

# BRADNINCH LIFE

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Issue 84: May/June 2021

## Spring is Here with a Vengeance..

I feel a bit like a snowdrop, poking my head through the soil into the big wide world wondering if spring sunshine awaits or an arctic tsunami is going to put us back into the dark again. Hopefully it will be sunshine and warm balmy days ahead as memories of lockdown fade never to return.

In our household lockdown had at least one unforeseen consequence. On a trip back from posting a birthday card, the engine management light came on in the car and the engine lost power. West End Garage very kindly tested it and got an 'engine misfire' reading. As it is still under warranty it went back to the main dealer.



Upon investigation they discovered that mice had built a nest in the engine. The rodents had then urinated on the spark plugs causing them to short out, damaging one of the injectors - hence the misfire! It is now back good as new and we will be taking it out for a short drive at least twice a week to deter the little blighters from repeating the exercise. Apparently it is quite common, more so with people not using their cars as often.

It's been an absolute joy being able to sit in the gar-

den and even to cut the grass. It's been a long winter, but the birds are busy nesting, the rabbits multiplying, the lambs making an unbelievable racket and the deer mock fighting in the field (and eating my shrubs when I'm not looking).

Suddenly life seems a whole lot better. Enjoy!





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## Hele & Bradninch on the TV Map

Television cameras were at Antique Village in Hele on 24th and 25th of April to film the popular BBC daytime show 'Bargain Hunt'. Filming took place over two days for four shows which will be broadcast later in the summer.

They aren't the first shows to be filmed there either, Discovery channel Salvage Hunters filmed back in November and that's due to air in May. BBC1 Money For Nothing have recently filmed for a fourth time and that too will be aired late summer.



Antique Village is definitely worth a visit, even if you aren't into antiques. With over thirty antique, vintage and collectables dealers under one roof it's almost impossible not to find something you can't live without. And that's not counting the wide selection of plants and garden ornaments they have for sale. There are also several local craftsmen with studios on site



With covid restrictions still in place, the outdoor café is a welcome addition where you can have a coffee with cake or a panini.

And if you like a bit of a flutter, the company has an auction site 'Auction Antiques' with regular sales. You can attend in person or bid on line, but be warned auctions are very addictive and it is easy to get carried away!

All in all the development is a welcome addition to Hele and has breathed new life into what had become a rather sad and decrepit site.

## Football's Coming Back.....

After what feels like an eternity, the U9's returned to training early April with a BANG!!

We had 18 children on the first session back, which is fantastic for Bradninch Football Club. Great to see so many children back to playing the sport they all have such a passion for.

We had our first game on the 17th April against a very good Bradninch U10's team, in which we won the first game 4-2 and lost the second 7-0 - all kids from both teams had huge smiles on their faces and it was very clear how much they had missed playing football over the last 3-4 months.

We have a few friendlies lined up over the coming weeks with games against Broadclyst and Cullompton, who doesn't love a local derby!!

Although the Exeter & District youth league has now finished, the players have plenty of games coming up - and we will be looking forward to when spectators will be allowed again so people of Bradninch can come and cheer on the mighty U9's

We are very lucky to have parent helpers during training, but I could really do with another coach - so if anyone is interested in becoming a coach, then please contact me at [chris.vittles1@icloud.com](mailto:chris.vittles1@icloud.com)

All the best  
Coach Chris

### Spring Gardening Tips

Clear away dead leaves and debris from the soil surface where you are planning to plant annual flowers and veggies. Cut back last year's dried foliage from perennials and ornamental grasses (hedge trimmers make it easy to give grass clumps a clean, even look). Remember to wear gardening gloves, especially when working with plants with prickly leaves to keep your hands protected from cuts and scrapes.

## Bradninch Musical Gardens

Call for Bradninch Gardeneers

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## BOWLS BIG WEEKEND



Bradninch Bowling Club is looking forward to taking part in a major national event being organised by Bowls England (the governing body of Lawn Bowls in England) to take place over the Spring Bank Holiday at the end of May.

“**BOWLS BIG WEEKEND**” is a national initiative offering clubs the opportunity to promote the sport and attract new members. It will be supported by a marketing campaign to raise awareness of these events across the country.

**OPEN DAY** our club will be holding an open day on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> May from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you have ever wondered what playing bowls is like then this is the time to find out! All we ask is that you please wear shoes with flat soles to protect our green. We have bowls (woods) we can lend you in sizes to fit all hands. There will be club members available to instruct you in the rudiments of the game.

An added incentive is that (fingers crossed) our bar will be open by then – our drinks are very reasonably priced. It is very pleasant to sit on the terrace with a glass of beer, wine or spirits after you have discovered your potential for playing bowls, and hopefully decided to become a member of our very friendly club.

The general perception of bowls is that it is a game for older people. If you have ever watched competitive bowls on television you must have noticed that all the best players are young! The majority of BBC members are certainly of the retired generation, but last summer several members of the Cricket Club came to give bowls a go, and demonstrated a natural flair for the game, showing off their eye-hand coordination. We think they enjoyed the experience, as did we.

So do please drop in on May 30<sup>th</sup> – we can't of course guarantee unbroken sunshine, but if Sunday is a washout then the Open Day will be held on Monday 31<sup>st</sup>.

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# Musical Gardens 2021 An Update

Since my last item calling for expressions of interest in having the Musical Gardens this year the government roadmap to lift the restrictions is slowly and cautiously progressing so there is light on the horizon.

There have also been some developments to add to the mix and there is a real possibility we can have an opening concert in a venue in town with a local band and an excellent touring duo who are keen to come and play in Bradninch.

As previously mentioned, with the postponement of the Festival we can roll the weekend forward so the current plan is for the bank holiday weekend in August with a concert on the evening of the 27<sup>th</sup> August and the gardens over 2 days – 28/29<sup>th</sup>, then perhaps somethings at the pubs the Monday?

This date would give us plenty of latitude and a good period to build confidence and strongly promote the concert and the weekend across Devon and Somerset.



So again, an early Call for Bradninch & Hele Gardeners. I would love to have as many venues as we can muster safely. I am sure we can still attract a wealth of young artists to support the weekend as so many have suffered badly with lack of gigs, experience and exposure.

I welcome comments and ideas, and welcome any early offers to open with all the provisos we have come to live with this last year or so.

If at all interested in opening or helping or clever ideas do, please contact Mike Leonard – mike.leonard120@gmail.com or 01392 881566.



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## We're Wombling On.....

Happy unlockdown to you all from the Bradninch Wombles



Why not use any spare extra time you have to have a spring clean and clear out at home....

But before you start throwing away those books you don't read and those cds you never listen to, just pause a moment! We can come and collect any of the following items...

- Books with a barcode (or an ISBN number)
- CD's with a barcode
- DVD's with a barcode

all items must be complete and in good condition...

Sorry we can't take VHS or vinyl

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Currently the Wombles have raised over £2000 from this Scavenging campaign. The money all goes to local causes such as Pre-school, Foodbank, Defib kit replacements. This is in just over a year since we started Wombling.

So if you have any items for us, then you can either drop to Jon/Orinoco @ 14, Millway Gardens or drop to Mike/Bulgaria @ 10, Dukes Orchard or contact Jon or Mike and we'll arrange to collect.

Many, many thanks to all of you who've donated items so far - it is really, really appreciated by us and the charities too.

**We can also collect and recycle the plastic can rings.**

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### Spring Gardening Tips

Once you're finished planting, add a fresh layer of mulch around all your new plants. If you mulch now before weeds have a chance to sprout, you'll have next-to-no weeding come summer. Grass cuttings work well.

**Need some large wine or gin glasses to hire for your event?**

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## Do you have a good idea to help boost Devon's economy?

Organisations with fresh ideas to help boost Devon's economy and help those people and businesses hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic are being urged to submit their bids into a new national fund, which opened for applications on the 14th of April.

The one-year Community Renewal Fund pilot could be worth up to £24m across Devon this year and is a trial for the Government's Shared Prosperity Fund.

The aim of the fund is to encourage innovative schemes to help kickstart the local economy by investing in skills, helping people into employment, supporting local businesses to grow and develop, and helping local communities become more resilient and sustainable.

The fund is open to schemes from the whole of Devon but a particular priority will be on the hardest hit and most deprived communities in need of an extra boost such as in West Devon and Torridge.

The County Council, which has been chosen by Government as the Lead Authority for Devon, is inviting project bids in line with priorities set out through the Team Devon Recovery Prospectus, as well as the Heart of the South West Local Industrial Strategy and Local Skills Report.

Key themes include digital inclusion, exploiting opportunities for business and employment growth in sectors such as green engineering, health and agritech, encouraging entrepreneurship and business start-ups, and a focus on the green economy.

In addition, the County Council is particularly interested in schemes that will reduce economic and social inequalities across the Devon area, whether by supporting the most vulnerable residents or communities hardest hit during the pandemic, or that promote growth and job creation opportunities.

This includes schemes targeting young people who have been so badly affected during the pandemic, those over 50 who lack basic skills, and those with a disability, mental or other health related barrier to employment and progression.

Interested organisations are being encouraged to find out more and make bids at [devon.cc/communityrenewalfund](http://devon.cc/communityrenewalfund). Applications to the Community Renewal Fund must be made to the Council by Monday 17 May. Final submissions to the Government are expected to be made by Friday 18 June, 2021.

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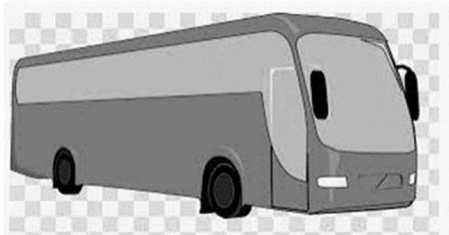
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## Silverton & Exe Valley Seniors May 2021 Community Newsletter



We are now taking bookings and looking forward to our monthly Outings Programme which this year, because of coronavirus, will not commence until June. As our first outing, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> June falls, between the Government's Step-3 & Step-4 "Roadmap out of lockdown rules" coach seat capacity will be reduced (to comply with social distancing rules) and certain precautionary measures put in place including the compulsory wearing of face masks on board the coach and inside public buildings.

In conjunction with the Covid-19 vaccinations programme which has now been offered to everyone over 50, it is hoped that these measures will help to minimise the risk of infection and provide a safe environment for everyone.

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

2 Jun Bideford & Hartland Abbey & Gardens £25  
2 Jul Exeter Quay & Canal Cruise to Exmouth £24  
5 Aug St Mawes & Ferry to Frenchman's Creek £30

### Outing snapshot

The first of our monthly outings is to the historic North Devon harbour town of Bideford which, in the 16<sup>th</sup> century was the third largest port in Britain. Today, Bideford is a working port alongside a small but flourishing fishing industry as well as being the supply base for the MS Oldenburg ferry service to Lundy. It is also the home of the Atlantic Village retail outlet. Other attractions include the historic Pannier Market and Butchers Row with its artisan shops.

In the afternoon we travel on to Hartland Abbey, a former monastery on the Atlantic Coast still inhabited by Henry V111's Sergeant of his Wine Cellar (to whom the Abbey was gifted) with its beautiful gardens, parkland and Atlantic Beach cove walk.

It is hoped to recommence Coffee Mornings, Whist Drives and Theatre trips later in the year. The date for the delayed AGM and our first Coffee Morning is on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July.

If you are interested in joining the Club or would like more details of our activities, please contact Martin Clough, Club Secretary 38 Hederman Close Silverton Devon EX5 4HW Tel: 01392 860971 or e-mail: martin.mcassoc@btconnect.com or visit [www.sevs.info](http://www.sevs.info).

### Spring Gardening Tips

Hardy, cool-season vegetables, like potatoes, artichokes, peas and some lettuces, germinate best in cool soil, so plant them in early spring once the soil is frost free. They should be ready to harvest by early summer.

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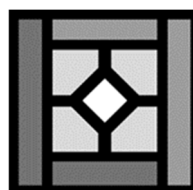
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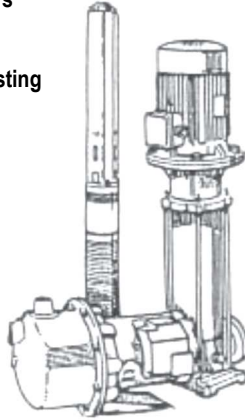
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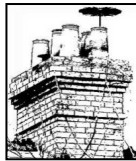
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# Loss of life

The readership of this magazine has a demographic that means those of you currently reading this are more likely to have grandchildren than be a grandchild. However, this article is about the grandchildren and how we as a community need to be aware of the problems they have had to endure during the last 12 months.

It has been a tough year for everyone. Covid attacks the old and many have lost their lives. But the young have also been robbed of life. We all have very clear memories of our experiences as adolescents and young adults: adventure, experimentation, new experiences that often shape who we are and where we end up. Lockdown has denied this generation of experiences or changed them into something very different from what they would have been.

Mental health of teenagers and young adults has suffered during lockdowns. Feelings of isolation and loneliness were prevalent. Eating disorders, anxiety and depression amongst the young has risen. Although they are a group who are very used to using the internet it has not been a panacea to counter the lack of face-to-face social activity. We are a social species and it is very evident that social media is no real substitute for this. Lots of research shows that it enhances behaviours that would not be tolerated within normal physical social groupings.

Whilst many will have cheered when the exams were cancelled (my children certainly were very happy to soak up the sun rather than revise for A levels and GCSEs this time last year) the complications it has caused will be around for a long time to come. Young people are more likely to have lost their job or been furloughed. University students have had their courses disrupted and their job prospects are much more unpredictable.

Going forward, evidence suggests the things that will help children and young people recover is support from parents/carers to manage stress and develop healthy habits. We need organisations to reach out to young people with more digital and remote services where appropriate, and an emphasis on mental wellbeing in schools. In particular, it is suggested that some children and young people will need additional support in school to socialise and to cope with increased anxieties, trauma or bereavement.

To try and positively tackle these problems Wyndham House, along with surgeries in Cullompton and Hemyock, are setting up a project to engage younger people and allow them to access help and support if they are struggling. This involves experienced workers going into schools and attending youth groups in our areas to explore mental health issues and show them how to seek help if needed. So, if you spot relatives who are having difficulties, please encourage them to look out for these opportunities, suggest they come and speak to us at the surgery or seek their permission to allow you to contact us on their behalf.

Anthony O'Brien  
Wyndham House



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Winter Pear	Blackberry
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## Spring Gardening Tips

Check stonework for frost damage, particularly in paths and edging. Check the general condition of your deck or patio and make any needed repairs. Clean off outdoor furniture so it's ready when you are for relaxing after a busy day in the garden.

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### Spring Gardening Tips

Remove spent blossoms from spring-flowering bulbs; this encourages the plants to store energy for next year rather than use it to make seeds. Be sure to let the foliage die back on its own without removing it until it is completely yellow or dried up.



## Bradninch Tennis Club News 'Game On'



With the sun shining and the lighter evenings, club members old and new have been enjoying the return of play at the courts since 29<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

Our club sessions have been buzzing with enthusiastic members, keen to return to play following the recent court closures, which have seen both courts busy for club sessions and booked for families and friends enjoying the game of tennis.

Following a successful open day, we have, once again seen an increase in new members joining and taking advantage of the early bird membership offer which continued throughout April along with existing members renewing for another year of tennis.

Our 'Rusty Racket' sessions for members and non-members, are as popular as ever and fully booked for May, however we will be offering another course of sessions for June. Those interested, please contact the club to book up and brush up on those tennis skills in a fun relaxed setting.

As a club, we are planning events over the year as Covid19 restrictions allow, so please keep up to date with news and upcoming events on the club website and Facebook page <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/BradninchTennisClub>. For any other information, please contact [julietwhite1968@outlook.com](mailto:julietwhite1968@outlook.com) or tel: 07938 882594

See you at the courts  
*Kimberley*

---

### Move It Or Lose It Is Back!

The Move it or Lose it classes will resume at West End Hall in Bradninch on Tuesday 18th May 2021 as long as the roadmap allows them.

There will be two sessions - one at 10:30 and another at 11:30. The second class participants will need to wait outside the hall until the first group has left the building. Masks will be worn to enter and leave the hall.

Sue has a Covid Safe Instructor certificate and all current guidelines will be followed.

It will be great to see everyone again and get ourselves back into shape!!

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### Wanted: memory-makers and confidence builders

Bradninch has thriving Beavers and Cubs groups but would really benefit from more adult help. If you like the idea of supporting our youngest Bradninch residents and having lots of fun in the process then we'd love to hear from you. Regardless of your age or previous experience we will provide the training you need. More importantly you'll be part of a supportive community group that all work together. We meet most Tuesday evenings.

Interested?

Contact Jon on mobile 07720089926, or 01392 881788 (home) or [hairyon@btinternet.com](mailto:hairyon@btinternet.com)



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## Time to Get Walking

With the weather improving and covid restrictions easing, it's a good time to think about getting more exercise. Bradninch Together have produced a free leaflet containing details of thirteen circular walks in the vicinity of Bradninch. They range in distance from one and a half miles to just over seven miles, so there is plenty of choice.

They all start at the Guildhall and go in various directions to Kensham and Castle Hill (the shortest) to Colebrook and Beacon Cross and Poundapit Cope (the longest). The walks are graded in terms of difficulty. If you'd like to give them a try, there is a free leaflet available at Spar, or you can print them off the Bradninch Together website.

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Tues		09:00 – 11:30	09:00 – 11:30	09:00 – 11:30
Weds	09:00 – 11:30	09:00 – 11:30		
Thurs	09:00 – 11:30		09:00 – 11:30	09:00 – 11:30
Fri	14.30 - 16.00	09:00 – 11:30	09:00 – 11:30	

Consultations are all currently initially by phone. It is frequently more convenient to use e-Consult to let the surgery know your medical issue – this is available on the front page of our website

**Surgery hours:** Monday - Thurs. 08:30 - 18:00  
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There is now no closure for lunch and prescriptions may be collected all through the day.

Repeat prescriptions can be ordered online via our website.

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Bradninch Cricket Club tel: 01392 881192  
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Bradninch Folk Club tel: 01392 881105  
Bradninch Gardening Club tel: 01884 32256  
Bradninch History Society tel: 01392 881049  
Bradninch Millers Morris tel: 01884 855270  
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Wyndham House Surgery tel: 01392 860034

## WHAT'S ON IN BRADNINCH

### MAY

3rd	Yoga	7.00	Cricket Club
3rd	Pilates	9.00	The Guildhall
3rd	Ballet	4.00	The Guildhall
6th	Taekwondo	18.00	The Guildhall
6th	Yoga	9,15	Cricket Club
6th	Ballet	10.00	The Guildhall
7th	Bradninch Millers Morris	19.00	The Guildhall
10th	Yoga	7.00	Cricket Club
10th	Pilates	9.00	The Guildhall
10th	Ballet	4.00	The Guildhall
11th	Ballet	4.00	The Guildhall
13th	Library Van	11.00	The Guildhall
13th	Taekwondo	18.00	The Guildhall
14th	Ballet	10.00	The Guildhall
14th	Bradninch Millers Morris	19.00	The Guildhall
17th	Yoga	9,15	Cricket Club
17th	Pilates	9.00	The Guildhall
17th	Ballet	4.00	The Guildhall
18th	Move it or Lose it	10.30	West End Hall
18th	Ballet	4.00	The Guildhall
20th	Taekwondo	18.00	The Guildhall
21st	Ballet	10.00	The Guildhall
21st	Yoga	9,15	Cricket Club
21st	Bradninch Millers Morris	19.00	The Guildhall
24th	Pilates	9.00	The Guildhall
24th	Ballet	4.00	The Guildhall
24th	Yoga	7.00	Cricket Club
25th	Ballet	4.00	The Guildhall
25th	Move it or Lose it	10.30	West End Hall
27th	Taekwondo	18.00	The Guildhall
27th	Ballet	10.00	The Guildhall
28th	Bradninch Millers Morris	19.00	The Guildhall
29th	Library Van	9.45	The Guildhall

### JUNE

1st	Move it or Lose it	10.30	West End Hall
1st	Yoga	10.30	West End Hall
1st	Ballet	4.00	The Guildhall
1st	Pilates	9.00	The Guildhall
8th	Move it or Lose it	10.30	West End Hall
8th	Ballet	4.00	The Guildhall
10th	Taekwondo	18.00	The Guildhall
10th	Yoga	9,15	Cricket Club
10th	Ballet	10.00	The Guildhall
11th	Bradninch Millers Morris	19.00	The Guildhall
11th	Ballet	4.00	The Guildhall
14th	Pilates	9.00	The Guildhall
14th	Yoga	7.00	Cricket Club
15th	Move it or Lose it	10.30	West End Hall
15th	Ballet	4.00	The Guildhall
17th	Library Van	11.00	The Guildhall
17th	Taekwondo	18.30	The Guildhall
18th	Ballet	10.00	The Guildhall
18th	Bradninch Millers Morris	20.00	The Guildhall
21st	Yoga	9,15	Cricket Club
21st	Yoga	7.00	Cricket Club
21st	Ballet	4.00	The Guildhall
21st	Pilates	9.00	The Guildhall
22nd	Move it or Lose it	10.30	West End Hall
24th	Ballet	4.00	The Guildhall
24th	Taekwondo	18.00	The Guildhall
25th	Ballet	10.00	The Guildhall
25th	Bradninch Millers Morris	19.00	The Guildhall
28th	Yoga	9,15	Cricket Club
28th	Pilates	9.00	The Guildhall
30th	Yoga	7.00	Cricket Club
29th	Move it or Lose it	10.30	West End Hall
29th	Taekwondo	18.00	The Guildhall
29th	Bradninch Millers Morris	19.00	The Guildhall

**IMPORTANT** As lockdown eases, classes are being added and re-arranged all the time. The above schedules are provisional, please check with the organiser or clerk for the latest information.

To book the Guildhall tel: 01392 881869 e-mail bradninchtt@gmail.com,  
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