

## Suburb trees get high-tech treatment



Tree Officer Fred Micoud demonstrates the Decay Detection Drill to residents.

Suburb street trees are again due for their cyclical prune. Barnet's Tree Officers have compiled a data base listing over 2,800 street trees in the Suburb, and depending on the tree, they may be due to have dead wood removed, or to have the crown reduced or raised. Young trees will be encouraged to grow into a neat shape, suitable for a street tree, and dead trees will be removed.

Unfortunately some of the Suburb's larger trees, which may appear to be healthy, will also have to be removed. Some of the red oaks in Erskine Hill and Brookland Hill are very heavily infected with ganaderma fungus. The fungus first appears at the base of the trunk as what looks like a soft cheese dusted with chocolate powder; it later hardens into a woody bracket. The fungus can eat out the heart of a tree and cause it to become dangerous.

Previously Tree Officers had to rely on guess-work to judge how healthy a tree was. A fungal growth on both sides of a tree trunk was a bad sign but now they use a Decay Detection Drill,

which pushes a fine wire into the tree trunk and measures the resistance. A computer printout or a pencil trace show the Tree Officer exactly how healthy the inside of the tree is. The red oaks are very big trees so if they show any signs of becoming dangerous they must be removed, and even those oaks which do not show signs of decay, which includes most of the red oaks in Hill Top where only one tree is badly affected, must be reduced by 30% to ensure they are safe.

All the red oaks due to be removed this year will be replaced with a more appropriate species. The Residents Association works with Barnet's Tree Section to plant as many trees as possible across the Suburb and to replace dead trees where we can.

Residents are asked to keep an eye on their street trees, and to water them regularly if the weather is dry. Those residents who already water street trees are due a vote of thanks; we will all benefit in years to come when their trees grow strong and healthy.

GEORGINA MALCOLM

## Lavender wanted

Elizabeth Cockburn makes lavender bags, sold in aid of the North London Hospice. Any offerings from your garden would be warmly welcomed (30

Southway, any morning) and if later you want to buy lavender bags to tuck in your Christmas cards, please phone her on 8731 7887 (mornings).



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## Ukraine visit for HGS Synagogue

The HGS Synagogue is twinned with the Lvov Jewish Community in the Ukraine (formerly the historic town of Lemberg). A group of 30 of our members are leaving on the 11 July for a week's annual visit to this Community led by Gill and Jeremy Freedman.

The idea of twinning the small East European Communities with established West European synagogues was pioneered by the Council of European Rabbis some years ago. This was to help and support those European Communities which have survived in Eastern Europe in extremely difficult circumstances. In the Ukraine in particular there is acute unemployment and very many social and health problems. With our Community help to maintain the Jewish Community of Lvov, which is led by Rabbi and Mrs Bald who went there some 10 years ago from the USA, they have done a magnificent job of work there. They have

established a Jewish Day School which also provides kosher meals for the children (often their only meal of the day) and there is also a food parcel programme for the poorer families.

The Rabbi and his wife organise help to alleviate many personal welfare problems. Last year there was a summer camp for children so that they were not left to wander about the streets.

Under the direction of Gill and Jeremy Freedman our synagogue organises various fund-raising events during the year on behalf of the Lvov Community.

Apart from the big annual concert in February, the latest event on 4 July was a cricket match between two teams of our members, one an English XI and the other an ex-South African XI which was won by two wickets by the latter team.

We hope to have a report of this year's visit to Lvov in the next issue of the *Suburb News*.

SHIRLEY KLEIMAN

## Handy for the A&E department!

"Don't miss your chance to defy gravity by abseiling down the side of Anne Bryan's House at the Royal Free in aid of Marie Curie Cancer Care," says Hannah Windross of the charity which is organising a sponsored abseil on September 25. It provides the chance to have a once in a lifetime experience while raising vital funds for those with cancer.

The money raised will allow the Hampstead hospice to continue to offer specialist support in a

relaxed, friendly and comfortable environment.

Join us this September, and for as little as £100 in sponsorship, test your nerves in our abseil challenge. Our Community Fund-raisers will be on hand to help with raising sponsorship.

Contact Hannah Windross at Hampstead Hospice on 020 7853 3442 or you can email her at Hannah.windross@mariecurie.org.uk to register your place now! While places last!

## Wordsearch winner

Congratulations to Mr Bernard Marks for finding all the words. He and his wife have lived on the

Suburb for 42 years and been in the food business here. Their two sons went to Brookland School.

### WORDSEARCH

In the box below are concealed 20 names of FOUR or more letters, of man made wonders. Names may be read in all directions, straight or diagonally. An extra name 'Nelsons Column' is ringed to start you off. Entries should be listed on paper or a postcard and sent to Diana Woodfield, 5 Erskine Hill, NW11 6HA with your name, address and phone number. The closing date is 11 September. The sender of the first correct (or nearly correct) entry will win a £20 voucher from Joseph's Bookstore.

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DIANA WOODFIELD

### WORDSEARCH ANSWERS

Rather a small entry. Perhaps people are fed up with tyrants! The words were: Mao Tse Tung, Vlad, Pinochet, Honeker, Mussolini, Peter the Great, Saddam, Tamburlaine, Duvalier, Pol Pot, Franco, Beria, Mugabe, Noriega, Hitler, Genghis Kahn, Ceausecu, Idi Amin, Tiberius and Bokassa.

The wordsearch prize is sponsored by

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Fellowship's Jean Dyson and Margery Mowbray entertain Toynbee guests

## News from Fellowship

At the time of writing we are looking forward to welcoming our guests from the Senior Care and Leisure Centre at Toynbee Hall. Our links with Toynbee go back to the First World War, but I'm not certain just how long this annual tea party has been going on.

The group comes every year, usually in two small coaches, and we give them a sumptuous tea prepared by our wonderful band of tea ladies, headed by

Irena Colomb. This is followed by some gentle keep fit, led by Jeanne Solomons and then Brian Stonhold entertains with his amazing collapsible organ, ending with some community singing in which they all join. As they leave they are given posies from the gardens of Fellowship members.

On a more sombre note, we are mourning the death of Camilla Raab who was a staunch supporter of Fellowship.

## Inconsiderate cycling

A plague which has afflicted the Suburb for years is about to end. The inconsiderate cyclists who feel that concern for their own safety transcends any obligation to their fellow human beings and entitles them to cycle on the pavements to the danger of pedestrians have been warned. In future they will face on-the-spot fines of at least £30, imposed by community police officers who have already started issuing the penalties.

After many approaches from aggrieved pedestrians, which authorities (including the police) have ignored for years, the contentious issue of pavement cyclists came to a head last month. Terry Rand was hospitalised in the

Royal Free after being knocked off his feet by a cyclist speeding along the pavement outside his house in Falloen Way.

The head and face injuries he suffered, though regrettable for him, have proved of benefit to the community. The publicity they provoked has led to the adoption of these more stringent measures against the selfish element in the cycling fraternity.

From now on, pedestrians should feel safer in the knowledge that those cyclists who prefer not to take their chance among the traffic on the roads, are no longer free to imperil innocent pedestrians on the footway without fear of penalty.

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