

BRENTHAM SOCIETY

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NEWSLETTER NO: 109

SQUIRRELS

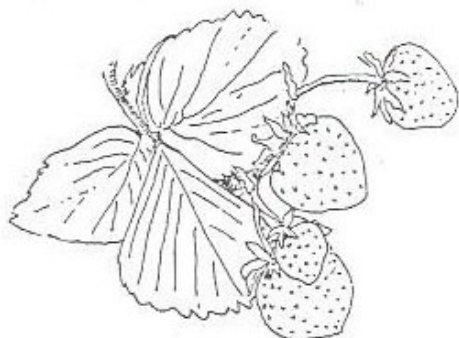
We have had several incidents reported to us of squirrels getting into houses and doing damage. They may look charming but you encourage them at your peril (and your neighbours' peril.)

If they get into your loft or any other part of your house they can seriously and dangerously damage woodwork, wiring etc. and in your kitchen they will damage and contaminate food - we have one report of a squirrel getting in through the cat-flap. So please do not feed or encourage them.

We have been advised that they do not like the smell of mothballs so you may be able to discourage them from nesting in your roof by crushing and scattering a few moth balls.



STRAWBERRY TEA



This will take place on Sunday June 28th at 2 Winscombe Crescent from 3.30 to 5.30pm. Last year the event was unfortunately 'rained off' so let us hope for a fine day. Tickets: £1.50 for adults and £1.00 for accompanied children. This is the main social event of the Brentham Society year so do come and meet your fellow Brenthamites.

BRENTHAM STATIONERY

Stationery is available at the same prices as last year from Rosalind Jones on 997 9640 or 840 5687.

A4 Paper and envelopes	10 for £1.40	20 for £2.60
A5 Paper and envelopes	10 for £1.20	20 for £2.30
Notelets and envelopes	10 for £1.35	20 for £2.50
Correspondence cards and envelopes	6 for £1.50	12 for £2.85

PARKING IN FRONT GARDENS AND MEANS OF ENCLOSURE

We would like to take this opportunity to remind residents that in order to retain original surfaces to the front of properties, parking in the front gardens will not be permitted. The formation of other hard surfaces in front gardens is firmly discouraged, this includes the excessive use of gravel, crazy paving etc. Traditional surfaces and planting will accordingly be encouraged. The traditional method of enclosing gardens and part of the original design concept was to use hedges, and the replacement of hedges with other means of enclosure will not normally be allowed. Where replacement of a hedge becomes necessary the most suitable species is privet which is the most commonly found species in Brentham: other species which might be appropriate include Box, Holly, or Yew. Cypress hedges, particularly Leylandii, are not appropriate. Certain properties originally had picket fences approximately 1 metre in height which likewise should be retained, but ranch style fencing is inappropriate to Brentham. On some properties wall and hedge combinations have been used, and should be retained. The small wooden wicket gate on wooden posts is typical of Brentham and should be retained. Wrought iron gates are not appropriate and where they have been installed reinstatement with a suitable wooden gate should be considered.

DAMAGE CAUSED BY TREES

Many residents will be aware of remedial works being carried out on the Estate following damage to foundations and drains after the recent dry summers and winters. Most damage has been caused by soil shrinkage (subsidence) where the clay subsoil in this area has dried. This is often aggravated by the proximity of trees which take up moisture from the soil. In general, broad leaf trees extract more moisture than conifers. It follows that if trees or hedges are removed or die, soil swelling (heave) can occur where the ground takes up moisture again. In either case, where trees are either planted or are removed, special precautions may be required to prevent damage. In this area permission is required to plant new trees or hedges, or to remove, lop or top a tree or hedge, and advice should first be sought from the Town Planning Department.

LUNCHEON CLUB FOR THE RETIRED

Brentham Luncheon Club Meadvale Road welcomes new members. A good lunch at a modest price is served from Monday to Friday every week. Please ring Tony Oliver 997 7523 for further particulars.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

We are endeavouring to call at every house to collect the 1992 subscriptions - still only £1 per household - and meet you all especially any newcomers to the Estate, but if you wish you may drop the subscription in to any committee member.