

RA tackles the CPZ

On 31 March a delegation from the Residents Association Roads & Traffic Sub-committee met Garden Suburb ward Councillor Jazmin Naghar along with Cllr. Christopher Harris of the Finchley and Golders Green Area Planning Sub-committee to discuss Barnet Council's Controlled Parking Zone proposals for Temple Fortune and the Suburb.

The meeting at Hendon Town Hall was also attended by Chris Harry and Gavin Woolery-Allen of Barnet's Parking Design Team.

The Parking Design Team had anticipated that by mid-March they would have known the outcome of the canvassing exercise carried out last November to establish the degree of support for a CPZ but they claimed at the meeting

that the unusually high response rate of around 40% has delayed the result. However, indications are that the CPZ proposal enjoys little local support save for certain isolated roads where exceptional circumstances apply and typically in some areas adjoining the existing Golders Green CPZ which are affected by parking displaced from inside that Zone.

The RA delegation impressed upon the two Councillors the need to ensure that no new parking scheme be put in place until a comprehensive assessment has been made of its potential impact on trade in the shops in Temple Fortune. The Roads & Traffic Committee expressed the view that that if new parking

controls are to be introduced they should be tailored to the district and should vary according to the particular circumstances affecting different parts of Temple Fortune and the Suburb. There is much concern that on the basis of experiences elsewhere in the borough, a single large CPZ might cause many more problems than it would solve.

The Roads & Traffic Committee has asked that the RA be consulted at every stage of the process concerning parking proposals for Temple Fortune and has asked Barnet to give serious consideration to alternatives to a CPZ even where these are non-revenue producing.

Committee members also suggested that some immediate relief to parking demand in Temple Fortune might be obtained by sub-dividing the existing Pay & Display bays in Finchley Road into individual car lengths. This would ensure that vehicles do not continue to park in such a way as to occupy more space than is necessary. At present the random movement of vehicles means that it is often the case that two cars will occupy space which could be sufficient for three. The Roads & Traffic Committee estimates that hundreds of potential parking spaces in Temple Fortune are lost each day because of this.

GARY SHAW

Note: Cllr Coleman Ham & High April 8 "Residents who vote for Controlled Parking Zones are like turkeys who vote for Christmas, and businesses which support pay and display schemes are voting for their own bankruptcy." Ed

Wind in the Willows raises over £4,000 for Brookland Junior School



All the favourite characters

On Thursday 17 March, Brookland Junior School staged the last of four performances of Wind in the Willows. Teachers and support staff put on the play to help raise funds for new gym equipment and further funds for the tsunami relief fund.

All the favourite characters were played by class teachers: Rob Verrell exhibited a comic talent as hapless Toad of Toad Hall; naïve mole and optimistic otter were played with great charm by Vanessa Woolfson and Zoe Chester; Andrew Troy played

Ratty with athletic vigour and Jane Pendry created bluff but lovable Badger. Special Needs Co-ordinator and class teacher, Lorrae Jaderberg, led her gang of weasels as Chief Weasel. Learning Assistant, Barbara Mathews, held the stage playing the irascible judge. Head Teacher, Heather Blackmore, took a cameo role as a policeman.

Trained by parent and talented amateur artist, Claire Knight, a team of volunteers spent several hours before each performance applying make-up to create the

extraordinary animal faces.

The play was produced by dynamic Year 5 teacher, Katie Kraiss, who co-ordinated all the staff and parents who made the production such a critical and financial success.

Andrew Craze, Year 6 teacher and Assistant Head, directed the play. He said, "It was hard work, but the end result was fantastic. The success of the play is a testament to the dedication and cooperation of our great staff and committed parents."

JANE PENDRY

The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe

Realising that many young people in the audience had great difficulty in seeing what was going on because of the lack of rake and poor visibility in the Henrietta Barnett School Theatre, the producers of 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe', Richard Kinder and Emma Solomons, decided to change the layout. They were helped in this by the fact that the play is a journey through a wardrobe into the land of Narnia. So there was a road along which the young audience sat. Behind them, raised on platforms, sat the rest.

It worked wonderfully well and young and old were not only able to see but participate in the action.

C. S. Lewis' 'Chronicles of Narnia' have been a great favourite since they were written. The four children, Peter, Susan, Edmund and Lucy are evacuated to the home of the Professor and find it all rather dull. Lucy finds an old wardrobe and walks into it into another land where the children meet all kind of folk. The play has lots of lovely characters and the company enjoyed bringing them to life. Andrew Craze and Lynda Gordon made a very endearing Mr and Mrs Beaver. Marc Jones was a wonderful dwarf, Grumpskin. Father Christmas (Simon Ramsey) went down well as did Bernard Smith's Rumblebuffin, the giant. My one disappointment was the lion, Aslan, the king who fights with the White Witch (well played by Mary Musker). Aslan was so thin and his lion costume so meagre that he lacked the majesty one has come to expect. However, let down by the costume department (John Comans would have looked better bulkier), he never the less had a good voice and roar.

The four children were well played. Absolutely outstanding was Laura Startenaer as Lucy. She

spoke clearly and with meaning and moved well. Jemima Lane, Alon Witztum and Freddie Gershinson as her sister and two

brothers acquitted themselves well. It was a most enjoyable evening and great fun.

LEONIE STEPHEN

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