

Ugborough Parish Newsletter



December 2021

*Merry Christmas and a Happy and
(above all) Healthy New Year.*

What's on

Wednesday 1 st December	Ugborough Parish Council meets at Ugborough Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.	Page 9
Saturday 4 th December	Ugborough Sustainable Saturday in Ugborough Village Hall from 10a.m. to 12 noon. Love Bittaford Pop up café from 11.30 a.m.	Page 2 Page 10
Sunday 5 th December	Ivybridge Churches Together service at St Austin's Priory at 4.30 p.m.	Page 5
Sunday 12 th December	Ugborough Steepers meet	Page 4
Friday 17 th December	Last day of Autumn Term	Page 3
Saturday 18 th December	Ugborough Sustainable Saturday in Ugborough Village Hall from 10a.m. to 12 noon (with live Christmas music)	Page 2
Saturday 24 th December	Mission Community Christingle Service at Ugborough Church at 4.30 p.m.	Page 11
Tuesday 4 th January	First day of Spring Term	Page 3

Details of services at Bittaford Methodist Church are on Page 5

Details of services at St. Peter's Church, Ugborough are on Page 11 (including Christmas services)

Thanks for the generous donations towards the costs of the Newsletter.

It's been an extraordinary couple of years when we haven't always been able to deliver paper copies of the Newsletter, but we've been back in full production for the last few months now and are now delivering around 400 hard copies around the Parish. Although very competitive, our printing costs have doubled since 2019. We are completely voluntary and do not accept commercial advertisements relying solely on donations, so we are really grateful for any donations either by cheque (payable to Ugborough Parish Newsletter) or by BACS Nat West Bank: Name- Ugborough Parish Newsletter, Sort code 53-61-57, Account number 08251576

Ugborough Sustainable Saturdays

10 a.m. – 12 noon on alternate Saturdays in the Village Hall

We appreciate your support since we restarted in September. But it would be great to see more villagers checking out the locally produced food and crafts always on display. If you haven't been to USS for a while, come and see what we are all about, and help keep this valuable local resource running. There is good coffee available from the Cafe (and cake too!). It's always lovely to see people enjoying a beverage and a chat together. The dates for December are:

Saturday 4th - Free Coffee and Mince Pies to help with the Christmas shopping

Saturday 18th - Live Christmas music with Annie around the festive tree

Oh by the way, back by popular demand Bacon butties are returning in December!

Lockdown Quilt- Jenny Weaving.

Earlier this year Chris and I had the pleasure of viewing the amazing "Lockdown Quilt" that so many of Ugborough folk took part in during last year. The contributions made by so many people were outstanding. You are all so talented. Congratulations to all of you. We are looking forward to it being on public display.

Over the last year we missed seeing so many friends from Ugborough and now it is good to back at USS.

We wish you all a very happy Christmas and a healthy and safe 2022.

Best wishes, Chris and Jenny Weaving

(The Quilt was on display at Sustainable Saturday on November 20th and it really is stunning.

Don't miss it when it is next displayed. Ed)

Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child 2021 Shoebox Appeal Update - Kate Brampton

Thank you to everyone in the Community who supported the Appeal this year by providing filled shoeboxes, online shoeboxes and/or monetary donations – it has all helped.

At the time of writing, we have provided a **total of 28 Gift Shoeboxes** (10 physical and 18 online Shoeboxes) including their associated project/shipping costs and £40 gift aided donations for needy children/young people overseas.

We are endeavouring to track where as many of the shoeboxes are going as possible, and this will be done via those shoeboxes that were registered/paid for online. Hopefully, we should hear early next year which country/countries these shoeboxes have gone to.

Thank you once again for your generous support particularly during these challenging times.

The Thursday Coffee Morning

in St Peter's Church is BACK, alongside our continuing weekly Post Office.

Pop along for a beverage and cake between 10 and 11.45 a.m.

Please make use of the hand gel and wear masks until seated. All are welcome!

Ugborough and Bittaford Pre- School-(incorporating breakfast club and after school club)

Charity Number 1043499- *Tess Watkinson*

Open 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday – Friday during term time in Ugborough Village Hall

Contact

07763215455

admin@ugboroughandbittafordpre-school.org.uk

We welcomed the children back after their half term breaks and have made the most of any fine November weather with trips to the play park and using the new bikes which the children have really enjoyed. We have still been able to continue with Forest School on a Monday too, so there has been lots of fresh air despite winter creeping up on us. Inside activities have been lots of fun too as we have had the dressing-up box out again and we continue to enjoy making recipes such as vegetable kebabs. We also made Pastry Catherine Wheels just after November 5th which we followed up by making paintings and pictures to reflect the sounds and movements the children experienced on Fireworks night. Remembrance Sunday was also commemorated, and we made a poppy picture to give to Ugborough Church.

We are looking forward to our Christmas Trip to Pennywell Farm on Friday 3rd December and our Christmas Party on December 15th. We are also excited to announce that starting in January we will be joined by Jude from Spinning Tots Dance on a Thursday afternoon. She used to come to Ugborough a couple of years ago and it is a fantastic music and movement session that the children loved. There is space if you would like your child to attend on a Thursday afternoon to experience this.

Plans for the new building are continuing in the background and we continue to fundraise for this. To help us with this, please consider shopping through SmileAmazon instead of ordinary Amazon and selecting as ‘Ugborough and Bittaford Pre-School’ as the charity you support on the dropdown menu, and we can get a percentage of purchases with no costs to you. Simply type smile.amazon.co.uk into your address bar and then follow the instructions to select us as your charity. Other than that, it is just like shopping with ordinary Amazon!

We have welcomed another new friend to preschool this month but there is still availability if you would like your child to attend. We’d love to hear from you.

Beacon Federation - *Executive Headteacher - Mrs. Karen Dixon*

Ugborough Primary School.

September 2022 – Foundation class entry

We have received enquiries from prospective parents for the Foundation class entry for September 2022. Given the high rates of Covid locally and our commitment in helping keep infections low by minimising large gatherings, we have been delighted to welcome families into the school individually and offer a personalised tour of the school and show what we have to offer here. Please pass this message to any family or friends who have children due to start school next September and who you think might be interested in having a visit here.

Friday 10th December - Save The Children’s Christmas Jumper Day

Tuesday 14th December- Christmas Carol Service

Friday 17th December- Last day of Autumn Term

Tuesday 4th January 2022 -First day of Spring Term

Ugborough Steepers - *Graham Gilbert*

Twenty years ago Northways Lane, an unmetalled lane leading to a narrow path, was completely overgrown and inaccessible. So the good people of the Parish got together to clear it and restore the hedge-banks. They received financial support from the owner of the Venus Cafés which enabled them to buy over 450 young trees which were planted in traditional Devon style, thorns in a row facing the fields and hazel on the lane-facing side.

The idea was to return seven years later to lay the hedges but, sadly, that never happened. Thirteen years on from that Ugborough Steepers have taken on the task of the hedge-laying, and we're really pleased that two of the original team of clearers and planters are part of our group.

We've been blessed with wonderful weather so far this season, so we've enjoyed three Sundays of ideal hedge-laying conditions, companionship, and picnics. We're open to all who'd like to learn a new skill, enjoy a really sociable day whilst helping the environment. So if you'd like to join us, contact Graham Gilbert at graham@artgilbert.co.uk. Or just pop along to see what we're doing and how we do it.

Our next session is on Sunday 28th November, followed by 12th December.
Dates for 2022 will be in the next edition of the newsletter.





G-UP - Creating a community where it's easy to live sustainably -Rowan Martin

As the dust settles on CoP26 in Glasgow there's a clear sense of urgency around reducing our carbon emissions. Living in a rural area, transport is a major part of many of our carbon footprints and it's no secret

that we need to find ways of using our cars less. Making Ugborough village a safe place to walk around and play would be a small step towards making this easier and make the village a more pleasant place to live. Ugborough is one of the few villages in the area without a space for children to play (especially while the playing field above the school remains out of bounds to the public) making it all the more important that Ugborough's streets are safe. Last year one of Ugborough Primary School's pupils, Twm Edwards coordinated a petition from 42 children in the village asking Ugborough to reduce its speed limit and presented this to Ugborough Parish Council. G-UP's Mobility and Transport Working group is keen to hear thoughts on making the village a 20mph zone as well as other measures that can be taken to make it easier to use cars less in Ugborough parish. If you have thoughts and ideas on this, or would like to get more involved in making Ugborough a greener place to live then please get in touch at greenerugp@gmail.com

And finally, we'd like to say a big thanks to everyone for all your support this year. Many of us have taken small steps or big strides to help reduce our impact on the environment and we wish everyone a very merry, wildlife friendly and low-carbon Christmas.

Please find G-UP on Facebook or drop us a line if you would like to be added to our email circulation list and hear about future events directly: greenerugp@gmail.com

Churches Together in Ivybridge- Mercy Matthews.

Last month Churches Together in Ivybridge restarted their Taize services with one at St Petroc's, Harford. Below are details of the December service-

**All are welcome to a service of
Meditative Praise
on Sunday 5th December
at St. Austin's Priory,
Cadleigh, Ivybridge
at 4.30 p.m.**

Bittaford Methodist Chapel Chris Phillips 07899934743

All services start at 11 a.m.

Sunday December 5th- Rev'd D Youngs (Service of Holy Communion)

Sunday 12th December- Rev'd Roper

Sunday 19th December- S Bolt (Carol Service)

Sunday 26th December – No service.

Beryl's Bookworms – Joan Fletcher

October's book was *Bodies of Light* by Sarah Moss. It is a historical novel set mainly in 19th century Manchester. It tells the story of the Moberley family in the 1860s and 1870s. Elizabeth Moberley is a zealous social campaigner who, in her ruthless pursuit of virtue, doesn't allow warmth and joy in her home. Control is almost a religion to her, and excitement, fear and hunger must all be governed. Alfred Moberley is a Pre-Raphaelite artist and descriptions of his work, and his friend Aubrey West's, appear at the start of each chapter and provide a timeframe for the story. Alfred Moberley exists largely independently from his family and appears to have little interest in what is happening to his daughters. The parents present a stark contrast between unfettered imagination and rigid conformity. In fact, the novel paints a picture of contrasts, for example poverty versus wealth and austerity versus elegance.



The book focuses on the eldest Moberley daughter, Alethea (Ally for short). Ally becomes one of the first female students to attend medical school in London. Despite her academic strengths, she is emotionally fragile and desperate to please her abusive mother. Her sister, May, appears to remain relatively unscathed by her mother's cruelty.

The book is a psychological, sociological and historical study of the history of medicine, feminism and poverty in Victorian England as much as a story of the Moberley family. We spent time exploring the themes of the book, poverty in Victorian Manchester, the first women in medicine and Victorian attitudes to women's mental health.

As is often the case we had mixed views. A few of us thought the book brilliant, evoking the time and conditions. Others thought Ally weak and wondered why she didn't stand up for herself against her abusive mother. Some found the story bleak and relentless and saw similarities to *Bleak House* by Charles Dickens. We felt there should have been a mixture of light and dark, but we found very little light to alleviate the dark.

We all agreed, however, that the subject matter was interesting. We gave the book an average of 3.5 out of 5.

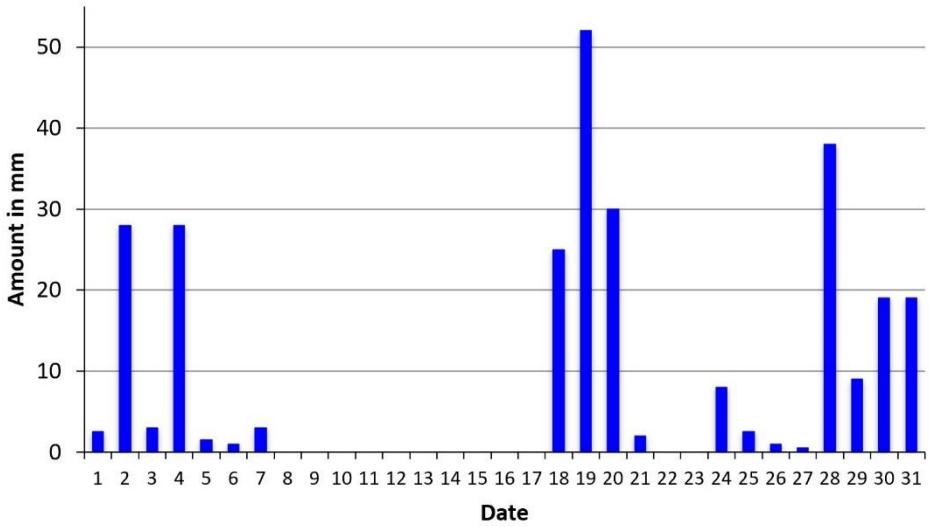
January's book will be *American Dirt* by Jeanine Cummins.

The Poppy Appeal boxes made a total of £846.22 (a very special mention to the school who raised £222.00 and Sue Blacksell who raised £60 selling knitted poppies to her friends). The Remembrance Service collection made a further £200.00 to be added to the total, a great effort all round. All collecting places have been informed of the amounts raised in their establishments. This year we say goodbye (and sincere thanks) to Francis Douglas as the Poppy Appeal organiser for Ugborough Parish after twenty years' service and we welcome Richard Lane as our new organiser - Richard is a former CPO Marine Engineering Submariner and lives in Bittaford.

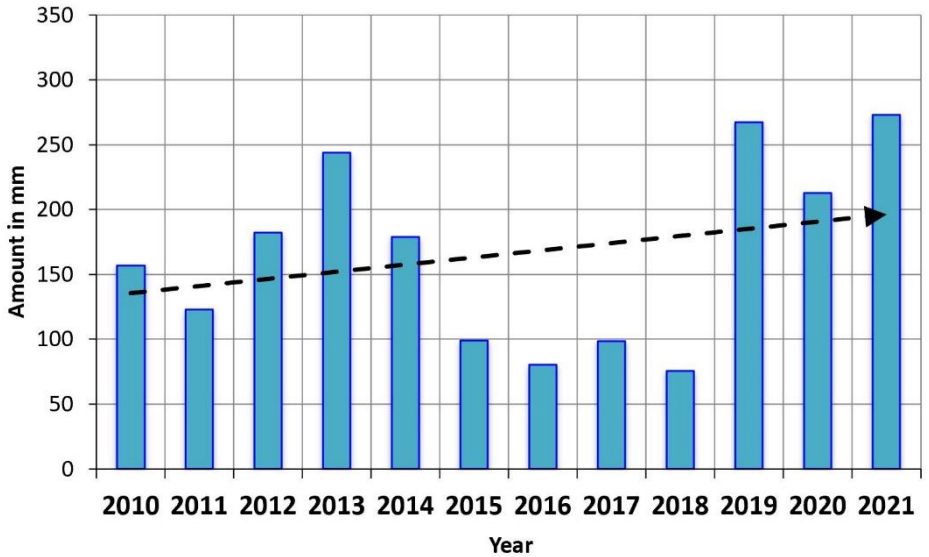
Rainfall at Shellwood Hill *George Arnison*

Despite a lovely dry spell mid-month, this October turned out to be a very wet month overall in which I recorded 273mm (10 ½") of rain at Shellwood Hill. This actually made it the wettest October in the last twelve years, well above the October average of 166mm. This was in significant part down to a particularly wet few days which included 52mm on 19th – the wettest day for over three years.

Rainfall in October 2021



October rainfalls and Trend





Your Stars Tonight. The weather for the last month has not been conducive to astronomical pursuits. My hopes for winning the next Ugborough Fair Photo competition with a carefully composed triptych of the Crescent Moon, a softly shining Venus and St Peter's Church, were rather disrupted since on the night I could scarcely see the Church tower through the drizzle. And the promised partial eclipse of the moon was perhaps best seen from a high-altitude hot air balloon – certainly down here in Ugborough it was a grey blanket moment.

But I took full advantage of the couple of clear moonless nights that we did have in November, and I spent my time with the Pleiades in the constellation of Taurus. Look for the bright angry orange red star that makes up the eye of the bull in Taurus and then a little to the right is the unmistakable Pleiades, or Seven Sisters. When I was young, I could make out at least eight or nine stars by eye – but now I struggle to see seven - I fear it is my eyes that have changed rather than the stars. They are a “must see” sight through binoculars as this star cluster reveals ever more stars under magnification and through the telescope they are almost overwhelming as they glitter in their hundreds with a steely blue. Long exposure photography brings out another change, showing them to be enveloped in sublime blue hazy clouds. They are very young stars, perhaps 10 million years old and are at that stage in their lives when they burn at a furious heat and the resultant radiation lights up a cloud of interstellar gas into a virulent blue.

And by a strange serendipity, the next morning we went to The Box, in Plymouth, to see the amazing “Songlines: tracking the seven sisters’ exhibition of indigenous Australian art made by the descendants of the humans who have lived there for more than 50,000 years. The Songline paths stretch across Australia and mix creation myths with a practical survival guide to living in the natural world as the seven sisters’ journey across the continent and eventually find safety in the heavens. And they lived in harmony with nature and knew they were a part of universe round them, interrupted by our recent arrival resulted in our usual pillage of the continent’s natural resources to feed our fairly pointless acquisition of consumer goods from China.

By way of light relief, an unusual planetary treat is promised for the last ten days of the month. All the planets of the solar system will be visible in the early evening with the sole exception of Mars.

Just after sunset there will be a glittering bright Venus over the western horizon and then as the darkness deepens a much fainter Mercury will appear below Venus. But ever elusive, Mercury will only be visible for about 30 minutes before it slips below the horizon. By then a bright Jupiter, and to its right, a much fainter Saturn, will be visible above the southern horizon. For the next two planets it gets tricky. Uranus and Neptune are both visible through binoculars as the darkness deepens but neither of them is located in easy to recognise constellations. Uranus is currently moving slowly between Aries and the pentagon that makes up the head of Cetus, the Whale. Meanwhile the fainter Neptune is just above Aquarius - which may have been the constellation for the now aging generation - but personally I find very difficult to identify.

A nice Christmas treat – the opportunity to see seven members of the solar system family in an evening. So where is the seventh planet? It is part of our own Songline as it is all around us and we are part of it – the Earth. A thought that would be obvious to the original inhabitants of Australia -and perhaps worth pondering on after COP 26.

Ugborough Parish Council

Clerk: Sarah Woodman Tel: 01364 661127 Email: ugboroughpc@yahoo.co.uk

Website: <https://ugboroughparishcouncil.org>

The failure of our community to benefit from Council Tax on holiday homes was highlighted by both your District and County Councillors at the November Parish Council Meeting. Apparently, £10m is lost to Devon where second homes attracted the small business exemption. If second homes were charged Council Tax in the South Hams, an additional £3.5m would be generated, of which the District would receive 8% - which could be pumped back into tackling our housing problem.

Christmas is just round the corner, and the Parish Council is entering into the Christmas spirit by providing funding towards the Christmas decorations at Ugborough Church and Bittaford Methodist Church & Community Hall. Thank you, Clr Ed Johns, for arranging the Ugborough Square Christmas tree.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022 will focus on the additional Bank Holidays on the 2nd & 3rd June. Suggested events in the Parish include tree planting, beacon lighting and a Jubilee lunch. Have you any ideas or wish to be involved? Let us know.

Planning applications (with the Parish Council recommendation in **bold**):

- [3774/21/FUL](#) Provision of an agricultural livestock building and a manure store at East Cannamore Farm, Avonwick **Support**
- [0404/21/FUL](#) READVERTISEMENT (Revised plans received and amended description) Provision of agricultural workers dwelling at Higher Coarsewell, Ugborough **Support**
- [2031/21/FUL](#) Proposed Barn at Earlscombe Farm Bittaford **Neutral. Barn should be moved to the NW corner. Prefer pitched roof. Surrounding hedges should be kept above roof level to provide screening**
- [0566/21](#) Erection of single storey extension to the side at Cherry Trees, 51 Moorfields, Moorhaven **Support**

A Vehicle Activated Speed Sign is to be bought for Bittaford, with the help of funding from DCC and SHDC. The existing sign, which is shared with Yealmpton Parish Council is showing its age and is no longer so effective. The new sign will be solar powered, so can stay in situ – much to the relief of the Councillors who regularly had to move the old sign.

The Community Recover Grant Scheme has opened, with cash up to £30,000 to businesses of all sizes in the District and Borough. A business can bid for a grant to cover or part-cover the costs of setting up a new business initiative that will have a positive impact on others in the community or other local businesses. Visit the [website](#) for more information.

The next Meeting will be held in the main hall at Ugborough Village Hall from 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday 1st December. Covid precautions will apply at the meeting.

Privacy policy – visit ugboroughparishcouncil.gov.uk

Litter picking equipment is available to local volunteers. To borrow, please contact the Parish Clerk Tel 01364 661127 ugboroughpc@yahoo.co.uk

Love Bittaford - *Jonathan Bell*

We will be having a Christmas special pop-up cafe on Saturday 4th December, at a revised time of 11.30 a.m.-1 p.m. This time we are planning to have winter warmer homemade soups as well as the usual fayre. A photographer will be present again willing to do family and other portraits for free, which might make nice Christmas presents.

Then closer to Christmas we would love to do community carol signing again. We did this 2 years ago at Hillside and Moorland Close, followed by a drink at the Horse & Groom. It was a great fun and we got lovely feedback from the residents. We are still finalising the date for this, but if you would like to come, please do get in touch and we will try and set the final date around when people can make it. *Jonathan Bell <love.bittaford@gmail.com>*

Avian Influenza Prevention Zone (AIPZ)*(information from Heart of the South West Trading Standards Service.)*

Heart of the South West Trading Standards Service have advised us that as of 5 p.m. on 3rd November 2021 an Avian Influenza Prevention Zone was declared across Great Britain. This means that all bird keepers in Great Britain (whether they have pet birds, commercial flocks or just a few birds in a backyard are required by law to take a range of bio-security precautions:

Schedule 1 - Minimum biosecurity measures applying to all keepers

- Keep domestic ducks and geese separate from other poultry.
- Ensure the areas where birds are kept are unattractive to wild birds, for example by netting ponds, and by removing wild bird food sources.
- Feed and water their birds in enclosed areas to discourage wild birds.
- Minimise movement into and out of bird enclosures.
- Cleanse and disinfect footwear and keep areas where birds live clean and tidy.
- Reduce any existing contamination by cleansing and disinfecting concrete areas and fencing off wet or boggy areas.
- Keep free ranging birds within fenced areas, and ponds, watercourses and permanent standing water must be fenced off (except in specific circumstances, e.g., zoo birds).

Schedule 2 –Enhanced biosecurity measures for premises with over 500 poultry or other captive birds.

Full details of what is required can be found on the government website: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1030990/aipz-declaration.pdf

To assist all bird keepers in complying with the new rules, the [biosecurity guidance and self-assessment checklists](#) have been updated and all the latest information can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/avian-influenza-bird-flu#biosecurity>

Remember that if you have poultry it is your responsibility to keep updated on any outbreaks and an easy way to do this is to sign up for text notifications - register with the [APHA alerts service](#).

Services at St. Peter's Church, Ugborough

We are delighted to be able to invite you back into our church for regular services
Services start at 9.30 a.m. unless otherwise shown.

Date	Service
Sunday 5 th December	All Age service lead by Local Worship Leaders
Sunday 12 th December	Holy Communion
Sunday 19 th December	Service of the Word led by Local Worship Leaders ***Carol Service at 4 p.m.***
Tuesday 21 st December	Mission Community Carol Service at Ermington Church at 7 p.m.
Saturday 24 th December	***Mission Community Christingle Service at Ugborough at 4.30 p.m.*****
Saturday 25 th December	All Age Christmas Communion at 9.30 a.m.
Sunday 26 th December	Mission Community Holy Communion service at Diptford at 9.30 a.m. No service at Ugborough.

Please note that we are being very cautious about lifting restrictions and we would ask you to continue to wear face coverings at all services.

Please use the hand gel provided and respect others' space.

Christingle

We welcome everyone to our MC Christingle service on 24th December at 4.30 p.m. when children will receive their traditional Christingles. The collection from this service will be donated to the Children's Society. We would particularly ask that you wear a face mask at this service.

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

You can find out about everything that's going on across all the parishes at its website, www.3rivers.org.uk

For all church business and parish matters, please contact

Rev'd David Sayle, The Rectory Diptford Totnes Devon TQ9 7NY
01548 821199 email parish_sayle@me.com.

Village services.

A reminder that you can visit the Devon Libraries Mobile Library Service at Ugborough Square, Tuesdays from 9.30 a.m.-10 a.m., normally every 4 weeks. However, due to Christmas holidays, the next date is **January 4th** .

And don't forget to visit your Post Office in Ugborough Church on Tuesday afternoon from 12.30-2.30 p.m. and Thursday morning from 10 a.m. – 12 noon. Please look out for notices about Christmas arrangements.

KJC comes back to KINGSBRIDGE

Thanks to Simon Harrow, owner of The Crabshell Inn, Kingsbridge for agreeing to host our winter gig programme in the upstairs restaurant.

The Crabshell Inn,The Quay, Embankment Road, Kingsbridge TQ7 1JZ

The first gig will be held on

TUESDAY 30th November 2021 - 6.30 for 7.30 p.m. music start

ZOE LAMBETH's VINTAGE JAZZ COLLECTIVE Jazz Tickets £12 per person (cash)

NON-MEMBERS WELCOME

Maximum seats - 60 - on a **first come-first serve basis**.

The programme of winter gigs and summer's outdoor gigs in 2022 will be posted soon.

Enquiries 01548 810991

Kingsbridge Jazz Club is Alive and Kicking - so please join in.

Contributions

Many thanks to everyone who has contributed to this Newsletter- I am delighted that we are now able to return to printed copies for all and thanks to Ivybridge Community College for printing them so efficiently.

Special thanks to the team – Anne and Tom Holway for organising the delivery to the distributors, and the distributors for making sure that your copy is delivered to you.

Contributions should be sent by e mail to Mrs. Norma Roe, The Editor, Ugborough Parish Newsletter at norma-davidroe@tiscali.co.uk

The deadline is 15th of the month please. Thank you for keeping to this.

Your Newsletter is available online at the Parish Council website <https://ugboroughparishcouncil.org> and at the village website <https://ugborough.com>

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. The Editor's decision is final.