

NEWTON WONDER

The Magazine and Website for the community of Newton St Cyres

50p.

February 2017



www.newtonwonder.net

February 2017

The **Newton Wonder** team consists of Peter Hawksley, 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 to Newton Wonder 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.

Advertising Rates for the Newton Wonder

	1 Year
Small (approx. 73mm x 46mm)	£30.00
Quarter Page	£60.00
Half Page	£100.00
Full Page	£200.00

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.

A WEEK IN THE PARISH HALL

Mondays	FOOD AND FITNESS CLASS	9.30 - 12.30pm	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 £3.50p 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
Wednesdays	PARENT & TODDLER GROUP	9.30 - 11.30AM	Emily Ricard Tel. 01392 851899
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
1st Thursday of Month	PARISH COUNCIL	7.30 - 9.30pm	All are welcome
Thursdays	FOOD AND FITNESS CLASS	9.30 - 11.00am	Emma Healey Tel. 07969 900794
Fridays	MARTIAL ARTS	6.00 - 7.00pm	Dave Powlesland PUMA Taekwondo & Little PUMAs Tel. 07802 855852
Fridays	TABLE TENNIS	7.15 - 9.45pm	Just turn up £2 per session (£1 Children)
4th Saturday of Month (usually)	MINI MARKET	10.30 - 12.00 noon	Angie Hannaford Tel. 07505 127213

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.

Looking Forward

We are now well into 2017 and it looks set to be an interesting year, internationally, nationally and locally. The new school and housing developments will bring changes to the village and, like Trump and Brexit the consequences cannot be predicted.

It was encouraging to see a well attended meeting to start planning the 2018 Revels. The new team appears to be full of ideas and enthusiasm.

Defibrillator

At the end of 2016 a second defibrillator was bought for the village. Thanks go to the Recreation Club who have accommodated it on the Clubhouse wall. This was largely funded from the residual money raised by the now defunct Community Support Group. It is being looked after at the moment by Cllr Chris Southcott who is organising a training session in the near future. Although I understand that these machines "talk" to the operator and give clear instructions on how they should be used, it would be beneficial if there were people around who had experience with them, in the event of a cardiac emergency.



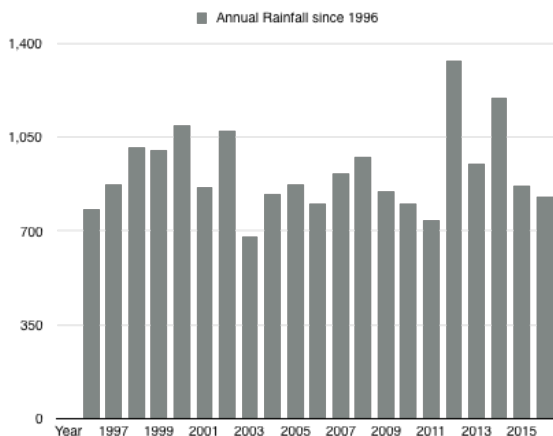
Disappearing Flowers

It seems that there has been a spate of thefts of flowers and wreathes from the Churchyard. Sue Browne, the churchwarden has brought this to our attention and asks: "Maybe anyone who uses our churchyard, could keep an eye open for anyone removing items from graves, or maybe someone may be able to throw some light on the situation."

Station Road

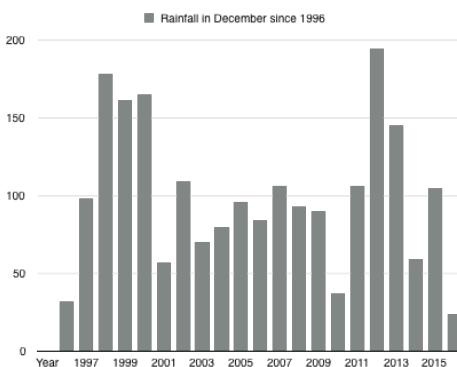
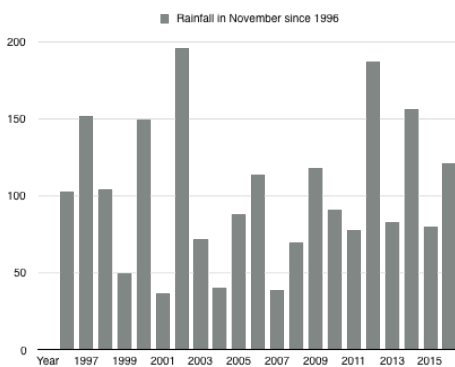
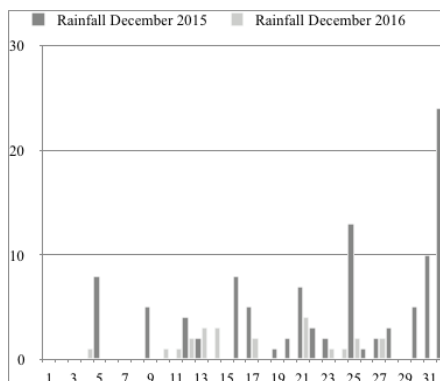
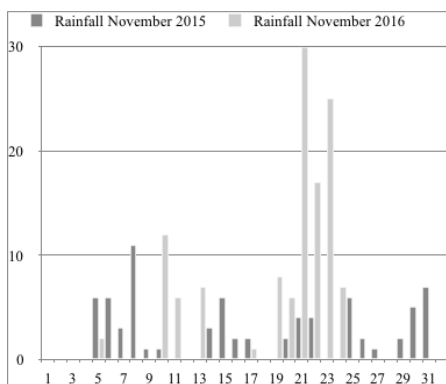
It appears that a number of people are walking down the lanes at night without wearing anything reflective. Although there are lights in Station Road there are many times when headlights from oncoming traffic mean that pedestrians really cannot be seen. Driving in Station Road regularly has made me acutely aware of the dangers. A simple light or reflective item is all that is required to enable a pedestrian to be seen at night.

Rainfall in Newton St Cyres



This month sees annual total rainfall data. Although the weather in 2016 seemed to be largely dull and miserable in only 4 of the last 21 years has there been a smaller total.

In addition to the comparisons of rainfall in both November and December 2015 and 2016 we also have charts showing the total rainfall in November and December every year since 1996.



Parish Council Report December 2016

Eight Councillors attended the December meeting and were joined by Cllr Margaret Squires (DCC) and three members of the public.

Planning.

The meeting were informed that the application for the new School had been approved and the Cllrs made no comment on the proposed extension to the Tennis Club building at the Recreation Ground. The extra advertising signs that had appeared at Half Moon lay-by were discussed and it was agreed to check the legality with the Planning Authority.

Local maintenance.

The Chairman and the Clerk had toured the parish noting where maintenance work could be carried out by Thorverton Parish Council handyman. The list was approved by the Cllrs and it was hoped that this work would start to be undertaken in 2017.

Local Parish Plan.

Following the first meeting of the Development Group a list of actions had been drawn up with details of which group in the parish would take responsibility for the action points.

Resilience Group.

Jock Campbell had presented a paper to the Council with details of the Community Resilience Forum Meeting he had attended where emergency planning, the role of the Fire Service and Police and Community Rest Centres were discussed. Cllr Reeves reported that the early warning system in the parish had worked during the recent heavy rain. The Cllrs were also told that a volunteer road maintenance person could be trained to Chapter 8 level free of charge. **Anyone interested in becoming part of this scheme should contact the Parish Clerk, Jane Hole, for more details on 851148.**

Speed Watch.

An appeal was made for more volunteers to join the Community Speed Watch Team and it was emphasised that the presence of the Team in the village was helping to reduce the speeding through the village and more volunteers would mean the team could be out in the village more often. **Anyone willing to join the team and play their part in making the road through the village safer should contact Tom Clague on 851639 for more details. Thank you.**

Precept.

As the December Parish Council meeting is the time when the precept for the following year is agreed the Cllrs discussed the budget figures taking into account expected expenditure for the following year and agreed that no increase in the precept would be required for 2017.

New date and venue for Parish Surgeries.

The Cllrs agreed to take the Parish Surgery table and information to the village Coffee Mornings in 2017 instead of to the Village Market. This will mean that the Cllrs will attend the surgery in rota on **the first Saturday of every month (10.30 am to 12.00**

noon) in conjunction with the Coffee Mornings run by the Church, the Parish Hall, the Twinning Group, the Craft Club, the Friends of the Arboretum and the Gardening Club. Please come along to the Coffee Mornings where there will be plenty of stalls selling a variety of goods and meet your Councillors with your queries and questions. Details of the surgeries will be publishes in the Newton Wonder every month.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held in the Clubroom of the Parish Hall on Thursday 2nd February at 7.30 pm. We will be pleased to see you there when we can again take on board your concerns and queries.



Parish Council report January 2017

Seven Councillors attended the January meeting of the Parish Council and were joined by three members of the public. The Council do not normally meet in January but this meeting was called primarily to discuss a planning application for the 25 new houses adjacent to the new school site.

The Council discussed the plans which had been submitted and expressed concern about the provision of a footpath to the new school through the new houses. From the plans it was not clear if this had been provided so the Council resolved to ask Mid Devon District Council for clarification. If the footpath has been included then the Council would be happy with the plans. If no provision had been made then the Council would raise an objection.

An application to remove 14 trees from Court Orchard Copse to facilitate the proposed road widening was approved. The Council approved the planning application to erect a single storey rear extension at Quarryfield, Langford Road.

Congratulations.

The Clerk, Mrs Jane Hole, was congratulated on successfully completing the Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA).

Report from MDDC meeting.

The Chairman and the Clerk had attended an update meeting and reported that training was to be available for Councillors on the Code of Conduct and Declaration of Interests policies. The Council are also able to suggest names for new streets in the Parish and this may be relevant for the new development in Station Road.

Bird Flu.

The Council were concerned about the ruling about keeping poultry and captive birds in a secure place being extended to the end of February. It was emphasised that this applied to all poultry, including ducks and geese, and they should be kept in a house or shed and away from any possible contact with wild birds. It is the faeces of the wild birds that carry the disease so netting over the runs would not be enough protection.

Community Volunteers.

It is hoped that nominations for 2016 will be with the Council by the next meeting so that a decision can be made about a worthy recipient.

Defibrillators.

An offer of training on the new defibrillator installed at the Recreation Ground had been received and Cllr Southcott agreed to ask members of the Recreation Ground Club committee if they would like to nominate people to attend this course. It would be suitable for people in charge of various sports at the Rec, parents whose children are involved in sporting activities or use the play equipment and the ground maintenance crew.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday 2nd February in the Clubroom of the Parish Hall at 7.30 pm.

The next Parish Surgery will be held in the Crown & Sceptre on Saturday 4th February at 10.30 am. There will be FREE coffee/tea, a raffle and a tombola stall at this event. All future Parish Surgeries will be held in conjunction with the Coffee Mornings held on the first Saturday of each month in the Parish Hall. Please come along to these events and enjoy the company at the Coffee Morning event and talk to your Councillors at the same time.

Cllr Jill Baker, Press Officer

Newton St Cyres Gardening Club

Our next meeting will be held on
Wednesday 8th February 2017
in the Clubroom of the Parish Hall
at 7.30 pm



Our Speaker will be
Miranda Allhusen



Miranda will talk about
'Glorious Gardens in Devon'

£1.50 to include tea/coffee and biscuits

From the Village Diary - newtonwonder.net

February 2017

- Sat 4th. Parish Surgery - come and meet your Parish Council with Free Coffee
10.30am Crown and Sceptre
- Wed 8th Gardening Club
Glorious Gardens in Devon - with Miranda Allhusen 7.30 pm Parish Hall
- Wed 15th History Group
Stories from a Devonshire Kitchen - Paul Cleave 7.30 pm Parish Hall
- Mon 27th Bingo for Arboretum Funds (eyes down 7.45pm) 7.30 pm Parish Hall

March 2017

- Sat 4th Church Coffee Morning & Parish Surgery 10.30am Parish Hall
- Sat 4th Sale of Pictures by Eileen Endacott (in Club Room) 10.30am Parish Hall
- Sun 12th Car Boot Sale Matford to raise funds for the Friends of the Arboretum
- To help please contact David Vallance on 851266
- Wed 15th History Group
An aspect of Newton's Archaeology - Bill Horner 7.30 pm Parish Hall

April 2017

- Sat 1st Parish Hall Coffee Morning and Parish Surgery 10.30 am Parish Hall
- Wed 26th History Group
Medecine in Devon in the 18th and 19th Centuries - 7.30 pm Parish Hall
Andrew Knox
- Sun 30th Gardening Club
Visit to Hayne Barton Gardens, Zeal Monachorum, with a Cream Tea,
Details later.

May 2017

For further and more recent diary entries and previous entries please go to the website:
www.newtonwonder.net

To have your event(s) listed in the Village Diary please use the box on the webpage or email details of your event(s) with times and venues to editor@newtonwonder.net

RECREATION GROUND CLUB

It is now almost half way through January and guess what - it's raining and the forecast is threatening snow. Not any help if you are trying to supply sports fields, so it's fingers crossed we are not looking to start several weekends of unplayable Football pitches, and the complications that go with having to cancel matches.

January is a slow start to the league indoor games so Darts and Skittles get under way, we also have some cup games to fit in.

Social bookings are only ever a few for the early months of the year, so only a couple booked in this year,

January will see us host an engagement party and in February we have the Archery Group's Annual General Meeting.

For many people an introduction to our facilities has blossomed through the mini football games on Saturday mornings, where after match food is provided for all the players. Families can then see what we can offer for family parties.

Please remember us if you need a venue, meetings, family and work parties and general get to gethers can all be catered for.

We are a fully licensed area with a bar that can be tweaked to suit your individual requirements.

So I am crossing my fingers that lots of you will find a reason to visit us through 2017, we look forward to seeing you having an enjoyable time using our facilities.

Wendy Lewis



Newton St Cyres FC – February 2017 Update

Since our last report the two adult sides have produced some improvement following the management changes caused by the resignation of the First Team Coach earlier in the season - great credit to the coaching teams and players.

In Devon and Exeter Premier Division the Firsts have moved up one place to 13th of 15 teams - W3, D4, L10. The Reserves, who play in Devon and Exeter Division 5 have moved up to 10th of 13 teams - W4, D3, L9. If this progress continues both teams should escape relegation.

Newton St Cyres Tennis Club



Although we are now well past the shortest day, January has still felt somewhat chilly and damp for tennis. However lots of members are still playing regularly, and we offer a cut price membership for those only joining for the winter months. Annual subs are due in March so if you are thinking of joining now is the time to give us a go – we offer a couple of free trial club sessions for you to make up your mind. Please contact our

membership secretary Laura Leigh on 01647 24259 for any membership enquiries. There are also still vacancies for Junior Coaching on Wednesday afternoons and evenings.

We are pleased to learn that we have been granted planning permission to extend and upgrade our clubhouse. For those who don't know us, we have a small wooden clubhouse next to our two courts at Newton St Cyres Recreation Ground. This has a sink with cold running water, a small amount of storage space for balls and other equipment, room for a table and chairs for match teas, committee meetings etc, but not much else. We hope to add a small, glazed viewing area at one end so people can watch tennis being played on court while remaining under cover and sheltered from the elements. This will be especially helpful for parents/carers watching junior coaching sessions, when it is cold and dark during the winter months. We also aim to add a toilet facility with wheelchair access via a ramp at the other end. This will also be very useful, especially when it is dark and we have visiting teams from other clubs, who have been known to get lost looking for the Recreation Ground's facilities! There will also be a changing room in this new area which will help people who come straight from school or work and currently have no private area to change in. We are in the process of applying for some grant funding, and if we are successful in this we hope to be able to go ahead as soon as possible.

So 2017 will be an exciting year for us! Check out our website www.newtonstcyrestenniscub.co.uk for all information about the club, contact details etc.

Sally Baldwin

The under-15's continue their great form and are second in the Exeter and District Youth League Division 3 with two games in hand over the leaders - W4, D1, L0 and a goal difference of +20, the best in the division. The team has also been winning friendly games which may impact on next year when there may only be two divisions in the age group.

The under-10's have over 20 players, enough to field two teams, Newton Knights and Newton Crusaders and both are winning well, with plenty of goals.

Roger Furniss

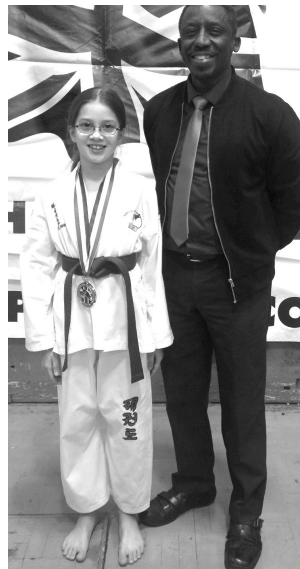
Martial Arts - Taekwondo

Competing at the Taekwondo British Championships in Swindon, village local, **Annabelle Meakin-Lee**, went through a number of rounds to get to the final of the patterns competition, winning Gold to become British champion. Asked what she thought about winning, she replied "I'm proud and tried my best but I could have done better!" My medal was a bonus but my Taekwondo is what matters. She is pictured here with 8th degree, Master Gayle, event organiser.

Later on at the championships, **Dan 'the Warrior' Parker** came up against a world champion in the heavyweight final. He didn't win but took a very creditable silver medal which was incredible for someone who has little time to train.

Taekwondo class is on at the village hall every Friday from 6pm, with 4th degree Instructor, Dave Powlesland. All ages and levels from beginners upwards are welcome. It's very inclusive and an excellent way to build confidence, learn self-defence and get flexible and fit. The first few visits are free, so you can try before you commit, at no cost.

Dr. Simon Lee.



NEWTON ST CYRES PARISH COUNCIL

**PARISHIONERS ARE INVITED TO COME TO
A COFFEE MORNING & PARISH SURGERY
ON**

**SATURDAY 4TH FEBRUARY 2017
IN THE
CROWN & SCEPTRE
(10.30 am - 12.00 Noon)**



***You are invited to come and meet your Councillors and ask
questions of the Parish Council in a sociable setting
There will be FREE Coffee - a Raffle
and a Tombola Stall***

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NEWTON ST CYRES

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Aerobics & Fitness Pilates

Ring Emma now for details

CREDITON

QE Upper, Old Gym

Thursday 6.00pm

Do You Remember?...January and February

January 1977

The Playgroup reported successful fund raising events from a Jumble Sale and Bingo. The Parish Council discussed white lines on the A377. As little enthusiasm came from County and District Councils and the police, the chairman suggested a couple of villagers on the footbridge with a pile of rocks could possibly control dangerous driving. The school received a generous gift of a colour TV from Mrs Taverner. Radio 4's 'Any Questions' was broadcast from the Parish Hall. The team consisted of Bishop Westall, Jeremy Thorpe, Katherine Whitethorne and Arthur Marshall with David Jacobs in the Chair. The school celebrated it's centenary year.

February 1977

The WI had a successful Christmas Party where Angela and Jenny Beer entertained with their impressions of Frank Spencer and Betty. It was reported that Mr George Blatchford was recovering well after an accident with a chain saw. The Parish Council advised that the proposed Play Area at Tytheing Close would receive no District Council funding.

January 1987

40 members of the Afternoon Club enjoyed a Christmas meal at the Dolphin Hotel Bovey Tracey. The 1st Newton St Cyres Scouts and Cubs held a Blue Peter bring and buy sale in the Parish Hall. Church Chat reported that work to repair the east window would be carried out in the next six weeks.

February 1987

The Parish Council has asked the Electricity Board and BT if overhead wires in Pump Street could be placed underground. Both authorities said that they had no plans to do so and there was no money available to carry out such work. The Car Scheme has been cancelled due to a lack of drivers. The Beer Engine's cellar bar had The King Biscuit Show to entertain an appreciative audience.

January 1997

A report from 'Down on the Farm' described creep boxes for piglets to keep them warm and to help avoid getting squashed by the sow. A ceillidh that was held in the Parish Hall in November raised £172 for Hospicecare. In view of this success another ceillidh is to be held this month.

February 1997

Liz Mitchell's gardening notes has tips for preparation for the approaching planting season.

The Playgroup has now moved to the school. The Toddler Group will still be held in the Parish Hall.

The Young Farmers are to hold a debut performance of the short play Red Spy At Night in the Parish Hall.

The Parish Council report stated that over £200 has been paid to repair bus shelters in the past year.

Mary Quicke's On the Farm column reported improvements to the slurry system.

January 2007

A questionnaire from the Parish Hall committee asking for expressions of interest in new activities in the Hall produced a very low response. It was assumed by the committee that residents were happy with current activities.

February 2007

The New Rope String Band entertained a large audience in the Parish Hall.

Newton Ramblers are planning a walk from the Beer Engine to Lake Farm then to Rew Cross, Shute, Efford and back to the pub.

Home Farm is down to the last few pigs.

The Parish council is advertising for a Parish Clerk.

NEWTON RAMBLERS

Sunday 19th February

On Sunday 19 February the Ramblers will walk from Topsham to Exmouth. This is a flat walk of 6 miles following the Exe Estuary and going through Lympstone. There will be plenty of interest with a lot of water birds to see.

We will meet in the Newton St Cyres Parish Hall Car Park at **9.30 am** and take the minimum number of cars to Topsham. We think that we will finish the walk at about 12.30. There will then be the option of returning directly to Topsham by either bus (bring your bus pass!) or train or alternatively having lunch in Exmouth and then going back to Topsham by train or bus.

All welcome. Any queries to Jean or Roger Wilkins on 851337.

Please note that anyone joining these walks obviously does so at their own risk.





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How well do you know your village?

Chris Southcott has supplied the picture below. He has asked the following questions:-

1. **WHEN** was the picture taken?
2. **WHERE** was it taken?
3. **WHO** are the people in the picture?

No 9.

Boxing Day Past



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

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 in Newton St Cyres Village hall.



Contact:

Emily Ricard

01392 851899

simon_rickardo@hotmail.com
or see our facebook page

Newton Nappies



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NEWTON ST CYRES HISTORY GROUP

Our Christmas meeting always aims to be a social evening, as well as having an historical theme. This time, on Wednesday 17th December, we had an enjoyable time singing carols, enjoying a buffet with mince pies and wine, and listening to Christopher Lee's well-chosen selection of readings.

The evening began with the carols, led by Sonja and Colin Andrews from Morchard, who have a folk singing background, and an interest in traditional and early carols. They were both strong singers as well as instrumentalists, and had us joining in straight away. Sonja sang 'The Boar's Head Carol' herself; it was first written down in Oxford in 1521, and celebrates the ancient tradition of feasting on a boar's head, and has a Latin chorus. The tune is simple but the words evocative of the Middle Ages.



We then all joined in with 'While Shepherds Watched'. This is such a well-known carol, but Sonja and Colin told us how in the past local parishes often had different versions of the same basic carol, with different tunes being used. Following a lead from a reference at the British Library, researchers in Morchard parish looked in the parish chest where, amongst many other records, two old alternative tunes were found for this carol, one of which we sang with Sonja teaching us the lines.

Colin then accompanied himself on his accordion and sang a wonderful version of 'The Twelve Days of Christmas', which involved a poacher and his dog bringing back, amongst other things, '*a partridge in an old sack, five poached eggs, 6 bootiful turkeys, 11 salmon smoking,*' and ends with the poacher getting caught on the 13th day!

The last three we sang were the traditional 'Sussex Carol (On Christmas Night)', 'O Little Town of Bethlehem', which was sung to a tune new to me, and 'We Wish you a Merry Christmas', which is always a cheerful and rousing way to finish carol singing.

Sonja and Colin played the guitar, the penny whistle and accordions with great skill, and our thanks go to them for leading the session.

We then stopped for refreshments and enjoyed drinks and savoury snacks as well as Christmas Cake and mince pies, and had time to talk and relax.

Christopher then started with his first reading, which was by the author Jan Stewer, and from 'A Description of Devon' published in April 1892. Jan Stewer is of course a character in 'Widdecombe Fair' and was the pen name of Albert Coles, who aimed to preserve the Devon dialect in his writings. He died at the age of 90 in 1965, and Chris told us how he remembers first hearing his work at a Harvest Supper 50 years ago, and the impression it made on him. Next he read descriptions of very different war time Christmases from the diaries of Henry Gliddon, who many will remember, and who was clerk to the parish council for many years. The first dated from 1942 and described an overnight train journey, from Wadi Halfa in the Sudan to Cairo, and Christmas Day in the camp there. One year later Henry was a POW in Stalag4B south of Berlin. Here the Christmas highlight was the arrival of the Red Cross parcels with clothing, boots and food. Henry was suffering from yellow jaundice at this point. The next year, in 1944, and still in the POW camp, the prisoners saved the labels from the Red Cross boxes to make

decorations, and although 100 of the men had to work in the mines that Christmas Day, morale was kept up by a concert party.

Christopher finished on a lighter note with two traditional stories, both a little risqué! The first involved icing on the Christmas cake and ball bearings instead of dragees, which interfered with Granny's digestion. The second was concerned with eggs under the bed and Grandpa's infidelities over a long marriage. You had to be there to enjoy the jokes! Thank you, Christopher, for both choosing such interesting material and for reading it so beautifully.

Altogether we had a really sociable and festive Christmas evening and our thanks go to all involved in making it happen.

Meetings will be held on a WEDNESDAY evening

7.30pm in the Village Hall Club Room.

We have no special membership and everyone is welcome.
There is a small charge of £2 which includes tea and biscuits.

For further information contact Jean 851337 Isobel 851351

2017

18 Jan	The History of Estate Agents	David Force
15 Feb	Stories from a Devonshire Kitchen	Paul Cleave
15 Mar	Some Archaeology of Newton St Cyres	Bill Horner
26 April	Medicine in Devon in the 18 th and 19 th Centuries	Andrew Knox
June	Outing to be fixed	
20 Sept	The Italian Garden at Ambrook (A garden rediscovered)	Angela Dodd Crompton
18 Oct	Family History and Archaeology	Peter Marsden
15 Nov	Some Tales of Duels since 1760 - English and Continental incl. the Petticoat Duel	David Pugsley
13 Dec	The Repair of Newton's Bridges	Chris Southcott

NEXT MEETING

At our next meeting on Wednesday 15th February we welcome Dr Paul Cleave who is interested in food, and its history, most particularly the local and regional traditions in Devon. He advises the National Trust when they run themed events at Castle Drogo, for example how the kitchen and dining room would have looked in the 1920's and the 1930's. He says he just might bring a few tasters!

Paul's talk is entitled - Stories from a Devonshire Kitchen.

DRIVER WALTER KNOWLES (1877 - 1917)

In the early spring of 1858 James Knowles, a tailor from Upton Pyne, married Maria Coad, also of Upton Pyne in St Peter's Church and the couple came to live in Newton St Cyres (1861 census). Sadly they lost their two eldest children, John in January 1862 and Sarah in March 1862. However, the couple went on to raise a further nine children of whom Walter, born in 1877, was the youngest. James's business appears to have widened in scope so that by 1891 he was described as tailor and grocer. Walter at the age of 13 years was an errand boy. James died in 1893 and the grocery business was continued by Maria. Alfred Abraham, in his book describing his childhood in the village, mentions how the tap of the black treacle barrel was accidentally left on!

By 1901 Walter had moved to London and was one of three young men boarding with a Metropolitan Police Officer and his family in Marylebone. Another was Charles Hard from Crediton. Both young men worked as general labourers. The following year, 1902, at the declared age of 22 years, Walter enlisted in Woolwich with the Royal Regiment of Artillery (Royal Horse and Royal Field Artillery) for short service which would include nine years in the Army Reserve. He was posted that July as a driver. On his attestation Certificate he is described as a carman. His medical certificate states that he is 5 ft and 2 and 5/8 ins tall with a fresh complexion, blue eyes and brown hair.

In June 1905 he was transferred to the 1st Class Army Reserve. On his transfer form, as an aid to getting civilian employment, he was described as a carman accustomed to horses. He was later re-engaged by the Army as a driver but the date is obscured and it may not have been until 1914.

Meanwhile in December 1908 Walter was reported as being involved in some unseemly conduct outside the Agricultural Inn which had its licence revoked in the following March. Redundancy was cited, there being three Inns for a population of 700 but from newspaper reports it seems the landlord George Abraham was unable to exercise sufficient control. In May 1909 Maria Knowles (shopkeeper) had a stroke and died and there was a big funeral. Walter was with his sister Florrie and her husband Frank Weeks, a groom, and their small son Freddie at the time of the 1911 census. He was working as a general labourer. Florrie was to take over the shop.

In the late summer of 1911 Walter Knowles married Lily Evans in the Totnes district and that November they had a daughter Annie Irene who was followed three years later by a brother Victor Walter. Lily gave a Stoke Gabriel address for the Army contact.

Walter Knowles was mobilised at Hilsea (RA barracks in Portsmouth) on the 1st of August 1914, as a driver in the 23rd Brigade, and he joined the British Expeditionary Force. He had a further four postings of which the last was to Brigade headquarters, before his death in February 1917.

Driver Walter Knowles, service No. 24327, died of natural causes at the age of 39 yrs while on active service.

The circumstances of Walter's death were unusual. He had been feeling unwell for several days but had managed to keep working although with difficulty. He was sleeping in a loft with another driver and a saddler. On the morning of the 24th February 1917 he was unable to get up and his companions reported him sick. He was visited by Captain Morgan RAMC who found him conscious but in a state of collapse. As the loft was approached by a ladder and a trap door, with no access for a stretcher, it was thought best to leave him there with a visiting medical orderly. He appeared to sleep during the day but his condition deteriorated and he died in the Captain's presence in the late afternoon. A verdict of cardiac failure was presented.

There were several enquiries into Walter's death, one a week later and another in the following July when death as a result of cardiac failure was confirmed. However there is a further document in the file dated August 1917 from the MP (is this Military Police?) "Returning the documents and asking for grounds of alcoholic poisoning"

The only further document I have seen is the granting of his wife his 1914 Star Medal in 1922. Walter Knowles served in the Theatre of War for two years and 190 days. His total Army service was fourteen years and 262 days. The Royal Field Artillery were responsible for the medium calibre guns and howitzers deployed close to the front line and whatever the circumstances of his death Walter certainly "did his bit". He is buried in the Albert Communal Cemetery Extension. Albert was the main town for the Allies behind the lines of the Somme Battlefields.

The Knowles /Weeks families had already lost Leslie, the grandson Maria had brought up. He had died on a Somme battle field the previous September. Florrie Weeks (nee Knowles) was to lose her young son Freddie to typhoid the next August. Husband Frank was on active service and was unable to return home in time. They were village shopkeepers. Fortunately the typhoid did not spread. The Rev Boles wrote in the Deanery magazine 'We trust that those responsible will see to it that our drainage and water supply are above suspicion'.

**Walter Knowles letter to the Western Times written on the 29th July 1915
is reproduced on the next page**

Below is a letter from the soldier, Walter Knowles, who is featured on the previous page. It generates fascinating insights into the issues of the time.

OUR LETTER BOX

PROTEST FROM A SOLDIER.

To the Editor of the "Western Times."

Sir,—Will you kindly grant me a small space in your valuable paper to tell some men at the little parish of Newton St. Cyres that it would be far better if they would show their manhood and come out and protect their wives and children than it is to throw slurs at the wives of those who are gone, to the effect that they are better off now that their men are at the front. I expect the wives would rather have their husbands at home than the little extra money they keep throwing in their faces. Some of these men are as able-bodied as I am, and about the same age, only I suppose their hearts are in the wrong place. I have been out here right through from Mons to Ypres, and I am glad to say that after what I have seen of the Huns, regarding the women and little children, I feel that I am doing my duty in being out here for my country, and to help protect the women and children at home. God help them if the Huns got over there. Let those who jeer at the wives at home be men and come out as men and protect their country, or keep a silent tongue in their heads.

Yours faithfully,
DRIVER W. KNOWLES.

Somewhere in France,
July 29th, 1915.

Sale of Local Artist's Work

in the Parish Hall Clubroom

Saturday 4th March 10.30 am

A large number of pictures by Eileen Endacott who left Keepers for Sandford last November.

The pictures span over many years and are in oil paint, water colour, copper etchings, prints etc. She was one of the founder members of the Newton Art Group. She was also a professional artist earning her living prior to her marriage and she took it up again after a break of a few years. She did commissions, sold to a gallery in the Lake District, painted on agate, wooden coffee tables, house signs, jewellery, had cards printed with her work, prints of some of her paintings. She attended country shows, art and craft shows throughout Devon. For a number of years during the summer months she organised a day each week, for a small number of people, selling art and craft work at Endecott House (different spelling to our name) in Chagford. She was a wildlife artist and specialised in horse, dog and cat paintings. She trained and worked at the Dolcie Vaughan studios in Chudleigh in the 1940s after the 2nd World War. The speciality of the studio was painting on plain white china, tea sets etc, as there was a shortage of such things after the War.



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AVIAN INFLUENZA (BIRD FLU) OUTBREAK IN THE UK

As you will be aware there have been a number of Avian Influenza outbreaks in the UK and a Prevention Zone was declared in December that covers the whole of the UK.

The prevention zone means that all poultry keepers – whether on a commercial scale or simply a small backyard flock – are now required by law to house them (keep them under cover) or otherwise keep them separate from wild birds. This requirement (the Prevention Zone) has now been extended until 28 February 2017. They have also banned gatherings of poultry across the UK.

It is also important that poultry keepers must continue to keep a close watch on the health of their birds, and take steps to reduce the risk of infection via the environment, for example in wild bird droppings, by practising good biosecurity. You should do this even if your birds are inside. If they are concerned it is important that they contact their Vet.

This has been necessary because the same Avian Flu strain has also been found in wild birds in England, Scotland and Wales. DEFRA have taken this action to reduce the risks and help protect poultry and captive birds from avian flu.

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Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

How to keep your birds safe from Avian Influenza (bird flu)



Avian Influenza, also known as bird flu, is a disease that affects all types of poultry including chickens, ducks and geese. A severe strain of the disease, H5N8, has recently been found in wild and captive birds in the UK. This guide is designed to help keepers of small flocks of poultry look after their birds while there is a prevention zone in place.

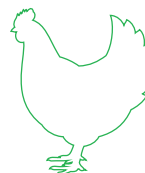
How bird flu spreads

Bird flu can be passed from wild birds to poultry, causing birds to fall ill and die. It can be transmitted directly from bird to bird or via the environment, for example in wild bird droppings.

To reduce the risk of bird flu spreading from bird to bird there is currently a legal requirement for all birds to be housed or otherwise kept separate from wild birds.

This means if you keep poultry, including chickens, ducks or geese, even as pets, you must take action to prevent contact with wild birds and protect them from this potentially fatal disease.

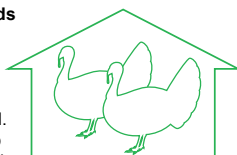
Risks to human health are very low and bird flu does not pose a food safety risk.



Protecting your poultry

Where possible, move birds into a suitable building,

like a shed or outbuilding adapted to house them, or a new temporary structure like a lean-to or a polytunnel. Put netting over openings to stop wild birds getting in and remove any hazardous substances.



It is your responsibility to ensure your birds' welfare while indoors and keep them calm and comfortable:

- If you keep several types of birds, house chickens or turkeys in separate enclosures from ducks and geese. Check the birds regularly to ensure they are healthy and have enough food, water and dry bedding.
- Keep the environment interesting to reduce the risk of feather pecking. Add fresh bedding, straw bales, perches and objects such as cabbages, scatter feed or grain on the floor and add grit to litter to encourage birds to scratch.
- Make sure birds have natural light where possible and are not permanently in the dark. Light should ideally follow typical day and night patterns.
- You may want to consider nutritional supplements in drinking water that can help keep birds calm.
- Skin parasites like red mite can be a problem in birds kept indoors and can make birds more irritable. Advice on controlling parasites can be obtained from your vet.

Reducing the risk of infection

If you don't have a suitable building to move your birds into, or the welfare of the birds would suffer if moved indoors, you must take sensible precautions to keep them away from wild birds.

You should follow these steps to reduce the risk of infection via the environment, for example in wild bird droppings, even if your birds are inside.

- Keep food and water supplies inside where they can not be contaminated, feed birds inside and keep them away from standing water.
- Where birds remain outside, set up a temporary enclosure covered with netting that wild birds can not access.
- Minimise movement in and out of your birds' enclosure and clean footwear before and after visits.
- Keep the area where your birds live clean and tidy, removing spilled feed.



Signs of Avian Flu

Signs include loss of appetite, swollen heads and respiratory problems. **If you suspect bird flu call the Defra helpline on 03000 200 301.**

Further information

Further details can be found at www.gov.uk/guidance/avian-influenza-bird-flu

This information has been put together by Defra with the British Veterinary Association (BVA), Royal Veterinary College (RVC) and British Veterinary Poultry Association (BVPA).

6 January 2017



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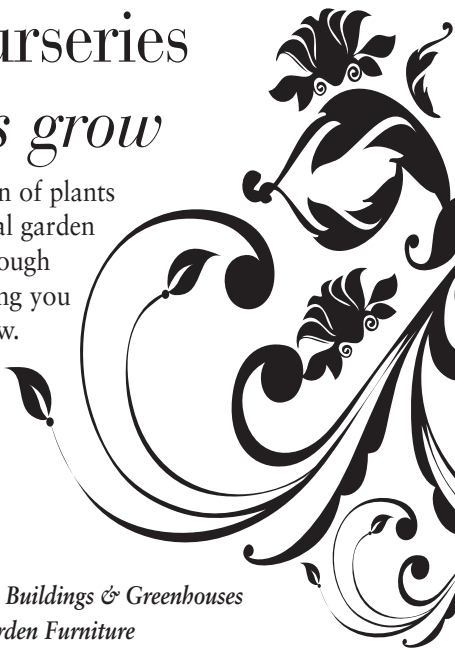
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Savings from bulk purchase of oil

In response to the 2016 Parish Plan questionnaire, a considerable number of residents indicated that they would support a community bulk oil purchase scheme.

We can participate in a scheme that has been operated successfully by Devon Communities Together (DCT) for the last four years. This scheme aims to identify and supply the oil that is cheapest at a particular time and has given considerable savings.

DCT has a partnership with Affinity, a subsidiary of Anglian Farmers Ltd the largest agricultural purchasing co-operative in the UK. Affinity pool together fuel orders and negotiate directly with suppliers.

There is a membership fee of £24 per annum to join the cooperative. Once you become a member, you can place your order directly with Affinity and they will then complete a bulk order once a month and arrange to have it delivered to your property within two weeks of the order being placed.

Full details are given on the DCT website - www.devoncommunitiestogether.org.uk/Event/join-devon-oil-collective. Or go to the DCT website and follow 'Membership' and then 'Join Devon Oil Collective' or telephone 01392 248 916.



Monthly meeting

**Friday 28th February 10 am--12-30 pm.
Village Hall Newton St. Cyres**

**Club Morning Practical Get together to make your own " Spring Collage ""
Bring magazines, newspapers, paint, glue, scissors, etc.**

New members always welcome, come along and have a go!

30th November Powerpoint Presentation by Ray Balkwill

The presentation took us quickly through Ray's career, and explained why he feels so rooted in Devon : many generations of his ancestors lived on and around Dartmoor, as photographs and gravestones will testify. His childhood near Okehampton was spent enjoying the natural environment and drawing, and his favourite location for painting is without doubt the Exe estuary. He prefers working en plein air, as the changeable conditions force a painter to work fast to capture light and mood, and don't allow for fiddling with detail.

He stressed the need to "find your own voice" when painting, and to experiment all the time, to avoid getting stuck in a rut. Ray's paintings of estuary and coastal scenes are so instantly recognisable as his, that this comment was surprising, until we saw examples of his work which treated a variety of subjects, techniques and media, proving that he does successfully practise what he preaches! On what was possibly the coldest night of the year, we were happily warmed by his humour, and passion for painting, and treated to a glorious exhibition of much of his work.

Jenny Hallam

Newton St Cyres 200 Club

The December draw took place at the Gardening Club coffee morning in the village hall on 3rd December 2016
and the winners are:

No	62	S Munday	£50
No	143	R Chambers	£50
No	23	L Bewick	£10
No	136	A Westaway	£10
No	138	B Born	£10
No	150	P Coates	£10
No	148	E Loosemore	£10
Full House Bonus			
No	158	M & C Ware	£25

The January draw took place at the Church coffee morning in the village hall on 7th January 2017
and the winners are:

No	151	E Loosemore	£100
No	135	Mr Fanson	£10
No	21	Geoff May	£10
No	183	T Playle	£10
No	73	June Chudley	£10

Congratulations all and may you all have a good 2017

Daphne 01392 851639

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THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

Monthly Meeting 15th February, 2017

Boniface Centre 10am – 12pm

Dr Richard Scrivener

Talks about the Geological Survey of Devon

Become a member and join one or more of our
interest groups such as walking, pub lunches, French,
board-games, philosophy, science, grandparents and
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soon!



February on the Farm

Valentine's Day: that's when all the birds pair up, a friend told me. Certainly, there's a lot of action quietly going on as everything starts to come to life after the dead of winter. By the beginning of the month, we are halfway to the equinox. The sun is stronger, days are longer. If cold weather comes, you know it can't last. Catkins that have been sitting tightly on the hazel in the hedges since the autumn start stretching out and releasing clouds of pollen to fall onto the tiny crimson and exquisite female flowers. Snowdrops doughtily peep through, and if it's warm, we'll get the first of the primroses.

Crops - Winter wheat and barley respond to light, and decide how many plantlets, and so how many ears, each will grow. We want enough to fill the field, and not so many the roots can't fill the grain. It's a balance of plant numbers, plant variety and soil fertility which absorbs arable farmers at this time of year. As the plants start to grow, we feed them to get the ears we want at harvest.

The grass starts growing, too, and we watch and measure the growth. In the middle of the month, the spring cows will calve and start producing milk. They swing from late pregnancy dreamtime suddenly to 'I'm hungry and need lots of grass to eat'. First they eat the grass we've stored over winter on the fields, which is not much. We need the grass to start growing. Reliably by the end of February, the pastures will be at their barest. If we've planned it right, and balanced grazing with silage feeding, the grass will start growing in time to meet the cows' hunger. We want warmer South-westerlies not chilly East winds that freeze the growth.

Calves - we get a few calves at the beginning of the month, little things coming early. By Valentine's Day, our official start date, they will be coming thick and fast. By the end of the month, we'll have calves everywhere. We are calving for the first time on the new grazing area to the South of the main road. We'll keep them inside until we know they are drinking milk well from a teat and out they will go, close to the buildings so we can keep them from the worst of the weather.

Heifers - their yearling sisters are out on kale, kinder on milk teeth. Their big sisters, with more adult teeth, have been with the cows on fodder beet, also known as mangel-wurzel. That's sweet and very heavy-yielding, and a bit firmer. They'll come in to calve so we can keep an eye on them. Mostly our vigorous little cross-bred ladies get on with calving by themselves. They are fit and well-toned from their outdoor life. The calves know their job from before birth and get their hooves into the correct diving position to be born easily, and land lively and ready to go. And you never know, so we are ready to help should someone need it.

New Parlour - It's very exciting to use the new parlour in earnest. We tried it out in November and December to troubleshoot any problems and now we hope it's ready to roll and milk all the cows quickly and comfortably for them and the people. We will bring the milk down the hill to the Cheese Dairy and mix it with the autumn cows' milk. The milk takes a little while to build up after calving starts: a cow takes 6 weeks after calving to hit peak milk.

Cheese - We need all the milk we can get, as people ate a lot of our cheese over the autumn and Christmas and we need to replenish our stores. We've been working hard on mixing the salt evenly once we have milled the curd, and that's given us a really unexpected benefit of some gorgeous textures and flavours. At the last grading, we couldn't believe how consistent and silky our 3 month cheese was. I can't wait to taste that when it's mature next Christmas.

Maturing - As the milk builds up, so the work gets more demanding: more cheese to make, press, dress, take to the store and turn weekly. Cheese gradually develops its beautiful mould coat in store. First its pristine white cloth, then a few blue green patches of mould, then something that looks like a painting, styles ranging from Matisse to Jackson Pollock. Then a heavy grey-green coat, then a more modest mature coat. The mould garden, we call it, developing all those gorgeous flavours under the rind. Happy days.

I met the wonderful Barbara Steiss at the Dartmouth Food Festival. I love her yummylicious take on food, check out her blog on The Devilled Egg (<http://www.thedevilledegg.com/>). She has some lovely recipes using our cheese. I love this winter warmer.

Barbara's Pumpkin speltotto with goats' cheese

Serves 2

1 small onion, chopped
2 cloves of garlic, sliced
100ml cider or white wine
1 small pumpkin or butternut squash
250g spelt
600ml vegetable or beef stock
100g Quicke's goats' cheese, grated
Handful of walnuts
2 tablespoons of roughly chopped parsley

Peel and deseed to pumpkin or butternut squash. Reserve quarter and grate the rest. Cube the rest. Preheat a little oil in a pan and fry the onion until starting to colour. Add the garlic for a minute. Add the spelt and coat in the onion mixture. Pour in the cider or wine and leave to bubble for a few minutes. In a separate pan, fry the cubed pumpkin until golden brown and cooked (this is an optional step, but really makes the dish). Pour in the stock and the grated pumpkin, leave to simmer for 25-30 minutes until thicken and the spelt is soft (you might need to add more stock). Add the cheese and leave to melt. Pour onto 2 plates and decorate with the cubed pumpkin, walnuts and parsley.

NOTICE OF PERMISSIVE FOOTPATH CLOSURE

As normal, we are closing the permissive footpaths on the Quicke Estate on Tuesday 14 February. Statutory footpaths remain open.

Mary Quicke

Newton Nappies



Can you help us?

We are looking to get some new toys for the baby and toddler group and wondered if anyone might have some they would be able to donate.

Please drop them in to us at the parish hall any Weds between 9:30 and 11:30 or email newtonnappies@outlook.com to arrange collection.



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- Optimise or upgrade your computer.
- Provide you with a new computer.
- Get your broadband working properly.
- Set up networking for computers, tablets, readers and 'phones.
- Tackle hardware and software issues.
- Try to get data from a dead machine.
- Advise on your computer security.
- Prepare your old computer for scrapping.

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Monthly Gardening notes for February from Bert Jewell

On reading over the last couple of months notes I realise that I hadn't mentioned that I had bought a motor bike. To get to work from the village I had to push a bicycle up hill on both journeys to and from work. A friend was a motorcycle mechanic and he managed to get me a good deal on a 250cc BSA. I learnt to ride and passed my test in Exeter. This was back in the 60's when the examiner would walk out in front of you for the emergency stop. Now let's get back to my journey.

On returning home after my time in hospital I found my bike propped up against the house wall, the forks bent, the crash bar which is fitted to hold two spotlights was completely smashed. My arm and hand in plaster, it seemed there was no joy from my parents that I was still here. Believe it or not I had a good laugh in the hospital ward, the nurses were great and the other patients were good for a laugh, despite their injuries. My first day home made me feel as if my world had fallen apart, but one thing I learnt whilst growing up was never to give up. The time while my wrist healed seemed like an eternity, we had no books to read but sometimes had a paper if mother went shopping.

There was a small village store and post office, but she could now go to town on a bus or a lady from the village would sometimes go shopping and take mother with her. They became good friends and mother started doing the odd bit of housework for her. She lived in the Rectory which was just across the road from the church. Mother would mention the church regarding someone she'd meet who was a church goer. Father's reaction was quite short. He said "we are having nothing to do with the church, they go there to see what their neighbours are wearing and then talk about them behind their backs."

I now find this interesting because we have a bible which was given to a James Jewell by the Rector of Beaford, the Rev H Marshall on April 30th 1885. This could be my grandfather. Also in the bible are the dates of birth of what appears to be my father's brothers and sisters. One day I will try to find out more about my ancestors.

I am sitting in my office writing these notes on the 1st January, it seems a month of the new year has already gone, so let's keep up and travel a little further along my journey.

Once my hand and wrist had mended and the doctor had given me the all clear to go back to work I had to decide how I was going to get there. For a while I relied on an old bicycle and a kind neighbour who worked in the same town. Although I had passed my test to ride a motorcycle and I loved the speed and adrenaline rush they can create, I decided to take lessons to drive a car. I thought if I had a car, I wouldn't have to dress up in all the leathers, boots, goggles, gloves and helmet. There was also a girl in the village who helped me decide. Her dad had a motorbike and she didn't like

riding pillion. Once I had saved up enough to pay for some driving lessons (the only money I spent was on cigarettes and lodge money to my parents) I booked up with the local school of motoring. After playing a few tunes on the gearbox and stalling the engine once or twice, things seemed to go well.

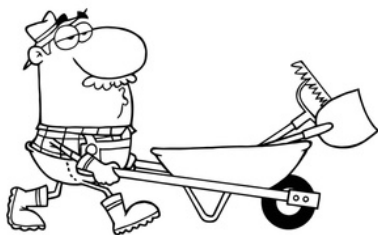
There was one thing that caused a constant niggle, the car was dual controlled and the instructor continually applied the brake or depressed the clutch. One day whilst having a lesson I remember coming to a crossroad and on changing gear I found that the instructor had again depressed the clutch. After negotiating the crossroad I drove on until we came to a stone landing. These are areas beside the road like a lay by, where chippings are stored ready for when the roads are resurfaced. Much to the amazement of the instructor I pulled in. "What is the problem" he asks, "You Sir" was my reply. "I have to be able to use the pedals on my own if I am going to learn to drive, so we decide now whether you continue to teach me or I get someone else". He agreed to use the pedals on his side of the car only in an emergency, so we continued with the lesson. I passed my driving test on the second attempt and bought my first car soon after. Before I tell you about the car I think we should have a look around the

Vegetable garden

Don't feel that you have to start putting in seeds and plants just because they are available in the garden centres, or we have had a few sunny days. If the ground is cold, freshly planted plants may well just sit there doing nothing, but they are ageing , so when they do start to grow they will just go to seed. If you really want to start early, warm up the soil with a sheet of black polythene for a couple of weeks removing all weeds first, then towards the end of the month remove the polythene and plant early Peas, Broad Beans, Lettuce and early Carrots.

Flower garden

I look at our flower borders and think what a mess. The old flower stems and foliage of the perennials are still there from last year. The thinking has changed over the last few years and it is now thought by leaving old plant material in place over winter



encourages more birds in the garden, with plenty of over wintering insects and more places to forage. But the time is fast approaching for the big clean up to start. I shall begin by cutting down the Ornamental Grasses. Carefully cut off the old stems as close to the ground as you can, avoiding any new shoots. Clean up around the plant and apply a slow release fertiliser, lightly forking it in.

continued over

Fruit garden

Any remaining Apple and Pear pruning should be finished this month before the leaf buds start to open. Continue to plant new soft fruit bushes or canes. Prune autumn fruiting Raspberries by cutting all the canes down to ground level.

Lawns

You may well find that the grass is beginning to grow, but try to avoid the temptation to get out there with the mower unless the conditions are right. No frost, ground not waterlogged and the mower deck is high.

Trees, Shrubs and Climbers

Mahonias have looked great this year with their yellow, lily of the valley scented flowers. But the plant can become leggy, so once the flowers have finished, cut the stem off just below the flower head. This will encourage new shoots to develop lower down the stems. Large flowered Hybrid Clematis that start flowering in June and continue through to late August, should be cut down to about 2" from the ground or to a well developed bud.

Plant of the month

"Corylus Contorta" The Corkscrew Hazel.

An unusual relative of the common Hazel, grown for the twisted stems which bear yellow catkins this month. Can grow up to 10' or more in any well drained soil. It will tolerate a windswept site. Prune out any old wood in March. The catkins are male, look for the rather sparse female flowers, they are red but tiny.

Enjoy your gardening

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Advice Column

Mid Devon Citizens Advice

"I've ordered a vase online but it's arrived broken. Is there anything I can do to get my money back?"

It may seem logical to complain to the delivery company but it's actually the responsibility of the retailer to ensure the item arrives in good condition.

Call or email their customer service department and explain the situation - you'll find their contact details on the website or on your order form. You may be asked to email photos of the broken vase to prove it's damaged.

You will then be offered either a refund or a replacement. It's up to you which one you accept, but if you want a replacement ask for an estimated delivery date so you know when it will arrive.

Some retailers ask you to return items that arrive damaged. If that's the case, you need to repackage the vase and stick the returns label provided on the front of the parcel. Include the returns form, specifying your reason for sending it back.

Depending on the retailer, you will either need to post the item through Royal Mail or they may offer to have it collected. You shouldn't have to pay any postage costs.

If you asked for a refund you can expect to be reimbursed within 14 days of the retailer agreeing you're entitled to one.

For further advice, contact the Citizens Advice consumer service on 03454 04 05 06.

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Offices in Tiverton, Crediton and Cullompton.

Visit www.ruraldevoncab.org.uk for opening times

ADVICELINE 03444 111 444 Monday- Friday 9-4pm

Neighbourhood Watch and Emergency News

*For further information or to submit a report please go to the website or contact the
Parish Council Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator,
Jim Enright on 01392 851859 or email jimenright4@gmail.com*

To protect your home Neighbourhood Watch advises using the WIDE system.

- W Window locks on every window
- I Interior lights left on when you are out or away
- D Double or dead bolts fitted on doors
- E Exterior lights on a sensor

Windows: When having new windows fitted, ensure they have secure locking devices. For older windows fitting additional locks will enhance your security. Never leave a window open when you're out, even if it is only for a short period of time.

Interior lights; leave a light on, especially if darkness is a possibility before you return home. And if you are away fit a timer controlled plug to a table lamp or two.

Doors: A BS five-lever mortice lock with a nightlatch; or a multi-point lock that uses hooks is essential for all external doors. Further peace of mind can be gained from fitting security bolts, a chain, a spy hole; and hinge bolts to protect the hinge side of the door. For timber doors an ERA British Standard 3621 Fortress mortice lock ensures you meet insurance standards and is a suitable upgrade to existing locks.

Exterior lights; Sensor lights are now inexpensive and solar powered lights may also be used.

Close and lock your doors and windows at night and when you leave the house. Burglars are lazy and would much rather get in through an open door or window.

Don't forget to lock doors into garages and conservatories, especially in warm weather.

Consider a Neighbourhood Watch Padlock for your French patio doors.

Keep all your keys in a place where they can't be seen by anyone looking in (even through a letterbox). Don't leave keys in the door lock and don't hide a spare key under a nearby plant pot.

Make sure your locks and security measures comply with your home insurance requirements

Fraudsters are doing their best to get their hands on your money.

They'll call you on the phone posing as bank staff, police officers or other officials claiming there's been fraud on your account and that you need to take urgent action. They are very convincing. They may even ask you to check the number on your phone display matches your bank's registered phone number. Don't trust the display as the number showing can be altered by the caller.

Always remember that your bank or the police will never:

- Phone you to ask for your 4-digit card PIN or your online banking password, even by tapping them into the telephone keypad.
- Ask you to withdraw money to hand over to them for safe-keeping.
- Ask you to transfer money to a new account for fraud reasons, even if they say it is in your name.
- Send someone to your home to collect your cash, PIN, payment card or cheque book if you are a victim of fraud.
- Ask you to purchase goods using your card and then hand them over for safe-keeping

If you are called and asked to do any of the above simply advise the caller that your son or daughter will be back in a few minutes and you will tell them about the problem. The caller will try to convince you that there is no time to spare but ignore their pleas.

If you get a call like this, hang up, wait five minutes to clear the line, then call your bank or card issuer on their advertised number (usually on your card) to alert them to the scam.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH DEPUTIES

Tim Sedgwick	Godolphin Close	2	851223	twsedgwick1@supanet.com
Sue Gee	Church Area	Glebe House	851164	asgee@btinternet.com
Tom Dowle	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
Ken Evans	West Town	Holme Court	851227	kenevans207@btinternet.com
Clive Wooton	Woodlands	4	851428	hollywallydoda@outlook.com
VACANT	Tytheing Close			

There is a vacancy for a Deputy resident in Tytheing Close

To volunteer please contact Jim Enright

CREDITON ARTS CENTRE SPRING PROGRAMME

The Art Centre ended 2016 in style welcoming in 2017 with a New Years Eve party for friends and supporters. This event was a great success with over 50 people attending an evening of music, food, drink and chat topped off with a glass of bubbly at midnight.

Now we have a new programme to look forward to and we very much hope that we can tempt you to come along to some of the treats we have lined up. There is certainly something for everyone. We started with Crediton's very own Brown Paper Bag theatre performing the restoration comedy *The CountryWife*, a restoration comedy from 25-28 January followed by the latest 'Book into Film' on 2 February with a showing of *The Age of Innocence* based on Edith Wharton's 1920's novel. If you have time to read the novel before coming you might want to stay on and take part in a short discussion after the film – in fact stay anyway whether you have read the book or not as it can be interesting to hear others views.

We are delighted to welcome back Red Dragonfly Productions on 10 February when they perform *Taking Flight* – a series of three short plays from emerging British writers. This is followed by two performances of *Hopping Mad* on 18 February – an exciting musical set in the hop fields of Kent and performed by Crediton Youth Theatre. Our younger friends are also staging a Young People's Art Show on 4 March with the theme of *Movement*. On 18 March the Uncommon Plays will perform *Endgame* one of Samuel Beckett's most accessible plays.

The weekend of 24/25 March sees not only an '*I Like This*' evening featuring a stunning selection of speeches from the stage on 24th but also a children's show *Malina's Dream* with Angel Heart Theatre and their wonderful puppetry on the afternoon of 25 March. The Spring programme ends with Dogwood Productions performing *No Finer Life* on 7 April – a play set in the Oxfordshire countryside at the end of World War II and penned by Graham Harvey who was for 20 years The Archers agricultural story editor.

If you haven't visited us before we can be found on East Street, Crediton just opposite the Church. We do hope to see you soon. For more information and ticket prices please visit www.creditonartscentre.org or call 01363 773260. Tickets can be purchased on line at www.creditonartscentre.ticketsource.co.uk or from Crediton Community Bookshop and Sandford Stores.

Liz Kingdom

Congratulations to Janice Kay, who lives in the village, on her award of the CBE in the New Year's Honours List. The award was for her services to education.

"Professor Kay constantly strives to improve the student experience, and has led on the issue for more than 14 years at the University of Exeter. In this time Exeter has become a sector leader in the student experience as recognised by consistent top rankings the National Student Experience Survey and a rise through the national league tables." (University of Exeter Staff News)

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.

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

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Pancakes

Add variety to your pancake batter by using wholemeal flour in place of white, and adding grated apple, about 50g (2oz) to 100g (4oz) flour. Serve the pancakes with a Devonshire apple sauce made by cooking peeled, cored, and sliced apples with brown sugar and a little lemon juice, until soft. Devonshire clotted cream goes well with these!

Paul Cleave

Calling all Gardeners!

Come to the annual CREDITON **SEED SHARE on Saturday 18 February** from 11am to 2pm at the Old Town Hall on CREDITON High Street [entrance at side]. If you have saved seeds to share, pack them up, label with variety and year and bring them along.

No seeds? No problem!

- Come and help yourself to free seeds from other gardeners - flowers, especially those good for bees, etc, vegetables, including heritage varieties not available in the shops.
- Plan to save some yourself in 2017.
- Browse the stalls and seed saving/gardening information.
- Stay for coffee and cake and/or homemade soup and a roll.
- Enjoy music from the Woodmen.
- Bring a donation towards our costs.

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Deborah Baker - Local and International Photographer

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her subject is

Photography and her

Garden at North Tawton

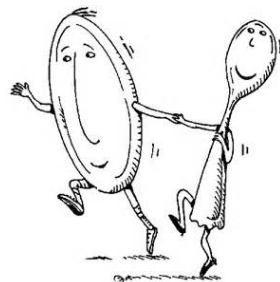
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2nd Sunday each Month

Simple Prayers

The whole Service to last 45
minutes

PLEASE DO COME and JOIN US!

12th February at 10.00 a.m.

Tea, Coffee and Cake

Music

Conversation

Simple Prayers

Auld Lang Syne

He was having a really bad night - restless and uncomfortable. His toga was soaked in perspiration whether from all the alcohol he had recently drunk or the recurring nightmare he was waking from, he was not sure.

'Hello Herod', said a voice.

King Herod sat up abruptly, 'What the Dickens' he exclaimed with remarkable prescience, whilst his eyes searched the star lit bed-chamber for the person who had spoken. No-one was there. He sank back on his pillow, 'Oh it's you' he said, 'As if things aren't bad enough. What are you doing here?'

'As you were sleeping so badly, I thought you might need some company'.

Herod's eyes sought out the seat by the door where his night guard usually sat. It was empty. 'Probably still revelling the night away in the local hall', he thought, struggling to recollect something about Olympics and games. He dismissed the thought, 'All Greek to me.' he grumbled.

'Anyway,' continued the voice 'it's good to look forward to a New Year with friends.'

'Bah' exclaimed Herod without a trace of humbug and tried to wave the voice away with his arms. Instead his fingers caught the little toy Caesar crown perched on top of his teddy bear that lay as usual by his side. The crown leapt from the bed and glinting in the star light arched its way towards a large crack in the marble floor. 'This floor is as potholed as the roads!' thought Herod angrily. Meanwhile, the crown landed, pirouetted gracefully a couple of times and chinked its way into the crevasse below. 'What do I or anyone else have to look forward to this year?' shrugged Herod, 'They've just elected some media magnate to run the senate, another 'mad fiddler' by all accounts; then there's the wars and the famines, the immigrants and the terrorist rebels: Poor services, decaying roads and historic buildings, and a messaging network that takes for ever. Now some goon of a general called Julius is setting off to tame the Northern heathens in Britannium. As if they would ever want to play a part in anyone else's empire! On top of that I have a recurring nightmare about being the bad guy in some story about a baby a star and itinerant wise men, and here I am at 2am on New Year's day talking to a disembodied voice.'

'There, there', said the aforementioned voice calmly and soothingly. So calmly and soothingly in fact that King Herod pulled up his covers, took teddy in his arms and sank further into the pillow. 'Just because we don't talk much these days, doesn't mean I'm not there - always have been, always will be. Doesn't mean I don't care. I care as much for you as the media magnate, about war and famine, the plight of immigrants and the complexities of terrorism I care about the lack of services and support and I totally sympathise with a poor communication network. I even care about the Northern

heathens you mention; they may live in little hill top villages miles from the heart of things but their problems are strikingly similar. Anyway, aren't you dwelling too much on the problems - serious as they are? What about all the wonderful things in the world? Happiness generosity and humility; the things that go well and the things that don't "after all go from worse to worse". Without being too, well since you said it first, Dickensian about it, perhaps you should try seeing the good in things, trust people a little more. See the bigger picture as they say. Maybe you might make better decisions, maybe you wouldn't see the need to bend everything quite so much, to your will. What do you think?

But King Herod didn't answer and after a while the room was still and quiet again. That is except for the rise and fall of Herod's breathing that ruffled the few remaining clumps of fur on teddy's head, which, in turn, glimmered in the silver star light of another year. A sudden breeze caught the net curtains at the window and although no-one heard it, it briefly harmonised with the breathing of the sleeping man, caressed, almost lovingly, his thinning hair. In the street, at a distance, voices singing, loudly, raucously, slightly off key - but with unconfined joy.

Stewart Clapp
Upton Pyne

Newton Saint Cyres Church

OPEN DAY

SUNDAY 12th FEBRUARY 2017

Church Project – Presentation of Information

On Display Boards from 11:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

PLEASE come and give your comments, suggestions, etc....

Tea & Cake provided

Services in the Netherexe Parishes

Your parish churches aim to provide a variety of service types to meet the needs of the whole community. Most Sunday services except those early in the morning include hymns and music. Everyone is welcome at all services

Service With A Smile ☺ These services are designed for all ages and with the needs of young children especially in mind. They are informal and contemporary in style often including a children's activity at the beginning; without communion and are led by lay teams. Services usually last about 35 minutes and are followed by refreshments

Family Service Family services are suitable for all ages, may be with or without Holy Communion, are contemporary in style and are often followed by refreshments

Holy Communion [C] Traditional service in contemporary language [one hour]

Holy Communion [BCP] Traditional service in traditional language [one hour]

Morning Prayer [BCP] Traditional Morning Service [Mattins] from the Book of Common Prayer [about an hour]

Evening Prayer [BCP] Traditional Evening Service from the Book of Common Prayer [about an hour]

Common Worship [CW] Common Worship Service

Daily Morning & Evening Prayer in the Netherexe Parishes

For daily services the format is generally Book of Common Prayer at Thorverton and Common Worship elsewhere, and the timing is about 20-30 minutes. All are welcome.

Morning Prayer is said on Mondays at 9.10 am in Stoke Canon church (during the school term, this takes the form of Collective Worship for Stoke Canon C. of E. School); on Tuesdays at 9.15am in Stoke Canon Chapel

Evening Prayer is said on Thursdays at 5.00pm in Newton St Cyres church; contact Sue Browne on 01392 851460 for location.

Who's Who? Abbreviations Key

KC	Revd Katie Cross katie.cross@netherexe.org	Rector	01392 759612
SS	Revd Preb Sue Sheppard sue.sheppard@netherexe.org	Associate Minister	01392 861022
LF	Mrs Laura Ford laura.ford@netherexe.org	Reader	01392 841753
TBC	To be confirmed		

Associate Ministers

MSS Revds. Michael & Sharon Simpson

HW Revd Harold Whitty

BOF Baptist Officiant

For more information about the Netherexe Parishes please see www.netherexe.org or contact:

Mrs Margaret Lowe [Administrator]

Tel: 07594 714590 - Tuesday & Thursday [08:30 – 16:30]

Email: margaret.admin@netherexe.org

Correspondence: The Netherexe Parishes, PO Box 734, Stoke Canon, Exeter, EX5 4WP.

Would you like a lift to church? May we offer you a lift to the parish church or to a joint service elsewhere?

For transport to Sunday services from locations in Thorverton parish, please ring Steve Rendell on 01392 860780.

For transport from Rewe parish please contact Guy Sheppard on 01392 861022

Newton St Cyres Parish Church Rotas February 2017

Week Ending	Flowers	Clean Church/ check loo	Brass: key with Sue
February 5th	M. Walters	P. Boother	
12th	S. Munday	P. Burt	
19th	A. Ward	A. Mitchell	J. Pyle
26th	-	-	-

Sidespersons

February 5th	9.30 a.m. Family Service Lay-led	Clive Lawrence	Jen Holt
12th	10.00 a.m. Open Door		
19th	-	-	-
26th	9.30 Holy Communion	Wendy Hough	Tony Hough

FEBRUARY 2017 SERVICES & INFORMATION

The Netherexe Parishes - A Mission Community in the Diocese of Exeter

Sunday 5 February Fourth Sunday before Lent

09:30 am	Family Service		Newton St Cyres	Lay Led
09:30 am	Holy Communion	[C]	Thorverton	MSS
10:00 am	Service with a Smile	☺	Brampford Speke	LF
10:00 am	Service of the Word		Cadbury	Lay Led & KC
10:00 am	Service of the Word		Stoke Canon	Lay Led
11:15 am	Coffee, Cake & Company		Rewe	
05:30 pm	Holy Communion	[C]	Poltimore	KC

Sunday 12 February Third Sunday before Lent

09:30 am	Sunday Service		Brampford Speke Baptist Chapel	BOF
09:30 am	Holy Communion	[C]	Huxham	MSS
09:30 am	Open		Thorverton	
10:00 am	Informal Gathering		Stoke Canon	
10:00 am	Open Door		Newton St Cyres	Lay Led
11:15 am	Service of the Word		Rewe	Lay Led
11:15 am	Holy Communion	[C]	Upton Pyne	SS

Sunday 19 February Second Sunday before Lent

08:30 am	Holy Communion	[C]	Brampford Speke	KC
09:30 am	Open		Thorverton	
10:00 am	Family Service		Thorverton	Lay Led
10:00 am	Holy Communion	[C]	Cadbury	HW
10:00 am	Service of the Word		Poltimore	Lay Led & KC
10:00 am	Family Service		Thorverton	Lay Led
11:15 am	Coffee, Cake & Company		Rewe	
05:00 pm	Holy Communion	[C]	Stoke Canon	KC

Sunday 26 February Sunday before Lent

09:30 am	Sunday Service		Brampford Speke Baptist Chapel	BOF
09:30 am	Holy Communion	[C]	Newton St Cyres	KC
10:00 am	Messy Church		Stoke Canon	Lay Led
10:00 am	Service of the Word		Upton Pyne	LF
11:00 am	Joint Service		Thorverton Baptist Church	BOF
			Joint with Parish Church	
11:15 am	Holy Communion	[C]	Rewe	KC
05:00 pm	Evening Prayer	[BCP]	Cadbury	Lay Led
05:30 pm	Taizé Service		Huxham	Lay Led & KC

Wednesday 1 March Ash Wednesday

07:30 pm	Holy Communion	[C]	Huxham	KC
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Friday 3 March Women's World Day of Prayer

11:00 am	Joint Service <i>Followed by Soup Lunch</i>		Thorverton Baptist church	BOF
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Sunday 5 March Lent 1

09:30 am	Family Service		Newton St Cyres	Lay Led
09:30 am	Holy Communion	[C]	Thorverton	KC
10:00 am	Service with a Smile	☺	Brampford Speke	LF
10:00 am	Service of the Word		Cadbury	Lay Led
10:00 am	Service of the Word		Stoke Canon	Lay Led
11:15 am	Coffee, Cake & Company		Rewe	
05:30 pm	Holy Communion	[C]	Poltimore	HW

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	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 (Credifon)</u>	New Valley Surgery , - Drs Hall, Saunders, Harris, Cameron, Wride & Anderson.	01363 772263
	Chiddenbrook Surgery - Drs Twomey, Murphy, Braddick, Griffiths Fearon & Kirwan	01363 772227
<u>NEWTON WONDER MAGAZINE & WEBSITE</u>	Editor – Peter Hawksley Email: editor@newtonwonder.net	01392 851269
<u>PARISH COUNCIL</u>	Chairman - David Baker Clerk - Jane Hole	01392 851752 01392 851148
<u>PARISH HALL</u>	Chairman – Roger Wilkins Booking Sect - Mary Long, - marylong@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	Michelle Gidley (or contact the school)	01392 851522
Newton Nappies	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 - Vacancy	
Art Group	Jill Doe - sunnyside@jilldoe45.plus.com	01363 83410
Neighbourhood Watch	Jim Enright - jimenright4@gmail.com	01392 851859
Footpath Warden	Steve Parker	01392 851505
Cancer Research UK	Jean Wilkins, Coldharbour, Sand Down Lane	01392 851337
Cricket Club	Paul McCutcheon, paulmccutchion@hotmail.com	01392 851266

Community Policeman	PCSO Lisa Crocker, Police Station, Crediton	Dial 101
District Councillor	Peter Hare-Scott	01363 776409
County Councillor	Margaret Squires	01363 84337
Local M P	Mel Stride mel.stride.mp@parliament.uk	01392 823306
Football Club	Roger Furniss, furniss740@btinternet.com	
Friends of NSC Station	Chris Southcott	01392 851569
Luncheon Club	Sue Browne, 1 Glebelands, Sand Down Lane	01392 851460
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	Rob Davie	7801597703
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
Saturday Market – 4th Saturday of the month	Angie Hannaford	07505 127213
Crediton Citizen's Advice	Adviceline (10.30 - 3.30) Crediton Office (Please leave message asking for ringback)	03444 111444 01363 776210