

BAM BULLETIN

COMING EVENTS

Come June we will again be erecting our large marquee in the gardens opposite the Estate Office for the following events:

AGM

The Annual General Meeting of B.A.M. Estate Ltd will be held in the marquee on Thursday 16th June at 8.00 p.m.

Gardens Open Meeting

The Gardens sub-committee are holding an Open Meeting on Saturday 18 June at 4 p.m. in the marquee. **Please note change of date to SATURDAY from the usual Friday meetings**

Garden Party

The annual Garden Party will be held on Sunday 19 June from 3.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. We welcome all contributions of food, and drink. Feel free to bring along any savoury or sweet dishes directly to the marquee in the central garden on Sunday, or if you prefer you can drop donations off after 12 o'clock in the Estate Office. If you can help please contact either Birgit on 07753 609 044, Florence on 07941 964 609, or call the Estate Office on 020 7419 1113. (You don't have to call to say that you are bringing something)

Gerald Rhodes

Gerald is retiring as a director of BAM at the AGM as he and his wife Joan are moving to Wiltshire. They are amongst our longest term residents, having moved here in May 1958, with their daughter Laila, when the rent on their unfurnished flat was £250 per year, inclusive of rates. If moving home is supposed to be stressful, that day was also the day on which their son Peter was born.

After his time as a Bevin Boy during WWII Gerald worked in property, for a time managing the famous Dolphin Square. He was able to lend his knowledge and expertise to the BAM

Residents Association, and was closely involved with the residents purchase of the Freehold of the Estate in 1977. He was one of the first directors of Capitalbest Ltd, the company set up to buy the Estate, and which subsequently changed its name to BAM Estate Ltd.

Our best wishes go with them on their move to their new home.

Finance Surgery

If you have any questions concerning the 2010 Annual report please do come and have an informal discussion with members of our Finance Sub-Committee at a special **Finance Surgery**, which will be held in the Estate Office on **Tuesday 31st May from 6.0 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.** Alternatively, please contact Graham Hamilton on 020 7419 1115.

Gas Main replacement

The National Grid is replacing the old metal gas mains on both sides of Finchley Road, from Hendon to Swiss Cottage, with new yellow plastic pipe.

They will also be replacing the main on the west side of Cannon Hill as this is fed from Finchley Road. This will require the suspension of parking on the West side as that is where their trench will be. We believe that, as a consequence, the parking on the East side will also be suspended in order to facilitate traffic both up and down the road.

The work will involve replacing some of the service pipes from the street to the buildings and flats, and the flats affected in this way are 1-34 Avenue Mansions and 58-85 Marlborough Mansions. The owners and residents of these flats should all have been contacted and inspected internally by now. This stage of work has started in Avenue Mansions.

All Avenue Mansions flats and all Marlborough Mansions flats on the West side will be without a gas supply when the service pipe to each building is disconnected from the old mains and connected to the new yellow main. Each flat will be contacted directly by National Grid, or their contractor Skanska, to confirm the date of this work. All the works in our area should be completed within 6 months. The Customer Service number is 0800 0965678.

Easter Egg Hunt

We again had a very successful Easter Egg hunt on the Estate with a large number of children and parents and grandparents attending. Over 300 eggs were found, and many beautiful and creative Easter bonnets were on display and won prizes. Thank you to all those who made donations and who helped organize this fun event! And special thanks to Nina Piercy for judging the Easter Bonnets.

Garden Rules

Most of you are aware of the garden rules but every spring we provide an annual reminder, especially to those residents who may be new to our estate. Firstly and most importantly, please ensure that when your children play in the gardens that they are supervised, and that they are discouraged from trampling through the planted areas or any areas awaiting re-planting (taped-off areas). Also, there should be no climbing on the bushes and trees. It is unsafe, and although there have been several broken branches every year, we want to prevent any broken bones!

The gardens are for everybody's enjoyment, so please clean up after yourselves before leaving the gardens, including removing bikes and toys. For safety, please be aware that only soft balls may be used in the gardens, and then only by the youngest of our children (those less than 7 years old), as we want to avoid accidents (broken windows, young children getting hurt). Thank you for your understanding in this matter. We hope the warm weather continues and encourages your use and enjoyment of our splendid gardens.

Vegetable Patch

The vegetables in the central top garden are growing very well. Chard, onions, leeks, asparagus and pumpkins have been planted. Thank you very much to all the following children who have helped grow the leeks: Olivia, Francesca, Livia, Valentina, Garance, Alix, Floriane, Josephine, Justin, Anne-Charlotte, Constance, Theo, Sima, Ishaan, Zain, Dasha, Rosy, Armandine, Parme, Katia and William.

Library Consultation

There was a very large response to the Camden consultation in March on potential Library savings, with over 6,000 responses received. A majority were in favour of making savings via reducing library opening hours and making greater use of volunteers as opposed to closing library branches. The summary results can be read on the Camden Council website under "Camden Libraries Consultation". Options and recommendations based on the survey responses will be presented to Cabinet on June 8th who will then decide on the future of the Camden library service, including our local branches in West Hampstead and Swiss Cottage.

Looking for...

Advertise your **search** or your **availability** here free of charge:

Cleaner/Babysitter available - I am very friendly and hard working with good experience! I work in Flat 58 Marlborough and 1a Avenue Mansions. Please contact me, Petya Pandareva, on 07780 170 411

House Help available - including baby-sitting, cleaning and ironing, Connie Fernandes (07929 954 241), references from a BAM resident available on request

Short-let Flat Sought - We are looking for a two bedroom or larger, furnished or unfurnished flat on the BAM estate to rent for 1-2 months beginning late June while our flat in Buckingham Mansions is being refurbished. Please call Tanya (07880 501 458) if you know of a flat that might be suitable.