



# The Mary Tavy Jubilee Group

## Newsletter No.4

February 2013

### Let's get Growing

Great news: we now have approval from Devon County Council to rent a piece of land owned by them for a peppercorn rent. The land is situated fairly centrally with easy access, and we're looking forward to gathering the people-power to prepare the land and begin planning, planting, creating and growing!

- *Could you start growing seedlings for us? Or if you're already growing could you nurture and donate your excess? If you're limited on space we have access to polytunnels.*
- *Do you have seeds you've saved or bought that we could use?*
- *Do you have tools/shed/other equipment that we could use?*
- *Could you provide some muscle to help us with the land preparation once it's been cleared?*
- *Are you an experienced gardener who would be able to provide advice, even if you're not physically fit enough to do the heavy work?*

### A reminder of what the Community Garden is about:

The aim is to grow fruits and vegetables along with other decorative plants;

Sharing of work, space and produce;

Working together to create a social space for all of the village to use;

Including villagers of all ages, with a special link to the Mary Tavy and Brentor School;

Craft projects such as earth ovens, places to sit, and eventually perhaps a yurt!

We'll be looking to hold a meeting and brain-storming session in the next few weeks, so if I don't already have your contact details please get in touch.

Project Leader: Lynne Roper, 810686  
or [lynnroper136@btinternet.com](mailto:lynnroper136@btinternet.com).

Lynne Roper



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."*

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:

Michael Cook, Ali Fife,  
Peter Jarvis, John Thacker

Treasurer: Rod Jones

Newsletter Editor: Ali Fife



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## From History to Heritage

Whilst preparing for the meeting in late November we felt that History Group was perhaps not the ideal name and a better one would be the Heritage Group. Heritage encompasses not just our history but how the past has shaped the village and our lives.

The meeting of the Jubilee Group's Heritage Group was well attended despite atrocious weather. Gerry Sargent, who had so generously donated his village history collection, was there and talked of some of his memories of living in the village.

His collection was laid out on tables for everyone to look through, and in one corner we had a rolling video display of photographs taken for the Tavistock Times by Jim Thorington in the 60s & 70s.

There were a lot of trips down memory lane.

Following that meeting many very valuable contacts have been made, particularly on the mining history, and there have been promises of additional items to add to our collection.

We've received information from two local people about some of the characters mentioned in the poem we reproduced in the previous Newsletter.

The Heritage Group is going to be working alongside the Footpath Working Group to provide information for the maps and information boards.

Updating Gerry Sargent's book is about to get underway, with some re-writing by Michael Cook.

If you want to get in touch please contact the Heritage Group leader, Rick Beament, phone 810301, [history@mtjubilee.co.uk](mailto:history@mtjubilee.co.uk)



*Miners' Lamp found at Bennetts*

## Printing service

The A3 colour laser printer used for this Newsletter can also be used by local organisations for flyers, posters and the like. A percentage of cost will be donated to Jubilee Group funds.

Prices are based on large runs and we aren't able to offer single copies. Please ask for a quote for printing.

## The state of our Phone Boxes

In the parish we are fortunate to have the old-style red BT phone boxes. We have three - one by the war memorial, one near the church and the other at Horndon. All of them have flaking paint and are in a pretty poor state of repair.

The Jubilee Group has been in touch with BT and has arranged for each of them to be painted. This will be happening between March and October this year.

What we're not able to find out is whether the team will do any more than just painting, so we might need to do a bit more to ensure they are generally clean and pleasant to use.

## Would you like to learn dry stone walling?

Over the weekend of 16 and 17 March DNPA will be running a stone walling course near the Miners Dry field between Mary Tavy and Horndon. It will involve pulling down and rebuilding a section of the wall adjacent to the Public Footpath between the Elephants Nest and the Church.

The event is free and will be led by Dave Hannaford, and the land owners will be providing pasties and hot drinks over the weekend. This will be an interesting and enjoyable weekend and a great chance to learn about and get experience of this local skill.

Places are limited, to book a place contact the Park Ranger, Rob Taylor, 07711 104542.







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## Mapping our Paths and our Past

The Jubilee Group's Footpath Working Group has been exploring various options for producing a map of footpaths and bridleways around the Parish, including recommendations for a number of circular walks.

We've had a very productive meeting with Dartmoor National Park Public Rights of Way Team who have provided us with large scale OS maps so that we can plot some walks.

We plan to include written information alongside the maps, to enhance the walks with details of our mining heritage, local geology and landmarks.

We will be able to produce the maps ourselves, in full colour and on A3, even using waterproof paper. This means we'll be able to have them available reasonably quickly, we'll be able to print exactly the numbers required, and the cost will be as low as possible.



Looking to the future, we hope to be able to place information boards along walks, to help interpret what you can see around you, and DNPA have told us they would consider backing the development of new paths in and around Mary Tavy.

Would you like to be involved in this project, to help walk the walks, write-up the information, take photographs, create artwork, or more generally be part of the planning?

If you feel you can contribute in any way please contact John Thacker 810912 or John Banks 810090.

## Active Villages

Active Villages is a DCC funded project, aiming to set up and increase sport and exercise activity throughout Devon. Three successful taster sessions took place in Mary Tavy in January.

Due to great demand Sally Cinnamond is now running two Pilates sessions, Thursdays 9.30-10.30am then 10.30-11.30am, Coronation Hall, £5 per class. Contact Sally on 07969 157507, sallycinnamond@gmail.com.

The Short Mat Bowls Club is meeting on Tuesdays 11am to 1pm at the Coronation Hall but is likely to be moving to a different day and/or time.

There may be additional taster sessions for Badminton.

[www.activevillages.co.uk](http://www.activevillages.co.uk)



## Jubilee Walk Update - Nice Weather for Ducks !

For those of you who have braved the Jubilee Walk during the monsoons of this winter you will appreciate that it has become very muddy in places. Considering the state of many of the footpaths around the moors, we are amazed that in most parts it has survived as well as it has given the extensive use it has had.

We are planning to make simple improvements which should make the lower stretches better drained and more resilient to wear in wet weather, but as you will appreciate the weather has not made this sort of work possible during the winter. Depending on timing and weather we will be arranging a couple of work days which will be open to all if you would like to help with the continuing improvements.

Community Footpath Action Group

## The Mary Tavy Inn

[www.themarytavyinn.co.uk](http://www.themarytavyinn.co.uk)  
01822 810326

**29th March 2013**

Darts Competition, open to everyone

**4th May 2013**

Live Music – Rock N Roll Outlaws

**24th – 27th May 2013**

Beer Festival – 10 Real Ales

**25th May 2013**

Help 4 Heroes  
BBQ & Family Fun Day  
(12 noon to 5pm)  
Live Music – Firefly  
(9pm to 12 midnight)

Monthly Quiz  
last Sunday each month

3 Local & 1 Guest Real Ales

Traditional Pub Restaurant

Our Popular Stone baked Pizza's

Eat In or Takeaway

Sunday Lunch Carvery

OAP Thursday Lunches

## Would you like a Bus Shelter?

Those of you who use the bus stop going south on the A386 by the corner of Station Road will know all too well that there is no shelter from the weather. In the Community Plan in 2008 this was highlighted as an item for action.

Recently the Jubilee Group has undertaken some research and sounded out the various agencies involved, and it does appear that placing a simple shelter there would be possible and not prohibitively expensive.

Because of planning implications we hope the Parish Council will agree to be involved with us on this project. We are at an early stage in the process and have not yet got full costings or worked out all the details of construction and responsibilities. We anticipate we will need to seek grants to cover the costs.



## Speedwatch Update

Only 3 people have so far come forward to help with the Community Speed-watch scheme, which may not be enough to maintain it. If you are concerned about road safety and care about vehicles speeding in Mary Tavy this is one way you can do something about it and your support would be much appreciated.

The commitment is not onerous, perhaps a couple of hours a month, especially if there is a reasonable pool of volunteers. You wouldn't be on your own as the system works in small teams. The process of becoming a volunteer takes a while, so the sooner we have new volunteers the better.

To find out more contact Dave Chapple, Police Community Support Officer, landline 08452 777444, mobile 07864 104728, david.chapple2@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk.

## Advertising in the Newsletter

The Newsletter is distributed to around 400 homes in the parish of Mary Tavy, with a few a little further afield. Distribution is by hand delivery and email. The Newsletter is also available on the Jubilee Group website.

Example advertising rates:

Single box	twelfth page	65mm H	x	60mm W	£10.00
Double box	wide format	65mm H	x	125mm W	£19.00
Quarter page	3 boxes wide	65mm H	x	190mm W	£28.00
Half page	2 high x 3 wide	134mm H	x	190mm W	£50.00

Six ads for the price of five. All ads in colour. Not subject to VAT. Spaces are limited so early booking advised.

**The Tor & Tavy WI** was started a year ago, to provide an evening WI for the women of Lydford, Brentor and Mary Tavy. They have a diverse programme of meetings and events planned for their second year. In February the subject is 'Cooking with Cheese' and in March it will be 'Drawing Farm Animals'. See details in our Calendar. New members made very welcome, call Nicky Deane-Simmons (President) on 810930 or Trish Wall (Secretary) on 01409 221871 for further information.

## Parish Council Minutes

Draft copies of Minutes of Parish Council meetings are posted on the noticeboard by the Post Office & Stores a few days after each meeting. The Parish Council decided at their February meeting that on the website Minutes will only be available after full approval at the following meeting. Therefore Minutes of the February meeting won't be on the website until around the third week of March, and so on.

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## Recreation Ground, an update from The Trustees

The Play Park has been repaired and minor improvements made to make the play equipment more easily usable. We are hoping to site a small wooden shelter there that will allow parents and children to get out of sudden showers. The roof of the changing rooms needs work and we plan to apply for grants. The Tennis Courts have got very mossy with the constant rain and we will be removing it as soon as the weather allows; a damaged net has been replaced.



## Community Council of Devon

The CCD is part of a national network of Rural Community Councils, helping communities to help themselves by offering advice and supporting projects throughout rural Devon.

Two of their current projects might be of interest -

**Healthwatch Devon** will be part of a new Healthwatch network from April 2013, giving people a powerful voice locally and nationally.

**The Devon Oil Collective** offers the benefits from bulk-buying of heating oil by collating members' orders once a month, and the reduced price is available even for small orders.

To find out more on either of these projects phone 01392 248919 or visit the CCD website [www.devonrcc.org.uk](http://www.devonrcc.org.uk).



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## Save money on art and at the same time help underprivileged children

Local artist Laure Bury will, this year, be fulfilling her life-long ambition to do voluntary work with under-privileged children in Cusco. To raise funds she is holding a sale of paintings at her studio, all at half price.

To support her project visit [www.lauresartgallery.com](http://www.lauresartgallery.com), call 810576 or email [laurebury@live.co.uk](mailto:laurebury@live.co.uk).

## Heavy rains increase the risk of local flooding

WDBC holds a supply of sandbags which can be collected free of charge from the Tavistock or Okehampton Offices. They are limited to 10 bags per household and do not include the sand.

For emergencies there are filled sandbags available through Mary Tavy Parish Council.

## MARY TAVY BONFIRE NIGHT

The Jubilee Group's Bonfire Night was a brilliant event, thoroughly enjoyed by around 300 people, from young children to the young at heart. There was food, there was drink, there was music, there were games, and the atmosphere was buzzing.

### Guys and Gals and a Tiger

The twelve Guys entered for the competition came in all shapes and sizes and were very inventive, including a couple of Mrs Guys, a baby Guy and a Tiger. The voting was well spread but there could only be one winner and the community chose the Highwayman Guy which then led the procession to the bonfire where all were set ablaze. Well, all except one who's young maker couldn't bear the thought of their Guy

being burnt. All those who entered a Guy were awarded a certificate. There was no judging of the carved pumpkins but there were some great works of art and they helped to light the route to the huge bonfire.

The whole field appeared to be alight from the glow bangles, multi-coloured lighted headdresses, light sabres and many other fantastical products, but the real light magic was the firework display which was a magnificent ending to a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

Despite our Bonfire Night being free to everyone, it covered the costs for the fireworks and a few other items of expenditure – and all this is thanks to some brilliant help from a lot of people, as well as profits from the food and drink sales, and generous donations. A big thank you must go to everyone

who helped and to those who came along to support the event.

There have been calls for this to become an annual event, so we're now starting to plan for that.



*Emma Hunter and Jess Parry with their Highwayman Guy leading the procession to the bonfire.*

## The Primary School's Jubilee Orchard

Mary Tavy and Brentor Primary School's dream of developing a community orchard has been realised with support from Dartmoor National Park Authority's Celebrating your Community fund.

Working with local Ranger, Rob Taylor, the teachers and pupils planted a variety of native apple

trees to create Jubilee Orchard, at the side of the school playing field off Warren Road.

After successfully planting the trees at the beginning of December, including putting in place deer guards, the school was delighted to welcome TV presenter, naturalist and Dartmoor resident Nick Baker who officially opened the Orchard.

Future plans include creation

of a wildlife pond near the Orchard and an annual community apple event which will involve villagers.



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### How do you like to receive the Newsletter?

If you've received the Newsletter by email and would like to pick up a printed copy, or if you know someone else who'd like the Newsletter, you'll find copies at the Mary Tavy Post Office & Stores.

If you'd be happy to receive the Newsletter by email in the future and aren't yet on the list please contact [mail@mtjubileegroup.co.uk](mailto:mail@mtjubileegroup.co.uk). Don't forget to give your postal address including postcode.

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## Calendar

**Cooking with Cheese** Tor & Tavy WI | Thurs 28 Feb 7.30 | Brentor Village Hall | Nicky Deane-Simmons 810930

**Elephant's Nest Cricket Club Quiz Night** | Thurs 7 Mar | Elephant's Nest

**Steve Tilston Folk Musician** (VIA) | Wed 20 Mar 8.00 Brentor Village Hall | Rick Blower 810600

**Plants and Gardens of Madeira** Brentor Garden Club | Thurs 21 Mar 7.30 | Brentor Hall | Rona Baker 820308

**Drawing Farm Animals** Tor & Tavy WI | Thurs 28 Mar 7.30 | Brentor Village Hall | Nicky Deane-Simmons 810930

**Hostas** Brentor Garden Club | Thurs 18 Apr 7.30 | Brentor Village Hall | Rona Baker 820308

**Annual Parish Meeting** | Mon 29 Apr 7.30 | Coronation Hall

ViA = Villages in Action, for more information visit [www.villagesinaction.co.uk](http://www.villagesinaction.co.uk)

### Regular Events, Groups and Clubs:

**Brentor Garden Club** | Monthly on a Thurs 7.30 | Brentor Village Hall | Rona Baker 820308

**Charity Quiz Night** | Last Sun each month | Mary Tavy Inn | Garry & Kim 810326

**Colts Football Club** | Sept-May Sat 10-11.30am | Tim or Helen McShane 810284

**Elephant's Nest Cricket Club** | Thurs even & Sun aft during season | Elephant's Nest Inn | Ben Neale 810225

**Over 55s Drop In** | Every Tues 10.30-2 | Coronation Hall | Vera Jones 810543

**Mary Tavy & Brentor Under 5s** | Term time: Mon, Wed, Fri | Coronation Hall | 07514 024728

**Mary Tavy & Peter Tavy WI** | 2nd Thurs each month 2pm | Coronation Hall | Barbara Weeks 810697

**Mary Tavy Parish Council** | Council meetings, open to parishioners | 2nd Tuesday 7.15 | Reading Rooms

**Mary Tavy Twinning Association** | Richard Thorne 810535

**Mary Tavy Commoners' Association** | Julie Tucker | [julie@bearwoodfarm.co.uk](mailto:julie@bearwoodfarm.co.uk)

**Pilates** | Every Thurs 9.30-10.30 and 10.30-11.30, £5 | Coronation Hall | Sally Cinnamon 07969 157507

**Short Mat Bowls** | Tues mornings | Coronation Hall

**Snooker Club** | Reading Room | John Banks 810090

**Tor & Tavy WI** | Last Thurs each month 7.30 | Brentor Village Hall | Nicky Deane-Simmons 810930

**Whist Drive** | Mon fortnightly | Coronation Hall | Anita Prosser 810432

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

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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](mailto:mail@mtjubileegroup.co.uk)**

**[www.mtjubileegroup.co.uk](http://www.mtjubileegroup.co.uk)**

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