

BRENTHAM SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER NO. 29

OCTOBER 1973

Editor: Miss M. Tims
137 Fowlers Walk

Hon. Sec: Mrs. S. Poulain
6 Neville Road

Chairman: Brian Fallon
12 Winscombe Crescent

NOTICE OF AGM

The Annual General Meeting will take place on
Tuesday, 30th October at 8 p.m. at St. Barnabas Church Hall

All Society members are warmly invited to attend.

Film Show: After the formal business, the Ealing & Boston Manor Cine Club will present some of their films, including "MAY DAY IN BRENTHAM" - excerpts from the film about the Brentham Estate made by the cine club earlier this year. This is just a foretaste of the whole film, which it is hoped to show before the end of the year.

Membership: Subscriptions for 1973 and/or 1974 can be given at the AGM. Please bring your membership card, together with the form overleaf.

Election of Committee: Nominations should be received by the Chairman at least one week before the date of the meeting, with the consent of the nominee and accompanied by names of the proposer and seconder. The present Committee Members, listed below, are willing to stand for re-election and need not be nominated:

Christine Dix (Treasurer - co-opted), Brian Fallon (Chairman), Clive Hicks, Martin Jiggins (Vice-Chairman), Marjorie Miles, Tony Oliver, Stefanie Poulain (Secretary), Tony Scanlan, Margaret Tims (Newsletter Editor).

Colin Dix has felt it necessary to stand down, owing to business commitments. We are grateful for his services, both as Treasurer and Committee Member, during the past year.

Chairman's Report: circulated with this Newsletter. Matters arising can be discussed at the AGM.

BRUNSWICK ROAD TRAFFIC

Several Brentham Society members attended the public meeting called by the Brunswick Road Residents Association on 2nd October to discuss the problem of through-traffic on Brunswick Road and to consider ways of re-routing it.

There was unanimous agreement that through-traffic should be deterred from using the Pitshanger - Brunner - Brunswick route and alternative routes were discussed. Fears were expressed that moving the traffic away from the present route might divert the flow through other roads on the Brentham and Greystoke Park estates.

A resolution was passed urging that Ealing Borough Council should designate and sign-post a through route to by-pass the area; and that a plan should be devised for deterring through-traffic within the areas of the Brentham and Greystoke Park estates. A suggested by-pass route is: from Scotch Common via Kent Gardens, Castlebar Hill, Montpelier Road, along Hillcrest Road and out to the North Circular Road.

Two "local" plans were proposed which involve:

(1) A partial blockage at four points:

- (a) corner of Brunswick/Lynwood Roads;
- (b) corner of Lynwood/Mulgrave Roads;
- (c) corner of Brunswick Road/Fowlers walk;
- (d) corner of Upper Brentham Way/Winscombe Crescent

or

(2) A total blockage of Brunswick Road at the bottom of Fowlers Walk and another total blockage across Upper Brentham Way.

These suggestions will be submitted to the Borough Council Local Services Committee on 6th November, with the recommendation that one or other of the schemes be tried for a period of six months. Anyone interested may attend the Committee as an observer (7 p.m. in the Town Hall). We shall keep residents informed about developments.

PARKING OF COMMERCIAL VEHICLES

Complaints have been received from a number of residents about the parking of heavy commercial vehicles (often without lights) in residential roads. This has been particularly noticeable in Fowlers Walk, Holyoake Walk and Meadvale Road. Your Committee is raising the matter in the local press.

CENTENARY

Warmest congratulations to Mrs. Harriet Prebble of Winscombe Crescent, who celebrated her one hundredth birthday on 8th October with a party for family and friends and a telegram from the Queen. Mrs. Prebble has lived on the Estate for nearly forty years.

Others, we know, though not yet attaining this great age, have been here for longer; a few, even, from the foundation of the Estate in 1901. Your Committee is always pleased to hear reminiscences of these early days, or to receive any archive material in the form of photographs or printed matter. We are indebted to Mrs. Bartholomew of Woodfield Avenue, for the loan of some early issues of the Brentham magazine, from which we hope to quote extracts from time to time.

SIXTY YEARS AGO.....

From "The Brentham Magazine" October 1913:

"I hope efforts will be continued with a view to providing a swimming bath for our district. If, as appears likely, the cost of upkeep would be too great to justify the Estate Committee undertaking the task, our endeavours might be directed towards inducing the Town Council to make provision for a swimming bath in North Ealing ... in fact, a suitable site has already been formed by nature in Pitshanger Park. I refer to the extensive cavity near the bank of the Brent, as it takes a southward course." (Letter to the Editor from Mr. S.B. Hocking).

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Please enrol me as a member of the Brentham Society for 197

Name:

Address:

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- OCTOBER 1973

This A.G.M. marks the end of the third year of the Brentham Society's existence. Our membership stands at 266 households and we feel that the Society is now well established and has achieved recognition.

The year has been a busy one and activities have covered a wide range.

We have been concerned to establish good communications by our Newsletter and by our letters to the Local Authority, the G.L.C. and such other organisations as the occasion demands. All Brentham residents, whether members or not, receive our Newsletter, as do related societies, the local Press, Councillors, our MP and many others. The Society has acquired a second-hand duplicator and this has helped to keep down the costs of printing. Even so, the Newsletter represents our biggest single item of expenditure. The Chairman and Committee records its grateful thanks to those who regularly distribute the Newsletter.

An important issue which featured largely in our activities was the Council's proposal to develop part of the allotment site for housing, with the additional threat of possible demolition of two houses in Neville Road. (The position on this will be reported at the AGM).

On the lighter side, there were a number of meetings and outings of a social nature:-

- 16th February: Mr. J.R. Barralet spoke on "Gardening in Brentham". Mr. Barralet kindly made available his new Pitshanger Lane premises, and also provided refreshment and films.
- 26th March: The Ruislip Church Ensemble gave us a musical recital at St. Barnabas Church Hall.
- 27th April: Mr. S.F. Taylor of the Countryside Commission gave us a most interesting talk on the subject of Long Distance Footpaths, Bridleways (Did anyone walk one of the paths as a result of the talk, we wonder?).
- 30th September: Coach outing to the River Thames at Hurley.
- 8th October: St. Peter's Players gave a performance of their popular recital, "Some of Ealing's People" - a truly fascinating presentation.

We are indebted to Father Hetherington for the frequent use of St. Barnabas Church hall and record our grateful thanks.

Many Society Members contributed to the Jumble Sale on 27th June in aid of the flourishing Brentham Luncheon Club. The proceeds of the sale (amounting to £60) will provide a Christmas party for the Luncheon Club.

The society has now issued two kinds of personal stationery: the ever-popular notelets (with the Brentham motif) and, more recently, notepaper printed with individual addresses. Orders can be taken at the AGM.

We continue to enjoy good working relationships with the various Departments of the Borough Council and we are in frequent contact with them. We co-operated in the distribution of the leaflet "Brentham Garden Estate Conservation Area - Minor Alterations in Design".

On 8th August we planned a guided tour of the Estate for the Chairman of the Town Planning Committee, Alderman Dr. Ivor Williams, and other Councillors. Dr. Williams initiated a series of visits to the seven Ealing conservation areas and your Committee Members joined in some of these.

An interesting activity was the co-operation between the Society and the Ealing and Boston Manor Cine Club to produce a colour film about Brentham and its people, emphasizing the "village" atmosphere of the Estate. We must also express our thanks for the support given to this venture by the Borough Council. The film will have its first showing, probably in the Town Hall, before the end of the year. Meanwhile, members who attend our AGM will have the chance to see a preview of the sequences shot during our children's May Day celebrations which, it may be recalled, took place on a lovely sunny day when the estate was looking at its best. The Ealing and Boston Manor Cine Club is an amateur club which has won many international awards for its work and we were very happy to undertake this joint venture.

The Chairman and Committee were involved in many other events and activities of a day-to-day nature connected with the Estate. Many letters were written and many visits and phone calls made. Space does not permit us to record all of these.

Finally, as has already been said, we are concerned to communicate with members. What about members communicating with us? Is there anything you want to say to us? About the Newsletter, for example - does it give the sort of information you want to hear? What about some contributions from our readers? Is the Society sufficiently in evidence, or is it not? Why not tell us?

We look forward to seeing you at the AGM.