

BRENTHAM SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER NO. 17

APRIL 1972

Chairman: Clive Hicks
72 Brentham Way. Hon. Sec.: Tony Scanlan,
3 Winscombe Cros.

RECENT ACTIVITIES

Theatre Party: About fifteen members joined the party to see "The Canterbury Tales" on 27th March, and had an enjoyable evening. We shall be pleased to arrange another theatre visit if there is sufficient demand and if the Committee can receive suggestions as to suitable plays.

Visit to Blenheim: Our coach outing on 16th April proved very popular and was fully booked. We were privileged to have a specially conducted tour of the palace, with no other visitors present, and our official guide was most helpful and informative. We then walked through the park to Bladon church to see Sir Winston Churchill's grave. An excellent tea awaited us at Woodstock, after which we drove home through the Chilterns.

This experiment in "Brentham Tours" was so much appreciated that we are repeating it (see below). The Committee would like to make it clear that all our social activities are self-financing and are not a charge on the Society's funds.

COMING EVENTS

Perivale in Bluebell Time: Don't forget our visit to Perivale nature reserve and bird sanctuary on Sunday, 7th May. Meet at Perivale station at 2.15 p.m. If you would like a lift to the station, please give your name in advance to Maureen Aarons, 8 Winscombe Crescent (997 7961).

Choral Group: The next meeting will be on Wednesday, 10th May at 8.p.m. at 14 Neville Road, by kind invitation of Mrs. Harris. All "singers" welcome.

Children's May Day: The annual ceremony of the crowning of the May Queen, maypole dancing and procession through the estate will take place on Saturday, 13th May. This activity is organised by the Brentham Club, Meadvale Road, who will welcome the support of all residents. Admission to the Club for the crowning ceremony and dancing is by programme, on sale in advance or at the door.

Kite Flying Competition: In connection with the Festival of London, a kite flying competition is to take place on Horsenden Hill on Saturday afternoon 6th May. Details from Information Dept., Town Hall.

JUNE OUTING

Stourhead, Wilts: The Committee proposes to arrange a coach excursion to Stourhead in south-west Wiltshire, on Sunday, 11th June. This is a Palladian villa with extensive gardens planned around an artificial lake, with rustic

cottages, temples and grottoes - an outstanding example of eighteenth century picturesque landscaping, "the most beautiful form of gardening ever created" (Pevsner, Buildings of England). The route will involve a drive of about 3 hours, passing Stonehenge and other points of interest, and we shall have a picnic lunch on the outward journey.

Provided we can fill the coach - with a maximum of 40 places, we expect that the cost, including tea, can be kept under £2. To reserve places, please give names to Brian Fallon, 12 Winscombe Crescent (997 1056) before the end of May. No further announcement will be made except to those applying.

WHY NOT JOIN THE FORUM?

Older residents may be interested to hear about the progress of Ealing Forum (see January Newsletter) as described by a member:

"The Ealing Forum has now been accepted as a valuable medium for senior citizens who, having retired from business and professional work, wish not to become frustrated in the years ahead. From the first general meeting, it was apparent that there are many people needing such a movement, in which knowledge and interests can be shared. The monthly meeting takes place at St. John's Church lounge on a Tuesday afternoon at 2.30. There is generally a good speaker at such meetings and a pleasant break for tea and biscuits. - D.B.H."

In addition, many special interest groups have been formed, e.g. Archeology, Bridge, Current Affairs, the Arts, Nature Study and Travel. The secretary is Mr. Ray Holt, 4 The Corner, Grange Park, W.5. (Tel. 567 5468 between 5 and 6.30 p.m.). The next general meeting is on Tuesday, 16th May.

A CHANCE OF A HOLIDAY

Ealing Central Old People's Welfare Committee is organising a holiday for the "active elderly" at Cliftonville, Margate, from 2nd to 16th September. Two parties will go for one week each, and the very modest charge of £2 includes transport and board-residence. We are asked to point out that rooms are shared, and those going must be fit to climb stairs. Names should be given in the first instance to Tony Oliver, 48 Denison Road, before the end of May; completed application forms should be returned to the OPW Committee by 1st June.

FOR KEEN (AND NOT SO KEEN) GARDENERS

Situation Vacant: We badly need another hedge-cutter to assist Mr. Billy Harris in his task of keeping Brentham's gardens tidy. He cannot take on any more work at present and we have a long waiting-list of residents needing help. Is there any retired or part-time worker who would like to take on this job? We should make it clear that the work is paid for at an hourly rate. If you are interested, or know of a suitable man, please inform Brian Fallon (997 1056).

Prize for the Best-Kept Garden: The Brentham Horticultural Society is this year reviving the competition for the best-kept front garden, i.e. that part of your ground which is visible from the road. A handsome silver cup is awaiting delivery to the prize-winner, who will be selected on the results of two inspections to be carried out by officers of the BHS in June and September respectively. There is no need to "enter" for this competition; all gardens on the estate will automatically be considered.

EALING IN PERSPECTIVE

As a contribution to the Festival of London, the public libraries are issuing a portfolio of collotype prints, reproducing 14 pictures of buildings and scenes in old Ealing, Acton and Southall from 1760-1920. The plates will be accompanied by notes on the illustrations. "A Prospect of Ealing" will be available at all libraries in the borough from 1st June, price £1.75. Copies may be ordered in advance without pre-payment, from the Central Reference Library (567 3456 ext. 684).