

BRENTOR NEWS

August 2020

Produced by Brentor Community Trust www.brentorvillage.org

Issue 487

BRENTOR VILLAGE HALL &
PLAYING FIELD COMMITTEE



INVITE YOU



TO CELEBRATE
THE NEW FACILITIES
AT THE

BRENTOR PLAYING FIELD



SATURDAY 1ST AUGUST

11:00 UNTIL 1:00

COMPLIMENTARY
HOT DRINKS AND FOOD

APPLY NOW!

You may be eligible for
**FREE connection to fibre
broadband**



The Government's Universal Service Obligation (USO) broadband funding scheme is now operational, offering funding of up to £3,400 per household to pay for connection to a new superfast broadband network to be built for Brentor. Anyone with a broadband speed below 10mb/s or who have a monthly broadband bill in excess of £46.10 is eligible to apply.

Properties that are able to receive the Airband service or who have a good 4G phone signal are NOT eligible. A number of properties in West Blackdown and one near Tucker's Farm have already registered. Several in the centre of Brentor village, with no Airband reception due to trees, and even one that currently has a poor Airband signal have also been registered. BT estimates that there may be 40 plus properties in the area which are able to receive the funding.

West Blackdown residents were initially being asked to each contribute £45,857.20 to be connected (!!). Those same residents who have registered their interest in the USO have now been offered **free connection** to a new fibre network that will probably be built within 12 months. This is largely down to

the efforts of these residents, who complained to our local MP, Ofcom and even the Communications Ombudsman to overturn the ludicrous charge. The Parish Council also supported this issue and raised it with West Devon BC and Devon CC.

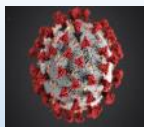
BT has revealed that there are enough properties in Brentor qualifying for a USO grant to cover the cost of building the new fibre network. This network will involve the installation of a new fibre optic cable across the moor from the Mary Tavy telephone exchange to Brentor, and will probably provide a very fast fibre-to-the-premises (FTTP) connection. For years we had been told that this cable would be prohibitively expensive, but the USO grants have changed this situation. Everything is not yet signed and sealed, since there is now a small possibility that BT will try to ask for a payment for connection to the network if expensive problems are encountered in its construction. Local residents are now trying once again to prevent this extra charge through resort to our MP, Ofcom and the Ombudsman service.

Many residents in Mary Tavy and in hamlets further from the Mary Tavy digital exchange than Brentor, such as Horndon, are already being given free connection to their existing superfast broadband with no extra cost on their monthly bills. Openreach has a target to replace all their copper cable telephone and broadband networks with fibre optic cable by 2025, so the USO scheme is an opportunity for this to be achieved with a government subsidy.

To get a Universal Service Obligation connection you must register interest.

To do this you should call **0800 783 0223** – the USO helpdesk. The staff you will speak to are helpful and will require your name, postcode and address, email address and telephone number, as well as discussing why you may qualify for the USO funding. It is free to apply and there is of course no obligation to take part in the scheme until you accept their offer of connection.

To get an advice sheet on how to apply for the grant, email Colin Dawes at brentorvillage@btinternet.com
There is also lots more information on the front page of the Brentor Village website.



Brentor Community Support Group: This group was set up just before lockdown with a view to making sure that any of our vulnerable or shielding neighbours could be supported through what we all feared could be a very difficult time indeed. We were delighted with the number of people who came forward to volunteer and received many expressions of gratitude from members of the community that there was this safety net, especially those living alone and who were naturally fearful. In the event we have so far been fortunate in this village, and there has been little demand for our services. Assistance with collecting prescriptions has been requested the most, with some requests for specific food items not easily available, plus there have been lots of informal conversations and check ups across the parish. Many of our volunteers have not been called on at all, which might be disappointing - but also reflects the low demand, which is a great relief. Now that life for most is easing, and people are becoming more confident about going out, we have seen demand fall away completely.

We have been offered grants from WDBC to assist us in our work, but have not felt we needed anything we could not provide ourselves. However we have received a grant of £500 from the Dartmoor National Park, to help communities at this time, and with this we have bought a couple of webcams and a video camera. These have been used by our local charity Brentor and Moor Compassionate Neighbours (whose work has continued throughout this time) and Brentor Church, for recording services, while the video camera is currently with the Brentor Commons Association who are making videos about the natural world around us. It is hoped that these videos will be available for people to view, whether those shielding at home, those still concerned about going out and anyone who wants to learn more and see more about the wildlife and history of the Brentor Commons.

While there is currently no demand for any other services, while there is still the possibility of a further flare up of coronavirus, and possible further restrictions, the group remains ready to assist, (although obviously some volunteers may no longer be available). Many thanks to everyone.

HELEN HARRIS email helen@brentorchurch.org.uk

Brentor Playing Field

IN AID OF VILLAGE FUNDS



SUNDAY 9TH AUGUST 2020

We are holding a Carboot Sale in Brentor Playing Field

Sellers: Cars £5 Vans £10 Buyers Free!

Sellers to arrive From 8am Buyers from 10am

No sellers will be let in after 8:45

We will need to adhere to Covid secure rules.

**A one way system will be
in place to ensure social distancing**

Please call 07706 972906 or email:

belarusness@hotmail.co.uk to book a space

Refreshments will be available

**If this is something that is a hit with the locals we
will hold it once a month**

CHURCH NEWS: Work on the churchyard wall at Christ Church is going well. Unfortunately, while the two bays are well on the way to completion, more problems have been found and two of the pillars also need rebuilding from the ground up to stabilise the rest of the wall. We have been fundraising for this but we now need to raise some more money, as the wall is being rebuilt using lime mortar by specialist masons (it's part of a listed building). We receive no financial support from the church nationally, we have to raise the funds ourselves. We hope to continue raising money and we are very grateful indeed for the various donations we have received recently.

CHURCH SERVICES: At Brentor we were determined to start services as soon as it was permitted, although most churches in Devon and elsewhere have been much slower to restart public worship. However we are continuing to record one service a week, and posting it on our website and on Facebook, so that those of our congregation still at home or indeed those abroad can join in with our worship.

Sunday 2nd August 9.45 Holy Communion, Christ Church, 6pm Evening Prayer at St Michaels

Sunday 9th August 9.45 Prayer and Praise at Christ Church, 6pm Evening Prayer at St Michaels

Sunday 16th August 9.45 Holy Communion at Christ Church, 6pm Evening Prayer at St Michaels

Sunday 23rd August 9.45 All Age Service at Christ Church, 6pm Evening Prayer at St Michaels

Sunday 30th August 9.45 Morning Prayer at Christ Church, 6pm Evening Prayer at St Michaels *Helen Harris*

MILLIE'S HOMEMADE CAKES & DELICIOUS BAKES NEW TAKEAWAY SERVICE BRENTOR PLAYING FIELD



Serving up..
Fairtrade locally roasted Organic Coffee,
Freshly baked croissants, Bacon rolls, Salads,
Pasties, Sausage Rolls, Quiche,
Panini's with various fillings,
A yummy selection of cakes
Cream and savoury Afternoon Teas

EVERYONE WELCOME

Bring a blanket / chairs and enjoy the views
or take back home

EVERY FRIDAY 10am until 2pm

Pre orders advised to avoid disappointment.
Enquires & orders to 07787994220

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The Brentorians are pleased to announce
that the postponed production of
"Who Did You Say You Were" by Giles Scott
is now scheduled to be
performed on Thursday 25th,
Friday 26th & Saturday 27th March
2021



Parish Council News

The last couple of months have seen a first for Brentor Parish Council - virtual Zoom meetings! Although a lot of Parish Council business has come to a standstill due to the Coronavirus situation, Councillors are still working hard to deal with any matters that arise.

You may have noticed the cemetery has been looking rather neglected in recent months. We are pleased to inform you that a new contractor has now been appointed and we will be working with him to hopefully improve the appearance, whilst still maintaining a 'natural' look.

BT are once again calling for many of their phone boxes to be taken out of service. The Parish Council has responded and highlighted the need for the service in Brentor to be protected due to the poor/non existent mobile service.

A vacancy for one Parish Councillor now exists following Cllr Lin Bristow's recent resignation. If no by-election is called (by the 6th August), the Parish Council will be able to co-opt to fill the vacancy. If you think you may be interested, please contact the clerk who will be happy to provide you with any further information.

The next virtual PC meeting is due to be held on 10th August at 7.30pm

Caroline Oxenham, Brentor Parish Clerk
email: brentorpc@yahoo.co.uk

BRENTOR CALENDAR 2021

.....WE NEED YOUR HELP

We are looking for photos for next year's calendar and the closing date to submit photos will be *31st of August* to enable us to put the calendar together.

The Calendar is a major fundraiser for Brentor Village Hall and Playing Field and it is really important we sell as many calendars as possible.

Please bear in mind that the photos in the calendar are roughly square so please make sure your image can be cropped without losing some important outlying features. We also need photos for the calendar front that can be cropped for this.

Also, if anyone would like to sponsor a page in the calendar, that would be fantastic. It's £20 to have your details and logo at the bottom of the page and even choose which month you would prefer.

For offers of sponsorship and of course your wonderful photos please email: *Margaret Calder - dmcmcalder@aol.com*



VILLAGE HALL NOTICE

Saturday 22nd August

Please note that there is a likelihood that loud music will be played, for approximately an hour (late afternoon/early evening) by the band who usually hire the village hall. This is for them to take part in a live virtual gig for the Tavy Fest.

Sheryl Burroughs, on behalf of BVHPF Committee Tel: 870554

BRENTOR FRIENDS OF THE FIELD

July Draw 2020

Number 9 Kevin & Leonie Knight

Number 29 Rosine Arnold

Number 31 Will & Sarah Walker-Smith

All Win £10 prize

A Standing Order of £5 per month to our dedicated bank account. Helps with extra maintenance and improvements to the Playing Field. Bank Account: TSB
Sort Code: 30-98-46 Account: 30089760

Brentor News Key Facts

Distribution: The Brentor News is also published on the village website www.brentorvillage.org. If you are outside the parish and would like the Brentor News emailed to you, send your request to ajw@brentor.net. A small donation to the BCT would be appreciated.

Donations & Advertising: All donations, advertising copy and payment of £5 per advert insertion should be sent to Jane Phelpstead 01822 810635 croakytoad97@gmail.com in advance of publication.

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Brentor Village website: Contributions or comments are welcome please send to the Editor, Colin Dawes brentorvillage@btinternet.com

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