

NEWTON WONDER

The Magazine and Website for the Community of Newton St Cyres

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ARBORETUM**

See p.36



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PARISH COUNCIL REPORT JULY 2021

The meeting held on 1st July in the Parish Hall was attended by eight Councillors, the Parish Clerk, County Councillor Margaret Squires, Sue Rowell, our climate change coordinator, and three members of the public.

Climate Change

- Sue Dowell presented the Parish Council with a draft Climate Change Policy and a draft checklist for planning applications. These were accepted by the Council and can be found on the Parish Council website. The checklist is designed to help the council evaluate planning applications concerning climate change issues. It was suggested that members of the public may wish to read through the checklist before submitting applications so that they too can take on board the issues.
- The Parish Council agreed to sign up to Devon County Council's Climate Emergency Declaration. This will help the council to set some targets and give a time scale.
- Sue spoke about the work of The Newton Environment and Wellbeing Group, who are currently looking at a project to reduce food waste from supermarkets by offering 'end of date' food free to parishioners. In addition, they hope to conduct a survey to identify areas around the village of particularly ecological significance to villagers.
- Sue is also setting up 'Zoom' training sessions for Councillors to help them identify key issues where the Council could act.

School Hill Issues

- The Council is very grateful that the Quicke family have responded positively to the petition about the school footpath. Currently it should be used only by children and their accompanying parent to get to and from school. It will now become open to all members of the public on foot, or who need mobility aids. However, it remains a permissive path and not a right of way. In addition, dogs are not permitted, even if on a lead. The council accepted responsibility for the repairs required and new signage.
- Despite several applications to Devon County Council, the footpath beside the A377 has not been cleared, even though the maintenance of this path is their statutory responsibility. With the lush summer growth, the situation has become worse. It was agreed that the Parish Clerk would write a final letter, giving a deadline for a response before volunteers within the village could be approached about taking on the work and charging DCC for the equipment hire / materials required.

Traffic through Langford

- Despite some parishioners making a presentation to East Devon planning committee, and a large petition, the digestate lagoon application has been approved.
- An application for a traffic restriction order, preventing heavy trucks passing through Langford, was turned down. The Parish Council asked if they could make a presentation to the Highways and Traffic Orders Committee of DCC, demonstrating the need for a traffic order. However, to do this they required the support of the County Councillor. Cllr Squires didn't feel it was appropriate and so we are unable to make a presentation.
- The only route of communication open to local residents now is a complaint via the local government ombudsman. However, complaints can only be made by individuals and not the Council. Several Langford residents are submitting complaints.

Other Council Business

- It is confirmed that the pavement by the entrance to Tytheing Close and the Old School has already been lowered to allow easier crossing of the A377.
- A request has been made that the permissive footpath linking Court Orchard to Tytheing Close be cleared. This has been passed on to the Quicke Family.
- Allotments: It was agreed that the old shed containing asbestos should be removed from the site by appropriate contractors. Several of the very overgrown plots will also be cleared in the hope that they can be let more easily. This month saw two new allotment holders.
- The Parish Council decided to collect data on incidents of dangerous driving on the A377 by asking parishioners to report incidents they have seen. The report could be made through the Council website, the Facebook page or directly to the Parish Clerk. The only information required would be the date of the incident, the type of vehicle involved, the location and a brief description of what happened.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be in the Parish Hall on Thursday 2nd September 2021 at 7pm. Members of the public are welcome to attend. Alternatively, they can contact councillors in the usual ways including, at the monthly Parish Hall coffee mornings, which will resume over the summer.

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NEWTON RAMBLERS

Sunday August 15th

This month Ian Maxted will lead us on a literary walk around the centre of Exeter, with musical entertainment at the end, if you would like.

We will meet in front of the Cathedral at 10.00 on 15th August. It's the big gothic-looking building near Pizza Express!

The walk will follow a route which ends up on the Quay. There will then be the option to make your way home or to stay on for Jazz on the Quay:

Sunday 15 August - La Vie en Rose Gypsy Jazz Band. Music gets under way from 12.30pm to 3.30pm at the Transit Shed, just adjacent to the Custom House on Exeter's historic Quayside. No need to book, just turn up, and there's no cost!" (VisitExeter)

All are welcome to join us. If you need a lift or would like more information please ring Nigel or Rosemary Chambers on 01392 851400

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





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RECREATION GROUND CLUB

To say August this year will be different is an understatement. So I will go through the various sports, starting with the indoor ones of darts and skittles. I'm sure things are going on behind the scenes, but so far all is quiet. As both sports start up in early September, we hope to hear soon what the plans are, so we can put in place the necessary changes, and the season can start on time and be safe.

Now to the outside sports. I'll start with cricket. All the local teams that play at the Rec have dates booked up to 28th August. Only a handful of matches have been cancelled, most of them due to the weather and not to Covid, so overall it has been a good season.

The tennis players will continue with their training, membership matches and internal competitions all year.

The archery people have dates booked in up to 7th September, then, as in their normal year, they will move into indoor facilities.

Now, last but by no means least, to the football. Let's congratulate them on yet another successful Youth Tournament. It was not too badly affected by the heavy rain on the Sunday, so well done! The League Committee is working on the 21/22 season, but I have been given a provisional date of 13th August for the start, though this has still to be confirmed. We now know which league division each of our teams will be playing in for the next season.

There is a suggestion that the motor-bike enthusiasts will have a scaled-down meeting in September, but just for one day on the Sunday and not the whole weekend as usual.

So, overall, the diary is beginning to fill up. Once the football dates get confirmed, it really will look more like a normal year, so fingers crossed that the darts and skittles also come through soon.

Wendy Lewis

Anybody finding a bee swarm and would like it collecting by a bee keeper

Please contact 07971704793 or 01392851998

Chris the bee Man
Orchard View
West Town Road

PARISH HALL OPENING

The Hall has been open since 17 May with tight restrictions on numbers. Fuller opening will be possible now that Step 4 of the Government's plan has been introduced. Whilst legal restrictions have been withdrawn, in view of the high and increasing number of cases of covid, caution is still required to protect our hirers, caretaker and volunteers.

A Committee Meeting held on Monday 19 July agreed on the procedures that will have to be followed by users of the Hall. Whilst the kitchen and the stage will be reopened, the number of people that can be present in the Main Hall will be limited to 60 and in the clubroom to 20. A thorough clean and sanitisation will be carried out after each hire. Our regular users will be informed and details posted on our notice boards.

We are pleased that the Hall will now be able to play a fuller role in helping our village community and thank all for their support for the Hall. These remaining restrictions will be reviewed by the end of August. Please contact me (851337) or Mary Long (851624) if you require further advice or details.

Roger Wilkins, Chairman, Parish Hall Committee, 19 July

War Horse 10

will take place on Sunday 19th September in Iddesleigh Village at 11am.



The race starts and finishes in the beautiful village of Iddesleigh and will include some private land, this is a scenic run, 90% of which will be on the road.

**for more information
and how to enter see our facebook page
War Horse 10
or contact 01805 804347**

**Entry is £17 to include a T-shirt,
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Do You Remember...? August

August 1971

At last workmen appeared on site, before the Parish Council pledged to take forceful action, to improve the junction of West Town road and the A377.

Margaret Thatcher, minister for education and science, visited the school and spent some time in each class talking to the children.

The church flower show was a great success, the flower displays were admired by all. The Parish Council was pleased that the new street lamp in Church Lane had been installed. However there was dismay that SWEB had raised charges for street lighting by 12 1/2% and maintenance by 17 1/2 %. The council is to take the matter up with the Association of Parish Councils.

The Exeter Morris Men will be at the Crown and Sceptre on Thursday 5th August.

August 1981

Helen Bailey of Home Farm was one of two Girl Guides presented with their Queen's Guide certificate at a special ceremony at the Guide hut in Crediton. To qualify for the award a Guide has to gain twenty three badges, give service to the community and keep the Guide Promise throughout.

The village sports news records very active participation in both skittles and darts. Work has started on the changing rooms with a completion date in September in view, this should give the village some of the best sports facilities in the district.

August 1991

The church raised over £1000 during the art and flower festival.

The Parish Council contacted the Mid Devon District Council regarding the collection of garden refuse from residents in Woodlands as there was a special concession for that street from the old Crediton RDC. Mid Devon replied that they were unaware of any concession but would allow half a bag per week.

August 2001

In August 1999 the Conservation Trust offered parishes a young yew tree that had been grown from cuttings from a 2500 year old yew in Surrey. On Sunday 1st July 2000 it was planted in the church yard, but it's exact location is unknown. The large yew tree at the entrance to the church yard is estimated to be around 800 years old. The Twinning Circle held a very successful barbecue at the home and garden of Alison and Richard Pritchard, some new members joined the group for the first time.

August 2011

The cover of this months edition was a fantastic drawing by a pupil of class 4 at the school. It has been agreed with the headmaster that the school will provide drawings for coming months. The school trip this year was to the Eden Project.

The Parish Council reported damage to the seat on the village green and may need replacing.

The Friends of Newton St Cyres station were happy to record that they won best station on the Tarka Line.

August on the farm mentions success at the Great Yorkshire Show for a variety of cheeses, including the Prince of Wales Award for Outstanding Quality for goats cheese.

Volunteer Wanted:

The Newton Wonder needs help with putting together the very popular "Do You Remember.....? page. If you would like to help with this task which generally does not take up too much time please contact the editor on 01392 851269 or editor@newtonwonder.net.



Sunset over the Estuary

A Demonstration in Oils by Ewan Walton.

Ewan Walton has an architectural background and is mostly self-taught as an artist. His draughtsmanship and drawing skills are remarkable for their attention to

detail and accuracy, while his paintings have something Victorian about their atmosphere and the technique used.

It was surprising to see how little paraphernalia Ewan brought with him; people can be put off using oils because of the number of materials needed. Ewan used a watercolour palette with oil paint squeezed into the pans, and no thinner. Applying carefully chosen and measured dabs of paint directly onto the support, which had been primed with acrylic, he then worked the paint, mixing, blending, lightening and darkening, working from the top down. As he prefers to use a limited palette, it was easy to transfer paint from one area to another, back and forth, until the right tones and shades had been achieved.

Fine details were added with a watercolour brush. The finished painting of the sun setting behind hills, reflected in water, with strong silhouetted shapes of buildings and rocks, had a warm glow and a soft, nostalgic mood.

This economic approach is appealing, since it dispenses with strong-smelling solvents, messy palettes and wasted expensive paint. It all demystified the process sufficiently to encourage us to have a go ourselves.

Jenny Hallam

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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

Copies can be purchased by contacting

Jean Wilkins (01392 851337), jeanwilkins1@btinternet.com

Bert Jewell writes Rhymes and Ways about Gardens and Gardening

August

A nature-rich garden is what we all need
with oodles of flowers, the occasional weed,
welcoming wildlife from far and wide,
with somewhere to forage, somewhere to hide.

A place where ladybirds can spend the day,
controlling the greenfly in their own little way,
while the thrush keeps an eye on a snail or two,
Bees can be heard as they work their way through.

The flowers in the border, the plants grown in pots,
Helenium, Echinacea and Forget-me-nots,
Pele's and Petunia's make a colourful sight,
Attracting the wildlife by day and by night.

And the rockery, a place where the bugs can roam,
A crack in a stone that they can call home
to raise a new family, to teach them with pride
on how to find food, on when they should hide.

So let's all do our bit to show that we care,
Grow a few plants that we're happy to share
in the nature-rich garden that we know we all need,
with oodles of flowers, the occasional weed.

Things to do in the August Garden

Firstly I have to tell you that work has started on our bungalow. The old flat-roof kitchen has gone, the site cleared and the footings are being dug as I write these notes. By the time you read them, we should be up to the damp course, or beyond.

Now what shall we do this month? There is a countrywide effort to encourage wildlife back to our gardens, hedges and meadows. Remember the time when hedges were removed to make fields bigger to accommodate bigger machines and to supposedly grow more crops? With no hedges to slow down the winds,

the soil will in time be lost, as will the birds and insects that live in them. What are we doing to the country we are supposedly looking after. The loss of our wildlife should have been obvious to those making the rules long ago. So what can we do to reverse the trend.

It will not happen overnight, but everything we do to help will in time make a difference. When I visit a flower show to either judge or admire, I am always amazed at the quality and size of the dahlia blooms. About 95% of them are doubles, but these are only useful for an earwig to hide in, so if you grow these beautiful flowers, add a few that are single. The centre is accessible to bees and other pollinating insects. This also applies to chrysanthemums.

Other plants to grow are penstemon, foxglove, single fuchsias. If the bee cannot get inside the bloom, it will sometimes bite into the top, leaving a small wound. Other beneficial plants are alliums, verbena bonariensis, echinops, agastache, phlox paniculata and eryngium (sea holly).

If you are happy to grow a few weeds (a plant in the wrong place), try leaving some groundsel. A member of the ragwort family (senecio), its seed heads can be snipped off before they are ripe. This is the food of the Cinnabar moth caterpillar. It will feed in full view of any bird but the bird will not eat it, as the orange and black rings spell danger. The caterpillar stores poison from the plant in its body, and this would be harmful to birds.

One other thing. Light pollution has helped in the decline of the glow worm, a beetle. The wingless female emits light to attract the winged male, but their come-hither signals are not so obvious any more.

That's my moaning over ... for now.

Plant of the month

Persicaria

The Ornamental Knotweed.

Pink poker-like flowers raise up above a mass of ground-covering foliage that takes on autumn colouring at the end of the season.

Enjoy your gardening



NEWTON ST CYRES HISTORY GROUP

Discovering the church and churchyard

After torrential rain in the preceding days, we had a beautiful summer evening for our first in-person meeting since February 2020. Not only was it the first time the History Group had met face to face for almost 18 months, but it was our chance to thank Brian Please for his valuable contributions to the History Group over the past six years.



Old and new faces assembled outside the church at the east side, overlooking the village, suitably distanced and equipped with folding chairs. Jean Wilkins opened the meeting with thanks to Brian, our very best wishes for his and Moira's new life in Herefordshire, and a token of our appreciation. That took the form of a card and a copy of 'Travels in Georgian Devon: The Illustrated Journal of the Reverend John Swete 1789-1800 Vol III' edited by Todd Gray. This contains accounts and illustrations of Crediton and the surrounding villages, including Newton St Cyres. Brian then talked for the first part of the evening's programme, with 'Some Observations from the Graveyard'.

He prefaced his talk by reflecting that although what has happened in the past is unalterable, our knowledge of events and our interpretation of them changes all the time. For this reason, one of his main motivations has been to capture and preserve information and make it accessible, so that it is not lost. This is why he has been so enthusiastic in publishing the various booklets, memories and maps we now have, and which are so useful and interesting.

When Brian moved to Newton, the Green Millenium Book was his starting point, and it triggered his interest in the mining history here. He then organised the publication of the memories of Alfred Abrahams and Stella Cork, which give a snapshot of the village in the 1900s and the 1940s respectively. Brian also emphasised the significance of the church building as the embodiment of the village, not just the communal effort to build it but the memorials and gravestones that record the lives of people who lived and worked here.

The second part of Brian's talk was about the church building and its surroundings, the early wayside cross and the wooden Anglo-Saxon building which would almost certainly have been on this site high above the valley, to be replaced later by a simple stone building. Over time, as the village grew and became wealthier, the church was added to and enlarged, until by the end of the 15th century it was effectively the building we now have. It was at this time that the dedication to St Cyr and St Julietta was made. The interior would have looked different, with wall paintings and a rood screen.

After the Reformation, whitewash hid the paintings and the rood screen was destroyed. The building suffered rough treatment during the Civil War, then in the more prosperous 18th century box pews and a pulpit were added. But by the late Victorian period, the building was in poor repair and a complete restoration took place early in the 20th century.

Access to the church has changed over time. There seems always to have been a steep road up from the village, though not in the present cutting, and there were once steps up to the church near the wayside cross. Entry was by the north door, now closed off, by a path from the steps across the graveyard, and for the Squire and family, across from Newton House, over a bridge once the cutting was made. Church Lane was always a less steep route, and now the main entrance is from the south door and porch, to avoid the main road and cutting. Here can be seen the granite posts to the Vicarage, put there by Andrew Quicke in 1715. The Vicarage is now Glebe House but its grounds were once much larger and included Elmhurst and the modern Vicarage.

After Brian had given this general background, Jean divided everyone into four groups, and she, Brian, Midge Kelly and Isobel Hepworth stationed themselves around the graveyard, each describing a different aspect of the area as the groups walked around. This worked very well. Brian stood to the north of the church and explained that the north aisle was a late 15th-century extension, built when the village was prosperous, probably from the wool trade. This is shown by the ornate pinnacles, and the five buttresses, each with a niche for a statue. From the east they are St John the Evangelist, John the Baptist and a bishop, with the other two missing.

The window mullions are finished with corbelled heads and carvings of grotesque animals. In 1911, this wall was covered in ivy and in danger of collapse, being held up with props. In addition, the church tower was rendered and much of this render was falling off. Renovation was carried out between 1911 and 1915. Brian pointed out the original north door access, and the path to it, which is still discernible through the pattern of the gravestones.

Brian also drew attention to the Helmore graves. The Helmores are well known as local estate agents in Crediton, and a William Helmore is recorded as selling four properties near Exeter in 1699. The family business is thus three centuries old and had strong connections with the village, dealing with the sale of many properties, farms and land, and also renting a prominent cottage next to the ford on Pump Street, where it is likely that William Helmore (there have been at least eight William Helmores) carried out his business as a land agent and auctioneer in the mid-19th century.

Jean was positioned to the west, where she talked to the groups about two sets of gravestones in that area, the Crumps and the Quickes. Many will remember from Brian's mining leaflet how John Crump, a manganese miner, was accidentally drowned in the adit that emerges at Ford Farm, where his and two other men's bodies were washed out on 24th March 1842. He was one of a large family that remains local to the village. Hedley

August 2021

Crump (1892-1918) grew up in Portsmouth, where his father was a naval quartermaster, but the family returned to Newton St Cyres, the family home, on his discharge. Hedley trained as a torpedo man and went almost right through the war, but sadly died of pneumonia as a complication of Spanish Influenza.

Three generations of the Quicke family lie in a vault near the gate across the bridge to Newton House. They date from the second half of the 19th century and the first half of the 20th, but the family have been in Newton St Cyres since the mid-16th century, and there are many other graves and memorials to them in the churchyard and the church interior.

Midge has done a great deal of research into the Pasmore family, whose graves lie to the west of the church tower, and she talked about their lives. This account will be printed in full in September's Newton Wonder, so I will not repeat it here. But I can assure you it is very interesting.

Isobel talked about the south side of the church and two of the graves in the area. The old entrance to the rood screen platform can be seen in the wall near the vestry. It was blocked with square cut Posbury stone after the Reformation when the rood screen was removed. The central boss in the south porch, of the sow suckling her piglets, was pointed out as well as the quatrefoil window, unevenly worn, quite probably by a bell rope which would have passed through it in earlier times.

The clock on the tower dates from 1711, replacing the original one facing north towards Newton House. It failed in 1905 and fell into disrepair, but was repaired by John Durrant in the 1960s and now runs on electricity so does not need to be wound every day as it originally did. The sundial dates from 1816 and was used to set the clock before the advent of British Standard Time in 1880.

The grave of Reg and Nora Bray lies to the west of the gate, and many in the village will remember them. Reg was a gardener to the Quicke family and a bell ringer who is the oldest campanologist on record. To the east of the gate is the grave of Katherine Sannweldt 1833-1913. She was a 'beloved and devoted friend' of Lady Audrey Buller. Lady Audrey lived at Newton House when it was rebuilt after the disastrous fire of 1906. She was there from 1908, until her death 14 years later. At present we know nothing more about Katherine Sannweldt, but her surname is unusual, and the inscription says she was an aunt and had a sister. Was she German or maybe her father was, and what of her sister, and her nephews or nieces?

The truth of Brian's remarks about the way in which the church connects to national and international matters was demonstrated as the groups went round the outside of the church, and yet only a small portion of the stories and lives were considered.

The History Group aims to carry on with the momentum Brian started and now that we have a format, to keep publishing information about the village and its inhabitants. Much information amassed over the years by Tim Sedgwick, Jean and others still has to be processed, and Midge has shown how much more there is to be researched.



Brian Please addressing the History Group outside the church

Isobel Hepworth

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.

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Anna Bonnett

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newtonnappies@outlook.com

or see our facebook page

Newton Nappies

Enjoy a cream tea in aid of children's hospice

Devon folk are being invited to tuck into a cream tea and raise a few pounds for their local children's hospice. The Big South West Cream Tea takes place over the August Bank Holiday weekend, and the organiser, Children's Hospice South West (CHSW), is asking supporters to join in by holding their own cream tea fundraiser with friends and family.

"Just grab some scones, a spoonful of strawberry jam and a dollop of clotted cream - not necessarily in that order! - and join the party," said CHSW area fundraiser Bernadette Chambers. "You can enjoy a Great British classic at home, the park or even virtually and help raise vital funds for local families.

"It's a lovely way to help celebrate CHSW's 30th anniversary, and if you are able to raise £30 or more we'll send you a special CHSW 30th anniversary medal."

The charity, which runs three children's hospices across the South West, including Little Bridge House near Barnstaple, has everything you need to hold your own cream tea fundraiser.

"Register your event on our website to receive your free fundraising pack, which includes invites, recipe, '#JamFirst' and '#CreamFirst' signs, donation form, bunting, thank-you cards and more," said Bernadette. "You'll also find links to businesses that can deliver a cream tea straight to your front door with a donation going to CHSW."

If you'd prefer to hold your cream tea before or after the August Bank Holiday, that's absolutely fine. Whenever you plan to take part in the Big South West Cream Tea, every penny you're able to raise will make a real difference to children with life-limiting conditions and their families."

The Big South West Cream Tea is kindly sponsored by Happy Days Nurseries, which operates 18 nurseries throughout the South West and is also celebrating 30 years this year.

Marketing manager Rebekah Fice-Thomson said: "Children's Hospice South West is very dear to our hearts, so we're delighted to be able to support The Big South West Cream Tea fundraiser this summer. "We are looking forward to celebrating our own 30th birthday with a cream tea on 4th September and raising as much as we can."

To register your cream tea event or for more information, visit www.chsw.org.uk/creamtea

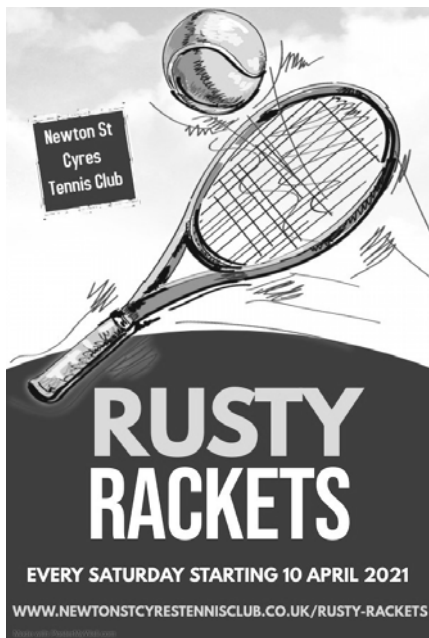
Join The Big South West Cream Tea Facebook event here: <https://www.facebook.com/events/2998303993722242>

Children's Hospice South West (CHSW)

- Children's Hospice South West was first registered with the charity commission in 1991. It is dedicated to making the most of short and precious lives, providing the best possible hospice care for life-limited children and their families
- There are now three hospices in the South West: Little Bridge House in Barnstaple (opened 1995), Charlton Farm in Bristol (opened 2007) and Little Harbour in St Austell (opened 2011)
- CHSW is the only children's hospice in the South West. It costs around £11 million to run the 3 hospice sites each year and the charity relies almost entirely on voluntary contributions
- CHSW delivers a range of services, including short breaks, specialist play, music therapy, activities for siblings, palliative and emergency care, end of life care, bereavement support and specialist medical care - all available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year
- The services are free for families. To find out more about our work, visit www.chsw.org.uk

For further information please contact Andy Keeble, Senior Media Officer, Children's Hospice South West, andy.keeble@chsw.org.uk or call 01271 325 270

Fancy playing tennis again after a break?



Not sure if you are good enough to join a club?

Come to a Rusty Rackets session at Newton St Cyres Tennis Club.

Saturdays 9-10am from 10th April, (10 am-12pm if more time wanted).

Coach Jon Wills will facilitate play and advise you on your game.

Maximum 6 people per session, £8 for one hour.

Please contact Jon on:

jrw23@hotmail.com,
tel. 07555 595747

Or Laura Leigh on:

winstodehouse@gmail.com,
tel. 01647 24259

Planning Application for new car park at the Church

The Newton Wonder is aware that the planning application for a car park in the Vicarage Garden is subject to objections. We take no view on the application. This month we are printing a response to the view expressed by the Church's Director of Property in the last issue of the Newton Wonder.

A small village with sensible solutions

What a great day Saturday 10th July was for Newton St Cyres! A relatively small village showed a great sense of community and hosted a wedding in the church, a large event in the arboretum and a huge football tournament with ease.

The wedding and arboretum event traffic was easily accommodated in the church, village hall and school car parks, with many spaces remaining available throughout the events. Liaison between the church warden, the arboretum committee and the village hall allowed for a fruitful, enjoyable and trouble-free afternoon, using only our existing facilities. It showed how, with some local initiative, the village can evolve to support and embrace current and future functions, big and small.

This proven availability of car parking during such a busy day is at odds with the assertion of a letter published in last month's Newton Wonder, from the diocese to a member of the parochial church council which gave support to the little publicised planning application to build an additional church car park in the garden of the vicarage. The building of such a car park is surely not the only factor that may influence or limit the development and sustainability of the church in Newton St Cyres. We should therefore encourage the simpler, greener, more cost effective, efficient and environmentally acceptable solutions available other than building a car park.

We would encourage you to check for yourselves on the Mid Devon District Council planning site for more information, and to note the numerous concerns raised. These not only question the necessity for a new car park (there having been no robust analysis of need), but also the building of a gravel car park in the centre of a conservation area, its proximity to listed buildings, road safety on the sharp bends near to the busy A377, access issues and potential misuse.

The efforts of the applicant to increase the usage of our beautiful village church building and the exciting plans they have to promote its use are worthy

of respect. But we would highlight that this is about a planning issue, and not a debate about the survival of the church and religion in this country. On environmental grounds alone, it would seem counter-intuitive to promote the increased use of private vehicles when other options are available.

Hopefully this weekend has demonstrated to the diocese and church that there are greener and more cost-effective solutions to church car parking. Re-evaluating and reconfiguring the existing church car parking area, especially for those with restricted mobility, must be a priority. Whilst all other necessary parking can be easily accommodated in existing car parks, especially with the school's willing cooperation, as organised in recent weeks.

In a time of a climate emergency, we should not be promoting the increased use of private vehicles when more environmentally friendly options are readily available. Hopefully, a resolution can be reached that sees collaboration throughout the village and doesn't necessitate the destruction of a garden in the centre of a conservation area.

Sue and Andrew Gee



Vicarage garden, taken from the Vicarage, including the area to be gravelled. Also showing the tree which is planned for felling as part of the proposed car park plans. Courtesy of former residents.

Have you seen dangerous driving on the A377?



Newton St Cyres Parish Council is keeping a log of dangerous driving on the A377 through the parish. If you witness a dangerous incident then please email parishclerk@newtonstcyres-pc.gov.uk with details of the date, time, location and a brief description of what happened. The log will be posted on the Parish Council website and will be shared with the Police and



Devon County Council to hopefully help provide evidence of the need for greater speed enforcement.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Hello Peter,

I'm attaching a picture of something which is not surprisingly driving me mad. Last night on our way out from our house past Churchills we passed a dog poo bag in the middle of the lane. Although finding it quite irritating and upsetting to see this, we charitably thought that maybe someone would pick it up on their return from their walk. To our horror on our return, not only was the original bag still there but a second identical bag as pictured was further down the lane.

As you know we are dog lovers, have our own dogs, but fail to see how this behaviour can be acceptable in the community. Not only is it a legal responsibility to clear up after our dogs it is a common courtesy to all whose use our footpaths and lanes.



Best wishes,

Anne Brightwell



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SWEETHAM GARDEN WALKAROUND

The idea of having visitors round usually makes you reach for the vacuum cleaner, but some residents in Sweetham were more inclined to head for the lawn mower as an idea to have a local 'Open Garden' event took place on 27th June.

Initiated as a way to continue connections made over the previous year, the idea of multiple open gardens encouraged locals to invite others to see what was in their gardens and to inspire some creative ideas.

Ten households took part, with the station garden also included. Despite the threat of inclement weather, the rain held off and visitors were delighted by the diversity and character of every garden.

New friends were made and lots of ideas (and even plants) were shared. All agreed that it would be excellent to extend and promote this event further next year. Money raised from donations was given to the Barth Syndrome Trust and the Hedgehog Preservation Society. Thanks to all those who took part.





Newton St Cyres Gardening Club

August is frequently the month of choice for holidays – schools have broken up for the summer, and this year many people will be planning staycations in the UK. It's often hard to leave your garden, but, with some planning beforehand, you can go away knowing that your garden will still be looking good on your return.

Here is a pre-holiday checklist of a few jobs that will help:

- Mow and edge the lawn a couple of days before you leave – with the hot weather that we have been having, it is best to raise your mower blades to their highest setting as the longer grass will provide shade for itself and retain any moisture. On recent mornings there has been a lot of dew on the grass, as can be seen by the spiders' webs.
- Weed the borders.
- Deadhead flowers that have gone over, or that are past their best.
- Plants in pots can be moved to shadier locations and grouped together on trays with their bases standing in water.
- Larger areas may need an irrigation system, or slow drip upside-down plastic bottles.
- Pick any crops that are ripe or nearly ripe, freeze or give to neighbours (leaving some for the birds of course!).
- Give everything a thorough watering.
- Top up mulches.
- Ask a friend or neighbour to check and water where required (especially plants in containers and hanging baskets/troughs).

This year we have had a profusion of poppies. To ensure you have another wonderful display next year, the seed heads should be collected on a dry day (ideally in the afternoon), so that any dew has evaporated. They must be completely dry before storage or they will go mouldy. If left to their own devices, poppies will spread thousands of seeds, so by collecting the seed heads you can decide where to sow them.

Seed collecting. So many plants produce an abundance of seeds that can be collected to fill your garden with plants that you love. Some seeds from highly bred cultivars may not be exactly the same as the parent, as there may be some colour variations.

When collecting seeds, the best way is to snip off some of the old brown flower stalks on a dry day, holding them upright so that the seeds do not fall out. Put the whole dry stalks into envelopes or paper bags and label them so you know which seeds came from which plants. You can then separate the seeds from the 'husks' and either sieve or blow this away. Once you have done this, place the seeds into new paper envelopes and label and date. Store these in an airtight container, ideally with a silica gel sachet to remove excess moisture, and keep cool and dry. The seeds can then be sown either straight away and overwintered as small plants, or saved until the autumn. If saved until next spring before sowing, perennial plants will need another season to flower.



Poppy seed heads

Tomatoes. August is often a critical time for your tomato harvest and ongoing care is really important.

As the plants grow, continue pinching out the sideshoots (laterals) which grow between the leaf and main stem. The plants can soon reach the full height of the greenhouse, and the RHS advise removing the tip of the main stem two leaves above the sixth truss of fruits (if grown outdoors this is reduced to two leaves above the fourth truss), as subsequent fruits usually fail to ripen. The other very important job is to water regularly and to feed with a tomato fertiliser. Irregular watering is likely to result in split/cracked fruit.



Planted water butt

Cucumbers If you are growing cucumbers in the greenhouse, these need to be picked regularly, as leaving old fruits on the plant can delay further flowering.

We all need to collect as much rainwater as we can but water butts don't have to look plain. We have one made up of three sections to which we can attach planters. This year, I have planted up with begonias and petunias.

Enjoy your gardening but do keep hydrated. Like your plants, you need water too!

Nicola Baker

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Merry Wives in the Arboretum

The Crediton Arts Centre performance of the Merry Wives of Windsor on the afternoon of 10 July received acclaim from the sell out audience of 90 people. The cast of 15, led by Laurence Honeysett as Sir John Falstaff with Beth Robson and Tracey Wills as Merry Wives, and their two musicians produced an enthusiastic polished and humorous production of Shakespeare's comedy in the delightful surroundings of the Arboretum.

Many thanks to the tremendous cast, Jack Robson from the Arts Centre who produced and directed the play and had also proposed that a performance be held in the Arboretum and to our helpers from the Friends of the Arboretum. We even had the weather on our side with a dry and warm afternoon!

Photographs by Geoff Jackson





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Newton's unsung heroes

This month we start a series focusing on those people who work quietly behind the scenes to make Newton St Cyres a more pleasant place. They expect no remuneration or even recognition – just the quiet satisfaction of making things better for all of us. We kick off the series with probably our most famous landmark, the Arboretum.

Anyone who has made their way down the winding footpath that takes you to Daffodil Valley in the Arboretum will appreciate the wooden handrail and stony path that makes negotiating the steep pathway that much easier.

For that, thank Ron Nethercott and Courtney Ware, volunteers who spent two months putting down the path. “There was nothing there before,” says Ron. “It’s steep there and the work involved laying down the path, carrying all the stonework, and putting in the railings.”

It’s one of the many jobs they have carried out as volunteers to keep the Arboretum looking its best. From clearing fallen branches and obstructed paths, to strimming, making the directional signs, clearing bins or fixing wobbly bench legs, there is plenty to do.

“I can find something to do every time I come up here,” says Ron. “There is always something to do right through the year.”



Ron, Courtney and Marg

Ron, Courtney and his wife Marg are members of the Friends of the Arboretum, a volunteer group set up in 2010 to manage the open space on behalf of the Parish Council. In fact, the trio has given so much of their time to the Arboretum that they were made Honorary Life Friends in 2017. They work closely with David Vallance, the head warden, who organises the other volunteers and oversees the Duke of Edinburgh awards scheme, a programme of self-development for young people who do volunteer work in the Arboretum.

The Friends of the Arboretum operates on a purely voluntary basis and relies largely on member subscriptions, donations, grants and fundraising to keep going. While working parties carry out special tasks such as planting seasonal bulbs, most of the day-to-day work falls to Ron, Courtney, Marg and David.

“When I first started, there was more work than I could manage,” recalls David Vallance, whose head warden role is voluntary. “I knew Ron and asked if he would like to be involved, and he brought along Courtney. They do the strimming and clearance work and I do the paths and organise the volunteers.”

Go to the Arboretum any morning and most likely you will find Ron and Courtney there. During one morning visit, I found them in full battle gear with hard hats, earphones, gloves, protective eye-wear and trimmers, busily cutting back a section of overgrown grass and weeds. Other days there will be other work to do, such as clearing branches from paths, mowing the grass and even turning tree trunks into furniture.

“There was a conifer that came down, and instead of letting it go to waste, we made three seats out of the tree trunk,” says Ron. “Another stump used to be a yew tree, so we made a seat out of that for the kids.”



Volunteers Strimming

An early undertaking was to renovate the ramshackle shelter that sits along the Boundary Path. “It was a wreck,” says Ron who, along with Courtney, cleared it out, put in a new roof and turned it into a sheltered seating area where visitors can enjoy the views across the fields.

While Marg doesn’t do heavy work such as strimming, she often helps out with loppers and trimming back sawn off branches where the pair have been with their chain saws. To help them in their work, they use their own machines such as the shredder and trimmers and took a safety course on chain saws.

Marg is also the unofficial archivist of the Arboretum and carefully records and photographs the different species of plants and any major works that have taken place, then puts the photos and descriptions into albums. She now has 12 albums with over 2,000 photos. “It’s a record of what is going on here,” she says proudly.

It’s clear the trio enjoy their work and get along well. “If one of us is doing a job, together we can get things done in no time,” says Ron, who does most of the talking for the group.

When asked if they are all gardeners, they laugh and admit to sharing an allotment near their homes where they grow vegetables. “Court likes his gardening and has got green fingers, but I haven’t. I just put it in the ground and if it don’t come up, it don’t,” says Ron, 74, who was born and raised in Newton St Cyres and was an agricultural engineer until his retirement.

Perhaps Courtney's green fingers may spring from the fact that he is a former farm worker and has a good feel for the land. Born 81 years ago in Winkleigh, he moved to Newton St Cyres with Marg in 2000. In August, they will be celebrating 51 years of marriage.

It is hard to believe that the Arboretum, which is owned by the Quicke family, was once neglected and over-run with nettles and brambles until its restoration was taken over by the Parish Council under an agreement with John Quicke. "It was derelict for 40 years, and everything was so overgrown. You couldn't even walk through it," says David. "There were no real paths or anything at all. "

Today, most of the brambles and nettles are long gone and a network of paths snakes through the 3.5-hectare site. Creating and cutting the paths was the work of David Vallance, who talks about it with quiet satisfaction. "I created the paths, so I like to keep them maintained," he says as he shows me a map of all the pathways that wind their way around the Arboretum.

One of them is Tim's Way, a special all-weather path that runs through the heart of the Arboretum with a surface that is suitable for wheelchairs and push chairs. It is named after a long-time Newton St Cyres resident, the late Dr Timothy Packer, who made a bequest to the Arboretum.

To improve wheelchair access at the entrance to the Arboretum, major work was undertaken a year ago to widen the entry gate, alter the railings and create a small garden to greet visitors. That work was overseen by David and there are future plans to link Tim's Way to the main road path.

The son of a farmer, David did not go into farming the soil himself, but worked in the farming industry at J. Bibby and Crediton Milling before moving to Newton St Cyres in 1967. It was his love of gardening that led him to volunteer for Arboretum work. He is also a keen cricket fan. While, at 84, his playing days are behind him, he is fit and spry and still umpires three matches a week during the season.

When they established the Arboretum in the 1760s, the Quicke family planted several unusual specimens of trees over the years. Says David: "When I first started I didn't know anything about specialty trees." Today, the Arboretum boasts many unusual trees, including deciduous conifers such as the Dawn Redwood and Swamp Cypress, along with Holm Oaks, acers, elms, black walnut, bamboos and magnolias and many species of plants and flowers. There is even a 150-year-old monkey puzzle tree.

With many of the trees over 200 years old, it is inevitable that some will fall down or have major limbs fall off due to age or decay. That is when the professional tree surgeons will be called in to take them down. "A lot of the Holm Oaks are about 100 years old and coming to the end of their life," says David.

Fortunately, the resident tree expert Vaughan Gallavan, who used to work for the Quickes in Sherwood, is on hand to provide crucial advice on all tree matters including working out planting plans and often doing the tree planting himself.

One of the difficulties of such a large space is labelling. While many trees are labelled, time, and wear and tear have meant some labels are missing, chewed up by squirrels or overgrown. Improved labelling is on the volunteers' to-do list.

Most visitors behave responsibly when visiting the Arboretum, but sometimes children can't resist climbing the trees. "I tell the kids that these aren't just any old trees," says Ron. "A lot are specimen trees that have been especially planted and are not common. We want people to enjoy them. We don't want have to fence them off."

The Arboretum remained open during lockdown despite the volunteers having to suspend all work during the first emergency measures. Of course, lockdowns didn't stop the Arboretum foliage from growing, and so our fearless trio of Ron, Courtney and Marg decided during the second lockdown to get back to work to keep on top of things. To make sure they don't overlook anything, there is a rota of Friends volunteer wardens who inspect and report any problems they may find.

Friends of the Arboretum estimate visitor numbers doubled compared with previous years as it provided a much needed open-air respite for people trapped in their homes for long periods. Some of the paths even got three times wider because of the increased foot traffic, according to Ron.

Lockdown also brought more four-legged visitors, which led to increased use of the dog poo bin that is kept by the entry gate. The delightful task of emptying it every two weeks falls on Ron and another volunteer, Cathy Yate. "There are more dogs in the village now compared with before and we get about 10 kilos every week, and have to dispose of it," Ron says.

While Ron doesn't mind people bringing their dogs, he does have an appeal to those who don't clear up after them. "Toddlers are inquisitive and don't know what they are picking up," he says. "There are also times when I am strimming or mowing the lawn and I get splattered. It's not nice."



David Vallance at the Jubilee Way

August 2021

One of the most unusual things occurred when the Arboretum first opened, says David. “I found four areas where tramps had been camping. There was no sign of them, but they left a mess that I had to clean up. The Summer House wasn’t fenced at the time and they could have chosen to sleep in there, but they didn’t. I never found out who they were or where they went. “

Most members of the public probably aren’t aware of the immense amount of time and work that goes into the upkeep of the Arboretum. “There is a lot of work here that nobody knows about,” says David. “They see it but they don’t know that someone has done on it.”

It may be a picnic table needing repairing, a wobbly bench leg needing righting or putting up nest boxes for robins, blue tits and owls – all things that David has done and much more. He also works with volunteers for the Duke of Edinburgh Scheme. “I have seen through two lads from the village who have done their bronze, silver and gold, which requires them to work up to 52 hours to get their badges,” David says.

Do they ever tire of working in the Arboretum? “I sometimes moan about it but I still come up here almost every day,” says Ron. “Even if there is no work, I like to come here and look around and usually have a pair of secateurs in my pocket, so if I see a tree branch overhanging, I will cut it so people can walk through. I just like to see it tidy.”

While the Arboretum is beautiful all year round, Ron, Courtney and Marg agree that spring is their favourite time, when the daffodils, bluebells and magnolias are in full bloom. “When you strim and everything is nice and tidy, and when you see all the daffodils and bluebells, you think it was worth it,” says Ron. “I like to think that if we didn’t do it, you might not see all of that. That is the beauty of it.”

Ann Quon Cordingley

Youth Tournament

The Rec hosted the Five-a-side youth tournament on the weekend of 10th and 11th July.
The event was a brilliant success.



Newton St Cyres Tennis Club

Our club tournaments culminated in an exciting Finals Day on 18th July, in boiling hot weather, which was very pleasant for the spectators but hard work for the players, especially those who were playing in two or three events! There was some exciting play, so those feeling disappointed that Wimbledon had finished had a good substitute.

Several of our players were lucky enough to obtain Wimbledon tickets this year through the first-come, first-served system, which replaced the club and public ballots due to Covid uncertainty and reduced spectator numbers. They all enjoyed their trips up there.

We are pleased to have welcomed several new members through the Rusty Rackets sessions with coach Jon Wills. Jon also runs our junior coaching sessions on Wednesday during term time, and private or group lessons for members. For all information about the club, please see our website www.newtonstcyrestennisclub.co.uk or contact our membership secretary, Laura Leigh on 01647 24259



Finalists in our mens doubles

Sally Baldwin

August on the Farm



NATURE

We watched the swifts scything above the river, flying at great speed. They feed on the insects drawn to the water and the wild areas on the edge of the field. Grass seed heads nod in the wind. Dragon flies and damsel flies fly crisply, their brief beauty the mating peak and end of their lives. Sit down, and shield bugs and grasshoppers come and investigate. Clover in the fields scents the air. The teasels, signs of old wool-working homes, flower their strange architectural shape.

It's our job as farmers to ask the natural world to give us food. That involves preferring some species over others. And it is so important we give room to the unpreferred bits of the natural world. It's beautiful, infinitely diverse, and provides all those complex webs of life that we are part of and make this extraordinary planet our home.

The specialist cheesemakers all went to our annual farm walk, this time in West Wales on the farm of the deep thinker Patrick Holden, as we grappled with how best we steward our precious land to produce delicious food and healthy ecosystems.

ARABLE

The wheat comes to harvest. The fields change colour so fast, from blue green leaf to pale green flowers, and now ripen to straw. The fields darken as the ears age. A clanking combine cuts, threshes and separates grain and straw, work formerly done by whole communities anxiously checking the sky for rain

clouds. Now it's just us, and the combine travels around the area. But we still anxiously check for rain. The machines work no better than people in the wet, straw becoming uncuttable, grain unthreshable. Spring barley comes later, a bare five months from sowing, against wheat's 10 months. It's lovely to see the poppies in the field: we share the field with some and not too many other species.

COWS

Age groups of heifers take up residence in a large field and cycle round, grazing one paddock at a time, and letting it rest till the grass is long and leafy. That way each mouthful counts, and is nutritious. The longer grass supports more insects: moths fly up as you walk through. The animals are curious when you show up, not just to see if you have any food, but also 'who's here? And will you play?' As you walk away, you can feel reproachful gazes when you provide them only momentary interest. But there's always some good grazing to get on with.

Honey bees enjoy the clover flowers, as do the cows. I always feel the milk takes on that fresh aroma, with faint echoes in the cheese. Cows like leafy grass for milk. The autumn, calving cows are all on their holiday from milking, growing their calves. We keep longer, more stalky grass for them to chew on: calving is easier if you aren't too fat. We keep some grass longer, which gives wild flowers a chance to grow, giving interest to the cows as they rest and chat in a late pregnancy dream.

DAIRY

We spend a fortnight cleaning and titivating our cheese dairy in August, getting to the parts we can't normally reach and making sure everything is working for the year ahead. We start making again in mid-August, team and dairy refreshed. We select the cheese to enter for the World Cheese Awards in November in Oviedo in Spain. When we grade our cheese at three months and 12 months, we make notes on the flavours we find as well as mark qualities. Special cheeses we mark as 'Show'. We then have the pleasure of going through this best of the best to send off and try their fortune against the finest cheeses in the world.

RECIPE

August is National Goats Cheese month: our goats cheese is beautifully balanced, with gentle goat, buttery and almondy. I love it with the little beetroots you get at this time of year. To make a more substantial dish, I like the earthiness of puy lentils, with some fresh herbs chopped up and a good oil stirred in while lentils and beetroot are still warm. Boil lentils and beetroot separately. You can add washed chopped beetroot leaves to the lentils 5-10 minutes before the end of cooking to give a little succulence. Mix oil and chopped herbs in: parsley and marjoram are good. Season. Shave a good quantity of Quicke's Hard Goats cheese over the top. Drizzle a little more oil on the cheese. Enjoy with a green salad.

Mary Quicke

What's happening with the Creedy?

One of the things many of us have done over this last year is spend more time enjoying nature in our local areas. Some of us might be lucky enough to have a river nearby to walk along and enjoy. You might even have seen some wonderful wildlife; a kingfisher or perhaps an otter if you have been very fortunate. But have you ever wondered about what's happening in your local patch of river.

The Environment Agency monitors the health of our rivers, and they have been reporting on the Creedy Catchment since 2009 under the European Union Water Framework Directive (WFD). Each year, along with other rivers, it is classified according to a combination of elements, including fish, aquatic invertebrates, water quality (phosphate, dissolved oxygen, ammonia) and river morphology (shape and structure of the river channel). Rivers can be classified as High, Good, Moderate, Poor or Bad status. The original aim of the WFD was that all rivers would reach 'Good' status by 2015, but that's since been put back to 2027.

Many of the waterbodies in the Creedy catchment are classed as Poor, and the Lower Creedy is sadly in a Bad status. This catchment covers a huge area, with tributaries from Whiddon Down in the west to Shoebrooke in the East and from Way Village in the north to where it joins the River Exe near Cowley Bridge to the south.

The Westcountry Rivers Trust run a volunteer river monitoring scheme called Westcountry CSI (Citizen Science Investigations), and they are looking for more volunteers to survey the River Creedy and its tributaries. We have over 400 people signed up across the West country - from West Cornwall to Somerset, and between them they have logged something like 1,000 surveys this year alone. But the Creedy catchment could really be helped by some more volunteers. I have taken on two spots near Newton St Cyres and am really enjoying learning more about the state of health of my local patch of the river system.

Westcountry CSI includes a survey form prompting volunteers to record photographs and data on river flows, water level, wildlife spotted and pollution sources. They will suggest survey locations and provide water quality test kits for dissolved solids, suspended sediment and phosphate - some of the key indicators which are scoring so badly in parts of the catchment.

This might sound complicated, but it's very straightforward and there is lots of help available to get you started. All that information is uploaded to an interactive map where it can be viewed online. Ideally people will sign up to survey one or more locations at least once a month. Each survey should take only around 10 to 15 minutes, so I find it's an easy job and you get to chat about your results to other walkers. I find people are really interested to know what you are up to!

This information we provide will help the Trust highlight the good things about the River Creedy and find out more about those issues that are causing it to fail. The Westcountry Rivers Trust will then be able to work with local residents and government bodies to come up with a plan to reverse the fortunes of this much-loved river system. For more information, check out their website or email: csi@wrt.org.uk to discuss any spots where you would like to do some sampling.

Paddleboat Theatre present RUSTLE

Newton St Cyres Arboretum

Saturday 21st August 3pm

In the event of wet weather, the performance will take place in the Parish Hall

Imagine that you're far from home,
Playing in the woods all on your own
And all is still and calm and clear
But what's that rustle you can hear?
Is it the wind blowing through the trees?
Is it the sound of falling leaves?
Or is the rustle that you hear
The sound of something drawing near...

PaddleBoat Theatre Company invites you to set up camp so that it can tell the greatest campfire story ever told: where sleeping bags evolve into monsters, rucksacks become friends and torches highlight the forest's closest secrets. Be part of this interactive family adventure, jam-packed with puppets, songs and outdoor surprises.

Running time: 45-50mins, no interval
Suitable for children aged 4+ with adults, and adults!

Additional Information

You will be seated on the grass, so please bring your own picnic blankets, camping chairs, and cushions to sit on. You can also bring your own food and drink.

In order for us to return to live events safely, we ask for your co-operation with any additional guidelines that may be in place at the time of the event. Please note that these may change, in line with any government announcements.

Tickets can be purchased by telephoning 01392 851985

Individual ticket price £4, £6, £8 (Pay What You Can)

Group/Family ticket price (for 4 with a maximum of 2 Adults) £20.

or online <https://villagesinaction.co.uk/events/> prices as above + booking fee

We look forward to seeing you at this family event. Paddleboat previously performed 'Clare Hollingworth and the Scoop of the Century' at the Parish Hall, which was extremely enjoyable and interactive. This event is organised by the Parish Hall, the arboretum and Villages in Action

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?



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On the Home Page you will find this picture and a link to all the quiz
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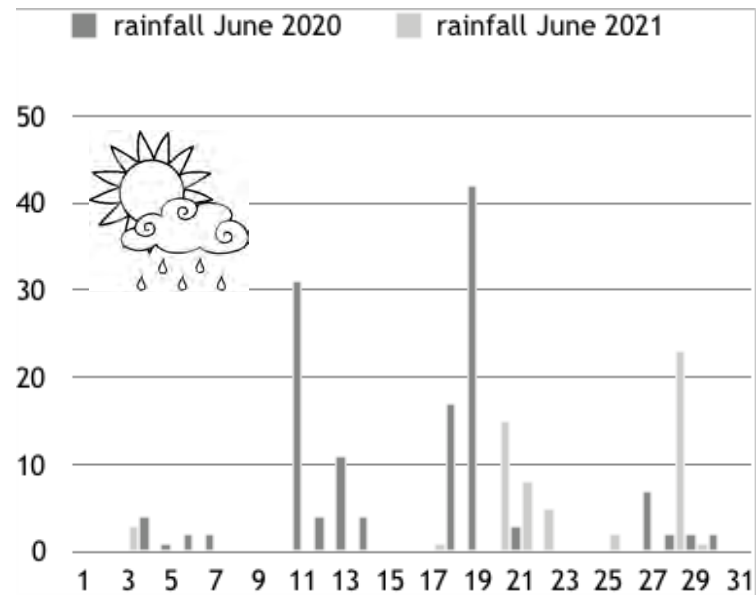
Single visit garden ticket £5 (children free)

Gardener's World 2 for 1 & Historic Houses members welcome

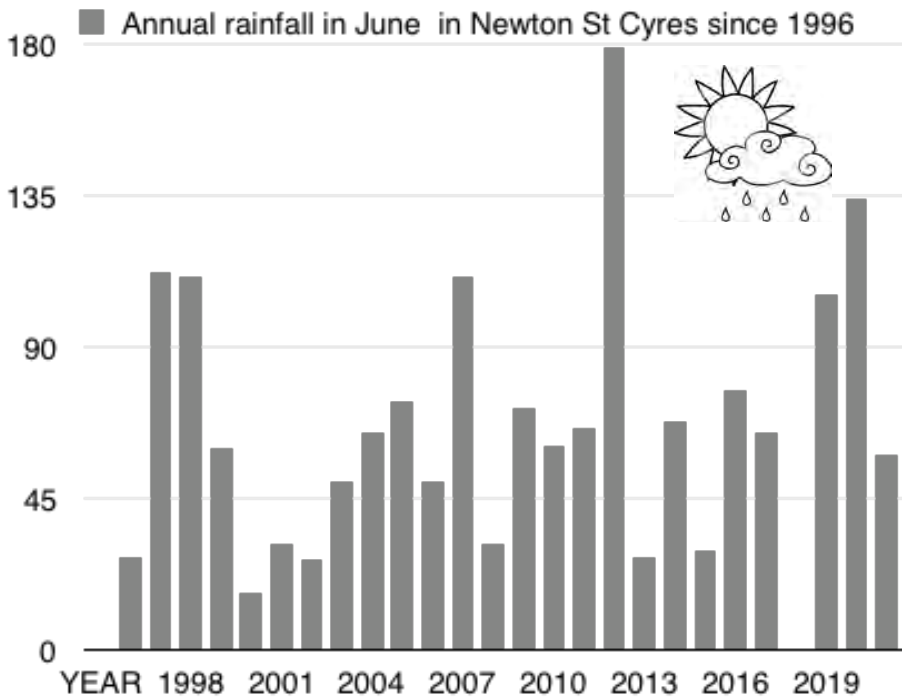
Don't forget - we also have lovely holiday accommodation, just perfect
for your visitors!

The Weather

in Newton St Cyres



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



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Do you need any help in these times?

You are not alone

**For any type of help contact Damien Hodge
on 851111 or email
damienhodge@newtonstcyres-pc.gov.uk or
contact your neighbourhood watch
deputy. They are here for you.**

Neighbourhood Watch Deputies

Tim Sedgwick	Godolphin Close	2	851223	twsedgwick1@supanet.com
Sue Gee	Church Area	Glebe House	851164	asgee@btinternet.com
Tom Dowle	Court Orchard	24	851704	tomdowle@live.co.uk
Chris Lee	Langford Road	Greenlands	851280	
Mike Kersey	Half Moon	12	851603	
Sandy Fleming	Newton House	12	851646	afleming12@btinternet.com
Wayne Meeton	Norton	Glenacre Sweetham	851954	wayne@wvmstudio.com
Derrick Rhydderch-Evans	Pump Street	Old Beams	851443	derrickrevans369@btinternet.com
David Vallance	Sand Down Lane	Manesty	851266	davidvallance2@icloud.com
Jacqui Ward	Smallbrook	2 Broadgate Cottage	851918	Jacquiward30@yahoo.co.uk
Jill Hawksley	Sweetham	Station Cottage	851269	peterbrew@aol.com
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

Tues 09.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. & Thursdays 12.30 p.m. to 2.30 p.m.

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Newton St Cyres Parish Hall are pleased to present

Steve Knightley

Saturday 18th September 2021

Doors 7pm, Performance 7.30pm



Multi-award-winning singer-songwriter/musician and founder member of widely acclaimed folk/acoustic roots trailblazers Show of Hands, Steve Knightley is following on from the success of his earlier one-man show. Steve's latest outing is intended for anyone fascinated by the art and craft of song writing.

Steve will be exploring his extensive back catalogue and introducing new material. He explores the themes and stories that inspire him and shows how music and words can become lyrics and chords, and notes can meld to create songs that acquire a life of their own!

“Committed and distinctive songs of love, conscience and history”– BBC Radio 2

This tour has only a small number of dates around the country, so early booking is advised.

Tickets £20 available from Nicola 01392 851985

The Parish Church of St Cyr and St Julitta



HOLY COMMUNION

at Newton St Cyres Church

**is held on
the fourth Sunday of
the month.**

**On 22nd August,
we welcome Bishop
Jackie**

Do join us!

Private Prayer

at

Newton St Cyres Church.

**The Church is open
for**

Private Prayer

**on Wednesdays
from 10 am - 4 pm**

Praise the lord for the churchyard grass!

A lot of people seem to have enjoyed seeing the churchyard as they remember it from childhood. The Oxeye Daisy spectacle is over and more subtle flowers are coming into bloom. On display among others are the purple Self Heal, used as a tonic to treat minor ailments, the yellow Ladies Bedstraw, also used for treatments, Knapweed loved by butterflies. On the area to the right, as you go through the main gate, are what look like orchids. These had us stumped. Were they Birds Nest Orchids – unlikely and too brown; Twayblades – not quite right. Maybe Ivy Broomrape? Meanwhile some of the grave stones stand in a cloud of more delicate grasses.

Tom Whitlock, ecologist at Devon County Council, was kind enough to come and view the site and report back as follows:

“The churchyard grassland is typical of what is known as a MG5 grassland. This is an unimproved neutral grassland, including hay meadows. This habitat was once the ubiquitous type of old meadow and pasture in the English lowlands, but there is now less than 6,000ha remaining in England.

“MG5 grassland is a very rare grassland and should be conserved wherever possible. Since the 1930s, 97% of the UK’s wildflower meadows have been lost or modified, and this loss of habitat has meant our pollinating insects have suffered steep declines and 87 species of wildflower are threatened with extinction.

“Appropriate management of our grasslands is essential. Without careful management, wildflowers can be lost through too frequent cutting, or outcompeted by brambles, scrub and vigorous coarse grasses if not managed enough.”

An annual or cyclical programme is ideal for lowland meadows. It is vital that wild flowers are able to complete their full lifecycle – i.e., grow, flower and set seed. This replenishes the seed bank and allows populations to be maintained indefinitely. Cutting too early and too frequently swiftly eliminates many species, reducing diversity and the value of the grassland. Cutting after flowers have set seed in late summer allows visually striking displays of wild flowers and a rich source of pollen and nectar for pollinators. Wild flowers take roughly six to eight weeks from flowering to setting seed. A two-cut management approach is ideal for suppressing coarse grasses and encouraging wild flowers.

Says Tom: “I would recommend that all of the churchyard grassland is cut once in October and once again in February.”

Why not come with us on our journey to greater diversity, as we try to follow his recommendations in parts of the churchyard.

SERVICES & INFORMATION AUGUST 2021

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

Please note these services are proposed for August 2021 and may change due to Government Restrictions and COVID-19 tiering.

Please check for current information by visiting our website at www.netherexe.org

Sunday 1 August Trinity 9

09:30 am	Holy Communion	[CW]	Thorverton	KR
10:00 am	Informal Gathering		Stoke Canon	Lay Led & LF
06:00 pm	Hymns & Pimms		Cadbury	Lay Led

Sunday 8 August Trinity 10

09:30 am	Reflective Service		Newton St Cyres	TL
11:15 am	Holy Communion	[CW]	Upton Pyne	GC
11:15 am	Informal Service		Rewe	Lay Led
02:00 pm	Baptism Service		Thorverton	Revd Jane Lucas

Sunday 15 August Trinity 11

09:30 am	Open Door		Zoom/Telephone Service*	LF
09:30 am	Holy Communion	[CW]	Bramford Speke	TL
11:15 am	Holy Communion	[CW]	Cadbury	KR
05:00 pm	Holy Communion	[CW]	Stoke Canon	MSS

Sunday 22 August Trinity 12

09:30 am	Holy Communion	[CW]	Newton St Cyres	Bishop Jackie Searle
11:15 am	Pet Service		Rewe	Lay Led & LF

Sunday 29 August Trinity 13

11:15 am	Holy Communion	[CW]	Rewe	JH
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Abbreviations: CW = Common Worship BCP = Book of Common Prayer

Evening Prayer: Every Tuesday 6:00 pm in Rewe Church

If you wish to attend a church service, you must book in advance by contacting:

Cadbury	Libby Price	01392 860257	libby@prices7.com
Newton St Cyres	Sue Browne	01392 851460	suecbrowne@gmail.com
Rewe	Sheila Newton	01392 860082	rewe.nativity@gmail.com
Stoke Canon	Valerie Mills	01392 841659	valeriehandfordmills@gmail.com
Thorverton	Royston Kershaw	01392 860419	thorvertoncw@gmail.com
Upton Pyne	Christine Cotter	01392 841025	cotterchrisse@gmail.com

Places at services are strictly limited. If you turn up at a church without booking, you may be turned away.

*Open Door: <https://zoom.us/j/92093317053?pwd=bjhzCGRrSTQ2TW9sODEFWU2dLU204QT09>

To join by telephone: **Ring 0203 901 7895 Meeting ID: 920 9331 7053 Passcode: 117621**

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

JH	Revd Julia Hocking	LF	Laura Ford
TL	Revd Tony Lane	KR	Revd Preb Kathy Roberts
GC	Revd Preb Graham Cotter	MSS	Revd's Michael & Sharon Simpson
TBC	To be confirmed.		

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

Mrs Juliette Lea [Administrator]

Hours & Days TBC

Tel:

Email:

Mr Peter Shepherd [Administrator]

Monday & Wednesday [09:30 – 13:30]

Tel: 07551 844321

Email: peter.shepherd@netherexe.org

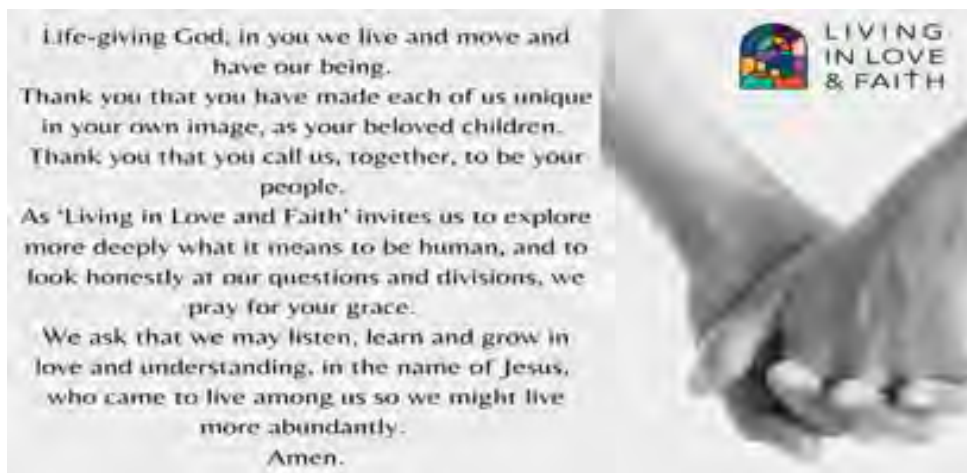
Correspondence: The Netherexe Parishes, Church Office, St Mary Magdalene Church, Stoke Canon, Exeter, EX5 4AS.

LIVING IN LOVE AND FAITH

Loving each other as we would want to be loved is an important part of the Christian faith. Sounds easy but in practice, it's not. There are so many things that get in the way: fear, ignorance and lack of familiarity with things that are outside our everyday experience. Our comfort circle can bind us very tightly. None of us has a monopoly on what it means to be human, however: we only have our individual experience. Throughout 2021, everyone in the Church of England is invited to take part in a conversation entitled Living in Love and Faith. The project aims to help Christians think about issues of gender identity, relationships, sexuality, and faith using online resources and a five-week course for churches and small groups. The diocese of Exeter explains:

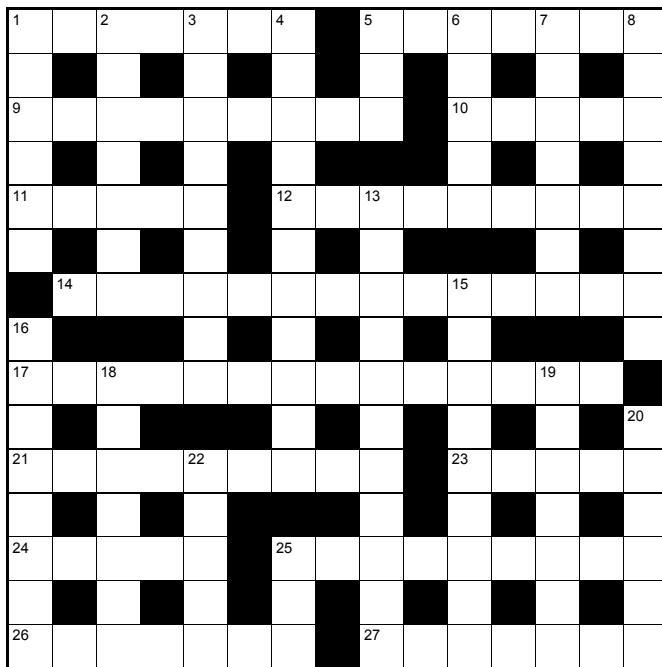
"This is crucial for the church's direction in the coming years. The outcomes could have far-reaching consequences for the mission and unity of the church, but this is a conversation that has been going on already for many years. Sadly, in the past, this has not always been a helpful conversation and has sometimes been conducted in confrontational ways and with polarised views. We can do better. If we are committed to listen to one another, to articulate our own views with love and respect, and to make space for voices we have not heard thus far, we could have a really fruitful encounter.

To help, the Church of England has developed Living in Love and Faith, a set of resources and a call to talk, listen, and feedback. The resources include a book; a website and learning hub with videos, podcasts; group material to guide the conversation, plus ways of feeding reflections back. It is important that as many of us take part as possible. This process will contribute to decision-making in the Church of England in 2022. We can be certain that there are loud voices who wish to be heard. We need other voices also to



contribute, so that we have as broad, inclusive, and grace-filled listening as possible. Please join in." Everyone is invited to attend the 5-week course, which will start towards the end of September 2021 and will be available both online and in person. Please express your interest in attending by getting in touch with Anne Jerman at annecjerman@gmail.com or calling 01363 772865, so that we can organise the groups to suit those taking part. Please include in your email whether you prefer morning, afternoon or evening and online or in person.

Cryptic Crossword



ACROSS

- 1 Energetic daughter repelled several in charge (7)
- 5 Coming second in race run with competitor (7)
- 9 Check condition and replace (9)
- 10 I will take spin around Italian city (5)
- 11 Island foremost in avoiding tax (5)
- 12 Stand for soldiers here (9)
- 14 Fare may be a little high after this (4-6,4)
- 17 Comfortable footwear found in stripper's place possibly (6-8)
- 21 Student leaves in complete disarray, showing helplessness (9)
- 23 Drive out for fish that's about 10 pence (5)
- 24 Recall part of imaginative stage show (5)
- 25 Dress is nothing to me – it's tedious (9)
- 26 Attempt to take in very old and heartbreaking drama (7)
- 27 Woman needs relaxation to reach peak (7)

Set by Alberich

DOWN

- 1 Democratic leader of city, one in South Africa (6)
- 2 So I'm one somehow being offensive (7)
- 3 Semi to let is ruined by parasite (9)
- 4 Leader of meeting not the sort to sit on a sofa or stool? (11)
- 5 Terrific, you can't get one back! (3)
- 6 About to draw and knot ropes again (5)
- 7 Girl captivates boy with plant (7)
- 8 Stretch and enlighten one missing exercises (8)
- 13 Professional's cost of living to increase greatly (11)
- 15 Four stars indicating extreme anger? (9)
- 16 Mishap I had, beset by stress (8)
- 18 Right place, I resolved, to find duplicate (7)
- 19 Carpet salesman gets to travel around (7)
- 20 Neil turns up in court and he has a lawyer (6)
- 22 Poorly rated business (5)
- 25 Course is put in balance for audience (3)

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.

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

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Solution to the July 2021 Cryptic Crossword

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

WHO'S WHO IN THE VILLAGE

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

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

The **NEWTON WONDER** is delivered within the Parish at a charge of only **£5.00** per year.

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

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

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

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

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

Local voluntary Village events are included free of charge.

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

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

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

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

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

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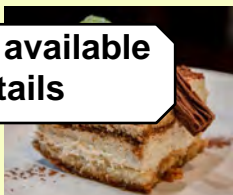
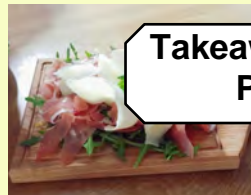
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