

NEWTON WONDER

THE MAGAZINE & WEBSITE FOR THE COMMUNITY OF NEWTON ST CYRES

£1.00

October 2025

**New swings in
the playground
see page 3**



Photo: Jane Hole

www.newtonwonder.net

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A new space and a new place for the Church in our community?

On 12th September the Newton St Cyres Community Church Association revealed the work which has been going on in the church for some considerable time with the opening of the new community and exhibition space. An exhibition of James Ravillious' incredible photographs of agriculture in Devon through the years was the opening event. If you have not yet been to see it the exhibition is open until 3rd October. Pictures and words from Ann Quon Cordingley on page 20.

Its exciting to see the church responding to the needs of the 21st century. The Church in Newton St Cyres, like many others up and down the country is seeking new ways to be relevant and important to the community. There is no doubt that many, if not most of us in the village would be incredibly distressed if the church were to close its doors. The church now boasts a well equipped servery, a disabled toilet as well as a flexible space for exhibitions, meetings, entertainment, performances and fun.

Peter Hawksley

New Swings and Sizzlers at the Recreation Ground

On Friday 19th September, the Parish Council was delighted to welcome school children from Newton St Cyres Primary School to the Recreation Ground to celebrate the official opening of new swings which had been installed over the summer. The Parish Council is grateful to Mid Devon District Council who funded the swings via a S106 grant.

Following a short introduction from Parish Council Chair, Liz Ouldrige, the ribbon was cut by the oldest and youngest school child, Clara and Ralpie, while the rest of the school looked on.

Refreshments and hotdogs for everyone followed, courtesy of the Parish Council. Many families stayed on while children enjoyed playing in the park in the lovely autumn weather.

Head teacher, Mr Akhurst said "It's great to work together as a community and I'm very grateful to the Parish Council for inviting us down to celebrate".

Jane Hole



Kaiden enjoying the swing later

Parish Council Report September 2025

As the Council held no meeting in August, you may be forgiven for thinking nothing happened. But this is far from the case. For example, there has been the usual grass cutting, but in addition to that you may have noticed that the bus shelters have been cleaned, the two benches in Court Orchard have been repainted and the village green noticeboard has been refurbished.

Perhaps not so noticeably, we have renewed the battery in the Recreation Ground Defibrillator, thus ensuring this vital piece of life-saving equipment remains available. New swings have been installed at the Recreation Ground using funds we were able to apply for from Mid Devon District Council.

Councillor John Dean presented his quarterly report on Travel and Road safety. He has had some success. The Environment Agency has informed him that an issue of sewage leaking into the Smallbrook, that we had identified earlier, is currently being resolved. The road outside Winscott Barton Farm has become dangerous. Smaller potholes have now been filled by Devon County Council Highways. Highways have also told John that 'future works' have now been planned on the more serious damage. However, many serious issues remain outstanding and these were discussed with County Councillor Steve Keable. It was decided to ask Steve to put some of them before HATOC (Highways and Transport Orders Committee), which meets soon.

We are asking for a 20mph speed limit on Station Road around the school. Steve told us that DCC now views these more sympathetically. We also are going to ask for a replacement of the electronic sign attached to the footbridge over the road by Newton House. This warned of the concealed turning to Station Road. We are going to suggest that the Parish Council could part-fund it, hoping that this might encourage a positive result. The Boniface Trail remains an issue but we hope to have further information after a meeting of local parishes councils in October.

Councillor Graeme Barnell spoke of the work of the Footpaths Group. The group has surveyed our footpaths and identified problems. Missing or broken signs are a particular problem and they hope to rectify this. Repairs to the footbridges are a more expensive long-term problem and DCC Footpaths team will have to become involved.

Councillor Liz Ouldrige spoke of the liaison work with the church and also the Friends of the Arboretum. These are still ongoing and no resolutions were achieved.

The next cycle of budgeting is nearly upon us. The budget and so next year's precept will be set in December. Before that, the Parish Council will need to review the grants it's given to local organisations in this current financial year and discuss grants for next year.

To this end, **we would ask any organisation wishing for a grant from the Council for the year 2025/26 to submit an application before 31st October.** Forms can be found on the Council website.

We are sad to report that, while keeping his work on Footpaths and Resilience, Councillor Graeme Barnell has decided to step down as a Parish Councillor. We will miss his knowledge and commitment and thank him for all he has done. We are now down to only five Councillors when the full Council requires nine. I would like to ask parishioners if they could consider becoming a Councillor. With a full Council, the work is not too onerous and the Council helps make the Parish a pleasant place to live. You are very welcome to contact to me (lizouldridge@newtonstcyres-pc.gov.uk or ring 07752959845) or the Parish Clerk about what it entails and application forms can be found on the Council website.

The next Parish Council meeting will be Thursday 2nd October at 7pm in the Parish Hall Club Room. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

Liz Ouldridge

Newton St Cyres 200 Club

The winners for September are:

No. 200	A Mason	£10.00
No. 216	A Haward	£10.00
No. 161	H Barlow	£10.00
No. 32	T Snow	£10.00
No. 234	D Ashmore	£10.00

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

Jane Hole
01392 851148

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

Newton St Cyres History Group has a growing library of publications.

- **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)**

Written by Jean Wilkins. 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?

- **Newton St Cyres in the WW2 Years (£5)**

Written by Roger Wilkins, The contributions of the village to the war effort are described, as are impacts on village activities and businesses.

- **Newton St Cyres & the A377 (£5)**

Written by Jean Wilkins, A window into the history of transport into and through the village and the development of the A 377.

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

Copies can be purchased by contacting

Jean Wilkins 01392 851337 jeanwilkins1@btinternet.com

COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH ENGAGEMENT EVENT

Fri 17th Oct 10am

Tiverton Neighbourhood Team will be at A Community Speedwatch Event at Newton St Cyres Parish Hall, Exeter EX5 5BW on 17/10/25 at 10:00am. Please take this opportunity to raise any concerns you may have and to find out what we are doing to tackle the issues that matter to you.

Everyone is welcome and it would be great to see you there.

Monika Herpoldt-Bright



Newton St Cyres Primary School invites

NSC Senior Citizens to join staff and children for a
Harvest Festival Lunch on

Wednesday 15 October 2025 at 12.15

Lunch menu

Roast Gammon, with Roast Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables and gravy

Or

Vegetarian Toad in the Hole with Roast Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables
and gravy

Sticky Toffee Pudding

Followed by tea/coffee and harvest songs

Please book in advance by Friday 10 October by phone 01392 851267
or email newtonadmin@exevalleyfederation.org.uk with your choice of

meal (please notify of any allergies)

Cost £3.00 per person (cash only please)

Thoughts for October from Peter Cordingley

I left the UK in my early 20s in 1967 for a job in journalism in France. That took me on to a host of places, including Vietnam, where I was a war correspondent (I throw that in for bragging purposes). And then there was a dozen years as spokesman for the World Health Organisation in Asia. So, as immodest as it may seem, I think I've been around a bit and seen quite a lot.

At the end of it all, after 50 or so years, I came back to England, and for no particular reason, to Newton St Cyres. That was in 2018. Why did I return, I've been asked? Well, part of the reason was the prospect of rediscovering the buzz of British politics after living for so long in places where I didn't always understand what was happening around me.

Newton may not be at the pulsating heart of British politics, but it's a convenient perch to watch what is going on in this country. And you know what? I'm getting more buzz than I ever wanted or expected. I'm irritated beyond words by what I see – by the chaos of it all, by the chattering and arguing and by the blunders and bumbles. Why does so little seem to get done or work properly any more?

No wonder a nationwide poll published recently in the "I" newspaper said that 77% of those surveyed believe that "Britain is completely broken".

But who broke it? I know that what follows will probably sting a lot of people in these parts, but even some of my deep-blue friends acknowledge that the last years of the Tory Party's 14 years in power were in so many ways a calamity for the country.

The Party's latest leader, Kemi Badenoch, said the other day, that "if elected", her party would do something or other. I can't any more remember what it was that they would do, but that doesn't really matter, because I doubt any Conservative will see the inside of 10 Downing Street for a generation or more. Having gone through more leaders than the England football team have had managers, they look to me like a wasted political force.

And Labour? Now, this is personal. I had such high hopes last year when Sir Keir Starmer was elected with his stonking majority, but (sorry, dad, wherever you are) Starmer has proved to be as resolute as a kids' sandcastle with the tide swirling around it. Not as damaging as Liz (the lettuce) Trust, of course, but hopeless in his own way. I suspect that he and Ms Badenoch will be free to open a boarding house in Exmouth by this time next year.

Which, alas, leaves us, among the big hitters, with Nigel Farage and Reform UK. What can I say? This man is a snake-oil salesman, a racist, a misogynist (he says breast-feeding women should be corralled away from view when in public places),

and, of course, the man who helped push through the disaster called Brexit (remember the big, fat, lying bus?). But he has a large and growing following – which tells me more than I am comfortable with about what has happened to British political life.

If that man ever becomes Prime Minister, I swear I'll flee back to one of the places I have lived in – except, of course, that I won't, because I like Newton St Cyres and the people here too much.

Peter Cordingley is content editor of the Newton Wonder, However, the opinions expressed in his column are his alone. His views, like all opinions we publish, do not represent the editorial view of the Newton Wonder.

NEWTON RAMBLERS

Sunday 19th October Three Reservoirs Walk

This month's walk starts at Trenchford Reservoir, and is a reasonably level circular walk of around 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ miles. The route is easy walking along paths, tracks and lanes through woodland and alongside the peaceful reservoirs of Trenchford, Tottiford & Kennick. There is a short uphill section when returning to the car park.

We will meet at the Newton St Cyres Parish Hall Car Park at 9.30am, to arrange car sharing, to the start of the walk at the pay & display car park at Trenchford (TQ13 9NZ) This is accessed from the A382 at Slade Cross. There are toilets at this location. If you wish to join us at Trenchford car park, please let Nicola know.

This month we are suggesting that those who wish to, bring sandwiches and a drink so that we can sit & chat after the walk. We will bring a stove & mugs for hot drinks.

Depending on the weather prior to the walk, some areas may be muddy so suitable footwear is advised together with appropriate clothing.

Dogs, and their owners, are very welcome on this walk. If you need a lift, or have any questions, please contact Nicola or Michael on 01392 851985

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





Newton St Cyres Arboretum

COFFEE MORNING

Saturday 11th October

10:30am - 12 noon

NSC Parish Hall

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OCTOBER PROGRAMME

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7.00pm Music & Food
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4 October 7.30PM
Music: **Harbottle & Jonas**



9 October 7.30PM
Film: **The Line We Crossed**



10 October 7.30PM
Theatre: **Happy Hour**



18 October 7.30PM
Theatre: **Tongues & Savage/Love**



23 October
7.30PM
Music: **Dan Whitehouse & Gustaf Ljunggren**



30 October 7.30PM
Film: **Last Thursday Picture Show**

Tickets through the Arts Centre, ring or go to [www.ticket source.co.uk/creditonartscentre](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/creditonartscentre) or for full details go to www.creditonartscentre.org/events info@creditonartscentre.org

Full Details and Tickets - www.creditonartscentre.org
info@creditonartscentre.org

Village Curry/Colombo Lunch



Village Curry Colombo Lunch

12pm (noon)

Saturday 4th of October

At Newton St Cyres Village Hall

Selection of Curry/ Colombo dishes:

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or add your details to the list at the village hall,
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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 100



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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- **Farm Business Support** – for farmers in East Devon, Mid Devon and Teignbridge, offering guidance on succession planning, financial sustainability, and operational improvements.

All advice is free of charge and delivered by experienced local agricultural advisors with a practical understanding of farming in Devon.

More details: <https://businessinfopoint.co.uk/agri-innovation-support/>
Or call 01837 659 059 to register interest.



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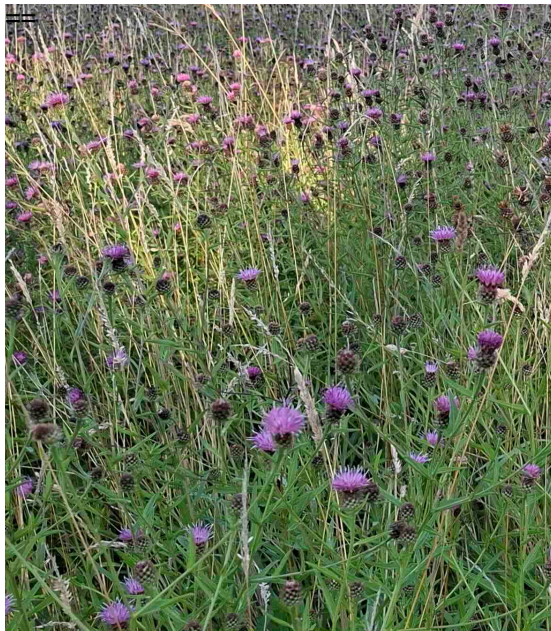
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The Wildflower Meadow at Tally Field



Knapweed and Grasses in Tally's Field

Follow the permissive footpath from the bottom of Marsh Lane below Bakers in West Town. You will quickly emerge from the old Greenway into a large field on your left. This is Tally Field, as it is now called. In the 19th century it was called Titcham. In the 15th century, Twitcham.

At the bottom of a much larger field that runs up to Tin Pit Hill and to Coombe Land Woods there are perhaps three or four acres of old-fashioned wildflower meadow. It is a haven of biodiversity and an important sanctuary for the many grasses and flowering plants that used to form much of our pasture land before the Second World War.

There are numerous species of grass no longer found in surrounding pastureland.

In April and May, among familiar wildflowers such as dandelions and buttercups, there are many early marsh orchids. Other common species in late spring and early summer are the delicate Lady's Smocks (also known as Cuckoo Flower,) Red Campion, of course, and Dog Violet.

In June the meadow becomes a sea of white flowers as Ox Eye Daisies come into their own. Among the daisies we find vetches, bugloss and trefoil. In the drier parts of the field



Photo: Graeme Barnell

Marsh orchid and buttercups

there are wild carrot and pignut, and in the damper areas honey-scented Meadowsweet and Wild Angelica.

As June becomes July, the Daisies are replaced by an ocean of Knapweed interspersed by Ladies Bedstraw and, in damper places, Bugle. All provide abundant nectar for a host of bees, butterflies, beetles and many other pollinating insects right the way into September or, at least, until the meadow has been given its late summer "Hay Cut".

Meadows like this need to be managed if they are not to be overtaken by brambles, bracken and blackthorn. This includes mowing for hay or silage at least once a year

The Quicke Estate has generously set aside this meadow and has included it in their Countryside Stewardship Plan, which is supported financially by DEFRA, the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.

Meadowland like this is now a rare treasure. It has taken generations to create. And it is very much hoped that its preservation will continue.

Graeme Barnell

Newton St Cyres toddler group

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

Our family sessions are £2 a time and run from 9:15 - 11:15 am. The price includes a drink and a snack.

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



see our facebook page
Newton Nappies
Contact the School on
01392 851267

Do You Remember....October?

October 1975

The Church announced its forthcoming Harvest Festival when the Young Farmers would be attending. The re-decorating was going well most Thursday evenings. An appeal for new kneelers was launched and members of the PCC had started to make replacements.

A site meeting was to be held in the village to discuss the double white lines.

The children's play equipment needed updating and an appeal for volunteers appeared.

The NSC Players changed their play to 'See How They Run' Harry Birch and Reg Mear had stepped in to remedy the shortage of male players.

Mrs Brown demonstrated cake icing at the W I meeting.

The NSC Art group had an exhibition of their work in the entrance to Exeter City Library.

A public meeting was to be held to meet DCC Twinning Officer, Tim Clacton on "All About Twinning"

I

October 1985

The Parish Council were proposing an amendment to the County Council's grading of minor roads. They asked for upgrading of Langford Road, Shute Cross to Wyke Cross, Norton Cross to Rewe Cross, Station Road and West Town.

The Parish Hall had just received an electronic organ donated by Mr & Mrs Ireland of Deers Leap, West Town.

The Twinning AGM was held and the following officers were elected:

President -

Prue Quicke, Chairman - John Morrish,

Secretary - Stuart Martin, Treasurer

-Doug West.

Margaret Walters was the winner of the Ladies Tennis Tournament. The men's winner was Bob Swaffield.

October 1995

Young Farmers had held their AGM

and the following officers were

elected: Chairman - Mark Bailey,

Secretary - Christine Gard, Assistant

Secretary - Angela Prouse.

The Young Farmers also had a very busy programme planned including Tug of War.

A report appeared from the Half Moon Residents Association who have been canvassing for greater traffic control in Half Moon and Castlands. It is hoped work will soon start to improve the situation.

The Parish Council were requesting help from residents to do small jobs to keep the parish tidy and also for help on the various organising committees.

NSC School Association held a Book Fair and 50/50 Sale to raise funds.

The Recreation Ground were organising an under 11 years Skittles Tournament

October 2005

A letter appeared from John and Lyn Durrant who had moved from the village to Babbacombe which listed the 'fors' and 'against' of their move.

The Parish Council announced the results of the Village of the Year competition where NSC did well. The winner was Yarcombe.

The Parish Council also announced their new parish website.

Adverts appeared for a Jumble Sale in aid of Church funds and a Christmas Fair for Hall funds.

An article appeared on the Cowley 'models'

Two pages of excuses for not doing homework appeared with such classics as: My tortoise ate it; My pet snake was sleeping on it; Dad took it to Denmark on a business trip; I left it on holiday.

The Recreation Ground reported on a football match in memory of Kelvyn Baker.

October 2015

The Chairman of the PC explained that Devon County Council would no longer be undertaking hedge trimming and verge cutting as a result of their cut-backs but that many of the jobs could be undertaken by Cllrs or members of the public. He himself had cleared the bus stop at Langford that very day.

Cllr Steve Parker was thanked for rebuilding and painting the seat on the village green to such a high standard.

The Parish Council has bought a set of display boards which will be used at public events and at the Village Market. Notices will be kept updated. The notice boards in the parish had been cleaned and repainted and parishioners were asked to make sure that only drawing pins are used to secure notices to the boards.

The results on the questionnaire about establishing a Community Shop had been collated and were published later in the magazine

The Flower and produce show had had to be cancelled because of lack of entries.

Peter Hawksley

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Arboretum Footpath Closed

The footpath outside the Arboretum gate that leads down to the Quickes' farm shop has been closed to the public due to health and safety concerns. The path, which runs alongside the A377, was closed by landowner John Quicke in early September following concerns voiced to the Parish Council by the church, Friends of the Arboretum and members of the public.



The fenced-off footpath

Parish Council Chair Liz Ouldrige says: “I pointed out to John that should a child or dog fall onto the A377 due to inadequate fencing along the footpath, there would be serious consequences.” She noted that there is a long drop onto the road in places.

The permissive path, which is on land owned by the Quickes, had been open to the public to use at their own risk, with many using it as a shortcut to the Quickes' farm and shop.

“It is with sadness that I closed this path, but I felt it impossible to keep the path open once concerns about its safety had been brought to my attention, which had been on my mind for a while,” says John Quicke.

Liz Ouldrige says users can still get to Quickes' farm and shop by walking through the Arboretum. “It's not an ideal solution, but you have to bear in mind that to repair the fence all along the footpath would be prohibitively expensive,” she says.

Are there any long-term plans to fortify the existing fencing on the footpath?
“No, very difficult to do due to ground conditions, poor access and proximity to the main road, not to mention the cost,” says John Quicke.

Words and photo by Ann Quon Cordingley

SAVE THE DATE!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING
ON NEW YEAR'S EVE?

**We hope you will join us for the
Newton St Cyres Parish Hall**

CEILIDH



with



**the Barnstormers Ceilidh Band
More details to be announced in
November's Newton Wonder**



Church Launches New Exhibition Space

An exciting space for exhibitions, performances, and gatherings has opened in the church to encourage greater use of the building

and to bring it closer to the community. “We want people to come up with ideas for what they want to use the space for, now that we have it,” says Gordon Hepworth of the Newton St Cyres Community Church Association.



The crowd at the exhibition

At the launch of the space on 12th September, Gordon unveiled a photo exhibition by the renowned James Ravilious, featuring

rural life in Mid Devon in the 1970s. The exhibit also featured a local flavour with contemporary photos of farming around Newton St Cyres taken by residents and farmers, including Jean and Roger Wilkins, Will Ayres, Andrew Brightwell, and Clive Wootton.

The Newton St Cyres Community Church Association has carried out considerable work to the north aisle of the church to encourage greater use of the building. Besides the exhibition space, there is a new cottage-style servery and disabled WC.



Pita Burt and Isobel Hepworth behind the new servery

In launching the new facilities, Gordon commended Tony Lane as the driving force behind much of the building works. He also thanked Tom Langdon-Davies, Rex Rosario and other donors for providing seed funding and the Revd Tim Collins for driving the project.

"I am hoping people will come forward, wanting to do things in the church," Gordon says. "Such as getting the primary school involved with an exhibition of children's art works or using the space for Devon Arts Week or local artists to show their works."

"The idea is to have more events in the church," Gordon says. On that note, anything is possible.

The exhibition runs from 13th September to 3rd October 2025.

Words and photos by Ann Quon Cordingley



Table Tennis



Newton St Cyres Parish Hall

every Thursday from 7 to 9 pm.

As well as seeing present members of our Group, we are keen to welcome new players – with or without experience adults and children from the age of 12.

There are four tables, so we can fit in people from beginners and rusty former players to League players. Equipment is available.

You pay for the evenings you come - £3 for adults; £2 for schoolchildren.

Just come on the evening, but for any further information contact Roger Wilkins – rogerwilkins1@btinternet.com



NEWTON ST CYRES HISTORY GROUP AUTUMN 2025

Many of the older members of the village were present in the Parish Hall for the church coffee morning on 13th September, chatting and awaiting their turns to reminisce about life in the village in times gone by.

Crediton Library are collecting oral memories from the whole of the Crediton area. Izzy Fitzgerald is running the project with the help of a group of volunteers who do the recording and process the material. Christine Fraser has been the local facilitator, slotting folk into a 20-minutes-a-go schedule, while Sue Browne provided the coffees. The History Group had a presence with a display of photographs, and their books for sale.

The hall was soon filled with the chatty elderly, so as you can imagine there was quite a buzz, while any early suspicions of the project disappeared. We all enjoyed meeting with old friends and found the time just flew by.

There is still processing to be done, but eventually those who contributed their memories will be able to go to Crediton Library and listen to themselves. Some adjustments may be made and it may be necessary to edit out any unfortunate remarks that may have crept in.

Dates of coming meetings:

Wednesday 8th October in the Parish Hall, 7.30pm:

John Allan, the Exeter cathedral archaeologist, will speak about the cloisters. John comes regularly to update us on research at the cathedral. The cloisters were bombed during WW2 and have recently been beautifully rebuilt. They were the cathedral library for many years.

Wednesday 12th November in the Parish Hall, 7.30pm:

Dr John Dean will help us remember WW1 with the story of Elsie Knocker, an Exeter girl who lived in Barnfield Crescent and was one of the very courageous, privileged, young women of her day.

John is a retired hospital consultant who lives in the village and has many diverse interests.

£3 per meeting to include a hot drink and a biscuit. No special membership charge.

Jean Wilkins

Newton St Cyres' Memories Captured

On Saturday 13th September the Reminiscence Project based at CREDITON Library joined the Newton St Cyres Coffee Morning at the Parish Hall. This National Heritage Lottery funded project aims to collect memories of people living in CREDITON and the surrounding areas through audio recorded interviews. These are then added to a **free online collection** for everyone to enjoy. The aim is to preserve the cultural heritage of the area through oral histories.

The project runs from September to November. Izzy Fitzgerald, the co-ordinator said that and it is hoped that over 100 interviews will be completed.

Peter Hawksley



Interviewers
Piers Rose and Martin Benwell

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If you are able to offer us sponsorship for this event we would be grateful to hear from you!
This event is organised by FANS, the PTA of Newton St Cyres School, registered charity number 120820

October on the Farm

Tracing the Quicks of Yore



Mary With Izzy Fitzgerald

These are the stories our family tells itself, that my father and others told me. I was prompted to write this following a lovely afternoon I spent with Izzy Fitzgerald from the Crediton Library Reminiscence Project. It felt worth getting some of the stories out of my head and into the world. I tell some of them to the tours that come to visit the farm and cheesemaking.

The name Quicke belongs to a family of names: Quick, Wyke, Weeks, Wick, Zwicky that belongs to a Saxon tribe who lived in North Devon and North Somerset. Our family were one of the few families who retained land through the Norman Conquest. That was a great redistribution of land from the civilised Saxons to the

invading warlike Normans in 1066. Goodness knows what we had to do to retain property through this cataclysmic barbarian invasion. To distinguish ourselves from all the other Quicks in Devon, at some point we added the final 'e' to our name, now giving innocent delight to many.

Our family came to the farm in Newton St Cyres, first to Court Barton, when Henry VIII wanted the country to change its religion from Catholic to Protestant. He knew he'd have to put something in the balance against people's fear of change and potentially eternal damnation. He dispersed the monastery lands, some 10% of all land to influential landowners. An ancestor of mine acquired some of this land and his daughter Elizabeth Bidwell married Richard Quicke, an aspiring farmer from Sampford Courtenay, in 1537. An Australian came to our farm shop in the early 2000's and told us he was our long-lost cousin. It turned

out the common ancestor was Richard and Elizabeth's son Andrew Quicke, 14 generations away for me and 17 generations away for him. Oddly enough, he and his father had a little cartilage bobble on the back of his ear that my father and all of our generation have.

Fast-forward to the 6th John Quicke (the name is a bit of a theme, my brother being the 11th John Quicke to head the family). In 1758, he married Jane Coster, the daughter of Thomas Coster, a wealthy ceramics merchant and mine owner. She had been married to Robert Hoblyn, a wealthy tin miner from Cornwall. They had had no children and she brought her twin fortunes into the family. They were badly needed. John, using a husband's rights over his wife's property, promptly sold her library in a sale lasting two weeks in London, to repair the cottages on the estate. I hope her satisfaction of seeing the inhabitants warm and dry made up for the sadness at losing her books.

This is where the money came from to build the original Newton House and to build the three large cuttings going through the village, cut into the red rock. Our family says this gave employment to a couple of hundred local people for two or three years after the Napoleonic Wars when there was considerable economic hardship in the country. It was said that the work was undertaken to give thanks for the safe return of the current John Quicke's son and nephew safely back from the bloody battle of Waterloo, where the mortality rate of 25% was higher than the first day of the Somme. This finally curbed Napoleon's imperial ambitions, as scary then as Hitler's were in the last century. The works lifted the main road onto dry ground above the Creedy River marshes where our cows now graze.

These great works had the merit of making the road drivable by wheeled vehicles, where previously there had been none. It also gave the inhabitants of Newton House a great, and modern for the time, sweep of view across Hill Park which still has some fine parkland trees, and across the Creedy Valley up to Raddon Top. They'd have seen their fine new walled garden of fruit and vegetables, still there at Home Farm, and the secluded garden walk behind the wall alongside Station Road, now a jungle of brambles, without seeing travellers trudging along a mud track in front of the house.

We've just dug a 5-metre-deep slurry lagoon on the same red soil and it becomes solid rock quite quickly, hard work for a large, mechanised digger and tractors and trailers. It must have been brutal work with hand picks and wheelbarrows back in the early 19th century, digging into rock and carrying it up to a mile away.

Jane's money also brought Dutch drainage works onto Home Farm, which still enables our cows to graze and produce milk from what would have been marshland. All the fields down there are called Marshes, a memory of what was once there.

The works also included the Head Weir on the river Creedy, which brought a mill leat to the farm. I remember our current autumn cow manager, Matt Heal's, great

uncle, Arthur Heal, sawmilling with a long belt linked to the leat to saw tree trunks from the woods into planks of wood we used to build the farm buildings in the 1950's and 1960's. The saw benches are all still there until we work out what to do with the old mill. It's one of the finest stone buildings on the farm, dating from the time that the country squires lived like princes and could afford to make their farm buildings beautiful. This was just as the Agricultural Revolution was starting. Farming behind high tariff barriers before the repeal of the Corn Laws fed the exploding populations that fuelled the Industrial Revolution.

Jane's first mother-in-law was a Godolphin, a powerful political family. They were related to the Churchill family of Winston fame, particularly John Churchill who as head of the army led the revolt against King James II. He and his co-conspirators invited William and Mary over from Holland to replace him to protect the country from Catholicism. Oddly enough, in the church, there is one of the few charters to James II, a fine painted wooden declaration of loyalty. I wonder what the Quicke family thought of the fine paintwork as they were saying their prayers of loyalty to James' sister and husband, the usurping monarchs. Kept their heads down and kept praying, in this peaceful and successful invasion by the Dutch in 1688 that would have passed close to Newton St Cyres as they landed at Brixham. Our Dutch cousins find it hilarious that it was so well organised the English don't even remember it as an invasion and usurpation of the crowned monarch.

John Churchill is barely remembered for this disloyalty and better remembered for the triumph of beating the French at Blenheim, stopping their imperial ambitions across Europe.

My family had form: they jumped ship in the right direction at the right time during the Civil War when Crediton – 3 miles in one direction was for Parliament, and Exeter, 4 miles in the other direction – was for the King. Jumps in the wrong direction at the wrong time caused many families to have their land confiscated.

The well-off people at the time of John and Jane in the late 1700's were close knit; John's great grandmother was a Godolphin, so they were distant cousins by marriage. My father's middle name was Godolphin, to remember this illustrious connection. Jane brought a number of Godolphin family mementoes, I suspect to let her new family know she was someone of substance. John died at 54 and Jane spent an enjoyable second widowhood; there is a charming sketch of Jane with 3 friends, all shawls and lace caps, playing cards in Bath.

Jane's widowhood would mark a new beginning, one that drew industry to Newton St Cyres and left traces on the farm that can still be seen today. Come back next month for Part 2.

Mary Quicke

Bert Jewell writes Rhymes and Ways about Gardens and Gardening

October

October, the month we see time falling back,
Pay a visit to the farm shop for maybe a snack,
Then out in the field, a pumpkin to buy,
Let's find a big one, the children all cry.

As they run around the field to this one and that,
Mum has decided that it should be quite flat,
At one place at least so it sits on the floor,
Carved out with a tea-light beside the front door.

To welcome the children in their costumes so fine,
Let's hope they're home safely, no later than nine.
The mornings will be lighter but the evenings quite dark,
Ok for the workers who are up with the lark.

And for the young people just making their way,
To school or to college, or to earn their first pay,
And for those whose schooldays have long since passed,
Let's enjoy the autumn for as long as it lasts.

There's flowers in the borders and container by the
shed,
The trees are full of berries and the leaves are turning
red.
But as the days get shorter the leaves will start to fall,
Until the trees are naked, looking stark and tall.

Things to do in the garden

I find that October is the month to do the things that I couldn't get around to in September – such as preparing the lawn for winter. Most lawns have had a real battle this year. A lack of rain and very high temperatures have taken their toll, and although they have greened up since the rain, some have been left with brown patches, including ours.

My first job will be to cut the grass, leave for a couple of days, then give it a good raking. I tend to use an electric rake, taking out the accumulation of dead grass (known as thatch) and any old creeping stems. This could bring out

a large amount of debris which can all be added to the compost heap. Cut the grass again, but at right angles to how you did it last time. If last time was from top to bottom, this time do it from side to side. Any areas that stay wet can be spiked with a garden fork. Leave for a couple of days, then feed with an autumn, low nitrogen feed that will toughen up the grass ready for the winter.

Don't use left-over feed from the spring, as it will be high in nitrogen. Sow grass seed over any brown patches after raking or leave until the spring.

Other tasks this month include cutting back tall shrubs such as buddleia and lavatera, to help stop wind damage. The main pruning is done in March. Tidy beds and borders by removing weeds and clearing away any fallen leaves from the crowns of perennials. We are now encouraged to leave as many old flower stems as we can to give insects a place to stay over winter.

Last year we left the seed heads of *verbena bonariensis* and were delighted to see two male bullfinches feeding on the seeds. *Verbena* does self-seed, so you could end up with a garden full of them.

October is a good time to plant tulips and any outdoor hyacinths, and all spring bedding needs to be planted by the end of the month, before the soil becomes too cold.

In the veg garden continue to harvest crops as they become ready, carrots and parsnips can be pulled when needed. Spring cabbage plants and over-wintering onion sets can be planted out if conditions are right, 6"-8" apart for onions and 12"-18" for spring cabbage.

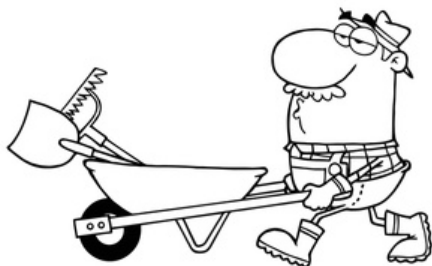
If you are old school, any vacant ground can be rough-turned and left for the frost, wind and rain to break it down for next spring.

Plant of the month

"Nerine Bowdenii"

Plant bulbs during April and May, about 4" deep, somewhere sheltered and sunny. They like to be baked and not crowded out by other plants. If you have a spot that they like, they will flower every year, September-October and multiply.

Enjoy your gardening.



Newton St Cyres Gardening Club

I am writing this after some very welcome rain, and on the first day of meteorological Autumn (1st September). However, we have had a False Autumn this August, when there were more early fallen leaves attributed to the stress caused by the exceptionally dry, hot summer that we have experienced. Drought conditions cause trees to enter a 'survival' mode, dropping their leaves early to preserve themselves for the rest of the year and future years.



Millwood Plants at Rosemoor

As the UK continues to experience warmer, drier summers, we can expect to see more instances of early leaf fall and other unusual seasonal changes. The Met Office have said that they will continue to monitor these trends and provide updates as our climate evolves. Our last False Autumn was in 2022, but the difference this year

was that the warm period was more prolonged, temperatures had been above average and rainfall had been below average. Recent visits to Meldon and Burrator Reservoirs showed how low water levels were, and South West Water recorded Burrator as having only 38.7% storage on 24th August.

Hedgerows too are showing the same signs of stress, with leaf drop and many blackberries having 'gone over' prematurely. There seems to be plenty of sloes at the moment, but you will probably need



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Euphorbia trigona f. rubra

to pick them earlier than normal, if you plan to make sloe gin. Another concern that we should all have, is that this False Autumn will mean less food from nature for birds and mammals that normally have a diet of berries, nuts and seeds to build up their reserves of body fat before winter. It will be more important than ever to ensure that we all do our bit to provide food and water in our gardens.

This year I have heard of many village residents having hedgehogs in their gardens – we have at least 2, however there may be more, but I have not managed to master hedgehog identification skills! These appear every night waiting for their meal and, as I have written, before need access to food and water.

Recently we visited Rosemoor for their Flower Show and were delighted to see that **Katrina Holmes of Bloom Bloom**, had won Firsts with two stunning displays, including the Best Individual Exhibit in the Untamed Beauty Class. Katrina has previously led a floral workshop for our Club.

Another success was for **Rob Vincent of Hutch Houseplants**, who won the Curator's Choice for their display of Cacti and Succulents. Our Club are pleased to welcome Rob back to speak at **our meeting on 29th October on the topic of Cacti & Succulents**. Rob will also be bringing plants for sale.

A houseplant that we have, and which has thrived this year, has a distinct look of a cactus and has the common names of the Cathedral Cactus or Red leaved African Milk Tree. It is in fact ***Euphorbia trigona* f. 'Rubra'**, the milk tree name coming from the white, milky sap. It can grow to 1.8m leading to the Cathedral Cactus name, and this year ours has put on growth of 23cm, almost outgrowing the current position on the bathroom window ledge! It is an architectural plant which produces very upright, closely packed reddish brown stems and branches, that are 3 or 4 sided. Along the ridges are oval reddish purple leaves.

It is possible to place the plant outside during the summer, but in order to over-winter, it must be in a frost-free location. It grows best in temperatures between 15C and 27C, but does not like draughts. It can take direct sun, but can scorch in the midday sun. It is however poisonous to humans and pets and the sap is an eye and skin irritant (the spines can also be painful). I have not tried to propagate ours, but the recommended way is to take cuttings from an offshoot branch in spring or early summer. The cut surface should then be dipped in charcoal or lukewarm water to prevent bleeding. These should then be allowed to callus over before planting in succulent or cactus compost that is only just moist. They should start to root within two months.

Jobs for October

- Sow **Broad Beans**. Some varieties produce much earlier crops if planted in October. One variety that will over-winter is Aquadulce Claudia (use of a cloche is recommended). This variety is a hardy, upright annual, with square-sectioned stems and oblong, blue-green leaves. Clusters of scented, tubular, black and white flowers are produced all the way up the stem, followed by pods up to 25cm long with an average of six, white-skinned beans per pod.
- Plant **fruit trees**. Late autumn and winter are ideal if you wish to plant new fruit trees. You may want to grow a variety for eating, that is not usually available in the shops. Choose standards or half standards for large gardens and dwarf-bush, spindlebush or stepover varieties for smaller gardens. Some varieties recommended by RHS can be found at <https://www.rhs.org.uk/fruit/apples/choosing-cultivars>

- If you have a **fig tree** that produces well (our friends picked 950 from theirs this year), you can take cuttings during October. Ideally they should be from this year's growth, be about 30cm in length, having removed the softer tip. Cut the tip end at an angle, so that you know which way is up and then insert into a trench with well-drained soil.
- Support **pumpkins** on bricks or tiles so that the sun can ripen them and give them a good colour ready for Halloween carving (using the middles for making soup etc.)
- Prevent **rose blackspot** by clearing up any fallen leaves and dispose of them in your garden waste bin.
- After the rain, it is good to see our **ponds** full once again. Clear all fallen leaves and other dying vegetation and debris. If leaves from trees sink to the bottom of the pond, there is a risk that the rotting process will use up valuable oxygen. Also, once stagnant, it can harm other pond life. Always remember to leave anything you remove on the side of your pond so that any creatures can crawl back into the water, if they have been removed during the process.

What's On?

- **Saturday 4th-Friday 31st October National Trust Killerton – Orchard Month.** 10am-5pm. Apple and cider production on the Killerton estate has left a legacy of heritage orchards. Learn how the Killerton team are managing them and planting new ones to create havens for nature and wildlife. Ranger apple pressing demonstrations on Saturdays 4th, 11th, 17th & 25th October at 11am and 2pm. Monday 6th-Thursday 9th October, follow a way-marked route to the cider press to meet the ranger team, view the 200-year-old press in action and learn about Killerton's cider making. Daily, throughout Orchard Month; follow the red apple trail to one of the orchards to harvest apples for traditional cider making, or pick your own to take home. Please bring a bag if taking the apples home. Full details <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/devon/killerton/events/865f6783-7270-44c5-9c22-f364e9377735> Also, **4th October – 2nd November – Apple Antics** - a trail of games that are fun for all the family, are added to the activities already on offer during the Orchards Month.

- **Saturday 4th & Sunday 5th October RHS Rosemoor – Plot to Plate.**
10am-4pm “Get expert growing advice, tour edible gardens, learn from live talks and cookery demos, and browse tasty treats from local producers. Normal admission applies – free entry for members. Also available, apple identification from Jim Arbury, fruit specialist at Wisly. So if you have an apple tree and do not know the variety, bring along 3 apples together with a piece of branch and leaf for Jim to identify. You may have a very rare long lost variety growing in your garden/orchard. There will also be a food, drink & craft fair, street food, live music and fun for all of the family with The Kids Adventure Company. Full details <https://www.rhs.org.uk/gardens/rosemoor/whats-on/plot-to-plate>
- **Saturday 11th & Sunday 12th October RHS Rosemoor – Orchid Weekend.** 10am-4pm. Normal admission applies – free entry for members. “The Devon Orchid Society allowing visitors the opportunity to experience the beauty of these magnificent plants. See large displays of orchids by several orchid societies, watch potting demonstrations and get tips and advice on growing at home. Orchid nurseries will also be in attendance with a wide range for sale.
- **Monday 20th October Upton Pyne Garden Club, UP Village Hall**
7.30pm. A talk by Jane King on ‘Flores in the Azores’. A traveller’s view of the islands. Non-members £4.
- **Sunday 26th October Sherwood EX5 5BT– 1pm-5pm Pre-booking essential** via <https://findagarden.ngs.org.uk/garden/14861/sherwood>
Admission Adult £7.50, Children £3. Cream teas available.
- **Sunday 26th October Chevithorne Barton, Tiverton EX16 7QB**
1.30pm-4.30pm Adult £6 Children Free. Walled garden, summer borders and Robinsonian inspired woodland of rare trees and shrubs. In spring the garden features a large collection of magnolias, camellias, and rhododendrons with grass paths meandering through a sea of bluebells, and grass meadows. Home to National Collection of Quercus (Oaks). Lots of autumn colour.
- **Saturday 27th September-Sunday 19th October RHS Rosemoor Wonder of Autumn.** 10am-5pm Normal admission applies – free entry for members, “Including Festival of Flavours, this 4-week celebration of trees, garden produce and the delights that can be found only at this time of year. Discover garden trails, guided walks and workshops through the season”

- **Tuesday 28th October Crediton Garden Club, Crediton Library 7pm –**
A talk on Nerines by Caroline Stone. Non-members £3.
- **Wednesday 29th October – NSC Garden Club – Rob Vincent** will give a talk on Cacti & Succulents. 7.30pm NSC Parish Hall. Admission £3 to include Tea/Coffee & Biscuits. We look forward to seeing you.
- **Friday 31st October & Saturday 1st November, Ashridge Court, North Tawton EX20 2DH** 11am-4pm Adult £6. Children Free. Main garden of 6 acres dates from early 1900s, walled garden significantly older. Stunning range of mature conifers, an Arts and Crafts circular garden room featuring Japanese maples. From Ashridge Great Barn steps to woodland walk via tree ferns, newly planted flowering trees and shrubs, Stumpery, walled garden and upper arboretum all in various stages of restoration by current owners. Light lunches, homemade cakes & cream teas available in Ashridge Great Barn

Happy Gardening

Nicola Baker



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Bestselling Author Veronica Henry Announced as New Patron for Libraries Unlimited

Author of over twenty-five novels, including the much-loved Beach Hut series set in North Devon, Veronica brings a deep personal connection to libraries and a lifelong love of stories.

"As an Army child, whenever we moved somewhere new, I would seek out the nearest library," says Veronica. "They were always a place of huge comfort to me as I settled into a strange new town... It was there I learned my craft, tucked away in a corner, absorbed in the pages, completely transported. To be a Patron of Libraries Unlimited is the perfect way to pay back the inspiration I got from libraries over the years."

Before becoming a novelist, Veronica worked in television as a script editor and writer for iconic British series including Crossroads, Heartbeat and Holby City. Her storytelling skills and evocative writing have earned her wide recognition and acclaim, both in the UK and internationally.



Veronica Henry

Based in Woolacombe, North Devon, Veronica is a familiar face to library users in the region. She has recently taken part in events at Tiverton and Barnstaple Libraries, and her support as a patron will help Libraries Unlimited raise awareness, advocate for public libraries, and inspire readers of all ages.

"We're absolutely thrilled to welcome Veronica as a patron," said Alex Kittow, Chief Executive at Libraries Unlimited "Her heartfelt connection to libraries and her strong ties to Devon make her a wonderful ambassador for our work."

Libraries Unlimited is the charity commissioned to run 54 libraries across Devon and Torbay, delivering vital services and community support. Patrons help amplify the charity's message, champion the value of libraries, and inspire the next generation of readers.

Agnes Finlayson



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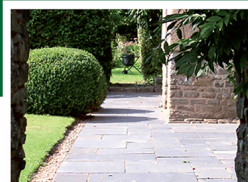
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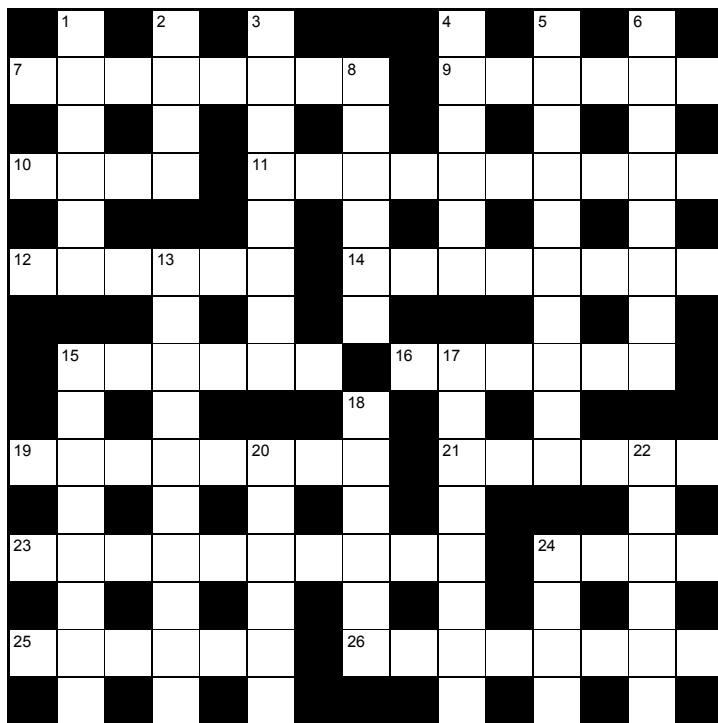
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Cryptic Crossword



ACROSS

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

DOWN

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

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.

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

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Solution to September 2025 Cryptic Crossword

	1		2		3		4		5		6		7	
	H		I		S		U		D		A		N	
8	C		O		S		M		I		C		E	
	N				M				R		F		T	
10	A		S		I		A			11	F		I	
	H		C				B		N		O			E
12	S		U		B		U		R		B			
	C				L				L				T	
16	O		L		D		A		G		E		P	
	W						T						A	
18	L		19		A		V		E		N		D	
	R								E		T		I	
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	U				A				I				C	
26	I		S		H		T		A		R		L	
	E				E				28		E		L	

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are pleased to welcome back

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WEDNESDAY 29th October at 7.30PM

in the Parish Hall EX5 5BW

ADMISSION ONLY £3.00 – ALL WELCOME

TEA, COFFEE AND BISCUITS

PLUS RAFFLE & PLANT SALES (Cash)



Your rights when events are cancelled

Events are staged throughout the year, but Christmas is a particularly busy time. When you book tickets, keep an eye on the organiser's website and social media profiles for the latest updates. You won't be entitled to a refund if you change your mind about going or realise you can't go any more, but if an event is cancelled, your refund rights will depend on how you bought the ticket.

If you bought your ticket from an official seller and the organiser cancels, moves or reschedules the event, you should get a refund. The official seller is the best point of contact to ask about how to get your money back.

If you're having no luck getting a refund, check to see if the seller is a member of the Society of Ticket Agents and Retailers (STAR). <https://www.star.org.uk> If they are, you can use STAR's complaints procedure and dispute resolution. <https://www.star.org.uk/dispute-resolution/> STAR members should receive a refund at face value if the event is cancelled and the organiser has agreed to refunds.

You'll probably only get the face value of the ticket back – the amount printed on it. If you had to pay any booking or card fees, you might not get those back.

If the official seller isn't a member of STAR, you may be able to get your money back through your card company or bank. If you bought your ticket from a ticket-reselling website, refunds will depend on the site's terms and conditions. If you bought from a private seller and the event is cancelled or rescheduled, it is unlikely that you'll be able to recover your money, but we still recommend that you contact the seller.

Be aware of scams. In these situations, scammers can prey on those who have been affected so if your event is cancelled and people or companies get in touch offering to try and recover the money on your behalf, be alert to the possibility that it may just be a scam.

This is just one of the many types of problems we at Citizens Advice Torridge, North, Mid and West Devon can help with. Our volunteers are presented with a wide array of difficulties people are experiencing but are trained to help.

If you need help check out our website for office opening hours www.citizensadvicetnmwd.org.uk or call our free, local AdviceLine on 0808 27 87 999.

If you would be interested in joining our team, please contact recruitment@citizensadvicetnmwd.org.uk in the first instance – we would love to hear from you!

Rosanna Teale

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5m³	3.75m³
DOUBLE LOAD	1 ½ LOAD
£460	£350
<i>loose tipped</i>	<i>loose tipped</i>

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BULK BAG
£75

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£420	£320	£220	£120	£70
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Part seasoned logs will be ready to burn from autumn onwards if bought in spring/early summer and stored off the ground in airy conditions, e.g. log store.



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Blessed are the peacemakers...

October is a bit of a strange month, don't you think. Very much misnamed (Octo = Latin for eight!); it sits in that period between late summer and deep autumn, and it has lots of mood swings: from glorious warm, sunny days to wet, cold and miserable ones – almost as

though it hankers after summer, but recognises that winter is on its way, so get prepared, folks! And perhaps, all too often, it's just seen as a 30-day lead-in to Halloween – especially when you look around the shops! But, it is so much more, and it should be appreciated for what it is. For instance, did you know that some incredibly important world-changing events happened in many Octobers throughout history. Here is a flavour of just a few:

- The Battle of Hastings in 1066
- Columbus lands in America in 1492
- 1805 – the Battle of Trafalgar
- The first professional golf tournament takes place in Scotland in 1860
- 1863 the rules for Association Football are laid down
- The *Women's Social and Political Union* is formed in 1903 – the start of the Suffragette movement
- The first mass produced car – the Model T – rolled off the Ford production lines in 1908.
- 1925 saw the first TV transmission taking place
- 1949 – the People's Republic of China is formed
- Sputnik is launched in 1957 – the beginning of the Space Age

There is little doubt that October holds its own in terms of World History. And I offer two more important dates: Martin Luther nails his 95 Theses to the door of Wittenberg Cathedral on 31st October 1517. For many, this marked the foundational moment of the Reformation, which saw a world-changing challenge to the Roman Catholic Church; and the beginning of the long road to the Church of England, via Henry VIII among others.

And, sadly, more recently, there is October 7th, 2023. A day that changed the lives of so many people in the Middle East. A date that presents us with a profound challenge in knowing how to respond to such violence, such terror, and the deaths of over 63,000 people – the overwhelming majority of whom are Gazans. At such times it is so difficult to know how to react, what to do, how to help. There is the real danger, when challenging the decisions of the Israeli government of being seen as anti-Semitic, and yet how do we ignore the in-your-face suffering of so many women, children and elderly.

Earlier this year, the House of Bishops issued a detailed statement on the war in the Middle East. Here is a small part of that statement: *We cry out in protest at the death, destruction and suffering that men, women and children have endured in Gaza, Israel and the region these last 20 months. We abhor war in all its forms and see it as a sign of human brokenness.*

Nothing justifies the heinous terror attacks committed by Hamas on October 7, 2023. In such circumstances, nations have a right to self-defence in line with international law, and to hold perpetrators to account.

Yet, the Government of Israel has shown through its statements and actions that this is no longer a defensive war, but a war of aggression. We strongly affirm that the Palestinian inhabitants of Gaza and the West Bank have a right to live in peace and security in their homeland. Any forced displacement of people would constitute an egregious breach of international humanitarian law.

We have watched with horror and outrage as siege and starvation are used as a weapon of war in Gaza, and as hospitals and health facilities have been systemically targeted.

The full statement is here: www.churchofengland/media/press-releases/house-bishops-statement-gaza

There is no doubt that the situation in the Middle East is deeply difficult to understand, but in an attempt to do so, I invite you to a conversation about it. Entitled, “*A Middle Way for the Middle East?*” it will be held at 7pm on Wednesday 8th October at the Memorial Hall, Thorverton. I see the evening as the beginning of the conversation, as an attempt to understand and explore, from many perspectives, a deeply intractable situation— but one that needs a compassionate response.

And on a lighter note, maybe now you might see October as more than just the stop-gap between Summer and Winter.

All blessings

Tim

Revd Tim Collins

Rector, Netherexe Mission Community

NEWTON CHURCH

⇒ *HARVEST* ⇐

Harvest Service in Church

October 26th at 11.00

Lunch at 12.00 in the Parish Hall

Lunch £12

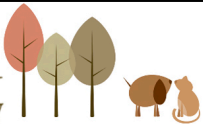
You are very welcome to join us for both or either,

But booking is essential

Please let Sue Browne know by

Friday October 17th on 01392 851460

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UPTON PYNE & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

Events are held in the village hall - Contact June Nicks 01392 841272

Annual membership £15 Non-members welcome at all events (£4 per talk)

MONDAY 20TH OCTOBER

Our own JANE KING and the **FLORES IN THE AZORES**

'A traveller's view of the ISLANDS'



Please note change of date
NOW FRIDAY 21ST NOVEMBER

7.00PM - 7.30PM

ANNUAL GARDEN CLUB CHRISTMAS DINNER

(Please reserve your place with June 01392 841272)

Welcome Drink - Buffet Menu - Raffle - Quiz



MONDAY 1ST DECEMBER

10.00am

CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING

@ the Village Coffee Morning

(Details next month)



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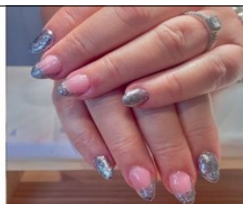
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Newton St Cyres





Celebrating Women

**Tuesday 4th November
7pm
The Thorverton Arms
Thorverton**

You are cordially invited to an evening exploring how we might celebrate - across our parishes and villages - the amazing, incredible contribution women have made to the rich tapestry of our society, our world, throughout history, and continue to do so now.

The Netherexe Parishes would like to put on a series of events – exhibitions, film shows, concerts, quizzes, discussions, talks, whatever - to imaginatively, gloriously, celebrate women.

Come and let us know who you would like us to celebrate and how!

We look forward to seeing you there!

For more information, please contact:

Revd Tim Collins 01392 860767/tim.collins@netherexe.org

Newton St Cyres Church
The new Servedy will be blessed
By Bishop Moira
On October 12th
At 11.30

SERVICES & INFORMATION OCTOBER 2025

The Netherexe Parishes - A community of Anglican churches in Devon

Please see our website at www.netherexe.org under "Services" section.
We also have a calendar for services & latest events are under "news".

Wednesday 1 October

09:30 am	Mid-week Holy Communion	Thorverton [Exe Valley Farm Shop]
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Sunday 5 October

11:15 am	Harvest Festival	Cadbury
05:00 pm	Communion	Stoke Canon

Sunday 12 October

09:30 am	Communion	Thorverton
10:30 am	Communion	Upton Pyne
11:15 am	Harvest Festival	Rewe
11:30 am	Service [with The Bishop of Crediton, blessing the new servery]	Newton St Cyres

Sunday 19 October

09:30 am	Communion	Brampford Speke
09:30 am	Bubble Church	Thorverton
11:00 am	Harvest Festival [Followed by a Thanksgiving Lunch]	Stoke Canon
11:15 am	Communion	Cadbury

Sunday 26 October

09:30 am	Morning Prayer	Thorverton
10:00 am	Messy Church/Family Service	Stoke Canon
11:00 am	Harvest Communion [followed by lunch]	Newton St Cyres
11:15 am	Communion	Rewe

Every Tuesday at 6:00pm we gather for prayer in Rewe Church

At **Communion** services we share bread and wine: you are welcome to join us for the service and to share communion if you wish. A lay minister occasionally leads this service.

At **Coffee and chat** we enjoy time together in conversation with coffee and cake to hand.

At **Services** we share together in song, prayer and the bible. Special services are noted.

Bubble church is for young families and **Messy Church** for families who enjoy craft.

If you would like to know who is taking any service, please email administration@netherexe.org

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:

Juliette Lea [Administrator]
Tuesday & Thursday [09:00 – 15:00]
Tel: 07594 714590
Email: administration@netherexe.org

Peter Shepherd [Administrator]
Monday [09:00 – 11:00] & Wednesday [09:00 – 13:00]
Tel: 07551 844321
Email: administration@netherexe.org

NEWTON St CYRES PARISH HALL

A WEEK IN THE PARISH HALL

Tuesday (Weekly)	Line Dancing	7.30pm	Paula Benford	01392 210830	pbenford45@gmail.com
Tuesday (Weekly)	Adonai Community Kitchen	1200 – 2.00pm	Jocelyne Whittaker	07508 871172	TheAdonai- CKitchen@outlook.com
Tuesday (fortnightly)	Young Farmers Club	8.00pm	Amy Taverner	07966 982815	amytaverner@gmail.com
Wednesday (Weekly)	Adonai Community Kitchen	1200 – 2.00pm	Jocelyne Whittaker	07508 871172	TheAdonai- CKitchen@outlook.com
Wednesday (monthly)	History Group	7.30pm	Jean Wilkins	01392 851337	jeanwilkins@btinternet.com
Wednesday (x 4 months)	Gardening Club	7.30pm	Nicola Baker	01392 851985	n.e.budden@exeter.ac.uk
Wednesday (Term time)	Greenshoots Montessori	Daytime	Melanie Grabowski		mmgrabowski@hotmail.com
Thursday (Term time)	Greenshoots Montessori	Daytime	Melanie Grabowski		mmgrabowski@hotmail.com
Thursday (twice per month)	Mah Jong	2.00pm	Geoff Jackson	01392 851551	megalops@btinternet.com
Thursday (weekly)	Table Tennis	7.00pm	Roger Wilkins	01392 851337	rogerwilkins@btinternet.com
Thursday (monthly)	Parish Council	7.00pm	Jane Hole	01392 851148	parishclerk@newtonstcyres- pc.gov.uk
Fridays (some weeks)	Art Class	10.30am	Sue Rose	01363 772284	suerose9@hotmail.com
Saturday (second of each month)	Village Coffee Morning sponsored by various groups	1030 – 12 noon	Church (Sue Browne) Alternate months	01392 851460	suecbrowne@gmail.com
Saturday (some months)	Model Train Group	2.00pm	Ann Feetham	01392 215837	annfeetham@virginmedia.com

If you wish to book the Hall or learn more about the facilities, please contact our Bookings Secretary, Peter Watts at peterwatts369@btinternet.com or by phone at 01392 851369

PARISH HALL HIRE CHARGES

Available to hire for children's parties, dances, classes, wedding receptions and meetings. It has kitchen facilities and accessible parking adjacent to the hall.

MAIN HALL

HOURS	LOCAL RATE	NON LOCAL RATE
Up to 3 hours	£26.00	£40.00
Up to 6 hours	£40.00	£60.00
Up to 9 hours	£52.00	£80.00
Up to 12 hours	£66.00	£100.00

CLUB ROOM

HOURS	LOCAL RATE	NON LOCAL RATE
Up to 3 hours	£15.00	£22.00
Up to 6 hours	£21.00	£31.00
Up to 9 hours	£28.00	£42.00
Up to 12 hours	£36.00	£55.00

Neighbourhood Watch Deputies

Sue Gee	Church Area	Glebe House	851164	asgee@btinternet.com
Tom Dowle	Court Orchard	24	851704	tomdowle@live.co.uk
Vacancy	Godolphin Close			
Chris Lee	Langford Road	Greenlands	851280	
Mike Kersey	Half Moon	12	851603	
Penny Pearkes	Newton House	9	851517	pearkes4@gmail.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	
Vacancy	Tytheing Close			
Geoffrey Jackson	"The Village"	Shaplands Cottage	851551	megalops@btinternet.com

For help, further information or to submit a report please go to the Parish Council website or contact the NSC Parish Council Co-ordinator, Monika Herpoldt-Bright monikaherpoldt-bright@newtonstcyres-pc.gov.uk, 07834 76447

WHO'S WHO IN THE VILLAGE

Priest-in-Charge	Rector: Rev. 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 (Crediton)	Redlands Primary Care Joseph Locke Way, Crediton, EX17 3FD https://www.redlandsprimarycare.nhs.uk/	01363 727111
Newton Wonder Magazine and Website	Editors:-Peter Hawksley - editor@newtonwonder.net Peter Cordingley. - cogscord@outlook.com	01392 851269 01392 851778
Parish Council	Chairman - Liz Ouldrige lizouldridge@newtonstycyres-pc.gov.uk Clerk - Jane Hole	07752 959845 01392 851148
Parish Hall	Chairman – Nigel Chambers nchambers@ctc.uk.com Booking Sect - Peter Watts, peterwatts369@btinternet.com	01392 851400 01392 851369
Primary School	Head of Teaching - James Akhurst School Office	01392 851267 01392 851267
Newton Nippers Pre-School	Contact the school	01392 851267
Newton Nappies Toddler Group	Contact the school	01392 851267
Recreation Club	Chair- Carrie-Ann Finning - email: finning-newtonstycyresrecreationalclub@outlook.com Bookings - Claire Digby - email: newtonrecbookings@outlook.com	07834764471
Art Group	Jenny Hallam:- jennyhallam6@gmail.com	7787383658
Neighbourhood Watch	Monika Herpoldt- Bright. monikaherpoldt-bright@newtonstycyres-pc.gov.uk	
Footpath Warden	Graeme Barnell	01392 851308
Newton Environmental Wellbeing Group	Gill Melling newnewgroup@protonmail.com	07527 071663

Community Police	PCSO Nicola Payne, Police Station, Crediton Nicola.payne@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk	Dial 101
District Councillors	Sandy Chenore:- schenore@middevon.gov.uk Martin Binks:- mbinks@middevon.gov.uk	
County Councillor	Steve Keable steve.keable@devon.gov.uk	07967 655045
Local M P	Mel Stride mel.stride.mp@parliament.uk	01392 823306
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
Young Farmers	Harry Grigg harrygrigg456@gmail.com	7453034637
Archery	Alison Couling	01392 841282
Gardening Club	Nicola Baker	01392 851985
History Group	Jean Wilkins	01392 851337
Table Tennis	Roger Wilkins	01392 851337
Friends of the Arboretum	Secretary: Helen Iles friendsnewtonarboretum@gmail.com	07717 062810
Adonai Community Kitchen	Jocelyne Whittaker	07508 871172
Community Allotment	Gail Meldrum meldrumgail@gmail.com	07999 958799
Crediton Citizen's Advice	Adviceline (10.30 - 3.30)	03444 111444

The **NEWTON WONDER** is delivered within the Parish at a charge of only **£10.00** per year(in 2025. Subscriptions are due in January.

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

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The Newton Wonder is also available online at an annual charge of £5

Please contact editor@newtonwonder.net

The **Newton Wonder** team consists of Peter Hawksley and Peter Cordingley (editors). Mark Phillips, 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.

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	Black & White	Colour
Small	£40	£50
Quarter Page	£70	£80
Half Page	£110	£120
Full Page	£200	£240

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 £10

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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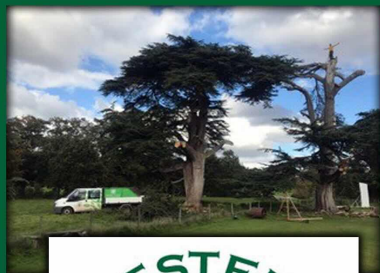
To provide hot freshly cooked healthy
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To empower those who wish to learn
how to prepare healthy meals



**DELIVERY WITHIN THE VILLAGE - IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO COME WHY NOT EMAIL US AND WE WILL TAKE
YOUR MEAL TO YOU (1.00 - 2.00) Or you can collect it from the Parish Hall from 12.30 - 2.00pm**

We are looking for volunteers/young people doing their D&V, Tents 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.



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