

In this issue of Suburb News I talk to two families living on opposite sides of the same road. One has lived on the Suburb for only eight months, the other for almost eighty years.

A lot of what has attracted Fran and Matthew Zienau to the Suburb was witnessed by Jacqueline Morris as she saw the development of the Suburb during her early years.

SUBURB

Present

featuring Matthew & Fran Zienau

Matthew and Fran Zienau, who are in their early thirties, moved to the Suburb eight months ago from the Isle of Dogs. Matthew works in investment banking in the City and Fran has her own business designing and making accessories. As Matthew had been born and brought up in Hampstead, next to the Heath, when they thought of living somewhere else, this area was attractive to them. Like a homing pigeon Matthew returned to familiar territory but it was Fran who was the prime mover in choosing the Suburb rather than elsewhere in North West London. I asked her why.

EIGHT MONTHS IN

Being interested in design in all its aspects, the more I researched the origins of the Suburb, the more excited I became about the possibility of buying an artisans' cottage. I love the architecture and the feel of them. As soon as we walked into the door of this house I knew it was just right. I'm doing it up myself, so have genned up on the Arts and Crafts Movement and am trying to re-decorate in the authentic style. I was very lucky to find some marvellous William Morris fabric for sale on E-bay and have made some window blinds out of it. We've gone back to the original wooden flooring downstairs and are carefully nurturing the apple tree which was planted when the cottage was built. But there's plenty more to do!

I'm very impressed not only with the the design aesthetic but also with the philanthropic ethos that existed when the Suburb was founded, linked with the keen sense of civic pride that it seemed to generate. Dame Henrietta Barnett would be a very suitable role model for 2007! What she achieved is missing from so many modern developments which appear obsessed with profit margins, at the expense of good design.

I'm now enjoying regular visits to the Suburb Library in Market Place to further my knowledge. I pop into the Suburb Gallery in Hampstead Way and am looking forward to the 'open garden' days. It's such an interesting area with lots going on.

We both found that life in Docklands was very much a transient one. After eight years we were two of the longest standing residents in our road and during that time we had three new neighbours on one side of us. When we moved into our new house we were pleasantly surprised to find that two of our neighbours have lived in the same house for over 40 years.

We also love the local shops; the butcher, baker, fishmonger, greengrocer, the boutiques etc – there was nothing like this on the Isle of Dogs. There are good places to eat here in Temple Fortune, lovely surroundings and superb walks across the Heath Extension to Golders Hill Park and to Kenwood with its wonderful grounds and excellent works of art.

As far as Matthew is concerned, with his hectic working life, he was looking for somewhere to live where he could unwind at the end of the week



yet still be in easy reach of work. Being a massive Queens Park Rangers fan since the age of seven, the fact that Loftus Road (the club's home ground) is within easy reach of Hampstead Garden Suburb was a definite bonus! He also loves the fact that he can see the amazing new Wembley Stadium from not so far away although he won't be holding his breath to be seeing QPR playing there sometime soon! According to Matthew, the only minus point so far is that there is no old fashioned local 'boozier'. How could they have closed the famous Royal Oak pub just weeks before he moved in?"

Trust (*trust*) *n.* reliance on and confidence in the truth. Custody, charge or care. (Sp in **Hampstead Garden Suburb** – up to 1250 members who elect half the **Trust Council** in whom is vested legal powers to preserve the character and amenities of the **Suburb**.)

The Trust requests the pleasure of your company as a member

The terms of its constitution allow for 1250 members of the New Hampstead Garden Suburb Trust.

The actual number in membership varies and is at present 820. The Trust Council would like to see more Suburb residents represented.

The sole requirement for membership is to have lived continuously on the Suburb for three years. Membership provides an opportunity to take part in the management of the Suburb.

Many residents come to live here because it is a unique environment and support the aims of the Trust in trying to preserve the Suburb's character and amenities.

All residents who believe that the job we are trying to do is worthwhile should become members.

Application for Membership

Please send completed form to: The Secretary, The Hampstead Garden Suburb Trust, 862 Finchley Road NW11 6AB

I Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Other _____
(full name in block capitals)

of _____
(full address in block capitals)

hereby apply for membership to The New Hampstead Graden Suburb Trust Limited subject to the provisions of the Memorandum of Articles of Association thereof.

I declare that I am a resident* of the Hampstead Garden Suburb and that I have been continuously since _____
(at least three years before application).

Signature _____ Date _____

*'Resident' in the case of a corporation means entitled in the opinion of the Council of the The New Hampstead Graden Suburb Trust Limited to be treated as a resident of the Hampstead Garden Suburb

HAMPSTEAD - GARDEN - SUBURB - TRUST

862 Finchley Road, Hampstead Garden Suburb, London NW11 6AB. 8455 1066, 8548 8085, mail@hgstrust.org