



Ugborough Parish Newsletter

May 2021

What's on

Wednesday 5 th May	Annual Parish meeting at 7 p.m. followed by Annual Parish Council and Parish Council meetings all via zoom	Page 9
Monday 17 th May	Ugborough Village Hall Annual General Meeting at the Village Hall at 8 p.m.	Page 4
Wednesday 19 th May	Ugborough Parish Church APCM at 7.30 p.m. via zoom	Page 10

Details of services at Bittaford Methodist Church are on Page 7

Details of services at St. Peter's Church, Ugborough are on Page 10 (Messy Church page 3)

Ugborough Fair Lite (Covid edition) – *Rowan Martin on behalf of the Fair Committee*

After gazing hard into the crystal ball and canvassing opinion around the parish we've decided to give a 2021 Ugborough Fair a go on the 10th of July. This falls after the planned reopening of large events but we're going to aim for a scaled down event to allow for social distancing and other sensible Covid-related precautions.

It's been a difficult year, and this will give us a long-awaited chance to come together as a community and have a good old catch up with friends and neighbours.

Instead of the usual stalls and hubbub throughout the afternoon, the plan is to start a bit later (time TBC) for tea and cakes, a bar, BBQ, food and music - so more of a street party vibe than a fair.

There's always plenty to do and help is very welcome so if you can spare some time to help out with planning in the run up or on the day then please let us know. And if you want to share thoughts and ideas then please feel free.

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

We trust that you have all enjoyed the Easter break and managed to get out and enjoy the sunshine.

With spring in full swing, the children have loved watching the buds open, developing an understanding of growth, decay and changes following different seasons. The children also made bird feeders and have enjoyed watching different types of birds visiting at the village hall.

The children had their first session back at forest school this month and look forward to their weekly sessions exploring the great outdoors.

The Preschool are still open to new faces, so if your child likes a diverse range of playing inside and exploring the great outdoors then come and see us at Ugborough and Bittaford pre-school. You can contact Tania for further information. The children have welcomed a few new faces to the pre-school and have enjoyed showing them around, but there is space for more.

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

Ugborough Primary School.

Welcome back for the Summer Term!

We hope you all had a lovely Easter. It's been great to start off the new term with such beautiful weather and the children outside, running around and enjoying themselves in the fresh air.

For your diaries- Half term is the week beginning Monday 31st May.

Commemorative Bench for Trish White – *Julie Briant*

Well it was well over a year ago that we began the collection towards a commemorative bench for Trish White, who was well known to many of you in the village but, as we are all well aware, circumstances meant plans for the bench were put on hold.

However, one was eventually purchased last November and now, following Lockdown number 3, we have been able to place the bench in situ securely on the school playing field, overlooking Ugborough village.

I would like to send my thanks to everyone who contributed towards the collection, including, ex colleagues, ex pupils and their parents, friends, family and Ivybridge Junior Netball Club, with whom Trish was so involved. My thanks also go to Aimee and Gary Godfrey and Clifford Johns for helping to place it in position on the school field.

I hope many of you will have the opportunity to sit on the bench, enjoy the views and recall fond memories of a wonderful woman. *(Photo of the bench is on page 12)*



We look forward to welcoming you to the online service on Sunday 2nd May at 4.30 p.m.

Please contact the Rector, Rev'd David Sayle on 01548 821199 or at parish_sayle@me.com for log in details.



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

Wildlife and Biodiversity Working Group -Susan Williams

Ugborough Wildlife WhatsApp Group

Our new Wildlife Identification WhatsApp group Chat has taken off with lots of interesting sightings in the parish.

This month sightings include: Otters, Roe Deer, Dipper, Hare, Violets, Comma Butterfly, Holly Blue Butterfly, Slow Worms, Swallows, Hedgehog and Marsh Marigolds.

Want to join the fun? Post your sightings and get help from local experts with identification. Click on the link <https://chat.whatsapp.com/FPeSpQvDJpclfWCWXJcE3> or email your smartphone number to greenerugp@gmail.com

Identification tip: There are four violets to look out for in spring, the Early dog violet, common dog violet, sweet violet and marsh violet. See this blog from Jackie to tell the difference <https://devonhedgerow.wordpress.com/2021/03/28/a-short-post-about-violets/>

Wildlife Sightings Notice Board ~ Keep an eye out in the Ugborough Bus Shelter for parish wildlife news. Feel free to add your own sightings or things of interest here too.

Get Involved with National Surveys

National surveys are a great way to get involved and learn new skill in wildlife identification. Here are three that we recommend to get you started.

- **The Great British Wildflower hunt** <https://www.plantlife.org.uk/wildflowerhunt/> is run by Plant life and is suitable for all ages. There is an App and identification sheets.
- **Garden Butterfly Survey** <https://www.gardenbutterflysurvey.org/> helps Butterfly Conservation understand how butterflies are faring in the UK's gardens.
- **The Big Hedgehog Map** <https://bighedgehogmap.org/> If you've seen a hedgehog add it to this national map. Or put in your postcode and see local sightings.

New Hedge Laying Group -Graham Gilbert

Do You want to join?

A few years ago I belonged to South Brent Steepers, the hedge laying group based in South Brent, where I learnt the art of hedge laying. It ticked all the boxes: benefiting the environment and wildlife, meeting people and being sociable, good exercise and being outdoors. So it occurred to me that we could do with a similar group here in Ugborough parish as, looking at our hedgebanks, there's a lot of hedges that would benefit from being laid in the traditional way.

The aims of the group (working name of Ugborough Steepers, "US" for short) would include the following: To teach/learn the skills required for hedge laying, to offer a service to anyone who would like a hedge laid (the "fee" being the cut material), to turn the cut material into sustainable products (such as faggots and wood for fires, bean poles, mulch, etc) which could be sold in order to raise funds for the group.

So if you would like to try your hand at steeping please get in touch. Bear in mind that hedge laying takes place from late Autumn through to the end of February, so you need to be fit and healthy. Hedge laying would probably take place twice a month on either a Saturday or Sunday. Children would be welcome but only with a responsible adult. A typical day would commence at 10 a.m. and finish at around 3 p.m. If you're interested, then please get in touch either through G-UP (Greener Ugborough Parish) or email me at graham@artgilbert.co.uk.

Moorhaven Meadows News – Jackie Andrade

A new Moorhaven Meadows group has begun creating a wildflower meadow in the old cemetery, raking the grass and planting a range of flowers from primroses and snowdrops to ox-eye daisies and Self Heal.

If you are interested in joining G-UP and receiving our full newsletter you can sign up here:

<https://www.ugborough.com/g-up>

Or email us at: greenerug@gmail.com

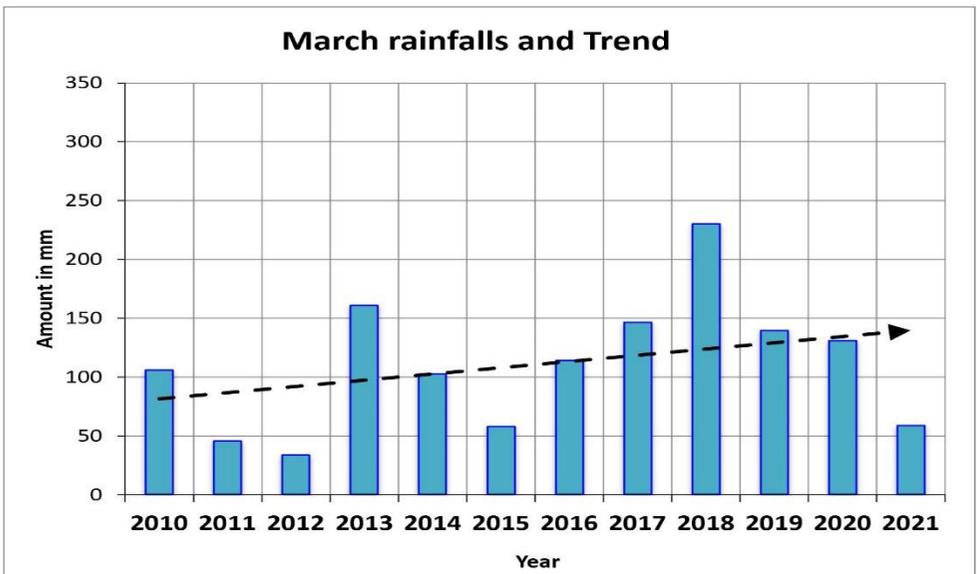
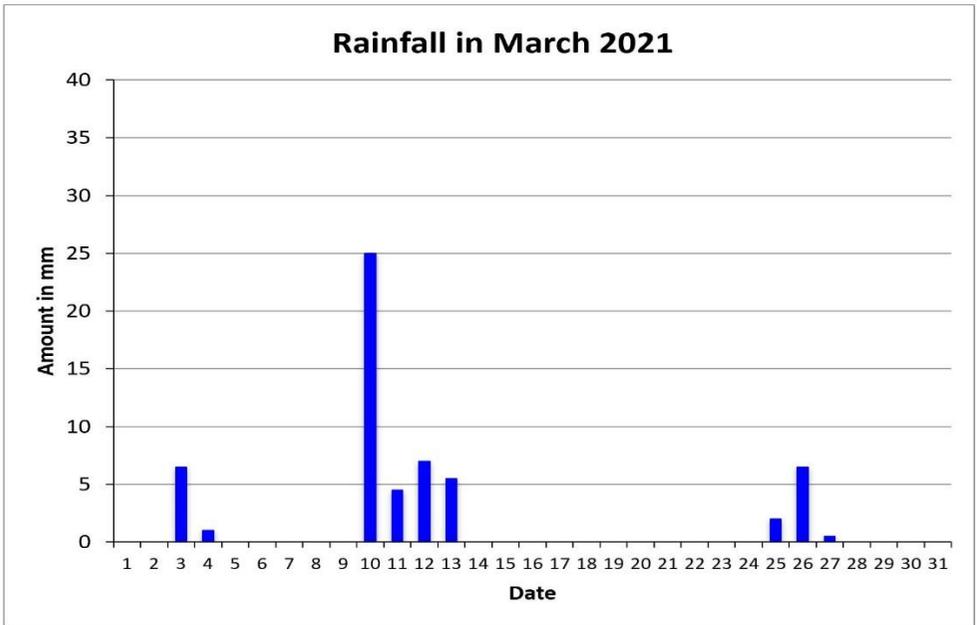
Ugborough Village Hall- Stafford Williams (Secretary)

The Village Hall Annual General Meeting will be held in the Hall on Monday 17th May at 8 p.m.

It will be held within COVID guidelines at that time and the Hall will be prepared as a safe environment for those attending. The agenda covers reports on the year's activities and reviews future policies and hire rates. This is also the time for the Officers and Trustees on the committee to be elected and at this time we are in need of a bookings secretary. We would also welcome new members who wish to support the community by serving on the committee. The event is open to the whole community and is your opportunity to have a say in how the Hall is operated. Any queries or agenda items can be forwarded to the Secretary on 07941 588581.

Rainfall at Shellwood Hill *George Arnison*

After a very wet preceding five months, March brought some welcome drier weather. At Shellwood Hill I recorded 58.5mm (a little over 2") of rain which was almost half the monthly average of 110mm and it one of the driest Marches in recent years.





Your Stars Tonight. Like many of us I have spent some of the Lockdown months sorting through old family mementoes, and in one box I discovered my father's wartime souvenirs – his dog tag, RAF brass buttons, the model of a Wellington Bomber (no doubt carved on a cold dark night in a Lincolnshire Nissan Hut) and his meteorological gadgets. I had already learnt that he had taught in London's East Ham (and the photographs of the schoolboys doing keep fit reminded one how ill-nourished most of the East Ham kids were in the hungry 30's). What was totally unexpected was that in the summer of 1938 he had abandoned a "safe" career in teaching to take up a job with the Air Ministry as a meteorologist. I can find no evidence as to what motivated him, except perhaps a collection of newspaper cuttings on the rise of the Nazis in Germany and, maybe, the coincidence that he travelled through Germany on his way to a climbing expedition in the Swiss Alps earlier in the same year, which may have brought him into contact with the reality of what was happening in Europe.

I realised when looking at his meteorological equipment what a distant world the 1940's is to us now. Predicting the weather for the next 24 hours involved an hourly excursion to the four corners of the airfield to manually measure the wind direction, wind speed and barometric pressure. Then using a little Perspex sheet engraved with an embossed graph (grandly labelled a Geobaromatic Calculator) he had to make a weather forecast that would determine the fate of the Bombers taking off that night.

I was a typical know all and self-centred teenager so I certainly never asked him about his wartime experiences but can now guess the burden of responsibility he must have felt. Was it going to be clear - and lethal - over Germany for the RAF? Would the wind speed assist or fatally delay their homeward flight? He would often stand with others, with heart in mouth, as they straggled home at dawn – and he no doubt shouldered the blame if his predictions were wrong – a feeling many in the medical field must have felt in the last 12 months.

He died before I was old enough to understand what his experiences meant – was it Mark Twain who said, "When I was 18, I thought my father was very ignorant of the world, but when I was 21, I realised he was a very quick learner"? But he left me with a smattering of knowledge on meteorology, so I have been slightly bemused by the daily weather maps over the last 6 weeks. Where are those warm and cold fronts sweeping from the west across the Atlantic bringing us a diet of grey days of rain followed by the band of blue sky appearing in the west as the front passes over? But at least this seemingly unending run of clear nights has given me a wonderful opportunity to chase galaxies from the bottom of the garden almost every night.

And what a menagerie of shapes and sizes they come in – whirlpools and Catherine wheels, needle thin lens, discs, barred galaxies and squashed hamburgers or just glowing globes of trillion of stars floating in an infinity of space. Which has led me to the "citizen science" project – Galaxy Zoo – that uses members of the public to classify into 40 types the 900,000

galaxies photographed by the Sloan Digital Sky Survey project. Alternatively, you can search for new planets around distant stars. Or specialise in deciding if the galaxies are rotating clockwise or anticlockwise. Is it a 50/50 split? And if not, then, why not – that would keep me awake at night with worry!

I think I will wait for the rainy season in July and August before getting involved.

Beryl's Bookworms – Anne Holway

Our book for April was **Signs for Lost Children** written by **Sarah Moss**.



The novel is set in the 1880's. Only weeks into their marriage a young couple embark on a six-month separation. Tom Cavendish goes to Japan to advise on lighthouse building and his wife Ally, a doctor, takes work at the Truro asylum where she struggles against the terrible conditions imposed on the patients and her own demons. With only letters sent across the ocean to sustain them, the foundations of Ally and Tom's marriage begin to slip, and a happy reunion becomes ever more elusive.

The chapters alternate between Ally and Tom's life. Most of us were drawn towards the Doctor's work but the customs and daily life of Japan were beautifully captured. Some members of our group found the book a slow starter but soon became immersed in the loneliness and isolation of this couple. We all agreed that it was well written, sensitive, and gave an insight into different mental health issues.

The group's average score was 4 out of 5.

Next month our book is **Hamnet** by **Maggie O'Farrell**.

Bittaford Methodist Chapel Chris Phillips 07899934743

(Unfortunately at the time of going to press, I do not have the details of who will be leading the services.)

Sunday 2nd May at 11 a.m.

Sunday 9th May at 11 a.m.

Sunday 16th May at 6 p.m.

Sunday 23rd May at 11 a.m.

Sunday 31st May at 11 a.m.

Ugborough Parish Council

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

Website: <https://ugboroughparishcouncil.org>

A positive note started the April Parish Council Meeting, as more places were opening up after Lockdown. The DNP visitor centres were opening, together with sports facilities. Funding is available to support local businesses – up to £18k Restart Grants are available, and more details are available at www.southhams.gov.uk/businesscovid19

Litter picking facilities are now available at Ugborough, Bittaford & Wrangaton – look out for the separate announcement in the Newsletter. Help tidy up the Parish!

Planning applications – with recommendations in **bold**:

- [0593/21/FUL](#) Creation of new 3-bedroom dwelling house and alteration to the parking arrangements and erection of store to the side of previously approved dwelling 3532/20/FUL at Godwell House, Godwell Lane Ivybridge **Neutral**
- [0095/21](#) Demolition of existing extension and erection of replacement extension at Cheston Farm Cottage, South Brent **Support**
- [0470/21/ADV](#) Advertisement Consent for non-illuminated 'Coming Soon' sign advertising future development in Ivybridge (Retrospective) at Land at the SE verge at Daveys Cross Bittaford **Neutral**
- [0788/21/OPA](#) Outline application with all matters reserved for construction of 2 residential dwellings at Whiteoaks, Davids Lane, Filham **Support**
- [0949/21/HHO](#) Householder application for creation of dormer in roof space and minor alterations to exterior of building (resubmission of 1600/21/HHO) at 5 Undertown, Ugborough **Neutral**
- [0955/21/HHO](#) Householder application for provision of a garage/workshop at New Haye Farm, Ludbrook **Support**

Two development proposals were discussed, for an affordable housing proposal at Workhouse Meadow, and employment land at Filham. Councillors considered more detailed plans were needed before an informed response could be given.

Environmental issues cropped up a number of times during the meeting. The Parish Council Emergency Network and the Climate & Ecological Emergency Bill were discussed – Councillors considered that the Parish Council should be concerned with local issues rather than political lobbying.

G-Up had also suggested that hedgerows were cut too low and too often, which reduces habitat for birds and bats. The severe manner in which hedges are cut, with limited 'tidy up', means there is the secondary issue of mess clogging the drains, which then results in excess surface water and damage to highways. The NFU is encouraging members to allow hedges to grow taller & wider, and has provided advice on its website, https://www.nfuonline.com/managinghedges_online/ What do you think? We would welcome your feedback.

A safe place to play in Ugborough was a request submitted by a youngster in the village. Two possibilities were discussed: First, a 20mph speed limit in the village – something that has previously been requested, but is awaiting the outcome of a trial in Newton Abbot (which will be completed in about 12 months). Second, the Parish Council previously had a license for the school playing field to be made available to the public outside school hours, and the Council will negotiate with the school to reinstate that license.

Operation London Bridge Protocol was an item on our April agenda, a strange name referring to the response if a major member of the Royal family died. Just two days later, the sad death of Prince Philip was announced. The Parish Council has expressed its sadness on its website, together with a link for messages of condolence.

Playparks in the Parish are finally getting their facelift. Renovation of the Donkey Lane play park has now been completed and received very good reviews – thank you, Clive Hart, for putting so much effort into making it happen. Next, the Bittaford playpark is being renovated, and this may well have been completed by the time this Newsletter is published – in addition, another picnic bench will be provided, which will make it even more family friendly.

Community Land Trusts – a question from South Devon Community Energy. Has anyone already looked into setting up a community land trust locally? SDCE is hoping to set up a land trust to eventually take ownership of the passivhaus social housing project. For more information, go to <https://www.sdce.org.uk/a-community-land-trust.html>

The Annual Parish Meeting is to be held remotely on Zoom at 7 p.m. on Wednesday 5th May, before the Parish Council Meetings. This has been necessary as the Government has not renewed the legislation enabling the Parish Council to hold remote meetings after 6th May, and Councillors felt uncomfortable about holding a face-to-face public meeting later in the month. Please come along to the Meeting (remotely), as this is your community's chance to have a say on issues in the Parish.

The next Meetings will be held remotely on Wednesday 5th May starting with the **Annual Parish Meeting** at 7 p.m., followed by the **Annual Parish Council Meeting**, then the **Parish Council Meeting**. Looks like it will be a long evening! Agenda and minutes will be displayed on the website and noticeboards.

Privacy policy – visit ugboroughparishcouncil.gov.uk

St. Peter's Church, Ugborough

Ugborough Church Annual Parochial Meeting

Date - Wednesday 19th May at 7.30 p.m. via zoom

The APCM is where new appointments are made, and our supportive army of volunteers are re-elected.

We look to make new appointments for Church Wardens, the people who look after fabric and day to day functions of our Churches. We take stock of what the parishes have achieved during the past challenging year,

We then plan for the year ahead and look forward to a more productive year.

This is one of those meetings that a minority of our parishioners attend, but if you want to have your say in parish church matters, you are welcome to attend.

Please contact the Rector **Rev'd David Sayle** on **01548 821199** or at **parish_sayle@me.com** for log in details.

St Peter's Church Services in May

We are delighted to be able to invite you back into our church for regular services but please note that numbers are limited due to Covid restrictions – so please book your place by e mailing or ringing Sue Johns at suejohnsdunwellfarm@gmail.com 07889737967.

All Sunday services now start at 9.30 p.m. unless otherwise stated.

Date	Service
Sunday 2 nd May	Holy Communion Mission Community Messy Church at 4.30 p.m. via zoom
Sunday 9 th May	Holy Communion
Sunday 16 th May Christian Aid Sunday	Holy Communion
Sunday 23 rd May Pentecost	Holy Communion
Sunday 31 st May	No service at Ugborough Church- Benefice service at Diptford Church at 4.30 p.m.

It will be necessary to wear face coverings at all services and strict hygiene measures will be in place.

Mission Community Services online via Zoom or telephone.

Please contact Rev'd David Sayle on 01548 821199 or at parish_sayle@me.com for further information, and by 6 p.m. the day before for login details.

Every Sunday at 11 a.m.- Sunday Service

Harberton and Harbertonford churches are open mid-week for private prayer- see the Three Rivers Mission Community website for details.

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. every 4 weeks. The library will be visiting on Tuesday 11th May. Strict hygiene measures are in place and face coverings must be worn.

And don't forget to visit your **Post Office** in Ugborough Church on Thursday mornings from 10 a.m. – 12 noon. Please remember that it is necessary to wear face coverings and strict hygiene measures are in place to keep you safe.

Thank you to Ugborough Support and church volunteers, and the outreach team at Elburton Post Office who have made this valuable Community service continue to be possible.

Contributions

Thanks to everyone who has contributed to this 'new normal' Newsletter.

A few hard copies have been produced for those without internet availability and many thanks to Ivybridge Community College for printing and to those safely distributing them.

I very much hope that soon we can go back to our usual paper format, but we must keep our volunteer distributors and all who receive the Newsletter safe.

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>



The Trish White Commemorative Bench

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.