



**Digging in:** Left, Geoff Woodlidge at Beapole Day in Caversham Court Gardens with a reconditioned turfing iron. Right, Barry and Judith Oliver with their beapoles.

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**Sweet celebration:** Right, John and Anne Booth from Reading Friends of The Earth, with Linda Roggison from Reading and District Beekeepers Association at the Beapole Day at Caversham Court Gardens. Far right, Elsie, four, and Esme Vugler, six, with their bamboo wands.

**PHOTOS: MIKE SWIFT**



# Going green for Beapole Day

THE sun beamed down over Caversham on Saturday when keen gardeners, allotment holders and conservationists showed their support for a popular project.

Groups from across the borough set up stalls at Caversham Court Gardens on one of the warmest days of the year so far for the annual Beapole Day, organised by conservation volunteers from Econet, RSPB, Reading And

District Natural History Society, Friends Of The Earth, Reading And District Beekeepers and Food4Families were among the organisations at the event, on Saturday, April 20, and visitors were able to tour the gardens and buy vegetables and plants.

Royal Berkshire Hospital's League Of Friends served tea and coffee throughout the day. Advertising was sponsored by Caversham estate agents Farmer & Dyer. Organiser Jude

Oliver said: "The day went very well, the sun was shining and it felt that spring had arrived at last!

"The gardens were looking lovely thanks to volunteers and stall proceeds from the bean poles and pea sticks will go towards their insurance and other equipment needed for their conservation work.

"A lovely day, thank you to all who supported us."

