

## Mayor launches Hospice appeal



Cllr Maureen Braun and Pauline Treen at the Arts Centre

Barnet Mayor, Councillor Maureen Braun has chosen the North London Hospice as the charity she wishes to support during her year of office. Throughout the year Councillor Braun and her Fundraising Committee will be organising many events to raise money for the Hospice's Building and Refurbishment Appeal.

When asked why she had chosen the Hospice, Cllr Braun said, "I chose the North London Hospice because as Mayor of Barnet, I wanted a charity that was for the benefit of Barnet residents, that could be identified as needing the money (as 76% of its income has to be obtained from private sources), and one which impinges on the lives of very many people. Everybody is a potential user. We hope to raise enough money to enable the Hospice to carry out some much needed building work." The total cost of this project is £700,000.

### Refurbishment

The major part of the building work at the Hospice will centre on the needs of patients. In order

to bring the patient facilities up to the highest modern standards, we plan to make both our four bedded rooms into single rooms with en suite shower rooms. We have learnt over the years that our patients prefer the privacy of their own room and so do their visitors. One of our offices in the patient area is to be made into a bedroom. This will also have en suite facilities. Our patients enjoy a bath like everyone else and bathrooms are to be redesigned giving them a more of a home from home feel. Another area having a complete refit is our reception area.

## Outstanding features

Garden Suburb Junior School had a very successful Ofsted inspection at the end of July 2007. The school was judged to be 'good with outstanding features'. The Ofsted team recognised the exceptionally high standards achieved by pupils and the outstanding broad curriculum. The report also highlighted the high standards of care given to

We want to make the experience of our patients' families more welcoming and the reception area and coffee shop are to be redesigned with this in mind.

Many other improvements are being made throughout the hospice including a small extension and while this work is being carried out, all Hospice services will continue. This will not be an easy task and it will make the project more expensive, but it is a challenge we must face, as our patients always come first.

### Public Appeal

Fundraising Director, Pauline Treen said, "We need all the help we can get from the local community. This appeal is over and above our annual running costs of £5 million with only 24% of this being met by the NHS. We do hope that our communities will be generous and help us to make a difference. You can make your donation to the Barnet Mayor's Appeal, North London Hospice, 47 Woodside Avenue, London N12 8TF."

The first Hospice event in the Mayor's Appeal Calendar is a visit to three gardens being opened to the public on Sunday 9 September from 2-5.30 pm. If you wish to know more about this and the other planned events, please call the Hospice Fundraising Office on 020 8446 2288.

the pupils ensuring their well being. It was noted that children 'play and work harmoniously together...Pupils really enjoy coming to school and radiate enthusiasm'. The governors wish to congratulate the school's Leadership Team and extend their appreciation to all staff members for their hard work and enthusiastic commitment.

## The Kelsey family

I don't know about you but I am quite curious about the previous owners of the house in Northway where we have lived for 32 years. I feel their imprint is part of the house today.

Some time ago I was weeding the garden when I became aware of New Zealand voices and photographs being taken of our house. We started chatting and, having not long returned from four years living in Wellington NZ, I was very intrigued to learn that their friend, Columbine had grown up in the house. Phyllis King who lived in Bigwood Court, had been a great friend of Columbine's and she told me endearing stories about the Kelsey family. The household consisted of Granny and Auntie who lived on the middle floor, the father and mother, Cyril and Enid, who lived on the ground floor and the children, Columbine and Jocelyn who slept on the top floor. The whole family was creative and artistic. What I had thought was the garage, was in fact, their silverwork and pewter workshop and, nowadays very collectable.

They wrote pageants, acted them and painted the scenery. I recently went with Norma Milner to look at our HGS archive of pageant posters and obtained copies of photos of plays written and produced by the Kelsey family.

To my surprise, I received a letter from a researcher at Victoria University in Wellington who was writing a thesis on New Zealand suffragettes and feminists. She wanted to contact relations of Carol Kelsey nee Matthews whose last known whereabouts was our house. Granny Kelsey was an amazing woman who went out to New Zealand to marry a South Island farmer and returned to England with her son, Cyril. She

had been annoyed by the exposure the slit-back underwear gave when climbing the ladders onto the New Zealand boats so when she returned to England, she founded the movement for Hygienic Underwear for women. She, her daughter-in-law Enid and Enid's mother were all great friends of the Pankhursts.

Through Phyllis Kind I put the researcher in touch with Columbine in New Zealand who then sent me photocopies of the photographs of the family, some in pageant costumes.

So now you can imagine that when I looked out and saw the pageant procession going down Northway, I was delighted and would like to congratulate Ian Davidson and everyone involved with keeping up a great tradition. The Kelsey family would have been totally thrilled, I'm sure.

Oh, and once when my eldest son was ill with a high temperature he told us two very kind old ladies had sat by his bed that night...but that's another story of our house.

WENDY BRENNAN



## Chess triumph

Children from Garden Suburb Junior School travelled to Breen Sands in Somerset to win this year's under 11s' national chess championship. The team of Joseph Levene, Omer Ginat, Canishk Naik, William Alton, Emery Asher and Asaf Gomes do Mesquita

were also the only state school in the final. It is Garden Suburb Junior's first win in the tournament since 1987. The winning trophy was shown to all the children in assembly who were delighted with the results and extremely proud of their fellow pupils' achievement.

**Point**, v. to finish or repair the joints of (brickwork, masonry, etc.) with mortar or cement. Sp. in **Hampstead Garden Suburb** - only to be undertaken with tlc and after unbiased advice.

## Is there any point in repointing?

Very often the answer is – probably not. Surveyors automatically suggest it, builders love to charge you for it, but the fact is most Suburb houses are built with fine handmade bricks, well laid by craftsmen. The mortar, usually made with lime is there to keep the bricks apart – not to stick them together.

Pointing may be needed on chimney stacks, exposed corners or water damaged walls. Lime mortar should be used.

It is flexible, moves with the house and if it cracks, will seal itself again, looking just right.

Any alterations to houses on the Suburb must be approved by the Trust and Barnet. Pointing needs Trust consent and we are happy to give impartial advice, free.



(Unpointed wall) Soft lime mortar weathers naturally, doesn't damage the bricks and has an open texture that allows them to dry out after the rain.



(Badly pointed wall) Modern cement is stronger and rigid, cannot be removed without damaging the bricks and causes frost damage



(Unpointed wall) Soft mortar encourages drying out, enhances the beauty of the bricks and makes them less liable to damage when a wet wall freezes

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