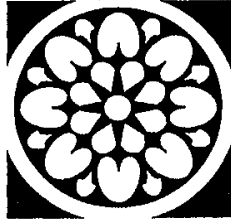


NETHERHALL

NEIGHBOURHOOD

ASSOCIATION



Summer 2004 - No 65

Newsletter

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

For those of you who missed the AGM in February I am the privileged new occupier of the NNA Chair. I have been involved with the Association since its inception in various guises but never imagined I would become chair, following as I do such an illustrious line of predecessors. I must pass on all our appreciation and gratitude to outgoing chair Rita Cruise O'Brien for all her hard work and firm stewardship over the last three years. Rita did a fine job rejuvenating the committee and this fresh blood is now driving the Association forward for the next generation of neighbours.

There have already been three very successful events this year, as some of you have already had the pleasure of experiencing. A brilliant talk on Public Enquiries by Barrie McKay, Wine Tasting generously staged by Linda Torbica and a marvellous Danish evening hosted by Danish YMCA manager Palle Pederson. All these events took place right in the heart of our neighbourhood - within easy, hassle-free, walking distance. Ideas for these activities emanate from a vibrant new NNA Membership Committee comprising Rita Cruise O'Brien, Anthony Coles, Jenny White and Lilly Sahni. More local events are planned over the coming months - see inside for when, where and how to book - catering for a variety of tastes but all with the fundamental aim of bringing our community closer together. Inside you'll also find lots of information on other items of interest for young and old.

Whilst enjoying the social side we must remain vigilant of more serious issues likely to impact on our area. We are fortunate to have evergreen Mayer Hillman continuing to keep an eye on Traffic and Planning issues. Soon we may also need to pay attention to the new Licensing Act

likely to become effective around autumn 2004, when the onus will be on local organisations such as ours to help Camden monitor licence applications.

How's your knowledge of Local History? Anthony Coles has done a wonderful piece on Ames House and Saint Thomas More Church. Let's hope this stimulates some of you out there to send us your contributions to what we hope will become a regular feature, drawing on the wealth of knowledge and experiences of our more mature, long-standing neighbours.

Well, I look forward to meeting ever more of you over the next few months during what promises to be an exciting and all too short year in the Chair for me.

Stuart Houghton

HEIDI HANDS OVER

Heidi Hillman produced and edited this newsletter for the past sixteen years. Yes, sixteen years. Any newsletter is the lifeblood of a voluntary organisation such as ours. It binds the members together, informs, helps, campaigns and entertains. But this hasn't been just any newsletter, it has been an excellent newsletter.

Over the years, at each AGM, Heidi has sat at the back and quietly acknowledged the applause. Thanks Heidi. Although it might not seem enough, one word of thanks after the thousands of words and hundreds of pages you've edited and agonised over, it is heartfelt, from a community that knows it would not even be a community without all you've done for us. Thanks Heidi.

Stuart Houghton

NNA WHO's WHO - 2004

OFFICERS		
Chair	Stuart Houghton	7435 6781
Hon. Secretary	Lily Sahni	7794 5670
Hon. Treasurer	Anthony Coles	7431 3414
Membership Sec.	Jenny White	7794 5886
CONTACTS		
Events Co-ordinator	Rita Cruise O'Brien	7794 2548
Good Neighbours	Miriam Polunin	7794 4692
Legal Advisor	Barrie McKay	7431 2417
Newsletter (>2005)	Susanne Lawrence	7435 4140
Planning, Traffic etc	Mayer Hillman	7794 9661
Police Liaison	Sara Jane Ambrose	
Tree Warden	Noel Brock	7433 3367
Well & Wise	Pat Whitehouse	7435 0798

TRADESMEN LIST UPDATE

Please note that **George Mitsakov**, was incorrectly listed. The entry should read 'High-class building works, including tiling, renovating, plastering, painting and paving' (Tel: 020 8958 1795, Mobile: 07966 593 857).

Steve Newby (specialist in clearing blocked drains) is an addition to the list. (Tel: 020 8989 2525, Mobile 079661 44082 or Drains UK 0800 917 0337).

M Ball & Sons (Builders) have been withdrawn from the list.

Please let us have your recommendations and inform us if you have been dissatisfied with anyone on the list. Please telephone Miriam Polunin or Jenny White.

REPORTS ON EVENTS

Annual General Meeting - For those of you who were not able to make the meeting this year, I announced that I was stepping down as Chair and looking forward to having Stuart Houghton replace me in that role. Mayer Hillman approached me over three years ago to ask if I would be prepared to stand as chairman. Mayer had been trying to find a successor for some time. I saw my remit as bringing in new faces onto the Executive Committee to renew the vigour of the organisation. Three years on, I feel that I have more or less completed that task.

The agenda of Spring and Summer activities bears witness to new ideas and new strength in Executive roles in the organisation. We have for years been a campaigning Association on traffic calming and the school run congestion. As of 2004, Camden have done a terrific job of taking action in both areas. We look forward, therefore, to making more effort to get to know each other and the many talents in our local community. I hope you will support all the events to come and look forward to seeing you there.

Our membership numbers are slightly down, probably largely because of changes in demographic patterns which have led to more rental accommodation with working couples, who don't seem to 'think neighbourhood.' But thanks to Anthony Coles we have kept the books balanced and still have a surplus. For many of our social occasions, donations have been made, for which we have been grateful.

Terry Weston for the Hampstead Police spoke about security at the February AGM and our councillors, Andrew Mennear and Martin Davies, about drug-related crime and the less fortunate members of the community and the elderly. We are always grateful that they come to speak to us.

With my good wishes to all the new officers on the Executive and all the members who continue to support us. It is a truly wonderful thing that the NNA lives on stronger than ever, a proud heritage to its founders - Pat Whitehouse and Mayer & Heidi Hillman.

Rita Cruise O'Brien

Post Offices Campaign

Many thanks to those of you who wrote to the Post Office, or attended the meeting at Hampstead Town Hall in January, to protest against the closure of four local post offices. Regrettably, only one branch was reprieved (South End Green) and Belsize Park is still under threat. Predictably, the queues at the Swiss Cottage branch are even longer than before and – amazingly – no provision has been made for extra resources. If you have to queue outside in the rain, please complain to Customer Care (Doxford Contact Centre, 2 Admiral Way, Doxford International Business Park, Sunderland SR3 3XW, tel 0191 512 7424) so we keep the pressure on them to increase the staffing levels.

Jenny White

The Role of the Public Enquiry - This talk by Barrie McKay took place in a lovely room at Netherhall House and we were particularly grateful to Peter Brown, the Director, who organised it for us. It was great to have so many residents and members of staff on hand. In his role as a lawyer in the Treasury Solicitors' Office he has defended the government in several high profile Public Enquiries including most recently the Hutton Enquiry. The role of the solicitors in the Treasury is to prepare government witnesses for their appearance at an enquiry. Barrie has been



a Member of the NNA Executive for ten years and for the last five chaired the Hampstead Working Party between the police and the community.

At least two neighbour members who attended had also worked on public enquiries so it was fascinating to share insider views on whether or not Public Enquiries served their intended function in dealing with major issues of public service wrong doing or mismanagement. The Hutton Enquiry was, of course, very much the top of people's agenda as it had just reported before the talk in February. A lively and informed discussion and debate took place. We would like to thank Barrie for agreeing to lead this. And to those who took part and showed their special knowledge, we would wish that we could organise more well informed informal talks of this type in our neighbourhood. Do let us know.

Rita Cruise O'Brien

Wine Tasting - In March, a delightful evening was held - all thanks to the generosity of neighbour Linda Torbica of Vintrio (www.paternowines.com) who provided twelve



still wines and one sparkling for us to try along with extensive tasting notes and a fund of good stories, all supplemented with bons mots from neighbour Penny Drinkwater of the Circle of Wine Writers. Thank you to all who attended and for your kind donations which raised £200 towards the work of our local

Marie Curie Hospice in Lyndhurst Gardens.
Anthony Coles

Danish Evening - Another wonderful evening, this one organised by Jenny White and all thanks to Palle Pedersen, the manager, and his colleagues at the Danish YMCA where 30 of us members and neighbours enjoyed an evening of Danish hospitality and a superb smørbrød of typical Danish foods and drinks and learnt a little more about Denmark. And a great hint that we would be welcome again next year! **Anthony Coles**



POLICE LIAISON

Camden now has its own website www.met.police.uk/camden/camstats set up and running for crime statistics in Camden. The statistics can be viewed for each crime group borough-wide and by local ward. Ours is Froggnal and Fitzjohns. This could be a national first for Camden!

Stuart Houghton

CRIMESTOPPERS

With this newsletter you should find enclosed a joint leaflet from the Metropolitan Police, Camden and London Crimestoppers (Tel: 0800 555 111) entitled *You don't have to go to extremes* and a car sticker *There is nothing of value in this vehicle*. Please help Camden become a vehicle crime free area.

Sara Jane Ambrose

ROYAL FREE MUSIC SOCIETY

We are a group of singers who meet in the Peter Samuel Hall (in the Royal Free Hospital), every Thursday at 6:30pm for rehearsals. We are a varied group who range from experienced to relative beginners. Our goal is to produce four high quality concerts per year (two of them with the Hampstead Sinfonietta) in a relaxed atmosphere for the local population.

If you are enthusiastic, willing to have a bash, looking to improve your singing abilities or just interested in singing high quality music, then you are probably what we're looking for. Soprano, Alto, Tenor or Bass, or somewhere in between, all are welcome. If you're not sure what you are, find your range when you come along. We are a friendly group who will support anybody willing to invest the time and effort - we don't use an audition process to join. We sing mainly classical music - two main concerts with orchestra and two concerts comprising selections of smaller/lighter works each year. Some of our past concerts have included Elgar's *The Music Makers*, Hayden's *Imperial "Nelson" Mass*, Faure's *Requiem*, Vivaldi's *Gloria*, Handel's *Messiah* and Rutter's *Magnificat*. To join us, please email to windy999@lineone.net, or register via our website at www.rfms.org or come along to one of our rehearsals at 6:30pm on Thursdays at the Royal Free Hospital (Peter Samuel Hall) or contact me on 020 7435 6781 .

Stuart Houghton

TRAFFIC AND PARKING

The School Travel Consultation Steering Group: Since the last newsletter, I have attended two further meetings of this Group. Camden is very efficiently proceeding with implementing the policy it adopted last year - with all party support - to reduce the impact of the school run traffic. All the schools in our area are required to prepare 'green travel plans' before they can obtain the concessionary vouchers which parents can use when parking. The first 20% cut in these vouchers will be made in September. Anyone wishing to have more detailed information, can contact me direct or preferably, speak to Simon Bishop at Camden on 020 7974 5965.

Members may be interested to note that I was co-opted onto **Camden's Road Safety Scrutiny Panel.**

Among our recommendations, all of which have been accepted by the full Council, is that there should be a pilot area for the introduction of a 20 mph speed limit.

The Hampstead/Belsize Area is now being examined by Officers for this purpose.
Mayer Hillman



PLANNING & CONSERVATION

Netherhall Gardens cul-de-sac:

Unfortunately no one at Camden appears to wish to give the completion of the improvements a high priority. I am attempting to arrange a meeting with one of the Officers to take the matter further.



Planning applications: Fortunately there have been very few applications to Camden for permission to alter buildings in our area in the last few months. One matter of note is, however, that Camden has made a decision to take enforcement action against a building owner in Maresfield Gardens who constructed several unsightly rooflights on his top floor without planning permission. Following complaints, he had to apply for retrospective planning permission which was turned down. He is now appealing to the Secretary of State against Camden's decision.

I have been asked to let members know about the **Hampstead Conservation Area Advisory Committee (HCAAC)** on which I serve on behalf of the NNA. A Conservation Area is defined by Statute as '...an area of special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which should be preserved or enhanced' by encouraging high standards of building and design. This definition is wide enough to allow for comment on everything from traffic management and the revision of the licensing laws to the totality of land use policies as expressed in a local authority's Unitary Development Plan, a document with a 10-year gestation period. Conservation Area Advisory Committees are selected to represent residents' associations and other bodies, such as the Royal Town Planning Institute and the Royal Institute of British Architects. The actual contribution of the dedicated members, some of whom are architects and planners, is limited only by the time they are prepared or able to give, their resources, enthusiasm, and of course their professional expertise.

Our neighbourhood, Fitzjohns/Netherhall, was designated as a Conservation Area by Camden Council about 20 years ago after the NNA had made representations requesting this status in order to protect the high quality of our Victorian and Edwardian buildings. It now forms part of the Hampstead Conservation Area. With the co-operation of Camden's Planning Department, the HCAAC members examine in detail the drawings submitted for planning permission and comment on about 500 applications each year in the Hampstead, Redington/Frognaal, Fitzjohns/Netherhall and South Hill Park Conservation Areas. Unfortunately, the design of the large stock of old buildings in the area is still not universally admired, but no one can deny the quality of its workmanship and the evident pride displayed by the craftsmen who built them. Our Conservation Area has in the past suffered from a rash of roof conversions and extensions, some of particularly appalling design. One often wishes that more discrimination were exercised by building owners and property developers. Incidentally, Camden does not provide any financial support, and the HCAAC relies on annual donations from the residents' associations to pay for the administrative costs of its work.



Mayer Hillman

NNA NOTICEBOARD

Don't forget to look at the NNA noticeboard outside of 7a Netherhall Gardens (just opposite the junction with Nutley Terrace). It contains information not only about the NNA but also on local events, such as those at Burgh House in Hampstead.

If you wish to submit a notice on LOCAL matters or events, please put it through the letterbox of 7a Netherhall Gardens with a short note and your name and telephone number.

WELL and WISE

Greetings to all over 50's. As you may know I am a Networker for the Well and Wise group in Camden and my job is to let you know the latest news regarding services and events available to our age group, and to encourage you to ring our information line whenever you have a problem to solve or a need to fulfil. There are so many good, fun events taking place in Camden every day of the week, somewhere or other. For example:

On **Mondays** you can go *Ballroom and Latin American dancing* at Henderson Court, Fitzjohn's Avenue (020 7794 6558), take *Music and Movement* at Kingsgate Resource Centre in NW6 (020 7624 8818), enjoy an *Art Class* at the Charlie Ratchford Centre in NW1 (020 7485 2968) or talk *Gardening* at Millman Street Centre in WC1 (020 7405 2493).



On **Tuesday** you can play *Bingo* at Highgate Newtown Scheme (020 7281 3176) or join the *Garden Club* at Kentish Town City Farm (020 7916 5420) or from Tuesday to Friday get your hair done, very reasonably at Kingsgate Resource Centre in NW6 (020 7624 8818).



On **Wednesday** you can get artistic with *Pottery* at the Charlie Ratchford Centre in NW1 (020 7485 2968) or take a *Dance Class* at Castlehaven Community Centre in NW1 (020 7692 2238) or enjoy more *Art* at Millman Street Centre in WC1 (020 7405 2493).

On **Thursday** you can join in with *Reminiscence through Drama* at the Highgate Newtown Scheme (020 7281 3176) or join the *Beginners Bridge Class* at Castlehaven Community Centre in NW1 (020 7692 2238).

On **Friday** you can go *Swimming* at the Millman Street Centre (020 7405 2493) or do more *Pottery* at the Charlie Ratchford Centre in NW1 (020 7485 2968).



I have given the telephone numbers of the centres so you can ring to find out more and to obtain instructions on how to get there or you can ring the **Well and Wise Information Line** (020 7435 0798). So no excuses now, there is lots to get involved with and to enjoy; new friends to make and new interests to take up. Well and Wise held a very interesting conference on Fall Prevention. An alarming statistic is that 1 in 3 older people in the community fall each year! The message is that you don't ignore a fall. It is not fair to blame yourself or to 'feel silly'. There might have been a reason for your fall and you might fall again if you fail to correct something. Please ring me (Tel: 020 7435 0798) if I can be of help with this or anything else.

You will find enclosed the updated version of the Careline Community Alarm Service leaflet. If you do not need it yourself, you might like to hand it on to someone who would find it interesting. Have a great summer. Join in with NNA activities if you can - meet your neighbours, keep in touch. Stay Well - stay Wise.

Best wishes

Pat Whitehouse

GOOD NEIGHBOURS

Services for the over 60's - When you can bring yourself to admit you are 60, you open the door to a mass of free opportunities and services laid on by so many organisations: courses, trips, help with household matters. Age Concern's Kings Cross office at 11 St.Chad's Street (Tel: 020 7837 3777) is a good place to explore what's on offer: and lots of it is not means-tested. To take just a few examples, there is free computer training concentrating on email and web access; people who are coping with a long-term health condition can go on a new kind of NHS course to improve their expertise in managing it effectively (contact Alex Brookes on 020 8201 4738). There are also support groups for people who are carers within their household.

Miriam Polunin

DEVOTED TO LIFE WALKS

London's *Devoted to Life Walks* organised by the Marie Curie Cancer Care provide a great family day out, making the most of the superb locations right on your doorstep along with plenty of opportunities to stop for refreshments and take in local sights. Their next walk is on **Sunday 27 June** is over Hampstead Heath which combines flat and hilly conditions providing both diverse habitats and stunning views of London. On **Sunday 05 September** their *Flora Light Challenge* is an event for women of all ages, fit or not so fit in Hyde Park, London. Also in September (date to be arranged) you can abseil from the Royal Free Hospital tower with spectacular panoramic views of London and an adrenalin rush you're unlikely to forget in a hurry!



For more details and a registration form, please contact Andy Pickering or Hannah

Windross at the Marie Curie Hospice, 11 Lynhurst Gardens, London NW3 5NS (Tel: 07884 26870 or 0 2 0 7 8 5 3 3 4 4 2) o r www.mariecurie.org.uk/devotedtolifewalks

Licensing Reform

In March 2004, Camden Council circulated details of the Licensing Reform proposals to Resident and Tenants associations within the borough. Although the Licensing Act has already been passed, implementation of the new regime isn't likely to begin until later this year when the government is to provide Guidance on what local authorities can and cannot do in the new licensing regime. These details were circulated to those members who provided an email on their membership form.

Basically The Licensing Act 2003 reforms the current alcohol, entertainment and late night refreshment licensing schemes into a single licensing system to be managed by local authorities. It also greatly reduces the amount of 'red-tape' on those applying for a licence who can now assume it will be automatically granted for the life of the premises unless an objection is made by an 'interested party' (for example a resident or business) or a 'responsible authority' (for example the police or fire authority) within certain limited and defined criteria (for example Prevention of crime and disorder; Public safety; Prevention of public nuisance or Protection of children from harm). While the introduction of the Act follows from the Labour Party's Election manifesto, there has been enormous amount of concern about the implications. In the following article **Miriam Polunin** writes about her concerns over the new Licensing Act. *'You may not feel particularly interested in the new system of licensing premises to sell alcohol that is due to begin this autumn. I didn't either, until I became intrigued by Camden Council's extreme opposition to the new proposals. I've never seen a council, and a Labour-controlled one at that, so openly fighting a government plan. And they have not been struggling alone: the vast majority of the UK's local authorities, of all political colours, were objecting too. But they've lost, and the result leaves us, yes, you and me, personally, individually and without pay, responsible for work that up to now has been done by magistrate courts and councillors with secretarial allowances. That work will be to monitor applications for licences to sell alcohol, and the applicants' plans. Because while the Council in theory will be granting or refusing licences, the new law says that licences will be granted almost automatically unless local people - not the council - object. And under the new law, those licences may include permission for 24 hour opening or noisy events. And licences, which have always been reviewed yearly, will now only be reconsidered if local people complain.*



A flood of applications for 24 hour and other varied licences is expected in our area, with O₂ licensees already testing the water with an application to keep open for over 2000 people nightly during the football championship. Don't feel this will only affect Finchley Road residents: our streets provide the only convenient free parking for those using Finchley Road's many pubs and bars. Nor will applicants have to notify people apart from immediate neighbours.

Why is the law changing? The government argues that deregulated drinking will change Britain's binge drinking culture to a more relaxed continental one. They hope that 24-hour opening will stop the present 'rush hour' of noise and sometimes violence as large numbers of people leave bars at the same time. Does this seem reasonable to you? I find it hard to judge, but like Camden council, I am anxious about unexpected consequences. For example, the change must mean more inebriated people leaving bars in the early hours, when resulting noise is more disturbing as most people are in bed. More people leaving bars at times when public transport is closed must increase car parking and late night engine revving in nearby residential streets. And driving after drinking? Increasing the number of night time police sirens? Pushing up the cost of policing which is already a sizeable part of our council tax? The police are also worried: in a pilot project, drunken violence did not fall, but was spread throughout the night.

The council is warning community groups like ours to prepare for our new task. This autumn, residents will be 'trained' for our new role by being sent notification of applications in our area, with information about how to object. For example, warns Camden, the new system allows objections to applications only if they concern the following reasons: to prevent crime and disorder, for public safety, to prevent public nuisance and to protect children from harm. But when the new system takes over completely next summer, it will be up to us to spot applications, judge their merits and rustle up local support when objection seems justified. Killjoys? Only where a successful application would kill our residents' joy in quiet nights.

Miriam Polunin

This issue of the newsletter was produced and edited by Anthony Coles (Hon. Treasurer) and printed by Anil Thapen of Kall Kwik Swiss Cottage, 3 Harben Parade, Finchley Road, London NW3 6JP (Tel: 020 7586 9117 / www.swisscottage.kallkwik.co.uk)

HISTORICAL NOTES

Goodbye to Ames House: Ames House was founded at the end of the 19th century at a time when young girls were beginning to move into London for work. It was one of the earliest organisations to provide this kind of secure, supportive accommodation for young women until they found their feet in London. The first Ames House was built on leasehold land in Mortimer Street W1. It began as a restaurant and when the hostel was completed, accommodated 65 girls.



The caring start to living in London

The freehold of the present Ames House at 26 Netherhall Gardens was purchased in the 1960's from the proceeds of the sale of the remaining 22 years lease of the Mortimer Street property. From the beginning the project was funded by Mr Ames, a client of George Dashwood, a banker. The Dashwood family have always been responsible for the management of Ames House, and members of the family along with local residents, including our first NNA chairperson, Pat Whitehouse, continued to serve on the management committee until June 1997. As chair, Pat then took Ames House into a merger with Hyelm (the hall of residence at the top of Fitzjohn's Avenue), and from that time she has served on the Hyelm Board of Management. Recently, in order to continue to provide even more accommodation for students and essential workers in London, the sale of the Netherhall property realised considerable funding for two new projects near to the City of London.

With the sale of Ames House, we also say goodbye to the house manager **Barbara Haley** who has moved back to Bognor. Barbara was a great supporter of NNA events, including keeping up the tradition of offering Ames House for NNA functions. She and Ames House will be greatly missed.

Pat Whitehouse

Saint Thomas More Church: On 21 July 1935 the Superior of St Mary's Convent in Fitzjohn's Avenue wrote a letter to neighbouring parish priests "On Sundays for some years various maids from houses round here have been coming to Mass in our chapel because the times at other locations were not possible for them. Now the numbers have grown enormously so that on Sundays we get between 40 and 50 people, not only maids but others too and one Sunday counted 8 men! Our chapel is so small it does seem to show a need for another church in the area."

So the hunt was on to find a site not burdened with restrictions and in March 1938 the De Lazlo's Garden Studio at 3 Fitzjohn's Avenue came onto the market. Philip De Lazlo had been a celebrated portrait painter, and his property, consisting of one and half acres, included an extensive house, a well lit lofty studio, garages, a large garden containing tennis court. The house itself was sold onto the Sisters of Holy Cross, a nursing order of Switzerland as their first foundation in England. Four sisters took up residence and managed an international hostel for girls until they returned to Switzerland in 1984.



With the proceeds from the sale of the house work began on converting the studio into a church, opening onto Maresfield Gardens, to accommodate about 50 people which was ready on 29 September 1938. Its dedication to St Thomas More was possibly at the instigation of a neighbour, Richard Sullivan, who had been one of the group that went to Rome in 1934 to petition the Pope for the canonisation of Thomas More. In a live BBC Radio Broadcast Mass the church was described: 'The church lies in a small turning, between two long, tree-lined avenues, dwarfed by the tall old houses, on both sides. It is in keeping with Hampstead. It is the sort of building you would expect in the country; even though a few buildings separate it from London's busiest and noisiest roads, all is quiet here; just like in the country. We love it.' Both the property and grounds suffered bomb damage in 1943 and with increasing attendance, it was decided to extend the studio church in 1952. However even this proved too small and in June 1967 work started on the present modern church which was ready in time for Midnight Mass on Christmas Day 1968. The old church was then converted into a social centre for the parish.

Further information may be found in the booklet (available from the church) - *The Making of a Parish, a celebration of 60 Years* written by Canon Peter Philips and the parish priest Fr Ian Dickie

Anthony Coles

SUMMER EVENTS

FRIDAY 23 JULY : 6.30 PM - Summer Reception at the Freud Museum

Thanks to Michael Molnar, the acting director, for offering the Freud Museum (20 Maresfield Gardens) as the location for our NNA summer evening reception. Michael, together with the care-taking staff Alex, Francisco and Gina look forward to welcoming NNA members and their friends.

The Freud Museum is in its 18th year and to date has attracted a quarter of a million visitors. Michael is planning to renovate the interior so as to offer visitors an enhanced experience of Freud's unique working environment. To do this he wishes to restore the staircase and landing to their authentic appearance in 1938 when Freud lived there and is appealing for funding to raise the £5,000 required. Matching funding has been promised which will double the value of any contributions they can raise.

Tickets for this event will cost £3 (in advance or on the door) and any surplus will be passed on to the Freud Museum to aid their appeal. A great evening to meet with neighbours and friends and to help a local attraction.

SATURDAY 28 AUGUST - 7.30 pm - Picnic and Music On A Summer Evening

Fun, fireworks and flag-waving are the hallmarks of the 'Last Night' of the Kenwood Proms with a programme of music that includes Handel's *Zadok the Priest*, Elgars's *Pomp and Circumstance* and of course *Jerusalem* and *Rule Britannia*. The concert will also introduce the remarkable young Welsh mezzo soprano, Katherine Jenkins.



We have an allocation of Promenade tickets for this event which cost £17 (group discount price) and are available on a first come, first served basis. For the picnic Jenny White will be co-ordinating the provision of food and drink (and your contributions towards them) and Rita Cruise O'Brien has kindly offered to transport everything to the venue.

SUMMER

AUTUMN EVENTS

MONDAY 11 OCTOBER - 7.30 PM : How We Can Save The Planet - A talk by Dr Mayer Hillman

We are delighted that Peter Brown the director of Netherhall House has opened this Netherhall House event to include members of the NNA. (Mayer was a founder member of the NNA and for many year its chairman. On behalf of the NNA he looks after planning, conservation, traffic and parking matters in our area.)

'For thirty years, Mayer Hillman has been busily turning conventional political thinking on its head ... he has come up with solutions that are hard to dismiss' comments the Guardian about the author and his recently published book *How We Can Save The Planet* (Penguin £7.99).



For Mayer, climate change is the single biggest problem that humankind has ever had to face. Yet politicians cannot agree a framework for tackling it effectively, and meanwhile we continue with lifestyles that are way beyond the planet's limits. In his book Mayer explains the real issues we should focus on: what the government is doing, what role technology can play and, above all, why we must act *now* to protect our planet for later generations. Challenging, stimulating and practical are just some of the comments on Mayer's book and his forthcoming talk will no doubt prove to be all three.



FRIDAY 10 DECEMBER - 7.30 pm Indian Culinary Delights

Lilly Sahni opens her house for an evening of Indian delights of colour, texture and scents of oriental silks and spices. Tickets cost £10 and proceeds will go to a local charity

AUTUMN