

TEDDY BEARS PICNIC



Caroline Vernall, aged two, of Brookland Hill (left), and Jessica Bodrug, also two, of Heathgate, getting to grips with their chocolate eggs.

More than 40 Suburb toddlers enjoyed a big surprise at an Easter teddy bears' picnic.

An Easter chick arrived and handed out chocolate eggs to the youngsters at the party organised by the Pavilion Children's Centre, based at Lyttelton Playing Fields, Hampstead Garden Suburb.

The children also enjoyed a puppet show, singing and, of course, a picnic. The end-of-term party was held at East Finchley library, the temporary home of the Pavilion Children's

Centre, while Barnet Council repair the roof of the pavilion, damaged in the hurricane last October.

The centre, which provides play activities for the under-threes from 10am until 12 noon Tuesday to Fridays at East Finchley library, was started by a group of Suburb mums five years ago. The committee of mothers currently running the centre are optimistic that they will be able to return to their pavilion home in the Suburb soon.

LE VESINET YOUTH VISIT

On 18 March 14 girls and 11 boys from Le Vesinet arrived on the Suburb. The girls stayed with pupils from Henrietta Barnett School and the boys with pupils from University College School. While they were here they attended classes at the two schools and went on sightseeing trips to London and Cambridge. There was also a disco organised for them.

The return visit will take place between 11-17 April, when 16 Henrietta Barnett girls and 9 UCS boys will stay with families in Le Vesinet. They will spend one day at the College du Cedre and three days sightseeing in and around Paris.

This is the first school exchange which has been organised between Le Vesinet and the Suburb.

SUBURB GARDEN CENTRE

Mark Enright Landscapes, already well known in the Suburb, have acquired The Garden centre at Temple Fortune — it is intended to make it a must for garden lovers to visit. The staff are all qualified gardeners with horticultural training. Mark Ehrnreich himself was apprenticed at Buckingham Palace Gardens where he learned that second best will not do. He obtained a higher National diploma of Horticulture at Askham Biyan College of Horticulture then

went to work with two well-known landscaping firms before branching out on his own seven years ago. He now employs a hardworking team not only from England but from the Continent as well.

Paul Cockerill, fully trained at the Royal Horticultural garden at Wisley, is a director of the firm and is in charge of the garden centre. He has been with Mark from the start and his plant knowledge could be invaluable to Suburb gardeners.

Perpetual garden colour

Celebrating the Fifth Anniversary of this paper with a splash of colour leads me into thinking how we could aim to keep up the visual interest in our own gardens by means of a planned continuity of colour. The end result of our gardening could be to give all the year round pleasure, and with the careful choice of a few additional plants we can each achieve this, getting full enjoyment from flowers, foliage and fruits.

Given the fact that the time of flowering varies each year according to the climate, selections from the following list of flowering shrubs should bring continuous colour to any garden. They are all plants which would thrive in normal Suburb conditions, flowering during the month in which they are listed. The recent Radio Times Gardening supplement gives an excellent list of plants for places with 'difficult conditions'.

January: Daphne Mezereum with sweet scent and reddish flowers; Yellow Winter Flowering Jasmine; Camellia Sea Foam.

February: Erica Herbacea (heather) Springwood White; one of the first of the Rhododendrons and Azaleas which will be flowering between February and July is Rhod. Olive with a profusion of flowers.

March: Camellia Japonica Fred Sanders; Forsythia Suspensia; Witch hazel, Lonicera Fragrantissima (Shrubby Honeysuckle); Chaenomeles Speciosa (Japanese Quince); small yellow Rhod. Bo Beep; free flowering pink Rhod. Cilpinense.

April: Ribes; Cytisus Purgans (Broom) with fragrant yellow blossom; Spirea Thunbergii white Bridalwreath; one of the rare variegated leaved Rhododendrons is crimson President Roosevelt; fragrant yellow Mahonia Aquilifolius; Skimmia Japonica the female species of which have scented white flowers followed by scarlet berries in winter (male and female plants necessary).

May: Evergreen Hybrid Azaleas; Pieris Formosa Forestii (lime hating) which produces scented white flowers with crimson new leaves; Buddleja Globosa will give beauty and attract butterflies; Daphne Cneorum with sweet pink flowers; Forsythia Intermedia Spectabilis; Viburnums.

June: Deutzia species with flowers from white through shades of pink; Kalmia Lacti-

folia (calico bush) with buds like icing sugar stars opening out into bright pink blooms; Kolwitzkia Amabilis (Beauty bush); Philadelphus (mock orange); Weigela Florida — with or without variegated leaves, flowers from rose pink to red; Pyracantha with Hawthorn-like flowers followed by masses of winter berries.

July: Hydrangeas — Hortensias (mop heads) or Lacecaps in full bloom; Buddleja Davidii in a variety of shades; Escallonia with small shiny leaves and pink flowers; Calluna Vulgaris (Scottish Heather) in many colours; Deutzia; Hebe — evergreen leaves with white, pink, violet or blue flowers.

August: Fuchsia of many colours, sizes and shapes; Hebe Autumn Glory intense violet blue flowers lasting until October; Ceanothus Gloire with powder blue flowers; Hibiscus Syriacus with long lasting trumpet shaped blooms.

September: Elscholtzia Stauntonii with a profusion of lilac purple blooms and mint scented leaves; Erica Terminalis rose pink flowers turning to russet; late flower dwarf Hydrangeas Involucrata; Hydrangea Villosa. During the late Autumn and winter months the loveliest colours often come from foliage, fruit and bark.

October: Berberis Thunbergii and Wilsoniae are barberries of exceptional brilliance; Cotoneaster Horizontalis has bright red and orange leaves with a profusion of berries; the common yellow flowered Azalea Pontica has leaves equallying the yellow of its flowers.

November: Erica Erigana with a choice of colours; Mahonia Charity with sprays of yellow flowers in terminal clusters, framed by shiny leaves.

December: Lonicera Fragrantissima (Honeysuckle); Erica Herbacea and Erica Darlyensis; Daphne Odore (winter Daphne).

CLAYFINGERS

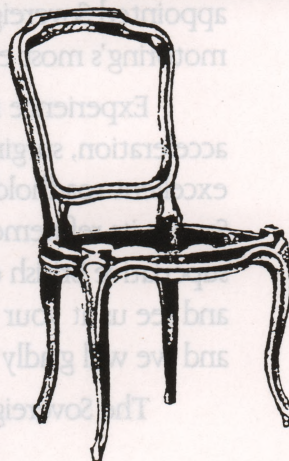


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