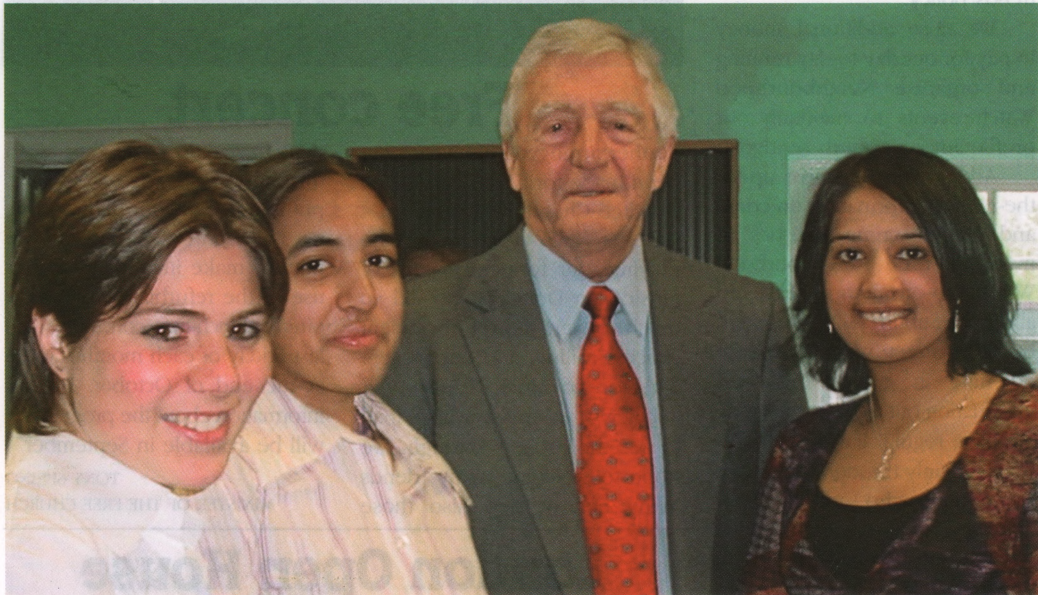


SUBURB NEWS



THE HAMPSTEAD GARDEN SUBURB RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION NEWSPAPER ■ SUMMER 03 - ISSUE 80



Michael Parkinson with the head girl team at Henrietta Barnett

Parky visits Henrietta Barnett

Broadcaster and journalist Michael Parkinson was the guest speaker at The Henrietta Barnett School Leavers Celebration held on 16th May 2003.

He joined staff, Year 13 pupils and their parents for a selection of music and readings provided by pupils, before telling the audience of his background, including education at a grammar school, and how he became a journalist (deliberately) and broadcaster (by chance).

He answered questions from the girls, particularly about some of the 2,000 or more interviews he has done during his career. He said he most admired Muhammad Ali, who he has interviewed five times, and

Nelson Mandela, who he has met, but not interviewed, as Mandela does not appear on chat shows. 'Parky' also said he can now spot a face lift, a toupee or a 'Botoxed' face from 300 yards!

Michael Parkinson kindly posed for photos with the outgoing Head Girl and her Team, and then stood in the rain with all the 'leaving' pupils for the formal School group photograph, before joining everyone for a buffet brunch in Bigwood Hall.

Celebrity visits do a great deal to lift the spirits of both pupils and staff as they enter the public examination period - a testing time for all. Earlier in the

year, theatre director Michael Attenborough, who is the new artistic director at the Almeida Theatre in Islington, visited the School and took masterclasses in Othello and Romeo & Juliet. How different from the days of sitting in rows reading a page each out loud! And in early Spring the episode of the TV series 'William and Mary', starring Martin Clunes, which was filmed at the School last autumn, was shown. Some of Year 7 and Year 9 appeared as 'extras' in the filming, out of School hours, and met and had refreshments with the actors and the film crew, who agreed to give work experience to some of them.



The Suburb's own violinist Erich Gruenberg with his virtuoso students Maria Somos, Jasmine Jeimei Feng, Rebecca Woodcock and Eugene Yang after their lunchtime Prom

Charities get £30,000 from Proms

The Proms at St Jude's aims to provide a music festival of a high standard to be enjoyed by the Suburb community and to raise money for charity. This year, as last, the charities were North London Hospice and Toynbee Hall the Barnett's foundation in the east end. The hard working committee are to be congratulated for bringing off a very successful artistic and social event, over 10 days in June with free lunchtime concerts and with the evening events attracting record audiences,



Toynbee chairman Christopher Combe and Cllr John Marshall share a joke and for raising over £30,000 for the charities. The Residents Association is pleased to be a major sponsor. See report p 4.

Lit lunches for children's hospice

Wednesday Literary Lunches - to help fund the new children's hospice, the Shooting Star Hospice for Children - are the brain-child of Lilian and Robert Slowe, who live on the Suburb. Last year's luncheons raised more than £3000.

ZENW3 in Hampstead are hosting three more literary lunches this Autumn to raise funds. The hospice will be fully

operational by 2004 and will serve the families of North London whose children who are terminally ill. The hospice will look after children up to the age of 18 and will offer support to their families. Up to 1000 families at any time need these facilities. The lunches are on Wednesdays at 12.30pm and tickets are £30 and it all goes to the hospice.

You can meet Rose Tremain on 24 September, Howard Jacobson on 8 October and Claire Tomalin on 5 November 2003.

Tickets are £30.00. Postal bookings only please to: Lilian Slowe, 2nd Floor, 32 Hampstead High Street, NW3 1JQ. Cheques to 'Shooting Star Trust'. An sae would be appreciated.

MARALYN ROBERTS

Election for Trust Council member

David Iwi, one of the four elected Hampstead Garden Suburb Trust councillors has resigned. This means that there will be an election after the AGM in September. The Trust council comprises eight members; four are appointed by professional bodies, they must not live on the Suburb, and four are elected by residents, they must live here. Trust council members are elected for a three year term and can sit for no more than two terms, six years. Details of election procedures will be sent to Trust members with the report and accounts during August.

An apology

In the last issue, we reported the resignation of Ken Murrell from the RA Council arising from disagreements between Ken and the Executive relating to the RA constitution and the distribution of a committee report. *Suburb News* apologises because it might have been inferred from the article that he had not acted in a fair and open manner towards the officers of the Association. Ken Murrell and the Executive have agreed that this matter is now closed.

RICHARD WAKEFIELD

RA acts on street name signs

The campaign continues against the ugly new ultramarine street name signs which the London Borough of Barnet proposes to introduce throughout the Borough, with no allowance for the special status of the Hampstead Garden Suburb Conservation Area.

At the Golders Green Forum on 17 May RA council member George Hatjoulis complained about the signs and the lack of consultation. Cllr Vanessa Gearson agreed to look into the matter. The meeting was reported in the *Hendon Times*. The Conservation & Amenities Committee (Consam) of the RA is preparing a report for the RA Council containing a range of possibilities for further action. This is likely to recommend that initially the RA seeks a meeting with Barnet and other interested parties to discuss what can be done. There are 17 conservation areas in Barnet and

Consam is also looking at the possibility of co-ordinating the campaign with other amenity and preservation societies.

There is reason to believe that Barnet has not followed the correct procedures by ignoring the special character of the Suburb and other conservation areas.

DAVID B LEWIS

Could you fill a vital role?

Peter Warland who chairs the RA's membership committee is hoping that there is someone out there who could take on the job of Membership Secretary. It involves receiving subscriptions, keeping a record of RA members and Associates and liaising with Ward Organisers.

If you would like to help please phone 8458 7813.

Hearty congratulations to the Suburb News and its Editor on their 20th year



We have up to the minute information on all sales in the Suburb and if you would like a free valuation (whether you are selling or not) we would be delighted to assist.

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