



UGBOROUGH PARISH NEWSLETTER

December 2017

Merry Christmas and a Peaceful and Happy New Year to all!



What's on

December 1 st /2 nd /3 rd	Christmas Tree Festival at St. Andrew's Harberton from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.	Page 9
Saturday December	2 nd Ugborough Preschool's Charity Poker Tournament at Ugborough Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. Tidy up Ugborough Square from 10 a.m	Page 3 Page 20
Wednesday December	6 th Ugborough Parish Council meets at Ugborough Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.	Page 15
Saturday December	9 th Ugborough Sustainable Saturday at Ugborough Village Hall from 10 to 12 noon	Page 12
Wednesday 13 th December	Preschool Christmas sing-a-long and party Ugborough Primary School Nativity and Carol Service at St. Peter's at 1.30 p.m.	Page 2 Page 10
Friday December	15 th Last day of term	Page 10
Sunday December	17 th Ugborough Oldies' Christmas lunch at Ugborough Village Hall	Page 3
Monday December	18 th Ivybridge U3A Christmas Social at the Watermark at 2 p.m.	Page 11
Saturday December	23 rd Ugborough Sustainable Saturday at Ugborough Village Hall from 10 a.m. to 12 noon	Page 12
Sunday December	24 th Christingle and Crib service at St. Peter's at 4 p.m.	Page 18

Details of services at Bittaford Methodist Church are on Page 15

Details of services at St. Peter's Church, Ugborough are on Page 18

Special Christmas events at The Horse and Groom are on Page 7

Special Christmas events at The Clay Factory are on Page 8

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

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

Baby and Toddler Group (drop-in) - Monday 10 -11.30 a.m.

Contact 07763215455

admin@ugboroughandbittafordpre-school.org.uk

The children have recently been focussing on the Mathematics curriculum strand (encompassing numbers and shape, space and measures) which is supported by activities ranging from jigsaws through to cookery and building with blocks. Meanwhile they have been learning some Makaton versions of songs; Makaton is a language programme using signs and symbols to help communication.

It can support spoken language and be used with speech.

All the different types of weather have been appreciated by the children and they are enjoying the seasonal changes as the year draws on. Having made firework pictures in the playground (dropping paint filled tea bags on black paper) and poppy pictures, which they displayed in the church for Remembrance Day, they now look ahead to Christmas. So, excitement is rippling through the Pre-School community.... On Wednesday 13th December, the children will be hosting their Christmas sing-a-long and party (Christmas jumpers at the ready!)

Besides making mince pies and decorating Christmas cakes, they will also attend Pennywell Farm's nativity, where children are usually invited to dress as an angel or shepherd (or presumably, a combination of both if they feel like it!)

This year has seen some amazing fundraising efforts and we are truly grateful to all involved (organisers and supporters). These funds enable Pre-School to provide such quality experiences for the children. The fundraising jumble sale - a joint venture with the PTA - was great fun and even the unsold goods went to St Lukes, where they get 45p per kilo (final amount raised, pending!).

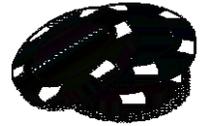
Our final fundraising event for this year is our Charity Poker Tournament, where we hope to see you (details below).

We are delighted to be an approved setting for the Government's 30 free hours a week of childcare. If you are interested in your child starting with us in 2018 or would like more information please feel free to get in touch on the contact details above.

With warm wishes for a happy and peaceful holiday from the children, Staff and Pre-School, Breakfast Club and After School Club committee.

TAKE PART IN THE UGBOROUGH PRE-SCHOOL
CHARITY POKER TOURNAMENT

MONEY RAISED GOING TO UGBOROUGH PRE-SCHOOL
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER : 1043499



Booking is essential as seats are limited to 30

Cash prizes for first, second, and third place

£8 buy in, with rebuys available

Rebuys count as charitable donations and will NOT affect the cash prizes, which will be announced before the tournament takes place.

Saturday 2nd December 7:30 p.m.

To enrol & book your place email ashleytod@live.com

Poppy Appeal - *Francis Douglas*

This year £444.83 was raised in the Ugborough Parish for The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. Individual collecting points have been informed of the totals raised on their premises. Well done to you all. The Sunday Remembrance service was well attended and a further donation was made.

Ugborough Oldies Christmas Lunch will be on Sunday 17th December in the Village Hall.

This event is being sponsored by Ugborough Sustainable Saturdays so there is no cost. However if you would like to put wine on the table to share with friends and neighbours that would be great and don't forget to let us know you are coming.

Please speak to your neighbours and encourage them to come along- it tends to be a fun afternoon with a little music.

If there are any volunteers available to help set up or serve food please get in touch.

Thanks Philomena and Ugborough Sustainable Team.

Coffee Drop-In Centre

10.30 a.m. - Noon every Thursday morning in Ugborough Church

Post office available 10 a.m. - 12 noon

Why not meet up with friends and neighbours over coffee, tea, cake & biscuits?

Everyone welcome.

Update on Ugborough Bell Project

It seems a long time ago since No. 6 bell cracked in February 2015 and we started the Bell Restoration Project. Well, as you are all aware, the bell ringers have been active with their fund raising - the Flower Festival, Auction of Promises, Big Breakfast and a number of smaller events etc. Initially we set out to weld repair the big crack in No. 6 and the smaller cracks in Nos. 3 and 8 (the big bell that chimes on the hour) and rehang the bells on new fittings, at a projected cost of £70,000.

In the meantime, Merryll Docker was carrying out some excellent research on the history of our bells and gave presentations of her findings to the Local History Group and to the Bellringers. In 1761, Ugborough Parish decided to recast the five old bells which made up the peal and add a sixth bell (the other two bells were cast later in 1813 to make the eight), with the bell founder, Thomas Bilbie of Cullumpton. The bells were installed in 1762 and were guaranteed for 12 months, however by 1765, they all had to be returned to the foundry for further work. In 1766, one of the bells had to be returned yet again for more work, but this time with another foundry. Looking again at the options that were available for our current project, the weld and repair option was only going to provide a five year guarantee for the welding. If a full recast was undertaken, the bells would be guaranteed for a 'lifetime', which should be well into the next century. In light of the problems facing our bellringing predecessors, the re-casting option was explored further, as this would provide the best solution from an engineering perspective.

The additional cost of a full recast was found to be an extra £21,000 over the original target of £70,000 and we have currently raised £60,000 through a combination of fundraising, donations and grants. To be allowed to re-cast we would also have had to get the Faculty (church building planning permission) amended. We have now been promised a substantial donation to enable the bells to be re-cast rather than welded and the Faculty amendment has been granted - our thanks to Peter Povey for navigating through the complex church system to achieve this in a timely manner.

Now that we have the Faculty in place, we are starting to have detailed contract discussions with Taylor's from Loughborough, who will be undertaking the work. We are hoping that the bells will be lowered down in the tower at around Easter 2018 with the bells being put back up late summer 2018. As part of the restoration package we are having new cast iron headstocks; these are currently

large pieces of wood with metal straps under which the bells are hung; the new headstocks will make the bells easier to ring. So once the restoration is complete in our church, which is locally known as the Cathedral of the South Hams, the bells will peal out again. They will also be tuneful for those that notice these things! Anyone who would like to learn is most welcome to come along to our practice night at 7.30 pm on a Thursday night - it is good fun and interesting to learn a new skill.

Fund raising still needs to continue, our next event being a Big Breakfast on 13th January 2018, culminating with a special event with the new bells on show in the church around August 2018. Anyone who would like to make a donation, please see Anthony or Juliet.

Ugborough Church Bellringers
Invite You to Our
BIG BREAKFAST
Saturday 13th January
Ugborough Village Hall
8:30 a.m. to 12 noon

Editor's note

Out of the blue, I received this interesting e mail and attachment from 'Pamela in Bermuda' You can see that she has family connections in our parish.

I thought you would get a kick out of the 1885 news item from the *Totnes Times*. in case you'd not seen it.... The Plympton St. Mary bellringers' visit to Ugborough has been part of my Plympton-Ugborough written family history (two Pawley sibs born in Cornwood moved to Ugborough late 1700's. One, Joseph, lived at *Owleigh* for 3 decades). (The others went to Ermington and PSM).
cheers,
Pamela in Bermuda

New Year's Day 1885

Plympton Church Ringers peel their bells in Ugborough in "such a style as has not been heard here for a long period" reported the Totnes local paper.

Totnes Times



ISSUED OVER 24 YEARS,
AND GENERAL ADVERTISER FOR ASHBURTON, BUCKFASTLEIGH, BRENT, AND THE TOTNES UNION DISTRICT.

AND DEVON NEWS,

[ESTABLISHED OVER 24 YEARS

53 | Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper.

TOTNES, SATURDAY, January 10, 1885.

| Registered for Transmission Abroad. | ONE PENNY

UGBOROUGH.

VISIT OF THE PLYMPTON RINGERS.—On New Year's day the village was honoured by a visit of the ringers of Plympton St. Mary church bells, about 16 in number, and the neighbourhood was enlivened by many peals on the Ugborough bells, and of such a style as has not been heard here for a long period. The popularity, both of the Plympton St. Mary bells and their ringers, extends throughout the whole of South Devon, and it is needless to say that their visit to Ugborough was most acceptable, as they soon proved how well they had mastered the art both of round and change ringing, under the able direction of Mr H. Stanbury, the treble man, who with Messrs J. Stanbury, W. Condy, T. Luke, J. Shephard, W. Mortram, J. Pugh, E. Pugh, J. Hill, J. Kenting, H. Hansford, W. Lavis, and John Hurrell (an old veteran aged 80 years, and last of the old set of the past generation) compose the set. They were evidently delighted with the Ugborough bells (which were recently rehung by the eminent firm of bell-hangers, Messrs Hooper and Son, of Woodbury,) and consequently are in good ringing condition. After partaking of a first-rate repast provided by Mr Geo. Wood, and served with his accustomed ability, a very pleasant evening was spent; the party being joined by many of the Ugborough ringers who unanimously welcomed them to repeat their visit on a future occasion.

Erme Valley Riding for the Disabled- Peggy Douglas

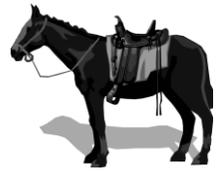
(tel. 07882286421, or 01752 894348.)

Calling All Golfers - or anyone looking for that special Christmas present

We have a Golf day at St Mellion up for grabs - worth £300!

A 4 Ball for Golf experience - voucher to be redeemed before 31st October 2018.

Offers over £150 please.



Huge thanks once more to Elfordleigh Golf Club for their fantastic cheque of £2450.

A particular plea for help on Thursday evenings... 2 hours of your time between 6 and 8 would make a real difference to this mixed children and young adult group. Anyone can help with this session and do consider this if you need experience for D of E - this is the perfect session for you..

December Diary at the Horse and Groom Bittaford :

- **Sunday 17th December:** Family Christmas Quiz 7 p.m. and Christmas DRAW from 8 p.m.
- **Wednesday 20th December:** Mummers Play performance by the Plymouth Morris Men from 7 p.m.
- **24th December:** Christmas Eve SANTA 's Visit at 4 p.m. (FREE Entry, small donations to charity welcome) followed by an evening of Christmas Carols with Mince pies and mulled Wine
- **26th December:** Boxing Day Live Music with "Rick the Stick" from 8 p.m.
- **31st December:** New Year's Eve Fancy Dress Party and Live Music 8' til' Late

Christmas Fayre Menu available - 8th to 23rd December: Bookings Essential, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from All at the Horse and Groom.

Thank you from Kay.

Kay Hart would like to thank all who have bought plants etc. from our table at 'Sustainable Saturdays' and my Torbay 'coffee shop' gardening group for helping to raise £95 for the Children's Hospice South West, which does amazing work for the families of sick children in our area, with very little government funding. Well done everyone!

The Clay Factory (The old Western Machinery building at Redlake Trading Estate)
This is an innovative project turning the former industrial site into a community hub. There are a number of very interesting events taking place there.
For more information see the website ***theclayfactory.co.uk***

or phone 01752 656470

Monday December 4th from 10-11 a.m. The Clay Factory presents Ivybridge Community Orchestra.

Join us for a one off performance from Ivybridge Community Orchestra as they get ready for their next show. This is an event for those who like to start their week with a bit of oomph.

Saturday December 9th from 5 -7 p.m. The Clay Factory presents Miracle on 34th Street

Since we started working in this historic building we have wanted to host an indoor cinema event with the vibe and feel of an outdoor screening. So here we are and what better time to start a run of cinema screenings at The Clay Factory than at Christmas?

Redpod Food Christmas pop-up lunches are also available on 13th, 15th, 20th and 22nd December from 12.30-2.30 p.m.- see website or phone as above for more information.

Back by Popular Demand

Ugborough Dramatic Society presents:

Aladdin

A Panto by Tom Whalley



The fun, laughter and drama is back for four nights. Oh Yes it is!

Wednesday 31st January-Saturday 3rd February 2018

in Ugborough Village Hall

Doors close 7.15 p.m.

Tickets Adult £7.50 / Child £5.00

Available from Susan, 3 the Square, Ugborough

07941 247207 or ***ugboroughds@gmail.com***

Tickets sell out fast so book soon to avoid disappointment

Supporting the Devon Air Ambulance this New Year 2018

Why not make your New Year's resolution really count and become a Devon Air Ambulance volunteer? We receive no government funding and are totally reliant on donations from the people of Devon. We offer an array of volunteering opportunities from box collecting, giving talks, attending cheque presentation, assisting in one of our 18 charity shops or helping out at our annual events. Volunteering can really make a real difference to your own life and the lives of others. This opportunity would suit anyone who would like to get out of the house, make new friends, do something worthwhile, all whilst having fun! We really do appreciate any amount of time you can offer. Whoever you are, you'd fit in just fine! Please contact our Volunteer Manager Cara Jones by calling 01392 466666 or emailing c.jones@daat.org for more information.

St. Andrew's Harberton Christmas Tree festival

December 1st, 2nd, and 3rd from 11 a.m.- 6 p.m. Carol service on Sunday 3rd at 6.30 p.m.

Entrance free but donations gratefully received for restoration work.

Cafe opens from 11.30 a.m. serving light lunches, teas, coffee and a cake stall.



Breakfast Nativity

Bible story, nativity, costumes, carols, croissants, pain au chocolat and fresh fruit for breakfast.

Come along and join in -

Our from scratch nativity! Sunday 3rd December at 9.30 a.m.

All Saints Church, Moreleigh, Totnes, TQ9 7JN

Village Hall *Stafford Williams*

This was another busy period for the Hall with the committee focus on the re-roofing project. The Hall was turned down for a Big Lottery grant, but now awaits a Lottery for All Award for up to £10,000. It is also hoped to tap into the Community Projects Re-investment Funds, but work is required to satisfy planning concerns. The project is likely to be expensive, well in excess of £20,000 so it is worthy of note that we have had superb help from the community: thanks go to the Fair Committee, Taff Jones and the USS Bring and Buy efforts for contributing so generously.

Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child 2017 Shoebox Appeal Update -

Kate Brampton

Thank you to everyone (including St Peter's Church and Ugborough Sustainable Saturdays) who supported the Appeal this year by providing filled shoeboxes and/or monetary donations - it has all helped.

Between us we have provided a fantastic **total of 42 Gift Shoeboxes** (up on last year when we sent 32 Gift Shoeboxes) and their associated shipping costs for needy children overseas, which is wonderful. The shoeboxes started their journey after a lovely Blessing Service on 5th November 2017 to Shoe Zone in Plympton, which is our local drop off point for the next part of their journey.

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. Last year it was Belarus.

Several people have said they would like to do shoeboxes next year for the Appeal - as most of you want to collect shoeboxes and items such as new toys, school supplies, hygiene items etc for the shoeboxes during the year leading up to October, I am happy to confirm that the Appeal will definitely be on next year for those who want to contribute.

Thank you once again for your generous support.

Ugborough Local History Group- *Merryl Docker*

There will be no History Group Meeting in December, I know how busy your social calendars are! Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

See you all on 31st January when we will be delving into the very far distant past from prehistoric to medieval in our local area with Derek Gore from Exeter University.

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

Ugborough Primary School.

We are looking forward to this very special time of year and warmly invite you to our Nativity and Carol service at St. Peter's church on Wednesday 13th December at 1.30 p.m.

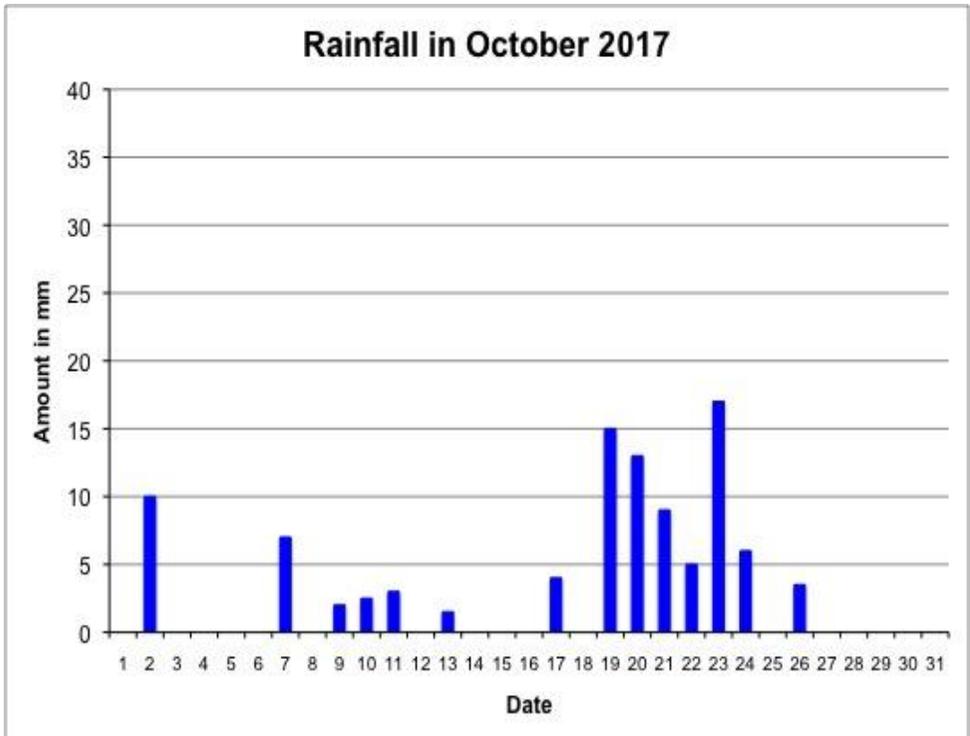
There will be a "Special Visitor" for the children on Thursday 14th Dec -

We break up on Friday 15th December and on 3rd January 2018 it's....

Back to school!

Rainfall at Shellwood Hill *George Annison*

After an unusually wet September, October was a relatively dry month - and we hardly noticed the tail end of ex-Hurricane Ophelia (on the 16th) and Storm Brian (on the 21st) - both of which ended up going across Ireland. I recorded 98.5mm (just under 4") of rain at Shellwood Hill, which was well under my eight average of 145mm for the month, and compares to the last four Octobers of 80.5mm (2016), 99.0mm (2015), 179.0mm (2014) and 244.0mm (2013).



Ivybridge U3A - *Jean Sherrell*

The Ivybridge U3A will be holding their Christmas Social for all members on Monday December 18th at 2 p.m. in the Watermark. There will be Mince pies, a Quiz and a Raffle.

Vernon's 80th birthday

Vernon has been the faithful organist at St. Peter's since he was a teenager and it was his 80th birthday on 10th November. His family and friends at church organised a surprise tea party for him. He wrote this thank you letter to everyone involved.

To my dear family and friends,

What can I say? Thank you all, thank you for that wonderful afternoon on Friday 10th to celebrate my 80th birthday. Thank you hardly seems enough - so many of you there. To my dear family and friends- again thank you.

This time last year when I was so ill I didn't think I would have made it, but the Good Lord in His wisdom knew better!

I was more than surprised when I came in the church door (shocked would have been more like it).

I came for choir practice!!

Again thank you- it will be in my memory with grateful thanks for a long, long time (Never did get to practice!)

God bless you all,

Vernon

Ugborough Sustainable Saturdays -Sarah Scanlon

Christmas is approaching and with it comes the rush to buy presents for loved ones, fighting against the crowds in the shops and queuing for car parking.

Let me suggest an altogether calmer, more relaxing and definitely original way to get all those gifts and at the same time meet up with friends and have superb quality and good value refreshments.

You can do all that with a visit to USS in Ugborough Village Hall on December 9th and 23rd.

It is very simple.

Come to the hall, browse the bring and buy table and get one off stocking fillers, then move round to the beautiful craft stalls displaying original and artisan products, then onto our card producers who have beautiful cards for any occasion and finally onto the food stalls where you will be able to buy preserves and food to nibble on or prepared and fresh food to pop into the freezer for the festive season.

Finally, you can sit back and relax over a freshly brewed coffee or any of our vast variety of teas and soft drinks available.

What is there not to like about that?

We save air miles and give big smiles!! Looking forward to seeing you .

Beryl's Bookworms - *Norma Roe*

Our November book was *Underground Railroad*, by Coulson Whitehead- an unusual book choice for our group. It made for brutal and uncomfortable reading.



This book was a Pulitzer Prize winner (among other awards) and also endorsed by both Oprah Winfrey and Barack Obama and we could see why. The main character is Cora, a 15 year old slave on a cotton plantation in Georgia. All the hellish and horrible things you have ever read or seen about slavery are depicted here. When Caesar, a recent arrival from Virginia, tells Cora about an escape route called the Underground Railroad, they decide to take a terrifying risk and leave. They head north, but they are pursued relentlessly by the dreaded slave hunter, Ridgeway, from whom Cora's mother had escaped years before.

In Coulson Whitehead's novel the Underground Railroad is not the web of sympathisers who very riskily helped slaves to reach the North, but a real railroad with carriages, engineers and conductors who operate a secret network of tracks and tunnels.. (Some of us really disliked this bit of magic realism).

Cora and Caesar are hunted across many states, which allows Whitehead to explore how each one dealt with the perceived problem of an increasing black population. Some of these methods are equally as disturbing as the concept of slavery itself.

Sarah led us in our discussions and the background information about the real underground railway was most interesting. Apparently it helped an estimated 100,000 slaves to escape north by 1850. Also the main people involved used the terminology used by Whitehead- station master, conductor, cargo, stations or depots etc

In our opinion, a very worthy, but not enjoyable read and the average score of 3.5 does not really show the intensity of feelings expressed.

Our next meeting is party time!.Hooray!

Ugborough Parish Council

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

Website: ugboroughparishcouncil.gov.uk

Ugborough Square needs a tidy-up, and this is one of the issues discussed at the start of the Ugborough Parish Council Meeting. The Parish Council arranged, earlier this year, for the weeds in the Square to be treated, and now a general clearance is needed. It is hoped that some of the villagers who complained about the maintenance of the Square will come along and volunteer to tidy it up. A tidy-up day is planned for Saturday, 2nd December - for details, look out for the notice in the Newsletter and on the notice board.

Grit bins need replenishing before the cold winter weather sets in. Devon Highways will not be checking the grit bins, and is relying on members of the public to report bins which need replenishing.

Go to <https://new.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/>. Those who visit the page will see that you can also report pot holes, flooding & blocked drains, faulty street lights, obstructions to the highway or footpaths and much, much more.

Preparing for winter has also been the focus of South Hams District Council's "Are you ready for winter 2017?" campaign. Sign up for social media alerts to find important information quickly and easily:

- Looking for information about floods and how to be #floodaware? Follow the Environment Agency - **@EnvAgencySW**
- Is there a storm approaching? Follow **@metofficestorms** or **@metofficeSWEng**.
- Worried about the road network in bad weather, check in with **@Devonalerts** and **@highwaysengland**
- Worried about Flu or winter bugs? Go to **@NHSchoices**

Christmas is just around the corner, and the Parish Council has given grants towards Christmas decorations in Bittaford and Ugborough. Cllr Johns is sorting out the Ugborough Christmas Tree, which should go up on the 2nd December.

Planning Applications considered at the meeting are listed below, with the Parish Council recommendations given in **bold**:

- Householder application for two storey, flat roof extension to the rear of the property (resubmission of consent 1852/17/HHO) at 7 Churchill Cottages, Seldons Close, Ugborough Ref 3163/17/**Neutral**
- Work to Tree Preservation Order Trees at 21 Lutterburn St, Ugborough Ref 3318/17/TPO **Support**
- Notification of prior approval for proposed change of use of agricultural building to dwellinghouse (Class C3) and for associated operational development (Class Q9(a) & (b) at Corbers Barn, SX672 558, Ridge Road, Ugborough Ref 3555/17/PDM **Noted** (*the Parish Council is not invited to submit recommendations on 'Notification of prior approval' applications*)
- Readvertisement (revised plans received and change of description) Demolition of existing bungalow, erection of 38 dwellings, provision of new access and erection of 3m high, solid timber acoustic fence on boundary with A38 and changes to the access and car parking provision within Woodlands Veterinary Surgery at Land at Sx621 558, Cornwood Road, Ivybridge Ref 2208/16/FUL **Neutral**

- Rural workers live/work unit at Mammoth Trees, South Brent Ref 0523/17
Neutral, subject to the proposal satisfying the functional and financial tests of the Dartmoor Local Plan

The Travellers at Ivybridge Station car park (which lies within Ugborough Parish) have now been moved on, and the report on the clear-up afterwards, including human excrement, makes very unpleasant reading.

A mobile speed sign is to be erected along the Wrangaton Road in Wrangaton and Bittaford. The sign will activate if it senses that vehicles are going too fast - I have seen it in operation, and it really does slow down traffic speeds.

The Recycle Devon Thank You Awards have just been launched. The awards recognise people who make a real effort to reduce reuse or recycle waste. They could be a friend, neighbour, child, community group, small business, recycling collector or staff at your local recycling centre. All shortlisted nominees will be invited to an awards ceremony on 16th March 2018. For more details, go to <https://www.recycledevon.org/recycling-heroes>.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 6th December, starting at 7.30 p.m. Agenda and minutes will be displayed on the noticeboards and website.

Bittaford Methodist Chapel *Jutta Berger 01752 226733 mobile 07265285828*

Please come and join us - we look forward to welcoming you.

Our services start at 10.30 a.m. unless otherwise shown.

Sunday 3rd December at 6 p.m. Rev. Lawrence Sacrament of Holy Communion

Sunday 10th December- Mr. Angilley

Sunday 17th December- Rev. D. Youngs Sacrament of Holy Communion

Sunday 24th December at 6.30 p.m.- Rev. Lawrence Carol Service

Sunday 31st December- G. Higgins

Our Hall is available for hire. We have a small Tea Kitchen. All enquiries contact:

Jutta Berger as above or e-Mail to: juttaberger@tiscali.co.uk

Green Pastures Coffee Bar for families with small children.

Open every Friday from 10 a.m. 'til 12 noon including School Holidays!

St. Peter's Church, Uqborough

A letter from our Priest in Charge- Rev'd David Sayle

Countdown to Christmas

Advent is 'the final countdown' to Christmas day and many children will have an Advent calendar to help them count the days. It's also a really special time for the church. In this article you will find a few reasons why it's so special, *and some Advent activities for children.*

The word Advent simply means 'coming' - it's the season when Christians remember that God came to earth to be born as the Christ child, Jesus.

God also promised that Jesus will come again at the end of time to heal all the world's hurts and divisions. Advent remembers this amazing promise, so it's a time of hope, of getting ready, and expectation.

Waiting is hard, but Christmas is worth waiting for - it's a special time, and at its heart is a gift of love from God to the world. Perhaps you could talk to a member of your family or a close friend about which things concerning Christmas you find hard to wait for and which are worth saving until the day.

Here's what you might see in church during Advent:-

- Fewer decorations - but there might be greenery instead of flowers. This allows us to recognise that the Christian life isn't all about celebration. It's about hope and faith during times of sadness and challenge, too. There have been many times in history when God's people have longed for God to come and save them, and there are times in our own life when we pray that God would come and help us, too. Those times can feel like a long, dark night. We long for the greenery to turn to flowers, just as we long for our sadness and our hope to turn to joy.
- An Advent wreath with candles on it. One candle is lit each week (usually at the start of the Sunday service) - often with a special song or prayer.
- Many churches try really hard not to start Christmas too soon, maybe waiting till Christmas Eve to sing the carols. Saving the Christmas carols till Christmas itself means they feel even more special when you do sing them! Advent is a really important time to pray for peace and love to fill the world, so you may hear more of these kinds of prayers in church.
- In our Mission Community we are holding opportunities to think about 'Prayer' and especially the words of The Lord's Prayer. These will be held on Thursday 7th and 14th afternoons at 2.30 and evenings at 7.30 p.m. at different homes in Diptford and Ermington. Please contact David Stafford if you would like more information.

Advent at home

If your family enjoys chocolate, you might like a Real Advent Calendar (www.realadvent.co.uk). These calendars have a piece of Belgian Fairtrade chocolate behind every window, plus an illustrated Christmas story booklet that you can read together as a family. A percentage of each purchase is also donated to a good cause.

There are other Advent calendars which present the Christmas story, like one offered on the Traidcraft website: www.traidcraftshop.co.uk by Divine chocolates. Both of these calendars are available at various stores too, while stocks last.

If you're holding off on the chocolate, an Advent candle is a lovely way to count down the days - it's marked with the numbers 1 to 25 so you can burn a little each day and still have enough left to light up your Christmas day. You can find them in Christian bookshops and some department stores.

If you believe that simple acts of kindness and creativity can make the world a better place, why not get hold of a Love Life Live Advent booklet (www.liveadvent.net). It's packed with thoughtful and practical actions that you can do together as a family to help you prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus at Christmas and to make your corner of the world a better place.

I pray you have a blessed Advent and will now the joy and excitement of 'God with us' as we celebrate Christmas

David

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

This year our Church at Harberton is holding a Christmas Tree Festival (see page 9) This got me thinking about how we use our Christmas trees over this holiday season and I came across this idea, which I would like to share with you and invite you to participate in.

Christmas Tree Prayers

Decorating the Christmas Tree is for a lot of people part of their Advent / Christmas ritual, which brings great excitement but if you would like your Christmas tree to mean even more this year, why not try this beautiful and thoughtful prayer idea?

- Buy some pretty gift tags (sparkly stars work well) - or make some by cutting up last year's Christmas cards.
- Write on the plain side the names of people or situations that you want to pray about.

- Hang the gift tag prayers on your tree as a sparkly reminder - just as your tree lights shine in the darkness, so your prayers are like a candle that lights up the lives of those in need.
- Christmas is a particularly difficult time if you are sad, or ill, or lonely or worried. Keep a few spare gift tags so you can add to your tree when you think of others who need your prayers.

Tip: If you know someone needs your prayers, but it's best if others don't know they're in need, why not just write their initial on the tag, or draw a heart shape - God will know you are thinking of them.

We wish you a Peaceful and Blessed Christmas and New Year



Services at St. Peter's Ugborough for December

Sunday 3 rd December	9.30 a.m. All Age Worship
Sunday 10 th December 4 p.m.	9.30 a.m. Holy Communion 4 p.m. Carols by Candlelight at North Huish church
Sunday 17 th December	9.30 a.m. Service of the Word 6.30 p.m. Carol service
Sunday 24 th December	9.30 a.m. Holy Communion 4 p.m. Christingle and Crib service 11.30 p.m. Midnight Communion
Monday 25 th December	9.30 a.m. Christmas service (All Age)
Sunday 31 st December	9.30 a.m. Matins

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.threeriversmissioncommunity.org.uk

Priest in charge-

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

Business matters should be referred to the church wardens-

Mrs Helen Hart- hmart@sky.com

Jeremy Wells- 01364 72180

Parish matters may also be referred to our Reader

Dr. David Stafford- 01752 691525

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 December is 12th***

And don't forget to visit your Post Office in Ugborough Church on Tuesday afternoon and Thursday morning.

Contributions

Thanks to everyone who has contributed to this Newsletter and all the other editions throughout 2017.

I would also like to thank David Roe for proof reading, Sue Johns for duplicating, and Anne and Tom Holway for collating and distributing to the team of people who deliver your Newsletter to you.

Thanks also to Tom for sending out the electronic version to those of you who prefer to have the Newsletter sent to your inbox.

Contributions should be sent to - Mrs. Norma Roe, The Editor, Ugborough Parish Newsletter, 20 Lutterburn St, Ugborough, Ivybridge, PL21 0NG.

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

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

Your Newsletter is available online at the Parish Council website ugboroughparishcouncil.org. and at ugborough.com

Ugborough Square needs a 'Tidy-up'

Come along and join our working party for a couple of hours on Saturday 2nd December meeting at 10am in The Square.

The more the merrier!

(Sustenance will be provided by way of Tea/Coffee & bacon bap)

Please bring your weeding equipment

For more information, contact Clive Hart on

01752 463128

cwjhart@sky.com



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