We cajoled Howard into writing a short poem on the garden party, and it seems he had a little trouble with his research, so we got him to tell us about it – in verse of course!

## Howard's Ode to the Party

There's a party coming in the vicar's garden,
And I know it's going to be a lot of fun.
You pass the church's gate,
And you just keep going straight.
I do so hope you'll really try to come.
There's a stall for Mum and dad, and children too,
And the band will play a tune,
On the twenty-ninth of June,
Just for you.

'There are fairies at the bottom of our garden.'
That's a poem, of course, that everybody knows.
I asked to have a look
At a Bradford library book.
But they hadn't got it there!
Well it just shows.
So they telephoned to Trowbridge for a copy.
And even they admitted failure. Fancy that!
But Chippenham weren't avers,
To an Oxford Children's Verse Photostat.

with apologies to Rose Fyleman and thanks to Wiltshire Libraries, via Telex!

**Howard Brayton** 

June 1974