

# Launch of the Henrietta Barnett rose at the Chelsea Flower Show



Henry Kelly, patron of the Proms at St Jude's was on hand at Chelsea to pose for Suburb News with the Henrietta Barnett rose and one of its creators Philip Harkness



Lord Winston who is a Centenary patron, was bravely there very early in the morning to help Marjorie publicise the rose. Here he and Michael Parkinson joke for the BBC



Philip and Robert Harkness, Cleeve West, who gave a talk to the Society recently, Marjorie Harris, Lord Winston and Diane Berger HGSHS events officer. These very special roses can be ordered from Harkness, there is a form in the Souvenir Programme.

## RA members honoured

In 1990 a scheme for recognising outstanding service to the Suburb was started under which people could be nominated for Honorary Life Membership of the RA. The criteria are simple: that they should have been of outstanding service to residents and that they have to have finished doing whatever it is that is being recognised. At the AGM in March three Hon Life Members were appointed. They

are Joan Beales, long term RA council member and chairman of its membership committee for many years; Peter Philips, for 25 years chairman of the Conservation Area Advisory Committee which oversees planning applications on the Suburb and David Rapson, veteran of the Henly's Corner battle and chairman for many years of the roads and traffic committee as well as RA vice chairman.

## Susan Lewis



Susan Lewis, wife of Residents Association Chairman David B Lewis, died peacefully on 8 May after a long illness. She was 61.

Susan had a varied career: in advertising, in publishing, as an author and as the first honorary company secretary of the North London Hospice. More recently she was Executive Director of a small charity, the Gauchers Association, which she co-founded and ran for 15 years.

Gaucher Disease (pronounced go-shay) is a rare metabolic disorder with a very expensive treatment. Susan worked tirelessly to obtain treatment for patients around the world, particular in eastern Europe.

Two years ago her own ill health forced her to retire. This coincided with the success of her campaigning. The pharmaceutical company involved had, by then, agreed to provide free treatment to any patient anywhere in the world who could not obtain funding.

Although severely affected by chronic obstructive pulmonary

disease, from home Susan started to get involved with the Residents Association. She researched aspects of the Suburb's history in anticipation of the centenary and wrote a number of articles for Suburb News. She also became its proof reader – no mean task when this usually needed to be done within 24 hours

She joined the Publications Committee. She revised a section of this year's Yellow Directory. She administered the HGS Centenary Appeal, sending out thank you letters and banking the 650 cheques. She compiled, corrected and edited the Events Programme in the Centenary Souvenir Programme and as deputy editor had a significant influence on its content. She administered the initial setting up of the members' discount scheme. She helped sort and stuff membership material.

Last year she attended meetings of RA Council and was looking forward to joining RA Council as she found it frustrating listening to the debate and not being able to participate. Unfortunately by the time the elections came up she realised she was too ill to attend meetings.

Nevertheless she remained completely coherent to the end. She was admitted to the Marie Curie Hospice in Hampstead just four days before she died.

Susan requested any donations in her memory should be sent to the Gauchers Association, Red Court, Beaconsfield Road, Farnham Royal, Slough SL2 3BY.

## The Orchard

One of the hidden jewels on Hampstead Garden Suburb is The Orchard which provides sheltered housing for the over 60s.

Originally designed by Parker & Unwin and opened in 1909, it sits between Hampstead Way and Willifield Way, a five minute walk from Temple Fortune.

Completely rebuilt in the 1970s, it provides accommodation for 60 residents who are either from the Suburb or have local connections.

The studio flats are well appointed, offering a safe and secure environment.

The Committee is keen to consider applications from outside the Suburb to join this thriving community which has been at the heart of the area for so many years.

For more information, ring Sally Lewis on 8458 3663 or Jill Purdie on 8458 5042 (mobile: 07811 929 796).

## Join the Theatre Club

'Moon for the Misbegotten' and 'The Entertainer' at the Old Vic, 'Wicked' at the Apollo, 'Mother Courage' at Richmond, 'Porgy and Bess' at the Savoy, 'Boeing-Boeing' at the Comedy – these are some of our recent visits to the theatre. In June we have booked 'Whipping It Up', in July 'The Letter'. In August is our all day trip to the Watermill at Newbury to see 'Martin Guerre'. Does this list excite you?

The Theatre Club Committee books best seats at discounted

prices and a comfortable coach from the Suburb to the Theatre. To take part in these activities you have to join the club. (Membership secretary: Elaine Grays, 8458 8018.) We are just accepting members for 2007-2008 – we have a limited list of 150 members. All members must belong to the RA and membership confers the right to bring one guest each month. If you are not already a member now is the time to join.

JEAN BARRACLOUGH

## First aid at the Institute

The Hampstead Garden Suburb Institute, in its new campus at East Finchley, is pioneering a course to support the government's proposal for good quality childcare. The current First Aid Course for Children and Babies runs for two evenings, or on a Saturday.

For only £28 you can ensure the person who looks after your child – parent, grandparent, child carer, au pair or nanny – is trained in lifesaving skills including CPR and resuscitation, and knows how to deal with unconsciousness,

choking, bleeding and fractures. Other common childhood conditions will also be covered. There will be practical work on child and baby manikins and students will be taught to use basic first aid equipment.

There are no special entry requirements, and the course is open to everybody. The Institute can also give on-going support with writing and English skills, through its popular literacy and English classes. For details call Ruth Smith on 020 8829 4133.

## What's what at the LVT?

Two applications to vary the Trust's Scheme of Management are before the Leasehold Valuation Tribunal.

One, by residents of Asmunds Place led by Raphael Papadopoulos, says the charge levied last year is too high. In this case the Trust is joined by Angus Walker, who for eighteen months was a voluntary Strategic Adviser to the Trust, in opposing the application. "The amount charged has been too low for years, so much so that Trust reserves have been seriously depleted," he said.

The second application is made by Angus Walker himself with the support of well over 500 residents who have joined themselves to his application. This is to vary the scheme by relating the charge to council tax bands. How this would work was explained by the Trust itself in its Gazette last summer. The example

given assumed a charge of £100. In that case 979 freeholders in tax bands A-F would pay between £40 and £88; 1,235 G band households would pay £101 and H band houses, there are 1,092, £121.

The Trust is now opposing this idea because they are concerned that by varying the scheme at all they would be open to challenges in the LVT in future. In addition the chairman has said, as published in one newspaper "Introducing a charge based on council tax bands would mean the less expensive houses being subsidised by the more expensive ones. And we don't want it to turn into a battle between the rich and the not so rich." Answering questions at the Residents Association council in March he told members that legal costs in fighting the two cases could amount to £50,000.

## Architectural Award

At this year's AGM the winners of the Alexander Stuart Gray Architectural Merit awards for the year were announced.

These awards, now judged by a Consam panel are given for the best improvements to Suburb

houses or other buildings. They went to the Abbeyfield Society for improvements to Abbeyfield House in Homesfield off Erskine Hill and to the architect Alfred Lester for a sympathetic studio extension to his house in Willifield Way.

## Fellowship Concert

Fellowship House Club had a particular treat on Tuesday, 20 March. Thirty or more youngsters aged six and seven were brought in by teachers and helpers to entertain members of Fellowship House Club with an hour of delightful music. They thoughtfully provided a programme for all members of the audience and there were not only songs from

the Caribbean accompanied by a team of percussion players but violin, piano and cello recitals.

The finale, sung by the whole group, with appropriate actions, was thoroughly enjoyed by all present and our thanks must be extended to teacher, Fiona Coote whose dedication was a paramount factor in the success of the concert.

JOYCE MORRISON

## Oxfam thanks

On behalf of Oxfam, I would like to say a big thank you to all our young volunteers from the following schools: Highgate, Channing, South Hampstead, The Mount, Queen Elizabeth Boys, Jewish Free School and Henrietta Barnett. These 14-18

year olds give up two hours each week for at least 3 months.

Their contribution to Oxfam is invaluable in assisting the charity to make poverty history and several have returned to work in the shop during the holidays.

FRANCES HAYNES, MANAGER

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