

February 2017 Number 128



"What on earth is there to do in Peter Tavy at this time of year?" Find out how much inside...



"Peter Tavy" - watercolour by H.H. Stephens of Lang Cottage, early 20th century

What's On?

IN PETER TAVY

FEBRUARY 2017

Thurs 2nd	4.30 - 6.30pm	"Messy Church", Methodist Chapel
Thurs 9th	12 - 1.30pm	Soup & Dessert Lunches, Methodist Chapel
Wed 15th	10 - 10.30am	Mobile Library calls, Church Lane
Wed 15th	7.15pm	Peter Tavy Commoners Meeting, Village Hall
Wed 15th	8.00pm	Quiz Night, Peter Tavy Inn
Sun 19th	3.00pm	Joint Family Service, St. Peter's Church
Mon 20 th	10 - 12.30	Knit, Craft & Natter, Village Hall
Tues 21st	7.30pm	An African Adventure - David & Anna, Village Hall
Sat 25th	7.00pm	"The Italian Job" - Pop-Up Restaurant, Village Hall

MARCH 2017

Thurs 2nd	4.30 - 6.30pm	"Messy Church", Methodist Chapel
Sat 4th	7.00pm	Dartmoor Evening, Village Hall
Thurs 9th	12 - 1.30pm	Soup & Dessert Lunches, Methodist Chapel
Sat 11th	7.30pm	Darts and Skittles Evening, Village Hall
Wed 15th	10 - 10.30am	Mobile Library calls, Church Lane
Wed 15th	8.00pm	Quiz Night, Peter Tavy Inn
Sat 18th	10.00am - noon	Daffodil Coffee Morning, Manor Farm, Cudlipptown
Sun 19th	3.00pm	Joint Family Service, Methodist Chapel
Mon 20 th	10 - 12.30	Knit, Craft & Natter, Village Hall
Fri 24th	7.30pm	"Mambo Jambo" - VIA Concert, Village Hall

APRIL 2017

Thurs 6th	4.30 - 6.30pm	"Messy Church", Methodist Chapel
Wed 12th	10-10.30am	Mobile Library calls, Church Lane
Thurs 13th	12 - 1.30pm	Soup & Dessert Lunches, Methodist Chapel
Thurs 13th	7.00pm	Maundy Thursday Service, St. Peter's Church
Fri 14th	3.00pm	Good Friday Service, Methodist Chapel
Sun 16th	9.30am	Easter Sunday Service, St. Peter's Church
Sun 16th	3.00pm	Family Easter Service, Methodist Chapel
Wed 19th	7.30pm	Village Fayre 2017 planning meeting
Wed 19th	8.00pm	Quiz Night, Peter Tavy Inn
Sat 22nd	7.30pm	Bingo Evening, Village Hall
Weds 26th	7.00pm	Devonian Geology Talk, Village Hall

MAY 2017

Thurs 4th	4.30 - 6.30pm	"Messy Church", Methodist Chapel
Thurs 4th	7am - 10pm	Devon County Council Election, Village Hall
Sat 6th	2 - 4pm	Plant Sale & Cream Teas, Methodist Chapel
Mon 8th	7 - 9pm	Watercolour class, Village Hall. Please book - p13
Weds 10th	10-10.30am	Mobile Library calls, Church Lane
Thurs 11th	12 - 1.30pm	Soup & Dessert Lunches, Methodist Chapel
Sat 13th	from 2.30pm	Cream Teas and Pond Walks, Edgecombe
Weds 17th	7.30pm	Village Hall AGM

Dates and times may be subject to change - watch out for notices to make sure!

A belated "Happy New Year" to everyone. This Piper brings news of many events taking place in the Village - there really is "something for everyone"! So far we seem to have had a fairly mild winter, so let's hope we move smoothly into Spring with no upsets. An old rhyme suggests that we should keep a close eye on the weather on Candlemas day (February 2nd):

"If Candlemas be fair and bright,
Winter has another flight.
If Candlemas brings clouds and rain,
Winter will not come again."

By the time you receive this Piper, we should know what to expect! Hope to see you at some of the events.

- Steve & Ali Carreck, Compilers,
(1 Mill Cottages, 810868, E-mail steve.ali@care4free.net)

Please let us have any dates and events for the next "Piper" (covering May to early August) by **Friday 14th April 2017**. If you can supply your text as a "Word" or "RTF" file or by email to: steve.ali@care4free.net, it saves us a lot of typing. But please don't worry if this is not possible - we still want your hand-written entries too! Thanks!

What you could do in Peter Tavy - just a few ideas:

An African Adventure

with David & Anna Dodd
Tues 21st Feb, 7.30pm
Village Hall - see page 11

"Pop Up Restaurant" The Italian Job

Sat. 25th Feb, 7.00pm
Village Hall - see page 12

Dartmoor Evening

Traditional entertainment
& a Pasty Supper on
Saturday 4th March in the
Village Hall - see page 7

Darts & Skittles

...with added pizza!
Sat 11th March, 7.30pm
Village Hall - see page 13

Daffodil Coffee Morning

Sat. 18th March, 10.00am -
noon at Manor Farm,
Cudlipptown - see page 8

Mambo Jambo

Villages in Action concert
from acoustic roots duo
Saturday 24th March in the
Village Hall - see page 14

Cook for Your Parents

Youth Club on
Friday 31st March at
6.00pm in Chapel - see p10

Bingo Evening

Saturday 22nd April
Eyes down at 7.30pm
in the Village Hall - see p13

Devonian Geology

Exclusive talk by world-leading expert, Weds.
26th April, 7.00pm in the
Village Hall - see page 15

Don't forget the regular monthly events, like Messy Church; Soup Lunches; Knit, Craft and Natter and quizzes at the Peter Tavy Inn, too!

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

November

Topics covered at the Parish Council meeting included: flood prevention for the village; concerns over the revised plans of the Old Garage site; the danger of the intersection at the A386 (Bus Corner), and the printing of The Piper - which was agreed by Councillors.

December

Discussions included: objecting to the removal of the village telephone box; an update on the Parish Emergency Plan, and a planning meeting for the Old Garage site.

January

Parking in the village was discussed. (Devon County Highways has responded to a recent enquiry from the Parish Council regarding the traffic cones that have been placed around the village hall intersection in the village. They have stated that cones should not be placed on the road as they are blocking the highway. If Highways representatives see any cones there, they will be removed.) The Precept was agreed upon, and road issues were highlighted. It was agreed to confirm the village's involvement in 'The Battle's Over' 11/11/18 (this will be a nationwide commemoration and remembrance of the end of the first world war and the millions killed or wounded).

- Cassandra McDowall, Clerk to the Peter Tavy Parish Council

Parish Office: 1 Laurel Cottages, Peter Tavy, PL19 9NN

Tel. 01822 811091

email: petertavypc@hotmail.co.uk

Advance Notice:

The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Wednesday 10th May.

As mentioned in the last “Piper”, Dartmoor National Park Authority are consulting on the “DNPA Local Plan”, looking at how the Park should develop over the next ten years. The Parish Council have responded to the consultation as follows:

PETER TAVY PARISH RESPONSE TO THE CONSULTATION ON THE NEW DARTMOOR LOCAL PLAN.

Introduction

1. The purpose of a National Park is to conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the National park and to promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the National park by the public.

2. To achieve the aims of the above for the Dartmoor National Park there will always be conflicting interests between environmentalists, residents, businesses - in particular hill farmers - and tourism. Applicable to all these will be financial restraints.

The last 15 years

3. Over the last 15 years much of Dartmoor has been designated in various forms as an Environmentally Sensitive Area which has, for a number of reasons, led to restrictions to previously accepted practices in the method of farming and managing the moorland areas. Most schemes have been environmentally led to restrict grazing, improve heather, reduce carbon omissions through bog management and improve wildlife habitats.

4. Very few of these schemes have been fully successful and some have been very damaging to the enhancement of the beauty of the moor and the ability of hill farmers to manage the moor as they have done for many previous generations.

5. The main damage has been caused by the restriction of the numbers of livestock stocking the moor. As a result of this many areas are now impassable to walkers and much of the archaeological heritage is hidden. Those parts of the moor which are now seriously under grazed are covered by inedible *Molinia* grass, low level western gorse and bracken.

6. Planning regulations and the Dartmoor National Park policies have changed from time to time which has created uncertainty within the parishes. There does not appear to be consistency of approach by the planning authority.

7. The availability of public transport has been reduced mainly due to financial restraints.

8. The number of tourists visiting Dartmoor has greatly increased from successful advertising both in UK and abroad.

9. There has been a large increase in the outdoor activities taking place on Dartmoor such as mountain biking, wild swimming and some national events such as the Tour of Britain.

The next 10 years

10. In order to achieve one of the principle purposes of a National Park to conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the park it is essential that the Authority looks back in time to the well-established methods of management of the moorland areas by the hill farmers. James Diamond, Natural England, at the Exmoor Spring Conference, admitted that they had "got it wrong" and that the grazing problems have become paramount.

11. The only way that the under grazing of the moor as it is at the moment is to increase the numbers of livestock on the moor in order to restore the grass coverage to the state achieved in the late 90s. This recovery will take many years as livestock who have not been grazed on the moor take many years to adapt to the new grazing regime. It must be the policy of the Authority to aid the hill farmers in researching new methods of controlling and eradicating bracken, western gorse and *Molinia* grass.

(Continues overleaf)

12. Planning regulations must distinguish between the requirements of small villages and of the towns such as Mortenhampstead and Bovey Tracey. In both cases any new development must be in keeping with the surrounding local area.

13. With the evolvement of many people now working from home there will be a continuing need for affordable housing in order to retain young people in the villages. Without sufficient affordable housing the villages will become dormant and unable to sustain a village community. Although planning for second or holiday home building cannot be refused there must be some procedure for making the owners contribute financially or in some other way to the local community.

14. The lack of public transport in the rural areas has always created difficulties to those living in the villages. Consideration must be given to developing small transport schemes such as village community taxis, smaller local buses and community-run vehicles.

Summary

15. The environmentalists and tourism together with Natural England have over the last 10 years imposed their own policies without consideration of the effects on Dartmoor. Housing, planning and transport should be all part of the plan but the essential and overriding part of the New Dartmoor Local Plan must be to restore to the hill farmers the ability to manage the moor for the enjoyment of all.



All things Peter Tavy - now on

facebook



The Village Hall Committee has set up a Facebook page to talk about all things Peter Tavy. A warm welcome to everyone who joins up, whether you live in the Parish or further afield.

The Village Hall hopes that as many of us as possible want to join in. We'd like to hear from anyone who lives in, or cares about, our village. Need a hand doing something? Organising an event? Have something

important that villagers should know? Here's the place to say it. You can post something right now, even if it's happening tomorrow.

This group is for everyone; young and old, locals and visitors. Let's hear what you think. All you need to do is search for **Peter Tavy Community** in Facebook.



A GALA EVENING of ENTERTAINMENT

Patrick Cashell is working hard to assemble a cast of performers offering songs, music, recitations and much more for this evening of traditional entertainment at the Village Hall.



PETER TAVY VILLAGE HALL

DARTMOOR & EVENING &

Saturday 4th March, 7.00pm

**Come and enjoy an evening of TRADITIONAL ENTERTAINMENT,
with a pasty supper!**



MUSIC, SONGS, STORIES, RECITATIONS

Tickets (including pasty supper):

Adults £8.00; OAP/Concessions £7.00; Child £4; Family (2+2) £20

This event always sells fast - so book your tickets with

Steve and Ali Carreck (810868) now!

Money raised will be split between Village Hall funds
and the charity Target Ovarian Cancer.



The Wisdom of Milton Jones...

“If you're being chased by a police dog, try not to go through a tunnel, then on to a little seesaw, then jump through a hoop of fire. They're trained for that!”

“My wife - well, it's difficult to say what she does... she sells seashells on the seashore.”

“I lost my job as a cricket commentator for saying ‘I don't want to bore you with the details’.”

“My great-grandfather invented the cold air balloon... But it never really took off.”

“I hate sitting in traffic... because I always get run over.”



St. PETER's CHURCH NEWS

We look back on the Christmas Services at St. Peter's with much appreciation of the Joyous events of the coming of our Lord. Our Midnight Mass attracted families from the Parish and Ian Hardy, at the organ, and our Rector, John Higman. John blessed the Crib and Ian, with gusto, encouraged us to sing with rapture.

The bells rang out on Christmas Day and saw us welcoming Hazel Butland to assist John with the Service, preaching the sermon and leading the singing of the familiar Carols, together with our friends from St. Mary's. Sylvia Baish, their resident organist, played with feeling. After the Service, Midge Alford and her team served coffee and biscuits which were much enjoyed.

Our Service of Nine Lessons, and Carols from the latest sheet of the Charity "Embrace the Middle East", enthusiastically led by Barry Hodge at the organ, was held with our Methodist friends on January 1st. It was good to see so many familiar faces and old friends of the Parish. The traditional readings were shared by Anna, Ben, Caroline, David, Dawn, Jane, Sandra, Steve, Torie and the Rector. Mulled wine and mince pies followed.

Christingle was led by Hazel, assisted by Ben Moran, at our Joint Family Holy Communion Service on 15th January.

Our thanks go to those who clean the Church, the flower arrangers, bell-ringers, organists and the Clergy for their ministry throughout the year. *- Angela Collins.*

DAFFODIL COFFEE MORNING

**at Manor Farm, Cudlipptown,
on Saturday 18th March,**

by kind invitation of Janet Bedford.

From 10.00am to 12.00 noon.

Come and enjoy coffee, cake and home-made biscuits (£3) and a chat with friends and neighbours. Browse the Bring & Buy stall, and walk around Janet's beautiful garden.

In aid of St. Peter's Church. Everyone very welcome.



CREAM TEAS & Pond Walks

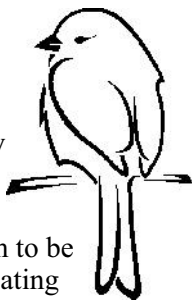
at Edgecombe, Cudlipptown,

on Saturday 13th May, from 2.30pm

by kind invitation of Peter & Pearl Tinson. In aid of St. Peter's Church. Everyone very welcome.

Angela Larcombe reports on the feathered wildlife in her garden...

WATCH the BIRDIE



There's a lot of sparrows on the bird table. Well, I'm assuming they are sparrows. What with the rain-streaked window and the fact they won't stay still enough for me to get the focus on my glasses right, they could be anything.

I reason they must be sparrows because the rest of the country seem to be sending them all down here. Sort of health tourists. All coming in eating our worms. What's worse, I recently discovered that rather than jolly Cockney sparrows, with their thumbs in their braces, singing "Wotcher in the Old Kent Road", some could be from Scandinavia, enjoying the comparative warmth of a Dartmoor winter.

Do you think the *Daily Mail* knows about this? There will be demands to stop them at the border or at least issue work visas.

But there is one out there that isn't a sparrow. The robin that is staring right at the window is quite clearly saying: 'What's all this leftover damp seed? And why No Mealworms?' Bit of a bully and difficult to ignore, that robin. I am sufficiently unnerved to put on shoes and venture out to sprinkle a handful of mealworms and sunflower seeds around.

By now I have got my glasses better focused and some of those small brown birds have stayed in one place long enough for me to realise that they are not all sparrows. There's a blackbird and a thrush. There are tits of various kinds.

I used to feel quite sorry for the one that was too fat to get through the supposedly squirrel-proof mesh surrounding the fat balls until a more knowledgeable neighbour gently pointed out it had not been overeating but was a Great Tit. She didn't actually say: "A Great Tit. You twit", but I could tell that was what she was thinking.

I like the sort of birds with splodges of bright colour or behaviour that will enable me to identify them from my "Idiots Guide to Garden Birds".

The Nuthatch for instance, who doesn't actually touch the nuts, but prefers the fat balls. The Green Woodpecker who does like the nuts. Then there's the Tree Creeper who climbs up things head up, unlike the Nuthatch, who rather cleverly, travels upside down.

Bigger birds turn up as well. Seagulls who just swoop around complaining about the weather and frightening off the little birds.

Others have more sinister motives. There's an owl with insomnia who sits on a nearby roof and makes sorties on small scurrying things below. And a buzzard.

There's a sparrow hawk.

Now I understand about the food chain and a sparrow hawk has to eat and feed its growing family. Probably it is essential to cull some of those sparrows or we would be falling over them each time we left the house. But I would prefer if it would hone its hunting talents somewhere else.

(Continues overleaf)

It quite puts me off my toast and marmalade when it pounces and then leisurely dismembers some small bird right in front of the window.

Birds will be birds . . .

P.S. *I know Christmas now seems long ago, but I am willing to bet that...*

a) if you had a real tree you are still finding pine needles in the carpet, and

b) if you had an artificial one you have given up trying to get it back in its box . . .

◀ Peter Tavy Youth Club ▶



After caving at Whiteworks...

The residential trip to Whiteworks was a success for the children - caving, walking, sparklers and marshmallows and a film night (and film morning for some!). Not so sure about the parents who then had all the muddy clothes to wash on their return! The term ended with food and bowling at Trethorne.

Activities planned for this term include a bike ride along one of the local cycle trails, cooking tea at the chapel for their parents and a canoeing session at Meadowlands swimming pool. Check your emails for dates and times.

- Hazel Walker

Don't miss out! To find out more, contact *Richard & Hazel Walker* (810939).

COOKING FOR YOUR PARENTS - Friday 31st March, in the Chapel
Youth club members meet at 6.00pm to start cooking a meal which will be served to parents at 7.30pm.

METHODIST CHURCH NEWS

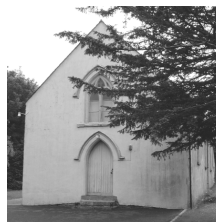
Please note that from Sunday 2nd April our regular service time changes from 3.00pm to our summer time of 6.30pm.

Messy Church continues on the first Thursday of the month, 4.30 - 6.30pm. It's a fun, flexible time of worship for all who come along; full of exciting crafts and activities, songs, stories and a delicious meal! Time to chat, to listen, to make friends and get to know your neighbours better! Everyone is welcome although no unaccompanied children, please. (Tea is at 5.45 if you can't make it earlier - you are more than welcome any time.)

Upcoming Messy Church dates are Thursdays...

- February 2nd
- April 6th
- March 2nd
- May 4th

Do pop in and see what it's all about!



SOUP LUNCHES

Soup Lunches continue in the Chapel on the second Thursday of each month - a chance to meet friends and neighbours over a delicious bowl of soup and a dessert, between 12 noon and 1.30pm.

Upcoming dates will be the Thursdays..

- February 9th
- April 13th
- March 9th
- May 11th



Plant Sale & Cream Teas

Saturday 6th May
from 2 - 4pm
At Peter Tavy
Methodist Church



An African Adventure

Anna and David Dodd show pictures from, and tell us about, their recent trip through southern Africa.

Tuesday 21st Feb, 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

There will be light refreshments available.

Donations for Mind The Gap Africa.



VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Village Hall Chairman: Jayne Medland, (Radge Farm, 810277)

Village Hall Bookings: Steve Carreck, (1 Mill Cottages, 810868)

Happy New Year to you all and thank you to everyone who has supported the Hall in 2016. 2017 looks like being another busy year. We now have four regular user groups. Events are being planned for the year to help raise money with decorating the hall and essential “shed” improvements being top priority.

The village hall committee would like to thank Valerie Hill and Rosie Steer for presenting us with a cheque from the generous donations given in memory of their mother, the late Mrs Kathleen Simmons. The cheque will be used to purchase and erect a new noticeboard.

Unfortunately the Children’s Christmas Party was a non-event due to lack of available help from local families. We must all try to pull together to re-instate the event this year!

Our Curry Night in November was a great success. Seventy people (full house - we even had a waiting list!) enjoyed curries, desserts, quizzes and games, and the odd glass of wine or two! Requests have been made for another **Pop-Up Restaurant** in the near future. We have taken this on board and the next culinary experience - our “**Italian Job**” - is planned for **Saturday February 25th**, 2017.

A “Pop-UP” Restaurant for ONE NIGHT ONLY at Peter Tavy Village Hall

Saturday 25th February, 7.00pm for 7.30pm

Three course meal, coffee & biscotti
for **£15** per head.

Please phone to book your place by February 12th.

Space is limited, so book ASAP
to avoid being put on the waiting list!

*Vegetarian and special dietary requirements
can be catered for with prior notice,
so please enquire when making your booking.*

*To book your place, call: Mary - 810123; Elaine - 810271
or Jayne - 810277 (evenings)*



In March we'll be hosting a great evening of entertainment - the return of the **Dartmoor Evening** on **Saturday 4th**.

Dartmoor Evening - Sat 4th March - see page 7

Following last year's exciting **Darts & Skittles evening**, we are going to give you all a chance to win a trophy or two on **Saturday 11th March**. Rise to the challenge and come along and play or spectate and cheer on others while enjoying a slice of pizza and some liquid refreshment.

Darts & Skittles Evening - Sat 11th March

7.30pm, Village Hall



Villages in Action returns to the Hall on Friday 24th March with a concert from acoustic roots duo **Mambo Jambo** - sure to be popular, so do book early for this!

Mambo Jambo - concert - Fri 24th March 7.30pm - see page 14

Bingo's back, on **Saturday 22nd April**, with eyes down at 7.30pm and cash prizes to be won!

Bingo Evening - Sat 22nd April



On the following **Wednesday, 26th**, we're hosting a talk from a world-leading expert on **Devonian geology**.

Geology Talk - Weds 26th April - see page 15

If the mild weather so far this winter has tricked you into spring cleaning already, you might like to save those unwanted items for our next **car boot sale** (*date to be confirmed*) in Harford Bridge Holiday Park's field, by kind permission of the Williamson family.

Watercolour Workshop - Mon 8th May

Celia Olssen's **Watercolour Workshop** for complete beginners is on **Monday 8th May** from 7.00 - 9.00pm. Numbers are limited and only six places are still available, so ring me on 01822 810277 to book (£10 per person, all materials provided).

Please watch out for posters and flyers with more details of each forthcoming event. See you soon!
- Jayne Medland

P.S. STOP PRESS! - Many thanks to everyone who gave up their time on the weekend of 28th and 29th January - especially non-committee members - and came along to help paint the inside of the Hall !

Advance Notice:

VILLAGE HALL AGM

Weds. 17th May in the Hall at 7.30pm - all welcome!

Villages In Action



Friday 24th March

Mambo Jambo, an acoustic roots duo, "will take you on an exciting and joyous musical journey, bringing together sounds from world, roots, folk and jazz, plus their own compositions. They can happily transport listeners on a musical tour around many of the world's musical hotspots with a repertoire that draws on a wide range of styles that might include Bluegrass, Latin and Caribbean New Orleans, Balkan and more.

Blending all these influences, they

create an upbeat rhythmic and rootsy sound all of their own - uniquely diverse as well as highly enjoyable." Sounds good, huh?



Between them, Frankie and Pete play 10 different instruments! Frankie plays sax, clarinet, flute, guitar and percussion and Pete's on guitar, banjo, ukulele, tres (traditional Cuban guitar), accordion and suitcase (!!). And, of course, they both do vocals.

Reviews include: "An upbeat, feel-good concert" (*Live and Local*); "A fabulous musical treat" (*Creative Arts East*) and "Musical sunshine from a multi-talented and multi-instrumental duo." (*Leeds Gig Guide*).



Sadly, Villages in Action lost its Arts Council funding this year, hence fewer shows and therefore more demand for those that are on. Our last two VIA shows have been sell-outs, so do book as soon as you can to avoid disappointment!

Mambo Jambo Friday 24th March 2017 7.30pm Village Hall

Tickets from Dawn on 810552 or Mary on 810123

Adult: £8 Child: £4 Family (2 adults, 2 children): £22 Concession: £7

As usual, there will be teas and coffees during the interval.

Details of other not-too-far-away shows can be found on the V in A website www.villagesinaction.co.uk

- Dawn Sherrell

Great friend of Peter Tavy *Michael Mates* is visiting Devon in April with his friend Professor Peter Isaacson, who has offered to give us a talk in the Village Hall about his own specialism - the Geology of the Devonian Period. Michael explains more...

Geology Professor To Reveal the (Very) Deep Background of Devon.

**A talk in the Village Hall,
Wednesday 26 April, 7.00pm**

On 26 April, at 7 pm, we welcome Dr Peter Isaacson, Professor of Geology at the University of Idaho, USA. Professor Isaacson will tell us a great deal about all sorts of **Devonian geology**, and entertain your questions about what's under foot.



If you have ever wondered why the Devonian geologic period is named after Devon; why there was controversy (academic and national) regarding the naming; why the period lasted such a short time (geologically speaking) in Devon itself; why rock layers in some very unexpected places are similar to those in Devon; why there were times of stability (and coral reefs!); and how tide and time formed the tors, do yourself a favour and come to the talk.

And that's not all. Isaacson will describe how the renegade New World collided with Europe, and how part of the UK was stolen by Yanks and Canadians and is now found from Newfoundland to northern Florida. "Thanks for the donation," he says. This collision, besides creating the largest mountains known, was accompanied by subducting plate movements, metamorphism, and high-temperature mineralization - in case you wondered where all the tin came from. If some of these terms - including those benthic invertebrates below - are unfamiliar, they won't be at the end of the talk, because Isaacson is an experienced and master explainer.

Professor Isaacson received his PhD from Oregon State University in 1974, and has taught at the University of Idaho since 1978. His doctoral thesis explored the Devonian period of Bolivia, dealing with large-sized, low-diversity benthic invertebrates, five of which share his surname in their species name. He considers rock sediments to be history books that record most movements on earth. This is his first visit to the original (and best) Devon.

Entrance will be £4 - with all monies raised going to Village Hall funds. Light refreshments available. Seating space is limited, and we are expecting interest from throughout the area, so to book a seat for the talk, please call Steve and Ali on 810868.

Easter in Peter Tavy 2017

13th April - **Maundy Thursday**

Service 7.00pm, St Peter's Church

14th April - **Good Friday** (*Bank Holiday*)

Service 3.00pm, Methodist Church

16th April - **Easter Day**

Communion Service 9.30am, St Peter's Church

Family Service 3.00pm, Methodist Church

Monday 17th April - *Easter Monday Bank Holiday*



Good Friday - 14th April

The Tavistock Passion

A community play for Easter

11.00am Bedford Square, Tavistock

@TaviPPlay

www.tavistockparishchurch.org.uk/tavistock-passion/



Donna's Deliberations

As I write, we are getting the first 'Arctic blast' of 2017 - a bitter wind and ooh, must be nearly half a centimetre of snow, here and there. With possibly more to come. By the time you read this, you'll know.

But hey, if winter comes, can Spring be far behind? Well, yes, it seems like it at times but there is one thing we can rely on - the appearance of that brave little soldier, the 'winter gallant', the snowdrop. It looks such a fragile little thing, drooping its pearly head as coyly as the late Princess Diana on her wedding day, yet it withstands the worst tempests of the year. Wind, rain, hail, snow itself - nothing can stop that dainty blossom from spreading its snowy drift along the banks and hedgerows. Such a stalwart must have tales to tell, and here are just a few.

Let's start with Eve. (Well, didn't everything start with Eve?) How bitterly she must have regretted biting into that apple that first winter as she stared out across the frozen fields, waiting for Adam to grow a few more fig leaves and wondering if summer would ever come again. But legend has it that a passing angel took pity on her and blew on a snowflake, turning it into a flower. It couldn't have kept her very warm but it did (apparently) give her hope and consolation. Well, give me a woolly jumper any day, but Eve seems to have been pleased - and so are we when we see the first snowdrops swinging their bells.

Not that everyone sees the snowdrop in this light. It has strong associations with death - another lady of legend, one Kerma, is said to have laid a single flower on

her dead lover's body whereupon the entire corpse turned to snowdrops. Quite pretty, really, but a bit disconcerting at the time. Perhaps that's why you should never pick a single flower - a bunch is safer, and if you must bring them indoors (also unlucky) be sure they are not the first of the season, which are the worst of all - oh, and then only if the hens aren't sitting (or of course the eggs won't hatch). And if you're thinking of getting married soon, don't pick them at all before St Valentine's Day. I'm not sure what will happen if you do, but just don't risk it, that's my advice.

Keep them out of the cowshed too, or the milk and butter will be thin and pale (and there we were, blaming supermarkets). Actually, old-time farmers were pretty well off for excuses for poor husbandry. All they had to do was blame their wives for bringing flowers into the house. ' 'Tis all the fault of they snowdrops/May blossoms/primroses I seed on the windowsill last Thursday fortnight...'

Not everyone feared this tiny flower. In some parts, the snowdrop was revered for its purity and used in Candlemas processions celebrating the purification of the Virgin Mary. It was called the Fair Maid of February. It has also been known as the blackbird flower, blooming as it does when the blackbird begins to sing again, winter gallant (I like that one), virgin flower and snow piercer. None of them, happily, mentions death or corpses.

Winter gallant. What a lovely name for such a brave little flower, so small and fragile with its delicate stalk and paper-thin petals, yet so strong and sturdy as it pierces the snow and stands unafraid in all the worst of the winter weather. There are people like that, too. Some of them live, or have lived, amongst us here, delicate and frail but gallant and unafraid; to be celebrated as we celebrate the coming of the snowdrop and its promise of Spring.

- Donna Baker

KNIT, CRAFT AND NATTER

Our small and very friendly group meets on the third Monday morning of each month from 10.00am to 12.30pm in the Village Hall.

We sit in a large circle, knitting, spinning, doing crochet or quilting etc. Many of us then go on for a light lunch together at the Peter Tavy Inn.
Why not come along and join us?!

Forthcoming dates are

▪ **Mon. 20th Feb.** ▪ **Mon. 20th March**



For more information, contact Ruth Boswell on 810687.

Patrick's PERAMBULATIONS



I am sorry to report that my walking has been put on hold for several weeks now. The weather since October has not been very conducive to letterboxing and other commitments have taken precedence when I might have gone out.

Another visit to Wistman's Wood to find "Jumbo's Grave" required a fair amount of research. Was it an elephant, a cartoon character or, perhaps, a dog which lay buried amongst the clutter and gnarled, twisted dwarf oaks? Google came to my aid; it was a dog but not a Wisht Hound of the Devil, who reputedly haunts the wood with his pack. *"Sometimes the small ghost of a dog called Jumbo can be seen scurrying around the rocks and boulders in search of rabbits. At night the plaintive cries of the little terrier can be heard echoing down the valley below. History has it that the poor dog died in the wood, from what nobody is sure, but there is a strong possibility that it was from an adder bite"*. Angela and I did not linger long at the site, signed in, then worked our way up to Higher White Tor. Below is a small tor, Little Whitten, as it is known, where two more boxes came to light.

A walk down to the East Dart River from Venford Reservoir was one that we had determined to do on two previous occasions but, because of burgeoning bracken, we failed to reach our targets. On 5th November we tried again and found a wonderful path which zigzags its way down the steep slope below the Holne Moor Leat. Compass bearings on Looka Tor (aka Luckey Tor), Mel Tor and Sharp Tor, all through the branches of trees, brought us to a point high above the river.

This was 'Jan Coo' country and I was fearful of sliding down into the valley. Angela, however, had no such fears and told me to stay where I was and direct her to the sites. One stamp was entitled "Haunts of the Piskies", reminding us that Jan Coo had been called to Lang-a-Marsh Pit by a voice of someone in distress, and had run down from Rowbrook Farm with a search party but found no one. However at dimpsey on an evening of the following spring, the cry "Jan Coo" was again heard by everybody at the farm and Jan, not being able to bear the suspense any longer, ran down the path and was seen leaping from boulder to boulder across the river towards the Pit where, below the marsh, the little people have their domain. The next morning all the farm workers repeatedly shouted "Jan Coo" as the 'pigsies' had done before. But there came no reply. Jan was never seen, or heard of, again.

The other stamp, just a few feet away, was of a monkey with his eyes covered "See no Evil" Looka Tor.

My final outings of 2016 were to Crockern Tor and Hollow Tor. Now I long for the spring, better health and warmer weather so that I can advance my knowledge of the Moor and my collection of letterbox stamps, which presently stands at 14,212.

- Patrick Cashell.

Come and Connect!

Tavistock Community Information Fair

Saturday 25 February 2017

Tavistock Town Hall 10 am - 3 pm.

Come along and find out about the many groups and services that are on offer for all ages in your own local community.

Free entry. All welcome.

West Devon Community and Voluntary Services

Ockment Community Centre, North Street, Okehampton EX20 1AR

Tel. 01837 53392

Email: volunteering@westdevoncvcs.org.uk

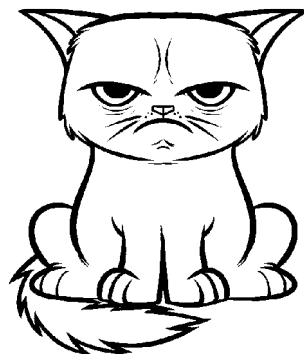
Web: www.devonva.org/volunteering

HOW TO CLEAN YOUR CAT*

This is simply too much of a time-saver not to share !

1. Put both lids of the toilet up and add 1/8 cup of pet shampoo to the water in the bowl.
2. Pick up the cat and soothe him while you carry him towards the bathroom.
3. IN ONE SMOOTH MOVEMENT PUT THE CAT IN THE TOILET AND CLOSE THE LID. (You may need to stand on the lid.)
4. The cat will self agitate and make ample suds. (Never mind the noises that come from the toilet, the cat is actually enjoying this.)
5. Flush the toilet three or four times, this provides a 'power-wash and rinse'.
6. Have someone open the front door of your home. (Be sure that there are no people between the bathroom and the front door.)
7. Stand behind the toilet as far as you can, and quickly lift the lid.
8. THE CAT WILL ROCKET OUT OF THE TOILET, STREAK THROUGH THE BATHROOM, AND RUN OUTSIDE WHERE HE WILL DRY HIMSELF OFF.
9. BOTH THE TOILET AND THE CAT WILL BE SPARKLING CLEAN.

- Yours sincerely,
THE DOG



* *Don't try this at home... or, indeed, anywhere else...*

As we were....

With a new Peter Tavy Drama Group coming together, we look back at the arrival of a "Parish Piano", purchased by the Peter Tavy Dramatic Society - as reported 92 years ago this month in the *Tavistock Gazette* of February 13th 1925...

PETERTAVY PARISH PIANO.

CONDITIONS FOR USE.

At a meeting of the Parochial Church Council, held on Monday under the chairmanship of the Rector, Rev. A. S. Lester, the piano recently purchased for the parish by the Petertavy Dramatic Society, was formally handed over by their Hon. Secretary, Mrs. J. Vogwill, into the keeping of the Church Council.

The latter, being a statutory body which will presumably be always in existence, was requested to accept the trustee-ship and control of the instrument, on the understanding that it was to be for the use of parishioners getting up entertainments for the parish, and of the School under the direction of the head teacher. It was suggested that the rules should forbid the piano being used by any person for private lessons, or being taken out of the schoolroom, except with the express sanction of the Church Council, and that a fee should be charged for its use at entertainments, sufficient to cover the cost of tuning and otherwise keeping it in good order.

The Rector proposed that the trust be accepted by the Church Council, subject to the rules suggested; this was seconded by Mr. Churchwarden Vogwill and carried nem. con.

On the motion of Miss Cole a unanimous vote of thanks was passed to the Dramatic Society for the energy and enterprise in procuring the piano.

It was decided that in addition to the usual fee of 2s 6d charged at each entertainment for extra cleaning of the schoolroom, there should in future be a further charge of 1s for the upkeep of the school lamps (the chimneys of which were constantly being broken), and 5s for the piano when its use was desired. These charges were for parishioners only; they would be doubled for any outsiders giving an entertainment for profit. All fees to be paid to the Rector from whom permission to use the room, etc. is obtained.



MARY TAVY & PETER TAVY W. I. NEWS

It is fast becoming a tradition to have musical entertainment at the December meeting. Once again, Mary Tavy and Brentor Community Primary School began the afternoon's music with their selection of seasonal songs and carols. The Shepherds' Carol included actions at the end of each verse, which the children performed with great gusto! When the school first came to the WI meeting 3 years ago, there were 20 children performing. This year there were 48! This produced a wonderful sound. Drinks and sweets were distributed all round afterwards.

The school were followed by the welcome return of Brian Higbee who, with his guitar and a lovely sense of humour, kept us well entertained with songs, humorous and seasonal. There was even a spot of Rock and Roll, and in case anyone was getting stiff sitting too long, he got us doing a version of the Hokey Kokey! It was very pleasing to have so many extra visitors to help swell the numbers and afterwards enjoy the tea, cakes and mince pies.

Di Broughton reported that she and Elaine Macintosh had enjoyed an excellent evening party at St Andrew's WI. Donations made instead of sending Christmas cards, and a raffle, raised £81.60 for the Triangle Centre in Tavistock. Programmes for 2017 have been distributed and, thanks to Jane Williams and Di Broughton, we look forward to a very good varied selection of speakers.

The new year kicked off on a snowy day in January with "Tales of a Tour Guide" by Alex Graeme. A fluent speaker, Alex entertained us with his tales of experiences, good and bad, as a tour guide.

Our post-Christmas lunch is to become a birthday lunch in March - several venues being considered. Our next meeting is the members' meeting: surprise in store!

- Jill Lamerton



Candlemas, also known as the *Feast of the Presentation of our Lord Jesus* and the *Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary*, is one of the oldest feasts of the Christian church, celebrated since the 4th century AD in Jerusalem. It falls on **February 2nd**, which is traditionally the 40th day of the Christmas-Epiphany season. In some countries, this (rather than Twelfth Night) is the day to take down Christmas decorations.

February 2nd is one of the great cross-quarter days, midway between winter solstice and the spring equinox. It's the dawn of the year, time to creep out of hibernation, like the American groundhog tradition (Groundhog Day is 2nd February). Among the Celts, the celebration of "Imbolc" occurred at the start of February, and was associated with purification and fertility at the end of winter. The ancient Romans celebrated the "Lupercalia" in mid-February, in honor of Lupercus, the god of fertility and shepherds.

Patrick's Competition

WIN A STAR PRIZE!

Corner

Like London buses, you wait for one going in the right direction for ages then two come along in convoy; so with successful competitors in my challenge!

Michael Mates and *Chris & Skippy Blumer* solved "Heads and Tails (2)" in the last Piper, to tie for 1st place.

Under my established rule, there can only be one winner and their names went into the Compilers' hat and they drew out *Michael Mates*.

Congratulations also to *Julie & Paul Hooper* (8/10) and *Graham Heard* (7/10) who continue to move closer to the prize.

The answers were:

- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
| 1. Smeardon | 6. Lane End |
| 2. Sowton | 7. Foxholes |
| 3. Wedlake | 8. Raspberry |
| 4. Brimhill | 9. Whitebarrow |
| 5. Horndon | 10. Soussons. |

Based on the same connections: Head + Tail = Feature, here are 10 more to try:

Heads and Tails (3)

1. Household fuel + Open upland = Head
2. Chickens + Perch = Bridge
3. Equine + Footwear = Bend
4. Monarch + Wet river crossing = Farm
5. Month + Insect's = Cross
6. Fruit + Dessert = Hill
7. Reddish + Chop = Water
8. Boat + Grassy meadow = Tor
9. Centre + Value = Plantation
10. Suspend + Male's = Pit

Good Luck!

Have Fun!

Have a Go!

Send me your Entry!

Answers on a postcard, by e-mail or on a scrap of paper to me at Brook Cottage.
(gpwcashell@btinternet.com) by **Thurs. 6th April 2017.** - *Patrick Cashell*



YOUR mobile Library - please support it!

The Mobile library calls in Peter Tavy on one Wednesday each month with a 30 minute stop. It is free to join and return dates are flexible, so there's no need to worry if you miss a month.

There is a good selection of children's books, along with fiction, non-fiction, large-print and talking books. Audio books and DVDs are also available to borrow for a small fee.



Forthcoming visits are at 10.00 - 10.30am at the bottom of Church Lane on...

Wednesday 15th February
Wednesday 15th March
Wednesday 12th April
Wednesday 10th May

*If you have any queries, please contact 0345 155 1001
info@librariesunlimited.org.uk
www.devonlibraries.org.uk*

PETER TAVY INN

Thank you to everyone who came along and joined us at the "Locals' Evening" on New Year's Eve - it's always fun to share New Year with our friends from the Village. And thank you all for your kind contributions to the raffle we held that evening - although we were relatively few in number, we still raised the great amount of £174 for the Tavistock Muscular Dystrophy Group's Respite Holiday.



QUIZ NIGHTS The popular quiz nights start at 8.00pm, and there's 20% off food prices at the Inn for quiz participants on the evening.

Entry fees for the quiz are split 50% to the winning team, 25% to the runner up, and 25% to a local charity. Forthcoming quiz night dates are...

• **Weds. 15th February** • **Weds. 15th March** • **Weds. 19th April**

Opening Hours over the winter are:

Monday - Friday: 12 noon till 3.00 pm (*food served 12.00 noon - 2.00pm*), and 6.30pm till 11.00pm (*food served 6.30pm - 9.00pm*).

Saturday and Sunday: 12 noon till 11.00pm (10.30pm Sundays) (*food served 12 noon - 2.00pm and 6.30pm - 9.00pm*).



Peter Tavy Gardening Group

meets monthly, various venues - call 810330 for details.



THE WEEK

in **PETER TAVY**

regular events

SUNDAY

9.30am (Check in Church porch for details of dates) Holy Communion - St Peter's Church

2.45pm Junior Church, Methodist Church (term-time) (Torie 810264 or Sandra 810343)

3.00pm Service, Methodist Church (6.30pm from 2nd April)

MONDAY

10-12am (3rd Mon of month) - Knit & Natter, V Hall

7.30pm Bellringing practice, St Peter's Church

TUESDAY

c.10.45am Ring and Ride Bus to Tavistock* (returns from Tavistock c.12.45am). Older & disabled passengers - book on 01822 618028

WEDNESDAY

10.00 - (monthly) Mobile Library calls at the bottom of Church Lane

10.30am Mornings Art Group, Village Hall

THURSDAY

2.00pm (2nd Thursday each month) Mary Tavy & Peter Tavy WI. Usually Mary Tavy Coronation Hall. (Barbara Weeks 810697)

7.30pm (4th Thursday in month) Tor & Tavy WI, Mary Tavy Coronation Hall (Trish - 810115)

FRIDAY

10.00am "Minnows" (Parent/toddler group) in Chapel.

10.45am Bus to Tavistock from Peter Tavy - No. 95* (Departs: Village Hall, returns at 13.15 from opposite Bedford Hotel in Tavistock)

7.00 - (Alternate Fridays) Youth Club

9.00pm Contact: Richard 810939

8.00 - Scottish Country Dancing, Village Hall -

10.00pm (Patrick Cashell 810918 for details)

NB: The Parish Council meets in the Chapel at 7.30pm on the second Wednesday of each month - see notice board in Bus Shelter for information.

***Bus Notes:** Don't forget that about 8 buses a day stop at the junction on the main A386 road near Harford Bridge Holiday Park (Plymouth CityBus Service No. 46 - contact Tel. 01752 662271).

For all public transport information Contact Traveline SW (0871 200 22 33). Please report any problems with the No.95 bus to Devon Bus on 01392 382800.

Useful Phone Numbers

If you can add others to this list, please let us know for the next "Piper".

Peter Tavy Parish Council - Clerk

Cassandra McDowall 01822 811091

Peter Tavy Village Hall bookings

Steve Carreck 01822 810868

Peter Tavy Chapel

The Dodd Family 01822 810343

01822 810776

St Peter's Church

Ch.wardens - Peter Tinson 01822 810314

Angela Collins 01822 810243

Local West Devon Councillor

Terry Pearce 01822 810648

Local Devon County Councillor

Kevin Ball 07870 377879

Traveline (public transport info.)

0871 200 22 33

National Rail Enquiries 03457 48 49 50

Ring & Ride bus for Peter Tavy

01822 618028

Highways Emergencies

(Devon County Council) 01392 383329

Highways Local Services

(Okehampton area) 01837 52773

Devon County Council 0845 155 1015

West Devon Borough Council

01822 813600

Western Power Distribution

Power failure 0800 6783 105 (or call 105)

General enquiries 0800 096 3080

South West Water Helpline 0800 1691144

Environment Agency emergencies

0800 80 70 60

Floodline 0345 988 1188

Tavistock Library 01822 612218

book renewals 0845 155 1001

Citizen's Advice Bureau 03444 111 444

West Devon Voluntary Services

Freephone 0300 660 0357

Devon & Cornwall Constabulary

(non-urgent - 24 hours) New No. 101

Crimestoppers 0800 555111

Domestic Violence Helpline 01837 55228

Trading Standards 03454 040506

Alcoholics Anonymous 0800 9177 650