

51st Mayor opens local school Library

His Worshipful the Mayor, Mark Shooter, cut the ribbon to open the newly refurbished library at Brookland Junior School alongside the recently elected School Mayor, Sara Zemet.



Pearson, Jacob Rosen and Sakina Quettawala who won the School's competition to design graphics panels for the new shelving. The Mayor was impressed by the confident and vivacious pupils who attended the celebration. During the opening Year 6 pupils provided some lively



and much appreciated musical entertainment in the form of a jazz band.



Random Ramblings of a short-sighted blogger

Suburb resident Alex Pearl's latest work, 'Random Ramblings of a short-sighted blogger', has recently been published. Alex is an advertising copywriter who lives in Ludlow Way and fell into writing a blog by accident. A client invited him to a three-day intensive creative writing course run by the author and journalist John Simmons. The participants were set a rigorous programme of writing tasks with precious little time to finish each one, and on completion, they had to present their work to the class. Though initially daunting, the course was wonderfully liberating. It led to the revelation that even the seemingly mundane can form the basis for engaging and compelling copy. And the piece he wrote and presented on his last day (Family Reflections) was, in 2009, one of the first posts to appear on the blog, which was the result of his experience on the course. To his amazement the blog has now clocked up over 38,000 page views and has an audience in some of the unlikely corners of the globe - including Ukraine, Bulgaria and Iceland.



The book is an eclectic collection of posts from the blog ranging from the eccentricities of village cricket to the surprising hospitality of hotels in North Korea. It is published by Amazon's CreateSpace. Readers can find the blog at <http://rhubarbrabbit.blogspot.co.uk>. His first book 'Sleeping with the Blackbirds' was written for children from 14 and up. It was reported in the Summer 2011 issue of Suburb News, which can be found online at hgs.org.uk. Interested readers can find the report of his second work 'Scared to Death' in our Winter 2015 issue.



Suburb Library summer reading challenge

The long school holidays have started and the Garden Suburb Community Library in Market Place is running a summer reading challenge again for our younger readers called 'Record Breakers Summer Reading Challenge' together with LB Barnet Libraries. The challenge aims to keep 4 to 12 year-olds reading during the summer holidays, introduce them to new authors and to encourage them to get through a total of six books before they return to school. This was extremely popular last year. Register at the library to receive your free starter pack. After every two books read, children receive stickers, there is a brilliant prize for reading four books and after six books they receive a medal and a certificate.

The library is also running a Poster Competition and would like their younger readers to design a poster with the theme 'What the library means to me'. There are three age groups, 6 and under, 7 to 9 years and 10 to 12 years. The winners in each category will receive a £5 book token. Entry forms can be picked up at the library, please return them by Saturday September 5. The library has also been busy buying new books. There is lots of new fiction and the latest gardening, cookery and travel books. The only problem is that as soon as the books are put on the shelves, they are being taken out. It proves they must be buying the right books!

Spring Wordsearch

The answers to the last issue's Languages Wordsearch were as follows: Amharic, Arabic, Basque, Berber, Cantonese, Esperanto, Flemish, Hebrew, Irish, Korean, Maltese, Manx, Persian, Romanian, Russian, Slovak, Swahili, Turkish, Urdu, Welsh.

The most popular language in the world is Mandarin Chinese, with more than a billion speakers in the world. UNESCO has identified 2,500 languages at risk of extinction due to threats posed by globalisation and cultural homogenisation.

DID YOU KNOW? There are about 6,500 spoken languages in the world today. Asia is the continent where most languages can be found (around 2,200).

WINNER Congratulations to our Spring Wordsearch winner, Roshan Magub, who lives on Erskine Hill, and thanks to everyone who participated.

WORDSEARCH

Next October will be Black History Month. To celebrate it, this issue's Wordsearch includes the names of 20 prominent Black Britons: politicians, actors, singers, writers, activists... You will find the initial of the person's first name followed by the surname. For example, for Claudia Jones (highlighted to start you off but please don't include it in your total) you will find CJones. Names may be read in all directions, straight or diagonally. All words have four letters or more. Please send your entries by email to cristina.lago@gmail.com with your name and contact details. The closing date is September 20. All correct entries go into a draw to win a £20 voucher from our independent local shop Joseph's Bookstore. Good luck and happy Black History Month 2015!

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The wordsearch prize is sponsored by

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