



SHOP OF THE MONTH

The Ridley Bagel Bakery

by Gwen Conacher

"This" said Ana, "is a BAYGEL. Not a Baggle, nor a Bargel." Ana Sanchez is in charge of the branch of the Ridley Bagel Bakery and Patisserie in the High Road, so she should know. She and her team are frequently amused by the various pronunciations of the classic 'Bagel'.

This shop is one of seven Ridley branches in East and North London. The head office and bakery are in Ridley Road, Dalston. Open 24 hours a day, the bakery is kept busy making

bagels and cakes which they despatch twice a day to all their shops. East Finchley alone gets through an average of six crates of bagels a day.

Rolling stock

Bagels, plain and filled, are popular with local residents and office workers. Of Jewish origin, they have a wide appeal and the shop has many regular customers.

Bought to eat at home, they are usually toasted and buttered. For snack lunches - takeaway or eaten at tables in the shop, they are available ready-filled with a variety of savoury and sweet mixtures and

served warm or cold. The excellent delicatessen in the shop offers a wide selection specialising in Jewish delicacies, such as gefilte and kosher salami. Soup and hot drinks are also on the menu.

Hard boiled

The chewy texture of bagel, which makes them a substantial midday meal, is due to the unusual method of cooking them. After the yeast dough is shaped, the bagels are first boiled, then baked.

Personally, I like bagels for breakfast, American-style, toasted with scrambled eggs and smoked salmon!



"Say baygel, not baggle," says Ana

CONTACT GROUP

10th Anniversary Celebration

To celebrate the 10th anniversary of the local contact group, an evening of songs from old time music hall provided by "The Confections" is being held on Friday 20 October from 7pm at St Mary's Church Hall, High Road, N2 for all connected with Contact now or in the past. A fish and chip supper is being served in the interval and transport can be arranged if required.

In 1985 a group of local people met together. They decided to give a little of their time to help those in East Finchley who were alone, or ill or disabled and whose lives might be improved with their support - calling in for a chat, helping with shopping, offering a lift, filling in forms, doing odd jobs, etc. and just being available to those who needed them.

Contact Support

Today, supported by Barnet Council, from an office in the Neighbourhood Centre,

Church Lane, co-ordinator Christine George, her assistant Pat, a volunteer committee and a team of willing volunteers try to answer the needs of the elderly. Over the years thousands of people have been helped and a changing team of volunteers have been able to answer their call. New recruits with a little spare time are always sought to enlarge this much valued service.

Tickets for the celebration are £5 each and a good evening out is promised. Any spare tickets may be booked by calling 0181 444 1162.

IN THE GARDEN

Coup De Grass

by Paul Savill

Worried about your lawn? Will it ever be quite the same again after the drought? In the first of a new series Paul Savill's know-everything-about-gardening neighbour in Lauradale Road has the answers.

"You've done it all wrong. In fact you shouldn't have done it at all..." So said my Lauradale Road neighbour the other day when he observed my efforts to revive my languishing lawn to health.

Like most lawns in East Finchley my lawn has been reduced from a handkerchief of green to a small brown patch by the summer drought. After so long without water will the damage be permanent?

So in my desire to help its recovery I went at it with scarifier, besom, fork and chemicals and as I was finishing, hot and tired, espied my neighbour coming through the side gate.

Lawn order

"Tch, tch, tch," he shook his head. "Why don't you talk to someone who knows what he's doing before you start? There's no need to worry. Nature always corrects itself. Now that the rain is here, the grass will grow a treat. Mark my words."

Still, after the bashing it had this summer from the heat, drought and trampling, it could in his view benefit from a major tonic in the form of what he calls "acupuncture and unction."

Forking hell

The acupuncture is his word for spiking and unction for top dressing. To be really effective both processes are necessary.

For spiking you can use a

fork, but it is hard, slow work and can create ridges in the lawn. Far more effective are the spiking machines on the market. These can be fitted with hollow tines which remove actual cores of soil and allow air and the dressing to penetrate deeply.

"Well worth the investment. Cheapskates like you will never have beautiful lawns," he guffawed.

Now the secret to healthy lawns does lie in the soil, so regular top dressings - which can penetrate the lawn by properly made holes - can do much to improve an existing lawn.

Loam arranger

My neighbour's recipe for this autumn's dressing prepared with the drought in mind is as follows: one portion of loamy soil, one portion of well-rotted manure, half a portion of leaf mold and half a portion of sharp sand. Mix well and apply at half a bucketful per square yard.

You can then apply what my neighbour describes as his "coup de grass"! That is a mixture of bonemeal and sulphate of potash mixed 2:1 applied at two tablespoons per square yard.

"Will work wonders on most lawns," said my neighbour. And then added after a pitiful look at my lawn: "Mind you, some are beyond help..."

Next month in *The Archer*: How to get hyacinths to bloom throughout the winter.

COMPETITION

For all those who enjoy "Call My Bluff" we have a quiz for you set on the same principle. We hope to make it the first in an eventual series so for the first one we have three words beginning with the letter A - all found in the Oxford English Dictionary together with three meanings for each. Can you choose the correct one? Answers with your name and address to be sent to *The Archer*, PO Box 3699, London N2 8JA. The first correct one out of the bag wins an *Archer* t-shirt.

ackamarackus

- A lively Portuguese dance for newly wed couples.
- A "tall story" intended to deceive its recipient.
- To be drunk on a strong sweet liqueur made from the marasca cherry.

albarello

- A sort of container especially for drugs.
- A small boat made of wicker-work and covered with skin used for pilgrimages.
- A rope making machine.

aclumsid

- To be stiff or numb.
- Small one-seeded fruit which does not open to release seed.
- An 18th century joke which failed to make a laugh.

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