

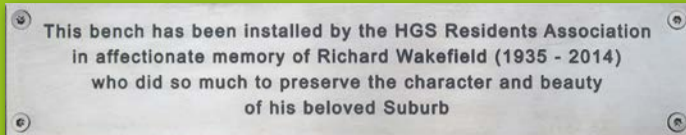
Suburb



News



Who left a message in a bottle for Suburb residents? see page 5



A tribute to the man who launched this newspaper, see page 9

Central Square flower beds get a makeover



Barnet Mayor, Brian Salinger & our MP, Mike Freer with Dame Henrietta's spade.

flower beds on July 7, when many of those involved in the organisation of the work and residents met in the Square for a launch ceremony.

It was a fine day for an outdoor gathering and we heard from Richard Townley, Chair of the Central Square Residents Association, Stephen Crisp of SPC Design, who planned the work, and the Mayor of Barnet, Brian Salinger.

We heard that with the financial support of the London Borough of Barnet, The HGS Trust, the HGS Residents Association and various individuals over £40,000 was raised to allow the work to take place. The Trust also agreed to take over maintenance for at least three years, as Barnet was not willing to take on the commitment.

Richard Townley thanked the many people involved, including our councillor John Marshall and MP Mike Freer; Tony Gilchik of the RA Trees and Open Spaces committee; Richard Wiseman, Nick Packard and Ruth Bull of the Trust; as

well as many of those living around the Square.

Stephen Crisp's design was drawn from Sir Edwin Lutyens original plans and contemporary photographs. The result is neat flower beds in each of the four corners of the Square with a central grassy avenue between the two churches.

There was an explanation for why it had been necessary to dig in 85 tons of soil and mulch to raise the beds. It was a more attractive solution than providing drainage, given the high water table. After the digging in, the beds were planted over eight weeks with nearly 9,000 plants.

The ceremony ended with a spot of spade wielding by our MP, helped by the Mayor and using Dame Henrietta Barnett's spade, which had been specially taken from its vault for the occasion.

With the official part of the proceedings over, everyone could then make for The Free Church, where some superb refreshments were waiting; including some delicious sandwiches, sublime cake and simply gorgeous meringues.



The initial meetings of this project took place in 2012, which is a reminder of how long it can take to see an initiative like this,

with different local actors, come to fruition, and the degree of commitment required by those who take on the job. We owe

thanks to all involved for their work in Central Square for the benefit of our Suburb community.

TERRY BROOKS

If you have wandered up to Central Square recently, you will have noticed there has been a change in the flower beds; and if you are someone who regularly walks through it, you will have been able to watch as the transformation took place over many months.

There was a chance to celebrate the restoration of the

Pedestrian safety on the Suburb



PETER MCCLUSKIE

The Residents Association is well aware that the safety of our roads and pavements is of great concern for residents. They have responded by engaging with Barnet Council and Transport for London over a range of subjects.

As part of the RA's response to this its Roads and Traffic Committee organised an open meeting on Pedestrian Safety on July 6 for residents to attend and voice their concerns.

The RA Chairman, David Lewis, took the meeting, with Gary Shaw, Chairman of Roads and Traffic, and Ian Tutton on the platform (above). Councillors

John Marshall and Rohit Grover along with Lisa Wright from the Highway Services at Barnet Council also attended.

Although the church was not crowded the meeting was lively with most of those present wanting to make a contribution with an observation or a narrative of an incident and, of course, suggesting remedies for problems.

There were many comments on the situation on the Market Place and Falloden Way, where there have been deaths this year. Speeding of both cars and motorbikes was of great concern, as were various aspects of the

Market Place traffic lights, particularly the timing. Many people asked for more vehicle activated signs and judiciously placed speed cameras to solve the problems.

There were some complaints about double yellow lines on corners, which encourage drivers to go faster as the road is clear of parked cars. People wondered why nothing could be done about pavement cyclists with Terry Rand saying he had been knocked down again outside his house.

There was a general feeling that in many areas enforcement (continued on page 3)



At the Summer Fair many will remember the delicious cakes made and donated by many local residents. These raised the large sum of £176.50 on the day, which it was decided would be presented to St Jude's church for their restoration fund. Additional expenses arose over the work on the steeple, when it was found repointing the brickwork was urgently needed before the next stage could be done and hopefully this will help to preserve our famous landmark.

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We believe we can make a substantial difference to you by selling your cherished home for the highest possible price when the time is right ... and not before, of course.

Our well known International connections allow us the unique facility of attracting buyers/tenants not only from the locality, or within the UK, but also from virtually every corner of the globe. A wider globalised audience means usually better terms for you.

We are the longest serving agents in the area, under the same Management for over 40 years and if you want to know what's going on in the market or check the value of your home, please feel free to pop in and you are welcome to use our private clients' car park (at the rear of our offices).

No obligation, no fuss, just good old fashioned service.



An urgent appeal

Do you go to see the New Year in and enjoy the fireworks in Central Square in the company of many other Suburb dwellers? The Residents Association is pleased to have organised this event almost every year since the millennium but we have a problem this year if we want the celebration to go ahead. We desperately need some more volunteers to help on the night; without enough of us to do all the work involved, it becomes an impossible task. We need a basic minimum of people to share the load.

Please consider if you are able to help us and play a part in ensuring this much-loved event can take place this year. If you feel you can make this vital contribution, please get in

touch by e-mailing raevents@hgs.org.uk.

The RA do also have other openings for volunteers, which might interest some readers,

including Honorary Secretary, notice board co-ordinator, Suburb Directory editor, and advertising manager. You can find out more at rapublications@hgs.org.uk.

New Year's Eve

Fireworks Party

FREE DRINKS 

Residents are warmly invited to the Residents Association party in St. Jude's from 10:45pm, followed by a fireworks extravaganza on Central Square at midnight.

There will be a collection to help with the cost of fireworks

Organised by the Events Committee of the Residents Association.
With thanks to St. Jude's for hosting the event.