

# BRENTHAM SOCIETY



*Brentham Garden Estate, Ealing*

Chairman

Mr J. B. Fallon  
12 Winscombe Crescent

Phone 997 1056

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## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This will be held on Thursday 20th October at 8pm in Room 1 of the Methodist Church Hall, Pitshanger Lane.

All members of the Society are urged to attend and any resident wishing to join may do so at the meeting.

Nominations for election to the committee should reach the Secretary, Mrs B. Murray, 2 Winscombe Crescent by October 13th, proposed and seconded by paid-up members of the Society and with the consent of the nominee who should also be a paid-up member.

Any motions or items for discussion should be notified to the secretary for inclusion in the agenda, also by October 13th.

The results of the 'Garden of the Year' will be announced and the awards made.

## OLD PHOTOGRAPHS

We have recently acquired some interesting old photos of the early days of the estate and would be grateful for the help of some of our older residents in identifying places and faces. They will be on display at the AGM. It may be possible to produce reproductions for sale if there is sufficient interest to justify the expense.

## THE NEW TREES

We continue to monitor the progress of these trees and would be grateful to hear from anyone who is concerned about the condition of any tree near their home - phone Audrey Jones on 997 9640.

Photographs of the storm damage and the replanting will be on display at the AGM - we would be grateful for any similar material for our archives.

## THE STREET SIGNS

Several years ago the local authority delegated their responsibility for the care and maintenance of the original old cast street signs, due to the expense involved and told the Brentham Society that if they wished to retain them, they must maintain them.

Past appeals for volunteers among our residents to help with the painting and repair have unfortunately fallen on deaf ears and so we are now paying someone to do the job which we hope will be completed within the next week or so. However offers of help, if only to do one sign, will be gratefully received. If you can help, phone Paul Wharrier on 998 7264.

## BRENTHAM STATIONERY

The stationery will again be available at the AGM at the usual prices. We are also arranging to print attractive cards featuring a typical Brentham scene. These cards are suitable for use as Christmas/greetings cards and will, we hope, also be available at the AGM.

## HEDGES AND FOOTPATHS

We are still investigating the blight which is attacking some of our hedges. If your hedge is dying, you can get information from Ken Butcher who has been in touch with the FORESTRY COMMISSION and received a lot of helpful information from them (Phone 997 0154 - evenings).

Some elderly residents are finding their favourite shortcuts difficult to negotiate because of their overgrown condition. The pathways between the houses are for the convenience of residents and should be kept clear of overgrown hedges, rubbish, bin cages etc. The responsibility for trimming the hedges rests with the resident whose property adjoins the path.

## HELP FOR THE ELDERLY OR DISABLED

With winter approaching some of our less active residents may find shopping difficult. If you have an elderly neighbour perhaps you could suggest taking him/her with you in the car occasionally when you go to the supermarket so that he or she can get some of the larger or heavier items - or maybe even do it for them.

## THE WILD SIDE OF BRENTHAM: LAWNS

If you can persuade yourself to raise the blades of your lawnmower by an inch next Spring and refrain from using lawnsand, you may have a colourful surprise. Instead of a sterile bowling green, you'll have a carpet of flowers.

Lawns harbour a number of dwarf or mat-forming varieties of common wild flowers. Miniature dandelions are everywhere. Why not enjoy their rich colour, unmatched by cultivated yellow flowers, before beheading them? Call them by their Swedish name of musk roses and they'll seem even more attractive. Little mats of purple self-heal flourish in dry spots, while thyme-leaved speedwell may appear in shady damp places.

Remote corners of many Brentham gardens resemble woodland margins. If you stop mowing there completely, you may glimpse a relic flora which flourished before these houses were built - springtime bluebells, followed in succession by cuckoo-pint, garlic mustard, buttercups and betony. At the end of summer starry enchanters nightshade appears. But the enchantment stops there! Sadly, this delightful plant is a rampant, creeping perennial much feared by serious gardeners.

## BRENTHAM RE-VISITED

Twenty-five years ago, with our eight children, we emigrated to South Australia after living for nineteen years in Meadvale Rd. In June I returned to look up old friends and revisit the 'old familiar Places'. How did I see Brentham after a quarter of a century away? The whole area is so unfamiliar that I got lost walking from Ealing Abbey to Winscombe Crescent. How? Because of the trees - the beautiful, noble, magnificent trees that have grown so big - the whole face of the estate has altered and has quite wonderfully matured. The gardens are a riot of colour and the well kept houses are full of character. Those few which have 'gone modern' seem quite out of place. Parked cars are everywhere, lining the roads, and add to the change - a feature of every town I have visited. Pitshanger Park is a delight to the eye and so well looked after. In fact the only sour note was the litter in the Lane and this again seems a regrettable feature of all English towns today. The Brentham Estate was, to me, after 25 years absence, a lovely area - one to be proud of.

DON'T FORGET - THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING IS ON OCTOBER 20th !!

SEE YOU THERE.