



UGBOROUGH PARISH NEWSLETTER



December 2012

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



What's on

Sunday 2 nd December	Ugborough Parish Walking Group meets in Ugborough Square at 10.45 a.m.	Page 6
Thursday 6 th December	Talk by Prof. John Bryant at Diptford Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.	Page 11
Wednesday 12 th December	Ugborough Parish Council meets at Ugborough Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.	Page 13
Thursday 13 th December	Ugborough School Christmas Nativity (KS1) at St. Peter's Church	Page 6
Friday 14 th December	Preschool Christmas sing-a-long at Ugborough Village Hall at 11.30a.m.	Page 4
Saturday 15 th December	Seniors' Lunch at Ugborough Church from 4p.m.-7p.m.	Page 8
Wednesday 19 th December	Ugborough School Carol Concert at St. Peter's Church	Page 6
Thursday 20 th December	Last day of term at Preschool and Ugborough Primary school	Pages 4 and 6
Monday 24 th December	Santa's visit and RDA raffle at Horse and Groom, Bittaford	Pages 3 and 6
Wednesday 26 th December	Village walk, meet in Ugborough Village Square at 10.45 a.m.	Page 6

Details of services at Bittaford Methodist Church are on page 13

Details of services at St. Peter's Church, Ugborough are on page 15

There are many special services - please take a careful look and don't miss them!

In Memory of *Geoffrey Tope*:

Long term resident of Ugborough, and previously of The Anchor, *Geoff Tope* passed away on Monday November 12th, at Banbury Hospital, Northants.

There will be a Memorial Service for *Geoff* on Wednesday 28th November, at 2.00pm at St Peter's Church Ugborough. The family would like everyone to join them afterwards at The Ship Inn for Refreshments.

Coffee Drop-In Centre

10am-Noon every Thursday morning in Ugborough Church

Post office available 10am-12 noon

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

Everyone welcome.

Help needed at the Coffee drop in Centre. We now need more volunteers for the rota. If you can't make a regular commitment, maybe you could help from time to time on a relief basis. Please come along and talk to us about it.



GETTING ON WITH IT!!!!

"What is a RAVE?" I asked my grandson.

He explained...Asked "Why?"

"Well I think I have been to one."

Saturday night in Ugborough.

Back of the church. 7.30p.m.

People from three to eightythree/

And I was one of them.

Feet tapping, hips swaying.

Lots of coloured smoke.

Listening to Americana,

Beatbox, Blue Grass, and Folk.

It was great,

I enjoyed it there.

But next time,

I will take a chair.

Lilly Brews. (Back by popular demand!)



Many thanks to the very talented ' Hillhead' and support and the Friends of St Peter's for a wonderful evening which raised an amazing amount for Church funds.

Erme Valley RDA- Peggy Douglas

Firstly, many thanks to the generosity of all those who attended Jeremy and Ena Wells' Ruby Wedding Celebrations. We were delighted to receive £670, which will be put to very good use. Friends of Erme Valley are currently organising a Christmas Raffle. Cash prizes to be won, and tickets available from The Horse and Groom and The Brook. This Raffle will be drawn on 24th December at The Horse and Groom.

We have our fingers crossed that we are going to be successful with our Grants from Santander and The Western Morning News £££s for People. As ever we are in need of Volunteers to help with sessions and around the Yard. A strong person would be particularly desirable!! Our New Year will commence week beginning 7th January. Thanks to all who have helped us this year - volunteers, fund raisers and friends. Merry Christmas to you all!

Ugborough Poppy Appeal - Francis Douglas

This year the British Legion Poppy Appeal collecting boxes raised £461.60. Thank you for your contributions. The premises where the poppy boxes were placed have been individually thanked for the amount raised by them.

Gentlemen's Breakfast Howard Webster (with additions from Richard Barker)

Grateful thanks are due to Barbara and Richard Barker who hosted this event at Fowlescombe on 10th November. 28 gentlemen gathered to enjoy good fellowship, loads of chat and a delicious breakfast served by Barbara together with Pam, Helen and Philomena who all did a sterling job.

Afterwards, some of us joined Richard for a short but most interesting visit to some of his rare breed cattle including the new Irish Moiled bull.

Thanks also to Harry and John Ough for the weather, which was glorious. Lots of the farmers there asked for help for next year's harvest!! We raised £90 for the Friends of St. Peter's church fund. We also raised much the same for the Plymouth and District Leukaemia Fund- a charity which is working with the NHS to create a new Hi-Tech ward to provide a life saving facility in Derriford for the region. This will save patients having to travel hundreds of miles for treatment. (see www.pdlf.org.uk/ for more information.)



The ladies can look forward to a Ladies' Valentine Breakfast - planned for Saturday 9th Feb 2013. (More details to follow.) Come along and *set the world to rights* or just have a good chat. And Gentlemen - we will need four good cooks - the ladies would like Eggs Benedict and champagne!!

Ugborough Village Hall- Stafford Williams

There was no meeting of the committee in November, but they have applied for grants and support to help purchase a new, larger oven for the kitchen. Once fitted, this will offer improved catering opportunities and should increase the options for types of events held in the Hall.

UGBOROUGH POST OFFICE AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH

Remember that the Post Office opening hours are now:-

Tuesdays from 1.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.

Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. (Coffee and cake available at this time!)

Ugborough and Bittaford Pre-school- Naomi Williams

November has sped past very quickly. The children created firework pictures from their own experiences, using splatter painting with old tea bags; they baked some tasty "Cheese and Tomato Catherine Wheels" and enjoyed a visit to the National Marine Aquarium in Plymouth, while the village hall was used for the elections. At pre-school we also enjoyed making Diva lamps from clay in recognition of Diwali "Festival of Lights". As a fundraising event both "Children in Need" and the pre-school, one of the parents kindly organised a raffle of three lovely cuddly toys, and the children were encouraged to wear anything spotty to pre-school on that day. Now Christmas is fast approaching, glitter, glue, tinsel and all things sparkly feature regularly in the sessions. We are also busy preparing for our "Christmas sing-a-long" which will be held in the village hall on Friday 14th December at 11.30, everyone welcome. **Last day of term is Thursday 20th December and we return on Monday 7th January 2013.**

All the staff and committee members would like to wish you all a very merry Christmas and joyful New Year filled with lots of fun and happiness.

Our rural pre-school, which was officially judged by OFSTED as "Outstanding" in March 2011, welcomes children from all over the area from 2 years old to school age and we offer 15hrs of funded childcare for 3 and 4 year olds. Offering two free taster sessions enables you and your child the time to settle in to a new environment and meet the highly qualified and experienced staff members who will provide a fun, caring and happy experience for each individual. Our opening hours are Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 9am to 3pm and Tuesday and Friday 9am to 12.45pm, term time only, for further information please contact either Tania or Naomi on 07763 215455. Likewise, the Toddler Group meets on Monday between 10am and 11.30am phone Sara on 07739 826422 for Toddler Group enquiries.

A note from Taff- Gareth.M.Jones@babcockinternational.com

Dear All, Christmas is upon us and a lot of us will be wondering what to buy as presents for our loved ones. Giving is one of life's small pleasures and for many years as a community we have sent food stuffs and toiletries to the Shekinah Mission in Plymouth. We do this throughout the year and there are a couple of boxes kept at the back of church next to the main door.

So please, as you look at the Tesco BOGOF bargains for Christmas, the three tablets of soap for 47p or the tube of toothpaste for 26p, remember those that live on our doorstep and are much less fortunate than ourselves and buy something extra to put in the Shekinah Mission boxes.

Ugborough Youth Group Corner.....Judith Rundle-Jones (Chair)

Shoebox Appeal -

A Very Big **Thank You** to those who contributed Shoeboxes and who also helped fill and cover them on Saturday 10th November. Although we were small in number we were big in effort and as a result our final total will be around 40 Gift boxes that will put smiles on many children's faces this Christmas as they wing their way to Belarus.

Emergency First Aid Course -

This took place over two evenings last month with our entire Youth Group plus 4 adults achieving a Level 2 Award in Emergency First Aid skills. Our thanks go to Gordon Davey (Ex Police Officer) SouthWest Training Solutions.

December Dates for Your Diary Youth Group Members

Friday 7th December - Chill out/ Relax, Games/ShakeAway Evening, Youth Group Session Village Hall 7-9pm

Saturday 15th December -Seniors Lunch 4 -7pm, Serving/Waitering and carol singing.

January 2013- Let's start the New year with a Camp Out at Dunwell Pitts?

Sno-tubing? Indoor Climbing at the Life Centre? **YOU CHOOSE!**

Further details from: Judith 07870 632 146 or Judith.rundle-jones@sky.com or Mandy mandbak@btinternet.com

Ivybridge & District Inter Parish Quiz - Tom Holway

Ugborough will be entertaining Yealmpton in the Village Hall for the first round of the Inter Parish Quiz in January. If you would like to be in the Squad, please call Tom on 893114. Supporters will be welcome, see the next Newsletter for date & time.

Christmas festivities at The Horse and Groom, Bittaford

Wednesday 19th December from 8pm: Plymouth Morris men and Mummers

Sunday 23rd December from 7pm: Christmas Quiz followed by Christmas draw.

Monday 24th Christmas Eve: Santa's visit from 4pm in aid of Riding for the Disabled followed by the RDA Christmas Raffle at 6.30pm

New Years Eve Fancy Dress Party with Live Band "Off the Cuff"

Merry Christmas to you all!!!

The Beacon Federation Executive Headteacher - Mrs. Jane Byrne

Ugborough Primary School.

There will be lots going on in the build up to Christmas, including the Christmas Nativity play which will be performed by Foundation and Year 1 classes on Thursday 13th December and our annual Carol Concert on Wednesday 19th December.

Both these events will be at St. Peter's church. Please watch out for details in the Friday Flyer.

The last day of term is Thursday 20th December and our children return to school on Tuesday 8th January.

Ugborough Parish Walking Group- Merryl Docker

There will be **TWO** walks for you to enjoy this month!

Our regular monthly walk will take place on **Sunday 2nd December**,
~ **meet in Ugborough Square** for a wintery wander around the Parish.

Come and join us on **Boxing Day for our Christmas binge busting get together in the fresh air!** Meet as always in Ugborough Square at



10.45am

10.45am. Invite your friends and relatives *-(or leave them behind if you want a bit of space!!!!)* -furry friends welcome too. We want to see your new hats, scarves, jumpers, collars and leads so come and show them off. New wellies or walking boots would be a good idea on your Christmas List too. This will not be an arduous walk ~ a friendly get together post Christmas stuffing. We look forward to seeing you. Tom Holway (01752 893114) and Merryl Docker (01752 893651)

Please note there will be no walk on the first Sunday in January - it is an official 'Lie-in' day! Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and bright New Year.

Councillor Lindsay Ward has written to wish you a Merry Christmas and to say that on 10th December there is cheap parking in Modbury. Also to look out in future newsletters for news of a Dementia Friendly Project.



Your Stars Tonight. Breathlessly I turn the page "... and then Jupiter, burning for desire for Europa, the beautiful Phoenician princess, assumed the form of a snow white bull and mingled with her cattle". *Introducing Astronomy* was my first book on astronomy and since it was written in the 1950's it does have a charming Mills and Boon literary style when describing the violent and steamy Greek myths behind the names of the constellations. The one about the mythology of the constellation Taurus is *decidedly* steamy and continues "... Europa stroked and patted the animal and finally mounted its back. The bull immediately carried her of across the sea to Crete where Jupiter reappeared in his divine form before her astonished eyes."

I am about to digress into thoughts on the job opportunities for Freudian psychoanalysts in Ancient Greece when I realise that the scene is being re-enacted every evening in the night sky above Ugborough - for this month there is an unusual conjunction of the planet Jupiter and the constellation Taurus.

I squelch down the garden and what an awesome sight is revealed above the Southern horizon. The V of stars making the head of Taurus the Bull is easily identifiable because Jupiter - the mightiest of planets and the Greek Gods - is blazing between the horns and is by far the brightest object in the December night sky..

The constellation Taurus is a feast of delights with binoculars. Slightly above it to the right are the Pleiades which to the naked eye looks like a miniature plough (you should just be able to see seven stars) but with binoculars is revealed as dozens of very young and hot blue white stars. The head of the Bull is made up of a loose cluster of stars called the Hyades with the bright orange star Aldebaran as the Bull's fiery eye. Viewed through binoculars the field of vision becomes a star spangled beauty. Both the Hyades and Pleiades are families of a few hundred stars held together by their local gravity.

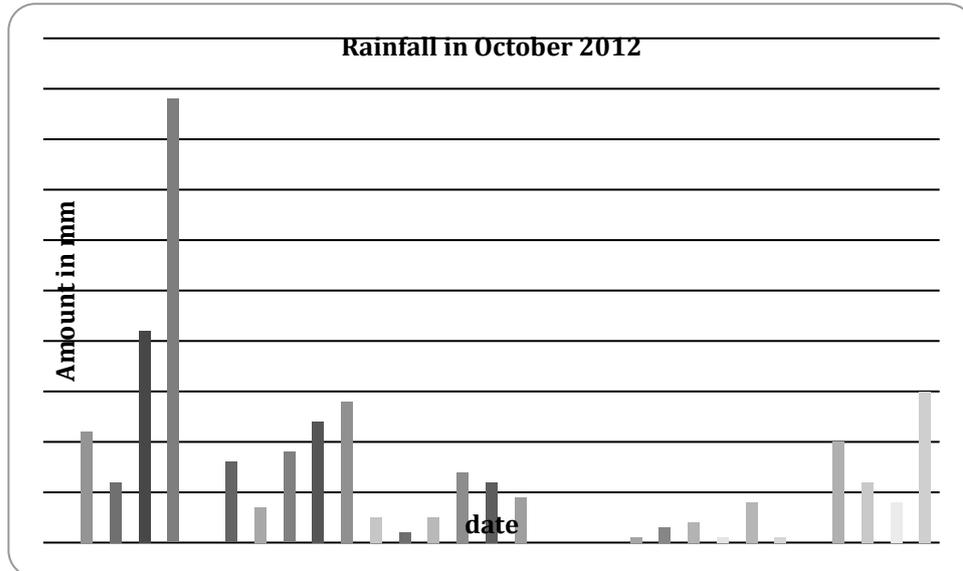
Now move to the left and Jupiter will be like a beacon with four tiny dots of light from its moons trapped in their eternal clockwork circuits of their giant parent planet.

And who is confidently striding over the southern horizon every dusk? It's my old friend, Orion the Hunter. His left shoulder is marked by Betelgeuse - hitchhiking star of TV and Radio - but also remarkable for its red colour and enormous diameter - nearly 27million times the size of our own sun .

The Greeks, Europa, a raging bull and Jupiter himself - what portents for the future are these I wonder? Maybe a bargain Christmas break at the Acropolis, hosted by rioting Athenians, revolting bankers and the whiff of tear gas in the air.

Rainfall at West Cannamore, Ugborough, 510 ft. above sea level

Thanks to Len Wakeham for this valuable record.



Total rainfall for October 2012= 196mm=7.71 ins.



SENIORS CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Saturday 15th December 2012, Ugborough Church 4pm - 7pm



After the roaring success of last year's lunch, Philomena and her Team would be delighted to invite you all this year to take part and join the Christmas lunch celebration. There is a small charge this year of £5 per person.

This is a great opportunity for everyone to share food, friendship and Christmas Carols and to be waited on by the Youth of the Village!!!!

All those interested please contact either Philomena on 892086 or Judith on 895846.

Transport available if required.

Ugborough goes on Safari!

A date for your diaries- This winter's Safari Supper will be held on

Saturday February 2nd

Application forms from John Pursey 01752 896278 ugboroughsafari@gmail.com

Beryl's Bookworms - Sue Johns

'Oxygen' by Andrew Miller



This book tracks the lives of three men for whom it seems time is running out. They appear to fight for breathing space as they attempt to resolve their inadequacies, and take responsibility. The story is poignantly linked with the demise of Alice, who is terminally ill. Although the author considered the book to contain dark humour - we all felt this was well hidden.

We all agreed the prose was eloquently written with well-drawn characters - even if some of us thoroughly disliked most of them. We agreed with Miller that the book concentrated on failure - and some felt this depressing, if not downright annoying, whilst others felt it was realistic and enlightening. The ending was inconclusive - or at least allowed conjecture - and consequently provoked much discussion, particularly from those who appreciate a beginning, middle and an end!

We all felt Alice's last days were brilliantly narrated - clinical yet emotional and very moving.

Our scores out of 5 ranged from 1 to 4 - with an average of 3.

Only one person threw the book across the room in disgust!

Next month we have our Christmas Party, at the home of Sue Webster.

SPORTS REPORT - Janner Motson

Festivals of Football

The Uggies emerge from their mid-season winter break this weekend hoping to build on some solid foundations. The U12s are clear of their Halloween nightmare, more stable and looking for goals. The U10s of Dunwell celebrated Diwali by seeing the light and collected their first win 2 weeks ago. Hillhead U10s continue to light our bonfire and always enjoy the Fireworks, whilst the U8s want to cease their Ramadan Fast by returning to action at Plymstock. The U14s look to Thanksgiving for their good form and a new kit presented by Palm Radio. The team won the new kit thanks to Coach Privett entering them in the Radio Station's competition.

With Christmas coming, Director of Football Mourinho McKenna, told Sports Report; "We hope that the teams will not feel overly generous and give the opposition too many presents. Whilst the U8 Elves are likely to deliver the goods, I am worried about the managers getting any decorations at all this term. With the transfer deadline looming I have been out scouting in my sleigh looking to replace the Turkeys." Let's hope that for all the souls in the club that McKenna will not be taking the Michaelmas and that this will be the Advent of a new year to Remembrance, or at least an Epiphany in January.

A Christmas Message from Gerald Arnold Lord of the Manor of Ugborough

The old Chinese proverb says "May you live in interesting times". These thoughts crossed my mind when I decided to sit down and write a Christmas Message for the Parish Magazine. Some years ago I attended a meeting of the Newton Abbot History Society where Michael Martyn, the Steward to Mr Keith Stokes-Smith, the Lord of the Manor of Newton Borough, was giving a talk. The theme for the evening was the day in the life of the people of Newton Abbot when the news of the arrival of the Prince of Orange was given. It was how their lives were changed, but on a local level, as it did so in very small ways. As I write this Message I feel something very similar is happening today. This time last year we lost two Prime Ministers within one week, those of Greece and Italy, and the events of the EU still hang over us all. This year we celebrated the Queen's Jubilee and the Olympics and now we have a war in the Middle East and other unpleasant matters on the home front. Although the turmoil has, and will affect us all, life in Ugborough still goes on. 2012 has been a good year for the village, with a wonderful Fair in July and the build up to that with "Ugborough's Got Talent". Even the weather was kind to us for a change. Latterly there were a number of excellent concerts in the Church and all the other events that occurred throughout the year; all with the untiring help of everyone involved. So much goes on into organising these "dos" by so many people all for the benefit of us all. Very little appreciation is expressed for all the hard work, but still they do it, and that is what makes the community spirit of Ugborough. For everyone who has done so much in organising so many wonderful events, my personal thanks to you all. The opening of the Church in conjunction with the Post Office on Tuesdays and Thursdays has helped bring the community together.

Just as the arrival of a new King of England all those years ago, the momentous events at home and abroad will have some effect upon us, but we in Ugborough will go on, no matter. With the joys of the celebration of Christmas and the lengthening of the days into the New Year, let us look forward to a good 2013.

Ugborough Local History Group- Merry! Docker

A very Happy Christmas to all our members and friends. Please note there will be no History Group meeting in December. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 30th January ~ 8.00pm Ugborough Village Hall. By way of a change this will be a film night "The Evacuation of Slapton" with archive footage and interviews. See you all again in the New Year.

UGBROUGH BREAKFAST CAFE *Ian MacClure*

The magnificent sum of £770 was raised at a Breakfast Café in the village hall on Sunday 28th October, in aid of Chernobyl's Children Lifeline. We are extremely grateful to the people of Ugborough who turned up in force to swell the numbers of friends and supporters, thanks to the wonderful publicity given to the event by Taff and the editor of the Newsletter.

The national charity was set up in 1992 in the wake of the explosion at the nuclear power station at Chernobyl in 1986, when vast tracts of land in Ukraine and Belarus were contaminated. The United Nations has described the disaster as 'the greatest environmental catastrophe in the history of humanity'.

Chernobyl Children's Lifeline, gives hope to the children who live in the still-contaminated area, bringing groups of them over to Britain for four-week stays in a clean, healthy and loving environment. Since 1992, some 45,000 children have been to the UK. Even now, twenty six years after the disaster, children are being born with thyroid problems, various form of cancer and weakened immune systems.

The children stay with host families (we are always looking for more!) and are given a wonderful time, visiting attractions in the area, such as Woodlands and the Totnes Rare Breeds Farm who give them free entry. They also visit the dentist and optician, who give their services free - many of them need fillings, extractions and glasses. The children return to their country after a month, looking much happier and healthier than when they arrived. Scientists have estimated that four weeks in a clean environment can add as much as two years to the children's life expectancy.

We are always looking for people to help us, either by donating money or clothes, acting as helpers while the children are with us or offering their premises for events such as fun days and barbecues.

It costs in the region of £600 to bring one child over from Belarus and the Ukraine. We are having a group of 10 children and so the Ugborough Breakfast has funded one child!

If you can help in any way, or would like to know more about the work of Chernobyl Children's Lifeline, please ring our chairman Sue Wyeth on 01548-821201 or visit our website www.ccll.org.uk/totnes.

(Thanks to Ian, Lydia and their team for a most enjoyable time. Please do it again!)

Three Rivers Mission Community.

Professor John Bryant of Exeter University will give an illustrated talk on 'Science and the Christian Faith' on Thursday 6th December at 7.30p.m. at Diptford Village Hall. Everyone very welcome.

Ugborough Parish Council Clerk: Sarah Woodman Tel: 01626 824568
email: ugboroughpc@yahoo.co.uk Website: www.ugboroughparishcouncil.gov.uk

The November Parish Council Meeting fell on the evening of the 14th and, with the deadline for the Newsletter being 15th (a very busy day for the Clerk), this month's article will be very brief indeed.

The Police Report identified 6 crimes over the last month, including damage to a motorcar, burglary of a caravan and empty farmhouse, and attempted burglary.

You are reminded to secure your property against opportunist thieves who may target homes during the darker winter months - nearly 1/3 of all burglars simply walk through an open door or climb through an open window, and each offence can cost the householder an average of £1000.

The new Police Surgery/Drop in at the Church, alongside the Post Office, will be held on:

- Tuesday 4 December 2.30-3.30pm
- Thursday 20 December 10.30-11.30am

Your Neighbourhood Officers Shaun Barker and Jacqui Hopper will be there to discuss crime prevention or any issues you may have.

Become a Parish Councillor! Following the retirement of Len Wakeham, a vacancy has arisen on the Parish Council. This is your opportunity to get involved in issues which affect you and your Parish, such as planning, highways, footpaths, the environment, recreation, the police, and Neighbourhood Planning. Parish Council Meetings are held once a month and training is available.

If you would like to become a Parish Councillor, or would like further details, please call Chairman George Beable 01752 892410, the Clerk Sarah Woodman 01364 642145 or email ugboroughpc@yahoo.co.uk

Planning Applications considered at the meeting, with Parish Council comments in bold type:

1. Alterations & extensions to existing workshop and office and construction of two new store buildings at Wakeham Hire, Cannamore, South Brent Ref 57/2326/12/F Wakeham Hire Ltd **Support**
2. Householder application for erection of summer house and works to garden at Firslea, 1 Brook Gardens, Ugborough Ref 57/2349/12/F Mr R Mears **Support**
3. Works to trees protected by TPO (cut back canopy to 2 beech trees) at 6 The Beeches, Moorhaven, Bittaford Ref 12/0044 **No objection**
4. Create new gateway access to field at Mammoth Trees, Wrangaton Ref 0537/12 Mrs S Nicholson **No objection**
5. Two bay extension to existing cattle barn at Ladydown, Ugborough Ref 57/2253/12/F Mr R Barker **Support**
6. Outline planning application for provision of dwelling (all matters reserved) at Development site at SX 6760 5575, Park Cottages, Ugborough Ref 57/2451/12/O Mr & Mrs F Douglas **No objection. A hipped roof would be preferred. Concern at loss of car parking to existing dwelling**
7. Works to trees at Vine Cottage, 21 Lutterburn Street, Ugborough Ref 57/2567/12/TCA **No objection**
8. Fell 1 oak & 2 walnut trees at Bittaford Wood Caravan Park Ref 12/0052 **Delegated to Tree Warden Cllr Johns**
9. Resubmission of 21/0690/12/F for installation of ground mounted solar array (total site area 4.37ha), estimated output of 1.9MW, and associated infrastructure at Luson Farm, Ermington SX623 529 Ref 21/2606/12/F Lightsource Renewable Energy Ltd **No objection, provided it satisfies a visual impact assessment**
10. Appeal Refusal of full planning permission, construction of a manege at Cantrell Stables, Bittaford **No objection. Site to be reinstated after use, within 21 years**

Christmas cheer is being promoted by the Parish Council. As in previous years, it has agreed to help fund Christmas displays in Ugborough and Bittaford, and Richard Prowse will kindly be providing the trees in both villages. Christmas greetings from all at the Parish Council!

The next Meeting will be at 7.30pm on Wednesday 12th December and you are welcome to attend. Agenda and minutes are displayed on the Council's noticeboards and website.

Neighbourhood Planning

The next stage of the Neighbourhood Planning process in Ugborough will be a questionnaire to be delivered with the Parish Newsletter, (thank you to the Newsletter distribution co-ordinator, Mrs. Holway and the team of distributors), asking key questions and seeking ideas for the possible production of a Neighbourhood Plan. The questionnaire will be developed from the responses received at the public consultation meetings in September. After delivery of the questionnaire we plan a public questions and answers session in the Village Hall to inform everyone about the Neighbourhood Planning process. We hope Greg Davies from the National Association of Local Councils /Council for the Protection of Rural England will be present to help us answer your questions. It was clear from the public consultations that many still see this as planning imposed from above rather than an opportunity for the community to influence future development of the village. It is planned to deliver the questionnaires in early January and collect completed responses around the middle of the month. Please watch for key dates in the January edition of the Parish Newsletter and follow progress on the website.

Bittaford Methodist Chapel Services- Jutta Berger 01752 698381

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

10.30 2nd December Revd. David Youngs Sacrament of Holy Communion

10.30 9th December Mrs. Keith Angilley

10.30 16th December Mrs. Gillian Mills

10.30 23rd December Mr. Nigel Harris

10.30 30th December Revd. Ralph Ward Sacrament of Holy Communion

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 10.00am 'til 12 noon including School Holidays!

Ermington Church

On Saturday 1st December at 7:30 p.m. there's a concert by the Cameo Singers. They came to us last year and gave us a splendid evening, so we're looking forward to their return visit.

On Saturday 8th December, from 10:00 a.m. to 2 p.m., the popular Sustainable Saturday will be holding its Christmas Fair in the church.

St. Peter's Church, Ugborough

Dear friends,

I am writing this December letter in the middle of November, and cannot believe Christmas is so near. Perhaps it is age - but time is rushing by!

This Christmas, Kathy and I can indulge ourselves as we think of our new Grandchild and his first Christmas with us. We have the joy of looking for the appropriate present. What a choice there is compared with when our children were babies. Then there is the problem of our house. What is dangerous for a crawling baby? Will he be crawling? He isn't yet. Then what about safety? We need a car seat to pick him up from Heathrow, a cot for him to sleep in, warm clothes for him to wear, as he comes from Nigerian temperatures of 90 + in old money! Will he come to the carols around the tree? Will his old Granddad frighten him by shouting out the next Carol? Will I be able to hold my tongue as his parents make the decisions, and what if I do not agree with them? How our comfy little world will be turned upside down! Will he be crying as his teeth drop through? What about the change in diet?

Then I think of the real meaning of Christmas, Jesus being born in a stable away from home. "No room" was the reply to requests for accommodation. Jesus was the Son of God, yet mankind says 'no room'. How did Mary and Joseph manage without internet shopping? Did they have to have a special safety seat on their donkey? I suppose Joseph the Carpenter could have made one with a kite safety mark on it. Then the problem of the cot was solved with a manger and a stable for the Maternity Unit. There was no mention in the Bible of a birthing pool. Perhaps they just used a cattle trough. They saved money on the electric BT baby listening device, as they were open plan and they had no TV or hi-fi to drown out his cries.

Jesus, born as one of us, and Christians believe that he can be born in each of us this Christmas, afresh into the 21st century, into our hearts. Yes, he will challenge and change us, turning our cosy little worlds upside down. He is God's own gift, wrapped up in human flesh. Is your heart ready to accept him anew this Christmas? Forget the rubbish of Christmas; leave it outside of your homes and hearts for the re-cycling bin. But make sure you have room in your hearts and minds for Jesus. I am sure my grandson will be happy with the paper the gifts come in, the smiles on our faces and the love in our hearts. May we in our churches have smiles on our faces and love in our hearts as we come together to worship Christ the new born King. May he come into our hearts and change, challenge and love us with such deep passion that our hearts melt with the joy of His presence.

God bless you all with his special gift of Jesus this Christmas.

Yours in His love and Joy,

John Ough Rector and Priest in Charge of the Three Rivers Mission Community



St Peter's Church Services in December

The	Date and time	Service
	Sunday 2 nd December (Advent) 9.30 a.m. 6.30p.m.	All Age Holy Communion Service of Light
	Sunday 9 th December 11 a.m.	Sung Eucharist
	Sunday 16 th December 9.30 a.m.	Family Communion
	Sunday 23 rd December 11 a.m. 6 p.m.	Said Holy Communion Carol Service
	Monday 24 th December 4 p.m. 11.30p.m.	Crib and Christingle Midnight Holy Communion
	Tuesday 25 th December 11 a.m.	Christmas All Age Communion
	Sunday 30 th December 9.30a.m.	Matins
	Tuesday 4 th December 9 a.m. All other Tuesdays	Celtic Communion Celtic Prayer
	Every Thursday 8.30a.m. 5.30 p.m.	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer

Three Rivers Mission Community covers the parishes of Diptford, Ermington, Halwell, Harberton, Harbertonford, Moreleigh, North Huish and Ugborough.

Rector

Rev'd John Ough, The New Rectory, Diptford TQ9 7NY
01548 821148 : john@diptfordough.freeseve.co.uk

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Reader

David Stafford, Whitsun Cottage, Fore St. Ugborough

Contributions

****I would like to give my sincere thanks to all the contributors, both regular and occasional, who make this newsletter so informative and entertaining. Thank you for keeping to the deadline so consistently and for all your hard work. I would also like to thank Sue Johns who takes charge of copying, and Anne Holway who organises the collating and distribution, and all those who so faithfully bring the Newsletter to your door.*

*I wish you all a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year. ****

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

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 and the **Ugborough Website** - <http://www.ugborough.com/>

If you have any stories, pictures, accounts of history, adverts you want to run or anything else to go on the web site for the whole parish please contact Richard Barker on 01548 821000 or email him at richard@fowlescombe.co.uk

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.

New Family in the Village !

A very Warm Welcome to the Slater Family ~ Tim and Liz with their children Eve and Edward, who have recently moved into Brannock House.



(We also welcome others who have recently moved to Ugborough and hope that you will soon feel at home.)