

Garden Suburb Theatre

After the large cast required for the October production of *The Visit* (35, to be precise), the Garden Suburb Theatre is pulling in its belt in November and putting on what is virtually a two-hander.

Lettice and Lovage tells of Lettice, who takes guided tours of Fustian House, 'the dullest house in England'. Tiring of the indifference with which her audience greets her scripted and rather turgid history, what does she do? Makes it up, of course. The scenes in which she gradually elaborates her tale, to the gratifying amazement and, in some cases, disbelief of the visitors are some of the best crafted and most amusing of recent British drama. Naturally she gets found out. And it is the

relationship which develops between Lettice and Miss Schoen, the personnel manager of the Preservation Trust who catches her in the act, which forms the basis of the play. Thought-provoking, theatrical and with two great women characters, *Lettice and Lovage* is also very funny. Whether or not you saw the 1987 production in the West End, come and enjoy one of Peter Shaffer's best and most original plays.

In December we shall be staging an Old Time Music Hall with lots of old songs and recitations to get you in the festive mood. In Good Old Days tradition, it would be lovely to see everybody dressing the part!

Please see 'What's On' for dates and venues. **Debbie Lane**

London Piano Circle

One of many cultural organisations based on the Suburb is the London Piano Circle, which was started three years ago to provide outlets for the (sometimes considerable) talents of amateur players.

About 30 times a year, different members invite a few others to their homes to play together - sociable occasions, with refreshments (free). Sometimes the venues are on or near the Suburb; others are in all parts of London.

In addition, some members get together to put on recitals for charity. There is a quarterly newsletter.

The subscription (£12.50 from June to June - or £8 if joining in the winter) should be sent to 30 Southway, NW11 6RU. This is the home of Dr Andrew Cockburn, founder of the Circle, where one of the groups will be playing shortly.

Elizabeth Cockburn

Easy on the Feet!

This has been a momentous year for Farm Walk Tennis Club, whose three new Casolon artificial grass courts were completed during August and inaugurated with an extremely well attended American tournament and barbecue in bright sunshine on Sunday 15 September. This surface represents the very latest

in tennis-court technology; it is very porous and resilient and so much more comfortable to play on than the unforgiving surface of tarmac - feet and knees are now much less likely to feel the ill effects of jarring. Over the next few weeks, with constant use, the sand filling, at present evident on the surface, will have bedded down. Club members have enthusiastically endorsed the change, but for those who prefer hard-court play there are still two courts available with this surface.

The tournament was won by Fabienne de Laval and Tim Griffin, and afterwards members and their families enjoyed the barbecue in the balmy late summer evening. It was a very good day.

Membership enquiries to Esmé Kingsley, 0181-203 1731.

Gill Read



WORDSEARCH ANSWERS

Summer 1996 competition on Cricket Playing Nations
The names of the fifteen countries hidden in the box were:

Australia	Fiji	India	Sri Lanka
Bangladesh	Gibraltar	New Zealand	West Indies
Canada	Holland	Pakistan	Zimbabwe
England	Hong Kong	Singapore	

There were a fair number of entries and every one was correct. Perhaps I should have added some of the really difficult countries eg Austria, Belgium, Brunei, Chile, Cuba, China, Finland, Israel, Switzerland and the United States where the game of cricket is developing. Eileen Whelan, who succeeded with the help of her house guest, asks if she is disqualified. The answer is 'No'. There are plenty of joint entries!

Elizabeth Watkins

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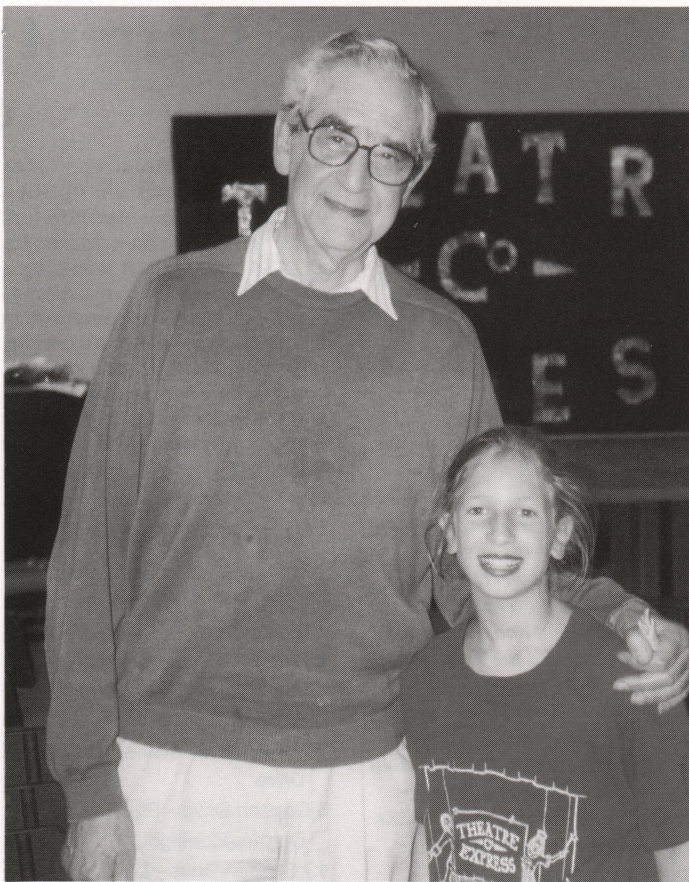
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It was All Right on the Night!

Denis Norden, fan and supporter of Theatre Express, made a return visit to watch young performers (age 7-12) give their all at their third anniversary Showcase performance at Brookland Junior School on 29/30 June. The performers thrilled and delighted audiences with their talents.

Denis Norden remarked on the increasing confidence the children have gained through performance work with Theatre Express.

For details please contact (0181) 444 5247, 349 1830 or 365 3130.

S Pela

WORDSEARCH WINNER

Congratulations to Keith Sambrook who won the summer wordsearch competition on cricket playing nations. Born in the Midlands and educated at Cambridge, Keith has spent his life in publishing apart from four years in the Royal Navy. Keith and his wife Hana have lived in Farm Walk since 1963 when they moved from Edinburgh. Over the years, he has worked for Manchester University Press, Thomas Nelson and Heinemann. At both Nelson and Heinemann he was concerned with international publishing especially in Africa and the Middle

East. He has travelled widely and frequently in these areas. Since retirement, he has been a director of James Currey Ltd, specialist publishers of African and Caribbean Studies. In addition, he has a new career lecturing on Publishing and the Book Trade at University College, Centre for English Studies. In his spare time, Keith likes gardening, country and hill walking, travel, filling large gaps in his reading, as well as most sports, nowadays largely as a spectator.

With his £20 Book Token, Keith will buy a reference book.

WORDSEARCH

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF EUROPEAN CHEESES

Find and ring the names of 16 cheeses made in Europe. The names are hidden in the box of letters and may read forwards, backwards, up, down or diagonally.

B X O L A Y I Q L O B H U S E R A
N M D E V W P O B C T E V Z E T W
P I O C F N A S E M R A P V U B X
O C B Z O G R D Q E P T Y O Q W I
V U E S Z H F P Y R R E U B E R O
T N L G J A E U D O B O C A V E V
M E P K F N R M F L I K N S E B I
E L A G A G H E I A J O Z A L L U
R O E E H N U M L K T L A B T O M
I P S Q K Q S O R L E J S R N C T
H U E R O M Z C I I A T E F O H E
S I L R K N Q T H D H B N I P O N
E O B A O J S I U E M E X E Y N T
H C E G U Z Y O G E D K E I L O M
C D R A F B G X M F D D V R U W U
P O U M A D E A Z J Y C A B E W P
G B O D G I C E H C A E B R X O U

If you are a senior citizen, you may list the answers on a postcard with your name, address and telephone number and post to: 35 Wildwood Road. The first correct entry drawn on the closing date, 5th December 1996, will receive a £20 Book Token. To help you on your way, we have given you the first answer.

Happy Hunting!

Elizabeth Watkins

RA Study -

residents still not sure what we do!

The RA Council has now received the final report following the recent study conducted amongst Suburb residents to establish what residents think of life on the Suburb, the RA and what they expect from the RA.

Firstly, thanks must be given to all those residents who participated in the discussion groups. The groups were specifically aimed at finding views in a professional way and so eliciting results which would be meaningful and useful in mapping out the future direction of the RA. The residents who took part were selected at random by a specialist research company and even the telephone recruiters had one or two problems convincing residents that they were not double glazing salesmen - one even called the police! We were extremely fortunate in discovering two top market research consultants, both living on the Suburb, who gave their time voluntarily and the Council is enormously grateful to both Wendy Gordon and Gerald de Groot for all their help.

A full analysis of the results will follow in the next edition of *Suburb News*, but in the meantime here is a selection of some of your comments:

ON THE RA . . .

"I've never discovered what the Residents Association does apart from the Neighbourhood Watch scheme."

"I think we all feel it is good and noble, but not many of us participate in it."

"I feel that the RA ought to be of more support when there is a conflict with authority."

ON THE TRUST

"I'm not sure of the difference between the two." (Trust and RA)

"With the RA in a way it's our fault if it doesn't operate right, but as opposed to the Trust that isn't our fault."

"I've had quite a few things done around the house and I found them (the Trust) absolutely excellent . . ."

"I hope I never have any dealings with them again!"

"Each case is an individual application and they make the rules as they go along."

"The whole system is monstrous and corrupt. We know of streets where attic windows are permitted on one side and not on the other we know of any number of up and over garage doors and where the Trust, has behaved unfairly to the residents; that is where the Residents Association should be the peoples' tribune."

ON TRAFFIC

"... it's not unknown for cars to be parked across people's drives so you can't get in or out."

"(Falloden Way) . . . cuts the Suburb in half . . . I can't even cross the road now."

ON SUBURB NEWS

"I think it is very well put together . . . there is time and effort gone into it and I appreciate it."

"I thought it to be slightly amateurish."

"I think it is very well presented."

"Perhaps the Newsletter (sic) could be a bit more colourful, a bit more appealing."

The RA Council is now considering the report in detail and will hopefully produce recommendations and improvements in the way it works in order to provide greater contact and better communication with residents. The RA will also investigate some of the more specific comments raised during the discussions with a view to taking on board and acting upon your concerns and problems. A more detailed report of the Study and the RA Council's proposals will appear in the next

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