

RA Summer Picnic and Fair



What a surprise! Sunday, June 11th, turned out to be fine and dry for the main annual HGS RA Event. Hundreds of people came to have a good time; many of them were very young and quite a few were quite a bit older.

The highlight this year was the show and dog competition put on by the local charity 'All Dogs Matter'. This attracted an amazing 79 entries and crowds packed the corner of Central Square to join in and watch the winners in various categories, such as 'Cutest Pup', 'Waggiest Tail', and 'Golden Oldie'.

On the Free Church side we had the Wildlife and Education Centre (DWAEC) who brought exotic owls, snakes, spiders and

the favourite, which the children loved, a two year-old mongoose! Sadly, the skunk was unable to make an appearance as during the afternoon it gave birth to several babies unexpectedly!

The donkey rides were as popular as ever as were the brilliant Face Painters from Esra and the Painted Penguin. Children's art was covered by Vera's team, artistic food decorating skills by Gill Roberts and our regular entertainer FizzieLizzie occupied the young ones. Many cakes and plants for sale were provided by local kind residents. Traditional Punch and Judy was put on by John Styles whose son Robert did it last year.

Local band 'Sound of the Suburb' gained new fans with their music and impressed Andrew Dismore, the GLA representative for Barnet and Camden.

This fair requires weeks of organising by the events team and many thanks to the dedicated volunteers on the weekend setting

up the area with tables, chairs, gazebos, posters etc. Thanks also go to the Borough of Barnet for use of the Square and for tidying it up before and after.

Our new main sponsor this year was Johnson's Decorating Centre of Lyttelton Road, N2.

TONY BRAND



Father Alan Walker and Lucrezia with their prize-winning dog, Bailey



TONY BRAND



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90 years of Open Gardens

The National Gardens Scheme has been arranging for gardens to open to the public and give to charity since 1927, and last year raised £2.7 million for charity. To mark this milestone a group opening took place in the Suburb on Sunday, June 27th.

Nine gardens, including four new ones, opened their gates to

visitors and one of the Suburb allotment sites also took part for the first time. The efforts of those involved were well rewarded as over 400 visitors came to see the splendid gardens on show.

Suburb News bore witness to the little groups of people with yellow wristbands wandering the streets, clutching their maps

and scratching their heads. In fact we helped a few souls out with directions as they negotiated Suburb Ways, Walks, Hills and Twittens. Well done to all those involved in all aspects of the show; not least those associated with the supply of cakes.

TERRY BROOKS



Susan Fischgrund's garden



Marjorie and David Harris's garden



Diane Berger's garden



Chris Page's garden



Allotments

A Suburb artist vlogger

It has been a short while since we last featured a Suburb Resident who uses social media and this issue is our first with a You Tube user. Vera Moore is also present on Instagram, Facebook and Pinterest.

Vera runs art classes for children and adults in the Suburb and you can find out more about her and the links to her social media sites on her website at www.veramoore.uk.

Some readers might have come across her at the HGS Art

event in April where she helped run the children's art workshop.

Vera is a professional artist with an international pedigree. She first trained at the world famous Hermitage in St Petersburg and then obtained a second diploma from Kings College & Hampstead School of Art in London, where many famous artists such as Henry Moore and Lucien Freud studied.

In the past five years she has established Kultura Art as a private



'Art Club' in London. In parallel she has also built a highly successful Children's Art Club based on direct engagement with drawing, acrylics on canvas, and multi media techniques.

Her approach is driven by traditional and spiritual values. Values which are present in her own creations and teaching methodology. From the basic fine art skills through to the exotic appliance of oriental techniques, she brings experience, dedication and guidance within a hard working and holistic framework.

She feels that, "Balance is everything; talent and hard work by themselves will achieve less than harnessing them together with detailed guidance, planning and thought."



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Views expressed in Suburb News are not necessarily those of the publishers the Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association.

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The RA website is www.hgs.org.uk