

Meals on Wheels.

Peter Thistlethwaites piece in last month's BRENTOR NEWS on Meals on Wheels seems to have stirred people into action one way and another. Some people have contacted Marie Shephard already to offer their services and below we print a couple of contributions which tell us how the service used to operate in the village. Mrs Betty Raine, the previous organiser, told us how hard people worked for the scheme. BRENTOR NEWS recognises their success and wishes as much to the new venture.

Mrs Blowey (Bryher, Bowden Hill, Brentor) who has lived in Brentor for 42 years writes: "Newcomers to Brentor could not of course know of the Meals on Wheels Service which was in operation for so many years in Brentor. From 10-12 meals were delivered twice weekly, four of them at Lydford Station. Dedicated cooks studied diets and personal tastes, shopping and putting the finishing touches which add attraction. A willing band of drivers collected the meals from the farms and private houses wasting no time in serving it hot, washing the containers and passing on to the next cook. Mrs Betty Raine ably controlled the financial side (and also cooked.) totting up the mileage and reimbursing the cooks.

When numbers declined so that it was no longer practical to transport from the outskirts Mrs Raine continued to cook for the late Mrs Colmer under the Good Neighbour scheme. Since then no one was in need. The whole scheme provides a great challenge and it is hoped the "New Brentor" residents will derive much pleasure in providing it."

Sarah Lefevre adds "As the need for Meals on Wheels renews itself in Brentor it is splendid that an organiser and volunteers are coming forward again. This was a service organised and run most willingly and efficiently by Mrs Betty Raine for years until the need subsided. Before there was a Community Centre, Youth Club or Nursery School, newcomers may be interested to know that more than a dozen families here were visited and served nutritious and varied meals by this village. Some of the elderly were bed-ridden, others were in need of good meals and kindly attention. Meals were cooked in private homes and volunteer drivers (or walkers) saw that they gave the nourishment, care and comfort needed. As this good work begins again, many of us remember and thank Betty Raine for all her help and service."

W.I. News. On a chilly winter day it is pleasant to cheer oneself with thoughts of warm sunshine and summer holidays. This members of the W.I. were able to do at their February meeting when they were shown travel slides of Wales and the Channel Islands by a member of the staff of Pickfords in Tavistock. After receiving help with their holiday queries and receiving details of holidays especially for senior citizens as well as various others both at home and on the continent a vote of thanks was proposed by Mrs Sibley.

The competition-- three different scones-- was won by Mrs Blowey, 2nd Mrs Weston, 3rd Miss Dunn. The Flower of the Month was won by Mrs Dunnage, 2nd Mrs Sibley, 3rd Mrs Pritchard. Tea hostesses Mrs Lefevre and Miss

CHURCH NEWS

Now that we are in Lent there is the annual opportunity to re-think our life pattern and the Christian contribution we may make to the community.

Once more Lenten groups are being organised at Brentor, Lydford and Brideswe and the Rev. Kingsley Williams has prepared an outline study for the various groups to discuss. The subject of the study this year is "Prayer". Few, if they were really honest, would deny having resorted to prayer at some time - if only on those occasions when they have found themselves in a tight spot. The power of prayer is certainly one of the most universally accepted phenomena and those who may not be committed Christians usually feel the need for it, perhaps in the form of meditation.

The Brentor Lenten discussion group will be meeting on Tuesday evenings at 8.00 p.m. commencing on 2nd March when the first discussion will take place at East Cottage where Betty and George Raine are offering their hospitality.

CHURCH HALL

It is hoped to have a meeting of the Church Hall Committee shortly and then to plan some further improvements to the Hall (particularly to the kitchen and the outside WCs!!!) to be carried out during the spring and early summer. Hopefully the weather will then encourage us all to volunteer our help.

In the meantime, users of the Hall are grateful to Gill Sibley who has very generously donated a fire blanket, now hanging near the entrance. It is something which is essential in case of fire - though we all sincerely hope that it will never be needed. The blanket can be used to throw over and extinguish any fire; it can also be used for rolling up a child or adult whose clothing may have caught light.

BUENOS DIAS/BONJOUR

The language courses in the village have commenced with great gusto.

The Spanish beginners' class on Wednesdays with Pat Blower as mentor is a good humoured affair and if all are not making rapid progress in the language, it certainly is not Pat's fault! The class has become so popular that at one point it was in danger of being over-subscribed.

Le Cercle Français on Thursday evenings, thanks to Jack Purvis (and the hospitality of Beryl Purvis) has also been a great success with a regular attendance of about 8 for the more advanced class and several regulars in the more elementary class. An offshoot of the scheme, has been another French class for beginners which Jack has started at Mary Tavy.

Both Spanish and French classes have benefited from being held in the very comfortable homes of the leaders. I should mention Rick too - he gives up his arm chair for the evening and makes good coffee.

RIDDLE-ME-REE (item of local geography")

My first is in laugh but not in smile.

My second can be found if you look awhile.

Letters three and four are used in double.

Five and six are there in trouble.

My whole is a landmark, not too far away.

Sometimes bathed in sunshine, at other times grey.

(Answers next month.... STELLA CLARINGBOULD)

DIARY DATES for W.I. Weds March 3rd- Members Day 2.30pm.

Saturday April 3rd Jumble Sale Village Hall 2.30pm. Weds 7th April-

Community Policeman Open Meeting... everyone welcome 7.30 Village Hall.