

BRENTHAM CLUB MAGAZINE

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EDITORIAL

CHRISTMAS

Once more it is on us—the Festival of Christmas—with tinsel and tumult, frustration and nightmare shopping excursions.

Originally a Mass in memory of the birth of Christ, it is rapidly becoming a commercial phenomena. You disagree! Then look around. Christmas has come to mean booming business. It's a heyday! It means sales, sales, SALES. But should it be a mere transaction? Thrust aside cynicism for a moment. We know the Christmas we all cherish. The real message of Christmas—"Peace on earth, goodwill to all men"—must not lose its great significance. This spirit is in the story of each and every family. Let it become part of our lives, if only for a few weeks, and the world will be a happier place.

In this, the last Editorial for 1951, we take the welcome opportunity of conveying our Best Wishes for Christmas and the coming New Year to all our friends and readers.

THE BRENTHAM PLAYERS

The first production of the season, "A Lady Mislaid," was played to appreciative audiences on November 29th and 30th and December 1st. A criticism of the cast's performance appears elsewhere in this issue.

The second production, "Bonaventure," a three-act play by Charlotte Hastings, will be given on January 31st and February 1st and 2nd, 1952. The action of the play passes in the Convent of Our Lady of Rheims, a French Nursing Order, at Denzil St. David, a village some miles from Norwich. The time is the beginning of 1947 and owing to heavy rains and rising floods a number of people seek refuge in the Convent. Among these are Sarat Carn, a woman artist convicted of murdering her brother, and the prison warder and wardress who are escorting her to the county gaol. The unexpected and dramatic developments in this unusual setting forms the subject of a thrilling drama.

When it is remembered that the scenes of this play are laid in an ancient Convent, our supporters will appreciate the problem with which the Players are faced in view of the narrow limits of Brentham stage. We are confident that the difficulties will be overcome and that our audiences will not be disappointed.

The Players are fortunate in having obtained the services of Mr. F. I. Blackstaffe as producer, a newcomer to Brentham and to whom we extend a hearty welcome.

Box Office opens Friday, January 18th, 1952, at 8 p.m. Honorary membership of Brentham Players with ticket privileges for the two remaining productions can now be obtained for 5s.

BRENTHAM AND ITS SOCIAL LIFE (continued)

It has been interesting to the writer, as I hope it has to the readers, to follow the fortunes of the Club and what might be termed its "growing pains." The particular problems which faced the early Committees were principally provided by those residents who were anxious to make the "Institute" a centre for various types of educational activities on the one hand, and those who merely wished to entertain and be entertained. As we know, the latter class won in the long run. I do not wish to imply that there was any ill feeling in the process. It was the natural enthusiasm in being in possession of a spacious new Club, and, for some unknown reason, a Garden Suburb seems to attract in its early days a fair proportion of residents who wish to push some "ism" or other. So we had Esperanto classes, folk dancing, art and other classes, besides outside bodies who wished to hire the halls for their own pet Societies. In addition to all these, the very enthusiastic people who became responsible for the entertainment of the children made great demands on the Club Committee for the production of children's operettas, library, games room, etc. The ladies, too, formed a Ladies Section of the Club, having their own room with a three-quarter size billiard table in what is now part of the Steward's quarters. The Club owes much to the ladies. They did a tremendous amount of work in providing furnishings for the Club by sales of work and "American teas." By these efforts they also purchased the piano which is still in use in the large hall, and Mrs. Taylor reminds me that it cost £80 in 1923 and that she was one of a small party who went to town to choose it.

It will be remembered that in a previous number I mentioned the original plans prepared by the architect for a greatly enlarged structure of the Club. It was intended that the full scheme should ultimately be carried out. The pressure of the Educational Committee, the Children's Committee, and the ever-increasing social activities prompted the Central Committee to approach Ealing Tenants, Ltd., with a view to early completion of the building scheme. This was in 1922, the 21st birthday year of the Estate, when it was known that Mr. Hutchings, then Chairman of Ealing Tenants, was anxious to have the work carried out. However, it got no further than a meeting with the Directors, when a promise was made that it would be seriously considered when the Estate was fully developed; so the 21st birthday celebrations consisted of elaborate parties given by Ealing Tenants to the children on the Estate.

It will be appreciated that when the grounds were purchased they were not playing fields, but rough pasture with the marks of furrows of the old-time wheat fields, and that the devotees of outdoor games were no less pressing than the indoor sections of the Club for improved conditions. So the Directors of Ealing Tenants were approached for a grant for a grounds improvement scheme. They were willing to co-operate with the members with the object of a lay out of the grounds in accordance with a scheme which we had already prepared, the arrangement being that Ealing Tenants would accept contributions from members to be treated as loans repayable with interest at 5 per cent., Ealing Tenants agreeing to double the amount contributed and expend it on the grounds. The members' loan contributions totalled about £300, which were eventually repaid with interest, and Ealing Tenants, Ltd., paid the bills of the contractors. The croquet lawn vanished to make way for the hard courts, which cost £660; the first bowling green was laid, but unfortunately it proved a dismal failure; land drainage was installed, children's swings and other apparatus placed on the grounds, and general improvements effected, which gave the groundsmen a real start in upkeep.

All this time, as will be seen, Ealing Tenants, Ltd., continued to finance the Club generously, but kept a tight hand on the policy. A grant of upwards of £1,000 a year was made to the Club, which had little effective income of its own; only residents were eligible for membership, the subscription was merely nominal, but so was the rent for the Club and grounds. There had been a long agitation for permission to open the grounds for play on Sundays, the Cricket Section especially pressing. Up to the year 1922, even in the London public

park, play was prohibited on Sundays, but in that year the L.C.C. reversed its decision, which gave the Club Committee another opportunity to renew its request, and we obtained the necessary permission provided no play commenced before mid-day and that no work of any kind devolved upon the grounds staff or the Steward. In any event the Club buildings was to remain closed. As a matter of fact, the brake placed on the Club Committee in many respects became a source of irritation. Even the Steward was nominated by Ealing Tenants, employed in the building of houses on the Estate during the day and opening the Club at 7 o'clock in the evening, 2 o'clock on Saturdays. Under these conditions, however, it can be said that the Club was successfully supplying the social needs of its members.

The only absolute "flops" that occur to me were amongst the lettings of the hall to outside organisations. I recall a well-advertised League of Nations meeting. There were the pamphlets on the chairs, the bevy of Stewards, the Chairman of the meeting and the speakers—but no audience. A crank "medical" lecturer of the Doctor Coué type, complete in boiled shirt, black-board and diagrams. He suffered the same fate. A geologist with specimens, lantern and screen found only a few children, the Chairman and myself. He was very disgruntled. It had been advertised as under the auspices of a religious society.

J. G. T.

"A LADY MISLAID"

On all counts Brentham Players' opening of their 1951-52 season can be reckoned a winner. Eileen Phillips's production of "A Lady Mislaid" must have been one of the first amateur presentations, but not only that, it was a straightforward and competent piece of work. "Honours even" best describes the cast. All the characters were put over clearly, without fuss, and if Winifred Carpenter gets first mention as Mrs. Small, the "daily lady," the part itself deserves it and she made the most of her opportunities. Pat Jarvis and Edith Turner played the sisters who take over a country cottage for peace and quiet. Life with them was realistic if hardly restful. Edward George took the part of the sleuth all out to find a body in the cottage somewhere. We all hope his success as an archaeologist instead will not lead him to desert the stage he ornaments so well. Stanley Turner came on under a cloud of suspicion as Mr. Smith the murderer, but retired with several simultaneous marriages to his credit—nice work, Mr. Smith. Pauline Vince didn't have much chance to tell us how she put up with him for a husband, but we all felt sympathetic with her and with George (Ian Stevens), attached to the "literary" sister.

Your reviewer unwisely laid a bet that Alan Flatman was a natural for Bullock, but the loss is tempered as he can reveal that it was that gentleman who creaked so audibly at the hinges throughout the play. A well sustained performance—and that goes for all the cast and also for all the energetic and hardworked people behind the scenes (in both senses).

The next play, "Bonaventure," by Charlotte Hastings, is a very dramatic thriller in a most unusual setting—something we shall all look forward to with great interest.

GOLF SECTION

The final results of the Annual Competitions were not available for publication in the last issue, so here they are:—

EVENT	WINNER	RUNNER-UP
Club Championship ...	Frank Froome	Bill Cobbett
Ladies' Handicap ...	Mrs. Fletcher	Mrs. K. Brown
Men's Handicap ...	J. Howard	S. Clifford
Pairs Handicap ...	Mrs. Edwards	Mrs. P. Burrows
	Tommy Field	Bill Cross
Putting Competition ...	Jock Stirret	Tommy Field
		Bill Burrows
Charity Cup ...	Mr. L. L. Edwards	Mr. Edward George

Hail to the new Club Champ! May he never again miss a six-inch putt! Mrs. Fletcher, the Ladies' Champion, has made such a habit of winning this event that when eventually the Cup does leave her sideboard, what an awkward empty space there will be.

Just prior to these notes being written we have had our first taste of winter conditions. That little babbling brook that bounds three sides of our course decided to become a raging torrent, and half the course was flooded.

The Committee regret that punts cannot be hired for retrieving balls lost in the lakes, but we do possess "special instruments," or "ball retrievers," for this purpose, and these are *not* for the exclusive use of one member.

It is pleasing to see so many members braving the weather and keeping their eye and hand in whenever conditions will permit. The ball may behave more erratically than usual and one eye may be on a bigger ball on the football field, but it is good fun.

The general opinion seems to indicate that our "Do" of October 13th was a howling success. This is gratifying to those who organised the event, to the performers, and those who worked behind the scenes. It would be nice to have a greater success next year, but how shall we do it? Anyone got any ideas?

We hope to announce the date of the A.G.M. early in the New Year and that all members will attend, so that an early start can be made on a new season's events.

We look forward to seeing many new members, who will be heartily welcomed.

McPUTTY.

Stop Press.—Please keep Saturday, February 16th, free to attend our Whist Drive. Tickets 1s. 6d. each.

TABLE TENNIS SECTION

The teams have all had rather a lean time so far in their League programmes. The ladies, having been promoted, are finding it more difficult to win, although they always give a good account of themselves and make the opposition fight hard. Miss K. Leary, our ladies' team captain, has been selected to represent the League in an inter-League match and other of our ladies have been for trials.

The draws for the Club championships have been made and these should now be well under way. It is to be hoped that the New Year will bring the teams a change of fortune. The paucity of promising youngsters in the men's playing strength is a matter for some concern.

BRENTHAM F.C.

The season opened a week earlier than in previous years, giving most of the players at least two friendlies before embarking into the Southern Amateur League programme and Cup-ties. The training evenings were well attended and the increased membership made necessary the formation of a 4th XI. The new Match Secretary, Jack Howard, has been very successful in arranging at least twelve fixtures for this team at short notice.

The 1st XI opened with their usual friendly with Hendon Strollers, and then played three successive League games in Division 2 in which maximum points were obtained. The team never showed impressive form but scored the goals and collected the spoils. Newcomer Don Clark was introduced at centre forward in the early games and scored both goals to defeat Old Parkonians. In the first home match, against Borough Polytechnic, fortunes fluctuated. Two first half goals by Peter Hayes were discounted early in the second half, but the forwards added a third, and two converted penalties gave the team victory. In the following game, Lensbury, the visitors, showed brilliant football in the first twenty minutes, but during this period we snatched two goals. The second half showed us in command, and the team settled down into a sound combination and proved worthy winners when Norman Reed added a brilliant fourth goal.

The first defeat, after five victories, was at the hands of Bank of England. Conditions were "sticky" and the Bank's impressive display gave them both points. This defeat was rather ironical for it followed a midweek tactical talk when the officially appointed coaches, Mr. F. Ahl and Mr. J. Brewster, met the team and assisted in the discussion of the team's play. In the Middlesex F.A. Senior Cup the side met Rayners Lane, and a chartered coach took players and supporters to Rayners Lane. With muddy surface and a high wind, we had first half advantage, and a four-goal lead was built up by half-time. Despite a great display by our side, Rayners Lane drew level in the second half and won in extra time. The team gave their best performance of the season in this match, and might easily have won even after the scores were level. The following week the team travelled to Derby to meet Derby All Blacks in the

A.F.A. Senior Cup. Eight supporters cheered the side to a well-earned victory in which the forward line sparkled.

The Reserves settled down into an improved combination in the early part of the season, and in the League have gained five points from five matches. Prior to their injuries, Alan Trueman and Philip Bateman added punch to the forward line, and Norman Allsopp has shown good form on the left wing, scoring four goals against Carshalton when the team recorded a brilliant win. Raymond Lewry has played a dominant part in keeping the defence together, and Graham Miles has never looked back since his promotion. The side were unlucky not to gain a point at Alexandra Park, when the ball would not find the net, but they showed their scoring power when Kew Association were easily defeated. In the Middlesex A.F.A. Junior Cup two rounds were played. A visit to Old Glendalians resulted in a narrow win, while in watery conditions the Board of Trade played well and defeated us. In the A.F.A. Junior Cup, the Polytechnic were our opponents, and with late changes in our side we were defeated after leading at half-time. Further injuries handicapped the team in the second half and the robust Poly. team replied with three goals.

The 3rd XI have made great progress in their programme and up to December 1st held an unbeaten League record. A number of newcomers have retained regular places in the side, which has developed in a promising style. With Graham Miles in the Reserves, newcomer this season, John Hardingham, has been elected by the players as Vice-Captain. John Sheen has effectively filled the vacant centre half berth, and with John Hardingham and Hans Gadeberg on each side of him, the half-back line has contributed much towards the success of the side. They have gained ten points from the first six games. Both Old Parkonians and Old Westminster Citizens held us to a draw, while the forwards gave the unfortunate Old Lyonians' defence a peppering. The best performance was against Old Stationers when, in a keenly contested match, the side won by the odd goal in five. The A.F.A. Minor Cup provided colourful opposition in the Corinthian-Casuals. They included a number of players of experience and expected to win by a big margin. Our team gave a good performance against this formidable opposition, and although three down at half-time, we reduced the arrears and held our own in the second half.

The Dance held by the Section proved a great success and an enjoyable evening was the general verdict of all who supported. The Section, in addition, had a fine financial success, and again thank all members for the splendid support.

RESULTS (To December 1st)

1st XI			Reserve XI		
Hendon Strollers ...	...	1-0 (F)	Alexandra Park ...	...	0-1 (L)
Old Parkonians ...	...	2-0 (L)	Old Parkonians ...	...	1-1 (L)
Borough Polytechnic ...	...	5-3 (L)	Kew Association ...	...	5-1 (L)
Lensbury ...	...	4-1 (L)	Old Glendalians ...	...	1-0 (C)
Old Brentwoods ...	...	1-0 (F)	Carshalton ...	...	5-1 (L)
Bank of England ...	...	1-3 (L)	Polytechnic ...	...	1-3 (C)
Finchley "A" ...	...	Can. (F)	Board of Trade ...	...	1-3 (L)
Rayners Lane ...	...	4-5 (C)	Customs and Excise ...	...	1-2 (F)
Derby All Blacks ...	...	4-0 (C)	Cuaco ...	...	0-2 (L)
3rd XI			4th XI		
Civil Service Strollers ...	...	7-2 (F)	Drayton Athletic ...	...	0-4
Old Parkonians ...	...	3-3 (L)	Drayton Athletic ...	...	7-1
Kew Association ...	...	1-0 (L)	3rd XI ...	...	1-4
Old Lyonians ...	...	5-0 (L)	Old Actonians ...	...	2-3
4th XI ...	...	4-1 (F)	Old Ealonsians ...	...	Can.
Old Stationers ...	...	3-2 (L)	Board of Trade 3rd ...	...	2-7
Old West Citizens ...	...	1-1 (L)	South Harrow Youth ...	...	1-7
Corinthian-Casuals ...	...	1-3 (C)			
Alleyn Old Boys ...	...	4-1 (L)			

BOWLS

At the A.G.M. on November 14th the appointments made for the coming year were:—

President: B. Beckton.
Captain: P. H. Ottaway.
Vice-Captain: F. Knight.

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General Secretary and Treasurer: T. Luxford.
Match and Competition Secretary: R. A. Bray.
Committee: N. Clarke, L. Goodenough, S. W. Ruffey and F. H. Tilleard.

It was decided to discontinue a separate Selection Committee, and next season the selection of teams will be dealt with by the full Committee.

It was with deepest regret the meeting learned of the death of our old member Wally Smith, so widely known and respected in bowling circles.

Those of us who remember Bert Prior were concerned to hear he was in Margate Hospital awaiting an operation. A letter to him from the Secretary, however, elicited a very cheerful reply, his only trouble, apparently, being that he was temporarily on the water waggon.

Our annual fixture at Hasting has been arranged for Tuesday, July 8th, next year. It is hoped this early notice will assist members in booking the date well in advance, and that as a result we may be able to complete our six rinks from our own members without looking to other clubs to make up the number.

Congratulations to Ken Flint upon being elected captain of Drayton Court B.C. for next season; also on winning that Club's Championship and Handicap last season.

It is pleasing to be able to report the good progress made with the autumn work on the green. Patching, worming, spiking and sanding have all been completed in good time, and with the help of Mother Nature during the winter months we should have a good time to look forward to. Roll on May 1st!

DARTS SECTION

In a few days' time the first half of the 1951-52 season will have been completed, and with the exception of two matches that are outstanding all other matches have been played, the results of some being very interesting and, I think, are really worth a mention in our Magazine.

October 1st, 1951.—O.T.D. Gents beat B. and Snooker, 2—1.

October 10th, 1951.—Club Ladies beat Club Men "A," 2—1.

October 15th, 1951.—Golf Ladies beat Cricket, 2—1.

October 29th, 1951.—B. and Snooker beat Cricket, 3—0.

October 31st, 1951.—O.T.D. Ladies beat Tennis Gents, 2—1.

October 31st, 1951.—Club Ladies beat Dramatic Gents, 2—1.

November 5th, 1951.—Tennis Ladies beat Club Men, 2—1.

November 19th, 1951.—Club Men "A" beat Cricket, 2—1.

November 23rd, 1951.—Golf Ladies beat Tennis Gents, 3—0.

November 29th, 1951.—Golf Ladies beat Club Men, 2—1.

As you can see by the above results, our ladies really mean business and that practice is most essential. The ladies have thoroughly enjoyed themselves throughout the summer season in both of the dart rooms, especially the Golf, Club and O.T.D. Ladies' Teams. Highest scores have been thrown by Mrs. L. Goodenough with 140 and Mrs. L. Moorcroft with 124. The men have produced 140 by Charlie Rogers and Michael Dyason ("The South Paw Flopper").

There have been complaints regarding noise during matches and also complaints that when playing old So-and-So's team "We must 'av 'ush," so, folks, between the two we must apparently get the perfect match; but I must say that it is particularly pleasing to me when I hear a great cheer from one of the dart rooms and somebody shouts "That's it," although there might be a Snooker League match in progress.

The dart boards appear to be very satisfactory and I feel that our Management Committee should receive a vote of thanks for permitting us to purchase any type of dart board, irrespective of cost, so that we may enjoy our games.

We shall be entertaining a team from the Stock Exchange, captained by Freddie Eggleton, on Wednesday, December 5th. The Club team will be captained by George Mansi, and I believe the matches stand at one all up to the present time.

The Taylor Cup Individual Championship is proceeding as well as can be expected, but please make a little more effort to get your matches played off, and if you are drawn to play your own particular friend, get on and play the match, because he won't be offended if you happen to beat him. This applies even more so with the Ladies' Individual Championship for the F. D. Ahl Bowl.

LEAGUE TABLE NOVEMBER 29TH, 1951

Team	Matches			Legs		Points
	Played	Won	Lost	For	Against	
O.T.D. Gents	9	9	—	21	6	21
B. and Snooker	7	6	1	18	3	18
Golf Ladies	9	6	3	16	11	16
Club Men	11	6	5	15	18	15
Cricket	9	6	3	14	13	14
Club Ladies	9	5	4	13	14	13
Tennis Gents	9	4	5	11	16	11
O.T.D. Ladies	8	3	5	10	14	10
Dramatic Gents	7	3	4	9	12	9
Club Men "A"	8	2	6	9	15	9
Dramatic Ladies	7	1	6	8	13	8
Tennis Ladies	8	1	7	7	17	8

J. W. C. D.

BRENTHAM C.C.

A season full of interest finished up on a bright note with the Annual Inter-Club "battle." Both sides numbered 20 (fielding 13), and in a hectic "last over" of the day and season Bob Felton's side claimed three wickets in six balls for two runs to defeat John Swann's team by one run.

The forty-third A.G.M. was held on October 31st. The attendance was extremely poor and it is regretted that members cannot make a little effort to take more interest in the functioning of the Section. Mr. H. J. Fisher was unanimously re-elected President, and the other Officers elected were: Captains and Vice-Captains respectively—1st XI: R. Felton and J. L. Swann. "A" XI: A. W. G. Thurland and L. Haworth; "B" XI: L. Weeks and M. Smith. Secretary: P. A. R. Swann. Match Secretary: P. H. Sones. Treasurer: E. I. Rigg. Joint Team Secretaries: J. C. Howard and P. A. R. Swann. On General Committee: G. Hines and H. Brearley.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

	P	W	L	D	Tie	Aban.
1st XI	37	14	10	8	—	5
"A" XI	35	10	15	6	1	3
"B" XI	30	8	15	4	—	3
Colts	4	—	2	1	—	1

Twenty-four games were cancelled.

LEADING AVERAGES

	No. Innings	BATTING		Highest Score	Average
		Times Not out	Runs		
1st XI					
J. Swann	30	7	1,218	104 nt	52.86
P. Swann	34	3	869	91 nt	28.03
D. Vincent	10	—	258	99	25.80
R. Felton	25	1	571	72	23.79
H. James	26	4	501	53 nt	22.77
H. Brearley	18	1	382	82	22.47
F. Ahl	23	4	379	73	19.94
"A" XI					
J. Howard	7	2	157	100 nt	31.40
D. Vincent	11	—	327	88	29.73
B. Carleton	11	1	194	36	19.40
D. Norman	10	2	149	46	18.63
A. Thurland	26	3	422	92	18.35
W. Sartain	25	1	398	56	16.58
"B" XI					
J. Dale	7	2	144	45 nt	28.80
S. Hooper	6	1	112	44	22.40
G. Miles	10	2	141	36 nt	17.62
L. Landon	10	—	156	54	15.60
B. Shepherd	10	1	137	42	15.22
J. Watson	16	—	212	50	13.25

		BOWLING				
		Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
1st XI						
B. Andrews	...	64	17	165	12	13.75
J. Swann	...	311.5	70	839	55	15.23
R. Felton	...	264.3	69	656	39	16.82
F. Ahl	...	377.5	113	945	51	18.52
H. James	...	231.5	16	440	23	19.13
P. Sones	...	244.1	41	845	38	22.23
"A" XI						
J. Howard	...	83	21	177	17	10.41
P. Howard	...	139.5	24	494	31	15.94
W. Sartain	...	279	76	719	45	15.98
W. Avery	...	257	40	769	45	17.09
L. Haworth	...	173.1	11	706	37	19.08
D. Parker	...	119.5	23	412	18	22.89
"B" XI						
J. Harris	...	110.1	24	318	33	9.63
G. Hannington	...	97.5	22	264	22	12.00
H. Dyason	...	173	62	344	28	12.28
S. Morgan	...	98	15	290	19	15.26
M. Smith	...	98.4	16	339	22	15.40
A. Bolton	...	99.1	14	317	16	19.81

BILLIARDS AND SNOOKER SECTION

Unavoidably held over, the final of last season's Snooker Championship resulted in Ernie Bates defeating Jack Mitcham, the former thus winning both this and the Billiards Championship for the second year running. Well done, Ernie!

The Annual General Meeting was held on Friday, October 19th, but it has to be recorded that the attendance was rather disappointing. During the proceedings, Mr. W. Fowkes reiterated his wish to resign from the position of Chairman and this was accordingly reluctantly accepted, to be followed by a sincere expression of appreciation from those present for his services to the Section over the past two years. A welcome was subsequently extended to Mr. A. Hulbert, who was elected to fill the vacant office. The Committee for 1951-52 comprises the following: Chairman, Mr. A. Hulbert; Hon. Secretary, Mr. H. D. Parker; Match Secretary, Mr. J. W. C. Dwyer; and Mr. E. F. Bates, Mr. C. A. Butler, Mr. T. Mansi and Mr. C. Tomlin. As a result of a question raised at the meeting, it has now been confirmed that Herbert Holt's representative does visit the Club at regular intervals. Whilst his attendance is primarily concerned with the servicing of the tables and tipping of Club cues, private cues requiring attention may be left with the Steward, who will arrange for them to be passed on to him.

The Handicap Competitions are progressing quite satisfactorily so far, and with the co-operation of those concerned it is hoped to complete the events early in the New Year. Immediately afterwards, arrangements for the Championship Competitions will start, but as entries have lately been declining, it is hoped that there will be a decided improvement this time. After all, the success of these competitions depends wholly upon the support they receive, so why not try your luck? Entrance sheets will be posted on the notice board in the Billiard Room.

With the loss of a number of our past "match" playing members, it is not altogether surprising to report that our two teams are finding the going "rather tough" in the Harrow and District Snooker League. At the time of writing, however, the "A" team do occupy a position half-way up the table in Division I, with, in addition to those still available, encouraging form being shown by our recent acquisition, Charles Tomlin and Gus Goddard, fortunately able to play regularly this season. The "B" team are languishing pretty near the bottom of Division II at the moment, but the probability of being able to field a more regular team in the future gives rise to the hope of brighter prospects for the matches in the second half of the season.

Those using the Billiard Room will have noticed the introduction of matting surrounds, which have been laid at some considerable cost, and your

Committee earnestly invite the co-operation of all in not dropping lighted cigarette ends or matches thereon.

No luck for the wicked! Ernie Bates, Charles Tomlin and Bill Dwyer, through to the second round of the Harrow and District Individual Knock-Out Competition, have all been drawn to play away from home.

CHESSE SECTION

As the season progresses the members are getting down to serious business preparing for the matches which will take place during the season. Matches have been arranged with Acton and St. Saviour's, and it is hoped other fixtures will be made.

Our membership is not large, but it is gratifying to see that we have nearly 100 per cent. attendance at our Monday evening sessions. It is also a great pleasure to see some of our older members returning to the fold. N.C. and F.F., keep it up! We still have plenty of room for new members. Don't forget, every Monday evening at 8 o'clock.

Officers elected for the ensuing season: President, Mr. R. H. Bray; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. D. G. Kerswell; Match Captain, Mr. W. F. Cobbett.

LAWN TENNIS

The Annual General Meeting was held on September 25th last and the following Officers and Committee were elected:—

Chairman, Mr. A. J. Priske; Hon. Secretary, Mr. F. Turner; Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. H. Thurland; Hon. Match Secretary, Mrs. M. Brenchley; Men's Captain, Mr. W. Kearley; Ladies' Captain, Mrs. J. James; Committee, Messrs. R. Dalrymple, N. Pearce and C. Roberts.

It was agreed at the meeting that next summer the finals of the open events would be played off before the end of June. The handicap events would be spread over June and July and every effort would be made to play off the finals on or before August Bank Holiday week-end. Entry lists for next season's competitions will be posted on the notice board early next April.

In the first round of the Middlesex County Lawn Tennis Association's winter Mixed Doubles Competition we defeated Aquarius L.T.C. 5—3. Hardy Uberoi and Madge Mitcham, playing first pair, won all three of their games, Peter Kearley and Joyce James won one, lost one, and drew one, and Bob Dalrymple and Beryl Netherton won one and lost two. In the second round we met The Ravens L.T.C., who proved too strong and beat us 5—1, Hardy Uberoi and Madge Mitcham winning the one. Several of the games went to three sets, however, and as The Ravens included two Bedfordshire County players and the winner of the "Evening News" Ladies' Singles, we did not do too badly.

Jack Priske, our energetic Chairman, has produced a new board in an attempt to solve some of the booking problems, and we now await a return of the fine weather to try it out.

Don't forget the next Tennis Dance, Easter Saturday, April 12th.

OLDE TYME DANCE SECTION

October 20th, 1951, stands out as a red-letter day for the Olde Tyme Dance Section of Brentham Club, for it was on the evening of that day that their twenty-first birthday celebrations were held. The party was due to commence at 7.30 p.m., and shortly after that time the guests began to arrive. At the doorway each lady was presented with a carnation spray and a fan-shaped souvenir programme. The hall was soon pleasantly filled and the dancing went according to plan.

During the interval there was a plentiful supply of sandwiches, cakes and coffee, and after the photographer had been busy there was a presentation of a wrist watch to Mr. Sandy Tees and a marcasite brooch to Mrs. Tees, contributed by the grateful members of the Olde Tyme Dance Section. The giant birthday cake, which was crowned with a dainty crinolined lady, was then cut and everyone present had a piece. Altogether a wonderful and never-to-be-forgotten evening, and we now look forward to another twenty-one years as happy as the last ones have been.

BETWEEN OURSELVES

Very old news—Gloria Forrow and Alan Rowley engaged—congratulations—and why were we not informed earlier—our "bar" telegraph let us down this trip.

Pleasing to note that Alan's pal, Tony Osang, has represented Middlesex—in the second team—at badminton both in the singles and doubles. Keep up the good work, although our dance-cum-skating-cum-badminton floor does not offer you much in the way of conditions—or perhaps it tends to make you more agile.

Beryl Kirkpatrick (Templar to the uninitiated) gave birth to a bonny daughter a few weeks back—congratulations, Beryl and "Kirk."

We could offer other "congrats," but will delay these for a little while—"time marches on."

Jean Munrow celebrated her twenty-first birthday on November 10th at Ealing Town Hall—very good party—attended by some 80 guests, including your Editor—my, that man gets around, also applies to the Club member who carried out the M.C. duties.

Sorry to report the deaths of ex-members Ernie Hill, Wally Smith and George Royce.

The latter was in his eighty-first year—member of Club since its inception, founder member of the Cricket Club, also played in goal for the Football Club at an age when most people have retired to their garden—he watched every home game of cricket last season with the exception of the 20-a-side game.

Wally, of course, was well known to all social members and to many of the outdoor folk—he was a keen bowls player, threw a "nifty" dart and was always seen in the Club immaculately dressed, quaffing a beer and cracking a joke; he always was willing to help in raising money for various things.

Ernie left the Club a number of years ago—he was a keen footballer in his day—in fact, he did well in any game that he tried his hand at.

Many of the older members will miss these three stalwarts of the Club.

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