



Shizue Takahashi
talks about her
dreams of becoming
an artist, page 7



Be stunned by
Kochi Okada's
jewellery at the
HGS Gallery, page 5

Lifting the lid
on the new, blue,
wheelie bins,
see page 4



Garden Suburb CPZ is here



It started on October 21 but not before much consternation at the way the signs were being erected which necessitated two stages of local negotiation with Barnet. The first concerned the height and positioning of the pavement repeater signs (see picture of successful outcome in Hampstead Way); initially Barnet intended tall posts at the kerb edge, whereas in 2008 they had agreed, for the original CPZ, the short posts set back to the hedges. Strong intervention by the Residents Association, the Trust and a resident, with support from Cllr Marshall, reversed this in September.

The second problem occurred on installation, where Asmunds Hill has some hedges set back behind a second grass verge but the new posts were installed in a line so that some were well forward of the hedges. After the RA and a resident had spoken with Barnet, their implementation officer helpfully re-located the posts. A discussion continues regarding Hill Close.

Barnet have also been asked by the RA to paint the posts green, as was done in 2008. This is still being considered, and Councillors have been asked to press for this, in line with precedent. More on page 4.



Terry Rand's giant pumpkin, just one record breaker at the Autumn flower show. See p 10

NGEL SUTTON

Trust election result

Intensive campaigning by their supporters on behalf of Dr Papadopoulos and Brian Ingram failed to overcome the challenge from Richard Wiseman and Michael Franklin who had each demonstrated a commitment to the life of the Suburb by serving in other roles.

The number of votes cast, announced by the Trust's auditors, was as follows: Michael Franklin 566, Raphael Papadopoulos 356, Brian Ingram 331 and Richard Wiseman 592.

Michael Franklin and Richard Wiseman will replace Geoffrey Marriott and Angus Walker who have to stand down on completion of six years as elected trustees

NEW CHAIRMAN

A week later at his first meeting of trustees Richard Wiseman was elected chairman. He told Suburb News "I was delighted to be elected to serve on the Trust Council. I believe that my experience of the issues facing



Richard Wiseman Michael Franklin

the Suburb I encountered while on the RA Council and Executive will help me to understand the wider issues I will be exposed to in my new role. I see the job of the Trust going forward as continuing the good work done under Angus Walker's stewardship and enhance the Suburb and the experience of its residents.

While I have resigned from my formal roles in the RA I will continue to be a member and look forward to the Trust and RA working together where the interests of residents are best served by co-operation but assume and welcome a continued high level of scrutiny and challenge from the RA when appropriate."

Michael Franklin who is stepping down from the chairmanship of the Horticultural Society said, "Little did I think, when asked if I would like to stand for HGS Trust Council, that I would be entering such a controversial area. Much electioneering was to be done and many enquiries to be answered by all those who knew me. I stood for all the traditional values that have made the Suburb such a wonderful place in which to live. Many of you liked those views and I received enough votes to enable me to be elected. Thank you all and I will do my best to represent you.

I am now reaching the end of my six years as Chairman of The Horticultural Society and it's been an enjoyable experience. Many of you have supported our various activities and flower shows and I look forward to seeing you all again next year with the many new exciting events we have planned for you."

Retiring Chairman leaves the Trust in good shape



In September Angus Walker retired from the Trust Council after serving as Chairman for six years. His breadth of experience, having worked for both the Treasury and the Foreign Office, as a University lecturer, then in finance, telecommunications and corporate strategic planning, proved invaluable in a period of office marked by great change, challenges and controversy.

His legacy is a remarkable one: from a position of deficit and fire fighting on all fronts, the Trust's finances are now transformed, the Management Charge has stabilised and the Trust is well placed to face the future. There is an Estate Manager who is tackling the maintenance and repair of the Trust's estate. A new extension to the offices opened in July, improving efficiency and

making it easier for residents to view planning applications. Four sub-committees with local residents as members – Property & Plans, Finance, Estate and Grants – have been established to advise Trust Council. Charitable activities have a new vigour, educational and volunteer projects directly engage residents in the work of the Trust. The list goes on...

Angus would be the first to acknowledge that some of these achievements were built on initiatives started under the Chairmanship of Mervyn Mandell and that they are the result

both of the work of the Trustees and the sterling contributions of Trust staff and even then, that changes would have got nowhere without the support of residents. Equally, he is always the first to take the flak when the going gets tough – and the going has at times been extremely tough.

There have been legal challenges to the removal of the subsidy to the Management Charge (none of which have been upheld in the courts or by independent surveyors). The Trust Council's decision to defend (continued on p. 3)

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RA party for toddlers

The RA Events committee is planning a party for parents with toddlers in January/February.

Committee member Elaine Robinson said: "The RA is reaching out to parents who might not otherwise get together. Florence Cooke (Cotman Close) and I both have toddlers and are delighted to be taking this forward. If Fellowship House is available on a convenient Sunday afternoon, we'll probably hold it there. Details will be on a link on the website www.hgs.org.uk later in the year, to enable parents to apply."

NEW YEAR'S EVE

Fireworks party

FREE DRINKS!

Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association

Residents are warmly invited to the HGSRA party in St Jude's from 10.45pm. Plus a fireworks extravaganza on Central Square at midnight.

There will be a collection to help with the fireworks

Organised by the Events Committee of the Residents Association. With thanks to St Jude's and our generous sponsors

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MELISSA CONWAY