

NEWTON WONDER

The Magazine and Website for the Community of Newton St Cyres



Getting ready for Easter



50p

April 2020



'Order and collect '

QUICKE'S

EST. 1540

from the Quicke's Cheese Box



With many of you self-isolating or experiencing difficulties in purchasing even the most basic of foods, we have teamed up with local businesses to trial an 'order and collect' service. As well as Quicke's cheese you can also purchase other staples including bread, milk, eggs, beer, cider and wine.

Collection will be from Quicke's Cheese Box car park, in Newton St Cyres at an allocated time. To place an order call the Cheese Box on 01392 851000 (Monday-Friday, 10am-4pm) or email cheesebox@quickes.co.uk.

The Cheese Box is open, Monday-Friday (10am-4pm)

The Cheese Box will remain open for as long as we can, until either we are told otherwise, or we don't have enough healthy staff to remain open. However it is our responsibility to ensure the health and safety of both our customers and staff so we will be adhering to strict cleaning rules, asking each customer to use the hand sanitizer provided before entering the shop and operating a one in one out policy.

Whither Newton St Cyres?

Some time before I came to live in Newton St Cyres last year, I was the spokesman in Asia for the World Health Organisation. That was at the time of the SARS epidemic that killed more than 700 people worldwide and affected more than 8,000 others, the vast majority of them in Asia.

SARS, or Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, to give it its full name, showed explosive power, setting off multiple outbreaks in a host of countries, often zeroing in on hospitals, attacking doctors and nurses and bringing some public health services to their knees. It buckled some economies, crippled international trade and travel, and sent stock markets into a slide.

Sound familiar? Yes, of course, except that the current coronavirus pandemic has the potential to be many times more damaging than SARS ever was.

Even though I have retired from WHO, I am still being asked by journalists and others what I think of the potential risk from the coronavirus. The answer, as unpleasant as it is, is that I believe all our lives are going to change. How deep those changes will be, I have no idea, but I suspect we are going to have to learn for a few months to do without things we now take as perfectly normal – such as some public services, sports events, air and rail travel and large social gatherings. Living alone, often in a state of loneliness, will be common for some people.

What is happening now is vividly reminiscent of the early days of SARS. I remember how WHO had so much trouble persuading the Chinese authorities to give us details of an influenza epidemic that we knew was going on in southern China. One of the few ways we had of gauging the seriousness of the outbreak was from Hong Kong journalists, who would tell me in interviews what they had heard and I would pass it on to the epidemiologists.

We have much more transparency now, but, consequently, there is also a worrying level of rumour mongering and, worse, of public nervousness. Yes, we all have reasons to worry about what may lie ahead, but the hoarding and panic shopping is only making things worse.

I left England in 1967 to go overseas to work as a journalist, first in France and then in Hong Kong and the Philippines. So I suppose I can make no claim to really feeling the British pulse any more. But I know one thing: the sight of supermarket trolleys stacked high, sometimes in family convoys of two or three, is depressing, unnecessary and unworthy.

So let's all please calm down. Let's stop stripping supermarket shelves and spreading unfounded tales of gloom. There is a way through this, and it is by all of us working together and looking out for those among us who are most at risk. Oh, and let's not forget to wash our hands!

It was Peter Cordingley who, as WHO spokesman, first advised the public to wash their hands for as long as it takes to sing the Happy Birthday song.

Peter Cordingley wrote the above on 13th March 2020 and as we go to press a little over a week later the truth of his predictions are abundantly clear. It will probably be a further week until you are reading this and the full nature of the changes will be becoming even clearer.

However, we must look at the positives. The Neighbourhood Watch team has a Parish Councillor, Damien Hodge, who will co-ordinate support in the village. He and the whole team of deputies are there because they really want to support those in need as does your neighbour, and you too. There is a list of deputies on page 5 of this issue. Feel free to contact any of them. Alongside the Church is offering support of all kinds through the period of isolation.

Throughout this month's magazine are notices of cancellation, postponement and closure. No one knows how long these closures will last, so if you are wanting something, goods or a service from a local provider or trader please be sure to contact them to see what arrangements they are making to remain of service and to remain in business. Quickes are working to provide some basic necessities, the catering teams, the Beer Engine, Belluno and Hanlons are looking to provide take away services and in some cases deliveries.

It is going to be very difficult for us to report on what is happening in the village. The school will be open for some children but others will be left to work at home. Perhaps you, our readers, would like to write a short article or story about your experiences whilst social distancing or even self isolating. It would seem to me that we should be able to do loads of different things but we will have to look very carefully at how we do so; we may want to share our experiences.

We at the Newton Wonder will be pleased to help in any way and we will attempt to keep the website, www.newtonwonder.net as up to date as we can. If anyone wants to use it then we are ready to help. If in the future we are unable to deliver your magazine we will publish it on the website.

Best wishes to everybody and let's hope that we can find some fun and enjoyment in meeting the requirements put upon us by the arrival of this most unwelcome visitor.

Peter Hawksley



As you would all expect, we have LOTS of beer to sell !

Rail Ale 3.8% / Spring Return 4.2% / Piston Bitter 4.3% / Luggage Porter 4.4% / Sleeper Heavy 5.4%

4 pint Freshpak (any Ale) - £10

Cases Golden Arrow 12x 500ml - £15

17'ish pint Bag in Box (Any Ale) - £30

35 pint Bag in Box (Any Ale) - £50

Bag in Box should be imbibed within 4 days ! (If you can make it last that long !!)

We also have a selection of wines, spirits, soft drinks and snacks available.

To place orders, send messages or WhatsApps to 07419 331018 or send us a message on Facebook.

Stay Safe, Wash your hands and DRINK PISTON !

CORONA VIRUS

Dealing with Isolation

The church, in the following difficult months, will be holding a small **emergency** supply of tinned and dried foods for those in isolation. It will also hold the numbers of companies that deliver food to the door.

Volunteers are also willing to chat by phone, if you would like the support of a friendly voice to relieve the isolation.

Sue Browne. 851460
 Linda Smith. 851128
 Pita Burt 07889 46434 1
 Brian Please 851507; 07958 363149
 Tony Lane 851975

Neighbourhood Watch Deputies

Tim Sedgwick	Godolphin Close	2	851223	twsedgwick1@supanet.com
Sue Gee	Church Area	Glebe House	851164	asgee@btinternet.com
Tom Doyle	Court Orchard	24	851704	tomdowle@live.co.uk
Chris Lee	Langford Road	Greenlands	851280	
Mike Kersey	Half Moon	12	851603	
Sandy Fleming	Newton House	12	851646	afleming12@btinternet.com
Wayne Meeton	Norton	Glenacre Sweetham	851954	wayne@wvmstudio.com
Derrick Rhydderch-Evans	Pump Street	Old Beams	851443	derrickrevans369@btinternet.com
David Vallance	Sand Down Lane	Manesty	851266	davidvallance2@icloud.com
Jacqui Ward	Smallbrook	2 Broadgate Cottage	851918	Jacquiward30@yahoo.co.uk
Jill Hawksley	Sweetham	Station Cottage	851269	peterbrew@aol.com
Volunteer required	West Town			
Alan Hancock	Woodlands		851744	
Damien Hodge	Tytheing Close	2	851111	damien.hodge@centraxgt.com
Geoffrey Jackson	"The Village"	Shaplans Cottage	851551	megalops@btinternet.com

For further information or to submit a report please go to the website or contact the NSC Parish Council Co-ordinator Damien Hodge Tel: 01392 851111 email: damienhodge@newtonstcres-pc.gov.uk

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT MARCH

The meeting on 5th March was attended by eight Councillors, the Parish Clerk, the Devon County Councillor, Margaret Squires and five members of the public.

Issues raised by members of the public

- * The Devon Association of Local Councils' newsletter shared the information that a Parish Council had planted a community orchard. So, could the tree-planting that took place last year next to the new school be extended to make a community orchard? It was decided that the Parish Council would talk to the Tree Planting Group about this.
- * Many of the back roads have blocked drains. It was suggested by a member of the public that the local community could keep an eye on these and prevent some of the simpler blockages or contact highways as appropriate. DCC councillor Margaret Squires suggested that before members of the public carry out any work on the roads, they should undertake Chapter 8 Road Warden training for their own safety. She also suggested that should they do so, they may be eligible for a partial contribution to the purchase of equipment from the Community Enhancement Fund. The Parish council will talk further to members of the public about the various options.
- * The lack of bicycle stands at the parish hall was commented on. This will be passed on to the Parish Hall committee.

Devon Climate Emergency Project

Margaret Squires shared a recent report from DCC about the Devon Climate Emergency project. At present, this is still very much in the planning stage. This year should see both a citizens' assembly and a public consultation on the final plan for action. However some information was released to show the scale of the problem. It is interesting to note that, in Devon, 28% of carbon emissions come from road transport and 19% come from residential buildings. These are the two biggest contributors, with commercial/institutional buildings following shortly behind. If you wish to engage more in the project or get advice on personal actions, then these social media contacts could be of help:

Twitter @devonclimate
Instagram @devonclimateemergency
Facebook @DevonClimateEmergency

Planning Applications

- * Three-storey extension at 8 Newton House and two-storey extension at 3 New Estate. Neither of these applications had attracted any negative comments on the planning website. The parish council decided no comment was required.
- * Certificate of lawfulness for use of buildings at Winscott Barton as mainly agricultural storage with limited commercial storage. The Parish Council was aware of some objections to this application, but decided no comment was appropriate at this stage as the decision will be made on legal technicalities.

Community Shop

Parish Councillor Roger Cashmore reported on progress with the community shop.

- * A potential local supplier / manufacture for the provision of a suitably sized modular building for the shop has been located. A budget price has been estimated, including delivery and craneage into position.
- * A number of meetings have been held with Roger Wilkins, Chairman of the Village Hall Committee, and an agreement in principle has been reached to allow the community shop to be placed behind the village hall with access from the car park (subject of course to planning permission). Finding a suitable site in the centre of the village is potentially great news, and we are most grateful to Roger Wilkins and the Village Hall Committee for their support.
- * It is understood that by working closely together with the Village Hall Committee, the community shop project may now also act as an incentive to redesign certain aspects of the hall, not only improving safety and amenity but also helping the Post Office return to a full time operation and to increase the hall's use as a community hub.
- * Newton St Cyres Parish Council agreed to fund £240 in order for the project to be registered with the Plunkett Foundation, a charity that specialises in supporting the setting-up of rural community shops
- * The next meeting of the community shop project is planned for later in March, after which they hope to reveal more about the plans, the work that needs to be done and calling for community support.

Annual Parish Meeting

The date of the Annual Parish Meeting has had to be altered, as the hall is unavailable on the original date. The new date will be **Thursday 2nd April at 7pm in the Parish Hall**. The Parish Council invites all parishioners to attend to hear about the work of the local council over the past year.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on **Thursday 2nd April** at 7:30pm. This will be immediately after the Annual Parish Meeting. Members of the public are welcome to attend. There will also be a Parish Surgery at the coffee morning to be held on **Saturday 4th April** in the Parish Hall.

Liz Ouldrige
Press Officer

Newsflash

As the Parish Hall has been closed on the advice of the Government the AGM of the Parish Council has been
POSTPONED

RECREATION GROUND CLUB

It must nearly be Easter. The shops are full of Easter eggs and Hot X Buns so hopefully the weather will soon start improving and the rain will stop.

I am really fed up with the rain and the diary changes the postponed football games have caused. And this horrid virus we are having to cope with isn't going to help get the postponed games played either.

Fortunately, the darts and skittles are winding down to the end of their seasons. The Ladies Darts season came to an end in March. The Men's have a few league games and some Cup games to go, while the skittles just have some league cup rounds.

I'm just waiting for the completion of the cricket dates so I can get the diary fully updated for the summer months.

Through April the football teams will have games Saturday and Wednesday evenings, to get their fixtures completed for the end of their seasons.

April will be good for us as we have two family parties, always a pleasure to help people celebrate a special occasion.

The next six to eight weeks will be a mix of football and cricket; by then the weather should have cleared out.

A forward notice of our Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 24th June. If you think you could help or feel we are missing something, please ring me on 01392 432287 or speak to any committee member so we can discuss it at the meeting

Wendy Lewis

Newton St Cyres 200 Club

The March draw took place at the coffee morning in the Parish Hall on 7 March 2020 and the winners were:

No.	161	H Barlow	£10
No.	139	Mrs Tancock	£10
No.	192	Mr Langdon-Davis	£10
No.	186	Anne Page	£10

Registered through Mid Devon District Council Licensing Department as a Small Society Lottery under the Gambling Act 2005

Jane
01392 851148

Newton St Cyres Tennis Club

We are living in strange times at the moment, and have had to postpone our AGM until everything settles down with the Corona Virus. We have introduced some health and safety measures such as asking players to avoid shaking hands after matches. Having our new bathroom facilities has been very timely, given the circumstances.



Membership subscriptions are due at the end of March and we always welcome new members of all ages and abilities. . Please see our website www.newtonstcyrestennisclub.co.uk for all details, or contact Laura Leigh on 01647 24259.

Sally Baldwin

Newton St Cyres Parish Hall NOTICE

In view of the escalating problem with coronavirus, we have decided to close the Parish Hall.

The first day of closure is **Thursday of this week (19 March)** and the Hall will **remain closed until at least Monday 13 April** (when the situation will be reviewed).

The organisers of regular bookings have already been contacted, but please advise any of your friends or neighbours who may use the facilities. Any changes in our policy and a date for re-opening, will be posted on this site.

We are really sorry to have to do this, but we must think of the wellbeing of our whole community and I'm sure you will understand our decision.

Many thanks for your strong support and use of the Hall.

POST OFFICE SERVICES ARE STILL AVAILABLE

For the present, the Post Office services run by Janet Thomas will continue to operate from the Hall as there is separate access, and no facilities in the main hall rooms are used.

Opening Times are:- Tuesdays 0900 - 1100 & Thursdays 1230 - 1430

With best wishes,

Roger Wilkins
Chairman, Parish Hall Committee

REVELS

2020

Postponed

It is with extreme regret that we've had to make the decision to postpone this year's Revels due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

All being well we aim to be up and running again in 2021!

Thank you to all the village clubs and groups who have shown an interest and have been working hard preparing for the Revels.

Hopefully, next year, Revels will be bigger and better.

A new date will be announced as soon as possible.

I would also like to thank the Revels committee for all their efforts in preparing for this year's event.

Looking forward to seeing you all in 2021!!

Eric Fee



FUN FOR ALL

NEWTON ARBORETUM

TOURS and AGM: THURS 14 MAY

The annual tour of the Arboretum followed by the AGM will be held on **Thurs 14 May**. There will be two guided groups that will look at different aspects of the wildlife and trees in the Arboretum. Following the tours, we will have a drink and a biscuit in the Parish Hall and then the formal AGM of the Friends of Newton Arboretum. This event is open to all, but non-members will be asked for £2. **We will meet at the Parish Hall Car Park at 6.30 pm.**

We are very fortunate to have the Arboretum in the village. It is open to all during daylight hours every day of the year thanks to John Quicke, the owner. The Arboretum is managed and being developed by the Friends, who receive Newsletters and invitations to special events. To become a Friend, please contact our Treasurer, Peter Watts (851369, peterwatts369@btinternet.com).

Enjoy the Arboretum and hope to see you on 14 May.

Roger Wilkins, Secretary, Friends of Newton Arboretum

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NEWTON RAMBLERS



On Sunday 1st March, eight of us enjoyed a walk that started at County Hall on Topsham Road. On crossing Topsham Road we headed down Trews Weir Reach and through Belle Isle Park, a tranquil area with views of the river.

The walk then followed the River Exe reaching the University of Exeter's playing fields at Duckes Meadow, and then on behind the new Millbrook Retirement Village to the Crematorium. We then crossed Topsham Road again and entered Ludwell Valley Park, which is one of six Exeter Valley Parks managed by the Devon Wildlife Trust.

Much of the valley is pastureland, grazed by cattle in the summer, with significant areas of scrubland and wildflower meadow. On the day of our walk we met several volunteers, including families with young children, who were carrying out a litter pick in the area. On speaking with them, I learned that they were members of Ludwell Life, a community group formed in 2016 to protect and improve the social and environmental value of Ludwell Valley Park.



Jill Maxted, Rosemary Chambers, Roger Wilkins,
Ian Maxted, Jean Wilkins, John & Chris Burrows

They said that their recent projects included native tree planting and a community orchard, as well as work to maintain and improve wildlife habitats. A local resident recently managed to secure £50,000 of funding from Keep Britain tidy and Wilko to renew the path down by the brook and to provide better access to the path and to the valley via the bridge.

We then commenced a fairly steep climb made muddy and slippery climb by the recent rainfall. This climb did however provide magnificent views out to the Estuary and across Exeter. Locals call the area Roly Poly Hill (ideal for sledging in the snow) as it is one of the steepest ridges in Exeter. The picture of the group is taken at the top.

We were very fortunate to have a mostly dry day for our walk. There was some drizzle but this led to a rainbow across the valley.

The walk then continued to bring us out at Pynes Hill, and then we crossed over to make our way to Ikea. Four of the group braved the crowds in Ikea to sample the Swedish meatballs, while the rest of us waited for the bus back to County Hall. A very enjoyable walk, and almost on our doorstep.

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WEDDING ANNIVERSARY



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Tel:- 01392 851624

E-mail:- maryglong@btinternet.com

A HISTORY OF THE PARISH COUNCIL OF NEWTON ST CYRES

125 years ago in March, Newton St Cyres Parish Council held its first meeting. Jean Wilkins has trawled through the archives to give this first-ever account of the council's work from its modest beginnings through to 1974.

This is the third and final episode of the story of the many issues faced over the years by the Parish Council of Newton St Cyres. This invaluable account of village life picks up after the end of World War II and runs through to contemporary times in 1974, all of it researched and compiled by Jean Wilkins.

The first Parish Council meeting after World War II, in August 1945, was chaired by WJ Berry and shows a village anxious to make headway after the war years.

The Council were asked to select suitable sites for a new housing scheme. Prefab houses were considered. New sanitary measures for the school were to await its change to a junior school. A public meeting was to be held to decide how to welcome the servicemen back home.



Complaints were received over Crediton Rural District Council's scheme to change refuse collections from monthly to every two months. Mr Periam, the RDC's sanitary inspector, was tackled over the provision of a sewage disposal scheme. However, it was clear that manpower and materials were both in short supply - a problem that was to persist for several years.

In 1946 Mr C Baker, leader of the fire-fighting squad, resigned as he was leaving the village. He had been in charge of the manual pump. Mr G Whidden was to form a new team and they were to make an inventory of appliances. Mrs Quicke wanted DEAD SLOW notices placed at each entrance to the village. All the footpaths were listed.

At the beginning of 1945 a Government White Paper had been published on the future of Local Government. It had become clear during the war years that many authorities were too small to deal with the extra burdens placed upon them, also that the rating system was not productive enough to provide adequate resources for the future. Hence local boundaries were considered for revision.

So it was that in early 1947, Exeter, having suffered considerable war damage, sought to extend its boundaries and rate-paying area. Their plans were ambitious, including absorbing Exmouth and Budleigh Salterton, Dawlish, and, to the northwest, Newton St Cyres and Shobrooke. As can be imagined, these plans were received with indignation in the village. A special meeting of the Parish Council was held in early March, and it was unanimously agreed to urge Crediton Rural District Council to resist the proposal to the utmost of their power, as it would be contrary to the wishes of the Parish in every way.

Just a week later, a Special Parish Meeting was held with 135 parishioners crowding into the hall. The Rev JB Griffiths presided with the chairman and secretary of the Council. He felt that the village was not a vital proposition where Exeter was concerned, as the money lay with the coastal towns. Mrs Quicke, speaking on behalf of the Crediton RDC, felt that the City would take 25 years to rebuild itself and would not have the time to take an interest in villages. Mr George Chudley (clerk) perhaps voiced the mood of the meeting "The Exeter Lion is rampaging around looking for someone to devour and if we get too near we will not be able to get out"

In October 1949 lighting the village with electricity was discussed and considered a needed improvement. The residents were to be consulted at a public meeting, as they had previously voted against such a scheme. This eventually took place in March 1952 and this time they agreed (46 for, 3 against).

November 1950: It was announced that the compulsory purchase of housing sites would go ahead. Lighting and sewage schemes would follow. A Councillor was elected to the Board of School Managers. The precept on the rates was to be £25. A Civil Defence Group was to be organised. Mr Periam, the sanitary inspector for Crediton RDC, was to explain the course of the proposed new sewage scheme. The bus stop by Newton Lodge Gate was said to be causing problems.

In February 1951 the Council houses were said to be nearing completion. Later in the year, Mr George Chudley, who had been clerk since 1930 died. He had succeeded his father on the Council in 1922.

In March 1952 an entertainments committee was to be formed to fund the electric street lighting. The South Western Electricity Board wished to make small changes to the lighting. In May 1952 there were to be three lights in the village and by the September six 'were put in hand'. They were to be formally handed over to the village by the Carnival Queen after the second carnival. The question of playing fields came up. Mr Henry Walters made Marles available. The Parish precept was to be £20. In November 1952 there was discussion on how best the village would celebrate the coming Coronation. The Quicks offered to give the children mugs and a large marquee would be hired. A Parish Meeting was held and a committee formed. A post box was installed in October 1953.

In 1953 the Parish Council joined the Association of Parish Councils. On Saturday 28th November there was a special meeting of the Members of the Parish Council to discuss the matter of a proposed by-pass. The Parish Council had received notice from the County Council to attend an informal meeting on December 11th at the Castle. Three representatives were to attend. They hoped to get further information as to where the by-pass would actually be as it was felt there was insufficient detail in the map to 'point out our objections should these be necessary'.

The Parish Council Chairman gave a report of the informal meeting held at the Castle with the DCC's assistant solicitor and a member of the surveyors department for talks on the proposed by-pass. (No details given). A letter was read that 'we have since received from the Clerk of DCC. It was felt that we had made a very good case for not carrying on with this project, and [they] awaited developments at the Public Meeting on March 23rd 1954.' The Clerk was to suggest to the RDC that they should be legally represented and that they would also represent this Council. The annual Parish Meeting took place the following week with poor attendance and no mention of the by-pass or road. There was no mention of the Public Meeting in the Parish Council Minutes.



In 1954 the Parish Council had a discussion with the RDC over the water supply now provided by The North Devon Water Board. It considered the water supply from hydrants after a fire at Coldharbour barns. In March SWEB agreed to fit another four street lamps before next winter.

In 1956 there was pollution of the River Creedy by Crediton sewage works. Cars had been driven over the bridge in Pump St and the Council considered putting up a concrete post to prevent this. It was thought that the new bungalows may be too small. In March the chairman gave a report of his and the Clerks attendance at the Castle regarding the road widening scheme. No details were given.

By October 1957 the clerk had a plan of the proposed scheme. The Parish Council were to look after the new Green. Meanwhile, the surface of the existing road was reported to

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be in a bad condition. There were continual complaints about overcrowded buses, especially at school times. The lighting was gradually spreading throughout the village. In July there was a request to pursue the North Devon Water Board to supply to Castlands, where the well had gone dry for four properties.

At the Annual General Meeting in March 1959 it was hoped building work on the new houses and bungalows in the gardens on the south of the village centre would start after Easter. This would be followed by demolition of the existing cottages. A new law had been passed requiring Parish Councils to allot an amount of money towards the upkeep of Churchyards. In the October it was decided that the recent flooding of the Shuttern was



due to the Brewery having made alterations to the stream. This was considered further the following April.

Sadly much of the Council's discussion during the 1960s was about the problems that the fast, new road through the centre of the village was causing. Traffic was speeding past Newton House front gate so it was requested that the 30mph sign should be moved nearer Crediton. Arrangements for the cutting of the village green were constantly reviewed.

Cllr Halse resigned in May 1961. He had been Chairman since 1946. Since the road was very difficult to cross, bus shelters were now needed on both sides. John Quicke took over as Chairman and Mr Staddon remained as clerk. Meetings were now held monthly in the club room. Since there would be considerable costs involved with providing two bus stops in the village, on School Hill and at Newbridge, a higher rate would be needed. A public meeting was to be held.

In 1962 it was suggested that the presence of a patrol car in the village may deter speeders and that the 30mph signs were not spread far enough. Station Road needed repairing after flooding and meetings were held regarding the sewage scheme. Mr Staddon now became a paid clerk as he was no longer a Councillor.

A disastrous fire occurred on 4th July. The Crown and Sceptre, two cottages and the cobbler's shop burned down. The families were cared for temporarily in the village. There were water shortages while a new main was being connected. The school buses



were very crowded, children had been allowed to ride on the platforms. Plans for housing (Godolphin Close) began to be considered.

In January 1963 the Surveyor was thanked for keeping traffic moving through the village after the snowfall. Court Orchard bungalows were ready for allocation. The development of 15 acres of land in West Town and Station Road was considered, with the possibility of 103 dwellings. A site for

further council houses would be welcome. There were plans for the rebuilding of the Crown and Sceptre. However in June a letter was to be sent to Crediton Rural District Council Planning Department. "This Parish Council feel that the Devon County Council Planning Committee are misguided in believing all development should be in towns and cities'. They were asking for reconsideration. It was suggested that the 40mph signs were sited near the village name signs.

In January 1964 it was hoped to have the double white lines at Castlands continued to Ford Farm. In the September a request for a crossing for the children was made now the speed limit was 40mph. In November, the police recommended a crossing. In October 1965, an extension of the white lines from the end of Station Road into the village was requested. It seems the County were not happy with these requests. In May 1967 there was a special meeting with the police and Devon County Council at which the county refused to extend the white lines but undertook to alter West Town junction. . In March 1968, there was a survey of Shaplads to see if some part of the building may be removed to give better visibility. In January 1969 there was a meeting with Peter Mills MP, who wrote to the Minister of Transport requesting quick action.

In February 1965 there were press reports that St Thomas RDC was interested in taking over Crediton RDC and UDC. It was voted unanimously to object.

In 1966, the Women's Institute donated a seat for the village green to mark their 50th anniversary, 1915-1965. There was a landslide at Newbridge. The dump near Bakers was

unsightly. There was the possibility that Crediton RDC and UDC would merge. The Parish Council agreed to accept this. A letter was received from the County Council to say they would be taking over the lighting . The Parish Council was not allowed to erect public toilets in the car park as it was not considered to be a holiday route.

In 1967 the difficulties of the main road were pressing as many people were unhappy with the traffic problem. It was very dangerous at Castlands and the Rev. J Scott was very concerned about the children from Half Moon walking to school. There was to be a bus lay-by on School Hill.

In 1968 Crediton RDC began a weekly refuse collection.

Many of the village clubs, including the youth club, and tennis and football clubs, had become defunct. Enquiries were made of the Church Commissioners regarding the possibility of renting some land for a playing field. Three acres were to be made available. This was the beginning of the recreation ground. At the same time improvements were begun on the village hall. Toilets were to be included.

In 1971 alterations at Shaplands corner were again discussed to improve visibility when leaving West Town. Part of the village green was to be used for road realignment and cables would need re-siting. By August, the North Devon Water Board were doing their best to amend a water shortage and were against any augmentation by local water. In September, insufficient coverage by the police was discussed.

In 1972 there were to be bus lay-bys for Tytheing Close and plans had been made to remove 4ft from the roadside of Shaplands Cottage.

The 1972 Local Government Act, which came into effect in April 1974, saw a radical overhaul of existing Local Government Areas. Functions and services were organised in a two-tier system of County and District Councils, the latter to be bigger than the RDCs. Parish Councils were retained. The members of this Parish Council strongly supported joining the District Council, including Tiverton and Crediton. However they regretted that their representation at district level would be greatly diminished. They had had two of their members on the smaller Crediton RDC but now they had to share a publicly elected representative with Shobrook on the new District Council. Two boundary anomalies were corrected, with Rowhorn included in Whitestone Parish and Ashfields in Newton.

This Act also recognised the role of parish councils in development planning and gave them the right to be informed and consulted on applications for such development.

There it is, 125 years of the Parish Council. Some of its endeavours changed village life for ever, others expired in endless discussion but all of them reflected the energy and commitment that we see in the Parish Council today.

Do You Remember?....April

April 1970

Another accident is reported on the A377 when Max Hawkins was waiting to emerge from West Town and was hit by a car overtaking on the main road.

Mr Norman Down from the Rural District Council showed plans of the old peoples bungalows off Station Road. Twenty one bungalows with a warden's home are to be built on the site with a footpath leading to the village post office.

The County Council has agreed to supply a new lining for the pool at the village school, but the filtration plant is now due for replacement. The Head Master says he has had two pairs of shoes and two pairs of trousers ruined by leaks of chlorine.

April 1980

Sports clubs in the village were all thriving. The Tennis Club were taking part in tournaments and team matches played during the summer months. The Skittles Team had been playing in individual competitions and two Devon Open Championships recently, and doing well. The Cricket Club would begin its first match in April.

The Art Group enjoyed a talk in March about how musical themes had inspired artists through the ages. The Group had recently held a successful exhibition in Crediton Public Library.

April 1990

The Afternoon Club enjoyed seeing films of the Brent oil fields and inland waterways presented by Captain John Brand.

Devon County Council will be providing skips at all civic amenity locations for two weekends in April.

Dr John Quicke has invited members of the public to a conducted walk around the wood starting at Keepers on Sunday 20th May, wellington boots or stout shoes are recommended.

The twinning circle will host visitors from Rots in early May for a weekend of events.

April 2000

Raising funds for the Play Group was the object of their project. This was a jumble sale in the parish hall. The amount of jumble donated was rather overwhelming but the amount raised was £120.

The Parish Council has received complaints about dog fouling in various parts of the village. Concern was also expressed about traffic hazards at the school, Tytheing Close and Sand Down Lane.

April 2010

The Parish Council reported that there had been a good response to the appeal for litter pickers around the village and most areas were now covered.

Discussions were ongoing for a suitable site for a new proposed school car park. It was agreed that all local clubs and groups would be invited to attend the Parish Council AGM in May, at which they could showcase their activities and encourage others to join them.

The newly formed History Group had recently enjoyed a talk by Ian Stoye, who spoke about his history research in Thorverton, which he had recently published.

As it was 20 years since the publication of the Newton St Cyres Cookery Book it was decided to publish an updated version. Organizations in the village were asked to send in their favourite recipes to David and Jill Baker.

Parish Hall



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Bert Jewell writes Rhymes and Ways about Gardens and Gardening

April

April: and the seeds in the packet are ready to sow,
maybe trays full of compost or a neat little row
in the garden or allotment with the soil raked fine,
the rows marked out straight with an old garden line.

And those seeds: how they vary in colour and size,
the parsnips that grow could win you a prize
from the seeds that you planted, they're so flat and round,
but they dislike manure or stones in the ground.

Take the plump rounded seeds of the early pea,
plant them 2" deep and soon you will see,
green shoots appearing like troops on the march,
stiff and upright, like they're filled up with starch.

But the seeds of Begonias are fine like a dust,
so care and attention is really a must
when sowing these seeds, maybe mixed with fine sand,
sprinkled on the compost with a calm steady hand.

With the seeds now all planted, it's time to relax
for me with a book to read all the facts
about what we have planted and how they will grow,
in trays full of compost or a neat little row.

Things to do in the April garden

The daffodils have looked amazing so far this year, but, unfortunately, their flowering season is fairly short. However, there are a couple of things you can do now to help make next year's display even better. Cut off all dead flower heads at the top of the stem, leaving the stem to basically become a leaf, helping to take nutrients back down into the bulb.

Talking of nutrients, after flowering is the best time to feed any spring flowering bulbs. I feed ours with liquid potash (tomato food will do), once a week until the leaves begin to die down, then, with a Dutch hoe or small hand trowel, cut the dying leaves off at ground level. This in turn will fill up the hole in the ground, stopping the Narcissus fly grubs from getting at the bulbs.

Daffodil bulbs can be left in containers if they are deep enough, if not lift them (once they have died down), dry them and store them somewhere cool over the summer. Then replant them again next autumn.

The lawns have taken a battering over the winter months, not with frost and snow, but with all the rain. Water tables are high, lawns are staying wet for longer so increasing the risk of moss. April is a good time to help the lawn get back to good health. I always like to make sure the edges are in good condition first. Well defined edges can make the beds and borders stand out. I then deal with any moss that may be present.

Then in late April and early May, I apply a high nitrogen lawn feed, this should last well into the summer. Some people recommend that you just rake any moss out with a wire lawn rake, and, if you don't like using chemicals, that's absolutely fine. In my experience this method helps spread the moss to other areas of the lawn. I use a liquid moss killer and lawn tonic containing seaweed extract. This helps green up the treated areas once the moss has died. I then rake the whole lawn area with an electric lawn rake, removing the dead moss and any build up of thatch.

Read the instructions on all containers and packets and use as instructed. Too much high-nitrogen fertiliser in one spot will burn the grass and the brown patch could last all summer.

April is also a good time to sow seeds of cabbage, Brussel sprouts, leeks, beetroot, cauliflower, carrots, spring onions, early peas and a whole host of other vegetables and flowers.

Plant of the month

"Pieris"

A shrub that is at its best at this time of the year, showing off the red coloured young foliage growing at the tips of shoots. They also have sprays of white flowers. "Pieris Japonica Firecrest" is about right for most gardens, growing to about 8' x 6'. The only drawback is that it requires fertile acid soil. It is a good companion for Rhododendrons, Camellias and Azaleas.

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How well do you know your village?

Pictures submitted by Chris Southcott

Can you answer the following questions?:-

1. **WHEN** was the picture taken?
2. **WHERE** was it taken?
3. **WHO** is in the Picture?

No 42



For a closer look see our website:-www.newtonwonder.net
On the Home Page you will find this picture and a link to all the quiz
photos so far and an easy form to submit your answers.

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Neighbourhood Watch encourages protecting the isolated and vulnerable during the COVID 19 outbreak

This is a message sent via Devon and Cornwall Alert. This information has been sent on behalf of Neighbourhood Watch

Dear Neighbourhood Watch supporters,

You will all be aware of the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. Neighbourhood Watch exists to look out for communities across England and Wales and at a time like this we encourage you to consider ways to keep yourself, your loved ones and those in your community safe, particularly the isolated and vulnerable. We are following the advice from the government and encourage you to do the same: <https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response>

10 ways you, as a Neighbourhood Watch supporter, can protect yourself, your loved ones and your community:

- 1 Meet with household members, other relatives, friends and neighbours to discuss what to do if a COVID-19 outbreak occurs in your community and what the needs of each person will be.
- 2 If your neighbourhood has a website or social media page, consider joining it to maintain access to neighbours, information, and resources. Alternatively, share phone numbers and email addresses particularly with those who are isolated or vulnerable.
- 3 Consider establishing a 'buddy' system within your community to ensure everyone stays connected to COVID-19 related news, services and can receive support safely, such as essentials deliveries.
- 4 Plan ways to care for those who might be at greater risk for serious complications.
- 5 Choose a room in your home that can be used to separate sick household members from those who are healthy.
- 6 Learn how to self-isolate. Guidance can be found on the NHS website: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-advice/>
- 7 Create a list of local organisations that you and your neighbours can contact in the event that one of you need access to information, healthcare services, support, or resources. Consider including organisations that provide mental health or counselling services, food, and other supplies.
- 8 Create an emergency contact list of family, friends, neighbours, healthcare providers, teachers, employers, the local public health department, and other community resources.
- 9 Learn about the emergency operations plan at your child's school or childcare facility, and your employer's emergency operations plan.
- 10 Practice everyday preventive actions including regular hand washing.



HM Government

NHS

Coronavirus

Wash your hands more often for 20 seconds

Use soap and water or a hand sanitiser when you:

- Get home or into work
- Blow your nose, sneeze or cough
- Eat or handle food



For more information and the Government's
Action Plan go to nhs.uk/coronavirus

CORONAVIRUS

**PROTECT
YOURSELF
& OTHERS**

An evening of amazing music in the Parish Hall

With 2020 being a Leap Year we all had an extra day - February 29th. Making the most of this, over 80 attended the music event at the Parish Hall to hear an amazing duo Ashton Lane, who had travelled down from Scotland.

Husband and wife country duo, **Esther and Tim O'Connor**, gave us an evening of wonderful music. Esther's vocals were beautiful, together with Tim's guitar playing & vocals producing perfect harmonies. Throughout the evening Esther chatted to the audience, creating a personal feel and talked about how many of the songs had come to be written.



Their latest album 'Travelling Mercies', which was released only a few days before the gig, had gone straight to number 1 in the Official Country Artists Albums Chart Top 20, where it remained until 12 March. They sang many of the tracks from this album, before finishing with a couple of songs that the audience were encouraged to join in with.

There was a great atmosphere in the Hall and many favourable comments were received from members of the audience, as they left to make their way home. The sales of CDs and vinyl showed how much the evening had been enjoyed. With the recent cancellation of so many events, we were extremely fortunate to have them perform here in the village BCV (before Coronavirus)

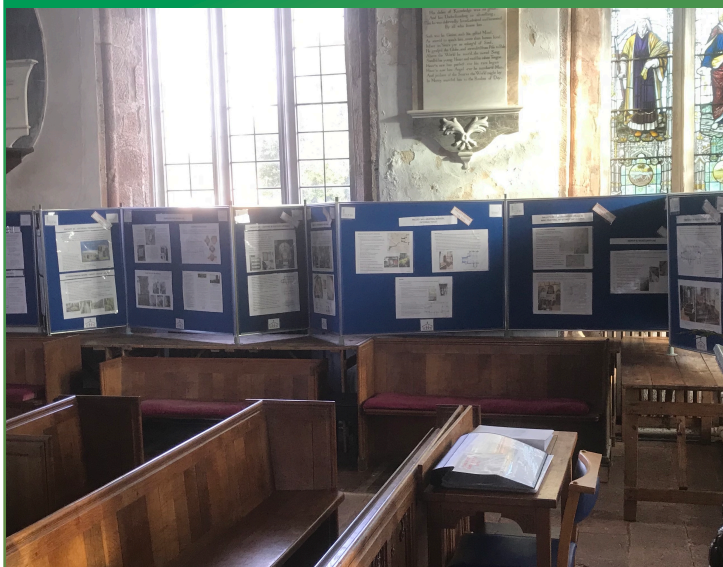
Many thanks to Jean & Roger Wilkins, for providing accommodation for Esther & Tim, before they started their long journey back up to Scotland.

I would personally like to thank all those who attended and hope that we will be able to arrange another event later in the year. The evening was arranged through Villages in Action to whom we pay 80% of the ticket sales to cover payment to the artists and administration costs. Funds raised for the Hall should be just over £300, which will go towards future improvements & maintenance.

Nicola Baker

Newton Saint Cyres Church Project

Thank you to all who attended the Public Meeting on Saturday 8th February 2020 in the Parish Hall



The Church Project was launched on 6th February 2014. This meeting, hosted by Clive Lawrence and Brian Please reported back on what has happened in the period 2014 - 2019 and indicated the next phases of work that are being planned.

A full display of all the activity was on show giving an insight into the Church Project. This display continues to be on display in the North Aisle of the Church.

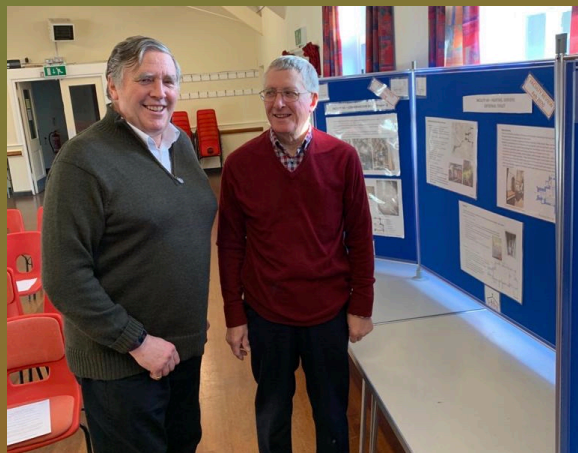
Project Display in the North Aisle of the Church

A letter will be sent to all households in Newton St Cyres. We hope you will consider this and offer to make a contribution (single and/or regular) by completing the enclosed form and returning us.

At a time when rural churches are at risk, it is the members of the community that must own the responsibility to preserve, adapt and utilise our most ancient and historically important Grade I listed building.

If you have any queries, please contact Brian Please, PCC Treasurer at

Compass House, Newton St Cyres EX5 5DE, Mobile: 07958 363149



Brian Please & Clive Lawrence at the Public Meeting

April on the Farm



NATURE

This spring, there's a poignant contrast between the worrying and absorbing unfolding drama of coronavirus and the equally absorbing and magnificent unfolding of spring. So much has been cancelled in the outside world, it almost feels like the dark days when foot and mouth disease rampaged through the countryside. Only this time we are all affected, rural people and urban people, farming folk and everyone else. I'm really enjoying the extra time released from all the busy activity that's been cancelled. I've always had a sense of hanging on to every moment of the spring, like it could be the last spring I see. This spring's risks heighten that sense of rolling around in and relishing the perfection of every moment.

Leaves, so long swelling the buds, burst forth. Every vista changes moment by moment. Every hedgebank, that feature of the Devon landscape dating back sometimes a thousand years, blossoms anew with flowers. The primroses came early and stayed late in the cool early spring. Wild strawberry flowers, Queen Anne's Lace, and pennyroyal all come. Sticky grass makes a children's game: can you stick any to your companion's coat without them noticing? Shaded hedgebanks are full of ferns, one of the plants that loved the winter rain.

Young creatures are everywhere: fledglings, young rabbit kits, even a jumbling tumbling crew of tubby young badgers, fat from those rabbits, venturing into the lane before they get shy with maturity.

ARABLE

Finally, we can work on the fields, so long impossible to travel on with machines. We got some crops in in the early autumn, and they weathered the rain well. Later drilled crops just sat in the wet and sulked, some to death, and some are pulling through now. That leaves the rest of the ground that we managed to sow only at the end of March. Dry weather brings some chilly winds, with the promise of balmy days to come. Little seeds, hasten and grow. Warmth has them leap out of the ground, almost racing to catch up their siblings, older by six months. They will never grow as strongly, and that very quality makes spring crops less prone to all the pests and diseases. We will be looking at lower yield, though. Winters have been forecast to get milder and wetter, like we've had. Summers are forecast to be hotter and drier, so the late sown spring crops may suffer that way too.

grass

The grass is growing like crazy, and now even the wettest fields are reachable by the cows with damage to the soil. The cows are out day and night, harvesting the sweet new grass down to a lawn. Overnight, the grass plants shoot up a delectable little shoot, sent out to pioneer new growth. We move the animals on to protect the new shoots. Otherwise, the cows eat those and hamper the next cycle of growth. The new calves explore the beautiful new world, distracted by the joy of being alive. They chase the milk bar, brought with a quad bike to feed them. With milk in their bellies, they can face most weathers, and we keep an eye out to make sure biting wind and rain don't drag them down.

COWS

This is the time when we deny the cows their urge to get pregnant. They are hot for it, and would welcome a date with Mr Bull. Hang on, girls, play among yourselves, give your bodies time to recover from calving. The most staid matrons get as flirty as schoolgirls, with crushes on their besties when their hormones take them that way.

DAIRY

The milk has settled down, with good grazing. The milk has a beautiful ivory colour that becomes golden as the milk concentrates into cheese and the carotene of the grass shines through. Often, we'll get cheese that is technically a little soft, from all those health giving short-chain fats from the grass. We know those cheeses will firm up with the loss of moisture through the cloth and rind. They'll retain the lusciousness and melt-in-the-mouth that grass-fed brings.

RECIPE

This month's recipe, though, uses our goat's cheese. The milk has naturally lower protein, which gives a softer cheese with a little higher moisture, which also gives a good melt in your mouth. The temptation is to make it firm like a cheddar, and we resist that to give a luscious cheese that cooks beautifully. Students of the amazing Michael Caine's Academy at Exeter College gave me this recipe. I'll share the next lot of inventive recipes these talented young people will offer me. I can't wait, because this one is lush.

Goats cheese flatbread with a red onion jam, pesto dressing and beetroot sauce

Makes 2 portions

For the flatbread:

150g plain flour
1/2 tsp salt
25g butter
90ml milk
200g Quicke's oak smoked goat's milk
clothbound cheese
Thyme

For the red onion jam:

2 red onions
Enough caster sugar to lightly cover the
onions
Equal amount of red wine to sugar

Beetroot puree:

1 fresh beetroot
25g brown sugar
100ml double cream
50ml red wine vinegar

Pesto:

25g toasted pine nuts
Medium bunch basil
25g Quicke's Goat's Cheese
150ml olive oil
2 garlic cloves

Method:

- Start by making the flatbread dough by combining the milk and butter and heat until your butter has melted. Then in another bowl, combine flour, salt, butter, milk and thyme in a bowl. Once combined, knead this on a surface for 5-10 minutes or until smooth then wrap and leave to rest for 30 mins.
- Boil your beetroot in a pan of water until soft. The skin should then easily come off. Then roughly chop the beetroot and put it in a pan along with the red wine vinegar and sugar until you have a caramel type colour. Add the cream blend and season. It should be a vibrant pink colour depending on how fresh your beetroot was.
- While that's cooking, get your red onion jam cooking. Slice the onions and add them to a pan, along with the sugar and red wine, and leave the wine to reduce. Once it has reduced, add seasoning to personal preference.
- For the pesto, grate your goat's cheese and place it in the blender along with the pine nuts, basil and garlic. Blend. You can then slowly start adding your oil until you have a slightly thick dressing type consistency. Then season and set aside.
- For your garnishes, you can make some goat's cheese crisps by grating some goat's cheese and baking them in the oven on some nonstick mats until your cheese goes brown. Once they cool down slightly, they will become solid and can be broken into shards and scattered over the top at the end.

- Now you need to start pan-cooking your flatbreads. Take a handful of your dough and roll it out so you have the width of a pond coin, then cook it dry in a pan until the side starts to brown, then flip and do the same.
- To assemble, take your flatbread, spread a light layer of your red onion jam, then sprinkle your grated goat's cheese over the top and bake until the cheese has melted and everything has warmed through.
- Drizzle some of your pesto and beetroot puree over the top, then sprinkle some of your goat's cheese crisps and serve.

Mary Quicke

Lockdown

Yes there is fear.

Yes there is isolation.

Yes there is panic buying.

Yes there is sickness.

Yes there is even death.

But,

They say that in Wuhan after so many years of noise

You can hear the birds again.

They say that after just a few weeks of quiet

The sky is no longer thick with fumes

But blue and grey and clear.

They say that in the streets of Assisi

People are singing to each other

across the empty squares,

keeping their windows open

so that those who are alone

may hear the sounds of family around them.

They say that a hotel in the West of Ireland

Is offering free meals and delivery to the housebound.

Today a young woman I know

is busy spreading fliers with her number

through the neighbourhood

So that the elders may have someone to call on.

Today Churches, Synagogues, Mosques and Temples

are preparing to welcome

and shelter the homeless, the sick, the weary

All over the world people are slowing down

and reflecting

All over the world people are looking at their neighbours in a new way

All over the world people are waking up to a new reality

To how big we really are.

To how little control we really have.

To what really matters.

To Love.

So we pray and we remember that

Yes there is fear.

But there does not have to be hate.

Yes there is isolation.

But there does not have to be loneliness.

Yes there is panic buying.

But there does not have to be meanness.

Yes there is sickness.

But there does not have to be disease of the soul

Yes there is even death.

But there can always be a rebirth of love.

Wake to the choices you make as to how to live now.

Today, breathe.

Listen, behind the noises of your panic

The birds are singing again

The sky is clearing,

Spring is coming,

And we are always encompassed by Love.

Open the windows of your soul

And though you may not be able to touch across the empty square,

Sing.

From Richard Hendrick (Brother Richard) in Ireland

March 13th 2020

NEWTON ST CYRES HISTORY GROUP

We all know the back road into Exeter from Cowick through Exwick to St Thomas, and in particular the narrow section at Exwick Mill. But very few of us at our last meeting knew how much industry has existed in Exwick in the past. We had a sizeable and interested turnout on Wednesday 12th February to hear Trudi Learmouth talk to us about The Vanished Industries of Exwick.



Trudi has lived in Exwick since the 1970s and was a teacher, but has been intrigued by the way in which our surroundings change over time — so much so that an inhabitant of Exwick a hundred or two hundred years ago would not recognise the village today. Only the main road network has not changed much. Trudi pointed out that she has based much of her information upon the excellent Exeter Memories website (David Cornforth), and I think many of you will have come across this useful source.

Two hundred years ago Exwick had three significant industrial centres, all based on the water power provided by a long leat running parallel to the Exe River, and filled by the River Creedy. This leat has existed for hundreds of years and probably used the course of an existing channel which the monks of Cowick Barton, in 1189, fed with a weir they built on two acres of meadow near Duryard. Their flour mill is recorded as St Andrews Mill in 1345 and this was the origins of the Exwick Mill we all drive past now. The leat ran for a mile and a half and also served to drain the surrounding valley meadows; it has been the power source for all the subsequent industries in Exwick. It fed back into the River Exe nearly at the Mill on the Exe and there was a large central millpool in Exwick village until the 1960s.

Eventually, three mill complexes ran off waterwheel power provided by the leat: first and most northerly, Exwick Mill, where three parallel wheels ran the Upper, Middle and Lower Mill machinery: secondly and more central, Exwick Lower Mill (not to be confused with the lower mill higher

up the leat already mentioned) and thirdly and placed just south of Lower Mill, Gibbs, Grainger and Banfill's Woollen Mill, the latest of the three industrial complexes to be built.

Trudi showed us maps of the three areas and took us through the stories of the various owners, the different uses and the chequered fortunes of these enterprises. Bankruptcies and fires figured largely, because of the nature of the buildings and the uncertainty of the markets.

Exwick Mill site is the oldest, by many centuries, and for a long time was a flour mill. After the Reformation it passed into the ownership of Lord John Russell, Earl of Bedford (who you may remember figures in the story of the Prayer Book Rebellion, in our last talk). By then the Higher Mill was used as a grist (corn) mill and a fulling mill. In the later 19th century, traditional flour mills suffered from competition from newer, more efficient rolling mills, and the fluctuation of bread prices. Consequently, the Higher Mill stopped working in 1869. The Middle Mill was described as a dye mill in the 18th century but in 1836 it was a manganese mill, owned by Paul and James Williams of Newton St Cyres, familiar names to those who have heard Brian Please's talk on the manganese mining here, or read his booklet.

Unfortunately for those involved, the price of manganese could also drop dramatically and in 1849 the Middle Mill also fell out of use. The Lower Mill fared better. The Mallett family, who had milled at Thorverton, took on the lease from the Buller family in 1859. In 1873, when his sixteen year old son joined him at work, William Rice Mallett came to the decision that if the business were to survive, they would have to invest in and develop the mill. He then took out a lease from the Buller's on the whole of the site, including the other two mills, and built the five storey redbrick building we now see, forming the narrow road section. He installed a modern 'poncelet' wheel, which was nearly as efficient as a turbine, and work was completed in 1886. The Mallet's were influential in the business life of Exeter: in 1905 they strengthened Station Bridge across the Exe to the vital rail network, so that their heavy steam lorries could cross safely, and during the First World War the mill worked round the clock to produce flour with a reduced workforce, including many volunteers. The mill's

working life eventually came to an end in 1958 when it closed and 30 employees were made redundant.

Exwick Lower Mill was built in 1673 as a Fulling Mill, on land belonging to Benjamin Oliver. Its fortunes fluctuated, and in 1805 it was converted into a paper mill. It went back to flour milling in 1872, finally being converted into the County Steam Laundry in 1893. This enterprise did well, providing local employment. Its upper storey was destroyed by fire in 1941, during the Second World War, but the mill was simply lowered down to the next storey and carried on working. Advance Towel Master took over the company in 1970 but relocated to newer, more suitable premises on Marsh Barton in 1982, when the old mill building was demolished and the leat area concreted over. You would now never know that it and the water that powered it had ever existed.

The third industrial enterprise was established in 1785, and was the largest and most ambitious business in the village. It was set up by a partnership of Antony Gibbs, Edmund Granger and Samuel Banfill. Gibbs was an Exeter woollen merchant who bought the old Exwick Manor House and its surrounding lands and properties. The partnership built a new mill 100 metres south of Lower Mill in 1786, having previously leased the Higher Mill at Exwick Mill (I know, these names are very confusing!). They then went on to build a dye house, a washing house, weaving shops, spinning shops, tenter grounds (for drying newly manufactured cloth), a counting house, and workers' cottages.

It was an ambitious and costly development, and the over-borrowing led to the bankruptcy of Antony Gibbs in 1789. The remaining partners carried on until Granger retired in 1813 and then Banfill left the business in 1820. New owners (Hitchcock, Maunder and Hitchcock) carried on the woollen manufacture, eventually leasing it in 1859 to Thomas Carter and John Richard Treble, who introduced flax manufacture. This involved bringing skilled flax workers and a manager from Ireland. However, a disastrous fire in 1861 ended the business. The remaining building was bought by the Buller family and used as a warehouse, but in 1869 another serious fire destroyed the last of the buildings, thus ending Antony Gibbs' legacy. There is now no trace of his industrial empire, except the name Rackfield Cottages, on Exwick Hill.

An interesting footnote to the Gibbs story is that Antony's sons, William and Henry, vowed to repay their father's debts, and succeeded in doing so, with all interest, by 1840. Henry died, but William went on to invest in the South American guano trade, and became extremely wealthy. He was a considerable benefactor to Exeter and Exwick, and built Tyntesfield in Somerset, now a well-known National Trust property.

You can still see the upper part of the leat as you drive along the Exwick Road and it may even be that one day the leat might be restored to run a hydraulic mill and power the village's electricity, as it used to power the industries of the past. Our sincere thanks go to Trudi Learthmouth for coming to speak to us, and providing such a clear and informative account of Exwick's fascinating industrial past.

Forthcoming Meetings

Wednesday 18th March. Elly Babbedge, a seasoned researcher and charismatic speaker, will come and tell us '**How the poor were provided for in some Mid Devon Parishes**'. Unlike some of our neighbouring villages, Newton St Cyres cannot claim to have an old building or identify some ruins as the site of a poorhouse, but she may have an explanation for us.

Wednesday 24th March. Ed Williams-Hawkes will speak on '**Dellers of Bedford Square**'. His family now living in Devon have experienced tea at Dellers, a tradition lives on. It was *the* place to meet and dine in the 1930s, housed in a rather special building lost in the Exeter Blitz of May 1942. Ed Williams-Hawkes is an expert as his family ran the enterprise.

Unless otherwise stated our meetings are held on Wednesdays in the village hall, usually the club room, starting at 7.30pm. Tea and biscuits are provided on arrival and the total cost is £2/head. There is no special

WANTED: A NEW TREASURER FOR PARISH HALL

Later this year Daphne Clague will retire after being an excellent Hall Treasurer for six years. The Hall plays a key role in our village, so **here is an opportunity for you to do your bit for your local community.**

The Hall is well used, has a strong Committee and is on a sound financial footing. If you have an interest and would like to discuss what is involved, please contact either Daphne (851639) or me (I'm a former Treasurer) (851337; rogerwilkins1@btinternet.com). Training can be provided!

Thanks for considering this.

Roger Wilkins, Chairman, Parish Hall Committee



**Sustainable
CREDITON**

Rhubarb and Meringue

Instead of a pie or crumble, try rhubarb with meringue

500g (1 lb) rhubarb cut into bite sized chunks
a slice of lemon
50 - 75g (2 - 3 oz) sugar
2 large egg whites
100gm [4oz] caster sugar

Cook the rhubarb gently with the ordinary sugar and lemon. When tender place in a pie dish and allow to cool. Make the meringue by whisking the egg whites and gradually adding the caster sugar. Continue whisking until the mixture is firm. Spoon on top of the rhubarb and sprinkle with a little more sugar. Bake in a moderate oven until the meringue is crisp, and a pale golden colour.

This is good with Devonshire cream custard made from the 2 egg yolks, vanilla extract, 250 ml (1/2 pint) milk, 25g (1 oz) sugar and a teaspoon of cornflour. Whisk the egg yolks together with the sugar, cornflour and vanilla extract. Pour on the boiled milk - stirring well. Return to the saucepan and bring to the boil stirring thoroughly. Remove from the heat and finish with a couple of tablespoons of double cream.

Paul Cleave

Newton St. Cyres soup and cheese lunch

John Salter, serving bread at the Newton St. Cyres Parish Church Soup and Cheese Lunch. On offer were four soups: leek and potato, bacon and lentil, carrot and coriander, and chicken and vegetable or there was Quicques cheddar cheese, brie or mackerel pate served with brown or white bread and bean pickle. Christopher Lee kept busy washing up in the kitchen. A great lunch which raised £468 for church funds.



pictured are Chris Salter, Pita Burt and Nicola Burden who were kept busy serving teas and coffees at the lunch.

MARGARET TUCKER

Coffee Morning on 7th March

Considering the circumstances attendance at the coffee morning was surprisingly good. Total raised was £249.50.

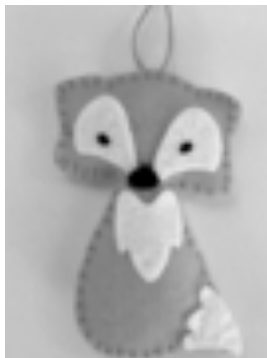
Picture by Margaret Tucker



All Welcome

CRAFT CLUB

**Monday mornings 9.30 - 11am
at Bernaville Nurseries**



**YOU DO NOT HAVE TO HAVE ANY CRAFT SKILLS TO
JOIN IN. JUST COME ALONG FOR A CHAT.**

**We make craft items to sell at local events. All proceeds go to support
Newton St Cyres Primary School.**

If you have any **spare craft materials, knitting wool, thread, card, paper,
beads, ribbons etc** that you would like to donate to the club?
Please drop them into Newton St Cyres Primary school or Bernaville Nurseries
on a Monday morning

All donations are gratefully received and we recycle all that we can.
We do not meet during school holidays

Newton St Cyres toddler group

Come along and join us every Wednesday in term time, lots of great toys to play with. Stories to enjoy, craft session and activities to try.
It is great family fun.

Our family sessions are £2 a time and run from 9:30–11:30am. The price includes a drink and a snack.

We would love you to join us at Newton St Cyres Primary School



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Anna Bonnett

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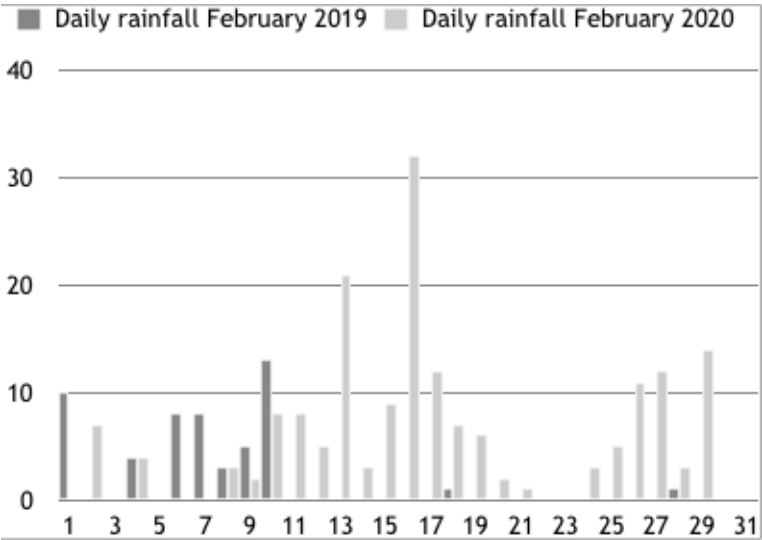
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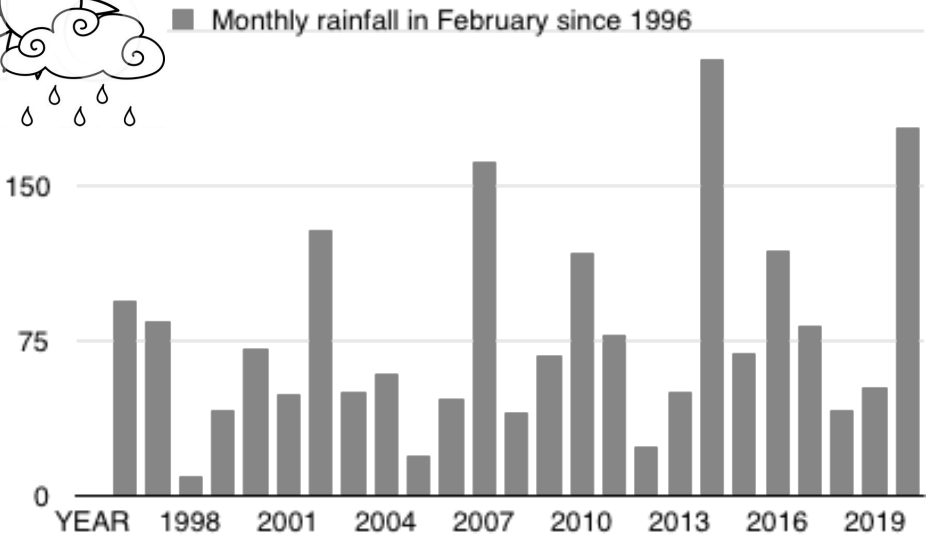
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The Weather

in Newton St Cyres



We are grateful to James Walters and his family, especially his granddaughter Alice for providing us with regular details of the rainfall in Newton St Cyres.



It is interesting to note that whilst we think of 2020 as having had very high rainfall at 178mm in Newton St Cyres the level was, in fact, 211mm in 2014.

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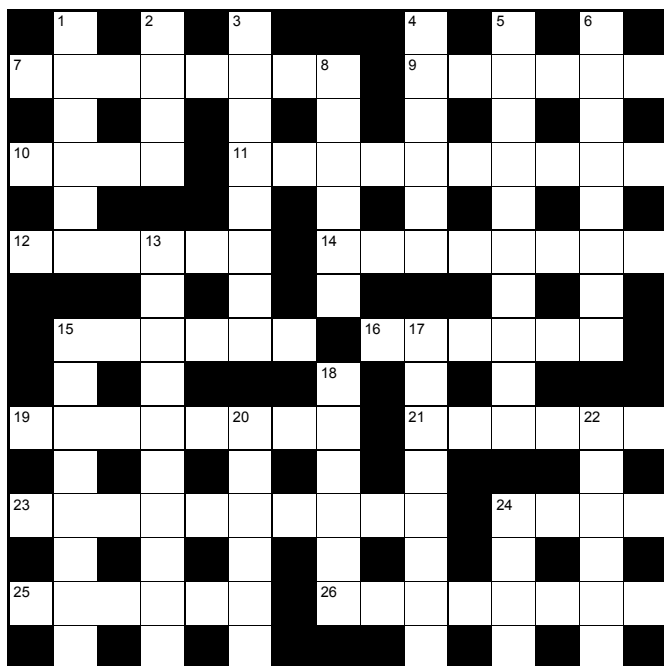
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Cryptic Crossword



ACROSS

- 7 Marriage guidance counsellor? He fixes things (8)
- 9 Game is ruined by prejudice (6)
- 10 Caught, getting time in prison (4)
- 11 Time invested in errant son failed – he has no chance of success (3-7)
- 12 Remember to visit again? (6)
- 14 Drug creating endless conflict at home (8)
- 15 Jack wants us back on road – ridiculous! (6)
- 16 Saucy. tasting of apple perhaps (6)
- 19 A struggle increased in Scottish town (8)
- 21 Note very little (6)
- 23 Nasty criminal upset Alan around start of November (10)
- 24 British agents keep hold of this tobacco (4)
- 25 Remove centre from pellets and grind – using this? (6)
- 26 Woman's worked as model, having inclination (8)

DOWN

- 1 A teen's represented in governing body (6)
- 2 Right away, plant evidence against celebrity (4)
- 3 Mathematician, one engaged in noisy dispute (8)
- 4 River subsequently needed for one travelling by water (6)
- 5 Changing to career in leisure activity (10)
- 6 Harshness, like compassion, the Queen embraced (8)
- 8 Owner adapts to new celebrity (6)
- 13 Uzis rattle violently in battle (10)
- 15 Lent progressed (8)
- 17 More will fail exam, being most aloof (8)
- 18 The woman's lad upset the announcer (6)
- 20 Speaks of old values (6)
- 22 Communist art is brought back for businessman (6)
- 24 Fire gun, having no time to drive away (4)

Sudoku

All you have to do is fill in the squares so that each row, each column and each square contain all the numbers from 1- 9.

6			2	3				7
	5	1						
				1		6		
8		4			3		9	
	9			8			3	
	2		6			8		1
		7		5				
						7	6	
2				9	4			5

© Web Sudoku 2020 - www.websudoku.com

Solution to the March Cryptic Crossword

	1		2		3		4		5		6		7	
	H		I		S	U	D	A	N		B		F	
8	C	O	S	M	I	C		E		9	O	R	A	T
	N		M		R		F		T		R		L	
10	A	S	I	A		11	A	F	I	C	I	O	N	A
	H		C		B		N		O				E	
12	S	U	B	U	R	B		13	I	N	N	U	E	N
	C			L		L		T				G		R
16	O	L	D	A	G	E	P	E	N	17	S	I	O	N
	W			T				A		E		I		I
18	L	19	A	V	E	N	20	D	E	R	21	M	I	S
													22	S
	R				E		T		I		T		N	
23	P	O	S	24	S	E	S	S	I	O	N	25	I	D
		U		A		I		C		A		C		O
26	I	S	H	T	A	R		L		27	R	E	A	G
														N
	E		E		28	E	L	E	G	Y		L		D

The Parish Church of St Cyr and St Julitta Newton St Cyres



A Message from the Church

In anticipation of the spread of COVID-19 in our mission community we are reaching out to everyone. We are thinking about you whilst we are all dealing with temporary changes our lifestyles. We hope that where symptoms arise, they are manageable & contained over the coming months.

We are a thriving and resilient community. We are all likely to face circumstances that are very personal and these feature in all our thoughts and prayers.

We will seek to keep our church open during the day and available for those are looking for quiet prayer and reflection.

There will be no public acts of worship (i.e. the Open Door, Family and Holy Communion services are currently suspended).

Although the guidance may change rapidly, funerals and weddings are available on a much reduced capacity. The options and legalities are things you should discuss with the ministry before making any decisions.

God of compassion, be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation. In their loneliness, be their consolation; in their anxiety, be their hope; in their darkness, be their light; through him who suffered alone on the cross, but reigns with you in glory, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Risky Business

Over the past weeks (as I write this in March) our media has been full of news about the Coronavirus. At this point, everyone is worried in case it spreads and the risk of infection increases. No doubt, by the time this goes to press we will have seen this happen. Bulk buying for hand sanitiser and toilet roll has led to shortages in the shops, holiday companies have noticed a reluctance to book trips abroad and even in the church we have assessed how we conduct our services.

We are asked to wash our hands for at least twenty seconds (just enough time to say the Lord's Prayer), to bin used tissues immediately and even to think about our physical contact with people, whether through handshake or hug.

The very way we interact with each other has been assessed for possible risk to minimise the transmission of infection.

The planet has been suffering too. We have seen over past months the impact of climate change on weather patterns and the result of rubbish disposal on our oceans and wildlife. Who can forget those images of the sea creatures caught in plastic waste? David Attenborough and Greta Thunberg have cajoled us to respond and act, which although changed our minds about straws and is making many reconsider single use plastics, is still an uphill battle.

During Lent this year, the six weeks between Pancake day (Shrove Tuesday) and Easter, the Church of England has run a forty day challenge to 'Care for God's Creation'. Each day an insightful thought, inspired by the Bible has encouraged us to think about our own impact on the world around us.

We have spent time thinking about light and energy, water consumption, our land use, trees and the seasons we witness. We have been encouraged to take personal steps but also to support agencies and organisations that support global efforts.

As we approach the final two weeks our thoughts will turn to the creatures of sea, sky and land.

It is fitting that as we consider ways of supporting one another through a flu epidemic we also contemplate the suffering that exists across the world, our care for the whole of creation.

Despite the doom and gloom, Easter is time in the churches calendar that reminds us of hope in the midst of darkness, of life where only death seemed possible, of God's love reaching out to all.

So let us care for one another, our communities and planet and rediscover God's message of hope.

Rev Katie Cross

If you would like to find out more about the Church of England #Live Lent 40 Day challenge visit:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/>

Times are changing:-

"And the people stayed home. And read books, and listened, and rested, and exercised, and made art, and played games, and learned new ways of being, and were still. And listened more deeply. Some meditated, some prayed, some danced. Some met their shadows. And the people began to think differently.

And the people healed. And, in the absence of people living in ignorant, dangerous, mindless and heartless ways, the earth began to heal.

And when the danger passed, and the people joined together again, they grieved their losses, and made new choices, and dreamed new images, and created new ways to live and heal the earth fully, as they had been healed."

-Kity O'Meara

THANK U AGAIN U-LOT!!

Once again, on behalf of the Newton St Cyres community, can I offer a big thank you to all those volunteers of U-Lot that organise events throughout the year to create social gatherings and raise money for our church.

In **2019** through numerous Coffee Mornings, a Soup & Cheese Lunch, Cream Tea, Bingo & Quiz nights, Patronal Meal, Harvest Festival Lunch, Pub Carols and (of course) the Christmas Fayre U-Lot have for the first time raised **over £5,000** (£5,046 to be precise!).

These funds are vital to the maintenance of our only Grade I listed building in the Parish keeping it available for services, baptisms, weddings, funerals, school events, talks and preserving the heritage embedded in the church fabric.

They have a full schedule of events planned for 2020, the next one being a Coffee Morning on Saturday 2nd May at 10:30 am in the Parish Hall. Please come along and join the fun, make new friends and, if you are interested, join the team!

Brian Please, PCC Treasurer



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In these difficult times when we all need some space and calm, Nikki and Mark Chambers would like to invite you to come and walk around our beautiful garden of 25 acres. We can only accomodate 20 cars, so first come first served! Please observe social distancing rules. Ar own risk. No charge. No dogs.



**EVERY WEDNESDAY
ONLY,**

**OPEN BETWEEN
10am and 1pm**

Sturdy footwear required

From the Village Diary @ newtonwonder.net (as planned)

April 2020

Sat 4th Twinning Coffee Morning 10.30am Parish Hall

Wed 22nd History Grp "Dellers of Bedford Street"
Ed Williams-Hawkes 7.30pm Parish Hall

**For further information and more recent entries and previous entries
please go to the**

website: www.newtonwonder.net.

**To have your event(s) included in the Village Diary please either use the
box on the Village Diary webpage or email details of your event(s) with
date(s), time(s) and venue(s) to editor@newtonwonder.net.**

A WEEK IN THE PARISH HALL

(as planned)

Mondays	CARDIO FITNESS PURE STRETCH	10.00.am 11.00.am	Emma Healey Tel. 07969 900794
Mondays (except Bank Holidays)	BINGO	Eyes Down at 7.45pm	Meat Bingo, Raffles, Snowball.
Tuesdays	GENTLE KEEP FIT	9.45 - 10.45am	Call Jane on 366413 £4.00p per session
Tuesdays	LINE DANCING	7.15 - 10.00pm	Paula Benford Tel. 01392 210830
Tuesdays (Fortnightly)	YOUNG FARMERS CLUB	8.00 - 10.00pm	Rob Davie - Sec. 07801597703 Georgina Davie - Chair. 07801273424
Last Wednesday of Month	ART GROUP	6.45 - 10.00pm	in the Club Room
1st Wednesday of Month (Quarterly)	GARDENING CLUB	7.30 - 9.30pm	Jane Timlett Tel. 01392 851361
3rd Wednesday of Month	HISTORY GROUP	7.30 - 9.30pm	Jean Wilkins Tel. 01392 851337
Thursdays (except 2nd Thurs. of month)	BALLROOM AND LATIN DANCING	4.00 - 9.30pm	Wendy Richards Tel. 07949 141800
1st Thursday of Month	PARISH COUNCIL	7.00 - 9.00pm	All are welcome
2nd Thursday of Month	EXE VALLEY BIRD CLUB	7.00 - 9.00pm	Kevin Smaldon Tel. 7710 427817
Last Thursday of Month	MAH JONG CLUB	2.00 - 5.00pm	Geoff Jackson Tel. 01392 851551
Fridays	MARTIAL ARTS	6.00 - 7.00pm	
	TABLE TENNIS	7.15 - 9.30pm	Just turn up £2.50p per session (£1 .50p Children)
1st Saturday of Month (usually)	COFFEE MORNING	10.30 - 12.00 noon	Run by the Church and other village Groups/Organisations

WHO'S WHO IN THE VILLAGE

Priest-in-Charge	Revd Katie Cross - katie.cross@netherexe.org	01392 759612
Church Wardens	Sue Browne, 1 Glebelands, Sand Down Lane	01392 851460
PCC Hon Secretary	Pita Burt pitaburt@gmail.com	01392 851410
PCC Hon Treasurer	Brian Please, Compass House, Sand Down Lane	01392 851507
PCC Fabric Officer	Clive Lawrence, Elm Cottage, Pump Street	01392 851406
Electoral Roll Officer	Jen Holt, 21 Woodlands	01392 851521
Tower Captain	Mary Quicke - mary@quickes.co.uk	07729 844945
<u>DOCTORS (Crediton)</u>	New Valley Surgery , - Drs Hall, Saunders, Harris, Cameron, Wride & Anderson.	01363 772263
	Chiddenbrook Surgery - Drs Twomey, Braddick, Griffiths, Fearon, Kirwan and Parker	01363 772227
<u>NEWTON WONDER MAGAZINE & WEBSITE</u>	Editor – Peter Hawksley Email: editor@newtonwonder.net	01392 851269
<u>PARISH COUNCIL</u>	Chairman - Jim Enright Clerk - Jane Hole	01392 851859 01392 851148
<u>PARISH HALL</u>	Chairman – Roger Wilkins Booking Sect - Mary Long, - maryglong@btinternet.com Caretaker - Chris Barlow	01392 851337 01392 851624 01392 851125
<u>PRIMARY SCHOOL</u>	Head of Teaching – James Akhurst Administrator - Maxine Pople	01392 851267 01392 851267
Newton Nippers Pre-School	Contact the school	01392 851267
Newton Nappies Toddler Group	Emily Rickard	01392 851899
<u>RECREATION CLUB</u>	Chairman - Tony Lewis, 80 Wrefords Lane, Exeter Booking Secretary - Mrs Wendy Lewis, 80 Wrefords Lane, Exeter	01392 432287 01392 432287
Newton Revels	Chairman - Eric Fee - ericwfee@hotmail.com	01392 851595
Art Group	Jenny Hallam, jennyhallam6@gmail.com	7787383658
Neighbourhood Watch	Damien Hodge, 2 Tytheing Close damien.hodge@centraxgt.com	01392 851111
Footpath Warden	Steve Parker	01392 851505
Cancer Research UK	Jean Wilkins, Coldharbour, Sand Down Lane	01392 851337

Community Policeman	PCSO Nicola Payne, Police Station, Crediton Nicola.payne@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk	Dial 101
District Councillor	Graeme Barnell, Halses, West Town Rd. Email: gbarnell@middevon.gov.uk	01392 851308
County Councillor	Margaret Squires	01363 84337
Local M P	Mel Stride mel.stride.mp@parliament.uk	01392 823306
Football Club	Mark Smaldon	7733455177
Friends of NSC Station	Chris Southcott	01392 851569
Luncheon Club	John Salter, Hill Park	01392 851346
Mah Jong Club	Geoff Jackson megalops@btinternet.com	01392 851551
Newton Ramblers	Rosemary Chambers	01392 851400
Tennis Club Secretary	Laura Leigh	01647 24259
Twinning	Lorraine Mitchell	01392 851596
Upton Pyne PC	Jacqui Ward- jacquiward30@yahoo.co.uk	01392 851918
Young Farmers	Will Ayre (Chairman) willayre@hotmail.co.uk	7964286831
Archery	Alison Couling	01392 841282
Gardening Club	Jane Timlett	01392 851361
Honky Tonks Line Dancing	Paula Benford	01392 210830
History Group	Jean Wilkins	01392 851337
Table Tennis	Roger Wilkins	01392 851337
Friends of the Arboretum	Roger Wilkins	01392 851337
Crediton Citizen's Advice	Adviceline (10.30 - 3.30)	03444 111444

The **NEWTON WONDER** is delivered within the Parish at a charge of only £5 per year.

Please contact Gerry Radford on 01392 851504 or email
paul.radford3@btinternet.com.

If you move away it can be posted for an additional £5 p.a.

April 2020

The **Newton Wonder** team consists of Peter Hawksley and Peter Cordingley (editors). Daphne Clague, Richard Nicholls and Gerry Radford.

Articles for Publication: Please email to Peter Hawksley, editor@newtonwonder.net. Tel: 01392 851269

Notices of Local Events: Please email to Peter Hawksley as above.

Local voluntary Village events are included free of charge.

Advertisements: Please contact Richard Nicholls at richnick@outlook.com. Tel: 01392 851877. Please include your business name, address, ad-size required and number of insertions. **Payment in advance:** cheques made payable to **Newton Wonder Community Magazine** and sent to Richard Nicholls, Landown, Sand Down Lane, Newton St Cyres, EX5 5DE.

All items for publication must arrive by the 15th of the month before publication. Please send by email wherever possible otherwise they should be sent to the Editor at Station Cottage, Newton St Cyres EX5 5AS

We aim to distribute the **Newton Wonder** at the beginning of the month but this cannot be guaranteed. It is recommended, therefore, that events taking place early in the month be advertised the previous month.

The **Newton Wonder** is delivered to local households and businesses at an annual charge of £5. Additional copies can be purchased from the Post Office/Village Store.

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The editorial team of the **Newton Wonder** does not necessarily agree with the views of contributors contained in their published articles. This is a **community magazine** and it is our policy to print reports, articles and submissions that might be of interest to the community - provided that we have sufficient space to do so and they are not libellous in content.

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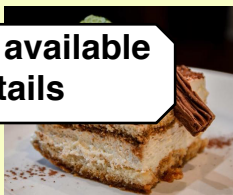
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