

SEVEN

BRENTFORD MYSTERIES

Can you solve any of these mysteries ?

During National Local History Week local historians hope to locate items which have disappeared from view over the years. If you can help please contact Brentford or Chiswick Libraries, Kew Bridge Steam Museum or Gunnersbury Park Museum or come to St. Paul's Parish Centre, Brentford during the week 4th to 12th May 2002

MYSTERY No.1 Brentford Council Minutes

The Minutes were recorded in heavy ledgers, which can be read at Brentford and Chiswick Libraries.

But one is missing

The gap is for the year 1900 - 1901.

Do YOU know what happened to it ?

MYSTERY No.4 Brentford Bridge

From the 1820's to 1909 Brentford Bridge had four large granite drums, one at each corner, each carrying a lamp. The granite parapets and drums were removed when the bridge was widened in 1909. Two of the drums were used for the Brentford Monument, but where are the other two? Could they be in your garden?

MYSTERY No.2 Sir Montagu's Bequest

Sir Montagu Sharpe, Chairman of Middlesex County Council and local magistrate, died in 1942. In his will he left two Roman earthenware bottles, all his books and maps relating to Middlesex and his black walking stick with M.S. on a silken band, to Brentford Public Library. The books and maps are available for study, but where are the bottles and walking stick ? Did they ever reach the library ?

MYSTERY No.5 Brentford Buns

Do YOU have the recipe ? Do you know someone who does ? Brentford Buns were fruity teacakes which sold at Simmons Bakery and later at the International Stores. They should not be confused with Brentford Rolls which were bread rolls popular in the 19th century. That recipe is available and we hope to have some during National Local History Week. We might make some buns if we find the recipe.

MYSTERY No.3 St. George's Church

The War Memorial in St. George's Church (now the Musical Museum) had a splendid set of carved oak screens. What happened to them ?

MYSTERY No.6 The Market Griffins

Brentford Market was built in 1893 and closed in 1974. The entrance was topped with eight terracotta Griffins. Six of the Griffins are in the cafe of the Brentford Fountain Leisure Centre, where are the other two ?

MYSTERY No.7 Boston Manor heirlooms

The contents of Boston Manor House were sold at auction in 1922 after the Clitherow family left the Manor. Who bought the furniture, paintings and plate ? Do YOU eat from Clitherow china or sit on Clitherow chairs?

