

“Ideas for mutual assistance”

HGS Synagogue at Norrice Lea has a new Rabbi, Dov Kaplan, who joined the community in September with his London-born wife and three youngest children. Rabbi Kaplan's background and outlook were given in the Spring edition of Suburb News – he was most recently in the relatively non-observant town of Caesaria where his pastoral duties included mediation and counselling, as well as teaching in a secular school.



than the big city. His interviewer referred to Suburb communal participation in events, but had to say that the ideal is probably not actioned by more than 30 per cent of residents; the Rabbi responded that his community seeks to be a family but it too has a proportion of non-participants – one of his functions will be to reach out to them.

His first impressions of the Suburb, including meetings with Father Alan Walker and Rev Ian Tutton, are overwhelmingly of a friendly place. As he puts it, “Big cities have drive-through neighbourhoods. In contrast, the Suburb has boundaries and parks where you recognise the people out walking.” He likes to greet passers-by – an almost lost concept but one that fosters a sense of community which was once the norm.

Community means a great deal to him. He and his wife lived for a while on a Kibbutz, with three children, in a tiny house but with the use of all the open space, rather like the Dame's concept for the Suburb which has huge appeal to him, a friendlier, healthier environment

He comments, “In Judaism we look to bring people together – we are all brothers in the sight of God. I have been told about the Proms at St Jude's by the Church ministers and about the Flower Shows by my own congregants; those are just the sort of activities that the Suburb has done so well to create and preserve. I would like to find ideas, together with the other ministers, to hold more communal events and for people to know

each other and foster a friendlier atmosphere for mutual assistance and support.”

Rabbi Kaplan's home remains in Israel, but he has been attracted by the challenge here. He feels there is a great opportunity to add to the spiritual and social cohesion of his synagogue community in the Suburb. He admires the work of the continuing members of the synagogue's team and is still getting to grips with the size of the community, over a thousand households with a reducing average age.

Kerem primary school, with its younger classes in the Kingsley Way building, and older classes on the synagogue premises, is a tremendous asset. He describes it as a happy and effective school which nonetheless has rules and boundaries. He stresses the importance of teaching values as well as exam curricula. When he taught in Caesaria, it was a great satisfaction that secular parents were happy that their children were learning values.

Rabbi Kaplan sums himself up as a traditionalist, following Judaism's ancient customs, balanced with tolerance and a modern interpretation, reflecting changing times.

JONATHAN SERES

Chamber concerts at Fellowship



Beverley Calland

A second Fellowship chamber music series of six concerts is taking place from the end of October until the beginning of December. They will take place on Sundays at 2.30pm, last for an hour and be followed by drinks.

These intimate concerts in Fellowship Hall, which can only seat an audience of 65, have a distinctly local Suburb flavour. In the opening concert for solo violin on October 30, four pieces by local composer David Matthews will be played. He will introduce each of his compositions.

This is followed on November 6 by a concert given by trumpeter Deborah Calland who lives in the heart of the Suburb. She will be joined by her sister Beverley who plays the saxophone. This exciting combination will be



Deborah Calland

accompanied on the piano by Barry Millington, who will have his work cut out to satisfy both his wife and sister in law!

The November 13 concert sees frenchman Pierre Largeron in a violin/piano recital. Pierre is living on the Suburb whilst completing his post graduate studies at the Royal College of Music, so can be considered an honorary resident.

On November 20 Stuart James and Ania Ullmann return, after their successful concert last year, this time to play the Mozart Concertante for Violin and Viola.

This concert is followed by a remarkable trio of father and two daughters. Father Francis was an organ scholar at Oxford but changed from a musical to a medical career. However he



David Matthews

found that his two daughters were so exceptionally talented that they started performing together in concerts. That was eight years ago and both daughters are still at school! (Shades of Mozart senior with his son and daughter.)

Finally on December 4 the last in the series features the silky tones of baritone Victor Sicard, who recently competed in the finals of the Guildhall Gold Medal Singing Competition. He will be accompanied on the piano by Anna Cardona who played in the first series. Anna and Victor live in Hampstead close, but not on the Suburb.

A leaflet on the series can be obtained at Fellowship House in Willifield Way or alternatively ring the box office, 8458 5042.

Packed Trust AGM

Chairman Angus Walker started the proceedings promptly as members were still filing in to the Free Church Hall for the annual general meeting of the Hampstead Garden Suburb Trust. He reported on a “satisfactory year” during which the finances had improved, “the Trust is now on a sound financial footing,” and that court rulings had confirmed “well-defined and important powers”. The management charge, he was pleased to say, had remained almost the same as the previous year.

David Iwi started questions on the report and accounts by asking at length about something that was not in the report. He wanted to know why Henrietta Barnett School had been allowed to build the extensions and why they were not included.

Dr Papadopoulos asked about the rise in management charge and the proportion paid by the Trust of leasehold costs. The chairman said that comprehensive answers to all his questions about Trust finances and the management charge had been given to Dr Papadopoulos many times by the Trust, the Leasehold Valuation Tribunal and the Surveyor.

Gloria Moss asked how a real increase, given in the chairman's statement, of 2.3% a year in the charge since 2005/6, could be reconciled with a jump from £40 in 2005. Jane Blackburn explained again that the actual cost that year had been £81 but the

charge then was subsidised by the Trust which had mortgaged its office building and could not continue with the subsidy.

Ron Finlay said he was amazed by the furore caused by an increase of only £35 over five years. “We should be grateful that the Trust is protecting the Suburb so cheaply.”

David Bogush queried the appropriateness of the investment policy. The chairman said a relatively small amount had been invested on advice and the result was disappointing.

David B Lewis complained that “contract gardeners were ruining our lives with noisy machinery” and asked whether the Trust would act.

Further questions were put about basements, neglected front gardens, staff costs and the Henrietta Barnett School. The report and accounts were received.

The chairman then thanked Richard Wakefield who was retiring at the end of his statutory six years as an elected trustee. Three candidates had been nominated for election.

The candidates Carol Boulter, Claire Calman and Saul Zadka each addressed the meeting and answered questions.

During the question and answer session after the formal meeting, motions put by David Iwi and others to remove the requirement for the Council to approve resolutions to be put to the AGM and for an independent

body of freeholders to be consulted over the management charge were defeated.

Motions deploring the way in which Henrietta Barnett School has been extended and calling for full consultation with all residents on future major planning decisions were carried. It is understood that, as a result, the Trust Council will be reviewing the Trust's consultation practices and discussing proposals with residents.



Proms at St Jude's volunteers along with Susie Gregson and chairman Niamh O'Donnell-Keenan made a visit to Toynbee Hall to find out more about the charity and to hand over a cheque for £45,000 raised for Toynbee Hall during the 2011 Proms

WORDSEARCH

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

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

DIANA WOODFIELD

The wordsearch prize is sponsored by

JOSEPH'S BOOKSTORE

Monthly events: jewish studies, scientific and jazz evenings plus authors at Joseph's Bookstore and Cafe Also. E-mail to join mail list - info@josephsbookstore.com 1257 Finchley Road, Temple Fortune - 8731 7575

SUMMER WORDSEARCH ANSWER

The 20 artists were: Bacon, Braque, Breugel, Cezanne, Constable, Durer, Freud, Goya, Holbein, Ingres, Klee, Picasso, Raphael, Rembrandt, Rubens, Tissot, Titian, Van Dyck, Vermeer, Watteau.

Wordsearch winner

The summer winner is Mrs Claire Boucher. Now well into her 90s, Claire has lived in Abbeyfield House for seven years.

She moved from her home in Norfolk when her husband died so she could be near her family in Willesden.



QUALITY NOT QUANTITY.

We won't waste time showing your home to the masses. With an unrivalled database of serious buyers on our books, we prefer to spend our time finding the perfect purchaser for you.

Knight Frank

Knight Frank Hampstead 79-81 Heath Street, London NW3 020 7431 8686 hampstead@knightfrank.co.uk knightfrank.co.uk

Quote "5N" for a free lesson or 10% off your first term

Piano With Tim

GBSM ABSM DIP.MUS

Children (6+) & Adults.
Home visits by arrangement. ISM/EPTA registered

“Learning the piano should be fun, for everyone involved – pupil, parent and teacher.”

07816 959 215 | info@pianowithtim.com
www.pianowithtim.com