

BRENTOR NEWS

No. 5. March 1980

Brentor Boundary Proposals Report

The hearing by the West Devon sub-committee was on Friday 15th February in Tavistock. The case for Brentor was very clearly presented by Edwin Blowey as Vice Chairman of the Parish Council and was backed up by a letter from Brentor Community Centre. Brentor's case was given a sympathetic hearing and they seemed interested in the proposal to add Blackdown to Brentor. Lydford was in agreement with Brentor in wishing to stay as a separate parish whilst Coryton wanted to be affiliated with other Hamlets nearby. The hearing was well attended by supporters from the three parishes. West Devon Council now has to make up its mind in the light of representations made and send proposals to the Boundary Commission.

We await the outcome with interest and hope.

GILL GORBUTT

NEWS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL...

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all those Parishioners who showed interest over the proposed Boundary Review and in particular those who attended or wrote letters to the inquiry, held at Tavistock. I think those who attended will agree we had a fair hearing and we await with interest the outcome of the W.D.D.C's deliberations.

E.J. BLOWEY
Vice-Chairman

ARE YOU SATISFIED WITH THE HEALTH SERVICE?

The Government is proposing changes in the N.H.S.

The Plymouth and District Community Health Council, your representatives in the N.H.S., want to know what you think of the present Service and the changes proposed.

A mobile caravan will be at Chillaton, Friday 21st March, 1980. 11.45 a.m. -
12.30 p.m.

If you are unable to meet the Community Health Council, please write or telephone at:- COMMUNITY HEALTH COUNCIL, PUBLIC DISPENSARY, CATHERINE STREET, PLYMOUTH. Telephone 62412.

Community Health Councils were established to be the voice of the patient in the Health Service. To do that effectively, they need to hear from YOU.

CONCESSIONARY FARES SCHEME 1980/81

The Policy and Resources Committee recently recommended that the Concessionary Fares Scheme be continued for a further year. The concession for the forthcoming year has been set at £10.00. To offset this decrease to some extent the administration charges has also been reduced to £1.00 for applicants other than those in receipt of Supplementary Benefit who are exempt from the charge. Tokens will be issued on March 21st 1980 at the METHODIST SUNDAY SCHOOL, MARY TAVY, from 9.30 - 12.00.

BRITISH RAIL SENIOR CITIZENS RAIL CARDS...

It was further recommended that for the initial issuing period, 17th to 28th March, 1980 and only at the centres listed on the enclosed schedule (available from Clerk, or at Mary Tavy on March 21st as above) the facility to purchase British Rail Senior Citizens Railcards, for cash only, will be available to eligible applicants.

This facility will not be available after this period. Late applications must be made at British Rail Stations. Application forms will be available from the Clerk or W.D.D.C., Drake Road in the near future.

E BLOWEY
Clerk

The next Parish Council Meeting is on Monday March 17th, 1980.

7.30 A.G.M. 8.15 p.m. Ordinary Meeting.

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BRENTOR W.I.

At the February meeting the speaker was Mrs Lethbridge who demonstrated some mouthwatering supper dishes made with puff pastry.

President, Mrs Sibley welcomed a new member, Mrs Dunkley from Mary Tavy.

Get well wishes were sent to two members, Mrs Perkin and Mrs Tucker who were in hospital.

Wednesday 5th March Members' Day
Saturday 19th April 2.30pm Jumble Sale - Village Hall,

The W.I. has a lot to offer, whatever your interests may be. We are always pleased to welcome new members, so don't be shy - come along to one of our meetings and find out what it is all about.

MARION PRITCHARD

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Play-group Report

The Brentor Play-group is going to hold a jumble sale to raise funds for equipment on March 8th at the Church Hall and would be most grateful for any Jumble anyone might have to spare. If you have any could you deliver it to Old Station House, Brentor or ring me at Mary Tavy 403, for collection. We shall be having a Cake Stall and Bottle Stall as well.

GILL GORBUTT
Chairman Play-Group

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METHODIST CHURCH NEWS

From March 21st - 28th Tavistock Circuit Mission.

Rev. Dr. Maurice Barnett M.A. B.D. Hon. F.L.C.M. of the Methodist Central Hall Westminster and a team will conduct the Mission. There will be public meetings, coffee mornings, discos for young people etc.

Programmes will be circulated in the village and district.

STELLA CLARINGBOLD

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THE BRENTOR OF YESTERYEAR continued...

What a joy it was for children to see a rather dilapidated Trojan chugging through the lanes of the village. Here comes our local Dr. Yes, he's waving and stops to invite some lucky youngsters to accompany him on his rounds, if going near another village shop this is sure to mean there will be a packet of sweets or a bar of chocolate to enjoy while travelling. A Beloved Physician he was; in later years a Doctor from Tavistock was heard to remark that Dr. Postlethwaite had probably forgotten much more than some medical men ever knew. Having a Doctor and an Undertaker in the village inhabitants were 'hatched and dispatched' without outside help!

Large congregations met each Sunday at Christ Church and the Methodist Chapel and children went regularly to Sunday School. The highlight of the year being the Sunday School Outing. Before the chasabane and later buses, coaches were booked on a train for this annual event and we were transported to either Exmouth, Paignton, Torquay or Teignmouth for the day. Many a petition for fine weather wafted heavenwards before this great day and pennies were saved for weeks before the day arrived.

The road to the station was sheltered by high hedges on both sides as was the road from the village to 'Squire's Corner' - now 'Whitfield Corner' - Violets, campions, herb roset, primroses, celandines, 'policemen's buttons' grew in abundance in these hedgerows and masses of foxgloves, those stately flowers like trumpets seemed always to have bees busily burying in and out of them. Wild strawberries grew in profusion too and beautiful yellow hammers were seen year after year in the latter lane. Winter brought its own particular delights. There were school concerts, what excitement and pleasure to recite or sing to a packed schoolroom and to be up and about at 9.30 p.m. - 10 p.m. a rare treat indeed. 'Early to bed and early to rise was the order of the day. There were several talented families in the village who produced concerts from time to time, with sketches, solos, duets, violin playing and pianoforte solos and duets. Boys and men spent winter evening in the Reading Room (now the Village Hall) playing darts, billiards etc. and newspapers were delivered there daily for anyone's perusal. The School, Reading Room and the Methodist Chapel were all heated by slow combustion stoves. An engraved tortoise adorned the top. What heat came from those stoves, the urge to roast chestnuts on them was ever present!

Each year prior to Christmas bands of carol singers walked miles, carrying lanterns to guide them along roads and sometimes fields, very often receiving hospitality at houses. Snow meant snowball fights and the building of snowmen and for the adventurous sliding across frozen ponds in the fields and also on the stretch of water on the moors just above Wortha Farm. A Mr Boney lived at Blacknor Park and was a Watchmaker and one of his sons carried on an electrical engineering business there.

THE BRENTOR OF YESTERYEAR continued...

With the strong winds of March shouts of delight rang across the moors as youngsters gathered there for 'Swailing' - the burning of gorse - Oh, the fun to be had running from bush to bush with strips of flaming newspaper. It was a grand sight from the village, this red inferno which crept across the moors. Little regard was given to the ugly black patches which remained until Mother Nature took a hand and covered it in green as the year went on.

Cottages were occupied in some instances by the same families for generations and a great sense of neighbourliness abounded. Sorrows and joys were shared and in an emergency of any kind help was readily given. How fortunate we were to live in such an atmosphere of peace and contentment. This is particularly remembered by recalling Sunday summer evenings when people stood or sat outside their homes and listened to the peal of bells from St Michaels ringing across the countryside before and after the evening service. May they ring for future generations and our little village remain secure guarded by the sentinel of Brent Tor on one side and Gibbett Hill and the majestic Tors on the other.

STELLA CLARINGBOLD

YOUTH CLUB REPORT

The Youth Club is still running well. Lately we have bought a rowing machine costing £35.00 and we will lend it out for £1.00 per hour to the keep fit club etc.

We have changed places in the Youth Club Committee:-

Chairman	-	Karen Folley
Vice Chairman	-	Christopher Venning
Secretary	-	Tina Metters
Youth Club Reporter	-	Catherine Baskerville
Fund Raiser	-	Philip Baskerville

We intend in the near future to go on holiday and visiting various firms. We are also planning a mixed rugby match against Tavistock Football team.

CATHERINE BASKERVILLE
Youth Club Reporter

BRENTOR YOUTH CLUB FOOTBALL TEAM REPORT...

We have been offered a friendly match against Princetown Men's team, who if we agree will travel to Brentor and play on our $\frac{3}{4}$ size pitch. I will put this question to our team and if they agree then I will arrange the match for us to be played on a certain date which agrees to both teams.

This will be good practice for our team and give them determination and guts towards playing against other teams. They will more than likely beat us but there again there is a chance that we might win.

Our match on Friday was won by Tavistock 6 - 3.

STEPHEN DEAN
Football Captain

MY HOME ON DARTMOOR by Dorothy Cocking (who used to live in Brentor)

If I sit in the garden
Or lean on the wall,
Some days of my childhood
I like to recall.

My mother's sweet smile
And the old cottage too,
And a four minute mile
If you went to the loo.

No light in the cottage
Just oil lamps we used,
We ran out of oil
But never got fused.

The cold biting winds
And the snow drifts piled high,
But fun when you're young
And time goes racing by.

We wait for the school bus
At quarter to eight,
If there's snow on the moor
We always were late.

Our old village doctor
A friend to us all,
And helped everybody
Who gave him a call.

The lovely long summers
And saving the hay,
And picnics and cider
And plenty of tay.

The old church on the hill
Where we climbed up to pray,
We married there too
On a wild winter day.

And sorrow and laughter
And heartache and tears,
All mingle together
Down through the years.

Then I moved down to Cornwall
And life has been kind,
But I still can remember
Old faces, old times.

BRENTOR DIARY

March 1980

- 5th (2) W.I. Members Day
8th (3) Brentor Play-Group Jumble Sale 2.30 p.m. Church Hall
21st (7) District Community Health Council mobile caravan - Chillaton
11.45 am - 12.30pm
15th (4) Young Peoples Disco, Coronation Hall, Mary Tavy 6.00 - 8.00 p.m.
15th (4) Jumble Sale for Mary Tavy Play-Group, Coronation Hall Mary Tavy
2.30 p.m.
19th (6) Brentor Community Centre Committee meeting
at Old Station House 8.00 p.m.
17th (5) Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, 7.30 p.m. A.G.M.
8.15 p.m. Ordinary Meeting
3rd (1) Village Hall Committee Meeting, Village Hall 7.30 p.m.
21st (7) Concessionary Fares Scheme, token issuing Methodist Sunday School,
Mary Tavy 9.30 - 12.00
22nd (8) Jumble Sale for Brentor Village Hall in Village Hall. 2.30 p.m.
22nd (8) Barn Dance for Mary Tavy School, in Coronation Hall 8.00 - 12.00 p.m.
Tickets £1.50 including Ploughmans Supper.
Bingo in Village Hall on 4th, 18th and 25th March

APRIL

- 19th Jumble Sale for W.I. Village Hall 2.30 p.m.
Bingo in Village Hall 8th April.

(Apologies for dates out of order, numbers in brackets are the correct order of the dates)

THANKS TO ALL CONTRIBUTORS - THE COPY DATE FOR NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE IS
MARCH 20th. THIS MONTH'S CONTRIBUTORS WERE J EMMETT (TYPING), GILL GORBUTT,
E J BLOWEY, MARION PRITCHARD, STELLA CLARINGBOLD, CATHERINE BASKERVILLE,
STEPHEN DEAN, JOHN WESTON, AND DOROTHY COCKING. ALSO JEAN WHITFIELD.