

# Brent Island Trust

## Newsletter, April 2022



### A Message from Graham

**Dear Members,**

Welcome to our April newsletter. Spring is now officially here even if the weather can't quite make up its mind! The evidence of new growth is all around us and The Island is a great place to go and admire Nature's splendour on your doorstep.

We are looking forward to seeing lots of young families for the Easter Egg Trail (see below) for the first time in three years, hopefully the weather will be favourable. Please spread the word if you know of anyone who may be interested in taking part. Any and all members are more than welcome to come along on the day to help or just observe. Please make yourselves known to the on-duty members of the committee who will be on site in the Linhay. We also have an opportunity for you to brush off your wellies and don the gardening gloves for a Working Party later in the month (see below)! Hopefully we'll see some of you there!

**Best wishes, Graham Royle. (Chair)**

### Working Party

This year's spring working party will be on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April from 9.30 to midday. Tasks will include the usual clearing paths of brambles and other obstructions, planting a tree, filling in holes in the meadow, updating the committee sign in the linhay and I'm sure we'll have thought of more when the time comes. Please wear suitable clothing and gardening gloves and bring secateurs if you have them. Other tools will be provided.



### More dates for your diary

We mentioned both of these dates in the last newsletter but here's a reminder:

- **Easter Egg Trail** – Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> April from 10am to 4pm. It costs £2 to take part but all youngsters who do join in will each win an easter egg.
- **Annual General Meeting** – Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> June in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

### Island membership renewal

This month marks the start of our new financial year, and April is also the time when membership subscriptions fall due. With this newsletter you will receive a letter explaining what action you need to take, if any. If you are a Life or Honorary Member or pay annually by Standing Order you need do nothing. If you pay by cash or cheque you will need to forward your remittance to our Membership Secretary, Laurette Guest, whose details are on the letter. We do appreciate your continued support for our work in caring for The Island.

## Who is GAYL? Please sign up.

Thanks to Island member Adrian Platt who has told us about **Give as you Live**. We have now registered with **GAYL** which works in a similar way to AmazonSmile as described in previous newsletters. It works with over 5,500 retailers – including John Lewis, M&S, Sainsbury's and Boots. When you sign up to the scheme, the retailer will make a contribution to Island funds of, typically, 1.00% of eligible purchases you make from them. There is no extra cost to you. To sign up, please go to <http://www.giveasyoulive.com>, selecting **Brent Island Trust** as your chosen charity, and it will guide you through the process. We will receive donations quarterly once the total has reached £15.



## Apple trees

The apple tree at the lower end of The Island have recently had their annual pruning thanks to member Robin Toogood. He removed dead and crossing branches which should help to produce another healthy crop this year.

The photo was taken in late March and shows one of the apple trees with a bright yellow background of pussy willow.



## Dog signs

Unfortunately one or two dog-owners are less than careful with what their pets deposit in the lane going down to The Island much to the annoyance of local residents. We remind you that there are poo bags and a bin just beyond the gate to The Island. There is now a newly appointed Localities Officer who will be putting up signs along the lane asking owners to clear up after their dogs.



**Please clean up  
after your dog**

## Are you insured for chainsaw use ?

Occasionally we have some chainsaw work to be carried out on The Island. Despite our secretary having his City & Guilds certificates our insurance company won't allow him to use a chainsaw on The Island without us paying a huge premium. Do any of our members use a chainsaw ***and have their own third-party liability insurance*** and would be willing to help? The work would include cutting up at ground level or perhaps felling small trees but certainly no large tree work or climbing. Let us know.



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