

## A development for Bute Mews

For the uninitiated Bute Mews is the name of the service road behind the shops and flats on the south side of the Market Place, known for a few years now as a rubbish tip and breeding ground for rats. The RA has recently set up a working group whose

members have been trying to persuade the owners, Barnet and the Trust to take action on this evident eyesore.

An application to LB Barnet and the HGS Trust has now been made by the owner, Tenorpace Properties Ltd, through Asserson

Law Offices to build six houses in the mews. This has led to some comments on the RA's HGS List e-mail group about the application and how it could affect the immediate surrounding area.

The Trust in accordance with its policy on significant developments has started a consultation on the proposals, which will run until March 8. Residents can view the plans and all the related documents on matters such as tree protection, flood risk or access by going to [www.hgstrust.org/butemews.shtml](http://www.hgstrust.org/butemews.shtml).

It is also possible to view and comment on the proposals on the Barnet website by going to [www.barnet.gov.uk](http://www.barnet.gov.uk) and following the links to the planning pages.



## A Suburb University Initiative

As a result of conversation started in November on the RA's HGS List e-mail group there was an exploratory meeting to discuss the setting up of a University of the Third Age group in the Suburb.

About 30 residents met in the Free Church on Monday December

5 to listen to Ian McCannah, a member of the U3A national executive committee explain what the U3A was and how the Suburb could benefit from starting its own group in the area.

The U3A's origins lie back in the early 1980's in the University

of Toulouse, and it has since spread to various parts of the globe including the United Kingdom where there are over 1,000 groups.

Local U3As are learning cooperatives which draw upon the knowledge, experience and skills of their own members to organise and provide interest groups in accordance with the wishes of the membership.

U3As offer the chance to study over 300 different subjects in such fields as art, languages, music, history, life sciences, philosophy, and computing along with activities ranging from crafts, photography, cultural visits, cycling and walking.

As a result of this meeting an informal group of volunteers has organised the launch of a new group, which aims to be formally established in line with U3A policies. Suburb News is publishing below the press release, which gives readers details of the meeting and how to find out more.

### THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE IS COMING TO THIS AREA

Public meeting announced to launch new U3A group serving East Finchley, Finchley Central, Golders Green, Hampstead Garden Suburb, Temple Fortune and nearby areas

A launch meeting for the planned new University of the Third Age Group is to be held at 11am on Thursday 2 March 2017 at Hampstead Garden Suburb Free Church, Central Square.

U3A is a unique, exciting and growing movement for older people no longer in full-time work. It provides life-enhancing opportunities to take part in learning and other activities –not for qualifications, but for fun. These are often held in members' homes and range from languages to life sciences and music to mindfulness, and including crafts, cultural outings and walks.

For information please visit: [newu3agroup.wordpress.com/](http://newu3agroup.wordpress.com/) or email: [newU3Agroup@gmail.com](mailto:newU3Agroup@gmail.com).

## Suburb News goes to The Market Place



## Our new, refurbished Post Office

Local residents have benefited from a post office in Market Place for many years. Now we are being offered an even better service thanks to Jitendra Dave and his wife Harsha, who are the owners of the now refurbished post office in Market Place.

Mr and Mrs Dave have been in the area for over 25 years and are determined to offer the best service possible to local residents, explaining that they have just bought a franchise from W H Smith to help local customers.

Many of the facilities on offer are there so customers can access everything they would need locally,

so they don't have to travel far or spend time in queues.

Listing what is on offer apart from the normal Post Office counter services is important so that customers are aware of all the provisions that are available.

There is an excellent selection of papers and magazines for a wide range of tastes and ages, with the possibility of arranging regular deliveries.

Residents will also find a very good selection of office supplies, stationery and a great

variety of cards for all occasions with gifts and party decorations if they are needed.

You can also buy foreign currency, travel insurance and use the photo booth for passport and other personal photo needs.

And naturally for this type of shop there is a wide selection of sweets, foods and drinks.

Mr and Mrs Dave are also planning to provide an Oyster Card top up service in the future as well as a fax facility.

The hours of opening are Monday to Saturday, 8am-6pm, and Sunday, 9am-1pm.

We are very lucky to have the facilities they offer and Suburb News wishes them every success.

DAPHNE BERKOVITZ

## Our local shoe repairer

Mr Marof is the proud owner of Hampstead Garden, the shoe repairer on the north side of Market Place. He has owned the shop for three years, and lives locally. The shop is open Monday to Friday 8.30am-6.30pm and on Saturdays from 10am-5pm.

Those who use the shops on the south side of Market Place are perhaps unaware that Mr Marof also does handbag repairs, key cutting, watch repairs, clothing alterations and even dry cleaning.

RA members who use the invaluable RA HGS List e-mail group will remember there were numerous messages posted at the beginning of January recommending Mr Marof for the quality of his work and his reasonable prices after a resident enquired about where to get a boot zip repaired.

He also carries supplies of the following items: shoe laces, padlocks, watchstraps, brushes,

key rings and lighters, as well as sprays for shoes and clothes.

Businesses on the north side of Market Place suffer from less footfall than those on the south

and Mr Marof would welcome more people utilising the many benefits that his shop offers to the community.

DAPHNE BERKOVITZ



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