

Brooklands traffic plan

At the beginning of October Suburb News learned of the proposed changes to the traffic arrangements on the North side of the Suburb and principally around Brooklands School, although all roads in the rectangle formed by Falloden Way, Ossulton Way, Hill Top and Brookland Rise will be affected by the measures which include a 20mph zone, a one-way system and a zebra crossing.

It will also mean lots of signs, some of them vehicle activated or flashing at certain times, and probably cost quite a bit of money.

The scheme must already have used up a considerable amount of our money and it is interesting to note that all this has been done by Capita with apparently no consultation with those living in the affected roads, the Residents Association, the HGS Trust or even, it seems, with Barnet itself. It will be fascinating to hear how this came about.

There are two different options on offer and residents can find a link to download the two plans at www.hgs.org.uk. They are very comprehensive, but also puzzling; you could, for instance, wonder why

20mph limit flashing light signs are necessary at the entry to Midholm at school times. Residents who live on the

affected roads could drop a line to their councillors and Capita if are they feeling enthusiastic and have something to say.



Brookland Hill and School



Midholm



Hill Top and School

Morning toddlers library fun needs volunteer leaders



The Hampstead Garden Suburb Library is looking for volunteers to help out at their Toddler

Time Session for at least once a month. In a wonderfully warm and welcoming atmosphere the

story and song time sessions host about eight little ones and their carers from 10.15 to 10.45 every Tuesday at our Market Place Community library.

The leader introduces the children (0-3 year olds) to the wonderful world of storybooks, songs, rhymes and some rhythm making with basic instruments.

Each leader is asked to commit to about one session a month, adjusted for holidays or other commitments.

Nicki will happily explain how it works – please email her, with your phone number, at nicolettelandau@hotmail.com or mail@gardensuburblibrary.org.uk or if you prefer you can call Nicki direct on 8455 8256.

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Get fit with Barnet's outdoor gym

Users of Lyttelton Playing Fields will have noticed that some exercise machines have appeared at the eastern end of the space. Over the summer Barnet Council installed one of its outdoor gyms for residents to use.

There are eight different machines providing a mixture of cardiovascular, strength and toning equipment. They are suitable for all abilities and

fitness levels and anyone aged over 14. You do not need any experience to use them and there are instructions on site on how to use each machine and organise your session so you get the maximum benefit.

If you're a regular jogger or walker, it could be worth a visit. You never know, you might be able to fit an extra bit of exercise in to your regular schedule.

It is a welcome initiative from Barnet, which might encourage some of us without gym membership or our own gym to get a bit more exercise, and as a bonus side-effect could also reduce the number of basement planning applications for underground gyms.

However the biggest problem we face with an outside gym, of course, is the weather.

Table tennis arrives with a smash to the Suburb!



September 3, 2015 was the day that real table tennis came to the Suburb. On that day Richard Grethe and Michelle Sochor opened a club in the Free Church Hall, on Northway, following many requests from fellow residents and children in the area.

Richard has been playing since he was five, and found it really hard to play in and around the Suburb, so decided to start the club up. He told us, "The club has been setup as a community initiative, where everyone is welcome. There is a good balance between coaching and match play. In the long term, we will be putting some teams into the North Middlesex League. The coaches we have are some of the best players in England. We have the guys from Urban TTC and coaches from the Darius Knight team. Last week we had the Team GB player Darius playing doubles with an 80 year old resident."

The club is not for profit, and will invest any money it has made into buying more kit, or getting in more coaches. Richard also said, "Special thanks must go to Reverend Ian Tutton from the Free Church

who has let us have the hall on a Thursday night. Without such a great place to play, there would not be a club."

The club is open to all standards and residents are invited to come along and see what is happening.

The picture above shows the club in action, and there have been 40 or more participants on club nights aged between 6 and

85. If you don't have a bat, don't worry; you will be provided with one.

The sessions take place on a Thursday evening. There is a coached children's session at 6.30pm until 8pm, and a coached adult's session from 8pm until 9.30pm. After 9.30pm there is open match play if people want to stay later. All sessions cost £5, irrespective of age.

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