

SUBURB FLOWERING TREES



The October hurricane has brought on another round of decision making for us gardeners, and for the Parks Department in replacing the fallen trees.

Many street trees have been lost, or damaged beyond repair. The willows on Willifield Green are a case in point, stumps which should be removed and the opportunity seized of a really effective clump planting on one of the few remnant spaces which could give a small group of forest trees space to develop. Imagine in sixty years time how a group of five copper beeches would transform that corner.

It would be most interesting to investigate the history of the original planting of the streets and few open spaces of the area. The hawthorns must be original, though many perished in the autumn, and they give May its distinctive colour and smell. Early spring begins with the whitethorns, massively large and utterly boring for the rest of the year, but worthwhile for being the only tree in blossom. As they fade almonds and the infinite varieties of cherry plum take over. True cherries follow, and the spectacle of St. Jude frowning

in embarrassment down Heathgate lined with candyfloss repeats itself.

Chestnuts, white and red follow and the scent of these is a tonic as one emerges from the tube or from a heavy cold.

Summer flowering trees are common but not usually spectacular. Oaks, alders and ashes are native trees of course and naturally wait for the warm weather to risk such excesses. To be appreciated the blossom must be viewed from close up, and this can be rather difficult.

My own favourite summer tree is Liviodendron, the Tulip Tree. There is a group of three planted by a truly imaginative hand at the junction of Hampstead Way and Willifield Way. Luckily they were not much damaged in the storm. The Tulip is an American member of the magnolia family but grows to a hundred feet in height, spreading to square top, but never thick and always glowing with light. The flowers are unique, white flushed olive and with an orange spot on each petal. In autumn the whole canopy turns to gold. Well worth a detour!

CG



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WHAT'S ON

RA MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETINGS: May 3, June 7, July 5 at 8pm. The Community Room, Bigwood House, Bigwood Road. Visitors are welcome.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

PAVILION CHILDREN'S CENTRE opens for the summer term on April 12 until July 22. The Mother and Toddler group is meeting upstairs every day from Tuesday to Friday, 10am to 12 noon, at East Finchley Library, High Road, N2 until roof repairs have been completed on the Pavilion in Lyttelton Playing Fields. The centre is hoping to move back into the Pavilion during the summer term. The group is run by a qualified play leader and booking is not necessary. All mothers with children aged 0-3 years old are welcome.

HGS YOUTH CLUB. Every Monday, during term time, 6.15 at St. Judes Church Rooms, Central Square.

APRIL

- 18 Institute Summer term begins.
- 18-20 WEA courses begin.
- 21 and 23 HGSDS presents Veronica's Room. 8.00pm. Institute Theatre, Central Square. Advance booking 340 6654.
- 23 Free Church Choir Concert, including Faure's Requiem. Free Church 8pm.
- 24 Christian Aid Walk, Hampstead Heath. Details P. Freeborn 455 9320.
- 25 Residents Association/Neighbourhood Watch 8pm. Institute Hall, Central Square. 'The Prevention of Crime on the Suburb'.
- 26 HGS National Council of Women, St. Albans small hall 2.15. Talk on visit to Israel by Mrs. Gwen Webb.
- 27 Henrietta Barnett Memorial Lecture 8pm at the Institute. Central Square. Judges, Juries and Justice.
- 28 St. Judes, Inter-Church supper.

MAY

- 5 HGS United Nations Assoc. AGM 7.30pm at Friends Meeting House, North Square followed by talk 'Water Aid, and the UN Water Decade'. All welcome.
- 7 The Children's Society Exhibition, local artists St. Judes Church Rooms. Central Square 10.00am-4pm £1.
- 7 Harrington Scheme. Spring sale, open day 10.00-2.00 in the grounds of Furnival House, Cholmeley Park.
- 8 St. Judes Dedication Festival 10am Parish eucharist Mr P. Stone of Highgate School.
- 10 League of Jewish Women. Coach outing to Chartwell and Down House.
- 14 HGS Horticultural Society Plant Sale. Bargains at Fellowship House 10am.
- 15 Free church 80th Junior Church Festival 11am.
- 15 WEA outing. Broughton Castle. Tickets £6.00 from Richenda Barbour 458 2847.

- 17 HGS RNLI Fund raising event at Country Gardens, Garden Centre, Dawes Lane, Mill Hill 455 1472 for details.
- 18 Residents Association. Wardens Evening 7.30-9.30pm. Free Church Hall.
- 21 Family Holiday Assoc. Hill Close Fete on the Square 2pm Central Square. To be opened by Michael Palin.
- 26 HGS Floral Arrangement Club. Pearls Demonstration by Mrs. H. Holmes. 7.45 Fellowship House, Willifield Way.

JUNE

- 4 Free Church Jumble Sale.
- 4 The Children's Society North London Summer Fair 2pm St. Michaels School, Highgate. Personal appearance by Leonard Fenton.
- 11 Free Church Gift Day. 3pm-5pm Free Church small hall and garden. Northway.
- 14 League of Jewish Women. Mrs. Winfield 'I was a GI Bride'. 458 4720
- 17 HGS Institute. Wine evening 'La Mancha' Spanish wine, food and music 7.30-9.30pm. 455 9951.
- 17, 18 HGS Dramatic Soc. A Midsummer Night's Dream. 7.45pm matinees 3pm Open Air Theatre, Little Oakwood. 202 9447.
- 18 Garden Suburb School Summer Fair from 12.30 lunches, teas, bar. Stalls of all kinds, sideshows and a steel band.
- 27-29 HGS Institute Open Week 7-9pm.
- 28 National Council of Women 2.30pm. 17A Northgate, Prince Albert Road, NW8.
- 30 HGS Floral Arrangement Club. Demonstration by Mrs. PP. Philby. Fellowship House, Willifield Way 7.45. All visitors welcome £1.

JULY

- 5-8 HGS Institute. Adult Art and Craft Workshop 455 9951 for details.
- 10 Pavilion Children's Centre. Summer Festival 2pm, Lyttelton Playing Fields. Shire horses, puppets, donkey rides. Proceeds to children's charities.
- 12 League of Jewish Women. Strawberry Tea, speaker Mrs. Sherman 'Matchmaker Extraordinaire'. 458 4720
- 21 HGS Floral Arrangement Club. Arranging for Pleasure, Mrs. K. Turner, 7.45. Fellowship House, Willifield Way.
- 25 HGS Institute Yoga Day 10.30-12.30 and 1.30-3.30. All levels welcome 455 9951.
- 25-28 Young People's Summer Workshops in Art, Drama, Pottery, Tennis 455 9951.

DEADLINE for Summer issue June 24 for publication July 15. Items for What's On Column to Rosemary Goldstein, 1a Church Mount, N2. Contributions and letters to the editor R.J. Wakefield, 26 Hampstead Way, NW11.