



Brookland Junior head Heather Blackmore and Rudi Vis MP.



Please don't let it rain - Sheila Abbott Brookland Infants head

## Brookland Schools and the Queen share golden jubilees

There was a lot to talk about when representatives of fifty years of Brookland pupils got together to enjoy an evening's musical entertainment and picnic in the grounds of the Hill Top school.

Old girls and boys were labelled and grouped obediently by year as if still in awe of the teachers. Champagne corks popped and picnic rugs were spread during an evening in which the rain held off but everyone was in need of the warmth generated by feeling that we were all having a good time celebrating two jubilees. A tremendous firework display, which had been sponsored by the Residents Association ended a day to remember, a day when

all the proceeds were to go to the Queen's Charities.

Earlier, in a miracle of organisation 650 of today's schoolchildren, both junior and infant, were crocodile out of their form rooms to line up on the lawns where they entertained a large crowd of past governors, teachers and parents to a concert of songs through the last fifty years, followed by, of course, tea for all.

"We've never had the children from both schools together like this, it really is a very special occasion," said a relieved Sheila Abbott as everything went without a hitch and the applauding crowd called for an encore.

RICHARD WAKEFIELD



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## Tranquility at Garden Suburb Infants!

Jubilee Week at Garden Suburb Infant School coincided with the opening of the school's new 'Garden of Tranquility'.

TV celebrity Diana Coupland who has two grandchildren at the Infant and Junior school opened the garden.

Previously a derelict patch of ground adjacent to the school, it has now been transformed with flower beds (with flowers donated and planted by the children themselves), plants and shrubs chosen for colours, scent and shape, and a bamboo grove.

Paving stones, stepping stones, cobbles and decking provide a variety of textures for children to walk along and there are seating areas made from wood and stone.

Parents and children helped plant the privet hedging which will provide screening and security when it grows.

The 'Garden of Tranquility' has been constructed as part of the school's playground improvements and made possible through fund-raising events.



## Vandalism in Little Wood

Garden Suburb Theatre has raised concerns over outbreaks of vandalism in Little Oak Wood, where the group has just staged a hugely successful production of the *Taming of the Shrew*. In the run up to the show and during the period of the production itself, guttering was ripped away from the storage hut, cabling was torn down from the lights in the trees and toilet paper from the loos was strewn around the pavements and hung in festoons from the trees.

"It was a real nuisance because we had to call in a friendly electrician to put the cabling right and one show started late on account of it. Obviously vandalism and not crime for financial gain," suggests Tony Newton, GST publicity co-ordinator, "so it's probably kids mucking about. But if they do this, they can easily do damage to trees and gates and fences around people's houses. It's a shame that such a valuable amenity can be attacked like

this, so we would like to ask local wood users to keep an eye on the state of the place.

A while back we had slabs broken and break-ins and wouldn't have known unless a helpful dog-walking neighbour had told us."

If you see anything amiss, please contact the police and let one of the local GST members know - someone you know or Colin Gregory, 8455 0682, John Woolf, 8455 2625, or Debbie and David Lane, 8445 2269.

ERRATUM: The Residents Association's Yellow Directory gives the wrong number for the Garden Suburb Theatre. Tony Newton's number is 8888 1851.

News, pictures, articles and letters are welcomed by the Editor, 26 Hampstead Way, NW11 7JL. Deadline for the Autumn issue is September 20 for publication October 26. 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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