

Suburb impressions

An album of 40 watercolours depicting a variety of Suburb scenes is one of the latest collections to appear in the HGS Virtual Museum. The watercolours were painted between 1923 and 1925 by William Isaac Aston, a mathematical instrument maker, who lived at 20 Westholm.

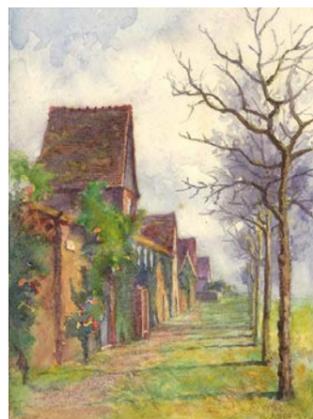
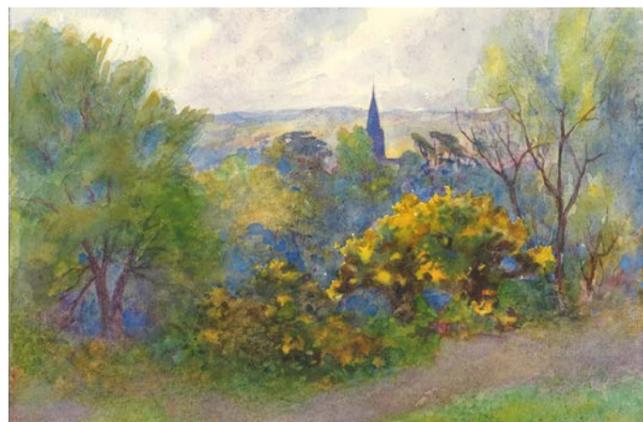
The collection shows the Suburb at various times of the day and year, and most were titled by the artist himself. Some of the scenes are immediately recognisable, almost one hundred years later. This beautiful album of paintings passed through Aston's family over the years until it was acquired by the

Hampstead Garden Suburb Trust from an art dealer in late 2012. All the paintings bar one can be seen in the Museum at <https://hgs.heritage.org.uk/Detail/collections/WIAW001>.

Watch this space for more exciting new exhibits due to be launched in the Virtual Museum by HGS Heritage in the next few months, drawing on digitised collections loaned by Suburb residents.

MARJORIE HARRIS

Impressions of the Garden Suburb Hampstead, 1923-5, by William Isaac Aston (1857-1939) at the Virtual Museum.



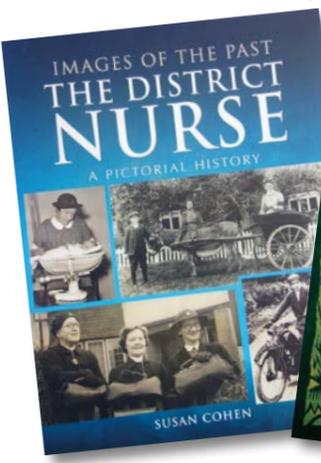
Suburb authors

The Suburb numbers quite a few authors among its residents, and this paper feels privileged to be able to give them some space to reach its readers. We have copies of two books which we have not yet managed to review but would like to give readers a summary of their contents before publishing critical appreciations in our next issue.

The first, *The Jamestown Brides* by Jennifer Potter, based on detailed research of original source material, tells the story of fifty-six British women who, in 1621, crossed the Atlantic in response to the calls for 'young and uncorrupt' maids to marry the planters of its new colony. Jennifer Potter will be talking

about her book on March 5 at Fellowship House with details on page 10 of this issue in What's On. It is published by Atlantic Books and costs £20.

The second, *The District Nurse* by Susan Cohen, is an illustrated history of district nursing from its beginnings in the 1860's, as an experiment in providing care for the poor, to the present day, and gives its readers an insight into this community based branch of the nursing profession. She has also given talks on the subject at Fellowship House. It is published by Pen & Sword and costs £14.99.



Stay young and keep fit

Do you fancy playing badminton for exercise and camaraderie?

I am a semi-retired Suburb lady, who would like to set up a badminton group to play on a Thursday morning. The Reverend Dr Ian Tutton has indicated that

the Free Church Hall, Northway, is currently available at that time.

Please let me know if you would be interested in joining such a group by emailing me at 76naft@gmail.com.

HELEN NAFTALIN

Music from Henrietta Barnett School

On December 11, the first in a series of regular local concerts was held in the Free Church. The audience were entertained with an Evening of Classical and Folk Music from around the world performed by Henrietta Barnett school's symphony and chamber orchestras with backing from the senior choir and Year 7 singers.

This was followed by Carols for Christmas on December 19 in St Jude's Church. A selection

of carols, readings and music from flutes, organ and choir. Accompanying on piano and organ was the talented pupil Jocasta Bird, who is the school's Nicholas Maines Organ Scholar taught by Nic Chalmers in St Jude's. A collection was held for the charity Mary's Meals, which raised £250 to help feed children being educated in some of the world's poorest communities.

TONY BRAND

Woman

'Woman' is a stunning collection of portraits by photographer Ivan Berg at the Fellowship House gallery throughout March 2019.

82 year-old Ivan Berg is no stranger to photography. He bought his first camera at the age of 12 and has been taking photographs both professionally and semi-professionally ever since. Yet it took a suggestion from his artist friend, Alyson Hunter, to make him aware of a studio portrait lighting technique called 'Rembrandt Lighting'.

Enthused and curious, Ivan set up a makeshift studio in a spare room in his house and experimented. The result is his first exhibition as a Portrait Photographer and it's on show in the Suburb's Fellowship House gallery throughout March 2019. And Ivan, who almost certainly can claim to be the oldest newbie Portrait Photographer in the business, will be taking commissions thereafter – (ivan.berg@icloud.com).

The show is simply called 'Woman' and consists of 30

portraits of women from the age of 16 all the way through to 82. And it is by turns stunning, and unsettling. Why? Because every one of Ivan's subjects is photographed in exactly the same way, looking directly at the camera, and thus looking out at the viewer. It's a strange feeling and for best effect, viewed in the evening with the light fading.



Rosanna Preston, member of the Tower Theatre Group



HGS U3A Festive Tea

On December 11 the scene was set in Alyth Gardens for the local U3A's end of year Festive Tea, with tables covered with decorations and scrumptious food celebrating the different festivals around at this time of year.

Over 120 members sat down to enjoy afternoon tea and a full programme of music. Marion Godfrey performed brilliantly as our MC, firstly introducing the local U3A choir ably led by the choir mistress, Françoise Geller.

This was followed by a mixture of modern jazz, and then a wonderful compilation of classical music, performed by the London Flute Quintet. The finale was a short medley of songs led by two U3A members, Carole and Jonathan Fenton, with everyone joining in. The afternoon was also a good opportunity for members to meet and socialise, some of whom were very new to the U3A.

DAPHNE BERKOVI



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