

# BRENTHAM SOCIETY



Brentham Garden Estate, Ealing

Chairman  
Brian Fallon  
12 Winscombe Crescent  
Tel: 997 1056

News Letter No 92  
November 1987

The Annual General Meeting was held on October 22nd. Not as many attended as we had hoped but this could have been because the hurricane blew away the notices.

The Chairman began his report by reminding us of the aims of the Brentham Society. Should anyone wish to refresh their memories, a copy of the Constitution can be seen on application to one of the committee. He went on to say that the notion of conservation is now well established - major battles were fought in the early years against corporate developments but there still remains the ever present danger of individuals who through ignorance of or disregard of the Article Four Direction, attempt to undertake inappropriate works without planning permission. This needs constant vigilance on the part of ALL residents. An encouraging trend is that residents are now seeking advice on a whole range of topics. We have a welcome letter addressed to new residents drawing their attention to the fact that this is a conservation area and offering our help and advice should they want it. If you want copies of this letter for new neighbours, the Secretary carries a stock.

We have tried to revive the skin scheme but the Council will not waive its charge of £5 each and we do not have the funds to pay for them. However it is possible for a group of neighbours to hire one between them for £5. There is also the special collection for £3 - this is free to pensioners.

We were able to get the Vanguard Company on Western Avenue to moderate their public address system which was clearly audible on the estate and was an intrusive nuisance especially at weekends.

Social activities included the Strawberry Tea and a Walkabout of the estate with talk by Olive Hicks to which we invited residents of Hampstead Garden Suburb and in return we paid 3 visits to Hampstead. A local initiative to have a barbecue on the land behind Denison/Ludlow Roads was unfortunately 'rained off' but we hope they will try again next year.

Twenty Christmas parcels were delivered and we also helped to distribute some of the 'butter mountain' to the older residents.

Some years ago we published the Brentham Booklet (1000 copies were printed) - this has now sold out and we are exploring the possibility of either a new booklet or an updated reprint of the old one.

Discussion is in progress with the Council on yet another scheme involving the changing of road signs & markings to try and break up the east/west flow of traffic via Pitchanger Lane. We are also pressing for lighting on the two footpaths: Pitchanger Lane/Holyoake Walk and Brentham Way/Brunner Road.

Over the years we have accumulated a considerable quantity of archive material. This has been catalogued and we are negotiating with the Local History Librarian to deposit it in the Central Library where it will be available for those interested.

Election. The present committee with the exception of Charles Rigg, the Treasurer were willing to stand again and were re-elected. One new member was proposed and was duly elected. The committee for 1988 is as follows:-

Brian Fallon, 12 Winscombe Crescent	Paul Wharrier, 3 Ludlow Road
Barbara Murray, 2 Winscombe Crescent	Tony Oliver, 43 Denison Road
Penny Silverman, 34 Brentham Way	Crispian Strachan, 26 Holyoake Walk
Audrey Jones, 32 Brentham Way (new member)	

Charles Rigg was thanked for all the hard work he put in which resulted in a greatly increased membership.

### Garden of the Year Award.

There were many interesting and attractive front gardens this year. It is not possible to mention them all nor the beautifully planted tubs, urns and hanging baskets throughout the estate. Among the award winners we are pleased to note several who have not been mentioned before. We hope there will be more newcomers next year. The assessing of the gardens was undertaken by 2 members of the Brentham Allotment & Garden Society and one from the Brentham Society.

1st award ..... Mrs Kelly, 2 Ruskin Gardens.  
2nd award ..... Mr Moore, 38 Ludlow Road.  
Joint 3rd award ..... Mr & Mrs Wolfe, 85 Fowlers Walk.  
Mr Vaughan, 64 Meadvale Road.

There were also 12 Highly Commended Gardens:-

18 Ludlow Road, 20 Ludlow Road, 21A Brentham Way, 54 Brentham Way,  
69 Brentham Way, 7 Brunner Road, 82 Meadvale Road, 24 Woodfield Crescent,  
19 Neville Road, 45 Woodfield Crescent, 19 Woodfield Avenue, 93 Fowlers Walk.

Ludlow Road was particularly mentioned for its delightful front gardens and wide variety of compatible styles.

A report on Neighbourhood Watch was given by Charles Rigg, the co-ordinator. Details of this will appear in their own News Letter.

### The Wild Side of Brentham.

The recent damage to trees and property represents a great loss but events in nature have their credit side.

The variety of birds which can be seen regularly represents a definite asset and the number may surprise some people. In response to my enquiry, Brian Shapley sent me a list of 49 species he has seen; I have added 4 more to the list. It includes a gannet flying off-course in a gale in 1981. About 50 species should be regular visitors to our gardens.

A rough analysis of the list suggests that the birds recognise Brentham as an area of open woodland. In summer a number of warblers, including blackcaps and chiffchaffs are to be seen and may breed. Throughout the year the oak trees attract tree creepers and woodpeckers, both the greater and lesser spotted. I suspect that tawny owls nest close by. The small garden trees and shrubs attract bullfinches as well as coal- and bluetits. Flocks of twittering long-tailed tits are especially attractive. Overhead, kestrels hunt and herons follow the course of the Brent stopping to clear the goldfish from a garden pond!

Next year we will try to assess the number of breeding birds in Brentham - a reminder in the Spring-- meanwhile please get in touch with any wild life news. Next topic: mammals.

Mike Silverman, 34 Brentham Way. 9981220

### Trees.

In the aftermath of the storm when 48 street trees were lost on the estate, many residents are concerned that we think of future replanting. The Parks Dept, which is responsible for street trees, is anxious to co-operate with residents to make the best use of whatever private funds can be raised, as Council funds will be limited. Also we would wish to put forward our views on the siting of and type of trees to be planted.

Our new committee member, Audrey Jones, on behalf of the Society, has undertaken to co-ordinate all private initiatives and fund raising activities. All interested residents are invited to a meeting at her home, 32 Brentham Way on Thursday, November 12th at 8 pm. with the object of forming a group to discuss future planting, fund raising and liaison with the Parks Dept. (Phone: 997 9640 after 5.30

A plea. Amongst reference material displayed at the Annual General Meeting there were two sheets of paper on TREES. One was borrowed by someone. Please could it be returned to Crispian Strachan, 26 Holyoake Walk? A photocopy can be arranged. Thankyou.