



Brentham Garden Estate, Ealing

NEWS

Notes from the Chair

Spring is definitely in the air and our gardens are coming to life again with spring flowers and beautiful blossom.

The new year is time of membership renewal. You should soon be receiving an envelope for your subscription, still a bargain at £2 per household, and a donation if you wish to make one. Last year 53% of households subscribed and a large number gave a donation; can you help to make this millennium year a record membership year?

If you are a new resident welcome to Brentham. I hope you'll be happy living here. If you haven't yet received your welcome pack please let me know.

Our notice boards have informed residents across the whole estate that two revised planning applications have been received for developments at Brentham Club. As I wrote in an earlier newsletter the proposed developments are probably the largest on the estate since it was built and would alter the nature of part of our conservation area. The plans are to come before the Planning Committee of Ealing Council on 3rd May.

Our first event of the year, a talk and slide show by Michael Rowley entitled "Lessons from a Dream", telling the story of Hampstead Garden Suburb, was well attended. It was fascinating to learn more of our sister suburb, in some ways so similar to, yet in other ways so different from Brentham.

I hope you'll enjoy this newsletter, we welcome any contributions.

Heather Moore (☎ 020 - 8998 - 0234)

Don't be dished

Subtlety and satellite dishes don't usually go together and on an Article IV Conservation Area like Brentham, their installation can sometimes be problematic. Planning guidelines place restrictions on where you can put them on Brentham buildings, but improvements in dish design and technology now mean that there are dishes which meet the guidelines and blend in with the surroundings. A large white dish of the old kind, recently installed on the estate, attracted a number of complaints to Ealing's Planning Department. But the owner was able to replace it with a much smaller and neater dish at ground floor level with no loss of reception quality, so everyone was happy. If you'd like more information about the possibilities contact Pat Baxendale.

One of the alternatives is of course cable but that brings with it those ugly cabinets you may have seen appear on Pitshanger Lane. The company responsible was made to apply for retrospective planning permission and although, on this occasion, were not asked to re-site the cabinets they have been told by Ealing Council that, in future, planning permission must be sought in advance and that the Council will insist on installations being in keeping with the aims of conservation. But think of it this way - it won't be long before the whole estate is cabled which could lead to the demise of all television ariels and telegraph poles, themselves hardly aesthetically pleasing!

However don't get complacent - if you see any work commencing ring the Council to check on the existence of planning consent.

Pat Baxendale (☎ 020 - 8998 - 1855)

Centenary Book

**Your last chance to buy shares -
scheme closes in April.**

Despite a number of exciting developments, this is a short report for this edition of *Brentham News* as the second edition of the *Brentham Centenary Book Newsletter* will be out in March with all the latest book news in detail, but here are some key headlines:

- The great news is that we've raised over £23,000 so far, thanks to tremendous local support.
- The Co-Partnership Share Scheme continues to be a huge success; we've sold over 250 shares, raising over £10,000 by this means alone.
- Ealing's Mayor, Cllr Phillip Portwood, and Ealing North MP Steve Pound will be presented with share numbers 200 and 250 respectively, on the estate at lunch time on Thursday 9th March. We're hoping to involve some of Brentham's long-standing residents, and make the presentation outside a Brentham house if the weather is fine.
- 30 businesses in Pitshanger Lane have now signed up as Business Shareholders - with promises of more to come. We thank them for their support.
- Aileen Reid has delivered most of the manuscript, and it's rather more than we expected. It's all fascinating stuff, so the book will be larger than originally planned - 256 pages. It will be full of illustrations - more than 200, including some in full colour. All this will cost more than our original estimate, so we've had to extend our fund raising target to £30,000.
- The Brentham Heritage Society, the offshoot of the Brentham Society set up to organise things like the centenary book, has had its charitable status approved in principal by the Charity Commissioners. We're sure this will boost our fundraising efforts with trusts and foundations.

If you haven't bought your Individual or Family share or you are encouraging someone else to buy one, the Scheme must close on 30th April to ensure that all names are included in the book.

Don't delay - buy your share today!

Sue Elliott (☎ 020 - 8998 - 9978)

Brentham May Day

The annual Brentham May Day will this year be held on Saturday 20th May. Enrolment will be on Thursday 30th March in the Millennium Hall and rehearsals begin on Thursday 6th April. For more details:

Contact: Pat Baxendale (☎ 020 - 8998 - 1855)

What's in a name?

We live on the Brentham Estate, belong to the Brentham Society and participate in a number of Brentham activities - but how is "Brentham" pronounced? The editor received the following note recently:

"I am not the oldest or even the longest inhabitant of the estate but I have been here for over 70 years since my parents moved into Winscombe Crescent with my two brothers and me in 1930 so I can claim a pretty long acquaintance with it.

When we kids were asked we always said we lived in "Brent_ham" (ie the village on the Brent) not "Bren_tham", a meaningless word which seems to be creeping in more and more of late.

Surely conservation should embrace all aspects including the name of our lovely estate.

Barbara Murray - Winscombe Crescent "

Do you have a view?

Contact: The Editor 47 Meadvale Road



House Plans

The archives have acquired from Ealing Council copies of original plans of most of the houses on the estate. In order to help recoup our costs we'd be happy to offer copies to anyone interested for a small charge.

Contact: Eleanor Cowie (☎ 020 - 8998 - 1792)

Gardens and Allotments

Garden awards 1999

At the AGM last October Pam Turner announced the winners of the 1999 garden awards. Three runners up were :



5 Brunner Road : predominance of greys, with a mass of climbers over the porch.



57 Meadvale Road : at 45° to the road making two contrasting triangles, one green and shady the other full of colour around the door.



16 Woodfield Crescent : a tiny north facing garden, neat and full of variety.



The Rose Bowl goes to
5 Ludlow Road

A delightful mix of formal and informal. Four standard enonymus are perfectly in character with the Edwardian cottage.

Congratulations to all the winners.

Open Garden Day

Following the success last year of the Brentham Garden Open Day this year's event is planned for Sunday 16th July. Would you like to open your garden this year - big or small, formal or informal, we're looking for enthusiasm rather than perfection.

Contact : Rosanna Henderson (☎ 020-8998-6550)

Ever thought of market gardening?

Allotments have always played an integral part of Brentham and there used to be annual horticultural shows where residents would display their produce.

There are a number of plots within the boundary of the estate but there is also a large site between Brunswick Road and the Western Avenue where the Brentham Allotment and Gardens Society is based. The society has existed for 60 years and

membership of the society is £2. Members can buy seeds, fertilisers and tools at much reduced prices from the trading hut which is open on Sunday and Wednesday mornings throughout the year. There are some plots available for rent at approximately £50/year although reductions apply for pensioners - but you don't have to rent a plot to be a member and take advantage of the trading hut. The society is in danger of closing down due to a drop in membership over the last ten years and is looking for new members. Their annual general meeting is on Sunday 19th March - come and give your support.

Perhaps we can reinstate the horticultural displays - any takers ?

For more information on the society :

Contact : Ted Field (☎ 020 - 8997 - 4726)

Allotment for sale

between Brunner Road and Brentham Way

Contact : Mark Greenwood (☎ 020 - 8998 - 1064)

Garden Gates



New Brentham style garden gates have started appearing on the estate. Joiners Hanson (Ironbridge) Ltd. offered a 10% discount if 5 or more gates were ordered and a number of residents have

benefited from the offer. Hanson's would welcome the opportunity to make more and in fact have one in stock for immediate delivery. Jan Wood of Meadvale Road was one of the first to place an order and would be happy to provide more details.

Contact : Jan Wood (☎ 020 - 8991 - 2476)

Plant sale - cuttings wanted

There will be a plant sale on the green opposite the Brentham Club on Brentham May Day. Anyone wishing to offer cuttings from their own garden please get in touch:

Contact : Gill Silvester (☎ 020 - 8997 - 9280)

A summary of dates for your diary. Those not specifically organised by the Brentham Society will have a Brentham presence!

2000 EVENTS - CALENDAR

Spring Craft Fair (Methodist Hall)	18th March (Saturday)
Ealing Art Group (Millennium Hall)	29th April (Saturday)
May Day & Plant Sale	20th May (Saturday)
Brentham Cycle	18th June (Sunday)
Strawberry Tea	25th June (Sunday)
Countryside Weekend (Horsenden Hill)	1st/2nd July (Saturday/Sunday)
Garden Day	16th July (Sunday)
Family Picnic & Sports Day X	July (date to be arranged)
Launch of Centenary Book	mid September
Canal & Heritage Fair (Elthorne Park Extension)	17th September (Sunday)
Open House Weekend	23rd/24th September (Saturday/Sunday)
AGM (Millennium Hall)	19th October (Thursday)
Craft Fair (Methodist Hall)	November (date to be advised)
Carol Singing	December (date to be advised)

Lost and Found



A lady's collapsible umbrella - white with black "crazy paving" pattern was found at the AGM in October last year.

One pair of gent's brown leather gloves found at the slide show at the beginning of March

Contact : Wendy Sender (☎ 020 - 8997 - 4123)

HELP WANTED

X Enthusiastic Organiser The Family Picnic and Sports Day was cancelled last year due to lack of a coordinator. The committee is looking for someone to take on organisation of the event. Could it be you? Contact : Wendy Sender (☎ 020 - 8997 - 4123)

£ Chartered/Certified Accountant

We need a Chartered or Certified Accountant in Brentham who would be willing to spend a few hours just once a year to review and sign off the Society's Accounts. If you are interested : Contact : Sue van Raat (☎ 020 - 8991 - 5467)

Ealing Art Group

On Saturday 29th April, at the Millennium Hall, the Ealing Art Group are holding a sale of original paintings and craft. All tastes and media are catered for and framed or mounted original work will be offered for sale at attractive prices. Sale opens at 10-00am and closes at 5-00pm. Admission is free.

Ealing Art Group has about 130 local artists and craft members from beginners to professionals. New members are always welcome and all levels are catered for. The group offers :

- exhibitions - both indoor and open air
 - demonstrations - by professional artists
 - appreciation evenings - discussing work
 - studio evenings - with model or still life
 - sketching parties - to places of interest
- At the sale, you will be able to meet Ealing Art Group members, see their work (hopefully buy some) and if you wish learn more about the group's activities. Alternatively : ☎ 020 - 9998 - 5662

David Webster - Meadvale Road

Condolences to the family and friends of Mike House, Chairman of the Brentham Club, who died recently after a short illness.

Congratulations to Committee member Polly Fenech and husband Simon of Ludlow Road on the safe arrival of Joseph, a brother for Sophie, born on 23rd February.