

No.9 July 1980.

BRENTOR COUNTRY FAYRE... raised about £69 which will help towards the cost of Brentor News and new cupboards for the Community Shop. In spite of the dreadful weather it proved a very successful afternoon. Madame Zali startled several villagers by her ability to tell them things about their past and future!! Many thanks to her and we look forward to meeting her again. Thanks too to Frank Wintle for opening the Fayre and drawing the raffle. The highlight of the afternoon was provided by Jenny Weston and John Moat who delighted about 80 people (in two performances) with their unusual mime entertainment ... a special thanks to them, with the hope that we shall have the opportunity to see them again in Brentor. Thank you to all who helped, gave to the stalls and supported the event.
David Corbutt.

BRENTOR COMMUNITY CENTRE AGM... will be held at 8pm on Wednesday 2nd July in the Church Hall. We hope that as many people as possible will come along to support this important meeting which will elect officers and committee and make important decisions about the coming year.

EAST AFRICA EMERGENCY APPEAL Jumble Sale will take place from 2 to 4pm on Saturday July 5th in the Village Hall. It is being held in aid of East African children who are starving. Contributions to the Jumble to the Post Office or contact Ali Hayes on Mary Tavy 558. (Sporting note: the organisers know that it will be clashing with Wimbledon and will be installing a portable telly for addicts!)

BRENTOR SHOW is being held once again on Sunday 6th July from 10.30 a.m. at Week Cross, Brentor. It includes Gymkana, Horse Show, Terrier Show and Family Dog Show. Lots of other attractions. The proceeds will be given to Arthritis and Rheumatism Council for Research and to the Brentor Church Hall Fund. All enquiries to John and Jennifer Venning.... Mary Tavy 555.

COMMUNITY SHOP ON TV?

On Wednesday 9th July Westward TV will be visiting Brentor to film the Community Shop from 9.30 onwards. They are gathering material for a Village Action series to be screened in the Autumn. So if you are looking for a screen test or just passing fame...

GARDENING WITHOUT INSECTICIDE...

I don't know if you keep tabs on the amount of money you spend each year on sprays, powders dips and potions to keep garden pest in their place. I did a rough sum once and the results were horrific. For ages afterwards I tried to cultivate affection for the plagues of green, black and white fly who munched their way through everything they could find on a stalk. I even tried to convince myself that slugs have a generous side to their slimy nature. They haven't! But, it wasn't until the entire garden looked as though it had been chewed and spat out that I decided SOMETHING HAD TO BE DONE. But what?

Cost, and a real dislike of chemicals and the damage they do to the wildlife we should be encouraging made me look round for effective, cheap alternatives. Not very much research later I realised that the whole business of keeping a garden unchewed, plague free and flourishing can be very cheap indeed. Its also a lot more sensible as it has useful by products. All thats needed is a little trust in old fashioned ways, like these...

Greenfly. Early in the spring plant a clove of garlic by the roots of EACH rose bush. (If its a large bush be generous, plant a few.) As long as you don't let the garlic flower you won't get any scent. The bonus is, you harvest your own garlic in the autumn!

Blackfly. Grow Summer Savory in the beds of broad beans and anything else that suffers. When you get round to cooking the beans sprinkle a little chopped savory over them.

Carrotfly. When you sew the carrot seed grind up some moth balls and sprinkle the dust in the drills. Carrots don't suffer and the fly can't stand the smell.

Whitefly. Stick old fashioned marigolds everywhere. Lovely to pick and once started will always grow.

Slugs and Snails. Tricky these. At the moment I am trying soot from last years sweep. So far so good. Other experiments. Crushed egg shell.. the slugs can't stand the sharp edges. Grapefruit and orange halves.. eat the fruit keep the skins. Stick these round the garden and go round in the morning picking up the sleeping slugs. What to do with them I have yet to work out. ..next door?! Other suggestion by a friend was a mixture of metafuel and bran. Haven't tried that one as seems to be a shortage of meta fuel.

I guarentee that that little list works as I've tried all of the remedies. If you want more then buy a copy of OLD WIVES LORE FOR GARDENERS by Bridget and Maureen Boland. Published by Bodley Head at £1.95. Scientists may scoff but try it anyway. I also suspect that many people in Brentor have many more old remedies of their own. Lets have them. Give me a ring on Mary Tavy 258 and I'll make a note of them all. If there are enough we may even be able to print them up and spread the word.

MARY PRICE

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KILLER SPRAY...

This is the time of year when lots of us are desperate to get rid of as many weeds as possible as easily as possible. But if we're using weed killer in a spray we may well be killing off a lot more than the weeds.

Some of the sprays on sale over the counter in Britain contain the poison the U.S. Army used to defoliate Vietnam. Many of those soldiers now have cancers and many of their children have been born deformed.

British agricultural workers in Somerset and elsewhere who have worked with the spray have had children born with severe abnormalities. This is why Somerset, Avon and South Yorkshire have banned the use of this dangerous spray.

But Devon hasn't yet banned it; and we don't know what the local Council has been using to spray the roadsides or the school yards.

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KILLER SPRAY continued...

Do you remember the explosion in Seveso, Italy? The deaths, deformities and cancers were all attributable to the production of 245T. Scientists are now saying that safety levels are non-existent with this spray: no level is a safe level. The damage to life and health wherever it has been used is incalculable.

The main companies marketing 245T in Britain include Boots (Nottingham) in the forms of BBN and Nettle Killer; Fisons Ltd with Phortox nettle killer; A H Marks and Co Ltd (Bradford) with Marks Brushwood Killer and ICI (Plant Protection Division) with Trioxene. The message is simple: DON'T USE THEM THEY ARE DANGEROUS.

JEAN WHITFIELD

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WELFARE RIGHTS...

It's a grim and miserable thing to say gloomily that no one can ever be certain that they won't lose their job or be ill, have an industrial accident, bring up their family on their own or face homelessness: but times are uncertain.

It is important to know where you can get help locally if any of these things do happen. Two groups that exist to give just this kind of help are the Devon & Cornwall Housing Aid and the Plymouth Claimants' Union.

The Housing Aid holds fortnightly meetings at the Citizens' Advice Bureau in Okehampton on Tuesday afternoons and in Plymouth, Virginia House on Wednesday mornings 9.30 - 12.30. At these one-to-one sessions you can get immediate help if you are threatened with eviction - and advice about how to avoid homelessness if it's at all possible. Most of us might have secure homes - the banks and building societies willing - in Brentor but in Devon and Cornwall there are 22,000 families - not individuals, but whole families either coping with inadequate housing or without homes at all: that amounts to a fair-sized city of people.

The Claimants' Union meets regularly on Monday night at Virginia House in Plymouth. Help & support are invaluable when you go to the dole or social security office for the first time and you aren't sure what your rights are or that there may be a clear difference between the law and the office's policy: and they may be quite different because each office is free to use its own "discretion" in giving you the money or not: you have to be on your toes.

So, if ever you need to, you can ring me at Mary Tavy 209 - or see me at the Community Shop and I can put you in touch with the regular meetings.

JEAN WHITFIELD

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BRENTOR FAMILY NIGHT AND SPORTS DAY

Since the article in last month's edition we are now in a position to announce the dates fixed for the above events. Family Night will be held on Friday, 8th August in the Village Hall, starting at 7 p.m. and the Sports Day on Sunday, 17th August, starting at 2 p.m., in the Playing Field. Enough volunteers have now come forward to form a working sub-committee. We could use more people though, so please help if you can.

Taking Family Night first. We are planning to have a Fancy Dress Competition, with classes for both youngsters (tots to teenagers) and adults. Suggested age groups are 1 to 4 years, 5 to 7 years, 8 to 10 years and 11 to 14 years. Adults, 15 to 90 years. Following the Fancy Dress will be the Brentor Fairy Queen Competition, where we will be choosing the Fairy Queen and her Attendants, age limits - 1 to 7 years and living within three miles of Brentor Village.

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We come finally to the Miss Brentor Competition, to choose Miss Brentor 1980, age limits 14 to 18 years and her attendants, age limits 8 to 18 years. Again all living within three miles of Brentor Village. Ample time will be allowed between the Fancy Dress and choosing the Queens. Enough time to change in the dressing room etc.

Refreshments will be available, a draw and a bring and buy stall. Cups will be awarded to the Queens and the considered (by the Judges) outright winner of the Fancy Dress.

Previous years have produced some really outstanding fancy dress entries and some lovely girls for the Queens and Attendants. Although the sub-committee may make some changes, the pattern will be as outlined. Plenty of time to prepare for the evening. Gifts for the Draw and the Bring and Buy Stall will be most welcome.

Brentor Sports Day. Very much in the open at the moment. We are looking for new ideas. Basically we will crown the Queens on the field. Run a six-a-side football competition, run childrens and family races (competing for the Tom Brown cup), sideshows, stalls, skittles, a grand draw and refreshments plus anything anybody can think of. We are open to suggestions and help from people of all ages. More about Sports Day will appear in next month's edition of Brentor News.

DENNIS YOUNG

BRENTOR FOOTPATHS SPONSORED WALK, 26th MAY

The Field Committee wish to thank all those people who set off in torrential rain to walk some of the footpaths in order to raise funds for the field. Also all those kind people who sponsored the above. My wife and I fully expected to see them all come marching back within minutes, so heavy was the rain. The minutes ticked by however, and as none did, we heaved great sighs of relief. With some money still to come in we hope to make between £60/£70. Our thanks too for those members of the Brentor Ladies Group who both donated the food and laid on such a wonderful ploughman's lunch. Thank you ladies and everybody who helped in any way. When I get a little stronger I intend to roughout another walk, combining a treasure hunt or a nature quiz.

Thanks again.

DENNIS YOUNG

Playing Field Secretary

BRENTOR LADIES GROUP

Our May meeting was held at Tavistock Fire Station with an interesting talk by several firemen on Safety in the Home. They made us very welcome with tea afterwards.

We were invited to Westward T.V. Studios at the beginning of June to take part in Westward Diary. Although we weren't asked to participate an enjoyable evening was spent. Finally a children's outing to Teignmouth has been organised on Thursday, August 7th. The coach leaves at 9 a.m. Anyone interested please contact Marie Shepard - Mary Tavy 589 or Jenny Mann - Mary Tavy 523.

PAT BLOWER

CHURCH NEWS

We were all very heartened to see such a large number of young people and some adults too, from Brentor and neighbouring parishes being confirmed in the Christian faith at Lydford Church. Bishop Westall who confirmed the candidates was formerly Bishop of Crediton. His voice was well known to those radio listeners who used to enjoy "Any Questions" under the Chairmanship of the late Freddie Grisewood. The quality of the Bishop's address, spiced as it was with much humour, will it is certain be remembered not only by those who were confirmed but also by those who packed the Church in support of the candidates. We welcome those from Brentor to our Communion services.

A series of Discussion and Fellowship evenings commences at Lipscliffe on Tuesday July 8th at 7.45 p.m. at the kind invitation of Dia na and Robert Ormsby. It is hoped that there will be plenty of support for this new venture.

The work on the Church Hall has made a slow start but the pipes and radiators have now been removed. We are grateful to Michael Biggs who with help from Mike Barge has given up his time to painting the ceiling. The plasterwork has now been repaired professionally and it is possible to go ahead with the redecoration of the walls. Improvement of the floor remains a problem. There will be a meeting of the Church Hall Committee early in July and then it should be full steam ahead with the help, it is hoped, of volunteers from all the organisations which use the Hall. Once we begin to see some improvement then this will spur us all on to complete the job - including the badly needed improvements to the kitchen facilities!

JOHN WESTON

METHODIST CHURCH NEWS...

After ten years in our Circuit the Reverend J Ivor H Earl, Superintendent Minister is leaving to take an Appointment at Liskeard.

It is impossible to assess the value of the varied work carried out so cheerfully and willingly by Rev. Earl and Mrs Earl. Mr Earl has been the Speaker at Guild Womens' Fellowship and Womens' Institute Meetings here in Brentor, all of these talks have been most interesting being sprinkled with his good sense of humour.

We wish Mr and Mrs Earl and their four sons happy years in Cornwall and every blessing.

Maybe we shall meet them at Tavistock from time to time as Mr Earl's elderly parents reside there. The Rev. G Smith of Barnstaple succeeds Rev. Earl.

STELLA CLARRINGBOLD

W.I. News...

Mrs Hallam was the speaker at the June meeting of the W.I. when she explained to members the art of drying flowers. The competition -Ireland- was won jointly by Mrs Blowey, Mrs Perkin and Mrs Pritchard, equal second Mrs Daly and Mrs Dunkley, 3rd Mrs Frost. Members and their friends recently spent a most enjoyable afternoon at Bidlake Mill.

The July meeting will be a garden meeting at Hawthorns by kind invitation of Mrs Ferrier-Kerr at which the speaker will be Dartmoor National Park Warden Mr Tom Hardman.

Sat July 12th...W.I. Moorland Group Diamond Jubilee Fair
Lamerton Village Hall and field 2.30pm.

