

**TAVISTOCK TOWN COUNCIL
PANNIER MARKET REPORT OCTOBER 2024
DATE OF REPORT 21/10/24**

PANNIER MARKET

1. General Update

- a) At the last Town Hall and Markets Consultative Meeting, opening times of the Pannier Market were discussed, mainly whether to return to the previous normal closing time of 4:30pm. It was agreed with trader representatives that certain times of the year would benefit from a slightly later closing time, however this would not be favourable during the darker early evenings, as some traders need to pack away that night then travel some distance home. With this being said, the decision was taken to revert back to 4:30pm closing from April until the end of September, then remain at 4pm from October through to the end of March. This would commence from April 2025.
- b) Friday 27th September saw the launch of extension of the Charter Market on Bedford Square, this saw around 15 traders selling local produce and hand-crafted items, we also had around 10 traders from the West Devon Crafters in the Guildhall Carpark, however this part of the event fell a little foul to the weather that day. We also had music courtesy of the Piano Bike Girl which went down very well as she was also booked for Goose Fair. The market itself was very well received by both the traders and the general public, with a really nice ambience as people shopped. Three weeks since have followed the launch, and have been equally well received. The intention going forward is to create a pool of local traders to give each week a different feel and have a good variety of goods on offer. There also discussions to hold some extended versions at certain times of the year. The BID manager has been doing weekly promotions via Visit Tavistock, including a list of each trader that will be there on any given Friday.
- c) Goose Fair was a very good day from the Pannier Markets perspective, with a steady flow of footfall throughout the day, largely helped by the favourable weather. A high percentage of traders reported good sales on the day and there were no issues, with all the parking and access arrangements running very smoothly this year. One thing to note, the Pannier Market was open from 9am-6:30pm, however the last hour was very quiet with the natural turnaround into the evening customers predominantly visiting the outside stalls and the fair, so we may look at a slight adjustment for next year's opening times.

2. Bedford Square/Events

- a) With the return next year of the ever-popular Street Food events, the dates are now confirmed as:

Saturday April 26th

Saturday May 24th
Saturday June 28th
Saturday July 26th
Saturday August 23rd

- b) Booking in general for Bedford Square continue to be strong, predominantly made up of regular day traders, which has increased due to the expansion of the outside Friday Charter Market. TTC still oversees all of the operational aspects of the Farmers Markets, which still run every other week on the second and Fourth Saturdays of the month.
- c) There will be some fun activities on Bedford Square on the afternoon of Wednesday 30th October for Halloween. This has been organised by Tavistock BID, who are running a Zombie Crawl that day in the town, this involves a large number of Zombie characters parading a route around the town and ending on Bedford Square.

Farmers Dates 2024

The Farmers dates for 2024 are as follows;
Saturday 26th October
Saturday 09th & 23rd November
Saturday 14th December (2nd date TBC)

3. TripAdvisor/Google Reviews 2024

Back in Time

Aug 2024 • Family Rated 4 Stars.

We visited the market (one of the oldest in the UK) while visiting family and checking out the town. The buildings are amazing and it has you imagining how this at one time must have been a garrison or something along those lines. The market has ample sellers of local goods and crafts and spreads out to the street beyond the gates.

Rated 5 Stars 18 hours ago NEW

Sells everything from pet food, clothing, affordable costume and hair bling, chocolate and fudge, homemade soaps and so much more. This is the best Pannier Market.

Rated 5 Stars 4 days ago NEW

Went to the Goose Fair, never been before great atmosphere street food, Cheap Jack's street traders, fun fair and a look around the Pannier Market good variety of stalls we took the Park and Ride good value and regular service.

Rated 5 Stars a week ago NEW

Love this place. Brilliant individual sellers on well laid out stalls. Cool old building, plenty of space and flat access. Cafés just outside.

Rated 5 Stars a week ago NEW

Always great to visit. A huge number of independent retailers, artists and artisans. It's hard not to be impressed and delighted with what is on offer.

4. Designated Premises Supervisor

There have been no issues since the last round of reports, just to say that Goose Fair ran smoothly with no licensing issues, with three SIA agents in attendance.

5. Festive/Christmas Opening Times

At the latest consultative meeting, members were briefed on the Festive/Christmas opening times for this year. The additional dates outside of the usual Tuesday-Saturday this year are, **Sunday's 08th, 15th & 22nd December**, and **Monday 16th & 23rd December**.

- Christmas Eve – Open 9am-4pm
- Christmas Day – Closed
- Boxing Day – Closed
- Friday 27th December – Closed
- Saturday 28th December – Open 9am-4pm
- Sunday 29th December – Closed
- Monday 30th December – Closed
- Tuesday 31st December – Open 9am-4pm
- New Year's Day – Closed
- Thursday 2nd January – Open 9am-4pm (Return to regular trading days/hours)

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