

Suburb schools celebrate Queen's 90th birthday



Annemount School banquet



Geraldine Maidment, Marianne Terry and a pupil in discussion

ANNEMOUNT SCHOOL

The party at Annemount School to celebrate the 90th birthday of the Queen had as a special guest a Suburb resident, Marianne Terry, who was also born in 1926. Her son noticed the school's invitation in the last issue of Suburb News for 90-year-old residents to join the party and told her about it.

By a great coincidence she started as a teacher at the school in the 1940's. Known as Miss Marianne, she had risen to deputy headmistress before retiring. She was able to talk to the children about some of the changes of the last 70 years. Holne Chase, for example, had not yet been tarmacked when she started at the school.

The weather was good enough for the party to take place in the garden where a long table had been arranged to seat all the children as if at a banquet.

The alfresco setting allowed for a wonderful display of the decorations the children had made. In fact they made or decorated everything, including their place mats, the bunting, the sandwiches and even the cakes.

Annemount has about 70 children aged from 3 to 7, and is itself 80 years old. It occupies an attractive building and has a beautiful garden, which is also a marvellous educational resource. Information about the school can be found at www.annemount.co.uk.

HGS COMMUNITY PRE-SCHOOL

Hampstead Garden Suburb Community Pre-school celebrated the Queen's official 90th birthday with a glorious garden party in true British style.

To mark the occasion, everybody dressed in our National colours and revelled in some good old fashioned music whilst enjoying traditional street party food and drink, rounded off by a scrumptious Union Jack cake made by one of the parents.

Families and friends were invited to join the celebrations and much fun was had by all, joining in with activities, garden games and dancing.

Many thanks are given to all the families who made an enormous effort to prepare refreshments for all to enjoy, and for taking time out of their

busy schedules to come and join in the celebrations.

Hampstead Garden Suburb Community Pre-school has been operating from the Free Church Hall for generations and remains a key part of the community. Headed by Mrs Sam Hobbs, it offers pre-school education to children from 2- to 5-years-old. It welcomes all members of the community and offers government funded places for weekday morning sessions during school term times.



HGS Community Pre-School bubbles and cake

The Barnetts in Whitechapel and beyond...

The Michael Rowley Memorial Lecture has established itself as an unmissable event for everyone interested in the planning and architecture of the Suburb.

This Year Dr Eva Branscombe of University College London, continued the tradition with an

illustrated presentation delivered to a very full Friends Meeting House on Sunday, May 22. She showed how Henrietta Barnett's ideas on social improvement projects developed while working as a vicar's wife in her husband's impoverished East London parish

of St Jude's, Whitechapel, to the east of the City.

Provoked by the desperate social conditions endured by their parishioners, and with St Jude's vicarage too small for the communal events she envisioned, Henrietta devised plans for what became a succession of new buildings as the means of bringing her parishioners together in an environment conducive to their spiritual health. Toynbee Hall became the first place the Barnetts established, the second a three-storey building combining on separate floors a lending library, exhibition and museum spaces.

The improving purposes of these enterprises notwithstanding, books were soon borrowed on such a scale that they began to wear out, while many thousands flocked to Henrietta's art exhibitions, the pictures chosen by her, and loaned by major London galleries in response to her personal requests.

The unexpected success of these exhibitions led in turn to the creation of the Whitechapel Art Gallery, a permanent venue where locals could enjoy improving works of art at any time. Samuel Barnett, directing full credit towards his wife for her picture-choosing abilities, professed to be colour blind. Whether this was literally true, or just a touching instance of his moral support, was left to our imagination.

Dr Branscombe vividly conveyed how Dame Henrietta's conceptions burgeoned from these St Jude's parish prototypes, to her much larger scale and more complex plans for an entire garden suburb, which she intended nevertheless would retain the same facilities of lending library, learning centre and exhibition

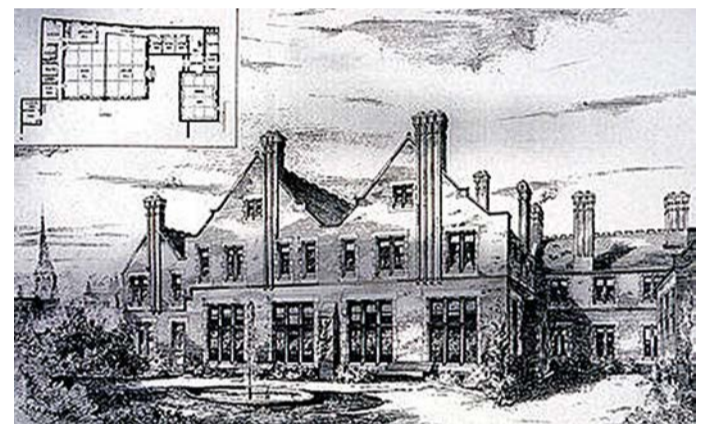
spaces. Part of the impetus for that great scheme, as Eva Branscombe remarked, was the not entirely disinterested wish to see the picturesque landscape in which her comfortable retreat by the Spaniards Inn was set, preserved from the urban sprawl beloved of the financially motivated property developers.

The illustration of the diverse disciplines inherent to each of these early projects, including buying the sites and architectural planning and design of each new building, impressed upon us the scope and compass of young Henrietta's interests, and the dynamism of her personality.

Completing her compelling lecture, Dr Branscombe answered a first question about whether she saw a distinction between architectural improvement and social planning, by saying she believed there was practically none, that both addressed the same goals.

The expanding philanthropic horizons of Henrietta had led her from the parish of St Jude's, Whitechapel, to St Jude's Cottage on Hampstead Heath, to a wisteria covered cottage next door to St Jude's parish church, Hampstead Garden Suburb, so she can hardly have claimed not to know St Jude is the patron saint of lost causes. Describing how Henrietta then lived in her crowning achievement, the very suburban Eden she had dreamed of, long enough to lament that it had morphed into something rather different from her vision, led a member of the audience to ask, "So, what went wrong?!" Actually nothing had gone wrong, Dr Branscombe replied, The Suburb was just a victim of its own success.

DAVID POPE



Toynbee Hall



Whitechapel Art Gallery

WORDSEARCH

Whether you voted Remain or Leave in June's referendum, it's European geography time in the Wordsearch. In this issue we have concealed the names of 20 European capitals. An extra one is highlighted to start you off but please don't include it in your total! 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 September 17. All correct entries go into a draw to win a £20 voucher from our independent local shop Joseph's Bookstore. Good luck!

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SPRING WORDSEARCH ANSWERS, FACTS & WINNER

The answers to the last issue's Famous Suburb Residents Wordsearch were as follows: E. Coates, P. Robeson, Graham Gouldman, D. Figgis, Hugh Laurie, B. Leveson, H. Barnett, Bruce Kent, D. Sheridan, Liz Taylor, Rachel Weisz, H. Wilson, A. Walbrook, R. Unwin, D. Soper, T. Huddleston, Myra Hess, Constantine, A. Buxton, John Chapman.

Famous addresses: Lord Soper lived in 6 Willifield Way and 17 Bigwood Road; Anton Walbrook lived at 36 Holne Chase; Dame Myra Hess has a blue plaque in 48 Wildwood Road.

The winner of the Joseph's Bookstore £20 voucher will be announced in the next issue of Suburb News. Thank you also to everyone who sent their answers, keep participating.

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