



# BRENTOR NEWS

**December 2008 - Issue 350**



## **Christingle Service**

**Sunday 21st December at 4.30pm.**



A beautiful service of children's worship and candlelight celebrating the gift of Jesus. All warmly welcome.

There will be a shepherds pie supper (meat or veg option) in the village hall after the service from 5pm for children and adults wishing to stay on for the carol evening

Donations welcome.

If you would like to partake please let **Sally Pancheri** know by Sat 13th - **810285**.

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## **Christingle nativity rehearsal and Advent workshop for children.**

**Tuesday 16th December 3.30pm – 5pm**  
at Christchurch.

Drinks and biscuits provided.



## **Brentor Carol Evening**

***Roll up! Roll up! Roll up!***

✱

Come and celebrate Christmas with a musical family evening of well loved carols, mince pies, mulled wine etc.

✱

**Sunday 21st December**

Showtime is at 6 o'clock.

✱

Tickets £4 in advance or on the door. Early booking advised!

Children free and very welcome.

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All proceeds will go to "Send a Cow," (a charity that sends live milking cows to very poor families in Africa.)

**Come and sing and dance and make merry!**

✱

**Tickets : Martin and Alice 811059**

## **CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING**

**Saturday 6th December - 10.30a.m to 12.30p.m. in the Village Hall**

This is our annual event when there will be sales tables with Christmas presents in mind. This year we decided that we will charge a small 'entry fee' £1.50 adults and 50p children - to include refreshments of coffee, tea and cake.

This will be your last chance to buy raffle tickets for the quilt (230cm x 195cm or 91inches x 77inches) – hand stitched by the ladies at Unfinished Business – tickets are £1 each. However because we are a small, local charity supporting an important village venue, we have been told that there will be no problem selling a book of five tickets for £4. ***The draw for the quilt will take place at 12 noon!***

There will be another raffle (a separate draw) with many prizes including a bottle of Moët & Chandon Champagne.

**Sue Stephens - 860 374**

**Anne Clark - 810 035**

## Brentor Garden Club



### "Four Seasons" by Paul Rendell

Paul Rendell is a regular visitor to Brentor, and on this occasion he spoke about the four seasons on Dartmoor, illustrating his talk with many beautiful slides. Dartmoor can experience all 4 seasons in one day, going from bright sunshine to rain, mist, and even hail. The Moor has a high rainfall of some 90" per annum. Showery weather has become more frequent in recent years, and the vegetation is changing, with more scrub and bracken, probably due to a reduction in grazing. There is less and less snow, and what there is is short-lived and wetter, rather than being hard and crisp. In the past people living on the Moor were prepared for long winters cut off by prolonged spells of snowfall.

Wildlife is changing, with an increase in hares, Dartford warblers, and the presence of more ospreys, whilst woodpeckers, sparrows and swallows are declining. Notable plant changes are the increase in the parasitic plant Dodder (which adversely affects heather and gorse), Himalayan Balsam and Japanese Knotweed. Heathers are under threat from Dodder, heather beetle and competition from gorse and bracken. Adders are thriving, but dormice, whilst surviving, are affected in ways as yet unresearched by shorter hibernation periods, probably due to warmer winters. Hedgehogs and lapwings are declining and the barn owl's future is uncertain, since it is slow to adapt, whereas the hoopoe has been seen recently for the first time.

All these changes in wildlife and vegetation are a reflection of the changing nature of the seasons and weather patterns, which are now less distinct than they used to be.



**The next two meetings of the Garden Club:**

Thursday 11th Dec. 7.30pm - Garden Club Social

Thursday 15th Jan 12.30 for 1.00pm -

Annual Lunch at The Elephant's Nest

**Anne Malleson 860304**

### **Cantichorum**

An afternoon of seasonal songs, hymns and readings, brought to us again this year by the Cantichorum Choir. There will be mulled wine and mince pies.

St Michael's on the Tor

- Sunday December 7th, 3.00pm.

## 2nd Annual Big Brentor Brunch

Save the date:

**Sunday the 25th January next year.**

The Brunch Bunch are making final plans for the brunch menu, see the next edition of the Brentor News for final details.

We look forward to seeing you there!

**Pat Blower**

on behalf of The Brunch Bunch

### **Not Quite Desert Island Discs**

Have you ever listened to Desert Island Discs and thought 'I'd like the chance to do that!'

Well here's your chance (sort of).

How about joining in with Brentor's own Not Quite Desert Island Discs? Once a month you, or of course someone else in the group, get to play about an hour of your favourite pieces of music to friends, over a glass of wine. Don't worry, you won't have to bare your soul by explaining exactly why they are special for you! All you need to do is bring along the CDs, with a bit of background on the composers/artists to make the evening even more interesting.

I hope you agree that this could be a great way to pass a winter's evening, as well as being a way to expand all our musical horizons.

I'm thinking of starting this in the New Year, if there's enough interest. If you would like to join in please contact me on 811079 or at [colin.dawes@virgin.net](mailto:colin.dawes@virgin.net).

**Colin Dawes**



### **Jumble Sale**

Thank you to everyone who helped at the Jumble Sale. It all went so smoothly this year, even the clearing up.

We took approx £185 for Village Hall funds, mainly in the first hour! It was manic.

Thanks again (especially Liz for the cake!).

**Sheryl**

### **Ivan Churcher**

We have all been enormously saddened by the recent death of Ivan Churcher after a short illness. Ivan moved to Brentor with his family some five years ago and rapidly became involved in village activities. He was a talented artist and was a prime mover and contributor to the Arts Fair in 2005. Over a period of two years he was deeply involved with the Brentorians.

Ivan was a delightful man to know – and will be greatly missed. We hope to have more details of his life in the next issue.

We would like to say a special thank you to all our friends who have shown such love and support following the death of Ivan. It means so much and has been a great help to us at this very sad time.

**Lisa, Joe, Emily & Lucy Churcher**

### **Brentor Parish Day**

What did we do? 12 people from Brentor enjoyed an informative and very enjoyable day at Hampton Manor House near Horsebridge. The hotel, run by Rob and Helen Hopkins, provided an ideal setting for our group to study and relax together away from the normal routine of daily life. We particularly wanted to focus on the value of prayer. Our first speaker Richard Bache, a lay reader and theologian, gave us a very interesting talk on the different facets of prayer and reminded us of the need for prayer as a central part of Christian worship.

Our second guest, Andrew Farmer, led us in a discussion centred around sharing our faith with others and there was opportunity to share ideas about possible ways we can reach out in our own rural community.

Helen and Rob welcomed us with coffee and biscuits, followed by a splendid lunch and more cakes and coffee at the end of our meeting. We went home very well fed both physically and spiritually!

We are continuing our monthly prayer group, a time for listening and reflection throughout the winter months in different homes. If anyone wants to know any further details please ask me.

**Sally Pancheri 810285**

## *Church News*



I wrote in the October edition of the Parish Church magazine about my future and yours as a parish and village.

I said that in February 2009, I reach the age when I can retire and draw my pension. For the past 20 months or so, I have worked part time looking after the parishes of Brentor and Lydford. From the end of February I will reduce my working commitment further, will give up my responsibilities for Brentor, and look solely after Lydford.

What will happen in the future to Brentor, who will be responsible, and how it will be planned and worked out is not for me to say. It is up to others to make such things known. I can only speak for myself and my future.

**Revd Ian Sykes**



### **Services in Brentor for December**

7th - 9.45am	Christchurch
14th - 6.30pm	Christchurch
21st - Christingle 4.30pm	Christchurch
24th - 11pm Christmas Eve	Christchurch
25th - 3.00pm Christmas Day	St Michael's



### **Prayer Group**

The prayer group will meet on Wednesday 10th December 7.30pm at Stablelights. Stressed by the annual run-up to Christmas? Why not take a moment to reflect on the real meaning of Advent and join us for a bring and share supper followed by a time of prayer and reflection.

**Jackie MacRostie 810683**

## **Brentor News Distribution & Advertising**

If you are outside the parish and would like The Brentor News to be sent to you on-line as a PDF, send your request via email to [johnw@brentor.net](mailto:johnw@brentor.net). A small donation to the BCT would be appreciated. All advertising copy and payment of £5 per insertion should be sent to Mike Whitfield in advance of publication.

### **Have fun, feel good Make a difference**

**Make a difference on the high seas -  
help fundraise with RNLI**

**Make a difference in the third world –  
help out at Oxfam**

**Make a difference at Dartmoor Prison -  
volunteer with Choices Consultancy  
Service  
(formerly PACT)**

**Just a few of our  
many opportunities**

**Contact us  
Volunteer Centre Tavistock  
5 King Street, Tavistock 01822 618224  
[vc-tavi@westdevoncvcs.org.uk](mailto:vc-tavi@westdevoncvcs.org.uk)**

### **New stage lighting for the Village Hall**

Say goodbye to dull lighting at Village Hall events! The Brentorians have recently used the profits from their recent productions to purchase a professional stage lighting set for use in the village hall.

This includes eight stage floodlights on stands, dimmers and a computerised control panel. It will not only be used for their annual productions (the next play, 'Cash on Delivery', will run from 19-21 March 2009) but also for Villages in Action events and other drama, music and dance events in the hall.

The lights will also add a bit of visual excitement for discos at the hall, since they can be set to react to the beat of music.

If you wish to use the lights for an event you are organising please contact me. We will need to make a small charge to cover the cost of bulbs and setting up the lights. Charges will start at £10 per session for local fundraising events.

**Colin Dawes - 811079**

#### **Diary Dates - All events at the Village Hall unless stated otherwise**

Mondays	2.00pm	Unfinished Business	Sue Stephens	860374
<b>December</b>				
Mon 1 <sup>st</sup>	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	Pat Blower	810600
Sat 6 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Christmas Coffee Morning	Sue Stephens	860374
Sun 7 <sup>th</sup>	3.00pm	Cantichorum - St Michael's on the Tor		
Wed 10 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Prayer Group - Stablelights	Jackie MacRostie	810683
Thu 11 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Garden Club Social	Mike Malleson	860304
Sun 21 <sup>st</sup>	4.30pm	Christingle Service - Christchurch	Sally Pancheri	810285
Sun 21 <sup>st</sup>	6.00pm	Brentor Carol Evening	Martin & Alice	811059
<b>January</b>				
Tuesdays	7.30pm	Yoga - from the 6 <sup>th</sup>	Jennifer Heyworth	810137
Sat 15 <sup>th</sup>	12.30pm	Garden Club Lunch - Elephant's Nest	Sue Stephens	860374
Mon 19 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	Pat Blower	810600
Sun 25 <sup>th</sup>	.TBA	Brentor Big Brunch	Pat Blower	810600
<b>For all hall bookings &amp; enquiries:</b>			Liz Wheeler	810083

**FINAL COPY DATE - for the January edition**

**Monday 29th December - to Mike Whitfield: [mikewhit@btinternet.com](mailto:mikewhit@btinternet.com)**