

NEWTON WONDER

The Magazine and Website for the Community of Newton St Cyres

Meet the people who
look after the Rec Club

see page 38



50p

September 2021

www.newtonwonder.net

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The Community is re-awakening

Our world is changing very rapidly. Not only as a result of global warming, the current events on the international stage, the apparent loss of ground for the democratic societies and the rise of authoritarian, ambitious and predatory states like China and Russia. The Covid pandemic has resulted in enormous changes. People who never spoke started to talk to one another and new friendships were formed. A positive outcome of the pandemic has been the increasing awareness of the need we have of belonging to groups of people on a face to face basis. In Sweetham, people talked over the gate and in July, when meeting outside became possible, an Open Garden event was held.

Newton St Cyres is coming to life again after over a year of lockdown and other restrictions. Sports activities, football, cricket, tennis and many others have started again. The Parish Hall is open and meetings and coffee mornings are starting again. Speaking of coffee mornings there will be one sponsored by the church on Saturday 11th Sept. Remember you don't have to be a member of the church; these mornings are **village events**. The Parish Council always has a display and sends at least one Parish Councillor to hear your concerns and answer your questions. Everyone in the Parish is welcome to the coffee mornings, no matter which organisation or group is sponsoring it. I hope that they will become, once again a focus for the village.

Do you Remember?

This very popular column in the Newton Wonder needs your help. Tom Clague has been going down to the Devon Records Office on the Sowton Estate a couple of times a year and looking at the back copies to show a view of the village as presented in the Newton Wonder for each month back to the beginning in 1970. He is retiring from this task and we need someone else to do it for us. An interesting way to become a member of the team and a contribution worth making. A volunteer is needed.

ROY CROWCROFT: FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

The funeral service for Roy Crowcroft, a longtime resident of Newton House and a former Newton St Cyres church choirmaster, will take place at 2.30pm on Friday, 3rd September at the church of the Holy Cross in CREDITON.

Roy, who died at the age of 84 on 7th August, was apprenticed as a young man as an engineer on deep sea vessels, and travelled extensively, mainly to Australia and New Zealand.

Later in life, Roy became an inspector for universities and colleges for engineering courses, before retiring to Newton St Cyres. He is survived by a son, Matthew.

A District Councillor's Diary

Road Safety

The first meeting of the new A377 Action Group took place this month. At the moment the Action Group consists of local County, Parish and District Councillors representing the communities and areas between Crediton and Exeter. I hope that residents from each community along the A377 will soon be able to join us.

The Group exists to:-

1. Identify and prioritise key road safety and traffic problems arising for the A377 and associated subsidiary minor roads between Crediton and Exeter.
2. Formulate proposals for remedying these issues including:-
 - o Footpaths and safe road crossing points in the communities that sit on the A377.
 - o Speed calming along rural lanes that are increasingly being used as "rat runs" including through Shobrooke and Sweetham, .
 - o Average or other speed cameras along the A377
 - o Cycle Ways especially between Exeter to Crediton
3. Agree plans to address these issues
4. Engage with DCC Highways Dept and other key statutory agencies to implement the plans.

Please send me your ideas and suggestions to me as Chair of the Group on the issues you think we should be working on first. I will be posting minutes of the Group on my District Councillor Facebook Page.

In the meantime it's been good to see the stretch of footpath along the A377 between Tytheing and the centre of Newton Village cleared of plant growth and other debris BUT we await the new controlled road crossing that we've been promised!

Biodiversity and the Church

I'm just one of several people, including members of the Newton Environment Group (NEW), who have been supporting the Church Council in their plan to allow the Churchyard to become a haven for wild flowers, animals and insects. I've thoroughly enjoyed the succession of different wild flowers and grasses as the summer has progressed. Many of us had only guessed at the rich diversity of

plant species that had somehow survived years of repeated summer mowing. Many thanks to the Church Council for this!

The Church Council have been advised by one of the County Ecologists that the Churchyard should be mowed in September and the cut material taken away and composted separately. Are you up for helping with the clear up? If so please contact me.

Biodiversity and Farming

We are fortunate in having local landowners in the Quicke Family who are keen to promote climate and nature friendly farming practices. Their business has experienced a difficult period through COVID. Like other farmers the Quicke Estate also face uncertainty about the new Government funding arrangements for farmers now we have left the EU. In spite of this Mary Quicke has readily agreed to meet with myself and Sue Rowell in November to discuss how we might work together to promote biodiversity and climate friendly practices on their farm. I hope to learn a lot!

By the way Sue Rowell is the Parish Council's new biodiversity and climate change lead. She brings a wealth of experience to the role from her career in the Environment Agency.

Planning , Development and the Old School site

Jenner Homes have now submitted a Planning Application for eight new homes on the site of the old school. The Parish Council are due to consider their response to this application at their meeting on 2nd September. Everyone I've spoken with seems to be generally supportive of Jenner Homes' proposals. However there are several detailed issues that are causing concern. Local residents of Sandown Lane and nearby roads met recently to discuss these issues and have written to the Developers asking for some changes to the plans.

I will continue to work with all parties to ensure local concerns are satisfactorily addressed.

I will also be supporting the Parish Council in seeking contributions from the Developer towards a safe road crossing between Sandown Lane and Tytheing and also for improvements to the surfacing and fencing of the permissive footpath from Sandown Lane to Pump St.

Graeme Barnell

MDDC District Councillor
Newbrooke Ward
August 2021

Thoughts for September from Peter Cordingley

"Get a grip, Cordingley. You used to be a WHO spokesperson. You know you shouldn't be spreading anxiety this way. It's just a b****y winter flu, for chrissakes!"

That public finger-wagging was directed at me early in February last year by an ex-WHO colleague when I commented on Facebook about a strange, unknown virus spreading in China.

My offence? To have said that if this virus started jumping from human to human, rather than being just linked to animals in a Wuhan street market, then the world was in for a nasty shock.

And guess where we are now – right in the middle of that nasty shock. Worldwide, more than 200 million people have gone down with Covid and nearly 4.5 million have died. Some b****y winter flu!, as I would have said to my former WHO colleague had he not Unfriended me on Facebook after I told him what I thought of him!

I don't know any more about Covid than the average person on the No. 5 bus into Exeter. But I do know what happened back in 2003, when SARS broke out in China, and I know that what happened then is a lesson for us now in Newton St Cyres, London or anywhere you can think of. In those days, as point man with the media in Asia, I had a front-row seat to how SARS grew to frighten cities around the world.

In the end, SARS proved to be short lived and far less dangerous than Covid. Just over 8,000 people fell sick and about 770 died from the disease. Still, it closed down Hong Kong, Singapore, Beijing, Hanoi and Toronto, and put the world on edge. The disease died out because, unlike Covid, it presented symptoms before it became infectious. So, if you promptly isolate those people with symptoms, the virus has nowhere to go.

What we are going through now is in some ways virtually a repeat of 2003. Back then, the Chinese denied to WHO that anything was going on, and refused for months to let in a WHO investigation team. Ditto China 2020. The Chinese have evaded WHO's questions, have gagged their own disease experts and have used every trick they could to delay the arrival of WHO inspectors. And on, and on, and on.

But, enough of that, it's history now - except to say that I lived in Hong Kong for more than 20 years, and I know from observation of what they are now doing to Hong Kong that the Chinese Communist Party is the biggest assembly of liars and bullies in the world.

All that said, I think that anyone who believes we're out of the woods with Covid is living down a rabbit hole in those same woods. As I write, infections and deaths are climbing, and I doubt vaccinations will be enough to reverse that any time soon - particularly as we're stuck with a slow-witted, slow-moving government that was selected for its Brexit credentials and is chronically unready to respond to the country's biggest health crisis in a century.

Instinct tells me that this disease is going to be around for a long time, deaths, tragedies and all, and it's probably going to get worse before it gets better, with new variations that could outfox vaccines and maybe in the end force the return of lockdown-type controls.

I know, as a former spokesman for WHO, I probably shouldn't be saying stuff like that. But I just did.

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NEWTON RAMBLERS

Sunday 19th September

This month we will be following one of the walks from the Newton St Cyres Country Walks leaflet. It is a walk of about 5 miles and will take us mainly along footpaths through farmland with some walking along quiet roads. There are some good views along the way.

We will start from the Recreation Ground, going past Rewe Cross and passing though Shute, Pennicott and Shobrooke Mill, returning via Wyke Cross.

We will meet at 10 am on Sunday 19th September at the Recreation Ground in Newton St Cyres.

All are welcome to join us. Any queries to Roger or Jean Wilkins on 01392 851337

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



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,
all money raised will be going to The North Devon Hospice**

RECREATION GROUND CLUB

As the days went by, I really thought I would have nothing to say this month, but, thankfully, things are beginning to change. We now have a booking for the Creedy Valley Darts League to hold a captains' meeting, so now it looks likely we will be having darts on Thursday evenings soon.

We have also been made aware that the Kirton and District Ladies Darts League are planning a captains' meeting soon, so Wednesday evenings will also see darts played. Still no news about skittles being planned for the near future.

The Devon and Exeter Football League has released dates to 17th September, so three of our Senior sides are beginning to get underway, but nothing is confirmed for the fourth side. Let's hope details will be released soon .

The various cricket teams usually complete their seasons for the Bank Holiday weekend, though one of our teams has a game in September.

The archery group meet up to 7th September, and then they return to their indoor venue for the winter months.

Our motor bike friends' gathering this year looks likely to be a one day event.

Fingers crossed that more dates come through and the diary looks more normal from October onward. We just need the pandemic and weather to be on our side.

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

Newton St Cyres

Newton St Cyres Tennis Club

The summer seems to be slipping by very quickly and already we are discussing what combinations of teams to enter in the local Devon winter leagues. How many men's, how many ladies' and how many mixed? In the summer leagues we had one Ladies', one Men's and two Mixed, but it is more difficult to get regular players to commit to the cold, dark winter matches, so we will be reducing this to two Mixed teams from September.

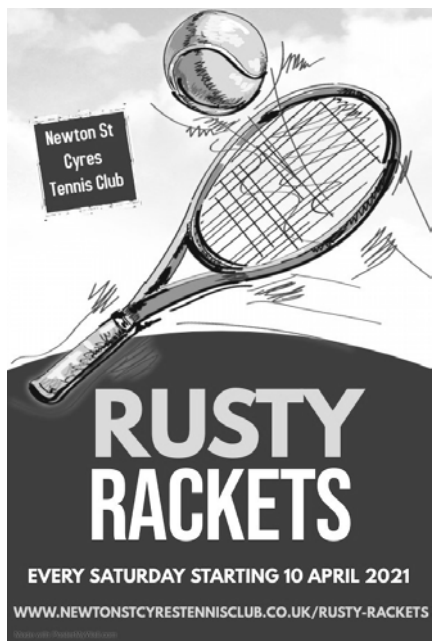


Our club sessions have been very well attended over the summer months, with the Friday session in particular very popular, especially as it now often includes a trip to one of the local hostelrys afterwards!

Coaching has also been very popular, and we are looking forward to junior coaching starting again for 6 to 18-year-olds on Wednesday afternoons and evenings. Please see our website www.newtonstcyrestennisclub.co.uk for details of all our activities, contact details, etc.

Sally Baldwin

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

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Watercolour skills with Kari McGowan

Kari is a well-known and accomplished artist based on Dartmoor, and runs classes as well as contributing articles to magazines. On her evening with us on 28th July, she tackled the difficult challenge of painting in greens. For this she had prepared thoroughly by sketching and experimenting with mixes of various yellows and blues (definitely no greens straight out of the tube).

The subject was a twisted tree by a stream. Kari reminded us to focus on the point of the painting and not be tempted to put the same amount of detail everywhere.

Using Saunders 200lb NOT and plenty of water, with the pencil sketch and some masking fluid already applied, she worked with a variety of brushes, and a spray bottle, to build up her painting, with the minimum of fiddling, preferring to let the paint do its own thing, and keeping a sharp eye on the dampness of the paper so that the paint could still move. The result was a pleasing mix of foreground detail, and vaguely-suggested background.

Kari clearly feels passionate about painting and her enthusiasm was felt by everybody. A very enjoyable evening.

Jenny Hallam

DEVON CPRE

The Voice for Devon's Countryside

Devon CPRE, the local branch of the countryside charity, recently launched a new competition to find [Devon's Best Young Landscape Artist 2021](#)

Full details of how to enter can be found on the Devon CPRE website. The deadline for entries has recently been extended to 30th September.

www.cpredevon.org.uk/devons-best-young-landscape-artist-2021/

Do You Remember...September?

September 1971

The Parish Council has managed to get the Electricity Board to reduce its proposed new charges to a 5% increase.

Exeter City's plan to take over Newton St Cyres arose again with a letter quoting the Maud Report that said "town and country should unite". It was felt that the interests the town would inevitably override those of the country and villages would soon lose their character.

The Council decided to support a Devon County Council proposal under which Newton St Cyres would be included in a district with Crediton and Tiverton. The Art Group held the first exhibition in the parish hall, and it proved to be a great success.

Bank Holiday Monday saw a cricket match between Woodlands versus the Rest. The first ball of the first over claimed a 'Rest' wicket, however the Rest eventually won the match.

September 1981

Forty one Young Farmers left on 7th July for an exchange visit to Einsburg in Holland. A packed four day break included visits to the largest mushroom farm in Holland, a windmill and a goat farm. Although busy the young farmers had time for barbecues, parties and a village dance.

The recreation ground association is to apply for planning permission for an extension to the club house, and is to ask the Parish Council to guarantee to pay for it.

The Parish Council commented that the village constable would like to be seen more often to help with inconsiderate cycling and badly parked cars. A recent planning application for a granny flat was refused because it would create an overload to the sewage system.

September 1991

This month's edition included input from Crediton police station. A long list of property thefts in the preceding three months underlined the need for householders to be more careful with their own security.

Leaflets on recycling have been placed in the Post Office and Recreation Ground club.

The Cancer Research campaign raised £262 at the Dog Show 27th July. The next event is to be antiques valuation in the Parish Hall in October.

September 2001

The Recreation Ground reports a good start to the football season. Visitors are reminded that riding cycles and walking dogs on the grounds is strictly forbidden, the number of complaints regarding dog mess has brought the problem to the fore. This month also sees the start of indoor sports of darts and skittles.

Langford Park nursing home is looking for entertainment for residents. If there is anyone interested in giving a talk, showing a film of playing an instrument they are asked to contact the home.

September 2011

The Parish Council has responded to residents' requests regarding dog waste bins and new bins have now been placed in Station Road, West Town, Sand Down Lane, Pump Street and the footpath entrance to Court Orchard

The litter picking team is still experiencing a problem with dog fouling on grassy areas. With provision of new bins it can only be hoped that dog walkers will be more responsible and considerate towards others.

Quickes were at the Nantwich International Cheese Show and won gold for their mild cheddar and bronze for mature and hard goats cheese.

The Tennis Club said farewell to their coach Justin Kraushar after four and a half years with the club. Steve Ashton is welcomed as the new coach.

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.

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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 September

There's a feeling of change as the days drift by,
The sun setting lower in the evening sky,
As leaves once green, turn a golden brown,
Shaken by the breeze with a whispering sound.

As I watch from a distance, with the door ajar
a squirrel hiding nuts, will he know where they are?
when the leaves start falling, as quiet as can be
covering the ground until all that we see

Is a carpet of shapes, some large and some small,
Trees stand like sculptures, graceful and tall
getting ready for winter, their time for a rest,
Getting ready for Spring when they must look their best.

Now the hedgehog is still roaming the gardens at night,
Looking for food until the time is just right,
To seek out some shelter from the cold and the rain,
To sleep through the winter till spring comes again.

So as the evenings get longer with each passing day,
Spare a thought for the outdoors and its own unique way,
The squirrels, the hedgehogs, the trees standing tall,
They all need our help no matter how small.

Things to do in the September garden

Just an update on our home. As I write these notes the exterior walls are almost complete and preparations are being made to put on the roof truss . Work can then start on the stud walls inside. It's exciting!

Now to the garden. If you have a lawn and you like to keep it looking tip top, September is a good month to give it some tlc. Pick a day when the grass is dry and cut it as usual with the grass box on. Then rake out any moss and thatch (this is dead grass and creeping stems). If you have a large lawn, this could be done with a powered lawn rake. You could be surprised at the amount of rubbish that comes out of the lawn.

Once the lawn has been raked, cut it again, but this time cut it the other way. If you cut it the first time from top to bottom, cut it the second time from side to side. It is now time to spike the areas where the moss is a problem and where there is a regular footfall. You can do this with a garden fork, (please take care) . Make holes 3" or 4" deep and then brush in sharp sand. This will allow air to get in and water to drain away.

The final thing to do is to feed it, but not with the leftovers from what you used in the spring. It now needs a proper autumn feed that is very low in nitrogen. This will toughen up the grass ready to withstand the winter weather.

September is also a good time to plant spring flowering bulbs, but tulips and hyacinths can be left until October. If you are buying bulbs loose from a garden centre, make sure the plate (the bottom of the bulb) is firm and the bulb is plump.

It is also important to plant them at the right depth, shallow-planted daffodils may not flower, so aim to plant them three times their own depth, measured from top to bottom. If the soil is heavy like clay, drop a handful of grit into the hole to improve drainage.

Rough-turn areas in the veg garden as they become vacant, leaving the lumps to be broken down over the winter.

Plant of the month

For me it has to be "Callicarpa" or "Beauty Berry". A shrub that just sits there doing nothing for nine months of the year, then as the leaves turn orange and begin to fall, small violet purple berries come into view.

These will remain on the branches until Christmas. Plant two side by side for best results in well-drained soil in sun or light shade.

Enjoy your gardening.



NEWTON ST CYRES HISTORY GROUP

Notes from a promenade around the Newton graveyard

The Pasmore family was the fascinating subject of one of the family sagas recounted at the “Graveyard Promenade” meeting of the History Group on 14th July.

Four generations of Pasmores had close links with Newton St Cyres and are buried in the churchyard. Pasmore HQ was a house that is known today as Newcombes, but the Pasmores called it Norton House (not the same property as the present-day Norton House). For those of you who aren't familiar with the



Newcombes, formerly Norton House

area, it's located about a mile north-east of the Beer Engine and is close to the lovely thatched property called Churchills.

The Pasmores lived at Norton for about 90 years from around 1806 to 1899, after Thomas Pasmore acquired the estate when he married his first wife Mary Martyn. In the two months before the wedding, Mary's father and 16-year-old brother both died, so it must have been an emotional time for the family. Mary's brother is buried here, but not her father.

The estate comprised about 42 acres that Thomas farmed along with 70 acres of leasehold land in Upton Pyne parish. He was a capable farmer and made sound investments, finding the time to bring up eight children with Mary (two other children died in infancy). Mary died aged 36 in 1823, soon after the birth of her youngest child, and Thomas married Dorothy Pring three years later. Dorothy died just seven years after the marriage.

Thomas seems to have been a respected member of the local community. Newspapers of the time show that he entered Norton House estate in a ploughing match in 1839 and his man won top prize in one of the categories. The annual ploughing match, and the associated dinner seems to have been an important social event and a chance for all the influential members of the community to get together, deliver speeches and sing! (Editor's note: This year's ploughing match takes place on 19th September at Creedy Barton, Shobrooke.)

Through the marriage settlements of his daughters and, after his death, via his will, Thomas provided for all his children equally, making no distinction between sons and daughters. He died in 1858 aged 74.

About a month after Thomas' death, his son John married Elizabeth ("Bessie") Wilcocks, and they stayed on at Norton House after buying out John's brothers and sisters. They had just one child, a son called Martyn Wilcocks Pasmore, who was born in 1859. Like his father, John participated in the annual ploughing matches and also sat on a committee seeking to introduce steam power to agriculture in Devon. He made a significant donation to the building fund for the Albert Museum in Exeter, and volunteered for the Tiverton Volunteer Rifle Corps, which became part of today's Territorial Army.

Sadly, John had a fatal accident when he was just 49, as he was preparing to go out rabbit shooting. A faulty shotgun that he had been cleaning in the house went off. A report of the inquest into his death appeared in newspapers of the time. His widow Bessie stayed on at Norton House with their 11-year-old son. She died in 1884 aged 65 and is buried with her husband in the churchyard.

Martyn Wilcocks Pasmore lived at Norton House until his death, though censuses suggest that he employed others to farm the estate, describing himself as living on his own means. By Martyn's time, the Agricultural Depression was having a devastating effect on farming, as cheap grain imports flooded in from the US. His unmarried cousin Charles, a chemist, came to live with him some time before 1891, and he is buried here.

Martyn was an active and highly-regarded member of the local community. He was the elected representative of the parish on the Crediton Board of Guardians, a committee that oversaw Crediton Workhouse. In 1891, he purchased Stone Farm in Thorverton and donated a small piece of land for the building of a chapel. He was a member of the Crediton Highway Board and a churchwarden here at the church. When Newton St Cyres Parish Council was formed, Martyn was elected as vice-chair at the first meeting in 1895, and he continued to play an active role for several years.

In 1897, Martyn married a Canadian poet called Melvina "Birdie" Copp, and the couple had a son called Hubert in 1898. But, tragically, just two years after his marriage to Birdie, Martyn died in Ilfracombe after a short illness. He was 40 years of age. The death certificate records the cause of his death as 'acute mania, heart failure'. His obituary describes him as having been 'of a genial disposition, an enthusiastic sportsman and a generous friend of the poor'. A very moving account of his well-attended funeral appeared in the newspapers of the time.

Hubert, the son of Martyn and Birdie was brought up in Canada by his mother and became a well-respected aviation specialist. He returned to England and served in the First World War, becoming an instructor with the Royal Flying Corps (later part of the RAF). On returning to Canada, he became one of the most accomplished bush pilots and one of Canada's first airmail pilots, flying to remote parts the country with few navigational aids.

He later joined an aircraft manufacturing company called Fairchild Aircraft Ltd, becoming company president in 1933 and MD in 1934. He supervised the design and manufacture of the first Canadian-built plane with a metal-skinned fuselage (the Super 71,



Hubert Pasmore with his children Godfrey, Penelope and Pamela

later the F82). Hubert is said to have had exceptional leadership qualities and was able to motivate and inspire those who worked with him.

After World War 2, he diversified the company and set up Fairchild Homes to address the post-war housing shortage by producing prefabricated homes. Sadly, a shortage of components such as fridges and bathroom suites led to issues with supply, which resulted in cash flow problems, and Hubert retired in 1948 aged 50. A biography of Hubert is the subject of a fascinating YouTube video (www.youtube.com/watch?v=1DOMznlbEI)

Hubert was married twice and had three children. He died in Victoria, British Columbia, in 1998, just a few months short of his 100th birthday. His second wife, Diana, brought his ashes back to Newton St Cyres – surprising the present owner of Newcombes when she knocked on the door! The ashes are buried in the churchyard with his father, Martyn.

The “Graveyard Promenade” was probably Brian Please’s last meeting of the History Group, and we are grateful to him for his invaluable contributions to our work. We wish him every happiness in his new home near Hereford.

Researched by Clare Wright and Midge Kelly

Parish Hall Car Park

Covid has resulted in life and events within the village community being put on hold. Now, as we return to some form of new normal, we can once more plan to hold events in the Parish Hall. The opportunity to attend these events with friends and family gives us all something to look forward to.

However, over the last 18 months without such events, the Parish Hall car park has been increasingly used as a general car park. Whilst we understand that some residences may not have as much parking space as they would like, the main function of the car park is to serve users of the Parish Hall.

We are therefore politely asking that residents appreciate the importance of parking for those using the Hall and who have to drive to the venue, and that residents do not take up such parking spaces.

The Hall diary is displayed on the noticeboard outside of the Hall.

Your co-operation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Parish Hall Committee

Newton St Cyres toddler group

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

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

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Contact:

Anna Bonnett

07930403375

newtonnappies@outlook.com

or see our facebook page

Newton Nappies

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For full information go to; <https://greatbiggreenweek.com>

The annual ploughing match is back!

After being cancelled last year because of Covid, it's full steam ahead for the 75th Annual Ploughing Match and Produce Show. The event is being held on Sunday 19th September at Creedy Barton, Shobrooke, by kind permission of Mrs Sarah Prouse and family.

On show will be a mixture of traditional ploughs, including some vintage machinery, along with modern equipment, and also, it's hoped, horse ploughing on the field. We also hold a produce and craft show with competition displays/exhibits of cookery, handicraft, flower arranging, garden produce and a selection of children's classes.

Our committee is committed to continuing our long annual tradition of putting on this event, which depends to a large extent on the generous support of our sponsors and donations. We are hoping to mark this special year by rewarding all ploughmen and women with a little memento to mark the occasion. Proceeds from previous matches have enabled us to donate to Devon YFC, ELF, Devon Air Ambulance and FCN.

The day begins at 10am with the ploughing, which will be judged through its duration. The produce and craft competition is judged between 10am and 11.30am, after which the entries will be open to the general public to view. There are refreshments and ice creams on site but you are welcome to bring your own picnic if you wish.

Entry is £2 per adult and children go free. Parking is on the field. Dogs are allowed on leads. There is a ploughing service towards the end of the afternoon, which finishes with the raffle after prize giving. We very much look forward to welcoming you on the day.

If you would like to help on the day or to get involved in some way, please don't hesitate to contact our secretary, Mrs Julie Davie on 07791347788 or email julie_davie@outlook.com, or if you would like further information regarding the event.

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PLOUGHING MATCH & PRODUCE SHOW



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What do you value in our parish?

One of the many things this last year has made plain is how much we need and value nature where we live. We are very fortunate here in Newton St Cyres to have many lovely rural walks to enjoy and my family have been immensely grateful for that.

Noticing wildlife and the natural world has become a lifeline for many. But we know now that the natural world is under threat, with species and habitats disappearing at an alarming rate due to a number of pressures. So before its gone, the Newton Environment and Wellbeing group (N.E.W.) want us all to help create a Parish Map showing those things we value, and to collect the stories behind what makes them special to you. Then, we have a record and can try to restore, enhance or learn about the natural world right here in Newton St Cyres.

Here are a few suggestions:

- An old tree where you have had a picnic with your family or friends, maybe recently or long ago
- A piece of hedge where there are always sparrows flitting in and out chirruping noisily
- A spot on the river where you have been lucky enough to see a Kingfisher or even an otter

The N.E.W. group want you to help us identify and map these special places that you value. You may already know where they are, or it's something to do over the summer holidays. Or maybe it's an old photo that could show something from the past to share. Maybe you'd like to write a few inspiring words, a poem or prose about this place, take a photograph, drawing a picture, even write a song! The plan would be to have this available for all to share in the autumn at an event in the Parish Hall. Please send us details and photos by email or just a postcard through our door. All contributions are most welcome

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Newton St Cyres Gardening Club

I am writing this part way through August, enjoying the colour in the garden and also looking to jobs that will be important in the month of September.

August has provided changeable weather, and the mix of warm/hot sunny days and rain has certainly meant that everything has been growing at a tremendous speed. The runner beans are in abundance. This year I have grown Celebration as well as using the beans saved from last summer's Scarlet Emperor. The mix of bright red and pale peach/pink flowers has been most pleasing, as well as producing excellent crops

It has been wonderful to see numerous butterflies in the garden, and both the Buddleia (alternative spelling Buddleja) and Marjoram have been covered with them. The majority have been Small Tortoiseshells, Gatekeepers, Peacocks and Red Admirals. There have also been many small whites and some Jersey Tiger Moths. Today I saw the easily recognisable yellow and black striped caterpillars of the Cinnabar Moth (*Tyria jacobaeae*) feeding on Ragwort. The toxins from the Ragwort remain in the body of the caterpillar, making it



small tortoiseshells on Buddleia



Cinnabar moth caterpillar

unpalatable, and the yellow and black colouring is a warning to predators. It takes about a month for the caterpillars to develop fully, when they will go to ground level ready to pupate throughout the winter. Their metamorphosis into the black and red moth will be complete the following spring.



Cinnabar Moth



Hemerocallis Frans Hals

The Daylillies (*Hemerocallis*) seem to have done exceptionally well this year, producing their elegant trumpet-like blooms. As their name implies, these flowers are short lived, but each plant produces so many blooms that their displays can last for weeks.

September can still provide warm, sunny days, but it does mean cooler nights and, as the month progresses, the daylight hours reduce noticeably. At this time of year, the simple flowers of the Japanese anemone add height, movement and colour to the garden borders. Some are pure white, others bright or pale pink bordering on lilac. Despite their name, these plants are in fact native to western China. They prefer a fertile soil that can hold moisture. Once planted, they like to stay in the same spot, but they do increase

and, in order to keep the plants where you want them, it is best to lift offshoots from the main plant as they emerge in early spring.

Jobs to carry out in September include:

- Continue regular deadheading, feeding and watering of hanging baskets. Once the display is looking tired, compost any plants that cannot be planted out in the garden, and replant with winter/spring bedding – such as pansies, violas and polyanthus, low-flowering bulbs and small evergreen plants.
- Stop feeding shrubs in containers to discourage any new growth that would be vulnerable to frosts.
- Plan and plant spring-flowering bulbs such as crocuses, daffodils, hyacinths and muscari. The garden centres will have a marvellous selection from which to choose.
- Harvest pumpkins and winter squash, leaving as much of the stalk on as possible to prevent rot, before the first frosts. They should sound hollow when tapped, and should first be 'cured' outdoors in the sun or in a warm place for 7-10 days. They will then be ready to store in a



Japanese Anemone

well ventilated room between 10 to 15 degrees C. Storage times vary by variety, so it is best to check and to inspect each fruit regularly to prevent spoilage.

- Tidy the greenhouse by harvesting late crops of tomatoes, clearing away plants that have finished producing, taking cuttings from pelargoniums and cleaning the glass to maximise light levels. The floor should also be swept to remove any debris which could harbour pests and diseases. Any watering should be done in the mornings, so that any excess moisture dries up before night time.
- Pot up some mint and parsley to keep on your kitchen windowsill.
- When pea and bean plants have finished cropping, cut them off at ground level rather than removing the whole plant. This will allow the roots to slowly release nitrogen back into the soil, as they break down.
- Finally, remember to continue to share your harvest with wildlife by leaving some windfall apples and pears on the ground for the birds.

Next month I will be looking at houseplants, as we have recently expanded our collection!

Happy Gardening!

Newton St Cyres Gardening Club

What's on in September

- Open Garden for Hospiscare_4th & 5th September 12 noon-5pm, White Cottage Garden, Belle Parade, Crediton EX17 2AA. Entry by donation. White Cottage is a mature, enclosed garden, with south facing terrace, fruit trees and vegetable garden. Light lunches or cream teas available. There will also be a raffle and garage sale. Wheelchair access limited, dogs on leads welcome, toilets. Parking on street nearby and public car park 5 minutes' walk away
- Plant Heritage Autumn Plant Fair 11th & 12th September 10am-3pm, RHS Rosemoor. This popular Plant Fair has grown in size since it was first held at RHS Rosemoor more than two decades ago. There will be a wide variety of rare and unusual trees, shrubs and perennials from local nurseries, many of which are not generally open to the public, all for sale under the Plant Heritage banner. A must for all keen gardeners and plant collectors.
- Mini Workshop - Hardwood cuttings from Herbs_Wednesday, 15 September 10.30am-12 noon, Crediton Community Allotment at Barnfield. This month the workshop covers hardwood cutting from herbs. Spaces limited, booking essential. Please bring your own gardening gloves to these friendly and informative sessions. Suggested donation £3-£4. Contact Katheryn Hope, Activity and Volunteer Coordinator at Westbank on 01395 446896 or katheryn.hope@westbank.org.uk for more information and to reserve your place.

FOR YOUR DIARY

- Saturday 27th November, Christmas-themed coffee morning in the Parish Hall, 10.30am-12 noon.

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Studios will be open at different times from 11th to 26th September, operating under Covid-safe restrictions. Information and an interactive map can be found on the Open Studios website:

www.devonopenstudios.co.uk .

If you are not able to visit in person, please have a look at the website to find out more. Brochures are available from various locations. If you can't find any, please contact me on 07982 242 769 and I will deliver.

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Crediton Arts Centre Re-opening in September

After a long lay-off for lockdowns and pandemic restrictions, Crediton Arts Centre will be restarting its core activities from September. Visual art classes in painting, drawing, watercolour and portraiture will begin during the month. Details of these classes can be found on the Arts Centre website at www.creditonartscentre.org

As well as this, there will be a full programme of live events, starting with Parker Sharp and their eclectic show Coneboy (September 25). This is followed by Nicola Harrison with *The Becoming* (October 9), Bristol-based singer-songwriter Lewis Clark (October 22), Paddleboat Theatre's family show *Margo and Mr Whatsit* (October 29 during half term), Pip Utton's one-man show *Dickens* (November 27), and Living Room Theatre with their



touring show *All Is Mended*. Add in a couple of quiz nights and several film screenings, and it makes a distinctly busy Autumn in East Street.

Tickets for all events will be available at Ticketsource on www.ticketsource.co.uk/creditonartcentre



Pip Utton - Dickens

The Arts Centre has, of course, been busy all summer with *Share in the Square*, which will go on until September 25 when *Comedy Suits* finish the outdoor season. The production of *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, which toured to a number of villages in the area, and the Crediton Youth Theatre show *The Snatchers* in the Holy Cross Church car park were both great successes, and more outdoor theatre is being planned for next year.

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!

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Newton's Unsung Heroes

We continue our series on the people who work quietly behind the scenes to make the village a more pleasant place. This month we look at the volunteers who keep the Rec, one of the mainstays of village life, looking so good. Words and pictures by Ann Quon Cordingley

It's Monday morning and Dave Phare and Ken Woodgates are walking down Station Road to the Recreation Club, a trek they have made every day except Sundays for the past six years. Most days, they're not sure what to expect when they get to the Rec.

After a weekend of football, the pitches may look like a ploughed field, the football goalnets torn and the corner flagpoles damaged. "When 22 footballers come of a Saturday afternoon and rip it all to pieces, then you've got to come in Monday morning and put it right," says Dave.



Dave Phare on tractor grass roller.

As the Recreation Club's groundsman, Dave is responsible for keeping the grounds, especially the playing fields, in top condition all year round. On this particular Monday, the football pitch is in pretty good shape considering the battering it took over the weekend with the resumption of league football matches. The same, however, cannot be said of the clubhouse roof which has several broken slates in need of replacing.

That's the domain of Ian Harris, who describes himself as the club dog's body. "I'm the cleaner, bar manager and maintenance man," Ian says. "It means if anything breaks, I've got to fix it. The cricketers have broken slates on the roof, so I have to replace them. It happens every year."

Given the vast size of the Rec, it's hard to believe that it is all kept in such pristine condition and good running order by just a few volunteers. Besides David and Ian, there is Tony



Ian Harris replacing slates

Lewis, the club chairman, who isn't afraid of mucking in. "I clean the changing rooms after football, mark the pitches and help with anything that wants doing, and any maintenance if I can," Tony says. When the clubhouse gets busy during sports nights, he helps out Ian in the bar.

Tony is also the first port of call if any issues arise or something goes wrong. "I'm usually the one who takes the rap," Tony says half jokingly. Tony's wife, Wendy, handles all the bookings and writes the monthly Rec column for the Newton Wonder



Treasurer John Quicke and chairmen Tony Lewis

Tony, David and Ian are the volunteers who devote the most time to the club, happily giving their expertise and time, anywhere from 10 to 30 hours a week. All are long-time residents of the village, with Ian growing up here, Tony living here most of his life and Dave for the past 14 years. While Tony and Ian have day jobs, Dave is retired.

A typical week for Dave starts with cutting the grass of the football pitches twice a week in the summer; rolling the grass weekly between matches and marking them, along with Tony. There's also the lifting of football nets every week before matches so they don't get chewed up by rabbits. And then there's the tractors and mowers to maintain, as well as strimming, trimming and keeping the trees and hedges tidy. "And when Dave's finished all that, he drinks a lot of coffee," jokes Ian.

Dave came from Dartmoor as a lad of 16 to join his father, who was working on a farm in Dunscombe. Dave spent 30 years as a tractor driver before going into engineering and finally working on a feed mill. Upon retirement, he moved to the village.

Dave took over as club groundsman when his predecessor passed away. "I was the first person Tony and Ian come to," recalls Dave, who was supposed to temp while the club looked for a permanent replacement. Half in jest, he was told he would be put on the youth training scheme or YTS to see how he got on. That was six years ago. "He's coming up to 80 years old and he is still on the YTS!" says John Quicke the club's treasurer, laughing. "It was our way of keeping him going!"

In fact, it is hard to believe that Dave will be 80 in October. His demeanour certainly belies his age. "Every time I say I am going to retire, everyone says don't do it. I rung my brother-in-law yesterday in New Zealand. He says 'you still doing that job?' I says 'yes' and am thinking about giving it up. He says 'don't you dare give it up, you carry on!'"

Dave has only taken one week's holiday in six years and that was because his wife had to go into hospital. Because of the long hours he and Ian put in, they get a modest honorarium from the club.



Ken Woodgates, Dave Phare and Ian Harris in front of club sign

Oh, and did we mention that wherever Dave is, you will find Ken Woodgates by his side. At 84, Ken doesn't do much heavy lifting, but he does like to help Dave with tasks such as lifting the nets or mending fences. More often than not, he can be found sat on a bench calling out advice and keeping a watchful eye as Dave buzzes around. Besides being the uncle of Dave's wife, Carole, it is clear Ken and Dave have a strong bond. "Ken has always helped me with bits and pieces and always has done," says Dave. "If you

need someone there to give advice, he's been a lot of help when I've had certain jobs to do."

"And a bloody hindrance as well," Ken says of himself in jest.

While Dave maintains the grounds, Ian takes care of the buildings such as the main clubhouse, changing rooms, and storage sheds. No task is too big or small, whether it is cleaning the toilets or changing rooms to general repairs or replacing slates in the roof. He also manages the bar and does everything from ordering stock, and doing inventory to pulling pints when the bar is open on sports nights.

Ian is as close to "Rec royalty" as it gets. His father, John Harris, was a founder of the club, played football and served as club chairman. "Father arrived in the village in the 60s," says Ian. "As a kid, we were always down here playing and helping my dad out." Ian has worked at the club and been a committee member for the past 30 years, and has a day job as a decorator.

Ian has seen the club grow and change over the years. It now has a few hundred members drawn mostly from the sports clubs that use the grounds, including five cricket teams, four

football teams, two youth sides, tennis, archery, four darts teams and skittles.

Funding comes from memberships, donations, grants from the district council, and income from special events. But the main source of income is the profit from the bar takings.

However, lockdown changed all that. When the new restrictions forced the club's closure in March 2020, shutting down the clubhouse bar and curtailing the sports, the club had to rely on grants from the Mid-Devon District Council to keep going. "We still had to pay our rent to the Church Commissioners," says club treasurer, John Quicke. "The grounds and property had to be maintained and the rent and services still had to be paid."

Now that lockdown has been lifted a year and a half later, the club is slowly springing back to life, with the clubhouse reopening just in time for the football season. On the first night, the bar indoor seating area was bustling with players and supporters, just like the pre-lockdown days, says Ian.

Because the grounds and playground are so well maintained year round, even during lockdown, Ian says a lot of people mistakenly think the Rec is run by the parish council. Not so. "They don't understand that it is all run voluntarily and that it is all non-profit. Whatever we make goes back into the business, so no one ever makes any money out of it," he says.

The club has come a long way since it opened in 1969, when it was just a field for football and cricket. Tennis courts were added eight years later, along with a football changing room and tea hut. However, in 1980 Ian's father John, who was club chairman at the time, moved the hut to make way for a new clubhouse, a disused army nissan hut.

"The clubhouse was an old army hut from Honiton," recalls Ian. His father John and his two brothers Terry and Stephen oversaw shipping it to Newton. "They went up to Honiton, bought it, took it down, put it on a lorry and then brought it back here and put it back up." Today, it is no longer a nissan hut as it has been added to and enhanced over the years.



Ian Harris pulling pints.

Back in the 80s, the club was busier than it is now. “People used to come every night of the week,” says Tony, who has been associated with the club for 40 years. “But now people don’t do that any more, so you have to change the way you run it.”

It is after all, a sports and recreation club and not a pub. “We will open up the bar when there is something going on. Like if there is football tonight, we’ll know for an hour and a half there will be around 60 people that want a drink. After the last person goes, we lock up and go. We don’t say we’re open from 8 to 11.

On those busy nights, more volunteers would be welcome, says Tony. “The more people we get to help, the easier it is. I really need help behind the bar. I don’t expect anyone to come and stay until lockup but if they could come at 7pm and work til 9.30pm, then one of us could come down and lock up.”

Besides being a sports and recreation facility, the Rec has some surprising uses, such as an emergency landing area for the air ambulance service. “The air ambulance have permission to land here,” says Tony. “They turn on the floodlights on the clubhouse roof from their offices, so they can land here at night.”

It is also used as a makeshift command centre by the police and emergency services during emergencies or crises, such as the time a few years ago “when a chap jumped over the bridge and drowned,” says Ian.

On a more positive note, the Rec has even saved lives. “We have a defibrillator that has been here for five years,” says Tony. “Somebody playing tennis had a heart attack and luckily there was a doctor also playing who used it.”

The Rec is overseen by the Newton St Cyres Recreation Ground Club Committee whose members are all volunteers and make the club’s major decisions. For example, in 2019 the committee approved £10,000 from club funds to upgrade the playground area. “A lot of people think this is all done by council funds. But it came out of club funds, and the Newton Wonder gave a substantial donation towards it,” says Ian.

While the committee make all the major decisions, the day-to-day running comes down to the “three wise men” – Tony, the chairman, John, the treasurer and Ian, the bar manager, who are all long-time committee members. The full list of committee members is: Mary Quicke (president), Tony Lewis (chairman), Alison Couling (vice-chair), John Quicke (treasurer), Carrie-Ann Finning (secretary), Wendy Lewis (booking secretary), Ian Harris (bar manager), Cathy Bowen (committee member), Dennis Couling (committee member), Darren Finning (committee member), Dave Phare (committee member), Peter Hawksley (ex-officio), Chris Southcott (ex-officio), David Vallance (ex-officio), and representatives of football and tennis.

“If something’s got to be done right away, then we do it,” says Tony. “Such as fixing a leak or buying a new boiler.”

Dave thinks the village is lucky to have such grounds and facilities. “All we had when I was a lad was a bloody field where sheep went in and ate it down and you’d play football. Never had nothing like this, did we? We used to go in and pick up the sheep droppings before we started playing.”

Tony and John couldn’t agree more. “For a village of this size, I think we have fantastic facilities,” says John. “Everybody who comes here says they wish they could play. The cricket sides say it is one of the best places. I think quite possibly the village don’t appreciate it as much as they should. They take it for granted a bit. A lot of people in the village don’t even know this is here.”



If there are locals who don’t know about the Rec, does Dave think his hard work is for nought? “I don’t know. I get a lot of people coming up saying it’s looking alright. That’s all I need. I don’t need no praise for it.

Whether the work is appreciated or not, Dave sums it up nicely as he and Ken look out over the grounds from their clubhouse bench. “We sit here and say, it’s lookin’ alright, innit? You just does the best you can.”

September on the Farm



NATURE

The countryside falls quiet. The morning, noon and night chorus of birdsong is silent. It's the quiet of rich plenty and repletion. Do whatever will take you through winter. Get fat. Go south. Hide and sleep the winter away. Acorns, beech mast, pine cones lie abundantly. We sorrow when the house martins leave, companionable and familiar as they have scythed the skies in ever-increasing numbers and chattered under the eaves.

One day, they collect on the trees and electricity lines, and the next they are gone on their long sleepless journey to Africa. Insects have a brief glory day, heavy and sleepy, as the skies no longer have that swooping menace. Then the flies, butterflies, moths, wasps, bees, hornets, damselflies, dragonflies and all the myriad of insects disappear: where do they all go? Do adults age slowly over the winter, hiding in nooks and crannies, to emerge for a final burst of procreation in the spring, or do they lay eggs, larvae or nymphs that lie dormant and hatch in the spring?

ARABLE

The harvest is in. The shed grains emerge in a green trail where they spilled over the back of the combine. It's just the tiny grains the combine, with all its clever mechanisms, couldn't distinguish as harvestable. We take the grain and straw to feed and bed our animals and those of others, and we spread the resulting manure back to nourish the soil

and restore it. We've sown the grass and red clover on the most needy arable fields, to give them the balm of continuous rooting and the magic of clover pulling nitrogen from the air into the soil for a couple of years. They are already a carpet of green and perfect little clover plants.

We start to sow the wheat, barley and oats. The oats are the only human edible crop we grow, going to morning porridge. Our soils and climate don't grow milling wheat or malting barley well. Our landscape is a celebration of the symbiosis of humans and animals.

Now we cut hedges. Our Devon hedges perch on earth banks, some dating from our ancestors' first clearing of the land for farming – some of the oldest man-made artefacts in the landscape. You can count eight or more species in a 30-metre run, each species indicating a century. Each one feels like a piece of wildwood, a memory of wild times, wildlife highways snaking across the landscape.

They are full of fruit at this time. We cut carefully, on a three or even five-year rotation, leaving fruit and seeds in the uncut majority. If we forget to cut, they spread wider and wider, many metres deep into the fields. We cut them back, keeping young wood growing. They give shelter and some herbs for animals to self-medicate. My horse always loved hogweed leaves, grabbing a mouthful as we ambled past.

COWS

August-born calves are enjoying a little outside in the fine weather before it gets too cold and wet for their fine coats and tender age. They have milk until they are well grown. They grow extraordinarily fast at this time, designed to get big enough to keep up with the herd to escape predators. As herd animals, cattle show no pain that would mark them out as weak and a target for predators, so it's up to us to remember that when we are caring z

The clover in the swards takes off at this time of year, spreads across the ground, nutritious leaves soft and tender. It's been a blessed season for grazing, rain at all the right times, good growth all the way through the year. We've made lots of silage and even hay this year: I have a warm feeling in my stomach to see the barns and silage pits full for winter.

The spring cows are enjoying the clover, as they start slowing up for their winter break. By contrast, the August calving cows have their work starting. The pastures are full of feed for them, grown when they needed less on their pre-calving holiday. Grass still grows leafy until the cooler weather comes, and they will eat into that grass until they finally come inside in early winter.

We aim for the cattle to graze the grass short enough to make the new growth clean and winter-proof: no lank and mouldy leaves that will be damaged by frost. The richness of the grass restores the cows from the rigours of calving. I love to see them move quickly from battered and tender after calving, to business-like grazing and shining coats as they get back into milking equilibrium.

CHEESE DAIRY

The cheese dairy is immaculate after our annual shutdown. Titivating all the nooks and crannies always suggests the list for next years' shutdown. And for now we enjoy the September milk, a good balance from the two herds, and make cheese for next year's Christmas.

RECIPE

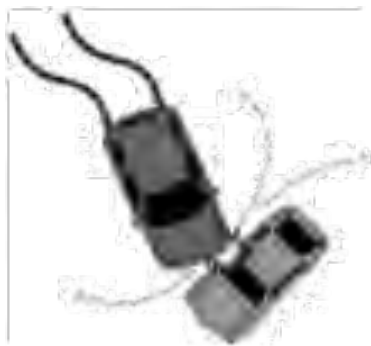
We are still eating courgettes or zucchinis: nothing ette or ini about the monster fruit that grows from these indefatigable plants. We've been slicing them horizontally in quarters, and baking them at 200C for 45 minutes to an hour to tame them. We add a spray of olive oil, sea salt and chilli flakes. They take on a sweet and nutty note with the long baking. And they are very heaven with a generous amount of Quicke's Mature Cheddar (preferably the aged Mary's Reserve for extra interest) grated over them and melted at the last minute. It adds an umami breadth of flavour. We've been eating these every supper time for the last month or so, and eating any leftovers cold for lunch. I haven't tired of them yet.

Mary Quicke

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.





"Promoting the health and well-being of our community"

The League of Friends of Crediton Hospital and its Community Patients

How we may help

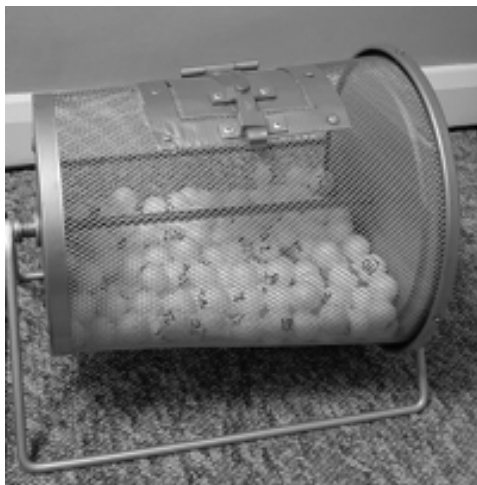
The League of Friends of Crediton Hospital and its Community Patients (L.O.F.) is a local, Crediton – based charity, that is able to offer modest grants to groups or organisations in the town, and surrounding villages, who are in need of some financial assistance, and whose main aim is to support health and well-being.

If you belong to a local group that meets this criteria, then please download a grant application form at www.crediton-hospital-lof.com or email secretary@crediton-hospital-lof.com, and request one. You may then be invited to give a brief presentation at a future committee meeting, after which a decision will be made.

Newton St Cyres 200 Club

No.139	Mrs Tancock	£100.00	No.39	M Please	£50.00
No.56	K Halliday	£10.00	No.26	Dr Harding	£10.00
No.153	G Meldrum	£10.00	No.219	S Stacey	£10.00
No.217	C Lawrence	£10.00	No.194	G Quicke	£10.00
No.121	N Down	£10.00	No.175	H Marsh	£10.00

The August draw took place at the Coffee Morning on the 24 July in the Parish Hall.



Thanks to Tony Lane for making a number drum which will ensure proper mixing of numbers.

Many thanks to Brian Please for looking after the accounts for the 200 Club over the past 2 years. John Salter has agreed to take on this important role.

There are a few numbers still spare - let me know if you would like one.

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

Jane
01392 851148



UPTON PYNE & DISTRICT



GARDEN CLUB



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cakes - teas -
raffles**

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by Coach**

Our Garden Club is back in business and we are happy to announce that we have arranged our first 3 meetings with Speakers starting on Sept 20th (see separate poster) Oct.18th & Nov. 15th. We are making plans for 2022 and already have few ideas & in action providing restrictions allow us. Watch this space!

Our Spring Flower Show will happen next April, the possibility of a coach trip, maybe to Mapperton House & Garden in Dorset is being considered. No dates yet - this is just a taster!!

There are other ideas to be explored!

What we need is YOU! We would love more people to come forward and join us. You do not have to be local, we welcome all comers either as regular members, or just to enjoy preferred events.

Are you a regular gardener? or a beginner?
Whichever you are, come and join us and share ideas!

New blood, new ideas, a new way forward!!

**Spring Flower
Show in April**



**Plant Sales
Seed Swops**

**Christmas
Celebrations**



Photo by kind permission of Mapperton House

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. 59



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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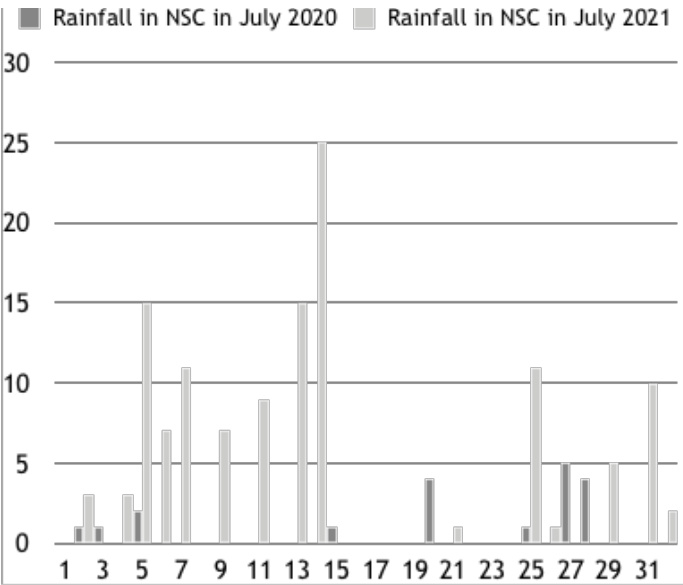
Single visit garden ticket £5 (children free)

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

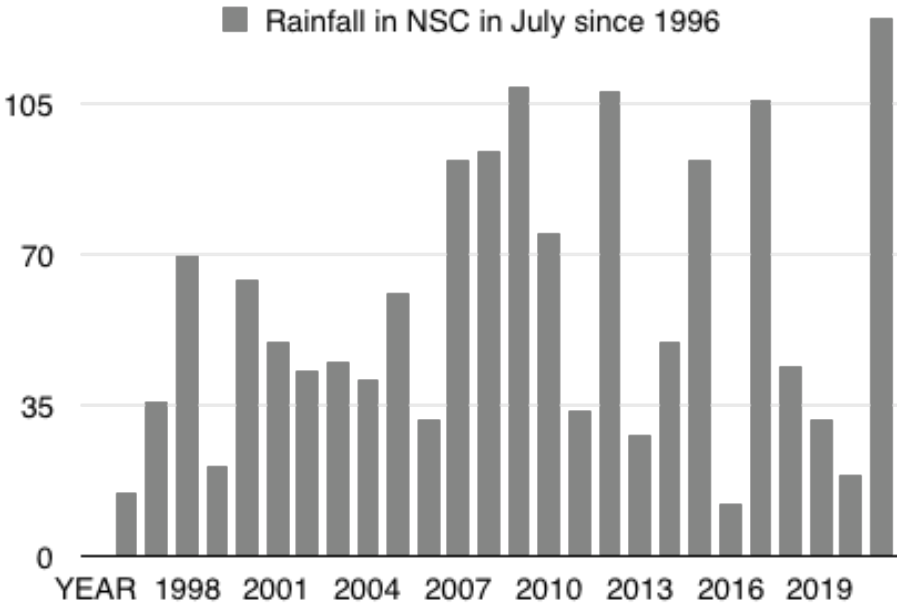
Don't forget - we also have lovely holiday accommodation, just perfect
for your visitors!

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?

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**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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Oct18th meeting-Gardening on Clay Soil with Feebers Grdns



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**Blackberry and Apple
Fool [4 - 6 portions]**

- 1 lb (500g) peeled and cored cooking apples
- ½ lb (250g) blackberries
- 2 oz (50g) sugar
- squeeze of lemon juice
- ¼ pint (150ml) lightly whipped double cream

Cook the fruit in a saucepan with the lemon juice and sugar until soft. Rub the cooked fruit through a sieve. When cold, blend with cream. Spoon into serving bowls or glasses and chill in the fridge before serving. Garnish with blackberries and a mint leaf. A rich buttery shortbread is good with this fool.

Paul Cleave

The Parish Church of St Cyr and St Julitta



BIBLE STUDY

begins

Monday 6th September

2.15pm

at Sue Browne's house

Phone if you'd

like

to join in:

01392 851460

Private Prayer

at

Newton St Cyres Church.

The Church is open
for

Private Prayer

on Wednesdays
from 10 am - 4 pm

Lichens – Our Pollution Monitors

By the end of August, the Newton St Cyres churchyard was a mass of seed heads. But the next season is already waiting in the wings. The blackberries are ripening along the hedge above the road and soon will be sweet to pick. The holly is covered in green berries, suggesting festivities to come.

Let your attention be drawn to the older gravestones, textured and painted by lichens – an artwork of shapes and colours using the stones as their canvas. How grey it all would be without them. Curious, I looked them up. Apparently, lichens are formed by two organs, a fungus and an alga. They partner together and live in happy symbiosis, helping each other survive.

Digging deeper, I discovered they come in four shapes: squamose, crustose, foliose or fructose (wow, and still live happily together!). Squamose, it turns out, has scale-like growth. There's a lot of those – greeny grey. Foliose are more leaf-like, though frankly they looked a lot like the last lot, so yes, got those too. Crustose grow completely attached. Would you say that was the yellow background on many of the stones? Finally, fructose are branched or beard-like; not seen those yet.

Churchyard Lichen Conservation works to preserve these curious organisms. Why? Well, they are food for tiny invertebrates, spiders, and moths, and indicate greater diversity. But also, “they are excellent barometers of air quality, environmental management and ecological value” (britishlichens.co.uk). Lichens are sensitive souls and their demise would indicate pollution problems. Happily, our churchyard lichens are a healthy lot and their strong growth tells us the area is also likely to be rich in invertebrates, among others.

Scraping lichens off the graves would not only reduce bio diversity; it could be a century before they once more paint their landscapes as prolifically as they do now. Instead, British Lichens encourages us to get hold of a x10 lens to magnify and examine their beautiful detail.

Pita Burt

ST CYR COFFEE MORNING



SEPTEMBER 11th,
2021
10.30 – 12.00

PARISH HALL
Newton St Cyres

Come and join us
for coffee and chat,
stall and raffle.

*All funds in aid
of the Church.*

SERVICES & INFORMATION SEPTEMBER 2021

The Netherexe Parishes - A Mission Community in the Diocese of Exeter
Please note these services are proposed for September 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 5 September Trinity 14

09:30 am	Holy Communion	[CW]	Thorverton	JH
10:00 am	Harvest Festival Service		Stoke Canon	Lay Led
11:15 am	Informal Service		Cadbury	Lay Led

Sunday 12 September Trinity 15

11:15 am	Informal Service		Rewe	Lay Led
11:15 am	Holy Communion	[CW]	Upton Pyne	GC

Sunday 19 September Trinity 16

09:30 am	Open Door		Zoom/TBC*	LF
09:30 am	Holy Communion	[CW]	Bramford Speke	David Francis
11:15 am	Harvest Festival Service		Cadbury	JH
03:00 pm	Harvest Festival Service		Netherexe	JH & LF
05:00 pm	Holy Communion	[CW]	Stoke Canon	MSS

Sunday 26 September Trinity 17

09:30 am	Holy Communion	[CW]	Newton St Cyres	KR
11:15 am	Holy Communion	[CW]	Rewe	MSS

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:

Bramford Speke	Douglas Ford	01392 841753	ffrford@outlook.com
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	cotterchrisie@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=bjhzcGRrSTQ2TW9sODFWU2dLU204QT09>

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]	Mr Peter Shepherd [Administrator]
Hours & Days TBC	Monday & Wednesday [09:30 – 13:30]
Tel:	Tel: 07551 844321
Email: administration@netherexe.org	Email: administration@netherexe.org

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

The month of mellow gratefulness

September is traditionally a month to celebrate the harvest, to gather in the good things nature provides and store them against the harder times to come. Is there anything more appealing than the scent of hay in a barn, or the jewel-like jars of preserves and chutneys lined up on a shelf? In September we capture the essence of summer and feel secure because we have provisions to last through the months when little grows.

There is a story in the Bible about a man who was fortunate enough to produce such an abundant crop of wheat that he ran out of storage space. He instructed his labourers to build extra barns and chuckled about how much profit he was going to make in the future. Holding on to everything he could accumulate became his reason for living. He was so intent on planning for the future that he never took the time to enjoy any of the fruits of his labour in the present.

Unfortunately, the man died suddenly and had no one to pass his goods on to, so he didn't benefit at all from his efforts. Along the way, he also lost out on so much because he was too busy planning for the future.

It seems a sad, even cruel, story but it is meant as a timely warning not to waste your time on a pointless pursuit of wealth or possessions when what you have in your hand at this very moment might be worth far more.

Of course, we need to plan for the future, but these days we seem to be bombarded by dire warnings about it. Had your double jab? Well now you'll need a booster. Trying to cut down on waste? Well, climate change won't wait any longer. Everything is urgent, frightening and full of doom.

As we have emerged from the lockdowns and restrictions of the past year, what has often meant most to people is the freedom to hug loved ones, meet up with friends and invite them into our homes again. All very simple pleasures and costing little or nothing, but they are the real root of our happiness and health. They are the measure of our wealth.

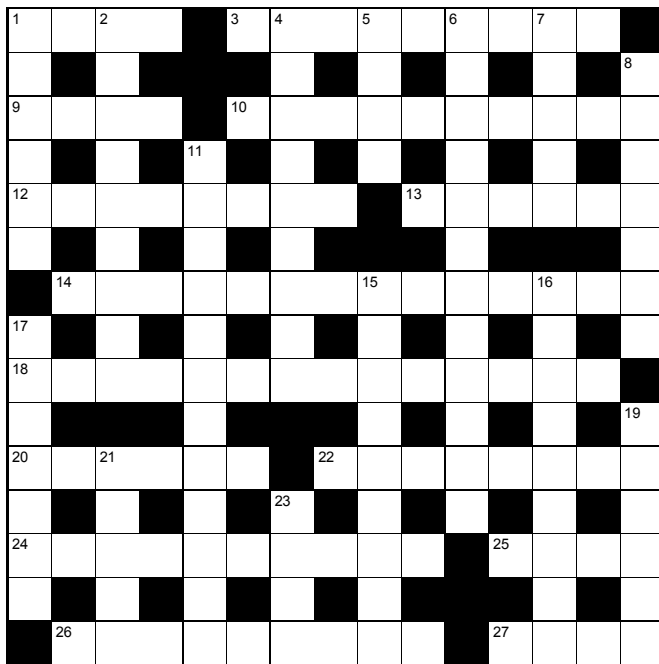
September is a golden month, still warm, often sunny and so full of abundance. Many of us have so much to be grateful for and we are called upon to share what we have with loved ones, neighbours and strangers. We must also care passionately for our world and do our best to be good stewards. When we do this freely and generously, we may well be storing up real treasure for the future.

There are challenges ahead that we need to respond to, but for a moment this month let's find time to pause, look around us and celebrate all that we have been given. Breathe in the September air, enjoy the remains of summer and be glad every day for God's gifts to us all.

Plan for the future but appreciate the present.

Gail Whalley
page 61

Cryptic Crossword



ACROSS

- 1 A blow for British politician touring university (4)
- 3 A heavyweight returns to fight for nothing (3,1,5)
- 9 Grew a plant (4)
- 10 One won't have joint or Ecstasy, averting a problem (10)
- 12 Long suffering Liberal takes the lead (8)
- 13 Eating out (6)
- 14 Get angry response to endless mêlée for a change (4,4,6)
- 18 PC way of meeting people (8,6)
- 20 Sheen produces different result (6)
- 22 Fellow gets beating for exposing himself (8)
- 24 Dark suit needed for these places of entertainment (10)
- 25 Clergyman won't start soon (4)
- 26 Regulators would have done this at Walthamstow? (9)
- 27 Boast by supporter beginning to grate (4)

DOWN

- 1 Only just how naturists live? (6)
- 2 Heard teacher in class is to give incorrect details (9)
- 4 Respect obtained by wayward niece with ASBO (9)
- 5 With potential, say, to be murder victim (4)
- 6 Recital isn't arranged on time for musician (12)
- 7 Foreign article contains untruth (5)
- 8 Unusual icon in urn depicting legendary beast (7)
- 11 Administrative leaders of British union shown by funny caricature (12)
- 15 Burden unpleasant woman with some riding gear (9)
- 16 Elderly person in boarding house meeting Royal (9)
- 17 One country or another with sea, we hear, not river (7)
- 19 Travelled back taking horse for a drink (6)
- 21 Athenian's introduction to Socrates? (5)
- 23 Cold boy gets dressed (4)

Sudoku

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

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

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Solution to the August 2021 Cryptic Crossword

1	D	Y	N	A	M	I	C		5	A	R	R	I	V	A	L		
	U		O		I		H		C		E		E			E		
9	R	E	I	N	S	T	A	T	E		10	T	U	R	I	N		
	B		S		T		I				I		B			G		
11	A	T	O	L	L		12	R	E	P	R	E	S	E	N	T		
	N		M		E		P		R					N		H		
		14	B	E	S	T	B	E	F	O	R		15	E	D	A	T	E
16	A				O		R		L		X						N	
17	C	A	R	P	E	T	S	L	I	P	P	E	R	S				
	C		E				O		F		L		E		20	C		
21	I	M	P	O	T	E	N	C	E		23	E	X	P	E	L		
	D		L		R					R		T		R			I	
24	E	V	I	T	A		25	W	E	A	R	I	S	O	M	E		
	N		C		D		A		T		V		V			N		
26	T	R	A	G	E	D	Y		27	E	V	E	R	E	S	T		

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	Brian Please, Compass House, Sand Down Lane	01392 851507
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	01392 851337 01392 851624
<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 Police	PCSO Nicola Payne, Police Station, Crediton Nicola.payne@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk	Dial 101
District Councillor	Graeme Barnell, Halses, West Town Rd. Email: gbarnell@middevon.gov.uk	01392 851308
County Councillor	Margaret Squires	01363 84337
Local M P	Mel Stride mel.stride.mp@parliament.uk	01392 823306
Football Club	Mark Smaldon	7733455177
Friends of NSC Station	Chris Southcott	01392 851569
Luncheon Club	John Salter, Hill Park	01392 851346
Mah Jong Club	Geoff Jackson megalops@btinternet.com	01392 851551
Newton Ramblers	Rosemary Chambers	01392 851400
Tennis Club Secretary	Laura Leigh	01647 24259
Twinning	Lorraine Mitchell	01392 851596
Upton Pyne PC	Jacqui Ward- jacquiward30@yahoo.co.uk	01392 851918
Young Farmers	Will Ayre (Chairman) willayre@hotmail.co.uk	7964286831
Archery	Alison Couling	01392 841282
Gardening Club	Jane Timlett	01392 851361
Honky Tonks Line Dancing	Paula Benford	01392 210830
History Group	Jean Wilkins	01392 851337
Table Tennis	Roger Wilkins	01392 851337
Friends of the Arboretum	Roger Wilkins	01392 851337
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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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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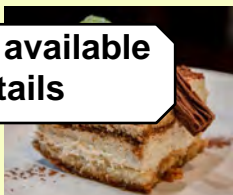
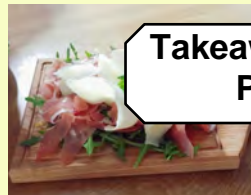
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