

# Suburb

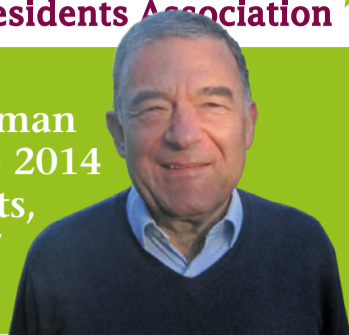


# News

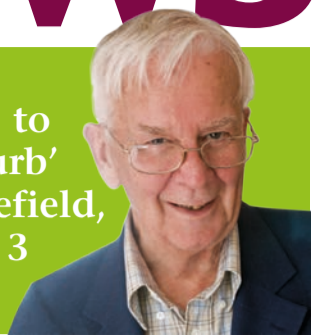


**David Littaur sets the sky alight – to everyone's delight!**

**HGSRA chairman presents the 2014 annual reports, pages 6 & 7**



**Tributes to 'Mr Suburb' Richard Wakefield, pages 2 & 3**



## Unauthorised alterations on Suburb incur £45,000 fine

In Willesden Magistrates Court, in January, the owner of a Grade 2 listed house in Wildwood Road was fined £45,000 for four offences of unauthorised alterations, plus costs of £14,000 payable to Barnet Council who had brought the proceedings against the owner.

David Davidson, Architectural Adviser for the Trust who gave

expert evidence, said: "The Hampstead Garden Suburb Trust is very pleased that the Court has taken these offences seriously and imposed such a substantial fine on the building owner.

The Suburb is an area of international significance in the history of town planning and architecture, and alterations to

its buildings need to be carefully considered in order to retain its special characteristics."

In more Trust News Jane Blackburn is retiring at the end of January after 10 years as Trust Manager, and Nick Packard, the present Estate Manager, will take over. Our next issue will include interviews with both of them.

## Starting the New Year with a 'Bang'

What an incredible turnout from HGS residents, their families and friends to the Annual Firework Display on Central Square as 2014 turned into 2015.

Shortly before 10.30pm, local residents began to arrive at St Jude's Church to enjoy champagne and home baked cookies, and to chat to friends and neighbours.

Outside meanwhile, the fireworks were being set up on the Tennis Court and volunteers, proudly sporting their newly branded high-viz jackets were marshalling the crowds towards

the Church and Square. The sound of coins being thrown into the donation buckets echoed around the local streets as Collectors shamelessly approached all and sundry for loose change and gratefully received several notes too.

The crowds were ushered out of the Church well in advance of the midnight countdown and, as Big Ben rang for the 12th time, the display went off with a bang.

This year's piece was truly spectacular; lasting just short of 10 minutes, necks were craned and phones held aloft to record

the colourful and creative display. Comments on the HGS message boards on New Year's Day bore testament to the 2014 event being the best to date.

More residents than ever before came to the display, not forgetting those who were lucky enough to see it from their homes! As a result, the Residents Association raised in excess of £1,100 on the night.

Thanks must go to Reverend Alan Walker of St Jude's Church, to our Sponsors Glentree Estates & Melissa Conway Opticians; to Vicky and the team at Waitrose Temple Fortune for the complimentary drinks and nibbles; to all of our additional Volunteers; to the Firework Sub Committee for their hard work in preparing and organising the event; and finally to you, the Residents for both your support and generosity.

If you enjoyed the Firework display and would like to get involved next year or in any of the other events run by the Residents Association, please email your details to [raevents@hgs.org.uk](mailto:raevents@hgs.org.uk). We are always keen to recruit more volunteers.

AMANDA REUBEN



A spectacular display on Central Square starts the new year off on the Suburb

CEASAR RODRIGUEZ-DURAN



ED HOTTERILL

### Central Square Make Over

(Above) New Year's Eve morning view of Central Square and its new lamp posts put in by Barnet following pressure from the Central Square Residents Association and the RA's Consam with the support of the Trust.

(Right) Sunday 16 November was Mitzvah Day when Jewish communities around the world engage in social action projects. Central Square Minyan, the independent orthodox synagogue which meets in St Jude's Church Rooms on Central Square, asked the Suburb Trust for a project and as a result a group of volunteers (Alex Halfin, Judith Tobin, Edward Black, Angela Gershon, Ben Tobin) found themselves sweeping, raking and collecting rubbish. The Central Square Residents' Association acted as liaison between the volunteers and Barnet Council which provided plastic bags and then cleared away the full bags. Richard Townley, Chair of the Central Square Residents' Association, expressed his appreciation to the volunteers.



## Join Suburb Library Toddler Time

The Suburb Library at the junction of Market Place, Hill Rise and Northway runs children's activities twice a week.

On Thursdays there are two sessions of Sing Song Time at 10-10.30am and 10.45-11.15am for under threes and their carers. The aim is for the children to join in singing familiar songs, enjoying both the music and movement and gradually building up their confidence and enjoyment. On Tuesday there is Story/Song Time from 10.15-10.45am. Toddlers and their carers are welcomed into a warm, friendly group, providing rhythm and rhyme making activities alongside both new and familiar songs, and an introduction into the

world of exciting and boundless stories beyond home provision.

For further information go to [www.gardensuburblibrary.org.uk](http://www.gardensuburblibrary.org.uk). Or you can contact them at [mail@gardensuburblibrary.org.uk](mailto:mail@gardensuburblibrary.org.uk).

### THE FUTURE

Barnet's consultation on the future of the borough's libraries is incredibly important. It asks questions on our attitudes to unstaffed libraries and what kind of organisations we want running the libraries e.g. councils, charities, commercial providers etc. It gives you the opportunity to choose one of three new plans for the libraries or turn them all down and suggest something else.

Importantly, for the Garden Suburb Library, question 17 asks

if the council should continue to offer financial assistance to the community libraries in Hampstead Garden Suburb and Friern Barnet. Without this funding it would be difficult for the library to continue.

Please take the time to fill in the survey; it takes about 30 minutes. Here is the link: <http://tinyurl.com/lwyjck>. Copies of the questionnaire plus the full options paper and a prepaid envelope are available from the library and the consultation runs until 22nd February.

The library now has Twitter and Facebook accounts that you can follow for up to the minute news from the library. Details on the website.

## 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.**



## The 103rd RA AGM

will take place on Monday 30 March 2015 after the 7.45pm Special General Meeting (re constitutional change) in the Henrietta Barnett School Hall, Central Square.

Motions for the agenda must be received by 16 February 2015. Nominations for the posts of officers and members of the Council must be received by 20 March 2015. 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**

(Members will receive notice of both meetings with agendas by 16 March 2015)