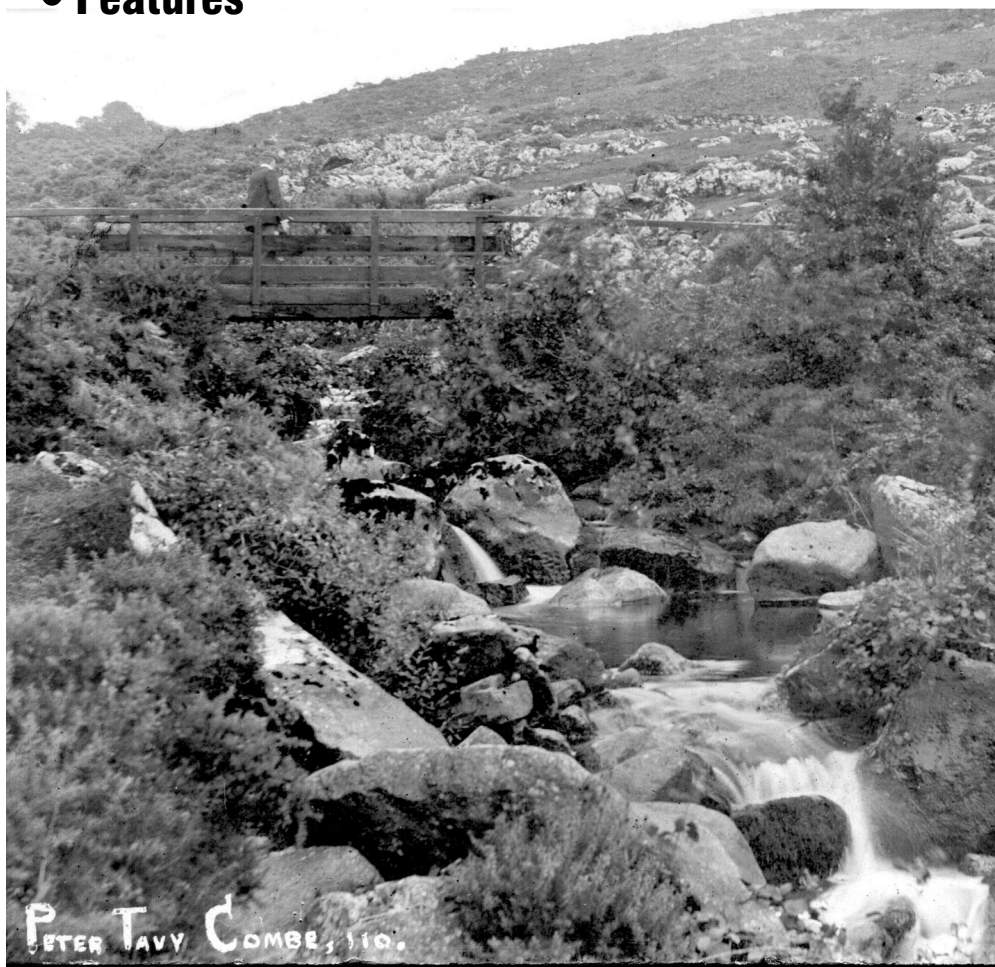
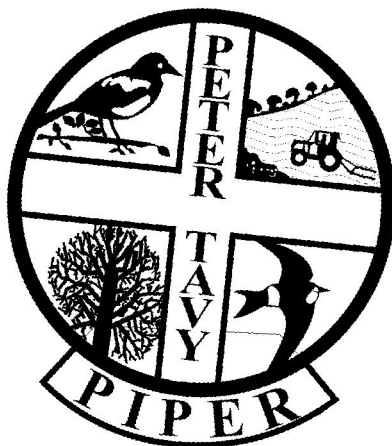


February 2018 Number 132

- A packed start to the year
- Upcoming events offer something for everyone!

Plus

- Local News and Reports
and
- Features



Peter Tavy Combe 110 years ago - on a 1908 postcard

What's On?

IN PETER TAVY

FEBRUARY 2018

Thurs 8th	12 - 1.30pm	Soup & Dessert Lunches, Methodist Chapel
Thurs 8th	7.30pm	St Peter's PCC meeting, Edgecombe
Fri 9th	7.30pm	"Two Great Plant Hunters", Villg. Hall-see pp.13&16
Tues 13th	7.15pm	Peter Tavy Commoners AGM, Village Hall
Wed 14th	7.30pm	Ash Wednesday Service, St Peter's Church
Thurs 15th	7.30pm	Kilimanjaro Talk, Village Hall. See p. 13
Sun 18th	3.00pm	Joint Family Service, Methodist Chapel
Mon 19th	10 - 12.30	Knit, Craft & Natter, Village Hall
Tues 20th	7.30pm	Whist Drive, Village Hall
Wed 21st	10 - 10.30am	Mobile Library calls, Church Lane
Wed 21st	8.00pm	Quiz Night, Peter Tavy Inn
Sun 25th	9.30am	Service with Bishop of Plymouth, St Peter's Church
Tues 27th	7.30pm	Geology of Dartmoor Talk, Village Hall. See p. 14

MARCH 2018

Thurs 1st	4.30 - 6.30pm	"Messy Church", Methodist Chapel
Thurs 8th	12 - 1.30pm	Soup & Dessert Lunches, Methodist Chapel
Sat 10th - TBC	7.30pm	Darts & Skittles Evening, Village Hall
Sun 11th	9.30am	Mothering Sunday service, St Peter's Church
	3.00pm	Mothering Sunday Service at the Methodist Chapel
Tues 13th	7.30pm	Quiz, Village Hall - for Dartmoor Search & Rescue
Sat 17th	from 10.30am	Daffodil Coffee Morning, Manor Farm, Cudlipptown
Sun 18th	3.00pm	Joint Family Service, St Peter's Church
Mon 19th	10 - 12.30	Knit, Craft & Natter, Village Hall
Wed 21st	10 - 10.30am	Mobile Library calls, Church Lane
Wed 21st	8.00pm	Quiz Night, Peter Tavy Inn
Sun 25th	9.30am	Palm Sunday Service, St Peter's Church.
Tues 27th	7.30pm	Whist Drive, Village Hall
Thurs 29th	7.00pm	Maundy Thursday meal and service, Chapel
Fri 30th	1.00pm	Good Friday meditation, St Peter's Church

APRIL 2018

Sun 1st	9.30am	Easter Sunday Service, St. Peter's Church
Sun 1st	3.00pm	Easter Celebration, Methodist Chapel
Thurs 5th	4.30 - 6.30pm	"Messy Church", Methodist Chapel
Thurs 12th	12 - 1.30pm	Soup & Dessert Lunches, Methodist Chapel
Thurs 12th	7.30pm	Village Fayre 2018 Planning Meeting
Sun 15th	3.00pm	Joint Family Service, Methodist Chapel
Mon 16th	10 - 12.30	Knit, Craft & Natter, Village Hall
Wed 18th	10-10.30am	Mobile Library calls, Church Lane
Wed 18th	8.00pm	Quiz Night, Peter Tavy Inn
Fri 20th	7.00pm	WW1 Memorial Service, St Peter's Church
Sat 21st	11 - 2.30pm	Makes & Bakes Sale, Village Hall - see p. 11
Tues 24th	7.30pm	Whist Drive, Village Hall

MAY 2018

Thurs 3rd	4.30 - 6.30pm	"Messy Church", Methodist Chapel
Fri 4th	7.30pm	"Hungrytown" concert, Village Hall. See p. 15
Sat 5th	2 - 4pm	Plant Sale & Cream Teas, Methodist Chapel
Thurs 10th	12 - 1.30pm	Soup & Dessert Lunches, Methodist Chapel
Thurs 10th	7.30pm	Ascension Day Service, St Peter's Church
Weds 16th	10-10.30am	Mobile Library calls, Church Lane
Weds 16th	7.00pm	Village Hall committee meeting, followed by...
	8.00pm	Village Hall AGM
Wed 16th	8.00pm	Quiz Night, Peter Tavy Inn
Sat 19th	from 2.30pm	Cream Teas and Pond Walks, Edgecombe
Mon 21st	10 - 12.30	Knit, Craft & Natter, Village Hall
Tues 22nd	7.30pm	Watercolours workshop, Village Hall - see p. 14

The dates and times shown here are as we have been advised, but may be subject to change - watch out for posters and notices to make sure!

*For those on **FaceBook**, you can get village updates by joining "**Peter Tavy Community**" group.*

Welcome to the first "Piper" of 2018 - and belated "Happy New Year" wishes to everyone. Looking ahead at the first quarter of the year, you'll see there's more than ever going on in and around the village. The Village Hall is hosting some great events and continuing its programme of evening talks, while Church and Chapel also have a range of events and activities planned. As we go to print, it looks like the week ahead is seeing the return of winter. But an old weather rhyme comforts us that:

"If February give much snow, a fine summer it doth foreshow"

Whereas, more worryingly, if it gets too warm this month...

"When gnats dance in February, the husbandman becomes a beggar".

Whatever the weather, we hope to see you along at some of the events over the coming weeks. And one last reassuring reminder - the first planning meeting for this year's Village Fayre is on Thursday 12th April!

- 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 **Saturday 14th April 2018**. 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!*

CALLING ALL PETER TAVY PHOTOGRAPHERS AND ARTISTS!

Our stock of photographs and images for covers of the "Piper" is looking a bit thin, so it would be great if any local photographers or sketch artists could supply us with an image for a future issue (or two...). Ideally focussed on the parish, and reflecting one of the months (February; May; August and November) or seasons in which the Piper appears - please remember that we can only use the pictures in black and white - either sent electronically (as above), or as a copy we could scan to use. Thanks!

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Well, it's another new year - and on behalf of the Council I hope that you all have a good one.

“Keep Britain Tidy” have asked if we would like to become involved in the Great British Spring Clean on the weekend of **March 2nd to 4th** and we have registered to take part. Keep an eye on the Notice Board for details posters and information about just what we all need to do.

Electrical work has been undertaken in No 1 **Church Cottages** and further work is scheduled.

The **playing field** fence is to be replaced and remedial work to be carried out on the play equipment. If we are lucky we may get help with the funding for this from West Devon Communities Funding.

There is only one **planning application** at the moment with Dartmoor National Park (0630/17) being the conversion of the residential barn at Sunnyside to a holiday let. The Parish Council is supporting this application.

The Council has had its meeting regarding the **precept** and, you will be pleased to note, that it has been decided to ask for £10,500 which is exactly the same as last year - so if there is any increase it's not down to the Parish Council!

We are trying to get the **leaf sweeper** into the village as a matter of urgency, it is supposed to come around every eight weeks but this does not seem to be happening. You may have noticed that a lot of the drains had been cleared by the Lengthsman so helping to alleviate any flooding that could have been caused by blocked drains.

The Council raised a Freedom of Information request regarding the **junction of the A386** with the road to Peter Tavy asking just how many accidents have there been at this junction? The request has now been answered and we are told that there have been FOUR incidents in the last ten years. The Council is concerned about the safety of this junction and so would like to ask all parishioners to report any incidents to the Parish Clerk, by email or telephone, in order that we can keep our own records. If we keep a record it would give us a little leverage to get some sort of change made. - Thanks

The Council has given a donation of £100 to the **Citizen's Advice Bureau** as this is lacking funding at a time when there are more and more calls upon its services.

This year marks the **centenary of the ending of the “war to end all wars”** so the Council will be discussing ways to celebrate this momentous anniversary, there should be a beacon lighting and maybe even a party! More information will be given out nearer the time, when details have been finalised.

- Alison Skillicorn, Clerk to Peter Tavy Parish Council Tel. 01822 810682
email petertavypc@hotmail.co.uk www.petertavyparishcouncil.org/

West Devon Borough Council have to pay for every “black bag” which goes into a landfill site. The estimated cost to the Council this year is well over £240,000.

An examination of a sample of bags found that many contained food waste. Most parishioners do use the recycling boxes but if there are any who do not it would be very helpful in reducing the Council’s costs if they would join the scheme. Boxes can be obtained by telephoning the Council offices, 01822 813600.

- Cllr. Terry Pearce.

Angela Larcombe expresses her concern about...

KEEPING UP APPEARANCES

Is Peter Tavy keeping up with the rest of the world? It's good, of course, to be rural and relaxed, but we do seem to be lagging behind the world trend.

Have we invaded anyone? Not yet, although once the weather gets better, perhaps we might.

Have we held a referendum? Not that I know of. I'm not sure we have a finance committee, but we ought to form one and as urged, produce a knowledge-based economy. This does seem a wise move as an ignorance-based economy may leave us out of pocket.

We haven't held an election so haven't been able to claim it was rigged. A serious omission, this.

And I haven't been out to check, but when it stops raining, I will carefully make a note of our border controls, anyone could be sneaking over Mary Tavy clam, under cover of darkness.

Time to take stock, people of Peter Tavy. There are many questions to be answered.

Is the chairman of the parish council being held under house arrest?

Have villagers been clamouring for independence?

We may, of course, be training astronauts for a moon landing, (under the guise of hang gliding from Cox Tor) so perhaps we are making some effort to retain our standing in the eyes of the world.

But, on the whole, we are not doing terribly well.

There was a solar eclipse, but we didn't see it, and there were no angry crowds rebelling against increased train fares, because we haven't got a station.

I suppose we're just not as exciting as other places, but we are definitely nicer . . .

PS. I was momentarily excited by reading in Village Hall forthcoming events “An Expedition to Kilimanjaro” - but no need to take crampons and a friendly Sherpa. But there will be tea and biscuits . . .



DAFFODIL COFFEE MORNING

at Manor Farm, Cudlipptown,
on Saturday 17th March, from 10.30am
by kind invitation of Janet Bedford.

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.



St. PETER's CHURCH NEWS

We were grateful to be able to have two services at
Christmas - midnight communion on Christmas Eve and a
Christmas morning communion service too, and it was
wonderful to welcome so many people to the Church then,
and also to our Service of Nine Lessons and Carols on New
Year's Eve, 31st December. Thanks to everyone who worked

so hard to decorate the church with beautiful floral displays, and provide teas,
coffees and delicious biscuits after the services.

Looking we have a 7.30pm communion service on **Ash Wednesday**, 14th
February, and on **Sunday 25th February**, our 9.30am communion service will be
led by Rt. Rev. Nick McKinnel, the Bishop of Plymouth. On March 11th,
Mothering Sunday, there will be a 9.30am communion service in St. Peter's.

Over the **Easter season**, on March 25th, Palm Sunday, there is a communion
service in church, which will preceded by a procession through the Village - meet
at the Village Hall gate at 9.25am. On Maundy Thursday, 29th March, we will be
joining with the service in the Methodist chapel, and on Good Friday, 29th March,
there will be a Meditation in St. Peter's from 1.00pm. On April 1st - Easter Sunday,
we will celebrate with Holy Communion at 9.30am

Continuing our series of commemorations of the men from Peter Tavy who fell
during the first World War, on **Friday 20th April at 7.00pm** in St. Peter's, we will
be marking the centenary of the loss of George Maddock...

George C W Maddock

Son of William George and Bessie Maddock, of Longbater, Peter Tavy, Tavistock
Private 94136 in The King's (Liverpool Regiment), 1st Bn.

Fell in action 20th April 1918, age 19

Remembered at the Bagneux British Cemetery, Gezaincourt, Somme, France



CREAM TEAS & Pond Walks

at Edgecombe, Cudlipptown,

on Saturday 19th May, from 2.30pm

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

NOTHING TO DO WITH TALLULAH...

...and everything to do with our little trip up country to Holy Island a while back.

I'd heard about this place a long time ago from an album sleeve by a folk rock band called Lindisfarne. I hadn't really thought about it since except when *Fog on the Tyne* came blasting out on the radio and until I saw this programme about the Vikings. What a bunch of thugs those Danes were, trashing such a special place, I can't think that Vic (Pop channel 125) was in on it and I can only put it down to their badly brewed lager and taking too much notice of the likes of Nogbad the Bad. Anyway, having got a couple of dear friends living just this side of Hadrian's wall and regularly badgering us to visit, we booked up nearby and headed off for the expressway early in the morning.

The tricky bit is to time your visit so you can get across the causeway without getting stranded. Yes, people do, but we didn't and we had a wonderful time visiting the old priory and church as well as the harbour and castle. Mind you it was bracing, but the ozone was invigorating and there were commemorative benches galore just to bide awhile. How little Wen would have loved it there, cantering around the castle on the rough ground and nibbling sweet peas out of Gertrude Jekyll's walled garden.

Talullah on the other hand, probably wouldn't have. It was all a bit too wild and windswept for her and even in country, around Flodden, just that bit too open. It might have been OK down on the sands with the salt water lapping at her hooves, but if she'd been asked to jump off the river bank and into the swirling waters of the Till at Twizel Bridge, for some reason, she would have downright refused. And if she'd caught the sound of a distant bagpipe playing the notes of an old lament she would have freaked out completely.

All things considered she's happier down here where it's all a bit tamer trotting along leafy lanes and listening to the sound of her shoes tapping out a rhythm on our country roads.

No, nothing to do with her up there.

- Tom Roskillly



Easter in Peter Tavy 2018

25th March - **Palm Sunday**

Communion Service, 9.30am, St Peter's Church
meet at Village Hall gate to process to church, 9.25am

29th March - **Maundy Thursday**

Meal followed by Holy Communion Service at
7.00pm, Methodist Church

30th March - **Good Friday** (*Bank Holiday*)

Meditation in St Peter's Church, 1.00pm

1st April - **Easter Day**

Communion Service 9.30am, St Peter's Church

Easter Celebration, 3.00pm, Methodist Church

Devon County Council call to carers - Let us know who you are!

If you look after someone else on a voluntary basis, then there's information and support available that may help you.

Carers looking after husbands, wives, family members, vulnerable children, neighbours and friends without payment account for most of the 'care and support' that keeps thousands of people in Devon independent.

Carers, generally speaking, are heads down, sleeves rolled up kind of people, getting on with the task in hand. Many don't consider themselves to be 'carers', they're just doing what needs to be done, and many do not seek support which means right now they're missing out on help available to them.

There are an estimated 90,000 people providing unpaid care for loved ones and friends in Devon, but only 20,000 known to the County's carers' support services.

Devon County Council, with partners NEW Devon CCG and South Devon and Torbay CCG is announcing a new carers support service. Carers support services are becoming more targeted and more specialised.

We've been asking carers what sort of support they feel would be helpful, and making improvements to services we provide to carers as a result.

One of our big challenges though is in reaching carers. We're in touch with many, but there are many more who we don't yet know and can't yet support.

If you're looking after someone and would like to know more, let Devon Carers know.

Please contact the helpline, 03456 434 435, open Monday to Friday 8-6 and Saturdays 9-1. www.devoncarers.org.uk



An UPDATE

In late 2015 the Peter Tavy Community Hydropower (PTCH) committee obtained a £20,000 grant from WRAP to implement a feasibility study for a hydropower scheme running from the Colley Brook and ending in the village.

WRAP is an independent organization that administers government funding for the purposes of realizing rural community energy schemes.

The feasibility study on the Peter Tavy Hydropower scheme was finished last year with the aim of determining the financial and environmental feasibility of such a scheme, based on funding from a community share offer.

The study showed that a hydropower scheme could deliver over 400,000 kilowatt hours of electricity per year, equivalent to use by over 100 households. The scheme capital costs would be in the order of £450,000 to £500,000 and the income from the generated electricity would be over £50,000 per year.

Whilst these figures are impressive, currently the best financial models we have suggest that this rate of return makes the scheme borderline viable. We do not consider it possible to make an attractive community share offer and meaningful community financial benefit without an unacceptable degree of risk. Whilst the scheme is viable if every year's rainfall is average, a couple of drier winters would put the scheme income in peril. This state of affairs has arisen principally because the government cut hydropower tariffs by around two-thirds a couple of years ago.

Whilst the scheme is, therefore, in a state of dormancy, this may only be temporary. A small change in income received for the power we generated would re-activate it as a robust and viable entity. One way this might happen is if we were able to sell cheap electricity to you via a local energy market. Other ways of increasing the price we get for our energy will be investigated by PTCH committee members over the coming months.

Last year, with a Parish Council member and a village member, we visited the Huckworthy hydropower scheme to see how they have dealt with the potentially aggravating issue of noise generated by the turbine. The scheme is similar in size to the proposed scheme, and with proper design and sound insulation they have reduced the sound essentially to zero even standing outside the turbine shed.

If you would like to know more about the scheme do not hesitate to contact a committee member: **Peter Smith, Harry White, Vaughan Nail, Colin and Torie Abel**, or visit our website **petertavhydro.org.uk**

Bill Lane sent us these gems among **SCHOOL EXAM PAPER HOWLERS...**

"In 50 BC Caesar extinguished himself on the battlefields of Gaul"

"Water is composed of two gins, Oxygen and Hydrogen. Oxygen is pure gin. Hydrogen is gin and water."

"Queen Elizabeth was a virgin and a queen. As a queen she was a great success."



METHODIST CHURCH NEWS

Many thanks to all those brave carol singers who turned out to cheer the village with their “tuneful” rendering of favourite carols. It is much enjoyed by all and is very much part of the build up to Christmas. Thanks to all at the Peter Tavy Inn for providing a chance to warm up, and for the amazing mince pies. Thanks to the generosity of all, a total of £120 was raised for TASS (Tavistock Area Support Services). It was decided a practice was not required before next year as it would make no difference to the singing, so we will meet again next Christmas!

On Christmas eve, the Christmas message was re-enacted around the village, reminding us that Jesus was born into an ordinary community and lived for 30 years a common life, experiencing the joys and sadness of life. As we travelled around the village, following the star so beautifully carried by Jess, it reminds us that life is a journey which we cannot stop but is full of activity and events. To sit around the crib in the barn with the smell of hay and cows, allowed us to reflect on how this simple birth some 2,000 years ago has changed history and people's lives since. Thanks to all who took part and for everyone for the chatter, laughing, celebrating and community spirit which would have been present there at the first Christmas.



Peter Tavy's peripatetic Nativity - angels appear to shepherds in the fields, and celebrating at the crib in the barn.

Looking ahead over the coming weeks, there are **joint Family Services** on 18th February in the Chapel, 18th March in St Peters Church and 15th April in the Chapel - all at 3.00pm.

Easter is also approaching - on Maundy Thursday, 29th March, you are invited to join us for a meal in the Chapel, followed by Holy Communion at 7.00pm. On Good Friday, there is a time for meditation in St Peter's church at 1.00pm. And on Easter Sunday, 1st April, join us for our Easter Celebration service in the Chapel at 3.00pm.

- David Dodd



Come along for a warm welcome to Messy Church in the Chapel on the **first Thursday** of each month, 4.30 to 6.30pm. A fun, flexible time of worship, 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.

Upcoming Messy Church dates are Thursdays: 1st February, 1st March, 5th April and 3rd May.



SOUP LUNCHES

Don't forget Soup Lunches in the Chapel on the **second Thursday** of each month - meet friends and neighbours, enjoy a delicious bowl of soup and a dessert, between 12 noon and 1.30pm.

Lunches are on Thursdays: 8th Feb, 8th March, 12th April and 10th May



PLANT SALE & CREAM TEAS

**Saturday 5th May, 2 - 4pm
at Peter Tavy Methodist Church**



Any gifts of bedding, vegetable or garden plants would be gratefully received.

Homemade Makes & Bakes Sale

**PETER TAVY VILLAGE HALL
SATURDAY 21ST APRIL, 11AM - 2.30PM
TEA, COFFEE AND LIGHT BITES**

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SELL YOUR HOMEMADE
GOODIES, TABLES ARE £10. PLEASE CONTACT ABI BALL:**

**FACEBOOK / MESSENGER
ABISTANILAND@HOTMAIL.COM / 01822 810 772**

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

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

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

A great deal of water has flowed under Harford Bridge since our first trial **Whist Drive** back in November. One kindly car load of very keen whist players, including a lady in her nineties, travelled all the way from Dulverton on Exmoor to help us get Whist Drives back on the hall calendar. Thanks to their help and that of *Peter Tinson* a great social evening ensued and those attending were all keen for us to set up monthly whist drives during the winter months. One hundred and one pounds were raised and have been donated to Tavistock Area Support Services.

Next came a wonderful **Christmas Party** for the children of the Parish. Games ,craft and a delicious tea were followed by a visit from Father Christmas himself. Many grateful thanks go to *Dave, Carol and Rebecca Coles* for organising the party and also to the Peter Tavy Parish Council for their support.

Our second whist drive was held on Jan. 23rd. Another somewhat riotous evening!!! I don't know what the real whist enthusiasts would make of us, but we are learning fast! If you want to give it a go our next **Whist Drives** will be on Tuesdays 20th February; 27th March and 24th April.



The hall was packed full for *Chris Wordingham's illustrated talk on mining in the area* (or maybe they all turned up for *Jo Wordingham's* delicious cakes and rock buns and *Alison Carreck's* yummy cheese scones!!) We all learnt something new about the mining around Mary Tavy and Peter Tavy thanks to Chris's extensive research, diagrams , photographs and passion for his chosen

subject. Many thanks to Chris and Jo who donated all the money taken on the night to the Village Hall - a wonderful £392. There will be three more evening talks during February. Please see 'Coming up at the village hall' opposite.

Our new Village Hall **storage shed** is being constructed off-site at time of writing, so hopefully it won't be too long before it is 'in situ.' We're hoping work will begin the weekend of 10th February with emptying out the old shed and pulling it down to clear the site - please come along and join us if you can!

Another '**painting with water colours for beginners** 'workshop with **Celia Olssen** will be held on Tuesday 22nd May - please phone me on 01822810277 to book a place.

In March it will be time for our annual **Darts and Skittles night**, where fiercely contested trophies will be played for. Do come along on Saturday March 10th (provisional date - watch out for confirmation) to enjoy a bit of friendly rivalry and some pizza!

Our **Annual General Meeting** will be held on Wednesday May 16th at 8.00pm. Can I please urge villagers to come along. It gives one a great sense of community being involved in something like this. The more people involved, the more ideas coming forward to keep things interesting and to try to offer something of interest - no matter how small - for everyone in the Parish.

May I thank everyone who has supported me as chairman over the last three years. After the A.G.M. it is will be time for someone new to step up to the mark!

- Jayne Medland

Chairman of Peter Tavy Village Hall Committee

Jayne has done an outstanding job as Chairman of the Village Hall over the past three years, and has re-vitalised our social calendar with so many great and memorable events. As she prepares to step down, we'd all like to thank her very much for all her hard work.

COMING UP AT THE VILLAGE HALL...

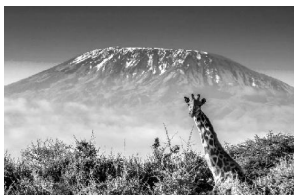


Matthew Biggs presents "Two Great Plant Hunters"

Friday February 9th, 7.30pm, £6 - booking essential

Gardener, writer and presenter on Radio 4's "Gardeners' Question Time" Matthew Biggs comes to Peter Tavy Village Hall. He appears in the guise of two great plant hunters of the past- Ernest Wilson and

George Forrest. At the end, there will be a short question and answer session on any aspect of gardening. Refreshments available during the interval. Spaces are limited and selling out fast. A few left at the time of writing - call Steve & Ali on 810868 to book.



Kilimanjaro

Thursday February 15th, 7.30pm, £5

How many Peter Tavy residents do you think have stood on the "roof of Africa"? Come and hear the stories of their expeditions. All proceeds to the charity MIND.

Please call Steve and Ali (810868) to book.



Whist Drives

Tuesdays - 20th February; 27th March; 24th April, 7.30 pm

Whether you're a beginner or an experienced player, come along and join us for a fun evening with friends and neighbours. £3 per head to include tea/coffee and biscuits. Raffle.

More events overleaf...

COMING UP AT THE VILLAGE HALL... (Continued)



An Introduction to Dartmoor's Geology

Tuesday February 27th, 7.30pm, £4

Josephine Collingwood (author of *Dartmoor Tors Compendium*) presents an Introduction to Dartmoor's Geology, covering Dartmoor's formation, characteristics and mineral legacy. Dartmoor has world-class geology; its tors and minerals are studied far and wide as superb examples. If your curiosity is piqued when looking at the tor formations, old mine workings and odd coloured rocks, then this talk is for you. Proceeds to DSRT-T (Dartmoor Search & Rescue Team - Tavistock). Please book with Steve and Ali on 810868.



Saturday 10th March, 7.30pm

(This is a provisional date - to be confirmed - watch out for more details.)

Come and join in the fun at the Hall as the annual trophies are once again on offer in a relaxed evening with friends and neighbours.



Quiz Evening - hosted by Dartmoor Search and Rescue Team - Tavistock

Tuesday March 13th, 7.30pm

A fun quiz evening in aid of DSRT-T. Watch out for more details.



HungryTown

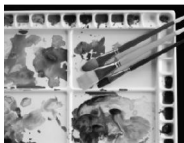
Friday May 4th, 7.30pm

Concert from accoustic Americana duo - *see opposite page for more details and booking information.*

VILLAGE HALL AGM

Weds. 16th May in the Hall at 8.00pm - all welcome!

(Current committee members please note - AGM is preceded by a meeting of the outgoing committee at 7.00pm).



Watercolour Workshop for beginners

Tuesday May 22nd, 7.00pm

- with *Celia Olssen*.

Places limited - please call Jayne on 810277 to book.

Peter Tavy Village Fayre 2018

As excitement begins to build (!) for our annual village fayre on August Bank Holiday Monday - which this year falls on 27th August - the first Planning Meeting will take place on **Thursday 12th April at 7.30pm** - either in the Village Hall or Chapel (look out for poster to confirm). All welcome! Please come along if you have any ideas for the Fayre or would like to help.

HUNGRYTOWN



We're looking forward to welcoming this internationally-acclaimed American folk duo, who are currently touring the UK, to the Village Hall on **Friday 4th May** at 7.30pm.

Vermont-based Hungrytown are Rebecca Hall and Ken Anderson, who have been touring for almost 15 years and have released three albums. Lyricist Rebecca has been praised for compositions "that sound as timeless as any traditional songs"; multi-instrumentalist Ken is lauded for

his "remarkable affinity for instrumental embellishment", and together they create gorgeous vocal harmonies.

Hungrytown at Peter Tavy Village Hall: Friday 4th May, 7.30pm

Tickets £8 adult; £4 child; £22 family (2 adults/2 children) – call Dawn on 810552

Meanwhile, just across the Tavy, there's a chance to catch more live music and theatre in Mary Tavy Coronation Hall...

Friday 23rd February, 7.30pm

Local theatre group, The Tavonians present ***The Thrill of Love*** - a gripping dramatisation about Ruth Ellis, the last woman in Britain to be hanged.

Tickets £10 from Mary Tavy Post Office & Stores

Wednesday 28th February, at 7.30pm

The Neil Maya Quartet - Mary Tavy Live! present one of the South West's most exciting and talented jazz bands, playing innovative reworkings of jazz standards as well as its own compositions. Their Brubeck project has won critical acclaim throughout the south west. The music is crisp, colourful, sassy, smooth, atmospheric, intricate, cool, very imaginative and always highly entertaining!

Tickets £8 / £4 from the Post Office & Stores or Tel. Margaret Aston 810408

Thursday 15th March, 7.30pm

The Coast - MED Theatre with a new community play, looking at the relationship of Dartmoor to the coast of the South West. Tickets £8 / £5 www.medtheatre.co.uk



KNIT, CRAFT AND NATTER

Join our small and friendly group meets on the third Monday morning of each month, 10.00am to 12.30pm in the Village Hall. More information from Ruth Boswell on 810687.

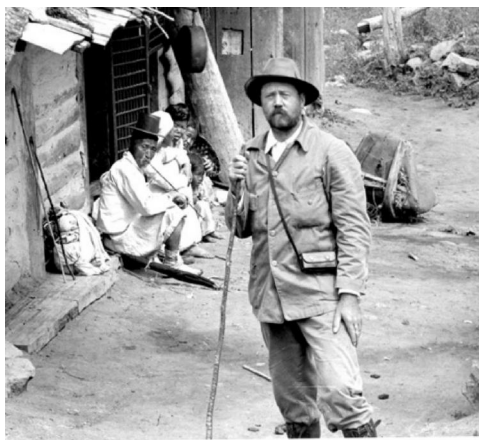
Forthcoming dates are

Mon. 19th Feb. Mon. 19th March Mon. 16th April

Donna's Deliberations

What a lot of interesting things are happening in Peter Tavy this winter! It almost makes this dreadful weather worthwhile. (Note the '*almost*'. I'm not willing to concede too much to incessant rain and mud.)

As I write now, people are looking forward to an evening in the village hall listening to what I expect to be a fascinating talk on mining (oh look, that little symbol appeared all by itself, presumably because I typed 'mining') given by the genial host of the Peter Tavy Inn. And in February there's going to be another, on climbing Kilimanjaro. I can't come to the first, sadly, but hope to be there for the second. These cultural events are not to be missed.



But I have to admit that the one I am really looking forward to, and will not miss, blizzards and flu epidemics permitting, is the evening of February 9th, when radio, TV and Gardeners' World gardening personality **Matthew Biggs** is coming to give what is more a performance than a talk, on *Two Great Plant Hunters* of the past - **Ernest Wilson** and **George Forrest**.

You may think you've never heard of either, but you have certainly heard of the plants they brought to this country and you probably have some in your own gardens. *Clematis armandii*, *Acer griseum* and the lovely 'handkerchief tree' *Davidia involucrata* for instance. *Camellias*, *primulas* and *pieris*. Many of us have these and others, and it is these two men we have to thank for their beauty in our own little patches.

Matt is going to bring these two great men to life Before Our Very Eyes, as a comedian most of you have never heard of used to say. (Brief quiz question: who was it? Answer at the end of these deliberations.) More than that, he will conduct a short question and answer session on all aspects of gardening at the end and, if we are very good and very lucky, sign any copies of his lovely books we care to buy. All that and a chair to sit on, for just £6! Didn't I say this was a village of culture?



(Above - Ernest Wilson; below - George Forrest)

I am lucky enough to have met Matthew twice now, each time on a River or waterways cruise. The first was a couple of years ago through the waterways of the Netherlands, when all the bulb gardens were at their best. We went to glorious botanical gardens at Brussels, Keukenhof (the most beautiful in the world, according to Wikipedia, and for once that's not wrong) and other lovely places along the way. The cruise lasted a week, my first experience but not my last as I went again last summer, same ship, same cabin even, and met Matt again, this time on the Danube.

I remember how he got on to the coach taking us to our first garden. The only seat vacant was the one next to me (I'm not called 'Billy no mates' for nothing) so he had little choice but to take it. After a moment or two, wishing to be polite, he asked where I gardened and I told him, although 'gardening' is rather a strong word for what I do, and then I said that I would like to tell him about my gardening consultant.

Matt showed interest at this, so I continued. 'He's got a grey beard and straggly grey hair and he's about fifteen inches high....' Matt's expression took on a sort of frozen politeness and I could see visions of garden gnomes dancing in his head and knew he was wondering what he had ever done to deserve this and how long he had to spend sitting beside this mad old bat, so I put him out of his misery (a bit, anyway) by adding that he is actually my miniature schnauzer, Toby, who has dug a number of holes in my lawn, in each of which I have planted a small acer. (Probably one of those brought back by Ernest Wilson.)

That made things a bit better. We chatted a bit more and started to talk about writing. To be a famous gardener these days, I remarked, you have to be able to write too, and Matt, who spends a lot of his time writing, agreed. I then divulged that I do a bit myself and after that we were buddies. Writers just love to talk to other writers.

So when Matt told me, on the Danube cruise, that he had started to perform his one man show with a debut at the Malvern Flower Show last year, I immediately thought this would be ideal for that centre of culture and great gardens, Peter Tavy. And that's how he comes to be packing, at this very minute, to drive all the way here from Up Country to entertain and inform us. I'm looking forward to it tremendously.

Do come - if there are any seats left. It's going to be a great evening and I personally am so looking forward to seeing him again.

- Donna Baker

(Quiz answer: Arthur Askey. See, I said most of you had never heard of him.....)

Coffee Morning in aid of St. Luke's Hospice

On **Wednesday 28th February**, Mary Bowhay will again be holding her Coffee Morning in aid of St. Luke's Hospice. This will be from **10.00am - 12noon** at the **Coronation Hall, Mary Tavy**. Everyone most welcome - please come along and support us.

Patrick's PERAMBULATIONS



I am sure I do not need to tell you that my Perambulations are presently suspended! Only dog-owners and those impervious to cold winds, rain and sodden ground, dangerously slippery and muddy, would venture forth on Dartmoor. In many ways I am happy to watch sporting events on TV, but regret the pain of getting out of a chair on to seized-up legs to lurch around the cottage.

I ended my last article with “Reflections” and, now, it seems appropriate to recall many happy hours of walking and letter-boxing if only to satisfy my earnest wish that, with drier and warmer weather, I shall once again stretch my legs on the moor.

Angela and I have enjoyed many 'firsts' walking into the unknown. Our stamp collection is a proof of our visits, over twenty years, to places we had spotted on the OS map and/or read about in Crossing's Guide, Hemery's High Moor, Worth's Dartmoor, Rowe's Perambulations, and Hayward's Dartmoor 365. All these authors, together with contributors to Dartmoor Magazine and Dartmoor News have whet our appetites to see moorland features, visit antiquities and accept challenges, which we might never have considered worth the effort involved.

I think the outstanding memory will always be our first visit to Fur Tor - “Queen of the Moor” - on 23rd June 2002. We had started out early from Baggator Tor Gate with the intention of looking for letterboxes in Tavy Hole (later to become a favourite spot where we scattered the ashes of my two cross border collies) and following the Tavy up to its Head. It was a glorious summer's day and we collected the stamps of 12 boxes en route. Looking North from South Tavy Head (as it is marked on the map), we realised that Vur Tor was not that far away. What an irresistible temptation!. We decided then and there to take the longer way back to Baggator. I wrote in the November 2002 edition of *The Peter Tavy Piper*.

“It was just after 6 o'clock on a hot sunny evening when we reached the imposing stack of block granite and, of course, immediately wondered how we could have resisted the challenge for so long! The views are superb, a sense of isolation and peace prevails and, naturally, the long tiring walk is quickly forgotten”.

I must confess now that in those days we always took small bottles of wine with us. I remember opening them to celebrate our achievement! Our next visit was just a month later when we spent a day exploring the tor and collecting a further dozen stamps.

Today, as I type, I hope we shall be able to pay another visit, taking a more direct route in favourable weather, to visit another 15 boxes in the proximity of this iconic tor.

- Patrick Cashell

How the Date of Easter is Calculated

The ancient Egyptians and Hebrews used different calendars. The Egyptian calendar was based on the movement of the sun, and this passed down via the Romans to become the modern world's standard. The Jewish calendar is based on the phases of the moon – as is the Islamic calendar, which is why the month of Ramadan takes places at different times each year, as Muslims wait for sightings of the moon before they know what day it will begin.

Easter is one of the festivals which tries to harmonise the solar and lunar calendars. As a general rule, Easter falls on the first Sunday, following the first full moon after 21 March. But not always.

According to the gospels Jesus was killed three days before the Resurrection, around the time of the Jewish Passover. So Christians wanted to have their feast day around the same time as the Jewish festival, which was fixed by the first full moon (called the “Paschal Full Moon”) following the Vernal equinox, (also known as the “March equinox” - the spring day when night and day are the same length).

But an *astronomical* full moon, like an astronomical equinox, is not a day but a moment in time – which can be observed happening on different days either side of the international date line. So the church fathers decided that the Paschal Full Moon (PFM) would not be an *astronomical* moon but an *ecclesiastical* full moon. These could be set down ahead of time, which is what happened from 325 AD. Astronomers approximated astronomical full moon dates for the church, calling them Ecclesiastical Full Moon (EFM) dates. Thus Easter was defined as the Sunday after the first EFM after 20th March - the date appointed as the vernal equinox, regardless of whether it was or not. So this provided a calculated full moon following a specified equinox.

Many methods have been used since early Christian times to work out the date of Easter Day. It was made more complicated in 1582 when Pope Gregory XIII replaced the old Roman 'Julian' calendar (started by Julius Caesar) with a new more accurate 'Gregorian' calendar, which most people still use today. In the UK, Easter was first calculated using the Gregorian calendar in 1753 when the country had changed calendars.

Catholic and western Christians now use the Gregorian calendar to find the date of Easter. However, some Orthodox churches still use the old Julian Calendar and celebrate Easter on a different day (the Julian Calendar is now 13 days behind the Gregorian calendar) and also use a different full moon to calculate from.

In our Gregorian Calendar, Easter can be on a date from March 22nd to April 25th.

Both governments and churches have tried to introduce a fixed date for Easter, but without success. In Britain, an Easter Act was passed in 1928 fixing the holiday as "the first Sunday after the second Saturday in April". The law remains on the statute book but has never been enforced. There are too many contradictory influences brought to bear.

It seems that Easter is set to remain the original moveable feast.

The Devon Home Library Service

This is a free service provided by the Royal Voluntary Service (RVS) on behalf of Libraries Unlimited, which is responsible for library service provision in Devon.

Books are delivered by volunteers (all DBS checked) in a variety of formats for those who can no longer get to the library due to health, mobility or caring responsibilities.

This service can be provided on a temporary or permanent basis and books are chosen to suit the reader, or can be ordered online by the reader at no charge. Books can also be kept longer than a normal loan period without incurring any fines for overdue books.

The RVS is keen to expand its service coverage in and around Tavistock, including Peter Tavy, and if you, or someone you know would be interested in receiving books via the Home Library Service or in volunteering to deliver books you can contact:

- the RVS on 01209 705159 (or e-mail
CornwallDevonHub@royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk)
- or
- Tavistock Library (01822 612218)
- Or find out more at www.royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk.

Plus ça change...

A couple of snippets from the “Tavistock Times” of over 90 years ago, reflecting how village life has changed here beyond recognition. (...Errr.....?)

Thanks to Margaret Blowey, who passed copies of these cuttings to us a few years ago.

PETER TAVY.

A successful dance (organised by the Pelertavy Dramatic Society), was held in the Schoolroom on Friday last, when between 70 and 80 paid for admission. The object was to raise funds for a parish piano. Dancing was kept up until 12-30 to the lilting strains of the Wheal Friendship Mine Orchestra, with Miss Harvey (piano), Mr. W. J. Harvey (violin and flute), and Mr. J. E. Ebsworthy (jazz instruments). Mesdames W. Holmes and W. Cole were in charge of the refreshments, and Messrs. J. W. Vogwill and W. Smale acted as M.C.'s. A beautiful oil-painting by Mr. Atkinson (a visitor from Canada) was kindly presented to the Society, in order to help raise the necessary funds. A draw for the picture is in progress.

Tavistock Times, 12th December 1924

PETER TAVY.

A

WHIST DRIVE & DANCE

will be held in the

SCHOOLROOM, on

TUESDAY, JANUARY 30th, 1923,

in aid of the Reading Room.

Doors open 7 p.m.

Commence 7.30.

Admission 1/6.

Dance only 1/-.

Refreshments at moderate charges.

C. WILLIAMS, Hon. Sec.

Tavistock Times, 19th January 1926

MARY TAVY & PETER TAVY W.I. NEWS

Members always look forward to the December meeting, when Mary Tavy & Brentor Primary School come to sing carols and songs. This year, 42 very enthusiastic children, who get better and better every year, entertained us royally. Obviously, their music teacher, Mrs Carowicz, produces the very best out of her pupils.

After refreshments all round for children and adults, the meeting continued with a further 'Christmassy' subject. Adrienne Hesketh's talk was entitled 'Christmas Traditions round the World'.

In going round Europe and other countries, it was interesting to hear how different all the celebrations were, and how December 25th wasn't necessarily the chief day for marking the festival. In fact, early Christians didn't celebrate Christmas and it wasn't until the third century that a date was fixed. December 5th is often more important to some and early January to others. Fish often replaced meat, but sweets and fruit were freely given. In some countries, if the children have misbehaved, they are given black sweets! It appears that nobody seems to start the Christmas preparations as early as the U.K.

We started the new year with a very useful speaker on 'Money Matters'. Stuart Northwick of Dartmoor Financial enlightened us on drawing up a Will, organising a Lasting Power of Attorney, Equity release, funeral plans etc, answering questions as he went along.

This is obviously far too complex to give any details, but we did find that for those of us who had already given thought to the future, possibly some years ago, we need to check that procedures haven't been updated, and those who haven't given much thought to such matters should get on and do so!

Arrangements were made for those who wanted to go to the Egyptian Day at Longdown. The Secretary had been to Lifton Farm shop to get some details for our Birthday Lunch; it all sounds good and we are gathering names to go there on 21st March.

We have a team for the Tor and Tavy Quiz Night, which was much enjoyed last year. We also have possibly two teams for the County Quiz at Lamerton, also a favourite outing.

The large photo taken by John Kaczanow, which was the back drop for our entry at Okehampton Show last year - *we came second* - has been framed also by John, and is to be on the wall in the Coronation Hall, probably in the bar after it has been redecorated.

Our next meeting is on **8th February** at 2.00pm and the subject is decluttering!

- Jill Lamerton & Barbara Weeks

Patrick's Competition

WIN A STAR PRIZE!

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As usual, I wonder just how many people do try to answer my Dartmoor/Devon-based questions, do not write down their answers for lack of time, courage or knowledge. Do you all check the answers in the next issue of *The Peter Tavy Piper* and then find that you might have been the lucky winner had you entered?

Three entries for the second “Who? When? Where?” Competition came from: **Colin & Torie Abel** (10/10), **Julie & Paul Hooper**, and **Chris & Skippy Blumer** (both with 9/10). Well done all of you. I hope Colin & Torie enjoy their bottle of wine!

The answers were:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Alison Skillicorn | 6. River Tavy/Tavy Cleave |
| 2. 1240 | 7. Grim's Grave |
| 3. Buckland in the Moor | 8. 1960 |
| 4. Betsy Grimball | 9. Hill Bridge |
| 5. March & October | 10. James Perrott. |

For this issue, I challenge you all with...

Who? What? Where? No.3:

1. Who currently chairs meetings of the Village Hall Committee?
2. When will the next Beating of the Bounds take place?
3. Where does the Lich Way cross the Peter Tavy Parish Boundary? (coming from Bellever)
4. Who erected the cross on Brai Tor?
5. When did “The Great Storm” destroy the tower of St Pancras Church?
6. Where can you dip your hands in “Mrs Bray's Wash-hand Basin?”
7. Who wrote a novel featuring a Black Dog and a Mire?
8. When was the 1st Issue of the Dartmoor Magazine published?
9. Where do the rivers Tavy and Walkham meet?
10. Who, in 1591, was responsible for supplying Plymouth with water from Dartmoor?

Good Luck! Have Fun! Have a Go! Send an Entry!

Answers on a postcard, on a scrap of paper to me at Brook Cottage or by e-mail: gpwcashell@btinternet.com by **1st April 2018**.



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. DVDs are also available to borrow.



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

**Wednesday 21st February
Wednesday 21st March
Wednesday 18th April**

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

PETER TAVY INN

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).

Over the **February Half-term**, and **from Easter onwards**, we will be open 12.00 noon - 11.00pm, seven days a week.

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. 21st February**
- **Weds. 18th April**
- **Weds. 21st March**
- **Weds. 16th May**



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

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 - was No. 95, now **No. 122** - Oakley's Coaches (*Departs: Village Hall, returns at 13.15 from opposite Bedford Hotel in Tavistock)
- 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

**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 (See page12 for details of changed service).*

For all public transport information contact Traveline SW (0871 200 22 33).

Please report any problems with the No.122 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	
Alison Skillicorn	01822 810682
Peter Tavy Village Hall bookings	
Steve Carreck	01822 810686
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	
Philip Sanders	01822 612265
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	0345 155 1015
West Devon Borough Council	
	01822 813600
Western Power Distribution	
General contacts	0800 096 3080
Power failure	105 or 0800 6783 105
South West Water Helpline	0800 1691144
Environment Agency emergencies	
	0800 80 70 60
Floodline	0345 988 1188
Tavistock Library	01822 612218
book renewals	0345 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