

THE CARAVAN CLUB

OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND
OFFICES: NEW OXFORD HOUSE, BLOOMSBURY WAY, LONDON, W.C.L. CHAncery 3569, 2791

NATIONAL CARAVAN RALLY, 1959 15th/19th May

The greatest national caravan rally in the world is being held in the grounds of Woburn Park next week-end and will be opened by His Grace The Duke of Bedford on Saturday, 16th May, at 12 noon.

The Rally is organised by THE CARAVAN CLUB OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND and is being held at Woburn for the second time. This year the Rally will be the largest in the history of caravanning and over 1,500 outfits will be attending. In fact it is a world record for Woburn.

The Rally will occupy about 120 acres of the Park and the grounds have been pegged out during the past week-end by members of the Club who live nearby. They have arranged for all the 1,500 places to be marked, put up direction signs, and carried out the plans of the Rally Committee in enabling the members of the Local Centres of the Club to be sited together.

Caravans of every touring type - from the small two berth models to the larger and more luxurious types - will be towed to Woburn from all parts of the United Kingdom. Many of their owners are entering for the competitions which include special ones for amateur built vans, and others for owners' individual improvements. There is also a "hardy annual" at this event - a competition for driving and involving skill in control of car and caravan.

There is to be a Church of England Service on Sunday morning which will be addressed by The Right Rev. The Lord Bishop of St. Albans.

Guests attending the Opening Ceremony will includ? Her Grace The Duchess of Bedford, the Duchess of Leinster, the Chairman of the Ampthill Rural District Council and the Mayor of Bedford.

7 Duke going wond.

H.C. WEBB & COMPANY LTD.

According

RADIO CONTROLLED ELECTRIC LAWNMOWER

Everything in a garden starts with a seed and so it was with the Radio Controlled Mower. The seed was a cartoon shortly before the War, which showed a man in a deckchair guiding his mower by radio. Just a laugh in those days, but subconsciously it must have been carried in the minds of several men destined to meet to create the centrepiece for the Times "Garden of Tomorrow" at the Chelsea Flower Show 1959.

Stimulated by the increasing shortage of garden labour, Mr. Roy Hay set out to create the "Garden of Tomorrow" to demonstrate the ways in which automation would help the gardener.

He asked H.C. Webb & Company Ltd., to design and build a Radio Controlled Lawnmower who, by coincidence, had already given thought to an allied idea. The challenge was seized and working with Mr. Atton of Atton Developments Limited, who co-operated on the radio side, an efficiently working radio controlled mower was created within less than three months. The chief task was to make a lawnmower chassis that could turn by its own effort, and by using a completely new concept of lawnmower design Webbs achieved a chassis which could be made to perform like a circus animal.

At the Chelsea Flower Show this amazing machine will be introduced to the public in the Times "Garden of Tomorrow" in actual operation, and a second model will be on Webbs Stand No.47 in Eastern Avenue.

This is not just a publicity stunt but a serious proposition. It is not, however, in production, but is a product of 'tomorrow' - a peep into the not too distant future.

Many problems remain to be solved and possibly advances made to complete automation.

Technical features of the Radio Controlled Lawnmower are - 14" cutting width, centre drive, 60 cuts per yard, speed 1.82 m.p.h., independent four corner suspension to ride the undulations, 24 volt battery operated 3rd h.p. traction motor running at 1450 r.p.m., and a miniature radio transmitter measuring 94" x 64" x 3" fitted with two switches which is used by the operator. On the mower is a multi-stage receiver operating on 27 m/cs. This has integral relays and is actuated by varying audio-frequencies.

Zoological Society of London

THE CHIMPANZEES! TEA PARTY

Press Preview

The company of eight Chimpanzees starring in this year's Chimpanzees' Tea Party include two veterans who are beginning their third season. They are Fifi and Jubi, who came to the Zoo in March 1957.

They are joined by Charlie, who shared T.V. honours last year with Congo, in Granada's "Zoo Time", and three others, Ann, Beebee and Lou who arrived at the Zoo last Autumn.

The babies in the party are Josie and Sam - both about 2t years old - both previously kept as pets - Sam in the British Cameroons and Josie in Sierra Leone. Josie, who is solemn and quiet is a firm favourite with many of the staff. Sam made his boisterous appearance at the beginning of April and displays a strongly individual character, showing a marked tendency to "try things out" to see how they work. He is still a trifle abandoned in his table-manners!

The Chimps. Tea Party will take place on the Tea Party Lawn, at 4.30 p.m. on Whit Saturday and Monday - weather permitting - and will continue on weekdays throughout the summer, when the weather is fine.

The Children's Zoo is at present being re-constructed, and will be opened to the public early next month. Amongst the new buildings under construction is a Den where the young Chimpanzees will be on view when they are not having tea out on the lawn.