

THE TEDDY-BEARS' PICNIC

ZENIA GRAVES

The Teddy Bears' Picnic and other events were held at Kearsney Abbey from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Monday, 21st May.

Children played on the Bouncing Castle all day. Train rides, Postman Pat, Uncle Mike's Walk-about, the Punch and Judy Show, Uncle Mike's Magic Show and the Frog Puppet Show were all enjoyed by children and adults.

The Trenty Folk Group, wearing Teddy Bear heads, entertained the crowds until it was time for the Teddy Bear's Rally. The Rally attracted teddy bears of all shapes and sizes. There were prizes for small teddies, large teddies, unusual teddies, best dressed teddies. The smallest teddies were earrings worn by an elderly lady. Adults with video-cameras abounded.

Another popular attraction was the Ramsgate Model Boats, many of them piloted by teddy bears. I liked the paddle steamer playing music to its 100 passengers; the landing craft and trailer and the coast guard model. The model, of the Bay Cruiser, was made by a boy when he was thirteen years old. All the parts were in working order, including seven separate lights and a small radio. I particularly liked the fisherman reading a one-and-a half inch Adscene paper. His sandwiches still looked good enough to eat!

Looking at the model boats brought back memories for me of my brother Jim making models and floating them at the Abbey.

Unfortunately the cold, windy weather drove away some of the crowd earlier than last year and the only places which were always packed were the café and the ice-cream parlour.

24th May - 5th June

THE UNIVERSITY OF THIRD AGE WHITE CLIFFS COUNTRY U3A

The Dover, Deal and Sandwich branch of the U3A was inaugurated during 1993. The aim of the U3A is the advancement of education for middle-aged and older people who are no longer in full-time employment. Courses have been arranged in:

LOCAL HISTORY - EXPLORING BRITAIN - ENGLISH LITERATURE - PLAY READING

INTERMEDIATE GERMAN - FRENCH CONVERSATION - APPRECIATION OF ART

SIMPLE MUSIC COMPOSITION - FLOWER ARRANGING - NEEDLECRAFT

Other courses are being developed ready for introduction in September.

People may join the U3A (£10) and meet the course leaders at Deal Library, 8th Sept, 2 - 4 p.m.. There is a small fee for each course, depending on the costs of running it. Alternatively intending members may enrol with Membership Secretary, Helen Ormiston, The Garden Flat, Oakmead, Marine Rd, Walmere. 0304 360643 or with Courses Secretary, Pat Grant, Branscombe, Upper St., Kingsdown, Deal. 0304 363991.