



South Brent Parish Council Newsletter

Winter 2025, Issue 88

Any Organisation in South Brent may use the Parish Crest

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Act of Remembrance and Church Service

The Service of Remembrance was held in St Petroc's on Sunday 9th November 2025. The Council is very grateful to Rev'd Prebendary Prof Gina Radford for leading yet another very well attended service with 45 members of South Brent Scout Group, 25 Explorers and 5 Leaders present.

The Exhortations were read by two members of the Scout group, with two members of St Petroc's Church providing a well-received additional reading from the Bible.

The names of the Fallen were read by Cllrs. Stephen Hanney and Guy Pannell with a Bible reading by Cllr. Alastair Childs, Chairman of the Council.

As is a tradition, The Act of Remembrance was held at the Toll House on Tuesday 11th November, when a small group congregated.

Thanks also go to Peter Brown, David Worrall and Mike Roberts for acting as Standard bearers at both ceremonies.

The Council is grateful to Anne-Marie Sampson, Teignbridge District Scouts Commissioner who played the Last Post and Reveille, as she has done for many years. She will not be available next year and the Council is putting a shout-out to the community to see if anyone is willing and able to perform this task on a Bugle, Cornet or Trumpet next year. Please contact the Clerk@southbrent.gov.uk if you can assist.

Cllr. Glyn Richards

**South Brent Parish Council wishes you all a very Happy Christmas
and a New Year**

Winter Weather

We may or may not experience freezing conditions again this winter, here are some reminders.

If the weather conditions are not suitable for driving, leave your car at home.

Could you help your neighbour with essential shopping in the village?

Salt/grit in the containers around the village is for use on the pavements and can be thinly spread to improve conditions under foot.

Try to stay warm.



Art House South Brent

Art House South Brent is a dedicated arts and crafts venue, started in 2020. We are lucky to have two fantastic spacious, light-filled studios at the south end of the Old School Community Centre, plus a gazebo for outside activities. There are events, workshops and classes for people of all ages, abilities and experience. Come along, get inspired and learn new skills, make a mess, have fun with new friends (and help clear up afterwards!).

For the month of January, Art House will be exhibiting the entries and winners to our Greetings Cards competition in the corridor gallery at the Old School Community Centre. The ten most popular entries will be printed onto greetings cards which will be sold to raise money for Art House to support our subsidised workshops and bursaries. The cards will then be available to buy on our website and at our events.

For more information, please visit our website <https://www.arthousesouthbrent.com/> and see the calendar pages for an overview of events and sign up to receive our free Art House Newsletter to keep up to date with the latest news. The studios are also available for hire by the day/half day/evening for arts related activities at reasonable rates. Email us for more details or to arrange a visit at arthousesouthbrent@gmail.com

WINTER WARMER –

Harbottle & Jonas + Richard Trethewey

Come and join us for a rare evening of winter songs, harmonies, carols and smiles in the beautiful setting of St. Petroc's Church, South Brent, at 7.30pm on Saturday 20th December.

Partners in life and music, dynamic South Brent based folk duo Harbottle & Jonas, are one of the most exciting acts on the UK circuit today, combining a love of the richness of traditional folk with their own original and powerful songwriting. Dave and Freya have developed a distinct and compelling signature sound, blending concertina, harmonium, cittern, stomp box, acoustic guitar and banjo with their beautiful and closely intertwined vocal harmonies.

They'll be joined by Richard Trethewey, who grew up in Cornwall and developed a keen interest in the traditional music that tells the story of the remarkable history and people of this place. Tickets, at £12, available from Artworks in the village or online via Eventbrite.



Brent Island Trust

Island Trust Christmas Stall

After 30 years of braving cold, wind and rain the hardy members of the Brent Island Trust Committee will be inviting supporters to join them in the warmth of the Old School Centre when they hold their traditional Christmas stall and carol singing in the village on Saturday 6th December. The event runs from 9.30am until noon and is the organisation's main fundraising event of the year.

"We have enjoyed three decades holding our event in the open air, outside the Village Shop" said Trust Chair Graham Royle. "But the weather is so unpredictable at this time of year we have decided to move indoors where our volunteers, and more importantly our wonderful carol singers, musicians and the public can relax and be more comfortable.

"We tried it as an experiment last year when we were faced with Storm Darragh and it went extremely well, raising a near-record amount for Brent Island."

All are welcome to support the trust and get in the festive spirit. Father Christmas and the Village Crier will be on hand to greet visitors. Look out for presents and cakes, try your luck on the tombola and join in singing some favourite Christmas melodies. As an extra attraction for youngsters there will also be a children's tombola this year, with appropriate prizes.

Offers of help are welcome, especially with carol singing and in providing cakes and tombola prizes. Tombola prizes can be left in a special box in Hannah's charity shop in South Brent. Cakes can be delivered on the morning of the event, or to the Chairman's address at 2, Middle Green.

The trust cares for a three-acre area of meadow and woodland, surrounded by the River Avon and bought through a public appeal in 1994.

Let's Keep Our Parish Clean and Beautiful

We all love walking our dogs around our lovely village, but please remember to always carry waste bags and clean up after your pets.

Dog mess left on paths, verges, and play areas **isn't just unpleasant** - it's a health risk, especially for children.

South Hams District Council is asking all dog owners to do their bit by **bagging and binning** their dog's waste responsibly.

Anyone caught not cleaning up after their dog could face a **£100 fine**.

If you notice dog mess or have information that could help identify repeat offenders, please report it on the South Hams District Council website - just search "**report dog fouling**".

Together, we can keep our parish clean, safe, and a place we can all be proud of.

**Bag it. Bin it.
Keep Our Parish
beautiful!**



South Hams
District Council

www.southhams.gov.uk/report-it



Hope Wood - 11,000 Trees Planted; 13,000 more to go

What an achievement! Tree-planting at *Hope Wood* is – so far - on schedule to reach our planting target. South Brent did itself proud last season with an incredible turn-out of volunteers. If you were one of those who picked up a spade – thank you! You did a great job! So much so that the excellent quality of your planting was highly commended by the Woodland Trust and the Community Forest who provided and funded the trees.

With a further 13,000 trees due to arrive before long, we're hoping the South Brent community will be willing and able to pitch in again for the next planting sessions due to take place between 10.30am and 3.00pm on:

December

Friday 5th and Saturday 6th

Friday 12th

Friday 19th

January

Friday 9th

Friday 16th Saturday 17th

Friday 23rd

Friday 30th Saturday 31st

The sessions will be coordinated by ParkLife South West, but the South Brent volunteer contingent will be vital. ParkLife will also run separate sessions for local schools and groups. If you would like to join us, each session will meet just off Portford Lane, South Brent at <https://w3w.co/boldest.landscape.repay> (north side, 200m along from the Palstone Lane junction). As before, come dressed for the weather, with sturdy footwear. And – as before – there's no parking on site, so please walk from the village. Bring a spade, if you have one. And a snack, or two.

To help start us off, on Friday 5th December, Rob Sekula from South Hams District Council will be joining the planting session. Rob is heading up the site management and has done a great deal to bring *Hope Wood* about. He will be happy to answer any questions about what has happened so far at the site and how it might shape up over the next few years.

We very much hope to see you soon.

Hayden Gabriel – Sustainable South Brent – communitywoodland@ssb.org.uk

Community Fridge

For those new to the village or who don't know about it, the Community Fridge has been running for more than 3 years at the Old School Community Centre, sharing food and saving waste. It is open 24 hours a day and contains surplus food, collected by volunteers from supermarkets and local businesses who would otherwise have to dispose of it, or donated by individuals. This is in the Community Fridge for the people of South Brent to come and take food they can use for themselves and their families.



This is a win-win situation for local people and the environment – last year more than 12 tonnes of food that would otherwise have gone to waste was available in the fridge.

The fridge is entirely run by volunteers and needs more volunteers to help it to stay open. If you can help, maybe just once a month, please contact fridge@ssb.org.uk to find out more about roles needed.

Repair Café

The next Repair Café is on **Saturday 10 Jan from 9:30 to 11:50 at the Old School Centre**

Did you know that to volunteer at the South Brent Repair Café you don't have to be a skilled repairer? We also need lots of friendly people to run the show, including

Serving in the cafe

Moving items around

Helping folk fill in the registration form

Making cakes or savouries

And, of course, we welcome skilled and willing-to-learn repairers too!

The Repair Cafés run on a Saturday morning every two months but you only volunteer for the sessions and activities you want to do. Not sure? Come and have a look and a chat with us on Saturday morning, 10 Jan, or email repaircafe@ssb.org.uk.

Future Repair Cafes are on:

14 March,

9 May,

11 July and

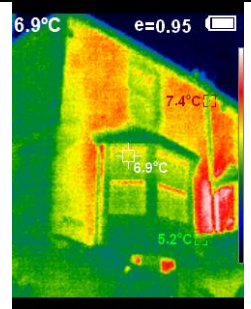
12 Sept



Oh, and please bring your items for repair. If you can carry it, we will try to fix it!

Check your home for heat loss

If you've already attended a training session on how to use SSB's Thermal Imaging Camera (TIC) do feel free to book the camera again. Perhaps you want to see how your home is performing since you improved your draughty door, or insulated your loft, or perhaps you'd like to help your neighbour find out where their home is leaking heat. Details about how to book a TIC are available on the [Energy](#) project page of SSB's website. Not trained yet? Just email energy@ssb.org.uk with any queries you may have.



Community Market Garden & Orchard (CMGO) update

The members of the CMGO Steering Group usually meet twice a month, chaired by Joe Rothon, Project Co-ordinator. As well as these meetings there are occasional on-site working parties to undertake such tasks as planting (in October we planted several hundred garlic bulbs to overwinter in the patch where we had previously grown potatoes), site planning, and meetings with expert advisers. We have gratefully received quantities of compost from the SSB Marsh project, and when the field was mown in the summer we set aside hay bales to use as mulching material.



This autumn, two of our Steering Group members are undertaking a 12-week online course in Community Supported Agriculture. And we have sourced funding to plant about 130 fruit trees before the end of this winter.

So, although we aren't quite ready to request 'all hands on deck' for larger-scale site work, there is all sorts of stuff going on behind the scenes – and a lot to learn! We're looking forward to 2026 – so, if you're interested in getting involved, keep a look-out for more news. For further information please contact marketgarden@ssb.org.uk



News from the Old School Community Centre

Thank you to everyone who has supported the Old School's Rejuvenating the Centre project so far. We have acted on the feedback you gave us in our Community Consultation last year and now have exciting news to share! We have developed our Rejuvenation Scheme and submitted a full planning application to Dartmoor National Park Authority.

We will be sharing the scheme plans and 3D drawings at an event on Wednesday 3rd December where we will celebrate the progress we have made so far. Architects and trustees will be on hand at the event to answer questions. Just drop in any time between 3pm and 8pm.

Shortly after this event, the scheme drawings and images will be displayed in the Corridor Gallery at the Old School Centre for the rest of December – do pop in and see them. The plans will also be available to view on the Old School website: <https://www.theoldschool.org.uk/home/rejuvenating-the-centre/>

For more info, contact the Old School trustees at info@theoldschool.org.uk

What's on in South Brent

Speak to Parish Councillor

"Do you have any questions about the Parish Council or want any information about what we do, or report any problems that you are experiencing around the village ?

Parishioners will be greeted by a Parish Councillor

Come to the Old School Centre
from 10.00am to 12 noon

Free Knitting Workshops

Every Wednesday in the HUB and
Warm Space in the Moor Room at the
Old School Community Centre
From 3 - 5pm

South Brent Community Fridge

Located at the Old School Community Centre in
the Village Centre, it's open to all
Open 24/7, supported by local businesses and
manned by volunteers.

New volunteers always welcome - please contact :
fridge@ssb.org.uk



LLOYDS BANK

**Old School Community
Centre.**

**Every other Monday
09:45 and 11:15**



South Brent Feoffees (Charity no. 255283) **WELFARE AND EDUCATION GRANTS**

Education Grants

Grants from South Bent Feoffees are available to support post 18 education, including vocational training and apprenticeships, for residents of South Brent Parish. The deadline for receipt of application forms for support for next year is 31st October

Welfare Grants

South Brent Feoffees has a small grant fund available for individuals and groups, resident in South Brent Parish, to address specific welfare needs. Grants are not income related and are considered throughout the year on a case by case basis

Application forms from:

Tom Maynard –
Clerk to the Trustees
South Brent Feoffees
Luscombe Maye Ltd
6 Fore Street
South Brent. TQ10 9BQ

Or email:- [SBFeoffees@outlook.com](mailto:SBFfeoffees@outlook.com)

See also

<https://stpetrocsandstmarys.org.uk/south-brent-feoffees/>

South Brent Allotments

The allotments at Vicarage Road have plots waiting for new tenants.

If you are interested in renting a plot then please contact Sandra on
contact.vraasb@gmail.com

Our prices per year are extremely reasonable and you do not need to be an experienced gardener as help and advice is available.

Sue Astal-Stain
Chair of South Brent Allotments



Old School Community Centre

Mon: 09:00 to 12:00

Wed: 09:00 to 12:00

Fri: 09:00 to 12:00

Parish Council Meetings

Parish Council meetings start at 7:30 pm, at South Brent Village Hall, Station Approach, South Brent, TQ10 9JL

Meetings are open to everyone and there are opportunities for members of the public to raise issues that are not on the agenda before each meeting. The agenda and minutes can be found on the Parish Council noticeboards in South Brent Village (outside the Co-op and next to the Children's Play Park) and the website. If you cannot attend a meeting and have any issues or concerns to raise, please contact the Clerk or one of your Councillors.

Forthcoming Parish Council Meetings

8 th December	Finance Committee (Budget)	16 th February	FULL PARISH COUNCIL
15 th December	FULL PARISH COUNCIL		
19 rd January	FULL PARISH COUNCIL		

South Brent Parish Council

Cllr. Alastair Childs (Chairman)	07801 - 368117	alastair.childs@southbrent.gov.uk
Ms. Sophie Jones (Parish Council Clerk)	01364 - 701900	clerk@southbrent.gov.uk
Cllr. Katy Armstrong	07570 - 049044	katy.armstrong@southbrent.gov.uk
Cllr. Sue Astal-Stain	07810 - 898777	sue.astal-stain@southbrent.gov.uk
Cllr. David Butcher	07929 - 239970	david.butcher@southbrent.gov.uk
Cllr. Richard Fone	07738 - 288647	richard.fone@southbrent.gov.uk
Cllr. Stephen Hanney (L&E Chair)	07929 - 253137	stephen.hanney@southbrent.gov.uk
Cllr. David Hancock	01364 - 649186	david.hancock@southbrent.gov.uk
Cllr. Katharine Johnston	07719 - 346393	katharine.johnston@southbrent.gov.uk
Cllr. Cathie Pannell	01364 - 72275	cathie.pannell@southbrent.gov.uk
Cllr. Guy Pannell	01364 - 72275	guy.pannell@southbrent.gov.uk
Cllr. Rachael Rafiqi (Finance & HR Chair)	07808 - 875820	rachel.rafiqi@southbrent.gov.uk
Cllr. Glyn Richards (Planning Chair)	07742 - 005484	glyn.richards@southbrent.gov.uk

Parish Tree Warden:	Ross Kennerly	Ross@betulacollective.co.uk
County Councillor	Cllr. Daniel Thomas	Daniel.Thomas@devon.gov.uk
District Councillors	Cllr. David Hancock	01364 - 649186 Cllr.Hancock@southhams.gov.uk
	Cllr. Guy Pannell	01364 - 72255 Cllr.Pannell@southhams.gov.uk

Clerk Address: Ms, Sophie Jones, c/o School House, Totnes Road, South Brent. TQ10 9BP



South Brent Parish Council Digital Newsletter

The Parish Council has made the decision to move to a digital newsletter. A smaller number of copies and these will be left at the usual public places in the village centre, e.g. the Toll House, the Village Shop and the Old School Community Centre.

To receive the digital edition of the newsletter you will need to subscribe to updates on the Parish Council website at (or use the adjacent QR code) <https://southbrent.gov.uk/>. The newsletter will also be available on the website.

Spring Newsletter 2026

The next Parish Council newsletter will be published in March 2026. Organisations wishing to submit articles for publication should send them to newsletter@southbrent.gov.uk (in Word) by Sunday 21st February 2026. Articles should be up to half x A4 page size (unless arranged otherwise)