

Suburb's almost ready for its 100th birthday

Festival programme announced as fundraising nears its target

Katie Davies

PLANS for Hampstead Garden Suburb's Centenary celebrations are well under way with residents already stumping up £40,000 to get the party started.

The residents' association only started the campaign to raise money for the celebrations six months ago and has nearly reached its £50,000 target.

The Ham&High has pledged its support by sponsoring the big birthday picnic planned for June 17 in Central Square.

David Lewis, chairman of the residents' association, said: "The support has been really good. We have said that if we have money left over we will spend it on local improvements which I think at this rate we will."

The fundraising and celebration plans have been drawn up by a small committee of volunteers.

Head of the group, David Littaur, said: "There are all sorts of people working very hard - it is all happening."

"I didn't think we would get as much as this. If there is any left over we will put it in a fund to spend on the area but we may find we have to spend it as there is so much going on."

"We have had a lot of support from residents. It shows everyone here is excited about it - some individuals have been very generous."

Full details of the events have also been confirmed.

Mr Littaur said: "Everything is coming together. There are four key events. On May 2 a bouquet of



FACTFILE

- May 2** - Grand Opening Ceremony. Historical Exhibition begins and runs until July.
- June 6-9** - Commemorative Pageant.
- June 16-24** - The Centenary Proms at St Jude's.
- June 17** - The Big Birthday Party.
- June 24** - Suburb Centenary Festivities in Golders Hill Park.
- July 11-12** - Garden Cities Conference.
- December 31** - Centenary Fireworks Display.

David Lewis, chairman of Hampstead Garden Suburb residents' association, near Central Square.

Picture by Nigel Sutton

special Henrietta Barnett roses will be presented to the owners of the first two houses built in the Suburb on Hampstead Way.

"There is then a procession to Willifield Green where there will be a commemorative flowerbed unveiled and maypole dancing."

"Then there's the centenary pageant and on the June 17 it's the Big Birthday Party which will have things like clowns and Punch and Judy.

"On June 24, there is the Golders Hill Park event organised by the City of London. There is no longer a royal visit which is disappointing but we will not let it overshadow it."

The festivities start later this month at the spring centenary flower show where the Henrietta Barnett roses - produced especially for the celebrations - are now available.

The Ham&High is producing a

special commemorative pull-out on the year's events and is asking all those with special memories to contribute.

□ To tell us your tales of the Suburb email katie.davies@hamhigh.co.uk or bridget.galton@hamhigh.co.uk or send information to Ham&High, 100A Avenue Road, Hampstead.

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Bus stop bungling is still rumbling along

BARNET Council is fighting a decision to move two Hampstead Garden Suburb bus stops.

Suburb residents have already hit out at Transport for London's (TfL) plans to move the stops on either side of Falloeden Way 100 yards up the road.

The move is the latest in the bus stop bungle, which saw £65,000 spent to remove lay-bys so buses did not have to pull in and out.

The stops were then closed

because buses were braking too quickly.

Residents and Barnet Council now say the stops are being moved too far.

Barnet's parking chief Cllr Matthew Offord said: "We think the matter could be simply solved through putting the lay-bys back with minor changes. Not only would this be safer, accessible to all and avoid adding to congestion, it would also be far cheaper and better value to the taxpayer than the latest proposals from TfL."

Robber punches old man in ruthless raid

AN 87-year-old man was punched in the face during a robbery in West Hampstead.

A white man, aged about 20 and wearing a grey top, attacked the pensioner just before 5.30pm on February 20 causing him to fall to the floor.

The robber went through the elderly man's pockets, took his wallet and ran off towards Abbey Road.

The pensioner suffered a black eye, a cut to his lip and bruises to his arms and face.

He was taken to the Royal Free hospital where he also received three stitches to a hand wound but was later discharged.

Anyone with information should call 020-7404 1212 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Trust's foundation bid is up for discussion

THE future of Camden and Islington Mental Health and Social Care Trust is up for debate tomorrow.

The mental health liaison group is meeting at Highgate Community Mental Health Centre, Highgate Road, from 6pm to 8pm.

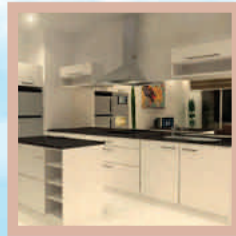
The care trust is going for foundation trust status and

the results of its recent consultation will be available.

Plans for a mental health assessment unit at University College Hospital will also be discussed. Help getting to the meeting is available for Camden service users.

Call 020-7974 2972 or email kwame.boateng@camden.gov.uk.

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