

# UGBOROUGH PARISH NEWSLETTER

March 2013



## What's on

Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	Women's World Day of Prayer service at St. Peter's Church at 7.30p.m.	Page 11
Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Bittaford Gardening Group meets at the Viaduct at 10a.m.	Page 4
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Ugborough Parish Walking Group meets at Ugborough Square at 10.45 a.m.	Page 5
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	Coffee morning at Oakenham at 10.30a.m. Inter-Parish Quiz at Bigbury Village Hall at 8p.m.	Page 3 Page 2
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Beacon Federation concert at the Watermark 6-9.30p.m. both days and 12.45-3p.m. Weds. only	Page 5
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Ugborough Local History Group meets at Ugborough Village Hall at 8p.m. Ugborough Parish Council meets at the Committee Room, Ugborough Village Hall at 7.30p.m.	Page 5 Page 10
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Ugborough Garden Club meets at the Old Post Office at 8p.m.	Page 16

Details of services at Bittaford Methodist Church are on page 12.  
 Details of services at St. Peter's Church, Ugborough are on page 15.  
 Please note also Lent Course and special services for Holy Week.

**Coffee Drop-In Centre**  
**10.30am-Noon every Thursday morning in Ugborough Church**  
**Post Office available 10am - 12 noon**  
 Why not meet up with friends and neighbours over coffee, tea, cake & biscuits?  
 Everyone welcome.  
 Post Office also available -Tuesdays from 1.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.

**Ivybridge and District Inter Parish Quiz - Tom Holway**

Following defeat by Yealmpton in an extremely hard fought first round contest, our team go on to meet Bigbury in the first round of the Ken West Plate competition to be held in Bigbury Village Hall (at St Ann's Chapel), on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March at 8:00 pm. If anyone would like to come and support the team, please ring me on 01752 941872. (Please note NEW number)



Ceremonial flying of the Flag.  
 The flag will be flown on the following occasions-  
**March 10<sup>th</sup>**                      *Birthday of the Earl of Wessex*  
**March 11<sup>th</sup>**                      *Commonwealth Day*

**Ladies' Champagne Breakfast Richard Barker**

The Ladies' breakfast was a very nice event with lots of networking and laughter. The male helpers and Barbara got a huge round of applause from the ladies for their efforts. While the men washed up, I took many of the ladies for a walk around our garden and then to see some of our hens, ducks, sheep, chickens, goats and cattle - including an Irish Moiled bull we have had for a short time from Adam Henson's farm.

I am pleased to say that £120 was raised for the Church funds, and a collection for the new Cancer ward in Derriford was also most generous. I would like to thank Barbara and all the men that helped, and Shelly who made everyone a posy.

*(I would like to add my sincere thanks to everyone who was involved in this amazing event. It was really superb.- Ed.)*

**Advance notice- TABLE TOP SALE**  
 St. Peter's Church, Ugborough Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April 10.30am-1.00pm  
 Refreshments and soup lunch available Tables £6, no traders, pre booking only  
 Enquiries to Sally 01752 691525 or Anne 01364 73342

**Mary's Coffee Morning 6<sup>th</sup> March at Oakenham** (formerly known as Tumbleweed, opposite Hillhead Farm between Ugborough and Bittaford) **10.30am**

The first Wednesday in March signals the start of the Ugborough's social calendar (nearly) and it is time once again for Mary's Coffee Morning held in aid of the church. The location, after a blip last year, is back at its original if slightly altered venue of Tumbleweed, or Oakenham as it is now called. We are so excited that we will be able to host the coffee morning this year after 18 months of rebuilding and I have set myself the target of at least converting the old parking area into a courtyard by the 6<sup>th</sup> March!

It would be lovely to see as many of you as possible, as this is an event where you can meet so many people for a bit of informal networking. There will also be a plant sale and a collection of gardening books to look at and inspire you to reinvent your garden this year. Come along and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and some homemade biscuits, meet up with friends, buy a cake and some plants and enjoy the Spring sunshine!  
*(Shelley Hutcheon)*

**Ugborough and Bittaford Pre- School.** *Naomi Williams*

During March at pre-school, we will be starting the month with fun activities related to St David's Day. As he is the patron saint of Wales, we encourage the children to appreciate other cultures and customs by providing experiences like sampling Welsh cakes, looking at daffodils, painting with leeks! We are also asking one of our Welsh speaking parents to share a story with the children.

To celebrate "World Book day" on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March, children will be invited to come to pre-school dressed as a character from a favourite story. With spring gradually appearing and hopefully the weather warming we will be continuing our Forest School activities as the trees and flowers come back to life. Just before the end of the spring term, plans are in progress for an exciting Easter Egg Hunt for the pre-school children around Ugborough House Gardens by kind permission of Matt and Emily Fairclough. Pre-school will be closed for Easter Holidays from Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March for two weeks and returns on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April.

Our rural pre-school, which was officially judged by OFSTED as "Outstanding" in March 2011, welcomes children from all over the area from 2 years old to school age and we offer 15hrs of funded childcare for 3 and 4 year olds. Our opening hours are Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 9am to 3pm and Tuesday and Friday 9am to 12.45pm, term time only. For further information please contact either Tania or Naomi on 07763 215455. Likewise, the Toddler Group meets on Monday between 10am and 11.30am phone Sara on 07739 826422 for Toddler Group enquiries.

**Bittaford At Its Best!** *Sue Daniels*

We are looking for more people who can help us make Bittaford look at its best! We are a small informal group who meet on the first Saturday of each month at 10am by the viaduct. We cut back weeds, tidy up rubbish and will, as the spring arrives, plant flowers. There is no need for any experience, just a willingness to join in. If you have gloves, a trowel or a fork to bring along that's great.

There is no committee just an informal group who enjoy meeting up and making Bittaford look better. We hope you can join us. If you have any queries, please contact Sue on 01752 690130.

**South Devon Healthcare Foundation Trust (Torbay Hospital) - Anne Harvey**

I have been privileged to serve on the Trust's Council of Governors for the past six years as one of your three elected representatives for the South Hams. During this time I have learned a great deal about the complex workings of our local acute hospital. I am pleased to tell you that I have recently been re-elected to serve for a final three year term.

Changes brought in by the Health and Social Care Act, 2012 mean that there is a lot going on at our Trust. I hope that you see reports in the local papers and particularly those highlighting our successes. There have been many of these recently, including a national award as 'Hospital of the Year' in 2011. Our hospital is doing well, balancing its budget and providing good care consistently. The staff never cease to amaze; I am a judge of the hospital's internal awards for excellence and find it so difficult to choose a winner from all the inspiring citations I read.

Our Trust aspires to give the best, safest care possible together with a good patient experience. However, we all recognise that occasional problems do - and will - arise. Staff are, after all, only human. At Torbay we always try to learn from our mistakes, so I would urge you to report problems and also to write if you have had a good experience of care. In either case, unless you tell us, we don't know about it. All letters are read at a senior level and are recorded as part of the monthly performance report.

In closing, may I ask for your help? When the Foundation Trust was started here nearly seven years ago membership of the Trust was offered to all who live in the hospital's catchment area and many responded. However, if you are not already a member, you may not know what Trust membership means and how you obtain it. As a member you will receive a quarterly newsletter from the Trust and can take part in an annual survey to tell us what you think of our service and so help us to improve it. Membership is free. You can get membership application forms from the Foundation Trust Office, tel: 01803 655705. It would be good to swell the number of members, so I hope you will be able to help.

**The Beacon Federation**      *Executive Headteacher - Mrs. Jane Byrne*

Ugborough Primary School.

**Dates for your diary-**

**Watermark Concert**

*Tue 19<sup>th</sup> March - Watermark Performance 6.00 - 9.30*

*Wed 20<sup>th</sup> March- Watermark Performance 12.45 - 3.00 + 6.00- 9.30*

Tickets go on sale from the Watermark Box Office on **Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March** at 9.00am with telephone sales from 10.00am. Tickets will cost £5.50 (no concessions). From past experience they sell out very quickly so please book early to avoid disappointment.

**World Book Day** is on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March and we are asking children (and staff!) to come to school dressed as a character from their favourite book!

Fri 15<sup>th</sup> March - Red Nose Day - Mufti



**Ugborough Parish Walking Group** - *Merryl Docker*

Will the mud still be with us? It was drizzling mud on our January walk! The snowdrops were putting up a very brave (and beautiful) face which gave hope to those of us who ventured out. Maybe there will be enough sunshine for a few brave primroses to make an appearance. Come with us and see for yourself.

**Sunday 3rd March ~ 10.45am in Ugborough Square.**

Dress appropriately for whatever the weather will throw at us - especially foot wear. Conditions **WILL** improve one day!

For more information about our public rights of way contact Tom Holway (**note new telephone number: 01752 941872**) or Merryl Docker (01752 893651)

**Ugborough Local History Group** - *Merryl Docker*

Please note this is **NOT** on the last Wednesday of the month:

**Wed 20th March ~ 8.00pm Ugborough Village Hall** when Dr. Ian Hodgins will give an illustrated talk on "Victorian Health in Plymouth"

This will give us a fascinating insight into the lives (& deaths) of people living and working in a city we are all familiar with.

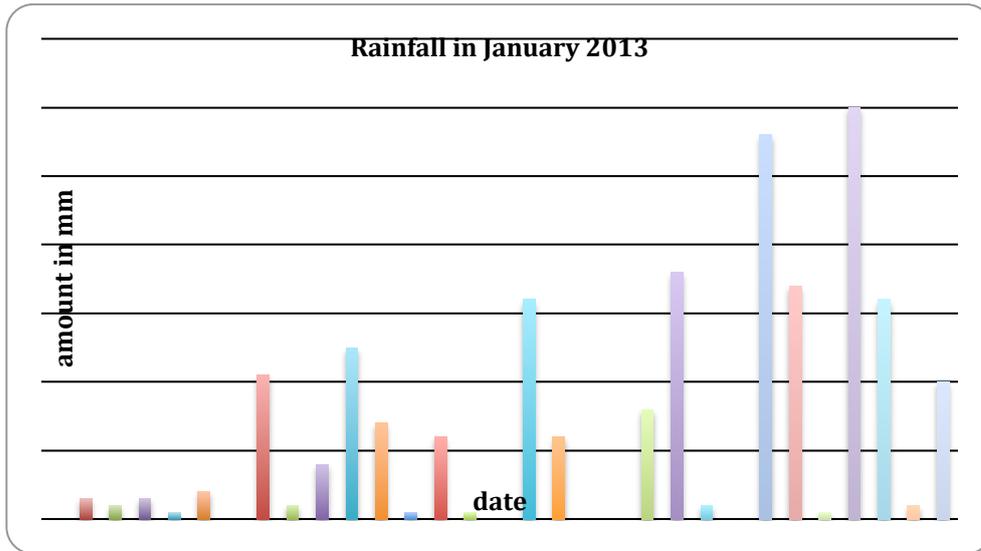
Non-members are always made welcome (just £1 entry on the door). We look forward to seeing you.

For more information about the History Group please contact Merryl Docker (01752 893651)

**Help needed:** Ugborough Local History Group would like to start a project on looking into the lives of the men of this parish who gave their lives during the First World War. Their names are on our war memorial outside Ugborough Church.

The centenary of the beginning of WW1 is coming up next year and we feel we should have a document in memory of these men to keep for the future. Many of the old village families are no longer with us, their history will disappear if we don't try to gather recollections now. If you have any family history going back that far or any connection at all with the names on our memorial please contact me. Maybe you know of family members who have moved away or have any stories about these men and their families. Collected knowledge will help us to remember these brave men. Please contact me on 01752 893651 or email [merryldocker@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:merryldocker@yahoo.co.uk) Thank you.

**Rainfall at West Cannamore, Ugborough, 510 ft. above sea level** Thanks to Len Wakeham for this valuable record.



Total rainfall for January including 22mm melted snow on 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> =200mm  
7.87ins.



### Your Stars Tonight.

Astronomy in the South Hams requires boundless optimism that one day the clouds will part and the heavens will be revealed. The close encounter with Asteroid 2012 DA14 on the 15<sup>th</sup> February was yet another wondrous event enthused over by the Sky at Night pundits (thanks for all you did Patrick - you will be sadly missed in years to come). It was to be visible by telescope or binoculars rising above the horizon at 8pm and slowly moving up to the Plough before fading around midnight as it headed back into interplanetary space after its near earth encounter. But would it be a starry night in Ugborough?

Because 2012 DA14 was only 35,000 kilometres away at its closest approach its position in the sky would be significantly different between, say, London and Ugborough - but no problem. The wonderful NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory website has a calculator (used for NASA space flights) which gives the position and coordinates for the planets and numerous asteroids - including 2012 DA14 - from anywhere in the world. So type in 50 38 N, 03 92 W and the prediction was for the asteroid to appear somewhere over Ugborough Garage.

Inevitably it clouded over on Friday afternoon and the Met Office website (usually very good) forecast a very gloomy 90% cloud cover. But around 7pm reality outside and the computer screen inside diverged - forget what the Met Office says - there are stars above! Unfortunately it turned out the best observing spot was the middle of the cabbage patch (voted Slug Bistro of the Year 2012) - but needs must and let asteroid hunting begin.

The choice was to either try hunting in roughly the right area with binoculars or to set up the telescope on some known stars and then tell the telescope's microprocessor gizmo the NASA JPL co-ordinates. I chose the latter method and inevitably dark, damp, electricity and microprocessors combined to frustrate all efforts to find the asteroid moving against the background of stars - and there are a lot of stars up there! By 9.30 things were getting a bit fraught in the cabbage patch. There was an exhortation to "Steady the Buffs" and just one more reset of the telescope to exactly the predicted position for 9.50 pm and then a patient wait to see if anything appears in the field of view.

It was like waiting for the Tuesday 10.44 Totnes bus - the closer it gets to the time the more the doubts emerge - was the time table marked "Tuesdays except full moon", has Ugborough been cut off by the flood? And then the bus appears around the corner oblivious to your doubts - just like Asteroid 2012 DA14. A tiny dot of light appeared and moved serenely across the eyepiece. A solitary lump of rock the size of Ugborough Church, popping in to say hello to Planet Earth before heading off until the next rendezvous in about 100 years.

I'm sorry I won't be around to welcome it back.

### The Temporally Misplaced Gardens of Ugborough - Any Ideas? *Matthew Fairclough*

It has been a great year of discovery at Ugborough House. Since moving to the village in December 2011, Emily and I have been made most welcome by the fabulous community in and around the village, but you could be forgiven for thinking that we are recluses because we have spent almost all our spare time either covered in mud or splattered in plaster. When we took the reins of Ugborough House and the amazing gardens that surround it we had little idea of all the hidden treats in store. Over the past year we have been sweeping, digging and pruning our way through the grounds and it finally looks like we might have some chance of pulling the gardens back from the brink - over time.

There is still a great deal to do and we see the restoration project taking quite a few years to complete. In fact, if those of you familiar with the gardens were to walk around today you'd probably think we'd done nothing at all. It is astounding how fast everything grows in our fertile valley - especially the weeds!

The most significant lesson learned from our first year is that the gardens should not remain locked away behind heavy gates. Ugborough House was once a centre point for the community being the village parsonage, rectory and vicarage over the many years it has been in existence. We want to ensure the garden can be enjoyed by all whilst ensuring it remains a family home. Plans are coming together to get the gardens in a safe state for visitors and we hope to see Ugborough Primary and the Pre-School using them for education and enjoyment later in the year. We are already planning an Easter Trail and a Teddy Bear's Picnic.

It would also be wonderful if the wider community could access the gardens. To plant the acorn of this idea we are going to run a garden open day on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2013 and we would love to see you there. It may seem strange to be reading this news so early in the year, but we want you to put your thinking caps on.

During the open day we would like to put forward some ideas for wider use of the gardens. This is about our community, so you'll be able vote on which ideas you like. To get a short list together we'd love to hear your thoughts on how you might want to use the gardens, and maybe even the house. We're not easily offended! What do you think would be an enjoyable or educational event or project? Does your group want to get involved? Send your ideas to [matt.fk@mail.com](mailto:matt.fk@mail.com) or write to: Mr M Fairclough, Ugborough House, Parsonage Lane, Ugborough, Ivybridge. PL21 OPA. We will reply to all correspondence. I should probably manage some expectations... Emily and I both work and have two children, Evie and Arthur. We are typical busy parents so we can't promise the earth, but we'd like to hear your ideas. The most feasible will go on a short list to be displayed on the open day, so everyone can see what is possible and have their say. Full details of the day will be published in June. We look forward to hearing from you so do get in touch!

**Beryl's Bookworms** - Sue Johns

This month's book 'Fault Lines' by Robert Goddard introduced a genre for us. This thriller set in St Austell and on the Isle of traversed some 40 years in search of the truth behind an suicide.



change of  
Capri  
apparent

We all agreed this was an easy read and representative of Goddard's smooth style. Many thoroughly enjoyed the unfolding plot, its twists and turns and eventual satisfying ending. Some felt the central character, an average guy, lent credibility to the tale. On the other hand some of us felt that all the characters lacked warmth, and that the ending was a foregone conclusion. The practice of frequent backtracking to remind the reader of the plot some felt helpful, whilst others considered it patronising. The ultimate derision - that this was probably a 'boy's book' was hotly debated! Marks out of 5 ranged from 2 to 5; with an average of 3.6. Next month: 'The Midwife's Daughter' by Patricia Ferguson.

**Ugborough Parish Council** Clerk: Sarah Woodman Tel: 01626 824568

email: [ugboroughpc@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ugboroughpc@yahoo.co.uk) Website: [www.ugboroughparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.ugboroughparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Active Villages is an exciting initiative to raise participation levels in sport and physical activity in rural communities, and details were provided by South Hams Coordinator Jan Birch at the start of the February Parish Council Meeting. Funding of about £2600 is available in Ugborough Parish for setting up or kick-starting an activity, including coaching costs, facility hire, equipment, advertising and even training needs. More details are available on the website, [www.activevillages.co.uk](http://www.activevillages.co.uk). The scheme is only running until September, so if you are interested, please submit your proposal soon! *(From a press release-If you have any ideas or would like to discuss anything about the project please contact Jan direct on [J.Birch@toneleisure.com](mailto:J.Birch@toneleisure.com), or on 07834 191681. Alternatively, please let your Parish Clerk have your ideas by contacting the Clerk, as above).*

**The Police Report** identified 3 crimes over the last month, including theft of fuel from an outside bunker, making off without payment for fuel, and criminal damage to a garden water feature.

The next Police Surgery/Drop in at the Church will be held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 14.30-15.30, Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March 10.30-11.30am & Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 13.30-14.30, when your Neighbourhood Officers Shaun Barker and Jacqui Hopper will be there to discuss crime prevention or any issues you may have. Action Fraud is a new way of reporting fraud. Call Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 or via the website, [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk). If the victim is vulnerable or at risk, officers will help them in reporting their crime to Action Fraud.

Reports from your District and County Councillors included the announcement that contracts had been signed with BT for rural broadband improvement, with a target of 90% of premises to receive superfast broadband by the end of 2016. Invest in Devon funding was being made available towards the new flooring at Bittaford Community Hall. And SHDC Council Tax would increase by 3.5%.

Consultations had been invited on a number of local services. The proposal to reduce the number of District Councillors to 30 members was considered excessive and the anticipated cost savings were questioned - it would be better to even out the representation of Wards. Another consultation related to the proposed changes in housing policy, with preference being given to local households in housing need (Bands A-D) in very rural villages like Ugborough. This is a timely reminder that, to be eligible for housing, you must be on the waiting list - go to [www.devonhomechoice.com](http://www.devonhomechoice.com) and register!

Planning Applications Only one, for the installation of a satellite dish at Earlescombe Mill, Bittaford - to which Councillors raised no objection.

The next Parish Council Meeting is to be held a week later than normal, on Wednesday the 20<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm. This is to enable the Clerk to prepare the agenda after returning from her (well earned) holiday. Agenda and minutes are displayed on the Council's noticeboards and website.

#### **Neighbourhood Planning (item from Richard Hoskin)**

A total of 162 questionnaires were completed and returned in January. Thank you to everyone who took the time to respond. Your views and comments will be carefully considered and will help the Parish Council decide whether to proceed with a Neighbourhood Plan and if so what options should be considered. The questionnaires are now being analysed by our Consultant from NALC/CPRE and the Parish Council look forward to receiving a report in the near future. The winner of the draw for the £20 Marks & Spencer voucher was Mrs. Jo Gartside. Thank you to St Peter's Church, the General Stores at Wrangaton, the Ship Inn and the Horse and Groom for accommodating our letter boxes for this purpose, and to everyone involved in the collection and distribution of the questionnaires.

### **Dementia Friendly Parishes Around the Erme**

Our cross parish project is now well underway and we would welcome queries from anyone who is interested in finding out more. (Please tell your friends and family and look in the newsletter for regular updates).

We are working towards creating a dementia friendly community across our parishes. You might wonder what this really means..... At the moment the criteria for dementia friendly communities are being developed but the general definitions point to something like this.....**There is strong public awareness and understanding so that people with dementia and their carers feel included in their community and they can be more independent and have more choice and control over their lives. There is also a desire to create a community where people with dementia can live well and that they and their carers are even more encouraged to seek help and support.**

We have also discovered a set of desirable outcomes which have been developed by people with dementia and their carers. The outcomes are described in terms of the kinds of experiences people with dementia want to experience in their community.... For example... *"I feel safe and supported in my home and in my community, which includes shops and pubs, sporting and cultural opportunities".....* and ..... *"People who we come in to contact with are helpful and supportive" .....* We think these outcomes are particularly useful and they will guide our work over the coming months.

So what are we doing at the moment?

On 6<sup>th</sup> March we are holding the first of a series of training sessions towards this goal when the steering group and other local representatives will receive professional training in this matter. We intend to roll training out across the community - e.g. to businesses, clubs and young people in particular - as the project develops. We are also developing a long term action plan in line with the Dementia Declaration and attending events and conferences to learn as much as we can so that we can better lead the community on this matter. We also want to test need in our local area so there will be a notice of this in the newsletters next month.

Please take a look at the following website and find out more about dementia friends nationally. You may even want to join the national network or become a champion! If you do - please let us know..... <http://www.dementiafriends.org.uk>

The statistics show that deep consideration of dementia and the experiences of the carers must be high on our agendas.

Thank you for your interest. Cllr. Lindsay Ward

[Cllr.LWard@southhams.gov.uk](mailto:Cllr.LWard@southhams.gov.uk) 01548 831078

**Women's World Day of Prayer 1st. March 7.30 p.m. St. Peter's Ugborough**

**Theme: "I was a stranger and you welcomed me."** A cafe style service as it has been prepared by the women of France. All are welcome.

**Bittaford Methodist Chapel Services - Jutta Berger 01752 698381**

Please come and join us. Our services are at 10.30 unless stated otherwise - we look forward to welcoming you.

3rd March Revd. David Youngs Sacrament of Holy Communion  
10<sup>th</sup> March Mr. Keith Angilley  
17th March Revd. Ralph Ward Sacrament of Holy Communion at 2.30 pm  
24th March Revd. Edgar Daniel  
31st March Revd. Ralph Ward Sacrament of Holy Communion at 2.30 pm

Our Hall is available for hire. We have a small Tea Kitchen. All enquiries contact: Jutta Berger as above or e-Mail to: [juttaberger@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:juttaberger@tiscali.co.uk)

Green Pastures Coffee Bar for families with small children.

Open every Friday from 10.00am 'til 12 noon including School Holidays!

**Mission Community Continuing Lent Course**

This course is aimed at opening our eyes to Christianity on the cutting edge of society. The speakers have been chosen for their involvement with issues that challenge our sometimes cosy approach to faith and the needs of the world.

7<sup>th</sup> March Speaker from Shekinah in Diptford Village Hall

14<sup>th</sup> March Discussion Groups in Villages

2.00 pm Little Moor Moreleigh

7.30 pm The Vicarage, Harberton

7.30 pm The Rectory, Diptford

7.30 pm Whitsun Cottage, 7, Fore Street, Ugborough

21<sup>st</sup> March Speaker Rev. Val Atkinson

who was a Chaplain at Channings Wood Prison, in St Mary's, Church Diptford.

The annual Quiet Day for the Three Rivers Mission Community will be held as usual at Lamacraft, near Start Point, from 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m. on Saturday 23rd March, the day before Palm Sunday. Please bring your lunch - drinks will be provided & a small charge made. The theme will be "Gethsemane"; there will be two meditations during the morning and we shall finish with an informal Eucharist. Please let one of the clergy know if you wish to come, or sign the list which will appear in the 7 churches during the month. It would also be useful to have offers of, or requests for, lifts.

St. Peter's Church, Ugborough

Dear friends,

I am writing to you on Ash Wednesday, at the start of Lent. I am wondering what to give up for the season. How about chocolates? But then I have just received some for my birthday! Maybe I should cut down on some food. Jesus fasted for forty day and nights - I am sure I have enough excess weight to last for more than that. Then another part of me thinks, John, why don't you take up something for Lent instead? I could get stuck into tidying the study, or maybe the weeds in the garden. Perhaps I could do more visiting, but there is always so much to do. Maybe, I need just to be in God's presence, giving him some more time, relaxing in his presence so that I may hear his voice more effectively. There can be nothing better on earth than being in the presence of the one you love (Oh yes tomorrow is Valentine's Day!). So many ideas, but which is the right solution? It seems to me that the answer actually lies in the struggle itself, as Jesus found in the wilderness. So, come on, struggle on in Lent. It is about giving something up, taking on something else and just spending more time with Jesus in the wilderness of this world.

I am excited by the signs of spring coming, despite one of the wettest winters I have known in the South Hams. The snow drops are out and the daffodils beginning to shoot from the ground. How anything could have survived the drenching this winter is beyond belief. This follows the Church's year in that fundamental belief of life after death, as seen in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. In each of churches, Sunday by Sunday, we celebrate the Christian hope of the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come and this is the culmination of our Wilderness journey.

The Church must be a symbol of hope in the world. However, quite often, it looks in on itself, bickering over things that do not matter, rather than concentrating on the love of Christ. We are called, as the Three Rivers Mission Community, to participate in the love of God, revealed in Jesus Christ. Let us in this Holy season put our roots down into the depths of His love and then shine for Him in the world for His Glory. Easter is coming, new life, new purpose, new faith and new love. May God shine in our hearts, our villages and in the world.

**Christ is Risen.**

**Enjoy the Easter experience for Christ's sake,**

**Yours John (Rector & Priest in Charge)**

*Peter Povey writes about **Chancel Repair Liability***

Chancel "What?" - "Repair Liability? What's that? I've never heard of it." Neither had I until recently. From Saxon times, by royal decree, the Rector of a parish church received tithes (church taxes) from the people of the parish to support the work of the Church. In particular, this made him responsible for the upkeep of the chancel, the east end of the Church. The upkeep of the nave, the larger west end, was the responsibility of the people of the parish. Many religious houses held the Rectory of ancient parish churches, and took the tithes, putting in assistant clergy, Vicars, to look after the parishes. Ugborough rectory was held for centuries by Plympton Priory. When Henry VIII suppressed the monasteries, he sold off those Rectories held by the religious houses, together with their tithe rights, to the highest bidders. However, although successive Tithe Acts abolished tithes, responsibility for maintenance of the chancels remained attached to the purchased land.

After a lengthy legal battle in the late 1990s, the House of Lords ruled that a couple, who had inherited property as Lay Rectors of the parish of Aston Cantlow in the Diocese of Peterborough, were responsible for the £90,000 bill for repair of the chancel of the Church, but further opined that the members of the Parochial Church Council would themselves personally have been responsible for that repair bill if they had failed to demand payment from the Lay Rectors.

The Government has now changed the law to abolish Lay Rector responsibility, but it has been recognised in legal circles that others with landholdings still have responsibility to maintain chancels, namely those whose tithe rent charges were not obliterated by the Tithe Act 1936. Consequently, Parochial Church Councils of ancient parishes have been instructed to examine their local situation, to identify these landholdings, and to determine whether or not they should give notice or register them with the Land Registry, a task which needs to be completed by October this year in accordance with the Land Registration Act 2002.

Following a full investigation of the issues, including referencing the National Archives, the County Records Office, and taking professional advice, the Parochial Church Council decided at its January meeting that it will take no action in respect of any of the 250 or so landholdings identified in Ugborough Parish as potentially having Chancel Repair Liability, and will not seek to go any further with this process. It believes that this will be welcomed by parishioners. As this is a complex subject, I am happy to speak to any parishioner who wants further information, but effectively because of the Parochial Church Council's decision, this is not now an active issue for Ugborough.

### St Peter's Church Services in March

Date and time	Service
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March 9.30a.m.	All Age Holy Communion
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> March 11 a.m.	Mothering Sunday- Sung Eucharist
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> March 9.30 a.m.	Family Communion
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> March 11 a.m.	Palm Sunday Holy Communion and Procession
Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup> March 9.30a.m.	Easter Day Holy Communion
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March 9 a.m.	Celtic Communion
All other Tuesdays	Celtic Prayer
Every Thursday 8.30a.m. 5.30 p.m.	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer

There are special services for Holy Week in the churches of the Mission Community- see Church porch for details.

In St. Peter's Ugborough these are-

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March- Compline at 7 p.m.

Maundy Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March- Holy Communion at 7 p.m.

On Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March at Ermington there is Music for Good Friday (The Cross of Christ), at 6 p.m.

The **Three Rivers Mission Community** covers the parishes of Diptford, Ermington, Halwell, Harberton, Harbertonford, Moreleigh, North Huish and Ugborough.

#### **Rector and Priest in Charge**

Rev'd John Ough, The New Rectory, Diptford TQ9 7NY  
01548 821148 : [john@diptfordough.freereserve.co.uk](mailto:john@diptfordough.freereserve.co.uk)

#### **Assistant Priests**

Fr. Harry Jevons, The Vicarage, Lutterburn Street, Ugborough PL21 0NG  
01752 932805 : [fr.harry@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:fr.harry@hotmail.co.uk)

Rev'd Caroline Luff, Harberton Vicarage, Totnes TQ9 7SA  
01803 868445 : [pgandcml@btinternet.com](mailto:pgandcml@btinternet.com)

#### **Reader**

David Stafford, Whitsun Cottage, Fore St. Ugborough

#### **Garden Club Anne Holway**

We meet in the Old Post Office on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March at 8:00 pm and forward to an illustrated talk by Martin Catt.



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### **Village services.**

Don't forget to visit your Post Office in Ugborough Church on Tuesday afternoon and Thursday morning!

**South Brent Community Energy Society** is offering an opportunity to buy shares to fund their community wind turbine project. They are holding a series of Open Meetings in March. Further details from [www.sbces.org.uk](http://www.sbces.org.uk) or phone 07795 257849 or e mail [info@sbces.org.uk](mailto:info@sbces.org.uk)

### **Music Notes**

Mad Dog McCrea, supported by Ugborough's best- Hillhead, are performing at The Donkey Sanctuary, Ivybridge on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March. Further details from the Sanctuary- 690200. Tickets are limited!

Also on St Patrick's Day, March 17<sup>th</sup>, Hogwash are playing at The Ship!

### **Contributions**

Thanks to everyone who has contributed to this Newsletter.

Contributions should be sent to - Mrs. Norma Roe, The Editor, Ugborough Parish Newsletter, 20 Lutterburn St, Ugborough, Ivybridge, PL21 ONG.

**The deadline is 15<sup>th</sup> of the month please. Thank you for keeping to this.**

**E mail is welcome to [norma-davidroe@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:norma-davidroe@tiscali.co.uk)** (I use Microsoft word, font Comic Sans. Any articles as attachments in this format would be particularly welcome.)

Your Newsletter is available online at the Parish Council website and the **Ugborough Website** - <http://www.ugborough.com/>

If you have any stories, pictures, accounts of history, adverts you want to run or anything else to go on the web site for the whole parish please contact Richard Barker on 01548 821000 or email him at [richard@fowlescombe.co.uk](mailto:richard@fowlescombe.co.uk)

*Views published in the Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Editor or of the Newsletter Group, or of any other contributing group. Contributions are published at the Editor's discretion.*