

# SUBURB NEWS

Issue 51

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE HAMPSTEAD GARDEN SUBURB RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION Spring '96

## EDITOR'S FILE

We are told by the RA's membership representatives that some readers are unaware that *Suburb News* is brought to you by the Residents Association!

Although generously supported by the Hampstead Garden Suburb Trust, it is not the Trust's newspaper. Nor even, as some apparently think, is it just a commercial venture. *Suburb News* is, and has been for 13 years, entirely produced and distributed by RA volunteers. The cost of printing and typesetting, etc. is largely covered by our advertisers, to whom we are grateful.

### Pooh sticks on the Suburb!

The last Jackanory, on January 24, featured Alan Bennett reading *Winnie the Pooh* beside an open fire in what looked like a country house. In fact it was the second moment of glory in a year for Tim and Jean Neal's Baillie-Scott home in Meadway as it also featured prominently in an exhibition of the architect's work in the Autumn.

"Filming took all day," says Jean Neal, "and we all went up to the Hare and Hounds for lunch. Alan couldn't have been nicer, we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves."

In case you were mystified by the view as Alan Bennett looked out of the Meadway window at the pooh sticks stream apparently flowing through the Neals' garden, the view was shot at Chalfont.

### Go Green grows

It was nearly two years ago that we reported a new recycling enterprise embarked upon by local resident Kate Radford. She tells *Suburb News* that since then Go Green has done well and is collecting recyclable material from 150 Suburb homes and from throughout the surrounding boroughs. Kate is branching out into delivery of organic wine and collecting unwanted furniture for the Kings Cross Homeless Families Project, whose number is 0171 278 9985.

### Wild about Wild Hatch story

Mrs Bernstein, who has lived for 14 years on the Suburb at 67 Hampstead Way, was understandably upset at being included among those who have put up permanent fences along Wild Hatch. She points out that she has replaced honey fungus infected privet with a new laurel hedge and put up a temporary chestnut paling while the new hedge is growing. "It will be removed as soon as practicable," said Mrs Bernstein.

### Friendly fox

This rather cheeky fox was snapped sunbathing on her patio table in Brim Hill by Valerie Codron,



## This Morning stars for Suburb

### Golden couple go where daytime TV is unknown

Emily Simpson

TELEVISION stars Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan are moving to Hampstead Garden Suburb hoping for privacy - and they are almost certain to get it.

Few residents seem to have heard of the "golden couple" presenters - let alone watched their TV show, *Good Morning*. The pair have bought an eight-bedroom house in Wildwood Road for £12 million. They will move there with their four children when the show switches from Liverpool to London in September, and can look forward to pushing



Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan. Not big names in Hampstead Garden Suburb.

Maureen Simons, 66, also from Hampstead Way, said: "I have been wracking my brains to think who they are, but I just don't know."

Spencer Hudson, of Bigwood Road, said: "I can't help you. I don't know who they are."

Editor of the Suburb News, Richard Wakefield, 66, of Hampstead Way, said: "I am

among others to have lived in the area are former Prime Minister Harold Wilson, film star Robert Donat, and comedian Tony Hancock. Actor Donald Sinden, war correspondent Martin Bell, political pundit Sir Robin Day and ex-King Constantine of

Simpson, 28, was doing a story on the move.

That we shouldn't have known who they were was so amazing that the *Star* lifted the story on the following Saturday. Now we're using it again. Who says the media

isn't incestuous?

Welcome anyway to Richard and Judy, who are moving to Wildwood Road when their show moves to London from Liverpool. We'll have no excuse for not recognising them now. **Richard Wakefield**

## Successful 1995 for RA

The Residents Association AGM on March 25 heard chairman Léonie Stephen report on the successes of last year which included the popular Suburb Weekend, the opening of the Garden Suburb Gallery, a report on projects to mark the millennium and the Suburb's centenary, and the commissioning of a Suburb wide traffic calming report, all of these in conjunction with or with financial support from the Trust.

Chairmen of RA standing committees then updated their reports starting with John Boulter, Treasurer, who reported a satisfactory increase in subscription income.

Mervyn Mandell, CONSAM, made a plea to residents to "get in touch with his committee about the infringements they see occurring on the Suburb".

David Rapson told the meeting about the new traffic calming blueprint study, jointly funded by the Trust and the RA. As he ended his report, Bill Bailey said "the Suburb owes an enormous amount to David" and made a presentation that was also to mark his birthday that day.

Spencer Hudson, Trees and Open Spaces, said that the problems highlighted in his committee's part of the Annual Report still prevail but was pleased to be able to thank Cllr Roy Shutz for his help: "He is a tower of strength, interested and informed". He went on to thank "a number of generous individuals who have put their hands in their pockets" including Eddy Tanner to help achieve conformity of tree planting in Heathgate and Jack Lunzer for a gift of roses and

bulbs for Meadway Gate. He said, "the RA and the Trust have worked shoulder to shoulder. Working with Chris Kellerman is a good example of the two Suburb bodies working together."

### Election

The election of officers and Council followed. The Chairman was pleased to announce that five new members were joining Council: Georgina Malcolm, Talya Singer, Ronda Fogel, Rosie Loyd and Jeremy Herschkorn.

### Honorary Life Members

For long service to the Suburb, Hon Life Membership was conferred on Norma and Cyril Blausten, Norman and Joyce Wheatley, Dorothy Unwin, RA membership secretary, and Eileen Whelan who, after more than 25 years on the RA Council and immediate past Chairman, is leaving to take over the Chair of Fellowship from Ralph Baldry.

**Richard Wakefield**

## Suburb flower arranging

Won't they be impressed when you bring home a really professional arrangement after a meeting of the HGS Floral Arrangement Club. How? They raffle the demonstrations at the end of each monthly meeting, but who's to know?

No, you don't have to be good at flower arranging to enjoy this art. Just sit back once a month and watch a professional flower arranger. Usually last Thursday each month at Fellowship House at 7.30 pm. Visitors are welcome. £3 entrance. Further details from Sandra Handley on 455 3707.

## The Suburb Conman

The confidence trickster who has been operating on the Suburb - off and on - for the last eight to ten years (and in many other parts of London as well) has recently come out of prison again and is once more actively working the Suburb. He calls on houses - especially those of new residents - saying he is from the Residents Association of from the Trust to collect money owed. He is extremely plausible, often quoting the names and other details of neighbours who, he alleges, have co-operated in giving him money. He does not take cheques, only cash - in the interests of keeping administrative costs to a minimum! And he often succeeds in getting sums in cash of £50 or more from gullible Suburb people.

In fact, the RA and the Trust never collect money by calling on people. The Trust sends invoices for any money due and, in the spring, the RA asks residents to send membership subscriptions by CHEQUE in a freepost envelope which is provided. It is only in midsummer that RA membership representatives actually call on residents and then only on those who have not responded by using the freepost envelope. At that time, some residents do give cash. But the RA membership representatives much prefer to be given cheques even then, and there is no need

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## RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES

The Centenary and Millennium joint working group have now reported on their proposals for possible projects. The group, consisting of representatives of the Residents Association and the Trust, provided the RA Council with some exciting ideas at a recent Council meeting. These proposals included: the provision of a building(s) for community use for the Archives, an art centre, sports facilities, a functions/meeting room and a café/restaurant; environmental improvements to Central Square; other environmental improvements; revitalisation of the Market Place; a conference on a topic related to garden cities.

The group, under the leadership of Colin Gregory, have the Residents Association's full support to look into some of the above possibilities in further detail with a view to realising one or more of them.

Another ambitious project about to be launched is a survey of residents living on the Suburb which will aim to ascertain their views, needs and expectations of the Residents Association. The RA is receiving invaluable advice

and help from Gerald de Groot as to how this survey should be conducted in order to obtain maximum benefit from it.

Finally, the Council and Executive Committee of the Residents Association have spent much time debating and deliberating over the future of the Institute and Henrietta Barnett School. The Council has passed a resolution recording that the Residents Association considers that the site in Central Square should continue to be occupied by both the School and the Institute and urges all concerned that full, proper and intensive negotiations should start as soon as possible so that the dispute can be settled.

Finally I would remind residents that the Residents Association holds regular meetings at Fellowship House at 8 pm on the first Tuesday of each month. All are welcome (members and non-members) to hear, debate, discuss and to participate in issues which are relevant to the Suburb. Also, if you have any questions or issues to raise, this is the opportunity to do so.

**Neville Silver**

## From Cottages to Castles

### We are at home in the Suburb

A home is a very special place, particularly so in the Suburb. It is filled with a lifetime of experiences. A safe haven, a welcoming friend.

Alas, eventually even homes need to be sold or let. We feel it is incumbent on the agent handling the transaction that they not only have an intimate knowledge of the area, but recognise that a home is much more than bricks and mortar.

Glentree is such an agent. For many years we have been handling Suburb properties and we are at home with everything from "cottages to castles".

A further benefit to the Suburb's residents is our extensive contacts with potential buyers outside the immediate area.

At some time in the future, without obligation, we would be pleased to give you advice on your property.

You will be talking to us in the knowledge that we too are at home in the Suburb.



GLENTREE ESTATES

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## You meant to do it - please do it now

Every household has received a Residents Association membership card and a Freepost envelope for this year's RA subscription and your charitable contribution to the Fellowship Fund

If you have yet to send yours back, please do it now or, if it has been mislaid, send your cheque with the coupon on page 5.

### HGS RA MEMBERSHIP 19

Please complete both parts of this card and return intact.

Name (CAPITAL LETTERS) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

RA Membership £ \_\_\_\_\_  
F Fellowship £ \_\_\_\_\_  
TOTAL £ \_\_\_\_\_



Please complete details below

Name (CAPITAL LETTERS) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

This card valid if received below:  
Please return by 5th April

### MEMBERSHIP 19

Return completed card in the envelope provided

This card will be receipted and returned to you as a Membership Card and receipt

Annual Membership per household (£5 suggested minimum, £10 MAX)

Donation to the Fellowship Fund (for the benefit of the elderly and infirm on the Suburb) £ \_\_\_\_\_  
TOTAL £ \_\_\_\_\_