

OCTOBER '93
No. 168.

Villages in Action.

An absolute must for your diary date during half-term. Storybox Theatre will be performing "Pandora's Box" on Thursday 28th October at 11.00am in the Village Hall. Pandora is given an old wooden box, but is told never to lift the lid.... In this re-telling of the most beautiful and gentle of the Greek Myths, Storybox Theatre spins a web of tales: tales of folly and wisdom, cowardice and courage, despair and, finally hope. This new production will delight excite and amuse children and adults alike. Tickets available from Rick Blower 810600 and Jane Osborne 810606. Please book early to avoid disappointment.

Advance notice for the Bristol Old Vic touring company Public Parts. They will be performing on Saturday 13th November in the Village Hall, 7.30pm. More information in next Brentor News. Rick Blower.

Chillaton Playgroup.

There are vacancies at Chillaton Playgroup for children 3 - 5 years, who meet on Monday and Friday afternoon, 1.30-3.30 and Thursday morning 10-12.30. For more details please telephone either Maria Fox, Chillaton 427 (Play Group Leader) or Sarah Perkins, Chillaton 250 (Chairperson),

Parish Draw.

This month's winner is ticket No 46. Mrs.D.Eden.

Thank You.

A thank you to Mrs.J.Venning for all the hard work she put into organising the Brentor Horticultural Show. Nancy Cullen.

W.I.News.

Miss Rendell's talk on the History of Corn Dollies at the W.I.'s September meeting turned out to be a fascinating one. Although these symbols of crop fertility date mostly back to the 17th and 18th centuries in the country, there was however a corn dolly found in Egypt in the tomb of Tutenkhamen. Historically the dollies were always made from the last sheaf of corn to be cut and each county has its own particular design. After giving a short demonstration of how the dollies are made, Miss Rendell was thanked by Mrs.Weston. The flower of the month was won by Mrs.Davey, 2nd Mrs.Purvis, 3rd Mrs.Ball.

The Community Coffee Morning, organised this time by the W.I. proved to be popular and was well supported by both locals and visitors. There was a good array of local produce for sale. Thanks go to all who helped with this morning.

At the W.I.'S next meeting on 7th October the speaker will be Mr. Mathews of Exeter Cathedral. This promises to be a most interesting talk accompanied by slides and music. As usual the W.I. extends a warm welcome to any visitors or newcomers to the district who care to attend.

M.Pritchard.

Methodist News.

Once again we wish to thank those who attended our Harvest Festival Services and for gifts of fruit, vegetables, flowers etc. It was encouraging to have such a good gathering at the service on Monday evening and at the supper which followed. The usual happy atmosphere of Christian fellowship was much in evidence. Proceeds amounted to £263. S.Claringbold.

Horticultural Show.

The show was a great success this year, due to the hard work put in by Jennifer Venning and her helpers. The number of exhibits was a little down but their standard exceptionally good. Furthermore the Show produced a total of £120 which has gone towards the Church Hall Funds. Congratulations to all concerned; we were sorry that Jennifer was taken ill shortly afterwards but pleased that she is now a little better.

Barbecue and Bonfire on Friday 5th November.

Don't forget the usual 5th November celebration in the Old Vicarage field - more about this in the next issue of the Brentor News. The basis of the bonfire is already in situ; if anyone has wood, preferably dry, or other burnable material (not old tyres please) feel free to add to the pile.

Monthly Coffee Morning.

The next Community Coffee Morning will be organised by the Community Centre and will be on Wednesday morning 27th October from 10.30am, again coinciding with the usual travelling library day. The September coffee morning organised by the W.I. was very well attended and was a successful occasion, with visitors to the village coming in for a coffee and mingling with the locals. About £30 was raised for WI funds. It is hoped that support for this monthly event will continue to be good during the coming winter months as it makes a worth while day-time social occasion for mothers with small children as well as older people.

Parochial Church Council.

The combined PCC's of Lydford and Brentor had a meeting with the Archdeacon of Plymouth recently. There are plans to break up the existing Lydford Team Ministry, with Sourton and Bridestowe being hived off to Okehampton. Brentor and Lydford expressed their disagreement with the plan. The next meeting of the Brentor PCC will be on Monday 4th October at 7.30 pm in the Church Hall. J.Weston.

Link with the Past.

Mr Christopher Wilkinson and his wife were visiting the village recently. He is the grandson of Dr. Postlethwaite who practised medicine in the village up to the 1940s and who lived at "Nutshell"; he later built 'Bluebells'. Mr Wilkinson grew up in Brentor (he is now in his 70s). In 1923 at the age of 18 months he was taken to the USA by his parents who decided to emigrate. His mother (Dr. Postlethwaite's daughter) was pregnant and on the voyage over the Atlantic was very sea-sick. Because she was ill, she was not allowed to land in New York but was detained in the notorious Ellis Island. Eventually through the efforts of an emigre lawyer, she was released but the baby (a little girl) died and she herself subsequently died of pneumonia. Mr Wilkinson was sent home alone by Atlantic liner, in the care of a stewardess, and was brought up in Brentor by his grandparents; he became known as Christopher Postlethwaite locally. He never saw his father again though whilst in the Merchant Navy he spoke on the telephone to him on one occasion during the last war! cont....

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cont... Christopher Wilkinson now lives in Leicestershire and has children and grandchildren; he spent some time during his recent visit tidying his grandparent's graves and planting a rosemary bush - for remembrance.

J. Weston.

Brentor Branch Conservatives.

Have you a question for Emma Nicholson your M.P.? Come and meet her and have a cup of coffee and biscuits (75p) in the Church Hall on Saturday 23rd October 1993, 10.30 - 12 o'clock. You will be made most welcome.

Team Holiday Club.

The Team Holiday Club this summer offered a wider range of activities than in previous years, expanding the morning sessions to add pottery, sewing and cooking to the usual filmstrip, singing and painting and providing outdoor activities during the afternoons and evenings. Those living in the centre of the village could probably hear the Junk Percussion Band and we are grateful that there were no complaints. The afternoons were taken up with tennis, walking on the moor with the Ranger and Philip Whitcomb's formidable treasure hunt on the Tor. So we should all have been fitter by the end of the week, although in my case I think 'exhausted' would be more apt. All sessions were well supported by both Lydford and Brentor children and teenagers, the younger ones no doubt soon looking forward to our next joint venture the Sunday School Christmas Party! Meanwhile the Junk Band will continue on alternate Thursdays from 7-8pm in the Church Hall throughout the winter months, beginning on the 7th October.

Fred & Gill Still.

Press Release.

Roy Ralph is to give three talks at Lydford about our world artistic heritage.

On October 12th the subject will be John Constable, the artist who painted the famous 'Hay Wain' but who never broke even financially. The answer as to why 'up-market' visitors are being attracted to the West Country to see the new Tate Gallery at St Ives is the theme for the 16th of November.

Florence, scene of an awful bomb attack earlier this year, is the third talk on the 14th of December. Considered to be the bank of Europe in the 15th century Florence was the city of Michelangelo, Leonardo, Botticelli and many other great artists.

Roy Ralph, B.A.Hons is an artist and designer who spent over thirty years working for a leading London art museum.

Good quality slides are used to illustrate his talks and music and literature add further interest.

The talks are all on a Tuesday and start at 8.00pm. They will take place within the warmth and comfort of The Mucky Duck Inn at Lydford Gorge.

Attendance is limited and can only be by pre-booked ticket at £2.50 for each talk. The price allows for 50p towards a drink at the Inn and can be obtained by telephone on Lydford (082282) 217.

J. Ralph.

Diary Dates.

October 7th. W.I. Exeter Cathedral. Mr Mathews.
October 12th. bingo. 7.30pm Village Hall.
October 23rd. Emma Nicholson. 10.30am Church Hall.
October 27th. Community Coffee Morning. 10.30am Village Hall.
October 28th. Pandora's Box. 11.00am Village Hall.
November 4th. Annual Meeting. W.I.

FINAL COPY DATE BRENTOR NEWS OCTOBER 26th. THANK YOU.

