

BRENTOR NEWS

100 th EDITION

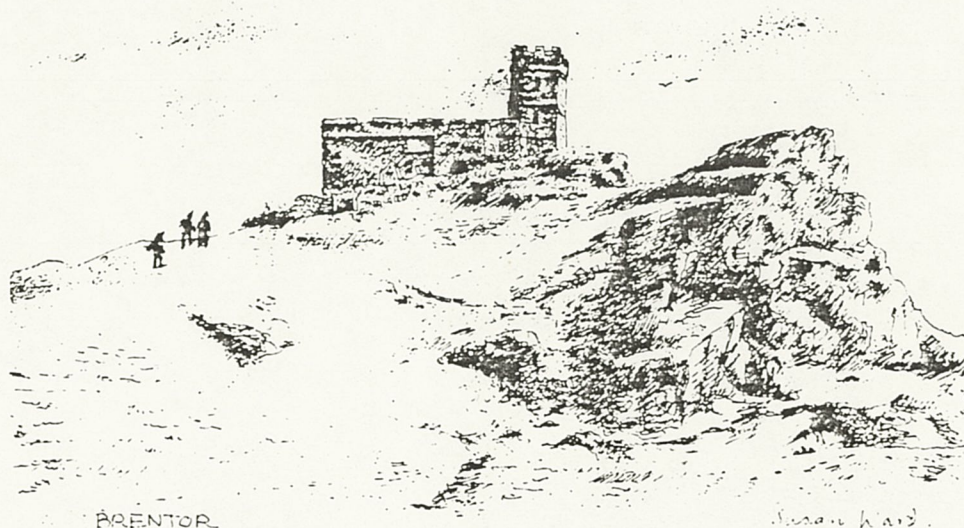
FEBRUARY 1988

100 ISSUES AND STILL FLOURISHING !

The Brentor News evolved from a series of ten Newsletters produced by the Brentor Community Centre between September 1978 and August 1979 to inform the village of the development of the new venture. We obtained a duplicator with the aid of the Parish Council, organised a typing rota and a distribution network and the first Brentor News was published in November 1979. From the very beginning the paper reflected a wide range of community interests.

Regular articles describing the goings-on in the Community Centre reveal an amazing variety of activities including first-aid classes, a youth club, film shows, folk groups, lectures, a playgroup, a garden club, Summer Fayres (complete with fortune tellers), rambles etc etc. The shop itself has changed dramatically over the past few years but still provides a friendly meeting place every other Wednesday.

Other regular contributions have been provided from issue No.1 by John Weston (Church News, our regular *page three* feature), Stella Claringbold (Methodist news and many, many lovely articles) and Dennis Young (Village Hall, Playing Fields and many features). The ladies of the WI have always given us warm, graphic accounts of their meetings and the gentlemen from the Cricket Club have given us blow by blow accounts of their many successes. In all these regular features you can follow the seasonal pattern of events that makes life in the country so much more alive and in tune than life in the town.



Thanks to Susan Ward for allowing us to use this picture which is one of a set of six cards. You can contact her in the Pannier Market on Tuesdays.

Besides reflecting and reporting on the everyday activities of the village our roving reporter at the Parish Council Meetings has brought many controversial issues to our attention. The readers letters have often reflected the heat of these debates and at one stage two Parish Councillors announced that they no longer wished to receive the paper! The topics tackled have included street lighting for the village, anniversary mugs for the children at Mary Tavy School, emergency plans for a nuclear war, traffic signs in the village, transport for school children, the demise of the village Post Office, the opening of a hotel in the village and the sale of Brent Tor itself. In all cases the Brentor News acted as a forum for opinions to be aired and misunderstandings to be explained.

The Brentor News has also provided us with many cameos of village life. Where else would you find headlines announcing the loss of a dustbin from the Village Hall or an article blaming local water shortages on a lightning strike on an underground water main? Then there were the stories of Jeanette Emmett selling a bike to Lord Snowdon and Jenny Radford's sister being immortalised at Madame Tussauds and Dennis Young's heroic attempts to find the source of the River Burn. Add to that the detailed advice we had on how to survive a nuclear war, the painstaking information on how to locate Halley's Comet (complete with star map) and the beautiful travelogues from the USSR and California and you can see that all human life is here!

ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES - A LOOK BACK OVER EARLIER EDITIONS

In this edition we have reproduced some of the articles that have appeared in earlier numbers to remind you of the variety of topics that have been covered over the years. To select these items I browsed through all 99 previous issues and I was struck by the picture that arose of an active, caring community, affected by broader national and international issues but still responding to the rhythm of the seasons.

The fact that the Brentor News presents such an interesting picture of village life shows that it is playing an important function by keeping us all in touch with what is going on. It is not just a Parish Magazine. It reflects a very wide range of interests and provides a forum for the exchange of ideas on everything that affects our village life. Its continued success will depend upon you the readers feeding back your articles, letters, poems, stories and ideas and helping us to ensure that the Brentor News will be even more vigorous when the 200th edition is published in 1997!

ASPECTS OF VILLAGE LIFE - SELECTIONS FROM THE BRENTOR NEWS

No. 11 September 1980

SAMUEL FONE OF BLACK DOWN . . .

In the early years of this century, the Rev. Sabine Baring-Gould, vicar of Lewtrenchard, and author of "Onward, Christian Soldiers", published a collection of local traditional folk songs under the title "Songs of the West". He bowdlerized the words unmercifully, and provided some unworthy accompaniments, but at least he saved the songs from oblivion. Amongst those from whom he gathered ballads was one Samuel Fone. All we are told of him is that he was a stone-mason, lived on Black Down, and died in 1898. This meagre information forms the basis of the following,

BALLAD OF BLACK DOWN

High on the hillside, and deep in the quarry,
(Whittle the wood and chisel the stone)
Lingering breezes, caressing the heathland,
Call to the spirit of Samuel Fone.

Where do you lie now, minstrel of old time?
(Whittle the wood and chisel the stone)
Trite though your tunes were, and rough-hewn your ditties,
These were your epitaph, Samuel Fone.

There as you sang them in cottage and tavern,
(Whittle the wood and chisel the stone)
Lads that were cheeky and girls that were fickle
Gossiped and giggled with Samuel Fone.

Winter and summer, they gathered at evening,
(Whittle the wood and chisel the stone)
Battens and Bickels and Budges and Brimacombes
Swelling the chorus with Samuel Fone.

Back in your boyhood days, climbed you the hilltop?
(Whittle the wood and chisel the stone)
Saw you the lad that they strung on the gibbet?
What did you sing for him, Samuel Fone?

Hear you the voices of new-day cacophony?
(Whittle the wood and chisel the stone)
Pressley and Humberdinck, Streisand, McCartney;
What would you make of them, Samuel Fone?

Rest in your granite grave, voice stricken silent,
(Dulcet tenor, or bass baritone?)
Swinging guitars have up-dated your melodies,
Folk-singers rule O.K., Samuel Fone!

(Acknowledgements are due to Jennifer Venning, who lent me her copy.)

L. LeFevre.

No. 21 July 1981.

Madame Zali was a fortune teller who appeared in a small marquee at two village Summer Fayres organised by the Community Centre.

ASTOUNDING PREDICTION COMES TRUE!

Only days after Madame Zali predicted that she would have a baby daughter Jeanette Emmet gave birth to the very same, a little girl, (on Thursday 2nd July) to be called Rebecca. Congratulations to Roger and Jeanette. L. LeFevre.

No. 31 May 1982

Rosemary Wilkinson was an active member of the Community Centre before moving to the Falklands in 1981.

LETTER FROM THE FALKLANDS

Following our last issue Jean Whitfield sent a telegram to Rosemary Wilkinson and family in the Falklands and later received a short reply by cable. On the 6th April Rosemary wrote a short letter which we print below . . .

"Dear Jean: Appreciated cable - hope mine arrived. This may get through, no local planes but a boat due soon. Can't say much but A.I. would not appreciate new rules here! Tell you all about it one day. Safe here in the sticks at present, no visitors yet though due soon, to collect firearms and list people here etc. Two planes over us today, no doubt hunting for our friends. My job continues (i.e. teaching in small school) as normal though similar work in town stopped. No instructions received yet so will carry on till told not to! Hope cavalry have fast horses! Love to all at Brentor Community Centre. Rosemary."

No. 53 March 1984

THE VILLAGE CLOCK

Many of you will have been asking "what is wrong with the clock?". Well the clock itself is fine. The trouble lies in the overhead outboard shafts and bearings that operate the hands. The long life lubricant has dried up and friction has taken over. While perfectly capable of servicing the mechanism, we cannot stand heights, and so the clock has remained stopped. However, Mike and Gill Barge have volunteered to lower themselves on ropes on the outside of the tower and attempt to get some lubricant inside the shaft bearings. We hope to have the old lady working again soon.

Dennis and Stephen Young.

No. 56 June 1984

SNARED KITTEN

Yesterday our family and some friends went for a walk along the Langstone Manor footpath. On our way back we heard a noise in the hedge of the field just before the playing fields. On investigation we found out that it was a kitten caught in a trap, mewing piteously. In order to release the kitten I had to run down to Uncle John Allen and borrow some wire cutters. Luckily we found the kitten in time. It ran off, seemingly unharmed.

Bryonie and I are very angry with the person who put this illegal snare so close to civilization, and hope that in publishing this, the culprits will stop using this barbaric method of trapping innocent animals. If anyone is interested in seeing how cruel this instrument is, it will be displayed in the Community Shop.

Stephanie and Bryonie Thompson.

No. 58 August 1984

MISS BELLRINGER

The Miss Bellringer, mentioned in last month's Brentor News, was a very well known and benevolent character. She was the Mistress of the Village School until it closed. She provided or helped to pay for the bus that took the congregation from the Village up to St. Michaels every Sunday evening in the summer. Until she left the Village towards the end of her life, she was the President of the local British Legion Women's Section. She lived to be 97.

Gill Sibley.

Miss Bellringer was a lady of stirring quality. She was Headmistress of Brentor School for many years and lived with a Mr. and Mrs. Bickford at Moorlands, Heathfield, where Mr. and Mrs. Frank Downing now live. From there she walked to the school and back each day.

She formed an "Old Scholars" Association, and I can remember two former pupils of the school writing a play which was performed at a concert.

In order to get shopping done, Miss Bellringer would often catch a train to Tavistock after school closed and walk back to Heathfield.

Oftentimes a 'Printer's Devil' and former pupil of Miss Bellringer - young Percy Sly - employed at The Times Office, would overtake her, when cycling home from work and relieve her of her shopping bag and deliver it to Moorlands.

A few people here kept in touch each Christmas and on her birthday, October 26th, and remember Miss Bellringer and many of her charitable deeds with affection.

Stella Claringbold.

No. 68 June 1985

This is a small extract from an article written by Gill Gorbett to explain the Brentor Community Shop - as it was then run - to newcomers to the village.

BRENTOR COMMUNITY SHOP

The shop is organised and run entirely by volunteers in the Village. One rota of people set up the tables and serve in the shop each week while others travel to Normans in Launceston each week for extra stock. There is a wide range of well over 90 different lines provided, covering most mid-week needs, including fresh produce such as butter and cheese. We have a Mini-Market too providing home baked cakes, pies, fresh bread and rolls, eggs and often surplus vegetables and fresh herbs. If you have any surplus veg. or plants, bring them along to sell.

It was decided originally that cups of coffee, tea and squash should be sold to encourage people to stop and have a chat and get to know each other better.

It can be especially helpful if you are new. Hundreds of cups have been consumed over the years and still are!!

No. 70 August 1985

HEDLEY WALTER

Hedley Walter, of West Blackdown, Brentor, died recently. He was 86 and proud of it. He was born in the cottage where he lived, as was his father and his grandfather before him. We knew Hedley and his family for 25 years. He was a family friend. His working life was spent on the Southern railway, which he joined on returning from the army in France after the First World War had ended. He told us his army nickname was 'farmer', possibly because of his rich West Devon dialect and his wonderful store of phrases.

My thoughts wandered remembering some of the many things Hedley had told us about; the first car in Brentor, driven by Billy Webb for the Ward family at Burnville and Fuzie Martin's comment on seeing it; the little lad down Burn Lane, on seeing his first train, running indoors and telling his parents - "quick, a blacksmith's shop is coming along with a string of houses hanged up behind 'uss"; the housekeepers at the wheelwrights in Burn Lane, where we now live and the coffins piled high inside our house, waiting to be sold; the many horses at Burnville; the football matches in Brentor, drawing a crowd of 600; the thirty men, all working and living around the court area West Blackdown; the building of the Reading Rooms (the Village Hall); the men working in the local mines; the setting fire to Lamerton Church by Phil Heasing of Langstone; the lively Labour Part meetings that would pack the Reading Room with men coming out from Plymouth with bicycles to hand out Labour Party leaflets;

the shops in the village and who ran them; the busy scene at Brentor and Lydford Stations ... too many things to be remembered.

My thoughts returned to the present and to Hedley who we will remember as an honest man, a good friend, and in his way a good socialist. He worked hard all his life and respected others who had to work likewise, being scornful of those who proposed to tell him and others how to work harder but had nothing to offer but talk. For that reason he was sceptical of many of today's politicians. We will all miss him.

The Young Family.

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HIGHLIGHTS OF BRENTOR VILLAGE LIFE AS SEEN THROUGH THE BRENTOR NEWS:

March 1980

Changes to the Parish Boundaries proposed

May 1980

Lightening strikes and shatters an underground water main on Blackdown near Wortha Farm. It knocked out Mary Tavy's water supply and led to pressure reduction at the taps in some parts of Brentor. S.W.W.A. men had to dig a 10 foot hole to mend it.

June 1980

Gardening Club arranged a bulk-buy from Sutton's Seeds

July 1980

Concern expressed at the spraying of roadside verges with weedkillers. Eventually Devon County Council changed their policy. Now the verges are cut twice a year resulting in a profusion of wild flowers and a better habitat for bird and insect life.

November 1980

Brentor Parish is 100 years old. To mark the occasion Jenny Venning organised an evening of "Your Favourite Hymns".

November 1980

Westward TV serial "Village Action" is transmitted showing a programme including our very own Community Shop.

October 1981

The refurbishment of the Village Hall completed - known as the "Jubilpos" as some of the money spent on the kitchen and lce extension came from the Silver Jubilee fund.

October 1981

Steve Cryer received the trophy which marks the greatest achievement in the recent history of Brentor Cricket Club - The Championship of the Launceston and District Saturday League.

February 1981

Meals on Wheels scheme started up again by The Brentor Ladies Group.

March 1982

Villagers get the chance to learn French and Spanish. (Nearly six years later Pat Blower still runs the Spanish class.)

September 1983

A swarm of bees set up residence in the church roof. Proving to be persistent little things both the Environmental Health Officer and Rentokill had to be called in to solve the problem.

February 1984

Mr Ed Blowey received an engraved trophy that he and the Brentor Parish Bowls Team won at the Bowls Tournament in July 1983

May 1984

We reported with great sadness the death of Jean Whitfield. She died from leukaemia. In memory of her life, trees were planted in the playing field and the Jean Whitfield Memorial Walk has become an annual event. Sponsorship money raised by the walkers has amounted to some £630. This has gone to the Plymouth and District Leukaemia Fund to help them in the fight against this disease.

July 1985

Visitors arrive to stay in Brentor from Mary Carben France (Mary Tavy's twin village)

November 1985

The Brentor W.I. compile information about the Parish for the Doomsday Project

January 1986

A map was printed of the night sky showing the probable path of Halley's Comet (Drawn by Dennis and Stephen Young)

May 1987

Stella Claringbold broke her ankle while going to church on the Tor. Always one to make the best of every situation, she extorted £12.75 from friends who signed her plaster cast. All in a good cause though - the Methodist Maintenance fund benefitting

July 1987

The centre of the village buzzed with activity when a Pathfinder Group from Okehampton camped in the field opposite the Church Hall

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AND NOW BACK TO THE PRESENT

!! A CELEBRATION !!

for

THE BRENTOR NEWS 100th EDITION

* * *

There will be a Plate Supper on Saturday February 20th in the Church Hall from 7pm. Adults and children are all very welcome. All you have to do is bring your choice of savoury dish, and whatever you wish to drink and a glass to drink it out of. (There is no entry charge.)

Please phone Pat Burns (Chillaton 259) or Jackie Watson (Mary Tavy 621) if you'd like to come along - and if you can't make contact with them, come along anyway! The last Plate Supper was a great success with music and soft lights, and lots of wonderful food, so don't miss this one!!

THE COMMUNITY BUS: Tavistock Community Transport are now offering a bus service from Brentor to Tavistock on Tuesdays.

C. TAVISTOCK - LAMERTON - CHILLATON - CORYTON

Every Tuesday.

Fares

S. DR	TAVISTOCK, Bedford Sq.	10.10	TAVISTOCK, Bedford Sq.	12.45
36 54	Brentor, Yellands	10.19	St. Maryhay	12.49
44 66	Liddaton Green	10.24	Venn House	12.53
44 66	CORYTON, Church	10.29	LAMERTON, School	12.55
44 66	Lowertown	10.31	Camplehay Hotel	12.57
44 66	Coryton Station	10.35	CHILLATON Square	1.08
44 66	Sydenham	10.38	Marystow	RQ
44 66	Marystow	10.41	Sydenham	RQ
44 66	CHILLATON Square	10.44	Coryton Station	1.12*
40 60	Camplehay Hotel	10.53	Lowertown	1.16*
40 60	LAMERTON, School	10.55	CORYTON, Church	1.18*
40.60	Venn House	10.58	Liddaton Green	1.23*
20 ---	St. Maryhay	11.02	Brentor, Yellands	1.28*
--- ---	TAVISTOCK, Bedford Sq.	11.05	Brentor, War Memorial	1.30*
			TAVISTOCK, Bedford Sq.	1.40*

*May be up to ten minutes later than these times.

TAVISTOCK COMMUNITY TRANSPORT: 5. Longacre, Harrowbarrow, Callington, Cornwall.
Tel. Liskeard 50477.

Stella Claringbold.

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BRENTOR PARISH COUNCIL needs a young person to regularly clean the bus shelter at the War Memorial. Salary: £25 per annum. Please contact: Mrs. E. Blowey, Chillaton 255.

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HALF TERM PLAY MORNING

All children and parents are invited to enjoy a Play Morning. We shall start at 10 am with a hat making session, followed by face painting. After a break at 11 am for crisps and drinks, coffee for Mums and helpers, Stella will be at the piano for a sing-song, finishing at 12.00.

Everyone is welcome to join us on Tuesday 23rd February at the Church Hall. A small charge of 75p per child will be made to cover costs.

If you would like to help and enjoy the fun, please contact Jeanette Emmett (Mary Tavy 222) or Jackie Watson (Mary Tavy 621).

Jeanette Emmett.

WEDNESDAY MINI MARKET AND COFFEE MORNINGS - will be carrying on as usual, from 10.30 - 12.00 on alternate Wednesdays. It was really good to see new faces as well as regulars at recent mornings.

If you would like to sit and demonstrate a craft or hobby over a cup of coffee one morning, please let Peggy Biggs know; it would be nice to see what people get up to in their spare time! There will now be a nearly-new stall each morning, so if you have any items you'd like to sell (just 15% commission goes to the shop) please bring it along, marked with your name and the price. As always if you also have fresh produce to sell (again with just 15% commission going to the shop) please bring it to the Mini-Market, already priced. Come along for a coffee and a chat - the dates of the next few shops are given in the Diary Dates.

Peggy Biggs (Mary Tavy 247)

BRENTOR COMMUNITY CENTRE

There was a Community Centre meeting in January at which the Chairman, Mike Whitfield, reported that the Centre had had a busy and successful past few months. Many villagers had enjoyed a super evening with a plate supper back in November, and adults and children alike had been spellbound by the lovely decorations and carols at Cotehele one Sunday before Christmas. When the R.S.P.B. came to talk at the Village Hall they attracted an audience of about 30 adults and children, and the Christmas Special with mince pies and punch had been particularly successful this year. Pat Burns had distributed nearly 70 Christmas parcels to Brentor's senior citizens - including several people who were only recently discovered during the EEC butter rounds! At the last Children's Filmshow, a record 42 children had attended.

Treasurer, Rick Blower, reported that the Centre was well off and the committee members agreed that money could readily be put back into the community.

It was reported that Peggy Biggs had many new ideas to rejuvenate the Community Centre Shop/Coffee Mornings, and everyone was extremely pleased that the shop was newly invigorated.

To celebrate the 100th issue of the Brentor News there would be an extra special bumper issue this month, and a Celebration Plate Supper on February 20th. Jeanette Emmett reported that she would be organising a 1/2-term play morning for children. Rick Blower also has plans afoot for another Filmshow in March as well as a Spring Disco for the under 14 year olds on 26th March - watch out for further details. There are also plans for many more village walks, and another Saturday speaker - hopefully on the mysteries of Dartmoor.

The 1988 committee is: Chairman, Mike Whitfield; Secretary, Jackie Watson; Treasurer, Rick Blower; Shop Coordinators, Peggy Biggs and Julia Whitcomb; Playgroup Representative, Jenny Radford; and Pat Burns, Jennifer Venning, Jeanette Emmett, and Stella Claringbold. Please let them know if you have ideas for community events or speakers. Please contact Mike (209) or Jackie (621) if you'd like to come on the village walks.

Jackie Watson

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W I NEWS

One hundred issues young! Congratulations to the Brentor News and all those who give up their time each month to keep us informed of what is going on in our village. Here's to the next hundred issues!

1988 began on a festive note for members of the W I and their guests when they held a New Year party at the beginning of January.

Institute business which included presenting a New Member's Pack to Mrs Carol Sargent was soon dispensed with and the party spirit prevailed. Games organised by Mrs Weston, Mrs Bird and Mrs Pritchard consisted of a picture quiz, handbag treasure hunt, a mine game, a brain-stretching general knowledge quiz and a rag bag pass the parcel. Before tea Mrs Davey delighted everyone with one of her ever-popular dialect monologues - Jam but not Jerusalem. Before leaving for home everyone was presented with a small gift and Mrs Clark of Lydford proposed a vote of thanks on behalf of the visitors.

Two valued members, Mrs Beryl Purvis and Mrs Jenny Venning, who were both unwell, were unfortunately missing from this meeting. We hope they will soon be better and back with us again. Good wishes from their fellow members go to them both.

Once again the W I extends a warm welcome to all newcomers to the village and will be delighted to see anybody who is interested at their monthly meetings.

Marion Pritchard

BRENTOR MOTHER AND TODDLER GROUP:

Well here we are 6½ years on and it only seems like yesterday when we started the Mother and Toddler Group. Gill Barge (The Coach House), Jeanette Emmett and myself (Jenny Radford) had all just had new babies and wanted to get together occasionally with our babes so we started to meet on odd afternoons in eachother's houses. Eventually the babies grew and more new mums, such as Mary Price and Rita Weekes, joined and the rather large toddlers began causing chaos in our homes so we decided to make use of the different toys belonging to the Playgroup and formed a group meeting on one afternoon a week in the Church Hall. By this time the Playgroup, which had been run by Gill Gorbett, Pat Blower, Mandy French, etc., had disbanded due to the children progressing to school age and so we became, in effect, the new Playgroup, gradually changing our afternoon (due to changing sleeping patterns) to a morning.

Since those days new mums, toddlers and babies have joined, and we now meet each Tuesday morning 10 - 12 in the Church Hall. We have discarded some of the old toys and with the help of various fund raising activities, have managed to buy lots of new equipment, including a super new wooden climbing frame, as well as new crayons, paints, glue etc. We always have a children's Christmas Party complete with Father Christmas, and try to arrange at least one visit a year to somewhere interesting for the children and mums.

We have regular meetings to assess the format of the group and decide how to spend funds etc., and our present committee consists of Jane Gibbons (316) Secretary, Carol Sargeant (467) Treasurer, and myself as Chairwoman (629). Numbers have fluctuated quite a lot, depending on the age of the children in Brentor, and are slightly in decline now so we would welcome any new mums in the area to join us. We charge 60p which includes coffee for the mums and orange juice and a biscuit for the toddlers - so if there are any newcomers to the village with toddlers or babies, please ring any of the above mentioned committee for information, or just come along on Tuesday mornings and join in the fun!

Jenny Radford

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There will be a Tupperware/Coffee Morning in the Village Hall at 10.15am on Monday February 8th. Coffee is free and there will also be a raffle. All proceeds will go towards Mary Tavy School Summer Fayre.

PLEASE NOTE: Mr. and Mrs. Terry of Glenfield House have spare eggs to sell. I don't know the price, but they're free-range.

Roz Catlow.

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MARY TAVY DRAMA GROUP PRESENTS

A COMEDY BY PHILLIP KING "I'LL GET MY MAN"

IN CORONATION HALL, MARY TAVY

ON THURSDAY 3rd, FRIDAY 4th, SATURDAY 5th MARCH

Tickets: £1.50 for adults; £1.00 for children and O.A.P.'s (with discounts for groups of 10 or more), available from Pat Smith, 9 South View, Mary Tavy, (M/T 751) or 'Farley Men's Wear', Tavistock.

Maureen Smith

CHURCH NEWS

Congratulations to the Brentor News on scoring its first century. We should acknowledge all the effort (including sweat and no doubt some tears) put into the production work by the Brentor Team - past and present. Let us hope that it will go on to score another century!

Lent

Ash Wednesday, which begins the Lent period is on 17th February and it happens to be the date of the next Community Coffee Morning and Mini-Market. The same morning there will be a short service of Holy Communion in Christ Church at 10.30 a.m. which can be conveniently coupled with coffee at the Church Hall afterwards.

The following Wednesday, 24th March, the Lent Study Group commences at 7.30 p.m. at the Old Post Office by kind invitation of Peggy and Mike Biggs. It is proposed that the group follow the Radio Devon programme "Who on earth are you?" which includes a number of interesting speakers. The meetings are open to all - whatever their belief.

Church Annual Meeting

This is an advance notice of the AGM which will be partially a social event with coffee and biscuits and probably an interesting video on Monday, 7th March at 7.30 p.m. in the Church Hall. So make a note of the date and be prepared to send in to the Church Secretary, Jennifer Venning, nominations for membership of the Church Council; we do need some younger blood from our church membership on the Council. We also extend a warm welcome to newcomers to the village to join our congregation and attend the AGM.

Church Organist

We all miss very much Jennifer Venning from her seat at the organ - which she has occupied Sunday by Sunday for the past 21 years. We hope that she will soon be feeling more her old self. Whether or not she is fully recovered by then, there will be this year the usual Bread and Cheese Lunch which she has made a tradition in Brentor. It will again be in aid of the Children's Society and will be held in the Church Hall on Saturday 26th March - so make a note of the date.

CHURCH HALL

The Hall is in need of a good Spring Clean. Lots of willing hands, complete with cleaning utensils etc can make short work of this on Saturday 27th February from 10 a.m. onwards. Please come along to help if you are able!

BRENTORIANS

Rehearsals are now in full swing for the drama production of the year - "Too Soon for Daisies" in the Church Hall on Wednesday 16th March, Thursday 17th and Friday 18th. All performances will begin at 7.30 p.m. Watch for the posters and obtain your tickets from one of the cast. Enquiries to Maureen Prescott (tel Mary Tavy 737) or Sheila Weston (tel Mary Tavy 425).

EASTCOTT MEMORIAL FIELD

Arrangements are in hand to purchase a "Kiddies Kabin" of natural wood for the Play Area. The intention is to erect it on the lower part of the area, probably on Saturday 19th March. Volunteers, particularly fathers, will be welcome that day, as the structure though quite small will arrive in sections and will have to be put together.

J.W.

METHODIST CHURCH NEWS:

Brentor Methodist Church congratulates all those responsible for the publication of the Brentor News reaching its 100th issue. We wish it further success in the future as we rely on it to keep us up to date in all village activities.

This occasion coincides with the amalgamation of the three local Methodist Churches by which all future services will be held at Brentor.

Through all the changing scenes of life
In trouble and in joy
The praises of my God shall still
My heart and tongue employ

Stella Claringbold

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THE 100TH EDITION:

Just over eight years ago a small group of people living in and around Brentor agreed to start a community newsletter the Brentor News. Possibly at that time nobody realised the impact this would have on the Parish over the years or the amount of work involved. The Brentor Community Centre founders of the project can be congratulated for their perseverance and resolution. From the very beginning the main work fell on the editor Gill Garbutt along with David. In those early days the newsletter was printed on a small printer turned by hand (far into the night). Copy was collected on scraps of paper sorted out vetted as to being non-offensive (libelous) and typed onto stencils. The editor travelled all over the Parish and beyond digging out scraps of information. Many people at first reluctant to put words or thoughts into print were persuaded to do so. The newsletter acquired regular features Parish Council news W I Parish and Methodist Church news etc plus a diary of monthly or other events.

Apart from the printing being done electrically the monthly work is the same and has to be for news and so forth must be ferreted out of people such as myself who never seem to realize the deadline for putting the monthly edition to bed as Gill used to say. When printing is complete the sheets are collated and stapled. The work by the editor is still not complete for they are sorted into small bundles and delivered to various people who in turn deliver in their own area. Over the years and in all weathers the Brentor News has appeared on our doorsteps and for that we thank all those dedicated people for helping to keep us in touch with and to enable us to feel part of our community.

The topics in print have varied from parking problems closure of the Post Office street lights the Tor for sale planting of trees around the village to the Pied Piper of Tavistock called out to remove the rats residing on the land alongside the Methodist Chapel.

The years have passed we have a new editorial team in Mike Rez and Jackie. We wish them well in this the 100th edition.

Remember they need your news and items letters recipes diary dates and so on. Provided we can provide news The Brentor News will go from strength to strength.

Congratulations Brentor News

Dennis Young

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BRENTOR VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AGM - 22ND FEBRUARY, 7.30 IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Our AGM held a little later than usual is when we elect our new officers and committee. We welcome all residents in Brentor both old and new to come along and make a contribution by putting themselves up for election to a working committee. We are a registered charity and receive

no income apart from money raised and hall lettings

Please support us and help to keep our village hall running. Apart from our own elected committee, all organisations within the Parish are entitled to nominate a representative committee member. We welcome all organisations. Please support us by coming along on the 22nd.

Dennis Young Hon Sec to Brentor Village Hall Management Committee

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BRENTOR PARISH COUNCIL: (The following items appeared in the Minutes of the meeting held Monday 18th November 1987)

Home Help The Clerk was instructed to arrange a meeting with Mr Tibbenham. Councillors C Downing and J Watson offered to meet with Mr Tibbenham at the Social Services Centre Tavistock.

Parking in the Centre of the Village The parking problems appear to have been solved. Constable Dell (also present at the meeting) pointed out that because the speed limit in the village is de-restricted, vehicles parked at night on the highway must have their side lights on.

Abandoned Cars in Area of Village Councillor Mrs Weston reported that there appeared to be several abandoned cars parked on the verges in the vicinity of the Village and asked if anything could be done. Constable Dell stated any cars parked on the Public Highway or verges without current tax discs were illegally parked. He suggested the Clerk contact the Environmental Officer at W D B C offices who would take the appropriate action.

Signs at Lydford Mrs Weston pointed out that the signs erected in the Lydford area were erected by the Tourist Board and not the National Trust as stated in Minute No 867.

Seat at War Memorial Mrs Watson pointed out that the seat appeared in need of some repairs. The Clerk was instructed to contact Mr Biggs.

BRENTOR PARISH COUNCIL: (The following items appeared in the Minutes of the meeting held Monday 18th January 1988)

Home Help Mr Downing and Mrs Watson met Mr Tibbenham. Councillors however are still concerned that there appears to be no holiday cover for people relying on Home Helps.

Methodist Homes For the Aged (MHAO) Application has been made to the funding agency The Housing Corporation for money to build six sheltered bungalows in the following villages: Princetown, Mary Tavy and Milton Abbot. Further consultations are needed but preliminary indications are that there is need for bungalows in Brentor, Lydford and Peter Tavy.

Parish Precept It was proposed by Mr Young and seconded by Mrs Weston that the Parish Precept remain at £350 00 for the year 1988/89.

Bus Shelter Cleaning It was decided to advertise in the Brentor News for a young person to clean the Bus Shelter. Salary would be £26 per year payable in two installments - June and December.

Next Meeting The next meeting of the Brentor Parish Council was arranged for Monday 4 March 1988. This meeting will be the A G M to commence at 7 15pm followed by an Ordinary Meeting at 7 30pm to be held in the Brentor Village Hall.

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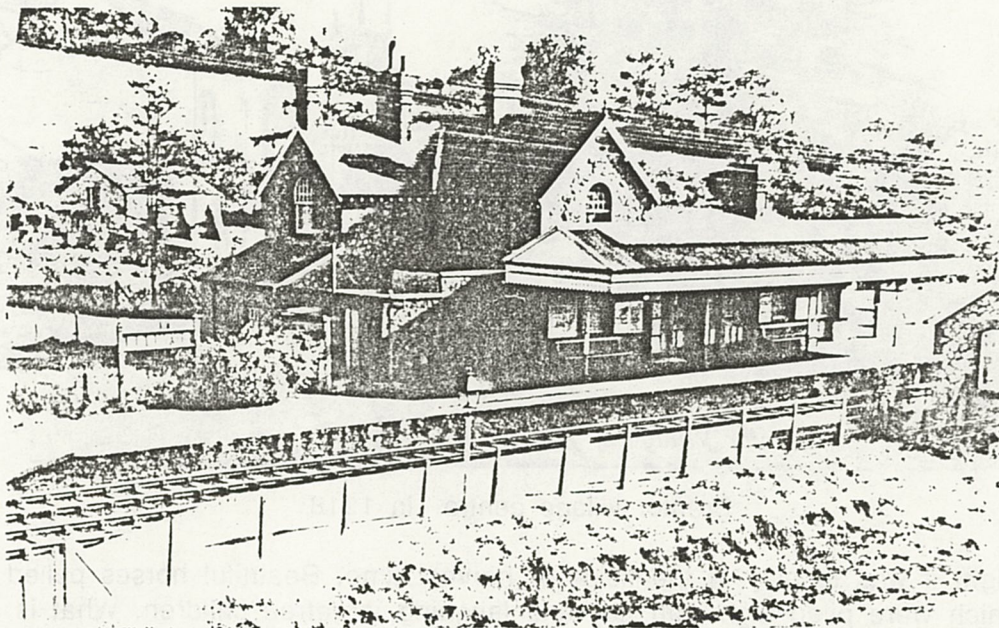
DIARY DATES:

- February 3rd Wednesday Mini Market/Coffee Morning 10 30 - 12
Church Hall
- February 4th W I Meeting: Small Animals Vet - Mrs. Judith Webster
- February 15th W I Pub Lunch - Brentor Inn
- February 17th Wednesday Mini Market/Coffee Morning 10 30 - 12
Church Hall
- February 20th 100th Edition of the Brentor News Celebration Plate Supper
From 7 00pm in the Church Hall
- February 23rd Play Morning 10 - 12 Church Hall Everyone welcome!
- February 24th W I Home Economics Watercolour Painting Day School
Brentor Village Hall 10 30am - 3 30pm
- February 27th Saturday Morning Church Hall Spring Clean
- March 2nd Wednesday Mini Market/Coffee Morning as above
- March 3rd W I Members Day
- March 3rd 4th and 5th Mary Tavy Drama Group s "I ll Get My Man"
Cordnaton Hall Mary Tavy
- March 7th Brentor Church A G M 7 30pm Church Hall
- March 12th W I Jumble Sale Village Hall 2 30pm
- March 16th 17th and 18th: The Brentorians present "Too Soon For Daisies"
Church Hall 7 30pm
- March 23rd W I Patchwork Day School - Mrs Drew - Village Hall
10am to 3pm
- March 26th Spring Disco Village Hall 6 30 - 9 00pm For the under
14 year olds
- April 7th W I Meeting: Mr P Johnson - Plymouth Parks Dept
7 30pm Village Hall Visitors welcome

EPILOGUE

To round off this centenary issue we are reproducing part of an article written by Stella Claringbold originally published in No. 4, February 1980. It gives a graphic account of Brentor between the wars.

"Just along the road lived our coal merchant, here he comes with the waggon drawn by a shire horse named 'Flower'. The waggon is empty so no doubt a truck of coal is in the siding at the station waiting to be shovelled, weighed and bagged up. Probably a local lad will be helping to do this on a Saturday or during the school holidays and will be a 'study in black and white' by the end of the day and be bathed in a large zinc bath in front of the fire or range. The water for this will have most likely been heated in kettles and saucepans. Water is obtained from the rain water butt if there has been rain recently, otherwise carried from the chute, there being no mains water.



Brentor Station in the 1930's

This reminds me of the familiar site of families carrying water in baths and buckets on Saturdays in preparation for washing on Monday - nothing was done on the Sabbath but what was strictly necessary - this meant many trips up and down the village. Before coppers came into use, all the water for washing was heated on a kitchen range which shone and twinkled having been regularly cleaned with black lead and plenty of elbow grease! Clothes were washed in zinc baths and wooden tubs or trays as some were called. Before the water was thrown away after the clothes, house and bed linen were washed, everything needing a scrub was well and truly scrubbed i.e. the kitchen table, chopping board, bread board, rolling pin, the wooden stairs and lastly the stone floor - no warm water was ever wasted. At the end of this performance all the water was carried to a drain for disposal. Sheets and pillow-slips dried in the fresh air and sunshine had a fragrance unknown to linen dried in the tumble driers of today.

The blacksmith's shop was a popular meeting place for farmers - here children would revel seeing sparks flying from the fire as iron for horse shoes was heated and the ringing sound of the iron being hammered into shape on the anvil could be heard in our homes. The butcher's shop always seemed a busy place, housewives as ever purchasing meat to cook wholesome meals for families. No doubt some went into pasties with swede turnip, onion and potato for the men of

the household to carry for their sustenance during their long working day. Many men were farm labourers, some worked on the railway and others at the stone quarries between Mary Tavy and Tavistock.

Milk was not delivered, it could be bought from the numerous smallholdings. Families employed by Mr Frank Ward of Burnville had free milk. In fine weather one walked through the field paths and along the drive to Burnville House where a cheery housemaid, kitchen maid or cook would fill the enamel or aluminium can with scald milk. Nothing ever tasted so good on a hot summer day as a long drink of this milk from the lid of the can on the return journey! Butter was also supplied. It really was the gold hue of buttercups and shaped into a round and always a print on the top - one being of thistle flowers and another of Saint Michael's Church on Brent Tor.



Brentor village centre in 1918

What a delight it was to play in the fields at harvest time. Beautiful horses pulled the hay waggons which were piled high with hay and laughing, carefree children. What is now our Sports Field was then allotments and the joy of many men in the village. A field at Burn Lane was used as a football field. Brentor had a good football team and the cups they won were proudly displayed in the butcher's shop window. A carpenter and undertaker lived at Burn Lane and I think that at one time there was a blacksmith's shop there also, probably before there was one in the village itself. "

Stella Claringbold

POSTSCRIPT

Thank you to every body who has contributed to these first hundred issues and to all those who have helped to type, duplicate and distribute the paper every month - and thank you to all our readers who continue to put up with us month after month.

Editors.