



Ugborough Parish Newsletter

September 2021

What's on

Wednesday September	1 st	Ugborough Parish Council meets at Ugborough Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.	Pages 8-10
Tuesday September	7 th	First day of Autumn term for School and Pre-school	Pages 7 and 2
Saturday September	11 th	Ugborough Sustainable Saturday returns to Ugborough Village Hall from 10 a.m.-12 noon	Page 1
Monday September	20 th	Ivybridge u3a Anniversary meeting at The Watermark at 2 p.m.	Page 3
Tuesday September	28 th	Mobile library visits Ugborough Square from 9.30- 10a.m.	Page 12
Wednesday September	29 th	Ladies' lunch at The Ship	Page 4

Details of services at Bittaford Methodist Church are on Page 7

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

Ugborough Sustainable Saturdays (USS) – Val Holman

The committee are planning and working towards restarting the popular USS mornings in the village hall on **Saturday 11th September from 10:00 - 12:00**. Great news isn't it! Come along and see what's for sale and enjoy a coffee and a chat - and don't forget your mask!

Contact us on ugboroughss@gmail.com or Val on 01752 894973

(Fantastic news and thanks to the Committee for their commitment.)

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

Charity Number 1043499- *Contributor-Danielle*

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

Baby and Toddler Group (drop-in) – Monday 1.30-3 p.m.

Contact

07763215455

admin@ugboroughandbittafordpre-school.org.uk

Looking back at the end of the summer term, the sports day was a huge success and for some it was the last time before they made a transition to school. We wish them all the luck in the world, and they will be deeply missed.

Both children and staff have welcomed new faces, Jack and Ruby. The children have really enjoyed showing them how preschool is run and how we have many different things to offer.

During the last few months, we have continued with forest school even though we have had to battle with miserable weather. The children have enjoyed making magical wands with twigs and woodland creatures from clay. The children have loved the new outdoor bikes and trikes.

There has also been lots of cooking and the children have really got involved and all had a try of their culinary delights. They made Cheese twirls, Angel delight with strawberries and fruit salad.

The favourite topic for the summer term must have been the volcano erupting. We used vinegar and bicarbonate soda; the children were absolutely fascinated and asked lots of relevant questions.

I'd also like to mention the staff from the parents of the leavers.

The staff at the pre-school have been outstanding, through the pandemic they remained open to help those who were key workers and to ease the pressure on parents. They have loved and nurtured each child as individuals that have come through the door. Our children are ready to face the next stage in their lives as the staff were at the core of preparation, so a big thank you to all the staff we hope you have a well-deserved break.

The first day back of the autumn term is 7th September we look forward to seeing you all

Ivybridge U3A - Steve Harvey

The first age is of youth where we learn about the world. The second age is of employment and parenthood. The third age is one of activity and learning after full time employment.

Ivybridge u3a are back with a bang after an 18-month enforced lockdown due to Coronavirus precautions.

After the welcome back social in August, on September 20th the 10th anniversary meeting will be held – actually this is really the 11th year of Ivybridge U3A, but the pandemic put paid to any earlier thought of celebrations.

Keynote speaker on this occasion will be the former MP Ann Widdecombe who, apart from her lengthy parliamentary career, won a new legion of fans when she gamely took part in the BBC production Strictly Come Dancing, where she was accompanied by Anton du Beke.

Although the couple received regular harsh criticism from the judges, they were such firm favourites with the viewers that they remained in the show for many weeks.

At present, facemasks will still be needed to enter the building, but once seated, they will be optional.

General monthly meetings are already planned for the rest of 2021 with Nick Bailey talking on 'Radio Caroline to Classic FM' in October and Marilyn Bishop on the 'Art of Deception, Fakes and Forgeries' in November.

On December 6th members will be sure to enjoy the annual Christmas party.

In spite of the unexpected break in u3a activities, there has been only a marginal fall-off in membership and, with many new enquiries already in the pipeline, committee members are sure that the organisation can look to the future with confidence.

Apart from the monthly meeting at the Watermark there is already a full list of u3a group meetings in the programme. For further details visit the website at www.ivybridge-u3a.org.uk

A Message from Sonia

I would like to thank all who gave to my Wrong Trouser Day collection (for the Bristol Children's Hospital Grand Appeal.) The Grand Amount came to £241.84 and the receipt for this is on the Notice Board next to the bus stop.

Thank you to Norma who so generously counted/sorted the money and did the 'computery' bits.

(A big thank you to Sonia for her enthusiasm in organising all this to support such a worthy cause.)



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

Bats, Bugs and Meteor Walk report – Mary McArdle

Wow, what a wonderful wildlife wander we had last week. Ably organised & delivered by Su & Vici (sorry Ash you couldn't make it as planned) we met in the Square as twilight descended. We were immediately introduced to a bloody nose beetle that promptly lived up to its name. This little beetle exuded a droplet of red-orange 'blood'; a defensive mechanism it performs when threatened that tastes rather vile to any predators. Second up was a mighty fine dung beetle that also lived up to its name leaving a little deposit on Merry's hand. With magnifiers, we could really look and appreciate the various facets of these interesting beetles (amazing eyes).

We then set off for a circular walk around Ugborough's beautiful lanes and footpaths with Steve's bat detector in the capable hands of enthusiastic batboy Twm. This nifty little device was only 10cms square & attached to a tablet that gave both a visual and auditory read out. Accompanied by the squeaks & whistles amplified for us to hear, we amazingly picked up the sounds of FIVE different bat species: Barbastelle, Common Serotine, Daubenton's, Nathusius Pipistrelle, Common Pipistrelle, Soprano Pipistrelle and Greater Horseshoe. How incredible is that! By this time dusk was upon us and we were all delighted to see, tucked away in the dark hedgerows, the neon green light of several glow worms, the wingless females of these beetles waiting in hope for their luminous tail ends to attract a male.

The evening was superbly topped off with hot chocolate on Vici's lawn where we lay on ground sheets and blankets to watch the myriad stars, waiting for a shooting star spectacular, the peak of the Perseid shower. After one lone streaking meteor, the clouds gently fogged our vision but relaxed and contented after such a wonderful evening we lay & chatted awhile anyway. Thank you very much Ash, Su and Vici.

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

Ladies' lunches at the Ship

We are hoping to start again so keep the date of September 29th. Contact Pat Stephens 07704 113837 for more information and to book a place.



Your Stars Tonight. After a few star gazing nights like this I feel like the proverbial Yorkshireman – what else can I be apart from miserable? Yet again the great astronomical events of the year turn into a grey drizzle as I venture into the night darkness in the hope of seeing the Perseids meteor shower on the 12th of August. My 2021 starry skies plan was to capture the new crescent moon

each month, get the award-winning photo of the Milky Way over Ugborough, see the June partial solar eclipse, all of them frustrated by the Devon weather. So why should tonight be any better?

As I walked across the patio, a crunching sound interrupted my gloomy prognostications. Surely it was a bit early for a hard frost? And much as I enjoy the sound of breaking glass that did not seem likely in the vicinity of the steamed dietor's eyrie. I look down to find my patio had been invaded by dozens of snails. Perhaps their leaders had also announced a Freedom Day and they were taking advantage of the summer dampness to socialise *en masse* before heading up the hill to have a brassica fuelled orgy at the Ugborough allotments.

Riven by guilt at the carnage at my feet I avert my gaze to the sky and am startled to see a distinct hole in the cloud cover – an unexpected sight during the school summer holidays. I sped down the garden hoping that the gap in the clouds will move to reveal the sky where the Perseids meteor shower is promised to appear, just below the “W” of Cassiopeia. Patience is rewarded and although it lasted for only a few minutes I am sure I spotted a couple of bright sparks high in the heavens as two meteors burnt out in quick succession before the drizzle filled clouds closed in again. Certainly not the feast of fiery meteors that I had hoped for, but we star gazers have to be grateful for any crumbs that fall from the table.

I was a little perplexed the next morning to receive an invitation from the Plymouth Astronomical Society asking me to join them on Wembury beach that evening where they were having a celebratory Covid break out party to watch the Perseids meteors – I had got the date wrong and had been a day early! That evening as the correct hour approached, I peered out the window into a standard grey murk and decided not to go – only to be told that they had had glorious clear starry skies at Wembury.

Pick yourself up, dust yourself down and start all over again (as my grandfather used to say after losing the lot - again - on the horses). I am now looking forward to settling down in the heather overlooking Land's End to discover some old celestial friends in the late evening sky. First off will be finding the faint haze of the Andromeda Galaxy and then through the binoculars getting a clearer view from the glow of a billion stars. I will wander down the Milky Way, starting at Cassiopeia in the East, and then arching above through the summer triangle of the three bright stars of Vega, Deneb and Altair. And then down to the heart of our galaxy on the western horizon. Rediscovering the pleasure of using only a star map and the naked eye, coordinated by the brain unaided by apps or electronics gizmos to locate the faint light of the Swan, Lagoon and Eagle nebulae. And when I tire of these there will be brilliantly bright Jupiter and a fainter Saturn in the South above Wolf Rock and Land's End.

As always it is better to travel in hope than arrive.

Beryl's Bookworms – *Norma Roe*

Bookworms have been so pleased to meet in person twice since the last review. The first time was in Sue's barn where we discussed 'Redhead by the Side of the Road', by Anne Tyler. No, it was not a murder mystery nor any other more lurid suggestion, but as Anne Tyler herself has said- "I never planned to be a writer who only wrote about families, it's just that I'll get into a new book I'm writing and think, 'Oh dear, it seems to be about a family yet again' ". 

In the first few, brilliantly written pages we get to know a lot about the main character, Micah Mortimer, both his physical appearance, and his obsession with routine. He runs Tech Hermit and works around the neighbourhood sorting out computer problems mainly for old ladies, and has a second day-job is as an apartment caretaker and general odd-job man. He lives rent-free, alone, keeps to himself and sticks to a very strict daily cleaning routine, with each day having a specific task. He has interior monologues about his driving (Traffic God judges every move,) and his cooking- often with a foreign accent! Even his relationship with his "restful to look at" teacher girlfriend has, as he says, "solidified". Nevertheless, as he regularly reassures himself, he has "no reason to feel unhappy".

Two things happen. First the disaffected, fatherless teenage son of Micah's high-school girlfriend turns up on his doorstep. Having managed to convince himself that Micah might actually be his real father, (although Micah knows there is absolutely no chance of this), he manages to get Micah to agree to let him sleep in his spare room for a while. At the same time, Micah's girlfriend, suddenly threatened with eviction from her own apartment, is clearly waiting to be asked to move in. Misreading the situation, Micah jokes that she could always sleep in her car and, unsurprisingly, she declares the relationship over.

Due to his inability to understand others' feelings, Micah manages to mis-handle both situations. Alone again – and uneasily aware of the "nagging ache in the hollow of his chest" – he wonders why his rigid routines suddenly don't feel quite so comforting. He tries skipping his customary shower and shave, but can't seem to come up with "any further ways to indulge himself". In the end he poignantly explains to his ex-(but forgiving) girlfriend, "I've done everything wrong....My life has come to nothing! I don't know how I'm going to go on with it....I'm a roomful of broken hearts."

We all felt that the book is very well written, but were divided about how engaged we felt with it. How much you enjoy the book really depends on how much you can empathise with Micah and his experiences. We agreed that he was probably somewhere 'on the spectrum' and that made some doubt the happy ending- would he be able to change? We did enjoy the parts of the novel that included Micah's sisters and their families- something that Anne Tyler creates very convincingly.

The overall score was just under 3 out of 5, but individual scores varied considerably.

Oh, and the title? Micah frequently mistakes a fire hydrant as a 'redhead by the side of the road' when he goes for his habitual daily run (always without his glasses!)

Our second meeting was a very happy garden party at Sue W.'s lovely garden. Apart from sharing wonderful food, we all wrote and performed short poems about lockdown- great fun, and thanks to all for their contributions.

Our book for September is Helen Dunmore's *A Spell of Winter*.

The Beacon Federation - *Executive Headteacher - Mrs. Karen Dixon*
Ugborough Primary School.

Term Dates - Tuesday 7th September - Friday 17th December

Half Term - Monday 25th October - Friday 29th October

Non-Pupil Days - Monday 6th September, Friday 22nd October, & Monday 1st November.

Bittaford Methodist Chapel *Chris Phillips 07899934743*

Bittaford Chapel now has a new roof with improved insulation and the outside walls are being painted so it is looking good.

5th September at 11 a.m.- Mr T. Kirk.

12th September at 11 a.m.- Revd S Roper - This is the new minister for the chapel.

19th September at 11 a.m. - Mrs A Callum.

26th September at 11 a.m. - Revd T Higgins

Support children's hospice by taking steps in memory of loved ones

Children's Hospice South West (CHSW), which is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year, is delighted to announce that its Moonlight Memory Walk is returning on 2nd October.

The 5-mile sponsored evening walk is held annually in Falmouth in Cornwall however after the event was held virtually last year due to the pandemic the charity has decided to keep the virtual option open so those living further afield can still be involved.

For further information please contact Caroline Thompson, Media Officer, Children's Hospice South West, caroline.thompson@chsw.org.uk or call 01726 871800

Ugborough Parish Council

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

Website: <https://ugboroughparishcouncil.org>

The July meeting - which I have previously not reported as there was no August Newsletter – concentrated on the community use of the school playing field. The Parish Council agreed to amendments to the previous agreement and is now awaiting a response from Devon County Council on the fees payable. Of concern even before the agreement has been reinstated, are complaints of **dog mess** in the school grounds and throughout Ugborough. SHDC advises:

- It is an offence to fail to carry sufficient means to clean up after your dog.
- It is an offence to fail to remove the faeces from the land and to correctly dispose of it (bag it and dispose of in a waste or dedicated dog poo bin; or double bag it and take it home for disposal in your household waste)
- If you do not ensure dog mess is picked up and properly disposed of, a penalty of between £100 and £1000 may be payable.

Please report dog fouling [online](#)

The Burial Ground was the other main subject of discussion. Arrangements to remove the spoil heap were agreed, and G-up proposals were discussed – which were revisited at the...

August Parish Council Meeting, starting with the G-up proposals to provide ‘A mosaic of habitats maximising wildlife & diversity’. Councillors supported the biodiversity proposals but were concerned that Community Engagement, which included education events, may conflict with the sensitive purpose of the burial ground.

County Councillor Dan Thomas submitted a report, which followed up the proposed works at Sign of the Owl - it will be going ahead, although with no given timescale at this stage. Local residents had complained about the new development at Sidings Cross, Wrangaton, including the loss of parking, and the developer is now considering alternative options.

Dartmoor NPA Member Cathie Pannell submitted a report detailing the ‘[Farming in Protected Landscapes](#)’ programme, which opened on 1 July. Defra funding will allow farmers and land managers in protected landscapes to:

- support nature recovery – such as increasing habitats to improve biodiversity or greater connectivity between habitats
- mitigate the impacts of climate change – such as reducing flood risk or storing more carbon
- provide opportunities for people to discover, enjoy & understand the landscape and its cultural heritage
- support nature-friendly and sustainable farm businesses.

Details were given on [staying safe](#) when visiting Dartmoor from 19 July, the [Moor Otters Arts Trail](#) and [The Planet Earth Games](#).

SHDC Cllr Vic Abbott submitted a report detailing the Community Ownership Fund, to support the purchase and/or renovation costs of community assets and amenities. Up to 50% of total capital costs, matching other funds and resources raised by the applicant, with a maximum grant of £250,000 (larger grants may be available for sports clubs and sports facilities), and revenue grants of up to £50,000 to help with project development. An online [prospectus](#) is available.

The number of reported missed waste and recycling collections has reduced, and a robust plan is in place for the street cleansing service to meet the influx of visitors to the South Hams.

Michael Greave is to be co-opted as our new Parish Councillor He has lived in the South Hams since 1999 and in Ugborough since 2013. As a Qualified Management Accountant with financial and IT experience in industry, and recent involvement in local clubs, Michael brings useful skills, knowledge and enthusiasm to the Parish Council.

Planning Applications, with recommendations in Bold:

1. [0368/21](#) Installation of a small Velux conservation-style roof window in the bathroom of the property at Little Barn, Wrangaton **Support**
2. [2822/21/HHO](#) Householder application for demolition of existing garage/utility/office extension, new front extension for kitchen and utility and new side extension for garage and ensuite at West Cannamore Avonwick **Support**
3. [2751/21/HHO](#) Householder application for extension and alterations at Whetcombe Lodge, North Huish **Support**
4. [2929/21/HRN](#) Application for hedgerow removal notice to remove 466 metres of hedgerow to enable construction of roundabout at Fields to north east of Kitterford Cross, Ugborough **Support**

Dartmoor National Park Authority has advised us that, due to a very high volume of work, as an interim measure, general enquiries would not be considered for householder/minor development/permitted development.

Consultations have been pouring in over the last month or so:

1. SHDC consultation on ‘...how you see South Hams as a place to live, work and play’ [Better lives for all](#)
2. Peninsula Transport [consultation](#) on its [vision and goals for the South West transport network](#), with a deadline of 17.9.21
3. Finally, a rather exciting-sounding [Planning Validation Checklist Consultation](#) is being run by SHDC.

Unfortunately, there were also a significant number of other consultations with a deadline in August. If you would like to hear about these and other local information, please email the Clerk to be included on her circulation list.

Stage Two of the 2021 Tour of Britain will run on Monday 6 September, with a 115-mile route between Sherford and Exeter – including the A3121 in the Parish. More details are available at <https://www.devontourofbritain.co.uk/>

(Note-Jacqueline Luggar and Juliet Collis) are planning to stage a coffee/pain au chocolat stall at Ugborough Garages on September 6th as the Tour of Britain cycles past. They'd like to give any donations to St Peter's)

The next Meeting will be held in the main hall at Ugborough Village Hall from 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday 1st September.

Privacy policy – visit ugboroughparishcouncil.gov.uk

Clean up our Patch

Litter picking equipment available to local
volunteers

To borrow the equipment, contact the Parish Clerk
Tel 01364 661127 ugboroughpc@yahoo.co.uk

Ugborough Parish Council



Please note the garden waste collection has been suspended (hopefully temporarily).

Citizens Advice here to help as we begin road to recovery

As we begin to emerge from the pandemic, local advice charity, Citizens Advice South Hams is letting South Hams residents know about new and traditional ways they can get in touch. The charity, based in Totnes, provides free, confidential and impartial advice on a range of issues including; benefits and employment, housing, debt and money, family issues, immigration and health.

The charity's main office at Follaton House is open Monday to Friday from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. and from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. for drop-in with social distancing measures in place. They also have outreach centres operating in four towns across the district including The Watermark, Ivybridge - Mondays, 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

For more information see southhamscab.org.uk

A new Community Work-hub has recently opened in Modbury. Offering hot-desks and private offices/meeting rooms, the workspace is suitable for start-ups, entrepreneurs and SME's who are looking for a quiet business environment, that is close to home.

The coworking space named The Devon Office, is situated on the first floor in Modbury House on the New Mills Industrial Estate, Modbury. These lovely offices are well fitted out,

with fast reliable broadband and bookable by the day/week or month, with no long-term commitments, from £16 + VAT per day, all-inclusive.

The space is also available for community functions.

For more information visit www.thedevonoffice.com or telephone 01548 431002.

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 September	All Age service led by Local Worship Leaders
Sunday 12 th September	Holy Communion
Sunday 19 th September	Non- Communion Morning service led by Local Worship Leaders
Sunday 26 th September	Holy Communion

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. To keep us all safe, strict hygiene measures will be in place, and we are still practising social distancing.

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.

Shoebox Appeal 2021

We plan to again support this popular appeal and full details will be in the October Newsletter.

The Mothers' Union Coffee Morning at Church Park House, Diptford

Rowena Crawley, Angela Wild and other members would like to thank all those kind and generous people who supported the morning in aid of the work of The Mothers' Union. We raised **£ 277.49** with sales and your kind donations.

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. every 4 weeks. The date for September is Tuesday 28th .

And don't forget to visit your Post Office in Ugborough Church on Thursday morning from 10 a.m. – 12 noon.

Devon Air Ambulance needs a community of volunteers to keep its 19 charity shops open and our helicopters flying. The great thing about volunteering in our retail shops is that we have a role to suit everyone, whether you are young or older, an outgoing type or someone who likes to work behind the scenes. As with all volunteering roles, you can choose where, when and for how long you volunteer.

To find out more about how you can help, please contact our Volunteer Manager Cara Jones on 01392 304343 / c.jones@daat.org

(The nearest shops are Plymouth, Totnes and Newton Abbot.)

Contributions

Many thanks to everyone who has contributed to this 'almost back to normal' Newsletter- I am delighted that we are now able to return to printed copies for all. Thanks to Ivybridge Community College for printing them so efficiently. (We had to wait until the beginning of the new term, so sorry that your printed copy may be a little late.)

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.