Newsletter of the Mary Tavy Jubilee Group
No.29
December 2018 & January 2019

**Tamar Valley Male Voice Choir** 

#### **Carol Concert**

with Mary Tavy and Brentor
Community Primary School Singers

Saturday 1st December 7pm
Coronation Hall



We wish all our readers a very happy Christmas and New Year

# Discover the meaning of the Winter Solstice at sunset on Gibbet Hill

## Friday 21st December 3pm Reading Room and Gibbet Hill

Roger Page, one of the landowners of Gibbet Hill, has identified mounds which he has discovered line Gibbet Hill up with other major landmarks on the Summer and Winter Solstices. Come and hear about Roger's findings then, weather permitting, watch the sunset from the summit of Gibbet Hill.

We'll start in the warmth of the Reading Room with tea and a traditional yule log cake at 3pm to hear all about Roger's research and look at maps and diagrams, then go up onto Gibbet Hill to be there by 4.15pm ready for the sunset. If needed we can provide transport a large part of the way in 4x4 vehicles. Dogs welcome on Gibbet Hill but possibly not in the Reading Room. Bring a torch as it'll be dark on the way down.

The word 'solstice' comes from the Latin solstitium meaning 'Sun stands still' because the apparent movement of the Sun's path north or south stops before changing direction, and there are many ancient monuments and features which record and celebrate this change - perhaps Gibbet Hill was just such a special place at one time.

For more information contact Roger Page on 810900, pagynn@aol.com, or the Jubilee Group (contact details on the back page).

#### STOLEN

A scintillating combination of music, sound and storytelling by The Devil's Violin company

#### Friday 1st February 7.30pm Coronation Hall

The Devil's Violin has an uncanny knack for tall tales well told. Led by the always charismatic Daniel Morden and accompanied by the spine-tingling sounds of fiddle and cello, prepare to be drawn into the dreamlike 'Land Of No Return', where Kings have turned to stone, and women live trapped beneath enormous claws.

This is a masterclass in storytelling; by combining enchanting tales with fabulous contemporary music, 'Stolen' has had audiences on the edge of their seats. Just keep telling yourself, it's only a story...

Tickets £9, includes a free warm punch or other drink. Drinks and snacks available from 7pm as well as in the interval. Tickets from from Mary Tavy PO & Stores or www.mtjubileegroup.co.uk.

See additional article about Mary Tavy Live in this issue of Jubilee News.





Cinderella shall not go to the ball. Well not this year. The Mary Tavy Panto was changed from Beauty & The Beast to Cinderella, but has now been postponed, probably until next December. In the meantime CHADS might put on a concert or other performance in the spring. Watch this space.



#### 5th Annual Christmas Tree Festival

Church of Tavy St Mary

Thursday 13th to Sunday 16th December 11am to 5pm

Teas/coffees and table top sale

We look forward to seeing you all there to support this local event in aid of church funds



#### Saturday 8th December 11am to 4pm Coronation Hall

#### **Raising money for Cancer and MS**

"The reason we have chosen these Charities is I have had a lot go on in my family over the 18th months with Cancer and MS both being in my family, and my friend has lost family members to cancer and both our families have had amazing support from cancer charities to help them through their last days of life. We want to be able to do something to give back to them for all their hard work."

Chloe Porter & Tish Soper

#### Lots of stalls

Jo James Jewellery | Usborne Books
Knitted babies/children's items
Scentsy | Hand Made Crafts
Body Shop Sweets | Cake stall
Photography | Nails/ flowers
Younique make up | Flowers by Livi
Just Add Bread | Ann Summers
Tavistock Craft Creations
Honey's crafts | Bit and Bob's
Avon | Millie's Baby Boutique
Victoria Eyton Balloons
Teddy tombola
Jillian Morris woven textiles

Raffle / Tombola Refreshments

**Everyone welcome** 

# **Brentor Mistletoe Fair**

Brentor Village Hall Sat 8th Dec 10am to 3pm

Free entry. A wealth of crafts stalls, good food and all things festive. Entertainment in the morning by Mary Tavy and Brentor School Singers. Father Christmas will be visiting.

#### **Keeping the roads clear**

A new batch of road salt, 3 tons, has been delivered by Devon County Council, ready for keeping many of the side roads in Mary Tavy clear from snow and ice. Last year Cllr John Hill with the Parish Council's salt spreader, Winter Dragon, went out 6 times covering some 30 miles. And he's ready to do the same again, or more, this winter if the weather demands it.



#### Ideas for the Future

In early October the Jubilee Group held a meeting with invited members of the community to discuss ideas for the future and to think about new projects and activities. It was a very fruitful session with some good ideas, which the Trustees will be following up to consider how the projects can be taken forward, what finances are involved, and what grants could be sought.

The ideas put forward include –

- A petanque court in the Recreation Ground.
- Outdoor table tennis table.
- Cinema club.
- Games nights.
- Neighbourhood Watch scheme.
- Garden trail, following the success of a previous village garden trail some years ago.
- Villages in Action, request from organisers for Jubilee Group to take over responsibility.
- Knotweed control on the Burrows and elsewhere.

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- Progress possible footpath linking the school to the Recreation Ground.
- Improvement to Route 27 near the river.
- Improvements to children's play equipment and games courts.
- Bench on the summit of Gibbet Hill, plus interpretation board.

The discussions also included suggestions for bringing village groups together, working cooperatively. This will be considered although it was noted that such concepts may be outside the remit of the Jubilee Group.

#### **Colouring Mary Tavy**

The scheme to bring a lot of colour into Mary Tavy with daffodils along verges is moving forward with planting of bulbs next autumn.

In the meantime we'll be talking to Highways and applying for grant funding – and we need a small team of people to consider where to plant. Can you help?

# Mary Tavy Garden Traíl

Would you like to give the opportunity for others in Mary Tavy to see your garden? It doesn't matter if your garden is large or small, neat or wild, gardens are always fascinating.

Several years ago there was a very successful Mary Tavy Garden Trail, and three years ago or so we asked for people to consider opening their gardens for St.Luke's Hospice but we didn't get enough people wanting to take part. This time we're planning something on a very local and informal scale, we won't be advertising the Garden Trail beyond Mary Tavy so this is all about the community. A nice opportunity for local people to spend time with neighbours and have a cream tea or cake.

There is no specific time scale in mind - it might be this summer it might not be until the following year - so all we want now is to start making up a list of those who might like to take part.

Please contact the Jubilee Group either for opening your garden or perhaps helping with the organisation.



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# Watching out for the community

There was a
Neighbourhood Watch
Scheme in Mary Tavy some years
ago but, along with many other
such schemes throughout the
country, it fell by the wayside.

Neighbourhood Watch is now being revitalised, making more use of modern ways of communicating. There is a website and facebook page, online information packs and campaign toolkits, to help volunteers run awareness and prevention campaigns.

A Mary Tavy Neighbourhood Watch scheme has been registered but for it to be really effective it now needs a co-ordinator, someone who is keen to see the community kept safe and who would be willing to ensure that information is passed around. If you are interested in taking this on please contact the Jubilee Group.

# **Coronation Hall and Recreation Ground as one**

We've reported previously on plans for the Recreation Ground Trust to take back the lease of the Coronation Hall, enabling both charities to be run as one. At an EGM of the Coronation Hall the merger was agreed and the process has started, but it will be some time before it is completed.

#### **Coronation Hall AGM**

Monday 3rd December 7.30pm





The Villages in Action event in mid-November was an impressive display of guitar, fiddle playing and singing by Kit Holmes supported by Al Greenwood on guitar. Kit played an eclectic mix of music from the classic Brubeck 'Take 5' to sultry blues numbers and rockabilly. The audience were really appreciative and enjoyed a very entertaining evening. The event was so successful that a donation of just over £100 has been made to the Coronation Hall.

#### The future

After 6 years the organisers, Margaret and Doreen, are stepping down and have handed the baton for Mary Tavy Live and the Villages in Action events to the Jubilee Group. A small group of volunteers is needed to help with everything from ideas for new events to putting out chairs in the hall, from contacting performers to running a raffle. It's a great project to be a part of, please contact the Jubilee Group to get involved.

Huge thanks go to Margaret and Doreen for all they have done in the past and their continued involvement to ensure a smooth handover.

#### A Brilliant Litter Pick

It was a glorious sunny day for the Litter Pick in November, and we had a record of 21 volunteers who came to help tidy up the village. We collected 16 bags of rubbish, less than the previous Litter Pick which is a testament to all those in our community who pick up rubbish whenever they are out and about.

Before the next Litter Pick, probably in late spring, we hope to have some road safety signs and other new equipment.

As well as thanking everyone who came along, we'd like to offer special thanks to the Coronation

Hall for providing the meeting room, and to the WI for the very welcome tea and scrummy cakes.



#### A letter to Jubilee News from the other side of the world

#### The Warne family in Australia

It was with great excitement that I read Ian Coleman's letter in the 23rd edition of your newsletter, earlier this year. In it he was asking for information about the Warne family of Mary Tavy. Over the past 8 years I have been working with other Warne cousins in Melbourne, Australia, to research our ancestors from Mary Tavy. The outline below explains our link to the area and to Ian.

\* John Warne and Ann Newton brought their family from Cornwall to Mary Tavy in the early 1800s. John Warne was listed as a blacksmith aged 82 in the 1841 census.

\* Two of their sons, James Warne who married Melora Thomas in 1823, and Francis Warne who married Jane Samspon in 1820, have descendants who migrated to Australia. We have connected with 5th cousins through these brothers.

\* James and Melora's son James 1828-1876 married Maryann Spencer (also from Mary Tavy) in 1847. Maryann was born in the poorhouse with no father

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Maryann settled in Maldon Victoria, Australia. There are many descendants of theirs here.

- \* James and Maryann Warne are my great, great grandparents. James brother is an Absalom Thomas Warne born 1831.
- \* His son, another Absalom Warne, born 1872 is Ian Coleman's great, grandfather.
- \* Ian and I along with other Warnes in Australia are 4th/5th cousins.

After contacting him we were able to share photos and information about our respective families.

Funnily enough another cousin and I had visited Mary Tavy on a road trip round England 4 years ago. We went into the local inn

and asked about the Warne family and were told that Bill and Mary used to own the hotel we were in. I couldn't make any connection then but after reading Ian's letter discovered that they are relatives of his and hence ours as well. Amazing!!!

We had a Warne reunion which had over 60 relatives attend. On the wall was displayed our

Warne family tree showing the descendants from the Warnes of Cornwall and Mary Tavy.

During our research we've come across an old photo of a man on a donkey which could have been taken somewhere around Mary Tavy. We would greatly appreciate any details or ideas of where it was taken. Could the man be John Warne the blacksmith?

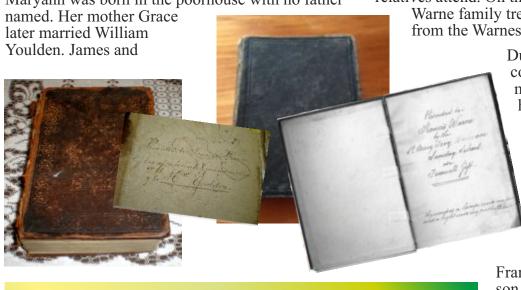
I have two bibles that came from Mary Tavy:

Francis, my great grandfather, the son of James and Maryann, was given a bible from the Wesleyan Chapel as a farewell gift when he came out with his mother in 1866.

The other was given to Francis from his grandmother Grace Spencer, Mrs Youlden.

If you have any additional information about the family please contact me.

Claire Knights cnights@bigpond.net.au



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**Forthcoming Events** 

**Christmas Parties** some dates still available

**Boxing Day Quiz** Starts at 8.30pm

Annual Pool Competition 27th December



New Years Eve Party with Silverlight Live Music 9 till late !!

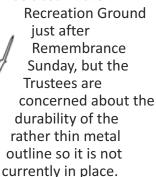
> Charity Dinner 2nd February 2019

Contact 01822 810326

#### THERE BUT NOT THERE

The lifesize outline figure of the WW1 Tommy soldier was due to

be sited in the



### Local Plan Consultation



Dartmoor National Park Authority has been working on a first draft of the new Local Plan for Dartmoor.

The public consultation period runs from 3rd Dec to 4th Feb. Copies will be on display in various places as well as with the Parish Council.

 www.dartmoor.gov.uk/localplanreview forwardplanning@dartmoor.gov.uk 01626 832093 Forward Planning, DNPA, Parke, Bovey Tracey, Newton Abbot, TQ13 9JQ

# Build a Bird Box Workshop



#### Sunday 17th February Coronation Hall

As part of National Nest Box Week, the Jubilee Group, along with our Dartmoor Ranger Rob, is holding a workshop for making bird boxes which we hope will go up in public areas around the village but could be for your own garden.

We plan to make a variety of boxes for different birds, concentrating on those known to be in decline.

There will probably be a separate event for siting the boxes around the village.

Full details will be in the next issue but if you'd like to be involved, particularly if you have expert knowledge or you have thoughts on where we should site

the boxes, please get in touch (details on back page).

#### Personal Advertisment by Roger Page (The Pool Guy)

This is an advertisement by Roger Page in a personal capacity and not acting as a member of the Parish Council.

I would like to congratulate the new organisers of the Bonfire Night celebrations. In spite of the dismal weather, a spectacular show delighted the somewhat diminished numbers of attendees.

The Parish Council has degenerated into a lethargic state, in advance of the Parish election next May. No new initiatives were brought to the November Parish Council meeting. This was very lucky as the financial management has become so inept that no money is now left in the budget for new projects or grants.

The monthly income of approx. £1200 is now less than the running costs of the Parish. Expenditure on salaries and village maintenance for October was over £1400, leaving nothing for other projects

other than dipping into savings. For comparison: one year ago the expenditure came to £430.

So what has happened? The inner circle of the Parish Council set up a Personnel Committee with secret agenda and minutes. They have decided to not replace the Clerk, but to employ a Locum Clerk which inevitably results in much higher unit costs and poor cost control on other services. Four councillors of the Personnel Committee decided not to attend two Financial Committee meetings rendering those meetings inquorate, which does not allow the meeting to take decisions to improve the financial control.

This means that the Parish Council has clearly decided not to adhere to the 2018/19 budget. As Chair of the Finance Committee, I have decided that my position is untenable and I have therefore resigned.

At the November Council meeting the Chair, who is in charge of the

Emergency Plan, stated that he would no longer be available to respond to flood emergencies on Brentor Road, as he has had so many callouts previously.

I have cleared the ditches on the moor to the north of Brentor Road, to carry as much water into the power station as possible and to relieve the drain which leads into the Burn. It will be some time before it settles down and I would ask walkers and riders to use the bridges and not destroy the new banking when crossing the leats.

In the Tavy Times some may have noticed letters encouraging parishioners to put themselves forward for election to the Parish Council. I encourage all those who can represent the diversity of interests and background in Mary Tavy to join me in seeking election in May 2019. If you need any help, please phone me, 810900.

Seasons greetings!

Roger

# Messy Church is coming to the Methodist Church!

Starting on 17th January and every 3rd Thursday of the month, 4.30pm–6.30pm.

Fun Church for all, family and individuals, young and old (children must bring an adult!).

Arts & crafts, activities, story telling, singing and a hot meal. We would love you to come along and join in the fun, and....

.....IT'S FREE!

For more information call Caroline on 01822 81090

#### So, what is Messy Church?

It began in an Anglican church in a suburb of Portsmouth some years ago as an idea of a children's worker. It spread to other churches and now you can often see the logo of Messy Church outside churches all over the country.

Peter Tavy have been running it for some time and now Mary Tavy feel enthused to begin it here. It is a joyful experience of God's love for all, beginning with a welcome, drinks and snacks, an unstructured time of meeting, chat and colouring, moving on to a craft time obliquely centred around the theme of the day. The theme is then presented as a celebration in words, pictures, film, drama or music.

Finally there is a meal. Everyone sits around the tables as equals enjoying the food in a place where all are accepted and everyone belongs.

Janet Clare

Find out more at messychurch.org.uk

#### **Clubs & Local Contacts O** to **T** The full list is available on the website

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 Coronation Hall | Sally Cinnamond 07969 157507

Recreation Ground | George Hill 810302 info@mtrg.org.uk www.mtrg.org.uk | Tennis Court bookings: PO & Stores

Reading Room | Paul Williams 810001 williamstormist@tiscali.co.uk

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 Pancheri sally@sallysholidaycotages.co.uk

Tor & Tavy WI | 4th Thurs each month 7.30 Coronation Hall | Lucie 814840, Judi 614198



#### Do you love to sing?

My name is Chrissie Wade and I live in Mary Tavy. I would like to start a choir or small group of likeminded singers. We shall be singing a variety of music and the aim is to have fun whilst learning more about how to improve our vocal technique.



I am a Musical Director and have been for many years forming choirs, quartets and trios. I have just moved into this area; so if you are interested and are able to make a commitment of an hour a week during the day, you will be very welcome.

To find out more please contact me on 01822 810551, or leave a message and I shall return your call.



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#### **Methodist Chapel & Hall**

Sun 9th Dec & 13th Jan 9.30am Breakfast at Café Church

Free breakfast, followed by informal talk, song and chat. Activities for children.

Mon 17th Dec & 21st Jan 10.30am-noon Jigsaw Swap

Thursdays 1-3pm (no session 20th or 27th Dec)
Knit & Natter Craft & Chatter

Tuesday 28th Jan 10am-noon (no session December)

Devon Sensory Team

Wed 5th Dec & 2nd Jan 2pm Moorland Outreach

Dec: Prim & Graham Skedgell; Jan: Joan Gosling



Fri 14th Dec 12-3pm
Christmas Fair
SEE SEPARATE ARTICLE

Sun 23rd Dec 6pm Carols in the Chapel



**New Regular event** 

3rd Thurs beginning 17th Jan 4.30pm-6-30pm

Messy Church
SEE SEPARATE ARTICLE

Hall available for bookings, only £10 per hour, contact caro51@btinternet.com or 610079

#### **School Report**

The juniors have had great success at the annual crosscountry race at Castle Drogo this year. Hundreds of children took part in the race. Our girls' team came first,

winning the Girls' Small Schools Trophy and our boys' team won silver. They were presented with their medals in assembly on Children in Need day, wearing pyjamas!



To celebrate the centenary of the end of World War 1, the school had a special art project. They worked with a felt artist to make Remembrance Poppy Pebbles and also invited members of the community to join them to make poppies from recycled water bottles. The plastic poppies were used to create a display outside the school and at the War Memorial.

I have also been showing lots of prospective parents around our lovely school, If you have a child due to start school in September 2019, please feel free to contact the school if you would like to look around or you have any questions. The DCC online application process closes 15th January 2019.

Mrs Barbara Earnshaw, Headteacher

#### **Mary Tavy and Peter Tavy WI**

We meet on the 2nd Thursday each month at 2pm in the Coronation Hall.

Nearly the end of another year, next year sees our institute celebrating its 70th Anniversary! How things have changed in that time but we are still a friendly, cheerful group of ladies who welcome new comers. The Primary School choir will be singing at our next meeting which starts at 1.30pm (note earlier start) on Thursday, 13th December anyone is welcome to come along and listen to the children and have a cup of tea and a mince pie.

A happy Christmas to our lovely village.

Barbara Weeks 810697

# Fill a Sock for the Homeless

Drops offs are at Mary Tavy Inn up to the week before Christmas.

Please fill a sock with useful and gift items such as – toothbrushes,

toothpaste, roll on deodorants, ladies sanitary products, combs, gloves, hats, chocolates, sweets etc. And of course the other sock to make a pair. Tie the sock with a ribbon and mark for male or female.

Donations of old coats, blankets and sleeping bags also welcome. The socks will be taken to the Plymouth Shelter and given out at the stop offs on the soup run.



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#### COMPETITION

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We've got a slightly different competition for you this time. As you can see, it's old photographs, but still all of places around the village which can be recognised today.

Entries must be in by 10th January. The winner will be the first fully correct (or if none are fully correct the most accurate) answer drawn out of the hat.

Answers can be a written description, or the places marked on a sketch map, or you could take your own photographs, or whatever is the easiest way for you to make sure we understand your answer. Don't worry if you don't know them all, you might still know more than other people do. Entries can be emailed to competition@mtjubileegroup.co.uk, or marked 'Jubilee News Competition' and handed in at the PO & Stores. Please make sure we have your name and phone number or email address.

#### Good luck!









the winner, Lorraine Burrell. Answers to the previous Competition:

difficult to find, but one person did

identify it. Our congratulations to

Well done to those who entered

the competition in the previous

issue. Photograph 6 proved

- 1. The main gates into the Recreation Ground, close-up;
- 2. From the A386, the driveway to Cholwell Riding Stables;
- 3. Structure near Midlands on the Horndon Road:
- 4. On the Brentor road looking back towards Mary Tavy;
- 5. The monkey puzzle tree at Zoar Chapel, Horndon;
- 6. Field gate in the large layby on the A386.



Copydate for the next issue is the 20th of the preceding month, at the very latest, but please remember Jubilee News can fill up fast so the sooner you can get information to us the better.

Jubilee News is a project of The Mary Tavy Jubilee Group. It is producted every two months to bring news of events, activities, heritage and general interest to the residents of the parish. It is able to be free to residents as the printing costs are covered by advertising.

The Mary Tavy Jubilee Group is a Charitable Trust, created in 2012 and based on the Charity Commission model constitution GD2. 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: John Banks, Ali Fife Cook, Michael Fife Cook Jubilee News Editor: Ali Fife Cook

Phone: 08455 193812 (free from a landline) email: mail@mtjubileegroup.co.uk y twitter: @marytavyjubilee website: www.mtjubileegroup.co.uk

Visit our website to find out more about the Jubilee Group and how you could be involved