



The Mary Tavy Jubilee Group Newsletter No.10

September/October 2015

Free

What's on in Mary Tavy:

Sat 5 - Sun 6 Sept, Methodist Chapel 180th Anniversary Weekend
Thurs 10 Sept, Hydro Electric Power Station Open Day
Sat 19 Sept, 10-4, 'Your Community Matters'
Sun 11 Oct, 2.30, Litter Pick
Fri 23 to Sun 25 Oct, 10-5, Exhibition 'Tempting Textiles'
Sun 1 Nov, 5pm Bonfire Night

IF YOU SEE SOMETHING THAT NEEDS DOING – JUST DO IT

Several voluntary and community groups around Devon joined Devon County Council's Road Warden Scheme, cutting verges and doing other small works to keep the edges of our highways in good order following cuts to DCC's Highways budget. However, doing these good works for the community ended up costing the volunteers money to dump grass cuttings.

The Jubilee Group was in the process of joining the Road Warden Scheme, waiting

for training, when this news broke. DCC's response to the problem was dismissive rather than reassuring and the Jubilee Group has therefore pulled out of the scheme, stating "We can't ask volunteers to come forward to help, only for it to cost money either for the individuals or the Jubilee Group."

But all is not lost - several residents have been out with shears and mops, and road signs throughout the village are now visible and clean. This is not a Jubilee Group initiative but



we loudly applaud those who have taken in on themselves to help the community in this valuable way.

Other small projects are being undertaken by residents - the ladies who previously cleared up the bus stop by Station Road have given it another spruce-up and the bus shelter near the War Memorial is swept out from time to time. Some villagers pick up other people's rubbish and even dog muck.

So, if you see something that needs doing – just do it.



Litter Pick

Sunday 11th October, 2.30pm

starting and finishing either inside or outside the Coronation Hall

The Jubilee Group and the Parish Council will be working together to do a Litter Pick around the village. It'll be nice to see the verges and public areas litter-free, and on behalf of Dartmoor National Park we'll be taking note of locations of Japanese Knotweed, in the hope that something can be done about the problem.

Please come along if you can, whatever your age or ability, it would be great to make it into a community effort. There will be tea and scrumptious cakes for all those who've helped.

Bring gloves and if you can also bring pickers/grabbers and a hi-viz jacket as they might be needed, but there will be some available if you haven't got your own.



Tempting Textiles

An Exhibition of work
by Members of the
Peter Tavy Guild of Weavers
Spinners and Dyers

Friday 23 to
Sunday 25 October

10am to 5pm

Coronation Hall Mary Tavy
Entrance free
refreshments available

welmoedperrin@gmail.com





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

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Tor & Tavy WI

It's been an eventful run-up to summer and the coming few months look like being equally eventful. **The Secret Nature of the Tamar Valley** will be our September meeting when a Dartmoor Ranger will be the speaker. At the meeting in October there will be a cookery session on **Tasty Healthy Food**.

Our Book Club meets every month and more theatre evenings and visits to new places are in the pipeline. We meet on the 4th Thursday each month at Brentor Village Hall and we can possibly arrange transport for anyone not able to get to Brentor.

- Trish 810115, Lucie 814840,
Judi 614198.

How the Elephant got its name

We included in our previous Newsletter information we'd been given that Bill Warne had been responsible for the name of The Elephant's Nest but we're told this isn't so. The person who sparked the change of name from the New Inn to the Elephant's Nest was, apparently, Otto Allen.

The landlord of the New Inn in the 1950s, Charles Ossington, was a very large gentleman and he sat behind the small bar, just turning to pull pints or reach the optics without moving from his seat.

On one occasion when Otto Allen, Bill Warne and George Blake were in the pub Otto commented to Charles "You look like an elephant sitting on a nest".

Otto Allen

*The Elephant's Nest
in the 1970s*



We are the Merries

We are a group of ladies who found ourselves on our own – from being widowed, separated and for a variety of other reasons – and we have become a little social group, The Merries.

We meet two or three times a year, have a meal or day out.

We are very cost conscious and we don't do anything that would cost anyone too much. Hence our subs are just 50p a year, which is enough so that we can be registered

with TASS to enable us to use their little buses and driver and it covers phone calls. Anyone wishing to join us is very welcome. We are a very friendly group and we look forward to hearing from you.

- Kath Sydenham, 810649

Local yet international

Based in Mary Tavy, GA-Digital and associates are experienced in strengthening the online presence of local, national and international organizations wanting to trade in the UK, given specific advice on effective business using the web, eCampaigns, and social media.

Michael (Director, Account Manager & Developer) has always been involved in technology, innovation and the internet, and has worked to develop a successful online presence for companies in technology and retail.

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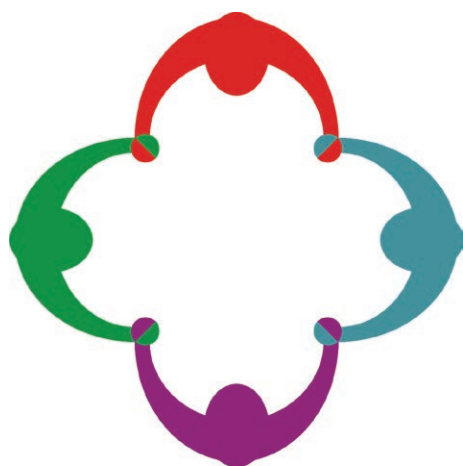
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Your Community Matters

Saturday 19 September 10_{am} to 4_{pm}

Coronation Hall and Recreation Ground
Entry free and no charges to join in any activities

A day of fun and information

Just some of the groups and organisations who are hoping to be at Your Community Matters

Action on Hearing Loss
Arts Pop Up
Brentor Garden Club
Chicks
Cholwell Riding Stables
Church of St.Mary
Dartmoor Gliding Society
Devon & Cornwall Police Archive
Devon Wildlife Trust
Drink Wise · Age Well
Help for Heroes
Jubilee Heritage Group
Lane End Garden Centre
Learn Devon
Mary Tavy Jubilee Group
Mary Tavy Parish Council
Mary Tavy Twinning
Mary Tavy WI
Methodist Chapel
Pilates Group
Post Office & Stores
Recreation Ground Trust
Reflexology
Ring and Ride
Short Mat Bowls
Snooker Club
Tamar Energy Community
TASS / Pop-in
Tavistock Archery Club
Tavistock Ring & Ride
Tavistock Wheelers
Tavonians Theatre Company
Tavy Youth Club
Time for Life
Tor & Tavy WI
Transition Tavistock
West Devon Borough Council
West Devon CVS
... and many more ...

Come along for a fun day, with lots of things to do, activities to join in, and information to be gathered.

We're bringing together groups, clubs, organisations, services and businesses, most of them very local plus some from a little further afield that matter to this community.

Many of the groups will be showing off what they do so there will be opportunities for joining in - you can learn Salsa dancing or do some willow weaving in an arts pop-up tent; you might be able to have a go on a mounted bike, try pilates, do a bit of sport or explore a glider up close.

A fascinating display from the Police archive will include a Police 'tardis', kids can try on historic uniforms, and you can be put in the stocks.

There will also be representatives from many local organisations and charities which provide services to those in need, so you can talk to West Devon Borough Council, find out what the Charity Chicks is all about, and perhaps think of becoming a volunteer.

There'll even be a car boot sale and there'll be plenty of food and drink.

If you'd like to book a stall please contact the Jubilee Group on 0845 5193 812 (free from a landline) or mail@mtjubileegroup.co.uk. Charities and non-profit-making groups free, a small charge is made for other stalls. Car boot pitch £5 (van £7).



A community event brought to you by the Mary Tavy Jubilee Group

Mary Tavy Parish Council

Once again my fellow Councillors, by indulging in various forms of "arm twisting," have persuaded me to write another report on the work of the Council for this edition of the Jubilee Group newsletter.

It will probably come as no surprise to hear that our work over the past 2 months has been restricted to the completion of routine business and the identification of procedures and documents which require immediate revision. The scale of this problem is significant and the necessary remedial work will absorb a considerable amount of time and effort.

Administrative matters have, of course, been complicated by the absence of a Clerk but we are delighted to announce that we have recently appointed a replacement officer who is Mrs. Kerri Higham. Mrs. Higham is a local resident with a young family and she has made it clear that it is her intention to make a long term commitment to parish government in Mary Tavy. I am certain that you will all, as her fellow parishioners, wish to join us in thanking her for taking on the role of Clerk which can often be a demanding one. The Council sincerely hopes that Mrs. Higham's appointment will be the start of a period of administrative stability for Mary Tavy Parish Council.

The Parish Clerk is also our Responsible Financial Officer and we are relieved that Mrs. Higham now manages the link with TSB Bank. Modern banking practice coupled with government regulations makes changes to bank accounts and deposits a slow and bureaucratic process which to date has consumed at least 5 working hours. The Clerk is already dealing with the matter of VAT reclamation ~ an important issue which appears to have been ignored for a number of years. As a Parish Council we firmly believe that 20% VAT is better returned to our bank account rather than being left in the hands of Customs & Excise and HM Treasury!

Parishioners may recall that irreplaceable legal documents belonging to the Council were proving difficult to find as they had been removed from the bank's safe-keeping in 2007. I am pleased to report that these documents have been recovered. On the last day of the previous Clerk's employment the missing documents, which included the Cemetery Title Deeds, the Sentence of Consecration and a Right of Way agreement, were handed to her by a member of the previous Council. They were accompanied by a box of cemetery records which the Council, acting as a Burial Authority, is required

to keep in perpetuity. Councillors are delighted by this retrieval but are unanimously of the opinion that it is totally unacceptable for those documents to have been in private hands for 8 years when, according to the Minute Book, they should have been returned to the bank for safe-keeping.

The 2 major projects started by the previous Council are being advanced as quickly as possible. Unfortunately their complexity and the need for co-operation from other agencies tends to slow progress which in turn generates frustration. However, definitive written guidance on boundary replacement and construction in both the existing cemetery and the proposed extension has at long last been obtained from the DNPA. However, we are concerned to note that relationships with the Planning Authority do not seem to be as effective as they ought to be. Therefore further attempts will be made to encourage a more active policy of co-operation. Councillors were alarmed by the amount charged by the consulting engineers who had carried out a technical survey on behalf of the previous Council of the land being considered for the cemetery extension. After a lively meeting between 2 Councillors and company representatives the bill for this survey was reduced by £750. Unfortunately the bill still exceeded £3500 which of course has had a massive impact on our limited financial reserves at a time when other essential project costings have not been calculated.

The issue of road safety and parking in the vicinity of our primary school is also being advanced and we have reached the stage where advice and co-operation is being sought from the Highways Authority. We hope to have more positive news in the near future. Other issues which have received the attention of Councillors have been inadequate road drainage, including blocked drains, the usual problems of excessive speed on roads within the parish and the need for hedges and verges to be trimmed. With regard to hedge trimming I have been asked to remind all parishioners of their obligations if they have hedgerows bordering roads and pavements. Hazards which affect the safety of pedestrians or traffic should of course receive immediate attention.

Please note the official contact details for MTPC are as follows: Mrs. Kerri Higham, Clerk to MTPC, 8, Warren Road, Mary Tavy, PL19 9PJ. 01822 810786 e-mail: parishclerk@marytavyparishcouncil.co.uk

Councillor Peter Jarvis

MARY TAVY BONFIRE NIGHT

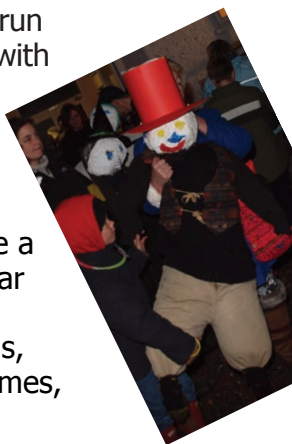
Sunday 1 November 5pm

(one week later if the weather is abysmal)

In the Recreation Ground and Coronation Hall

Bonfire Night is a free event, run by the village for the village, with lots of local people helping to make it a huge success.

It is always a great event for all the family with lots going on. We will again have a fantastic bonfire, a spectacular firework display, a guy competition, carved pumpkins, lots of glow products, fun games, food and drink, and a really friendly and lively atmosphere.



Watch out for the latest information nearer the time on posters and on our website, and we'll put more details in the next Newsletter which will be distributed only a few days before Bonfire Night.



In the meantime make sure you have the date in your diary. You might like to start thinking about how you could help or you might like to start making a Guy -

We really need help with Bonfire Night - so if you could erect marquees, serve food, run a game for children, or help in other ways please get in touch with the Jubilee Group.

The Guy Competition

- ★ Open to everyone, all ages, individuals or family groups.
- ★ All materials must be flammable, no substantial plastic.
- ★ Bring your Guy to the Coronation Hall at 5pm.
- ★ To be judged by the community. Small prize for the best Guy.
- ★ Guys will be set alight on the bonfire.

The Mary Tavy Inn

www.themarytavyinn.co.uk

01822 810326

Forthcoming Events

19th September

Live Music

Sam & Glenn

(Rock n Roll Outlaws Fame)

7th November

Help for Heroes Dinner

(sold out)

28th November

Bath Christmas Market

Weekend Trip

Christmas Party Menu

now available

Last Sunday every month

(except August)

Monthly Quiz

Sunday Carvery

12.30pm to 2.30pm

**Takeaway Fish & Chips,
Pizzas available**

Attention all garden owners in Mary Tavy

St Luke's Hospice have been providing free end of life care in our community for 33 years, and they constantly need to raise funds to keep this valuable service going. They've asked for our help.



The Jubilee Group have teamed up with St Luke's, helping to create a village garden open afternoon next year. We hope to have several gardens open to create a village garden walkabout, plus cream teas and cakes.

Could you open your garden for one afternoon in the spring or summer of 2016? The garden needn't be grand or special, people like to see ordinary village gardens, even small courtyards. Once a date has been confirmed it will feature in St Luke's popular Open Garden brochure, and of course in this Newsletter.

If you might like to consider opening your garden or would like to help in other ways on the day please contact either The Jubilee Group or Wayne Marshall at St Lukes, 07795 603067, wmarshall@stlukes-hospice.org.uk.

Mary Tavy Methodist Chapel & Hall

180th Anniversary, Weekend 5th & 6th September

There will be a Craft and Coffee Morning on the Saturday 10.30 to 12.30. On Sunday we are having a 10.30 service with Joan Gosling, then at 5.30 a Community hymn sing followed by a service of Celebration led by Rev Pam Stranks and Rev Paul Smith. Everyone welcome, come and join the celebrations.

Harvest Festival, Sunday 11th October

There will be a service led by Andy Kelly at 10.30 followed by a soup lunch. Gifts of food for the Harvest Festival will be donated to the Foodbank.

- Tony Smith, 820575 or Brenda Dingle, b3dingle@gmail.com

KEVIN HILBORN

- ✳ FENCING ✳ LOGS ✳
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Clubs & Local Contacts

Brentor Garden Club | Monthly on a Thurs 7.30 | Brentor Village Hall | Sue Stephens 860374
Charity Quiz Night | Last Sun each month | Mary Tavy Inn | Garry & Kim 810326
Colts Football Club | Sept-May Sat 10-11.30am | Recreation Ground | Tim or Helen McShane 810284
Coronation Hall | Bookings: Lorraine Beeley 810170 coronationhallmarytavy@hotmail.com
Dartmoor Gliding Society | Chris 07873483001 info@dartmoorgliding.co.uk
DNPA Ranger | Rob Taylor 01626 832093 rtaylor@dartmoor-npa.gov.uk
Elephant's Nest Cricket Club | Thurs even & Sun aft during season | Elephant's Nest Inn | Ben Neale 810225
Homer Maid Open Day | Sat, monthly or so | Homer Barn | 810848
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 | 0845 5193 812 (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
Mary Tavy Twinning Association | Richard Thorne 810535
Methodist Chapel & Hall | Tony Smith 820575 or Brenda Dingle b3dingle@gmail.com
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 Cinnamond 07969 157507
Recreation Ground | George Hill 810302 | Tennis Court bookings: PO & Stores
Reading Room | Ron Quilter 810538 ronquilter@hotmail.com
Short Mat Bowls | Tues 11-1 (from 1 Sept) | Coronation Hall | Jo Albon 810356
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 | Saturday once a month | Moorland Retreat (Chicks), Brentor
Tor & Tavy WI | 4th Thurs each month 7.30 | Brentor Village Hall | Lucie Williamson 810840
The Merries | a group for single ladies meeting 2 or 3 times a year | Kath Sydenham 810649
Villages in Action | 810092
West Devon Social Group | programme of events | Cathy Haglington 810120 info@devonsocialgroup.com

We hope this information is accurate but can't guarantee it is completely up-to-date, so please make contact with each group or event before going along. Please inform us of any changes or additions you know about.

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Blackdown Garage Site

What a difference a few days make

A group of very hard working volunteers spent three days in July sprucing up the forecourt of the derelict garage, and the difference is amazing, and there for everyone to see. Locals, visitors and those just passing through have commented on the fantastic improvement to the centre of the village.

In addition to those who came to help, a great many other villagers brought plants and compost and some provided cash donations to help with the costs. We received a donation of plants and compost from Morrisons and tyres from Tavistock Tyres and C.J.Down. One neighbour has offered to water the plants she can reach through the fencing.



The original expectation had been that we would repair and re-plant the raised beds that had been created on the concrete platforms where the pumps used to be but the wood was completely rotten. So we came up with the idea of using tyres as planters which seems appropriate for a garage site, and this has meant we could expand our planting over the whole width of the site. We also moved the barriers to create a much neater perimeter.

We'll be asking the owner of the site if we would be allowed to paint the front of the garage building.

We are delighted that C.J.Down have painted the frontage and the canopy of their coach station, which looks very smart. With the Post Office & Stores also having been decorated recently, the whole of the centre of the village has been transformed.

Many thanks go to everyone who has been involved.

"Wow, what a difference, well done guys."

"Great to see the centre of the village tidied up. Shame it has taken so long but it's done at last."

"We would just like to thank all the volunteers and members of the Mary Tavy Jubilee Group who were involved in the hard work of tidying up and planting all the plants and shrubs in front of the old garage - a job well done!"

"Just one thing to say about Bodys garage - good job!"

Mary Tavy Parish Council

Dear Jubilee Group

It is important to recognise local groups and businesses who make a difference to our community. The recent hard work of the Jubilee Group at the Blackdown Garage site has certainly not gone unnoticed.

We would like to thank all members of the group, as well as volunteers, who donated not only their time but their own personal funds to provide enough plants and compost to fill the planters. This must have been a mammoth effort on the day and once again the community is indebted to the Jubilee Group.

The Parish Council would like to thank you on behalf of the community and ensure that you are aware your efforts are very much appreciated.

Yours Sincerely

Kerri Higham

Mrs Kerri Higham
Parish Clerk



We'll need to do ongoing work to keep the site looking good and make additional improvements. So please keep the offers of plants and help coming in. You can drop off any spare plants at The Stannary.



Brentor Garden Club

Thursday 17 September

"Dowsing and how it can work in the garden"

A talk by Nigel Twinn

Thursday 15 October

"Restoring Dartmoor Prison Reservoir"

A talk by Paul Hammett

Brentor Village Hall, 7.30 pm. Visitors very welcome. £2.00 on the door. Heather Webster 01822 810004

It's our history

The history of Mary Tavy belongs to all of us, and we've started working on making our heritage collection available to everyone.

The Jubilee Heritage Group has a collection which has come from various sources - Gerry Sargent who wrote a book on Mary Tavy, Adrian Hepworth who scanned images for the parish website, and the Jim Thorington collection of photographs for the Tavistock Times from the 1960s to 80s. Unfortunately documents and other items which were to come to us from the erstwhile Historical Society have, apart from one small folder of copies, not reached us.

Recently someone in Canada contacted us via the Parish Council and he will be sending us an original hand-written financial logbook from Wheal Betsy mine dating from 1836.

Starting with the photographs which are already in digital form, we are cataloguing everything. This will enable us to find images when asked for information, and will make it possible for us to offer copies to anyone who would like them, for a small charge to help cover costs.

Come and find out more at 'Your Community Matters' on 19 September.



Open Day:

Mary Tavy Hydro Electric Power Station Thursday 10 September

Mary Tavy has one of the country's first working hydro electric power stations, opened in 1932.

Free tours of the power station will take place on Thursday 10th September when visitors will be taken around the turbine hall to hear the story behind this historic operational plant.

Come and discover how it harnesses the forces of nature to generate green energy - enough to serve 1,700 houses. Visitors are also invited to take a woodland walk around the nature reserve and enjoy a picnic.

Booking is essential and places on the tours are limited to ten per tour. The 45 minute long tours take place between 9.30am, 3.30pm. The tours are not suitable for children under the age of 12.

To reserve your place, contact South West Water's Community Team on 01392 443020 or email pressoffice@southwestwater.co.uk.



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."

There is no formal membership of the Jubilee Group - if you live in Mary Tavy you are a member.

The Jubilee Group receives no funding through the Parish precept and is supported mostly by donations from local people and by grants which are sought for specific projects. Trustees: Ali Fife Cook, Michael Fife Cook, Peter Jarvis, John Thacker. Newsletter Editor: Ali Fife Cook

Would you like to get involved? / Would you like to advertise? / Have you got ideas for projects?
Phone **0845 5193 812** (free from a landline) email mail@mtjubileegroup.co.uk
www.mtjubileegroup.co.uk
