



The Heath & Hampstead Society

NEWSLETTER

September 2012

Vol 43 No.3

Enjoy this view while you can- it may be your last chance

photo Andrew Morley

Contents

| | Page |
|---|-------|
| Chair's Notes | 1 |
| <i>Tony Hillier</i> | |
| Heath Report | 5 |
| <i>Tony Gbilchik</i> | |
| Planning Report | 8 |
| <i>Douglas Maxwell</i> | |
| Town Report | 10 |
| <i>Frank Harding</i> | |
| An Olympic volunteer | 11 |
| <i>Lysiane Byshe</i> | |
| Who's minding the shops? | 12 |
| <i>Jessica Learmond-Criqui</i> | |
| From our archives - shops in Hampstead | 13 |
| Keats Community Library | 16 |
| <i>Vicky Bobasch</i> | |
| The Affordable Art Fair | 17 |
| <i>Romy Westwood</i> | |
| Camden Arts Centre | 18 |
| <i>Tim Walsb</i> | |
| Caring for Kenwood | 20 |
| <i>Ali Walker</i> | |
| Constable: 200 Years | 21 |
| <i>Kate Streeter</i> | |
| Bulletin Board: Hampstead Festival 2012 Autumn Season, Films, and Heath Walks. | 22-26 |

Chair's Notes

by Tony Hillier

AGM

This year's AGM was held in the Town Hall on June 29. It was a pleasure once again to see so many members present and I should like to thank them on behalf of your Officers and General Committee, all of whom were re-elected, for their continuing confidence in the way we have dealt with so many local challenges on behalf of the Society. It was also stated that for technical reasons one member, Nigel Steward, will be co-opted by the General Committee for a period of one year.

Some late nominations were not accepted by the President owing to the fact that notice of them could not be given to the membership. Under our new Constitution (see below), nominations must be received by 14 April in time for our June AGM.

I should also like to register our thanks to Marc Hutchinson, our Secretary, for preparing a new and up-to-date Constitution for the Society, which was adopted at the AGM. The changes have reflected, among other considerations, new requirements from the Charity Commission and our recent more complex Sub-Committee structure. All three Sub-Committee Chairs are now ex officio Vice-Chairs and Trustees of the Society.

We were delighted to have David Percy as our Guest Speaker to introduce his very successful film, *The Belsize Story*, and to show us lengthy excerpts from it. David, a long-time resident of Belsize Park, is an award-winning filmmaker, and his documentary about the history and architectural development of Belsize Park has proved extremely popular.

Chair's Notes (cont)

Society Campaigns: Plus ça change

I expect this autumn will prove to be very active, as a number of long-standing campaigns of the Society come to important decision points: Heath Ponds, Athlone House and Hampstead Police Station. We also anticipate a review with Camden to see what changes we can suggest for making the implementation of their basement policies more resident-friendly. We have written at length on all these subjects, so I will simply give a brief summary of the steps we see ahead. The next few months will be critical.

Heath Ponds

The City of London has formed a Water Management Stakeholder Group chaired by the Chairman of the Vale of Health Society. The purpose is to give 14 local organisations with a direct stake in the future of the ponds full access to the plans and process by which the City decision-making bodies, members and officers will carry out what they see as their obligations under the 1975 Reservoirs Act. This covers the evaluation of the detailed design and construction of the spillways and other engineering and landscape works made necessary by the 2007 Inspection and the follow up studies.

Jeremy Wright is our representative. The first task is to assist in the selection of a Strategic Landscape Architect, whose remit is to seek to soften as far as possible the impact of any engineering works plans as these emerge from the Design Team contracted by the City.

The Society has made it clear that, much as we appreciate being invited to join this Group, we retain the right to challenge any aspect of the designs, risk analysis, or legality of the proposals as they emerge and are decided upon, if we believe that the impact will be

avoidably detrimental to the requirements of the 1871 Hampstead Heath Act. This challenge could be against the risk analyses, the choice of ponds to engineer, the choice of engineering or landscaping designs or in the legality of any of the decisions. Since no firm proposals have yet been prepared, our job to date has been a preparatory one only.

We have been active so far in exploring with the City where we expect to have differences: these are principally in a number of areas of risk assessment and other very fundamental questions, including: should an engineer be the judge of the key phrase “in the interests of safety”; what criteria should be used in assessing any possible consequences of a dam collapse, or the impacts of the proposed engineering works on the local environment, and how these should be evaluated against one another? Is an engineer qualified to make these types of judgement, and if not, who is, and by reference to what legal precedent or Act?

Our preparations have included consultations with, and recommendations to, the relevant professional civil engineering bodies, Government Departments, and legal counsel.

Athlone House

Following their earlier unsuccessful appeal the developer is about to come back to Camden with a smaller version of the same design. The first impression of the Athlone House Working Group, on which the Society is well represented, is that the impact on the views from the Heath may be better mitigated, but the design is still unacceptable and the Metropolitan Open Land tests will still not be met.

Hampstead Police Station

Rumours abound that our local blue light establishment is once again under threat. We made strong representations back in 2006 and 2007 together with other local campaigns, and our station was spared. We will endeavour to penetrate the usual fog of the Met's administrative thinking to find out what is proposed, and seek, as before, to recommend alternatives which meet their operational needs within a curtailed budget, while making more cost-effective use of their local property assets.

Basements

I gave a presentation in July for the Society to a meeting of other London amenity society representatives organised by the London Forum. There were local authority presentations from Chelsea & Kensington, Westminster and Camden. I was both encouraged and dismayed to discover that the Camden policies, centred on the obligation for developers to provide a professionally prepared Basement Impact Assessment, which the Society lobbied Camden to adopt, offer far more effective resident protection than the policies of any other Borough. Indeed, the breakthrough we achieved in getting the Camden lawyers to accept that the impact on neighbouring structures can and should be assessed within planning law, which seems to ordinary folk obvious enough, is clearly not a principle accepted by the planning lawyers in any other Borough.

Even though there are still too many deeply frustrating examples, where bad approvals are given locally despite these strong Camden policies, we should remember that the residents of Chelsea look at us with some envy on this count. The Society will seek to work out with Camden how to improve the understanding of

Officers and Council Members of these very technical provisions for the better protection of neighbouring properties and the local ground and surface water environment. We will hold a series of meeting with senior Camden Officials and Councillors to improve the situation.

Other Campaigns We Support

Members are fortunate to live in an area where there are so many thoughtful and talented local activists and it is our responsibility as the strategic amenity society to do what we can to help in the co-ordination of these various programmes and lend our connections, experience and expertise to help maximise the benefit for the whole community. We welcome the energy, leadership and skills which these other organisations bring to Hampstead, and respect their wish that we be supportive without seeking dominance. We also expect others to recognise that if we believe narrow benefits are being pursued at the expense of the whole community, we will say so.

There are five other significant campaigns initiated and administered by Society members, or other Societies, who have their own separate organisations, pursuing goals compatible with our own charitable objects, where the Society has been invited to play a role, and where we feel we can make a useful contribution.

Three of these are still under way: Hampstead 2020, aiming to improve the streetscape and traffic conditions: a local group seeking funding from the Mary Portas initiative to support shopkeepers on high streets (see page 12); and a still embryonic Hampstead Neighbourhood Forum.

Two have been successfully launched: the Keats Community Library (KCL) and the

Chair's Notes (cont)

Northern Trail Walks booklet series. We congratulate both these on their very high quality achievements to date.

We ask members to visit the library; it has a much more professional air under its new management. They would still like reliable volunteer librarians and will provide training. Please go to the many events advertised on their first class website and stand by for an important fund-raising initiative to assure the future of this remarkably successful example of local volunteering. Vicky Bobasch reports in greater detail on page 16.

Please also go to local bookshops and buy the very high quality Northern Trail booklets to get fit after Olympic "couch potatoing" and to help you and your visitors get to know your neighbourhoods better. An order form can be found on page 23.

Christmas Party

We are fortunate that several iconic Hampstead buildings have found new uses that have preserved them for our streetscape. We have used two of them for our Christmas parties in the past. Now we have found a new venue for this year's Party - the old Hampstead Central Library, now, of course, the Camden Arts Centre. We are sending out the invitations early, with this Newsletter because the postage costs of a separate invitation are now prohibitive. We will send out a reminder by email nearer the time, but please note the date and book as soon as you can.

The Centre has given us a most generous deal and the whole gallery will be open to our members and their guests for the evening, enabling them to view the art works on display, as well as enjoying the Society's usual hospitality. Parking is available on Finchley and Arkwright Roads after 7.00pm. Tim Walsh gives an introduction to the work of the Gallery on page 18

Flower and Arts Festival St John's Parish Church



The Society was well represented at this festive occasion in June 2012, which was held to commemorate the bicentenary of the consecration of the Additional Burial Ground (ABG) in Church Row. The theme was people buried in the ABG (both famous and not so famous). Angela Linger and Helen Marcus, on behalf of the Society, contributed a flower arrangement, pictured here, in memory of Sir Walter Besant, eminent Victorian author and one of the Society's first committee members.

The Church website shows all the pictures in full colour at:

hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk/gallery/index.html

Heath Report

by Tony Ghilchik

When last I sat down to write my Heath Report I hoped that April would mark a change to the driest start to a year since 1976. This hope was satisfied with a vengeance by the wettest spring and early summer which eliminated all concern that the early hosepipe ban would jeopardise the new plantings in Golders Hill Park. Instead, cutting grass on the wet lower slopes of the Heath has been a major challenge and the re-planted annual wild flower meadows have struggled this year, falling well short of last year's magnificent displays, whilst the brambles have flourished. The June storms took their toll of a number of fine trees which lost their grip in the wet soil and were blown over.

On a more cheerful note, we are delighted that the City of London has again retained their Green Flag and Green Heritage awards for Hampstead Heath and, indeed, for Highgate Wood and all their other Open Spaces.

Keeping dogs under control

One of the delights of the Heath is the freedom it give people to walk with their dogs, greater freedom than in many country areas. With this freedom comes the responsibility for walkers to keep their dogs under control and although the vast majority do so, the local press is able to highlight too many cases of failure.

The Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 gave local authorities the powers to make Dog Control Orders in place of the previous system of byelaws, and the ability to offer fixed penalty fines as an alternative to prosecution for failure to control or clean up after dogs. Camden, very much an inner London Borough reaching into its centre, has chosen to make use of Dog Control Orders; but Barnet, an outer London Borough which stretches into the Green Belt, has not, so there

was a risk that those parts of the Heath in Camden could be treated differently from the northern parts within Barnet. To avoid this, the City applied for, and has now been granted, Secondary Authority Status with the power to make Dog Control Orders for the Open Spaces they manage outside the City and thus for which they are not the local authority.

Over the past couple of years, the City has been developing the basic principles for a dog policy which has the support of the Kennel Club and which the different Open Spaces can then tailor to their needs. These principles include the need for proportionate and balanced measures to reduce conflict between dog owners and other interests and so ensure responsible dog walkers feel welcome when visiting the City's open spaces and encourage dog owners to be sensitive to other open space users.

The next step is to develop the basic policy into a pilot dog control scheme for Burnham Beeches and proposals are being drawn up for consideration by local groups there. When agreed, these will be trialled for a year before forming the basis for schemes to be considered by other local groups for the City's other open spaces, so it will be a couple of years before we are considering a scheme for the Heath.

City partnership with RSPB

Over the last three years the City has been in partnership with the RSPB in a Heritage Lottery Fund-funded project in which 7,500 schoolchildren have had field trips and outreach sessions on the Heath to learn about the birds and wildlife there. The RSPB has now received a further Heritage Lottery Fund grant to follow this with a new partnership project, called Wild about Hampstead Heath, which aims to engage 33,000 new and existing

Heath Report (cont)

visitors over three years with the natural history and ecology of the Heath.

This will be done by developing a team of 'interpretation' volunteers working from a new volunteer hub in the changing rooms by Savernake Bridge on Parliament Hill; refurbishing one of the glasshouses by the Butterfly House in Golders Hill Park for use as a classroom and volunteer hub for environmental education at Golders Hill Park; creating three new habitat meadows for house sparrows, and building a new kingfisher bank by the Viaduct Pond. So do not be surprised if, from next year, you come across guerrilla-style pop-up events using modified interpretation tricycles, similar to those used for selling ice cream, to showcase local wildlife.

Dams on Heath ponds - update

The City has been evaluating the tender submissions for the design stage of the proposed work to be done over the next few years on the dams of the Heath ponds, and the first task of the Design Team, when appointed in September, will be a fundamental review of the outline design to date, including verifying and, if necessary amending, the hydrology studies and resultant impacts and options for spillway and dam design.

We continue to believe that, as the underlying data is based on assumptions, this review should include a Quantitative Risk Assessment of the effect of those assumptions; and we may yet have to challenge through the courts the City's refusal to require this Quantitative Risk Assessment. In the meantime, the overarching vision of the project is now stated as achieving a design that 'conserves the natural aspects of the Heath while protecting public safety', and

in September the City is also appointing a Strategic Landscape Architect to act as a champion of the landscape and environment of the ponds to ensure these are not damaged by the proposals. This Strategic Landscape Architect will not be part of the design team but will advise the Stakeholder Group, on which we have a member, and will report directly to the City of London.

Work at Golders Hill Park

Visitors to Golders Hill Park will see the excellent progress in replacing the seasonal bedding displays in the Walled Garden with perennial plantings. The clipped box cubes and clipped trees are all in place and the front and west wall borders have their new perennial plantings, with the other beds to get theirs later after this summer's seasonal flowerings are finished.

From the beginning of July the Lily Pond in front of the Walled Garden has been temporary host to the local artist David Breuer-Weil's 'Visitor 1' – a large head in composite resin which looks like bronze but is light enough not to damage the silt base of the pond. It will be there until mid-November and so coincide with this year's Affordable Art Fair, which will be on the Fairground site by the East Heath car park again this year from 31 October to 4 November, but will move next year and subsequent years to June.

17th Annual Springett Lecture

Thursday 25 October

Burgh House

7.30 for 8.00pm

Springett Lecture

Finally, this year's Springett Lecture will be on Thursday 25 October at Burgh House when Bob Gilbert will talk on '*From Pig Keepers to Parakeets: how history shaped the wildlife of the Heath*'. Bob is Director of Environmental Sustainability at the London Borough of Islington and has broadcast and written on environmental topics. His recently-revised book, 'The Green London Way', details a 110-mile walk along London's towpaths and alleys, and through parks, commons and woodlands to form a long-distance circular footpath through

the city in 18 separate and easily manageable walks. These examine the links between local human history and the landscape on which it is founded and give a journey around the capital's natural history, with two of the sections covering the walks from Brent Cross to Hampstead and from Hampstead to Finsbury Park. Doors will open at 7:30 for a glass of wine with the talk starting at 8pm; please join us in Burgh House for what is expected to be another most interesting and enjoyable evening.

I hope to see you there.

Wasp Spider on the Heath

This interesting picture was sent via email by Dawn Painter, a Heath regular. She found the spider in the rough grass opposite the mens' bathing pond.

The Wasp Spider, *Argiope bruennichi*, is a very large, colourful orb-web spider whose yellow and black stripes are like those of a wasp. It is distributed throughout central Europe, Northern Europe, north Africa and parts of Asia. A recent arrival in the UK from the continent, it has been recorded in this country since 1922 but it may have been here longer. Previously confined to the south coast, it seems to be spreading northwards through the south of England.

They build large orb webs in grassland and heathland, and attach their silk egg-sacs to the grasses. The web has a wide, white zig-zag strip running down the middle, known as a 'stabilimentum', the function of which is unclear. It hunts flying insects and grasshoppers and also bites.



Planning Report

by Douglas Maxwell

This piece is being written – or at least composed – in the midst of the Olympic Games, and your correspondent has been watching the sailing from The Nothe in Weymouth with the Jurassic coast – a World Heritage Site – stretched out in front of him; a reminder, if one were needed, of the beauties of the natural environment and the ability of the twenty-first century human race to use modern technology to despoil it.

Neighbourhood Planning

There is less to report than expected due to the holiday season but solid progress is being made behind the scenes. The Council have asked for our response on a number of points before formal consultation is embarked on; and we have been working on building up a team to carry the proposal forward.

We are aware that the proposal has proved unexpectedly controversial in some quarters, but remain of the view that a Neighbourhood Forum covering the four conservation areas in Hampstead will benefit the conservation objectives that are common to all, and that it will be possible to arrive at a common platform encompassing the majority of differing views on these matters.

In addition to physical planning, it is envisaged that the Neighbourhood Forum will in due course look at related areas such as local shopping, building on the recommendations of the Portas Review and work already carried out by the town committee.

Some Major Cases

From the fifty or sixty applications we are currently looking at every month, there are three which have attracted particularly

widespread comment and concern (which doesn't mean that the rest aren't important).

A new application for 29 New End (the former nurses' hostel) replaces the one withdrawn at the end of last year. The Society's view is that most of its original objections on such matters as overdevelopment, basement and underground car parking, the loss of affordable housing and the effect of construction traffic on the neighbourhood remain, and has filed an objection accordingly.

Further applications have been received in relation to the Garden House, Vale of Health. These are applications for Lawful Use or Development Certificates (LDC) or 'revisions' to earlier consents rather than ordinary planning applications, and have been opposed with great vigour by the Society, the Vale of Health Society and by individuals.

Finally there is a new proposal for Athlone House, not yet (at the time of writing) the subject of a planning application. The new proposals are still 'materially larger' than the existing house and are architecturally similar to the refused scheme. Work on this case will continue to be led by the Athlone House Working Group of which the Society is a constituent body.

Planning Trends

The above, and other cases, reveal some trends in the making of applications and their handling by the Council. First of all, applicants take full advantage of administrative procedures and permitted development rights to present their applications as purely a 'rubber-stamping' exercise, not requiring the Council to consider whether it should be granted or refused. Some of these applications are not subject to

consultation, and some are not even publicised as part of the applications procedure; and the applicant thereby avoids the cost and risk associated with a normal application process.

The other trend is the growing importance of construction traffic management proposals, with 29 New End and the Garden House being particular cases in point. In the construction industry, there is a continuing move towards mechanisation and off-site fabrication, principally for economic and health and safety reasons. This means more use of plant and equipment, together with the large goods vehicles required to bring it to site and take it away. It also means more deliveries of prefabricated components, which for cost and logistics reasons are combined into the largest possible loads.



"Smash the next lamp on the left, flatten the pavement by the pub, nudge the sweet shop, scrape the Market Cross, then just follow the skid marks to London."

Acknowledgements to Punch, 1979

The effect on Hampstead's narrow streets and old buildings, not to mention the noise and inconvenience for those who live and work there, will be all too apparent. The Council's recently adopted supplementary planning guidance already has specific policies on this, and it is to be hoped they will be fully used and – if necessary – strengthened.

New Member

We are very pleased to welcome to the planning committee a new member, David Castle, an architect planner of great experience who has practised in the area for a number of years. David has already been involved in formulating the society's response on two major cases and is working closely with Gordon Maclean on applications and appeals.

The Lost Rivers of London

It seems a long time ago now, but this is my first article since Stephen Myers' talk on the hidden rivers of London, which was an outstanding success with attendance outstripping expectations. Congratulations to the organisers, Vicki Harding and Addie Godfrey-Fausset and the many members who helped the evening run so well.

Thanks as ever to ...

My colleagues on the planning committee and general committee, especially Gordon Maclean; our ward councillors; our many other supporters; and to you reading this!

Town Report

by *Frank Harding*

There has been some progress in recent weeks on matters reported on in earlier issues of the Newsletter.

The Toll Gate House

Whilst no suitable tenant has been identified to take a lease on the Toll Gate House, useful discussions have been held as to how to take matters forward and who or what might in fact be a suitable tenant. These are being followed up but we are not yet confident that one will be found in the near future. Obviously water and electricity will at some stage have to be introduced.

The proposal is that a commercial tenant be sought to take a lease on the property so that the building will be open, visited by the public to view an exhibit, shop, etc and thus be well aired – ie it must not be used merely for storage.

If any member knows of a potential tenant, please contact me on frankaharding@btinternet.com.

Old Hampstead Rediscovered II; Village Scenes

The second in a series of exhibitions of a selection of paintings, watercolours and prints held in the Camden archives was held at Burgh House from 29 June until early September. This exhibition showed scenes from Hampstead village and included contemporary photographs of the same scenes next to the original works of art. It was well supported and we are now considering the preparation of a third show for later in the year or early in 2013.

Fleet River walks

The two walks along the course of the River Fleet (from the top of the Heath to St Dominic's

Priory and from St Pancras Old Church to the River Thames at Blackfriars Bridge) took place in May. A few who were unable to take part have asked if there will be a further opportunity to join these walks and I have their names on a waiting list. If others wish to put their names on such a list, please let me know by email at: frankaharding@btinternet.com.

If there are enough persons on that list, we shall arrange for the further walks to take place.

North London Trails

The booklets containing self-guided walks and describing places of interest en route on the Northern Heights have now been published. This joint project of local Societies has been highly successful; H&HS has published three of the ten booklets.

They cover walks across the Heath from Highgate to South End Green and Hampstead, from Hampstead to Belsize Park and Camden Town, and from Hampstead to Golders Hill Park and Kenwood and to the Garden Suburb and over to Alexandra Palace. They are invaluable guides to the buildings and environment of the whole area and all local residents and visitors to the area are encouraged to buy them.

Discount for H&HS members

Details of the ten booklets, together with an order form, are set out on page 23 of this Newsletter. There is a substantial discount for H&HS members if you order them direct.

They are available for purchase at local bookshops, National Trust destinations, Keats House and other stores in Hampstead, South End Green and Highgate, and elsewhere in the area.

An Olympic volunteer

by Lysiane Bysb

I'm sitting here the morning after the night before reviewing the incredible journey I, together with 70,000 of my (now) closest friends, have made over the last 18 months as Olympic volunteers. Whatever the debate about making a bid in the first place, having won the Games it seemed to me that as a Londoner I should try to help ensure that we made a good fist of it; too many people denigrate London and Londoners, many of them from within our own shores, but I truly believe that we have an ambitious, diverse and optimistic population and that we could produce something to be proud of.

Recruiting volunteers

I became a 'Trailblazer' – someone who started volunteering well before most, as my professional background in Human Resources was picked up as soon as I submitted my application to become a volunteer. Having been accepted and trained in the specifics I set off for the Excel Centre in a rather cold wet February 2011 for my first shift interviewing other potential volunteers and carried on for one or two shifts a week until March this year. One thing I should say at this point is that the way my application was handled was absolutely typical of the professionalism with which the paid LOCOG staff worked. Interviews were structured so that we could interview 5 – 6 people during a 5 hour shift; in that time we made sure that volunteers shared the LOCOG values and had the self-motivation and experience to carry them out. Respect for others, excellence in customer service, team working and dealing with challenge were some of the qualities we sought and I was inspired by the experiences many applicants brought with them – young and old, all races, religions and backgrounds. We had a truly diverse workforce.

Training team leaders

At that point, I was lucky enough to be selected as part of a team of 36 to train the team leaders, which we did over a three-month period during the Spring and early Summer. At the same time there were around 200 others whose job it was to train volunteers for the roles they would hold at the Games. We carried out 1 million hours of training, and I think it safe to say that the volunteer workforce was probably the best trained of any Olympic Games.

And now on to my 'gamestime' experience: I was part of Workforce Ops – a small team of people at each venue whose job was to look after the rest of the volunteers. In practice, the work of a volunteer is often mundane; there are lots of jobs that someone has to do to keep the Games running, and ours was to scan volunteers in for their scheduled shifts, ensure they had meal vouchers and also the little 'recognition awards' we were all given. I also became a 'roving reporter' to interview volunteers about their experiences for our daily newsletter, made constant paper chains and notice boards with details of results, weather forecasts, quizzes and treats to keep the volunteers feeling valued. As I was based at Horse Guards/Mall, I was well aware of the cycling and marathons as well as beach volley-ball, and there was the most amazing buzz around central London amongst the general public as well as spectators. My uniform made me a magnet for anyone who wanted information, or just to enthuse about the Games.

So, we've done it. Everyone is pleased, athletes have been delighted with the help afforded them (and let's face it, they are why we were all there) and perhaps we here in London can feel faintly smug that the chrysalis opened and let out a butterfly.

Who's minding the shops?

by Jessica Learmond-Criqui

With the opening of a 7th mobile phone shop on Hampstead High Street by Prudential plc, in place of Sue Jasani's health shop which had been in situ for 28 years, and with, for a while, the rumour of an 8th coming, Hampstead has seen the continuing corrosive decline in the quality of its shopping district. It is well recognised that small independent shops help to retain the character and identity of our local community. In Hampstead, their number is steadily declining.

The Mary Portas initiative

Mary Portas was invited by the government to study the decline of Britain's high streets and to present recommendations for its consideration. She is not the first to have studied the problem - other notable bodies included the House of Commons All Parliamentary Party Small Shops Group, London Assembly, London Mayor and the New Economic Forum - but the reports of others sat on shelves gathering dust.

Mary studied the issues and made recommendations. Her brand of recommendations was a beacon to local communities, encouraging them that they had a right to take charge of the state of their high streets and make them more relevant for local residents. Hampstead applied to be a Portas Pilot - a system introduced by the government to give a grant of up to £100,000 to successful applicants. We were not successful but, having applied, we fell into a rump of unsuccessful applicants who now have the ability to apply for a grant from a pot of £5.1 million and who, if they take action, will have government and professional support to make their brand of change happen.

Erosion of village atmosphere

So, why bother? Hampstead is a village. But its village atmosphere on the high street is eroded. Its high street is dominated by

multiples and it looks like any other high street without distinction or character. It is less of a destination and more of a place that people drive through. Our small independent traders are struggling with their rents. Business rates are also a problem.

Apart from the Society's Hampstead Card there are at present no local community groups who focus on the shopping offering in Hampstead. More is now needed. That is why, when Sue Jasani's shop was in trouble, I set up a resident-led campaign to help. Later, Pure Fruit on Heath Street, run by Brian Lay for over 30 years, was in trouble and I again set up a resident-led campaign to help them to continue to survive - strongly supported by many members of the community. I have discussed business rates with Ministers, Camden Council and the Valuation Office Agency and continue to do so. As you will see from our Editor's researches in our archives on the following pages, such initiatives are not new. But they are now needed more than ever.

The 'Mary Portas' Hampstead Shops Campaign

The campaign is now called the "Mary Portas" Hampstead Shops Campaign - twitter address @hampsteadshops. It is resident-based and aims to communicate with landlords and tenants with a view to improving the variety of shops which serve the local community. It also aims to address the issues with the upper part of Heath Street on which shops have a difficult time surviving.

Changing dynamics

We recognise that the dynamics of shopping have changed. Internet shopping is booming and out-of-town shopping centres with free parking and shopping offering are very

attractive. Small traders cannot compete with multiples in terms of their pricing or procurement structures and are necessarily more expensive propositions. But they define our community and it is particularly important to encourage small traders who are relevant to residents shopping requirements to come to Hampstead.

The problem is that rents are too high and my experience of landlords to date is that they do not care about our community, choosing the highest rent they can get or the best covenant before the interests of the community.

The campaign will shortly be setting up a community investment company which will continue to apply for funds from the government to implement the Portas recommendations and other matters. This vehicle must only use its funds for community projects and can make a

profit - but such profit can only be used for reinvestment in community projects or to pay dividends to its members - those individuals or organisations who put money into it.

Marylebone High Street is a prime example of what can be done when a single entity with vision and determination takes a lead.

Villages and towns up and down the country are taking control of their environments and not leaving their future up to market forces.

Hampstead must try to convince the multiple landlords that it would be in their own interest to do the same, to husband its vitality and to nurture its vivacious and energetic community.

Can you help?

Anyone who would like to help should get in touch with Jessica Learmond-Criqui, whose details are listed on the Committee page.

From our archives - shops in Hampstead

The 1950s

The Society's concerns about the decline of shops in Hampstead are of long standing, first appearing in Society reports in 1959.

“The charm and character of Old Hampstead combined with its nearness to the Heath and to central London, makes it one of the most popular residential districts; land values have soared and the speculator is at work everywhere”. (H&HS Chairman, Sir Colin Anderson AGM report 1959).

A memorandum was widely circulated: “In the shopping area another kind of commercialism is

taking place. Under present law, no permission from a planning authority is necessary if it wishes to use a shop as a cafe or restaurant, and there has been increasing anxiety at the extent to which the normal shopping facilities of the Old Town are, in fact, being superseded by eating houses of various kinds, far beyond the needs of the parish itself.”

There was a “Beatnik Ball” at a dance hall in Heath Street which “engaged the attention of a disproportionate number of police” - an “invading force” of traffic, “advertisement signs of startling vulgarity”, and cooking smells.

From our Archives - shops (cont)

So concerned was the Society by the noise - “a bedlam of sound” - that it “approached the Chairman of the London County Council Planning Committee to discuss the application of planning control to the area”.

The 1960s

By 1961, after much campaigning, some progress is reported: “A recent resolution of the Hampstead Borough Council supports the Metropolitan Borough Standing Joint Committee in an effort to obtain just such measures. This is most encouraging”.

An improvement scheme

At the same time “a whole-hearted scheme of street improvement to brighten the High Street and Rosslyn Hill with paint and general remodelling” was announced, with the support of the Borough Council, the Civic Trust and local amenity societies, under the guidance of the architect Leonard Manasseh.

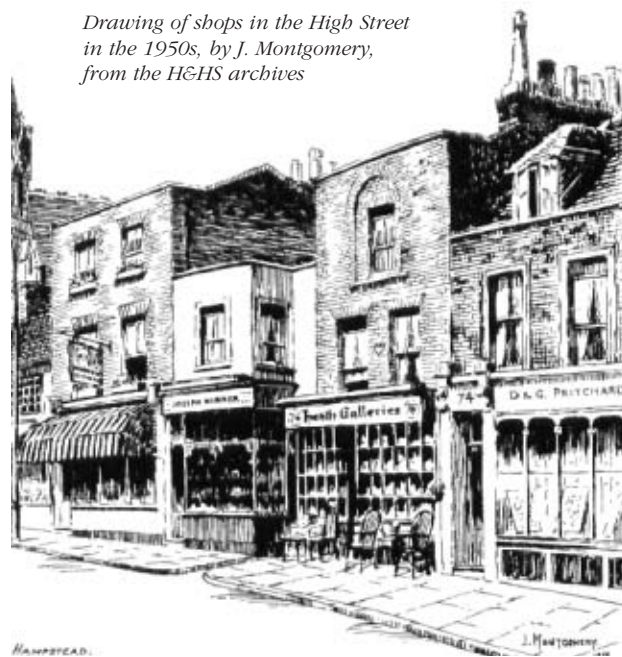
This was so successful that the next year it was reported that “An Improvement Association has been formed to maintain the new standard of appearance, and encourage traders still unconvinced”. “After the facelift, traders who shared it reported increased business”.

But it did not last. By 1965 “Protests have continued to reach the Society against the indifferent design of new shop fronts and the increasing lust of some multiple stores for garish window advertising. An appeal was sent out to the chief offenders. Some lacked the civility even to acknowledge it, and no improvement whatever has been observed”.

The 1970s - the loss of useful shops

By 1969 concern was increasing, not just about the appearance of the shop fronts, but the loss of useful shops: “A saddening change, not confined to Hampstead, is the closing down, under the pressure of economics and time, of old-established shops which met useful household needs”.

Drawing of shops in the High Street in the 1950s, by J. Montgomery, from the H&HS archives



Saving useful community shops

At the 1974 Annual General Meeting a discussion took place of “the possible ways in which the continued existence of useful community shops might be safeguarded. This is something with which the Society is very much involved”. A “possible solution to the shopping problem is rent control of the existing shops. Many of the present shops are owned by Camden or the GLC. We have pursued the matter with both

authorities and are pleased to learn that the GLC are not insisting on the highest possible market rents”.

Community action

The community took action itself with the “formation of the Hampstead Community Trust led by a committee of local people (many of them Society members) dedicated to the provision, maintenance and encouragement of a wide range of shopping facilities for Hampstead residents”. The eventual result was the Hampstead Community Centre at 77-8 High Street (a former old coach house), still flourishing today, even though Camden withdrew funding in 1993. And in 1977 the Joint Amenity Groups of Hampstead (JAGOH) was established to enable local groups to act together on matters of concern such as the state of the shops.

The 1980s - a public meeting

In 1981 following a public meeting called by the Society, a Shoppers Action Committee (SAC) was formed as a sub-committee of JAGOH. Their objectives were “to set up communications with Camden’s Valuer’s Departmentand with the GLC; and to exert pressure on the government to introduce planning controls to prevent local convenience shops being turned into boutiques”. Concerns about both the appearance of the shopping streets and the loss of useful shops rumbled on throughout the eighties.

The 1990s

In 1993, the Newsletter published an “itemised statistical survey” by the SAC demonstrating that 54% of local shops were now for visitors, not for locals, with a follow-up article in the next edition.

2001 The Hampstead Card

In 2001 Town Committee members Ann Eastman and Jo Konrad established the Hampstead Card as a tangible way for the Society to show its support for our independent local shops in their “fight against the tide of giant retail chains, astronomical rents and rates, and lack of parking”. It has “become a symbol that says we care about preserving the character of Hampstead” and we hope, helps the traders “to feel that we are part of the community”.

Heath Street - drawing by Ronald Saxby



Keats Community Library update

by Vicky Bobasch

Keats Community Library reopened in its new incarnation on April 17th after Camden Council closed Heath Library. With the support of the local community Keats Community Library is proving very popular and goes from strength to strength. Visitors say that the atmosphere is very friendly.

The library is run by unpaid Trustees, staffed by a part-time manager/ librarian and many enthusiastic volunteers who have had to learn how to run a library – a challenge for amateurs but the volunteers are very special people. It is a charity, and has to be funded by contributions from the local community,

A busy time

The Grand Opening Party in May, sponsored by TK International, was, thankfully, held on a beautiful sunny day. Edith Bowman cut the ribbon, Michael Palin awarded prizes for the children's poster competition, Tom Conti and Tracy Ann Oberman read stories in the beautiful storytelling tent, and John Etheridge played jazz guitar. Melrose and Morgan picnic food was on offer, and there were lovely book bags for sale, designed for KCL by Helen Oxenbury. The raffle included more than 40 prizes from local traders who were so generous with their support, proving that Hampstead is truly a village with community spirit. It was a day to linger on the lawn and enjoy Hampstead at its best - and over 300 people did just that.

The threat of losing our beloved library has really galvanised the community. KCL was the beneficiary of the Hampstead Heath Community Fair in July, with Fleet Road Primary School; the Hampstead Women's Circle are also mounting special events to raise money to keep the library going; Blue Daisy in South End Green mounted a fantastic Peppa Pig

fundraising morning. The whole community has really got behind this cause.

After only four months the new independent library, which is open six days a week, has attracted 1800 library-cardholders. It has the daily newspapers and journals, internet access, and most importantly, buys the latest books and DVDs. The library has bought and acquired hundreds of new books; borrowers are delighted that they can get the Orange and Man Booker Prize longlists, as well as brand new travel books, audio books, DVDs and the latest biography and history bestsellers.

The spacious children's library runs regular rhyme-time sessions, and there are regular visits from schools.

The popular literary evenings continue: October 3rd Prof Mark White; November 14th Dame Janet Suzman; November 21st Poetry Open – bring your favourite poem to read.

October 6th: Book Sale in the library - bring in your books and DVDs from October 2.

KCL wants everyone to be involved. The library does important work reaching all parts of our community, with literacy programmes, providing internet access for those without their own computer, and quiet space for study. It's a place for everyone to use; we would encourage you all to go down to Keats Grove and fall in love with the place.

Fundraising can be fun, but on a more serious note the library will only stay open if those who can afford to do so, and value this local treasure, support it with either one-off or direct debit contributions. Details are on the website: keatscommunitylibrary.org.uk

An invitation from the Affordable Art Fair

by Romy Westwood

Following a very warm welcome from the community last year, the Affordable Art Fair is delighted to be returning to the Heath for the second year from 1-4 November.

Affordable Art Fair support for KCL

A special feature this year is that KCL will be the nominated charity of the Affordable Art Fair.

Superb array of work

The Fair is a fantastic opportunity to visit over 100 local and international galleries under one roof, and browse a superb array of original prints, paintings, sculpture and photography. With everything for sale between £40 and £4,000, you can fall in love with a piece of artwork, get it wrapped and take it home on the same day!

A day out for all the family

It's not all about buying art – the Fair offers a fun-filled day out for all the family, including the dog! Take part in a host of free activities for all ages including informal talks, artist-led hands-on workshops, kids' activity packs, and a free crêche. When you fancy a break, there are

delicious treats to be found at the café (with a great view over the ponds) and the Laithwaite's wine bar. Whether you're a first-time buyer, an experienced collector, or just want to try printmaking, it's the perfect place to discover affordable contemporary art.

You might want to pop into the Late View on Thursday after work – here you can beat the weekend crowds, have a refreshing tippie, and view the art to the sounds of our DJ.

Whichever day you choose to follow the tree-lined avenue to the Fair, we are easy to find and looking forward to welcoming you, so book your tickets in advance to save money and beat the queue!

Special invitation for H&HS members

The Affordable Art Fair would love to invite H&HS members to the fair during public opening hours from Thursday 1 – Sunday 4 November 2012 (excluding the Private View on Wednesday 31 October 2012). Just show your H&HS Hampstead Card to the ticket desk on entry to the Fair.

Celebration in support of Keats Community Library

Our Wednesday night Charity Private View is a celebration in support of Keats Community Library – a charity recently set up to save this wonderful neighbourhood resource. Bring a friend and make an evening of it – enjoy a complimentary glass of wine and be the first to view the artwork.



Support Keats Community Library at the Charity Preview, 31 October

If you would like to buy a ticket for the Charity Preview, when the Fair will be opened by Jon Culshaw, on 31 October, call the library on 020 7431 1266. Tickets cost £25, and all proceeds go to KCL.

Camden Arts Centre

by Tim Walsh

Positioned at the meeting point of West Hampstead, Swiss Cottage and Hampstead, Camden Arts Centre occupies the 1897 Grade II listed building situated on Arkwright Road that once housed the Hampstead Public Library until the new library was built in Swiss Cottage in 1964 (see H&HS Newsletter, September 2011). The Arts Centre was established in 1965 by the Hampstead Artists Council and the new Local Authority, Camden. Since 1990 it has been run as an independent charitable trust and is focused on bringing international contemporary art to the doorsteps of North West London residents.

Roots in Hampstead

The Centre especially cherishes its roots in Hampstead. From artists like Henry Moore and Barbara Hepworth, to architects and designers including Walter Gropius, Marcel Breuer and László Maholy-Nagy, Hampstead has had a long history of embracing creative iconoclasts who

take a daring approach to their practice. Today, Camden Arts Centre recognises this legacy through exhibitions such as Kenneth and Mary Martin Constructed Works and Simon Starling's selected exhibition, *Never the Same River* (Possible Futures, Probable Pasts). While supporting a new generation of progressive and creative minds – showcasing the work of British and international artists through exhibitions and residencies, encouraging the casual or vocational artist through our practical art making courses, and nourishing the artists of the future through our extensive education programme for schools and young people .

Exhibitions are free

We want Hampstead residents to embrace all that Camden Arts Centre has to offer and be involved in the future of our unique approach. If you are part of a community group, we can organise tours of our exhibitions from our team. All our exhibitions are free. We have some of London's most unique and diverse spaces for hire.

Café and garden

Our café serves fresh, affordable and delicious food – something which is sorely lacking on bustling Finchley Road. The garden is a green and peaceful haven - perfect for a catch-up with family and friends. For visiting children and their families, our regular Make and Do sessions on a Sunday afternoon also offer a great opportunity to learn more about the exhibitions through hands-on making activities inspired by the artists.



H&HS Annual Christmas Party will be at the Camden Arts Centre

Funding

Camden Arts Centre is a registered charity that currently receives just over half its income from the Arts Council England, with the remainder earned through our café and bookshop, and raised through charitable donations. Each year, we raise nearly half a million pounds without which we wouldn't be able to continue our programme of free world-class exhibitions, or our education programme that reaches thousands of local young people.

How can you get involved?

Here are a few ways that you can experience what Camden Arts Centre has to offer:

First and foremost, visit Camden Arts Centre if you have not already done so – take a look around our Grade II heritage listed building and explore great contemporary art on your doorstep.

If you've been once, come again – bring some friends, see an exhibition, listen to a talk, watch a film screening – there are free activities for all ages in our broad programme

Difficult to find time in the week to visit? – We're open late on Wednesday evenings until 9.00pm.

Stay in touch – Join our mailing list to keep up to date with our current and forthcoming exhibitions, events and projects. Sign up on the website or fill in a 'Keep in touch' card when you visit

Become a Friend of Camden Arts Centre

Check our website for full benefits, including a 10% discount at our Bookshop and Café

For full details of our upcoming exhibitions, events and projects visit
www.camdenartscentre.org

The Heath and Hampstead Society
Annual Christmas Party

***Monday 17th December,
7 - 9pm***

Camden Arts Centre

Arkwright Road

*Join us for drinks, music and a stroll
through the galleries at Hampstead's
world renowned contemporary arts centre*

Tickets £12

*Invitation and reply slip are enclosed
with this Newsletter*

*Parking is available on Finchley and
Arkwright Roads from 7.00pm*

*Left:
Photo of
the
Arkwright
Road
building
from the
archives*

*Right: the
Centre
today*



To find out more about the Centre's programme or any other information, please feel free to contact me, Tim Walsh, Communications & Development Officer at tim.walsh@camdenartscentre.org

or 020 7472 5500

Caring for Kenwood

by Ali Walker

Ever since William Murray, first Earl of Mansfield invited architect Robert Adam to remodel his home in the heart of the Heath in 1760, Kenwood House has occupied a special place in London's architectural heritage. The house remained in the Mansfield family until the 1920s, when the strains of maintaining the estate forced the sixth Earl of Mansfield to draw up plans to divide the house and its surroundings into plots for sale, ready for the developers to move in.

Luckily for local residents and architecture-lovers across the world, Edward Cecil Guinness, first Earl of Iveagh stepped in and purchased the estate in 1924. On his death, Lord Iveagh bequeathed the house, its contents - including his incredible collection of art - and the estate to the nation. His act of generosity meant that visitors from near and far could enjoy this historic gem and its stunning grounds, but over the years, wear and tear has taken its toll and Kenwood is in need of serious restoration and repair.

This year English Heritage is looking to improve on Lord Iveagh's legacy by delivering Caring for Kenwood - a project designed to ensure that the incredible Adams interiors and the artworks within are protected for future generations to enjoy.

While the house interiors were beautifully restored in the 1990s, Kenwood last underwent dramatic structural repairs in the 1950s. But the ravages of time mean that the historically significant Robert Adam interiors and the priceless artworks of the Iveagh Bequest are under threat from damp and deterioration.

In April English Heritage closed the house to allow much-needed repairs to the house's roof and exterior. While the house is closed, they are also transforming the visitor experience, so that when it reopens in Autumn 2013 visitors will have a glimpse of the lives of the



fascinating people who once lived there, from the moment they step through the door.

A community project

Caring for Kenwood is about more than fixing bricks and mortar. It's a community project, reinstating Kenwood back into the heart of Heath-life through education, interpretation, and volunteering. Just as Lord Iveagh's generosity and the local community campaign led by Arthur Crosfield saved the whole estate and the house a century ago, now it is again the local community who can help ensure that everyone can enjoy Kenwood for years to come.

So far English Heritage has raised more than 95% of the £5.9 million needed to complete the project, including a £3.8million grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund. Now they're looking to local community to help raise the last 5% needed to complete the project.

How to get involved

If you would like to make a donation and become part of the legacy of the Heath, you can give online at www.english-heritage.org.uk/supportus. Every £1 donated will help pay for the vital restoration work and the exciting new interpretation for both Kenwood house and its historic Dairy.

Alternatively, if you want to get closer to the Caring for Kenwood project, contact Ali Walker, Individual Giving Manager, by email at ali.walker@english-heritage.org.uk or call 020 7973 3797 to find out about the exciting opportunities for supporters at all levels.

Constable: 200 Years

by Kate Streeter, General Manager, Burgh House

Team BH Scrambles for Sponsorship

To publicise their upcoming exhibition *Constable: 200 Years in Hampstead*, the Burgh House & Hampstead Museum team are undertaking an epic challenge – a four day ‘fundraising scramble’ from John Constable’s birthplace in Suffolk to his residence and final resting place in Hampstead.

Bicentenary of Constable in Hampstead

Constable: 200 Years in Hampstead marks the bicentenary of Constable’s first visit to Hampstead. It will feature seven original Constable sketches and paintings loaned from the V&A. But amidst the excitement of the exhibition, the Burgh House team has a serious message. Small, independent museums and organisations like Burgh House & Hampstead Museum are feeling the pinch in the current climate of austerity. It was fantastic to receive Heritage Lottery funding for the Constable exhibition, but that funding doesn’t cover the everyday costs of keeping a beautiful, Grade I listed building open free to the community. To meet these costs, the Burgh House team has set out on an ambitious mission to raise £5,000 through sponsorship of their ‘scramble’.

The team will use only their own energy and alternative transport on their four-day journey from Flatford Mill to Hampstead – hiking, camping, cycling, taking to sea on a small fishing boat and riding a heritage steam train in the process. “We want to make a strong connection between Burgh House and other areas of Constable’s life, as well as raising some money along the way,” says Rebecca Lodge, museum curator.

Constable, whose 1824 painting ‘The Lock’ recently sold at auction for a record £22.4 million, lived in Hampstead from the late 1820s

until a few years before his death in 1837. He made many studies for his famous skies on Hampstead Heath. *Constable: 200 Years in Hampstead* explores his artistic legacy through archival material and artworks spanning the last two centuries.

The team’s four-day scramble will finish on Sunday 23 September with a short walk from Constable’s grave in St John’s churchyard, past his home on Well Walk and on to a late afternoon reception at Burgh House, which the public is welcome to attend.

Constable: 200 Years in Hampstead runs from October 2012 to April 2013. The exhibition and events programme are funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund. The seven pieces on loan from the V&A are: ‘Sketch at Hampstead, Stormy Sunset’ (1820 oil painting), ‘The Grove, or Admiral’s House, Hampstead’ (1821 oil painting), ‘Study of Cows at Hampstead’ (1834 watercolour), ‘Trees in West End Fields, Hampstead’ (1833 drawing), ‘Trees and wattle hurdles at Hampstead’ (1820 drawing), ‘The Root of a Tree at Hampstead’ (1831 drawing) and ‘Trees at Hampstead’ (1820 drawing).

To complement the display of original works by John Constable, Burgh House & Hampstead Museum will also show a number of images from its own collection in the complementary exhibition *Imaging and Imagining Hampstead Heath*.



Bulletin Board

Hampstead Festival 2012 Autumn season

Concerts 7.30pm

Hampstead Parish Church
Church Row

27 November

Matthew Trusler (violin)

Asbley Wass (piano)

Beethoven: Sonata for Violin & Piano No 9 in A, "Kreutzer Sonata"

Bartok: Sonata for Solo Violin

Ravel: Sonata for Violin & Piano No 2 in G

Tickets £15 £25

4 December

Stephen Kovacevich and friends

The world-renowned pianist returns to the Festival, following his sell-out concert last year, and fresh from performances in Australia, China, Germany & France.

Stephen Kovacevich, piano

Tamsin Waley-Cohen, violin

Mandhira de Saram, violin

Krzysztof Chorzelski, viola

Laura van der Heijden, cello

Mozart: Piano Quartet in G Minor, K 478

Brahms: Sonata for Violin & Piano No 2 in A Major, Op 100

Shostakovich: Piano Quintet in G Minor, Op 57

Tickets £18 and £30

Literary Lunchtimes 1.00pm

Burgh House
New End Square

Thursday lunchtime series 1-2pm

with Piers Plowright

"Writers Talking", 1-29 November

The multi-award winning critic, broadcaster and author talks to leading local authors about their work and the writers, composers and artists who inspire them.

Deborah Moggach Nov 1

Nick Harkaway Nov 8

Margaret Drabble Nov 15

Kate Summerscale Nov 22

Howard Jacobson Nov 29

Charles Dickens Celebration

6 December 1-2pm

a prose and poetry

Celebration of Charles Dickens

(at the end of his bicentennial year) with

Diana Bishop

Piers Plowright

Valerie Sarruf

Stephen Tucker

Tickets £8

**Booking: for all events can be done online through the website:
www.hampsteadartsfestival.com**

NB: A small booking fee will be added to each online booking

Northern Heights Publications Order Form

Order Form for H&HS Members

Cut here

Discount for H&HS members: £1 off for second and for each subsequent booklet ordered
ie £1 off if ordering 2 booklets, £2 off if ordering 3, £3 off if ordering 4 etc.

A complete set of all 10 booklets will cost only £25.00

Set A) Circular Walk through Highgate, Hampstead and Hampstead Heath

| Booklet name | Cost £ | Quantity | £ |
|--|-----------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Highgate Village to Kenwood House | £3.00 | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| 2 Highgate Village to Parliament Hill Fields | £3.00 | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| 3 Parliament Hill Fields to South End Green | £3.00 | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| 4 South End Green to Golders Hill Park | £3.00 | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| 5 Golders Hill Park to Kenwood House | £3.00 | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |

Set B) Hampstead Heritage Trail

| | | | |
|--|---------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| A Hampstead to Belsize Park | £4.00 | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| B Belsize Park to Camden Town | £4.00 | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| C Hampstead to Temple Fortune | £4.00 | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| D Temple Fortune to East Finchley | £4.00 | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| E East Finchley to Muswell Hill | £4.50 | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| Complete set of all 10 booklets | £25.00 | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |

| | |
|---------------|----------------------|
| Sub-total | <input type="text"/> |
| Discount | <input type="text"/> |
| Total payment | <input type="text"/> |

Name:

Address :

E mail :

Cheques should be made payable to Northern Heights Publications and sent to:

Northern Heights Publications, HHS, 10a South Grove, London N6 6BS

Bulletin Board - Society notices

17th Annual Springett Lecture

***Thursday 25 October,
Burgh House 8.00pm***

Bob Gilbert

Broadcaster writer and Islington's Director
of Environmental Sustainability

***'From Pig Keepers to Parakeets:
how history shaped the wildlife
of the Heath'***

**Doors open at 7.30 for a glass of wine
Non-members welcome Admission free**

Delivering the Newsletter by email

We can send your Newsletter by email in the form of a PDF so that you can read it on screen if you prefer.

For those of you who do not keep your Newsletters, it is environmentally more friendly, saving paper and unnecessary waste.

It would also save the Society a great deal of cost. With postage costs increasing enormously this is now becoming a major consideration.

If you would like to try this please let the Editor know: you can be sent a PDF to try out, to see if you like it. PDFs of the Newsletter can also be seen on the website.



The Heath & Hampstead Society

***Don't forget
to use the***

Hampstead Card

The current list of businesses taking part in the scheme can be found on the Society's website

www.heathandhampstead.org.uk

Benefits offered are granted at the traders' discretion. The Society cannot be held responsible for changes in terms or availability of any discounts or offers

Members' email addresses

If you have not given us your email address you may be missing out on important local and Society news and initiatives

So if you have not already done so please do send your email address to the Society at:

info@heathandhampstead.org.uk

Make sure you include your name and street address so that we can identify you.

This will enable us to update our Membership Records and simplify our communications with you.

Thank you.



**Burgh House Museum, Buttery,
Bookstall**

Exhibitions, talks, concerts and classes
Burgh House, New End Square NW3 1LT
www.burghhouse.org.uk
Tel: 020 7431 0144

*Open Wed - Fri, & Sun, 12 - 5.00pm
(Saturdays by appointment)*

**Support the Friends of Burgh House
Honorary President Piers Plowright**

For more information or to join the
Friends tel: Burgh House on 020 7431 0144

**Winter Fair in aid of
Combat Stress**

(Ex-Services Mental Welfare Society)

Free Church Hall,
Northway,
Hampstead Garden Suburb, NW11 6PB

**Saturday November 3
11am – 3pm**

**To be opened by
Martin Bell**

Vintage, Collectables, Jewellery, Crafts,
Cakes & Produce, Tombola, Books, Plants,
Refreshments, Children's games,
Combat Stress Christmas Cards & lots more!
(free parking!)

Hampstead Film Society

Hampstead Town Hall

Tuesday evenings at 7pm:

A wide range of world cinema

Membership fee: £15.00 Adults

£10.00 Concessions;

Day Membership £6.00

Admission fee: Members £3.00 per film;

£5.00 for their guests.

Autumn Season

October 2 Marty (Delbert Mann, USA, 1955)

October 16 Hester Street (Joan Micklin
Silver, USA, 1975)

October 30 Pan's Labyrinth (Guillermo Del
Toro, Spain, 2006)

November 13 Promises (Carlos Bolado,
B.Z. Goldberg, Netherlands 2001)

For more information

Tel: 020 7692 5811

Email: hfs@interchange.org.uk

www.interchange.org.uk/movies

Interchange Trust

A not for profit group

Hampstead Town Hall Centre
213 Haverstock Hill, London, NW3 4QP

Heath Walks 2012 -13

Walks are normally held on the first Sunday of every month except January. Most start from Burgh House, New End Square. London NW3 1LT – 10 minutes walk from Hampstead Tube Station (for map see www.burghhouse.org.uk)

***NB:** parking is extremely difficult locally, especially in spring and summer. West Heath car park (behind Jack Straw's Castle) is more likely to have spaces than the East Heath car park.*

Starting times are either 2.30pm or 10.30 am (9.30 for birds), depending on season and subject matter.

Walks last approximately two hours. They do not necessarily follow made-up paths; you are recommended to wear suitable footwear as conditions may be rough or muddy.

You will be invited to make a minimum donation of £3.00 per adult, to be collected at the beginning of each walk, to help support future development of the walks programme and to promote the Society's activities generally.

Children are always welcome so long as they are suitably shod, can walk reasonable distances and are accompanied by an adult taking full responsibility for them.

Please note starting times and meeting points

Further information from walks organiser, Thomas Radice,
mobile: 07941 528 034 or
email: hhs.walks@gmail.com



7 October 2.30pm Spiders and other creepy-crawlies (meet at Burgh House) led by Edward Milner, former BBC producer and National Spider Recorder for Middlesex and London; Member of the Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management

4 November 10.30am Habitats of the Heath (meet at the Gazebo near the old Kitchen Garden, east of Kenwood House) led by Linda Dolata, official volunteer guide, Kew Gardens

2 December 10.30am The Hidden Heath (meet at the Gazebo near the old Kitchen Garden, east of Kenwood House) led by Michael Hammerson, Highgate Society representative on the H&HS Heath Sub-Committee and member of Highgate Society Environment Committee

2013

No walk in January

3 February 10.30am (meet at Burgh House) Ponds of the Heath led by Marc Hutchinson, Secretary, Hampstead Heath Winter Swimming Club; Secretary of the Heath & Hampstead Society and member of the Heath Sub-Committee

3 March 10.30am (meet at the Flagstaff, Whitestone Pond) Heroes and Villains: the history of the Heath as we know it led by Thomas Radice, member of the H&HS Heath Sub-Committee and organiser of monthly walks programme

7 April 10.30am (meet at Burgh House) Birds of the Heath in Spring led jointly by John Hunt, former Chairman of the Marylebone Birdwatching Society and Sash Tusa, members of the H&HS Heath Sub-Committee