

Letters to the Editor

1 North Square
NW11

Sir,
As many Suburb residents already know, one of the 8 members of the HGS Trust Council has resigned over the bizarre and as yet unexplained behaviour of the Council deciding to reverse its earlier decision to proceed to a progressive Management Charge.

A Trust Council resignation is a significant event and no doubt this will be fully explained and examined in due course. It will be remembered by those who were present at the 2005 AGM when Richard Wakefield was appointed that he said he was putting himself forward to try to bring more transparency to the Trust Council's dealings.

What is somewhat ironic is that it has taken so long for a resignation to come and now it has arisen over an entirely avoidable issue. A more serious issue was revealed a year ago in the Trust's own publication ('The Trust Gazette'). A review undertaken on the initiative of the new Trust Manager, Jane Blackburn, concluded that if the Trust's finances had been correctly understood and managed over the past 25 years, its reserves would be about £3 million higher than they are today. Some residents may think it strange that anyone associated with the Trust Council for even part of that period did not offer to step down. The Chairman told us recently in the 'Ham & High' that he has been a Trustee for about 9 years. Maybe there is some way to go before the degree of integrity we deserve in all our Trustees is achieved.

Yours
Andrew Botteril

Kip McGrath Education Centre
Finchley

Sir,
As a relatively new resident to the Suburb with a new and developing local business, I have read the last two issues of

your magazine with interest.

It is informative, educational and enjoyable. I feel it contributes, in a significant way, to drawing new comers in to the very special heritage and culture of the Suburb. In doing so it helps create and sustain a sense of community and belonging... engendering a sense of civic pride so familiar to communities when the Suburb was first built and so rare in cities and towns today.

Yours
Maureen Young, Centre Director

Stokenham, Devon

Sir,
I was interested to read in the winter issue the list of Centenary Events and wish them all success, particularly the Horticultural Society on Willifield Green which I am sure will look lovely throughout the year.

I shall be thinking of the unveiling of Harold Wilson's plaque on 21 June. When Jean Robertson and I moved to the Suburb in 1963 we lived at 12 South Square. One evening, upon our return from work, we found two letters addressed to Harold Wilson through our door. We phoned the Post Office and someone came round very quickly with a black bag asking "Where are the Boss's letters?"

Yours,
Jean Marr

Litchfield Way
NW11

Sir,
We have lived in Litchfield Way for over 40 years and are about to move to Whetstone to be near our children and grandchildren.

This year of the HGS Centenary must have stirred memories for all of us and as the date grows nearer for our Great Trek northwards, I am doubly nostalgic.

When I came to the Suburb I didn't know anyone in London

except my brother, his wife and her brother and wife. However, I soon got talking to my neighbour 'Valerie-over-the-road' and we are still friends. We discovered that some of our neighbours had birthdays at the end of October and we held annual 'Scorpio parties' in each others' houses.

My social life took off Thursday afternoons at the Free Church Hall where I took my little girl to sing nursery rhymes with all the actions. Everyone was friendly and nobody asked me for any money! How different it is today when singing nursery rhymes is big business!

While rearing my three children, I held onto my sanity by going to the Institute classes. The sole reason I took up sculpture was that I could leave my third baby in a creche run voluntarily by Henrietta Barnett girls. There, my baby played with another baby and they have remained friends for life although they never went to the same schools and now live at different ends of the world!

Although I am leaving 'Lavender Cottage' for 'Windyways', I still intend to retain links with the Suburb where I and my

husband, though both provincials, have spent most of our lives. I will continue teaching Tai Chi at Fellowship House and am organising a Suburb Centenary Music Hall on 26 November at the Free Church - which is where I came in.

May the Suburb continue to be a happy place for everyone and hopefully ban leafblowers!

Yours,
Carolyn Killen

Hyde Place
OX2 7JB

Sir,
I much enjoyed the article 'Nearly Eighty Years on' by Jacqueline Morris in the last issue of Suburb News. However, I must point out that it was Lady Braithwaite, not Princess Margaret, who officially opened Fellowship House in 1959 after its completion. HRH had cut the first sod in 1957 during Jubilee Week with the same spade used by Henrietta Barnett to cut the first sod of the estate on 2 May 1907.

Yours,
Michael Darke

Finchley Road
NW11 6BB

Sir,
I read with great interest all issues of Suburb News but in particular the last one's reports of the celebrations to take place at the Norrice Lea Synagogue as it was founded by my parents! During the slump in the 30s, they moved from their large detached house in Crediton Hill, overlooking the tennis courts, to a small semi-detached house in Thornton Way. My parents married as cousins and Dad's elder brother married one of Mother's younger sisters. They did everything together and so they also moved from a large house in Woodchurch Road NW6 into a small semi in Middle Way. Together, they discreetly advertised for anyone interested in creating a congregation on the Suburb as Golders Green Synagogue was too far to reach

with small children in tow (we didn't ride on the Sabbath). I was only six and my sister four. The Institute graciously allowed us to use a classroom for services to begin with until they had gathered the wherewithal to establish the synagogue in Norrice Lea.

The names of my father, Reuben Tanchan, my uncle, Maurice and that of Oscar Deutsch (who owned the Odeon cinemas and was married to my father's eldest sister) are all on the plaque in the Synagogue hall together with those of other founder members.

In those days, Norrice Lea was known as Norrice Lakes, a nickname given to it by someone visiting us when my parents and uncle eventually had new houses built for them, Nos 44 & 50 - the road being still unmade then!

Yours,
Mrs J S Ellison

Farm Walk veteran

Charlotte Michaels celebrated her 90th birthday with a lunch... and a game of tennis at Farm Walk Tennis Club Tuesday 8 May.

Charlotte started playing when her parents gave her a tennis racquet for her 8th birthday and continues to play at Farm Walk where she's been a member for over 50 years. Charlotte, who is a great grandmother of three, says the peak of her tennis career was

when she won two teaspoons at a Farm Walk tournament.

In addition to playing tennis, Charlotte still helps with the 'old people', and assists a family with three children.

Not all members are 90, the youngest is 5 - the club runs a full social play calendar and coaching for all levels and all ages."

For more details about the club, see www.farmwalktennis.com.

Visit St Jude's

Visitors will be welcome to have a look round St Jude's church every Sunday between 11.30 am and 5 pm until 21 October.

Wordsearch winner

Congratulations Charlotte Lintern, aged 16, who was born on the Suburb, attended Garden Suburb School and is now doing English Literature at Henrietta Barnett.

She feels she knows some of the heroines well already but will use the book voucher to help her with her A levels. Well done, Charlotte.

Suburb Directory erratum

Page 29, Garden Suburb Theatre 8888 1851. Membership secretary entry: Tony Newton's number is Pam Walker is on 8346 4448.



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YOUTH MUSIC CENTRE ENROLMENT MORNING for 2007/8

Sunday 8th July, 10.30-12.45
The Tea House, Northway, NW11

Orchestras and ensembles
Instrumental tuition
Kodály and voice production
Theory and composition
Musicianship for 18 month olds and above
The Youth Music Centre Children's Choir

For details, contact Jane Barnett, 8343 1940
mail@youthmusiccentre.org.uk
www.youthmusiccentre.org.uk
Assisted places given



(Above) Lady Braithwaite officially opens Fellowship House in 1959. (Right) Princess Margaret cuts the first sod in 1957.

WORDSEARCH

In the box below are concealed 20 names of aircraft of FOUR or more letters; and an extra one highlighted to start you off (don't include it in your total!). Names may be read in all directions, straight or diagonally. 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 1st April. The sender of the first correct (or nearly correct) entry will win a £20 voucher from Joseph's Bookstore.

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N L P R T J I E O G L N E S
G G D O A C B R T I X H A R
V E M N L N R E F H J T O E
S S C A A D U E R I F I P S
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DIANA WOODFIELD

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SPRING WORDSEARCH ANSWERS

The 20 literary heroines were: Becky Sharpe, Blanche, Clarissa, Cleopatra, Cordelia, Cruella deVille, Desdemona, Emma, Jane Eyre, Juliet, Hermione, Moll Flanders, Mrs Malaprop, Nancy, Natasha, Nell, Rebecca, Shirley, Stella, Tess.

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