#### THE MINI MARKET-SHOP

December 9th saw the Church Hall looking more like a market. The trestle tables were laden with goods, and with the decorations up and the tree in the window it all looked very festive. There was a wide selection of goods, making it a "something for everyone" sort of morning. The Oxfam stall sold more than £50 worth of goods, the majority of this money going to help those who would otherwise be starving this Christmas. The "punch and mincepies" went down well on December 21st - carols were sung, raffle tickets bought and prizes won. A jolly good time was had by all - though the raffle was called rather at the last minute on account of Mike Whitfield having had the plumber out to fix his flooding pipes!

More good news - The shop will continue after Christmas. Peggy Biggs from the Old Post Office, has stepped in to do the organising. She's got lots of new ideas, energy and enthusiasm. The shop co-incides with the fortnightly library visit so when exchanging your books remember to pop down for a coffee, a cake and a chat!

P.S. I haven't abandoned Brentor. I shall be returning to Sunningdale Nursery working with my mother once more, this time facing the rather daunting task of feeding a mixture of three to five year olds nourishing, wholesome lunches!

Roz Catlow

After some 15 years in Brentor we are moving on! One aim is to be a little closer to Plymouth; more important, our house is a little large for the remaining family - we are, therefore, especially happy to see a new young family coming to Hunter's Ride. We are sure that you will welcome Robert and Dorothy Challis and their children.

We have enjoyed our time at Brentor immensely - the place, the people, the very special community. Many thanks for your kindness and friendship to our family over the years.

Marie, John, Adrian, Stephen and Caroline (Shephard).

## BRENTOR RAMBLES

We spent a lovely afternoon at Cotehele at the beginning of December. The weather was cold and damp, but the rain held off long enough for us to wander down to the quay and then climb back up to the gardens and house at the top. The hall was beautifully decorated with the biggest dried flower garland I've ever seen, lit by huge beeswax candles and with the sound of carols played on handbells. The Brentor children's faces were a delight to see, transformed by the sheer magic of it all.

In the barn restaurant the cream tea lived up and surpassed expectations. We were given tables near the magnificent Christmas tree (easily ten feet tall), which helped to make the trip a lovely start to the festive season.

# CHURCH NEWS

Sunday School Party. Brentor and Lydford Sunday Schools combined together for their annual Christmas Party which was held in the Brentor Church Hall on Sunday 13th December. 36 children attended and this year it was good to welcome lots of parents too. Many thanks to all who helped, to Father Christmas for bringing the presents to all the mothers for providing such a good spread and to everyone for making it such fun — including the magician.

Gill Still.

# The Children's Society

Betty Cilbert wishes to thank everyone who has supported the Society during the past year. She has been able to send a cheque for £115 to the or ganisation; this includes, the proceeds of the Christingle Service, donations from the PCC and others and the contents of the collection boxes which she has recently emptied. This makes a small but valuable contribution towards the work of the Society

# Songs of Praise

During the early months of the year, it has become customary to hold one or two informal services on Sunday afternoons, rather than in the evenings. There will be a special event of this kind on Sunday January 17th at 3.00 p.m. in Christ Church when you will be able to ask for the hymn of your choice and, if you feel brave enough, say why you have chosen it. Please note the date in your diary, come along with the family and if you would like to do so, let Jennifer Venning or myself(John Weston) have your choice of hymn before the service — preferably at least a week beforehand. Previous services of this kind have been very popular and well attended; please make sure that you do not miss this one:

# The Christmas Tree

Everyone appreciated the lights on the Christmas Tree in the Churchyard of Christ Church, especially over the period of the festival itse'f as people attended the services and the carol singing in the Church Hall. Thanks are due to the Rector and his son, who spent a considerable amount of time on the new electric cable ( the old one finally gave out last Christmas), installing the fittings. We are also grateful to David Biggs and his father for hoisting the lights up the tree and festooning them so well. They make a lovely sight and serve as a reminder that the Church is in the centre of the village and central to its life, particularly at the Christmas Festival.

J.W.

### BRENTOR PLAYGROUP

The Playgroup meets during term time every Tuesday mornings from 10 - 12 in the Church Hall. There's a small charge of 60p a week to cover coffee and rent. Anyone with children under five and babies is very welcome to come along.

## DEVON VILLAGE VENTURES COMPETITION

The Community Council of Devon are once again organising the Devon Village Ventures competition. Running the competition enables the Council to discover worthwhile projects in Devon's villages and small towns, where a small sum of money may help them along and provide examples for other communities. Cash prizes, plaques and certificates will be awarded to the most entertaining projects which started or showed significant development since January 1985. All kinds of projects are eligible and to enter you must write a brief report (about 500 words) giving details of the project and send it with an entry form, by 1st September 1988, to The Rural Officer, Community Council of Devon, County Hall, Topsham Road, Exeter (Exeter 272535).

This information comes from Susanna Friel, Rural Officer for the Community Council of Devon. Mike Whitfield (Mary Tavy 209) also has a little more information on the subject.

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#### W.I. NEWS

There should be some seasonal decorations in Brentor this year if the demonstration given by Mrs. Edwards at the W.I.'s December meeting is anything to go by. As well as demonstrating more traditional floral arrangements, Mrs. Edwards also gave some suggestions for novelties which could perhaps be made by members' children or grandchildren. The vote of thanks was proposed by Mrs. Dunkley.

Arrangements were made for the Institute's New Year party - their next meeting, and members reported that an enjoyable time had been spent as guests of neighbouring institutes at their annual parties.

After tea and mincepies, the results of the flower of the month competition were announced - 1st Mrs. Brew, joint 2nd Mrs. Downing and Mrs. Pritchard, 3rd Mrs. Blowey.

The Institute was delighted to welcome a new member, Mrs. Carol Sargent, who was enrolled by her mother, Mrs. Jenny Venning, as a surprise Christmas present. It is good to have a mother and daughter as members - it is some years since this has happened in Brentor.

More recently a number of members spent a very pleasant afternoon at Cotehele House where they were able to admire the lively Christmas decorations in the Great Hall, followed by a visit to the shop for some last minute Christmas shopping and tea in the restaurant.

The Institute would like to wish you all a very happy New Year, and looks forward to some more new members in 1988.

### DIARY DATES

January 6th Mini-market Shop, Church Hall 10 - 12.

7th W.I. New Year Party

9th Children's Filmshow, Village Hall 2.30 4.30 pm. £1 entrance (includes crisps and drink). Featuring "Jungle Adventure" and Cartoons.

17th Afternoon Service at Christ Church, 3pm.

20th Mini-market Shop, Church Hall 10.30 - 12.00.

February 3rd Mini-market Shop.

4th W.I. Meeting -- Small animals vet - Mrs. Judith Webster.

March 3rd W.I. Members' Day.

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