

# Brentham Garden Suburb Tours Spring, Summer and Autumn 2015

Enjoy a visit to our very special Suburb....

..... and help us restore a precious local landmark

## Brentham Garden Suburb

For a limited period only the Brentham Society is offering fully guided tours of this historic and largely undiscovered Garden Suburb on the edge of urban London.

Whether you are a garden-lover, a student of the Garden City Movement, are interested in 20<sup>th</sup> century planning, or just like looking at interesting buildings and charming streetscapes, you can't fail to be captivated by Brentham. This small (680 households) development on what was then farmland on the edge of the fast-expanding Borough of Ealing, was one of the very first model Garden Suburbs, established in 1901 and pre-dating Hampstead, yet bearing all the hallmarks of Garden Suburb planning and Arts and Crafts architecture. Its street plan is by Parker and Unwin and its principal architects George Lister Sutcliffe and Frederic Cavendish Pearson. The Brentham Conservation Area (which has an Article IV Direction) includes two Grade II Listed buildings.

Brentham was the product of the Co-partnership ideal in which tenants took shares in the company that built the houses and in some cases provided the labour. This produced a rich and sometimes turbulent history that didn't turn out quite as its founder, Henry Vivian MP, intended. Nevertheless, more than a century later, it survives remarkably conserved and still engenders a strong community spirit.

## The Tour

Begins at the Brentham Club at 10.30am with refreshments and an introduction to Brentham, its founding philosophy and development.

The tour of the estate, taking in its principal historical, planning, architectural and social features, then takes approximately 90 minutes. The route passes through some narrow hedged passage-ways and some inclines so visitors need to be reasonably mobile. Bring cameras – and umbrellas!

The tour ends at the Brentham Club with a buffet lunch and an exhibition of archive materials, copies of original plans, and the chance to talk to members of the Brentham Society. There's an opportunity to see the Club's well-preserved Billiard Room and to visit the Tower, with its panoramic views of the Suburb and vistas towards Harrow and Wembley Stadium.

The visit ends at approximately 1pm but visitors are free to stay to explore the Suburb. Please respect our residents' privacy if you do so.

## The Cost

£20 per person includes refreshments and buffet lunch – group size min15 max 25.

*"One of our best visits ever. Very friendly, excellent guide, stimulating and informative walk, delicious lunch. Could not have been better."* **The London Appreciation Society.**

## Contact:

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