

# BRENTHAM SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER NO. 38



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## STOP PRESS ::: - BRUNSWICK ROAD ALLOTMENTS

The Committee have been astonished, and dismayed, to learn that the Council is now proposing to use almost three times as much of the Allotment land for housing as was originally intended - 3.4 acres instead of 1.2 acres. This will mean 50 to 60 houses, or about 250 people. We regard the loss of allotment land as quite unjustifiable especially at a time like the present, and especially when there is such a demand for these very allotments. In addition we consider that the present high density of housing (ever increasing with house extensions taking place all the time) already over-extends services of all sorts, and that this, together with the extra pressure on the roads all indicates that this site is not the right place for more housing. The roads on the Brentham Estate were not intended to carry through traffic - the estate as a whole was originally designed as being self-contained, with no through roads - and with the parked cars which are quite inevitable, the additional traffic represents an unwarranted new risk, especially to children and old people.

The Society will do all it can, but your letters carry a great deal of weight with Councillors. Write to any Councillor, but also write to the Chairman, Housing Committee, Town Hall, Ealing, W.5. and soon, because the Housing Committee is considering this matter on June 19th. The public may attend this meeting, and a good attendance by local residents always carries a significant message to Councillors.

## EALING ARTS 75 - June 21-22

The Brentham Society is mounting a display of photographs at the Ealing Arts 75 Exhibition on June 21st and 22nd at Ealing (Northern) Sports Centre, Greenford Road (next to Sudbury Hill Piccadilly Station). This exhibition has been organised by the Recreational and Visual Arts Section of the Ealing Arts Council and will be made up of displays by arts and recreational societies throughout the Borough. The Society has received a grant towards the cost of the display, which will be mounted on a set of panels permanently available for future use. We have already been asked to exhibit some at the Pitshanger Methodist Church Flower festival later in the summer, and this will make a more convenient opportunity for local residents to see the display.

## INAUGURATION OF THE BRENT RIVER PART - Sunday 29th June

The Brent River and Canal Society invites you to the Inauguration of the Brent River Park at Churchfields, Hanwell at 2.30 p.m., Sunday 29th June. Admission is free; there will be bands and refreshments. For fuller details, ring 579 5638.

This Society, which we strongly support, was formed two years ago to press for the establishment of a continuous park in the open land along the River Brent from Hanger Lane to Brentford. The hope is that the area should become one of the major London parks, properly landscaped with a network of well designed public footpaths. The ideas has been enthusiastically supported by the Borough of Ealing who have paid for the carving of some fifty wooden Brent River Park signposts. At the Inauguration the Mayor of Ealing will raise the first five of these signposts.

#### MAY DAY FESTIVITIES

This year's May Day celebrations again attracted a record number, with over 150 children taking part. Lindsey German made an attractive Queen and, in addition to the past May Queens, was attended by a new Britannia, Julia Miller. A crowd of about 300 people enjoyed the maypole and country dancing and a special thank-you is due to the ladies who taught the children and to the pianist, Stella Watts. The dance in the evening, which was opened as usual by the May Queen taking the floor for the first dance with her father, provided a very enjoyable mixture of traditional May Day dance plus wine and cheese evening attended by over 100 people. The May Day Committee wish to thank everybody who helped and would welcome hearing from anybody who would wish to help in any way in future years. While the event continues to be a great success as a local attraction, it only just about breaks even each year and the number of people on whom the organising and continuance of the event depend is quite small; additional assistance would be most welcome.

#### HEDGE CUTTING

Our popular hedgecutter, Billy Harris, is thinking of giving up his task. A good number of people have come to rely on his services and it would be a pity if a substitute could not be found. Is there anyone willing and able to carry on this neighbourly work? If you can help, please get in touch with Brian Fallon (997 1056).

#### ENTITLED TO A RATE REBATE

Everybody is painfully aware of this year's horrific increase in the rates, but perhaps not everybody knows of the existence of a Rate Rebate Scheme. You may possibly be entitled to a reduction, and you can find out if you are eligible by applying to the Rate Rebate Department at the Town Hall.

#### COFFEE HELPERS

We are in need of some three or four ladies willing to help occasionally with the coffee making at meetings of the Society. If you are able to help, please phone Marjorie Miles (997 4311).

#### CONSERVATION PROJECT

Our fame is spreading. Students from the Department of Town Planning of Oxford Polytechnic are engaged in a Conservation project and have shown a keen interest in the purpose and activities of our Society. We have provided them with a good deal of information.

I should like to become a member/renew my membership of the Brentham Society and enclose 30p membership

Name ..... Address .....