

Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson opens new Archer campus



three years later she did it; her advice to the students was: "Follow your dreams, because you never know what you might achieve." Later in her speech, she highlighted the incredible sports facilities at the Archer Academy, which have been supported by a £500,000 grant from the London Marathon Charitable Trust, and spoke of the benefits they will bring to students. She also praised the passion of the teachers and enthusiasm of the students she had met. Claiming that the students' questions were as tough as anything she had faced on Newsnight, she answered enquiries such as, "What's the most difficult question you've ever been asked in the House of Lords?" and, "When you got

your first bronze medal, what gave you the confidence to go for gold?" Year 8 student Oliver Pearce said of the occasion, "This was a really special moment for everyone, as we believe that the qualities she possesses are things everyone at the Archer Academy would like to have. She was a very inspirational speaker and was very funny and interesting." And his thoughts were echoed by head-teacher Lucy Harrison who said, "We feel so privileged that Baroness Grey-Thompson took the time to come and open our new campus; she inspired each and every one of us to be the best that we can be. It's certainly a day none of us will ever forget."

October 5 was a momentous day for the Archer Academy, as the celebrated Paralympian Baroness Grey-Thompson DBE officially opened the school's new Stanley Road campus.

The 11-times Paralympic gold medal winner was invited to lead the ceremony by a group of Archer students, who wrote letters and made a film explaining why they felt she was the ideal person for the role. As well as meeting the students who had persuaded her to come, she cut a ceremonial

ribbon and unveiled a plaque to mark the occasion.

The baroness also took part in a whole school assembly and had the packed hall laughing as she shared a saying from her grandfather: "Aim high, even if you hit a cabbage," reminding them of the importance of having goals and working hard to achieve them. As she explained, when she first mentioned her dream of taking part in the London Marathon, aged 15, it wasn't taken seriously, but just



Suburb family news



Joe, Cathy and Elsa Brooks, James Wright, Jenny and Brian Stonhold

Suburb News was sent this picture of the wedding of Elsa Brooks to James Wright in Edgware on September 12.

Elsa is the granddaughter of the late Jean and Peter Barraclough, and the niece of Jenny and Brian Stonhold. Brian was born on the Suburb, while the Barracloughs moved here in 1961 when Peter

became Minister of The Free Church. They moved here with Jenny, the first of their four children. The two families made a considerable contribution to life in the Suburb, which ended when the Stonholds moved away in 2013. Cathy Brooks is the younger of Jean and Peter's two daughters.

A social media challenge

Readers will remember we featured an article about a blog written by a Suburb author in our summer issue. This prompted the idea of the following challenge; to bring the world of blogs, YouTube channels and other marvels to the readers of Suburb News, many of whom have not yet discovered some of the delights to be found with a computer and an internet connection.

Perhaps you can bring new users into the fold by letting us know about a blog you write, how you use Instagram perhaps, or indeed any other form of social media or networking service. So any Suburb resident social media

users, who publish their own content on any of the different sites out there, and want to use the old-fashioned print media to enlighten those of us who use the internet with no interest in such things, and are unaware of what they're missing, please drop a line to Terry Brooks at rapublications@hgs.org.uk.

There are interesting facts, wonderful photos, nostalgic videos and more to be found with the click of a mouse. Are you going to share yours with Suburb News? You could open up new worlds for readers, or even bring the new world to the slightly older one!



Summer Wordsearch

The answers to the last issue's Wordsearch were as follows: Mary Seacole, Wilfred Wood, Mary Prince, Olaudah Equiano, Courtney Pine, Sir Bill Morris, Sir Trevor McDonald, Shirley Bassey, Sophie Okonedo, Professor Stuart Hall, Diane Abbott, Sade (Helen Folasade Adu), Zadie Smith, Ira Aldridge, John (Richard) Archer, David Lammy, Heather Small, Ian Wright, Naomi Campbell and Angie Le Mar.

DID YOU KNOW?

• Originating in the United States, Black History Month was first celebrated in the United Kingdom in 1987 under the auspices of

Ghanaian analyst Akyaaaba Addai-Sebo.

• October has a special significance in the African calendar: it's the harvest and Yam Festivals period. It is also a time of tolerance and reconciliation, when the chiefs and leaders would gather to settle all differences.

• African-American civil rights actor and singer Paul Robeson lived in Wildwood Wood at the end of the 1920's.

Congratulations to Summer Wordsearch winner, Adrian Brodtkin, who lives on Kingsley Way, and thanks to everyone who participated.

WORDSEARCH

Not many cities in the world can compare to London when it comes to museums. In this issue's Wordsearch we have concealed the names of 20 of these institutions that are based here in the capital. An extra one is highlighted to start you off. Names may be read in all directions, straight or diagonally. All words have five letters or more.

Please send your entries by email to cristina.lago@gmail.com with your name and contact details. The closing date is December 15. All correct entries go into a draw to win a £20 voucher from our independent local shop Joseph's Bookstore. Good luck and enjoy the cultural scene of London!

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