Rev Alan Walker of St Jude's and, guest speaker at the literary festival – journalist and author, Martin Bell

Editor of the Daily Telegraph, Will Lewis (he grew up in Northway) with Headmaster of The Henrietta Barnett School, Oliver Blond

Henrietta Barnett School literary festival week – both a moving and amusing experience

On the 90th anniversary of the end of the First World War, 11th November 2008, journalist and author Martin Bell was the guest speaker at The Henrietta Barnett School Literary Society as part of the school's week-long literary festival. With a solitary poppy overlooking the proceedings, and before Martin Bell was interviewed by Rev Alan Walker of St Jude's, the five winners of the HBS annual poetry competition read their poems to the audience of nearly 200 people. The theme for this year's competition was, quite fittingly, War and Peace and astonishing poems had been composed by the girls. After the readings Martin Bell spoke. No-one wriggled, coughed, scraped their chair, looked at their watch. They were entirely captivated by all he had to say, and then asked relevant, interesting and well constructed questions.

Earlier in the day Key Stage 4 assembly were addressed by Will Lewis, editor of the Daily Telegraph, on the armistice, and at 11.00am the entire school stood for 2 minutes' silence, broken only by the tolling of the bell at St Jude's.

The second evening event of the HBS Literary Festival week was 'An Evening with Nick Hornby', again chaired admirably by Rev Alan Walker. After speaking about his life, his work and his inspirations, Nick read extracts from several of his books and answered questions from the floor. Nick has a great sense of humour and after a hilarious evening, he signed copies of his books. To go on the mailing list for future HBS Literary Society events, contact Jo Velleman at The Henrietta Barnett School, development@hbschool.org.uk or 0208 209 9730.

Nick Hornby had an enthusiastic audience

Wordsearch winner

Not many people were sure of their rivers, apparently but congratulations to Sylvia Cleary for the winning entry. She has two daughters and has lived on the Suburb for 40 years. Sylvia worked in the Tea House and has sung in the Free Church Choir.

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WORDSEARCH

Here's a seasonal Wordsearch to make you shiver or tremble! In the box below are concealed 20 words for natural phenomena of FOUR or more letters; and an extra one highlighted to start you off (don't include it in your total!). Words may be read in all directions, straight or diagonally. Entries should be listed on paper or a postcard and sent to Diana Woodfield, 5 Erskine Hill, NW11 6HA with your name, address and phone number. The closing date is April 11. The sender of the first correct (or nearly correct) entry will win a £20 voucher from Joseph's Bookstore.

A	C	L	E	N	R	S	T	U	P	W	D	L		T
D	V	Q	E	F	H	W	H	I	R	L	P	O		L
T	E	A	R	T	H	Q	U	A	K	E	D	R		O
C	M	O	L	U	I	T	N	B	W	P	N	A		S
A	S	X	R	A	H	V	D	O	M	A	I	G	I	Y
T	I	C	M	G	N	S	E	C	D	K	W	B	A	L
N	H	V	U	B	O	C	R	O	T	X	U	A	E	O
K	U	O	F	L	I	G	H	T	N	I	N	G	V	F
Y	R	B	G	C	T	I	D	E	R	L	A	Q	P	E
D	R	Z	I	F	P	D	U	S	T	S	T	O	R	M
D	I	M	A	N	U	S	T	E	D	J	Y	F	I	N
E	C	U	B	O	R	L	V	A	O	G	E	S	N	O
P	A	R	L	B	E	T	I	R	O	E	T	E	M	Y
S	N	C	U	M	Z	O	A	S	L	I	J	C	K	E
W	E	M	D	I	P	R	E	K	F	H	O	W	T	N

DIANA WOODFIELD

The wordsearch prize is sponsored by

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AUTUMN WORDSEARCH ANSWER

The 20 rivers in Britain were: Arun, Calder, Clyde, Derwent, Dove, Kennet, Rother, Severn, Spey, Stour, Tamar, Teifi, Thames, Trent, Tweed, Tyne, Waveney, Wear, Wensum and Wharfe.

Bertha's surprise Royal seating companion

Prince Charles attended the 70th anniversary of Kindertransport in November where Bertha Ohayon found herself sitting next to HRH. "I was rather nervous and had no idea what to say to him. But, of course, I did know I had to wait for him to speak first. I was able to tell him that my husband Solly and I were married on the day he was born in 1948."

Bertha and two siblings had been brought from Vienna by the Kindertransport in 1939. She never saw her parents again. After the war she met her husband, Solly at the farm where they had been sent 'to be toughened up' with others who were going to start a new life on a kibbutz. "I met him when we were digging ditches," she said. Sixty years later Bertha received a card of congratulations from the Queen on their diamond jubilee.

On the farm in 1947 and, above Bertha at home in Hill Rise with her card from the Queen

French fame for Fabienne

The magazine Femme Actuelle ran a feature recently on French women who have succeeded abroad and featured Fabienne Viner Luzzato from Oakwood Road who advertises her business in Suburb News.

Fabienne is 35 and is a caterer, working from home. She has lived in London for seven years and has two girls, aged five and two.

"I left my life and a job I loved to follow my British husband in London. I quickly found another job, but over time realised that I had enough of working in a large corporate environment. One day a friend asked me to organise and cook a dinner party for eight people for her in her house. English people really appreciate the French 'fait maison' or 'home made' style of cooking. The dinner was a great success, and thanks to word of mouth I became a caterer, working from home or in people's homes. People call me 'The Pie Lady' – the French girl who bakes pies! My speciality? It's my lemon meringue tart.

"It was fairly simple to take the necessary administrative steps to create my own business which I call 'Home cooking by Fabienne'. If I had stayed in Paris, I probably would never have had the idea to launch my own business".

If you are interested in contacting Fabienne, please call 8455 5331.

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