



## Annemount anniversary Suburb walk

As one of the events marking the 75th anniversary of Annemount School in May, Trust Manager, Jane Blackburn and education & publications assistant, Lauren Geisler took a group of Annemount pupils for a walking tour of the Suburb. The children keenly looked out for features which make the Suburb special – hedges, interesting architectural details, public green spaces and trees – whilst learning about the history of the area, with a focus on the topic ‘What Houses Do For Us’.

Before heading back to school across the Heath Extension, the

group was met at Sunshine Corner by Martin Goodchild – the craftsman builder carrying out repairs to the damaged wall and brick piers. The school got to watch some brick-laying and learn first-hand about the importance of restoration and preservation.

The Trust received some wonderful thank-you notes from the students, with special mention of how interesting they found the demonstration and how much they now enjoy looking out for interesting windows and doors on their walks to and from school.

## ‘Naughty Neddy’

The annual talk organised by RA Events in memory of Michael Rowley, Trust trustee and RA council member, this year featured architectural historian Gavin Stamp talking about Lutyens.

There was a good attendance at the Free Church Hall in May, for Gavin’s illustrated talk on the church architecture of Sir Edwin Lutyens. Rev. Alan Walker, who also chaired the occasion, had provocatively added the extra headline, “Wilful naughtiness,” quoting a comment by an earlier writer struck by Lutyens’ rule-breaking originality. Gavin Stamp began, however, on a downbeat note, with photographs of the great model for Lutyens’ unfulfilled design for Liverpool’s projected Metropolitan Cathedral which, had it been completed, would have accommodated 12,000 and been the world’s second largest Christian church.

Having stated that in his view Lutyens was the greatest British architect of the 20th century, it was good to hear that Stamp held the two Hampstead Garden Suburb churches, the (domed) Free Church and (spired) Parish

Church of St Jude-on-the-Hill, to be examples of his highest style, to be included with the Governor General’s residence at New Delhi and the memorial to the missing Somme dead at Thiepval, as among his most signal works. Photographs of smaller churches built for communities around New Delhi by British architects imitating Lutyens, though praised by Stamp for their modernity, seemed (to this pair of eyes, at least) to lack something of the master’s wit and feeling for harmony.

At questions, some criticisms were voiced by members of the audience who lived in Lutyens houses or knew the ins and outs of his public buildings particularly well. If nothing else, it must have pleased Sir Edwin to know that his work remained so vital an element in Suburb life.

The meeting ended with a brief summary by Prof. Vesna Goldsworthy of the Centre for Urban Studies, Kingston University, who divertingly compared the Suburb to a hilltop town in her native Yugoslavia.

DAVID POPE

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## Open Day at The Institute Arts Centre

Beneath mainly blue skies, The Institute celebrated its annual Open Day on Saturday 25 June. In the lovely surroundings of The Institute Arts Centre in Beaumont Close, off Bishops Avenue, hundreds of visitors enjoyed demonstrations, displays and the chance to talk to teachers about The Institute’s 500 adult education courses.

In the foyer, flower arranging teacher Minou Alikhani and some of her students were concocting beautiful bouquets. Down the corridor in the craft room, Tania Schwartz was holding a picture framing demonstration while upstairs in the kitchen, Chinese cookery teacher Theresa Chwu deftly wielded her cleaver as she demonstrated the techniques of Chinese cuisine. The highlight

of the day – for some visitors – was probably the demonstration by the lissom students of The Institute belly dancing class.

But the official climax was the arrival of the Mayor of Barnet, Councillor Lisa Rutter who has long been a great friend of The Institute. Councillor Rutter toured The Arts Centre, admiring the students’ work on display and then joined a group of dignitaries and special visitors for a strawberry tea hosted by principal Joy Solomon.

At a time when colleges up and down the country are facing financial hardship, The Mayor praised the work of The Institute and spoke movingly of its enduring importance in the lives of the community.

HELEN HARRIS



Mayor of Barnet, Councillor Lisa Rutter with The Institute Principal, Joy Solomon

## Wordsearch winner

The spring winner was Mrs Tina Janering, although she disclaims any special canine expertise. She and her husband have lived in Harford Walk since 1976 and have

children and grandchildren living locally. She is a librarian at Highgate School and Mr Janering has recently retired from a career in housing and local government with Barnet.

### WORDSEARCH

In the box below are concealed 20 names of artists 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 September 16. The sender of the first correct (or nearly correct) entry will win a £20 voucher from Joseph’s Bookstore.

R A N X L Y S F I N G R E S B  
E E F O R N K S R T E O D B C  
R I M T E R P I W E M U Y R E  
U S G B M I O X M L U X R A Q  
D E U P R Y C R S P V D O Q Z  
X R A P H A E L V A T W P U K  
A C B N R V N L N O A V I E L  
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A G M H Q H I P E L X C O F R  
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DIANA WOODFIELD

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### SPRING WORDSEARCH ANSWER

The 20 dogs were: Afghan, Airedale, Alsatian, Beagle, Borzoi, Chow, Dachsund, Dalmatian, Doberman, Greyhound, Husky, Labrador, Mastiff, Poodle, Schnauzer, Sheepdog, Spaniel, St Bernard, Terrier, Whippet.



## Suburb poet’s new book

Peter Phillips, who wrote a special poem for the Suburb’s centenary programme, tells Suburb News that he will be launching his latest volume with a reading in the Art Gallery at Swiss Cottage Library in September, see Whats On on page 10.

“The book’s title *No School Tie* refers to my time at boarding

school when I was sent in the 60s to Sussex. It was a period of mixed feelings, when home sickness and sexual awakening fought with anxiety, antisemitism, cricket and new friendships.

“Another of the sequences in the book is a series of twelve poems celebrating the birth of twin grandchildren.”

### BIRTH DAY

*Dashed to delivery through empty streets  
before the day’s noise and sun had risen.*

*Lying in the cot, heads touching  
in your two-week earliness,*

*I listen to the silence of new born  
breath. The knife made its cut.*

*You were lifted out, 10lbs of twins  
to the sound of Magic FM, nurse, doctor*

*and midwife swapping Saturday night  
stories of missed love and kisses; then into*

*your mother’s arms at the edge of your first day.*

*No School Tie* from Ward Wood Publishing, is available from Joseph’s Bookstore.

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