

Suburb



Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association

News



A well deserved fanfare, find out who it's for on p8

Will they promise you a rose garden? See p5



Rev. Alan Walker talks about life, literature and St Jude's, p7



Sadly this is the last issue of Suburb News which will be produced by Richard Wakefield. Many readers will know that he had been seriously unwell for some time and on Thursday, October 23 he was taken with an infection to the Royal Free Hospital where he later died.

Richard was born on the Suburb in 1935 and lived here with his parents and sister Katharine until 1950. He returned to the Suburb in 1973 to stay, originally living at 50 Willifield Way and then later at 26 Hampstead Way.

Richard started Suburb News, as a successor to the popular Newsletter, in the summer of 1983 with some misgivings about whether a regular newspaper could be maintained. He went on to take charge of every issue, including this one, his one hundred and twentieth which he was finalising when he died.

Richard will be much missed by the Residents Association Council, which he joined in 1978, its Publications Committee and by the designer of Suburb News, Richard's long-time associate, Trevor Hutton of 1st Impression. Our condolences go out to his wife, Jocelyne, their children Olivia and Frederic, to Peter and Candida his children from his first marriage, and the rest of his family.

Our next issue will carry a full appreciation of Richard's life on the Suburb and his contribution to it. We hope it will be a fitting tribute to this paper's founder and a much-loved Suburb resident.



Garden Suburb Junior School has been awarded the 'Best Educational Garden' prize. The children were so excited to win the cup which the Mayor of Barnet, Cllr Hugh Rayner, presented. The school entered the Young Gardeners of Barnet competition and in July, three judges visited the school. Pupils displayed their home grown produce, which included pumpkins, courgettes and strawberries. A total of 12 schools from across the borough took part. Jo Connolly organised the event.

Trust strengthened by court case

A well attended Trust AGM heard chairman Richard Wiseman thanking his fellow trustees for their hard work and help during his first year as a trustee and chairman. He made a special mention of the legacy of his predecessor as chairman, Angus Walker, and the work of Pippa Aitken over nine years as the trustee appointed by the Royal Institute of Town Planning, who has been succeeded by Alison Blom-Cooper. There were also thanks to the staff and the unseen army of volunteers, including those who sit on the committees

that do so much of the Trust's work, and the team working on the Tree Survey.

He reminded those present of some of the important events of the year including the Trust's ability to protect the Suburb having been defined and strengthened by the result of defending the 2 Green Close case. Publication of the Design Guidelines, which help explain Trust decisions, are available from the Trust and on the website. The website itself is new having been redesigned by Lauren Geisler. The renovation of the Great

Wall, most of which is owned by the freeholders, has begun under the supervision of the Trust and with the help of the Corporation of the City of London. We were also told of the Trust's determination to enforce its decisions on consents although the cost always has to be balanced with the mischief caused.

In matters of finance the great unknown for the Trust and the management charge is always legal costs. The financial position is kept healthy by exercising extremely tight cost control, which is also reflected in the amount of the management charge. The change in investment

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New Trustees Alison Blom-Cooper and Michael David White



Chairman Richard Wiseman addresses 2014 AGM



WE DELIVER

For almost 40 years now we have been serving the needs of the Suburb and we have enjoyed every moment of it. Our service extends from Cottages to Castles and there is no property which is too small or too large for us to handle.

We are delighted to introduce you to the Glentree New Homes office, where we are able to offer the largest selection of new developments in North West London, either as a home or as a buy-to-let investment.

At Glentree Rentals, our bespoke letting service, we are bristling with a wide selection of fine homes to rent in all price ranges and why not enquire about our specialist Suburb Sales division which deals exclusively with properties such as yours and has a house-by-house understanding of this very special area.

We believe we can make a substantial difference to you by selling your cherished home for the highest possible price when the time is right ... and not before, of course.

Our well known International connections allow us the unique facility of attracting buyers/tenants not only from the locality, or within the UK, but also from virtually every corner of the globe. A wider globalised audience means usually better terms for you.

We are the longest serving agents in the area, under the same Management for over 40 years and if you want to know what's going on in the market or check the value of your home, please feel free to pop in and you are welcome to use our private clients' car park (at the rear of our offices).

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



Residents quiz Barnet councillors

The latest Open Meeting organised by the Residents Association brought together councillors and residents in the Friends Meeting House, which was packed for the occasion, to ask questions and discuss matters of local interest. Five of the six councillors who represent the two wards in which the Suburb is situated were present, with only Daniel Seal of Garden Suburb ward kept away by 'flu. The other two Garden Suburb representatives, John Marshall and Gabriel Rozenberg, were there, while Alison Moore, Arjun Mittra and Alon Orbach from East Finchley ward also attended.

The event was very ably chaired, while standing, by the Reverend Alan Walker of St Jude's Church, who started proceedings by asking the audience to identify some topics for the meeting. In no time at all he had an ample list including CPZs, pavements, cyclists, Northway Gardens, road markings, speeding, housing, rubbish collection and street lights.

Micky Watkins was concerned by the widespread problem of broken paving stones and wondered if the council had considered using a granular surface. The benefits mentioned by various residents included it giving a seamless surface, allowing for drainage because it is porous, giving better grip for pedestrians and causing less damage to trees. Officials subsequently responded that granular material is very expensive, but Barnet are now using thicker paving slabs and taking care with the mortar bedding.

The question of how to deal with speeding was next, with particular concern about Addison Way and Hampstead Way, which,

it was added, was dangerous for a pedestrian to cross at the junction with Corringham Road. The remedies mentioned included speed bumps or rumble strips, 20mph limits with speed-activated signs, speed cameras and width-restricted chicanes with priority for one direction.

Speed bumps are disliked by the emergency services, expensive to install and unpopular; in fact on a show of hands only one

went up in support. 20mph limits, which we were informed are only advisory, are often not respected, but average speeds are reduced and it is known that speed is a significant factor in accident rates and the severity of pedestrian injuries. A few residents wanted a 20mph limit, but most just wanted the existing limit obeyed with many in favour of 30mph speed-activated signs.

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NEW YEAR'S EVE

Fireworks party

FREE DRINKS!

Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association

Residents are warmly invited to the HGSRA party in St Jude's from 10.45pm. Plus a fireworks extravaganza on Central Square at midnight. There will be a collection to help with the fireworks

Organised by the Events Committee of the Residents Association. With thanks to St Jude's and our generous sponsors


