

NEWTON WONDER

The Magazine and Website for the Community of Newton St Cyres



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CYRES**

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Development of the Neighbourhood Plan

The first stage in the development of a neighbourhood plan for Newton St Cyres took place on Saturday 25th February, when a Community Forum was held to attempt to establish the areas of interest and the sorts of development the community would like to see. To establish a viable plan it has to be shown that everybody, every stakeholder, business, voluntary and statutory group and organisation has been able to inform the process.

The steering group will be reporting back in the April Newton Wonder on progress achieved. If you would like to follow what the group is doing there is a page on the Newton Wonder website, www.newtonwonder.net devoted to the neighbourhood planning process. If you would like to contribute to the deliberations or discussions, or become involved in the process then there is a contact form on the website or feel free to email any current members of the Steering Group, listed at the foot of this page.

Help Wanted

I would like to thank the distributors of the Newton Wonder for their efforts with the February issue. To ensure that everyone was aware of the Neighbourhood Planning Forum a copy was delivered to every household in the Parish. The distributors do a tremendous job delivering to 300 households every month. From time to time we lose a volunteer and at the moment we are looking for someone to distribute the Newton Wonder in the Smallbrook area.

This month's cover photo is by Ann Quon Cordingley – see page 20.

Members of the Newton St Cyres Neighbourhood Plan Steering group

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PARISH COUNCIL REPORT February 2022

The meeting, held on Thursday 2nd February, was attended by eight Councillors, the Parish Clerk, the Mid Devon District Councillor Graeme Barnell, the Climate Officer Sue Rowell and two members of the public.

Environmental Issues

- Mid Devon District Council have given permission for apple trees to be planted in Court Orchard. So, it will once again be an orchard! The trees will be planted by the Newton Environmental Wellbeing Group (NEW). If you would like to know more or become involved, please contact the Parish Clerk, who will pass your details onto NEW.
- Some local landowners (including some with just gardens) have been advised by MDDC that trees on their land are being considered for Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs). With over 30 trees being nominated, a number of owners are very upset that they were not consulted in advance by MDDC as the orders are now very likely to be adopted. Cllr. Graeme Barnell advised that he had worked in conjunction with NEW to get the orders raised in order to protect the trees for future generations to admire.
- An exciting project to conserve the population of white-clawed crayfish in the Creedy is being funded by Natural England and South West Water. The white-clawed crayfish is one of Devon's rarest endangered species and improving water quality in the Creedy will be one of the best ways to ensure its survival. There will be a presentation on the 15th March at the Boniface Centre in Crediton, where you can find out more about the project and how to get involved.
- Devon County Council has a website dedicated to helping businesses reducing their carbon footprint (and incidentally cut costs). If you have a business and would like to know more then go to this website: <https://devonenergycic.co.uk/our-projects/decarbonise-devon/> Our climate officer is also interested in how help can be provided for businesses to reduce carbon emissions. Read her article elsewhere in this magazine to find out more.
- Our tipping rain gauge was recently serviced and will continue to provide us with early warning of potential floods for the next year. However, some work may need to be carried out in the near future on the area around it.
- A successful hedge-laying training session was held at the allotments earlier this year.

Traffic and Road Issues

- The rubbish-collection lorries continue to be obstructed by parked cars in Tytheing Close. Mid Devon is seeking to resolve the issue with local residents.

- The drain just past the Five Elms Lane on the Crediton side of the A377 is once again sinking and posing a risk to vehicles. This will be passed on to Devon County Council. The number of dangerous potholes on this road was also commented on.
- The bank on the upstream side of the bridge over the Creedy on Station Road is being undermined by erosion and this will also be brought to the attention of Devon County Council.
- A recent meeting of HATOC (Highways and Traffic Orders Committee) resolved to monitor the speed of traffic around Smallbrook to consider road safety in light of the bus stops at this point. Speed limits along the whole of the A377 between Exeter and Crediton are also being reviewed.
- As yet, no grit bin has arrived in Kingfisher Close. Our County Councillor will be asked to chase this up.

Buildings and planning issues

- It was brought to our attention that the building site at the old school is not secure and children have been observed on it. This information will be passed on to the developer.
- Minor changes have been requested to the previously approved planning application at Hanlon's Brewery. The Council supported the changes.

Other Council Business

- It was decided that there was insufficient time for the Parish Council to organise a large celebration for the Coronation on May 7th. However, we would encourage other local groups to do so if they wished. Ways to mark the event were discussed and the possibility of providing the primary school children with a medal and planting an oak tree will be investigated.
- Roger Cashmore has sadly had to give up his post as Parish Councillor. We would like to thank him for his sterling work in the parish. It was decided not to recruit a replacement Councillor so near to an election.
- **Council elections are to be held in May. The Parish Council will need several new members. If you are interested in your local community and would like to learn more about being a Councillor or how to apply, please come to the monthly coffee morning in the Parish Hall on 11th March. We will have lots of information and advice for you.**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held in the Parish Hall on **Thursday 2nd March 2023** at 7:00pm. Members of the public are welcome. Alternatively, if members of the public wish issues to be raised in council meetings, they can contact councillors in the usual way. There is also a Parish Surgery at the Coffee Mornings held on the **second Saturday of the month** in the Parish Hall.

Liz Ouldrige
Press Officer

Elections May 2023 – New Councillors needed!

We are all aware of the challenges found in National Government. Local Government also faces its own challenges and this year it will be time for District, Town and Parish Council Elections. These will take place on the 4th of May 2023 and will include our own Newton St. Cyres Parish Council.

As well as Newton St Cyres itself the PC boundary also includes the hamlets of Half Moon, Sweetham, Langford and Smallbrook. Newton St. Cyres is a non-political council and being a councillor affords residents an opportunity to volunteer to represent and support the best interests of their communities.

The Council meets on the first Thursday of every month in the Parish Hall Club Room. It is made up of 9 councillors who stand for election every 4 years and we are supported by the Parish Clerk. It is led by a Chair and Vice Chair, both of whom are elected / confirmed annually.

The council operates on a democratic basis and address all local Finance and Planning issues by a simple majority voting system supported by published minutes and agendas. Occasionally work may be handed to ad hoc groups of councillors to address important matters as they arise. These will report the results of their work back to the monthly Council Meetings where debates take place and decisions are reached.

Some current Councillors will be standing down at the upcoming elections, so new blood is needed. This is YOUR opportunity to step up, and maybe address those some of the issues which have been troubling you. It could be a chance for you to support your neighbours, your community and really make a difference.

Working for the council can be interesting and varied. Just look at the roles and activities currently being undertaken by your councillors in Newton St Cyres.

- Allotments
- Boniface Trail Representative
- Flood and Community Resilience
- Links with Primary School
- Press Officer
- Recreation Ground Representative
- Road Warden Co-Ordinator
- Neighbourhood Planning Representative
- Arboretum Representative
- Community Speed Watch Officer
- Highways/Railways Liaison
- Neighbourhood Litter Officer
- Raddon Hills Representative
- Snow Warden Co-ordinator
- Climate Officer

Being a Councillor is interesting, rewarding and not onerous. There are a wide breadth of opportunities to suit all interests and tastes. Training for new Councillors will be provided. It is an opportunity to support your community in a very rewarding way. If you are interested, please visit our web site:- <https://www.middevonparish.co.uk/newtonscyres/>

Or speak to one of the current Councillors or contact our clerk Jane Hole - email:- parishclerk@newtonscyres-pc.gov.uk

A nomination pack can be found on Mid Devon's website: - <https://www.middevon.gov.uk/your-council/voting-elections/2023-elections/>

Come along to the next Parish Council Surgery at the Coffee morning on 11th. March and ask any questions or pick up a nomination pack – we hope to see you there!

RECREATION GROUND CLUB

As expected, I got the fixtures for the cricket teams soon after I wrote last month's edition. I also got the dates for the archery practice dates.

The football continues every Saturday, with the Youth teams playing in the mornings and the Seniors in the afternoons. As well as League and Cup games, we also have agreed to play a friendly and host a social evening for the players from the Newton St Cyres teams. So lots of football in March.

Looking forward, it looks likely we will have a few weeks of both football and cricket as a few cricket teams have booked dates in April. Some of the football games postponed due to the weather need to be confirmed. With any luck, these will all get booked in during March and early April.

We were pleased to loan out our field to the school as an outside exercise area, and both the family parties in January were a success and have led to further bookings.

The darts and skittles continue through March, with all the teams having both League and Cup games. The schedule is skittles on Monday and Tuesday evenings and darts on Wednesday and Thursday evenings.

A word of thanks here to the Parish Council for their ongoing support.

Our next meeting will be on Sunday 2nd April at 7.30pm.

Until next month.

Wendy Lewis

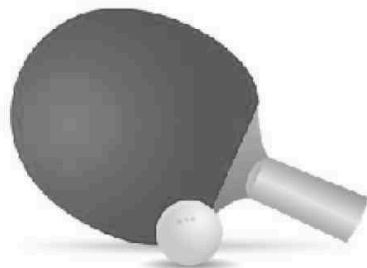


TABLE TENNIS ON FRIDAY EVENINGS

NEWTON ST CYRES PARISH HALL *7 - 9 pm*

We are keen to welcome new players – with or without experience, either adults or children from the age of 11.

There are four tables and so we can fit in people with varying standards, from beginners and rusty former players to League players. Equipment is provided and informal coaching available.

The group meets every Friday. There is no formal membership, but players pay for the evenings they attend - £3 for adults; £2 for schoolchildren.

Ring Roger Wilkins (01392 851337) for any further information.

Newton St Cyres Tennis Club

As evenings start lengthening, we are starting our new Spring Challenge for members as a fun team competition on Monday evenings. More serious is the East Devon Tennis League in which we have a Mixed team currently at fifth place in Division 1, and the Exeter and District Tennis League where our Men's team is at second place in Division 4.



Club sessions are well attended, with some sessions now being divided into two slots as they are so busy. We have quite a few new members and it is great to see them so involved. Coach Jon Wills runs our Junior coaching sessions on Wednesday afternoons and is also available for individual or doubles coaching for adult members.

Membership renewals are due in March, so this is a good time to think about joining if you are new as you will get a full year for your subscription. We are still very reasonably priced compared to some of the larger clubs. For all information about the club, please see our website www.newtonstcyrestennisclub.co.uk or contact our membership secretary Laura Leigh on 01647 24259.

Sally Baldwin

NEWTON RAMBLERS

Sunday 19th March

This month we plan a walk from the village of Otterton down the river Otter to the outskirts of Budleigh Salterton and then returning via a slightly different route. Along the way we can expect to see small signs of the beavers now living in the area - though we do not expect to see the beavers themselves!

We will meet at 9.30 am in the Newton St Cyres parish hall car park to share cars to Otterton.

All are welcome. For more information or if you need a lift, please ring Nigel or Rosemary Chambers on 01392 851400

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



Warm Wednesdays

Come and meet your friends in the club room at the **Parish Hall on Wednesday afternoons**. Following on from Jocelyn's lunches.

There will be tea/ coffee, cake, games, magazines and newspapers, and a lot of chat!

We look forward to seeing you there.

Sue Browne

ST CYR

COFFEE MORNING

MARCH 11th, 2023

10.30 - 12.00



PARISH HALL
Newton St Cyres



A warm welcome
for coffee and chat,
stalls and raffle.

*All funds in aid
of the Church.*

Newton St Cyres 200 Club

The draw for February took place at the Coffee Morning on the 11 February. The winners were:

February 2023

No. 42	C Rendle	£50.00
No. 178	J Quicke	£10.00
No. 149	G Barnell	£10.00
No. 14	D Clague	£10.00
No. 239	Anonymous	£10.00

The Club is registered through the Mid Devon District Council Licensing Department as a Small Society Lottery under the Gambling Act 2005

Jane
01392 851148

Newton St Cyres Parish Hall

Tues 09.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. & Thursdays 12.00 noon to 1.30 p.m.

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Service

now selling some household requisites, confectionery and magazines

Access by gate at far end of the Hall (coming from A377)

Thoughts for March from Peter Cordingley

How do we make Newton St Cyres a better place? That was the question put to villagers at the Community Planning Forum on 25th February. Unfortunately, the discussion took place too late in the month to appear in this issue of the Newton Wonder, so look out for it in the April edition.

Can't wait for the results? Well, as a consolation (not a very good one, it's true) here's my very personal take on what's good and bad about the village and what we can do to improve things. First of all, you should know that our family settled here only four years ago - a fraction of a fraction of the time some people have been here. So you won't be getting much local wisdom from me. Think sketchbook, and you'll be close. For clarity, my thoughts are divided into Positive and Negative.

NEGATIVE

Someone once said about office life that 5% of the staff do 90% of the work. And that's true of Newton. If you scan village activities, from the Parish Council to upkeep of the arboretum, you'll find the same volunteers popping up everywhere. And, for the most part, they are not young.

I go to most Saturday coffee mornings and enjoy them. Good folk, convivial surroundings. But they are like Darby and Joan clubs. Where are all the young people? The problem, I suspect, is that there is a chronic shortage of affordably-priced housing for young families. As for teenagers, what is there for them here? Did the village ever have a youth club? I don't know. Or scouts or cubs?

The loss of the village shop and post office was a big blow to community life. As useful as the temporary post office is, it doesn't do the job that the old one used to do. And no village store! That's embarrassing. How do the elderly with no transport of their own manage? Don't say they can order online, because not all old folk have Internet skills.

The danger posed by traffic speeding along the A377 through the village is discussed elsewhere in this issue. But there's also the problem of the improving but still hopeless rail connections, plus the fact that the village is divided in several parts with the old village at one end, the homes adjacent to the railway station at another, with Smallbrook, Castlands, Half Moon and Langford separated yet again. One village, several localities, linked by a road where nobody seems to respect the speed limit.

But what really disappoints me is the poor broadband speeds. We're four miles from a university city, but you'd think we were on an ice floe off Denmark. Have you tried complaining to a service provider? You might as well shape your complaint into a paper dart and throw it off the church roof.

POSITIVE

So there's plenty of grist for those wanting improvements in village life. But we're blessed, aren't we, by living in a village that is not only chocolate-box beautiful in parts, with a good Italian restaurant and a fine old pub, but one that is run efficiently by a hard-working Parish Council. There is a wealth of sporting, social and cultural activity in the Parish Hall, the Rec Club and the Church.

Bus connections to Exeter and Crediton are plentiful, and the arboretum is a delight, as we will discover once again over the next few weeks as spring brings everything back to life. And we have excellent football/cricket pitches that draw teams from far and wide, plus tennis courts and a children's playground.

But do you know what delights me most? It's the warmth of local people - not just to newcomers like our family from the other side of the world (Hong Kong and the Philippines), but to each other. This is a caring village. That is a big Plus.

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How well do you know your village?

Can you answer the following questions?:-

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

No.75



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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Do You Remember...March?

March 1973

Parish Deaths

Both **Gerald Osborne** and **Ethel Stevens** had passed away.

The **Recreation Ground** had asked the Parish Council for help with their running costs and they agreed to £35 per year.

The Parish Council were concerned about the possibility of **monster lorries travelling through the village**.

The **Newton Wonder** was looking for a new typist

The **old bridge** linking Newton House and the Church was removed. It was reported that the cutting was made in 1753 by the Turnpike Trust. It was thought that the bridge that had been there was the second one having been put there in the 1840's.

The **St Cyres Players** presented 'Goodnight Mrs Puffin' by **Peter Philpott**

The **Cricket Club** put on a Fashion Show by 'Rikki of Tiverton'

March 1983

The **First Twinning Visit** by French guests from Rots took place. They were entertained at the Vicarage with an English meal washed down with cider and Vicarage Home Brew. The next day they had a visit to Home Farm to see the cheese making followed by a trip to Exeter. They finished with a Safari Supper and a tour of the village.

A new cover was needed for the Newton Wonder - size A4 and in black and white.

The **Women's Institute (WI)** celebrated their 62nd birthday with supper after the meeting. Several members enjoyed a meal at the Three Horseshoes.

The Parish Council were told that **plans for improvements on the Half Moon road were not finalised** although the work was more than half way finished.

The **School Footpath** could not be re-surfaced as it belongs to Quicke's so chippings and tarmac cannot be put down.

No bikes please

Residents warned that it is an offence to ride a bicycle on the footpaths.

At the **St Cyres Players AGM** Reg Mear was elected Chairman, Stuart Martin (Secretary) and Bernard Wills (Treasurer). The spring production will consist of three one-act plays.

NSC Primary School was holding a dance in the Hall on the 8th March - £1.50 entry fee.

200 Club Grand Draw

The 200 Club Grand Draw would take place on the 19th April

March 1993

Liz Mitchell wrote an article on **Herb growing** in the Garden

The Parish Council levied £1,200 for 1993/94.

The Recreation Ground Club and the School were combining to produce **'The Summer Show'** on the 4th July.

Membership of the Rec. was £5

The **Church Tower** light was on for Dennis Mitchell's 70th birthday.

The Playgroup were planning a **Coffee Morning** where the children will parade their Easter bonnets.

An appeal for people to grow flowers in readiness for the Flower Festival to be held in the Church in June was made.

The Primary School was holding a **Farewell/Retirement evening** for John Marshall.

The History series continues and explains about the map produced by Dick the Plowman of the mines. Ore was sent to Calais for extraction and was probably lead with a little silver.

Jane Bailey appealed for the **return of the Baroness' pantomime dress** - it had a red skirt and pink flowers and gingham sleeves.

At the Parish Hall AGM the following were elected: Ivy Gratton (Chair), John Durrant (President), Henry Gliddon (Vice President), G May (Secretary), C Lee (Treasurer), Mrs A MacInnes (Booking Secretary).

Bull for Parish Council

At the Parish Council AGM the speaker was Mike Bull, CEO of Mid Devon District Council.

March 2003

Post Office increases services

Sue at the Post Office has been on a training session to allow the Post Office to undertake certain banking operations i.e. paying in and withdrawing money from some bank accounts.

Lambing

Michael and Tina Ayre had opened their lambing shed for all to see them at work. Donations went to Thorverton Church.

continued on next page

The Parish Council were advertising vacant **allotments at £10** per year.

The Twinning Group reported over 30 members attended their annual Dinner at the Beer Engine.

Sid Tarry and Beryl Peck were collecting used postage stamps.

All Permissive Footpaths were closed on the 4th March for one day.

March 2013

Newton Wonder Listing Service
The **Newton Wonder** reminded readers that they are able to provide a **listing service for Births, Marriages and Deaths..** All we need is for you to send us the information.

The report of the **History Group** describes the recent meeting with **Mike Patrick** who has researched the history of wool manufacture and marketing throughout Devon, especially in Tiverton and Topsham, where he now lives.

Scam Telephone Calls

Geoff Jackson was the victim of a sophisticated telephone scam. Luckily for Geoff it ended well as both banks have now totally reimbursed the money lost. We can all learn to be more alert from this story, though it would be difficult to see how it could have been prevented.

A small committee was formed to look into the requirements and the costs involved in setting up a **Community Website** . A letter/ email is to be sent to all the groups in the community and anyone who has registered an interest.

Newton St Cyres Primary School
Heather M Perry, Executive Headteacher, reported on the first year of the EXE Valley Federation and said that the three primary schools at Cheriton Fitzpaine, Newton St Cyres and Thorverton have done so much together in the last year that we feel as though we have been working together forever!

The teaching and support staff have enjoyed taking some of their in-service training together and good support networks have been established.

One year on we have a well informed and highly effective set of governors who have spent time getting to know the special ethos of each school.

As a federation, we enjoy taking part in many extra-curricular activities that include sporting and expressive arts events. Our latest venture takes us to the Great Hall at the University of Exeter on Thursday 09 March when our three school choirs will be performing on stage as part of the "Century of Song".

Nick and Viv Henderson



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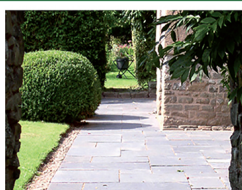
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From Shanghai to Newton

In a village where the only thing that seems to change is the traffic lights, there's something truly unusual from the other side of the world happening in the parish hall. It's the Chinese board game of Mah Jong, which is more identified with Shanghai than with Newton St Cyres. Ann Quon Cordingley went along to investigate.

Geoff Jackson was walking down the street in Liverpool's Chinatown on a hot summer's night when he heard a loud "clack, clack, clack" noise coming from the open windows above him. "I thought, 'what the heck is that?', and a chap passing by said it was the Chinese playing mah jong – and that's how I first came across it," Geoff recalls.

A computer expert for Honeywell, Geoff was in Liverpool on a short work visit, teaching a client how to use its computers. He thought nothing more of his brief encounter. Then, 30 years later, having retired and settled in Newton, he saw a course for mah jong advertised in Exeter and decided it was time to find out more. So he booked himself onto the one-day course run by a Chinese university professor in Exeter. "There were about 30 of us, and at the end of the day, we thought, we can't just split up and never see each other again." A list was sent round with all their names and they met up a month later at one of their homes. "That was six years ago, and we've been meeting in Exeter every Friday afternoon ever since," Geoff says.

Geoff enjoyed playing so much that he thought, why not start a club in the village? He placed an ad in the Newton Wonder to gauge interest. "A good number of people turned up, including a friend of mine with a photographic memory who picked it up in no time. And that's how we started here five years ago."

Today, the club boasts about 25 members, some of whom have been coming since the beginning, such as local residents Margaret Snow and Daphne Clague. "I came to see if I would like it and I did," says Margaret. "It's good for the brain and the memory."

"I used to play backgammon but not mah jong," says Daphne. "There's no similarity, but it's another game that I wanted to learn. And I like the company."

Another long-time member, Crediton resident Christine Marshall, was looking for a mah jong club when she saw Geoff's advert. "I already knew how to play and was looking for people to play with. "I learned when I was living in Scotland, and there was a whole gang of us who played on Saturdays. Initially, I helped Geoff teach people. Now, I just dictate to folks," she laughs. "I keep coming because they have become really good friends."



Geoff Jackson

Whether it is to meet up with friends, enjoy a bit of fun or keep the brain sharp, mah jong is a game that involves skill and strategy, plus a good serving of luck, and can be highly competitive. In Chinese, the game is called “máquè”, meaning “sparrow”, as the clacking of the tiles during shuffling resembles the chattering of sparrows.

It is usually played by four people using domino-like engraved tiles and is often compared to the card game gin rummy. While many believe it is an ancient game dating back to Confucius, it actually emerged near Shanghai only in the mid to late 1800s. Today, it is undergoing a resurgence, attracting new players globally, many of whom play the more accessible English variation.

I dropped in on the Mah Jong Club on a Thursday afternoon where there was a happy buzz in the room. Geoff, who's aged 90, was patiently teaching two



It's also a social occasion

newcomers the rules, while the other members were chatting away at card tables laid out with mah jong tiles grouped neatly on a piece of rug to muffle the noise made by the tiles.

Newcomer Suzanne Lane joined only a few months ago and has become obsessed with the game. "I thought it was a good idea to meet new people and it's good for the memory," she says. "You've just got to keep the brain ticking over."

"It's good fun," says Christine Marshall. "We don't gamble and we don't play with the tiles facing down like the Chinese do. We have them facing up so we can see what we are doing."

It is a far cry from the "clack, clack, clack", and boisterous chatter that used to come from my parents' kitchen when I was a child in Canada. As an immigrant to Canada, my father worked six nights a week as a chef in a Chinese restaurant. On his day off, he loved to invite friends over for social evenings.

Once the dinner dishes were cleared away, the mah jong tiles would come out and the fun would begin – often all night long. But the loud and constant "clack, clack, clack" of the ivory tiles being shuffled made for sleepless nights for my siblings and me. Which is why to this day, I have shunned mah jong's addictive appeal – and find it fascinating that it has such a dedicated following in a small village like this.

Even more startling is the fact that Geoff Jackson learned the game only six years ago at the age of 84. He plays the English and Chinese versions, having learned enough Chinese characters to play the Chinese game. He is so passionate about the game that he has 15 mah jong sets, mostly bought online, including a wooden set hand-painted by a Newton St Cyres resident. "He didn't play but liked the thought of mah jong, so he painted every character on every piece of wood," says Geoff.

Geoff attributes his affinity for mah jong to his curious nature. "I've had loads of different hobbies over the years. I collect miniature steam engines that actually work and have renovated several for several for people in the village. I also repair watches and have a lathe for wood turning."

He has also had a varied and colourful career. After finishing his national service, he wanted to get into botany and tea growing, and had the opportunity to go to Kenya as a crown agent during the years of the Mau Mau rebellion. When Kenya gained independence 10 years later, Geoff returned to the UK and joined the Auto-Cycle Union, the governing body of motorcycle sport. After 10 years with them, he switched to the computer industry, working for Honeywell as a trainer and head of customer education, and later for NCR, where he worked for 15 years before retiring in 1990 to set up his own management training company.

Like the others, Geoff plays mah jong because it is a great way to socialise but also because it challenges him mentally. "I am conscious that my memory is going a bit, so things like this help. It's also very addictive."

Margaret Truemen agrees. "I go to an exercise class in the village, which is good for the body. But mah jong is different. It makes you concentrate and exercises your mind."

Valentine's Lunch in the village



Jocelyne and Annabelle

Annabelle, a village resident who took up the piano just two years ago in lockdown, played her first digital piano at the lunch, with compositions from Beethoven, Debussy, Hopekirk, Bach and others. She topped off her performance with Grieg's fabulous 'Wedding at Troldhaugen', a piece he wrote as a gift to his wife, to celebrate their silver wedding anniversary; how appropriate for Valentine's Day!

Chef Jocelyn and the team are planning a special Caribbean luncheon in July, so check with their Facebook page at Adonai Community Kitchen. The kitchen receives donations of fruit, veg and ingredients towards feeding the village, so if you have excess in your allotment, or spare ingredients, please drop them off. They are the most welcoming and warm crew.

Locals, both young and old, enjoyed a superb 3-course luncheon at the Parish Hall on Valentine's Day, courtesy of chef Jocelyn and her team of helpers. Jocelyn served wonderful starters that included smoked salmon and king prawns, mains that offered minted lamb steak and other dishes, and strawberries dipped in chocolate among desserts. A menu like that would have cost a pretty penny or two at a restaurant, so thank you, Jocelyn, for the superb value and quality of your food, and thank you to Zoe and the rest of the staff for serving us on a busy day.

This was a wonderful occasion to hear colourful stories of times past and present, and the deep love many have felt for their partners. One family of grandparents, parents and children took up two joined tables; generations of love and kindness right there.

Bert Jewell writes Rhymes and Ways about Gardens and Gardening

March

Daffodils holding their trumpets high,
March is here they seemingly cry
as flower buds open, some here, some there
in borders and containers they're happy to share.

With pansies, violas and polys so bright,
wallflowers added for that extra height,
surrounded by crocus, the yellows and blues
and those showing off with their purplish hue.

Now it's known that stars can show you the way,
But what of the stars you can see every day
for just a few weeks till April is past,
What a shame good things never seem to last.

Now a treat for all seasons if your garden is small,
It's the snowy Mespilus, not growing that tall
with tiny pink flowers before the leaves unfold
The early morning sunshine make them look like gold.

Now seeds inside the packets, are desperate to get out,
Throwing off their jackets as they begin to sprout
into plants for the future, flowers for a bunch
or nice tasty veg for that Sunday lunch.

Things in the March garden

Narcissus or Daffodils as we know them, it doesn't matter whether you grow the large trumpet daffs or the tiny Bulbocodiums, they all come under the botanical name Narcissus.

A few years ago, judging the Daffs at a Spring show, I had to find the best exhibit for which a trophy was awarded. There were Trumpet, Large cup, Small cup, Split Corona and all the cultivars in between. In the end I gave the award to a vase of three Bulbocodiums, very small flowers that resemble a hoop petticoat, my decision was greeted with dismay, but to me they were flawless.

I was a member of the daffodil society for quite a few years, exhibiting in Cornwall, Taunton and close to Bristol.

Let's get back to the here and now. Dead heading is a must if the bulb is to flower next year. Once the flower has finished, cut it off at the top of the stem, this will stop the seed pod from developing, leaving the stem to act as a leaf, but more on daffs next time.

"Magnolia Stallata" can be the star in your garden. Most Magnolias need special conditions to survive, including a lot of room. "Stallata", however, will grow in any reasonable garden soil, in sun or partially shady, and a sheltered spot would help. It grows to about 6' x 6' and flowers March to April.

"Amelanchier" or "Snowy Mespilus" is a small tree or shrub native to North America. The flowers open first, followed shortly by young leaves, which are tinged bronze, and the flowers are followed by small red or black berries that the birds love. Then in the autumn the leaves put on a show all of their own. They can grow to a considerable height in any garden soil in a sunny spot, and will tolerate wind.

March is still a bit early to start sowing seeds outdoors, but if you have a cold greenhouse or cold frame, why not start off with broad beans and peas in cells filled with good quality compost, one bean per cell or five peas. These can then be planted out in April.

Onion sets and shallots can be planted out towards the end of the month, make a small hole with a trowel, place the set into the hole so the top is just under the soil, this will help stop the birds from pulling them out.

Plant of the month

It has to be the "Amelanchier", a deciduous tree that can give you joy at any time of the year. We had one in our old garden, under planted with other small shrubs. Will we have another! There are so many that I would love to plant, so "who knows"?



Enjoy your gardening

EVENTS

March 19th Ruach – Klezmer an afternoon of dance
Check the web site for more details www.creditonartscentre.org

CREDITON STRUMALONG BAND

Would you like to meet up, strum some chords, sing some songs and make some new friends?

Find out more WhatsApp Ed Finch on 07810861917 or email
edfinchuk@yahoo.co.uk

CREDITON WRITING GROUP

Are you interested in joining a supportive evening writing group?

If this is something that appeals to you, or you would like to discuss this further,
please email Carrie at crediton.writing@gmail.com

COFFEE MORNING SUCCESS

THE COFFEE MORNING WITH STALLS, held in Newton St. Cyres Parish Hall, on Saturday 11th February was very well supported. A most enjoyable event attracting a good crowd of villagers and some from further afield. A sum of £320 was raised to support the maintenance and development of the Newton St Cyres Arboretum. Roger Wilkins, chairman, thanked everyone for their support.

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UPTON PYNE & DISTRICT GARDEN CLUB

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FOR MORE INFO ON ANY OF THESE EVENTS PLEASE CONTACT June 01392 841272

Our meeting on March 20th will feature

Penelope Townsend speaking about
Gilbert White a 'Parson-naturalist'



Saturday April 22nd @ 2.00pm

ANNUAL SPRING FLOWER SHOW

Everyone is welcome to exhibit or just come
along to enjoy the show

We have a Plant Sale - Any donations would be
welcome if you have any plants or seedlings spare



Cookery - Photos - Children's paintings

Refreshments - Raffle

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VILLAGE LUNCH

Thursday 16th March 2023

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THE STABLES

2 courses + tea/coffee £14

MAIN COURSES:

Hunters Chicken; Fish & Chips
Sausage & Mash; Liver & Bacon
Ham, Egg & Chips
Jacket Potato, Choice of fillings (V)

DESSERTS:

2 Scoops of Ice Cream
Sticky Toffee Pudding with Custard or Ice Cream
Chocolate Brownie with Custard or Ice Cream

To book, please ring **JOHN or CHRIS SALTER, 851 346**
by Sunday 12th with Names & Menu Choices

NEWTON ST CYRES HISTORY GROUP

Crediton and the Great Fire of 1743



There was a very good attendance on 15th February for a talk by Tony Gale on the fire that ripped through much of Crediton in 1743. A well-known local historian, Tony gathered a group of similarly skilled local experts over the past year to piece together as much knowledge as possible about the great fire.

There is a lot of documentary evidence available from the 18th century, and Tony explained how they had planned their work and what they hoped to accomplish.

Not only was there a great fire but there was also a great map. The map was unknown until the late 20th century, when two sheets of it were found among the papers that had originally belonged to the absentee Lord of the Manor. Todd Gray discovered that a third sheet was being put up for auction in 2007. The Crediton Area History and Museum Society (CAHMS) and the Devon Heritage Centre were able to buy this. There were two further sheets depicting the East Town, but if they have survived, their whereabouts are unknown.

The fire was unusually destructive at a time when Crediton was one of the biggest towns in Devon. The fire was said by a contemporary commentator to have been surpassed only by the Great Fire of London. About 16 people lost their lives, over 400 houses and their outbuildings were destroyed and more than 2,000 people were made homeless. At that time, Crediton East Town was linked to Crediton West Town by the hilly Bowden Hill/ Union Terrace road. The direct route was not built until the early 19th century. Most of the West Town was reduced to ashes.

The fire started mid High Street on the south side on Sunday morning 14th August 1743 when two men were cooking their lunch and not paying attention. The blaze took hold quickly and the wind swept it swiftly along the street as far as the old Landscore School. Unfortunately, the wind changed direction and the fire spread across the road. It burnt itself out in 10 to 12 hours.

Tony explained how they have found eyewitness reports and quite a lot of early newspaper ones, some national. Much more data is now available online. He had spent many hours going through fire insurance data. One national company, Sun Fire Insurance, had sold many policies in Crediton. They would sometimes contribute towards a community scheme to purchase a fire engine, but it was not known whether this actually happened. Tony's group also looked at Quarter Sessions reports, conveyances and wills although there are few of the latter, most having been lost in World War II.

Elly Babbedge, the group's genealogist, found wills useful in helping reconstruct family groups. The Quarter sessions issued licenses and it appears there were 12 inns in the West Town alone, along with 48 ale houses in the town as a whole. This was at a time when it was not safe to drink water, so everyone drank weak ale or cider on a daily basis.

The map is a most remarkable document, with so much detail, and is known to have been drawn only a few months before the fire. It shows the properties on the High Street with actual drawings of the frontages and the names of the occupiers/owners. It was subsequently annotated to show the extent of the fire. There are dots in front of several properties. Why? The third map sheet revealed that there had been a dispute between the market traders who paid for stalls in the centre of the street and the building occupiers who began to build small extensions on the front of their places so they could trade from them. The little dots on the map showed the extent of their incursions.

How to include the children and townsfolk in this project and to show the interesting material the group has discovered? CAHMS decided to hold an exhibition, but here the information must be brief and to the point and it must include material suitable for all ages. Different skills have been exploited. For instance, Richard Parker, a skilled architectural artist, has produced a drawing showing a bird's-eye view of part of the marketplace. The information conveyed by an exhibition is limited and an exhibition is temporary. The group wished to leave a lasting legacy so it was decided to produce a book with different topics covered by the different researchers, edited by Tony Gale.

Efforts to include Crediton schoolchildren in the project have involved school visits and the children from the three schools have chosen different ways to contribute. Haywards children intend to produce artwork, Landscore to write diaries and QE to create ballads telling a story of the time. The exhibition aims to include "something for everyone" and will include stories told through the eyes of two young people – Hannah a servant girl and Josh a pot boy.

There are some intriguing survivals of the time. A hat from the previous century (now at the Royal Albert Memorial Museum (Rin Exeter) was found buried in a wall on the south side of St Lawrence Green. Somehow, this survived the fire. Clocks have also survived. One by John Tickell of Crediton (his name is on the map) was in the Unitarian Chapel from 1731 to 1970. It is now in the Unitarian Chapel in Moretonhampstead. Another by an earlier clockmaker, Abel Cottey of Crediton, who was active in the 1690s, is at also the Royal Albert Memorial Museum.

There was also Lewis Pridham, who worked in New Buildings. One of his church clocks is still working at the Newton St Cyres church after undergoing restoration in 1970. We were treated to a video made at the time of a young John Durrant with the recently restored clock, cog wheels turning beautifully.

Tony then considered the aftermath of the fire. It seems that it burnt so fiercely that little could be done to contain it. There was little time to remove thatch and all attempts were hampered by the lack of water. The only water available seems to have been from wells or the only watercourse running through the town – which was used as an open sewer. This ran from St Lawrence Green to Lord's Meadow. There is one contemporary reference to a fire engine, but without a suitable water source it was not up to the task of containing the fire. Attempts to create fire breaks by blowing up houses did not work either.

Faced with this devastation how did the people of Crediton react? They held a market a few days later in the East Town, which was little affected. The market authorities still tried to take their normal tolls from the stallholders, which caused a further dispute. Many people – particularly business owners – had insurance policies and the company did pay out quite well and quite quickly. There was also a relief fund that paid out about five shillings to the pound. Donations of food and emergency supplies were brought in from Exeter and other local communities. There is evidence of spare rooms being pressed into use as some tried to set up business again in the months after the fire, but many families struggled to recover from the tragedy.

The Group have also set up a research data base as a long term repository for detailed material. It contains transcripts of original documents, full details of some material that might only be of interest to specialist researchers and new information that has come in too late for the book or exhibition. It will be available for use in the 'Research Corner' at the exhibition.

If you come to the exhibition you will find:

- Display panels telling the story of the map and the fire ("before, during and after")
- A hi-res copy of the map with a "then and now" guide
- An interactive copy with stories from the map
- Dioramas and mannequins depicting aspects of the story
- Voices of 1743 – recordings of how local people might have experienced the events of that year
- Richard Parker's reconstruction drawing

The Exhibition opens Wednesday 19th April

It will be open on Wednesday/Thursday/Friday 10am-4pm, Saturday 11am-1pm (days/times subject to confirmation) and will continue into October. Admission is free. Donations welcome

The book is to be published in April, paperback £15, hardback £25, available from CAHMS info@creditonhistory.org.uk or at the exhibition.

NEWTON ST CYRES HISTORY GROUP SPRING MEETINGS

Wednesday March 8th Newton St Cyres in WW2 Roger Wilkins

The information continues to come in. Just this week we have heard about a young soldier from the village who fought in France and Holland after the D Day landings. Also we have been contacted by the son of an evacuee whose mother spoke fondly of the bridge over the ford.

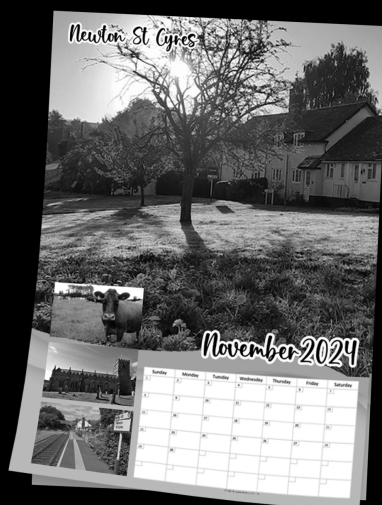
Wednesday April 26th A Window into the history of the A377 Jean Wilkins

This talk will use many of Lynda Pearce's old photos of the village to show some of the changes to that busy road that cuts our village in half but also to consider it from a historical perspective. Try thinking back a century or two and wonder what sort of traffic may have been coming through the village. Consider also the facilities for travellers, inns, blacksmiths, wheelwrights, and a harness maker.

We have no formal membership. Everyone is welcome just come along. £2 to include tea and biscuits. Meetings start at 7.30pm.

This year, Newton St Cyres is creating its own calendar and we need residents and people that work in and around Newton to send us their photos of the village.

The theme is "Life in the Village".



To find out more go to www.newtonwonder.net and click the **CALENDAR 2024** link in the main menu to find out more

Newton St Cyres Gardening Club

The meteorological start of Spring is 1st March. The signs of spring are already all around us, and we are eager to spend more time in the garden. The weather in March, however, can still be changeable, with even the risk of snow. There is a saying that there is more likely to be snow at Easter than on Christmas Day. This does depend on when Easter falls, and as this year Easter is in April, fingers crossed it won't be a white one!

The astronomical start of spring, the vernal equinox, is different however and this year falls on 20th March. So whichever date you opt for, the fact is that in March everything is growing and there are lots of jobs to do, while enjoying the sound of the birds singing.

There are so many jobs to do in March that I can only mention a few in this article. Trees and shrubs, growing in containers, will benefit from an **annual top dressing** in the years between re-potting. An effective way is to remove the top 2" of old compost and replace with new, to which you have added some controlled-release fertiliser granules. March is also the time to **finish winter pruning** and you may have the following on your 'to do' list. Many gardeners suggest that coloured stemmed **Dogwoods** such as *Cornus alba*, *sanguinea* and *stolonifera* are pruned on a 3 year basis - removing a third of the stems each year. The brightest stems are the youngest and pruning will stimulate new growth from the base throughout the coming year, to give new coloured stems in the winter.

The same approach can be applied to shrubby **Willows** such as *Salix alba* and *Salix irrorate* (the blue-stemmed willow). **Clematis** which flower from July onwards (known as Group 3), can also be pruned now to remove tangled straggly stems. They can be cut back to almost ground level and this will then encourage the growth of new fresh shoots from the base. These should then grow rapidly and carry the flowers for the coming summer. If you have group 2 Clematis that flower in May and June, they can still be lightly pruned but this year's flowers will be on last year's stems so it is recommended that only the longest stems should be pruned and by no more than a third to a pair of buds.

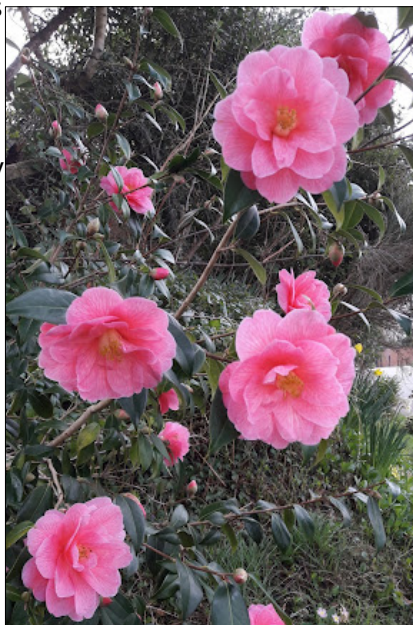
Many types of **Roses** can be pruned now to allow new healthy growth that will give beautiful flowers to enjoy during the year. Bush and climbing roses can be pruned hard, and it is also a good time to prune shrub and climbing roses. Thin, weak stems should be cut back the hardest and the thick vigorous stems the least. If you are planting a new container-grown rose now, while dormant, it is best to prune at the time of planting. All roses have alternate buds, so pruning cuts should be made just above a healthy bud and angled to end opposite the bud. An outward facing bud will result in the plant growing outwards but on roses with arching stems, you may select an inward-facing bud to 'fill' the middle of the plant.

*Daphne*

Do you have a lovely scented **Daphne** in your garden? Now is a good time to propagate and the easiest way is to take a low, flexible branch which you can bend to the soil. Using a sharp knife makes a shallow steeply angled cut on the underside of the branch. The RHS advise that the cut should go through a leaf bud to create a wedge shaped cut. Where this cut touches the soil you can bury it, to a depth of soil slightly higher than that of the parent plant, and hold in place using a U shaped pin of wire, then firm in and water. Throughout this, it is still attached to the parent plant and although it may take up to 12 months to be fully established, will result in a well rooted new plant - for free! This technique is known as layering.

We have all heard the saying **Mad as a March Hare**, which is thought to have

been in use since the 16th century, but does this relate to the wonderful sight of brown hares 'boxing'? It is no longer such a common sight, but when you do see two hares on their hind legs punching out with their front paws, it is not two males defending territory, but normally a male & a female. March is in the middle of the breeding season for hares and as the male punches, he is courting her. However the female's return blows are showing she is not ready to mate. Sometimes the hares will jump vertically which probably led to the use of the word 'mad', and the saying is now used to describe the behaviour of anyone behaving in an excitable and unpredictable manner. Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, by Lewis Carroll, has a March Hare character, and Alice says "The March Hare will be much the most interesting, and perhaps as this is May it won't be raving mad - at least not so mad as it was in March". So, if you are fortunate enough to see two hares boxing in a field, or by the edge of a woodland, enjoy the sight - but as they can run at up to 43 mph, you may have to be quick!

*Camelia*

After a gap of many years, this February we visited Saltram House, National Trust (PL17 1UH) where they have wonderful drifts of snowdrops throughout the gardens, along with cyclamens, crocuses and huge displays of daffodils (yet to open up). We also made our first visit to St Raphael's Chapel, Huccaby, Dartmoor (PL20 6SB). Built in 1868 as a combined chapel and schoolroom, it was delightful, with thousands of snowdrops and definitely a location to put in your diaries for next year!

What's On in March?

Throughout the year: Sherwood House will see incredible displays of Magnolias, Camellias and daffodils throughout the garden. Every Wednesday 10am-1pm March

Friday 3rd March to Sunday 12th March (Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays 10.30am-3.30pm): **Snowdrop Festival 2023**. The Garden House, Buckland Monachorum PL20 7LQ becomes a mecca for snowdrop lovers from all over the country, and often from around the world, during the annual Snowdrop Festival.

Sunday 5th March 1.30pm-5.00pm. As part of the National Open Garden Scheme. East Worlinton House, East Worlinton, Witheridge, Crediton, Devon, EX17 4TS. Thousands of purple crocuses feature in this 2-acre garden, set in a lovely position with views down the valley to Little Dart river. These spectacular crocuses have spread over many years through the garden and into the neighbouring churchyard.

Saturday 11th March 10am-3pm Kennaway House. **Sidmouth Daffodil Day**. The chance to see the spectacular swathes of thousands of daffodils and to purchase plants from award-winning nurseries and specialist growers. Vintage Toast Rack bus rides are also on offer, together with daffodil artwork and a photographic exhibition.

Friday 17th March 8pm. **Adam Frost** will be at the Corn Exchange in Exeter talking about his love of the great outdoors when he helped his grandparents on their allotment and his fascination of watching plants and vegetables grow. He is now well-known to viewers of Gardeners World and has written several books

Monday March 20th Upton Pyne Garden Club. 7.30pm Upton Pyne Village Hall, Penelope Townsend speaking about Gilbert White a 'Parson-naturalist'

Saturday 1st (10am-5pm) & Sunday 2nd April (10am-4pm). Spring Flower Show at The Royal Cornwall Showground near Wadebridge PL27 7JE Ticket prices Adult Advance (available until 5pm on Wednesday 29th March 2023): £10 Adult on the Gate: £12 (Card Payment Only) Under 16s: Free Admission Online <https://cornwallgardensociety.org.uk/spring-flower-show/show-tickets/>

Enjoy your Gardening

Nicola Baker



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Band music for all tastes in CREDITON

The Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service (DSFRS) Concert Band will be performing at CREDITON Parish Church in support of the Church Music Endowment Fund on Saturday 18th March at 7.30pm.



The Concert Band currently comprises over 40 members, including former professional musicians, as well as skilled amateurs from the local community. They perform a varied repertoire, including military marches, classical pieces, big band classics, pop and ragtime numbers, medleys from films and musicals, as well as contemporary music.

The Band perform across Devon and Somerset throughout the year and are proud to represent the Fire Service in their events, and regularly support both the Firefighters Charity and other local charities such as FORCE Cancer and Hospiscare at open days, fêtes, and concerts, both as the full Concert Band and as smaller Wind and Brass Ensembles.

Karen Reed, one of the adult choristers from Holy Cross Church and a regular member of the Band, will be playing flute and singing a vocal solo accompanied by the Band.

Tickets £10 (unders-16s free), available online from TicketSource or Card / Cash on the Door. Interval drinks available, £3 wine, £1 Elderflower cordial - cash preferred please.

Penny Pearkes

The Crediton Parish Church Music Endowment Fund

was established in 2009 to help pay for existing or newly established choral and organ scholarships and to supplement Parochial Church Council expenditure on the Director of Music and the Assistant Organist.

If anyone is drafting a will and would like to continue to support and encourage the youngsters of our church with their musical education, please think of us.

If any members or parents of our musical community wish to put someone forward, please ask the Director of Music (creditondirectorofmusic@gmail.com) for a form and return your application by June each year. The application will be considered by the Trustees.

Penny Pearkes

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March on the Farm

Farmers and cheesemakers have the privilege of creating wonderful foods with the resources of our beautiful planet. We start with the soil, that remarkable substance that underpins life on our planet. Compare it with the regolith, the rocky soil of Mars, and you see our soil's miraculous complexity.

It has the minerals, the rocky part, and organic matter – the residue of millions of years of life. Together they build the structure of super-connections of a well-working soil that allows air and water to dwell in the soil and flow freely through it. It is home for the extraordinarily complex universe of life, from the smallest microbes to the mighty earthworms that roam through the soil, consuming the rotted detritus of the soil – miniature versions of the worms of Dune.

The energy source for this universe is our sun. The way soil life gets that energy is from the plants on the surface that take the sun's energy and carbon dioxide and turn it into sugars. Plants swap that food with minerals from the fungi that live on plant roots. The fungi's mycelia, long strands threading through the soil, give it a structure and acquire the minerals the plants need, and at the same time provide a communication web like the roots of the Hometree in the film Avatar. The whole life of roots, animals, microbes and fungi work together as a wholly self-sustaining community, which is what feeds all land-based animals and drives much of the carbon, water and nitrogen cycle.

This remarkable and unknowable complexity doesn't on its own give us food, it gives the plant of the wilderness. We humans ask it to feed us the foods we love and sustain us. While indigenous people may have a religious sense of the wholeness of the soil, we scientifically minded people have had a simplistic view of how the soil works. 'Soil is the stuff plants stand up in, you turn it over to destroy all life you don't want, put in the seeds of what you do want, and give them the human made fertiliser they need to grow. You extract the nutrients you want when you harvest, and then replace them all next time round'.

We ploughed, destroying the delicate structures of the soil, added nitrogen fertiliser that out of balance burns the soil organic matter like coal, and turned the structure of soil into flaccid, blocky stuff lacking connectivity. That way of farming turns soil into what we thought it was, just the thing that the plants stand up in that you have to pummel into submission to give us food. That's why there is the opinion we have only 60 harvests left in the world. From what we now understand, if you keep using soil like it's a mine, you will eventually run out of life and turn the soil into something like a Martian regolith.

And we are now learning some humility in the face of the natural wonder of soil. My best understanding is the principles of regenerative farming, a new

buzzword. They are a constant soil cover of plants to protect the soil and to feed the soil life. Like nature, grow lots of diverse plants not a monoculture. Like us, soil needs more than one source of food to keep healthy. Minimise soil disturbance to look after the delicate food webs, like in nature where soil is disturbed by animals such as moles and rooting animals, only less often than our routine cultivations. Ruminant animals (animals that can digest the fibres humans can't) harvest the plants and put them onto the soil as manure to feed the life under the soil and give the diversity of microbial life.

,Excitingly, it gives us a way to manage soils so they produce fewer greenhouse gas emissions. In this view, those are nutrients lost from the soil life, going up to the atmosphere where they change the climate. Soils working well hold these gases for their soil food value. Healthy soils are lower greenhouse gas emitters.

In this view, healthy soils need grazing animals. Those grazing animals digest the plant fibres in their amazing rumens, those fermentation vats that give cows their big bellies and all those burps that give methane. Again, we have used a simplistic view of how ruminant digestion works. 'Put nutrients in, animals will give you meat, milk, sustain themselves and breed'. We now know there is another unknowably complex microbiome in the cow's (any ruminants') rumen. The rumen fermentation depends on, for instance, how much the animal salivates and that saliva goes into their rumen, how fast the feed goes through the rumen, or how much grazing or maize or chain length of fat, protein or sugars.

From all we are learning, we have a choice about milk or meat that is more or less healthy, or, excitingly, produces more or less methane. Methane is the big deal for ruminants for their burps' impact on climate. It's also in energy terms expensive for the animal. It's how they deal with by products of digestion from a particular family of bugs. We now understand that some animals have different bug families in them that produce a lot less methane and make better use of their feed as a result.

The exciting thing is you can breed (and we already are) for these strains of cows. The sweet spot is that our ruminants produce the meat and milk that is good for our health and eating pleasure, we use their manure to feed the soil life, and we reduce the environmental cost of doing that.

For our cheese, we ferment the cows' milk with some lovely heritage starter cultures that serve the milk by turning lactose into lactic acid. These were collected from the best cheese dairies in SW England in the 1960s and 1970s from natural whey starters. That puts back into the milk the raw milk bugs that naturally and deliciously sour milk in raw milk. In most big dairies, they use a handful of specific bugs that reliably produce the same flavour at the same time every day, really suitable for machine production. Our starters, by contrast,

March 2023

have an uncharacterisable myriad of microbes, a whole interacting community that is subtly different every time, and where all the different bugs leave a different enzymatic trace on the maturation. The benefit to us is greater complexity of flavour in cheeses made from these heritage starters.

As the cheese matures, all of those different enzymatic traces left from the starter bugs start their magic, giving flavours that unfold in your mouth. One of the most cheering bits of scientific research I read was that in artisan cheese, the maturation pathways become so complex, they become untrackable, unable to be replicated artificially.

On a rinded cheese like ours, the rind itself starts to impact the flavour and texture (which gives the way the flavour unfolds). While every clothbound cheddar around the world will, as if by magic, have the same species of bacteria and yeasts and moulds on them naturally from the similar environments we all set up, scientists have now discovered that each farm has its own unique set of subspecies. That is what gives the characteristic horseradish notes to the flavour of our cheese, and the other flavours from other naturally created rinds from other farms. The rich microflora of the rind goes to work during maturation right to the heart of the cheese at different rates further from the rind. Industrial cheese is made in a plastic bag, so can't experience this transformation of the interaction of farm and cheese and time to make those final glorious flavours and textures you experience in your mouth. With a rinded cheese, remember to cut from nose to rind so each slice contains all the complexity it can. That is what you are paying for with these handmade cheeses.

As a farmer and cheesemaker, I have the profound privilege of dancing with these extraordinary processes to produce wonderful food that honours the people, animals, plants and soil that go to make it, and to spend a lifetime grappling with the humbling complexity of our beautiful world. I hope you enjoy the flavours and textures all the communities of life from people to soil make possible.

Permissive footpaths

This gives notice that we are closing our permissive footpaths on Tuesday 7th March. These are the footpaths that are not marked with the 'Public Footpath' sign.

When you are walking your dog in the countryside, please pick up after your dog. Dogs, particularly those fed raw pet food, carry the parasite toxoplasmosis that lives undetected, and untreated by routine worming, in the dog's gut. When it comes out in poo, as it will, it can infect cows and cause them to miscarry their calves.

Every year a couple of our cows miscarry from this bug and may need to leave the herd much too young. That is sad for both us and the cow.

Mary Quicke

Newton St. Cyres

PARISH COUNCIL

4 May 2023

Local Government
elections are coming
to Newton St Cyres.

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- think you could represent the interests of this community?
- feel your skills could benefit the needs of the Newton Community?

chat it over with a councillor?
come to the next council meeting?

then please get in touch with
Jane Hole, - Parish Clerk
📞 01392 851148

✉ parishclerk@newtonstcyres-pc.gov.uk

needs YOU

Hope for speed limits on A377

An official review of speed limits and road signage along the A377 between Newton St Cyres and Crediton could finally see the speed limit lowered to 40 mph and road signage improved along that busy stretch of the highway.

The review by the Mid Devon Highways and Traffic Orders Committee or HATOC has been welcomed by the A377 Action Group, which includes local members of the county, district and parish councils who have been lobbying for safer speed limits and better road-safety measures.

"We have finally been successful in obtaining an official review of speed limits and road signage," says Mid Devon district councillor Graeme Barnell. "We are beginning to get serious consideration of a 40 mph speed limit along the road between Crediton and Newton St Cyres."

The fact that the review is by the Mid Devon HATOC, a joint committee of the county and district councils, is significant because it is the body responsible for the regulation of traffic orders and speed limit changes. "It means Devon County Council can't ignore us now that it's being raised formally with the committee," says Graeme.

"I actually think what's needed is a standard 40 mph limit all the way between Crediton and Exeter, apart from the 30 mph limits in Newton St Cyres and Half Moon," says Graeme.

Of particular concern is the variable speed limits on the A377 stretch from the Quicke cheese shop to Tesco Crediton, which sees vehicles travelling at 60 mph through a series of Z bends before the speed is reduced to 40 mph past the Hookway Cross turn. "It's dangerous, particularly if you live in Smallbrook," says Graeme. "There's a small community of about 20 houses and they are right on a bend, with cars coming around there at 60 mph."

County Councillor Margaret Squires agrees. "The school bus picks up children [and] there's quite a few houses or dwellings down the side route. It's so dangerous that it needs to have a speed limit there," she told Devon Live.

Besides the speed limit, there is no safe crossing point at Smallbrook for residents or children alighting from the Queen Elizabeth school bus. The bus stop on the Crediton to Exeter side is a grass verge with no standing area and is extremely dangerous to get on and off. "Parents are having to go to Newton St Cyres to pick up their kids from school because it isn't safe for them to get off at Smallbrook," says Graeme. "The community is effectively isolated by the road unless you get in your car and drive. It's a silly situation."

***The A377***

Photo Peter Cordingley

Equally dangerous is the crossing at Tytheing Close by the old Newton St Cyres school site. Vehicles heading to Crediton are often travelling at 40 mph even though there is a 30 mph road sign. “I’ve seen kids rushing across the road to try to avoid the traffic to get home. It’s really quite unacceptable,” says Graeme.

To illustrate the risk, Graeme and Newton St Cyres Parish Council chairman Jim Enright arranged to meet Devon County Council Senior Highway Development Management Officer, Michelle Woodgates, at Tytheing Close on a busy morning. “We stood at the top of the road by the estate to make her understand how difficult it is to cross the road there. You sometimes have to take your life into your hands there. I think she fully understood at that point the issues involved. That was a change point as she’d never stood there before.”

*Graeme Barnell*

Speeding is a recurring problem that gets the spotlight only when there are fatal accidents. Two drivers were jailed for dangerous driving last month after causing the death of a 22-year-old motorcyclist while driving their cars in tandem on the A377 at speeds of up to 100 mph before losing control on a bend, killing the motorcyclist in May 2020. More recently, in May 2022, a 42-year-old motorcyclist was killed following a collision with a car near Ladd’s computers.

“Both were terrible tragedies and while you don’t want to exploit them, these and other accidents along that stretch of road do focus the mind,” says Graeme.

March 2023

While the HATOC review is ongoing, the Devon County Council's Speed Compliance Action Review Forum or SCARF is expected to report on a speed limit assessment they are conducting to determine how speed limits are affecting how fast people are driving.

For the first time, the A377 Action Group is optimistic that the HATOC and SCARF assessments will finally lead to a much-needed reduction in the speed limit and improved road signage.

However, despite the best efforts of all three councils working together, Graeme urged local residents to also get behind the initiative if they want lower speed limits and better road safety.

"It always helps if local residents can write to the county council, which is responsible for the works and the money, and also to the officers involved such as the Highways officer," he says. "If people think it is not tolerable, they need to put it in writing and send an email saying we don't like this. We need change."

As for Graeme and other members of the A377 Action Group, they will continue to pursue the matter with HATOC and SCARF. "I will be following up this review at the next meeting of HATOC in March, Graeme says. "I am hopeful there will be change. We need to be persistent to get a result."

Ann Quon Cordingley

The poster features a large, stylized circular logo on the left. The outer ring of the logo contains the text 'NEWTON St CYRES' at the top and 'MUSIC & DANCE FESTIVAL' at the bottom. In the center of the logo, the year '2023' is prominently displayed in a large, white, serif font. Behind the '2023' and the circular text, there is a detailed illustration of a village scene with houses, trees, and a church spire. Musical notes and a treble clef are also integrated into the design, floating around the central text.

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Creedy Catchment Crayfish Conservation Project

Wed 15 March 2023, 7 - 9pm

Boniface Centre, Crediton

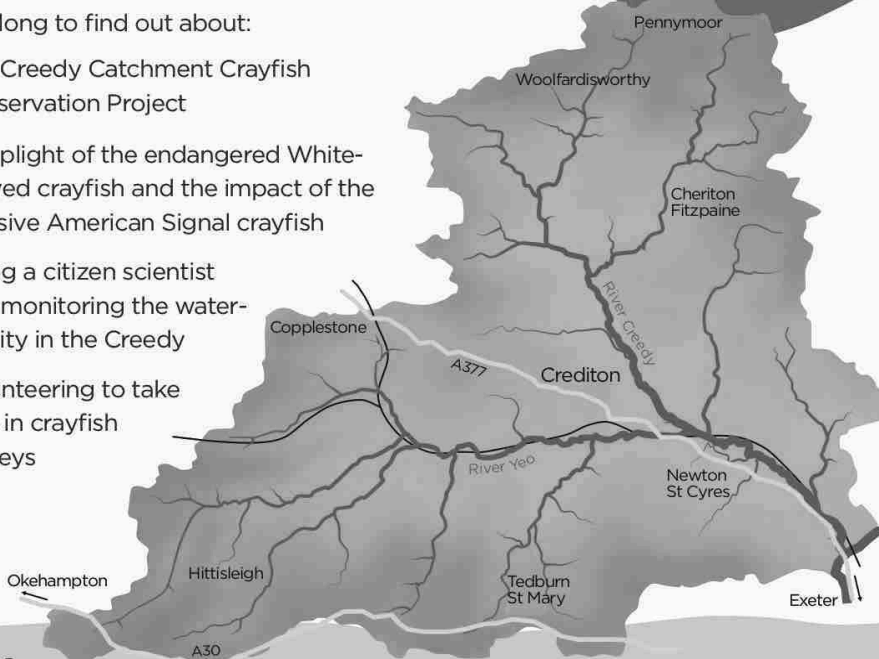
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- The Creedy Catchment Crayfish Conservation Project
- The plight of the endangered White-clawed crayfish and the impact of the invasive American Signal crayfish
- Being a citizen scientist and monitoring the water-quality in the Creedy
- Volunteering to take part in crayfish surveys



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



For further contact:

Kelly Berry

07890313010

or see our facebook page
Newton Nappies



27th January

Demo by Rachel Toll

Watercolours

Rachel Toll showed us how to paint a seascape of sun shining on waves. Using a very limited palette (yellow ochre, cadmium red, cobalt blue and indigo, with some white acrylic added at the end), she built up layers of washes, successfully avoiding the risk of turning it all green!

Rachel painted most of it using the wet-into-wet technique, on Bockingford paper with plenty of water, strengthening the amount of pigment in her paint with each wash. She added white acrylic to the crests of breaking waves – not white gouache, as the acrylic has a more dramatic effect. Rachel encouraged us to be brave, to experiment with different effects, but not to overdo them.

Rachel was fortunate to be commissioned by Michael Caine to paint a great many pictures of birds for the bedrooms of Lymptstone Manor, as well as a design for the wallpaper.

Jenny Hallam

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the Parish Hall from 12.30 -2.00pm**



We are looking for volunteers/young people doing their D of E or looking for community experience for their CV, before attending university. We also would appreciate anyone that is free on a Tuesday or Wednesday from 11 to 3pm to help with our Community Kitchen in Newton St Cyres Parish Hall.

Letter to the editor

Dear Peter

Maryna, my guest from Ukraine, has asked me to thank everyone for their kindness and generosity in responding to our request for artists' materials in the last edition of the Wonder. She now has an easel and a large variety of paints, brushes and other equipment given by a number of neighbours. She will, of course, be writing individually to thank those who were able to give.

Once again.

Many Thanks

Graeme Barnell

Halses, West Town,
Newton St Cyres,
EX5 5BS

01392 851308

07564541572

Protecting the Creedy's crayfish

The River Creedy and its catchment is home to one of only two remaining populations of native, white-clawed crayfish in Devon. The white-clawed crayfish is under threat from the invasive American signal crayfish, poor water quality and a loss of habitat. Native crayfish were previously found over a greater length of the River Creedy but now only around 10% of the original population survives.

The Creedy Catchment Crayfish Conservation project, led by the Wild Planet Trust and funded by Natural England and South West Water, is raising awareness of the plight of the white-clawed crayfish, one of Devon's rarest endangered native species. The project will be working with the local community, landowners and other stakeholders to develop an action plan aimed at improving water quality and restoring habitat to help safeguard the future of white-clawed crayfish in the River Creedy.

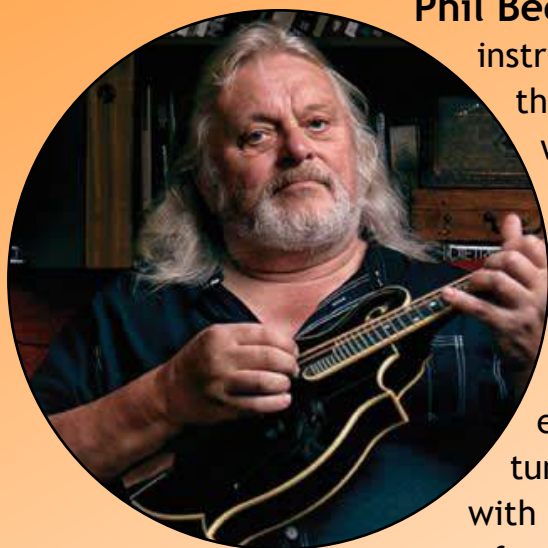
Save the date: 15th March, 7pm-9pm. To learn more about the project and find out how you can help the white-clawed crayfish in the River Creedy, join us on Wednesday 15th March at the Boniface Centre, Crediton. The evening will include a series of short talks and information stands, and will include free refreshments. Further details about the event to follow. Look out for posters or contact the Newton Environment Group for more details.

Sue Rowell

Newton St Cyres Parish Hall is pleased to welcome

Phil Beer

Saturday 1st April 2023
Doors 7pm Performance 7.30pm



Phil Beer is the multi-instrumentalist and vocalist of the West Country's award-winning Show of Hands. With a professional career of over 36 years, Phil has a great deal of material to draw on for his solo appearances, which are an eclectic mix of traditional tunes and covers, together with his own compositions and songs from contemporaries. All are

songs and music of memory and significance, sung in the subtle and melodic Phil Beer style, and interjected with musings and amusings in a more intimate setting. It is a treat of past and current favourites from one of the most popular musicians on the acoustic circuit.

CASH BAR & RAFFLE

Tickets £16 available from Nicola 01392 851985

How much would you like to know about the past in Newton St Cyres?

Newton St Cyres History Group has an ever-growing library of publications. What better way to orientate and acquaint yourself with your local surroundings!

• Newton St Cyres – A Village Story (£5)

Compiled by residents of this village in 1999 (the green 'millennium book') containing a wealth of reproduced photographs.



• Newton St Cyres Historical Village Walks (£1)

Four brief walks around the Village, the Western Bluff, West Town and Station Road with maps and an explanation of the road cuttings, levelling and straightening.

• Newton St Cyres Mining and Miners (£1)

Our mining heritage, both manganese, claimed to be *"the first commercially successful manganese mines in the world!"*, and lead & silver up on Tin Pit Hill that may go back to Roman times.

• Newton St Cyres Church – Statement of Significance (£2)

Describes the history and most important features of the church, dedicated to St Cyr and St Julitta.



• Memories of Boyhood in a Devon Village (£3)

Written by Alfred Abraham, born in Newton St Cyres in 1893. He shares his memories growing up in the village at the beginning of the 20th century.

• Newton St Cyres in the 1940s & 1950s (£5)

Written by Stella Cork, born in Newton St Cyres in 1934 and the daughter of the village postmaster. She gives a remarkable description of families in the village and an insight into village life.

• Newton St Cyres and The Civil War 1642-46 (£5)

The story of grief, hardship and a little excitement for those living in the village almost 400 years ago during the English Civil War supported by coloured photos and maps. Would you have been a Roundhead or a Cavalier?

Also visit newtonwonder.net where you will find data and analyses on:

- Births, Deaths and Marriages in Newton St Cyres (16th–18th century)
- UK Censuses on Newton St Cyres (1841-1911)
- Newton St Cyres Tithe Map of 1843

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Road Warden Scheme

The Scheme has now been operating for over 6 months and our many volunteers have generously given over 200 hours of their time to make our roads, verges and pavements safer for us all to use. In our work we have:

- ⇒ **Used over 500 kgs of tarmac filling small potholes**
- ⇒ **Cleared ditches and drains to help protect properties from surface water flooding**
- ⇒ **Cleared vegetation around Creedy Bridge and the Railway Bridge**
- ⇒ **Worked with Langford residents to remove over 3.5 tonnes of gravel from the road, as well as clearing all the drains around Langford Bridge**
- ⇒ **Cleared flooding debris from Riscombe Hill and The Beer Engine areas**

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However we cannot do this alone—we **need your help!** If you see anything that causes flooding or creates a hazard in our Parish please report it using our online reporting form using the QR code or contact the Parish Clerk via email:
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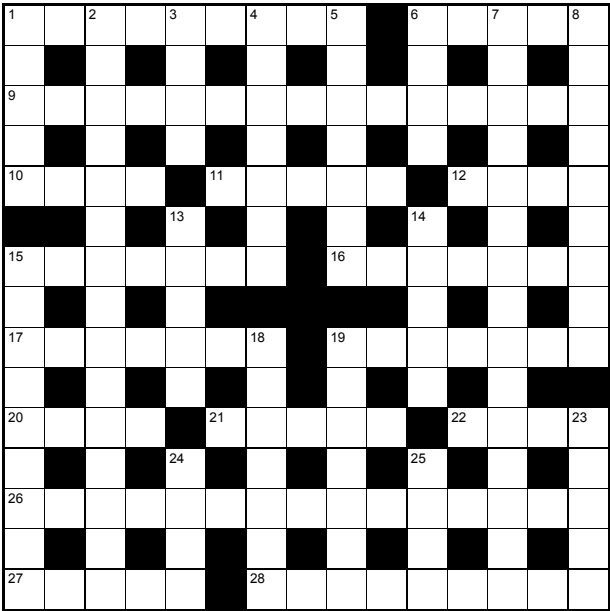
For further details, please contact Mary Long :-

Tel:- 01392 851624

E-mail:- maryglong@btinternet.com



Cryptic Crossword



ACROSS

- 1 Clairvoyant is to support the nuts in charge (9)
- 6 One with the hump caught male out (5)
- 9 Wife perhaps is inactive business associate (8,7)
- 10 Split reported initially by one newspaper (4)
- 11 Dance follows live jazz (5)
- 12 Song for that man on the radio (4)
- 15 Warm review read out (7)
- 16 Betray one's principles in very popular show (4-3)
- 17 Completely finished with a Latin paramour (3,4)
- 19 Old king hugs wayward son for comfort (7)
- 20 Part of azalea, for example (4)
- 21 Vietnamese perhaps is like Scot (5)
- 22 Oddly ignored fondness for poetry (4)
- 26 Quick excursion to see small railway stations? (7-4,4)
- 27 Act on desire to find most senior member (5)
- 28 Evil bank acquires church, honestly! (9)

DOWN

- 1 Awkward question for affected sort (5)
- 2 Poor formality, I aver, involves one showing this? (4-11)
- 3 Writer's optimism (4)
- 4 Hide treatment from the workers here? (7)
- 5 Generous policeman promises to pay (7)
- 6 Low-life needs time with brief (4)
- 7 Fed poorly no more, somehow getting easy cash (5,3,3,4)
- 8 Left regent to change spectacles (9)
- 13 Start court proceedings? (5)
- 14 Criticism involving northern side (5)
- 15 Drank with heads of state when permitted (9)
- 18 More reckless son provides the bacon (7)
- 19 Punish devious cheats to a point (7)
- 23 Sprinkle water on some flowers (5)
- 24 Most put up with this chap (4)
- 25 Sword turns up in Dundee perhaps (4)

Set by Alberich

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.

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

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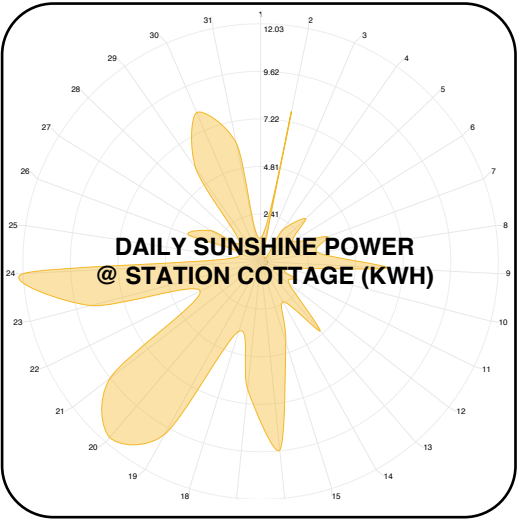
Solution to Dec 2022/Jan2 Cryptic Crossword

	¹ P	² A		³ N	E	L	⁴ B	E	⁵ A	T	⁶ E	R	⁷ S	
			B		C		L		S		A		P	⁸ D
⁹ A	R	I	Z	O	N	A			¹⁰ P	O	R	T	I	C
M		G		N		C			I		L		N	
¹¹ P	E	A	C	O	C	K			¹² C	H	I	N	O	O
H		I		M		J				E		Z		E
¹³ I	N	L	A	Y		¹⁴ A	D	¹⁵ V	E	R	S	A	R	Y
T						C		I						S
¹⁶ H	E	N	¹⁷ P	E	C	¹⁸ K	E	D		¹⁹ B	E	²⁰ L	A	Y
E		O		D					E		R		A	E
²¹ A	T	T	A	I	N	²² S			²³ O	C	E	A	N	I
T		A		F		A			T		A		T	R
²⁴ R	E	B	U	I	L	D			²⁵ A	D	D	R	E	S
E		I		C		D			P		T		R	
		²⁶ T	H	E	D	O	N	E	T	H	I	N	G	

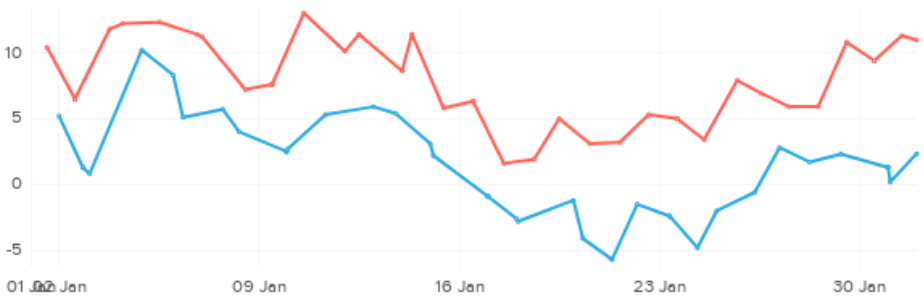
Newton Weather

in January 2023

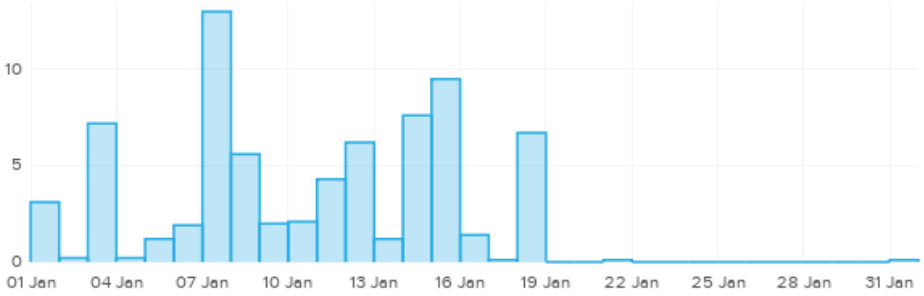
Q: Why is the sun not very heavy to carry?

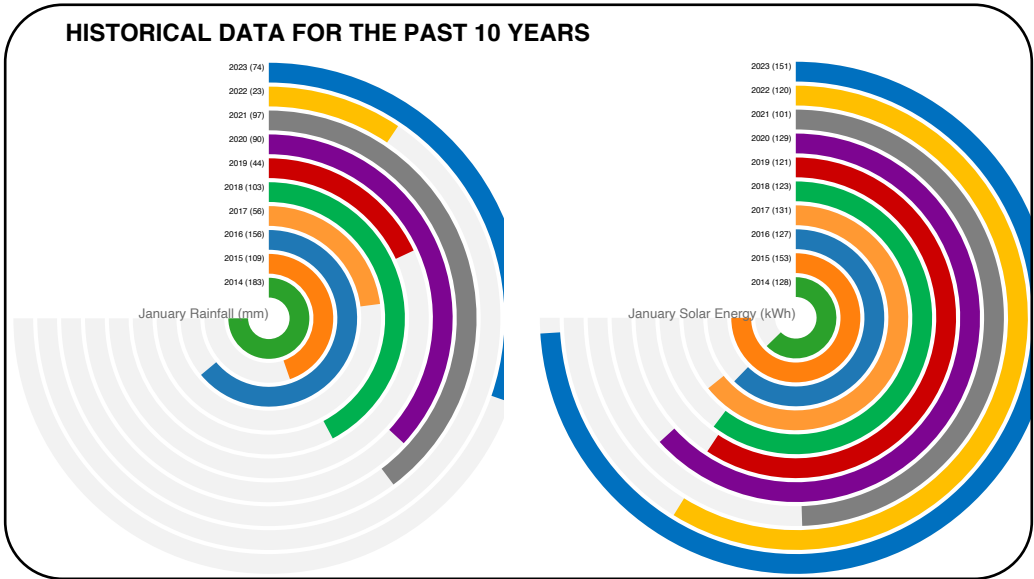
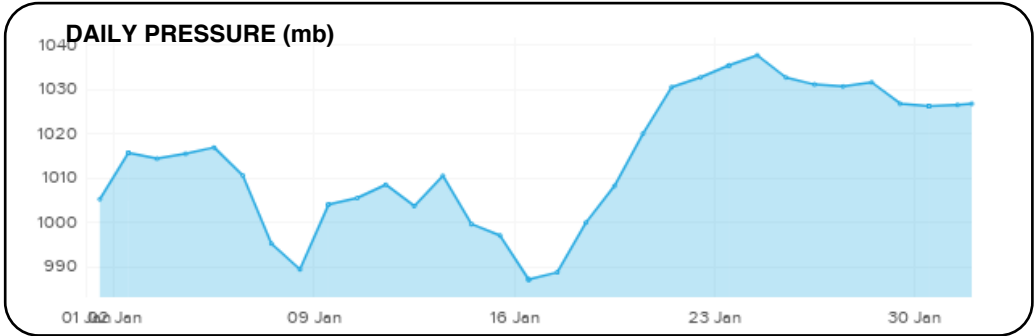
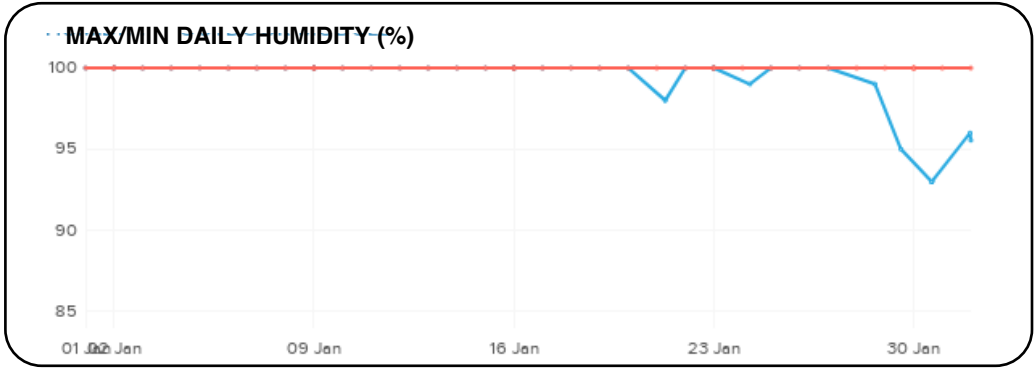


MAX/MIN DAILY TEMPERATURE (Celsius)



DAILY RAINFALL (mm)





The Parish Church of St Cyr and St Julitta

How are things Looking?

As the years advance, I find my eyes can't take the sunshine anymore. While the rest of my body loves to be in the sun, my eyes insist on hiding behind polarized sunglasses. This is not a great hardship, but I have discovered I need to be careful before I exclaim what a lovely sunset it is, or how beautiful the water looks. If I take my sunglasses off, things sometimes look quite different. When people see things differently from us, we may accuse them of wearing rose-tinted spectacles.

This is why Lent is so important. It's the church's reminder to check what light or lens are we using to view our world through. During Lent, the wisdom of the ages is to give something up, which is the equivalent of taking off the sunglasses. So, this year, I'm giving up TV and movies to clear some space in my head and my heart. By not watching what is served up so easily and tantalizingly, I hope to make room for some quieter, less intrusive voices using a different medium. I hope it will also give me more time, time to think and pray, and not fill the time with chores and general busyness. But that's me. What would help you take your sunglasses off?

If we see Lent as a discipline, it becomes a burden. I'll never forget my 10-year-old enthusiastically deciding to give up chocolate for Lent. After two weeks, she gladly paid a small forfeit and declared, 'I'm never, ever giving up chocolate again!' Giving up a pleasure to develop discipline only builds up your self-will, making you feel more in control and less needful of others. To give up a pleasure to get to know someone better (in the case of Lent, Jesus) tends to change your point of view as you consider the other's viewpoint. From that place we can really start to serve and care for others. The thing about this annual check that we call Lent, a pause to determine what light source and what lens we are using to view the world, is that the results will be shown in our actions.

Revd Julia Hocking

Netherexe Mission Community

Northern Syria/Southern Turkey Earthquake Disaster

We have all seen, and been deeply affected by, the devastating pictures from Turkey and Syria in the aftermath of the earthquake at the beginning of February. Thousands upon thousands dead, and many more injured, homeless and desperately seeking warmth and safe shelter wherever they can, totally reliant on the international communities to feed and support them.

In response to this disaster, churches in the area have pledged to raise money for at least one Shelterbox - approximately £600. The money will be raised through our regular collections during the services on Ash Wednesday and throughout Lent (end of February to the beginning of April), we will also use other opportunities for further fund-raising throughout that time. Any monies raised over and above the purchase of a Shelterbox will be split between various charities helping in that area, including the Disasters Emergency Committee appeal.

If you would like to contribute to this appeal, then please leave a donation at the Rectory in Thorverton, or leave with a churchwarden or other church members of your church, or you can donate direct to Shelterbox via www.shelterbox.org.

Please do contact me for more information.

All Blessings

Tim

Priest-in-Charge
Netherexe Mission Community
The Rectory
School Lane
Thorverton

tim.collins@netherexe.com

07449 111663

01392 860767

Food Bank

A small Food Bank
 is starting up
 in the Church Porch
 Something you
 need? – leave a
 message
 Or like to give? –
 please do!

Annual Meetings for your Parish

The Meeting of Parishioners elects the churchwardens of the parish. It is open to:

- (i) all residents of the parish who are listed as such on a register of local government electors, and
- (ii) non-residents whose names are on the Church Electoral Roll for the parish.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) immediately following the Meeting of Parishioners is open to all members of the Church Electoral Roll for the parish. It chooses representatives for the parish in church councils and synods, receives the annual accounts of the Parochial Church Council, and reviews the life and work of the local church over the preceding year. Please plan to attend these important and informative annual meetings for your parish.

Brampford Speke:	Tues 28 Mar. 6:00 pm	Brampford Speke Church
Cadbury:	Tues 14 Mar, 5:00 pm	Cadbury Church
Newton St Cyres:	tbc	
Rewe with Netherexe:	Wed 19 April, 6:00 pm	Rewe Church
Stoke Canon with Huxham:	Tues 18 April, 6:00 pm	Stoke Canon Church
Thorverton:	Thurs30 Mar, 11:00 am	Thorverton Church
Upton Pyne:	Tues 21 Mar, 3:00 pm	Upton Pyne Village Hall

If you have any queries or require more information regarding the APCM, please contact Revd Tim Collins.

Revd Tim Collins
Priest-in-Charge, Netherexe Mission Community
01392 860767
07449 111663

Netherexe Mission Community

Lent Discussions Groups

“Creative Conversations with God: Stepping out into Prayer”

This Lent, we will be exploring prayer - both in terms of our understanding and in practical expressions. Our Ash Wednesday services - **11am at Cadbury and 6pm at Upton Pyne** - will lay the foundations for the weekly sessions. And then, starting on 1st March, each session will combine discussion, reflection and practical expressions of prayer, in a creative and engaging way. The sessions will all be at the same time, though in a different place! And while each session will be complete in and of itself, they will all link together. So, people may wish to attend more than just the session in their own parish.

1 st March	6.30pm - 8pm	Stoke Canon Church
8 th March	6.30pm - 8pm	The Limes, Brampford Speke
15 th March	6.30pm - 8pm	Thorverton Church
22 nd March	6.30pm - 8pm	Rewe Village Hall
29 th March	6.30pm - 8pm	Newton St Cyres Village Hall

It would be so good if you were able to join us for one or more of these times together.

Please do contact me for more information or to arrange for a lift to a session.

All Blessings

Tim
Priest-in-Charge
 Netherexe Mission Community
tim.collins@netherexe.com
 07449 111663
 01392 860767



Let's GO

LEGO CLUB

Next Creative Builds

Sunday March 5th – Hidden Treasures
Sunday April 16th – Brickingham Palace

(in time for the Coronation!)
at 4 o'clock

in Newton St Cyres Church
refreshments provided

All ages very much welcome

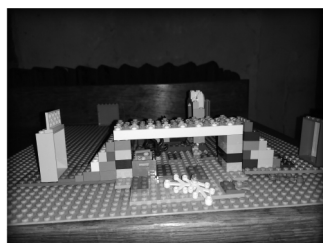
For more information,
please contact:

Revd Tim Collins

01392 860767

tim.collins@netherexe.org

The photos are from February's bridge
building challenge



SERVICES & INFORMATION MARCH 2023

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

Sunday 5 March Lent 2

09:30 am	Holy Communion	Thorverton	TC
11:15 am	Informal Service	Cadbury	Lay Led
11:15 am	Café Church	Rewe	Lay Led

Sunday 12 March Lent 3

09:30 am	Morning Prayer	Thorverton	Lay Led
11:15 am	Holy Communion	Upton Pyne	GC
05:00 pm	Holy Communion	Stoke Canon	TC

Sunday 19 March Lent 4 Mothering Sunday

09:30 am	Holy Communion	Bramford Speke	GC
10:00 am	Mothering Service	Stoke Canon	Lay Led
10:00 am	Mothering Service	Upton Pyne	Lay Led
10:00 am	Family Service	Thorverton	LF
10:00 am	Mothering Service	Newton St Cyres	Lay Led
10:30 am	Mothering Service	Huxham	JH
11:15 am	Holy Communion [flowers and children's activities]	Cadbury	TC/Lay Led
11:15 am	Informal Service	Rewe	Lay Led

Sunday 26 March Lent 5

09:30 am	Morning Prayer	Thorverton	Lay Led
09:30 am	Holy Communion	Newton St Cyres	TC
10:00 am	Messy Church	Stoke Canon	Lay Led
11:15 am	Holy Communion	Rewe	JH
04:00 pm	Remembering Service	Upton Pyne	TC

Tuesday 28 March

09:00 am	Chattertots	Thorverton	Lay Led
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Evening Prayer: Every Tuesday 6:00 pm in Rewe Church

This information will also be available via our website at www.netherexe.org see "Please Note" section of the homepage.

Who's Who? Abbreviations Key

TC	Revd Tim Collins		
JH	Revd Julia Hocking	LF	Laura Ford [Licensed Lay Minister]
TL	Revd Tony Lane	KR	Revd Preb Kathy Roberts
GC	Revd Preb Graham Cotter	MSS	Revd's Michael & Sharon Simpson
SN	Sheila Newton [Licensed Lay Minister]	TBC	To be confirmed.

Revd Tim Collins Rector Tel: 01392 860767 tim.collins@netherexe.org

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

Mrs Juliette Lea [Administrator]	Mr Peter Shepherd [Administrator]
Tuesday & Thursday [09:00 – 15:00]	Monday & Wednesday [09:00 – 13:00]
Tel: 07594 714590	Tel: 07551 844321
Email: administration@netherexe.org	Email: administration@netherexe.org
Correspondence: The Netherexe Parishes, Church Office, St Mary Magdalene Church, Stoke Canon, Exeter, EX5 4AS.	

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
Anna Mace-Leska	Sand Down Lane	Compass House	851441	leska@btinternet.com
Jacqui Ward	Smallbrook	2 Broadgate Cottage	851918	Jacquiward30@yahoo.co.uk
Jill Hawksley	Sweetham	Station Cottage	851269	peterbrew@aol.com
Clive Wootton	West Town	4 Meadowlands	851428	hollywallydoda@outlook.com
Alan Hancock	Woodlands		851744	
Damien Hodge	Tytheing Close	2	851111	damienhodge@newtonstcyres-pc.gov.uk
Geoffrey Jackson	"The Village"	Shaplands Cottage	851551	megalops@btinternet.com

*For help, 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@newtonstcyres-pc.gov.uk*

Newton St Cyres Parish Hall

Available to rent for children's parties, dances, classes, wedding receptions and meetings. It has kitchen facilities and disabled parking. Very competitive rates which have not been raised for nearly 5 years.

UP TO HOURS 3 6 9 12

VILLAGERS

Main hall	£24	£36	£47	£59
Club room	£13	£19	£25	£32
Both rooms	£37	£55	£72	£91

NON VILLAGERS

Main hall	£36	£54	£71	£88
Club room	£19	£28	£38	£48
Both rooms	£55	£82	£109	£136

Bookings Secretary, Mary Long maryglong@btinternet.com ; 01392 851624

A WEEK IN THE PARISH HALL

The Parish Hall is now fully open. **The special covid restrictions and number limits have been lifted**, but we urge users to think of others and continue to be careful.

If you wish to book the Hall or learn more about the facilities, please contact our Bookings Secretary, Mary Long (marylong@btinternet.com ; 01392 851624).

Roger Furniss Chairman, Hall Management Committee

Tuesday (weekly)	Line dancing	7.30 pm	Paula Benford	01392 210830	pbenford45@gmail.com
Tuesday (weekly)	Adonai Community Kitchen	12.00 - 2.00pm	Jocelyne Whittaker	07508 871172	TheAdonai-CKitchen@outlook.com
Tuesday (fortnightly)	Young Farmers Club	8.00 pm	Katie Davie	07706 760500	kmdavie@gmail.com
Wednesday (weekly)	Adonai Community Kitchen	12.00 - 2.00pm	Jocelyne Whittaker	07508 871172	TheAdonai-CKitchen@outlook.com
Wednesday (weekly)	Warm afternoon. Tea, Games, etc.	3.00 pm	Sue Browne	851460	suebrowne@gmail.com
Wednesday (monthly)	History Group	7.30 pm	Jean Wilkins	01392 851337	jeanwilkins1@btinternet.com
Thursday (Twice per month)	Mah Jong	2.00 pm	Geoff Jackson	01392 851551	megalops@btinternet.com
Thursday (2 nd in month)	Exe Valley Bird Club	7.00 pm	Kevin Smaldon	07710 427817	kevin.smaldon@btinternet.com
Thursday (monthly)	Parish Council	7.00 pm	Jane Hole	01392 851148	parishclerk@newtonstcyrus-pc.gov.uk
Friday (some weeks)	Art class	10.30 am	Sue Rose	01363 772284	suerose9@hotmail.com
Friday (weekly)	Table tennis	7.00 pm	Roger Wilkins	01392 851337	rogerwilkins1@btinternet.com
Saturday (second in month)	Village Coffee morning sponsored by various oorganisations	10.30 am	Church Sue Browne	01392 851460	suecbrowne@gmail.com
			Others Roger Wilkins	01392 851337	rogerwilkins1@btinternet.com
Saturday (some months)	Model train group	2.00 pm	Ann Feetham	01392 215837	annfeetham@virginmedia.com

WHO'S WHO IN THE VILLAGE

Priest-in-Charge	Rv. Tim Collins	
Church Wardens	Sue Browne, 1 Glebelands, Sand Down Lane	01392 851460
PCC Hon Secretary	Pita Burt pitaburt@gmail.com	01392 851410
PCC Hon Treasurer	Jackie Enright	01392 851859
Electoral Roll Officer	Jen Holt, 21 Woodlands	01392 851521
Tower Captain	Mary Quicke - mary@quickes.co.uk	07729 844945
Doctors (Credton)	Redlands Primary Care Joseph Locke Way, Credton, EX17 3FD	01363 727111
Newton Wonder Magazine and Website	Editor – Peter Hawksley Email: editor@newtonwonder.net	01392 851269
Parish Council	Chairman - Jim Enright Clerk - Jane Hole	01392 851859 01392 851148
Parish Hall	Chairman – Roger Furniss Booking Sect - Mary Long, - maryglong@btinternet.com	01392 851601 01392 851624
Primary School	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
Recreation Club	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 damienhodge@newtonstcyres-pc.gov.uk	01392 851111
Footpath Warden	Steve Parker, Lilly Farm.	01392 851505
Newton Environmental Wellbeing Group	Andrew Broadhead, newnewgroup@protonmail.com	07813 532544

Community Police	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
Adonai Community Kitchen	Jocelyne Whittaker	07508 871172
Crediton Citizen's Advice	Adviceline (10.30 - 3.30)	03444 111444

The **NEWTON WONDER** is delivered within the Parish at a charge of only **£8.00** per year(in 2023). Subscriptions are due in January.

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

If you move away it can be posted for an additional £7.50 p.a.

To pay online/by BACS please ensure that payment is made to
"Newton Wonder Community Magazine"

Sort Code: 30-93-14 Account Number: 05351394

Please add your last name and distributor's name as reference

The **Newton Wonder** team consists of Peter Hawksley and Peter Cordingley (editors). Mark Philips, Sue Phillips, Martin Taylor 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 **Marketing and Advertising**, email **thenewtonwonder@gmail.com** in the first instance. Please include your business name, address, ad-size required and number of insertions. **Payment in advance:** cheques or online payments to **Newton Wonder Community Magazine** - Sort Code: 30-93-14, Account Number: 05351394 Please use your business name as the reference.

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** (Monthly except January) is delivered to local households and businesses at an annual charge of £8. Additional copies can be purchased from the Post Office.

	1 Year	Colour
Small (approx. 73mm x 46mm)	£30.00	£40.00
Quarter Page	£60.00	£70.00
Half Page	£100.00	£120.00
Full Page	£200.00	£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.

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Tel:-01288 341617 or 07784 008471.

Email:- printroom@communitymagazineprinting.co.uk

SEASONED LOGS

September 2022

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CHIMENEAS - FIREPITS

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