



Ugborough Parish Newsletter

March 2021

What's on

Wednesday 3 rd March	Ugborough Parish Council meets at 7.30 p.m. via zoom	Page 8
Sunday 7 th March	Three Rivers Mission Community Messy Church at 4.30 p.m. via zoom	Page 3
Sunday 21 st March	Census Day	Page 8

Information about services at Bittaford Methodist Church and at St. Peter's Church, Ugborough are on pages 6 and 10.

Cocktail and Canape evening -Sue Johns

A HUGE thanks to the Hughes Family - and Hannah Gillard for organising and executing the Cocktail and Canape Zoom Evening. Some 83 people gathered online, some in best bib and tucker, to enjoy a fun evening of nibbles, challenges and optional potent liquid refreshment. Each person received a bag of canape ingredients to assemble as per demonstrations to accompany the drinks; plus a welcome touch of spring daffodils to enhance the table. It was all so well thought through, from the decorated bags to the near impossible origami and dodgy lighting of the orange oil!

A welcome respite to a dull February evening in the middle of Lockdown... there WILL be a time when we can enjoy such entertainment in the flesh!

As a huge bonus £566 was raised for St Peter's Church Funds - this is so very much appreciated in these times when income has hit rock bottom.

Thank you!

(I would like to totally agree with all that Sue has said. It was an amazing evening, brilliantly organised and great fun. Ed.)

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.
admin@ugboroughandbittafordpre-school.org.uk
Contact 07763215455

So, with the new spring term in full swing, the children have settled back into preschool routine. They have been enjoying an array of cooking, playing outdoors, role play with Emma and motor skills. The children can see the signs of spring slowly developing behind the frost and snow over the last few weeks and have thoroughly engaged in conversations regarding the topic.

The staff dusted off the inside climbing frame and slide this month and it has definitely been a hit with the children, who have enjoyed balancing, climbing and swinging from the apparatus.

During the month, the children have also been learning about themselves and their senses; learning to be aware of the environment around them. They really enjoyed the discussion, telling us what they could see, smell, hear, taste and feel.

During the colder weeks we dressed up warm and went outdoors, ready to explore the snow and ice. The children also made their own ice with frozen animals and polar bears in the ice tray. After a fun filled time outdoors the children enjoyed eating the leek and potato soup they made to warm them up, followed by gingerbread men to coincide with the excitement of 'The Gingerbread Man' role play with Emma! Cooking really helps with fine motor skills, hand eye coordination, and cutting skills.

The Preschool is 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.

Hopefully all our children enjoyed a restful and enjoyable half term break.

We will have at least two more weeks of school closure after half term, but anticipate that 8th March will see the beginning of a return to school for all. In the meantime, stay safe and well and we will look forward to seeing you soon, whether in person or virtually.

Ceremonial flying of the Flag.

March 8th *Commonwealth Day*

March 10th *Birthday of the Earl of Wessex*



We look forward to welcoming you to the online service on Sunday 7th March at 4.30 p.m.

For log in details and further information, contact the Rector,

Rev'd David Sayle at 01548 821199

email parish_sayle@me.com.

Beryl's Bookworms – Jane Johns

Our book for February was *Olive, Again* by Elizabeth Strout. We first met Olive in *Olive Kitteridge*, and some of us found this second book much more readable and more endearing than the first one.



Like the previous title, this one is a collection of stories, which all have a connection to the main character, although each one covers different topics. Olive is fairly newly widowed and gradually gets to know a gentleman friend who has been introduced at the end of the last book. We dip into her own story over 16 or so years, as well as meeting new characters who all have stories with “issues”, which made it an interesting book for discussion amongst our Group.

Olive herself is a gruff straight-talking, no-nonsense lady, a bit of a battle-axe, and this second book peels back the layers of her complex character, allowing us to see a kinder and more empathetic person, who has learned from the mistakes she realises that she has made through her life.

It could be seen as a bit depressing, and several characters have regrets of lives not lived to their fullest or happiest. It is a book well-written, with believable characters, richly drawn, whose peculiarities and foibles are exposed to the reader sympathetically, and at times with gentle humour.

Overall we gave it an average score of just over 4 out of 5 with a total of nine people reading it. A good read, and it made us think – always a good thing! We would, almost all, highly recommend it.

(Interestingly, when we read Olive Kitteridge in 2016, this book also scored just over 4, so a popular author!)

Our book next month is *The Beekeeper of Aleppo* by Christy Lefteri.



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

Jackie Andrade and Owen Davies

Our focus during lockdown has been on increasing wildlife and biodiversity. We are pleased to report that Ugborough parish council supported our proposals to plant wildflowers along the planting

strip in Donkey Lane play park and in the rough grassed area of the burial ground. They suggested alternative locations at the entrance verge to Seldons Close, the grassy bank adjacent to Park Cottages and at Ware junction and we are waiting for permission from LiveWest for this. Moorhaven village has been discussing more environmentally sensitive management of the grounds, for example leaving unmown patches under trees, and the trustees of Moorhaven Cemetery have approved a two-year trial of managing the cemetery as a wildflower meadow.

As we move ahead with these initiatives, we are going to want to know which aspects we should prioritise and how, over time, our activities are having an impact. Recording Ugborough's flora and fauna would help build a picture of how we are making a difference over time.

With only limited resources, this might at first sight seem a serious challenge, but help is at hand. There are a number of national surveys that rely on 'citizen scientists' to provide data and maintain websites which may enable us to establish local baselines and trends. The Big Butterfly Hunt website, for instance, allows you to draw an area of interest on a map and identify all the results reported in the last count.

If there is anyone who has the knowledge, aptitude and interest to help establish an 'Ugborough Parish Flora and Fauna Information Folder', could they please contact Owen Davies owendavies54@yahoo.co.uk or G-Up greenerugp@gmail.com ?

A reminder of G-Up recycling initiatives: there will be a crisp packet amnesty collection day at Hillhead Farm when circumstances allow. Please save your packets at home until then. The easiest way to keep them neat is to make a stack of 10 packets, fold it in half and stuff it in another pack. Repeat with 10 more packets to make a 'brick' containing 20 packets. Collecting crisp packets has a really positive impact, as it saves waste from the incinerator and earns money for green initiatives in Ugborough Primary School.

There are collection points for dental product recycling at front gate, Virginia Lodge, Park Cottages, Ugborough and front garden, 7 Bittaford Terrace, Bittaford. You can drop off

electric toothbrush heads and covers, electric flosser nozzles, flossing sticks and inter-dental brushes, and dental floss containers. Nothing else please!

Stamps, which are being collected for the RNIB, can go through the letterbox of Willow Cottage, 12 Lutterburn Street. Many thanks to the volunteers who are hosting these boxes. Please use them and make it worth their while.

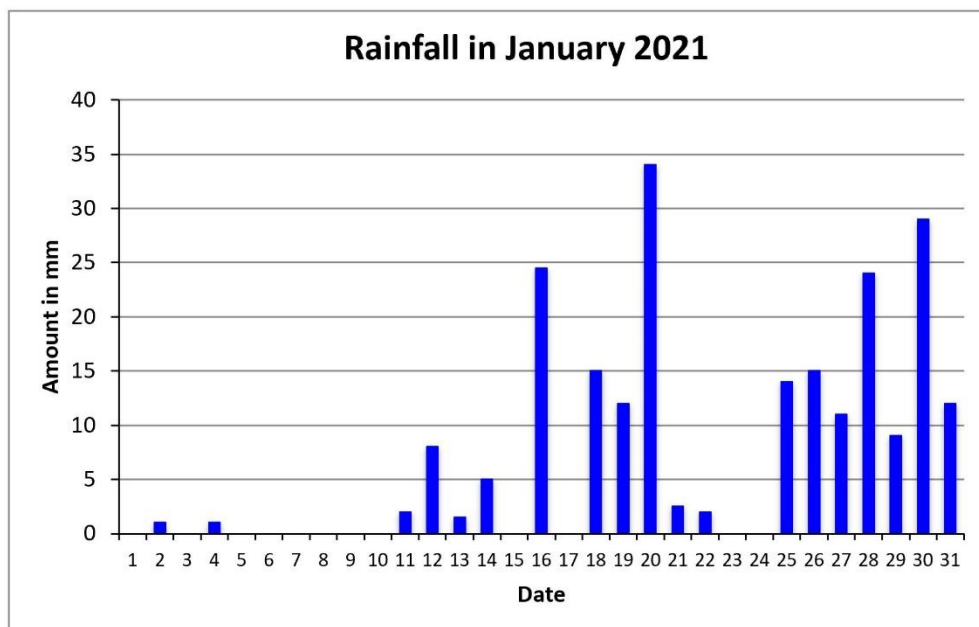
We have trees coming from the Woodland Trust in April. If you have space for tree planting or suggestions of community areas that would benefit from more trees, please let us know.

If you are interested in learning more about G-Up, please sign up for our newsletter here: <https://www.ugborough.com/g-up>

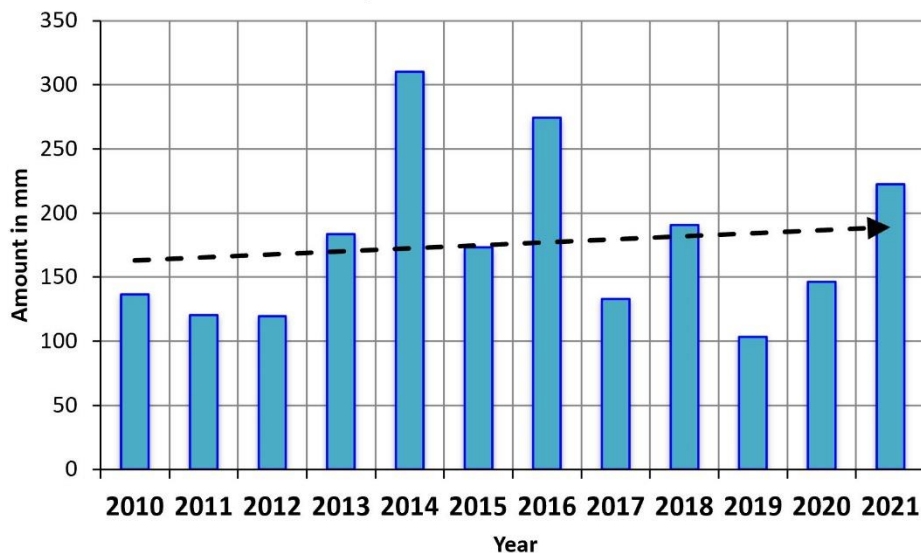
Rainfall at Shellwood Hill *George Arnison*

After a very wet end to 2020, January started dry and cold (which was a nice change)...but then ended warm and wet, and overall I recorded 225.5mm (just under 9") of rain at Shellwood Hill which was significantly above my – now 12 year – average for January of 176mm. I can confidently say it was the wettest month of the year so far !

'Storm Christoph' blew through the country on 20/21st of January bringing gales, snow and flooding across Wales, Scotland and the north of England, but thankfully largely spared us.



January rainfalls and Trend



Bittaford Methodist Chapel Chris Phillips 07899934743

Sadly, we are closed for the time being but will seek to re-open as soon as we can.

Until then we are joining Ivybridge Methodist Church Zoom service, all welcome.

For joining details please email revmark@live.co.uk

We do have a WhatsApp prayer group and a support group for those who live alone where we all keep in contact; anyone interested can give me, (Chris Phillips,) a call.

'God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.' Psalm 46:1

Rupert Colley- Eleven Days in June

I have been contacted by the above author in connection with his new book- Eleven Days in June.

My name is Rupert Colley. I've written a novel set in a fictional village based on the village of **Ugborough**, where, back in the '70s, I went to primary school in the days Mr Hipwell was head, and I sang in the church choir when Rev Rickard was the vicar.

If you would like more information about this book, he can be contacted through his website <https://rupertcolley.com/>

Ugborough Parish Council

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

Website: <https://ugboroughparishcouncil.org>

The proposed development of 30 new dwellings for affordable and social rent, a community hub, communal areas & playgrounds building at Springfield, Filham [4254/20/FUL](#) started the February Parish Council Meeting, when letters of support from the public were read out, as the ‘.. proposal will provide affordable housing whilst taking into account the environment.’ The Parish Council also supported the application in principle, but would strongly prefer two storey (rather than three storey) buildings.

County Cllr Hosking reported on incidents of Covid in Devon and reinforced the message: Hands, face & even more space.

The proposed DCC Budget this year is £578.5 million, an increase of 6.6%, which would require the maximum permitted increase of 4.99% in our Council Tax precept. The Budget will be confirmed by the Full Council by the time this Newsletter comes out.

The Choose and Collect lifeline library service in Ivybridge had restarted, which aims to ‘Bring ideas, imagination, information and knowledge to people’s lives and communities’. Go to bit.ly/Jan21-Lockdown-Update, or email ivybridge.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk

Both Cllr Hosking and Cllr Holway have offered to be contact points for queries in relation to Covid support and grants.

Employment opportunities were highlighted by your District Councillors, for the census & election: <https://www.southhams.gov.uk/elections-recruitment> and <https://www.censusjobs.co.uk/>

Dartmoor National Park have a number of initiatives, as described in a report submitted by DNP Member C Pannell – for more details, go to <https://www.dartmoor.gov.uk/>

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

- [4150/20/HHO](#) Householder application for single storey rear extension at Willow Cottage 12 Lutterburn Street, Ugborough **Support**
- [0007/21](#) Alteration and rear extension at 6 Sunnydale, Bittaford **Support**
- [3896/20/PAU](#) Application to determine if prior approval is required for proposed change of use of agricultural buildings to B8 storage use at East Cannamore, Avonwick **No comments to make**
- [0018/21](#) Replacement roof to existing conservatory at I Moor Park, Moorhaven **Support**
- [4081/20/FUL](#) Installation of new 11kv substation to serve residential development at Land at SX 6483 5632, off Rutt Lane, Ivybridge **Neutral**

G-UP had submitted its proposals for wildflower planting in the Parish, which received Council support. In addition to the planting strip in Donkey Lane play park, the Parish Council agreed that the rough grassed area of the burial ground could be replanted with wildflowers.

Bittaford Play park is one step closer to having a face lift. Substandard play equipment will be removed and replaced with new swings and a castle! The total cost of the scheme is

£14344, with grants of £2000 from Cllr Hosking's DCC Locality Fund, £500 from Cllr Abbott & Pringle's SHDC Locality Funding and £3000 S106 funding. The Parish Council will make up the shortfall of £9000.

Your Cllr Clive Hart has spearheaded the renovation of both the Bittaford and Ugborough play parks, and received the Parish Council's thanks.

Lucerne Fields lies in the far west of our Parish and, following a suggestion from Cllr Abbott, the Parish Council will be providing a bench in the new playpark, on a base kindly provided by the builders. Funding has been provided by SHDC Cllrs Abbot & Pringle, and your Cllrs Johns & Fairclough-Kay will be setting up the bench. Thank you to everyone involved.

Snow Warden Whilst thanks are being spread around, I should also mention Cllr Edd Johns who, as Snow Warden, was brilliant in spreading grit around during the last cold snap. Thank you, Edd.

The Bittaford Active Travel Route proposals received further consideration after additional information from PL:21 Transition Initiative. Councillors supported the principle of a traffic free route from Ivybridge to South Brent via Bittaford. However, incorporating the footpath through Bittaford playpark into that route would not be feasible nor acceptable.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held remotely on Wednesday 3rd March starting at 7.30 p.m. Agenda and minutes will be displayed on the website and noticeboards.

Privacy policy – visit ugboroughparishcouncil.gov.uk

Census Day- Sunday 21st March 2021

The census is a survey that happens every 10 years and gives us a picture of all the people and households in England and Wales. The census is unique. There's simply nothing else that gives so much detail about us and the society we live in.

All kinds of organisations, from local authorities to charities, use the information to help provide the services we all need, including transport, education and healthcare. Without the census, it would be much more difficult to do this.

Invitation packs will be sent by post. All households should complete the census on Sunday 21st March 2021 or as soon as possible after. You can complete your questionnaire before 21st March. If your household circumstances change on Census Day, you can let us know. You must complete the census questionnaire by law, or you could be fined up to £1,000.

You can fill in your census questionnaire online and get help to do this at our Census Support Centres. There will be questions about your household, and some about each person living there. If you're aged 16 years or over, you can answer these privately. You can request a paper version and there will be support in different languages and accessible formats. Your answers are protected by law and will be kept confidential.

More information is available at www.census.gov.uk

Election of Police and Crime Commissioner. *(From information received from one of the candidates)*

On 6th of May this year people will have the opportunity to vote for their choice of Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. This is an important post as it is the role for the provision of our policing.

The Police and Social Responsibility Act 2012 (all 116 pages of it) abolished the then Police Authorities and replaced them with a single Commissioner. Unlike Police Commissioners in the USA the holder of the post does not have any Policing powers and there are safeguards in the Act to ensure the operational independence of the Chief Constable in all matters in relation to the deployment of his or her resources and officers.

The Commissioner together with the Chief Constable has to draw up a Police and Crime Plan which reflects the Policing concerns of the public and on which the Chief Constable can be held to account. The Commissioner has to set the budget and determine the council tax precept. He or she has to appoint the Chief Constable and when necessary dismiss that person and also publish an annual report.

The Office of the Commissioner and those specific tasks are overseen by a Police and Crime Panel made up of local councillors. They have to approve the budget, the Police and Crime Plan and the appointment of a Chief Constable.

The Commissioner has to administer a separate fund designed for supporting victim support in all its form together with safeguarding and some re-hab programmes. This requirement to do is laid out in the Police and Crime Commissioner Code of Conduct

The successful candidate will have to swear an oath of impartiality in the discharge of his or her stewardship of the role. The vote itself on the day is based on the AV model (alternative vote) where a 2nd choice can be made.

To summarise the Police and Crime Commissioner is your representative regarding policing in your area and has a duty to ensure effective policing.

It may be prudent to apply to your local authority for a postal vote if you have concerns about polling in person.

St. Peter's Church, Ugborough

Our church building is temporarily closed for services.

We will re-open it as soon as we feel it is wise to do so.

In the meantime, prayer, worship, and support are continuing online and over the phone for the whole of the Mission Community.

Services are held every Sunday at 11 a.m. online and via telephone.

The online service on the first Sunday of each month is Holy Communion.

Please email the Rector, David Sayle, at parish_sayle@me.com or telephone 01548 821199 for the log in details.

In addition, there are online Bible Study and Prayer meetings. Contact the Rector for details.

We invite you to connect with us in the following ways:

Website - www.3rivers.org.uk

Email - parish_sayle@me.com

Telephone Number – 01548 821199 (Rev'd David Sayle)

Ermington church is open for private prayer on Wednesdays from 12 noon to 1 p.m. and on Sundays from 2-3 p.m.

Need to talk?

It doesn't matter if you normally attend church or not, we are here for you. Please do not hesitate to get in touch whether it's just for a chat or something more serious.

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.

New Recycling scheme to be rolled out from Monday 8th March.

Many local residents are already great recyclers, and South Hams currently recycles more than the English average. Now, the Council has made a commitment to do everything it can to help residents recycle even more.

In 2019 the Council declared a Climate Change and Biodiversity Emergency, showing its commitment to the Devon-wide plan of being zero carbon by 2030.

Under the new service residents will have a weekly recycling collection and, for the first time ever, will be able to put glass and plastic pots, tubs and trays out for recycling. Also household batteries and printer cartridges. Food waste will also be collected weekly in a new container. In addition to this, the single-use clear and blue sacks will be a thing of the past, and all households will receive new containers for recycling.

Grey bin collections for non-recyclable items will continue to be collected every other week, but with more opportunities to recycle, South Hams expects to see less waste being incinerated and more being turned into new products.

Residents will also be pleased to hear that the garden waste service will continue to be provided free of charge with the brown bins being emptied fortnightly.

The change of service will happen gradually over a couple of months and all households will be informed individually. You need to look out for an information leaflet which will be sent to your home in the post. *(You may have already received this.)* Then look out for your new containers which will be delivered the week before your new service starts.

You can start filling up your containers as soon as you receive them and put them out on your usual day the following week.

Village services.

At the time of publication, the Devon Mobile Library service is suspended, and all existing loans are extended at least until the week beginning 29th March. No doubt our librarian, Heidi will keep us up to date as more information is available. There are no charges for late returns.

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

Information request- James Vance Lee died 1967.

I have received this request from his granddaughter, Josie. Is any reader able to help? If so, please contact the Editor who will forward any information received.

I hope you don't mind me contacting you, but I have been trying to find out where my grandfather would have been buried and so far, I cannot find any record.

His details are;

James Lee also known as James Vance Lee. He was born in Ireland and in 1949 was married to Margaret Ann Lee and they lived at High House, Bittaford, Ugborough. James was a retired Naval man/motor mechanic.

Margaret Ann Lee (step grandmother) died in 1977 but by that time had moved away from Bittaford.

Is it possible there is anyone connected with your parish newspaper that may know where James is likely to have been buried, or at that time which funeral directors may have been used? A now elderly relative who attended the funeral as a 17 yr old can only recall the service took place on a hill near a high hedge or trees.

All online records and phone calls to various local and regional offices have so far failed to yield any information. I wondered if there may be a local family history group that would hold B/M/D and burial information.

(I have made attempts at obtaining this information, but failed. Ed)

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 and to those safely distributing them.

I am very much looking forward to when we can go back to our usual paper format, (who would have thought it would be so long?) 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>

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.