

BRENTHAM



Brentham Garden Estate, Ealing.

NEWS

CRAFT FAIR.

The Society's stall at the Methodist Church Craft Fair goes from strength to strength. At the Easter event, we took two tables and displayed a range of information about the Estate and Society along with a splendid and popular array of home cooking, baking and hand-made gifts and cards.

The stall gives us a chance to talk to many local people who may not be members of the Society. The quality of the produce on offer is becoming well known and is highly sought after - most of the baking was snapped up within minutes of the Fair opening.

Many thanks to all those people who helped make this such a success. We are hoping more people will join in - if you would like to help run the next stall or make something, please contact Mandy Greenwood at 5, Brunner Road. 998 1064.

PLANNING AHEAD

Look out for a revived event in the Brentham calendar - The Brentham Sports Day and Picnic. It will be in early July and should be a great family event. We're hoping that all the children on the estate (and their parents) will come along, take part in the races and enjoy an informal picnic in glorious sunshine (well, we can but hope!).

Many older Brentham residents remember the annual Sports Days with

affection - we think it's a Brentham tradition worth reviving.

However, we can't do it without your help so if you can help beforehand with the preparations, or on the day, please contact Mark Greenwood at 5 Brunner Road 998 1064 or Wendy Sender at 50 Denison Road. 997 4123

We'll announce all the details nearer the day - watch for the Tree Posters

PORTRAIT OF A HOUSE

In the late summer last year neighbours were surprised to see James Hart Dyke - a young professional artist with easel and large panama hat standing on the grass verge, quietly painting a picture of my house in oils.

James likes to work on site which is perhaps why so many people stopped to look and talk to him. He had just finished working on a huge Jacobean mansion, but was delighted to paint the warm red brick and front garden of my Brentham house.

I was thrilled with the picture as I have lived on the estate for many years.

Pat German, 54, Brentham Way.

VIEWPOINT

When we chose to purchase our house here on the Brentham Estate we were well aware of the planning constraints of a conservation area, and indeed that was one of the main reasons for our choice. We felt that this afforded protection against houses being spoiled or modernised to the detriment of the original design and so detracting from the ambience of the area.

We were also aware that one of the principal benefits of the estate was the consistent and steady growth of the value of the properties, regardless of the economic situation. We attributed this consistency to the unique character of the individual properties, which in the past had attracted like-minded people to the estate.

It is therefore, strange to see that a number of residents are destroying the very attributes that make the estate so desirable. What is even more disturbing is that we know that planning permission would not normally be granted for some of the alterations taking place. So planning law is being deliberately flouted.

What does not appear to be recognised is that all alterations to properties require planning permission, but that does not necessarily mean extra cost, neither does it mean that alterations will be refused, indeed the only ones refused are those that materially change the property and its character.

We are sure we are not alone in resenting the fact that our property value is being undermined because some people are not prepared to follow the guidelines, perhaps it is a sign of the times!



TREES

Readers will remember that in the last Newsletter we talked about donating an amount of money from the Society's funds to plant additional trees on the estate and you may be wondering what is happening. As we said in that article the Council have now planted all the trees they have funds for this year. It is now too late to plant any more trees since they need to be in the ground during Autumn to give them the best chance of survival.

Following a meeting between David Rogers and Dominic Blake of Ealing Council's Arboricultural Department to discuss the plans for tree planting and details of our proposal, it was agreed that David and Dominic will meet at the end of summer and together will tour the estate to locate the 'gaps' and create a planting scheme.

The Department are prepared to purchase suitable trees on our behalf, plant them, monitor them and water them regularly. Obviously they would be delighted if we help look after them as well. They emphasised that the cost to the Society would be only a quarter of the total cost of procuring and planting. At present the purchase cost is £30 for each tree.

Looking ahead, if you have a blank space near you and you have a choice of tree to fill it, let David Rogers have your suggestions (in writing please) to 220 Pitshanger Lane. We will include all suggestions where practicable in the planting scheme in the Autumn.

You may like to know that if you have a specific choice of tree and a location, or wish to purchase a tree as a memorial to someone then the Arboricultural Department can advise and act for you.

.....AND HEDGES

Feed and water the elderly.....hedges! Brentham hedges, so easily taken for granted, yet such a vital part of our estate are now 80-90 years old. Judging by the straggly appearance of some of them they are in urgent need of pampering.

While other plants in our gardens receive food and water the hedges are often forgotten, but they too benefit from feeding with a good fertiliser and from watering in times of drought.

The result should be healthy, robust hedges better able to resist the ravages of disease such as honey fungus and better able to keep out unwanted intruders. While it is easy to climb over a fence, a good hedge is virtually impossible to get through or over!

RUBBISH

It is good to see that most people who read our article on leaving rubbish on pavements have ceased to do so. However a walk around the estate on collection days shows some residents are still leaving rubbish sacks on the pavements, perhaps they do not realise that they are committing an offence. We have been advised that the council are monitoring houses who do not comply with the regulations and will contact them prior to taking action (a fine). Don't be caught out! Keep your sacks in the garden.



PLEASE HELP KEEP THE ESTATE CLEAN.

TRAFFIC

We are still pursuing the problems raised in the traffic survey with both the Council and the Traffic Police and it is proving hard work! There appears to be some resistance to taking on our problem. Rest assured we will not let it lie, but it looks like taking some time.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Madam Editor,

For years I have been disgusted by the way a few selfish dog owners have allowed their animals to leave heaps of dog muck at random in Pitshanger Park. This means that our two small children, along with many others, are effectively barred from running and playing on the grass.

We hear from North Ealing School that Ealing Council are considering including Pitshanger Park in a pilot scheme to create dog exclusion zones. If readers agree that this cannot happen too soon, they should write to Councillor Stephen Sears at the Members Room, Ealing Town Hall, Uxbridge Road. (Name and address supplied)

HELP !

For years now members of the committee have been storing boxes of archive materials, books and stationary, in their lofts and garages and sheds. These boxes are scattered around the estate in committee members' homes and it can be difficult to find out who has the particular item needed at any particular time.

The archive materials are in 3/4 storage boxes each measuring 45cm x 39cm x 29cm. Storage may also be required for stocks of stationary and books. Has anyone on the estate any spare room to store these boxes. The Society is willing to pay a small fee for this service. If you think you are able to help us please contact :

Heather Moore,
127 Fowlers Walk, 998 0234

'BRENTHAM' STYLE WORKERS

The Society is attempting to compile a list of people who are able to do sympathetic repairs to houses on the estate. We have some names of people who may be able to make / install "Brentham" type windows and doors. These names are available from:
Delphine Nunn, 24 Woodfield Crescent
997 1208

Please note that these are not recommendations from the Society but are merely references received from various sources. The Society cannot take any responsibility for guaranteeing the work of these people.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



MAYDAY will be the 18th of May this year with the procession starting as usual from the Brentham Club at 2.30. The children and organisers of the parade would be very grateful if residents could move their cars, if at all possible, from roads on the traditional route.



**STRAWBERRY TEA FOR
RESIDENTS OF BRENTHAM AND
THEIR FRIENDS
SUNDAY, JUNE 23rd
3.30**

2. WINSCOMBE CRESCENT



**WILLIAM MORRIS EXHIBITION
V AND A MUSEUM
9th MAY - 1st SEPTEMBER**

" most comprehensive exhibition ever mounted on the life and work of the founder of the Arts and Crafts Movement. Over 500 objects explore the range, versatility, skill and innovation of this remarkable man. "

...also a 3 day conference
June 21st - 23rd
For more details ring:
0171 938 8407