



## Just up our Street

By Joyce Arram

**In a classic example of good neighbourliness, Councillor Colin Rogers promised to find appropriate bunting for Summerlee Gardens' Neighbourhood Watch Golden Jubilee Street Party, the organisers' search having proved fruitless. True to his word, and at the eleventh hour, the bunting appeared and with the red, white and blue crepe streamers, the flags and balloons, Summerlee Gardens was transformed to look like the Mall.**

The day dawned bright, sunny and hot, the cul desac was cleared of all except residents' cars; the decorations went up; tables, chairs, bar football (a

great success with both children and adults) appeared; as did the wine, barbecue, food and music and, of course, the people.

Fireworks, courtesy of our grant from Barnet, had been ordered but by the time the party started there was still no sign of them. No-one panicked or, if they did, they did not show it. Eventually the party organising committee had to accept that the fireworks were not going to turn up. That was when a good neighbour, Dino, came to the rescue, casually mentioning that he just happened to have a "small stash of fireworks left over from Guy Fawkes in the shed". Frogmarched to the shed, the small stash of fireworks turned out to be a delightful display lasting around ten minutes, so once again the party (and our reputation) was saved.

Special gifts were provided for all the children (again courtesy of our Barnet council grant) streamers and party poppers were pounced on by young and old alike, new residents met and got to know their neighbours in congenial surroundings, food and drink were plentiful, it didn't rain and once again the Gardens notched up a successful social event. In addition, we raised £60 for the North London Hospice.

The missing fireworks? They eventually turned up on the following Monday afternoon, left on a doorstep in Summerlee Avenue! They will be used at the Gardens' annual Guy Fawkes fireworks display.

The Jubilee Street Party was organised by Guy and Dymphna Redmond, Mike and Jackie Randall and Joyce Arram, but input came from everyone who attended in the Gardens and helped to make it a success.



Vale Farm Horticultural Society show what your plot could be like

## Finding the Plot

By John Dearing

**The Tarling Road "kitchen gardens and allotments" are run by the Vale Farm Horticultural Society.**

In the last few years, the site has been reinvigorated and facilities are continually improving. Members grow a wide variety of vegetables, fruit trees, soft fruits and flowers in a pleasant and fertile environment. Plots are typically 125 or 250 square metres (5 or 10 poles) and rents start in the range of £10 - £17 per year for 125 sq. metres.

Facilities on-site include

flush toilets, water taps and troughs accessible to all plots, and composting facilities.

The secretary, Stella Burnett, has advised *THE ARCHER* that a plot will soon become available. For more information about this opportunity and to see the plot, contact Stella on 020-8444 7860. For more information about Vale Farm Horticultural Society, and pictures of the Tarling Road site and activities, visit their web site <http://www.btinternet.com/~initiative.cafe/vfhsb.html>.



Summerlee Gardens Jubilee Party. Photo by Joyce Arram

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