

Brent Island Trust

Newsletter, April 2019



Easter Egg Trail

It has only been running for a few years but The Island Easter Egg Trail has quickly established itself as a village tradition. Bring your family down to The Island on Easter Saturday 20th April, between 10am and 4pm, to explore the natural beauty and look at the wildlife as you follow the clues around the Meadow. Entry is £2 per child with a chocolate Easter Egg for every entrant.



Annual General Meeting 2019

A reminder that our AGM takes place in the side room at South Brent Village Hall on Wednesday 26th June at 7.30pm. Kevin Bishop, Chief Executive of Dartmoor National Park Authority, is the guest speaker, and is likely to have some very interesting thoughts about the future for Dartmoor and our other national parks. We elect our committee at this meeting and we offer a warm welcome to any of our members who would like to take on this rewarding and not too onerous role.



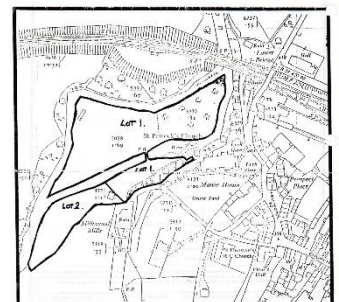
Spring Working Party

We have a Spring working party planned for the morning of Saturday 13th April, between 10am and midday. Tasks to be tackled include filling in holes dug by visiting dogs, removing redundant protection around some of the apple trees, and checking that all the paths are clear and safe in readiness for the Easter Egg Trail the following Saturday. Do come and join us for what is always a very sociable event. Wear appropriate tough clothing and gardening gloves, and if you have them bring a spade and secateurs etc.



Silver Jubilee Fair

Plans are progressing well for our Silver Jubilee Fair on the Island on Saturday 8th June, between 2pm and 5pm. There has been a good response from organisations who will be represented, including the Westcountry Rivers Trust, Dartmoor National Park, Sustainable South Brent and wildlife groups. There'll be refreshments, musical entertainment and activities for children. We need as many people as possible to help on our stalls and to set up on Friday evening and take down after the event. Offers of help please to our Chairman or Secretary – details at the foot of this newsletter.



An extract from the 'For Sale' document in 1994



Membership Renewal

This month marks the 25th anniversary of our buying the The Island, 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, Peter Stevens, whose details are on the letter. We do appreciate your continued support for our work in caring for The Island.

Spring flowers

It could be a result of last summer's long, dry summer, or maybe this winter's weather, which has given a wonderful display of snowdrops and other signs of spring. Here are just two examples from The Island.



Riverbank erosion – an update

If you have visited The Island recently you may have noticed that a large limb has broken off a beech tree on the railway side of the river, falling on to the area where the river bank has been eroding. This could prove to be fortuitous, as we need timber and brash as part of the repairs and reinstatement work we have been planning with the Westcountry Rivers Trust. We already have permission from the National Park to coppice several small alders etc. in the area and we have now submitted an application to Devon County Council's flood risk management team for the other necessary permissions. If these go through smoothly we hope the work can be carried out within the next few months.



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