



BRENTOR NEWS

June 2008 - Issue 344

A step nearer to a new village hall for Brentor

Come and give us your opinion -

Saturday 12 July and Monday 14 July

Our much-loved Village Hall is sadly showing its age. Floor joists are rotting and the rest of the structure is gradually decaying. A survey of the structure has shown that the building's useful life is coming to an end and therefore the hall will have to be replaced as soon as possible. Last year the Village Hall and Playing Field Committee secured a grant to pay for the cost of designing a new hall and submitting a planning application. Architect Allen van der Steen from Chagford was chosen to create the design and, based on the consultation with villagers carried out in 2005, a brief for the building was presented to him.

After considering several versions of the design for the hall a plan for the new building has now been agreed by the Committee. The new building has been designed to occupy the existing site, although it has been cleverly planned so that the existing hall can remain in use until the new one is complete. It includes a slightly larger main hall, a meeting room, catering-quality kitchen and much improved toilet facilities. There will be some off-road parking but plenty of green space will remain so that a marquee can be erected for large events and outdoor activities can still be held around the new hall. Environmentally sound features such as wood pellet heating, high levels of insulation, low energy lighting and a living 'green roof' on part of the building have been incorporated to enable the hall to be run in the future at minimum cost and with a low carbon footprint.

Many people will have happy memories of the present hall and it is felt that the new one will retain its friendly atmosphere and be suitable for small-scale functions such as private parties as well as larger village events such as theatre and music. The meeting room will be economical to run for small meetings of up to twelve people. From the outside the new hall will look somewhat like an 'agricultural' building, with a metal roof and wood-clad walls, designed to blend in with its location on the edge of the village and echo the look of the existing hall.

The Committee would like as many Brentor residents as possible to see and comment on the design before an application for Planning Permission is made. The plans will be on display and can be discussed with members of the Committee in the Village Hall on Saturday 12 July from 10.00am to 4.00pm and on Monday 14 July from 3.00pm to 7.00pm.

Colin Dawes has a set of the plans at The Old School, West Blackdown and would be pleased to show them to you if you cannot get to the Hall on the above days.

Once Planning Permission has been gained the hard task of fundraising will start!

Brentor Pizza and Skittles Night in the Village Hall - Friday 6th June

- 7pm start and cooking those pizzas for you until 8.30
- BYO drink
- Remember: we supply the homemade pizza bases and lots of toppings for your unique creation.
- Salad and garlic bread to accompany.
- Only £6 per person
- Please let us know if you are coming by ringing Sarah on 860165
- Skittles competition as well!

Pat Blower

The Brentorians

Brentor's amateur theatrical group



The first of the summer's play readings will take place on Monday 23rd June at West Blackdown Cottage starting at 7.30 pm.

The play readings are intended as an enjoyable prelude to the theatrical program which is usually presented in the first half of each year.

If you would like to be part of a Brentorians production, please come along to the play readings. You will be made most welcome. If you cannot make the play readings please contact me if you wish to register an interest in either front or back stage activities.

Robin Burdfield 810412

Brentor Garden Trail.

Sat. 14th June. 2.00 – 5.00



The Garden Club will be holding a Garden Trail, a 'tour' of a number of gardens in Brentor and Lydford, during which there will be a plant-naming competition. The trail will start at Brentor Village Hall where, for a modest £2.50, participants will purchase a programme which will give directions and what to do. Cream teas will be served at Wastor Farm, Lydford, and light teas will be available at the start & finish for those who might need multiple refreshments.

The winner of the Trail will receive a £10 Garden Voucher.

Wheelchair & baby buggy access may be limited at some of the venues. Transport will be available for those who cannot get themselves to the gardens in the Lydford Station area. We look forward to seeing you there.

Mike Malleon, Chairman

Brentor Garden Club



Meeting on 17th April

'Don't Fence Me In'

with George Kestall, - ably assisted by 'John' on camera.

George Kestall teaches part time at Duchy College and works at Pine Lodge Gardens and Nursery near St. Austell; where apparently the Cafe and toilets are of a very high standard!

He also works to raise funds for 'Perennial' aka Gardeners Royal Benevolent Society, who give financial support to those working in the gardening world in times of need.

Wall shrubs and climbers were the basis of his talk with images depicting good situations for these.

Clematis formed a large part of his talk with such specimens as Clematis Armandii a rampant, perfumed, evergreen robust climber. Montana Alba a beautiful white fast growing Clematis depicted completely covering a pig house roof and probably keeping it in place! Clematis are fine if they are allowed to run and 'get on with it', but if pruning is found to be necessary George gave us these simple rules for guidance:

- Early flowering species are best pruned straight after flowering.
- Large bloomed varieties trim just after Christmas, only prune hard every other year.
- Later flowering varieties prune during winter.
- Cuttings can be taken during June and July-cutting in between nodes, not just under a node; this is unique to Clematis.

Other images included a stunning variegated Ivy (Gold Heart), Passion Flowers, a Russian Vine which is not easy to kill and is best pruned with a hedge trimmer!

Roses, George advises, are like teenagers, always hungry, and should be constantly fed with anything to hand, dung, compost or blood fish and bone.

This was an interesting and fun evening where, I'm sure, each and everyone would have gained some useful tips.

The June 19th Meeting is 'How to Grow Herbs' with Michael Steps. All are welcome, non-members £1 entry fee.

Rona Baker

CHARIVARI.....

Maxi-congratulations to Alice and Martin who have given Amelie and Billy a lively little brother, Joseph.

A warm welcome to Kristina Marshall who has recently moved into 'Camelot.' To Chris, Karol, Nick & Emma Champion, now in 'Heatherlands' and to Hannah Dunn & Gary Harwood in 'Laurel Cottage'.

And to Mike Kitchener who, last year, felt that a home in Brentor might be highly desirable....and is now in 'Oyster Cottage.'

Anne Clark - 810035

(who will be glad to hear about any arrivals & events for this occasional/regular piece)

Brentor Show - Advance Notice

This year's Brentor Show will be held on Staurday September 6th, The theme will be Pirates and Princesses. There will be fun for all ages and the customary spectacular dipalys of seasonal produce, So get propagating now ready to enter this highly prized, friendly horticultural competitiion.

The Show's schedule will be in next month's Brentor News.

Judy Baxter 810375 - Kate Kelly 810287

- Sue Stephens 860374

YOUR VILLAGE SHOW NEEDS YOU!

My name is Danny Hainsworth, I am 15 and I live at Wortha Farm, Brentor.

I have volunteered to run a tombola stand at the Brentor Show.

I need 100 tins of food and also non perishable items.

Please help me by putting any suitable items in a box that I will put under my green post box marked TOMBOLA!

(My house is on the road from Brentor to Mary Tavy with the beech trees.)

Many, many thanks,

Danny - 810711

A Website for Brentor?

Would a village website be useful? Some people may feel that with such a lively newsletter as Brentor News, we can do without one.

On the other hand, visitors who want to know where to stay, or to read the history of the area, are unlikely to find the information they want in Brentor News, even if they have it. Then there is information needed from time to time by residents, which won't necessarily be in the the News because it is long-lasting, boring if repeated, or too space-consuming. Last but not least, it is possible that most of the village activities which make Brentor such a good place to live, could make use of permanent space on a website, particularly if under their own control, and if editing is no more difficult than using a word processor.

A community website doesn't have to be expensive. Because we have all the skills we need in the village, we think the total cost would be around £50 a year.

So comments and suggestions would be very welcome now, on the proposal to pursue the idea of a website run entirely by the village itself, consisting broadly of three types of information:

1. Long lasting information of use to visitors and residents, eg where to stay, history of the area etc. See the existing Mary Tavy and Lydford websites as examples.
2. News and events - ideally a website version of Brentor News itself, perhaps with some links to the actual Brentor News?
3. Pages covering all the village activities and organisations.

We could have a meeting to discuss it later in the year.

Alan Ray-Jones - 810606

alan@ray-jones.org.uk

Workshops under the Sky - "Rediscover our Common Land"

The first three-day session of these seasonal outdoor workshops took place on Bowden Down from Thursday May 22 to Saturday May 24. Despite dire weather forecasts the days were dry and often sunny although the easterly wind occasionally caused some problems. The accommodation on site consisted of a yurt and a traditional bender, skilfully made on a framework of locally cut flexible hazel poles.

For the first two days, pupils, teachers and helpers from Milton Abbot Primary School were all introduced by experts to the practical science of collecting small mammals, moths and minibeasts without harm, and identifying them. The creatures so carefully caught were released back into the wild after providing subjects for pictures drawn and painted by the children, with the help of Jennie Hale and local artists.

A highlight for the Brentor Commons Association was the positive identification of a rare small pearl bordered fritillary butterfly by John Randall. Good photographs were obtained and the sighting has been added to the official butterfly record for Devon.

The evening events (a 'Bat Talk & Walk' led by Helen Shaw, and a 'Dawn Chorus Walk' led by John Randall) were well-attended and were of considerable interest, not least because of the unique environment provided by the yurt.

Don't miss the second session to be held on 29th & 30th of June (see the advert below).

Mike Whitfield



Workshop under the Sky and
Brentor Commons Association invites you to

Rediscover our Common Land

BOWDEN DOWN

29th June - Open Day

**30th June - Mary Tavy &
Brentor Primary School**



**10.00am to 4.00pm
each day**

Come and join the fun, finding out about the natural history of your area. Be inspired to paint and draw your exciting finds.

There will be guided bird walks to help with identification ● small mammal trapping ● moth trapping ● pitfall trapping for minibeasts ● identifying plants and flowers ● painting and drawing with all the materials provided
Bring a picnic and make a day of it!

For more information please contact
Mike Whitfield 01822 810209
or go to www.workshopunderthesky.co.uk

CHICKS

Since we began in 1992, Country Holidays for Inner City Kids (CHICKS) has provided free respite breaks to more than 5,000 disadvantaged children from across the UK.



Most children who visit CHICKS have suffered some form of physical, sexual or emotional abuse. Others have a parent in prison or have the responsibility of caring for a sick or disabled relative. CHICKS provides a fun, safe environment where children can take part in new and exciting activities, and make friends with children in a similar situation. They grow in confidence, motivation and ambition, and leave CHICKS with a real sense of hope for the future. We have an adult to child ratio of 2:1 on every break. This is achieved via a team of qualified supervisors and a band of volunteer supporters who so generously give their time. To be a CHICKS volunteer you must be over 18 and able to volunteer for 6 days and stay with us residentially. The volunteer role is to join in with whatever fun and games the week may bring. Our volunteers have to be sensible and aware as well

as able to help, listen to and support the children. They may be called upon to spot and avert possible trouble or danger, to listen to a child who may be scared or homesick and to give encouragement to a child who has low self-esteem. There will be at least 5 other volunteers on each break and 3 trained staff supervising the breaks.

We would also welcome any help in the office at the Moorland Retreat here in Brentor, so if anyone has half a day to spare each week and would like to help out with general administration work we would love to see you.

Finally just to let you know that the CHICKS Open Day at Brentor will be on 12 July this year. It's a family fun day out with bouncy castle, face painting, stalls, raffles, horse rides and a tour around the centre. If anyone would like a stall to sell their goods it will be £10 a stall. We would love to see as many of you as possible.

Please contact me on 01822 811020 (work) or home 01822 811057 (home) regarding any of the above

Kristina Marshall

Plymouth & District Leukemia Fund Walk – Thank you to everybody involved

The 23rd Jean Whitfield Walk on May 17th was an enjoyable occasion despite the wet start. The countryside was in full bloom and the moisture everywhere sharpened up the colours and heightened the scents. The turnout was smaller than usual but we were never short of enthusiasm nor without a steady buzz of conversation.

We opted to have our damp picnic lunch under the railway bridge down in the Lyd Valley. We were so busy talking we didn't notice that, while we were eating our sandwiches under the steady drips of water from the archway, the weather outside had cleared up and the sun was shining. Our tea break at the Lydford Gorge Waterfall tearooms was another most welcome break.

Altogether we have raised more than £700 this year for the Plymouth & District Leukemia Fund. Thank you to all the walkers and to all who sponsored them – and thank you to Jessica & James for being ready with a welcome cup of tea when we returned to the Village Hall.

Mike Whitfield

Brentor Prayer Group

Some of us are starting up a prayer and bible study group in the village and would welcome members of all denominations.

The next meeting is planned for Thursday 12th June at 8.00pm in Christchurch (the one in the village, not on the hill). We plan to look at The Lord's Prayer initially - do come and join us and let's see what develops.

Jackie MacRostie 810683

Super Curry Supper!

Yet another wonderful evening held at Brentor Village Hall. A great selection of very tasty dishes arrived for us all to share and a really good evening ensued.

About fifty three people (I think) - and thanks to you all for giving a total of nearly three hundred pounds to add to other kind donations from the village, all to be sent to Christian Aid.

Sue Rhodes

Brentor Village Hall and Playing Field AGM

The AGM held in May confirmed the new committee :

Chair is Tim Beavon

Vice-chair is Alan Smith

Secretary is Ann Clark

Treasurer is Dave Williams

The meeting reviewed the hall rental charges and we are pleased to say we are able to maintain the current rates for another year to parish bookers, while it was decided to increase the commercial rental rates (see below).

We are also pleased to tell you that the new cooker/range has now been installed in the Hall kitchen, a great improvement!

SAVE the date: Friday the 18th July for the annual village barbecue. More details in next month's Brentor News.

Pat Blower 810600

HALL BOOKING FEES

From the 1st June 2008 hall booking fees will be charged as follows:

Sessions: 8am to 1pm, 1pm to 6pm, 6pm to midnight.

Parish resident:

£10 per session; £8 per session for five bookings made together

£15 per session for children's birthday parties.

Non-resident:

£15 per session

£25 per session for children's birthday parties.

Weddings:

£25 per session; £50 per session with marquee

Erection and dismantling of marquee one day before and one day after event free of charge.

All other bookings:

£25 per session. This will include such things as parties, cycle clubs, art shows and all commercial bookings.

Booking secretary – Elizabeth Wheeler 810083

Key holders:

| | |
|--------------------|--------|
| Tim Beavon | 810564 |
| Charlie Elder | 810153 |
| Dave Williams | 810375 |
| Alan Smith | 810143 |
| Sue & Eric Rhodes | 810403 |
| Mick & Peggy Biggs | 810247 |
| Anne Clark | 810035 |
| Paul Webster | 810004 |
| Colin Dawes | 811079 |

Parish Council News

At the AGM of the Brentor Parish Council held on May 19th the result of the election of officers for the year was as follows:-

| | |
|---------------|-------------------|
| Chairman | - Robin Burdfield |
| Vice-Chairman | - Paul Webster |

It has been announced that the new DNPA planning regime, known as the LDF, is to be implemented piecemeal. To cut a long story short this means that the Core Strategy will be actioned with immediate effect (June 9th). From that date North Brentor will enter a new planning phase under which limited new build housing and business development will be permitted. The Core Strategy can be viewed on the DNPA website www.dartmoor-npa.gov.uk.

The council agreed to support the WDBC option for a Unitary Council based on West Devon, Teignbridge, South Hams and Dartmoor. This option is one of twenty submitted options under the Devon Local Government Review. Although this all sounds dry and dull, there are potentially very far-reaching consequences to this re-organisation which is being rushed through and is scheduled to be in place by June 2009.

Matters raised at the Annual Parish Meeting were discussed. Specifically, the council would like to inform parishioners that the notice board inside the bus shelter is intended for non-commercial, community based information. The Brentor News is appropriate for local commercial advertising.

An additional waste bin near the cattle grid at the Mary Tavy entrance to Brentor was discussed. The experience of the DNP re waste bins and issues relating to emptying, maintenance and location led councillors to conclude that the idea could not be pursued.

The Parish Website was further discussed, and the suggestion that excess garden produce could be exchanged amongst villagers was referred to the Garden Club.

Following the incident when the War Memorial was struck by a vehicle, the council discussed how it could be better protected. It was concluded that since there had been only one known incident, no further action should be taken.

Robin Burdfield - 810412

The Brentor Community Trust

At its Annual General Meeting in October 2007, it was agreed to dissolve the Brentor Community Centre and to transfer its assets and activities to a charitable trust (The Brentor Community Trust).

The deed for this charitable trust was executed at an inaugural meeting of the Brentor Community Trust (BCT) on Thursday 1st May 2008. The BCT has the following objects:

"The Brentor Community Trust will promote activities which enhance education, communication and social interaction for the benefit of the parish of Brentor and surrounding areas in West Devon"

The founding trustees are:

| | |
|----------------|-----------|
| Dave Williams | Chair |
| John Wheeler | Secretary |
| Mike Whitfield | Treasurer |
| Rick Blower | Editor |

The BCT will continue to organise the following activities which were formerly the responsibility of the Brentor Community Centre:

The Brentor News
Villages in Action events
The Brentor Living Archive

The BCT will be willing to consider helping in the establishment of other self-supporting activities consistent with its objects.

Situations Wanted

I am looking to do some temporary work in the village. I could do childminding, elderly care, dog walking or minding in my own home, gardening, holiday cottage changeover....

Contact Jenny Beavon 810564

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. 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.



Directions:

In the centre of Dartmoor
B3212 Two Bridges - Postgate

Opening Hours:

Every day but Wednesday
10am - 5pm

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www.powdermillspottery.com



I thought I would let you know that I am in the village.

If you are thinking about the 11+ Exam,

January 2009, for your son or daughter, now is the time to start tuition.

Frankie Briggs 810487

Church Services in June

Sundays:

1st June - 9.45am Christchurch, 6.30pm St Michaels
8th - 6.30pm St Michaels
15th - 9.45am Christchurch, 6.30pm St Michaels
22nd - 6.30pm St Michaels
29th - Benefice Service 10.30am Peter Tavy
6.30pm St Michaels

Sheila Downs 820302

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

| | | | | |
|----------|--------|---------------------|-------------------|--------|
| Mondays | 2.00pm | Unfinished Business | Sue Stephens | 860374 |
| Tuesdays | 7.30pm | Yoga | Jennifer Heyworth | 810137 |

June

| | | | | |
|----------------------|---------|---|------------------|--------|
| Tue 3 rd | 4.00pm | Parish Council Meeting | Robin Burdfield | 810412 |
| Fri 6 th | 7.00pm | Pizza & Skittles | Pat Blower | 810600 |
| Thu 12 th | 8.00pm | Prayer & Bible Study - Christchurch | Jackie Macrostie | 810683 |
| Sat 14 th | 2.00pm | Brentor Garden Trail - until 5.00pm | Mike Malleson | 860304 |
| Thu 19 th | 7.30pm | Garden Club: "How to Grow Herbs" | Mike Malleson | 860304 |
| Mon 23 rd | 8.00pm | Brentorians Play Reading - West Blackdown Cottage | Robin Burdfield | 810412 |
| Sun 29 th | 10.00am | "Rediscover our Common Land" - Bowden Down | Mike Whitfield | 810209 |
| Mon 30 th | 10.00am | " " " - Mary Tavy & Brentor School | " | " |

July

| | | | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|---|-------------------|--------|
| Sat 12 th | 10.00am - 4.00pm and | | | |
| Mon 14 th | 3.00pm - 7.00pm: | New Village Hall plans on display | Colin Dawes | 811079 |
| Sat 12 th | 10.00am | CHICKS Open Day | Kristina Marshall | 811020 |
| Thu 17 th | 2.00pm | Garden Club: Visit Carol Klein's garden at Umberleigh | Liz Rogers | 820278 |
| Fri 18 th | T.B.A. | End of Term BBQ | | |
| Mon 21 st | 7.30pm | PCC Meeting | Robin Burdfield | 810412 |

September

| | | | | |
|----------------------|--------|--------------|-----------------|--------|
| Sat 6 th | 2.00pm | Brentor Show | Judy Baxter | 810375 |
| Mon 19 th | 7.30pm | PCC Meeting | Robin Burdfield | 810412 |

For all hall bookings & enquiries:

Liz Wheeler 810083

FINAL COPY DATE - for the July edition

Monday 23rd June - to Mike Whitfield: mikewhit@btinternet.com