



WhatsApp...ening

This report, sent to Suburb News by Michael Levy, is based on a post to his local neighbourhood watch WhatsApp group:

At the beginning of July three men were burgling a house on Kingsley Way, when they were spotted and the police called. The police interrupted the burglars, who then jumped into their silver BMW and drove down

Linden Lea, chased by the police in an undercover car.

An H2 bus coming in the other direction saw the car chase from the blue flashing lights and blocked the road. The burglars then tried to drive around the bus by using the pavement and squeezing through the gap on the other side of the tree, but they got stuck in the process.

All three burglars were then arrested. The police did not think

that this was the same gang that had recently been doing the muggings, but rather that these were 'professional burglars'.

Neighbourhood Watch groups in your street or block of flats, using smart phones, are very easy to set up or you can join by using the WhatsApp mobile messaging app.

Just go to www.whatsapp.com for more information on how this works.

Trust Annual General Meeting

RICHARD WISEMAN



The next AGM of the Hampstead Garden Suburb Trust will be upon us on September 14, and this year it will be followed by the election of two resident members to the Trust Council. As we go to press there are two declared candidates, Michael Franklin and Richard Wiseman, both of whom are standing down by rotation, but are to stand again for the second three-year term allowed by the constitution. They have both written a brief statement, which readers can find below.

It is a trustee's duty to ensure a charity remains true to its charitable purpose and objects as set out in its governing documents. For us this means that our trustees ensure the Trust does all things possible to maintain and preserve the present character and amenities of the Suburb using the tools at its disposal.

The Trust has the responsibility of maintaining the Suburb as an important example of twentieth century suburban design, and it is also our best protector against inappropriate development. In order to do this effectively the Trust must not only be able to initiate legal action when necessary, but also to respond to action taken against it, and to get any external advice it needs to decide on legal or other matters.

We need trustees who are prepared to use the law to defend the Suburb when needed. If owners and developers think that the Trust lacks the will or resources to do so, they will be quick to exploit the weakness. It is up to us to show by our votes that we are prepared to support those who will protect us.

Trustees have to ensure the Trust remains solvent and has the resources necessary to do its job properly. The management charge has remained in its target range for the last eight years and remains cheaper than a TV licence or my daily newspaper; I would say that is good value for money.

At the moment we have only two candidates for two seats,

but other people could decide to stand and create a contest between now and the AGM on September 14. So if you are a member and we have a disputed election, please use your vote for a candidate who, by supporting the objectives of the Trust, will put the Suburb first.

Finally it is very important for me to say that the above represents my personal views and not those of anyone else or any group.

If you are not a member of the Trust and have lived in the Suburb for three or more years, you can easily become a member and it is free. Contact the Trust office or go to www.hgstrust.org and follow the link to membership for details. Those with less than 3 years as residents can become associate members.

TERRY BROOKS

Candidate Statements

MICHAEL FRANKLIN



I have now spent three years as a Trustee on the HGS Trust and I will be standing for re-election at the AGM. What I have enjoyed most during this time is being able to give something back to my community and help in a small way to preserve the unique character of Hampstead Garden Suburb. I am currently Chair of the Grants Committee and serve on the Finance Committee, the Property and Plans Committee and the Estates Committee.

I hope to be able to continue to serve on the Trust.

I have been chairman of the Trust Council since 2013 and will be standing again as a Trustee at the next AGM. During my time as chairman we have not only built on the solid achievements of my predecessors but have advanced the amenity and character of the Suburb in a number of ways which will enhance the area for years to come. These achievements include:

- Continuing to improve the precarious financial situation of the Trust to ensure it can continue its work into the far future;
- restoration of the 'Great Wall';
- clarification of the Design Guidance so far as it applies to basements, in particular by spelling out some issues which are more likely than not to result in applications being refused or granted – but always respecting the need to treat every application on its individual merits.
- any number of enforcement measures against building for which no consent has been obtained. These measures run from informal conversations with the residents concerned and getting unauthorised work removed, right through to legal proceedings when necessary. Even in cases where obtaining an injunction would have involved taking unacceptable legal risks, we have obtained substantial damages in lieu which will be applied to a project which will benefit the Suburb.
- completion of the Tree Survey, providing a baseline inventory of important trees on the Suburb which will help us to give sound advice if important trees come under threat.

New resident's party



On Sunday May 15, an informal party was held in the Eileen Whelan Room at Fellowship House, to welcome new residents who have recently moved into the area with their families.

Fifteen people attended for drinks and snacks and after an opening speech by the RA Chairman, David Lewis, there was an opportunity for them to

ask questions about the many activities in Hampstead Garden Suburb and to talk about areas they may be interested in being involved with.

They liked the fact that we have groups giving up their free time to improve Bigwood and Little Wood for future generations, and the work that has been done in improving Northway Gardens.

They were also impressed that by joining the RA, they could help it continue to be able to run community events such as the Summer Party, New Year Fireworks Display and Toddlers Party, plus publish the Suburb News and Directory, and sponsor the wonderful free midday Proms concerts at St Jude's each year. Value indeed!

Suburb Community Learning Launch



An open day at The Free Church on Sunday July 10 was the occasion for the launch of 'Our Community Learning Network', an exciting new initiative in the Garden Suburb. This proposal was borne out of the desire from residents and teachers to establish Community based learning, and Sunday allowed residents to meet some of the local tutors and organisers.

The intent is that the scheme should be community driven and it has huge potential for learners and tutors in the community; providing a welcoming and friendly resource.

There are a wide variety of classes and subjects on offer from astronomy to yoga via film, felt making, bridge, languages and fitness to name just a few of those that are available.

In fact there were well over 20 tables with teachers eager to explain their specialities. The



HGS website now has pages dedicated to helping residents find groups and classes, and aiding teachers and others to set them up. You just need to go to <http://hgs.org.uk/learning> to discover all.

Community learning is designed to help people of different ages and backgrounds: whether it be following an interest, reconnecting with learning or even gaining a new skill, and at the same time

getting connected with people in their locality.

Classes are evolving and new tutors, leaders and organisers are warmly welcome to establish a class. Equally, if you would like to give any feedback then do contact the organisers behind this inspiring new venture at learning@hgs.org.uk.

DAPHNE BERKOVI



HGS Golf Society

The HGS Golf Society is calling all golfers and anyone interested in taking up the game.

There are many activities available to Suburb residents, but one thing missing is a golf society. Many of our residents may belong to golf clubs in the area, but to date nothing has been organised which brings together those of us who enjoy the game, and indeed others who might like to give the sport a try.

It seems that the formation of a Hampstead Garden Suburb Golf Society is long overdue and anyone interested in joining up should contact Paul Wenham whose e-mail address is shown below.



There will be no cost in joining the Society but there will, of course, be a charge for the golf days and any group tuition which might be arranged.

We hope that there will be sufficient interest to enable a golf day to be organised later in the year, when we can get

together for a round of golf and some refreshment afterwards.

Could any Suburb readers who are interested in this idea please let Paul know so that we can gauge the interest in this new venture?

Please contact Paul Wenham at paulwenham@hotmail.co.uk.

G Cohen
ANTIQUÉ SILVER

We wish to purchase items of silver in any condition. As a long standing resident of the Suburb, Gideon Cohen is happy to view your silverware at home and will make an offer to purchase, free of any obligation.

17 The London Silver Vaults
53-64 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1QT
020 7404 1425
enquiries@gcohen.co.uk
www.gcohen.co.uk

Hi Highgate Literary & Scientific Institution
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Autumn Courses 2016

Courses begin 19 September 2016. For information contact the Highgate Literary & Scientific Institution, 11 South Grove, London N6 6BS (on 143 & 210 bus routes); www.hlsi.net; 020 8340 3343.

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