



Shavuot at Alyth kindergarten

Of all the Jewish festivals celebrated by the children at Alyth Kindergarten Shavuot is undoubtedly one of the most attractive. The children adorned with the beautiful flower crowns made by their parents and carers have a special party at the Kindergarten where they sing songs and dance and enjoy a feast of fruit and cheesecake, the traditional foods associated with the Shavuot festival. They also decorate their own fruit baskets

which are filled with fruit and vegetables and later donated to local old people's homes and day-care centres. Shavuot is both a harvest festival, hence the association with fruit and flowers, and more importantly a festival celebrating the giving to Moses of the Torah. As part of their Shavuot celebrations the children visit the Synagogue and talk to the Rabbi about rules to live by and right and wrong.

Celebrating the festivals is

always a special experience at Alyth Kindergarten. Established in 1970 to provide pre-school education for Jewish families the nursery school's outstanding reputation has grown over the years and continues to maintain its unique position in the area for its child-centred and caring approach. Anyone who is interested in finding out more about the Kindergarten should contact Lucille Sher on 455 6763.

Jacobean satire

In the summer of 1997 the Garden Suburb Theatre has performed *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*. In the autumn it will be a play by Shakespeare's contemporary, the Londoner Ben Jonson. *The Alchemist* is a satire on Jacobean life and manners which pitches all the comic rogue types in early 17th century London against witting and unwitting victims. It features an explosion, a dizzy dame, an "angry boy", and a tart with no heart, two idiots, an aristocratic fantasist and a crooked cynic in a

Spanish costume, all in the service of Jonson's surrealist vision of an England where the gullible get what they deserve and the rogues get off scot free.

Director Mick Orme gave us last year's marvellous production of *A View from the Bridge*. To judge by his enthusiasm for what has been dubbed the "greatest farce in the English language", we are in for another treat.

For full details please see *What's On*.

Debbie Lane

Wordsearch winner

Congratulations to Mary Usherwood of Litchfield Way, winner of the Spring wordsearch competition on Labour Party Leaders.



Mary was born in Pittsburg, USA, but settled in Esher as a young child. She read PPE at Oxford, hence her interest in politics. After a short career in the Foreign Office, the UN in both Geneva and London, and with the Council for Nature, she settled as a married woman in North London. Mary and her husband finally moved to the Suburb in 1952.

She has remained during the last happy 45 years to bring up her son. She travels regularly to Canada to visit one of her step children.

Her great interest is in nature and conservation and in particular field botany. This interest has taken her on many varied botani-

cal visits to Europe including Spain, Greece, Switzerland and Holland. Mary is a member of many botanical societies. These include not only local ones, The Herts Middlesex Trust for Nature Conservation and the London Natural History Society, but also The Wild Flower Society.

With her £20 book token, Mary will replace her well used New Flora of the British Isles by Professor Clive Stace, with a new edition.

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NEW HON LIFE MEMBERS

Anne and Alan Lawson, who were made Honorary Life Members of the Residents Association at this year's AGM, are well known on the Suburb for their tireless work in the community.

Married in 1941, they have lived in their most recent Suburb home in Oakwood Road since 1976.

Anne (Stainer) was born in Islington and trained and worked as a nurse at St Mary's, Paddington. She and Alan had three children, the eldest son sadly dying in childhood. In 1962 Anne retrained and returned to work with the local authority in Camden as a Health Visitor. She became a School Counsellor and at the Polytechnic of Central London helped students with their grants.

She joined the Residents Association in 1976 and has been the chairman and secretary of the Membership Committee. She was instrumental in setting up with Peter Philips the various clubs on the Suburb, such as the very successful Theatre Club, Gourmet, Bridge and Scrabble Clubs.

Alan, born in Gidea Park in 1912, has had a very colourful life. Did you know that he was considered "not very bright" by his head teacher at Hendon County and started a stage career at the age of sixteen as an "eccentric tap dancer"? Acting was in his blood. His mother was a contralto and his elder sister, Joan, was a dancer. His brother Neil, became a High Court Judge, which also requires a certain amount of acting.

His introduction into Shepherds Bush Gaumont Studios came through his father and he became a cameraman for various companies. His time in Barcelona and Valencia during the Spanish Civil War, his meeting with Tom Driberg and his helping refugees to get to Paris, would make an exciting book. Perhaps one day he will write it. During the war he was with the War Office Film Unit. A damaged cartilage meant a spell in hospital and there he met Anne Stainer, a nurse. Alan says



he wooed her with "Mars bars and persistence". They spent the evening of their nuptials watching "Quiet Wedding". Anne was often alone as he was off again covering among many news items the Liberation of Norway, then Rangoon and Burma. He was working freelance from 1946 to 1972.

He joined the RA in 1971 and became secretary to Barbara Anderson's chairman in 1972. He was Pat Landucci's vice chairman

and was then chairman for two and a half years. He was in his time chairman of Traffic, Membership, Publications and Allotments. He is still secretary of the Allotments Committee. He retired from the RA Council some time ago and gives most of his energy now to Fellowship.

Alan and Anne have given us a great deal and we are happy to acknowledge that.

Léonie Stephen

WORDSEARCH

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF MEN WHO HAVE WON POST WAR WIMBLEDON

Find and ring the names of 15 men who have won post war Wimbledon. The names are hidden in the box of letters and may read forwards, backwards, up, down or diagonally.

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

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, 15th Sept 1997, will receive a £20 Book Token. To help you on your way, we have given you the first answer. Happy Hunting! Elizabeth Watkins

WORDSEARCH ANSWERS

Spring 1997 competition on Political Leaders

The names of the twelve Labour Party Leaders hidden in the box were:

Attlee	Clynes	Henderson	Macdonald
Blair	Foot	Kinnock	Smith
Callaghan	Gaitskell	Lansbury	Wilson

This was not a well subscribed competition, however all entries received were correct! Elizabeth Watkins

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