

MEET THE ARCHITECT

For anyone who missed the recent exhibition at the Holborn Archive, **Creating a Piece of City: Neave Brown and the design of Alexandra Road**, there will be a one-off opportunity to see it here, in the Tenants Hall, on Saturday October 15th.

You will be able to see remarkable black and white photography by leading architectural photographer Martin Charles, taken when the buildings were first finished, as well as original drawings by Brown and others along with the newly restored wooden model of the entire project.

The exhibition will be free and open from 12 noon until 5pm.

At 2pm Neave Brown, the original architect, will lead a walk around the estate. This is a rare opportunity for tenants and residents to meet the man who has made such an impact on our lives and get some insight into his inspiration for the design of our homes. And ask him some questions.

Creating a Piece of City: Neave Brown and the design of Alexandra Road

Saturday 15 October
Tenants Hall
Exhibition 12 noon - 5pm
Guided walk with Neave Brown 2pm
(meet at the Tenants Hall)



Photo by Martin Charles

Welcome to new readers

This newsletter is written and designed by your fellow residents. If you have an idea for an article please get in touch? The more people who get involved, the better our newsletter will be. Our email info@alexandraandainsworth.org

Keep up to date with all that is happening on our estate on our website...

www.alexandraandainsworth.org

Fireworks Display

Sunday November 6th
The Tenants Hall

The TRA is organising a big, free fireworks display on the estate on Sunday November 6th. The display last year was really popular so we have decided to do it again! There will be delicious food and drink so put the date in your diary and watch the website and posters around the estate for more details.

Make friends with Alexandra Road Park A New Era is Dawning for the Park in our Estate.

The Heritage Lottery Fund and Camden have agreed to provide funding to develop proposals for restoration.

This which means that it could once again be a wonderful place for residents and neighbours to enjoy. Next summer we'll be able to apply for over £1million to actually do all of the improvements and make sure that its looked after better. This funding will also pay to run activities in the park, for kids and adults.

As well as fixing the broken paving, railings and benches, and sorting out neglected planting and trees so that they will be healthy and encourage wildlife, we will prioritise improving the playgrounds with really exciting new facilities.

We have already started to get things done, and get the word out by running a session with OrangeRockCorps in the summer when a group of over 60 volunteers repainted and replanted the little playground at no cost to the TRA,



and the TRA landscape group led tours of the park for over 30 people who were visiting the estate for 'Open House' in September.

We would love as many people as possible to be involved in this exciting project to breathe new life into our park, so we are setting up the 'Friends of Alexandra Road Park'. Its free to join and we will keep this group up to date with all the ideas for

improving the park, and invite people to take part in fun activities going on in the park itself.

If you'd like to join the Friends or would like to find out more about the project please email: FriendsofARP@gmail.com or drop a note through 13b or 117k Rowley Way or 17b Ainsworth Way.

Electrical works

The planned electrical upgrade works to properties on Rowley Way have hit a few snags. The contractors, Vallectric, are finding it difficult to access the current wiring that runs between the flats. The TRA are trying to establish why proper surveys did not identify these access problems earlier.

The proposal which is now being investigated is to enlarge existing hatches (in the 2 bed maisonette WCs) or make new inspection hatches in the kitchens of the one-bedroomed flats. However, as the interior of our flats are Grade 2-star listed, great care must be taken to replace any special features such as tiles with exact matches.

The TRA are working hard to ensure that these proposed changes do not have a significant impact on the cost of these works as well as the interior of the flats.

More info on our estate website www.alexandraandainsworth.org
If you have any concerns about the work, you can contact the Resident Liaison Officer, John Oakford, on 07834 130 537
RowleyWayResidents@vallectric.co.uk

Living with a listing

A regular column that looks at some of the issues raised for residents living in the listed parts of the estate on Rowley Way and Ainsworth Way.

In summertime its lovely to see so many people making good use of their balconies. They are ideal for barbecues, growing plants and providing some summer shade. Lots of people regard their balcony as an extra room and many are gently lit by solar lights at night.

Some residents manage to harvest not just herbs and a few flowers but figs, beans, courgettes, and even potatoes. You can find tables and chairs, small water features, parasols, inflatable paddling pools, and the odd olive tree in a pot. The colours and the scents help make this such a great place to live.

However, there are limits to what we are allowed to do with our outside space. Unfortunately some residents are currently being taken to court by Camden because they are refusing to take down illegal structures that

Congratulations to resident Paul Tucker who came third in the recent "Camden in Bloom" competition with his lovely balcony.



they have built on their balconies. We are not permitted to put up anything that is considered to be a 'permanent' feature such as a roof or fixed fencing.

Satellite dishes are not allowed either. And residents can be ordered to take them down as they breach their tenancy agreement.

But the list of what we can do is far longer than what we can't. Take

a look at neighbour's balconies for inspiration. Swap seeds and cuttings. Go to the pound shop for inexpensive solar lights or simply pull out a chair and enjoy the fresh air.

If you are in any doubt about what you can and can't do to your balcony or flat, contact our Estate Manager Susan Onigbanjo for more details
hampstead.admin@camden.gov.uk



Tenants Hall Timetable

The TRA has been working hard to get classes and activities going. Priority for these classes is given to people living on the estate.

Mondays:

Yoga 7.30 - 9pm
Suitable for both beginners+, this is a great way to gently tone, strengthen and stretch.

Cost: £6 per class. Just turn up.

Tuesdays:

Judo for kids 5pm - 7pm
This highly popular class for kids aged 5+ is great for exercise and discipline. Come have a go!
Cost: £3 per class. First class free.

Judo for adults 7pm - 9pm
Get fit and healthy. For beginners and improvers.

Cost: £4 per class.

Wednesdays:

Little Ninjas 4.30pm - 5.30/6pm
Tai Kwondo class for kids aged 6+
Call 07951 880 880 for info or come along to a class.

Cost: £4 per class.

Table Tennis Club 7.30 - 9pm
Over 16s. Fun way to get fit and meet your neighbours. Just turn up.
Cost: Free.

Thursdays:

Judo for kids 5pm - 7pm
See Tuesday for details.

Judo for adults 7pm - 9pm
See Tuesday for details.

Fridays:

Somali Families Group 10am - 2pm (term time only)
Fun and friendly mother and baby/toddler group with support and advice. Wider community welcome where space allows. For more info email info@somaliculturalcentre.org

Saturdays:

Your Co-op Shop 10am - 1pm
Come and get your fresh boxes of fruit and veg right here on your doorstep. Run by you fellow residents. Everyone is welcome so come have a cup of tea or coffee and find out more.

Somali Women Keep Fit 3-6.30pm
For more information email somalifamilies@hotmail.com

Sundays:

Tai Kwondo 11.30am - 1pm (See Wednesday) For children who have been training a while as this is solely for preparing for competitions.

Beekeeping update

Sadly our bee training for this year has come to a natural wind down, in step with the bee's, who will be getting ready for the winter by tidying up their hives and bedding down.

A few weeks ago we had a honey harvest and it was one of the most brilliant evenings. You have to be careful that you never take all the bee's honey as they use this to feed on over the winter so we took 8 frames and they were packed with honey.

We used a centrifuge to spin the honey out and then it was put through a special double sieve. I



had never tasted honey so fresh. It was absolutely delicious and quite different from anything I have ever had before.

Hopefully, this time next year we will be harvesting the very first Rowley Way honey.

Sara, Ron & Ben

Your Food Coop

By Residents, For residents

Residents living on the estate have set up a food coop which is **open in the Tenants Hall every Saturday morning from 10am to 1pm.**

You can come and buy fresh fruit and vegetables right here on your doorstep.

The coop is non-profit and entirely set up and run by residents. As well as an opportunity to buy fruit and



veg there are fun things for kids to do, and tea and coffee for adults! Come down and find out more, and give us your ideas about the coop. We want all residents to get involved!

Your Letters

Please send your letters to:
info@alexandraandainsworth.org

Blowing in the wind?

Earlier this year I watched a gardener use a leaf-blower to clear a whole bed of flowering tulips. I've also watched them blast hedges where birds are nesting.

The debris blown up from these machines can include chemicals, fungi and even faecal matter. They are a danger to the user and an annoyance to shift workers trying to sleep. So I was very pleased to read that Camden had followed California in banning these noisy and polluting machines.

But when I phoned the council recently and they said that this was not the case. Can anyone clarify?

Elizabeth Knowles, Rowley Way

Please be a good neighbour

We have in our midst those who are not considerate of others around them.

Loud music, drilling and banging at all hours and washing machines left on all night. Some people leave articles of unwanted furniture outside of the blocks instead of taking them to the shed to be picked up. Litter is also being thrown onto the ground making the estate look messy. If we all thought about others, I am sure we would be much happier

Resident, Ainsworth Estate

Food COOP
Harvest Festival
Saturday 29th October
10am - 1pm
The Tenants Hall

- Free fresh juices, tea and coffee
- Cake decorating for kids
- Snacks and special offers
- Meet your neighbours and find out more about your coop