Winter Wordsearch

The answers to the last issue's Songs by The Beatles Wordsearch were as follows: All My Loving, Blackbird, Eleanor Rigby, Help, Hey Jude, Love Me do, Sexy Sadie, Because, Come Together, Get Back, Helter Skelter, Honey Pie, Maggie Mae, Something, Birthday, Digit, Hello Goodbye, Her Majesty, Let It Be, Penny Lane, Yesterday.

DID YOU KNOW?

- The BBC banned 'I Am the Walrus' for its lyrics "pornographic priestesses" and "let your knickers down"
- On the Help! album sleeve the semaphore letters that the Beatles are spelling out with their arms does not say H E L P, but N U J V
- Sgt Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band established the trend for artists to include their lyrics within the LP's design

Sources: UDiscoverMusic.com and MentalFloss.com

ASUTUMN WORDSERACH WINNER

Dalia Smetana from Ludlow Way is the winner of the Joseph's Bookstore £20 voucher: congratulations, Dalia! Thank you also to all those Beatlemaniacs who sent their answers, keep participating!

WORDSEARCH

Suburb News readers have been sending suggestions for new Wordsearchs and we have listened! Adrian Brodkin, a veteran Wordsearcher and previous winner, proposed having a Wordsearch about famous Suburb Residents – thanks, Adrian! So in this issue we have concealed the names of 20 personalities who have lived or live in the neighbourhood. An extra one is highlighted to start you off. Names may be read in all directions, straight or diagonally. Please send your entries by email to cristina.lago@gmail.com with your name and contact details. The closing date is June 18. All correct entries go into a draw to win a £20 voucher from our independent local shop Joseph's Bookstore. Good luck and watch for those blue plaques around the Suburb!

M	O	T	B	N	S	R	E	S	U	A	K	L	C	N
S	C	W	Z	D	O	E	U	V	L	L	V	I	E	O
L	K	J	T	S	S	S	T	N	V	B	N	Z	I	T
H	I	F	C	M	I	H	E	A	W	H	D	T	R	S
R	E	P	O	S	D	E	E	B	O	I	I	A	U	E
D	F	I	G	G	I	S	W	R	O	C	N	Y	A	L
B	L	E	V	E	S	O	N	L	I	R	E	L	L	D
K	O	O	R	B	L	A	W	A	E	D	P	O	H	D
N	A	M	D	L	U	O	G	M	A	H	A	R	G	U
C	O	N	S	T	A	N	T	I	N	E	C	N	U	H
N	A	M	P	A	H	C	N	H	O	J	D	A	H	T
B	R	U	C	E	K	E	N	T	M	I	I	O	R	G
T	T	E	N	R	A	B	H	N	O	S	L	I	W	H
A	G	O	R	M	L	E	Y	A	B	U	X	T	O	N
E	Y	Q	S	S	E	H	A	R	Y	M	I	E	G	W

The wordsearch prize is sponsored by

JOSEPH'S BOOKSTORE

Monthly events: jewish studies, scientific and jazz evenings plus authors at Joseph's Bookstore and Cafe Also.
E-mail to join mail list - info@josephsbookstore.com
1257 Finchley Road, Temple Fortune - 8731 7575

New residents party

New residents are warmly invited to join Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association council members for an informal gathering. This is an opportunity to find out more about our community and about the wide range of activities and groups available for everyone from toddlers to seniors.

You will find us at Fellowship House, 136a Willifield Way (opposite the Green) on Sunday, May 15 from 6 to 8pm. There will be snacks and drinks to enjoy, and children of all ages are welcome. It is, after all, a household event.

Learn a bit about our schools and nurseries, or, at other end of life, the Fellowship House Club for the over 60s, and for all, of course, there's the Community Library, saved by Suburb volunteers from closure by Barnet, and now hosting toddlers mornings as well as lending out books.

The last party (pictured below) was in November and those who missed that are welcome to come to this one. The party is arranged by the Residents Association events committee and, in order to have an idea of numbers, they would appreciate an e-mail to raevents@hgs.org.uk if you think you are going to attend.

Inspired by the birds of the 'burb

As a writer living on the Suburb, it's hard not to be inspired by my surroundings.

Every morning, after I drop the 5-year-old man cub to school, I retire to my bedroom dresser cum writing desk and shut my eyes. Without fail, the birds are singing. It's a glorious sound to keep with me as I write.

If I were to liken my day to a literary scene I would pick a page from The Secret Garden by F. Hodgson Burnett. I kid you not, we even have a local robin who greets us every morning on the school run.

Here's the thing though. The orchestra of chirps and tweets comes with a backing track of traffic from the A406 and a cacophony of slightly out of time leaf blowers and lawn-mowers. It might sound like a complaint but the truth is, it's all inspiration.

So when it came to picking my protagonist for my new children's book, it was a no brainer: I chose a pigeon. The pigeon is the definition of a city bird in my opinion, and the most suitable character to sum up my Suburb soundtrack of singing birds and tyres on tarmac.

My debut children's book Dave Pigeon: How to Deal With Bad Cats and Keep (most of) Your Feathers, published by Faber & Faber and illustrated by the tremendous talent that is Sheena Dempsey, officially hits the bookshelves on April 7th. It tells the story of a pigeon called Dave and his plan of revenge after he is attacked by a cat in the park. The entire story is typed up by his best friend Skipper in a shed they call home. Aimed at children aged 6 plus, this story won me the Greenhouse Funny Prize back in 2014.

The world I've built for these birds has come straight from the streets of the Garden Suburb, complete with a scene where the pigeons meet a parrot, inspired by a walk up Creswick Walk where my son spotted a lovebird in the trees. (If anyone is looking for their pet lovebird, said lovebird was spotted last year in a tree near Creswick Walk. You're welcome.)

I'm currently working on the second Dave Pigeon book and the Suburb continues to be my muse. I can assure you the leafblowers will probably be making an appearance. (Seriously neighbours, could we have some sort of leaf-blowing-lawn-mowing amnesty? Just one afternoon a week. Pick any one, I don't mind. Some of us are trying to work here!)

The Dave Pigeon Launch Party will take place on Sunday May 8 at Pickled Pepper Books, Crouch End. Join me and Sheena Dempsey from 3pm for free arts and crafts, book signings and cake.

SWAPNA HADDOW

COMPETITION TIME

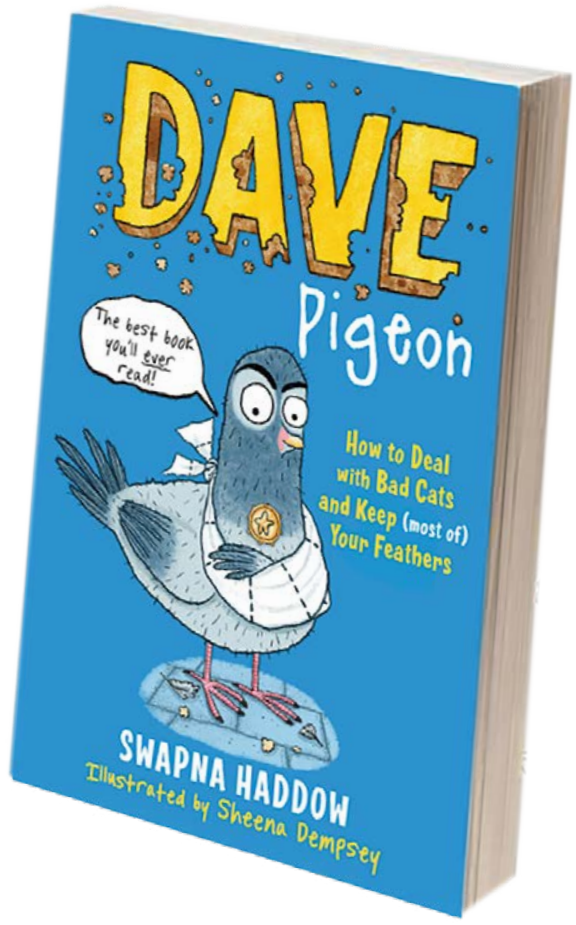
To celebrate the release of Dave Pigeon: How to Deal With Bad Cats and Keep (most of) Your Feathers, we are running a short story competition for those aged 6-11 years old. We want to see your stories of up to 400 words about absolutely anything so long as it has been inspired by the Suburb.

There will be two winners, one from the 6 to 8-year-old category and one from the 9 to 11-year-old category.

Each winner will receive a Dave Pigeon goodie pack, including the new book signed by both the author and illustrator (and the winning entries will be published in the next issue of Suburb News) so get writing!

Please send your entries to rapublications@hgs.org.uk. The competition deadline is June 22.

Good luck and be inspired!



Could you help with Suburb News and other RA publications

Suburb News and the publications committee are looking for some help in doing its work. Our most obvious job is the production and distribution of the quarterly Suburb News and annual Suburb Directory, a copy of which you should have received at the same time as this paper.

As well as those two printed publications, we e-mail RA members a copy of Suburb eNews when there is an event imminent or there is news about the Suburb we consider urgent. We keep an eye on the style of all material the RA publishes such as posters or leaflets, and we watch over our Facebook page.

All the work involved is done by volunteers, although we do pay for the professional design and layout of Suburb News, the Suburb Directory, our posters and the leaflets. So the writing, taking of photos, compiling, creation of eNews, collating, finding of advertisers, updating, liaising, maintaining the discount scheme and other things I have forgotten is done by a small number of people, who do it for free. And then there are the 120 or so volunteer distributors, one of whom brought you this paper.

We need people to join us and help with some or all of these tasks, but there are a couple of particular needs, of which more in a moment. The committee usually meets four times a year, which is really not a lot. The meetings rarely last more than 90 minutes, there is a fair amount of gossiping and some refreshments. Obviously there are tasks to do between meetings.

The particular needs are as follows:

- A Suburb News advertising manager. Someone to find and retain advertisers in Suburb News
- An assistant for Suburb News to help with the production of articles. Much of the content is written by contributors from the various societies, organisations and institutions who are active on the Suburb, but more help is still needed
- A new editor for the annual publication of Suburb Directory

So if you're interested in joining us to do one of the above, or just help out generally and get at the refreshments, please e-mail rapublications@hgs.org.uk. We look forward to welcoming some new faces around the table.

Suburb News would also like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to everyone who contributes to the paper. You know who you are, and it would not be the same paper without you all. Your efforts are very much appreciated, as is the support of our advertisers.

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