

Queen Mum at double garden party



● Crowds line up to catch a glimpse of the Queen Mother.



● Rose Metcalfe stands proudly by the Queen Mother as she visits Goldsmith Lane.



● Margaret Wilson shows the Royal visitor round her Wakham Hill Avenue garden.

TWO green-fingered Kingsbury families received the Royal seal of approval on their work last week.

For her Majesty the Queen Mother dropped by — just to take a look at their gardens.

John and Margaret Wilson, of Wakeman Hill Avenue, and Frank and Rose Metcalfe, of Goldsmith Lane were chosen for the visit by The London Garden Society.

The Queen Mother, who is patron of the society later went on to plant a tree on Roe Green and visit Kingsbury Police Office in The Mall and the Met's adjacent area seven HQ.

Hundreds of people turned out on Wednesday last week to welcome her at each location.

First stop was the Wilson home in Wakeman Hill Avenue. The elderly couple stood expectantly at the door as the Royal limousine glided to a halt outside their house.

"It was quite a day for us," said Mrs Wilson afterwards. "The Queen Mother met some of our family and friends and we showed her around the garden.

"She was very charming. I was more nervous of her large entourage but they kept in the background."

The Royal mini-tour halted next at the immaculate front and back gardens of Frank and Rose Metcalfe in Goldsmith Lane.

"It was the biggest honour I have ever been accorded," said Mrs Metcalfe. "The Queen Mother was very interested and obviously knowledgeable about gardening."

Mrs Metcalfe added: "The gardens are very much a family affair, with my husband and son Frank doing their bit too."

Delighted local people were then allowed a close-up view of the Queen Mother as she walked the short distance from Goldsmith Lane to plant a tree on Roe Green.

"We were all very nervous before she arrived," said Mrs Doris Lynne, secretary of Roe Green Village Residents Association.

"You just don't want anything going wrong on a day like that."

Her association had asked The London Garden Society if the Queen Mother would agree to plant the tree when they heard she was coming to the area.

Senior police officers later greeted the Queen Mother when she rounded off her tour at the area seven HQ in The Mall.