



# BRENTHAM NEWS

## Party Time in Brentham

Welcome to our June edition or should I say our Platinum Jubilee edition.

With some of the prettiest streets in Ealing, Brentham is the ideal place for street parties, so it's no surprise that five parties took place over the Jubilee weekend. Some were luckier than others with the weather, but the rain held off and the bunting throughout the estate looked splendid in red white and blue. It all helped us get into jubilant mood. On Thursday we were even treated to a small part of the flypast.



The weather didn't dampen the festive spirits too much and we have included lots of pictures from the parties in this edition. Many thanks to all the photographers whose work we have reproduced.

Bunting was also out last month as the Brentham May

Day went ahead for the first time since 2019. Glorious sunshine and a fantastic day. Look out for a behind the scenes article from recent resident and new committee member Sarah Salord in this edition.

Since the last edition we held our AGM and voted in our new committee. I am pleased to announce two new members but unfortunately one less treasurer. If anyone has suitable qualifications to take this role on do please get in touch with us. Thank you to everyone who attended the AGM and the enjoyable and informative talks given by committee members. We will soon be putting the minutes online so there's still a chance to catch up on what was discussed.

One topic I would like to draw your attention to is membership of The Brentham Society. The number of households joining is a little lower than previous years and perhaps this is because it was the first time we did not include payment slips within the News. But rest assured, if you would still prefer to pay in person then just contact us on 07983 394 408 and we will arrange this. Alternatively, if you have just forgotten, here is a handy QR code to take you straight to the online payment section on our website. It's very quick and easy and still

only £5! If you'd like to pay by bank transfer, the details you need are also on the website:

[www.brentham.com](http://www.brentham.com)

In March, we completed our Drone Survey of Brentham and the footage is stunning. We are going to arrange a screening event at the Club in September, details and dates to follow on our Notice Boards.

And there are more notice boards! I would like to thank local resident Tony Mackersie for making us two fantastic new boards. The first one is installed in Neville Road and for the second one we would ask residents - particularly in North View or Ruskin Gardens - if they would like to volunteer to host one in their front garden. We are open to any suggestions, just contact me at the email below.

Enjoy the summer and I look forward to being able to meet some of you at the forthcoming Open Gardens and Strawberry Tea.

**Jo Bradley** [chair@brentham.com](mailto:chair@brentham.com)



## Open Gardens Day

**Sunday 12 June, between 2 – 5 pm**

Don't miss a great opportunity to explore some of Brentham's lovely back gardens.

Nine gardens will be open, two of which have not opened before. Some gardens will have plants for sale (please bring cash and a bag).

Tickets £5 on the day, available from 2.00 – 4.15 pm, from 47 Brentham Way and 49 Ludlow Road.

Proceeds go to The Log Cabin children's charity.  
Teas 3 – 5 pm at St Barnabas Church Hall.

## Strawberry Tea

**Sunday 26 June**

For Brentham Society  
Members & friends

**At 10 Winscombe  
Crescent  
3.30pm**



## New Tower Home for the Brentham Archive

Many readers will remember our agreement with The Brentham Club that we would help raise funds to restore the Tower in exchange for access to the top room to house the Brentham Archive. It's taken a long time, but we have finally achieved our goal.

The Tower and the external South facing elevation of the building was in a serious state of disrepair. The cost of repair was estimated to be £75,000 and a Project Team, led by resident Clive Evans, began fundraising back in 2013. We did this by seeking individual donations from residents and club members, sought grants from various bodies (including The Fred Perry Organisation) and from fundraising activities.

We managed to raise just over £42,000. Unfortunately, not enough to undertake all the work, but we had to do something as there were health and safety issues to remedy. A re-scooped

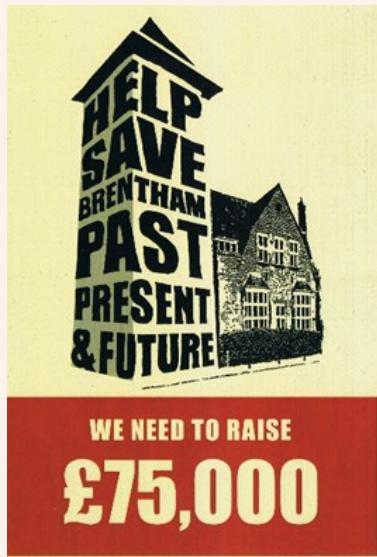
project was devised but that meant having to refund some of the grant monies. We ended up with a net budget of just over £26,000.

We were able to repair and paint all the windows, plaster, install heating, lighting, power, decorate, and finally put fire doors in place. By which time the fund was depleted.

The top room was then ready to be occupied by The Brentham Society to use as an archive room and the Society additionally funded the construction of storage cupboards, carpeting and refurbishment of the original arts and crafts furniture.

Much of the work has been done by local tradesmen, and in keeping with the community aspects of the project some were also members of the club.

The Archive is now available to visit by appointment and we hope Brentham Society members will take the opportunity to visit and explore the rich treasure of material we hold and marvel at the commanding views in all directions from the top of the tower.



Brentham Archive material includes:

- Old photos
- Architects' plans
- Activity Programmes
- Residents' memories
- Press cuttings
- Old maps

Together with a library of publications relating to:

- Brentham Estate
- Other Garden Suburbs
- History of the surrounding area
- Planning and Heritage

To arrange a visit contact

[archive@brentham.com](mailto:archive@brentham.com)

or call 07983-394-408

**Alan Henderson**  
**Brentham Archivist**

## Spring Front Gardens Awards

**S**pring is always a wonderful time to walk around the Brentham estate and this year we enjoyed a fantastic display of colours in the gardens.

The winner of the spring front garden award is 52 Meadvale Road. A centrally positioned olive tree is surrounded by a carpet of delicate forget-me-nots, various shades of pink, purple and red tulips along with masses of mauve wallflowers. Very clever planting of early and late tulips kept this display going for quite some time and, over a number of weeks, the initial blue and pink hues changed to the vivid purple colours of perennial wallflowers with forget-me-nots providing light blue undertones. It was a truly dazzling display.



### ◀ Runner-up: 20 Meadvale Road

A chocolate box pretty Brentham cottage with dreamy light pink wisteria framing the front of the house with the front door and gate in matching colours.



### ◀ Runner-up: 49 Woodfield Crescent

A fantastic use of a front garden - tea for two or a glass of wine, whatever the occasion, in a sunny sheltered spot. A smart, Tiffany-coloured bistro set surrounded by a burst of fresh spring planting.



### ▲ Spring Award Winner: 52 Meadvale Road

### ▼ Runner-up: 47 Meadvale Road

An unusually long front garden, designed as a series of different areas with a variety of interesting gravel-planting and small rockeries that incorporate pots planted for seasonal display, along with an eye-catching wooden central seating area.



The next category for our front garden competition will be Summer. Thank you to everyone once again for keeping our Brentham estate beautiful.

**Gina Jenkins**

## AGM report

The first Brentham Society AGM for two years was held in the Brentham Club on the 22nd March.

Committee members gave presentations on The Club tower, Sustainability, the Club's planning application, the Financial Report and preparations for the drone survey.

The following members were elected for the year 2022/2023.

Jo Bradley – Chair

Andy Akerman – Treasurer (Co-opted)

Steve Jenkins – Secretary and Planning

Alan Henderson – Archive and website

Martin Mortimore – Brentham News

Sarah Salord

Tamara Colton – co-opted in May 2022

Anyone interested in becoming involved should contact

[chair@brentham.com](mailto:chair@brentham.com)



## Brentham Aerial Survey

The aerial survey was successfully carried out using two drones at the end of March. Many of Brentham's distinctive architectural features were revealed in a new perspective. The edited highlights will be shown at a social event later in the year.

## Jubilee Weekend Parties





## Ukraine Fund Raiser

On May 6<sup>th</sup>, the Brentham Club hosted a dinner to raise funds for Ukraine. I had suggested the idea to Colin Hearn, the Club Chairman, who immediately gave it his full support, as long as I organised it.

I recruited his wife, Jenny, Amanda (who does Club publicity) and Tanya, who does the catering for the Club and is often to be seen in the Café. Tanya also happens to be from the Ukraine.

We decided that we should make the evening an authentic Ukrainian event. We dispensed with tables of ten, and instead set up three tables the length of the hall. Tanya devised a suitable menu. It consisted of a selection of cold meats and cheeses, one-pot chicken or spicy vegetable ragu, and drunken cherry cake. Guests were welcomed with salt bread, and a shot of vodka.

Jenny found great support from Pitshanger Lane shops and others, who provided some excellent prizes for the raffle. Jane Stonebridge - a local artist and tennis player - donated a painting of sunflowers, which we auctioned. We found some Ukrainian singers, who donated their services, and helium balloons were provided free of charge.

Everyone had a great time, and they were certainly very generous. All in all, we raised £4,303 which went to British-Ukrainian Aid.

**Clive Evans**



## THE ARTS SOCIETY EALING

### **Sir Christopher Wren and the English Baroque**

will be given by Jo Walton, lecturer and guide at Tate Modern, Tate Britain and the Dulwich Picture Gallery. Doors open at 7pm.

Non-members are welcome to attend at a cost of £8 per lecture. You can either secure your place and pay in advance by bank transfer by emailing Susan Parsons at [spsecretarytase@gmail.com](mailto:spsecretarytase@gmail.com) or pay cash on the evening.

**The Arts Society Ealing's** next lecture will be on Monday 27 June at 7.30pm at St Barnabas Church Hall Pitshanger Lane.

## Annie Colbeck - The Brentham Dancer

American dancer Annie Colbeck lives in Meadvale Road, and teaches dance and movement at Innovation Dance in Pitshanger Lane.

She says "I believe that agility, movement, rhythm, and exercise are so important for health, especially as we get older." Those taking part in her classes describe them as both fun and inspiring.

Annie also describes herself as a traveller and it was a long and winding road that led her to Brentham. Her father was in the US Airforce so her family were always on the move. But from the age of three, wherever she went, Annie danced. "I had always danced growing up. I got a scholarship to the Joffrey ballet school in New York, but I began to realise I didn't have the facility to become a professional ballerina. However my technique was good and I got into the world of tap and jazz - and that led me to Los Angeles". She found work in film and television, but life wasn't easy in LA. "I started teaching as a side gig instead of bartending, which is what a lot of people in the arts end up doing!"

It was in LA that Annie met her first husband. He was a British musician and when they got together they moved to England. "I'd never been to Europe and I was keen to spread my wings. We got married in England and my children were born here. I did some choreography and it was here my teaching career really started. But when the children were young, we moved back to California where they grew up".

After studying in San Francisco, Annie finally got her bachelor's degree in performing arts. "I felt that was a real accomplishment. When I graduated, I was 57."

She'd got her degree under a programme of education for arts professionals, and later she was asked to join the programme as teacher, mentor and eventually manager. "It was an incredible job and I did it for four years." But the breakdown of her marriage led to divorce and she became friends with one of her husband's UK colleagues, singer and musician Peter Osborn. "He had been a Buddhist for 30 years. I was interested in different religions, so we started talking via Skype about Buddhism and spiritual growth." It inspired Annie to add Yoga and Qigong, a Chinese form of flowing movement, to her skill set. She says "Qigong is a kind of moving meditation. You're moving

very slowly and you're imagining yourself slowing down the mind, slowing down the heart, going inward, flowing like water through your breathing."

Peter had a family in London but after his wife died, Peter and Annie started flying back and forth between LA and England.

"Although I was enjoying my career, I didn't think I'd meet a life partner in Los Angeles, and by now Peter and I had fallen in love. My son was at Uni in London so if I moved back to England we saw an opportunity to create something good out of two broken families."

Peter was running a successful business making educational resources and videos. When his partner wanted to close the business Peter decided to move out from his base in Ladbroke Grove. His search for property led him to the house in Meadvale Road which he bought as soon as he saw it. He says "I remember very strongly when

I parked up at the end of North View and I just walked down to the house. I didn't really know about the architecture but I just felt it was right."

After Annie's move to join Peter in Meadvale Road, the couple got married and for now at least, the travelling dancer has come to rest. "Do I miss California? Yes. Do I miss going to the beach and watching the sunset? Yes. But in LA you have to drive for an hour to get anywhere. Here you can come home from the city and Brentham feels like a little hamlet, almost like you've come through a curtain, something from a fairy tale, with all the pretty little houses - and our neighbours are all lovely people. Now I've got involved in teaching again at Innovation Dance, using my new skills of Qigong, Pilates and Yoga it feels very exciting and beneficial."

You can read more on Annie's website: [www.mojomotion.co.uk](http://www.mojomotion.co.uk)



**Martin Mortimore**

## May Day 2022

With Sarah & Olivia Salord



▲ Esmée Cadogan, May Queen 2022

**S**arah Salord and her family moved to their house in Neville Road in June 2020, but thanks to the pandemic, they have missed out on the fun and spectacle of May Day.

Sarah and her husband André have two daughters, Amelie, aged 3 and Olivia, aged 6. So Olivia was eligible to take part in this year's May Day parade - the first for the family and the first since 2019.

Sarah said, "Olivia's excitement at joining the procession and the maypole dancing was evident from her very first rehearsal when she returned home with stories of 'skipping round the pole holding a ribbon'. She loved all the preparation leading up to the day -

including voting for the May Day Queen and planning her outfit. It was such a great day for all the family. Olivia's grandparents drove up from Somerset for the occasion and her 'Meme' - her French grandmother - even flew over for the weekend."

Olivia says "I had such a fun day and really enjoyed dancing around the pole. It took a few weeks to learn the dance moves but it was worth it in the end. I loved getting ready in the

morning and putting on my white outfit and my flower garland, it was so exciting. My family came to watch including my grandparents, and we walked around the streets following the band and the Green Man into the field to the maypole. The May Queen was crowned, and we took our turn to dance with the ribbons. My favourite part was the tea in the hall where we ate sandwiches and cake."

Sarah says the whole family are looking forward to joining in again next year.



▲ Olivia and Sarah Salord



▲ Olivia stands ready for Maypole action



▲ Susie Bryant as Britannia





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We have been selling property on the Brentham Garden Estate for over 50 years and have a wealth of experience and knowledge of the area. If you are considering a sale, contact Derek Grimshaw and his team to arrange a free, no obligation appraisal on your property.



## Welcome to The Brentham Club

TENNIS, CRICKET, FOOTBALL,  
BOWLS, SNOOKER, DARTS & BRIDGE



### ***Sports and Social Activities for everyone***

- Join today and become part of the wider Brentham community. Social membership is only £40
- Discounted prices on food, drink and special events
- Great venue/room hire for birthday and anniversary parties, as well as weddings
- Licensed to hold weddings and civil ceremonies

#### **Top Bar and Balcony**

Monday–Friday 5.00pm–11.00pm  
Saturday 12.00pm–11.00pm  
Sunday 12.00pm–10.00pm

#### **The Fred Perry Café**

Monday–Friday: 10.00am–4.30pm  
Saturday & Sunday: 10.00am–2.00pm  
Everyone welcome, members and non-members

### ***What's on – at a glance***

Friday 17th June – **Chris Hill** – Rock'n'Roll Band

Friday 1st July – **Colin Frearson** / Live music

Saturday 2nd July – **Abba Tribute Act**

Sunday 17th July – **Ealing Club Blues Night**

**Trash & Treasure Street Food Markets** 5.00pm - 9.00pm

Friday 10th June

Friday 22nd July

Friday 12th August

**Trash & Treasure Artisan/Vintage Markets** 11.00am-4.00pm

Sunday 31st July

Sunday 28th August

*For more details on all events, see website:*

[www.brenthamclub.co.uk](http://www.brenthamclub.co.uk)

*For general enquiries:*

*email [manager@brenthamclub.co.uk](mailto:manager@brenthamclub.co.uk)*

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You can contribute to *Brentham News* by emailing [news@brentham.com](mailto:news@brentham.com)

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