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<http://tilecross.academy/bryntail-cottage/>  
<https://centralgrammarschool.org.uk/bryntail-cottage-charity/>  
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Registered Charity Number 1190062.

# Changing the lives of Birmingham children since 1915

## Newsletter – Edition 10, September 2021

**SUMMER  
SPECIAL**

### The 2021 reunion

SUPER FUN  
BUMPER EDITION

I can't say that organising Open Day this year was without its difficulties and anxieties bearing in mind the lack of facilities and the uncertain times in which we live. However, I was greatly relieved when I saw so many people arrive on a dry day, laden with hampers, chairs, and flasks (O ye of little faith!), and to see everyone soon deep in conversation, catching up with two years or so of news and recalling stories from much farther back. The Bryntail Spirit lives on, even if it now uses a stick!

It was good for all to meet Neil Mackintosh, Chair of the Charity, the other Trustees and David Holland the Project Architect. Thanks are due to Clive Sanbrook for his donation of a painting of the cottage to the Trustees and for a second painting, which was raffled, raising £138 for the Charity. Thanks also to Anne Lanaghan and Tony Fall who dealt with the raffle and provided cake for us all. The auction of the oil lamp donated by Dorothy Smith, Peter's widow, raised an astonishing £250 due to Pete Jones's generosity and bidding competition from Gordon Griffiths.

During the day we were visited by a reporter from the County Times local paper who talked to numerous people from different eras gathering information for a future feature about the cottage and the restoration project. All good for local interest and support and we will provide a link to that when it appears. We were also visited by two walkers off Glyndwr's Way who were in search of coffee, which we provided. They stayed for a chat and donated £5.

I counted 43 people on the group photo, along with 4 dogs and 2 ferrets (don't ask!), but no bats. A good turnout. I called in at the farm on my way out to thank Alwyn for his help with tidying and parking. He asked when the next one was planned - I was non-committal.

Richard Fryer.



WINNER  
SCHOOL/COLLEGE  
OF THE YEAR  
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UK  
Social  
Mobility  
Awards™



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THE  
**Bryntail**  
COTTAGE  
CHARITY

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## **£20 000 grant awarded!**

**The Pilgrim Trust have awarded the charity an extremely generous grant to renovate and repair our historic buildings!**



**The Pilgrim Trust**

## **Generous Donation**

The charity received an extremely generous donation from Pam Price, the daughter of Cy Thomas (aka Taffy Thomas), who taught History at Central Grammar School / Byng Kenrick Central for his whole career. He also coached rugby and cricket and took many groups of boys to Bryntail. As a native and first-language Welshman, it was a part of the country that he loved and he held Bryntail in great affection - even without mod-cons! He would have been delighted to know that the legacy is continuing and the facilities being improved there, especially when so many other outdoor education facilities are at risk. Pam's brother, Geoffrey, is an old boy of the sixth form and has been to some of the reunions at Bryntail.



**Cy Thomas, third from left.**



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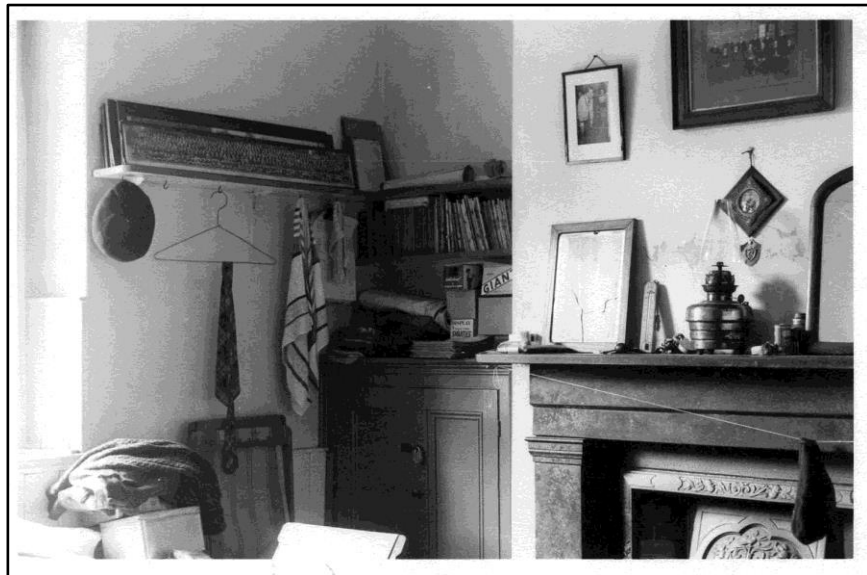
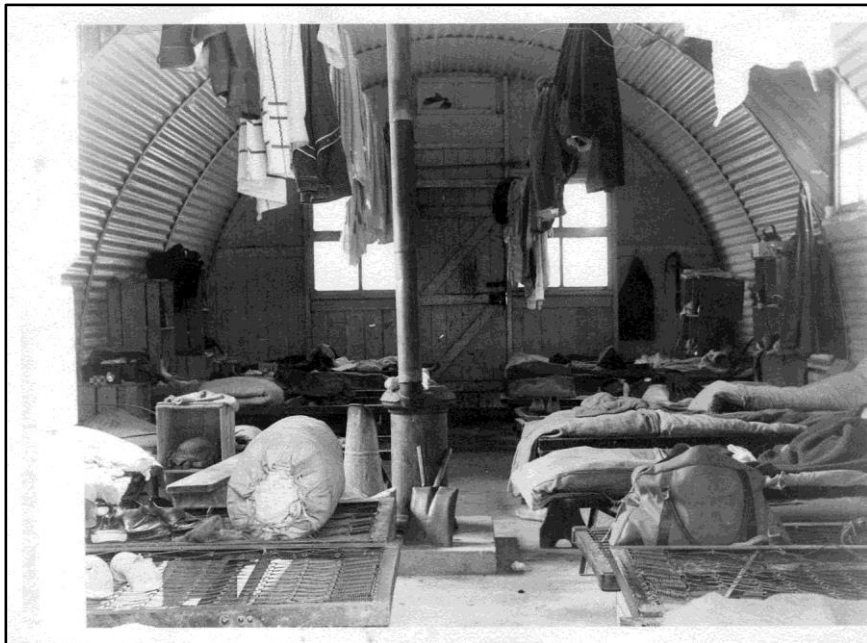
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## From the archive

Now the buildings have been stripped in preparation for the refurbishment it is interesting to look back at how interior has looked in the past.



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# The redevelopment programme

The charity's plans for the cottage fall into two phases:

1. **Refurbishment.** This will repair the fabric of the buildings compliant with their grade two listed status.
2. **Redevelopment** of the buildings and grounds to make them fit for purpose in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. This will create two twin ensuite rooms for staff and two upgraded dormitories. The current ablution block will be replaced and the kitchen modernised. The grounds will be landscaped to allow limited camping. The hedges will be replanted and the garden fenced.

All improvements will be phased and meet the highest sustainability standards.

The total cost is in the region of £300k. So far we have raised £212713.

## Use CAF Donate to help us make a difference

Through our bank we have set up a donation page that enables supporters to make online gifts and automatically enable Gift Aid. If you are feeling generous, follow this link

<https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/15185#!/Donation>

**CAF**  
Charities Aid Foundation

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