELD



A parting gift for Teddy Bourne from chairman Steven Licht, left

Trust election result

Mervyn Mandell and Michael Rowley were successful candidates in the election for the Trust council announced on October 7. The votes cast for each were Mervyn Mandell 280 Michael Rowley 272 and David Bogush 211. At a later meeting of the Trust council Mervyn Mandell was elected chairman. This is his second term on the council having served from 1996 to 2002.

A chartered surveyor by profession Mervyn Mandell has

lived on the Suburb for 26 years, now in Wildwood Road. He was on the RA council from 1994 to 1997 and chaired CONSAM for two years.

Michael Rowley, a retired architect, has lived on the Suburb since 1967. He and his wife Dorothee brought up two sons first in Erskine Hill and lately in Denman Drive.

Since retiring from his practice and then from passing his experience to another generation

at Kingston University School of Architecture, he has been active in working for the Suburb.

As a Residents Association council member since 1997 he has played an important role in a number of aspects of RA work including acting as CONSAM's infringement officer. He is an RA representative on the Trust's Property and Plans Committee and Barnet's Conservation Area Advisory Committee, which he chairs.

RICHARD WAKEFIELD



At their first meeting new chairman Mervyn Mandell, centre, with newly elected Michael Rowley and Wendy Miller, the Law Society's new nomination

Passionate Suburbites

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'60s Disco

Tickets are now selling briskly for the second Suburb '60s Disco which will take place on Saturday 13 November. "At the first Disco, held last March, we all had a great time," said Disco organiser David Lewis. We hope to repeat this in November.

"Like last time, all the profits will go to charity, so you can have a good time and support a worthy cause. Last time we supported the North London Hospice and will do so again in March 2005. This time the money will go to the Gauchers Association, which helps people with a rare metabolic disease which my wife Susan runs."

"There will be a licensed bar. But if you don't have time to eat

before, you can bring your own picnic as several groups did last time. Groups of 8 or more get a free bottle of wine."

"The music is mainly rock music from 1960 to 1969 but includes hits from the '50s and later which have 'a good beat'. You are welcome to suggest your favourite to the DJ on the night or in advance."

Entrance to the Disco is by a suggested donation of £12.50 per person if paid in advance or £15 each on the night (provided they are not sold out). Phone David Lewis on 8731 9039 to arrange your tickets or send your cheque payable to Gauchers Association to David Lewis, 4 Wildwood Rise, London NW11 6SX.

Please enclose an Email address or stamp addressed envelope.

The case of the vanishing K6

Rev Alan Walker alerted the RA council in September to the fact that the telephone had been removed from the Meadway Gate phone box. A few days later the box itself had gone!

The Suburb's seven traditional red phone boxes had been saved in 1987 (*Suburb News* No 15) when Philip Davies took action to have them listed – the only way to stop the BT replacing them with modern ones.

Emails were soon on their way to BT from Philip Davies, now Planning and Development Director at English Heritage, with the result that BT say the K6 kiosk will be replaced asap.



Holly Gold, 8½, slightly overwhelmed after winning first prize in the children's painting class at the HGS Horticultural Society's Autumn Flower Show. A very good show following an indifferent growing season that had not deterred the Suburb stalwarts whose produce delighted the many visitors.