



BRENT ISLAND TRUST



Newsletter, August 2025

Message from Graham

Welcome to our August Newsletter. The Island is in great shape with everything growing at a great rate, sadly including the bracken. Our AGM had a great talk from Louise Wainwright, Chair of Avon River Champions and all those present found it to be very informative and entertaining. We had a “bracken bashing” session on the morning of Thursday 26th June and despite a low turnout, we certainly made a big dent in the bracken in the meadow although inevitably there is still more! We have a working Party day booked for 11th September when we will be joined by volunteers from EE when we will tackle the bracken again, as well as other necessary maintenance tasks around The Island. Please come along and join in. Thanks to Phil and Laurette who have recently conducted a plant survey on The Island. We have also had repairs carried out on the weir where stones and mortar had been washed out. A new dog waste bin has also now been installed near the entrance gate.

Annual General Meeting : The AGM was held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 8 July, although numbers were down slightly on last year. All nominated members were elected unopposed. Rob Wills has stepped down from the Committee and was thanked for his time and effort over the last few years. If you would like to help on the Committee with any aspect of managing the Island please contact us (contact details below)



Our guest speaker was Louise Wainwright. Louise is a Devon County Councillor for the electoral division of Salcombe. We were very grateful to Louise for stepping in at the last minute after Harry Barton had to step down due to an unforeseen family commitment. The title of her talk was **‘No Man is an Island’**

Louise set up South Devon River Champions in response to increasing evidence of ecological damage to aquatic life that swims lives & breathes in these waters all year round. The chemicals, agricultural pollution and sewage pollution all need to be addressed to restore health to our [rivers](#). Louise was very knowledgeable, she spoke passionately about the work she has been engaged with in South Devon with Community groups looking at issues including micro plastics in the food chain, and how ecologically damaging dog flea treatment. can be to nature, especially in water courses. Our rivers are our responsibility and our behaviour needs to change

Repairs on the Weir

Regular visitors to the Island will have seen people working on the weir. The necessary repairs were carried out by Castleford Engineering who have undertaken maintenance on the Island previously. They repaired a hole in the bank where the boulders have washed out as well as repointing parts of the weir



Island Membership Renewal

Thank you to those members who have paid their subscriptions for this year.

Subscriptions are due for those who don't pay by standing order (our preferred method) at the following rates:
Individual £6. Family £10. Junior £2

Those who pay by BACS please make payment in the usual way to the Brent Island Account.

Bank details. Account: Brent Island Trust

Sort Code: 30-94-58

Account Number: 00535426

Those who need to pay by cash or cheque please forward to Felicity Ferry or other members of the Committee.
Those who pay by standing order do not need to do anything. We thank you all for your continuing support.

Forthcoming events:

Nothing & Batting: Provisional date for talk / demonstration on Moths & bats (weather permitting) Saturday 13 September

Working Party: Thursday 11 September

Christmas Stall: Saturday 6 December – Brent Island Stall will take place in the Old School Community Centre. 9.30am - 12pm.

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