

**TAVISTOCK TOWN COUNCIL
PANNIER MARKET REPORT MAY 2026
DATE OF REPORT 28/05/2026**

PANNIER MARKET

1. General Update

- a) There has been some varied feedback from 5 day traders in relation to one of the additional Sundays, specifically the one which coincided with the Eat Festival. Traders felt that customers were predominantly focused on the food and only using the market to shelter from the occasional downpour. However, as this is now an annual event, with the organisers already looking at possible dates for 2027, we will look to discuss concerns and initiatives at the next consultative group meeting, which will then feed in to the next scheduled meeting with the event organisers. One point to consider, is there were twelve 5 day pitches that decided to take this day as annual leave, which had a dramatic detrimental look of the market, and did not aid in drawing people from the festival into the Pannier market.
- b) Upcoming plans outside of the generic market operations include the Multi-agency day on Saturday 20th of June, which features our local emergency services allowing the community to gain a better insight and understanding of the operational aspects of the different participating emergency organisations. The event will be spread across Bedford Square and into the Guildhall Carpark. Following that, on Sunday 28th of June the Pannier Market will be opening its doors to support the last day of the Cream Tea Festival. We are currently in the process of organising a complimentary offer in collaboration with the Tavistock BID. Saturday the 4th of July Tavistock Pannier Market will be proudly hosting the Regional Finals of the NMTF Young Trader Awards. This will involve Bedford Square housing 20 of the young entrepreneurial finalists whilst Miss Ivy will host a street food style offer in the Guildhall Carpark.
- c) A comprehensive list of all key dates has been compiled, along with a detailed memorandum. This document will inform traders of additional important dates, timings of events, and optional extra trading opportunities available from now until the Goose Fair. The memorandum will be distributed to all traders and perimeter shops to enable them to plan accordingly in relation to their opening days and hours. The primary aim of this initiative is to facilitate the provision of additional trading opportunities beyond the regular operating days, ensuring that traders can maximise their potential for business during these extended periods.
- d) We are now starting to look towards promotion and table allocation for this year's summer Monday openings. This year's dates span from Monday 27th of July to Monday 24th of August. We will aim to increase the percentage of tables allocated this year in comparison to last years offer. With lots of new traders having started over the past quarter we feel this is adequately achievable. Additionally we will look at how to achieve the

optimum reach through our marketing and advertising promotional objectives.

2. Bedford Square/Events

- a) Bedford Square continues to adapt with numerous activities including day traders, larger scale events and external hire. One noteworthy addition this year see's the monthly half square hire on the first Saturdays, for the 'I spy Sparkles' event group, who each month are made up of a mixture of craft based traders.
- b) Bedford Square continues to be an important addition to the Markets and Events, providing opportunities for both independent business and more event based activity, also offering a platform for a plethora of local community based activity with local stakeholders. An expected hive of activity will be taking place over the Summer months, with bookings for 2026 already off to a positive start, with the weekend offering being close to capacity on most weeks. The intention is to increase income for the square by 15% for the financial year 2026/2027.

Farmers Market Dates 2026

The confirmed dates for Farmers Markets for 2026 are as follows;

Saturday 13th & 27th June

Saturday 11th & 25th July

Saturday 08th & 22nd August

Saturday 12th & 26th September

Saturday 10th & 24th October

Saturday 14th & 28th November

Saturday 12th December

www.tavistockfarmersmarket.com

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Key Dates and Events

- **22nd–28th June** – Tavistock Cream Tea Week; Pannier Market open on Sunday 28 June (five-day traders expected to open at the agreed discounted rate)
- **Saturday 27th June** – Miss Ivy Street Food, Bedford Square (5:00pm – 9:00pm)
- **Saturday 27th June** – World Cup-themed day
- **Saturday 4th July** – Regional Finals of the Young Trader of the Year (Bedford Square)
- **Saturday 11th July** – Tavi Fringe (Butchers Hall & Guildhall Carpark)
- **Sunday 19th July** – Tavistock Carnival (Pannier Market Closed)
- **Saturday 25th July** – Miss Ivy Street Food, Bedford Square (5:00pm – 9:00pm)
- **Monday 27th July – Monday 24th August** – Pannier Market Summer Monday openings, including Summer themed Children's Trail (dates tbc) (five consecutive Mondays; all five-day traders expected to attend)
- **Saturday 27th August** – Miss Ivy Street Food, Bedford Square (5:00pm – 9:00pm)

- **Wednesday 14th October** – Goose Fair.

3. TripAdvisor/Google Reviews 2026



Rated 4 Stars a day ago

NEW

Fairly interesting market with all sorts of stalls. We were visiting the area for the week and it was a good couple of hours of wandering for us and the kids. It felt quite old world with all the crafts and the architecture or the buildings.



Rated 5 Stars a week ago

NEW

Loved the variety of stalls and the friendly stall holders. Cafe did lovely food and coffees.



Rated 5 Stars 2 weeks ago

NEW

One of the best markets we've been too. Loads of stalls of all types of things. Came away with a lovely broach, bird seed, and some crockery! Really nice interior, feels old English vibes. Toilet on site.



Rated 5 Stars 3 weeks ago

NEW

Very interesting market with an eclectic mix of stalls. A very picturesque town. Would definitely recommend visiting.



Tavistock Country Garden Show 2026.

This years event was extremely successful, despite some challenging conditions with the weather reaching extreme temperatures. All traders remained in good spirits and the feedback we received was very positive, especially with regards to the high concentration of footfall and volume of sales made. It was also stated by several traders that they were very happy with the organisation of the event, with particular recognition given to all the staff for their efforts during the two days.

Plans for the 2027 Garden Show are already in motion, with returning traders from this year being contacted to secure a place at next years event. We will also be placing a strong focus on enhancing the overall experience, exploring new avenues for entertainment opportunities for the Guildhall Carpark, and creating a more engaging atmosphere throughout the entire market complex, with a view to have more stalls and attractions extending across the whole perimeter. We will also look to having a more robust protocol in relation to the delivery of the show gardens and voting systems.

Designated premises Supervisor.

With the acquisition of the new Town Hall & Events Manager, there has been discussions pertaining to licensing good practice, and general licensing protocol, as the Town Hall events calendar starts to get busier, with more bar led functions.

There has been a few bar led functions since the last round of reports, with no issues occurring.

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