



# BRENTHAM NEWS UPDATE APRIL 2008

(Distributed to Brentham Residents)

## Brentham Club Open Day and New Coffee Shop

Work to extend and refurbish part of the ground floor of the Brentham Club has now been completed, so the Club is holding an open day on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April, from 12 noon to 6 pm. Everyone will be very welcome to visit the Club and inspect the alterations, which include a new entrance to the hall, disabled access, new toilets, an extended first-floor terrace, and modernisation of the kitchens. Representatives of the different sections of the Club, sporting and social, will also be on hand to give further information about their activities.

The former bridge room on the ground floor of the Club has been converted into an attractive coffee shop. This is already up and running, and open to all, members and non-members alike. Opening hours are currently 9.30 am to 3.45 pm, extending till 5pm on Fridays and Saturdays. It is expected that these hours will be longer during the summer months, when there will also be extra seating out on the patio, and when occasional barbecues will be held.



Lunches available daily, with evening bistro on Fridays and Saturdays and special Sunday lunches.

## Brentham May Day, 2008

Two years after the centenary of Brentham May Day comes another - that of the tradition of choosing a May Queen to preside over the festivities. Coincidentally, 2008 is also the centenary of the construction of shops in Pitshanger Lane and residential developments in adjacent streets.

This year's Brentham May Day will be **Saturday 10th May**, and the organisers would be very grateful if some volunteer stewards can join them on the field from about 2.30 pm, as the number of spectators is getting larger every year. Volunteers are also needed to sell programmes on the day at the entrance to the Brentham Club at 2.15 pm, on the field during the Maypole dancing, and alongside the procession selling programmes to spectators.

If you can help with any of these tasks, please contact [Pat Chapman](#)

The evening group of Brentham gardeners meets on the first Tuesday of each month, at 7.30 pm. The next meeting is on May 6th. New members are very welcome. [Details from Brentham Society](#)

## Gating of Rear Alleys

Some residents have recently had a letter from the local police Safer Neighbourhood Team about this. Unfortunately some of the subsequent advice has been a little confusing. We have clarified the position with the Council officer concerned, who confirms that 100% grants are available for putting gates on rear alleyways for security reasons, with some conditions. These are:

1. *Everyone with the right of access through a private alley must agree to having it gated. Where properties are let, the tenants should get the owner's consent.*
2. *An application must be made by the residents concerned (or someone on their behalf).*
3. *The work will be done by the Council to a set specification. Gates will be fitted with a mortice lock and everybody with a right of access to the alley will be given a key.*
4. *Applications **must** be made by the end of April, so funds can be included in next year's budget.*

To speed applications up, contact the Council's Gating Officer, Lucy McConnell-Wood, on 020 8825 7757, or email [mcconnellwoodl@ealing.gov.uk](mailto:mcconnellwoodl@ealing.gov.uk)

## Visit to the Watts Gallery

The Brentham Heritage Society is organising a visit to the Watts Gallery at Compton, near Guildford, on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May. An early example of an Arts & Crafts building, it was built to house the studio collection of the eminent Victorian painter and sculptor G F Watts, and has been



described by the *Daily Telegraph* as "one of the most beautiful small galleries in Europe".

The collection comprises paintings, drawings, prints and sculpture by Watts, his wife Mary and other Victorian artists. An exhibition, *A Journey of Hope*, narrates the Gallery's 104-year history. Now is the perfect time to see the Gallery, before it closes for restoration in autumn 2008, and the nearby cemetery chapel - a beautiful art nouveau Grade I listed building, designed by Mary Watts.

A 1½-hour guided tour of the Gallery has been booked to start at 11.30 am. The tour costs £4.50, payable on the day; access to the Chapel is free. As in previous years we'll travel there by car - let us know if you can offer spaces in return for a contribution towards petrol costs. If you would like coffee before the tour, the on-site Tea Shop is open from 10.30 am; it also serves sandwiches and home-cooked lunches. Food is also available at local pubs.

If you are interested in going on this visit, please [contact Eleanor](#) by **2 May at the latest**. You can also log on to [www.wattsgallery.org.uk](http://www.wattsgallery.org.uk) for more information about the Watts Gallery.

The next full edition of **Brentham News**, distributed to residents and friends of Brentham, will be published in early June 2008. Articles, small ads and news of any forthcoming local events can be emailed to [news@brentham.com](mailto:news@brentham.com) or you can post them to the Editor at 8 Gleneagles, Malvern Way, W13 8DZ,

