



Number 141 May 2021

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Chapel Plant Sale -
and take-away cream teas

Sat. 8th May (see p. 18)

A Community Café for Peter Tavy?

(find out more on p.19)



At the VILLAGE HALL:

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Pizza Take-away -
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FASTER BROADBAND for Peter Tavy?

The Parish Council would like to hear your views - see page 5

What's On?

IN PETER TAVY

CHURCH SERVICES: Covid precautions permitting, there are regular *Sunday Services* in our churches. Services at **St Peter's Church** are at 9.30am - usually a Communion Service - but please check the Church noticeboard for confirmation. Services at **Peter Tavy Methodist Church** are at 6.30pm.

MAY 2021

Sun 2nd	9.30am	Communion Service, St Peter's church
Thurs 6th	All day	Devon County Council and Police & Crime Commissioner elections - Please note, on this occasion the Polling Station is in the Chapel.
Sat 8th	11.00am - 4.00pm	Plant Sale and Take-away Cream Teas, Methodist Chapel Grounds
Tues 11th	TBC	APCM, St Peter's Church - watch for further details.
Mon 17th	12.00 noon	Peter Tavy Inn planning to re-open inside - see p.31
Thurs 20th	TBC	Village Hall AGM
Sat 22nd	from 5.30pm	"Pizza Hall" - pop up pizza takeaway, Village Hall car park (see p.21)
Tues 25th	meet 6.50pm	Evening Footpath Walk, meet at Village Hall (see page 30)

JUNE 2021

Sat 26th	7.30pm	Auction of Promises, Village Hall (see p.22)
Tues 29th	meet 6.50pm	Evening Footpath Walk, meet at Village Hall (see page 30)



HANDS



FACE



SPACE



REPLACE



The **Peter Tavy Piper** is our parish magazine, distributed free to every household in Peter Tavy. Its printing is funded by Peter Tavy Parish Council.

The *Piper* has been produced since 1984. In 'normal' times there are four issues each year, containing information, news and events listings for parishioners. But, as a result of the pandemic, this is the first issue to be produced since February 2020...And even now there are - for Peter Tavy - very few forthcoming events to tell you about. Let's hope that soon we can see that situation changing.

You can also find the *Piper* online on the www.petertavyparishcouncil.org website - go to the 'News' tab and click on 'The Piper' - there is an archive of previous editions there too, so you'll see how busy life here *usually* is!

Welcome to the first issue of the “*Piper*” in over a year. This special “return” issue is a one-off, being in colour - usually, we’re in stunning Black and White!

What a unique year this has been... As ever, we have seen the strength of our community as everyone came together to help one another through the difficult times. Special thanks to all those who volunteered their time and effort to achieve so much and to try to ensure that no-one was left feeling isolated or forgotten. Time has run strangely during the pandemic, and it’s easy to forget how much we have done together over the past twelve months - so we have devoted several pages in this issue to recall some of the positive things which we have managed to do together, helping to keep our Peter Tavy community spirit thriving.

We have seen many changes - and many comings and goings in the Parish. Welcome to those who have moved into Peter Tavy since our last issue - usually we would have hoped to see you at events and activities taking place, and properly invited you to become part of our strong community - hopefully in the months ahead the opportunity will arise for us all to meet one another...

But we’ve also said farewell to others, who have moved out of the community without the chance for us all to say goodbye and wish them well for the future - but be sure that all in the community certainly do!

And there have been other more final farewells. Those of us who have lost loved ones and friends during this terrible time are very grateful to the support we received from Peter Tavy. Many thanks for the respect and friendship shown by the community in lining the route as funeral processions left from the Church gate during the first lockdown. With so few people permitted to attend funerals, it was a great comfort to see so many friends and neighbours there to show their support.

We’re not sure when the next issue of the *Piper* may appear - such uncertainty still surrounds us that few events have been definitely set over the coming weeks and months - we’re still in a “wait and see” situation over our usual annual events. But keep sending us any important dates and events that you do know of so we can include them in a future issue if possible - and, if you find yourself with time on your hands, why not write us an article or contribution for the next issue?

- Steve and Ali Carreck (compilers)

1 Mill Cottages, Peter Tavy; email: steve.ali@care4free.net

KEEP IN TOUCH!

In the absence of a regular *Piper*, don’t forget there are two other vital local sources of information and news available...

The Parish Council website at

www.petertavyparishcouncil.org also hosts the pages of the **Peter Tavy Community Support Hub**, with regular updates and information on activities, help and services available....

And the **Peter Tavy Community Facebook Page** is a great resource for keeping the community in touch (www.facebook.com/groups/573295046209631).



PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

I took over as the Clerk to the Peter Tavy Parish Council back in August 2020 and what an eventful half a year it has been since. Several of our meetings have had to be held remotely via Zoom, and like things have been for everybody, the day to day running of Council business has been challenging. However, your Councillors have been working hard behind the scenes to help make this the wonderful Parish we are lucky enough to live in. The following is a brief overview of some of the achievements during the last half year or so.

The footpath from Coombe Gate up to the fields at Lower Godsworthy was reported to be blocked; the Dartmoor National Park (DNP) came out and cleared debris as far up as they could. *(If any of you intrepid walkers see any problems on our local footpaths, please feel free to let the Clerk know and these can be reported to the DNP who will do their best to help).*

Our roads continue to give the Council considerable concern and, although we have established a much better relationship with Devon Highways and Tom Lee our contact at Devon County Highways Department, there is still a considerable amount of work needing to be done. The resurfacing that took place in January caused more problems than it solved, with water being directed across the road above Genesta and by Lower Churchtown. The surface of the road up to Broadmoor has broken up badly over the winter and, although Highways acknowledge this, the repair work is to be spread over a number of years - this remains important to locals and visitors alike. The Parish Lengthsman has been working throughout the winter to keep our drains and ditches clear, and we have obtained a grant of £500 from the Highways Maintenance Community Enhancement Fund towards this work. This work now has to be paid for from the parish Precept, as Highways do not have the manpower or money to do all the maintenance needed.

Members of the Parish Council have been clearing the vegetation around the Mill Pond and a new lifebuoy has been purchased, thanks to financial help from West Devon Borough Councillor Terry Pearce's locality budget. Hopefully some hot weather will come shortly so that the pond can be enjoyed by all.

We are very lucky here to have such a wonderful playing field, full of fun things for a vast age range of children - a new see-saw has been a welcome addition in 2020.

We welcomed two new Councillors in the Autumn, they are Peter Randall and Martin Stephens both of whom are well-known figures in the village.

It was a real shame that the annual Childrens' Christmas party could not take place this year. However, to avoid the youngsters of the Parish missing out, the Peter Tavy Inn supplied us with some great parcels of yummy goodies. These were then taken around by the Community Hub, who have really made an enormous difference with their efforts during this awful pandemic.

The winter brought some icy mornings to our roads, but a band of merry "Salt Men" delivered the bags of salt around - and our thanks go out to them for doing

this in difficult conditions, making our lanes much safer. Since then, more salt bags have been delivered - just in time for it to start snowing again in April, let us hope the recent cold snap soon passes.

In late spring the important tradition of *Beating the Bounds* was due to take place. Unfortunately, given the ongoing uncertainty surrounding public gatherings, this event will have to be postponed. Watch this space for updates on a rescheduled date. This is such a shame but everybody's safety has to be a priority.

Some of you will be aware of the renovations going on at the Village Hall, a much-appreciated and well-used facility here. As a result, a donation has been given to the Village Hall Committee, to help with costs of additional unforeseen works. It will be lovely to see the Hall open and being used by the community again.

Stay Safe

Email petertavypc@hotmail.co.uk

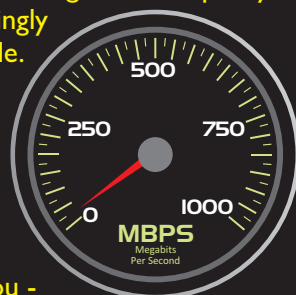
- Michelle Widdows, Parish Clerk

www.petertavyparishcouncil.org

BROADBAND IN PETER TAVY PARISH

The Parish Council would like to know if **you** would like to get better quality, faster broadband - something that is becoming increasingly important for all aspects of life for us in the countryside.

There are sources of government funding for work that will allow installation of fast broadband, but these require an organized application by the whole community. The Council can help with this, if there is sufficient interest in the Parish.



So, if you are interested, we would like to hear from you - whether you are an individual, a small business or working from home.

To let us know, please contact the Parish Clerk with your name and address at petertavypc@hotmail.co.uk - or, if you don't have e-mail, telephone **Harry White** on 01822 811030, leaving a message if we are not in.

Notes: At the moment, it would seem most of those living outside the village itself are those with very low speeds. However, even people in the village with speeds around 50-70Mbps (Megabits Per Second) can attract funding through the government's pledge to get 1,000Mbps to us all. This will become increasingly important in the future to ensure that we can all fully access new and existing services, products and ways of working.

We are keen to hear from small businesses and self-employed workers, as it is possible to attract a higher level of government grant for businesses that are part of community bids for broadband funding.

CONTACT US NOW, so we can get under way!

What A Year!

Since the last edition of the “Piper” in February 2020 life has changed in so many ways. Sometimes, it feels as though we have all been standing still and very little has happened in Peter Tavy as events were cancelled or postponed, and we were all confined to our homes for much of the time.

But when we started to look back over a very different twelve months here, it seemed worth recalling all that has still happened, working together in our community as always, and finding ways to have fun “together, apart”.



March 2020 -

As things began to look serious, there were ominous signs of things to come as the Village Hall's planned film show and talk were “postponed” (*little did we realise how long that “postponement” might be - we still await an answer to that!*)

On Friday 20th, following the new Government rules, the **Peter Tavy Inn** closed (*see page 28*).

Then on 23rd March the first national Lock-down came into force.



For the safety of its residents, **Spring House** had already moved into lockdown, so friends' and relatives' visits were no longer possible. The wonderful dedicated team there continued (and continue!) to provide care and support for residents throughout the pandemic, working selflessly in the difficult and emotionally-draining conditions. They were in our thoughts as we joined the “**Clap for Carers**” on Thursday evenings.

April 2020 -

People in Peter Tavy responded rapidly to the developing crisis with offers of help for friends and neighbours flooding in... to co-ordinate all the efforts, the “**Peter Tavy Community Support Hub**” was established, reaching out through web pages kindly made available by the Parish Council; through the Peter Tavy Community Facebook group, and through printed flyers and word-of-mouth to those with no internet access.



Thanks to Jo and Chris at The Peter Tavy Inn, the **POP-UP SHOP** was established and came to provide a vital lifeline, delivering (courtesy of Steve and Clare Balm) fruit and veg, dairy and dry goods and butchery products to the doorsteps of very many grateful parishioners.

At **Harford Bridge Holiday Park**, Paul Williamson opened the Park shop to parishioners to call with orders and collect goods safely from the porch outside, widening the range of items available to Peter Tavy residents who were self-isolating or wished to avoid too many shopping trips further afield.



The pandemic has been particularly unsettling for **children and young people**, with long periods of school closure leading to a lack of opportunities to socialise with friends, adapting to remote distance learning at home, and concerns for those due to take important exams.



The Pop-Up Shop delivery team became familiar and welcome visitors for many grateful parishioners.

Other businesses also stepped up their delivery services to households in the parish - **Mary Tavy Post Office** supplied their wide range of goods, while Ellis' bakery and the wonderful butchers of Tavistock added to the range of fresh goods available.



When not home schooling, and during holiday breaks, Sandra Dodd's regular "**Messy Church**" activities and craft projects on the Community Hub web pages kept many of the younger parishioners occupied - and mid-month we had two competitions - decorating chocolate Easter eggs and designing (on paper) the very best Easter egg ever...



May 2020 -

With the first Lockdown still in force, the annual Chapel Plant Sale and Cream Teas could not be held, but ingeniously transformed into a "self-service" plant stall in the Bus Shelter... *we arrived rather too late in the day.* (This year, the plant sale is happening on 8th May in the Chapel grounds - see p.18).



Peter Tavy marked the commemoration of VE Day - the end of the Second World War in Europe - at home, observing the two minutes' silence, enjoying the day in our gardens, and with beautifully decorated gateways, home-made commemorative medals, and specially-created cakes. Thoughtfully crafted decorated pebbles were also placed around the village.



We were urged to "Stay Alert" as May continued, but a plan was announced for the conditional lifting of lockdown, which started in June.



Scenes of Pandemic Life



Steve Balm digging an escape tunnel out of self isolation or installing an underground bunker? No...just backfilling mole tunnels!



Braving a home haircut



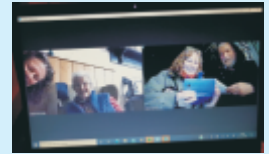
Chapel Yew Tree for quiet reflection



Impressive signage at Launceston Covid Test Centre



Safe areas at St Peter's



Zoom 'doorstep carols'



Self-test at home kits



Watching Boris...

And of course we're all now familiar with new words and phrases... furlough, Zoom, self-isolate, bubble, social distancing, WFH, PPE, key workers, "unprecedented" etc.

During the pandemic, we all gained increased appreciation of how lucky we are to live in such beautiful surroundings - and can take our daily exercise in the stunning Dartmoor scenery. Soon a "4.00pm walk" became a habit for many parishioners, and it was impossible to go far without meeting - in a socially-distanced, accidental sort-of-way - friends and neighbours following the same route!



Photo: Abi Ball

June 2020 -

The first Lockdown began to ease with schools and non-essential shops starting to re-open. Restrictions began to be relaxed - we were able to form "Support Bubbles" and the "one metre plus" guidelines were introduced - staying 1 metre apart with additional measures to reduce transmission risks.

Thanks to Jess - and Mary Tavy Primary School - in our "bubbles" we were also able to enjoy delicious cream teas delivered to our gardens - a real treat!

At the end of June, our Community Support Hub's new project for the parish began - and the call went out for photographs to be included in a proposed **Peter Tavy Calendar for 2021**.



July 2020 -

While pubs, restaurants and hairdressers were re-opening, Peter Tavy held its "Alternative Flower and Plant Festival", and an "at your garden gate" table-top sale alongside the event. Every four years, the parish holds its Flower Festival, with displays in the church, refreshments in the Chapel, and a local history exhibition in the Village Hall. The 2020 festival had to change, so floral displays were at gateways around the parish. Maps of the locations were available from the bus shelter. The proximity-activated misbehaving baby in a pram outside Beulah was a particular talking point!

August 2020 -

The "Eat Out to Help Out" scheme was introduced, and lockdown restrictions eased still further. Mid-month, in Peter Tavy we marked VJ Day.

Our usual grand Summer Fayre could not be held, so an "**Alternative Peter Tavy Fayre**" was developed to carry on many of the traditions in a safe and secure way.

Competitions were, as always, a key part of the day, with creative displays at parishioners' gateways, or photographs of entries and texts of results...



"GARDENING" COMPETITIONS...

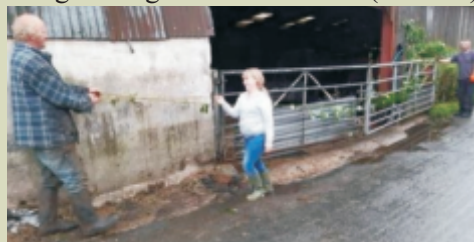
Included classes (*some of them more unusual than others*) for:

Longest Runner Bean (38.5cm)

Shortest Carrot (2cm)

Flower the judge would most like to take home

Longest length of cut bramble (8.72 m!)

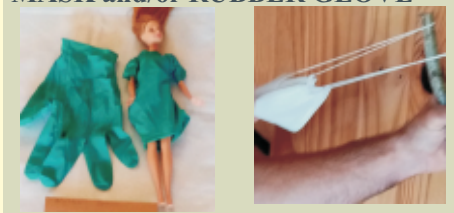


Chubb Farm's prize-winning bramble

GATE or DOORWAY DECORATIONS



MOST CREATIVE USE of a FACE-MASK and/or RUBBER GLOVE



Then there was a "Virtual Duck Race" - as we couldn't all gather to watch the (plastic) ducks make their way down the Colley Brook as usual, the event

was held in a special "virtual" way, with villagers backing a duck to win for £1... there were 105 ducks in the race!

Finally, the annual meeting of The Dartmoor Teddy Bears' Dangerous Sports Association, which usually takes place at the Fayre, could not be held, but cuddly toys were invited to take part in a challenge at home by making a jump in a home-made parachute. Star for the day was Flossie the cuddly toy fish, jumping in her stylish Co-Op carrier bag 'chute!



Aftermath of the "Virtual Duck Race"...

The "Alternative Fayre" also featured challenges to undertake in your own garden, including Welly Throwing (max. distance achieved - 65 feet) and highest number of Star Jumps made in 1 minute (71).



Meanwhile, Refreshments are always another big part of the Village Fayre, and we didn't want to miss out this year - so villagers could collect their pre-ordered cream teas to enjoy at home - in their gardens, because - as is usually the case (!?) - Peter Tavy's Fayre day turned out to be sunny and warm.

Take-away Village Fayre cream teas in your garden



September 2020 -

As September drew on, new regulations began to be introduced, including the "Rule of Six" for social gatherings.

Here in Peter Tavy an outdoor socially-distanced Family Harvest Thanksgiving Service was held in the Chapel grounds. Donated produce and goods were collected for Tavistock Food Bank, and we enjoyed a Harvest wreath-making workshop.



October 2020 -

Mid-October saw the introduction of the three-tier system of Covid alerts and restrictions, but by the end of the month a second National Lockdown was being announced.

Before that came into force, Peter Tavy was able to hold a safe and socially-distanced "Pumpkin and Light Trail" at the end of the month, with a map guiding families through the darkness around the village to find where many creative residents had placed carved pumpkins and lights outside their houses.

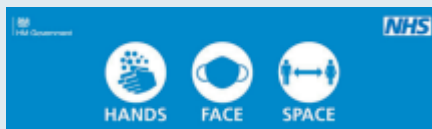


And in October the great Calendar Project also came to fruition and went to print - combining the efforts of so many people around Peter Tavy. By the end of the month, the first print-run had sold out, and demand continued so a second run was ordered - which sold out by the start of December.



November 2020 -

The second National Lockdown began on 5th November, in a bid to save the NHS from being overwhelmed as case numbers rose.



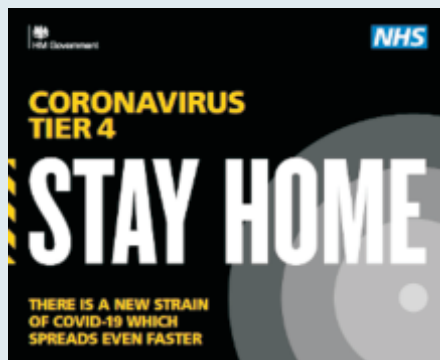
In Peter Tavy, the “Pop-Up Shop” sprang back into action from the Peter Tavy Inn, and at the end of the month Sandra Dodd took over operations to ensure that the service would continue to be available - as it still is... Thank you, Sandra!

We marked Remembrance Day in a careful and different way - without a service in St Peter’s or the Methodist Church, but with a dignified distanced procession - bearing the names of Peter Tavy's fallen - through the heart of the village from Spring House to the War Memorial. Here we held a short act of remembrance and a Church bell tolled. Afterwards beautifully- painted pebbles were placed around the war memorial.



December 2020:

The second national lockdown was replaced by a new, stricter three tier system in England. Although it was initially hoped that rules on social gatherings could be relaxed over Christmas, this proved not to be possible, and England gradually moved into a new tougher extra Tier 4 - “Stay at Home” alert level.



December 2020 -

Celebrations of Christmas were muted in Peter Tavy, and we all missed our usual Christmas meals at the pub; “nativity around the village”; carol singers making their way from house to house, and our range of services in St Peter’s and the Methodist Church.

But we were able to enjoy a “socially distanced” nativity in the grounds of the Chapel, and “carols on your doorstep”, with loudspeakers set up in the centre of the village to give a lead to parishioners gathered on their doorsteps to join together in signing the familiar hymns - followed by a range of now-traditional Christmas songs!

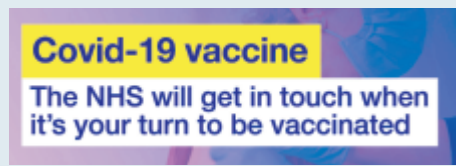


Socially-distanced open-air nativity, with families in their “bubbles” outside the Chapel.

St Peter’s Church were able to hold a Christmas Eve service - with limited numbers and a call to “pre-book” places to ensure social distancing. On Christmas morning, in place of our usual peal of bells greeting the day, only two bells could sound, (luckily we have two ringers in the same household..), But our full band of ringers could not meet up in the enclosed space of the bell tower.

Two bells again rang out to welcome the new year after the chime of midnight on December 31st.

Within a few days, we entered the third National Lockdown.



January 2021 -

The first Covid 19 vaccines had been administered in December, and throughout January and onwards, the programme was rolled out to successive age groups.

February 2021 -

On the 11th of February, the “Great Fire of Peter Tavy” (almost...) lit the night sky with an ominous orange glow as moorland blazed until it was extinguished the next morning.



This month also saw the “Bags of Time” crafting group begin their regular on-line “Zoom” gatherings on Friday afternoons, and over the weeks since then they have produced some wonderful varied projects (*see page 17*).

Around Valentine's Day, parishioners were urged to "spread the love" and heart-painted pebbles began again to appear around the village.

A **"Pop-Up" takeaway** meals service was provided for one evening by the "Riverside Diner" in Peter Tavy Square, accompanied by an entertaining **"Virtual Quiz Night"** hosted online by Steve and Clare Balm.

The February Lock-Down Quiz

In normal times we have had the pleasure of meeting together in the Village Hall or the Pub for a quiz accompanied by a pasty or a meal. But this February that was not to be so we had to conjure up an alternative!

Sandra arranged a take-away for delivery to the village and others prepared quiz questions. Several intrepid families braved the torrential rain to retrieve the soggy quiz with their meal and some logged on via zoom for the answers and a further challenge.

Individuals of all ages brought different expertise, with Edward Dodd gaining extra points by knowing not only the location of the benches in the picture quiz but giving us all interesting information about the people they are dedicated to. There was also a 'Generation Game' conveyor belt challenge testing memories.

When points were added up the Walker family were victorious, showing that youth and experience are a winning combination!

We also learned a bit of village history during the evening, as Joe Pitt pointed out the "Magical Fairy Door" on the tree in the background of the picture near the Clam Bridge. Edward told us its intriguing history and the next day we were one of three families who went to find it, but sadly didn't as the river was so high! When you are next crossing the Clam Bridge look out for it, who lives there and what are their stories, I wonder? *- Clare Balm*



March 2021:

The Government's "Roadmap from Lockdown" was set out.

On the following day, 23rd March, the parish joined together to mark the National Day of Reflection, marking the anniversary of the first National Lockdown, remembering all those we have lost - and all the sacrifices people have made - over the past difficult year. A bell tolled from St Peter's after the minute's silence at noon, and in the evening many village houses showed lights at their doorsteps and windows.





April 2021 -

As our second Easter during the Pandemic arrived, Easter in Peter Tavy was again different to “normal”, but there were some stunning and memorable events and activities. We all enjoyed warm weather and bright sunshine, able, as restrictions eased, to meet with long-missed friends and relatives in the open air.

On Palm Sunday the two church bells rang out again at the socially-distanced service at St Peter’s, while the parish’s “Easter Trail” began to appear - as it extended during Holy Week up to Easter Sunday, it told the story of Easter through thought-provoking displays stretching from the Colley Bridge up to the gate onto Smeardon Down.

On Good Friday, following a short service outside in the churchyard, a large cross was set up on Smeardon Down, visible on the skyline from the village below.

Easter morning saw a wonderful open air Chapel service on the edge of Smeardon, where parishioners joined together, sang hymns, took part in activities, and then enjoyed hot-cross buns and bacon butties in the morning sun. Two bells (but not necessarily the same two!) rang out again an hour or so later for a service of said communion.

And the Community Support Hub held another Easter Egg decorating competition - with chocolate half-eggs available for a donation of 50p to Dartmoor Rescue Group (*thanks to Carol for donating the eggs*) - and a range of clever and well thought-out entries sent in.



Later in April 2021 - life starting to return to normal in Peter Tavy?!

'BAGS of TIME' - a Crafty Way to while away Lockdown

As the winter months give way to longer days, daffodils and (some) blue skies, Sandra's fantastic new village craft club initiative has helped many of us discover newfound talents for decorative work, as well as enabling us to access much-needed social time with friends in the village.

No matter what the weather, our Friday afternoon zoom calls with Sandra and Jane have enabled us to share our skills as well as other news; projects so far have ranged from creating an 'apple' box out of wool felt to building a beautiful bird-house with natural materials such as reeds, wood and ivy.

As you walk through the village you may be lucky enough to spot some of our 'makes', which also include colourful wreaths made out of scraps of material. One week we were tasked with making drawings out of a recovered lump of charcoal from the hearth. This particular task, which I thought would be too tricky to accomplish, resulted in a portrait of my daughter which she, a stern and discerning critic if ever there was one, declared worthy of framing. The now-framed portrait, entitled: 'Girl with a Sandwich', shows what you can do in three minutes flat with a crumbly piece of charcoal and a subject intent on eating her lunch. I would never have attempted it without Sandra's encouragement, but now I have my very own piece of lock-down art on display.



The club does show how many truly accomplished crafters there are in the village. At a time of lockdown, bad weather and deep anxiety, making something decorative has a transformational effect on mood; being able to spend a little time chatting to others about it is even better, especially as it is easy to start to feel isolated. Sandra's gentle guidance makes everyone feel comfortable, and the sessions have unleashed creativity where it has lain dormant. I always look forward to 'Friday drop-off' when a little bag of materials arrives on the doorstep, containing the makings of the week's project.

Above all, as the weeks have progressed, it has made us aware of the changing of the seasons, how we can celebrate and welcome change into our lives and our homes, and make us just that little bit more bolstered through what has been a long and difficult time. Above all, it feels immensely lucky to be living in a place like Peter Tavy, where community spirit remains very high even through the challenges of the twenty-first century, thanks in great part to some of the tirelessly positive and hard-working people we have to show us the way.

- Sue Tranfield, Sunnyside

('Bags of Time' meets on Zoom until lockdown restrictions are lifted). If you are interested in joining, please contact Sandra Dodd withbusybees@outlook.com

SEE MORE PHOTOS of parishioners' crafting and making skills on the pages under "Things to Do" on the www.petertavyparishcouncil.org website.



METHODIST CHURCH NEWS

Well, what a year in the life of the village, which has seen mining come and go; two world wars; many royal events; a week without television; England win the World Cup, and now lockdown from the COVID- 19 pandemic!

And yet what has not changed is the spirit of the Villagers as they look out and care for each other. We all feel so proud and honoured to live here.

The Chapel has been able to continue to provide that little sanctuary away from life and to focus on God but in a very different way. Some have appreciated sitting under the Yew Tree, reading the Service at home sheets, or meeting in small groups to talk. Sometimes services have been allowed and our time together, without singing, feels so different but even more important. The weather was kind to us as we held the Harvest Festival around the Yew Tree, when we focused on the way we are so richly blessed with regular good food, clean water and a substantial roof over our heads.

During a dark October evening we celebrated a Trail of Light around the village with many wonderfully carved pumpkins and other lamps. A cup of hot chocolate and a doughnut was just what was needed after the trail. The usual roaming Nativity became static this year, with social distancing, as we gathered around the Yew Tree. For many this symbolises the start of Christmas and being outside we could make a joyful, if not tuneful attempt at singing the carols. The traditional carol singing around the village was replaced by “carols on your doorstep” as they were blasted out around the village. Some memorable moments - but knowing the future ahead is brighter.

- David Dodd

Peter Tavy Methodist Church

PLANT SALE and CREAM TEAS

Sat. 8th May, 11.00am - 4.00pm in the Chapel Grounds

Through the pandemic, most villagers have been spotted beaver away in their gardens, doing all the jobs that have been waiting for years. Rumour has it that there will not be a single weed left in Peter Tavy by June this year!

Well, maybe not, but here is your chance to brighten up your flower and vegetable beds. We are holding the Annual Plant sale in the grounds of the Chapel on **Saturday 8th May** over a longer period to avoid crowds, so running from **11am to 4pm**. (Numbers of people allowed in the grounds at one time will be restricted.)

We would very much appreciate any gifts of plants to join with those we have grown plus some bedding plants obtained from a local nursery.

Takeaway Cream Teas will be available for your well-deserved rest after planting out all your purchases!

(Contact David on 810776 if you have any questions.)

The YEW TREE PROJECT

A Community Café for Peter Tavy?

What have you missed most since lockdown ? Is it those wild nights out to the nightclubs of Plymouth? Perhaps it's those "shop till you drop" sessions at your favourite retail venue? Or maybe the excitement of watching your local team losing again! But more likely it is the lack of gathering and chatting with others, both family and friends.

We are intending to set up a weekly Community Café at the Chapel, called "**The Yew Project.**" It will run alongside the monthly Soup Lunches and other initiatives, which have started during the past year. The aim is that it will be run by the Community for the community. It is intended that local produce and craft can be brought and sold too.

To manage the café we are looking for six willing volunteers who would be happy to be trained and organise a team of 3 others to staff the café approximately once every 2 months. It goes without saying that all planning and gatherings will follow the up to date COVID restrictions and the safety of all being the utmost concern.

There will be opportunities for cooks and someone/s to manage the stall etc too....

Anyone interested please speak to Sandra or email withbusybees@outlook.com , or David or email davidbeulah@outlook.com



PETER TAVY - Perfect in a Pandemic!

This last year has been a challenge for so many but, of all the places one could be stuck and required to stay close to, this has to be one of the best! The Pop-Up Shop kept us supplied and safe and the Community Hub kept us informed. Chats with fellow villagers kept us positive! Although we live in a beautiful location, what makes it so special is the people in it - and their energy to make all that happen.

A huge thank you to you all from a grateful villager.

TOR AND TAVY W.I.

Like most other organisations we have been unable to hold meetings for a year now but the National Federation of WI have been working hard in the background to provide Zoom sessions on many different subjects and have been updating their Constitution to enable more WI matters to be dealt with online. Tor & Tavy WI have a "ready to go" programme lined up when the all clear is given and are ready to welcome new members to our meetings on the 4th Thursday of each month at the Coronation Hall in Mary Tavy. Enquiries to: torandtavy@devonwi.org.uk - Corrie Grice



GP
1880

On your daily walks, you may have spotted the initials "GP" and date 1880 carved into a large granite stone by the steps leading up into the top end of the churchyard. *Bill Lane* has been investigating, and initially wondered if the letters were "CP", for "Civil Parish". But thanks to a clean up by *The French family* it's clear they are "GP" and *Patrick Cashell* has confirmed that a certain "George Palmer" was a Churchwarden in 1880 - so... Mystery solved.

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Village Hall Chairman: Carol Myott

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

VILLAGE HALL AGM

Thursday 20th May

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

The meeting will be held in line with the Covid precautions in force at the time - watch out for further details.

Well, as the pandemic developed last year, we debated long and hard but eventually agreed that we should cancel our planned film show and talk in mid-March - six days later the country went into its first lockdown.

Since then, the Hall has scarcely been used, although committee members took it in turns to make daily checks inside the Hall throughout 2020 - partly to fulfil the requirements of our insurers, but also to generally monitor the building and check for any problems.

As the Covid restrictions eased in the summer, one of our regular Hall bookers, the West Dartmoor Art Group, did manage to hold a couple of socially-distanced meetings with restricted numbers. But soon we were back with stricter rules forbidding social gatherings indoors, so the Hall fell empty again. It has been very odd to see the Hall standing idle for so long.

At Christmas we set up the familiar Hall Christmas tree in the window, so that its twinkling lights would add to the decorations in the centre of the village.

The Village Hall relies on its users and bookers to fund its maintenance and continuation, so the committee has been concerned by our lack of income. But we were very fortunate (and extremely grateful!) to receive Government grant assistance via West Devon Borough Council. This has helped us to meet our regular inevitable outgoings and routine maintenance costs, holding the Hall ready for a return to life. In the meantime, the Hall committee are organising some events and projects (*see opposite*) which will, we hope, not only raise funds, but also help to draw together the community and remind you that the Hall is *your* facility, on *your* doorstep and available to *you* when you need it!

Our Village Hall AGM takes place (*in theory...*) on Thursday 20th May. If Covid restrictions then in force permit, we hope that the meeting will be open to all and held in the Hall - and that you will come along to find out more about the Hall (and sneak a peek at the new floor and windows!) - and share your ideas and suggestions for its future.

While the Hall has been closed, we have been very fortunate to also receive grant aid towards a major project to re-floor the Hall (you may remember that the old boards were getting worryingly spongy in places, and had even rotted away in one corner), and to install new double-glazed windows throughout. More about this on page 23... but timing has, in the end, worked out well - we could undertake this work at a time when the Hall was forced to be closed anyway.

One more point to note, though - unfortunately, in the forthcoming elections on May 6th, the Hall will not be fulfilling its usual role as our local Polling Station (it wasn't 100% clear that all the ongoing project work would be completed by then) - you'll have to walk that little bit further to the Chapel to cast your vote!



PETER TAVY VILLAGE HALL

“Pop-Up”

PIZZA TAKEAWAY

Saturday 22nd May

PRE-ORDERING ESSENTIAL

**Time slots available for collection between
5.30pm and 8.00pm**

Choose from Margherita, Veggie or Meat Feast Pizzas

- all cooked in wood-fired pizza ovens

Pizza only £7.50 Pizza, coleslaw, salad and garlic bread £10

Choice of puddings: Tiramisu or Chocolate Roulade £2.50

Pre-ordering essential. Last date for ordering Wednesday 19th May.

**All orders to Elaine Macintosh preferably via email to elaineptvh@icloud.com
(or by phone on 01822 810271).**

When emailing, please let us know:

- how many of which type of pizza,
- whether pizza alone or pizza plus coleslaw, salad and garlic bread
- and any puddings required.
- Please also let us know your preferred collection time and a contact number.

Cash payments on collection.

Please collect your pizza from the Village Hall carpark within your time slot as arranged when placing your order.

Please observe social distancing and wear face masks

PETER TAVY VILLAGE HALL **100 CLUB**

We hope to set up a “100 club” in the village this summer. (So if you're not sure what a “100 Club” is, there's time to ask someone!) More details to follow soon.

SILENT “AUCTION OF PROMISES”

In aid of Peter Tavy Village Hall
Saturday 26th June 2021 at 7.30pm

Everyone has something to offer somebody else! We are compiling a “Catalogue of Promises” to be circulated locally. The Promises will then be auctioned off to raise funds to help us finish re-furbishing the hall.

Here are just a few suggestions of possible 'Promises' you might like to make to help support the Hall. Once you start to think about it, the possibilities are endless.

- *Young People* - Wash car / bikes; do a litter pick; show someone how to properly use a mobile phone/ Ipad etc.
- *Keen cooks* - Bake and provide a cake a month for 6 months; give a lesson in bread making; host a cream tea / dinner party etc.
- *Hobbyists* - Give a lesson in fishing; teach someone basic knitting; do 3 hours gardening; lead a guided walk; take someone letter boxing etc.
- *Household skills*- Ironing, dog walking, taxi ride to .?., clean an oven! etc.
- *Or donate a quality item/unwanted gift.* (Please give an accurate description and a photo if needed. e.g. a bottle of Jura malt whisky; a pair of brand new ladies Hunter wellies, green, size 5; a stainless steel dog bowl, never been used.) *Sorry we cannot accept electrical goods.*

TO OFFER YOUR ‘PROMISE’, please complete the form included with this Piper. Then post it in the PROMISES box near the main entrance to the Village Hall, **by June 1st 2021.** (Alternatively, email details to susiepitt@btinternet.com)

If you have queries, please phone Jayne on 01822 810277 (pref. after 7.00 pm)

BIDDING

If you wish to bid for a Promise/s, simply fill out the bidding form which will be included with the Catalogue of Promises and post it in the BIDS box which will be placed outside the hall door. Or bid online.

The Auction will take place on June 26th 2021 at 7.30pm

...in one of two possible ways, according to the Covid rules then in force:

1. If still in lockdown, the highest bidder will be the successful purchaser of each lot. NB If there is more than one top bid for a promise we will contact those bidders and give them a chance to up their bid or quit! We will then contact the purchaser for payment and provide a paper copy of the Promise(s).
2. If - as currently planned -we are allowed to meet up by June, we will have a Live Auction at the hall, either inside or out, depending on rules and regs. Written bids will still be used as a base-line but people at the auction will have the chance to bid higher if they wish. If you *really* want something, come along so you can raise your bid with the auctioneer. All payments to be made on the night and a paper promise will be given showing details of your purchase(s).

Watch out for full details of the auction nearer the time.

What's been going on... in the Village Hall?

We were very fortunate to obtain a major grant from the Greater Dartmoor LEAF (Local Enterprise Action Fund) programme to press ahead with installing a new “sprung” floor in the Hall, and installing double-glazed windows throughout. Thanks to all those who worked on our grant application - particularly Carol Myott - for all their careful and thorough work. We are also grateful to West Devon Borough Council and to Peter Tavy Parish Council for their offers of supplementary grant funding to cover elements of unforeseen expenditure and additional work required.



The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development: Europe investing in rural areas has supported this Village Hall project to replace the floor and windows

The Hall committee also thanks committee member Peter Randall for his ongoing dedication to overseeing the works, throughout the Covid lockdown - and also the floor installer, Martin Axford, for his professional and diligent approach and assistance in meeting the unforeseen challenges which arose during the project.

Work began on the Village Hall floor on 8th February this year. The old floorboards and joists were removed, revealing rocks and soil beneath, and a lot of dampness, particularly at the upper (eastern) end, which seemed partially due to the airbricks built into the walls becoming blocked up over time.

At the doorway to the store room at the back of the hall (the “old kitchen”) a broken drain was found. Once soil around it was disturbed, water poured in! The outside water table seemed to be about 8 inches above the floor level, and in the very wet weather at the start of the year, the ground was thoroughly waterlogged. Water streamed into the sub-floor level and formed pools in several places.



Old floor going...



Old floor gone - enter the water! (It got much, much worse than this...)



New floor (and skirting, and trunking!) in place. Next... the windows!

So we needed emergency drainage before work on the floor could go any further. A new drain was installed below the level of the storeroom floor, directing any water out to external pipes. Further up the bank, in the grass area behind the Hall, a second french drain was installed to catch groundwater before it reaches the Hall, and reduce the pressure inside.

New floor joists were then set in place throughout the main hall. These carry a layer of insulation, over which there is a layer of flooring chipboard. The new “Sprung” floor - of beech - rests on a springy layer of foam on top of this. Unfortunately, the new floorboards were “lost in transit” for ten days (!), which - alongside the unexpected emergency drainage work - caused some delays. But the floorboards, which have a good layer of hard varnish, are now in place, held by special clips to allow replacement if needed. We anticipate that some scuffing will be inevitable, and to try to reduce this, we will have thick coir mats at each entrance door.

Previously, all the Hall's electrical wiring had run below floor level (in the very damp conditions...!) and this has now been brought safely up above the floor in trunking, all around the hall, with additional power points added, increasing flexibility of use of the space.

Alongside a new high-capacity dehumidifier, a ventilating fan has now been added to trickle a flow of air through the under-floor space.

The next phase of the works - installation of replacement double-glazed windows - began on 20th April, and following “making good” inside, that is now completed.



Although some re-plastering has been undertaken where obviously necessary, particularly where the plaster had “blown” and become very loose, the Hall committee will now be considering how best to tackle a full redecoration of the main Hall. Another task is the replacement of the curtains and rails; but the list goes on (familiar to all of us who live in a historic building!) with the need for a surface drain down the outside wall of the Hall, the ongoing problem of dampness in the main (south) wall facing the road, and the reinstatement of facilities in the store room...

Having said that, we hope that the Hall will soon be ready, once Covid rules permit, to once again host events and activities - and to allow all parishioners to come in and see what's changed in your Hall!

Patrick's PERAMBULATIONS



2020 - 2021 - a year, I feel sure, we will wish to forget, yet we have pulled through, following the governmental guidance and restrictive measures to stay at home, self-isolate and protect the NHS. I found it a “tough ask” and soon realised that I might never set out to the Moor again. Walking the roads locally proved a painful experience but at least I tried to get my legs doing what my brain told me I had to do, if and when the weather allowed.

Inevitably, my thoughts were centred on those energetic and explorative walks over Dartmoor with Angela, and I missed the letterbox hunting which, in an almost childlike way, gave us so much pleasure. I confess that I was once warned by a fellow 'boxer' that the 'game' becomes an obsession. Yes, I think he was right, but it has been part of my education and I have learnt so much and have enjoyed the challenges, the physicality required and the satisfaction of gaining some of the knowledge of a Moorman.

2021 is 7 years after the last *Beating of the Bounds* of the Parish of Peter Tavy and the Peter Tavy Manor, details of which will be announced by the Parish Council.

In the weeks before the event I think some of you might enjoy getting into shape on a circular walk centred on the East Dart River and beginning and ending in Postbridge National Park Car Park. Head over to the Information Centre. Follow the path north, through a gate, leaving the wall on your right, pass Roundy Park, where you can examine the Cairn and Cist, then leap across Braddon Lake, and keeping the wall on your right make the steady climb up to a ladder stile and over on to Broad Down.

The track is clear and you drop down to a waterfall on the East Dart, where you can cross the river to continue east to cross Winney's Down Brook, through a gate in a wall to follow the path to Lade Hill Brook, which you cross, turn north and find the “Beehive Hut”. Turn back to take the path close to the river until you come to a gate, turn east and, keeping the wall on your right, pass another gate on your way to the 'Scotch Sheepfold'. Return to this gate, which opens to the south and open ground towards Hartland Tor, drop down to the riverside path and keep to it, leaving Hartlyland (an attractive house behind you), cross open ground to join a recognised path via gates to the B3212.

Turn right and make your way over the bridge, past the PO & Store to the Car Park. I recommend The East Dart Hotel for a well-earned pint of Jail Ale.

- Patrick Cashell.





St. PETER's CHURCH NEWS

In such a difficult year, our churchwardens (Peter Tinson and Angela Collins) have worked hard to maintain services at St Peter's when the regulations have permitted it. We are very grateful to the clergy who have been able to come along and lead those services. How strange it has been to register names on entering the church, ensure that hand sanitiser has been used, and then sit apart, socially-distanced, in alternate pews, wearing our masks, and unable to sing out our hymns. But we have all enjoyed the opportunity to be together and follow the services alongside friends and neighbours - and to listen to the hymns on the organ, singing along in our heads!

During the year, a corner of the ceiling at the back of the nave collapsed - fortunately there was no-one underneath! - leaving a large hole. We've had this repaired, but now we are planning for more major work on the church tower.

Unable to have our usual Harvest Festival celebrations, our more restricted Harvest Thanksgiving Service nevertheless raised £450 to be divided between our chosen charities: Sightsavers, Shelterbox and the Farm Community Network. In



November a short Remembrance Day service was held around the war memorial. We were particularly glad that services remained possible on Christmas Eve, and again in the Easter season this year, including the simple moving service of reflection in the churchyard, on Good Friday.

Alongside services, we have also sought, whenever possible, to keep our beautiful ancient church open for private prayer and reflection.

When - as we all hope - Covid restrictions can be relaxed, we look forward to welcoming you at our services again - meanwhile, do take the time to visit and enjoy the calm tranquility of our ancient church building, and sit a while to pray, reflect or gather your thoughts in peace.

St Peter's churchyard - looking stunning again this year with a carpet of primroses and celandines (*left*) - was awarded a **Certificate of Merit in Devon CPRE's "Devon's Best Churchyard Competition", 2020**. The judges commented that all the churches they visited - which included Peter Tavy - were doing a great job of making their churchyards appealing places for people and wildlife.

As you'll probably know, St Peter's is without its own incumbent clergyman at the moment. So here are some words from an open letter written by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York recently, with some thoughts to ponder:

"We... know that poorer communities, minority ethnic communities and those living with disabilities have been afflicted disproportionately and cry out for the healing of these inequalities. During this pandemic, we encourage everyone to do all they can to live within the guidelines...following the advice of the Chief Medical Officer and Chief Scientific Adviser. We show our commitment, care and love for one another by ensuring we do everything we can to stop the virus spreading.

"None of this is easy. Very many of us are experiencing isolation, loneliness, anxiety and despondency like never before. Many people have lost their livelihoods. Our economy struggles. Also, the necessary restrictions we live with have also prevented us from being alongside loved ones as they died, or even at their graveside. All grief profoundly affects us, but this pandemic grief is so hard.

"Therefore, we need to support each other. We do this by following the guidelines. But we also do it by reaching out to each other with care and kindness.

"One thing we can all do is pray. We hope it is some consolation to know that the church prays for the life of our nation every day. Whether you're someone of faith, or not, we invite you to call on God in prayer... More than ever, this is a time when we need to love each other. Prayer is an expression of love."

MOBILE LIBRARY Back on the Road!

The Mobile Library returned to Peter Tavy on Wednesday 21st April. The library stops between 10.00 and 10.30am at the bottom of Church Lane. New customers are welcome, it's free to join. Books are available for children of all ages - as well as adults!



Customers will be able to come on board the library van, individually or in their household bubbles, to choose books and other items. To make sure that there are enough books to go around we will be limiting borrowing to 5 items per person for the time being.

Face masks to be worn, everyone to use the hand sanitiser and observe social distancing rules when using the mobile library. Returned books will be quarantined for 72 hours.

If you have any queries, please contact the Mobile Library via email: ivybridge.mobile@librariesunlimited.org.uk

Forthcoming dates for visits (10.00 - 10.30am, bottom of Church Lane) are:

Weds. 21st April	Weds. 19th May	Weds. 16th June	Weds. 14th July
Weds. 11th August	Weds. 8th Sept.	Weds. 6th Oct.	Weds. 3rd Nov.
Weds. 1st December			

Peter Tavy Inn A year under Covid

In early February 2020, the government launched a coronavirus public information campaign, which promoted vital hygiene practices, such as regularly washing hands and sneezing and coughing into tissues, to stem the spread of the virus. On 3rd March, they published a coronavirus action plan, and next day announced changes to Statutory Sick Pay for those self-isolating if they had coronavirus symptoms.

In the first two weeks of March trade was down by 15% to 30%, and we speculated that this was due to the developing coronavirus crisis.

On the morning of Monday 16th March 2020, we held a staff meeting to discuss the situation. At the meeting, attended by all senior staff, we discussed ways to soften the impact of the crisis on the business and on staff. We discussed reducing hours; re-decorating the premises; holiday pay; Statutory Sick Pay; etc. We advised staff that we had no intention of making any of them redundant.

Later that day, at 5pm, the government advised customers to avoid restaurants and pubs. Our trade immediately declined by 70%. We reduced staff numbers straight away, but we undertook to continue paying them in full for the time being. We did this in the knowledge that the government had promised to provide assistance.

Where we could, we cancelled food and drinks orders from our suppliers. From Tuesday onwards we began reducing fresh food stock by cooking it and freezing it where possible. We also reduced the size of the menu to avoid waste. In the evening of Friday, 20th March, the government ordered pubs and restaurants to close. We did not re-open on Saturday and remained closed until mid-July 2020. At the same time the Government announced the Furlough Scheme, which was more generous than we had expected.



We gave away any fresh food remaining (which could not be safely frozen) to staff and local customers on Saturday 21st March, or disposed of it. Beer has a limited life, and all our beer stocks of about 130 gallons were destroyed.

With many residents of the parish self-isolating, and others seeking to reduce the frequency of shopping trips, we set up the **Peter Tavy Pop-up Shop**. Local people ordered fruit, vegetables, dairy, dry goods and butchery products through us by phone or email. We aggregated the requests, and on behalf of the village placed orders twice a week with Total Produce at Bodmin, and once a week with Howells' of Tavistock. Our suppliers delivered the bulk orders to us, and we split them into the individual orders which Clare and Stephen Balm delivered to doorsteps.

We also used the time to re-decorate the inside of the pub, and at the end of June our new sewage system was installed. That took 4 weeks - and caused a lot of interest and speculation in the village. It was an advantage to be able to do this during lockdown as it was very disruptive, and we would have probably had to close for a couple of weeks.



*A man with a plan - Chris sorting
'Pop-Up Shop' deliveries*

When we reopened on Friday 18th July 2020 the pub looked very different. To comply with '1 m. +' social distancing, we removed 8 tables inside; put up screens between outside tables, and removed the table and stools from the bar. A one-way system was introduced in the pub, and a one-in one-out system for the toilets. Staff looked very fetching in face shields (more comfortable to wear than face masks!)

We were very lucky with the weather over the summer: our turnover was back to pre-covid levels. We also benefited from the Government's "Help Out to Eat Out" scheme, which paid half of customers' food and soft drinks bills on Mondays to Wednesdays in August. This scheme was so successful that a member of staff had to stand by the phone between 4.00 and 6.00 each afternoon just to field calls from customers trying to book tables! Business stayed strong through September and October. We were fortunate that when the Government introduced the Tier System, Devon was in Tier 1. This meant that we could go on trading on the same basis as over the summer.

Going into the second national lockdown in November 2020 was less stressful than the first lockdown. We were confident that once we came out of lockdown, business would pick up again as it had in the summer.

Re-opening in December under Tier 2 was probably the hardest period of the year. We could only sit one household per table inside only serve alcoholic drink with a 'substantial meal'. Luckily our customers were all very understanding.

We were locked down again from midnight on December 30th 2020. As we could not have the usual New Year's Eve village party, we offered a take-away menu instead. We still held the usual raffle for the Tavistock MD Group and made over £100 thanks to the generosity of the Peter Tavy Community.

We have spent this final lockdown working on our living accommodation - something we have not had time to do in the last 16 years, as work in and on the pub always took priority. We are very thankful for the support we have received from the Government. This has included the Furlough scheme, which has meant we have been able to retain all our staff; rates holidays; reduced VAT on food; and support grants. Without this help we would have gone bankrupt!

We are now looking forward to re-opening (*see page 31*) and hopefully to a busy summer in 2021. Sorry if you have all got used to the quiet road through the village!

- Jo & Chris

RE-STARTING SOON!



Covid regulations permitting, we'll be re-starting our evening footpath walks on the **last Tuesday of each month** throughout the summer.

The first one will be on Tuesday 27th April - meet at the Village Hall by 6.50pm.

All able walkers welcome. Length of walks vary from 2 to 6 miles. Remember suitable clothing and footwear, preferably no dogs (stiles, cattle in fields and occasionally we get children coming along who can feel intimidated by large dogs bounding around them!) Cancelled if very wet or very foggy.

"Old Boys and Old Tractors"

Cast your mind back to February 2020, when the last issue of the "Piper" featured this photo on the cover. We knew that the driver was James Perkins of Gatehouse Farm, at the wheel of his Fordson Dexta tractor, but asked if anyone could help identify his companions. *Tom Roskilly* contacted us to say that *Jayne Medland* had identified the man behind James as Fred Neave, probably holding a bale 'prang'. Tom says that Fred worked at Farm Industries, and was responsible for fabricating many of the cattle-handling facilities on local farms (still in use today!), needed when TB testing was introduced in the 1950s.



We also received more details from James' nephew, *Jim Cole*, who writes: "It was nice to see the picture of my uncle James Perkins driving his Dexta, going to get a load of bales at harvest time. I bought this tractor from him when he retired in the 1980's, and I still have it. His Dexta was new in 1961, when we bought one as well.

"I think the picture is about 1978, the rear tyres are worn smooth with road work. In the picture with him on the trailer is his brother in law Bill Lethbridge, from Uppaton, Chillaton. The passenger on the Tractor is Fred Neave who was a blacksmith at the Burgess Farm Industries Depot at Parkwood road. This was eventually sold to Kaminskis and is now converted to flats."

WOT - NO CHURCH BELLS?

Many will have noticed, with sadness (/ relief?!) that the bells have fallen silent during the pandemic. Unfortunately, Covid restrictions have prevented our ringers from meeting together in the confined church tower, so only single bells (or two rung by members of the same household) could sound... We're looking forward to starting to ring together once more. Listen out - you'll know when that happens!



Patrick's

Competition

WIN A STAR PRIZE!

**O
r
n
e
r**

Way back in March 2020, it was *Steve Carr* who opened the competition season with his full marks entry for the competition ***"In the Parish" Part 2*** in the February 2020 *Piper*. Congratulations & Cheers!

The answers were:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Blue. | 6. County. |
| 2. Ochre. | 7. Wheal Betsy. |
| 3. The Rector. | 8. Twyste. |
| 4. Wheal Jewell. | 9. Broadmoor Brook. |
| 5. Mary Tavy Power Station. | 10. Six. |

For this first competition of 2020, I'm going to be quizzing you on...

"Dartmoor's Fauna"

Supply the name of the animal which completes the feature.

For example:

Clue: 3 letter nocturnal_mammal heads worthy corner

Answer: Batworthy Corner.

1. 7 letter burrowers at home.
2. 5 letter bird has high ground.
3. 6 letter young cattle front stream for tor.
4. 6 letter bird calls at hard place.
5. 7 letter chatterboxes own tor.
6. 3 letter insect buzzes round tor.
7. 4 letter deer has ground for tor
8. 5 letter familiar cat at tor.
9. 6 letter insect owns castle.
10. 5 letter crows have hill.

Please send your answers to gpwcashell@btinternet.com by 9th July 2021

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

- Patrick Cashell.

PETER TAVY INN - REOPENING SPRING 2021

We are reopening **OUTSIDE** from **Friday, 30th April**.

We will be ***open daily between 12 noon & 8pm*** serving hot and cold drinks with a limited menu of baguettes & chips.

From **Monday, 17th May** we will reopen **INSIDE** with our full menu.

We will be ***open daily between 12 noon & 11pm (Sunday 10.30pm)***, food will be served 12 until 2pm and 6.30 until 9.00pm.

If you would like to book a table **INSIDE** from 17th May please call 01822 810348. ***We look forward welcoming you all back soon.***

THE WEEK

REGULAR EVENTS in Peter Tavy

Back in the "good old days" we could print a list here of what happens weekly in the Parish... But in these uncertain times, you'll need to check whether circumstances and rules permit these to take place....Those activities marked with ★ below are currently suspended.

SUNDAY

9.30am *(Check Church gate / door for details of dates)* Holy Communion - St Peter's Church

6.30pm 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 07939 093232

WEDNESDAY

10.00 - (monthly) Mobile Library calls at the

10.30am bottom of Church Lane

Mornings West Dartmoor 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

10.45am Bus to Tavistock from Peter Tavy - No. 122*
operated by www.oakleyscoaches.co.uk - 01752 729866

(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 (or by Zoom) at 7.30pm on the second Wednesday of each month. See notice board in bus shelter for information, or find agendas and minutes on the Council website: www.petertavyparishcouncil.org.

**Bus Notes: Don't forget that about 9 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.*

Useful Phone Numbers

Peter Tavy Parish Council - Clerk

Mrs Michelle Widdows 01822 811075

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

TBC following election on 6th May

Traveline (public transport info.)

0871 200 22 33

National Rail Enquiries 03457 48 49 50

Ring & Ride bus for Peter Tavy

07939 093232

Highways Emergencies

(Devon County Council) 01392 383329

Highways Local Services

(Okehampton area) 01837 527773

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".