

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



What's on

| | | |
|--|---|-------------------|
| Fridays 6 th , 13 th and 20 th December | Chair exercise class at Ugborough Village Hall from 1.30-2.30 p.m. | Page 5 |
| Saturday 7 th December | Ugborough Church cleaning from 10 a.m.-12 noon RDA Christmas Fundraiser at The Brook | Page 2 Page 6 |
| Sunday 8 th December | Carols by Candlelight at North Huish Church at 4 p.m. Ugborough Village Christmas Market from 1-5 p.m. | Page 19 Page 4 |
| Wednesday 11 th December | Ugborough Parish Council meets at Ugborough Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. | Page 15 |
| Friday 13 th December | Santa comes to Ugborough!(from 6 p.m.) | Page 2 |
| Saturday 14 th December | Ugborough Sustainable Saturday from 10 a.m. -12 noon at Ugborough Village Hall -festive refreshments! Candlelit Carol Service at Ugborough Church at 4.30 p.m. | Page 3 Page 2 |
| Thursday 19 th December | Preschool visit the coffee morning at Ugborough Church | Page 2 and 7 |
| *****Christmas holidays- 23 rd December- 6 th January***** | | |
| Tuesday 24 th December | Crib &Christingle service at Ugborough Church at 4.30 Carol service at Bittaford Methodist church at 6 p.m. | Page 2 Page 18 |
| Wednesday 25 th December | Christmas Day All Age Communion with children's activities at 9.30 a.m. | Page 2 |
| Tuesday 7 th January | Back to school and Preschool for Spring Term | Page 7 |
| Friday 10 th January (and Fridays following) | Chair exercise classes resume at Ugborough Village Hall from 1.30-2.30 p.m. | Page 5 |
| Saturday 11 th January | Ugborough Sustainable Saturday from 10 a.m.- 12 noon in Ugborough Village Hall | Page 4 |
| Sunday 12 th January | Ugborough 3 rd Annual Wassail at Brackenhill from 5 p.m. onwards | Page 5 |
| Wednesday 15 th January | Ladies' Lunch at The Ship at 12 noon | Page 6 |

Details of services at Bittaford Methodist Church are on Page 17

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

St Peter's Church – Sue Johns

We would like to wish all our supporters and friends a Blessed Christmas and a Very Happy New Year!

But as I write we have a busy December coming up!

Anyone free to give some time to a bit of a church cleanup on **Saturday December 7th between 10 and 12**; any time you could spare at all would be greatly appreciated. There will be beverages and bound to be flapjacks, with carols to sing along with to get us in the festive mood.

We are busy practising for our **Candlelit Carol Service on Saturday December 14th at 4.30 p.m.** This promises to be memorable service with traditional Readings and Carols, including contributions from the joint Church & Community Choirs – accompanied by the Mission Community Organist and UFolk, and of course delightful singing from Ugborough School. Mulled wine and seasonal refreshments will be served at the end of the service.

On **Thursday 19th December during the usual Church Coffee Morning and Post Office in Church (10 to 12)** The Preschool will be joining us to sing some of their Christmas Songs – and to enjoy some festive fare do come along!

The ever-popular candle lit **Crib and Christingle Service** will be held as usual on **Christmas Eve at 4.30 p.m.** in St Peter's and led by David Sayle. Feel free to come dressed as a Nativity character. (Some costumes available!) The Collection will be for the Children's Society.

The **Christmas Day Service** at 9:30. will be an All-Age Christmas Communion led by David Sayle with children's activities.

Looking ahead to January.... I think we're all looking forward to a quieter month!!

Santa's visit to Ugborough- Sue Johns and Philomena Jones

Yes ... Santa will once again be passing through the Village on **Friday December 13th from 6 p.m.** This is the children's opportunity to wish him well and pass on their hopeful letters. As last year, Santa will be collecting new pyjamas for The Children's Hospital Pyjamas Charity (1185739) - ages between newborn and 18 years which Santa will be collecting on his travels through the Village. These pyjamas will then be donated to Hospitals, Hospices and Women's Refuges in the South West. Please wrap your pyjamas in Christmas paper and label them with the age and whether they are most suitable for a boy, girl or are unisex.

You can also pass on your gifts to Philomena Jones or Sue Johns at any time.

Santa will end up at the Church Green for a hot dog and a mulled drink at 6:30.

Ugborough Gardening Club - Shelley Hutcheon

The produce Show was a brilliant day with so much support from everyone who entered, helped and came for tea. Despite the weird summer, everyone still managed vegetables, fruit and flowers along with fantastic craft and cookery. Thank you again for all of your help and support in making this slice of village history happen.

The Club also enjoyed a trip to Riverford to have a nose around the polytunnel and then eat a biggest and tastiest array of vegetables. I did a rough count at one point, and we hit our 'five a day' in the first couple of courses with a total of around 20 different fruit and vegetables over the course of the evening (plus the grapes in the wine.....)

More visits are planned to interesting local gardens - message me if you would like to be added to the WhatsApp group 07720765014.

Ugborough Village Fair 2024

We have made a start on allocating funds to various village causes but would love your input if you feel there is a deserving group or cause that we don't know about. Money will go to the village hall for a refurb of paint in the loos, the newsletter to help with printing costs and the church as usual.

We are also looking into buying a mobile stage that doubles up as a storage trailer and transport of the heavier items during the week. If anyone knows of a suitable trailer, preferably with sides that we can attach a canopy to or at least adapt, please let any one of the team know.

Crochet - is there anyone willing to mend crochet blankets? (and be paid!) I have had a couple of mouse and dog chewing incidents which have really damaged two and the other one is just wear and tear - Shelley 07720765014

USS- Ugborough Sustainable Saturdays - Graham Gilbert

After a busy Saturday on the 2nd November, USS held its AGM, and the current committee were unanimously re-elected. USS continues to thrive, and is highly valued by parishioners for the role it plays in village life. Not only does it provide a fortnightly social hub with the opportunity to buy locally made quality produce and crafts, but any surplus funds are put back into the community.

And all those taking part every USS enjoy the two convivial hours of meeting customers and fellow stallholders.

Leading up to Christmas, the dates for the forthcoming Ugborough Sustainable Saturdays are:


November 30th


December 14th

So do take the opportunity to come along and buy locally made food and gifts for Christmas.

Then to start the new year our January dates are the 11th and 25th.
On December 14th we will be providing **free** tea, coffee, and mince pies, and on our return in the New Year, Jan 11th, UFOlk will be playing a few Wassail songs for us (the 3rd annual Ugborough Wassail is on the following day; see article in this newsletter for details).

Ugborough Village Christmas Market 🎄

 Date: Sunday, 8th December

 Time: 1 – 5 p.m. (But if you know us, we love to keep the party going – so don't rush off!)

 Location: Ugborough Village Hall

Get ready for an unforgettable day of festive fun at the **Ugborough Village Christmas Market!**

Bring your friends and family to enjoy a lively afternoon filled with holiday cheer, unique shopping, and heartwarming community spirit.

What's in Store ✨

Explore an array of artisan stalls offering handcrafted gifts, seasonal décor, and unique finds, perfect for crossing everyone off your Christmas list! Our local traders can't wait to share their wonderful creations with you.

Festive Food & Drink

Indulge in a mouth-watering hog roast, traditional holiday treats, and cozy up with a warm glass of mulled wine. We've got plenty to keep you toasty!

Raffle & Fun Prizes

Don't forget to enter our festive raffle for a chance to win some exciting prizes that will make this holiday season even brighter!

The Thursday Coffee Morning in St Peter's Church All are welcome! Pop along for a beverage and cake between 10 and 11.45 a.m. and support our continuing weekly Post Office.

Preschool will be joining us to sing some of their Christmas songs on Thursday 19th December.

Hand gel is available and respect others' space.

Ceremonial Flying of the Flag

January 9th

Birthday of Katherine, Princess of Wales

January 20th

Birthday of Sophie, Countess of Wessex



Ugborough Wassail Sunday 12th January 2025

You're cordially, or ciderally, invited to join in our 3rd annual Wassail which will again take place in the Brackenhill orchard, courtesy of Alex & Simon Pickstone, on Sunday January 12th. The orchard is in the field between the glamping site and Brackenhill, just up the lane from the school going towards Hill Head. Follow the signs!

The festivities start at 5 p.m. From 5.30 onwards food and drink will be available. Soup and baguette will be provided, as will cider and mulled apple juice. Ugborians are also invited to bring apple cake to share, as well as something to make a noise with (such as an old saucepan and wooden spoon). In order to reduce waste, please bring your own mug for your soup, as well as something to eat apple cake from. Bring a lantern or torch, wrap up warm, and wear wellies or hiking boots.

The music will start at 6pm, followed by the procession to the trees. We are most grateful to John Rawlinson of South Brent who has offered to be the Master of Ceremonies. John has extensive knowledge of wassailing (as well as being a very good musician) and is involved in the Stoke Gabriel wassail, easily the biggest and best-known event in the area. Once again, the South Devon Wassail Singers will be entertaining us, as will our very own UFOlk. Song sheets will be provided so everyone can join in. Families are most welcome. There will be some cover, and a loo will also be available.

If you'd like to bake a cake for the evening, recipes can be found online. Look for Somerset Cider Apple cake, Hereford Wassail Cake, Devon Apple cake, etc.

This is a great excuse to dress up in traditional Wassail clothes: hats decorated with ivy and flowers, Green Man and Green Lady masks, multi-coloured jackets or cloaks (think Morris Dancers!).

There will be an opportunity for children to make Wassail crowns on the day. You can bring your favourite foliage with you, preferably something like ivy that can be woven, and flowers as decoration.

Donations towards the cost of this event would be greatly appreciated.

Ugborough Chair Exercise Class - *Peter and Ann Povey*

The Class will meet on Fridays 6th, 13th and 20th December from 1.30 to 2.30 p.m. in Ugborough Village Hall, and then break for the Christmas and New Year holidays. It will resume at the same time and place on Friday, 10th January and continue each Friday until Friday, 14th February, when there will be a one week Half Term break.

We welcome new members of all ages to join us. We are a friendly group and have a great deal of fun under the supervision of physiotherapists Michelle, Sine and Kyra. The exercises are particularly suitable for those who find conventional exercise classes too strenuous.

Enquiries about the Class to 01752 691654 or povey.ann@googlemail.com .

Ugborough Poppy Appeal- *Richard Lane- Poppy Appeal Organiser for Ugborough District*

Thank you to everyone who has donated to the Poppy Appeal for the 2024 campaign. The total so far for the Ugborough District is a fantastic £643 plus a further £163 which was collected outside the Church during the wreath laying ceremony.

Ugborough School alone raised £144 and the Poppy table at the USS on Saturday 2nd November raising £129. Electronic donations will boost the total to beyond £800.

Once again, thank you to the people in the area for supporting the Poppy Appeal and the Armed Forces Community. Collecting points will be advised of individual amounts raised within the next few weeks.

Erme Valley RDA- *Peggy Douglas 07882 286421*

Christmas Fundraiser – Join Our Christmas Celebration on Saturday 7th December.

We're thrilled to invite you to a festive evening at *The Brook* to celebrate **40 wonderful years of RDA** and the Christmas season! There will be Carols, mulled wine, mince pies, BBQ, Stalls with Christmas Goodies and Crafts – and..... a Super Raffle. With entertainment from the wonderful Girls' Night Out Choir!

Come and meet the ponies and see what we do.

This event is also a fundraiser, so all proceeds go back to support our programs.

(Please bring Cash if possible).

Our personalised Christmas Cards are on sale NOW!

November saw us enjoy much socialising!

The Happy Hoof Group: Recently enjoyed a lovely meal with Sarah and Martin, followed by an uplifting therapy dog session at *The Brook*.

Next up, they'll be meeting at *Ivybridge Brewery* – everyone's excited!

The Accessible Social Club: Had a fun pumpkin-carving session and cheered on Sarah and Laura as they completed their **40 laps for 40 years challenge!** (Laps of the Tamar Bridge that is!!!!) Next session, will see them learning how to draw horses with Ysbael, then the Christmas wreath making.....

A festive Dementia Friendly Tea will take place on 10th December at 3pm. Please let me know if you know of anyone who would appreciate this initiative – transport can be arranged.

There are a few seats left for the **London International Horse Show on 22nd December** – always an incredible day out. Let me know if you're interested.

Ladies' Lunch *Pat Stephens*

The date for the next lunch is Wednesday January 15th at The Ship, Ugborough for 12 noon.

Contact Pat Stephens 07704 113837 to book.

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

Charity Number 1043499 –

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

Contact: admin@ugboroughandbittafordpre-school.org.uk

Contact: 07763 215 455 First, a huge thank you to the organisers of Ug Fest for their very generous and much appreciated donation to our funds.

As we approach the end of November, we are looking forward to our Christmas end of term activities and celebrations. The preschool children have their Christmas trip on a farm on Thursday 12th December. They will also be attending the church coffee morning on Thursday 19th December from 10.30-12noon. **We would love it if parents and the wider community could come along and join the children in some Christmas singing.** The end of term Christmas party will be held on Friday 20th December.

Spring term starts on Tuesday 7th January 2025. Have a wonderful holiday and see you in the New Year!



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

greenerugp@gmail.com

Faith Matthews & Jackie Andrade

How Our Gardens Can Support Wildlife During the Colder Months

By making small adjustments to our gardens, we can provide a safe haven for nature even in the chill of winter. One key tip is to leave seed heads, berries, and fallen leaves in place—these provide vital food and shelter for birds, small mammals, and insects. Planting native shrubs and trees can offer a natural source of winter sustenance, and a well-placed birdbath or small pond (even if frozen, it can be topped up with water) helps wildlife stay hydrated. If possible, create a "wild corner" with logs, rocks, and tall grasses to offer shelter for hibernating creatures. Avoid cutting back perennials too early, as the dead stems and seed heads offer both food and cover.

Hedgehogs will benefit from fallen leaves that they can use to build nests. By late autumn, they will be looking for a safe, warm place to hibernate. Leaving areas of your garden undisturbed - piles of leaves, logs, or a small, quiet corner can provide a perfect hibernation spot. Make sure there are some gaps or holes in your garden fences, as hedgehogs need to roam several kilometres a night to find food.

Avoid using chemicals or slug pellets in your garden, even if they claim to be wildlife friendly!

If you see a hedgehog out during the day in cold weather, it may be under weight or unwell, so contact one of these local wildlife rescue services for advice.

ELM Wildlife Hedgehog Rescue 07971 276658

www.pricklesinapickle.co.uk

Lastly, there is a local Wildlife WhatsApp group for sharing sightings, news and questions about wildlife in and around the Parish. Please get in touch if you'd like to join this.

Ugborough Parish At Your Convenience: A Community Effort

atyourconveniencecic@gmail.com

As many of you are aware, when South Hams District Council announced they were selling the long-closed former public conveniences at Ugborough and Bittaford, many Parish residents came together with a shared belief that these community assets should remain as just that – facilities that are open, accessible and upgraded for community benefit.

In the past 6 months a dedicated group have formed *Ugborough Parish At Your Convenience CIC*, set up a bank account, undertaken community consultation, secured renovation advice and quotes and applied for funding. All of this has fed into a business plan which, at the time of writing, has JUST been submitted to SHDC. This outlines our aim to secure, renovate and maintain both public conveniences – each with accessible unisex loo, baby change and adjacent multi-purpose community focussed space.

We believe that these public services (which are otherwise at risk of being lost) would have a hugely positive impact here (in a multitude of areas including health, sustainability and Active Travel) if reopened in this way.

A core group of individuals have put a tremendous amount of time, effort and energy in to this business plan which is hugely appreciated. Much of this work is still ongoing.

Thank you!

Whilst we wait to hear of SHDC's decision we'd like to thank the Parish Council and the variety of local Community groups for their support.

We'd also like to point all readers in the direction of our **Just Giving page** through which we are aiming to raise £25,000 towards this project: <http://www.bit.ly/atyourconv>

We will circulate this via the Bugle also. Please donate if you can, or get in touch if you can offer support, to preserve these assets for our community now and for the future.

Beryl's Bookworms –

This month's book was *The Secret Hours* by Mick Herron. Mick Herron is the author of the Slough House spy series of novels which have been adapted for television as *Slow Horses*.



The Secret Hours is a spy novel set in the present, where a government inquiry has been set up to investigate past misconduct in the British Secret Service, with long flashbacks to Berlin in 1994, the messy era of post-cold war espionage. What happened in the newly unified Berlin that someone is so keen to keep hidden in the present?

The book starts with a redundant spy being chased through Devon lanes and, unsurprisingly, this grabbed our interest but some of us then found parts of the book slow. We did enjoy the humour, dialogue and depth that Herron brings to his writing. *The Secret Hours* is entwined with the Slough House world, and we enjoyed trying to guess which of the characters from the 1990s would re-emerge in the Slough House novels. The author says he hadn't originally planned *The Secret Hours* to be a precursor to the Slough House series which we found surprising.

As with the Slough House books the characters are well developed and at least one bears a passing resemblance to a well-known government figure from the recent past. In fact, there is an element of 'state of the nation' satire in the book. Only a few of us had finished the book by the time of our meeting, partly due to time constraints. Given the small number of us able to score the book our average score of 4 out of 5 may not be representative of the whole group.

Next month's book is *The Outrun* by Amy Liptrot.

Ugborough Primary School are aiming for their Christmas market to be as sustainable as possible this year. Please - if you have any suitable items (preloved or homemade) that you'd be willing to donate, drop them either to school (during school hours) or get in touch and we can arrange collection.

This is a magical event for pupils – in the special setting of the church they are able to shop for loved ones. Prices for all items are kept low, and any profits go back via the PTA towards resources for pupils. The more donations we receive the less we must 'buy in' items online to resell. Your help is much appreciated.

We need donations for School Christmas Shop

A market for school pupils to buy affordable gifts for loved ones

PLEASE DONATE to make this event as magical & sustainable as possible...

We need:

- Handmade or homemade items*
- Good quality preloved/unwanted gifts
- Small items for little hands to carry safely
- Items for all ages/family members!
- Wrapping paper/gift bags/bubble wrap

*Food items **MUST** include full ingredients list otherwise we cannot use them. Please ensure items are non perishable and will last til Xmas!

All items to the school office ASAP (by Mon 2nd Dec) so we can stock take ready for the shop in late December.

A magical event
raising money for school resources



Thank you!





Your Stars Tonight 2024 has been a hard year for this star gazer. I have enjoyed no Northern Lights and I glimpsed the much hyped Comet Tsuchinshan A3 for just 20 seconds before it disappeared behind the inevitable cloud. In fact I have managed to get out on only 15 nights this year – and frequently these were interrupted by inclement weather. My most recent effort ended after 4 hours of frustration in near freezing temperatures with my laptop bleating to me that it was shutting down as it did not have the right software – the ghosts of Newton and Herschel mocked me from beyond the bottom of the garden. However astronomical hope springs eternal.

In the next couple of months I hope to enjoy Saturn’s rings as they slowly become edge on and almost invisible before opening out again in April 2025 in their 16 year cycle of visibility. And as always I look forward to watching the eternal dance of the four Galilean moons around Jupiter and perhaps capture with a photograph their shadows as they pass in front of their parent planet. Jupiter is now easy to spot because it is so bright in the late evening, although it will be challenged in January as Venus rises higher and brighter each evening in the dusk light in the west. And around midnight Mars will be rising over the eastern horizon and maybe I might spot a white mantle of snow on its Poles.

Once the stars were thought to be eternal and unchanging. Now we know that they are as diverse, volatile and occasionally unstable as the members of the human race. The Sun, with its eleven year Sunspot Cycle (which is giving rise to this year’s peak of aurora activity) is a relatively stable creature. However, many stars called Cepheid Variables change their brightness with clockwork frequency and in 1908 Henrietta Swan Leavitt deserved (but was not given) a Nobel prize for showing there was a relationship between their time period and luminosity. This work gave us a key to measuring the distance to the galaxies.

My favourites variables are the class of red stars best described as “sooty red giant stars”. Their nuclear reactions produce huge clouds of carbon which smother their light until they overheat and blast the soot away. One such star is Mira, in the obscure constellation of Cetus -the Whale. Currently it is barely visible, even through binoculars, but in 9 months time this ruby red star will be easy to spot with the naked eye.

The advances in camera technology mean that I can capture all of these with my telescope and digital camera – but it is a bit techy, time consuming and all too often things go wrong. But now the smartphone revolution is bringing in yet another huge technological change. The so called “smart scopes” are lightweight, take minutes to set up on a table in the garden. Controlled from the mobile phone, they automatically work out where they are – and where the stars are. So tap in “Mira” on your phone and the smart scope slews accurately to it and then not only starts taking photographs, but also digitally enhances them, giving a final image not far removed from what I am currently achieving, but in a fraction of the time. And the price tag is just a few hundred pounds – less than the cost of a modest telescope. Is this yet another example of deskilling? Like the Satnav bringing confused HGV lorry drivers down the back lanes of Ugborough? Maybe – or perhaps it opens up the wonders of the heavens to many more people. I need to ponder these thoughts before committing myself to a request to Santa.

Historical Nuggets– Gareth ‘Taff’ Jones

17th December 1973 – The chancellor of the Exchequer, Anthony Barber, unveiled a pre-Christmas crisis budget cutting £1,200 million from public spending. The immediate crisis was caused by striking railway workers, pay disputes by power station workers and the decision of the miners’ leaders to continue with an overtime ban without balloting its members, coal supplies at the power stations were already down by 40%.

Industry and commerce were limited to five days’ electricity consumption in the fortnight to the 30th December (the three-day week)! Except over Christmas and New Year, all TV services were closed down at 10.30 p.m. The mini budget was also concerned with the massive increases in oil prices by the OPEC cartel of oil trading nations. Dennis Healey, the Shadow Chancellor, advised Anthony Barber that he should tax the rich and the profits of private business (sound familiar?) rather than slash public services.

The measure was a disaster for Ted Heath who went on to lose the February 1974 election and the consequent October 1974 election. Heath was later challenged by a certain Margaret Thatcher who won the leadership contest and later became Britain’s first woman Prime Minister. The three-day week restriction was eventually lifted 7th March 1974. Unfortunately for my generation the schools did stay open five days a week, Boo-Hiss!

Historical Nugget: 2nd January 1959 – The rebel Cuban leader, Fidel Castro, proclaimed a new government for Cuba. Organised opposition collapsed when Castro’s troops reached Camp Columbia, the stronghold of Cuba’s dictator, Fulgencio Batista. Batista was elected President of Cuba 1940-1944 and military dictator of the country from 1952 until his overthrow. During his dictatorship many political liberties were revoked, including the right to strike. He aligned himself with the wealthy landowners and oversaw an economy which stagnated and saw the gap between rich and poor widen.

Batista’s government began to systematically profit from the exploitation of Cuba’s commercial interests (a similar condition is happening in Russia with Putin and his henchman) by negotiating relationships with the American Mafia which controlled drugs, gambling, and prostitution in Havana. Batista fled to the Dominican Republic with a personal fortune and eventually sought sanctuary in Portugal, living in Madeira and then Estoril. He died of a heart attack in Marbella, Spain on 6th August 1973.

There is a lot of post-revolution history to Cuba and much of it is well known; America sought to overthrow Castro in the Bay of Pigs fiasco in 1961 whilst the Soviet Union supported the Cuban economy until its own collapse in 1991. Soviet support for Castro brought the world to the brink of nuclear war in Cuban Missile Crisis in October 1962.

Castro retired as dictator of Cuba 31 July 2006 passing his political duties to his brother, Raul. Castro eventually died 25 November 2016. Cuba is still a one-party state.

Wild About The Erme River (WATER) is delighted to announce that it has been granted charity status by the Charity Commission. Formed last year in May 2023, the organisation is a collaborative, positive action group working to restore water quality and habitat across the catchment of the Erme for the benefit of nature and people. WATER's approach is to consider the total catchment of the Erme from its source on Dartmoor to the many tributaries that feed it, as one inter-dependent habitat. What happens in one part of the river can have impacts further downstream and out into the estuary, the beaches and the coast.

That is why the charity's action projects are organised into land-based and water-based activities. There is a diverse range of landscapes across the catchment, some managed by farming landowners and others by non-farming owners. Whether it is wetland restoration or creation, run-off diversion away from water courses or creating wildlife corridors by planting trees to connect otherwise isolated riverside habitats, all actions are driven by a desire to find sustainable, affordable, nature-based solutions.

Local authorities, and particularly the local communities, are a vital means of restoring and monitoring river health and habitats across the catchment.

While embracing natural solutions, WATER's approach is driven by science. In partnership with the Westcountry Rivers Trust, local communities and environmental groups across the catchment have volunteers operating regular water testing, as part of a region-wide Citizen Science project. The results of each test are uploaded to a central data bank to enable score cards to be kept for the river.

(Graham and David have written about their water testing and monitoring results in previous Newsletters.)

www.ermesriver.org

For further information contact:

Colin Whybrow, Marketing and Communications lead for WATER
colinw@ermesriver.org 07808 582 224

Ugborough Parish Council

Clerk: Sally Smale Email: parishclerk@ugboroughparishcouncil.gov.uk

Website: <https://ugboroughparishcouncil.gov.uk> - where you can view the Newsletter to use the weblinks

Ugborough Parish Council News from our November Meeting.

One member of the public attended our November Meeting

Matters raised by the Public and Arising from Previous Meetings

1. Greener Ugborough thanked us for achieving 20mph status in the village. We are so pleased that this had finally been completed and thank everyone who has contributed to the consultations that were a vital part of the process.

2. Although a member of the public has commented that they are pleased to see attempts are being made to deal with the dog barking situation in the village, we are sorry to hear that it is still a problem. Cllr Alison Dewynter has spent a significant amount of time pursuing this matter for which we thank her. There is a specific process that must be followed by a complainant (including keeping a 14-day record and making recordings) in order for any legal action to be taken. This has been communicated to individuals who now need to decide if they wish to take action.

3. There is finally progress with the repair of the light on the Conduit. The electrician has identified where the problem is, and permission has been granted from SHDC to undertake the work. We are now looking for a maintenance person to work alongside the lighting engineer.

4. The Post Office have agreed to move the post box in Ugborough Square to the kerb of the platform area so that people in wheelchairs and on mobile scooters can use it from the road. We look forward to this work being done in the near future

5. We understand the concern about the hedge slippage on Fore St and have contacted the landowner and asked if they would repair the damage. There has been no reply to date. Devon County Council will clear a road when it is blocked but cannot undertake work on someone else's property

7. Community Speedwatch in Bittaford – 1 session has taken place in Wrangaton. During the 90 minutes 214 vehicles passed with 10 going faster than 35mph in the 30mph speed restriction. These 10 drivers will receive a first warning letter from the police.

Reports from District & County Councillors

Devon County Councillor Dan Thomas' full report can be seen on our website. It includes snow warden information, combined authority update and a reminder about the consultation on remote council meetings.

South Hams District Councillor Alison Dewynter's full report can be seen on our website. It includes an update on the barking dog nuisance in Ugborough Village, news on the proposed increase in parking charges for visitors to South Hams, information on Dartmoor National Park's Local Walking and Cycling Infrastructure Plan (this is your chance to have your say), and information about the Plymouth and South Devon Freeport Unlocking Growth Event

Planning

We reviewed 5 applications, supporting two tree works applications and choosing not to comment on the remaining three. Since the last meeting South Hams District Council have given conditional approval for the application at Bowcombe Farm to install solar panels

Finance and Grant Funding

We are pleased to grant fund Ivybridge Ring and Ride £500. Fifty members of our parish benefited from this service last year. Give them a call if you are struggling with transport arrangements 01752 690444. And if you would like to volunteer as a driver, they would love to hear from you.

“At Your Convenience” - We are also pleased to grant fund £2000 towards this ambitious community project and we wish the CIC luck in acquiring the buildings and fund-raising.

We will be agreeing our budget for 2025-2026 at our December meeting and so, if your organisation is thinking about applying for a grant from us next year, now is the time to do so.

Ugborough Parish Councillors would like to wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year holiday and look forward to seeing you at our meetings next year.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 11th December

There is no Council meeting in January 2025

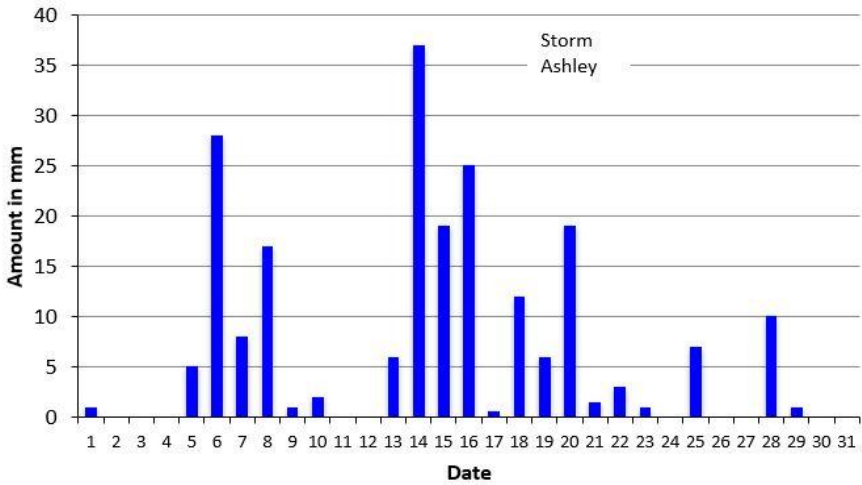
Privacy policy – visit ugboroughparishcouncil.gov.uk

Litter picking equipment is available to local volunteers. To borrow, please contact the Parish Clerk Tel 07814849131 parishclerk@ugboroughparishcouncil.gov.uk

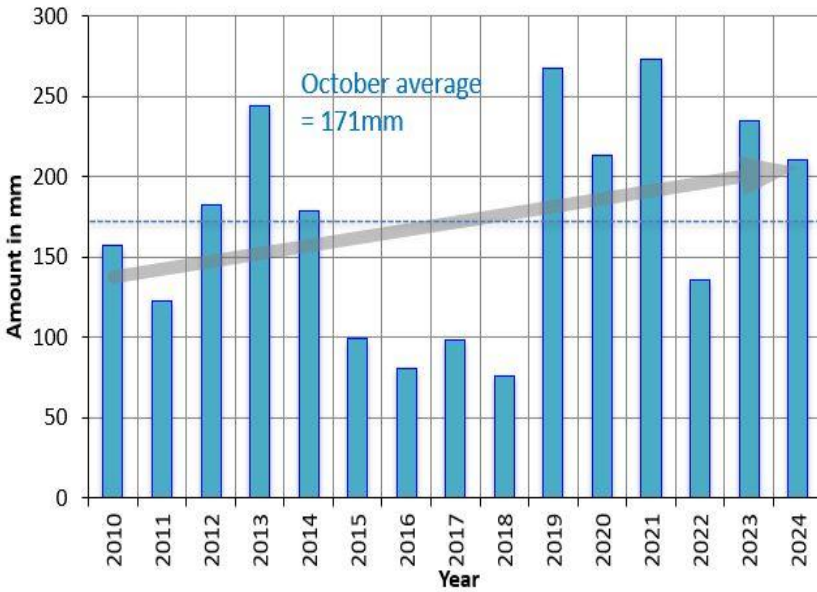
Rainfall at Shellwood Hill *George Arnison*

According to my 15-year record, October is on average the second wettest month of the year (after December). We haven't got to December yet, but already October has been only the third wettest month of 2024 - after February and March - which might suggest it was drier than normal. It wasn't. February and March were both exceptionally wet months this year, and in October I recorded 210mm (about 8 ¼") of rain at Shellwood Hill, which was well above the month's 171mm average. But we have had wetter Octobers, which is something I suppose. The season's first named storm - Storm Ashley - blew through with winds up to 80mph reported, but it affected the North much more than the South. Over in the Gulf of Mexico, a Category 5 hurricane - Hurricane Milton - devastated parts of Florida. It was the second most-intense hurricane ever recorded in that part of the world, and the strongest tropical cyclone anywhere in 2024, with winds up to 180mph - which is very hard to imagine.

Rainfall in October 2024



October rainfalls and trend



All services start at 11 a.m. unless otherwise stated.

Sunday December 1st - Revd. D Youngs

Sunday December 8th - M Cade

Sunday December 15th - K Angilley

Sunday December 22nd - M Cade

Sunday December 29th - V Phillips

Christmas Eve at 6 p.m. Carol Service

Sunday 5th January- Revd D Youngs

Sunday 12th January- M Cade

Sunday 19th January- M Cade

Sunday 26th January- N Norris

Sunday 26th January from 4.30- 6 p.m.
Stories, craft activities, songs, food and fun at
St Peter's Church, Ugborough,
All Ages welcome.
Children to be accompanied by an adult



Services at St Peter's Church, Ugborough

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

We have a variety of services, traditional and informal, so please check below to see what is available.

| Date | Service |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Sunday December 1 st | All Age worship with craft activities for children |
| Sunday December 8 th | Holy Communion |
| Saturday December 14 th | Carol Service at 4.30 p.m. |
| Sunday December 15 th | Morning Praise(an informal service led by Local Worship Leaders) |
| Sunday December 22 nd | Holy Communion |
| Tuesday December 24 th | Crib and Christingle service at 4.30 p.m. |
| Wednesday December 25 th | Christmas Day All Age Communion with children's activities |
| Sunday December 29 th | Mission Community service at Diptford at 11 a.m. No service at Ugborough church |
| Sunday January 5 th | All age worship with craft activities for children |
| Sunday January 12 th | Holy Communion |
| Sunday January 19 th | Morning Praise |
| Sunday January 26 th | Holy Communion Messy Church 4.30-6 p.m. |

Hand gel is available and please respect others' space.

The Three Rivers Mission Community covers the parishes of Diptford with North Huish, 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.

North Huish Community Group

Invite you to

Carols by Candlelight

At North Huish Church on Sunday 8th December at 4 p.m.

Music includes Ugborough Folk Orchestra and North Huish Handbells, carols for everyone and North Huish choir.

Christmas readings and mulled wine and mince pies!

Retiring collection for the Churches Conservation Trust.

Bring a torch!

Village services.

The Post Office continues its service at Ugborough Church on Thursday mornings and coffee and cake will be available from 10 – 11.45 a.m. Do pop in for a chat. Look out for notices in the church porch and in The Bugle for news of the Post Office service.

Contributions

Another year completed and many thanks to everyone who has contributed to this Newsletter and to all the other editions in 2024. Also thanks to our printers Colourbridge in Ivybridge for printing them so efficiently.

Special thanks to the team – Anne and Tom Holway for organising the delivery to the distributors, and the distributors for making sure that your copy is delivered to you. Contributions should be sent by e mail to Mrs. Norma Roe, The Editor, Ugborough Parish Newsletter at normaroe9@gmail.com (Please note new e mail address-thanks.)

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.



Merry
Christmas

and
Happy

New Year

