

Ugborough Parish Newsletter

March 2022



What's on

Tuesday 1 st March	Back to school	Page 2
Wednesday 2 nd March	Ugborough Annual Parish Meeting at Ugborough Village Hall at 7 p.m. (before monthly Parish Council meeting)	Page 11/12
Wednesday 9 th March	Ugborough Fair Committee meets at The Anchor at 8 p.m. Note- There is important information about the Fair and other future events in this item.	Page 10
Friday 11 th March	The Greenwood Consort concert at St. Paul's church, Yelverton at 7.30 p.m.	Page 12
Saturday 12 th March and Saturday 26 th March	Ugborough Sustainable Saturday at Ugborough Village Hall from 10 a.m.– 12 noon	Page 2
Wednesday 23 rd March	Ladies' Lunch at The Ship for 12 noon	Page 8
Friday 1 st and Saturday 2 nd April	Ugborough Drama Group event -preliminary information	Page 11

Details of services at Bittaford Methodist Church are on Page 13

Details of services at St. Peter's Church, Ugborough are on Page 13

Ugborough Sustainable Saturdays - Val Holman

The dates for this month are Saturday 12th and Saturday 26th March from 10 a.m.-12 noon. We will be there with our usual great array of good things to eat and clever crafts to buy. Lovely to see lots of villagers chatting and enjoying bacon butties, coffee and tea last month. And if anyone has an abundance of their home grown veg to sell, please get in touch! Email ugboroughss@gmail.com

Ceremonial Flying of the Flag - (subject to the flag pole being made safe)

2nd Monday in March

Commonwealth Day

March 10th

Birthday of the Earl of Wessex



Ugborough and Bittaford Pre- School (incorporating breakfast club and after school club) Charity Number 1043499 - *Tessa Watkinson*

Opening times: 8am-6pm Monday – Friday during term time in Ugborough Village Hall.

Contact: admin@ugboroughandbittafordpre-school.org.uk

Contact: 07763 215 455

The children have been enjoying the first signs of Spring, although with our fair share of cold and wet weather we have been busy indoors too. In particular, the children loved making paper hearts and Valentine's biscuits this month.

Keyworker/parent meetings were a lovely opportunity to discuss the children's progress and reflect on their individual experiences at preschool. It is always so useful to have that extended contact time which enables home communication.

We are looking forward to our trip to Dartmoor Zoo. On previous years, the children have really been able to get up close with a variety of creatures and have had a fantastic time. We are also planning an entire week of Book-related enjoyment for World Book Day (Thursday 3rd March) which helps to promote literacy and a love of reading.

We have loved welcoming several new children recently and it is always gratifying to see the children forming new relationships and developing social skills with one another. We will soon also be doing separated learning sessions for those students who will go up to Primary School in September which will prepare them for the next stage of their education.

Finally, we will have a fundraising Easter Egg Hunt with our little ones on Friday 8th April so if any of the local children ask you for sponsorship, please do encourage them and help us with our fundraising efforts.

Ugborough Primary School – Headteacher- Mrs. Lucy French

We look forward to welcoming you back on Tuesday 1st March.

World Book Day takes place on Thursday 3rd March as we come together to encourage every child in school to be a reader and love books. To celebrate World Book Day, we will have plenty of fun activities taking place throughout the day.

The Ugborough Village Hall - *Stafford Williams*

Advance notice- The Village Hall hosts the Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 10th May at 8 p.m. in the main hall. The committee welcomes everyone from the community to review the year's activities and finances, This is the opportunity for you to have your say on the Hall and to help establish the committee for the coming year.

Ugborough Steepers- *Jackie Andrade and Finlay Forsyth*

On Saturday 12th February, we attended a hedge steeping (laying) course run by the Devon Rural Skills Trust, thanks to community funding from SHDC to Ugborough Steepers via Councillor Tom Holway. Devon Rural Skills Trust was set up to ensure traditional craft skills are passed onto new generations through learning first hand from those who have spent their lives practising them. This was very much the ethos of our course. Pairs of students worked on a hedge alongside an expert, watching, trying, and learning and having a chat about trees and tools along the way.

Although we have been working on the Northways Lane hedge this winter, it was instructive to work on a different hedge that presented a different set of problems. Northways hedge contains hazel, blackthorn, hawthorn and oak whereas Saturday's hedge also had elms that had not yet succumbed to Dutch elm disease, and elder and holly. Each of the woods responds a bit differently to billhook and axe. We learned how to use ropes to bring down taller trees, and how to make crooks and Dorset bonds to keep the newly steeped hedge neat and animal-proof. Perhaps the thing that will speed up our Northways steeping most is the practice of 'laying off'. Preparing steepers for laying on the hedge but then twisting them out into the field means that that teams can work on adjacent sections of a hedge simultaneously, without needing to watch out for their neighbours' steepers being lowered.

When one of us (Jackie) was a teenager, steeping was how young people earned money in the winter months. Now they have been replaced by flails, skills and habitats have been lost. Ecologically as well as culturally, that's a huge change in a short space of time. Many species need bushy, varied hedges interspersed with taller trees or 'standards', including the rare brown hairstreak butterfly that is just holding on in Devon, and the glow-worms that seem to be thriving in un-flailed hedges around the parish. Blackthorn provides an important early source of nectar for pollinators, but its flowers grow on 1-2 year old wood so they never get a chance to bloom in a hedge that is flailed every year. And of course birds need nesting places early in the spring before flailed hedges have begun their slow regrowth. Although flailing is cheap and convenient when landowners are stretched more than ever, it is a short-term solution. An annually flailed hedge becomes gappy as trunks grow and flails remove increasingly thick branches, allowing rot to set in, so alternative measures must then be put in place to keep it stock-proof. A hedge that is steeped every ten years or so does its job of keeping stock in place effectively and provides an excellent habitat and wildlife corridor, which is why hedge laying is being encouraged under the countryside stewardship scheme. Changing practice requires a supply of people with the right skills.

We hope that Ugborough Steepers can make a contribution here, however small. We would love to pass on what we have learned before we forget it so if you would like to try your hand at steeping, please come to Northways Lane on a Sunday morning with a flask of tea, some lunch, and some sturdy gardening gloves. It's not hard, and it's a cheaper workout than the gym! Contact Graham Gilbert for details: graham@artgilbert.co.uk.



G-UP

Creating a community where it's easy to live sustainably

Faith Matthews and Susan Williams

Greener Ugborough Parish is grateful for the Ugborough.com website, where all info about what G-UP are currently up to can be found: <https://www.ugborough.com/g-up>

This includes info about our collections for hard-to-recycle-waste streams (NB the collection box for old pens/writing instrument is currently in the Ugborough Square bus shelter) as well as info about our various working groups... If you are interested in seeing a reduced speed limit through Ugborough Village or in undertaking some adult cycling confidence courses, you may like to get in touch with like-minded residents via our Mobility and Transport group!

WildLink

This month the Wildlife and Biodiversity Group is excited to launch the **WildLink** project.

Supporting wildlife and biodiversity not only means providing suitable habitats but also making sure those habitats are

Link Your Garden To The Wild

joined together. That is where gardens come in. There are 23 million gardens in the UK with 433,000 hectares, which is bigger than all our nature reserves put together.

We are asking everyone in Ugborough Parish to:

Link Your Garden To The Wild And Create A Community Nature Reserve

Can you do something simple for wildlife in your garden, yard, or window box? Here are some suggestions – Can you do one thing in each column?

Food	Water	Shelter	Management
Bird feeders or food for hedgehogs	Wildlife pond (without fish)	Climbing plants for nesting and feeding	Leave perennials in until spring
Insect friendly nectar-rich flowers	Bog garden or permanent wet area	Mature trees	Compost garden and kitchen waste
Flowers, fruits, and seeds all year	Bird bath	Native shrubs or hedge	No pesticides including slug pellets
Shrubs and trees with nuts and berries	Water left out for hedgehogs and insects	Log piles or hibernaculum	Long grass area or mow and weed less
Wildflower meadow or nectar-rich lawn	Save water and use rain butt	Bird, bat, hedgehog, or bee/insect box	Hedgehog access into your garden

We will be organising events throughout the year to support **WildLink**, including plant give-aways, insect/bee nest making, wildlife walks, garden visits, and providing lots of information about how simple changes in food, water, shelter, and management can have a huge positive impact on biodiversity in our community.

- Wanted – recycled plastic plant pots for seedlings.
- Wanted – people to grow plants from seed for give-aways.

- Wanted - Offers of pollinator-friendly plants from seeds or cuttings.
- Can you share your knowledge of wildlife gardening?
- Can we feature your wildlife-friendly garden or garden feature?

Let us know how you are getting on, if you need any help with making your garden more wildlife friendly and for offers of help with **WildLink**, however small - please email -

Bittaford and Moorhaven - Jackie j.andrade@me.com

Ugborough and the rest of the Parish - Susan susan@inxite.co.uk

My Wildlife Garden - *Graham and Sylvia Wilson*

When we first moved to our house in 1990, we seeded the garden with meadow grass and since then we have always given it a light touch. All the wildflowers have appeared naturally, and we do not use fertilisers or moss killer. Our current mowing regime is once a month with pathways cut more frequently. Simply by reducing mowing frequency and letting our garden grow a little bit wilder has made a huge difference to the wildlife.

Primroses abound in in spring, they are entirely self-seeded, and nature has only needed a light touch to enable them to thrive. We have many clumps throughout the garden, and it is a joy to see them. They start to appear in January and are at their best in March. Bluebell shoots start to appear in February beside our house, and flower nicely in April. They always look particularly healthy and are self-sufficient. We planted a copse about 20 years ago with native species trees. Snowdrops, daffodils, bluebells and wild garlic now form much of the ground cover. These too are self-seeded. Later in the year, early purple orchids gently appear in small numbers, and we have a clump of cowslips beside our patio. Bird's foot trefoil has made a recent appearance and inhabits the outer reaches of the garden.

I would encourage everyone to become involved with **WildLink** as we have discovered that nature rebounds with energy if it is given space to do so.

Pollinator Focus

Pollination (sexual reproduction in flowering plants) is one of the most important ecological processes on the planet, which supports both natural and agricultural ecosystems.

- Lots of insects pollinate flowers as well as bees including flies, butterflies, moths, wasps, beetles, and midges.
- There are over 270 species of bee in the UK - it's not all about the domestic honeybee *Apis mellifera*.
- There are 25 species of bumblebee in the UK. These large furry bees are the easiest group to recognise. They are a social bee living in colonies with a queen and 'worker' females. 6 species are 'cuckoo bumblebees' that invade the nest of others and use the workers to raise their young.
- There are over 250 species of solitary bees in the UK. They do not produce large colonies or hives and instead seek out aerial cavities or holes in the ground to create a nest.
- Solitary bees are excellent pollinators because they are 'messy'. Instead of having pollen baskets like bumblebees and honeybees they collect pollen all over their bodies.
- Bumblebees spend the winter as hibernating queens (a few bumblebees can continue to be active during the winter). Solitary bees however spend the winter as larvae in holes eating stored pollen.

What to look out for now:

Big queen bumblebees coming out of hibernation, they will visit flowers to replenish their reserves before searching for a nest site such as an old mouse hole.

The Hairy-footed flower bee (*Anthophora plumipes*) is one of our largest solitary bees and one of the commonest bees of flowery gardens in spring. They are named after the hairs on the male's legs that it uses to stroke the female. They are known to nest in cob walls and if you would like a free cob bee brick to try and get this bee nesting in your garden, please email susan@inxite.co.uk

The Ludbrook: A Hidden Treasure? *Graham Wilson, Member of Greener Ugborough Parish and Chair of PL:21 Transition Town Initiative*

The Ludbrook is a spate river and is a tributary of the River Erme. Much of it flows through the parish of Ugborough. A spate river is one that rises and falls very quickly reacting to rainfall and comes off open moorland where the rock sub-strata is near the surface.

The Ludbrook should be species rich and much valued for wildlife. In Ugborough parish, it is hidden away passing along its own valley with pasture fields and woodland for its short length. At Bittaford it finishes the first part of its journey tumbling off the moor but can hardly be seen under two road and one railway bridge.

There used to be three mills with one at Peek Mill, another at Earlscombe and the third at Ludbrook. The head of the leat that used to serve Earlscombe can still be seen at Peek Mill bridge. It seems that this bridge was built after the leat was formed as it passes under the road at a higher level than the river.

Aquatic species that used to be seen were salmon and sea trout in the autumn. There used to be small brown trout, eels and brook lamprey. It used to hold otters and there were mink about 20 years ago. It is thought that the mink are now extinct but otters are returning. Following agricultural practice at the time, some of the river was straightened and land drains dug into the adjoining fields in the 1960's.

I am interested to know more about this quiet and beautiful river. Is it still species rich or does it need a helping hand to improve it?

Organic Compost or Fertilizer? A new understanding of Soil. *-Paul Whitely, Member of Greener Ugborough Parish*

Anyone walking across a field that is used for highly intensive agriculture might well have noticed that the quality of the soil is not the same as can be found on an organic farm or garden. Well Scientists at the Soil Research station at Rothamstead Research in Hertfordshire, England have been able to unpick the complex interactions that exist in soil and have made some amazing discoveries. Including why and how fertilizers degrade the soil long term. There's a detailed article in G-UP's current electronic newsletter.

If you would like to join our email list to hear about local sustainability-related events and receive 'green' articles relevant to our wonderful Parish, please drop us a line: greeneruqp@gmail.com



Our Common Cause – Our Upland Commons Project is a three-year, £3m, 25-partner project helping to secure the future of upland commons in Dartmoor, the Lake District, Yorkshire Dales and Shropshire Hills. It's led by the Foundation for Common Land.

Centuries old farming practices on commons are unexpectedly relevant to many 21st century challenges, they can deliver nature recovery, flood management, carbon sequestration and wellbeing. But this land management system is under threat. Our three-year, £3m project is taking action now, seizing the moment for our commons and turning challenges into opportunities.

Commoners collectively graze their livestock (sheep, cows, ponies) on commons. Each flock has a 'lear' (area of land) where they stay without fencing. This way of shared land management is called commoning and has protected landscapes for a thousand years.

Commoning, when at sustainable levels, has ensured the survival of ancient monuments and rare wildlife, plants, birds and butterflies. Careful grazing can maintain the balance of delicate upland ecosystems on huge stretches of open landscape.

Commoners and Landowners from Harford and Ugborough Commons Association are designing and implementing trial projects to enhance and protect the environment and cultural heritage on the common. Work to protect and restore a spring mire below Hangershell is beginning in March and 5 ha of Molinia, north-west of Left Lake, was flattened with the low-pressure diggers in January, to see if it will improve the grazing and provide a chance for other species such as heather, whortleberry and sphagnum moss to grow.

Swaling (annual burning of the gorse and scrub in order to thin out the old vegetation) carried out by commoners a few years ago exposed previously hidden stones of the banana shaped Piles Hill Double Stone Row that crosses the boundary of Harford and Ugborough Moors. In March 2022, a geophysical survey should reveal the original stone sockets and may well clarify how many large granites were placed to form this impressive archaeological feature.

If you wish to find out more about the project and / or take part in helping to protect your local common please sign up to our newsletter by contacting Tamsin Thomas, Project Officer tamsin@foundationforcommonland.org.uk / 07968 223790.

<https://foundationforcommonland.org.uk/our-upland-commons>

The project has been made possible by funding from National Lottery players, grants from Esmée Fairbairn and Garfield Weston Foundations, South West Water, the Duchy of Cornwall, the Dartmoor Preservation Association and Devon Wildlife Trust, amongst others.

Beryl's Bookworms – Joan Fletcher

Our book this month was *Tidelands* by Phillipa Gregory.

The author is a historical novelist who is best known for her novels about noblewomen set in the Plantagenet, Wars of the Roses and Tudor eras. *Tidelands* is a departure as the heroine is a fictional character.



The book is set in 1648 in the marshlands of Selsey Island on the Sussex coast during the final days of the English Civil War. The heroine, Alinor, is a woman without a husband who scrapes a living as a midwife and herbalist. This is a dangerous combination in the deeply superstitious England of 1648.

Most of us thought the book was quite readable although some of us found the characters unengaging, the dialogue unconvincing and the story rather slow and predictable. The ending, however, felt rushed possibly because the author already had the follow up in mind? We did feel the book, as with much historical fiction, helped make history accessible and encouraged people to read more about the history of the time and place.

The author's claim to "a commitment to historical accuracy" has been disputed by some historians. One of us did query how the characters were able to wander around the marshlands with such abandon in the summer of 1648 considering it was one of the wettest summers in history!

Scores ranged between 1.5 and 4 with an average of exactly 3. Next month's book is *The Midnight Library* by Matt Haig.

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!

Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child 2021 Shoebox Appeal Destination Update –

Kate Brampton

Thank you to everyone who supported the Appeal last year by providing filled Gift Shoeboxes and/or monetary donations – it has all helped.

We understand the 28 Gift Shoeboxes went to children & young people in Central Asia.

Thank you for your generous support.

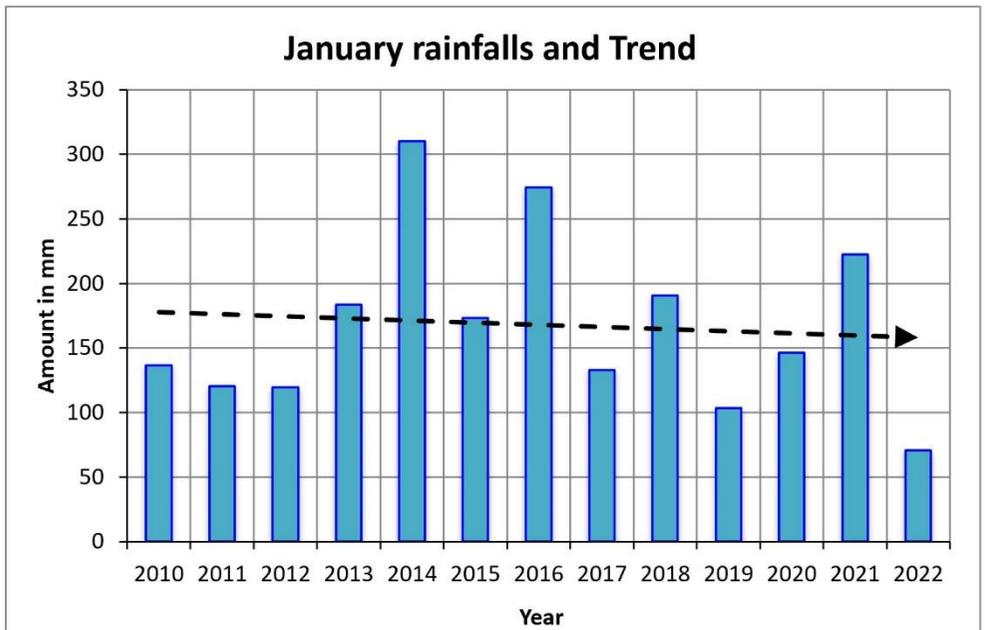
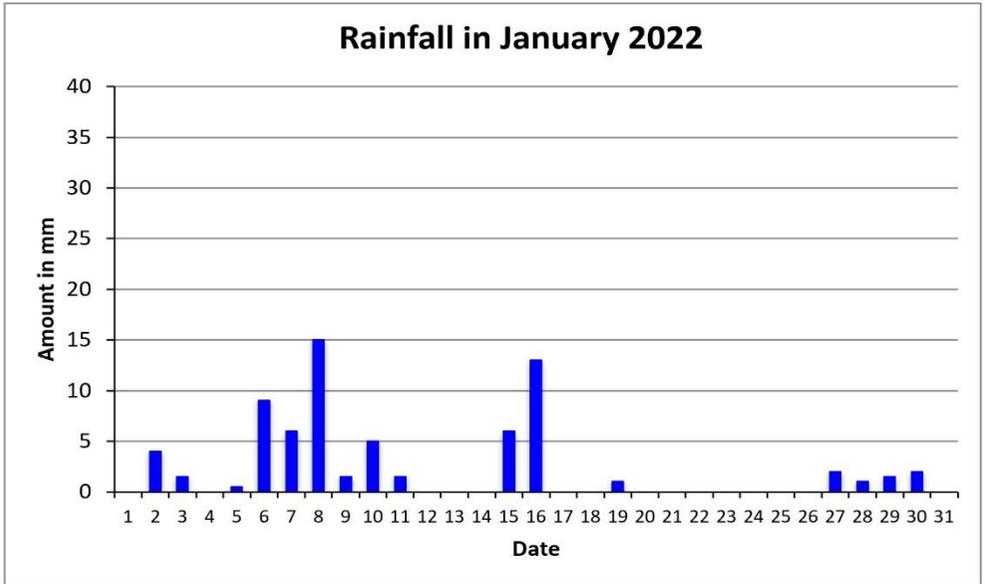
Ladies' Lunch- Pat Stephens

The date for the next lunch is March 23rd at The Ship for 12 noon.

Contact Pat Stephens 07704 113837 to book.

Rainfall at Shellwood Hill *George Arnison*

During January I recorded just 70.5mm (a bit less than 3”) of rain at Shellwood Hill, which was less than half of the average for January’s of 168mm. This was the driest January locally of the last 13 years by some distance, and nationally was apparently the sunniest January in England on record.



Ugborough Village Fair

Our next meeting is 9th March at 8 p.m. in The Anchor - new members of the committee are VERY welcome.

Fair Week starts on 3rd July with Football - always hotly contested, and usually controversial. The best start to a brilliant week! Other events are being put together for the rest of the week with Bingo as a definite and possibly a fun run, something to do with Land Rovers and maybe some food.....

Fair Day on 9th July will hopefully be back to normal with stalls and entertainment, cream teas and a BBQ and Bar. **Does anyone know of a band who would like to play on Fair Day?** Get in touch with any of the Fair Committee. We will keep you all updated.

2nd June Queens Jubilee Bonfire

At Hillhead Cross - official bonfire to be lit at 9.45 p.m.

BBQ and bar. This is a nationwide, fully co-ordinated event. More details can be found on the website <https://www.queensjubileebeacons.com>

If there are any buglers or potential town criers out there, please let me know! All proceeds from this event will go to the church.

4th June Queens Jubilee Afternoon Tea

Meet in the square at 3 p.m. with your own picnic and drinks for a completely unofficial street party! Please feel free to decorate the square with homemade bunting and bring some tables and chairs, packs of cards and board games. The road will not be closed as insurance is needed to do this, so please take care and keep an eye on your own children.

3rd September Produce & Flower Show

Get sowing those seeds and perfecting those recipes. More details in the summer.

Bric a brac stall

After 25 years Norma and David Roe are wanting to retire gracefully from the annual cut and thrust of running their Ugborough Fair bric a brac stall. Over the years they have raised over £3600 for the Ugborough Fair charities and at the 2019 fair they made nearly £300. The additional upside is that it is enormous fun running the stall on the day/ The downside is a having a substantial area of the loft filled with stock for next year and the physical effort of getting it down every year and then putting unsold but good quality items back again after Fair Day.

Is there anyone who would like to take over so as to continue the tradition? Norma and David would be happy to store the material until Fair day this year (hopefully 9th July) and would be happy to provide assistance and mentoring on the day (the latter may be charged per hour in units of alcohol). Contact Norma and David on norma-davidroe@tiscali.co.uk

Ugborough Drama Group

We are planning an Event involving food and some entertainment on Friday 1st and Saturday 2nd April. Watch out for details in the Bugle!

Ugborough Parish Councillor Vacancy

One Councillor vacancy has arisen on Ugborough Parish Council.

Get involved in issues which affect you and your Parish

Planning – Highways – Footpaths Environment – Recreation - Police

Parish Council Meetings are held once a month and training is available

For more information, call Chair Joan Fletcher 01752 892939

Clerk Sarah Woodman 01364 642145 or email ugboroughpc@yahoo.co.uk

Ugborough Parish Council

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

Website: <https://ugboroughparishcouncil.org>

Ugborough Preschool proposals were presented by Charlotte Walliker at the start of the February Parish Council Meeting. With an enthusiastic and skilled committee and (some) money in the bank, a new premises seems more likely than ever. The Parish Council supported their plans as it would benefit not only the preschool, but the whole village. The Preschool would be able to provide more services and the village hall would be freed up for use by voluntary groups and the school.

A 20mph Zone for Ugborough came one step closer, as it is officially on the list for consideration. However, funding is tight, and to move the project forward, DCC has suggested that the Parish Council pay £5-10k towards the project.

Covid boosters are now available for anyone who had covid in December – Home Park Stadium is offering drop-in sessions.

Questions from the public focussed on Wrangaton. The new pedestrian island on the B3213 has no visible warning signage, and already one car has come a cropper. And parked cars outside Station Cottages and the new Sidings Cross development have made the road a single carriageway over a considerable distance – hopefully, that may be less of a problem when the development is completed.

Funding is available from SHDC to help residents and community groups. SHDC Cllr Tom Holway has £1300 Locality Funding plus Climate Change & Diversity funding for local groups. The Greener Homes grant for owner occupiers runs until April, and financial incentives are available to social tenants to move into buy/rent homes.

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

1. 4753/21/FUL Change of use of farm house and converted barns to holiday accommodation. Conversion of redundant barns and construction of accommodation and events buildings at Fowlescombe Farm Ugborough **Support. The hedgerows along the North & South side of the**

entrance should be moved back to enlarge the B3196. Prefer to maintain a resident on the site.

2. 0130/22/VAR Application for variation of condition 2 (approved plans) of planning consent 1650/21/VAR at Development Site At Sx 6935 5891 South Brent **No comment**

A Parish Councillor vacancy has arisen following the sad death of David Smallridge. Get involved in the issues which affect you and your Parish! Meetings are held once a month and training is available. For more information call Chair Joan Fletcher 01752 892939 or contact the Clerk.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday 2nd March in Ugborough Village Hall, and the speaker will be Ella Peters of the Four Rivers Dementia Alliance. A crowd of villagers attending the meeting during the pandemic is not a good idea, and therefore we will be keeping numbers to a minimum – if there is an issue you wish to bring to our attention, you may, of course, turn up in person - or you can submit details to the Clerk.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee is only a matter of months away, and some arrangements have already been made. The beacon is to be lit on 2nd June and a street party will be held in Ugborough on 5th June. The Parish Council is hoping that community groups will come forward with ideas, and we will help you make the celebrations a reality!

The next Meeting will be held in the main hall at Ugborough Village Hall from 7p.m. on Wednesday 2nd March, starting with the Annual Parish Meeting. 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

The Greenwood Consort is working with **Plymouth Music Accord**, raising funds for their investment in music education by giving a concert at **St Paul's Church, Yelverton on Friday 11th March at 7.30 p.m.** St Paul's is near Yelverton roundabout, just on the Plymouth side (**PL20 6AB**). There is parking all along a loop of service road between the church and the main road. Some of this is pay and display, so do check for times and zones that this applies to.

The programme is an expanded version of the **Mirth and Melancholy** programme we gave in Dartmouth last year, exploring the **songs of Henry Purcell and John Dowland**, with Mark Bennett singing, accompanied by Ian Hiscock on harpsichord and Janna Bulmer on cello. To help us know the audience size in advance, so that we can create as safe an experience as possible, if you are intending to come, please could you buy tickets (£12) in advance from <https://www.wegotickets.com/event/537826> (no need to buy tickets for children under 16).

Mark, Ian and Janna would love to see you there!

Bittaford Methodist Chapel *Chris Phillips 07899934743*

All services start at 11 a.m.

Sunday 6th March Revd D. Youngs. Communion.

Sunday 13th March Revd A Roper

Sunday 20th March Revd T Higgins

Sunday 27th March Mr M Cade

Services at St. Peter's Church, Ugborough

Services start at 9.30 a.m. unless otherwise shown.

Date	Service
Sunday 6 th March	All Age Worship- an informal service led by Local Worship Leaders
Sunday 13 th March	Holy Communion
Sunday 20 th March	Morning Praise- a more informal service led by Local Worship Leaders.
Sunday 27 th March	Holy Communion
Wednesday 2 nd March	Ash Wednesday services at 10 a.m. at Harbertonford Church and 7 p.m. at Diptford church

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

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

Lent Course - *Rev'd David Sayle 01548 821199 email parish_sayle@me.com.*

This year's Lent Course will be based around The Revd Dr Miranda Threlfall-Holmes's book, 'How To Eat Bread, 21 Nourishing Ways to Read the Bible'.

There will be two study courses, one on a Tuesday morning from 10 a.m. – 12 noon (at the latest). It is hoped to hold this meeting in person and via Zoom. The other will be a Zoom Meeting on Tuesday evening from 7.15 - 9.15 p.m. at the latest. The course commences on Tuesday 8th March and concludes on Tuesday 5th April.

If people could let me know if they are going to attend, so I can forward details, (contact details above).

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

Reflection on St Luke's Gospel, Chapter 6 – David Stafford

Being blessed by God and being a blessing to others.

I don't remember many lessons at school outside in the open, but in the Middle East it appears normal with the warm climate. In reading the account of the life of Jesus through the eyes of Dr Luke we find the controversial leader saying and doing things in the open that surprise us. These days we often tend to like people who 'speak truth to power.' With Jesus his speaking quite plainly would eventually lead to his being in very strong confrontation with the powerful.

There was a large crowd waiting for Jesus to appear and perhaps to be healed. There were many who followed him around because he was so different from anyone they had seen before. So what does he decide to do with and for them? After spending a night on a mountain in prayer he chose some special spokespersons, who would become his apostles or 'sent ones', and he presented them to everyone there. Some of disciples would go on to write the rest of the New Testament. They would never forget that moment, especially as power came from Jesus their friend; all the people there were miraculously healed of their diseases.

And so he addressed those gathered there with what other writers would call the Sermon on the Mount.

Blessed are you poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. An example of one who became poor was one Levi, a tax collector; before his conversion was hated by all and spoken very badly of. People felt the same about tax collecting as they do today. He was among the rich and had a great time enjoying the fruits of his wealth. But then Jesus called him, and he shared a meagre life with his fellow disciples as they travelled with Jesus as he preached. Whilst the people were glad to have fewer tax-collectors, Levi qualified for the blessings of which Jesus spoke, as his new changed life was lived for the sake of being identified with Christ.

What is more particularly interesting was that Jesus also seemed to have compassions for the unscrupulously rich; what prompts him to pronounce his concerns for them is the thought that the only comfort they will ever enjoy is in this life and that is all they are ever going to get. Will the powers that be, or indeed ourselves, see the point of what it means to serve the powerful and rich and not look after the poor? It seems that following the spoken thoughts of Jesus turns the world upside down and if we are blessed then we are encouraged to be a blessing for others.

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**](mailto:parish_sayle@me.com).

Devon Communities Together

Do you know someone who struggles to access the Internet? We can help!

This winter, Devon Communities Together is here to help people who are unable to successfully get online and access the Internet due to poor (or no) equipment, or lack of skills or confidence. We want those who are currently 'digitally excluded' to be able to enjoy the benefits of the digital world, especially while Covid-19 means that many more aspects of our daily lives are now online, from chatting to family and friends to medical appointments and much more.

We Can Offer:

- A Digital Friend to help people with all the skills they need to enjoy the benefits of
- the digital world!
- Device checks
- Upgrades and/or repairs (worth up to £125)
- Short-term loan of a device
- Support with purchasing a new device (+ £100 contribution)
- Data/broadband connection support

Who Is Eligible?

If any of the statements below apply to you or anyone you know, you (or they) may be eligible for our support

- I am not confident using my device(s) and/or the internet
- I am concerned about internet safety
- I have difficulty paying for the internet
- I don't have access to an internet capable device/my device(s) are outdated
- I have difficulty using my device(s) due to a disability

Please get in touch with Chris for a no obligations discussion;07903 591481

chris.hunt-watts@devoncommunities.org.uk

Yealm Rouleurs – local social cycling club -Pete Stevens

As a club we've been riding all through the winter, having fun and getting punctures!

Are you thinking of cycling more?

It's great for fitness, to explore the glorious South Hams (and its coffee shops), or to make new friends? New members are welcome to come along as the days warm up and the sun comes out...

Members age from 18 upwards and are a mix of genders, living in Yealmpton, Ivybridge, Newton and Noss, Holbeton, Modbury and Plymstock....

We put on a variety of special club rides throughout the year, including:

- Club rides every Saturday morning and Tuesday evening in the spring/summer
- Rides to Cornwall
- Circumnavigation of Dartmoor
- Representation at various sportives
- Charity community ride in memory of Ken Middlemiss
- Bike maintenance days
- **And we have the best kit of any local club!**

Find us on Facebook, send us a message and have a try out!

<https://www.facebook.com/yealmrouleurs>

Big Bike Revival, Ivybridge – Graham Wilson

Join us with your family for a cycle ride around Ivybridge and enjoy breakfast at The Watermark. Trained ride leaders from Big Bike Revival will take you around quiet lanes and traffic free paths. We will be cycling at an easy pace for about two miles. The roads are mainly flat but there is one hill. Entries are free and a £1 voucher will be given to all cyclists to contribute to your breakfast. Children must wear helmets and be accompanied by a parent or responsible adult. Bikes must be in good condition.

Sunday 27th March (Mother's Day) 10 a.m. at The Watermark (children are encouraged to bring their mums) Please arrive in good time.

(Free bike checks at 9 a.m.)

The events are delivered by Cycling UK and PL:21 Transition Town Initiative. They are supported by Ivybridge Town Council and Sustrans

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. The next dates are March 1st and 29th.

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.

Contributions

Many thanks to everyone who has contributed to this Newsletter.

Thanks to Ivybridge Community College for printing them so efficiently and to all involved in the Distribution.

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***

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