



LA21 Suburb Cycle Festival

Hundreds of bicycles converged on Brookland School's playground on May 15 for the first stage of the Festival organised by the Garden Suburb LA21 Partnership with the idea of encouraging cycling to school, reducing traffic congestion and providing exercise.

Barnet Cyclists helped by providing an MOT for bikes as well as all sorts of fun things to do like an obstacle course and a slow bike race. Neighbourhood Watch marked bikes with

postcodes to aid recovery of stolen bikes.

The second stage was a poetry workshop to encourage poems about cycling in English classes at Brookland School led by Paul Lyalls of *Apples & Snakes* followed by a poetry performance in Little Wood Open Air Theatre on June 15 where children recited their poems.

That was after the Tour de Suburb Treasure Trail starting and ending in Little Wood. This

involved some 200 young cyclists and their parents following clues round the Suburb. Refreshments stops were provided by volunteers at strategic points.

A picnic in the wood was followed by what is believed to be the Suburb's first outdoor film showing. The audience showed appreciation of *Breaking Away*, the story of a teenager mad about cycle racing.

Nancy Boulicault who chairs the Partnership and who was the

driving force behind the Festival said "It was an enormous effort but it was worth it" as she thanked all the helpers and those who gave support and prizes including Barnet Council, the Residents Association, HGS Trust, the HGS Institute, HGS Library, Waitrose, Hiltons of Golders Green, Atusa Photographic, Northway Tennis Centre and the Garden Suburb Gallery.

Disappointment

One of the objectives of the Festival was the placing of bicycle racks in the playgrounds of the schools because at present parents who do ride to school with their children have nowhere to leave their bikes and have to take them home again.

Barnet had agreed to install the racks but the governors of both Garden Suburb and Brookland schools felt they could not encourage cycling to school!

RICHARD WAKEFIELD

(Left) **Meadway June 15.** Dawn and Robert Orr and Jean Barraclough were among the dispensers of refreshments during the Tour de Suburb. Caspar Sutton-Jones, third from right, had been a winner of the Slow Bike Race on May 15.

(Above) **Brookland Junior head** Heather Blackstone with some of those who enjoyed the Bike Day at Brookland.



Barnet's LA21 officers Karen Fielding and Michael Lai help with registrations in Little Wood.

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Derek Chandler, HGS Neighbourhood Watch, stamps another bike.



Nancy Boulicault gets help from husband Pascal in lugging the film projector into place in Little Wood.

News, pictures, articles and letters are welcomed by the Editor, 26 Hampstead Way, NW11 7JL. Deadline for the Autumn issue is September 15 for publication October 27. Views expressed in Suburb News are those of the authors and not necessarily of the publishers, the Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association.

ON THE NET

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