

Suburb

Hampstead Garden Suburb
Residents Association

News



Councillor
and vicar enjoy
fireworks party
again



Rachel Dein
talks to our
Style editor,
page 7



Author Michael
Morpurgo opens
Archer Academy,
see page 4

RA's fireworks party back

You can talk about and plan these events for weeks, as indeed we did, but no amount of preparation makes any difference if you're relying on the weather, as we were.

For those of a slightly anxious disposition, nature had a cruel way of playing with us and it wasn't until approximately 11.40 on New Year's Eve 2013 that the rain finally stopped and held off long enough for the much awaited RA firework display.

An hour earlier, the magnificent St Jude's Church and it's resident Vicar Alan Walker hosted probably one of the busiest New Year drinks' parties in the history of these annual firework displays. The cava was flowing, the soft drinks were demolished in moments but no-one minded because at least they were dry. There was a buzz of excitement whilst umbrellas were shaken and guests took refuge in the

Church, eagerly awaiting the countdown to midnight. Noise levels were increasing by the minute in this normally quiet place of worship.

Meanwhile, our weather-hardy Stewards were outside in Central Square proudly shaking the eponymous yellow buckets and cash donations were literally thrown in by hundreds of local residents and visitors to the event.
(continued on back page)



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL JACOBS



Keeping up appearances



With a lecture given by their architect David Davidson, Hampstead Garden Suburb Trust launched the new Design Guidance to an audience of some 80 residents in December in the synagogue hall.

The lecture was entitled 'Keeping Up Appearances – Design guidance and aesthetic control as part of Unwin's plan for Hampstead Garden Suburb.' He discussed the significance of control and the relevance of the

newly illustrated Design Guidance in terms of the historical intentions of controlling development in the conservation area, and about providing home-owners and architects with the tools and assistance to make appropriate alterations. This Design Guidance gives advice on repairs, alterations and extensions to properties and on works to trees and gardens. It has been produced jointly by the Hampstead Garden Suburb Trust and Barnet Council.

In preparing the publication, the emphasis has been to use photographs and illustrations to bring to life the form, texture and detail of the architecture and landscapes of the area. It is hoped that this will encourage residents to understand and

value the special qualities of the Suburb and better appreciate the need to protect its character. The guidance explains the importance of careful design in all works to buildings, and refers to the specialist skills and craft traditions involved. It will assist applicants to make their proposals realistic and help the Trust and Barnet to make decisions which are clear and consistent.

All applications for alterations will be determined in the light of the guidance given in this booklet.

The Design Guidance is published for Residents of Hampstead Garden Suburb and can be found on the Trust's website www.hgstrust.org. Copies can be obtained from the Trust, the Garden Suburb Gallery and Community Library.

Fellowship moves ahead

The Trust has now confirmed the go ahead for Fellowship's plans for the refurbishment of its building and garden area. Barnet gave its consent at the beginning of November.

The plans were displayed in Fellowship House and in the Trust Office and comments were invited over a three month period. Fellowship members approved them last summer.

It is hoped that the works will start in the summer, incorporating the annual summer shutdown period. We at Fellowship are aware of anxieties about closure and are already planning alternative venues.

A Suburb wide appeal has been launched to provide top up financing for the works. I'm struck by the generous response of residents to this initiative and as of mid January, £22,000 has already been raised. More is needed to reach our target so if

you have not already given to this excellent Suburb cause – the only remaining independent community building in the Suburb – please consider doing so now. Pick up a copy of the appeal information leaflet and Gift Aid form from Fellowship House or the Trust Office or call me on 8209 1475. All donations will be acknowledged and a donors roll will be displayed in the building.

We'd like to thank Peter Falk, having given years of hard work and a huge amount of his own time to Fellowship as Treasurer, and has now decided to step down.

We welcome local residents Keith Ellis, who takes over as Treasurer, and David Levey who will be responsible for various administrative duties including hall bookings (call 8209 1773 or email dahlevey@googlemail.com).
JOHN HEWSON

Playground revamp

March is the planned start for the full scale update of the young children's playground in Northway Gardens (Suburb News Autumn 2013). Thanks to an RA grant of the remaining £20,000 of its centenary fund, and energetic lobbying by a users' group chaired by Katie Fearn, Barnet has agreed

to partner the venture with its own £50,000, leaving the users to raise a small balance for some of the equipment. Over half the cost is to replace the unhygienic wood chips with child-friendly matting, now to be brown rather than blue, thanks to input from Oakwood Road residents.

Passionate Suburbites

For 35 years we have been dealing with the "great and the good" of the Suburb

We live, eat and breathe this wonderful cherished place and feel privileged to be able to serve this community.

We routinely break price precedents for our valued customers, since we attract buyers from both within and outside the area greatly assisted by our local and international status.

"We know a lot about a little", which means we do not get distracted by properties we cannot sell in other parts of London. We attract the best purchasers/tenants for our clients and every transaction is a milestone for us.

Before we act for you we adopt your property as if it is our own and deal with it accordingly.

Our extensive clientele base is a testament to the commitment and passion we have for our business so if you have not dealt with us before, why not give us a ring? We have an innate understanding of where the market is going and we are happy to impart this to you or simply give you an up-to-date appraisal.

No obligation, no fuss... just old-fashioned service.

Speak to you soon.



020 8458 7311
www.glentree.co.uk

Sign up for Suburb toddlers party

All Suburb toddlers are invited, with parents, to a party organised by the RA Events Committee on Sunday March 9 at Fellowship House, Willifield Way.

Elaine Robinson, mother of two and near neighbour Florence Cooke have planned an afternoon of fun, with entertainment and food, and prizes for all.

Expecting children from 2 to 4 years old, there'll be plenty of floor mats in the next room for babes in arms. Registration is via the website www.hgs.org.uk which has more information. Any further questions can be sent to Elaine or Florence at raevents@hgs.org.uk.

RA party for new residents

New and not so new residents can drop in to a drinks reception at Fellowship House (Willifield Way, opposite the big green) on Tuesday 4th February, any time between 6.30-8.30pm. RA team member, Diane Walsh, said "We

will be particularly welcoming those who have moved into the Suburb in the last couple of years, but any resident who wants to feel the warmth of this fantastic community should drop in – and buggies will be welcome.



The 102nd AGM

of the Association will take place on Monday 31 March 2014 at 8pm in the Henrietta Barnett School Hall, Central Square. Motions for the agenda must be received by 17 February 2013. Nominations for the posts of officers and members of the Council must be received by 21 March 2014.

They should be submitted in writing, signed by proposers and seconders and have the consent of nominees. Please send notices of motions and nominations to:

The Assistant Secretary, Rosemary Goldstein,
1a Church Mount, N2 0RW