

**TAVISTOCK TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN HALL & BUTCHERS HALL REPORT FEBRUARY/MARCH 2026
DATE OF REPORT 13/03/2026**

Town Hall

1. General Update

- a) There have been a number of events taking place in the Town Hall in February and March, including a Wedding Ceremony and Reception, Sea Shanty Evening, and an annual Scottish dance evening. Feedback from hirers was very good and bar takings for the Wedding and Sea Shanty evening were reasonable.
- b) The Town Hall Bar audit for the end of year has been booked for 31st March 2026.
- c) The Town Hall continues to host a number of regular weekly hirers including Full of Life (Monday and Friday), Line Dancing (Tuesday), Vocal Harem (Tuesday), Dartmoor Dancers (Wednesday), Zumba (Thursday), as well as U3A (monthly).
- d) The Wedding Fair took place on 1st March and despite the weather not being on our side, we received overall positive feedback regarding the event, with a number of traders reporting good quality leads or bookings being generated despite footfall being steady rather than exceptional.
- e) The Electrical Installation Condition Report (EICR) for the Town Hall is currently being completed by JT Greaves to ensure that all electrical fittings are safe and in good condition.
- f) Across the remainder of March we have upcoming events such as the Aurora Wellbeing Fair, the Annual Town Meeting, Lions Charter Night, Lodestone Morris Dancing Event, and a small Wedding Ceremony and drinks reception.

Butchers Hall

- a) The Arts Market held on 7th March proved to be very successful, with trader attendance being very good. We continue to receive good levels of enquiries for new traders for the Arts Market so we aim to have all dates for the remainder of 2027 at very close to maximum occupancy.

- b) The interest in the proposed Antiques and Vintage Market has been limited so far, so whilst we still aim to start this new event in 2026, we will be pushing the date back to later in the year. Work is being done with the Market Reeve and Trader Reps to look at how we can attract good quality antique traders to both the Pannier Market and the Butchers Hall, as applications and enquiries for antique traders overall have dropped off significantly in recent times.
- c) Current we have around 17 traders for the 14th March Youth Market event. Whilst this is less than we were aiming for we are pleased with the quality of applicants that we have received, and we have strict guidelines for eligibility for this market to ensure that the theme is strong, with only traders under 30 years of age considered. We are looking at ways to build on this event as we look to our August and October dates later in 2026.
- d) The feedback from the first Silent Disco in Butchers Hall was a success, with the hirer selling around 130 tickets and positive takings on the bar which was run by TTC. The hirer has indicated an interest in hosting another Silent Disco in Butchers Hall in Autumn 2026.

The schedule of themed markets for 2026 is as follows;

Youth Market – 14th March

Spring Fair 9th – 11th April

Art & Craft Fair – 16th & 17th May (17th May to run alongside EAT Festival)

Nature Inspired Market – 24th & 25th May (*as part of Tavistock Country Garden Show*)

Makers Market – 19th & 20th June

Summer Fair – 6th – 8th August

Youth Market - 29th August

Art & Craft Fair - 24th – 26th September

Goose Fair – 14th October

Youth Market – 31st October

Makers Market – 20th & 21st November

Dickensian Market – 4th December

Christmas Markets – 11th – 23rd December

Advertising/Marketing

Advertising for the Wedding Fair is an area we look to improve for next year's event. This year we went out in three different Links Magazines, as well as posters, banners and flyers around the Market and Events Complex, with regular posts to social media and appropriate groups. Whilst we did attract a good number of genuine couples looking to book

vendors which is the main target for this event, we are looking at ways to tweak the way in which we promote this event for 2027 to continue to expand and grow.

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