Fun at the Pavilion Children's Centre

On Sunday 16 May the Pavilion Children's Centre Annual Summer Festival was held on the grassed area outside their meeting place, the Cricket Pavilion in Lyttelton Playing Fields, Kingsley Way.

A fun afternoon out with many exciting attractions to keep all the family amused, it was officially opened at 2.30pm by the Deputy Mayor of Barnet as one of the last events of the Mayoral year.

Among the attractions were a Bouncy Castle, Rides on Ponies, a Mini Double Decker Bus, 'Tea-Cup' Roundabout and, new this year, displays by the Northwick Park Dog Training Club. Craft Stalls, Face Painting, Sand Art, a Lucky Dip and other exciting games were also on offer and there was a delicious array of food including Ice-Creams, Candy Floss, Popcorn, Cakes, and hot and cold drinks. Postman Pat drew the winning tickets in the Prize Draw. The first prize this year was a solid bronze cast of a favourite little one's hand or feet, donated by Sarah Page Sculptures.

The Pavilion Children's Centre has been running a pre-school educational group for the local toddlers and their parents/carers in the Cricket Pavilion since 1983. They are registered as a charity and aim to stimulate the children's learning through energetic and creative play, enhance the overall development of the children who attend and to encourage community spirit in a positive direction. This is achieved with the help of paid Playleaders who create a safe, stimulating environment for the children to enjoy, providing stimulating play for babies, opportunities for painting, reading, singing, construction and many more exciting activities.

They are open five mornings, and Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons, each week as a drop-in centre for children from birth up to three years old who attend with their mothers and other carers. Open throughout the year, they only close for a few weeks in the Summer and at Christmas. An entrance fee is charged to cover the rent to Barnet Council for the premises and other daily costs and therefore a successful Summer Festival is necessary to update or replace equipment.

As an 'End-of-Term' activity for threes and under there will be a 'Teddy Bears' Picnic outside the Pavilion on Friday 30 July with Sand Play, Water Play, Climbing, Painting and most importantly Food. To avoid disappointment places must be booked in advance, so come along to collect your ticket any weekday morning. This signals the start of the Centre's Summer Holiday and they re-open for more fun on Wednesday 1 September at 9.45am.

If you would like more details about the Mother and Toddler group, please phone the Pavilion on 458 0630 any weekday morning, where Jacquie and Marian will look forward to talking to you.

RA Litter Progress

It is hoped that the residents are noticing the fast diminishing amount of litter around. This is not just happening, but is the result of action by a number of folk. *Thanks to you all.*

Here are some of the actions:

- We have a growing number of Litter Pickers. More are needed. It should not take more than five minutes a week.
- Talks have been given to the pupils in all Suburb schools.
- For those who find it difficult to pick up litter, we have a quantity of long handled Litter Pickers kindly donated by McDonalds. Ring and ask for one.
- Several shops, organisations, the Eastern Electricity Board (Hill Rise Sub Station) plus the Crematorium and Cemetary, are all co-operating in a valuable manner.
- Barnet Council are part of the team. They are giving extra care for five particularly bad places and are placing extra bins in selected positions. There will be waste bins with tops for Central Square, where foxes occasionally raid the bins and scatter rubbish.
- The RA has participated on a small scale in the July 8 Mutton Brook Clearance Scheme which was organised by the Local Agenda 21 Team.

We can feel proud of our Suburb and rely on enthusiastic action from all our residents.

We are now a role model with the Tidy Britain Group for the whole of the UK.

Volunteers or those with queries should contact John Davis at 3 Ruskin Close, NW11 7AU (458 2277).

News from Fellowship

A number of residents have told me that they did not even see (let alone *read*) Fellowship's Annual Report, so perhaps I should reiterate how and when Fellowship can be of assistance. The welfare side of Fellowship's work (home visiting, shopping etc.) is usually on a weekly basis, but if all that is needed is 'one off' assistance, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me. Fellowship welfare is for residents of any age needing help, and Fellowship services are free.

My annual report also made a plea for more volunteers to help us in our work: our great need at the moment is for more drivers to 'ferry' housebound and disabled Club members to and from Fellowship House on *Tuesday afternoons*. It involves collecting two or three people from their homes at approximately 2pm and taking them to Fellowship House, and then reversing the process at 3.45pm. Provided we have a full complement of drivers, the rota means each volunteer helping in this way about once a month. Please contact Shirley Thomas (458 4131) if you can help. I have heard from Sally Murrell that again this year residents have been extremely generous in their donations to Fellowship. Thank you all very much.

EILEEN WHELAN

More trees

(continued from page 1)

to follow the original planting scheme as far as possible. In pursuit of this we have a group of double-flowering peaches growing in a tree nursery near Ely which will be ready for Hogarth Hill in about 2004/5. We also have plans to grow standard hollies for Bigwood Road. Records show that these two roads were planted with these trees by 1915.

We try to give priority to residents' requests. This coming winter, for example, four rowans will be planted at the bottom of Southway as a result of a request made at a party last autumn. So if you have space outside your house, or part of your road is a particularly tree-free area, contact the Trees Committee; we may be able to help you.

As well as paying close attention to what species of trees we plant, we try to ensure that disease resistant varieties are planted. Avenues went out of fashion because of the fear of disease wiping out all the trees at once, as happened all over the country when Dutch elm disease killed off nearly all the elms, but the rowans chosen for Rowan Walk last winter were selected for their resistance to fire blight.

We also choose varieties recommended by the nursery as particularly suitable for streets, and the trees themselves are slightly larger than those planted in the past. This means that they are more difficult to vandalise and fewer die. Only one street tree planted since 1997 has died and none has been badly vandalised, which contrasts well with the sad statistics of the previous five years.

Look out for new trees in the Suburb from November onwards, and if you do not see one planted in your pet spot, contact the Trees Committee.

GEORGINA MALCOLM

Victor Michaelides 1908-99

It is with great sadness that we have to record the passing of Victor Michaelides, a familiar figure in Oakwood Road, at the age of ninety-one.

His family came to the area in 1910 settling first in Hayes Crescent, from where he was one of the first pupils at the new Garden Suburb school, a St Jude's choirboy and with his brother, an active member of the gymnastic display team which used to perform regularly on Willifield Green.

One of his first jobs was as a projectionist at the Ionic cinema Golders Green, where he so impressed Mr W J King, who designed and built many of London's cinemas, that he was sponsored to study architecture, duly qualifying and continuing to work with Mr King for many years.

By this time the family had moved to Ludlow Way and Victor had met Celia, marrying in 1941. The war years were spent living in Erskine Hill and Oakwood Road and working firstly at Vickers in Weybridge where he was fortunate to escape the factory being bombed and latterly inspecting Merlin aero engines in what is now Marks & Spencers in Temple Fortune! Fire watching at the Garden Suburb school occupied the nights.

Post war, he resumed his architectural work, subsequently turning his skills to exhibition design for Pilkington Glass, Andrex and other major companies. By then living in Addison Way, his spare time was spent building his own caravan and restoring an old farmhouse in Mill Hill.

Semi-retiring in 1965, Victor devoted much time to painting, particularly watercolours, and his garage in their Oakwood Road cottage, home since 1967, provided a workshop in which he spent many hours designing and perfecting various labour-saving inventions and tending his beloved Triumph Stag which he was still driving at 90 years of age.

A shy, gentle and caring man, Victor is survived by his wife, son and three grandchildren and he will be greatly missed by all who knew him in the Suburb and beyond.

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