

The Olympics come to Garden Suburb Infant School



Dame Tessa Jowell helps inspire children at Suburb school

Children and staff at Garden Suburb Infant School can hardly wait for the Olympics to begin!

For the past ten weeks all teaching and learning in school has centred on the forthcoming London Olympics and the children, aged 4 to 7 years old, are now truly Olympic experts.

The 7 Olympic Values of Courage, Determination, Equality, Excellence, Friendship, Inspiration and Respect have been the consistent theme of the whole

term and the work produced has been fantastic. Children have designed their own Olympic posters, written short guides for visitors to London, learned about the history of the Olympics, researched some of the Olympic athletes. Even the end of year show had an Olympic theme.

The School has also had a number of important visitors who have helped to make the whole event real. Everyone was thrilled by a gymnastics display

from Genna Walters, a former member of the GB Gymnastics team, who showed how they could begin to practise some of the basic gym moves. Children were inspired by meeting a real Olympic medallist, Cath Bishop, and having the chance to touch and hold her medal. Cath Bishop, silver medallist in Athens for rowing women's coxless pair, explained to the children how important it was to keep going and to never give up, even when it was very difficult. Staff and pupils alike were also able to hold a genuine Olympic Torch from the 1948 London Olympics!

Finally, on July 5, the School had a visit from Dame Tessa Jowell, who was the Minister responsible for putting together London's Olympic bid. She showed the children the film that helped secure the games for London and talked to them about having a dream and realising it. She also talked about how we are all ambassadors for London when all our international visitors arrive and about the value of equality embodied in the Olympics and Paralympics.

The children have been truly inspired by the visitors and experiences that have been planned for them.

SARAH SANDS, HEADTEACHER

New Hampstead Heritage Trail booklets

A new 15 mile trail from Camden Town to Alexandra Palace is described in five individual booklets launched in June. The trail runs from Camden Town, through Belsize Park, Hampstead, Hampstead Garden Suburb and East Finchley. The Hampstead Garden Suburb Trust, the Highgate Society, the Heath & Hampstead Society and the Hornsey Historical Society, joined forces for the first time to create the 'Hampstead Heritage Trail'.

Trust Manager Jane Blackburn spoke at the launch on the importance of educating and encouraging visitors to the Suburb. Whilst most people with an interest in town planning or architectural heritage have heard of it, relatively few people have actually visited. Even those who have lived for many years as near neighbours of the Suburb have often not explored this mysterious region north of the Heath.

The significance and value of the Suburb needs to be widely understood; its important place in the social history and architectural fabric of England should permeate the consciousness of us all.

It is a long term aim of the Trust to explain the Suburb's history and special qualities of place to everyone; from school children through the interested visitor to the judiciary and to parliament. Its future lies in all their hands.

The publication of these walking tours represents several steps in that direction.

Richard Webber of the Highgate Society, came up with the original idea for the 9 mile Circular Walk. He said, "Planning policies make frequent reference to 'the fringes of Hampstead Heath', the latter being the jewel in the crown."



Each walk starts and ends at a point easily accessible by public transport, and includes a detailed route map with places for refreshment on the way.

The booklets cost between £3 and £5 each. The complete set of nine (Heritage Trail and Circular Walk) costs £25.

Available from local shops, Garden Suburb Gallery, the Library or the Trust office.

The Institute *(continued from page 1)*

the books at a great deal more, tangible assets are on the 2011 balance sheet at £8.7 million. The hope is that whoever is the successful bidder, by the end of August, will make arrangements for the Institute remain at least until the summer of 2013. Mr Waterman told Suburb News that there was a great deal of interest and that he expected offers well in excess of the amount needed to pay off the bank loan. Asked about the likely result at the end of the current year he said "After many years of heavy losses we should break even."

"Meanwhile," says principal Joy Solomon, "The Institute is going strong. Only last month,

our BTEC Art & Design and Fashion Textiles degree students staged a fantastic catwalk show widely praised in the local media, showcasing their original and eye-catching creations. July began with a Jazz Concert followed by our annual Art Foundation Show with some truly impressive work by our students on display.

The Institute's new 2012/13 prospectus, just out, is a testament to the breadth of talent of our teachers. In addition to the regular favourites in Arts and Crafts, there are a number of attractive new courses featured here for the first time: a Master Chef cookery course aimed at those who would like to develop their cookery skills

into a career or a new business; Farsi has been added to the range of languages on offer and our Humanities courses have been extended to include Economics, Current Affairs, History and Philosophy. Just as in March 1909, when The Institute first opened, we are continuing to offer that 'open door to a fuller and wider life for the community' whilst constantly reinventing ourselves to keep pace with a changing world. We have over 60 summer short courses on offer, children's holiday workshops and healthy enrolments for the autumn term. We look forward to seeing all our students from the Suburb back here again in September."

SIMON ABBOTT



Garden Suburb School's new building

The Garden Suburb School in Childs Way opened in 1913 and was designed by W.G. Wilson in a ripe Arts and Crafts style. Soon after the country was plunged in to war the necessity for further classrooms was inevitably met with cheap temporary buildings made up of concrete panels with corrugated asbestos roofs.

Similar buildings were added after serious bomb damage in

the Second World War to house the canteen and kitchens.

Until last year these unsightly temporary rooms, now in a collapsing condition, were still being used by the school. They have now been replaced by a new wing designed to house a modern kitchen, dining hall and three classrooms.

The Trust worked with the school and its architects to

ensure the new wing responds architecturally to the original building and respects its setting.

At the Trust's request the school's original proposals were reduced in scale and the roof redesigned to reflect the form and appearance of surrounding Suburb buildings.

The new facilities have improved the pupils' educational environment immeasurably.

The Harris Report

The Independent Enquiry into the Role of the Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association in connection with the new buildings for the Henrietta Barnett School now seems more briefly and simply to be known as 'the Harris Report'.

The response since its publication has been overwhelmingly favourable with

'excellent' and even 'fantastic' prevailing. Now that we have a reliable and comprehensive overview of what happened, the RA Council is moving on to assess the RA response to Dr Margaret Harris's suggestions for the future. The RA is holding an Open Forum to discuss the report at Fellowship House October 11 at 8pm. All welcome.

A small minority of critics continue to prioritise the past. Copies of the Report can still be down loaded from the RA web site at www.hgs.org.uk or hard copies obtained from the Gallery or Library.

SIMON ABBOTT

Write your life story

In October, led by local writer Helen Harris, a new life story writing programme will be starting in Central Square. Lifelines is a 28 week course aimed at people who wants to record their memories but feel they could do with some help along the way.

Meeting weekly in small groups, participants will use a series of questionnaires and memory tools to guide them through the fulfilling process of writing their life story. Lifelines is not simply a writing course; its primary focus is to help people to complete a record of their life. There is no need to have written before.

The Suburb's first Lifelines group will meet in the Vicarage Rooms, Central Square on

Thursday afternoons starting on Thursday, 4 October 2012. The first session is free and open to everyone to meet Helen and their fellow students before committing to the full three term course.

For more information you can visit www.lifelineslondon.co.uk or email Helen at harrishelen@btinternet.com.



Open House

During Open House weekend in 2011, over a quarter of a million people explored architecture and design in the UK's capital. The ambitious programme is substantially funded by the London boroughs but not Barnet. In the Suburb's case, this year, as in 2011, the RA and the Trust and associates have stepped in so that we are not left out of the programme.

Last year over 780 events in Open House London took place, in every London neighbourhood. There were high levels of interest in landscape design and civil engineering through a partnership programmes with ICE and Landscape Institute, exploring the wider design of the city, with 20% of the surveyed audience saying that they have commented on a planning issue or consultation

in their local area as a result of the initiative. The dates for 2012 are 22 & 23 September with the theme of 'The changing face of London', coinciding with the 20th anniversary of Open House London.

Copies of the Open House Directory for the London wide event will be available, free of charge to residents, from the Trust and the Community Library.

Winter Fair in aid of



to be opened by **MARTIN BELL**
11am-3pm Saturday 3rd November 2012
Free Church Hall, Northway

Vintage items, Collectables, Silver, Jewellery, Pictured, Books, Cakes & Produce, Combat Stress Christmas Cards & Gifts. NEW: Children's Games, Activities and 'Come Dressed as a Hero/Heroine' Competition, Tombola, Plants, HGS Gallery. Light refreshments and lots more!

If you have any unwanted gifts, tombola or household items (china, glass, pictures, linens) in good condition which you would like to donate please contact

Ruth Smith on 020 8458 8191





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