

BRENTHAM SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER NO.21

NOVEMBER, 1972.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held at 8.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 7th November at St. Barnabas Church Hall. We hope to see a good crowd of members. This is your chance to meet the Committee and put forward your views. Subscriptions for 1973 may be paid at this meeting—please bring the form at the foot of this Newsletter, together with your current membership card.

The business of the meeting will be followed by a recital of Viennese Music on record, presented by Mr. A.J. Skinner. Many will recall the very successful recital given last year by Mr. Skinner, whose whole life has been spent in the world of music, where he has come to know many of the famous personalities of music.

ANNUAL REPORT

The second year of the Brentham Society has followed rather different lines from the first year, turning from public meetings towards an attempt towards meeting more Estate residents in various ways and through various activities.

The largest single effort of the Committee, with the help of an enthusiastic group of helpers, was the membership drive of the beginning of the year. We visited a large proportion of the houses not already members, and gained in this way many new members. Membership for 1971 was 231, and for 1972 reached 316 houses.

The Society in 1972 undertook a number of ventures which were social rather than formal meetings. Carol singing in December, and a Wine and Cheese Party in January were both successful events which we propose to repeat this winter. In March a theatre party was arranged; in April a most enjoyable visit to Blenheim Palace, and in May a visit to the Perivale Bird Sanctuary, each a very different outing but along lines which we hope to continue.

During the year we formed a musical group which met on a number of occasions for informal singing round a piano. If we have a member skilled in organising a choir, he or she will be most welcome.

The formal meetings of the Society were dominated by our good fortune in being able to arrange a lecture by Professor Sir Nikolaus Pevener, who spoke to an audience of about 200 on "William Morris" in December. This meeting is to be followed up this year when Mr. Nicolas Stacey will speak to the Society, again at Ealing Town Hall. In October, Mr. Ian Mutton of the Conservation Society gave an interesting talk on the environmental crisis.

This Newsletter is the ninth for the year. Through our Newsletter we try to keep members and residents informed of events affecting the Estate, and we maintain contact with a number of outside bodies, including related Societies, the local press, Councillors, our Member of Parliament and others. The Society is affiliated to Ealing Civic Society and to Ealing Arts Council, and we have applied for affiliation to the Civic Trust, but so far without success, since the Civic Society has successfully obtained affiliation in respect of the whole of Ealing.

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For a considerable part of this year the Society has been following the progress of the Brentham Club's Town Planning Application for an Indoor Bowling Green. The Committee and the Advisory Panel opposed the application, and have closely observed the stages of the proceedings in the Borough Council. The application was finally refused, but we understand that an Appeal has been lodged with the Secretary for the Environment. This will probably be heard before a public hearing in 1973.

Arrangements have recently been completed with the Borough Council to establish a Brentham Luncheon Club for retired residents. This will be held at the premises of the Brentham Club.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The funds of the Society a year ago were £42.66 and at 31.10.72. were £54.50. The expenditure of the Society goes towards printing costs, rental for meeting rooms, affiliation subscriptions, and charitable appeals, but this year there was in addition a certain amount of expenditure in connection with Brentham Green. In future, the Society may find an increase in duplicating costs (£55 in current year), since costs have so far been much reduced by various facilities at present open to a number of the committee members.

BRENTHAM CLUB SQUASH COURTS

Many residents will by now have received notification of a Town Planning Application by the Brentham Club for four squash courts. Not all the Committee Members have yet seen the drawings, so that the Committee has not yet come to a formal conclusion on the matter. However, it will be recalled that this is one of the possibilities that we put forward as open for the future development of the Brentham Club. In addition, the three members of the Advisory Panel have attended meetings with Town Planning Officers on the application, and in its present form support the application. The Panel consider that this will be a less intensive use of the site, and that it will therefore produce a smaller increase in traffic than the Bowling proposal would have. In addition, it is very much smaller in bulk, so that the loss of open space is not material, since the site on Meadvale Road was always intended for a building. The layout and detail have been designed well in accordance with the character of the surroundings, and very much along the lines of the original building designed for the site. The proposals are excellently described in the Council's official letter of advice to residents. So, if you have not received one, request one from the Town Planning Department (telephone 01-567 3456). Your comments on the proposal should be sent to The Chief Officer, Town Planning, London Borough of Ealing, 24 Uxbridge Road, W.5., under reference PW/PF/EAL.1796/7, for the attention of Mr. Warden.

DECEMBER CELEBRITY LECTURE

As we have previously announced, Mr. Nicolas Stacey, Ealing's Director of Social Services, will address the Society on 12th December 1972, in the Nelson Room at Ealing Town Hall. Wide publicity will be given to this event, so we trust that members will note that early attendance for the 8.00 p.m. meeting would be a wise precaution.

CAROL SINGING

The Society's Carol Singing evening is planned for Monday, 18th December when we shall meet at Brentham Green at 7.30 p.m. We trust that all the stars of last year's tour will again be present, and many more to enjoy the fun. Anyone who could bring and play an instrument will be very welcome and should contact Brian Fallon on 997 1056.

WINE AND CHEESE PARTY

Advance warning can now be given of a Wine and Cheese Party on 8th January 1973. The last wine and cheese party was enjoyed by a large group of people, so it will be a good first date to enter into 1973 diaries.

I should like to support the Brentham Society for 1973 and enclose 30p subscription

NAME

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