

Clarion call to members

Chairman sends out special plea for Association volunteers

A ROUSING CALL has been sent out by our Chairman, John Hajdu, to rally support from members for our drive to recruit volunteers for a range of Association roles. This comes after a number of urgent appeals for help, published in this Newsletter in several successive issues, have gone unanswered. The areas in need of your support include planning, meetings, community projects and Committee work.

Tailored to fit

John says, 'We have so many interesting Association roles going begging at the moment. I'm sure that there must be members who would not only relish such work but would also be fantastic at it, really enjoying all the benefits of doing something for our community. Step forward and have a chat with me about what you could do – my contact details are on page 8. All the roles can be tailored to match your interests and other commitments.'

John adds, 'We now have over 700 members, so it's clear that people really do care about the brilliant work we do to make our area as clean, green and safe as possible. We depend on you, however, to make this possible. Please do your bit!'



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* COMPETITION *

Our Association is running a special promotion to engage you in the recruitment of new Association members. Help us to become an even stronger force working to make our area greener, cleaner and safer, and win yourself a handsome book token into the bargain! The offer ends on 30 October 2012.

Recruit 3 or more new members and you get a

£10 book token

Recruit 5 or more and you get a

£15 book token

All participants will be entered into a draw for a

£25 book token

Winners will be announced in the November Newsletter. Make sure your recommendations mention your name on the membership form so that you are in the running!

☛ Meetings to come ☛

Wednesday 17 October, 8pm, Garden Rm, North Bank

Exposure

Exposure is Muswell Hill's charitable youth media enterprise. The speakers from this multi-award winning charity will tell us how it enables young people to thrive in the media.

Thursday 15 November, 8pm, Garden Rm, North Bank

Alexandra Palace – the latest

Chief Executive, Duncan Wilson, will be talking about the latest developments at Ally Pally.

North Bank, 28 Pages Lane, is almost opposite Pages Hill. The 234 bus passes the door and buses 134, 43, 102 and 299 stop nearby. There is parking for those who need it.



Saima's Membership Column

Dear Member

What a fantastic Olympics extravaganza we've had! Watching the hard work and dedication of the thousands of volunteers who helped to make this a truly remarkable event reminded me of our very own 18-strong delivery team! I want to shine a spotlight on our local volunteers who brave all weathers to make sure 233 of you get the newsletter delivered to your door on time – not only that, but many of them have been carrying out this task for a number of years! THANK YOU for being such champions!

New members

Our newest members include: **Mrs Lucy Haynes** of Colney Hatch Lane, **Iain and Pamela Smith** of Grand Avenue, **Jane Kember** of Elgin Road and **Michael Johns** of Connaught Gardens. Our very warmest welcome to you all and thank you for your support.

Member of the month

We have a very interesting member of the month in Pauline Clarke, a native of Finchley, who has now lived in our area for over 25 years. She is a member of the Catholic Sisters of Marie Auxiliatrice whose work encompasses several areas, including education, and many of whom serve in Cameroon and Micronesia. Their aim is to live a life of service where prayer and action are intimately linked.

Sr Pauline studied in Rome and has lived in Jerusalem while in a teaching role. Her other educational posts include preparing student priests within a seminary. She specialises in liturgy (the rites, ceremonies, prayers, and sacraments of the Church). As if this were not impressive enough, she is also a talented organist and leads the music in Our Lady of Muswell Church on most Sundays.

Sr Pauline celebrated her Golden Jubilee (50 years in the order) on 18 June 2006 and is National President of the Association of Senior Religious. She never ceases to impress her friends with the breadth of her contacts all over our area and beyond. Wow - it's great to have you on board Pauline!

Members' topic

In true Olympic spirit, here is a reminder about our very own challenge: we are entering the final stretch of our membership competition which ends on 30 October. All you have to do is get a couple of neighbours to join up and you get £10 or £15 book tokens, plus the chance to win a £25 book token in the overall prize draw. (See the panel on the front page). Do let me know about your recommendations and any interesting facts or stories you would like to share as well – good luck!

My details

Please keep your comments and feedback coming in. My contact details are: MHFGA, PO Box 56960, London N10 9BA or email: saimawilliams@live.co.uk

Don't forget our Facebook group. Leave a post at:
<http://www.facebook.com/?ref=home#!/group.php?gid+56250985945>

Bulletin board

 OUR HITHERTO UNSUCCESSFUL search for volunteers to help with our planning work continues.

However, in the meantime, John Crompton, our Conservation Officer, despite many other onerous commitments, is keeping an eye on planning matters. (See page 7 for our latest planning news.)

The Committee was undeterred by these considerations of John's ever-increasing workload and, in accordance with clause 6.3 of our constitution and in his absence, it formally appointed him as our secretary as well. He is to serve in this capacity until the next AGM.

Sympathetic members are invited to contact John and offer to relieve him of at least part of his extra burden.

 WE HAVE RECEIVED a generous donation from two of our members who recently attended Bill Tyler's popular architectural walk in Fortis Green. They were so impressed by the entertaining and informative style of the event and the community spirit in evidence, that they requested their donation should go towards one of our ongoing community projects. We thank them for their help.

All of our work is done by volunteers and we do not receive any income apart from your membership subs and donations such as these. If you would like to help us with a donation of any size, please contact our Treasurer, Jacqueline Servat. Her contact details are on the back page.

 SPEAKING OF SUMMER WALKS and the over subscription of the Fortis Green architectural one in June, you may be pleased to know that the Committee is working on Bill to provide us with another similar event next year.

He is, of course, flattered by all the attention and admiration, but is yet to be pinned down in a definite way. If you see him, then, do add your voice to ours.

 TO ENSURE A GOOD MOOD and gentle demeanour in our Chairman, John Hajdu, please check to see if you are paid up for this Association year. Subs were due in May and yet some are still outstanding. John has been spotted eyeing the missing subs list with some disfavour so, if in doubt about your payment, do help to minimize his frowns by checking.

 DO YOU HAVE any news items of interest to our members that you would like the Newsletter to publish? If so, the deadline for contributions to the November Newsletter is Sunday, 21 October.



Teen London: the poster above accompanies the recent film made by Exposure (see page 3 for more details about our October meeting).

Alexandra Palace news and views

from Denis Heathcote



DISMAY WAS FELT by members of the Advisory and Consultative Committees when they learned that the aggregate used to construct the BMX dirt bike track had not been removed from site but moved to form a very large spoil heap on the fairground site, where it was being left for the time being pending a possible new application for a repeat event next year.

Loss of amenity

Much concern was expressed at the failure of Red Bull to clear up the south slope as promised. While members appreciated that recent weather had delayed and impeded grass reseeding, they strongly urged that Red Bull be asked to remove the spoil heap as soon as possible. This has now been done. They urged that any application for another such event (which would be opposed by some who regretted the loss of amenity) be considered strictly on its merits.

Capitulation

On a considerably more positive note, reservations expressed by members on several earlier occasions about proposals for an above ground water storage tank in the cricket club grounds for the intended irrigation system resulted in capitulation by the Building Schools for Future team. The Joint Meeting was informed that funds had, after all, been found to enable the tank to be buried and that the storage containers adjacent to the Clubhouse would be moved and screened.

Dogs on leads

Haringey Council had embarked on a consultation exercise about dog control orders and, although the consultation was about to end, proposals in relation to the Park were brought to the Joint Meeting. Details can be found at <http://www.haringey.gov.uk/dogcontrol> but in essence the order would exclude dogs altogether from some areas including children's facilities, animal enclosures and sporting areas, and allow them only on leads in the Grove, on the Terrace, around the boating lake and children's play area. The restricted areas amount to only 12.5% of the total area of the Park. Members of the Committees broadly agreed this approach but had many reservations about enforcement.

Overnight closure of two Park entrances is proposed for a trial period - the Muswell Hill pedestrian entrance into the Grove, and the Park Avenue North gate into Redston Field - to try to check vandalism and anti-social behaviour.

Complementary hotel

The public consultation on the future of the Palace resulted in about 2000 individual responses which generally supported the main concepts put forward, although support for a hotel was relatively modest. It is, however, considered by the Chief Executive to be a complementary development which will support the other proposals. The text of the very detailed reports prepared for the Alexandra Park and Palace Board can be found on the Haringey website. [Consultation Report Alexandra Palace July 2012; Alexandra Palace and Park Strategic Spatial Masterplan Report July 2012, by Farrells]

Theatre

In July, the APP Board awarded a further contract to Terry Farrell and Partners for further design and architectural services in relation to the theatre refurbishment, opening up the



BBC studios, design development of a hotel, West and Great Hall upgrades and structural and Mechanical and Electrical advice. This is in order to be able to develop the HLF bid with the required detail, and to make progress on critical design solutions for the event spaces and hotel proposals.

Olympic wood sculptures in the boating lake area, The Avenue entrance, Alexandra Park

Exposure: our meeting with Muswell Hill youth

OUR OCTOBER MEETING (see front page) is set to give us an insight into what local teenagers are getting up to in their spare time. 250 Haringey teenagers attend Exposure every year. It is an educational charity located in the Muswell Hill Centre, behind Marks & Spencer.

Here they learn about working in the media and making films like 'Teen London' (*poster pictured on page 2*), a comedy drama commissioned by Mayor Boris (Team London). The film, inspired by the BBC comedy sketch show Little Britain and the Channel 4 sitcom The Inbetweeners, has been described as 'an exciting, edgy and authentic comedy drama inspired and created by urban young people' which portrays 'a world of raging hormones and fitting in; of teen angst and dodgy fashions; of mad crazes, phone apps, chicken and chips and indecipherable Jafrican patois' as well as being 'replete with raw teen humour and...honest social commentary.'

Our meeting on **17 October at North Bank** will feature a presentation, with visual aids, about who Exposure members are and what they do. Copies of their award-winning youth magazine will be available and maybe a glimpse of their award-winning website www.exposure.org.uk and some of their award-winning films and videos. So grab this unique opportunity to find out about those much-maligned (award-winning) teenagers!

Welcome Eden Primary

OUR NEWEST LOCAL SCHOOL, Eden Primary, an independent Jewish school where everyone is welcome, has joined our Association community. We give the school our warmest welcome.

Eden Primary leaders have already been working with our Association for the past two years, both in planning matters when the school was being built, and in traffic management around the school in Creighton Avenue.

Eden Primary will be fully open in September and a zebra crossing is to be installed nearby. Chairman, John Hajdu, is to meet both Eden Primary and Fortismere School leaders in September for further talks on traffic management, parking, picking up and setting down.

A sad farewell to Gerry

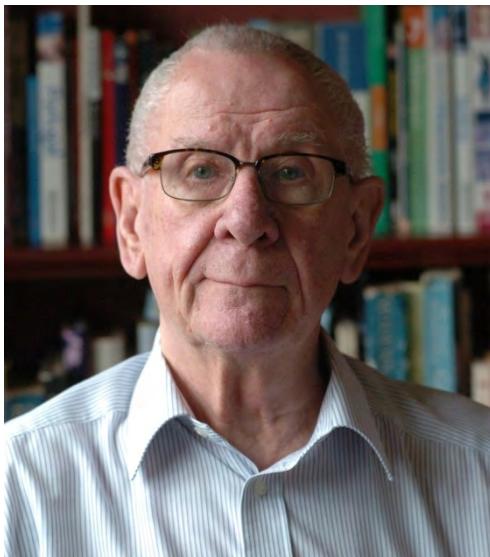
COMMITTEE MEMBERS were deeply saddened at the death of Gerry Saunders (*pictured*), long-standing member and ex-Newsletter Editor, on 3 July. We have sent condolences on behalf of our Association to Anne, his widow, and his family, along with a donation to one of Gerry's favourite charities.

As well as being a hard-working Committee member for our Association for many years, Gerry was responsible for transforming this Newsletter from a mere sheet into its current format, as well as training and mentoring the current Editor to build upon his innovations and achievement.

Before retirement, Gerry was editor and then publisher of Drapers magazine. He was made MBE in the New Year Honours List of 1989 for services to journalism.

Below are some extracts from the tribute written by Anne that appeared on the order of service at Gerry's funeral on 17 July:

Gerry would so much have liked to be good at cricket, as opposed to being just a lifelong fan of the sport. He watched and listened attentively to Test Match commentaries, never allowing himself to celebrate or even predict a favourable outcome till the last ball had been bowled, however good the prospects – a reflection of the seriousness he attached to a win. County loyalty ranked as high as supporting England.



He was not a specially sentimental man. Born and raised in Fulham, he transferred to north London in 1960 and remained there contentedly for the rest of his life.

His family had for decades been tenants of small houses in Turneville Road, dark and damp and cramped most of them. He used to joke that the district had just waited for him to leave before it became smart and expensive; we revisited a couple of years back and he was astonished to see how jaunty and spruced-up the road looked – astonished but not aggrieved that the properties had now found their way into the hands of a rather more prosperous population. The Saunders

had been in the neighbourhood since the 1890s, several households, but now there were none left.

Gerry was a Londoner through and through. He was never remotely interested in moving anywhere else, used, in fact to express surprise that life could be sustained at all in rural districts. ‘However do they manage?’ he would wonder, ‘we haven’t seen a bus for 10 minutes.’

His working life gave him a sound knowledge of the West End’s street-plan and of favoured cafes and pubs, some of them quite dive-ish in character: The Three Posts in Kingly Street, the French, The Red Lion, el Vino’s, that big old theatrical pub in St Martin’s Lane with its velvet-curtained entrance, lately the Café Espana in Old Compton Street. He had the ‘knowledge’.

His nearest approach to mainstream journalism was a couple of years doing a nightshift subbing job on The Yorkshire Post, where he shared the dusty and silent offices with casually marauding mice and the odd rat. This may have cured him of any desire for a permanent place in Fleet Street; at any rate, the theatricality, the social element and sheer pace of activity of the fashion trade, both men’s and women’s, drew and held him for the rest of his working life. It was fun.

He was no authority on fashion; it was the business side that came to absorb him. He was never bored by his job; there were periods of tension and insecurity, but never any reluctance to get down to work. It was a source of stimulus and interest to him that never faded.

We wowed them with flowers



OUR COMMUNITY PROJECT, the planting and maintenance of the Colney Hatch Lane verges (*pictured*), has received a small boost in the form of some rather elegant new signage provided by Sunshine Garden Centre. It notifies passers-by that our Association is responsible for the improvements and also gives our contact details.

Although Sunshine Garden Centre will continue to provide invaluable help and support, regular maintenance is still needed. Can you help? Some watering, light digging, weeding and clearing the beds of rubbish is all that is needed; even one hour of your time on an occasional basis could make a difference. Please contact Brian Livingston (*contact details on page 8*) to discuss what you could do. You are welcome to choose your own level of commitment.

Festival to feature old favourites

THIS YEAR'S MUSWELL HILL FESTIVAL, on Sunday afternoon on 9 September, is to be held in Cherry Tree Wood again and our Association will have a stall. Do come along and visit us.

New features this year include dog agility trials with Association legal eagle, Peter Thompson, acting as whipper-in, and a talent contest on the stage called *Muswell Hill's Got Talent*.

Old favourites will be there too including the very popular little railway run by the North London Society of Model Engineers. Fares for the return journey, through a field of waving grass, have been pegged at £1 and there is an opportunity for responsible adults to act as collector and even to blow the whistle.

Teddy-bears will once again be donning parachutes and jumping off the roof of St James's Church. This lovely event will be held a week before the Festival, on Saturday morning 1 September. So bring along your bravest cuddly toy (the lighter



MH Festival 2011: from left, member Vic Erskine and Committee members, Denise Feeney, John Hajdu, John Crompton and Brian Livingston

they are the better they float) and enjoy Maison Blanc's *dejeuner sur l'herbe*.

If you would like to help the Association effort at the Festival, please contact John Crompton. His details are on page 8.

North Bank hosts new classes

WOULD YOU LIKE to improve your French, practise your writing skills, or learn more about British art? There will be opportunities for all of these this winter at North Bank in Pages Lane, our Association base since January 2009, and a pleasant place to spend a couple of hours meeting people and making new friends.

Workers' Educational Association (WEA) courses start there on 2 October and are available for everyone. Classes are for two hours a week for 20 weeks, afternoon or evening, and the fee is

£150 for 20 sessions (they are free for those on certain benefits).

The WEA is the UK's largest voluntary sector provider of adult education and is supported by central government. It was founded in 1903 by Albert Mansbridge to give educational opportunities to people whose schooling had ended by the age of 14 and a large part of its provision still meets community needs, with classes in, for example, family learning, literacy and numeracy and interpreting.

The Muswell Hill courses are part of

the WEA's general programme, which is organised by professional staff, through local branches with volunteer committees (over 400 branches in the UK). The full range of courses in London - everything from Art and Music to Geography - can be seen in the WEA brochure, available in libraries, and at www.wea.org.uk.

Muswell Hill (formerly Hornsey) Branch is well supported by MHFGA members, as learners and committee members, and would welcome more! The branch has certainly existed before 1981 but do you know for how long? If so, contact the WEA on 8374 1212 or 8440 4008.

Snippets corner

* The Muswell Hill Traders' Group has a new chairman and our Association has already met him to discuss matters of mutual interest such as new shops and the maintenance of the flower troughs at the roundabout. We will forge ever stronger links with the group, a priority in the current economic climate.

* Our Association is aware of several enquiries about recently vacant shop premises in Muswell Hill, such as Blockbusters and Victoria Wine. A careful eye will be kept on the progress of each.

* Chairman, John Hajdu, has been in touch with the new Muswell Hill Waitrose. The shop manager is keen to work with our Association and is to display our Newsletter on its noticeboard. Waitrose is returning to Muswell Hill after an absence of 58 years.

* Member Betty Cairns of Victoria Road has written to our Association say thank you for our help in securing replacements for eight cherry trees removed from her road. The newly planted saplings have been diligently watered by Betty and her neighbours and are now 10 feet tall.

Explore Haringey
by walking the route of
one of its hidden rivers

THE MOSELLE
crossing the borough from west to east

Our Association has made a donation towards the publication of the new brochure published by the Haringey Friends of Parks Forum. It details a walk along the Moselle, Haringey's river, which goes through several of our parks. The brochure is available free through Friends' groups and residents' associations.

MEMBERS' LETTERS



Dodgy dealings and dreadful dumping

What is it about our little cul de sac tucked away behind St Andrew's Church that attracts so many unwelcome 'incidents'? Over the years I have discovered caches of dumped stolen property, dodgy number plates and used condoms.

Until the advent of green recycling, lazy local residents used to drag their garden waste onto our shrubberies. This became so frequent that I took it upon myself to cultivate them so that they did not appear so inviting.

Police in pursuit of a criminal smashed the roof of a neighbour's garage. At least Scotland Yard DID compensate the owner.

Scandal

Then I discovered a man in my garage in the process of loading donated garden tools bound for HMP Wandsworth Tools Shed Project, into his car when I had left the door almost closed while I went for a pee!

I wish I had thought to lock him in! Instead, I insisted he unload his car and return them. He told me, when challenged, that he thought they would 'come in USEFUL'.

The police later informed me that metal thieves patrolled the area, even stealing garden gates, and drain covers.

The latest scandal involved a neighbour's 'gardener', who in the course of a few days managed to dump tonnes of rubble along the service passage through which his assistants carried the materials needed to construct a fence and fill in a small pond.

Bomb site

When I challenged him, the 'boss' said it was to facilitate the carrying of their stuff! When I turned the corner of the passageway, I was HORRIFIED to find they had lifted boxes and shoved rubble underneath, tucked as much as they could under neighbour's fences and completely hidden the paving stones we had laid, to a depth of several inches. There was dust everywhere, and it looked like a bomb site. My poor neighbour was mortified.

Another resident told me that he had seen teams of men arrive regularly with bags of rubble, which he thought they were 'distributing' as the basis of a new path. I even offered to move my car

to facilitate delivery! I had no idea what was going on. The chief guy seemed a pleasant enough chap!

Although the whole incident has cast a dark shadow over what was to be a creative event, we did manage to persuade the perpetrators to bag up the rubble. After they left, and prior to its final removal, my anger gave me the energy to inspect the alley and clear another 20 bags of rubble. They had even distributed the contents of the pond along the fences...that could have actually remained to provide enrichment to the new soil!

I learned from the council when discussing another matter, that it is not only the cost of disposing of rubbish by contractors that deters them from disposing of it legally, but the cost of the licence to do so.

So, here I am again with a WARNING endorsed by our friendly community police who happened to call by and heard the sorry tale: should you engage firms you do not ALREADY KNOW AND TRUST, make sure you take their vehicle registration numbers. If suspicious about fly tipping, inform the council who may then be able to trace the culprits.

Off to court

Should the rubbish be traced to you, as happened recently to a Coronation Street actress who paid a man to take some rubbish away that was found illegally tipped and included a script identifying her, you may be taken to court and fined.

On a happier note, a big THANK YOU to everyone who supported our National Gardens Scheme events this summer, come torrential rain or shine.

I have discovered some lovely new local gardens that will open next year to delight you, and we have some new projects underway too. We look forward to welcoming you .

**Susan Bennett
St Regis Close**

Community deeds

Congratulations to MHFGA for your determined work to enhance the tree-pits/verges on Colney Hatch Lane! I am coming to you to ask for your advice on how to carry on the good work further down. My attempts to improve the tree-pits between Pages Lane and Autolink car showroom by

adding compost, bulbs and grass seed have proved quite inadequate, because the cars parking in the parking bays between them keep driving over them.

What is needed is fencing, or barrier round the edges, perhaps like the kind you have used, but a bit taller - a lot more compost and more bulbs and grass seed. These tree-pits are too small to allow for more elaborate planting. This is beyond my capacity as an individual as work on this scale would have to involve the Council and hopefully some funding could be found.

Julia Edwards

Colney Hatch Lane

(Editor's note: Chairman, John Hajdu, has been in touch with Julia and they are discussing various options.)



Save the green from developers

I have been very disappointed and frustrated by the low level of response I received about the threatening closure of the Bowling Club in Muswell Hill (pictured above). Despite my efforts to invite members of the public, as well other locals and neighbours, only one or two timidly came round, occasionally, on a Friday evening, the only time now people running the Club make an appearance themselves.

Where have the glorious times of MHBC gone?

Jacqueline Servat

Queen's Avenue

(Editor's note: if you would like to support Jacqueline in her bid to turn around the fortunes of this club and preserve the beautiful green space it occupies, please see the back page for her contact details.)

WANTED!

Your Editor wants your letters for this page. Post, email or phone them through and make your voice heard! Newsletter office contact details are on the back page.

Planning matters (junior)

your brief glimpse at local planning affairs
while we continue our search for an
Association Planning Officer



ALTHOUGH KEEN to offer you a comprehensive update on all the planning applications in our area and our responses to them as we have always done, our junior column, of necessity, concentrates mainly on 85 Woodside Avenue. (*See the Bulletin Board on page 2 for comments on Association Planning Officer recruitment.*)

The following extract is taken from a planning objection, Ref HGY/2012/1425, that was sent to Haringey and copied to our Association by members Peter and Ros Kraushar of Lauradale Road:

We live directly behind the planned development and wish to oppose it, yet again!

We appreciate that there was some consultation this time and the plan is for only two houses, but it is clear that the total footprint and development mass would be little different from the previous plan. They are not cottages at all! The Appeal Inspector is worth quoting. 'The houses would form a substantial mass of development. Compared to the structures that currently occupy the site, their overall bulk and positioning means that they would be far more prominent from other areas of Significant Local Open Land (SLOL)...the dwellings would give the site a more built-up appearance. This would detract from the open character of the SLOL and the area as a whole.' Surely the Council must agree that the current plan is against its own SLOL criteria!

As far as our house is concerned, we are worried by the thought of 14 months of building work including two deep excavations; our house developed cracks for the first time when 87 Woodside Avenue was excavated, so the effect of two excavations nearby is a real worry. We would also have a much higher building at the end of our garden than what there is there now and our privacy is bound to be affected

Finally, we continue to be amazed that your Highways/Transportation Department seems so happy about access! The Appeal Inspector just said, 'It is clear that access

to the site is less than ideal'. He also mentioned 'the unsatisfactory nature of the access', but took note of the Transportation views; we believe that a poll would show almost 100% local opposition to them.

Association objection

Our objection to this planning application included these points:

1. The site forms part of the area designated as SLOL and in dismissing the appeal on the previous application HGY/2011/0474 the Planning Inspector judged that the scheme did not complement the character of this local area as is required by the policy for such sites. We consider that this present application similarly fails to meet the requirement of this policy.

2. The proposed large houses occupy a large proportion of the site, leaving very little green open space around the buildings and little space for planting of trees. The proposed houses will be very prominent and adversely affect the outlook and amenities of the occupants of properties in Lauradale Road. Number 12 Lauradale Rd will be particularly affected.

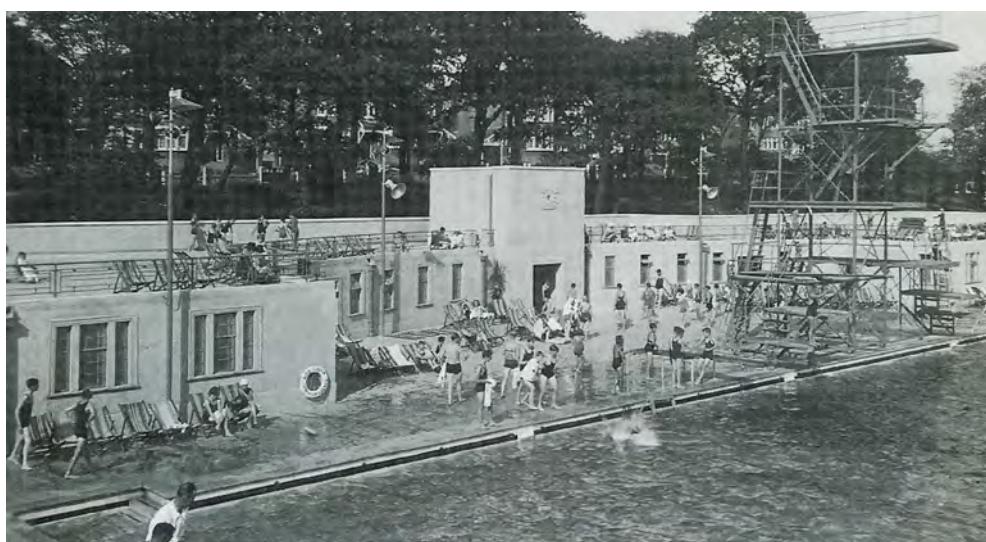
3. The unsuitability of the access lane from Woodside Avenue remains a cause for serious concern with its inherent conflict between pedestrians and vehicles, particularly at opening and closing time of Tetherdown School. The Planning Inspector described it as 'far from ideal'.

Land in Fortis Green

Our objection additionally covered the application regarding the land at the rear of Lynton Grange and the land at the rear of Priory Grange in Fortis Green. Points made included that the demolition of the garages of these blocks of flats and the loss of parking spaces would add to the serious parking problem in nearby roads, especially Eastern Road and Western Road.

We mentioned the adverse effect on the outlook from several houses and gardens and, in addition, the fact that the sites are in a Conservation Area and the Council's policy is that there is a presumption against development on such backland sites .

Durnsford Road Lido – a dip down Memory Lane



SEVERAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS have been going misty eyed with nostalgia since this photo of Durnsford Lido, now Sunshine Garden Centre, was circulated among them. Memories ranged from childhood swims to visiting with own children in tow.

The lido cost £26,411 and opened in August 1934. The 600,000 gallons were filled by road tanker from an artesian well in Broomfield Road after the Metropolitan Water Board refused to provide the water to Wood Green Council. It was designed by E.P. Mawson and closed for good in 1988.

If you have any Durnsford Road Lido stories to tell, send them in to the Newsletter; contact details are on page 8.

MUSWELL HILL & FORTIS GREEN ASSOCIATION

(affiliated to the Haringey Federation of Residents' Associations)

OTHER PEOPLE'S EVENTS

ALEXANDRA PALACE ORGAN CONCERTS: the next concert is on WEDNESDAY 5 SEPTEMBER at 7.30pm and features John Pryor and Richard Dawson of Keble College: Ancient and Modern. The programme will include music by Bach, Walton, Saint-Saens and others. On TUESDAY 30 OCTOBER at 7.30pm, a concert with the Royal College of Music Chamber Orchestra and organ will take place. The soloist is David Aprahamian Liddle and the music includes works by Mozart and Arne. Admission for all concerts is £10, Friends £7 and students free. See www.allypallyorgan.org.uk for more information.

FRIENDS OF QUEEN'S WOOD: on SUNDAY 9 SEPTEMBER from 12 noon to 5pm there is an open day and plant sale at the prize-winning organic garden behind The Lodge café. On SATURDAY 29 SEPTEMBER at 2.30pm, there will be a tree walk, *Looking at the Health of Trees*, led by Iain Loasby, local coppice worker and FQW committee member. Meet at The Lodge off Muswell Hill Road. On SUNDAYS 30 SEPTEMBER and 28 OCTOBER, working groups will meet from 10.30am to 12.30pm. Tools are provided but bring protective gloves. Meet at The Lodge. Ring Lucy Roots on 8883 8875 for more information or visit the Friends' website. The address is www.fqw.org.uk/events/

MUSWELL HILL & DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY: the next outing is to Beaulieu House, Gardens and National Motor Museum, Hampshire on SATURDAY 15 SEPTEMBER. Depart from North Bank, Pages Lane. Contact Kit Greveson on 8340 0557 or email her on n10gardeners@googlemail.com to book your place.

MUSWELL HILL FRIENDS OF THE EARTH: the group meets at 7.30pm on the second Tuesday of every month at the Friends Meeting House, Church Crescent, N10 3NE. For more details contact Tim Root on tim@timroot.net or call him on 8340 7764 or 07726 793265.

MUSWELL & HIGHGATE PENSIONERS' ACTION GROUP: Members of the group meet regularly at Hilldene Court, 11 Alexandra Park Road, in the lounge on the first floor. A lift is available. Phone Janet Shapiro on 8883 9571 or email her at janet.rmshapiro@btopenworld.com for more details.

NORTH BANK: weekly exercise classes for the over 60s take place in the Garden Room on FRIDAYS. The Fitness Plus class is from 10.30-11.15am and the General Fitness class is at 11.45-12.30pm. Sessions are £2. For more information phone David Restarick on 8365 2466 or email community@mcmc.org.uk

MET POLICE DROP-IN SURGERIES: our local Safer Neighbourhood Team's next drop-in surgeries take place on THURSDAY 20 SEPTEMBER from 6-6.30pm in Muswell Hill Library, WEDNESDAY 10 OCTOBER from 6-6.30pm also in Muswell Hill Library and on WEDNESDAY 24 OCTOBER from 4-4.30pm in Jenny's Restaurant on Muswell Hill Broadway.