



The Mary Tavy Jubilee Group

Newsletter No.18

February & March 2017

Free



An Air Ambulance Night Landing Helipad in Mary Tavy?

Devon Air Ambulance are working with communities to develop a network of floodlit community landing sites which will enable them to bring their life-saving service into the heart of communities when it's dark.

Having received a notification from the Air Ambulance, the Parish Council considered options and asked the Trustees of the Recreation Ground if they would be willing to have a landing site located there. At their recent meeting the Recreation Ground Trustees were pleased to support the project.

The Recreation Ground is an appropriately open site with no overhead cables, and being alongside the A386 will make for good access from a wide area and easy transfer from road ambulances.

There would be no permanent fixture other than lighting; floodlighting is of course essential for the helipad for both safety and practical reasons, and the lighting system needs to incorporate an integral mobile phone SMS control box so that

the lights can be turned on/off remotely by the Helicopter dispatch team.

The costs for setting up a community landing site have to be raised by the community. The Parish Council will be applying for funding to cover part of the costs and further consideration will have to be given to finding the rest of the funding.

The proposal is at an early stage, with many implications, including long-term maintenance and insurance yet to be considered.

MARY TAVY TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Quiz Night

**Friday 10th February 7.30 pm
In the Coronation Hall**

**£5.00 per person (children £3.00)
Maximum 6 players per table**

**To include a ploughman's supper
Bring your own drinks and glasses**

**Advance tickets:
Paul 810001, Howard 810519,
Martin & Tracey at the PO & Stores**



Two of the marker stones along the Parish boundary



Beating the Bounds

In the Newsletter last August we reported that the Parish Council was planning a Beating of the Bounds, a 'perambulation of the parish boundaries', and plans are now well underway.

In many places Beating the Bounds takes place around Ascension Day, but for Mary Tavy the date has to be chosen to avoid live firings on Dartmoor. It will take place on –

Saturday 12th August

Make a note of the date now, and if you'd like to be involved in the planning please get in touch.

• Cllr Roger Page, 810900,
pagynn@aol.com

Advance Notice

Mary Tavy Annual Parish Meeting

**Tuesday 18th April
Coronation Hall**

An opportunity to meet the Parish Councillors, to hear about the past year and plans for the year ahead, and to ask questions.

Copydate for the next issue is 20th March. For advertising or editorial see contact details on the back page.

Recreation Ground website

The Recreation Ground now has a website. It includes information and photographs and will list forthcoming events. You can also now contact the Recreation Ground by email.

• info@mtrg.org.uk
www.mtrg.org.uk



Tavonians Theatre Company on tour in March



A poignant, humorous and ultimately optimistic love story based on the life of C.S. Lewis and the poet Joy Davidman

Shadowlands
By William Nicholson

Enquiries 08455 196592 www.tavonians.org.uk

Sourton Village Hall	Sun 12th 3.00
Tavistock The Wharf	Tue 14th to Thu 16th 7.30
Callington PrimRaf Theatre	Sat 18th 7.30 Sun 19th 3.00
Meavy Parish Hall	Thu 23rd 7.30
Okehampton Charter Hall	Sun 26th 3.00



Odd Jobs? General Maintenance?
House Repairs? Masonry?
Painting & Decorating? Landscaping?
Renovations? Building Work? Ground-works?

"MIKE'S YOUR MAN!"

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07747 440572
nitaandmike@hotmail.com
Your Local Handyman
Call for a Free Quote
Friendly professional service Guaranteed

Clubs & Local Contacts

Artful Toddlers | Every Wed during term 9.15-11.15am | Methodist Hall | Kerri 810786 kerrigham@icloud.com
Brentor & Moor Compassionate Neighbours | 860799 | bmcneighbours@gmail.com | www.bmcneighbours.org
Brentor Garden Club | Monthly on a Thurs 7.30 | Brentor Village Hall | Heather Webster 810004
Charity Quiz Night | Last Sun each month | Mary Tavy Inn | Garry & Kim 810326
Community Cafe | Tues 1-3pm & Thurs 10am-noon | Methodist Hall | Tony Smith 820575
Coronation Hall | Bookings: Jo Albon 810356 www.marytavycoronationhall.com
Dartmoor Gliding Society | Chris 07873483001 info@dartmoorgliding.co.uk
Dartmoor Livestock Protection Society | Karla McKechnie | 07873 587561
DNPA Ranger | Rob Taylor 01626 832093 rtaylor@dartmoor-mpa.gov.uk
Elephant's Nest Cricket Club | Thur ev & Sun aft during season | Ben Neale 07725 419417 benjineale@gmail.com
Girl Guides | Rainbows Mon 4.30pm, Brownies Mon 5pm | Kerri Higham 810786, kerrigham@icloud.com
Homer Maid Open Day | Sat, monthly or so | Homer Barn | 810848
Knit & Natter | Thurs 1-3pm | Methodist Hall | Tony Smith 820575
Mary Tavy & Brentor School | 810384 admin@marytavyandbrentor.devon.sch.uk
Mary Tavy Drama Group | Michelle Buncle 810112
Mary Tavy & Peter Tavy WI | 2nd Thurs each month 2pm | Coronation Hall | Barbara Weeks 810697
Mary Tavy Commoners' Association | Julie Tucker | julie@bearwoodfarm.co.uk
Mary Tavy Jubilee Group | 08455 193812 (free from a landline) mail@mtjubileegroup.co.uk
Mary Tavy Parish Clerk | Kerri Higham 810786 parishclerk@marytavyparishcouncil.co.uk
Mary Tavy Parish Council | meetings: 2nd Tues 7.15pm Reading Room | www.marytavyparishcouncil.co.uk
Mary Tavy Post Office & Stores | Martin and Tracey | 810422 | marytavypo@gmail.com
Mary Tavy Twinning Association | Richard Thorne 810535
Methodist Chapel & Hall | Tony Smith 820575
Outdoor Gym Informal Sessions | Suns 3pm & Weds 6.30pm | Recreation Ground | Jubilee Group 08455 193812
Over 55s Pop-In | Every Tues 10.30-2 | Coronation Hall | Cheryl 810177 or Christine 810627
Pilates | Every Thurs 9.30-10.30 and 10.30-11.30, £5 | Coronation Hall | Sally Cinnamon 07969 157507
Recreation Ground | George Hill 810302 | info@mtrg.org.uk | www.mtrg.org.uk | Tennis Court bookings: PO & Stores
Reading Room | Ron Quilter 810538 ronquilter@hotmail.com
Short Mat Bowls | Tues 11-1 & Wed 7-9 | Coronation Hall | Doreen Rogers 810824
Snooker Club | Reading Room | John Banks 810090 or Ron Quilter 810538 ronquilter@hotmail.com
Tavy St. Mary Church | Churchwarden: Sylvia Baish 810541
Tavy Youth Group | Sat once a month | Moorland Retreat (Chicks) | Sally Panheri sally@sallysholidaycottages.co.uk
Tor & Tavy WI | 4th Thurs each month 7.30 | Coronation Hall | Lucie 814840, Judi 614198
The Merries | A group for single ladies meeting 2 or 3 times a year | Kath Sydenham 810649
Villages in Action | Margaret Aston 810408
West Devon Social Group | Programme of events | Cathy Haglington 810120 info@devonsocialgroup.com
YogaWellness | Mon 10-11.30am | Coronation Hall | Rosie Stephens 859217 yogawellnessdartmoor@gmail.com

Protection against flooding

Although floods can happen at any time of year, late winter and early spring can be times when flooding is particularly likely.

So this is a timely reminder that the Jubilee Group holds emergency flood defence equipment, which is available for anyone to use. There is a generator and hoses, flood barriers, and even wellington boots and brooms, all held within a small trailer.

If you need to make temporary use of this kit in an emergency please get in touch with either the Jubilee Group, the Parish Clerk or the Parish Council Emergency Officer.

Get involved

There are lots of ways to get involved with the Jubilee Group - you could be part of an organising group for an event or just help out on the day; you could take responsibility for specific projects; you could help create the Newsletter or join the band of deliverers. Just get in touch (details on the back page).

Sunday 12th March, 8pm
Brentor Village Hall

Kit Holmes with Al Greenwood – Blues

Enjoy gorgeous guitar, poignant lyrics and feisty fiddle playing, all with Kit's incredible sense of fun. Described as "Macy Gray meets Nick Drake", both Bob Harris and Andy Kershaw featured her on their BBC shows. Expect an enthralling and energetic live performance of 'blues-driven roots with a soul sensibility.'

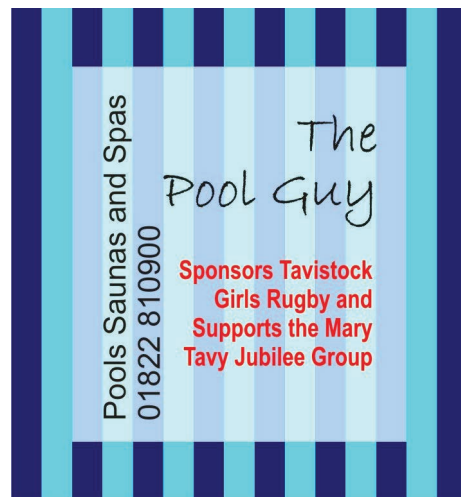
Tickets: 01822 810425



Friday 24th March,
7.30pm
Peter Tavy Village Hall
Mambo Jambo

This friendly and talented Acoustic Roots duo will take you on an exciting and joyous musical journey, bringing together sounds from world, roots, folk and jazz, plus their own compositions. Blending all these influences, they create an upbeat rhythmic and rootsy sound all their own. To describe their music as 'feel-good' is an understatement – it will send you home with a smile on your face and spring in your step!

Tickets: 01822 810552

The Pool Guy

Pools Saunas and Spas
01822 810900

Sponsors Tavistock Girls Rugby and Supports the Mary Tavy Jubilee Group



YogaWellness
NEW
Vinyasa Krama Yoga

Mondays 10am–11.30am
Coronation Hall

'The breath is central to yoga because it is central to life; and yoga is about life.'

Gain strength and flexibility.
Experience clarity and peace of mind.

Rosie Stephens
01822 859217 or 07925 127926
yogawellnessdartmoor@gmail.com

Methodist Chapel & Hall – Events & Activities

Friday 17 February, start 9am
WI Workshop

• Jill Lamerton, 810421

Saturday 25 February, 10am–1pm
Knit & Natter Jumble Sale

Tea/coffee and cake available.

Donations to the hall Weds 9–11am or Thurs 1–3pm

• Kerri Higham, 810786

Saturday 1 April, 10am–12noon
April Fools Day Spring Coffee Morning

Regular activities:

Rainbows & Brownies

Starting soon: Mondays, 4.30pm–6.30pm

Sensory Team

4th Tuesday of month, 10am–1pm

Community Cafe

Tuesdays, 1pm–3pm & Thursdays, 10am–12noon
Refreshment, Opportunity, Education. Wifi available.

Artful Toddlers

Wednesdays in term time, 9.15am–11.15am

Knit & Natter

Thursdays, 1pm–3pm

• Tony Smith, 820575



Do you need help; could you offer help?

Compassionate Neighbours is a new scheme to support members of the community who may be suffering from a long term condition or life-limiting illness, or who may be approaching the end of life.

Brentor & Moor Compassionate Neighbours - which will serve the areas of Brentor, Mary Tavy, Lydford, Lewdown and Chillaton - is a non-denominational charitable organisation, run entirely by volunteers; it will be working closely with the local primary care teams, as well as other voluntary and statutory agencies, with the aim of contributing to the integrated care of vulnerable individuals, so that they may continue to be cared for in the place of their choosing - usually their own home.

This locally-run group is now looking for volunteers. So, if you have a background in health or social care, or maybe you have been a carer for a loved one, or have other relevant experience - and you have a couple of hours a week to spare, why not consider joining the team? They would love to hear from you...

• Mark Alderson, 860799, www.bmcneighbours.org



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www.sjpmotorservices.co.uk

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**Collection only
Horndon**

**£3.50 per bale
01822 810665**



Growing up in Mary Tavy – 1936-52 Part One

An account of Mary Tavy by Annette van Oppen who was born in 1936 and spent her childhood in Tavy House, much of it during WWII. Annette had been a journalist with the Tavistock Times and later a teacher and was married to Richard van Oppen, Coroner and a Mayor of Plymouth City.

She wrote down her memories in 2006. She died in 2011. Her story is full of wonderful detail and due to its length will be serialised over several issues.

I was born in January 1936; Europe was on the verge of war. During the next 10 years, until the end of World

War II, many things changed for ever – especially in village life. At Tavy House there were people living with us who helped to look after everything – a nanny for the children, a cook/housemaid who was married to the gardener and lived in the cottage in the grounds and a cleaner who came in several times a week – as well as a part-time gardener/chauffeur. During the War years all these people left to serve in the war effort in one way or another – and we children ran wild. There was no-one to stop us!

We had ducks in the garden, a pony in the field, two Scottie dogs, two Siamese cats – and a very big vegetable garden and greenhouse. We were told to Dig for Victory and we did! The ducks provided eggs, of course, which were then water-glassed ... that is to say, preserved. Everything was saved and re-used. We even had a village Salvage System (organised by the Women's Voluntary Service - WVS) which took tins, glass, rags and paper for recycling. We also had an Air Raid Warden who wore a tin hat with ARP in big white letters on the front, who prowled around the village after dark looking for a house which was showing even a chink of light. If he caught anyone he would ring the bell loudly and serve the inhabitants with a notice telling them that they must cover all the insides of their windows with black cloth to shut out the light (and shut out the Hun!). This did give rather a gloomy feel to the indoors, especially as we had to be economical with electricity as well – but it encouraged everyone to go to bed early!

This had its disadvantages in Mary Tavy, because we were right under the flight path of German aircraft on their way to and from the bombing raids on Plymouth –

and many is the time that we were woken up in the night to go down to the cupboard under the stairs where there was a folding bed made up for me and my brother – in fact I often tell my grandchildren that I grew up in the cupboard under the stairs and they stare at me very suspiciously! One never-to-be-forgotten night Mum called us into her bedroom which looked straight down the 20 miles or so to Plymouth and pulled back the curtains to reveal the dazzling but most awful sight of Plymouth being blitzed by the German bombers the orange and yellow flames lighting up the sky for miles around. As a footnote to that, although dreadful damage was done to the city and its citizens, the enemy never managed to get the bridge over the river Tamar which they were convinced (by false intelligence, we later heard) would be carrying the equipment for the D-day invasion of France.

Food was definitely scarce during the War – even in Mary Tavy. There were friendly farmers' wives who could be persuaded to part with dairy produce from time to time but this had to be done very discreetly – and even now I won't say who it was! There was also the "black market" of which everyone disapproved but which everyone seemed to use. I can remember queuing for hours at Friends the Butchers in Tavistock for sausages; you had to have coupons for nearly everything and it was quite a palaver doing the weekly shop, so children came in very useful for queuing. The only place I really hated having to go to was the fishmongers and then it was only for herring or whiting – but this was still regarded as a luxury by Mum, although my brother and I both hated fish. I think it was something to do with the way it was cooked! There was hardly ever any butter; it was all the hateful margarine (which is still hateful to me!) and it all seemed to disappear before we held out our bits of toast to be spread with that and then covered with home-made gooseberry/rhubarb jam, which made our teeth go black!

Take care during lambing

It is every dog's instinct to chase, even if they are usually obedient and good with other animals, and chasing can do serious damage to sheep even if the dog doesn't catch them - the stress can cause sheep to die and pregnant ewes to miscarry their lambs.

Sheep fleeing dogs are often killed or seriously injured by their panicked attempts to escape.

Dogs chasing ewes and lambs can cause mis-mothering issues, with lambs dying from starvation or hypothermia when they become separated from their mother and fail to find her again.

Dog bites can cause death in sheep, necessitate them being put down at a later date, or welfare

issues as a result of flies being attracted to the blood and leading to 'fly strike'.

It is an offence to allow a dog to worry sheep. Worrying includes attacking or chasing sheep and, in some circumstances, farmers are legally entitled to shoot dogs if they are endangering their sheep.

The Countryside and Rights of Way Act which sets out public rights of access to open land states that dogs must be on a fixed lead of 2 metres or less near livestock. Farmers can close areas containing sheep to dogs for up to six weeks during lambing.

Mary Tavy Commoners Association

- Julie Tucker, julie@bearwoodfarm.co.uk
- CRow Act, <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-1378>

Brentor Garden Club



Thurs 16 Feb
Urban Sustainable Living
A talk by Tim Payne of City Bees

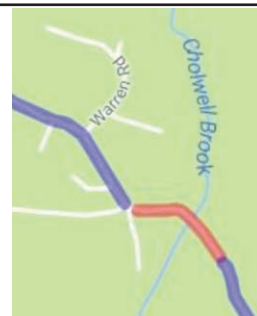
Thurs 16 Mar
Crete Flora, Orchids and Spring Flowers
A talk by Tim Ellis

Meetings in Brentor Village Hall at 7.30pm on the third Thursday of the month. Visitors very welcome. £2.00 on the door.

- Heather Webster 810004

Bridge closure

DCC Highways are planning work on Mine Bridge, the bridge on Bal Lane over Cholwell Brook near Brookside Cottage. Work will take place from 13 to 17 March. It is only the immediate area of the bridge which will be effected so there will continue to be access to the northern part of Bal Lane from beside the War Memorial, and to Horndon, and areas around the School and around the Church from Bullers Hill by the Mary Tavy Inn.



The Mary Tavy Inn

www.themarytavyinn.co.uk

01822 810326

Forthcoming Events

14th to 19th Feb
Italian Food Week



Sat 25th Feb
The Hilarious
Belfast Busker

26th to 29th May
Sausage and Beer
Festival

Sat 27th May
Live Music

Quiz, last Sunday
every month, 8.30pm

Sunday Carvery,
12.30-2.30pm

OAP's Lunch
every Thursday

Taming the Dragons

Rachel Day from Mary Tavy and her friend Merry Whitaker walked into Dragon's Den and came out with an investment, an influential Dragon, and a great boost for their business.

LoveKeepCreate takes precious pieces of clothing belonging to a loved one and turns them into a keepsake – recycling the item into a quilt, a soft stuffed animal, a picture frame, or another item of clothing – to remember that person.

The episode of Dragon's Den was shown on New Year's Day. It is extremely rare for any business to get exactly what they ask for in the Den, but the business concept was so good, the product so pleasing and the pair of entrepreneurs so professional in their approach, that three Dragons offered the £50,000 for 10% of the business, and they chose to accept the offer from Deborah Meaden.

Rachel became great friends with Merry when they trained together to become Army officers. Her husband Chris was also in the Army, and now runs Day's Electricals in Tavistock. The couple who live in The Oaks have three children - Freddie, Charlie, and newborn Harriet.

The idea for the business was developed when, in 2011, Rachel sent a keepsake made from Freddie's babygrows to Chris who was serving in Afghanistan. She put a picture of it on Facebook and the orders began to flood in. Rachel (who has her own Blue Peter Badge!) won an Entrepreneur of the Year award in 2014. She is responsible for the creative aspects of the business and designing new products.



Mary Tavy Parish Council

Devon Highways has advised that between 13th and 17th March 2017 important maintenance work will be carried out to "Mines Bridge" where Bal Lane crosses the Cholwell Brook. This closure will have a significant impact not only on local residents but traffic movements to and from Horndon and access to our Primary School. We are attempting to determine if pedestrian access over the bridge will be maintained when the work is carried out as it is an important route for parents who walk their children to school. In the light of the narrow minor country roads affected by this closure and the redirection of traffic, particularly large vehicles, we must ask all parishioners to reduce, where possible, on-road parking to an absolute minimum. The paramount need to allow for the unhindered movement of emergency service vehicles at all times must be recognised. MTPC will of course request police supervision of this difficult part of our local road network when this work is being carried out.

2017 will be an important year in the creation of the new Local Plan which is being drawn up by our Planning Authority, the DNPA. This is a key document which will, once adopted, be used to shape all aspects of life in the National Park area. The first part of the consultation process was completed on the 16th December 2016 during which time residents had been asked for their views on how the Park and the communities it contains should, if necessary, be reshaped for the immediate and mid-term future. This Local Plan does not simply relate to building houses but defines policies relating to all aspects of life in the DNPA area including local industries and farming. A summary of MTPC's views on some of the key issues identified in the briefing guide to the Local Plan was submitted for consideration by the Forward Planning Department of the DNPA.

Looking forward to the summer of 2017, the next important stage in the creation of the Local Plan takes place. This is the publication of the First Draft which is offered to all residents for further consultation. This is followed by the Revised Draft in the winter of 2017 which will reflect comments and opinions expressed by residents. The complex and detailed process of producing

the new Local Plan will come to a conclusion before the end of 2018 when it is formally adopted. We would ask all parishioners to view and respond to the drafts of the new Local Plan as it is our **one and only chance** to influence the decision-making process.

Parishioners will have noted from reports in the media that the Devon Air Ambulance Trust (DAAT) is attempting to establish a network of community night landing sites. As we have all witnessed the chaos that can occur when an incident closes the A386 between Tavistock and Plymouth it is obvious that outlying communities need alternative access to the major trauma centre at Derriford Hospital. Consequently, MTPC and the Trustees of Mary Tavy Victory Memorial Recreation Ground have entered into negotiations with Devon Air Ambulance Trust for the provision of such a site on our Recreation Ground. This location appears to satisfy all the basic requirements but would need the installation of a 10m high steel mast fitted with 2 banks of high power LED lights either powered by solar power or mains electricity, obviously only used at the time of an emergency. The site and its equipment would be funded and managed by the local community through its Parish Council. A site visit with a representative from DAAT has been arranged for early February and we are hoping for speedy progress with this project.

We are very pleased to report that MTPC has been approached by a parishioner wishing to be considered for co-option on the Council. Consequently, we have automatically entered the first stage of the formal process leading to possible co-option. However, we would like to remind parishioners that 3 further vacancies remain unfilled and anyone interested in serving their community should record their interest with our Parish Clerk. As has been pointed out before, applicants should be aware that the position of Parish Councillor requires a great deal more than attending a monthly Council meeting. 2017 ~ 2018 will obviously be a critical time for Mary Tavy with the devising and completion of the new Local Plan and we would appreciate increased membership of the Council to enable us to undertake our meaningful participation in this process.

Councillor Peter Jarvis
Chairman, Mary Tavy Parish Council



NEW SALES OFFICE

Bedford Court,
14 Plymouth Road,
Tavistock,
PL19 8AY

Bedford Court is the new home of Mansbridge Balment of Tavistock.
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Mary Tavy Parish Council



Coffee Morning for St Luke's

Wednesday 22nd February

10am to 12noon

Coronation Hall



St Luke's
Hospice Plymouth

Sandra Fry from Mary Tavy has much to thank St Luke's Hospice for, and she's helping in the best way she can to support their amazing work – in February Sandra, along with her mum Mary, will be hosting a Coffee Morning in aid of St Luke's.

Sandra's dad, Douglas Bowhay, a well known Mary Tavy farmer, was able to die at the family farm rather than in a hospital, thanks to support from St Luke's.



Sandra says "His last days and hours were here with us and the animals, but only because we

had the help from the wonderful people at St Luke's. The way their nurses Derek and Cathy came in and talked to him on his level, cooed over his cattle and quietly sat at our kitchen table offering support and advice was just what he needed. Without them I don't know how we would have coped."

This is Sandra's third fund-raising event, her first event raised £1,500. It is part of a month of Coffee Mornings for St Luke's. Sandra adds, "St Luke's has touched so many lives like ours."

• St Luke's Community Fundraising Team 01752 964427, www.stlukes-hospice.org.uk/coffee.

Charity Bingo Night in aid of Sense Friday 17th March, Coronation Hall

Refreshments, Raffle, Cake Sale

£10 per person (includes 5 games, additional tickets £1)

Tickets from Mary Tavy PO & Stores or Marilyn 810130

On 23rd April my daughter Rachel will run the London Marathon in aid of the charity Sense.

As a full time Optometrist she is passionate about the care of eyes, in order to provide optimum vision and preserve eye health for every one of her patients. The charity Sense, founded in 1955 by a group of families affected by the rubella virus, provides support and encouragement to people who are deafblind and have sensory impairments.

You and I can only begin to imagine a life of silence and darkness, with no hope of a cure. Sense devotes its efforts to optimise quality of life and support people who are affected to lead more independent lives.

This is a huge challenge for Rachel as a non runner - now in training to complete the 26.2 miles and she has pledged to raise £1500 with sponsorship and fundraising events.

On Friday 17th March she will



host a charity Bingo Night at the Coronation Hall in Mary Tavy and we hope you will all join us in support of this fundraising challenge.

A donation box is located in the Post Office and all small change will be welcome. If anyone feels able to sponsor Rachel or donate to this worthwhile charity, this can be done at the following website:

<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/RachelMcClelland>

Thank you to you all!

Marilyn McClelland
Bal Lane, Mary Tavy

Mary Tavy & Peter Tavy WI

Our January meeting was scheduled to take place on the day when the weather forecast was the worst we've had this winter!

We had a plan B in case the members made it but the speaker didn't! We need not have worried, all was well though we did hurry through the business as the secretary had to drive over Blackdown! The speaker, Alex Graeme, who provides unique tours tailored to his clients interests kept us well entertained. We were relieved to know that he made it home over Dartmoor even managing to make a video of the snow!

Our next meeting is the members meeting - a surprise in store!

Our regular meetings are on the 2nd Thursday each month, 2pm, in the Coronation Hall.

• Barbara Weeks 810697

Your opportunity to ask about local issues!

??? Question Time ???

Friday 3rd February, 7.30pm

Tavistock Town Hall

FREE ADMISSION

Panel: Tavistock College,
Police & Crime Commissioner,
CCG Clinical Commissioning Group,
West Devon Borough Council.
Chairman: Cllr Robert Oxborough

Sponsored by County & Borough
Councillor Debo Sellis

Victory for the future of our telephone boxes

Following local consultation, DNPA considered the proposed removal by British Telecom of phone boxes across Dartmoor. Of the 38 on the schedule, DNPA consented to the removal of more than half of them; listing objections to the remaining 18.

Two of the three phone boxes in Mary Tavy were on the schedule for possible removal, as each had only been used for one call in the previous year. During the consultation period objections were made by the Jubilee Group and by the Parish Council, and the result is that DNPA is recommending to the Secretary of State that both are retained.

Objections listed for both boxes include "Poor mobile coverage, required for emergency service."

The kiosk near the church is a listed building so there is therefore no plan to remove it. However, it is available for 'adoption' due to low useage and if that happened the phone would be taken out of service; but neither the Jubilee Group nor Parish Council has any plans to adopt it.

So, provided the Secretary of State accepts the recommendation from DNPA, all our phone boxes are likely to remain in place and operating, which is excellent news.

Precept reduction for a second year

At its January meeting Mary Tavy Parish Council agreed a drop in the precept rate - for the second year in a row. The reduction will be 2.5%.

Whilst many other councils will be increasing their precept, MTPC will again be making use of reserves as well as carefully managing expenditure.

The Parish Council will receive a further a reduction in the support funding it receives from WDBC but nevertheless has given careful consideration to ensure the budget will balance.

At the same time, the Parish Council is ensuring that the recently increased level of maintenance around the parish will continue, including keeping grass cut and signs cleaned.

Council Tax is composed of several elements including services provided by DCC, WDBC and the Police Authority, with the Parish Council precept accounting for a small element of the charges.



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Yeltv.co.uk

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Phone: 07725 553804

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TV Sales - Rentals - Service - Repairs

The Mary Tavy Jubilee Group is a Charitable Trust. The Objects of the Trust are -

"The advancement of community development, environmental improvement and heritage, through projects undertaken by and for the residents of the parish of Mary Tavy in the county of Devon."

Trustees: Ali Fife Cook, Michael Fife Cook, Peter Jarvis Newsletter Editor: Ali Fife Cook

Phone: 08455 193812 (free from a landline) email: mail@mtjubileegroup.co.uk

🐦 twitter: @marytavyjubilee website: www.mtjubileegroup.co.uk