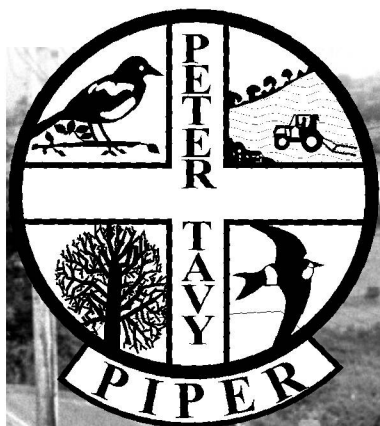


Number 140 February 2020

Old Boys & Old Tractors

See page 8



Events Listings for Peter Tavy inside!

What's On?

IN PETER TAVY

FEBRUARY 2020

Sat 1st	7.15pm	“Retro Dinner Party” Pop-Up Restaurant, Village Hall (<i>see p.13</i>)
Tues 4th	7.30pm	Tracey Elliot-Reep talk, Village Hall (<i>see page 13</i>)
Thurs 6th	4.30 - 6.30pm	“Messy Church”, Methodist Chapel
	7.30pm	St Peter’s PCC meeting, Edgecombe
Tues 11th	7.30pm	Whist Drive, Village Hall
Wed 12th	10 - 10.30am	Mobile Library calls, Church Lane
Thurs 13th	12 - 1.30pm	Soup & Dessert Lunches, Methodist Chapel
Sun 16th	3.00pm	Joint Family Service, Methodist Chapel
Mon 17th	10 - 12.30	Knit, Craft & Natter, Village Hall
Wed 19th	8.00pm	Quiz Night, Peter Tavy Inn
Wed 26th	7.30pm	Ash Wednesday Service, St Peter’s Church

MARCH 2020

Thurs 5th	4.30 - 6.30pm	“Messy Church”, Methodist Chapel
Tues 10th	7.30pm	Whist Drive, Village Hall
Wed 11th	10 - 10.30am	Mobile Library calls, Church Lane
Thurs 12th	12 - 1.30pm	Soup & Dessert Lunches, Methodist Chapel
Sat 14th	from 10.00am	Daffodil Coffee Morning - Manor Farm, Cudlippstown- <i>see page 5</i>
Sat 14th		Village Hall Film Night - <i>TBC - watch for details</i>
Sun 15th	3.00pm	Joint Family Service, St Peter’s Church
Mon 16th	10 - 12.30	Knit, Craft & Natter, Village Hall
Tues 17th	7.30pm	Lydford and the Stannary Laws - talk by Simon Dell, Village Hall. (<i>See p 13</i>)
Wed 18th	8.00pm	Quiz Night, Peter Tavy Inn
Sun 22nd	9.30am	Mothering Sunday service, St Peter’s Church

APRIL 2020

Thurs 2nd	4.30 - 6.30pm	“Messy Church”, Methodist Chapel
Sun 5th	c.9.25am	Meet at Village Hall to process to St Peter's for...
	9.30am	Palm Sunday communion service
Wed 8th	10-10.30am	Mobile Library calls, Church Lane
Thurs 9th	12 - 1.30pm	Soup & Dessert Lunches, Methodist Chapel
Thurs 9th	6.30pm	Maundy Thursday Service and meal, Chapel
Fri 10th (BH)	2.00pm	Good Friday Service, St Peter’s Church
Sun 12th	9.30am	Easter Day Communion, , St Peter’s Church
	3.00pm	Easter Day Service, Methodist Chapel
Mon 13th (BH)		Easter Monday
Tues 14th	7.30pm	Whist Drive, Village Hall
Wed 15th	8.00pm	Quiz Night, Peter Tavy Inn
Sun 19th	3,00pm	Joint Family Service, Methodist Chapel
Mon 20th	10 - 12.30	Knit, Craft & Natter, Village Hall

MAY 2020

Weds 6th	10-10.30am	Mobile Library calls, Church Lane
Thurs 7th	7am - 10pm	Police and Crime Commissioner Elections, <i>Polling Station in Village Hall</i>
Fri 8th (BH)		May Bank Holiday - date changed as part of the 75th anniversary of VE Day celebrations.
Tues 12th	7.30pm	Whist Drive, Village Hall- final one for the season
Thurs 14th	12 - 1.30pm	Soup & Dessert Lunches, Methodist Chapel
Sat 16th		Mary Tavy & Peter Tavy WI Spring Sale
Mon 18th	10 - 12.30	Knit, Craft & Natter, Village Hall
Wed 20th	7.00pm	Village Hall committee meeting, followed by...
	8.00pm	Village Hall AGM
	8.00pm	Quiz Night, Peter Tavy Inn

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**, (see page 22) you can get village updates by joining the **"Peter Tavy Community" group**.

Welcome to 2020! We're certainly "living in interesting times" (that's not in fact an old Chinese saying, apparently, despite JFK's claims...), so we wait to see what the year ahead will bring (hail and cold rain at the moment!) But we know for certain that the weeks ahead bring a lot of activities and events in the Parish to brighten these winter evenings - hope you can get along to some of them with your friends and neighbours. Looking ahead to April, we've information about the Easter season at St Peter's and the Methodist Chapel - and then we'll be on into May with, hopefully, improving weather and the prospect of a glorious (and busy, with Flower Festival and Fayre!) Peter Tavy Summer ahead...

- Steve & Ali Carreck, Compilers (810868)

Please let us have any dates and events for the next "Piper" (covering May to early August 2020) by **Wednesday 8th April 2020**. If you can supply your text as a "Word" or RTF" file, 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 welcome your hand-written entries too!

DAFFODIL COFFEE MORNING

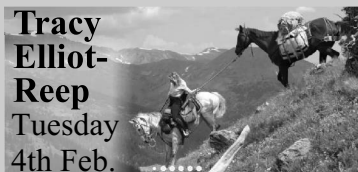
Saturday
14th March
from 10.00am

See page 5



Peter Tavy Village Hall - Winter Talks - see p.13

Tracy
Elliot-
Reep
Tuesday
4th Feb.



Lydford & the
Stannary
Laws



Tues 17th March

Admission £5 - refreshments available. To book call 810868.

COVER PHOTO: James Perkins of Gatehouse Farm driving his Fordson Dexta tractor through the village (see page 8). Can anyone help identify his companions, and estimate when this great photo was taken?

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The Council have had a survey done on Church Cottages to let us know exactly what needs to be done and the timescales involved. It wasn't as bad as we'd originally suspected - for a start there is no pressing need for a new roof: we can afford to repair the flashings and the ridge tiles so that should save a Bob or two. (For the younger readers amongst you "a Bob" was 5p.)

We should be fixing new smoke and CO₂ alarms and will need to look into secondary double glazing as, due to the listing of the building, the cost of the specified double glazing becomes prohibitive. There are various other works required but at least we now have an idea of timescales.

The playground is the recipient of another grant, this time from WDBC, which is a matched funding offer so there should be a new see-saw soon. The netting between the farmyard and the goalposts is going to be raised, so with luck there will be fewer missing footballs.

The Council has been making the lives of South West Water miserable as we have been reporting the leak in the Causeway practically on a daily basis. After the workmen have been out a few times, it is possible that the leak has finally been sorted - well, we hope so anyway but at least one may be good. It may have been so well repaired that we'll have to try to get more water into the drain alongside the Village Hall wall.

Problems with the cattle grids at Boulter's Tor and Lane End have been reported, and we were told that the Boulter's Tor was already scheduled for repairs; just got to wait to find out about the other one.

We'll try to keep you posted on any highway problems that we have reported and what progress, if any, is made.

There will be an Annual Parish Meeting in May together with an AGM the week beforehand, dates to be confirmed.

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

YOUR Mobile Library - please support it!



<i>Forthcoming visits are at 10.00 - 10.30am at the bottom of Church Lane on...</i>	<i>Weds. 12th Feb. Weds. 11th Mar. Weds. 8th Apr. Weds. 6th May</i>
--	--

The Mobile library calls in Peter Tavy on one Wednesday each month for 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.


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

www.devonlibraries.org.uk

DAFFODIL COFFEE MORNING

at Manor Farm,
CudlIPTown,
on Sat. 14th March,
from 10.00am

by kind invitation of
Janet Bedford.



Come and enjoy coffee, cake and home-made biscuits and a chat with friends and neighbours. Browse the Bring & Buy stall, and have a look around Janet's beautiful garden.
In aid of St. Peter's Church. Everyone very welcome.

Don't Let Us Forget!

I am putting together a record of some unusual and lesser-known facts about the parish so that they are not lost to future generations. This record will include the details of the heritage box which was placed behind a stone in the south west wall of the bus shelter; a list of the location of all the parish boundary stones; the Spitfire letter box; the design of the hinge to the gate at the entrance to the moor at Coxtor Farm -which is said to be unique to Devon; the Ochre Mine; the explosives hut. In order to improve the record I would like to hear from anyone in the parish who has knowledge of this kind of thing which they think should be included. It is not to be a history of the parish but a list of unusual things which may be forgotten over time - but shouldn't be!

- **Bill Lane.** 01822 810477. Blane@churchtownpetertavvy.co.uk.

...or stop me in the street!



Easter in Peter Tavy 2020

5th April - Palm Sunday: Communion Service, 9.30am, St Peter's Church
- *meet at Village Hall gate, c. 9.25am, to process to church*

9th April - Maundy Thursday: Service and meal in the Methodist Church, 6.30pm

10th April - Good Friday: Service in St Peter's Church, 2.00pm

12th April - Easter Day: † Communion Service 9.30am, St Peter's Church

† Easter Sunday Service, 3.00pm, Methodist Church



PETER TAVY FLOWER FESTIVAL 2020

Friday 17th to Sunday 19th July

If you are new to the village, you may not of heard that every fourth year the village has a flower festival... and this is a “fourth year”.

Our Flower Festivals are always a great event, drawing visitors from near and far. As with the annual Fayre, the Festival is a joint “Parish Effort”, raising funds divided between Church, Chapel and Village Hall.

Our displays are renowned for their creativity, imagination and originality. Below are some of the arrangements from the Festival, in 2016.



Our first Planning Meeting has already taken place, but we hope that many more people will get involved - more help is always welcome!

This time the theme is 'The Sea'. You don't have to be a wizard at flower arranging. We have several arrangers already committed, and some would be very grateful for any assistance.

It being ‘Mayflower 400’ this year, that theme will be featured, and alongside that there is Drake, the Armada, Raleigh, D-Day, a shipwreck, the 50th anniversary of the Moon landing, (well, yes, you may well ask,” what has that to do with the sea?”) Come along to our next meeting, and all will be revealed!

In the meantime, if you'd like to help out and can spare some time for the preparations - and/or during the festival itself in July - please do let either Julia Dawson (810618), or Peter Tinson (810314) know.



METHODIST CHURCH NEWS



Although the weather was disappointing over Christmas, life in the Church was full of sunshine and joy. The good news of Christmas was first celebrated this

year at Messy Church, our busiest ever; making paper wreaths and log reindeer were distinctly favourite activities.

An evening of hearty, if not tuneful, carol singing raised £192 for Crisis at Christmas.

The weather stayed reasonable for the Christmas Eve walking Nativity to take place around the village, ending up in the barn

(pictured right) next to many hungry oxen. It is notable this is the only time of the year when Jo, the landlady, has no 'room at the Inn' turning away business from the Peter Tavy Inn. All enjoyed following the Christmas story unveil around the village and it gave us time to just focus on the true message of Christmas, sharing it with loved family and friends.



Now is the time of year when we think of that part of Jesus' life as he made his way to Jerusalem to be arrested, tried and then nailed to a cross. On Easter Sunday we celebrate his raising from the dead. Our services over this period are shown on page 5 of this Piper. We would love to see you at any time.

Messy Church continues on the first Thursday of each month, 4.30 – 6.30pm to include Bible story, craft and a meal. If you have never been, please come along. It's a very relaxed time with lots of time to talk to others.

Soup and dessert lunches continue on the second Thursday of each month, 12.00- 1.30pm – all welcome.

- David



4.30 - 6.00pm, Thursdays -

• 6th February

• 5th March

• 2nd April

• 7th May

Soup and Dessert Lunches - an opportunity to meet neighbours and chat, over delicious soups and desserts.

Forthcoming lunches, 12 noon - 1.30pm, on Thursdays

13th February • 12th March • 9th April • 14th May



Old Boys & Old Tractors

- Tom Roskilly



Field Marshall Series 1



Nuffield M4



1952 Allis Chalmers



Minneapolis-Moline V

One of the first questions that someone from a non-farming background asks a farmer on a first encounter is “*what do you do in your spare time?*”. Such a question to many, particularly someone of the older generation, would be met with a look of incredulity for it might trap him to admit that he has periods of idleness in his life. However if the question is rephrased to ask “*what hobbies do you have?*” then he (and it would really have to be a 'he') might concede that an old tractor tucked away in a back shed takes up some of his evenings occasionally.

Such tractors have usually long been pensioned off active service and may have been recovered from what Tennessee Williams would have called the 'tractor bone orchard' - the plat around the back of the farm where old machinery is allowed to rest and rust and become a benign reminder of bygone days.

Why farmers and others who move in similar circles do this is not easily answered, but there certainly is a passion to restore these old servants to their former glory and even parade them out at a show or tractor rally.

Some even become collectors like Eddie Heywood down at Pitts Cleeve, with his old Marshalls, and Francis Mudge over on Whitchurch Down with his Nuffields and Allis Chalmers.

The love affair with the tractor has been a very long running one and has kept in step with the unrelenting drive for agricultural mechanisation. During the Second World War the love was spread around a lot more because tractors by the thousand were made available from America as part of the Lend Lease programme, a massive scheme of economic assistance to what was then a very beleaguered nation. How many tractors got down to this neck of the woods from 1941 to 1945 is a little bit sketchy but it's likely that some MMs (Minneapolis Molines) got onto farms around

Chillaton and maybe an Oliver or two as well. Whatever the case was the big boost that was given to farming in the postwar period was a real incentive for a young man of the time to want an International, John Deere, Fordson or 'Fergie'.

The first tractor I drove was a David Brown Cropmaster, all red in colour, and with a double seat which was ideal because I could sit up alongside Father and hold the steering wheel. In 1961 we got an IH B414 from F J Glass of Okehampton which was a wonderful tractor and a very popular tractor in the vicinity. May and Ilbert Wakeham had one down at Radge and James still has it down there kept in the dry and patiently awaiting a makeover. Another old tractor which comes to mind was the Nuffield M 4 which Norman drove for many years down at Langsford and then there was the little Ford Dexta which James Perkins nipped around the village on (*see cover photo*). John Collins fondly recalled to me their old Standard Fordson which his father Frank had to crank up by hand and then switch over to TVO on his way up Church Hill.

In those days tractors didn't have cabs, or if they did they were designed to be weather proof rather than safe. It's all a lot different now: cab comfort is a key feature and press button gears and controls commonplace. There's even talk of electric engines taking over - imagine that!

Here at Nutley, in keeping with the times we live in, my latest purchase is a little 40hp 4WD tractor, somewhat retro in design, sent over from Wuhu province in the People's Republic of China. It is a little beauty but faces a rather demeaning life of scraping yards and cattle sheds of muck and slurry.

In years to come I might well set to with the pressure washer and give my Siromer an outing at a local tractor run. Even if I have a few misgivings about putting down the brand and year of manufacture on the entry form there certainly won't be any doubts about my own credentials for Old Boy status.

NB: We've found the photos on these pages "on the web" - so if they're the wrong ones - that's my fault - not Tom's! - SC



Fordson Standard N (1940)



Ferguson ("Fergie") Te20



1953 David Brown Cropmaster



IH B414

Donna's Deliberations

Age is withering me.

Quite literally, in fact. Scrawny arms and legs - and I'm not mentioning any more than that. You don't want to know. Everything is getting higher (kitchen shelves), steeper (daily dogwalks up the hill from my back gate), slower (me) and heavier (shopping bags, garden flowerpots, church bells. You name it).

People are starting to mumble, too, but only if they are on my right side. Get them on my left and they speak with perfect clarity. This is what makes me think it is all a conspiracy.

After all, when you think about it (those of us who can still think, I mean), we're not really any different inside, are we? We're still the same teenager we once were, with the same feelings, the same likes and dislikes. Wiser, of course (that goes without saying) and more experienced, but surely that's good. So what, when you come down to it, is actually WRONG with getting old? What's this conspiracy all about? What actually defines us as being old? (And don't get me started on mirrors. They're all part of it, if you ask me. And the ones you catch an unexpected glimpse of when you're out are even worse than the ones at home. You've managed to get those at least partly trained, with clever lighting or placing in dark corners, but those out there in the wild - well....)

"Nobody told us being old was going to be like this," a friend said to me rather ruefully a week or two ago. As a matter of fact, I think she's wrong. I think they tried but we didn't take any notice, just as young people don't take much notice now when we whine about our bad backs, dodgy knees and need to know where the nearest public toilet is when out and about (and that's another conundrum, in Tavistock these days. It's either the Pannier Market or Wetherspoons, as far as I can see).

All these developments are signs of getting old. (Apparently.) But one of the signs I've specially noticed is that I've suddenly become 'marvellous'.

Well, you all knew that anyway, didn't you. (Pause for cries of "Yes!"oh, all right, then. Never mind.) But 'marvellous' in this context usually means 'marvellous FOR YOUR AGE'... In other words, "you're old, Missus, and quite frankly we're surprised you're still staggering about but since you are, yes, you're marvellous..."

Age isn't something we can easily avoid. I've heard quite a few people say "It's better than the alternative" (and often wonder what the vicar thinks when he hears that) but I think that's rather up to us. You hear so much about loneliness in old age, and some of it must be inescapable. Being old, not very strong and housebound means loneliness is inevitable if you haven't got a network of family and friends already in place, and it's nothing to look forward to. Not having someone pop in for a few minutes' chat or a cup of tea, or offer to do a bit of shopping makes the days very long and sad. So the exhortations we hear, especially at Christmas, to look out

for neighbours who might be lonely, give them some attention, are exhortations we should be taking care of all year round. Loneliness, like a new pet dog, is not just for Christmas.

But I think we do have to take some steps ourselves to ward off loneliness in our own old age. Make friends wherever and whenever we can. Get out and about while we are still able, invite people in, visit others. And - this is the great secret - don't just make friends with people of your own age. They're not necessarily going to be around as long as you, and if they are, they might also be housebound. Keep up those friendships as much as you can, of course - they mean a lot of shared memories, likes and dislikes and the opportunity to moan about the youth of today - but make friends with younger people too. They're the ones who will be able to reach those high shelves when you can't even unfold the stepladder.

That's one of the reasons I keep up my bell ringing. Partly because I've enjoyed it for nearly 70 years now, partly because it's great exercise, partly because we go to the pub afterwards - but very largely because the other ringers, wherever I ring, have always been such good friends, and continue to be so. And although this wasn't the case for many years, they're now all younger than me!

They haven't started calling me marvellous yet, mind you. I'll probably kick the first one who does. I think I can still manage that...
-Donna Baker

And while we're pondering that - here's a poem on a similar theme, sent to us by Bill Lane.

My forgetter's getting better, but my rememberer is broke.
- to you that may seem funny but, to me, that is no joke.

Or when I'm "here" I'm wondering if I really should be "there"
- and when I try to think it through I haven't got a prayer!

Oft time I walk into a room, say "what am I here for?"
- I wrack my brain, but all in vain! A zero is my score.

At times I put something away where it is safe, but, Gee!
- the person it is safest from is generally me.

When shopping I may see someone, Say "Hi" and have a chat.
Then when the person walks away ask myself, "who the hell was that".

Yes my forgetter's getting better while my rememberer is broke
- and it's driving me plumb crazy and that isn't any joke.

-Anon.

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Village Hall Chairman: Carol Coles, (Gatehouse Farm, 810169)

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

VILLAGE HALL AGM

Weds. 20th 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).*

Please do come along if you can -
meet the committee and share your ideas for the Hall.

Hello all, I hope we all had a fun and enjoyable Christmas. Back to reality and the grindstone now!



Jazzing it up in the Hall last November

As usual we have had a busy time in the Hall over the last few months. The Jazz evening in November was a great success, enjoyed by all who went along. We have had talks - including Bob Stacey's presentation about the prison service and a fascinating illustrated talk about the Wheal Friendship mines in Mary Tavy by Chris Wordingham.

The tree planting was great fun, raising money for village organisations and

doing our bit for the environment - we were all very pleased with the numbers of people who were there, some from quite far afield. That was a relief as we'd had a mental image of about 10 of us planting hundreds of trees!!

The Christmas Craft Fair was again a success this year; all tables were booked up and all of the stall holders and visitors who came along enjoyed the day. The Children's Christmas party also went ahead again - everyone there had a lot of fun and Santa was a real hit this year!

Our "Pre-Christmas Get Together" was short on numbers, but a really enjoyable evening for those who did join us. Unfortunately, the Truro coach trip couldn't go ahead as not enough people booked up in advance. Our planned film night was also postponed, but we're planning to try again in March.

As I mentioned last time, the floor of the Hall is causing concern, so the committee are looking into various options to see how this can be addressed, and how we might arrange funding. Watch this space!

As the days grow longer and we all start looking towards spring, (although with the tendency for the colder weather to hit around March I know we are not done with winter just yet!), we have the usual lovely diary of upcoming events at the village Hall to keep us all occupied and connected.

By the time you read this, you'll either have enjoyed, or missed(!), the next of our popular "Pop up Restaurant" evenings, on the 1st February. Our theme this time is "Retro" - 70's/80's - so a blast from the past on the food and if you fancy turning up in something suitable from the back of the wardrobe please do so!

We have talks lined up from adventurous horse rider Tracey Elliot-Reep and local historian Simon Dell, and we're hoping to organise our film night on March 14th. We're also planning to have another of the popular watercolour classes later in the Spring. Meanwhile, our regular bookings continue as normal with Whist Drives; Scottish country dancing; West Dartmoor Art Group; Knit, Craft and Natter, and fitness classes.

Take care - hope to see you at a Hall event soon! - and have a great 2020.

- Carol Coles

**Sat
1st
Feb**

RETRO DINNER PARTY

A "Pop-Up" Restaurant in the Village Hall. £17.50 per head.

Spaces limited, call Jayne (810277) or Elaine (810271) to book.

**Tues
4th
Feb
7.30pm**



Tracey Elliot-Reep

Dartmoor and international author and photographer Tracey presents a talk illustrated with stunning photography and film about her amazing horse-riding adventures around the world.

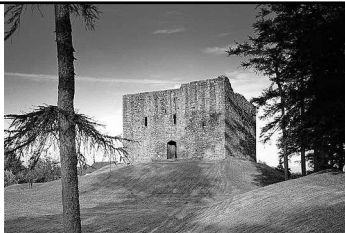
Admission £5 - refreshments available. To book call 810868.

**Sat 14th
March**

(Provisional date - Watch for details!)

Village Hall Film Evening

**Tues
17th
March
7.30pm**



Lydford and the Stannary Laws

Illustrated talk by Simon Dell on "the awful story of the tin mining laws and the life of the Dartmoor tinners".

Admission £5 - refreshments available. To book call 810868.

*"I oft have heard of Lydford Law,
How in the morn they hang and draw,
And sit in judgment after:
At first I wondered at it much;
But since, I find the reason such,
As it deserves no laughter."* - William Browne, 1644



Village Hall Whist Drives

Come along and enjoy playing whist - whether you are a beginner or more experienced. We have a lot of laughs along the way, so if you would like to learn, do join us one evening. We start at 7.30pm, with a break for refreshments. We meet on the second Tuesday of the month - Forthcoming dates in the Village Hall are:

- Tues 11th February
- Tues 10th March
- Tues 14th April
- Tues 12th May

*Calling all local photographers and chroniclers of Village life...
Why not enter this competition with a chance to win a prize for yourself...
and funds for the Hall!*

'Wonderful Villages' Photo Competition



Ends 15th March 2020!

**Win up to £1000 for your Village Hall and
£500 for the photographer!**

Submit Your Entry & Vote For Others.

Open to ALL RURAL UK Village & Community Halls.

Entry is FREE. No purchase necessary.

**Details of prizes, theme and entry dates are in the
RULES available from our Facebook page:**

 <https://facebook.com/AlliedWestminster>



St. PETER's CHURCH NEWS

We have enjoyed another wonderful Christmas season and enjoyed welcoming everyone to the beautifully decorated church for our services - thanks to our churchwardens for working so hard to ensure that St Peter's had a communion service both on Christmas Eve and Christmas morning. Our service of Nine Lessons and Carols brought a charming conclusion to Christmas celebrations - thanks are also due to everyone who provided us with mulled wine, tea or coffee and mince pies after the service.

Sunday 2nd February sees a joint service of **Sung Eucharist for Candlemass** in St Mary's, Mary Tavy, at 11.00am. At the other end of the month, on **Ash Wednesday**, 26th February, we will have a joint communion service with our friends from St Mary's here in Peter Tavy.

In the "What's On" listing at the front of the Piper, you'll find details of dates of our Joint Family Services (at 3.00pm) with the Methodist Church here in Peter Tavy, and hope you can join us then.

Sunday 22nd March is **Mothering Sunday** and we will have a special 9.30am communion service in the church to mark that day.

Services over the **Easter** season in April are shown on page 5 - we hope to meet you there. If you can, do please join us on **Palm Sunday**, 5th April, when we hope to process from the Village Hall to St Peter's for our 9.30am communion service.

A Little Bit of Background to Ash Wednesday...

Ash Wednesday is a significant day on the Christian calendar. It always occurs exactly 46 days before Easter Sunday - which is a moveable feast. It is preceded by Shrove Tuesday ("pancake day"!) and marks first day of Lent, the six week period during which Christians often abstain from rich foods and/or everyday habits such as watching excessive amounts of television.

Ash Wednesday derives its name from clergy placing ashes on worshippers (sometimes marking crosses on their foreheads or sprinkling ash over their heads), with either the words "Repent, and believe in the Gospel" or "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." The ashes are prepared by burning palm leaves from the previous year's Palm Sunday celebrations.

Ash Wednesday originated somewhere in the 6th century. Though the exact origin of the day is not clear, the custom of marking the head with ashes is said to have originated during the papacy of Gregory the Great (590-604). Ash Wednesday is traditionally observed by Western Christians, including most Roman Catholics and some Protestants.

MARY TAVY & PETER TAVY W. I. NEWS

Our December meeting could be described as a singing extravaganza. It was very pleasing to have so many visitors, including three men. They had come mainly to hear the Mary Tavy and Brentor Primary School singing group, now such an important part of the W.I. Christmas. They sang the usual selection of Christmas songs and carols beautifully but, especially this year, their successful entry for the BBC Radio Devon 'Star for Christmas' competition, a lovely carol called 'Do you hear what I hear'. An added interest this year was that the children accompanied that carol and 'Away in a Manger' with Mackaton signing for the deaf. The Coronation Hall premises that day was also the Polling Station, so any afternoon voters would have had a musical accompaniment! After refreshments, we were entertained with more music when Brian Lawless with his guitar sang familiar songs from yesteryear.

Business was kept to a minimum. The ladies were asked to donate to the Hearing Dogs for the Deaf in lieu of sending each other Christmas cards. Three teams will be entering the W.I. County Quiz at Lamerton next year. Christine Kaczanow and Jill Lamerton spent a most enjoyable evening at Tavistock and Gulworthy's W.I. Christmas party. Mary Tavy hope to have a lunch out in January.

At our first meeting of 2020 we welcomed several new members, and also some visitors. The Speaker at our January meeting is always one of our members, and this year Jan Adkins endeavoured to increase our understanding of the immensely complex issue of Climate Change. With unprecedented temperatures and catastrophic bush fires in Australia, rainfall of almost biblical proportions in England, and glaciers melting very obviously elsewhere, even the most sceptical person must be slightly anxious. It is not a straightforward issue and it would be easy to just bury one's head in the sand and carry on as we are but we are the W.I. and we don't do that!

Jan, who has degrees in various aspects of the subject, has ideas and dreams for a safer future. There is a questionnaire on the World Wide Fund for Nature website which will show you how to cut back on your use of the planet's resources and, like the plastic bag revolution, lots of people doing a little can make a difference. We will also contact Associated Countrywomen of the World to try and get a more global understanding. We have nominated Jan to be our Climate Ambassador.

After this very intense discussion we definitely needed tea and cake, which were served by Jill Lamerton and Barbara Weeks. President Bev Ross had thoughtfully provided some light-hearted quizzes to sharpen people's brains! Our votes were required on which resolution should go forward to the national A.G.M. After much thought it was decided that we should vote to end modern slavery. It is shaming to think that slavery exists in the UK in 2020.

Our Spring Sale will be on Saturday 16th May, 2020. Our next meeting is in the Coronation Hall at 2:00 p.m. on the 13th February. The talk is about the life of a Tudor lady.

- Jill Lamerton & Barbara Weeks.

Patrick's PERAMBULATIONS



Sadly, I cannot yet put on my walking boots, pack my bag, plan a walk into the Moor and continue to search out letterboxes, and antiquities, to increase my collection of the former and my knowledge of the latter. Again, I turn to the Peter Tavy Piper Number 97 for my report of expeditions of a decade ago to bring back memories. The front cover is a photograph, taken by Sue Way, of a snow scene looking down the road with the Village Hall on the right and Jasmine and Midhurst cottages in the background. A "snowboarder" sits on a tray having slid to a halt after a "run" down Back Lane from Harragrove.

Winter weather conditions are not conducive to letterbox hunting; frozen ground, snow and bitterly cold winds make the whole exercise miserable. However, on New Year's Day it is traditional that letterboxers meet at Vur Tor. I had proposed that Steve Carr, Mark Cockings, Sue Parrish, Tom Parrish and I take up this challenging walk, come hell or high water. Fortified by an early breakfast, we met at Baggator Gate and followed a well-known route up Black Lane North to Wester Red Lake and Fuge's Post. Crossing the head of the Meads our feet crunched over ice-covered gullies and pools as we headed for the flag pole on Walkham Spur. From here, there is clear view of our objective before we dropped down to Tavy Hole to cross the river and begin the final climb over Vur Tor Brook. We spotted other walkers coming up from Two Bridges and Postbridge which are other starting points.

The higher we got, the more vicious seemed the wind and it cut through our layers of clothing, yet the sun was shining but without any warmth. Flasks of soup or coffee and packed lunches were eaten hastily in the lee of the Tor. I wanted to show our party the Letterbox and get them to sign the visitors book but, to our dismay the broken chain and no ammunition can, in which the stamp and book were stored, showed that the site had been vandalized. Greetings were exchanged with friendly enthusiasts before we turned to the West and the setting sun for the walk home.

I recommend this walk for the spring or summer and guarantee that you will experience a great thrill in reaching this, the most remote Tor on the Moor.

- Patrick Cashell.



KNIT, CRAFT AND NATTER

The group meets on the third Monday of each month.

Come along for a sociable morning of working and chatting together, in the **VILLAGE HALL from 10.00am - 12.30pm**

Future dates are: **Mondays 17th February; 16th March;**

20th April and 18th May

For more information, contact Ruth Boswell on 810687.

MOTHERS

Send them out of London



Wartime Poster from IWM

Give them a chance of greater safety and health

Evacuee!

- Peter Tinson

It was early January 1940, and my parents decided that we would all go to Devon, as my mother was expecting my sister, and the Blitz was on in London.

I was just 4yrs and 2 months at the time. My mother was booked into a nursing home in Braunton, and my sister was born there on the 13th. January.

We had many distant relatives in North Devon, and unbeknown to me, I was to be left with one of them. My 'aunty', as she became known to me was a fifth cousin, and her family farmed at Landkey, just east of Barnstaple. I put this in, as this was probably where my hankering to be a farmer in later life came from.

My 'uncle', owned a large garage in Ilfracombe, and his son being a motor mechanic, had been drafted in to the RAF, and was working on Spitfires, throughout the war. They had two daughters, one married, and the other got married whilst I was there. I remember her marriage, because I was dressed up in a royal blue velvet outfit, and had the lucky horseshoe to give to the couple.

When I turned five I was taken to a school nearby which itself had been evacuated from Plymouth. It was just opposite the railway station and after a while, aunty decided that I could come home on my own. Well you know what little boys are, it wasn't long before I was watching the trains before I went home! On other occasions I would wander further up the hill to a place called 'cairn', which strangely also had a good view of the railway. In those days we didn't have the social problems that we have today, and no one was worried, once they knew what I had been up to.

As I said earlier, my uncle had a garage, and I was allowed to go over there after school and watch the men working. My uncle had asked the authorities if there was any way he could keep his skilled men, which he desperately needed to, as he was the only garage, and he serviced several doctors' cars, the fire engine etc., and the fire engine was kept in one of the lockup garages which surrounded the main garage.

The authorities said they would allow him to keep his men, if he could make a quota of munitions. He said he would, and promptly bought several more lathes to produce the shell heads that they needed. He also bought some mechanical hacksaws, which were set up in a bank, so that when the steel ingots arrived, they were rolled sideways into the shed where the saws were spaced out, so that the

pieces cut off were exactly the right size, for the shell heads. They were all set going at the same time, and the lengths cut off passed through to the men on the lathes. Once the month's quota was made they were then able to do their normal jobs.

This was all very interesting to a 5-6 year old, and as 1943 approached, and the build up for D-Day had arrived, the American Army hired one of uncles' lockup's to manufacture donuts (doughnuts). Well, we children used to watch the process, and of course ask the Americans if there were any broken ones, which of course there always were!!

There were several American units around North Devon in the build up, and we watched them playing baseball on Saunton sands from time to time.

I will never forget, and this was earlier in my stay, that we were returning from Landkey one night, and as we reached Mullacott Cross, we were stopped by a policeman and told to turn off our lights. He then explained that the siren had sounded and that German bombers were approaching. We sat there in the dark, and soon we heard the noise of the approaching planes, which passed over us at no great height. Then we saw the most amazing, and horrific sight that I have ever seen, as Swansea went up in flames, and one I will never forget.

I know this is nothing to do with my evacuation but, as D-Day approached, my parents, thinking that the Blitz was over, decided that it was time for me to rejoin the family in London. What they didn't know was that Adolf was about to send his Doodlebugs over, and we had 41 in our area, as he tried to hit the South coast railways, (and luckily he didn't), to slow up our preparations for D-Day. We had three within a quarter of a mile of our house.

The siren had gone one evening, and mum was in the kitchen, all lights out of course, stirring strawberry jam, when through the kitchen window she saw this black object coming towards our house. She screamed to my father, and he dived behind the sofa, mum joined my sister and myself under the table in the dining room. The doodlebug, as they always did, turned through 90 degrees, down the road fortunately for us, and at about two hundred yards away it exploded. Unfortunately, six houses were hit and several were hurt and killed. The blast from the explosion blew in our front windows, where my dad had been standing, doing up his boots as he was in the ARP, and if mum hadn't seen it and shouted, he would have been cut to shreds or even killed. Obviously I didn't know this until we woke in the morning, but mum was so annoyed because she burnt the jam and wasted precious sugar ration. Hitler was not popular!!

Another doodlebug hit the school I attended, again fortunately out of school hours. This meant that we all had to walk another mile and a half and back each day.



Wartime Poster from IWM

*You may remember that last November, St Peter's Church hosted the centenary celebrations of the South West branch of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers. The Guild unites Method Ringers - a different style to our local "Call Change" ringing. We thought it would be interesting to learn more, and the Guild's **John Steere** kindly provided this article:*

A Century of Ringing

The sound of our church bells can be something that just goes on in the background on Sunday mornings - perhaps noticed more if it doesn't take place than if it does. There can be a romantic attachment to the sound of the bells, heard across Devon's green fields. It is essentially part of the English auditory landscape, with change ringing having been developed here since the early 17th Century. Whatever its impact on us, the bells are rung as a call to worship, and as a reminder to those who hear their music that the Church is going about its business of prayer and praise.

By the end of the 19th Century there was a serious risk of bellringing becoming an entirely secular activity, associated more with competing for cash prizes, and consequent celebration or drowning of sorrows in excessive drinking. Arising from this was so-called Belfry Reform, led by the clergy. As part of this movement, *The Guild of Devonshire Ringers* was founded in 1874. To enhance the Guild's local influence, it was divided into area branches, with the founding of the South-West Branch taking place at Peter Tavy on Saturday 8th November 1919.

Towers affiliated to the South-West Branch of The Guild of Devonshire Ringers stretch from Lifton on the Cornish border to Salcombe in the South Hams, incorporating Tavistock and Plymouth, where most of the Branch's membership is concentrated. Currently, there are 17 bands affiliated to the Branch, with over 100 individual members between them. Many of them gathered at Peter Tavy Church for a Centenary Celebration service on 9th Nov., and kept up ringers' reputation for hearty singing of two ringers' hymns. The Bishop of Plymouth kindly led the service on this very special occasion. It was heartening that, in his address, he recognised ringers' commitment, skill and mutual loyalty, and expressed gratitude on behalf of the churches in his area for the years of service given by ringers.

As well as celebrating in worship, ringers unsurprisingly celebrate by ringing. Before the service a Quarter Peal of 1,260 changes of Grandsire Doubles was rung. Four of the six members of the band had been at the 50th Anniversary celebrations, also held at Peter Tavy, and are still going strong. On the eve of the service, on the date of the Centenary to the day, a Celebration Peal of 5,040 changes of Cambridge Surprise Minor was rung in 2 hours 47 minutes. Of those six ringers, five are Vice-Presidents of the Guild, four have been Guild Master, four have chaired the Branch, and two have been Guild President.

After those exertions, it seemed reasonable to celebrate with a party. Belfry Reform didn't prevent Branch members from having a great time at the Moorland Garden Hotel. Bishop Nick and his wife Jan were very welcome guests at the dinner. The two days of celebration were marked by the much appreciated warmth of welcome, particularly on the part of the people of Peter Tavy for making their church and, particularly, their bells available.

A hundred years of service is certainly something to be celebrated, and we trust it will be a firm foundation on which to build the next hundred years of ringing in our lovely corner of the County.



TOR AND TAVY W.I.

Each year our WI sets aside a sum of £250 to be awarded as a bursary to a member or members for use in learning or developing a skill of their choice. In December last, a group of 12 members were granted some of that money to undertake a quilting day under the guidance of Rosalind Wiggins from Lamerton. Rosalind is an expert Quilter and under her instruction we each made a Quillow, a cushion cover with blanket attached which, when folded and placed in the cover, made a pillow. Many of the ladies were beginners and were suitably pleased with their efforts which were completed, as promised by Ros, in one day.

Following hot on the heels of that day was our Christmas Craft evening led by our President when we returned to the use of Fimo modelling paste to make some very simple but effective decorations of snowmen and wreaths. These were baked in the oven while we held our business portion of the meeting and were ready to take home at the end.

We have a Cookery demonstration and Quiz night in the next two months and visitors and new members would be very welcome. 4th Thursday of each month in Mary Tavy Coronation Hall at 7.30pm.

- Corrie Grice

Who are They?



You may remember that we printed this photo in the last issue of the "Piper" and asked if anyone could recognise the faces. Thanks to *John and Graham Collins* we have an answer! This is the Christmas 1954 Nativity Play in Peter Tavy School (now the Village Hall). *Those standing, left to right, are:* Heather Rice, Valerie Saye, Carol Bedford, John Collins, Sandra Ball, Hugh Barratt, Tony Jeffrey, Brenda White, Graham Collins and Pam Miller. *Those kneeling in front, left to right:* Alfie Friend, Ian Miller, Susan Williams, Yvonne Rice, Jennifer Rice, Christine Ball, Geoffrey Bowhay and Sheila Ball.

1 in 10 households in Devon are classed as 'fuel poor'. Help us support communities to fight fuel poverty this winter

**Want to know
how to save
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winter?**

**Struggling
with energy
bills?**

**FREE personalised advice from
fully trained advisers on:**

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We can come to your community group or arrange 1-2-1 consultations

Contact: martin@devoncommunities.org.uk or aggie@devoncommunities.org.uk
or tel. 01392 248919

www.devoncommunities.org.uk/projects/big-energy-saving-network

DEVON COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

BIG ENERGY SAVING NETWORK

PETER TAVY INN



VALENTINE'S EVENING

.....a 15th Century Inn full of romance on the edge of the moor with wood-burning stoves, cosy corners and delicious food.

With a menu offering the Peter Tavy Inn classics and Valentine's specials.

The Peter Tavy Inn is the perfect place for your Valentine's Celebration.

Quiz Nights

Forthcoming dates for our very popular Quiz Nights are:

- Wed 19th February
- Wed 18th March
- Wed 15th April
- Wed 20th May

Quizzes start at 8pm.

There's 20% off food prices for quiz participants eating on the night.



www.petertavyinn.co.uk

01822 810348

Patrick's Competition

WIN A STAR PRIZE!

Order

Christmas is a busy time of the year and I received only two answers to my Dartmoor Quiz "In the Parish". Well done Alison Bullock (9) and Julie Hooper (7) and my thanks for your entries.

The answers I wanted were:

- 1) The MOD or Army.
- 2) Homer Red Lake.
- 3) Willsworthy.
- 4) The Langstone.
- 5) Peter Tor.
- 6) A cart loaded with peas overturned there.
- 7) Hare Tor & Sharp Tor
- 8) The Duke of Bedford.
- 9) North of the Wedlake Newtake..
- 10) Roos Tor.

So here's a second tranche of questions based on things you'll find...

"In the Parish": Part 2.

1. What is the familiar colour of the local hard rock/stone?
2. What was mined at "Black Shells"?
3. Who owned fields called "Sentry"?
4. Name the Reservoir at Horndon.
5. Where does water in the leat take-off at Hill Bridge go?
6. What does "C" on a stone signify?
7. Near which Wheal can you see Annie Pinkham's men?
8. What old settlement lies in fields north of Boulters Tor?
9. Name the Brook which flows through Cudlipptown.
10. How many bells are there in St. Peter's Church?



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

Answers to me at Brook Cottage or by e-mail: gpwcashell@btinternet.com
by: 1st April 2020

- Patrick Cashell.



PT on FB



Don't forget that the "Peter Tavy Community" facebook page can keep you up to date with lots of information about events and activities in the parish - as well as giving you the perfect place to discuss local topics like lost property / cats / peacocks(!); Weather and traffic issues facing the village... Etc, etc...!

THE WEEK

in **PETER TAVY**

regular events

Useful Phone Numbers

Peter Tavy Parish Council - Clerk

Alison Skillicorn 01822 810682

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

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

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

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

6.30pm / 7.15pm - Circuit Training, Village Hall - call Dave Coles on 07969 025315 to book

7.30pm Bellingring 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

10.30am bottom of Church Lane

Mornings West Dartmoor Art Group, Village Hall

6.30pm / 7.15pm - Circuit Training, Village Hall - call Dave Coles on 07969 025315 to book

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

- 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. 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.*