

# From Sweet Home Chicago to Hampstead Garden Suburb!

The suburb based vintage blues band, 'The Blues Filled Saucepan' is hosting a relaxed evening of the Blues, raising funds for the Akili Trust at the Free Church Hall Northway on Saturday 2 October.

They will be playing Chicago, West Coast, Delta and Rock & Roll music.

The group was formed in the 1960's at University College School in Hampstead and they cut their teeth playing Oxfam benefit dances at St Michael's Church in Golders Green. Before taking up their careers they supported notable Blues Artists such as Aynsley Dunbar, Arthur Big Boy Crudup at venues including The Blue Horizon, Town and Country Club, The 51 Club, and the Craw Daddy at Richmond.

Mark Beedle, Richard de Friend and Al Cohen, are Suburb residents and founder members of 'The Saucepan'.

They have played together since the 1960's at numerous charity events, parties and weddings. More recent members of the band are Adrian Pietryga and Laurie Harper, while local resident Tym Manley adds acoustic blues.

For Blues aficionados, 'The Saucepan' run the Blues Jam every Monday night which is at the Plough Inn at Wood Lane, Walthamstow.

The Akili Trust (you'll find it at [www.akilitrust.org](http://www.akilitrust.org)) works in rural Kenya with the key aim of promoting literacy. The Trust runs two community libraries and supports secondary education by giving bursaries to able but needy students. It is committed to developing a culture of reading and improved access to education.

Tickets £20 to include dinner. Contact the Box Office by email at [mail@akilitrust.org](mailto:mail@akilitrust.org) or telephone 0781 318 8194.



As part of its centenary celebration the Free Church congregation removed all the chairs and turned the simple Lutyns interior into a 'Celebration in Flowers'. Thirty flower arrangements had been created by other Suburb groups and by churches and synagogues from the Suburb, Golders Green, Hampstead, Finchley, Highgate, Totteridge, Crouch End and Muswell Hill. "We were so pleased that so many were taking part in our celebrations," said Minister, Ian Tutton seen here with Lorna Page. (Photography Nigel Sutton)



## The Recruiting Officer – another engaging outdoor performance

George Farquhar was the last of the Restoration playwrights and is perhaps best known for his final play, The Beau Stratagem.

Another of his popular plays was The Recruiting Officer. It is mostly about the means by which men were recruited into the army during the reign of Queen Anne.

The production, presented by the Garden Suburb Theatre, in Little Wood and directed by John Colmans, was lively and strongly cast. Owain Rose was an engaging Captain Plume, the recruiting officer, and Amos Witztum as his sergeant, Kite, was wonderfully devious and cynical.

Tony Newton shone in two roles – first, as the pompous

Justice Balance and later as the butcher, Pluck. Farquhar was very good at creating the interesting male characters and Captain Brazen, a rival recruiting officer, was played by Geoff Prutton who seemed to relish this amusingly flamboyant role.

The female roles are much more conventional, involving devious love plots. Balance's daughter, Sylvia and her cousin, Melinda, Kate Woff, and Marilyn Greene made a charming, lively pair.

The costumes, by Frances Musker and her team were, as usual, impressive and Rusty Ashman's set design helped to make the large space of the Open Air Theatre manageable.

LÈONIE STEPHEN

## Trust AGM

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judge's remarks, supportive of the Trust, had been rather different.

Mr Youlden said the charge was unfair; it was like a flat rate poll tax and was the equivalent of a week's old-age pension. Angus Walker reminded him that, before joining the Trust council, he had campaigned for a banded charge. "The Trust will not resist another attempt" he said.

David Harris, Erskine Hill, said he was not too worried about the charge, the Trust was keeping the Suburb as we want it, but asked if it could not be paid in stages. Jane Blackburn replied any reasonable suggestion could be considered.

Bill Asprey, who is standing for council, said the charge was out of control and a genuine worry for many who are living in genteel poverty. Angus Walker told

the meeting that there was no need for this. "If you know of such cases tell the Trust, tell Fellowship, tell the social services." The Trust makes a grant to Fellowship so that they can help anyone in need to pay the charge.

Colin Gregory said, "The charge is reasonable and the Trust was right to pursue the 24 and 25 Ingram Avenue cases" the vote on the report was taken.

Wendy Miller, who has been the Law Society appointed trustee since 2004, said she would be resigning when a replacement had been found. "In 2004 when I joined there was no manager, no budget and Mervyn Mandell was running everything with whole hearted energy. We should be thankful to him for steadying the ship," she said. "He and Angus had very different styles but both were excellent chairmen."

She explained the place on the Trust of appointed trustees,

how they are not allowed to live here and provide professional clarity and detachment. She had been impressed by the passionate commitment of trustees to work for the good of the Suburb. "Think about the future," she said, "why should the Suburb not share the longevity of Bath?" Remembering the flak taken by trustees, she said she was reminded of Churchill's "I refuse to be impartial between the fireman and the fire."

## TRUSTEE ELECTION

All elected trustees have to be re-elected every three years. There are two nominations from sitting trustees, Angus Walker, chairman since 2007 and Geoffrey Marriott and two others, Anne Fenton and Bill Asprey, who think the management charge is too high. Manifestos and ballot papers, returnable by September 29, have been sent to all of the Trust members.



Angus Walker, Geoffrey Marriott, Anne Fenton and Bill Asprey stand for election

## Wordsearch winner

Lots of correct punters for the bird draw though, alas, only one winner. Miss Valerie Cowan lives on the Suburb and has served, for many years as a

Barnet magistrate. She is an expert on wine and has run wine appreciation courses locally. In retirement Valerie paints and sings.

## WORDSEARCH

In the box below are concealed 20 names of newspapers or magazines (including foreign titles) of FOUR or more letters; and an extra one highlighted to start you off (don't include it in your total!). Some well-known titles will have only one word ie. 'Telegraph' without the definite article or special editions. Others may need two words – look before you leap! 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 20th November. The sender of the first correct (or nearly correct) entry will win a £20 voucher from Joseph's Bookstore.

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Y S G K U G V L I A M P U L I  
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DIANA WOODFIELD

The wordsearch prize is sponsored by

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## SPRING WORDSEARCH ANSWER

The 20 birds were: Bittern, Blackbird, Buzzard, Chaffinch, Coot, Gannet, Cormorant, Heron, Lark, Moorhen, Nuthatch, Plover, Robin, Rook, Snipe, Starling, Thrush, Wagtail, Woodcock, Wren.

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T 020 8658 4334 F 020 8650 5065 E [info@brownhillgroup.co.uk](mailto:info@brownhillgroup.co.uk)