

THE BRENTHAM MAGAZINE



No. 7. January, 1914.

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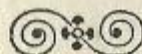
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Brentham Magazine.

No. 7.

JANUARY, 1914.

Out and About.

To all readers, a prosperous New Year, not the prosperity of individuals at the expense of others, but the prosperity in which all share because all make it. "Ring out the old," yes, but only the bad that was in it; "Ring in the new"; there must be some good in it.

* * *

The ladies are to lose their page in this Magazine; that's a compliment, for the segregation of the ladies implied by the existence of their own page was unfair to them; their interest is in all that Brentham does.

* * *

"Mr. Bunting did not seem to me to infuse quite enough life into the part of Antonio," wrote our friend "F.S.T." Well, it's a job to infuse at all when you are expecting to lose a pound of flesh; some of us, too, could spare the flesh more easily than Mr. Bunting.

* * *

The weeding of the gravelled path-edges of our streets has caused distress to some of our botanist friends, but it is really very pleasant to be able to cross the kerb-stone without being obliged to put on goloshes.

* * *

Statuary is not an essential part of Brentham's architecture, but a start has been made. Brunner Road has its stone boy, who appears intent on looking for a more prominent position. He would look fine on a pedestal on Meadvale Green. An overcoat for this winter would, meanwhile, prove a welcome addition to his clothing.

* * *

The estate pony, "Snowball," who, by changing the colour of his coat no longer deserves this name, is a worthy successor of the old donkey that once pulled the roller over cricket pitch and tennis lawn. There was no hockey pitch in those days.

* * *

An agitation for "Open Access" in Public Libraries is developing in Ealing. "Can it possibly be worked?" is asked sapiently. Why don't they look in at Brentham's own library; here "open access" is working perfectly. Really, Ealing has a lot to learn from Brentham.

The Brentham note writer in *Co-Partnership* said recently, that the *Brentham Magazine* "lightsomeness is quite humorous"; that sounds unkind, but, of course, he meant to put it round the other way. His hint that "*Punch* must really look out" has been taken to heart by the hump-backed gentleman, who has since added a little colour to his cover in self-defence.

* * *

Residents in the eastern end of Meadvale Road and Neville Road turned their thoughts to seismology for a few days recently; but "E.J.E." came quickly to their assistance, and soothed them with the assurance that it was "only a mangle." If the article is on hire in Brentham it would be wise to frame a rule—that all manglers must go to the mangle.

* * *

I must record Brentham's thanks to "Portia" and "The Pierrot" for the large share they have had in making this Magazine a literary success. The former, freed from the fetters of the Ladies' Page, will, I hope, continue to write for Brentham's pleasure, and the latter, though his rhythm may change and he deign not "to find a rhyme for L'everoni," will remain as he has always been, Brentham's Poet Laureate. Of course, the Secretaries who supply their members with most valuable information in these pages have their own reward; they expect nothing, and would be disappointed if they did not get it. The same applies to

THE EDITOR.

Brentham Golf Club.

Members will be glad to learn that the new course is now practically completed. No doubt a few keen golfers will soon become acquainted with the course. It is particularly desired that care be taken so as to do as little injury as possible to the turf. No date has yet been fixed for the opening ceremony, which will probably take place in the spring, in order that the ground may be in as good condition as possible. Great credit is due to Mr. Perry and the groundsmen for the fine way the course has been laid out. For the information of intending members, it should be stated that they can join the club on payment of the subscription of 1/- (in addition to the usual ground fee, if not already paid), which holds good until the end of the club year in March next.

On Saturday, January 17th, the club will have its first Dance. The tickets are 1/6 each, including refreshments. Mr. Bushell's orchestra has been engaged, and the programme will include the "Ball-room" Tango.

F.J.M.

The Brentham Player.

Sam Speecher is an amateur,
His acting's all the rage.
He came to *lodge* in Brentham here,
And helped to *board* the stage.

Now when the stage was finished, then
They wanted lights in front;
And so to find out ways and means,
Sam urged them on to *Hunt*.

One night he stayed upstairs, when at
Rehearsal he was due;
And all through watching billiards played,
He quite forgot his *cue*.

The other p'ayers felt annoyed
He was not there to start,
And only one among the lot
Was heard to *take his part*.

He wanted me to join them once,
When I was in the club;
For if I couldn't act, he said,
I might provide a *sub*!

He said I'd meet some jolly chaps,
And learn a lot of things,
And think the ladies angels,
When I saw them in the *wings*.

And if disputes perchance arose,
No sorrow filled their cup;
For quarrels could not last, because
They had to be "*made up*."

THE PIERROT.

The P.S.A..—Bright and enjoyable meetings have been held during the past month, the Carol Service on Christmas Sunday, and the musical service the following week, being particularly good. An excellent start is promised on January 4th, when Miss L. M. Fry speaks on "The New Year," and Miss Agnes Notman will be the soloist. Every visitor to these meetings is welcome.

“Tom Jones.”

This name, prominently brought before Brentham's notice during several weeks, did not in itself promise much in the way of a musical treat. But Edward German, the Brentham Choral Society, and Mr. Thompson, F.R.C.O., can afford to risk a commonplace title; their own names and reputations filled the hall on the 20th of last month. The soloists earned and deserved the enthusiastic plaudits of the audience. The choralists themselves shone in their own work, and in giving a delightful exhibition of chorus singing, they complemented the work of their own soloists without the strained contest-singing manner or the oratorio-gloom that spoils much choir singing from the audience's point of view.

Tom Jones won my sympathy in his pursuit of love, and even when he threatened to “go for a soldier,” he did not lose it, so well did Mr. Kingsley sing. Miss E. Hyde, in Sophia's part, by voice and manner, charmed me, and her Waltz Song showed magnificent vocal technique. Miss Lily Grahame and Mr. Richard Swan, as Honour and Squire Western, fell not a whit below these, and the four of them, especially in the quartet, “Back to Somersetshire,” showed an altogether charming and somewhat rarely observed willingness to efface their own personalities for the benefit of the whole performance.

The choir itself was chiefly responsible for the country breeze that blew through the whole performance. I could not see Mr. Thompson's face, but it must have produced that cheeriness that I saw reflected in the faces of the choir. How they enjoyed it all, and made us do the same! I intended following them from the book, but simply could not keep the place; and the words—I could hear them, and did not need to look for them. Mrs. J. Taylor had a few passages to sing as the Hostess, and I wished she had more. Mr. Hubert Idle and Mr. Shipway, as accompanists, had a great share in the success of the evening.

SKIB.

The Players' Second.

The second performance of the Brentham Players was, as is all their work, painstaking and meritorious. Of the three pieces taken, the two scenes from the “Merchant of Venice” was probably the most exacting upon the players. Mr. Chambers gave the part of Shylock with splendid elocution, as we always expect from him; nothing better in this way has been done by our Players, though, of course, his robust voice does not suggest the old Jew. The Portia of Mrs. Girtten was also well done. Mr. Bunting, as Antonio, was certainly disappointing; it almost seemed at times that he was intoning his lines. Mr. Girtten, as

Bassanio, and Mr. Ward, as Gratiano, certainly avoided this fault. As the Duke, Mr. Nolan was duly impressive.

"Citoyenne Denise" has an "Only Way" flavour about it. I was sorry for Mr. Fairchild in having to take so unsympathetic a part as that of the pitiless Republican Colonel. One missed the fervour and enthusiasm of the revolution in the part of Captain, played by Mr. Kell, but the dramatist is at fault, no doubt, for this. As the Priest, refusing his life at the expense of another's misfortune, Mr. Collinson had a part well within his range and sympathy. I think that Mrs. Voigt, as "Denise," perhaps had a part that did not suit her. Mrs. Cowell and Mr. Weeks also took part.

The last piece, incorrectly described as a "screaming farce," was principally noteworthy for the really clever character-acting of Mr. Thorpe, who, as an irascible Colonel, controlled his voice admirably, and made up so well that I did not know until well on in the piece who was taking the part. This was the best performance of the evening. Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Patten, Mr. Palmer, and Mr. Hunt also played their parts well.

ONE OF THE CROWD.

PEEPS (*by Samuel, Junior*).—Samuel has been out a lot this month, but the Christmas season has made him neglect his diary. On December 3rd, I went with him to hear Mr. Hogley lecture on Radium—wonderful stuff that. Samuel was very attentive, and on Saturday was much saddened to find that, in spite of Mr. Hogley's warnings, both the local papers mentioned emanations.

On the following Wednesday, he went to hear Mr. Morriss lecture on Switzerland; he must have enjoyed it, for he is now Switzerland mad; I know he'll go there next summer.

Then, on the last night of the old year, he went to the Tennis Dance—the gay old dog. He came home at 1 a.m., still singing, "Auld Lang Syne"—and so to bed, as he would say.

The members of the *Sewing Guild* wish to thank all those who kindly supported them in making their Bazaar a success; to the artistes who gave the concert, and to Mr. Girtten, for arranging it. The Bazaar attracted a crowd of Brentham supporters, and Miss Treloar graciously thanked all the workers with them for their help to the cripples. The Finance Committee kindly granted us the use of the hall, and the help of Mr. and Mrs. McCarthy was much appreciated. Mr. Hutchings gave a kindly welcome to Miss Treloar. The stalls, arranged by Mr. Perry, enabled us to show our goods to the best advantage. The sum of £35 was raised, and a cheque for that amount has been sent to the Cripples' Fund. This amount will keep one little child for one year.

Brentham Magazine.

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The Vacuum Cleaner can be hired
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House Committee Page.

There are a few vacancies in the Home Nursing Class, which meets on Monday evenings, at 8.30, and is conducted by Dr. Fenton.

The French Class resumes on Tuesday, the 13th inst., at 8 p.m.

A suggestion has been made that a dancing class, under a professional teacher, should be formed. Particulars will be found on notice board at the Institute.

The Secretary's assistant is in attendance on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday evenings, for the purpose of receiving membership and section fees.

PROGRAMME.

Mondays.—Home Nursing Class, 8.30 p.m. Woodwork, 8 p.m.

Children's Library, 6.30 p.m.

Tuesdays.—French Class, 8 p.m.

Wednesdays.—Library, 7—8 p.m.

Thursdays.—Choral Society, 8.30 p.m. Children's Dancing Class, 6.30 p.m. Woodwork, 8 p.m.

Fridays.—"Children's Own" Entertainments, 6 p.m.

Saturdays.—Library, 7—8 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 10th.—Dramatic Society Concert, 8 p.m. Hockey v. Kensington (away).

Wednesday, Jan. 14th.—Dramatic Reading, "Milestones."

Saturday, Jan. 17th.—Putting Golf Club Dance. Hockey v. Kildare (home).

Saturday, Jan. 24th.—Cricket Club Concert. Hockey v. Canfield (home).

Tuesday, Jan. 27th.—Dramatic Reading, "Second Mrs. Tanqueray."

Saturday, Jan. 31st.—Whist Drive. Hockey v. Ealing Wesleyan (home).

Keep your Receipts.

The Catering Committee will buy back the following cash register receipts at 2/6 each, provided that they are dated December, 1913, and represent receipts for actual payments at the bar :—

Nos. 4,163; 4,364; 4,444; 4,560.

Keep your receipts for January, and watch for next month's numbers.

Rapid Interviews.

I.—CHUM OR FAIRY'S LEGACY.

I found no difficulty in approaching this ancient relic—just a quick step or two on the pavement, and a “Here Chum,” à la Fairy, and the brute was at once on his best behaviour. I decided to commence at the end, and delivered an ultimatum thus: “When do you intend leaving this estate?” “Never,” came the answer. “But your master has left us, and your first duty is to him; he pays for your licence,” I offered, as a poser. “Yes, but I know good grub when I taste it; besides, Wembley cats are not half sports. Once having conquered the cat tribe in Brentham, I cannot again leave them to trample on your young plants.” “Good dog,” said I, “but while a Brentham resident you were not guiltless in the gardens; the wire-netting trade was roaring.” “Ah, they measured the netting before they measured my jump,” replied he. “It’s an ill dog that does no one a good turn, eh? Ask Kay.” With that bit of Kayenne, he slouched off, growling something about the comforts of Ephgrave’s conservatory.

TO THE EDITOR.

Dear Sir,—The interesting letter of your correspondent, Mr. Woods, on the formation of a Brentham Literary and Philosophical Society, seems to show that he is unaware of the effort that has been made by about thirty members to convince the House Committee of the desirability of forming a Socialist Section, having as its object the discussion of the Philosophy of Socialism; the only result of the effort at present is a refusal to form such a section, no reason being given for the decision.

It appears, therefore, that the idea advocated by Mr. Woods is not likely to find favour with the House Committee.—Yours, etc.,

W. R. SUTTON.

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Children's Festivities.

The Tennis Dance ended in the early hours of the New Year, and the children at once took possession of the hall for three days. In former years the whole of the estate children have had their own evening, but the growth in numbers of children made a change absolutely necessary this year. Besides this, Phyllis and Gerald (over seven) have never before been able to produce their perfect party style in the presence of Margaret and Charlie (under seven). So, on January 1st, at 4 o'clock, 130 of the youngest generation sat down to tea as guests of the estate management, while, on the following day, a slightly larger number of their "elders" had a social, at which refreshments were provided during the evening. So the Phyllis-and-Gerald generation danced and played, and produced its own operetta, "Santa Claus." This, too, they very generously performed before the select and critical audience of their younger friends on the previous day, and on the Saturday evening they invited the adults to see their operetta, in order to provide the Christmas tree presents for the younger ones.

Harcourt Hebditch took Santa Claus' part, and, with his faithful henchman, Inkey (Cecil Cooper), was the central figure. His comrades, Doctor Mirth (Don Crutchfield), Peace (May Salisbury), Starlight (Muriel Butcher), Content (Frank Hender), Joy, Happiness, and Love (Charles, Sadie, and Ivy Salisbury), played their parts splendidly, and made Scene 1 a picture of immortals. Muriel Butcher's song, "Starlight," will be hummed about Brentham for many a day. The second scene was mainly occupied by the seven children (Connie Ephgrave, Mary Wigley, Gwen Oake, Dorothy Brampton, Gertie Cowley, Arnold Smith, and Gerald Downing) who, in their planning to capture Santa Claus, introduced much humour and charming singing. The acting, gesture, and singing of all the characters were remarkably good, and the unison singing of the whole company was well-nigh perfection. On Saturday night, the hall was crowded by an audience that was kept delighted for two hours. Before the operetta, a short concert was given. Kathleen Lewis charmed us with "I love you, Susie," and for an encore gave "Wooll, etc." (I can't spell it yet, Kathleen). Connie Ephgrave showed excellent elocution in a recitation; Gwen Oake sang, "In Dixie Land," and made us think we were there; Arnold Smith (chief plotter in the downfall of Santa Claus) gave "The Minstrel Boy," with beautiful voice; Muriel Butcher sang of the "Two Marionettes"; and Dorothy Brampton, Kathleen Lewis, and Sadie Salisbury did some excellent dancing.

Irene Weber played all the operetta music faultlessly. Mr. Chambers refuses to take praise for the preparation of the children, but the fact remains that his was the guiding and controlling spirit of it all.

SKIB.

Hockey Hits.

Nine wins, two drawn games, one defeat, with a goal record of 59 to 28, are figures that should satisfy the most rabid supporter of the Brentham Hockey Club in reviewing the results of matches played during the past half of the season. This record does not include games played by the "A" team, who gave good displays in matches arranged at short notice. One game in particular is worthy of note, that against Birkbeck College, a team of fast and skilled players, who had a hard fight to draw with the home team. This match was worthy of a first team fixture, a splendid display being given by E. J. Ephgrave, sen., in goal, F. W. Green, at centre-half, and V. Grant, at centre-forward.

Passing from the pleasing retrospect of triumphs in the field, one is faced by the pertinent question of accommodation and reception of visitors. Up to the present, these have not been all that could be desired. The accommodation, I am pleased to learn, will soon be perfect, for the golf pavilion, about to be erected, is to be arranged for the convenience and use of the Hockey Club, and then perhaps we shall also extend to our visitors a welcome, the cordiality of which is to be expected from home players. As these defects are remedied, we shall, in the matter of reception of visitors, amplify the reputation already gained.

Members will regret to learn that bad news has reached "Circle" respecting two of the forward line, to the effect that Victor Grant and T. C. Rowe are confined to bed, and probably unable to play for some considerable time. These losses are serious, and the places of these men will be difficult to fill.

CIRCLE.

Work on the new croquet lawn has commenced. The gravel paths and geometric turf are disappearing from the western side of the Institute, and there, next season, the stately game can proceed without awaiting the pleasure of passers-by.

The Cricketers' only innings this winter—a concert, on the 24th. Don't miss it.

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Green Room Gossip

[BY CALL-BOY.]

A very happy New Year to all members of the "Brentham Players," who continue to aim at being the biggest section of the Institute.

In reviewing the first half of our season, we are glad to see so many new faces taking an active part in our work, and we can safely say that we are stronger than ever we have been in actors for performances.

The experiment of having a Saturday performance was a great success, as this is the only night on which some of our members can get a chance to see a performance.

For that performance the cost was £5, and as it is impossible for us to get any return we are having a concert on January 10th, giving two sketches. Our funds are very low, so will all members help to make this a big success. Don't come alone, bring a few friends along. If you will personally push the event you will help the Secretary, who is now getting well known as a dealer in old tickets. "Hello!" they say, "here's Girtten, let's get out of his way; ticket-selling again." Now, you would not like him to lose all his friends, would you?

When the "Private Secretary" was read on December 1st, the audience was in a continual roar of laughter; complaints of bruised ribs were heard. Mr. Palmer and Mr. Ward excelled themselves, and helped us to forget the wicked world.

On December 19th, we had three of Lady Gregory's plays, which have been produced by the Irish Players at the Abbey Theatre. A very pleasant evening was spent.

Now for the second half of our season.

The Choral Society gave the first concert this season to a very appreciative audience on Saturday, December 20th, and it was very gratifying to see the hall so well filled. Mr. F. Hender briefly recalled the incidents from Fielding's novel, on which the opera is founded. Mr. Hutchings, in the course of a short speech, said some very nice things about the choir and the conductor, and pointed out the advantages to be gained by joining the Society, not only as regards musical education, but from a social point of view and as a healthy occupation.

Rehearsals will be resumed January 8th, 1914, at 8.30, in preparation for Sterndale Bennett's "May Queen," to be performed in conjunction with the Ealing Choral Society, at Queen's Hall, on February 14th, 1914.

The choir cannot be too large, and there is always room for new members.

M.P.

Billiard Room Chat.

The close of the year sees the finish of the Billiard and Snooker Handicaps, the former having been won by Mr. L'everoni (owe 50), beating Mr. Bryceson (owe 30), after a tough fight, by 200 to 170. Mr. Bryceson takes, of course, the second prize. The runners-up, Mr. Askew and Mr. Watts, played off for the third prize, the former winning by 200 to 140.

The Snooker Handicap was won by Mr. E. J. Ephgrave (owe 5), Mr. Goodyer (scratch) succumbing to him in the final by 42 to 27.

We have played one match away during the month, our opponents being St. Paul's Institute, and we have to thank them for a very pleasant evening. Some very interesting and close contests at billiards were seen.

As I imagine that there are some amongst the new residents on the estate who have not yet availed themselves of the advantages of our billiard room, which certainly ranks not least amongst the attractions of the Institute, may I point out that to those who would like to take up the game, the billiard room section extends a welcome equal in heartiness with that extended to proficient players. It is not obligatory for players to join the section, but the power of voting, entry to American Tournament (providing keen games), and handicaps, at a minimum fee, is confined to members of the section. The section fee is a nominal 3d.

With the turn of the year I fully expect that new tournaments will be arranged, and an opportunity will be given to those who have not yet participated in these handicaps to try their strength against the older hands, so please look out for invitation to join the competitions.

Results v. St. Paul's:—

Billiards: Brentham 3 (Messrs. L'everoni, Mackenzie, and Caven); St Paul's, 3 (Messrs. Wilson, Dix, and Ouseley).

Whist: Brentham won 15 to 5.

Crib: Brentham (Messrs. Downing, Lewis, and Turner), won 6—0.

Chess: Brentham (Messrs. Bartholomew and Bunting) won 2—0.

Draughts: Brentham, 2 (Mr. Bunting); St. Paul's, 2.

CANNON.

The January number of *Co-Partnership* gives a whole page to the Brentham Players, with a photographic illustration. The Ealing Notes, too, are splendid this month, and if our parental contemporary would keep it up, its sales in Brentham would advance by leaps and bounds. Be sure to get a copy from the sales boy or at the office.

Result of Appeal.

The response to the recent appeal has been most gratifying. Special mention should be made of the assistance rendered by Messrs. Kays, of Pitshanger Lane, and "The Brotherhood of the Cheerful Sparrows," per Mr. Sell. The widow has written, sending "her heartfelt thanks for the many expressions of sympathy," and stating that she does not know how to thank the subscribers for what they have done for her.

J. H. SHURROCK.

We have checked the Subscription Lists in connection with the above Fund, and compared the total amounts collected with receipts, and beg to certify that the accounts are in order and correct.

(Signed) A. G. MELLUISH,
(Signed) WM. T. HUNT,
Lieut., R.N.R.

December 28th, 1913.

First List	...	...	...	...	£8	5	6
Second List	...	...	...	...	18	10	6
Total					£26	16	0

Horticultural members should send in their orders for seed potatoes to Trading-Secretary Harmer. The bigger the order, the cheaper; that's co-operation.

"Society ladies denounce 'The Tango,'" says a poster. What are they going to do about the "Ball-room" edition that the golfers promise at their dance?

Dear Mr. Editor,—Why does not "Diogenes" get back into his tub and make it sound proof, for our mutual benefit? Fancy, classifying hawkers with children and dogs!—Yours,

SENEGROID.

"Is there an election on?" said a visitor, as he noticed the "Tom Jones" bills in various windows; he was not sure whether Tom was a Labour candidate or a Conservative working man.

EDITOR'S NOTICE:—*All editorial communications, news items and articles for publication, should reach the Editor before the 24th of each month. Address—*

*Hon. Editor,
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Business communications should be addressed to the Hon. Manager.

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