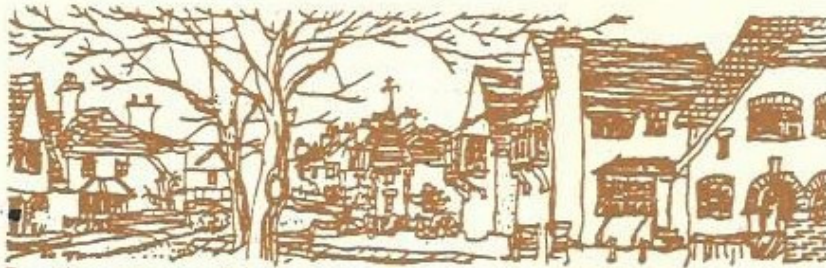


BRENTHAM SOCIETY



Brentham Garden Estate, Ealing

Chairman
Brian Fallon
12 Winscombe Crescent
Phone 997 1056
NEWS LETTER No 95
June 1988

STRAWBERRY TEA

This will take place on Sunday, June 26th from 3 - 5pm in Barbara Murray's garden, 2 Winscombe Crescent. All members of the Society are invited and we particularly welcome new residents.

The tickets will be £1 each (children under 5 are 50p) and can be obtained from any committee member.

ALLEYWAYS

The recent Brentham Neighbourhood Watch News Letter (No 14) recommended that, to increase security at the rear of houses, residents should consider erecting wrought iron gates across alleyways where appropriate.

We must, however, emphasise that before this is done:

- 1) Planning permission must be obtained.
- and 2) Care must be taken to ensure that the rights of way of all residents to access to the rear of their houses is not jeopardised.

TREES

There has been so much rain recently that it hardly seems necessary to water the new trees but we leave it to 'adopters' to use their own judgement. Of the 89 trees planted only 2 seem to have failed and these will be replaced in due course along with some new planting in the autumn.

Judges of the 'London in Bloom' competition have made an initial inspection and seemed very impressed. They will return in July and we have every hope that the Borough will be well placed. (Ealing has won first place for the past 2 years.)

We are still negotiating with 'Men of the Trees' for a grant towards the cost of trees for Ludlow/Denison green.

BRENTHAM ALLOTMENTS & GARDENS SOCIETY

Their trading shed is open only on Sundays from 10 - 12am. They would welcome new members - you could more than save your membership fee by buying from the shed where prices are considerably lower than in the local shops.

They will be having a produce stall at the 'Save the Children Fund' event in Pitshanger Park on July 10th. Any garden produce for the stall will be much appreciated and can be handed over at the stall.

THOUGHTS ON HEDGES

Privet may not be everyone's favourite shrub but it is very tough and adaptable. The hedges on the estate give a traditional, cohesive appearance which was part of the designers' original concept.

For those of you struggling with an unsightly hedge we give a few tips. All hedges except the very lowest should be slightly wider at the base and taper towards the top. If the top is ridged or curved, snow damage is less likely. Tall straggling hedges can only be improved by reducing the height and feeding with compost, manure or fertiliser. Once the base has improved then the height can be restored with regular clipping to ensure density of growth. An unacceptably

wide hedge can be cut back to the required width - it will look bare and brown for a few weeks but at this time of year it will quickly recover. The golden privet will take a little longer as it is not so vigorous.

Please take care that your hedge, trees or shrubs do not overgrow the pavements or alleyways.

Some garden hedges seem to have been blighted. Audrey Jones is taking advice from the Council on suitable replacements. If you want to know more, please phone her on 997 9640 (evenings).

EALING IN BLOOM COMPETITION

This competition is open to all residents of Ealing and there are a number of categories: front garden, patio garden, best improved garden, back garden etc. The four front gardens which won awards in our own 'Garden of the Year' have been entered for the 'neighbourhood award' category.

Anyone interested in entering their own garden should get an application form from : Community Services, London Borough of Ealing, 14/16 Uxbridge Rd W5 2HL. Closing date is June 24th and judging begins on July 11th.

SUMMER BIRDS

I always feel that summer has really come with the arrival of the swifts- the last of our annual migrants. They constantly entertain and amaze with their agile gyrations high in the fine evening sky and screeching, death-defying swoops under the eaves of houses to reach nests in the roofspace. Stand at the south end of Brunner Road for a fine display. Swifts traditionally arrive 6 weeks before Midsummer Day... True to form, this year the majority turned up during the weekend 7-8th May. Their departure 12 weeks later will leave the skies noticeably quieter.

Drought in Africa and cool English summers may have combined to cause a decline in the numbers of house martins in recent years. Their arrival in early April puts them at particular risk. These glorious blue-black birds with a conspicuous white rump build nests of mud under the eaves. They favour the Meadvale Road area not far from the river Brent. Like swifts, martins do us a good turn by eating vast quantities of flying insects, including the aphids which we feel so tempted to spray. Insecticides in the food chain end up in their eggs and will lead to their continued decline.

Swallows are occasionally seen. Does anyone know of local nest sites?

Mike Silverman (998 1220)

FOOTPATH LIGHTS

We are trying to persuade the Council to include the footpath from Brentham Way to Brunner Rd in their re-lighting programme. So far they have agreed only to do the Pitshanger/Holyoake Walk path.

VILLAGE IN THE CITY FILM

This film, made some 10 years ago depicts the history and development of this estate. It has now been made into a video film. Members of the Society may borrow it by contacting Ken Butcher (997 0154). A £5 deposit will be charged, repayable on return, for the tape, which is on VHS format.

BRENTHAM STATIONERY

Available at the following prices from Susan Floate, 17 Ludlow Rd (997 8550).

Notelets	50p per 10)	all including envelopes
Notepaper (A5)	60p per 10)	
Notepaper (A4)	70p per 10)	

SEE YOU AT THE STRAWBERRY TEA ON JUNE 26th.