



Suburb News



Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association

Will's harvesting has been raising funds for Parkinson's UK, details on page 9

Mary from Ukraine takes refuge with Gideon and Carolyn, page 8

What's Judy Marcus been up to on the Heath Extension? Find out on page 6



Saving our planet – and pennies



SHELLEY-ANNE SALISBURY

A new king, a revolving door of prime ministers and a recession. We live in very uncertain times.

As winter is upon us and the chill bites, we are all mindful of

what it will now cost us to heat our homes. Turning up the thermostat (even a notch) can result in our fuel bills rocketing. We think twice about using tumble dryers. We make a conscientious effort to turn lights off in rooms we have just exited. Putin's

deleterious war on Ukraine has had a global impact on fossil fuel prices and the use of fossil fuel is quite simply killing our planet. It's a double whammy – we need to save our planet, and our pennies.

In this issue of Suburb News, the Suburb News Youth team tackle the environment – a subject that increasingly touches every one of us – and we show our solidarity with Ukraine. Our banner is inspired by the Ukrainian flag. The plight of Ukrainians is ever increasing as this war rages on (see Margaret Harris' article on Ukrainian refugees being hosted here in the Suburb on p8). What can we do to help? Suburb residents are generous people and collectively we can do much more. Perhaps in 2023, everyone could match their other charity giving with a donation to a Ukraine appeal?

Let's all do what we can to ensure the Ukrainian flag continues to fly high with its brilliant blue and yellow colours. Sunlit wheat fields under an azure sky.

Trust Council election results

PAUL CAPEWELL, HGST

Trust Council candidates made their case at the HGS Trust AGM in September, before voting took place over the following few weeks for the two Resident Trustee positions up for election.

The Trust Council is made up of eight individuals: four appointed by professional bodies (the Royal Institute of British Architects, the Victorian Society, the Law Society, and the Royal Town Planning Institute). The other four are Suburb residents, as voted for by Trust Members. Trust Membership is open to all those who live on the Suburb, details at hgstrust.org.

The votes have now been counted and verified by the Trust's



Gren Manuel (Photo: Elisabeth Tacey)

auditors, Menzies. 237 valid ballot papers were received. There were nine rejected papers. With three candidates standing for the two positions, Gren Manuel received 151 votes. Maralyn Roberts, 132 votes and Richard Townley, 174 votes. Therefore Gren Manuel and Richard Townley have been elected as Trustees.



The Allotment Committee celebrate the end of another season on a beautiful early autumn afternoon, see p21 (Photo: Phillip Harlow)

DESPITE THE ECONOMIC TURMOIL... WE ARE STILL ABLE TO PULL RABBITS OUT OF THE HAT

We have weathered many storms over the last 50 years and have let and sold an extraordinary number of homes in the Suburb, therefore if you are considering moving, we can still deliver a rabbit or two for you.

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New Year's Eve Fireworks Party

Complimentary 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 CASH 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.

Note: Children must be accompanied by an adult! NO DOGS PLEASE!

Free Church hall stage restored

TONY WILSON

In 2019, after 45 years of disuse, Suburb resident and Free Church congregation member, Tony Wilson, devised a plan to restore the church hall stage to full working order, so that it could once again become a community resource for the production of shows and performances of all kinds.

The plan which involved installing new sound and lighting systems, curtains and drapes was put before the church Elders and it was agreed to apply for a grant from the HGS Trust. The timing was bad as covid had just hit the

world, and the application was turned down. However, in spring this year the grant application was re-submitted and this time it was successful. The Trust grant covered 75% of the planned expenditure and the church Elders agreed to fund the remaining 25%, so in May the acquisition of items began.

Regular lettings in the hall meant that only two half days were available each week for the work to be done and what with summer holidays, pressures of work and covid attacks, it took Tony and his small team four months to complete the work. The plan required the provision of a full

theatre curtain set, with black fabric mid stage side legs and top border. Church member and theatrical costume maker Diana Darrer stepped forward to take on the job of choosing the materials and making the various parts.

The sound system was upgraded by replacing the ancient broken loudspeakers with a pair of 15 inch Wharfedale Pro Impact loudspeakers, a new Mixmaster 10 channel mixer and three radio microphones. The mixer has all the usual facilities including sound effects plus the ability to pair with Bluetooth devices for playing music or sound effects wirelessly.



Work in progress...

The lighting system has 10 new LED stage lights and incorporates the six original Strand model 833 stage lamps and a halogen flood-light powered by two new dimmer racks and all controlled by a 16 fixture Stairville DMX mixer. The system provides comprehensive lighting capabilities but has the capacity for the addition of more than double the number of lamps and other effects if required.

The restoration plan called for the building of a gantry to support the aluminium curtain track three metres above the stage and for the old lighting bar to be lowered by a metre to improve the angle of lighting provided by the six Strand lamps. New steel pipework and electrical circuits were required to support and power the new lamps and data wiring was installed everywhere to carry the DMX signals to control the lamps. Tony and his two helpers, friend Tim Mynett and church member Richard Orme carried out all this work on the stage while Diana and her trusty industrial

sized sewing machines purred away down below fashioning curtains, pelmets, drapes and borders out of long rolls of fabric.

The final part of the upgrade involved running cabling to the rear of the hall to allow the sound and lights to be optionally controlled from there rather than at the side of the stage.

With the work now complete the stage is restored and ready to host all manner of performances, pantos, plays, recitals, nativity and other children's activities. Bookings can be discussed by contacting Eddie Hayden at lettings@hgsfreechurch.org.uk.

Commenting on the project Tony Wilson said, "I grew up on the Suburb and have many happy memories of shows in the hall in the 1940s & 50s. I thought it was a shame that it had been sitting unused for so long, so I developed a plan to restore it in the hope that when it is completed individuals and theatrical groups will come forward to breathe life into it once more."



The end result



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Suburb Harvest



Harvesting volunteers with the fruits of their labour

DANIELLA LEVENE

Thanks to all the Suburb residents who answered the Barnet Community Harvester call to donate their surplus fruit to others in need. Thanks also to the many of you who supported the cause by sharing with neighbours, families and friends, and thanks

as well to those, who joined in the fruity fun. As well as supporting food banks, fruit picking is a social and salubrious activity especially when spent in beautiful HGS gardens.

This has been our busiest year so far and it's been a bumper harvest, with fruit picking still ongoing. Currently, we have

harvested 1720kg of pears, apples and damsons. 379kg of this (22%) came from HGS homes, and one magnificent Bramley tree bore 92kg and still had ample fruit left for wildlife.

Many more HGS residents contacted us to harvest than was possible to coordinate, and I am therefore delighted that the fruit harvesting mantle for HGS has been picked up by HGS resident and RA member Steven Rowe, who'll be leading the activity in the future.

Steven can be contacted at harvesting@hgsra.org. I'm sure you'll agree that Steven is a very appropriate person to lead the Suburb's Community Harvesting team as he is a resident of The Orchard!



Photos: Daniella Levene

HGS Combat Stress – still determined to help

MARJORIE HARRIS

As announced in the last issue of Suburb News, over the last 12 years, HGS Combat Stress Committee raised more than £60,650 for this much-needed Forces' mental health charity, but decided reluctantly to disband the committee and stop organising major functions.

However, the group wanted to take advantage of the wonderful good will towards Combat Stress in the Suburb, and has formed the HGS Friends of Combat Stress. They will continue with a smaller range of one-off activities, such as selling Combat Stress Christmas cards,

etc. Thank you to everyone who has donated in the past.

Suburb News and the Suburb chatline will keep you informed of any new ways in which the HGS Friends of Combat Stress will try to part you from your money on the charity's behalf in the future.



Christmas Day Truce



Pears Building (Photo: Janie Airey)

Royal Free Charity update

SHELLEY-ANNE SALISBURY

In 2020, at the height of the pandemic, HGS residents raised £65,000 (£25,000 of which was match funded by the RA). These funds were distributed by the Royal Free Charity to provide support to NHS ICU staff working extremely long hours in very difficult conditions due to the pandemic. Staff were able to receive dedicated emotional psychological and well-being support to cope whilst caring for patients with covid-19. This was reported in issue 144 of Suburb News.

Two years on, I was invited by Eva Duffy (Head of Communications) and Catherine Sykes (Head of Community Fundraising) to visit the Pears Building adjacent to the

Royal Free Hospital. The building is a hive of activity when I arrive, volunteers are being handed purple T shirts and taken off for training. Several meetings are going on in various offices in this spacious light filled building. Floor to ceiling windows and the light wood give it a warm, pared down Scandinavian look. Part of the building is dedicated to research into long covid. There is also a café (the catering contract is currently out to tender) which will provide a lovely space for those working in the building, as well as the outside community, to meet.

As Eva and Catherine explained, the Royal Free Charity exists to support patients and staff of the Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust, which includes

the Royal Free Hospital. The charity funds and directly delivers a vast range of projects and services which go beyond the limits of government funding. This support ranges from finance and benefits advice for patients with long-term conditions and massage therapy for cancer patients to affordable keyworker accommodation and wellbeing support for hospital staff. Over 400 volunteers support the delivery of patient care, whether it's on the wards or behind the scenes. The charity also delivers projects to support the Royal Free

Hospital's research community, including the Pears Building, the new home of the UCL Institute of Immunity and Transplantation. WINTER APPEAL This winter, the charity has launched a fundraising appeal so that people facing a lung or breast cancer diagnosis have access to faster, less invasive treatments, and to introduce virtual reality therapy to improve the experience of patients receiving chemotherapy.

HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED You can donate to help make a life-changing difference for patients with cancer. Scan the QR code to find out more or visit www.royalfreecharity.org/future.

If you are interested in finding out more about the charity, you can get in touch with Catherine Sykes by emailing her at Catherine.sykes@royalfreecharity.org.



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Residents Association Chair, Emma Howard, gives a round up of the latest RA News

Lime Bikes

Want to try an eBike for yourself? This was the tempting offer made by Gren Manuel (secretary of the RA's REACH environmental group and a frequent Lime user) in the 1st October issue of eNews, which goes to RA members for whom we have email addresses.

The offer noted that shared electric bikes have invaded the Suburb – causing both enthusiasm and concern. Enthusiasm on the one hand because these bikes are an excellent way to travel to nearby places such as Hampstead and Swiss Cottage, often faster than public transport and with no contribution to local air pollution. Concern on the other as bikes are often left blocking pavements in the area, with little thought given to residents, especially those with impaired mobility or vision, or pushing prams or wheelchairs.

So, keen to find out more, I duly turned up to Central Square on a warm autumn evening having downloaded the Lime app to my smart phone before setting out. I found Lime bikes shown on the map on the app – and, lo and behold – by the one opposite the school, there as promised stood Gren discreetly dressed in blazing yellow lycra and helmet. We were soon joined by over a dozen other residents all keen to find out more.

I learned how to get set up to use the bike and had a couple of fun trips around the block, enjoying the way the electric motor helped me cycle up Southway towards St. Jude's (appropriately named 'on the hill'). The bikes are very heavy and have no gears but are simple to use and have a bell on each handlebar and a decent sized carrier in the front. They can't be used unless you have card payments set up on your phone and the charges rack up quite quickly at £1 set up and then 21p per minute. The bikes come with good front and rear lights and the app tells you how many kilometres of charge the bike has when you scan the QR code to get started. The bikes are maintained by the Lime fairies who come round changing the batteries at night which then get recharged back at their depot.

A great innovation and brilliant for those awkward local journeys which are a bit too far to walk, and where public transport links are problematic. However, with no docking stations needed to park the bikes at the end of a journey, it is not surprising that they can also be a nuisance to other residents. Improper or illegal parking of Lime bikes can be reported in the Help section of the Lime app in your account, and it would be great if local users could assist on this to help limit problems caused to others by inconsiderate bike parking.



Gren gives guidance (Photo: Peter McCluskie)

Air Source Heat Pumps: an open evening

It was standing room only at our information meeting on heat pumps at Fellowship House on November 10th.

Some 45 RA members turned up to get more information about these devices, which can potentially reduce heating bills but, more importantly, slash your household carbon emissions and make a real contribution to fighting climate change.

A guest speaker from CB Heating (one of the largest UK installers) presented detailed information on air source heat pumps, including costs and grants currently available. Local renewable energy experts whose homes are heated by air and ground source heat pumps were there to share their experiences. The discussion was facilitated by a Suburb resident planning to install a heat

pump in the Suburb home her family is currently purchasing. The meeting was well attended, and there was genuine interest in these technologies, as well as in home insulation matters.

Readers should note that consent from HGS Trust and LB Barnet is always required in the case of air source heat pumps. (Don't be misled by online information that may tell you no permission is required.)

For ground source heat pumps, which require underground pipework in the garden, the Trust should be informed even if no changes to landscaping are envisioned. If alterations to landscaping are proposed at the same time, an application for Trust consent is required.

A detailed article about the 10th November meeting is available on the REACH section of RA's website, hgstra.uk. The site also has other local information about energy saving and climate change and is updated weekly.



Photo: Peter McCluskie

HGS Trust elections

Congratulations to Gren Manuel, secretary to the RA's REACH committee, who was successful in the elections to become a trustee of the Hampstead Garden Suburb Trust. Gren, a financial journalist, has lived in the Suburb for 20 years with his wife and two sons who both attended Garden Suburb School. Gren is passionate about the impact of climate change and would like to ensure a balance between conservation and reducing our Suburb-wide carbon footprint.

Congratulations also to Richard Townley who was re-elected after his great contribution to bringing Central Square back under Trust control.



Gren Manuel & Richard Townley (Photo: Peter McCluskie)

Philip Okrent

It was extremely sad news when RA Council members learned in early November of the sudden and tragic death of Philip Okrent whilst in Spain where he had a second home.

Philip was a gentleman and a delightful character who took on the Pavements mantle for the RA during covid when he and his wife were out walking a lot and noticed how bad many of them were.

He was always a pleasure to deal with, handling concerns and complaints from residents efficiently and it was never too much trouble for him to go and visit a problem site, take a photo, and then report it to local councillors to action.

Philip leaves behind his wife, Suzie, three daughters as well as a sister who are in our thoughts at this terrible time.

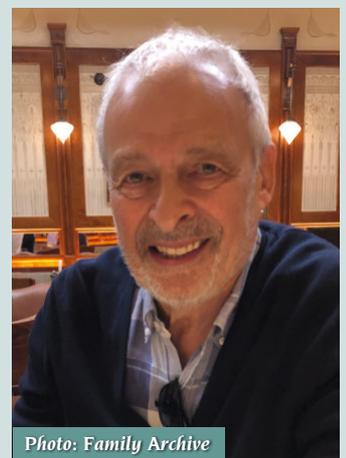


Photo: Family Archive

"No, I think that's the bell..." (Photo: Peter McCluskie)



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Suburb 'Engagement on Parking'

CLLR ROHIT GROVER

In the last Suburb News, we reported on the Barnet Council survey on parking carried out a year ago in the south side of HGS, and Councillors Grover and Mire provided a resumé of the latest position. Councillor Grover has provided a further update:

Between October and November 2021, Barnet Council carried out an 'Engagement on Parking' survey in the south side of the Suburb. This is a geographical area that is partly covered by Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) restrictions which limit the ability of non-residents to park. However, most of the area doesn't have a CPZ, which makes some streets a target for commuter and other non-residential parking from taxis, commercial vehicles and staff working at local businesses.

Every street that is not within a CPZ was surveyed. This was an unusually large area for such an exercise which the Council piloted in order to avoid a piecemeal approach to the introduction of CPZs which has historically had the impact of displacing parking pressures into neighbouring streets.

In August, officers from the Council's Parking department presented Cllr Mike Mire and me with the results of the engagement exercise. Of the 1791 households that were surveyed we learned that a total of 397 responses were received (22%), and only 27% of respondents were in support of a CPZ, with 68% against. Despite

this, the Council's parking officers indicated to us that they would be recommending an extension of the existing CPZ arrangements so that they would effectively cover most of the south side of the Suburb.

Both of us disagree with this recommendation. We think that instead of implementing a CPZ across a very large area that for the most part does not experience parking pressures and where residents have not expressed support for one, a CPZ should only be implemented on streets that do experience parking pressures and where residents have expressed support.

As this is a complex issue that has the potential to affect a very large number of residents, we have submitted a detailed response to the Council's parking officers setting out our reasons for making this alternative recommendation.

In the interests of transparency, this response is publicly available at: www.barnetconservatives.london/response.

As to where we go from here, Cllr Mire and I have asked to meet with the Council in order to try and agree a way forward. Both of us are committed to working with the Council in order to try and find a resolution that deals with some long-standing parking issues in Garden Suburb, without – to borrow the phrase – 'using a sledgehammer to crack a nut'.

The Garden Suburb Ward councillors can be contacted at: Cllr.R.Grover@barnet.gov.uk and cllr.m.mire@barnet.gov.uk.



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Heath Extension playground now open



William Upton KC, Olivia White, her brother Elliot and the Mayor of Barnet, Councillor Alison Moore (Photo: Emma Howard)

COLIN GREGORY

After months of planning, an energetic campaign led by 12-year-old Olivia White, and with the magnificent support of local residents, the fully refurbished playground on the Heath Extension was opened on Saturday 5th November. The ceremony was performed by William Upton KC, Chair of the Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen's Park Committee of the City of London Corporation who own and run the Heath.

Also present were the Mayor of Barnet, Councillor Alison Moore,

representatives of the City and the RA, significant donors and local residents of all ages who were treated to tea and cake under a specially erected gazebo that also had the effect of discouraging all but the slightest of showers.

The cost of the playground was £48,000 and the Residents Association contributed £7,500 towards the project and paid over a grant of £7,500 received from a City of London charity for the scheme. A Netflix production company that shot a film last year on nearby Wildwood Road contributed £6,000 towards the appeal. There were also some very

generous donations from local individuals who wanted to support this initiative meaning that the full amount was raised in a relatively short space of time.

The refurbished playground, designed with input from Olivia and other young residents features equipment designed to appeal to a wider age group than before with special provision for disabled children. Olivia commented: "I feel proud of everybody's efforts and happy for the local children who now have a playground that they deserve: hard work pays off."

Many thanks to everyone who has supported this exciting project.



Play your part in keeping our Suburb special

The Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association was formed over 110 years ago. With nearly 1,900 members, it has become a strong, enthusiastic community in the Suburb. It:

- organises social events including the Summer Fair and Hallowe'en/New Year's Eve festivities •
- maintains and enhances the greenery in the Suburb by funding the planting of street trees and setting up of a community orchard •
- supports residents to prepare for environmental challenges •
- works with LB Barnet to keep the Suburb clean and supports local litter picking volunteers •
- supports local community groups and donates to local charities, including Proms at St Jude's •
- produces the quarterly Suburb News and annual Suburb Directory delivered by volunteers to all households in the Suburb •
- produces the monthly Suburb eNews with local information and events circulated by email to members only •
- provides access to the Master Tradespeople List with recommendations from fellow Suburb members and the HGS List email group: both available to RA members only •

Join the Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association online at hgsra.uk/join or call 020 3488 9131

OUT & ABOUT

Anyone for... rewilding?

JUDY MARCUS

When walking in the Heath Extension, I often see Heath Hands volunteers in their fluorescent lime green jackets working. They always seem quite jolly and carefree.

I've had a vague interest in joining this local conservation group for years, hoping for a collaborative experience helping rewild the Heath extension. I made enquiries at the Heath Hands office who suggested I attend a lecture entitled 'Autumn' that weekend by way of an introduction and so, a few weeks ago, I pitched up at the assigned point on Parliament Hill.

The lecturer was Heath Hands Leader Avi. Attending was a large group of would-be volunteers and those interested in meeting local friends of a similar mindset. Avi took us around the Heath illustrating her lecture with real-life current examples, especially emphasising hedgerows.

I learned a hedgerow is a line of closely planted shrubs and planters trained to form a barrier. A 'relict' or lapsed hedgerow is left to expand on purpose.

As Avi explained to the group, hedgerows are a corridor for

wildlife; collecting populations of animals and insects – some of which are marked endangered. Hedgerows use lines of hedgerows to commute; successful populations of vole and shrew, field mice and moths are maintained under cover of these shrubs.

The hedgerows on the Heath extension look rather plain and we take them for granted but they are actually carefully designed. The thought-through project is to extract the most benefit for both insects and animals from cultivating them.

Avi explained their hedgerow maintenance strategy. They can't be trimmed frequently, like you might trim your own hedge; they are trimmed once every two years. This is to stop secondary woodland saplings' growth which changes its nature. Coppicing encourages new growth and Avi described 'hedgelaying' – whereby stems are part-cut then laid flat on the right side on the floor.

We were also shown how different layers of the hedgerow are used differently. The understorey allows Shrub bats and hedgehogs to breed and hibernate. Grass snakes bask among leaf litter and marginals. Tall grass 'buffer zones' are for chicks' nesting material.

Ivy-flower grows higher up (we sampled the smell: nice – like honey). When budded, ivy looks different to the ivy we see in our hedges. Berries are developed for birds and nettles for butterflies.

And we can benefit too: hawthorn berries make jam and ketchup, crab apples make jelly, rosehips make cordial with 20 times the amount of vitamin C of an orange. Experienced people in the group offered preparation advice and included an animated discussion on making sloe berry gin.

We were put into pairs to identify the autumn harvest. My partner Veronica, an art journalist,

said it was nice to walk with a purpose, learning about the environment and connecting with the countryside. I collected sloe berries to experiment with making sloe-gin. As asked, we tried not to over-forage which would negatively impact on the future harvests.

When home, I put the sloe berries into a sealable bottle with some gin and stored it in a dark cupboard turning it every few days. Ideally the gin should end up as a fuchsia-coloured liquid. Mine was on the murky brown side and none of my family was willing to try it... Maybe next year?

All this said, do I still want to join the rewilding gang? I believe there is some ditch clearing alongside the hedgerow



Photo: Adrian Marcus

maintenance to be done. The jury is still out, but I can definitely appreciate the benefits and recommend you give it a go.

To find out more about what Heath Hands do, visit their website at heath-hands.org.uk.

Temple Fortune Club delighted with Trophy Day fund raising

PHYLLIS ELLIS

Centenary Trophy Day at Temple Fortune club raised over £2,800 for the North London Hospice this year.

Temple Fortune Bowls, Tennis and Squash Club is located just outside the Suburb, but many of its members are Suburb residents. The Bowls section holds a charity trophy day each summer and this year, being the club's centenary, all members made an extra effort to raise as much as possible for the Hospice.

The raffle is the main money raiser and is generously supported by many local small businesses particularly in the Market Place and Muswell Hill. All food served is provided by bowls members and the delicious spread includes a glass of fizz.

There were eight local bowls clubs supporting the event: Bishopswood, Bounds Green, Cockfosters, Finchley Victoria, Friary Park, North London and Parliament Hill, with 12 teams participating in total. The weather was kind – warm, dry and a little overcast. There were welcome drinks on arrival and an opportunity for old friends to catch up and then the fun, but competitive, match began. The competition was initially a round robin followed by an exciting final between a team from North London and one from Temple Fortune which, after an extra end was won by the Temple Fortune Team. At the end of the match, there was a celebratory glass of fizz followed by the food, which I am told is the big attraction that draws the teams.

After lively conversation over supper, the fantastic prizes are drawn and then the happy participants make their way home.

The Club's Bowls section was delighted to make so much money



The winning team, Brian Gallagher, Mike Alsford & Howard Bloom (Photo: Simon Waldram)

for the Hospice, which we know had struggled with less funding coming in during the pandemic.

Temple Fortune is an active friendly club, which welcomes people who want to play casually

and competitively. The club is current holder of the North London President's Cup. New members are always welcome and the club has a car park. Have a look at our website: templefortuneclub.co.uk.



Avi and I



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Hallowe'en Spook in Big Wood

Some of you may have come across this rather friendly fellow in the woods just before Hallowe'en. Apparently his name is Henry... (Photo Shelley-Anne Salisbury)

Big Wood Fungi

JULIAN GLASER

On Saturday 22 October we were very fortunate to have David Humphries, Trees Management Officer for Hampstead Heath, to guide us among the fungi of Big Wood.

Though co-author of the Arboricultural Association book 'Fungi on Trees', David introduced himself as "not really a field mycologist." However we saw little to justify such modesty as he pointed out at once two fine fruiting bodies of the Beefsteak Fungus, *Fistulina hepatica*, at the foot of an oak – a tree on which this bracket fungus specialises. Moreover white growths on the older specimen displayed fungi that in turn specialise in feeding off other fungi.

Fistulina, which colours heartwood brown, evoked the distinction between brown and white rots of wood, with tannin-rich trees such as oaks offering resistance to some brown rots. David noted the contrast between the decades over which a fallen trunk of English oak, *Quercus robur*, may host fungi (and many other organisms) with the three years over which fallen trunks of faster-growing Turkey oak, *Q. cerris*, entirely disappear. Another contrast in resistance was provided by ring-

porous woods such as oak with, for instance, diffuse-porous sycamore.

From experience born of the Great Storm of 1987, David explained how standing trees hollowed out by fungal attack might in fact gain the flexibility to resist storm damage, though this was little appreciated at the time. Indeed the rich soil from degraded heartwood might encourage the tree to develop new roots within the base of its own trunk.

From the fungi that attack living trees, we moved on to saprophytic fungi that grow on dead wood or on soil. We saw the Clouded Funnel, *Clitocybe nebularis*, in the leaf litter, with a warning that not all who eat it have a good experience. On a fallen oak trunk we saw the mature dark ears of the Black Bulgar, *Bulgaria inquinans*, with the attractive brown cups of its immature stage nearby. By eating the sapwood of fallen trees, *Bulgaria* serves to loosen the bark. Such delamination gives habitat to many invertebrates – and food for the birds that prey on them.

Clitocybe and *Bulgaria* exemplified two major fungal groups: the Basidiomycetes that drop their spores into the breeze from visible gills or pores and the Ascomycetes that spit their spores out from microscopic tubes. On the other hand, *Fistulina* and



Photo: Maria Schlatter

Bulgaria illustrated the concept of succession: particular species of fungi succeed each other at particular stages of the life and decomposition of trees.

Soon we came upon other Ascomycetes: pretty pink Jelly Ear, *Auricularia auricula-judae*, growing on hazel twigs as well as on the more familiar elder, and bright Yellow Stags Horn, *Calocera viscosa*. Then came the Basidiomycete Blushing Bracket, *Daedaleopsis confragosa*. David contrasted the rings of timber, reliably annual and the foundation of tree-ring dating, with the rings of this perennial bracket fungus which reflect only growth spurts at quite random intervals of time.

It is satisfying to see in Bigwood the growing population of the Wild Service Tree, *Sorbus torminalis*, but these too may weaken and high up on one we saw a tell-tale white cluster of *Pleurotus*, the delectable oyster mushroom. Healthy-looking oaks also betrayed fungal activity to David's eye: blue stains where bark was missing, the signs of the

Green Elfcup fungus, *Chlorociboria aeruginascens*. Here at least was a fungus that adds value to its host timber. The colourful blue-green wood was much valued in Tunbridge Ware marquetry.

Lifting the bark on a huge fallen trunk revealed the sinister black bootstraps of the Honey Fungus, *Armillaria mellea*, notorious killer of timber trees and able to glow in the dark. Nearby were its characteristic yellow toadstools – and those of the Sulphur Tuft fungus, *Hypholoma fasciculare*, very similar but quickly distinguished by David through its flat top. David told of the affecting romance between two young mating types

of the closely related *Armillaria ostoyae*. Meeting among the Oregon forests in pre-Homeric times, they have begotten the world's largest living organism, some 31,500 tonnes of fungus covering nine square kilometres.

This short account omits many of the valuable and entertaining insights that David brought to Big Wood. We are most grateful to him.

This was the latest in the series of walks in Big Wood that are organised by the Friends of Big Wood and led by experts. More information can be obtained by visiting friendsofbigwood.com where details of previous fungal surveys and other matters can be accessed.



HoneyFungus, *Armillaria mellea* (Photo: Julian Glaser)

THIS YEAR'S HGS TRUST MEMBERS' WINTER LECTURE WILL BE

Neo-Georgian Architecture: Survival or revival in the twentieth century

Delivered by Dr. J. Holder, University of Oxford

7pm, Tuesday 13 December 2022, Henrietta Barnett School, Central Square. Refreshments provided.

We are delighted to have Dr Holder delivering this year's event, and we hope to see as many of you there as possible.

Dr Holder's recent books cover Arts and Crafts architecture, as well as the subject of this year's lecture.

This event is FREE to all HGS Trust Members, and we have sent personal invitations to each member by post.

If you have not received one, please contact us via mail@hgstrust.org or 0208 455 1066 as your membership may have expired.

Membership is free and open to all residents of Hampstead Garden Suburb. It is not connected to property ownership, and is separate to payment of the management charge or ground rent.

Non-members are welcome to attend, but we will make a charge of £5 on the door per attendee.

If you are not currently a member and would like to become one, please download a membership form from www.hgstrust.org, or you can sign up on the door.

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Gideon, Carolyn and Mary (Photo: Jacob Smith)

Suburb Homes for Ukrainians

MARGARET HARRIS

When Russia invaded Ukraine in February, it precipitated the move of millions of Ukrainians (mostly women and children) fleeing the destruction. The 'Homes for Ukraine' scheme allowed people and organisations (dubbed 'sponsors') to bring Ukrainians to the UK for a period of up to three years. Some Ukrainians found homes here in the Suburb and I recently went to meet two of them, with their hosts, to see how they are getting on.

Mary is 26 years old, has a degree in management and was an Operations Manager in the oil industry before she left Kyiv. She worries about her parents who are still in Ukraine but who wanted her to leave the country if she

could. She is looking for a job so that she can feel more settled and eventually move into her own flat. Meanwhile she is going to English language classes and using her time to volunteer at a local foodbank and at a local hub which is a meeting point and information centre for Ukrainians refugees.

Gideon, her host, says that he never forgets that his own grandparents came to this country as refugees and when news about the Ukraine situation started filtering through, he and his wife Carolyn decided that they wanted to do something to help in their turn. They were introduced to Mary by a local couple and they then met Mary on a zoom call. Once Mary had Gideon and Carolyn as a sponsor, she was able to obtain a visa. Gideon and Carolyn registered with the Government's 'Homes for Ukraine' Scheme. Barnet Council came to approve the accommodation and the family situation and the three of them have been together since July.

They have all found a way to adapt and live harmoniously under one roof. At first, Carolyn introduced Mary to the locality

and how to get around London on public transport. But Mary is resourceful and through social media, she has tapped into groups and networks which support Ukrainians and disseminate helpful information. She feels well supported now and her English is excellent. She is looking forward to being able to get a 'proper job' here so that she can feel more settled and, eventually, move into her own flat.

Another Suburb host, Danielle, also mentions her own family history when we meet. Her parents were stateless refugees and only survived thanks to the generosity and courage of people who took them in. So when one of her husband's long-standing employees told him that she had a friend who needed to leave Ukraine, the family were keen to help. Danielle says that the small inconvenience to English host families is nothing in comparison with what is being suffered by people in Ukraine.

Living with Danielle and her husband now is Olga, who is a Member of the Ukraine Parliament, along with her two daughters aged 10 and 13. Tragically, Olga's

husband was killed by a Russian bomb in March while he was engaged in helping to evacuate civilians and deliver humanitarian aid. Olga decided then that it was time to get her daughters to safety. Both girls were offered free places at private schools in this area and have settled down well to a new way of life.

As a Member of the Ukraine Parliament, Olga attends parliamentary sessions electronically, something she says they all got used to during the pandemic. Olga is not looking for employment here as she has her salary as a Member of Parliament, but her main need now is for independent accommodation in the area so that her girls do not have to move schools yet again. She is concerned to keep their lives as stable as possible after all they have been through.

Both Mary and Olga are very aware that the Government's 'Homes for Ukraine' scheme is officially only for a six month period. In due course, guests will need to find employment and accommodation here as there is currently no sign of an end to the turbulent situation in Ukraine. Meanwhile, both hosts and guests are very reliant on Whatsapp groups for information and contacts.

When asked how Suburb residents might help, Olga shared her anxiety about the survival of people in Ukraine in the coming winter. Ukrainians have been deprived of their homes and, in many cases, they lack heating, lighting and water supplies.

The Ukrainian guests are very appreciative of the welcome they have had in this country. Mary summed it up, "I want to say that I'm really grateful for the support that British people have provided, especially all the sponsor families and volunteer organisations."

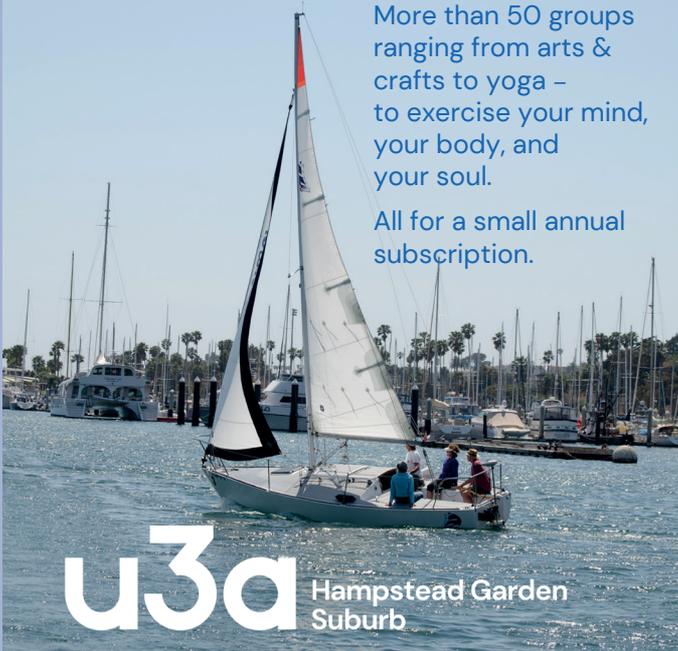
Those who would like to help can consult internet sources under 'donate to Ukraine'. One local organisation is: 'Drive Aid to Ukraine' that aims to deliver aid directly to Ukraine's borders and onward to conflict zones.

People interested in hosting Ukrainian guests can consult internet sources under 'Homes for Ukraine'.

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HGS U3A is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) serving Hampstead Garden Suburb and adjoining areas. Charity registered in England, number 1182530.



Olga and her two daughters, Vlada and Lera

Summer Reading Challenge winners

MARC HULL

This year marks our tenth anniversary as a Community Library. It is also our tenth year of participating with The Reading Agency in their national Summer Reading Challenge. This excellent scheme encourages children to keep reading during the summer holidays and rewards them with a certificate, medal and small prizes along the way.

As an additional incentive, the Library once again provided an extra prize for all those who completed the required six books and their names were placed in a draw. This year's extra prize was a Metal Springy which many will remember as a Slinky and it has proved to be extremely popular with our lucky winners. We had our highest ever number of participants with over a third completing the challenge.

The Library is open Tuesday to Saturday from 10am till 5pm. In addition to our normal library services, we offer photocopying and printing, either from your email, USB memory stick or direct from your mobile phone. The very successful Children's Activities we ran pre-Covid have restarted along with a new Knitting Group. Please take a look at our website for further details: www.gardensuburblibrary.org.uk.



Photos: Edward Botterill



Aliko Kyriacou



Anna Kyriacou



Avery Castle



Benjamin Gordon



Cora Hayes



Dory Tobin



Esme Martin



Finn Jenner



Gabriel Wang



Juliet Ke



Natalie Tornambe



Ryoma Best



Theo Martin



Yaya Kenku



Zevulun Gluschover-Koppel

An apple a day...

Will Botterill raises funds for Parkinson's UK

JAC BOTTERILL

Local resident, Will Botterill, aged 10, has been raising much needed funds for Parkinson's UK, to support his maternal grand-mother and anyone else affected by this devastating neurological condition.

To kickstart fundraising, Will took the initiative over half-term to pick organic apples and pears from his grandparents' small orchard in Cambridgeshire, transport them home to London, and sell them in exchange for donations to the cause.

It was difficult to miss Will and his sister Amber by the entrance to Bigwood where their fruit stall attracted attention from passers-by. The family are touched and thankful for the extraordinary generosity, kindness and support shown by the HGS community, including donations from the local postman and tradesmen.

That studies have shown a link between exposure to chemicals in pesticides and herbicides and Parkinson's, was not lost on Will; selling chemical-free fruit to fund research into finding a cure for the disease, felt like the natural thing to do.

As the initiative was so successful (raising £583 as we go to print) and enjoyed by everyone who got involved – look out for them next year, as Will plans to make it an annual event. If you

would like to support Will's efforts for Parkinson's UK, you can donate at www.gofund.me/d2c5dbed, or scan the QR code.





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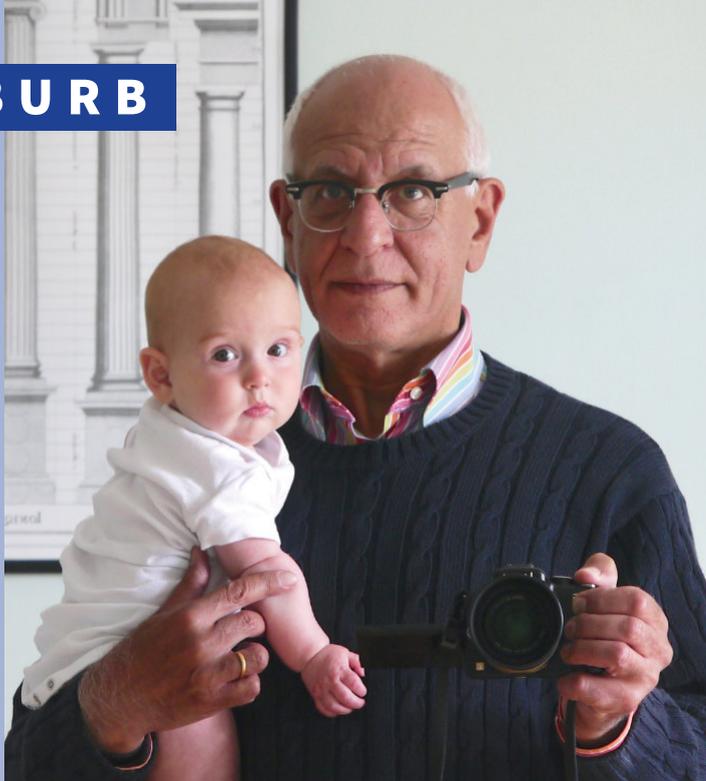
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Photos: Library Volunteers



Richard Wiseman – a self-portrait encapsulating three of his major interests: grandchildren, photography, and the architectural order of Greek columns

Richard Wiseman

1951 - 2022

LUCY WISEMAN

Richard was born in St George's Hospital at Hyde Park Corner and grew up in the tall-windowed terraces of Chelsea, a very different townscape from Hampstead Garden Suburb.

His childhood was not particularly easy. It wasn't long after the war, London was still pockmarked with bomb sites, housing and money were both in short supply and the family lived in flat conversions in the red-brick Edwardian terraces off the King's Road. He spent his school holidays at the V&A, roaming, surprised and delighted by the extent of human artistry and ingenuity. He had lifelong interests in science, exploration and the arts, became a skilled and talented painter and photographer, an enthusiastic traveller, and was fascinated by the measurement of time, amassing a significant collection of timepieces.

His formal education was less inspiring, despite sharing a maths teacher with Tim Berners-Lee.

His primary education was at the Marlborough – a forbidding Victorian and asphalt pile in Sloane Avenue – and later he took the erratic number 22 bus to Emmanuel School in Battersea – like Henrietta Barnett school, voluntary aided, though now a public school. Emmanuel was one of the better non-fee-paying schools in the area but he failed to thrive there, possibly because, having been born in mid-August, he was the youngest in his class in a school which sat most public exams a year early. Failing to get the grades for university at the close of the swinging sixties, his summer outdoor clerking job at his father's solicitor's Dickensian offices in the churchyard of St Paul's Covent Garden resulted in five year articles.

Those five years gave him his wings, a soaring confidence in his skills and abilities, and lifelong friendships. So when the firm couldn't afford to keep him on after he qualified he wandered down the road to the Strand and a job in Shell's legal team. His career there was stellar, but not really relevant here.

Meanwhile, we had married. It took three years and a baby to lure Richard to North West London: dull by his architectural standards but a place of friendship and community. We spent three years in Melbourne where he honed his contract writing skills on submarine pipelines and climbed the corporate ladder. Then came the move to Hampstead Garden Suburb. He developed an interest in the legal aspects of the estate and planning and delighted in the architecture.

He took early retirement from Shell and was soon invited by Angus Walker to join the Trust where he chaired the council for six years between 2013 and 2019. In the words of the Trust's

architectural advisor, David Davidson, who reminded me of the details of his tenure and his management skills:

"Richard understood and appreciated the Suburb and knew why it deserved the protection of the Trust. As Chair, he was a warm and kind presence, endlessly patient and encouraging, steering the organisation through some difficult times with immense good sense and authority. The staff enjoyed his regular visits to the office, always offering sound advice and good humour and taking the time to talk to everyone. He was instrumental in arranging the transfer of Central Square to the Trust from Barnet. He convinced his colleagues that the Trust would be a better long-term custodian for the centrepiece of the Suburb, managing it for the benefit of all residents and significantly improving its appearance. Richard left the Trust on a sound financial footing and much enriched by his contribution. We will remember him as an inspirational chair and a wise and humorous man."

Richard's relatively early death has been devastating for his family. Our final project was our 'lockdown garden' designed by Stephen Crisp who we were introduced to by Richard Townley as a result of the Central Square project. It became a place of relaxation, comfort and happiness as his life drew to a close.

His greatest delight though, and the achievement of which he was most proud, was his family: our three children Sam, Rebecca and Jonathan, and their children Adam, Laurie, Dov, Beatrice and Zev. He was entirely grateful that all three of the children were happily partnered and able to support themselves whilst realising the primacy of family life.

That he enriched so many lives and strengthened the organisations he supported is a legacy which would have satisfied him.

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Volunteer at Proms at St Jude's

RON FINLAY

The 2023 Proms at St Jude's Music and Literary festival runs from 24 June to 2 July and there are lots of opportunities to join us and help out. You'll meet new people, make new friends, and be doing something worthwhile for Hampstead Garden Suburb and the wider community.

We need enthusiastic and capable volunteers to help with catering and stewarding during the festival. Or join one of a range of committees working year round to put on the festival. They cover everything from education and fund-raising to music planning, social media and logistics.

We want you to enjoy your volunteering experience and will

try to match you with a task you would be happy to participate in.

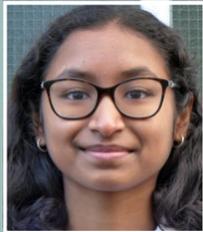
Whatever time commitment you can offer us and whatever your skills, there will be something you can do to help us make Proms 2023 a fun, enjoyable and inclusive event.

Now is the time to apply. Please go to www.promsatstjudes.org.uk/volunteering to register.



Proms volunteers
(Photo: Michael Eleftheriades)

In this edition we welcome a new team from The Henrietta Barnett School and receive our last articles from the 2022 team at Archer Academy. All of the new youth journalists from HBS are in Year 10 and are enthusiastic about contributing to Suburb News Youth and these are their pen portraits:



Saanvi Akula

I am delighted to be a part of the new team of youth writers. I have always loved reading, writing and debating but only recently have developed an interest in journalism and current affairs. I enjoy singing, playing the piano and violin, badminton and dancing.



Soumiya Indrakumar

I am Sri Lankan and speak Tamil. My favourite hobbies are playing netball and badminton! I love writing and hope that I can express my opinions to you all as I write for Suburb News!



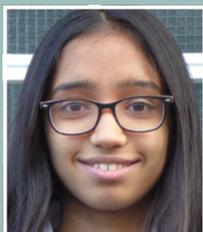
Praneeta Karjodkar

I have quite a few hobbies such as tennis, badminton and painting. However, my favourite hobby is baking which I have been doing since I was 4! I also love reading, be it news articles, books or even poetry. I think I am a very creative person, thus my favourite subjects in school are Art, DTE and English.



Armitha Panchalingam

My favourite subjects are Maths and Physics. My favourite hobbies are reading and writing which makes me all the more excited about writing for Suburb News. I enjoy creative writing as I can let my imagination run wild and share it with others at the same time!



Riya Shah

I like to play badminton and I also enjoy playing the piano. One of my all-time favourite books is 'Pride and Prejudice' by Jane Austen, as it is a perfect mix of romance, comedy and sarcasm, three things I really enjoy in books and it is filled with very memorable quotes and iconic characters.



Vishali Thushyanthan

My favourite aspect of English is definitely the creative writing part, as I can express my ideas and opinions freely and with no barriers. My favourite subjects are Maths and Chemistry. I also love to swim and play badminton and enjoy reading books!

My Edith How-Martyn Project



My name is Clara Chapman and I am 8 years old. This summer my school set us homework to make a poster about a person that we found inspirational. I remembered that my next door neighbour Nicky had told me that she had watched a virtual tour of HGS during the first lockdown in 2020 and learnt that a prominent suffragette called Edith How-Martyn had lived in our house. With the help of my Mummy and Daddy I decided to do some research on her to see if she could be my inspirational person for my summer homework project.

I could not believe it when one of the first things I read about Edith How-Martyn was that she went to North London Collegiate School. I joined North London Collegiate last year after finishing at Annemount School and it just seems crazy to me that Edith How-Martyn went to the same school as me around 140 years ago and lived in the very same house as me 100 years ago. It was such an amazing coincidence.

Once I read more about Edith How-Martyn I knew that she would be a brilliant person to do my project on. Edith How-Martyn was a well-known suffragette and believed in equal rights and votes for women. She was an early member of the Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU) in 1905. The following year she was appointed joint secretary of the WSPU with Charlotte Despard. In 1906 she was arrested in the lobby of the House of Commons for trying to give a speech. This was one of the first acts of suffragette militancy and she was one of the first WSPU members to go to jail. She was in prison for two months.

Edith How-Martyn is particularly known for her involvement in the suffragette's response to the 1911 census. She wrote an article in the women's magazine 'Vote' calling on women to boycott the census by refusing to be counted. The census entry for my house in 1911 shows that it was being used as an 'open house' meaning that women who did not live there, were there on census night and therefore not in their own homes and hiding so that they could not be counted. My Mummy and Daddy managed to find a copy of the census entry and it is amazing to see the notes that have been recorded on it. For example, the officer notes that it is being used as an open house and tries to correct the incorrect information that has been given and someone (I suppose either Edith or her husband) has written across the form "No votes for women, no information from women" and "legislation without representation is slavery." It makes me feel so excited and proud when I think about Edith standing in the same rooms that I do now plotting what she was going to do next to try to achieve her goal of women having the right to vote.

Now that my school project is finished I am helping my parents to put together an application to get a blue plaque on our house. I think it would be really special for Edith How-Martyn to be recognised for the incredible and brave work that she did fighting for women's rights.

CLARA CHAPMAN, NORTH LONDON COLLEGIATE

If any of our young readers, like Clara, know of anyone famous or of interest to our readers, who lived in their house in the past, then maybe you could write an article too. Just send it to suburbnews@hgsra.uk.

PROMS AT ST JUDE'S COMPETITION

Compose a fanfare for the Coronation of King Charles III

Proms at St Jude's is running a fanfare competition for young people aged 11 to 18 – this time to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III.

The challenge is to compose a fanfare of no longer than 30 seconds for any combination of instruments and to submit a score (whether using a computer program or handwritten) and a recording for judging. There are two categories: one for acoustic instruments and one intended to be played electronically.

"You don't even have to be able to read music," said Joan Arnold, who initiated the competition six years ago. "Thanks to increasingly sophisticated technological programs, composing is accessible to anyone with a computer."

The competition is being sponsored by Dorico – a music notation software company. Winners will receive a gift token worth £50. The senior winner will have their piece played live to a public audience and also receive a licence for special music notation software, Dorico Pro, worth nearly £500. 25 runners-up will win a Dorico Elements licence worth £85.

2022 winner, Nicholas Delargy Crawley from Woodhouse College, will be one of the judges of the 2023 competition. He encouraged people to enter. "It's a fun challenge," said Nicholas. "I recommend it to anyone who loves music."

If you want to enter the competition or to find out more, go to www.promsatstjudes.org.uk/fanfare-competition.

Closing date is Friday 28 April 2023.



King of the Beats vibing to the fanfare

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With the closing of COP 27 leaving frustration over the lack of urgency by many world leaders, here, SN Youth have their say about the impending climate catastrophe

A View From Extinction

*The wind rushed against my vibrant feathers,
As I swerved left and right,
I felt free. I was free.*

*But you ruined it.
My life, their lives, our lives.
Did you feel happy? Do you feel happy?*

*The giants, with weapons of mass destruction
right in their fingertips
I still hear the droning, the whirring, the endless cries for help,
My home, dead. Everything was dead.*

*What if your homes were torn down?
Surely you would've been devastated.
So why did you wipe us out? Why did we have to die?*

*No one knows of our existence.
Because you think you are the only ones in this world,
When will you understand? Will you ever learn your lesson?*

*We defined elegance,
We stood out, we caught your eye,
Was our beauty the cause of our demise? Or were you?*

*Scarlet; one of the divine colours of our feathers
It ended up being the imprint of your cruelty,
And the blood that was spilled. The blood that you spilled.*

*Was it worth the kill? The satisfaction you got from it?
Were we less important than the land you cleared?
Land can be reborn. We cannot.*

*But you knew, didn't you?
You've always known, yet you destroy us,
Creature by creature, limb by limb, soul by soul.*

*And you still do it, don't you?
You end those lives, you end the peace,
Perhaps it'll be better for you to face the same. For you
to face the shame.*

VISHALI THUSHYANTHAN & SOUMIYA INDRAKUMAR, THE HENRIETTA BARNETT SCHOOL

We owe art's beauty to our environment

Art is a human instinct – it is our natural disposition to create, elucidating what the mind is unable to articulate. It is in our nature to reflect on nature. The natural environment is the greatest inspiration known to artists. The earth's environment in itself is a wonderful canvas filled with the paint strokes of sunsets, the sketches of skies and the sculptures of seas – which we have instinctively adopted to create art. "Great art picks up where nature ends", thus Marc Chagall is stating that art is born from nature; art owes its beauty to the ethereal paradise that is the environment. It is essential to imagination, to expression, to optimism, to life, to art.

The very first pieces of art archaeologists have found (around 45,000 years old) are depictions of nature. They are representations of animals, as tribute, by primitive men and women to honour the nature they had to kill for survival. In the Middle Ages men had a complex relationship with nature which they viewed through elaborate religious and symbolic meanings.

However, perhaps my personal favourite representation of nature in art, is in Impressionism. In this radical art movement of the late 1800s artists focused more on capturing the transient effects of sunlight rather than the subject itself. There was a shift away from realism to a more eccentric, vivid portrayal of nature with magnificent, wonderful colours and audacious brush strokes to create an 'impression' of a natural scene – focusing on how sunlight could define a moment in time. Recently, I saw Monet's famous water lily bridge painting at the National Gallery and the effect was truly mesmerising. It immerses you with colour, texture, perspective and of course, light, so for a time you forget that you're standing in an art gallery with hundreds of people, and not in a make-believe paradise of vibrancy. Impressionism may paint our natural environment inaccurately, but the use of a chromatic palette and seemingly intangible but realistic light, leaves the paintings of nature covered in hope and optimism, evoking all kinds of warm emotions.

Impressionism proves that the portrayal of the environment in art can be incredibly personal, for both the artist and the observer. For nature, something so common and comforting to us, to be portrayed in this beautiful way, really does demonstrate how art picks up where nature ends.

SUSANA RIO, ARCHER ACADEMY



Greenwashing – the impact!



Greenwashing is when a company is spending more money, time and effort advertising and promoting themselves as sustainable than carrying out the actions which will minimize their environmental impact. This advertising causes customers to be misled in purchasing products that are not what they claim to be. It wastes time and may divert customers from supporting greener companies. But why do companies use this tactic? They use it to make people more likely to purchase from companies which have ethical credibility, they make a profit from emphasizing their social consciousness. This has particularly been found true for Gen Z, so it is likely that companies targeting the younger generation will be greenwashing. However, the other reason is that they simply don't know that they are doing it - a lot of the time there hasn't been enough research into the product that they are advertising. This leads to misconceptions about products but in some cases can lead to a fine and therefore companies should research their policies in depth to make sure all the details are correct.

An example of greenwashing occurred in 2019 when McDonald's replaced their plastic straws with paper ones which stapled McDonald's as a company conscious about their impact on the environment. However, it was found that the alternative paper straws aren't recyclable so a lot of public backlash followed yet the company continue to use them.

The issue is how can we notice when a company is partaking in this and then how do we find companies that are thinking sustainably? There are several things to look out for: providing no proof of a claim; the language that the company uses (either it only being what scientists could understand or words having no clear meaning such as 'produced sustainably'); or, something being the one 'green' part of the company. These are difficult to notice, and can be well concealed, so online websites such as Project Cece and Ethical Made Easy can be used to find more sustainable companies. As the climate crisis accelerates and we get closer and closer to irreversible changes it is important that we, the consumers, are conscious about greenwashing.

AVA SYMONDS, ARCHER ACADEMY



Thinking global, acting local

Climate change is very concerning for anyone living in the 21st century and therefore it is essential to educate ourselves and others of its drastic effects if strict measures are not enforced. The Henrietta Barnett School has long advocated eco-friendly principles, whether through assemblies or fundraisers and the pupils are aware of environmental issues. Often, in subjects like Geography, we debate matters such as the relevance of COP26 and the impact of social media on keeping the environment a point of discussion. Although we are lucky to be surrounded by greenery in a beautiful place like the Suburb, we need to know what the world faces in terms of climate change effects and being educated is the first step to being able to take action against events like global warming.

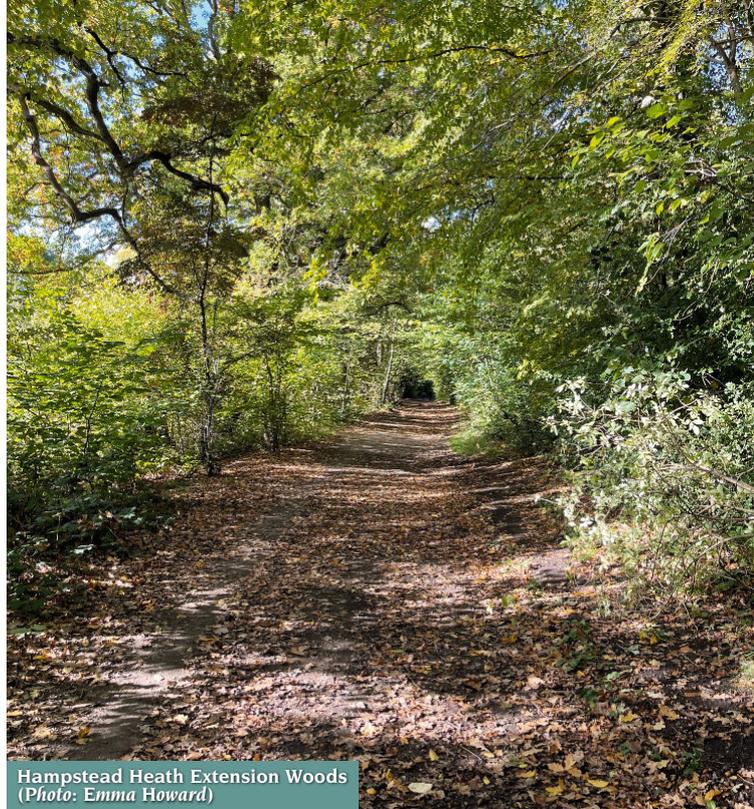
Among recent initiatives to preserve the environment, we held a large bake sale inviting every member of the school to participate. The money raised was used to buy a 7 acre plot of land in the rainforest. Thus, we were able to help preserve the land, prevent the destruction and burning of trees and the ecosystem which depend on them. The bake sale made people realise the positive impact we can have, and we would definitely urge people to donate money to organisations such as World Land Trust to protect rainforest land.

Similarly, our school's music department adopted their own animal, an endangered elephant. Protecting the animals is also a crucial step in protecting the environment and as a whole school we aim to continue to maintain biodiversity along with preserving the environment.

A more basic but vital step we should all take is being greener in our daily lives, for example, when packing lunch or buying items of food and drink. Our school canteen has been using biodegradable cutlery and packaging for a few years. This ensures that when the waste is disposed of it will not be damaging to the environment and will safely be decomposed by microorganisms. Pupils are also encouraged to use their own lunch boxes when buying canteen food, with a reduction on the price of the meal as an incentive. People are also encouraged to use the metal cutlery provided in the canteen, which can be returned and reused, reducing the need even for recycling.

HBS has been taking positive steps towards protecting the environment in many different ways from educating pupils about the impacts of their actions to utilising more eco-friendly equipment as well as raising money for the cause. These are only some of the things that the school does but they are crucial to create a better environment. Climate change is a very serious threat and it is important that people learn about it from a young age so they can take the right steps be well informed about this imminent issue.

BY SAANVI AKULA AND RIYA SHAH, HENRIETTA BARNETT SCHOOL



Hampstead Heath Extension Woods
(Photo: Emma Howard)

Environment and well-being

Many of us have a profound appreciation for the environment and the natural world around us. Perhaps this has become more striking over the last few years particularly, during the Covid-19 lockdown when each of us was permitted just one stroll in the open air per day.

This renewed appreciation, alongside the climate crisis, has placed more focus on the benefits of being around nature. A 2019 study from the University of Exeter involving 20,000 people, showed that participants who spent two hours in green spaces – local parks or natural environments – were substantially more likely to report good health as well as psychological well-being. Furthermore, current emerging research has suggested that as well as improving short-term memory and reducing stress and anger, being amongst nature increases feelings of kindness and generosity. In a 2019 nationwide study, children growing up in lower levels of green space in urban areas had up to a 55% higher risk of developing a psychiatric disorder independent from the effects of other known risk factors. Being outside and experiencing these environments is the most effective way to feel the impacts of being closer to nature, but it has recently been suggested that even watching nature documentaries is good for our mental health.

Although this can now be quantified with scientific evidence, throughout history a love of nature has been apparent in many societies and civilisations. An example of this is the romantic movement. It involved a rejection of previous artistic obsession with order and method and focused more on unified and individual human experience, drawing inspiration from nature and the parallels it had with emotion and interweaving creativity and spontaneity. The movement began around 1780, just 20 years after the beginning of the industrial revolution, which saw a mass migration to urban areas in search of jobs in manufacturing. Steam engines, smog and coal were everywhere, and pollution was noticeable in the water and the air. Romanticism could be seen as a return to nature, or rather a rejection of the intimidating and bleak modernisation of industry and machine. Nature was not only the subject of paintings, nor simply an influence on writers – it became a means of metaphorical expression in itself. Romantic poets saw in the earth, its cycles, structures, deformities, and stark natural contrasts, the suffering or pain that they felt and united the two. This pain was partially inflicted by the unnatural factories which sprung up all around them, evoking fear in poets that the sincerity of life would be choked away, and their peace infringed on.

The housing crisis plaguing us at the moment, which has led to the building of homes on any land available, may be a parallel to the choking which the romantics felt. And so, we should make the effort to utilise the many green spaces in our local area: Hampstead Heath, Lyttleton Playing Fields, East Finchley Cemetery, Coldfall Wood, and the Hampstead Heath Extension. Personally, during the pandemic, I loved discovering the East End Road Cemetery and taking walks through Coldfall Wood – I am sure that each of us has different special places which we enjoy going to the most. Wherever this place is, we are extremely privileged to have so many green areas within such close proximity and would be foolish not to venture to find the solace in our parks and ancient woods which fascinated the romantics, and which can bring us calm in an angry, confused and erratic modern world.

OSCAR GRAHAM, ARCHER ACADEMY

An appalling COP out

Recently, a series of critical reports were published by the UN. Their message is clear: human driven climate change is likely to cause irreparable harm to the planet, with little hope of preventing it. Based on current trends of emission reduction, we are likely to increase global temperatures by 2.5 degrees Celsius. This is of grave concern, as the scientific community almost all agree that we need to keep to an increase of 1.5 degrees or reach a point of no return: unprecedented destruction to both the biosphere and human society.

More must be done. In a little over seven years, humanity must reduce its carbon dioxide emissions by half, no easy feat when the UN environment agency stated that there is “no credible pathway” to reaching net zero emissions. All this during a time where despite record profits, many oil companies pay little tax. There is an establishment of climate injustice both here and around the world, where if you are poorer, you are having a smaller environmental impact, but suffering most of the consequences for the actions of the rich. Surely, it is the moral responsibility of each and every one of us to combat global warming.

Most of the promises made in last year's COP 26 in Glasgow have already been broken. If we are to have any hope of surviving as a species, it is imperative that COP 27 engenders a keen sense of urgency. Britain was reluctant to prioritise COP 27 citing “pressing domestic issues”, yet the cost of living crisis is only exacerbated by our country's unsustainable dependence on fossil fuels, whilst extreme weather events such as super-storms and floods are all too likely to take lives over the coming winter.

Clearly, individual actions, while beneficial (not least for our local green spaces such as Big Wood and Hampstead Heath), will not be enough to avert complete climate catastrophe. It is imperative that we lobby our leaders to actively keep this crisis in the forefront of their minds and their policies. In the words of Greta Thunberg, “Act as if your house is on fire, because it is.”

The world is on fire. Will you step up and make a change?

THOMAS YIANNIKOU, ARCHER ACADEMY



EVENTS

How The Light Gets In Festival at Kenwood House

SIMONE HALFIN

Kenwood was the venue for a glorious sunny weekend hosting How The Light Gets In Festival and transforming it with colourful lights, billowing tents and stalls – all backed by the sound of live music and animated conversation. Walking round to the back of Kenwood House, and looking down on such an unusual scene was really uplifting.

The theme of this year's festival was 'Error and Renaissance' and numerous speakers uncovered the errors in our thoughts and actions that have led to the current state of the universe. It sounds a bit bleak, but the multitude of ways the participants addressed what we should have done and, more importantly, what we can do now, was fascinating.

Of course my favourite tent was the 'Inner Circle' where you could wine and dine and discuss ideas and thoughts with world-leading speakers, actors, and colleagues which was very stimulating.

A discussion addressing the comment 'real life is an interference' provoked a heated debate with actress Sophie Ward imploring us

to enjoy each other as we are not born to live alone, and we all need people. 'Can you be independent not living alone' merged into a discussion on loneliness and how, during the pandemic people helped and supported each other. The concept of choice during covid was so restricted it changed our way of thinking radically.

At a panel debate entitled 'The New Renaissance' David Aaronovitch maintained 'academia was in need of new ideas, have things got worse? And are we more scientifically literate?' Difficult questions to answer.

A philosophical debate of 'the good, the bad and the ignored' discussed the topic of whether action or inaction (failure to act in crimes of neglect or failure to take action on climate change) were more morally culpable. The celebrated philosopher Peter Singer, from his zoom screen in Canada, stimulated animated discussion on whether the distinction/asymmetry between wrongful agency and inaction were here to stay, given that political decisions could more easily remove individual decisions to do the right thing than not to take



Photos: Sam McMahon (@kiwimcme)

wrongful action. We can more easily take responsibility for what we do, than acquire responsibility for the consequences of all the things we fail to do.

A capacity audience appreciated Denis Noble, an erudite, entertaining and highly articulate, brilliant 85 year old Professor, physiologist and philosopher of biology, who had succeeded (among many other accomplishments) in learning sufficient mathematics by studying to refine understanding the views of heart function from his biological research to develop the first mathematical model of how the human heart functions, back in 1960 and develop principles of biological relativity. He considers the genome more like a 'set of organ pipes' than a blueprint for life – and his 10 Principles of Systems Biology clarify our understanding of this confusing (for many of us) subject. In his spare time, his playing classical guitar led to his leading

role in founding the Oxford Troubadours, who have performed widely in several countries. He argued convincingly that free will is an illusion.

At a philosophy lunchtime session, Rana Miller discussed the future of China and how its future will define ours with participants from China and Hong Kong pointing to how the increased surveillance of Covid could have contributed to civil liberties being further eroded and contrasting problems of youth unemployment and changing demographics – as we all get older – as well as how Hong Kong's decrease in influence might have been reduced by its potential economic role.

The need for more awareness of difficulties caused for some by differences in Race and gender was raised by several participants – however I liked the philosophy, set out by one of the presenters, of 'encouraging people to disagree, whilst maintaining courtesies and mutual respect'.

'Tea and Prosecco' was also very well attended, with an animated discussion, led by Mary Anne Sieghart, about the position of women in society, and whether women made themselves unpopular by being too forward. I can't say I agreed with this discussion!

If you just wanted to chill and listen to music and watch comedy, or just sit in the sun and have a drink that was OK too. The music and acoustic sessions got more and more popular as the drink flowed and the evening darkened, and by Saturday night groups were dancing outside the tents.

The children and young adults weren't left out – they had their own space with events such as juggling, print making and a talk on the philosophy of games.

Finally, I had a fascinating discussion with a fifty-year-old Swede who had already made arrangements to have his body frozen as soon as he died.

All in all, it turned out to be a very interesting weekend!



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Flower painting at the Garden Café

KATIE POON

Hampstead Garden Suburb Art organised a Flower Painting Workshop in the delightful setting of the Flower Station Garden Cafe, Temple Fortune, on Saturday 10 September. 14 people, from children to grannies, had a marvellous day learning to paint flowers with a palette knife. HGS Art member and teacher, Vera Moore, tutored the group and each student went home with a painting.

Comments about the experience included, "Thank you so much for a beautiful day. It was wonderful meeting such inspiring people and creating something," and "So friendly with a wonderful cafe." If you would like to hear about future painting workshops please contact Valerie on 020 8458 4508 or email v.cowan@hotmail.co.uk. Thank you.



Photos: Katie Poon



HGS U3A Topical Talks

MYKE JACOBS

HGS U3A has run a series of nine monthly Topical Talks on Zoom for its members and their guests this year. Speakers have been drawn from many different spheres – medicine, the arts and literature have featured strongly as well as recent history in diverse forms. Many of the speakers live in the Suburb, or very nearby, and others have lived in the area previously, while some spoke from other places in the UK and Europe.

The series was launched with Dame Jenni Murray, radio and TV broadcaster, journalist and author speaking about her personal history and research into society's reactions to the obese and over-

weight as contained in her book 'Fat Cow, Fat Chance!'. John Plews, joint artistic director of the theatre Upstairs at the Gatehouse in Highgate Village, followed with a highly entertaining personal history 'From Windsor to Highgate, via the OE2 – a theatrical life' – the only hybrid meeting, with John speaking from the auditorium of his theatre in front of a live audience. Spanish art expert, tour guide and lecturer Dr Jacqueline Cockburn spoke about 'Picasso's Muses' with many well-chosen works from this great artist.

Dame Esther Rantzen spoke from her home in the New Forest with the title 'That's Life!', a spontaneous talk about many things which were concerning her just then including the plight of

abused children and separately the plight of old people, particularly during the pandemic, with many insights from her personal experiences. Dr Tim Lockie, a consultant interventional cardiologist and a clinical lead at the Royal Free Hospital, talked about the experience of the NHS and, in particular, that hospital during the pandemic and also about heart health in the elderly in the current era.

The summer was heralded in a more light-hearted way by Leslie Cavendish, 'Hairdresser to the Beatles' who spoke from France about how he became the barber and stylist to the members of that famous group (and many other pop stars) via Paul McCartney's then girlfriend Jane Asher, and his adventures with them over many years in a talk entitled 'There are Places I Remember'.

Autumn took us back to medicine when Professor Lynne Cox, a microbiologist and gerontologist from Oriel College, Oxford, spoke about 'Preparing for Ageing Well' about her research aimed at getting people to live in good health well into their old age. Amanda Weinberg then took us to Tuscany to tell us how she completely by chance found the delightful mountain-top town of Pitigliano and how she came to write her first published novel – in the form of a love story 'The Tears of Monterini' – drawing on the stories she learned about the Jews who lived in the town when, first, the fascists and, then, the Nazis took over Italy and how the local Catholic townspeople

sheltered them and looked after them without a single loss until the end of WW2. These two talks were recorded with the permission of the speakers and links to the recordings of the September and October talks can also be found at the website address below.

Finally, Anne-Marie O'Connor, a journalist on leading newspapers and periodicals and author of 'The Lady in Gold', a native New Yorker who found her way to live in North London via Jerusalem and other cities, spoke about how she discovered the story of Gustav

Klimt's portrait of Adele Bloch-Bauer and how it found its way from the wealthy Jewish family of the subject into the hands of the Nazis and the Austrian government and how it was rescued by a heart-rending ten year legal battle in the USA and ultimately returned to the family of its original owners.

HGS U3A Topical Talks will return to in person meetings in the Free Church, Central Square from January 2023, so please look out for information about these at hgsu3a.uk/events.

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SUBURB

EVENTS

Northway Gardens Tea Party

BRIAN INGRAM

As the weather turns colder, the Northway Garden tea parties are now being held at Romeo and Juliet café in Market Place. A huge thank you to the café owners for hosting and providing refreshments. We were made to feel very welcome.

It's a lovely way to meet your neighbours – and often old friends too. Wednesdays, 11am -12.30pm.



Winter gathering of Northway Gardens Tea Party at the Romeo & Juliet café (Photos: Jane Ingram and Brian Ingram)



Orchard House Events Pictorial

(Top) Our annual MacMillan Coffee Morning was well attended. Orchard Housing Society collected £132 for the MacMillan Charity. Tenants were invited to bake or buy a cake to sell during our coffee morning.

(Middle) A very well-attended Magical Music afternoon with Steve, one of our tenants on the keyboard. Tenants can choose their songs to sing along to on a weekly basis.

(Bottom) Our Fish & Chips Lunch, which we recently started on the last Friday of the month, is proving very popular.

A Mindfulness eight week course is offered to our tenants, which is run by Beatrice, the Orchard Tenant Support Manager, who recently qualified as a Mindfulness teacher.

(Photos: Beatrice Bousard, Tenant Support Manager)



Pictures from a not so distant land

And now for something completely different ...

An exhibition of Kilburn High Road street photography. It features the work of John Morrison, an award winning TV journalist, and opens on 2nd December at the Fellowship House Art Gallery on Willifield Green. Admission is free, all are welcome.

This exhibition of arresting images of life four miles away is open 2 - 4pm on Tuesday and Friday afternoons and at any other time the building is open and the Gallery is not being used. It runs until 20th December and then from 10th to 31st January. All works are for sale.

Andrew Botterill, Fellowship House



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The Shackled King and Brünnhilde's Dream Premiere at the Wigmore Hall

BARRY MILLINGTON

One of my most treasured memories, in over five decades of attending Wagner operas, is that of watching Sir John Tomlinson, the finest Wotan of my generation, striding the stage at Bayreuth as the ruler of the gods in Harry Kupfer's landmark Ring production of 1988. I little suspected back then that I would ever have the privilege of working with him, as I have been doing for the last few years on a

couple of projects involving Counterpoise, the ensemble I run with my wife, the trumpeter Deborah Calland.

Our latest commission is a work written by one of the most significant British composers of our time, John Casken. The Shackled King, is essentially a reworking of Shakespeare's King Lear, incorporating Shakespeare's text, but reordered and set in a vocal continuum that embraces conventional word-setting, spoken text and a form of Sprechstimme



Rozanna Madylus and John Tomlinson rehearse The Shackled King (Photo: Barry Millington)

that lies between. The now white-maned Sir John is magnificent in the role of Lear: a Daily Telegraph review referred to his 'titanic,

heart-rending performance'. Our wonderful mezzo-soprano, Rozanna Madylus, takes the part not only of Cordelia, but also her two sisters, Goneril and Regan, and the Fool. Quite a tour-de-force!

The Shackled King receives its London premiere at the Wigmore Hall on 26 January in tandem with a musical monodrama I have put together under the title Brünnhilde's Dream. The eponymous Valkyrie, Brünnhilde, is put to sleep by her father Wotan on a mountain rock at the end of Act 3 of Wagner's Die Walküre. Brünnhilde's Dream begins by attempting to imagine what was going through her mind on the rock, not only her vortex of emotions about the future, but also her anger about the past.

She also speaks, to some extent, for Everywoman: we go beyond the confines of Die Walküre to contemplate the injustices done to women through the ages. That experience is refracted through a carefully chosen sequence of post-Wagnerian repertoire, including several female composers only just receiving the attention they deserve.

The sequence begins with Wotan's Farewell to Brünnhilde. Knowing we'd have the incomparable Sir John Tomlinson with us to sing The Shackled King, it was too great a temptation not to ask him to open Brünnhilde's Dream for us with this passage.

Booking is now open for The Shackled King/Brünnhilde's Dream at www.wigmore-hall.org.uk.

An Autumn Concert at Fellowship House

SHELLEY-ANNE SALISBURY

I always feel a sense of dread as the clocks turn back, signifying the end of summer and the start of shorter days and dark evenings. So, it was a particular delight to go along to one of Fellowship House's Sunday Afternoon Autumn Concert Series the first Sunday after daylight saving ended. Noriko Ogawa and her partner, Philip Smith, delighted us with a selection of works by French composers, Chabrier, Ravel and Saint-Saëns. As Noriko explained, playing duets on the piano could be challenging as there was a great deal of physical proximity and fingers often got entangled. The grand piano (originally test driven by Noriko for Fellowship House) suddenly looked rather small as the pair sat down side by side. I sincerely hoped the couple would be on speaking terms by the end of the concert.

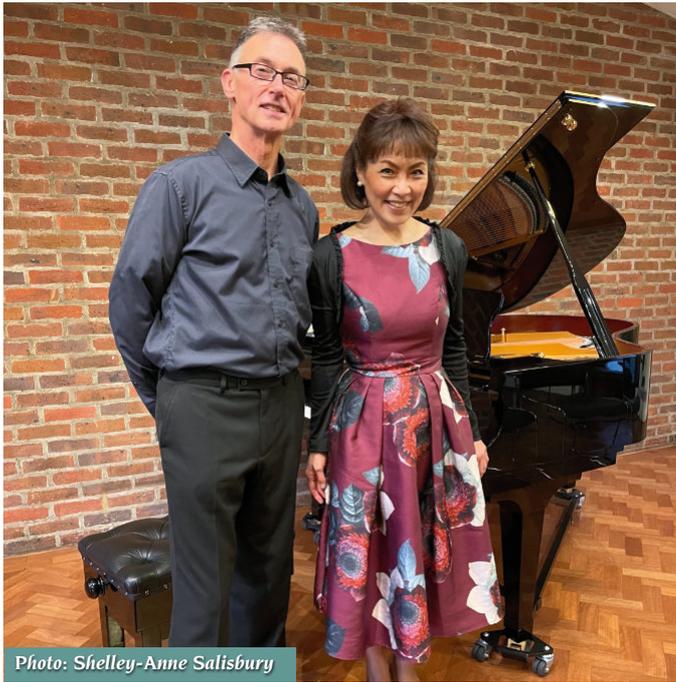


Photo: Shelley-Anne Salisbury

I needn't have worried. Commensurate professionals and world class pianists, Noriko and Philip played beautifully and without the slightest contretemps. The 3 Romantic Waltzes by Chabrier were a charming voyage through the heady initial stages of flirtation and courtship through to the more settled romantic period of true love and ended with the peaks and troughs of the matured relationship. We were then treated

to a selection of Ravel's charming short pieces inspired by the world of childhood fantasy and fairy stories. These were technically challenging and it was hard to believe Ravel had written them for young children as teaching pieces. Noriko and Philip definitely had to concentrate and keep their composure as they crossed over into one another's half of the keyboard. The concert ended with the extremely well-known and much loved Saint-Saëns' Carnival of the Animals and it was an absolute joy.

It might have been the combination of the uplifting music and the glass of prosecco included in the £12 ticket (which is heavily subsidised by Fellowship House and its two sponsors, the John S Cohen Foundation and the HGS Trust) but I didn't even notice it had started to get dark at 4.30pm. What an ideal way to banish those Autumn Sunday night blues.



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**2022
SUBURB
NEWS
PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION**

We are delighted to announce the winners in the Suburb News Photographic Competition 2022. They can be seen on the HGSR website by visiting hgsra.uk/photocompetition, and they are:

1. The Archer by Lucy Tobin, who described her photo as follows: "An archer (my son Jamie) makes his own bow and arrow to celebrate his nature in Bigwood."

2. Halloween, the Cat by Ophelia Francis, who described her photo as follows: "Halloween, the cat, who has recently moved to the neighbourhood, exploring the wild flowers of the Suburb in the July sunshine."

3. Trio in the back garden by Sylvia Coury, who described her photo as follows: "This garden was open to the public one day in the summer. At the time of my visit, the musicians were playing and people were chatting over tea and cake. There was a general air of peaceful enjoyment. I felt that this time and place encapsulated my Hampstead Garden Suburb."

JUDGES MICHAEL JACOBS, MARION DAVIES & DIANA IWI

We were very pleased to have so many entries and wish to thank all those that sent in their photos. We encourage them and others to enter the 2023 competition, details of which will be announced in the next edition of Suburb News. However, sadly, about half of the entries did not follow the rules of the competition, so had to

be excluded. Others were very nearly as good as the top three, so hard decisions had to be made.

In evaluating the entries, many factors were taken into account, including the creative expression of the relevance to the theme, 'My Hampstead Garden Suburb'. We liked the winner, 'The Archer' especially because its subject was clearly set in a Suburb context and captures the imagination. 'Halloween' is a lovely bright photo in which the cat is clearly caught in a moment of stillness in a lovely Suburb location. 'Trio' encapsulates and evokes the feeling of an entertaining event in the Suburb. They are all very good, but we felt that 'The Archer' just edged it in the final analysis.



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The scéance scene (Photo: Ivan Berg)

High Jinks in Highgate

STEVEN ROWE

There were roars of laughter and gasps aplenty – especially in the dramatic scéance scene – when Garden Suburb Theatre performed comedy-thriller ‘The Game’s Afoot’ to packed houses at Highgate’s Upstairs at the Gatehouse theatre in October.

GST’s production in February 2023, also at The Gatehouse, will be ‘The Ladykillers’, a very well received 2011 stage adaptation by Graham Linehan based on the classic 1955 Ealing Comedy film of the same name. Tickets from www.upstairsatthegatehouse.com, but please also consider becoming a Friend of GST because it’s an absolute bargain at £35 per annum and includes a ticket to see all of our superbly produced and directed shows. More information on this and on our other categories of membership including Active (for those wanting to perform), Family, Children’s Show Only and Concession, can be found at www.gardensuburbtheatre.org.uk, or by contacting our Membership Secretary at membership@gardensuburbtheatre.org.uk.

Mill Hill Music Club

DAVID BAKER

The Mill Hill Music Club holds monthly classical music concerts on Sunday evenings in the Hall of Henrietta Barnett School. Over the years, the Club was based at various venues across North London, and we have been based in the Suburb since 2007.

The Club was founded in 1955 by Mr Wilfred Ransom who at that time was deputy manager of Barclays Bank in Swiss Cottage. Ransom had interviewed a concert pianist who couldn’t quite manage to clear his overdraft. Through the auspices of the voluntary movement Toc H (of which he was a member), he arranged a piano recital featuring his impecunious client. Thanks to this inaugural recital, the pianist was able to pay off his overdraft and the Mill Hill Music Club was founded. Since then, we have become one of the most prestigious music clubs in London, if not the country.

The following years were exciting. Musicians such as the Amadeus Quartet, who were in the early days of their career, gave many concerts. The then young Vladimir Ashkenazi gave his first UK recital for the Club when he came to London. Rubenstein told his agent always to book him for ‘Hill Mill’.

Kiri Te Kanawa stepped in at short notice to replace another singer who was unwell, and Alfred Brendel, Radu Lupu, Jacqueline du Pré, Isaac Stern, Pinchas Zuckerman and Benno Moiseiwitsch have been among the many distinguished names who have performed for the Club’s knowledgeable and appreciative audience. More recent famous performers include the pianists Stephen Hough and Paul Lewis and the London Mozart Players. We strive to carry on the tradition of presenting musicians of the very highest calibre, whether they are established famous names or exciting new talents.

Although Mill Hill Music Club has kept its original name, we no longer have a club membership as such. Nevertheless, we do have a very loyal following and we offer a discount on tickets for the whole season, which runs from September to May. Through the generosity of the CAVATINA Trust, the Club is currently able to offer free tickets to concert goers from ages 8 to 25.

For details of the remaining five concerts in our current season and for more information about the Club, please visit www.millhillmusicclub.co.uk.

Mill Hill Music Club
 (Reg. Charity 310281)
 Sunday, 12th February 2023 @ 7:30 pm
 The Hall, The Henrietta Barnett School, Central Square, NW11

Tessera Piano Quartet
 Sini Simonen - violin Håkan Clemm - viola
 Tim Pousner - cello Gösta Östern - piano

Programme
 Mahler - Quartet Movement for Piano Quartet
 Mendelssohn - Piano Quartet in B minor Op.3
 Brahms - Piano Quartet in C minor Op. 60

Ticket prices: £18.00
 Mill Hill Box Office: 020 8959 1047
 Box Office Address: Dollis, Hendon Wood Lane, Mill Hill, NW7 4HS
 Website: www.millhillmusicclub.co.uk - online booking available
 By arrangement with the CAVATINA Chamber Music Trust aged 8-25 are admitted free.

A Child in Striped Pyjamas

an opera by Noah Max

SHELLEY-ANNE SALISBURY

The prolific and multi-talented HGS resident, Noah Max, invited me to drop in on a rehearsal for his latest oeuvre, an opera based on John Boyne’s book *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas*. Noah had, like many of his generation, read the book at school and the chilling story stayed with him. However, it was only when Noah’s mentor, the late John Whitfield, asked Noah if he’s ever thought about setting the book to an opera score, that Noah began to explore the idea. John felt it was important for Noah to keep in touch with his family’s Jewish identity. Noah’s family had fled Vienna during the Holocaust so Boyne’s book obviously resonated. But alongside the personal connection for Noah, he feels this is a universal story of loss of innocence.

A Child in Striped Pyjamas is Noah’s first opera and he has taken to the process like a duck to water – he wrote the entire libretto during the first Lockdown in April 2020. Fast forward to October 2022, and Noah, who doesn’t do things in half measures, is in full rehearsal mode. He



Photo: Shelley-Anne Salisbury

greeted me at his parent’s home in Middleway with his usual warmth and boundless enthusiasm – always infectious. He has, he says, kept the opera contained and the cast small, allowing for the intimacy of the story. On cue, two of the cast arrive. Rachel Roper plays the Jewish Child, Susanna MacRae, the German Child. Shortly afterwards we are joined by the opera’s director, Guido Martin-Brandis. They are all equally enthusiastic about this venture. It is, they feel, bringing an important topic to life in a visceral way, where the music (inspired by Jewish cantorial music) will speak to the audience in same way as a film does – impactful, emotional, disturbing and above all beautiful. Noah hopes the opera will become an educational resource.

This morning they are rehearsing the scene where the two children are meeting up after some absence from the German Child who detects a change in his ‘friend’s’ emotional state. It’s a terribly poignant scene. This is a

very tight opera, stripped back and raw. The music is angular and sharp (painful to the touch as Noah says) with a constant tugging. This is a technically challenging opera – the sopranos are certainly put to the test. Some notes are eye wateringly high and Noah is exacting but always with an apology and bags of charm. And there are some humorous moments during the rehearsal providing some much needed light relief. When the repetiteur says ‘I’m feeling a little hassled by all the semi quavers,’ we all laugh.

They hardly notice me slipping out as they continue on with the detailed musical interpretation of the unrelenting story describing the very best and the very worst of humanity. The soaring notes following me out of the house and quite far down Middleway stayed with me for some time afterwards – just, I suspect, as Noah intended.

A Child in Striped Pyjamas premieres on 11th and 12th January 2023 at the Cockpit Theatre, Marylebone. Tickets are available online thecockpit.org.uk.

Forty fabulous years of choral singing

DIANE LANGLEBEN

Alyth Choral Society occupies a unique position in the Jewish musical scene, being the only Jewish choir that gives its members the opportunity to perform the great oratorios, many of which are based on biblical tradition, and other standard works. The choir also enjoys performing Jewish music, art song, works by prominent British composers and works from stage and screen.

This year, the Society gave two performances: one in spring to celebrate the late Queen’s Diamond Jubilee with songs from around the British Isles, and a summer concert featuring Handel’s *Jephtha*. The year will finish with Purcell’s *Dido and Aeneas*, and Whitacre’s *Five Hebrew Love Songs*. The performance takes place on 11 December at the North Western Reform Synagogue.

To celebrate the choir’s 40th anniversary, in July next year, there will be a performance of Haydn’s masterpiece, *The Creation*.

As well as performing on its home ground at North Western Reform Synagogue, the Society has sung in Germany, France, the Netherlands and the north of England. It has performed to great acclaim at venues including the Royal Festival Hall, Barbican, St John’s Smith Square, St Martin-in-the-Fields and St Paul’s Cathedral.

ACS was founded by Vivienne Bellos in 1982, for a performance of Mendelssohn’s *Elijah* to mark North Western Reform Synagogue’s 50th anniversary. Since then, it has had many works composed for it, including by its honorary composer, Julian Dawes, and ACS premièred Dawes’ *Death of Moses* and his oratorio *Ruth*. Alyth Choral Society is a mixed-ability

choir and it offers a warm welcome to new members. The choir meets at North Western Reform Synagogue to learn and rehearse for two hours each Tuesday evening in term time.

More about the choir and its future performances can be found at www.alythchoralsociety.org, or you can contact Gill Epstein at alythchoralsociety@gmail.com.

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THE GARDEN GIRL

CAROLINE BROOME

If you feel guilty about wasting water every time you run the hot tap, then let me reassure you that there are lots of things you can do in your own home and garden to mitigate the odd transgression. Talking of water, it seems arbitrary that while Thames Water has extended its hose pipe ban into 2023, Affinity Water has no plans to instigate a ban in the near future. As a responsible gardener I don't use sprinklers, I have a timed irrigation system and during dry spells only use the hose on those plants that are wilting. Shower, bath, kitchen and washing machine water, referred to as grey water, can be used in the garden. You can visit the RHS website at tinyurl.com/3prvun3w, for more information. It may be a case of closing the barn door after the horse has bolted, but if you haven't got a water butt then now is the time to get one. Lack of space? B&Q sells the Ward 100L Slimline Water Butt which is unobtrusive and relatively inexpensive.

It's been a long time coming, but finally the government has announced that sales of peat for use on private gardens and allotments will be banned in England from 2024. The quality of peat-free compost has been a bone of contention for years, the earliest substitutes falling wide of the mark. Fortunately however, these days, peat free composts have improved no end, making the switch much easier. On the home front, if you can make your own leaf mould and compost you are winning!

With electricity prices through the roof, heating the greenhouse may well be a luxury. My unheated greenhouse is still very productive. It has a raised bed which I use to grow my tomatoes and cucumbers in summer. When they are cleared out in October, I use the raised bed to overwinter my tender salvias and fuchsias. I water them sparingly until their leaves have fallen off. The soil should be just moist, as winter wet is more likely to kill them than cold. This period of dormancy can last as late as

March, and you could be forgiven in thinking they were dead but persevere. Once the fuchsias and salvias start showing signs of life, I prune them back to a strong basic framework of stems then pot them up individually and plant them out when all risk of frost has passed, so around here that's about early May. The spent compost from the raised bed is then spread over the borders as a mulch. Although it will be depleted of nutrients it will still help improve the soil, suppress weeds and retain moisture.

If you've got as many containers on your patio as I have, that's an enormous amount of compost to be disposed of. Unfortunately, summer favourites such as impatiens and fuchsias succumb to the dreaded vine weevil if planted in year old soil: If you've ever wondered why, when you go to water a wilting plant, it comes away in your hand with no rootball, it's because the little white larvae hatch in the soil and eat the roots. Chemical drenches are costly and bad for the environment and while you can use nematodes as a biological control, I find it easier to spread the spent compost onto the borders as a mulch, any vine weevil larvae will be welcome food for the birds. Nothing is wasted.

I like to save my tuberous begonias. As the foliage becomes frosted and falls away from the tuber, lift the tubers out of the compost. If you lay them on a tray indoors the soil and roots will dry out in a day or two and can be brushed off. Store the tubers, hollow side up, in cardboard egg cartons, in a cool dark place. (I store mine in our spare room drawers.) Take a look towards the end of February, and little pink 'pips' will have started appearing around the middle of the tuber. These are the new shoots. I usually keep mine in storage until about early March, then I pot them up, just below the surface of multi-purpose compost, one tuber to a 9cm pot, pips side up, then water them in and allow to drain. If it's a mild winter you may be able to keep them in your unheated greenhouse or, if not, then in a warm bright room until the temperatures start to rise.

In the spirit of Reuse, Recycle, Reduce, the biggest dilemma remains the extensive use of plastics. So, as promised, here are some useful tips: The brightly coloured plastic trugs that have become so popular are invaluable, however over time their handles do snap off. I repurpose them as containers for gravel, crocs, vermiculite. Likewise, the clear plastic lidded tubs of fat balls, great for storing bird seed. Polystyrene plug plant trays can be broken up and used as fillers at the bottom of containers, with the added advantage of being lighter than terracotta crocs. Lidded ice cream tubs are excellent for storing seed packets. Plastic veg trays can be used as seed trays. Large plastic pots with their bases cut off can be

repurposed as collars around vulnerable new perennial growth, as a barrier to slugs and snails. The list goes on. Some nurseries such as Clockhouse in Enfield take plastic pots back, and the rest just get used again and again for raising cuttings, potting on plugs plants and planting up divisions.

And finally, with the festive season in mind, why not treat your wildlife to a hedgehog hotel, toad house or bird feeder. You'll never have to use slug pellets again.

Please note that Thames Water has now cancelled its hosepipe ban for customers across London and the Thames Valley.



A visiting hedgehog can eat cat food



A hedgehog hotel



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If you live in or around the Suburb and would like to hear more, contact Caroline Broome for a chat: HGS.Hortsoc@outlook.com.



Christmas Services

Carol Service: 6pm Sunday 18 December

Family Christingle Service: 4pm Saturday 24 December

Midnight Mass: 11.30pm Saturday 24 December

Christmas Day Eucharist: 10.30am Sunday 25 December



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Early evening drinks for the Allotment Committee (Photo: Philip Harlow)



Best plot winners, Susie and Mike Gibber (Photo: Augusta Wolff)

Suburb gardeners come up smelling of roses!

MARJORIE HARRIS

Each year the London Gardens Society hosts the All London Championship competitions for gardeners throughout Greater London. Hampstead Garden Suburb Horticultural Society is affiliated to the LGS. This year several Hort Soc members and Northway Rose Garden and The Orchard sheltered housing in Willifield Way had their gardens judged by Jim Buttress and his All London Championship team. Six of them and both Suburb organisations won some of the most prestigious top three cups or medals in one or more classes, or received a certificate of excellence, at an awards ceremony at the Guildhall on October 6.

What is more, when the total individual marks accumulated in the All London Championships were added up and combined, it emerged that HGS Horticultural Society had come out on top by a mile and had won the coveted Wakefield Trophy for affiliated horticultural societies for the very first time. A delighted Caroline Broome, Hampstead Garden Suburb Horticultural Society Chair and Suburb News gardening correspondent, stepped up to receive it from Gardeners' World presenter Adam Frost. (Photo: David Broome)

- Gerlinde Kathuria won two firsts with the London Gardens Society Cup and gilt medal for both Large Front Garden and Large Back Garden and second place with a silver medal and certificate for Window Boxes, Containers & Hanging Baskets
- Marjorie Harris took third place and won a bronze medal and certificate for Large Back Garden and a silver gilt certificate for Window Boxes, Containers & Hanging Baskets.
- David Weinberg took third place with a bronze medal and certificate for Small Back Garden and a gold certificate for Window Boxes, Containers & Hanging Baskets.
- Betty Pollack won the Wyndham Deedes Cup and Gilt Medal and Certificate for Patio, Roof or Balcony displays.
- Rosie Daniels was awarded silver certificates for Patios, Roof or Balcony Displays and Large Back Garden.
- Yvonne Oliver received a silver certificate for Small Front Garden and a gold certificate for Small Back Garden.
- Northway Rose Garden won a silver certificate for a Garden Display in a Public Place.
- The Orchard was Highly Commended.

It's been a good year for the Horticultural Society, back on track at last after Covid. In July members opened their gardens on one of the hottest days of the Summer and raised nearly £3,500 for the North London Hospice and Combat Stress. The Summer and Autumn flower shows also made a welcome return, with the brass band in September reducing many of their audience to tears as they played 'God Save the King' very early on in the new reign in the garden of the Free Church Hall.



Adam Frost and Caroline Broome lift the LGS trophy (Photo: David Broome)

Allotments

AUGUSTA WOLFF

One of the many disruptions created by the pandemic was the suspension of the much-loved Harvest Festival supper which had been held in September in Fellowship House. In 2021 the requirements of social

distancing meant that the allotment committee took the decision to celebrate the end of another season with an outdoor event consisting of early evening drinks and refreshments hosted by one of the allotment sites. This year the second such event took place, this time hosted by Big Site. The fear of Covid has now largely receded, but death of the Queen and a period of national mourning weighed heavily. A Suburb event that brought people together in a relaxed and friendly setting was particularly valued at this time.

A good number of plottolders arrived on a beautiful early autumn afternoon to enjoy a glass of wine

while looking round the plots. This way of celebrating the hard work of the allotmenters and the productivity of our plots was confirmed by the many appreciative comments and emails which followed. The prizes were allocated:

- Best plot: Mike and Susie Gibber
- Best newcomer: Liz Hall
- Innovation: Emily Asquith and Mark Jenner.

Certificates of commendation were also awarded to a number of plot holders in recognition of the high levels of good cultivation.

If you are interested in applying for a plot, then all you need to do is email allotments@hgs.org.uk, or contact the Trust.



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Henrietta's Visitors' Book

COLIN GREGORY

Suburb Archives has many interesting artefacts in its collection, as well as written material and photos. One of these is a visitors' book used by the founder of the Suburb, Henrietta Barnett, and her husband Samuel, at their house on Spaniards Road, called by them St Jude's Cottage

but subsequently reverting to Heath End House, its name when the Barnetts bought it. It is a large eighteenth century house, originally built for Lord Erskine (1750-1823), later Lord Chancellor.

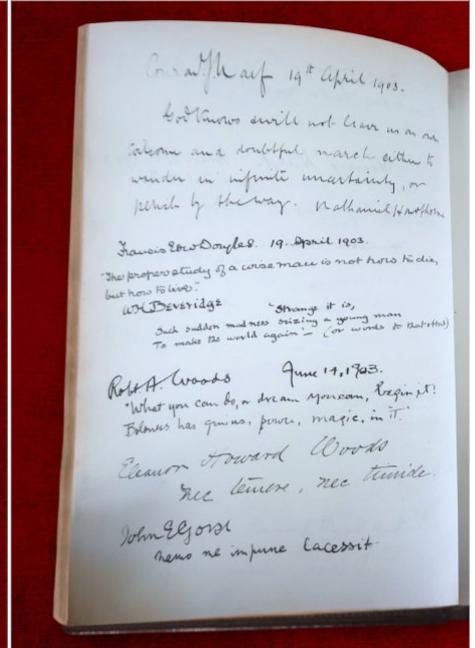
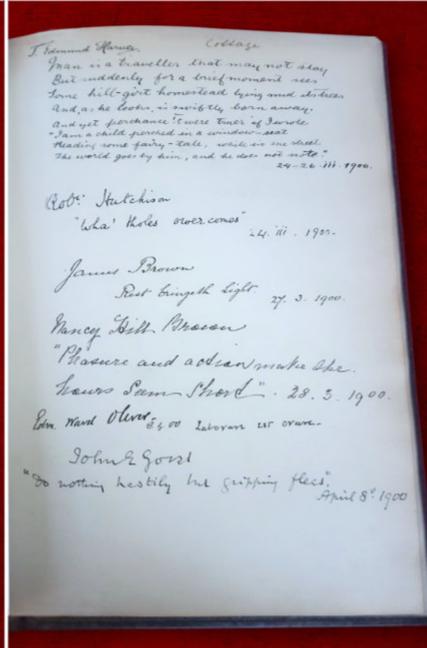
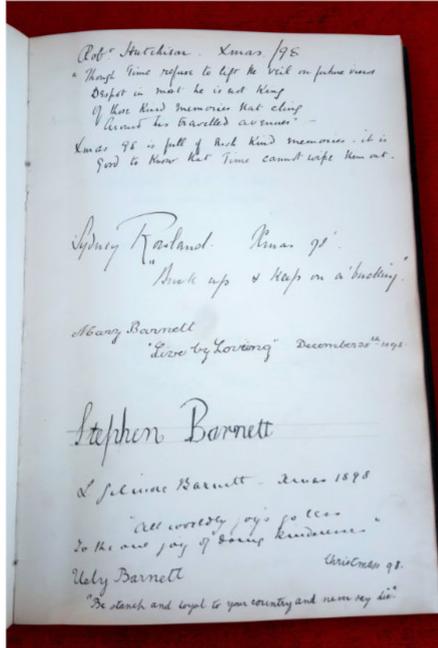
Samuel was vicar of St Jude's Whitechapel, a very deprived parish, and in 1889 they acquired St Jude's Cottage as a retreat where they could get some respite from their

hard work among the sights, sounds and smells of the East End.

They tried to get away there each Friday, calling it their 'restful Sabbath', because they had to be back in Whitechapel in time for early Sunday service. Henrietta rejoiced in its size. "It was large enough", she wrote, "to have rest rooms for tired Toynbee men or workers... and sundry other

'happy family' arrangements", including groups of girls training for domestic service.

The Barnetts enjoyed being able to talk to friends and relations at the Cottage without interruption from parishioners or Toynbee Hall residents. The visitors' book was cherished by Henrietta who made sure all her guests, young and old, signed it. It has hinged, highly



(Left) Uely Barnett (Henrietta and Samuel's nephew, who gave the book to the archives) and his brother and sister Mary and Stephen's entries can be seen on this page; (Centre) One of many entries by, and the signature of, Sir John Gorst is at the bottom of this page; (Right) A quote and signature from William Beveridge and, again, Sir John Gorst.

(Photos: Suburb Archives)

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Reading the names in it takes one through the Bernetts' social circle and their wide-ranging interests at the turn of the twentieth century. Visitors usually often contributed a favourite quotation or proverb, sometimes funny, more often improving. There are messages in French, Italian and German, numerous exhortations in Latin and two entries in Greek.

Samuel's brother Frank, his wife Loulou and their three children appear frequently; they spent Christmas 1898 at the Cottage. Their children were Samuel – known as 'Uely' to differentiate him from his uncle – Mary and Stephen, still young enough pencil lines ruled for his signature. Uely inherited the book and later gave it to what is now Suburb Archives.

Several young men who were to become famous signed the book. William Beveridge later played a central role in the creation of the welfare state. His contribution seems almost prophetic: "...strange

it is such sudden madness seizing a young man to make the world again." 25 years on and Beveridge was a guest at Henrietta's 77th birthday celebrations, where he spoke of her as "that earnest – I almost said austere – lady, with her high standards and ruthless expectations, of whom I was almost afraid – but perfect love casteth out fear, and I am now no longer afraid."

Adrian Boulton, destined to reach the top of the musical world, came to stay at the Cottage with his aunt, Marion Paterson, who was always "very much part of the household" wherever the Bernetts were.

A frequent visitor was Sir John Gorst, whose name appears on almost every other page. He was a distinguished lawyer and one of the "Veritable Showman's Happy Family" that Henrietta assembled to buy the land that became the Suburb from Eton College, when their agent said they were unlikely to sell because she was "only a woman". He spent at least one Christmas at the Cottage. His range of quotations in the visitors' book

is wide, ranging from improving Latin texts such as "labor omnia vincit" (work conquers all) to "do nothing hastily but gripping fleas" – a comment which may have given Henrietta doubts about the state of the Cottage bed-linen.

Henrietta lived at 2 South Square from 1915 until her death in 1936. But the memory of her days at Heath End House lives on with a blue plaque to her and Samuel, put up on the wall on Spaniards Road by the Greater London Council in 1982. The plaque was unveiled by two ladies, both in their eighties, whose names appear in the visitors' book. One was Dame Geraldine Aves. Her father, Ernest Aves and his wife Eva, frequently stayed at the Cottage with their small daughter. For ten years Aves had been a resident at Toynbee Hall, and he was also one of Charles Booth's bright young investigators during the poverty survey. His wife helped with music at Toynbee Hall. Their daughter followed the family tradition of social service and became a top civil servant in the



(Left to right) Walter Osborne, Secretary of the Trade-Union Political Freedom League; Sir Robert Hunter, one of the first directors of the Hampstead Garden Suburb Trust; and Sir John Gorst KC, at a debate on trade unionism at the Hampstead Garden Suburb Institute (now Henrietta Barnett School) in January 1911.

Welfare Division of the Ministry of Health. During the unveiling she recalled many memories of Samuel and Henrietta, describing them as "pioneers – Christians – and a wonderful and devoted couple."

Dame Geraldine was supported by Vera Gilchrist Thompson, Henrietta's godchild, who also had stories to recount about the Bernetts. She could not remember ever having stayed at the Cottage, but her signature is there, in a big round hand on several pages of the Visitors Book, first appearing

in 1903, when she was six, with the cryptic comment "I am a most unhappy doggie."

I was also fortunate to be present at that unveiling and to meet Dame Geraldine and Miss Thompson and the discovery of their link with the visitors' book and the Barnett's early connection with Hampstead has been a particular pleasure. Also present was the founder of Suburb Archives, Brigid Grafton Green, on whose account of the visitors' book I have drawn for this article.

Now that we have long dark evenings and maybe it's too cold and damp to go out, why not make yourself comfortable in an armchair and wander through Hampstead Garden Suburb's Virtual Museum to find the answers to our Winter Quiz? Just log on to hgsheritage.org.uk to go on your journey of discovery.

The quiz has been created by our wonderful dedicated and enthusiastic volunteers who work to create and stock the Virtual Museum. They include our curators, the Board, researchers and our interns from Henrietta Barnett School. Good luck!

Answers in the next edition of Suburb eNews.

1. What controversy led to over 300 Suburb residents attending an RA led meeting on June 16 1988?
 - (a) The introduction of wheelie bin waste collection;
 - (b) The building of a private tennis court;
 - (c) The production of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' by the HGS Dramatic Society;
 - (d) The family of squirrels living in St. Jude's steeple.
2. What fake name was the 'Suburb Con-Man' giving to locals when asking for 'donations' from residents under the guise of working for the RA or HGS Trust in 1998?
 - (a) William Hunt;
 - (b) John Carter;
 - (c) Ed Green;
 - (d) Robert Weston.
3. Which road had the largest number of houses in the 1911 Census?
4. What animal visited the Suburb to celebrate Treloar Day in 1912?
5. How many Suburb buildings were destroyed by World War II bombing, or so damaged that they were subsequently demolished?
6. And how many Suburb residents were killed as a result of the bombing during World War II?



7. When was the very first air raid in World War II in which bombs fell in Hampstead Garden Suburb and where did the bomb land?
8. How many Members of Parliament have lived in the Suburb to date?
9. When was the first edition of Suburb News published?
10. What was the title of the book written and published by Henrietta Barnett in 1930?
11. When and by whom was the planned layout of Hampstead Garden Suburb first printed out?
12. And when was the layout of the eastern extension of HGS first printed out?
13. How many plot holdings can be found at Asumns Place?

14. Who was the first head of Garden Suburb School?
15. And who were his teaching assistants?
16. What connected Henrietta Barnett and Henry VIII?
17. Outside East Finchley tube station is a statue of an archer with a bow but no arrow. It was unveiled in 1940 shortly after the Northern Line was opened and represents the trains shooting down the line into London. It stands not far from the site of the Battle of Barnet in 1471. How many arrows were recovered from the battle site?
18. Which member of the royal family was the namesake of a hall in the Institute?
19. Which fictional character could be found living in Hampstead Garden Suburb: Hermione Granger, Mary Poppins or Wendy Darling?
20. What services did volunteers undertake in the Suburb during the Great War?
21. Where is the WW2 Memorial Gate located?
22. On which date was Hampstead Garden Suburb Horticultural Society founded?
23. William, Annie and Edith Faulkner were among the earliest families to move into the newly-built Suburb. Where was their first home?
24. Who was Michael Rennie and how and why is he commemorated?
25. When did Hampstead Garden Suburb become a designated conservation area and why?
26. What fell off the tower of St Jude's during Storm Barney in 2015 and what was discovered as a consequence?
27. Why do the house numbers shown on the 1911 census for Hampstead Way bear no relationship to the Hampstead Way properties of today?
28. Henrietta Barnett cut the first sod of the Suburb in 1907. What other important event in 1907 was to help her attract residents to the area?

JUDY SMITH, HGS HERITAGE

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In the bleak midwinter

MARIE-CHRISTINE O'CALLAGHAN

After a period of enforced isolation, Christmas this year will hopefully be a time we can celebrate together. We certainly need an occasion to make merry but recent events such as Covid, the war in Ukraine and the economic situation have cast a long shadow of gloom. Perhaps we should start by taking time to slow down, to reflect and to understand what is really important; also to remember how fortunate we really are. It may be that these reflections and realisations will make us decide that the best way of celebrating Christmas is 'to do good', and to offer hope.

The magi started the tradition of gifts by offering the new born baby gold, frankincense and myrrh. Those gifts had meaning: myrrh being commonly used as an anointing oil, frankincense as a perfume, and gold as a valuable, they also carried spiritual meanings.

Of all the gifts you gave or received last year, how many carried meaning? Perhaps this year you could choose to give the gift of hope to someone by donating to a charity on behalf of a friend or loved one. Charities can organise the giving of a goat,

a pig or six chickens to help a family, (gifts.concern.org.uk) they will administer life-saving jabs for children (Unicef) or install a water pump for a village (Water Aid). You can then give a card, recycled or digital, telling the recipient what you did on their behalf. You could, of course, chose a much more local charity like a food bank or a hospice. If you feel that you would rather gift a physical object you could visit your local charity shop. Your purchase there will help the charity and the planet, an ideal way to recycle.

There is nothing more precious than the gift of time. Rather than

buying a gift, you could assist a friend or a loved one in other ways. You could, for example, help by doing household chores, gardening, running errands, or simply making time to visit and chat.

Christmas is celebrated with gifts but also with a magnificent meal. There is an old Polish tradition which obliges hosts to prepare an extra chair and plate at the table should there be an unexpected visitor. How about bringing this tradition to the 21st century by inviting someone who you know to be alone to join you for your Christmas feast?

A Merry Christmas to us all.



Hampstead Golf Course

ROSS BIDDISCOMBE

Just over a decade before Henrietta Barnett created Hampstead Garden Suburb, a group of local sports enthusiasts had a different idea for developing the same open space that for centuries had been common-use heathland – they wanted to build a golf course.

They were bankers and stock-brokers, lawyers and solicitors, even the head master of Highgate School, who had taken to the sport which had become known as the Great English Golf Boom. Before, the sport in Britain was confined to Scotland, where the Open Championship had been taking place since 1860.

There were no formal courses in this part of London so, in 1893, they set up Hampstead Golf Club which today lies between four roads in the Suburb – Winnington Road, Ingram Avenue, Neville Drive and Wildwood Road.

There are no records of the original meeting, or who attended (Club records from that period were lost in a fire in 1929), but they negotiated with the Church Commissioners to lease 38 acres of farmland that was part of Spaniard's Farm.

Rooms at the Spaniards Inn were used as a makeshift clubhouse and changing areas, and a Scotsman named James Govan was tempted down from St Andrews to become the first golf professional. Another Scot, Tom Dunn, from a family of golfing royalty in the late 19th century, was engaged to lay out nine holes and, in 1894, the course was playable. The Ham & High reported club activities among the 125 male golfers plus a handful of ladies who were allowed to join as "associates" playing only "on certain days".

The following year was pivotal for the newly formed golf club. The Church Commissioners were keen to make more money from their heathland ownership and offered the golfers another 50 acres to rent, enough for a second nine-holes. The lease would be around £150 per year. Given that there were three recently constructed

golf courses nearby in Finchley, East Finchley and Muswell Hill, no one knew if there were enough local golfers to join Hampstead and fund the course extension. 150 new members were needed but, in the end, the project was rejected and the offer was never made again. Instead, the Church Commissioners looked to property developers for income from their land, while the golfers built a pavilion-style clubhouse for £600 and got on with making the club a success with Hampstead Garden Suburb growing up around them.

The Suburb's growth included the construction of Winnington Road which was set to run through the golf course. So, a new lease was drawn up around 1906 and the original 1st golf hole (the tee was close to Spaniards Inn) and the 2nd were moved to the west of where the road now runs and the rest of the course was re-jigged. As time passed, substantial homes with large gardens were built in the area. Ingram Avenue was added off Winnington Road and, along with The Bishops Avenue, they tip their hat to the church, not only as original owners of the land, but also because the new Bishop of London in 1901 was the Right Reverend Arthur Winnington-Ingram who happened to be a member of Hampstead Golf Club!

In 1929 a clubhouse fire threatened the Club however the insurance money covered the cost of a new building (built in the arts & craft style).

Local members have included the St Trinian's actor of the 1930s, Alistair Sim; one of Britain's most out-spoken Methodist ministers, Lord Soper; and the two-term British Prime Minister Harold Wilson who was a solid 16-handicapper.

And so, the golf club and the Suburb have existed happily side by side for almost 130 years – although club members still wonder how they missed out on that extra nine holes back in 1895.

A book entitled *The History of Hampstead Golf Club 1893-2023* by Ross Biddiscombe will be published early next year.



CORRECTIONS REGARDING ISSUE 151

Judth Elkan's obituary – was authored by Margaret Harris not Miriam Elkin.
Church Initiative article – incorrect photo of Friends Meeting House.
No Streets on the Suburb article – misspelling of Lord Lyttelton.

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