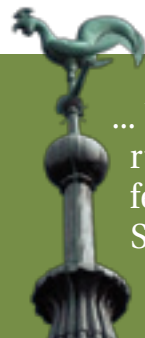




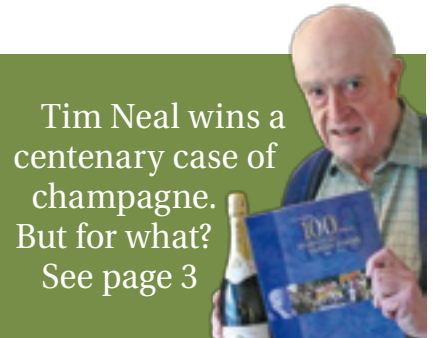
'Humph' – a sad loss to all his friends on the Suburb, the Proms at St Jude's, radio 4 listeners and jazz lovers everywhere



Our own Deborah Warland reveals her twitching tendencies on page 7...



... but who's been ruffling the feathers of the St Jude's cockerel. See page 12



Tim Neal wins a centenary case of champagne. But for what? See page 3



SuburbNews

The Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association Newspaper • www.hgs.org.uk • Spring 08 • Issue 97

Association saves residents thousands of £s in fines

The Residents Association Council in May passed a resolution thanking and congratulating Gary Shaw chairman of the RA's Roads and Traffic committee for the way he has fought Transport for London (TfL) over hundreds of fines. Thought to be some 700 a month, these were imposed on motorists who are unaware where they are allowed to park in Market Place because it is not clearly signposted.

A series of Parking Appeal Service decisions have supported the RA's position that the Red Route loading bays in The Market Place are inadequately signed. The bays have been the subject of six separate hearings at which the parking adjudicators have been scathing about TfL's administration of the restrictions.

One adjudicator said that it is unacceptable that TfL is pursuing Market Place cases without addressing signage deficiencies

whilst another said he was not satisfied that markings and signage are sufficient or clear. A third was critical of TfL for its poor maintenance of the signs.

In the light of these emphatic decisions TfL has pulled out of dozens of similar cases and following a meeting between the Roads & Traffic Committee and TfL's Head of Highways, CCTV enforcement in The Market Place has been reduced. However the battle is not yet over as TfL is insisting on fighting a test case at the Parking Appeals Service at which it hopes to persuade an adjudicator that its signage is satisfactory after all.

Gary Shaw said that, "TfL submitted only written evidence to the previous appeal hearings and felt that it had not properly articulated its case. Therefore it sent representatives to a case which was heard on 23rd April

which we also attended on behalf of two local residents. That case has been adjourned until the end of May to give TfL an opportunity to present more evidence so we will not know the outcome before then. However we remain hopeful of a result which will force TfL to change the signs and to withdraw from all outstanding cases."

He continued, "We understand that as a result of our campaign the CCTV camera has been more or less taken out of use for enforcing the south side loading bay but wardens still patrol and motorists should continue to take great care as the signs remain very confusing."

Elsewhere, the Red Route loading bay in Hill Rise has been de-restricted after it was found to be invalid because it encroached on a road administered by Barnet rather than TfL. The Roads & Traffic Committee is pressing the



Authority to refund fines to all motorists ticketed in Hill Rise – 413 since January 2007 amounting to £21,425 of revenue.

For details of how to fight cases in either The Market Place or Hill Rise contact Gary Shaw at traffic@hgs.org.uk or on 8455 0416.

Hospice Marathon



Brim Hill mother of two Sarah Gibbins fulfilled a long held ambition to run the London Marathon this year and in so doing raised more than £2,000 for the North London Hospice.

"People have been so generous, it's still coming in," says Sarah. "I'm so glad I've done it but it is an awfully long way. It would have been alright if I had been able to go faster but over five hours of talking to myself did get a bit much."

Literary Society takes off

Following the first two very successful meetings of the HBS Literary Society with Will Self and Tracy Chevalier, the next two events are with Deborah Moggach on 3 July and Nick Hornby on 13 November. Both start at 7.30pm and are in the School Hall, Central Square. Book signings kindly arranged by Joseph's Bookstore.

An additional event marking Remembrance Day at 7.30pm on 11 November will be 'An Evening with Martin Bell' former BBC war reporter, former politician, author and journalist.

Signed copies of Martin's book, 'The Truth that Sticks' – on

issues of war and peace, especially in Iraq and Afghanistan, will be available for purchase (Net proceeds from ticket sales for this event will go to the Poppy Day Appeal).

The Literary Society was set up as an extra curricular activity for the pupils, staff, parents, old girls, their parents and local residents. Tickets are £5 each in advance for each event from Jo Velleman at The Henrietta Barnett School, Central Square NW11 7BN, email: development@hbschool.org.uk or tel: 8209 9730. Pupils and staff free. Please send an sae and cheques payable to HBS Trust.

Trust charge 'reasonable'

After more than a year's deliberation, the Leasehold Valuation Tribunal ruled in April that a flat management charge is legally 'reasonable'. However, the judgement states that although the flat charge is not 'unreasonable', it goes on to say 'It may well be that one form of charging is more reasonable than another.' It added that, 'The Tribunal's decision in this case does not affect any possible future application for variation under the terms of the scheme'. See Letters on page 11.

Residents Association AGM

At a well attended Residents Association Annual General Meeting in March chairman David B Lewis started the proceedings by welcoming members, honorary life members and guests including our ward councillors and Mervyn Miller president of the Trust. He opened his report on the year with the success of the centenary celebrations, saying that although it had been an all Suburb effort he should particularly thank Georgina Malcolm, David Littaur and Richard Wakefield for all they had done. He might have said that its success was in large measure thanks to his own enthusiasm and persuasiveness in raising sufficient funds to pay for the celebrations and have some left over for more permanent reminders of 2007.

The business of the AGM was swiftly despatched with the election of a new Honorary Secretary, Brian Rivett and one new council member Tony Brand. The chairman thanked retiring members Georgina Malcolm, Jean Barraclough and Denis Baron.

He was pleased to be able to say that the number of households in membership following last year's increase had been maintained at at almost 2200. The council was not recommending any change in the annual subscription for 2008/9.

Joan Laurance and Eddie Caplin were made honorary life members for long and devoted service to the Suburb. Joan Laurance because of her founding, with her late husband Patrick, of what has become to be thought of as the Suburb's charity the Family Holiday Association in the 70s with the fundraising Hill Close fêtes. Joan was also chairman of the Hampstead Garden Suburb

Charitable Trust from 1984-1997. Perhaps even better known recently has been Joan and Pat's untiring efforts over several years resulting in a new pedestrian crossing on North End Road leading to Golders Hill Park.

Eddie Caplin served on the Residents Association Council from 1984-1993 where he was secretary of its Conservation & Amenities Committee for most of that time. In 1992 he was co-opted

on to the Trust Council and elected chairman in 1993. Having served his six years he took a year off before becoming chairman in 2000 of the Centenary committee set up by the Trust, the RA and Barnet to plan and sow the seeds for the successful centenary year. The AGM was followed by a first showing of a film of some of the centenary events made for us by Finchley Filmmakers, formerly the Finchley Cinevideo Society.

Caring, Competent & Committed

Our experience spans over 30 years and contrary to popular belief, we sell much of the middle to lower priced property within Hampstead Garden Suburb. There is no magic at work here. We are totally committed and are known to achieve handsome prices for two main reasons:

Firstly, because we deal with buyers trading up as well as down in price range, the latter of whom usually have fulsome budgets.

Secondly, we regularly deal with monied purchasers from outside the area who have grown used to even higher priced property in Central London and believe that the Suburb is not only leafy and desirable, but good value.

"We are passionate Suburbites and we eat and breathe the Suburb, it is in our blood and we treasure its heritage."

Most importantly we understand that your home is your sanctuary and is probably one of the largest assets in the family and therefore a sale/purchase needs the tender care of dedicated and sensitive professionals who are skilled at this important task.

The market is excellent at the moment, so if you have not contacted us before, try us, we think you will be pleasantly surprised.

We are at your service.



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The Garden in the Suburb

An illustrated presentation organised by Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association and Kingston University in appreciation of the life of Michael Rowley 1932 - 2006

Dr Vesna Goldsworthy will introduce the work of the Centre for Suburban Studies, Kingston University

Dr Janet Waymark
'Garden Spaces for the People'
an illustrated presentation on landscapes of planned suburban development

Dr Rebecca Preston
'Pestilent Suburban Cottage' or 'Desirable Villa Residence'?
nineteenth- and early twentieth-century views of the suburb

Saturday 31 May 2.00-5.30
Friends' Meeting House, North Square
Free – All welcome – Tea will be served

Further information from:
gardens@hampsteadgardensuburb.com
or www.hgs.org.uk/gardeninthesuburb