

Ugborough Parish Newsletter

April 2026



What's on

Monday 30 th March- Friday 3 rd April	Holy Week services at Diptford church Maundy Thursday (2 nd April) coffee morning at Ugborough church	Page 2
Sunday 5 th April	Easter Day services at Ugborough church and Bittaford Methodist Chapel	Pages 2 and 15
Wednesday 8 th April	Ladies' lunch at The Ship at 12 noon Ugborough Parish Council meets at Ugborough Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.	Page 10 Page 15
Saturday 11 th April	Ugborough Sustainable Saturday at Ugborough Village Hall from 10 a.m. to 12 noon Coffee morning at North Huish Church from 10.30- 12.30 p.m.	Page 3 Page 3
Wednesday 15 th April	St. Peter's, Ugborough Annual Parochial Church meeting at 7 p.m. at the church	Page 16
Monday 20 th April	Ivybridge u3a meets at The Watermark, Ivybridge at 2 p.m.	Page 7
Friday 24 th April	Chair exercise class resumes for Summer term at Ugborough Village Hall from 1.30-2.30 p.m.	Page 7
Saturday 25 th April	Ugborough Sustainable Saturday at Ugborough Village Hall from 10 a.m. to 12 noon Chilli and Spaghetti Bolognese evening at Ugborough Village Hall from 7.15 p.m.	Page 3 Page 2
Sunday 26 th April	Messy Church at Ugborough church from 4.30 - 6 p.m.	Page 10

Details of services at Bittaford Methodist Church are on Page 15
Details of services at St. Peter's Church, Ugborough are on Page 15

St Peter's Church – Sue Johns

Our Mothering Sunday Service saw the Children (and some helpful adults) creating some 40 posies for distribution to all those present and to various households in Ugborough Community. Surely Spring is Springing with the gorgeous displays of camellias and late daffodils!

Thanks to all those who contributed flowers. The children also baked heart shaped Cookies for us all to enjoy with our Refreshments after the Service.

On Maundy Thursday, April 2nd in Church, our usual Coffee Morning will have a special Easter theme with Hot Cross Buns, Easter Biscuits, and the chance to 'Guess the Weight Correctly and Win a seasonal Simnel Cake – and Guess the Number Correctly - a jar of mini-Easter Eggs!

The Draw too will have a Seasonal Theme. Do come along between 10 and 12!

Our Lent Appeal was extremely successful with 107 food items and toiletries (as at 18th March) delivered to the Ivybridge Food Bank

Holy Week sees daily Services all at Diptford Church.

On Monday 30th March, Tuesday 31st and Wednesday 1st of April there will be a Compline Service at 7 p.m.

On Maundy Thursday, again at 7, the Traditional feet washing and Eucharist to reflect on The Last Supper.

On Good Friday, there will be a Reflective time at Diptford church from 2-3 p.m.

We shall be creating the Easter Garden -the children will have thought about this at our March Messy Church Service - and decorating the Church on Easter Saturday morning ready to greet the triumphant Easter Sunday. Please feel free to come and bring some flowers, in memory of someone perhaps, either pop them in a vase – or leave them for one of the Team to arrange.

We have an Easter Sunday Service in St Peter's at 9:30, led by the Local Worship Leaders. No doubt there will be an Easter Egg Hunt to follow!

Chilli and Spaghetti Bolognese night - Jennie Laughlan

You are invited to a Chilli and Spaghetti Bolognese evening on Saturday 25th April
At Ugborough Village Hall from 7.15 -9.30 p.m.

£10 each plus draw

Raising funds for children's hospices and church funds.

All welcome. See Jennie or Sue at Ugborough church for more information.

Just singing in the rain- *Sean Marcus*

Rather than stand around in a 'Devon Spring' (lashing it down!), we've tried to make evenings more enjoyable by opening St Peter's once again for the annual Concert (to raise funds for Overseas Aid.)

All who attended last year were enthusiastic about the two group's performances and the superb range of songs from

'Girls Night Out' and Modbury's own 'Gospel Singers'.

So, we've asked both of these choirs to be the stars once again of the evening in May at this popular event.

Do put the date in your diary or calendar to make sure you can come. We'll miss you if you don't!

Date – Saturday 16th May. Around 7 p.m. start.

Brilliant refreshments as usual by Jane John's team.

Brilliant bar operated by Taff.

Brilliant prizes at a Raffle, operated by Flo.

If you're new to Ugborough, you can't miss the venue! Relatively large building on the Square.

Look out for reminder posters soon.

All profits to Christian Aid.

-

USS- Ugborough Sustainable Saturdays - *Juliet Collis*

USS dates for April are Saturday 11th and Saturday 25th April. USS runs from 10 a.m. to 12 noon in the Village Hall.

USS Café

Come and join us on a Saturday and enjoy the convivial café facilities, including excellent coffee and Westcountry Teas, with bacon butties to accompany! Any surplus generated by the café is either reinvested into USS or used to support good causes within the parish.

Charity table

Last month, Val and Anne displayed the beautiful quilts that they had made for Project Linus. These handmade quilts are given out for free to local children and young adults who are experiencing difficulties through illness, disability or simply going through a bad patch. The aim is for the quilts to bring comfort.

It was a great opportunity to promote Project Linus and for those attending USS to be able to admire the quilts before they go off to their new homes.

If you support a charity and would like space one USS Saturday to raise funds or promote a good cause free of charge, please get in touch.

Contact: ugboroughss@gmail.com

Beryl's Bookworms – Helen Hart

Bournville by Jonathan Coe – Review

Jonathan Coe's novel Bournville spans several generations of the Lamb family as they witness key events of the late 20th century and early 21st century



The novel follows Mary Lamb from age 11, when she experiences the joy and celebrations of VE Day in 1945, through to the age of 86, using a variety of historical moments in recent English history, such as the Queen's coronation, the 1966 World Cup, Princess Diana's death, and the 75th VE Day anniversary during lockdown, to record personal and national change. As Mary grows older, the focus moves to her children and later to her granddaughter Lorna. It charts her family's expansion and their individual life journeys to depict how everyday living standards and expectations within British society evolved during the period of the book.

Coe explores political upheaval, class tensions, Britain's fixation on the royal family, and evolving attitudes toward multiculturalism and gay rights. Underneath lies a persistent, often unspoken debate about British, and particularly English, identity. Across the 75 years, Coe reflects both the richness of a diverse, modern society and the enduring undercurrents of nationalism and racism that remain present, despite an outwardly more inclusive society.

Members of the group largely agreed in their evaluation of the novel. Its depiction of familiar moments in recent history, especially Mary's death during the pandemic lockdown, resonated with us, but the story failed to engage as strongly as online reviews suggested. The large number of characters was often confusing, and a family tree would have been helpful. Perhaps because of this, the characters felt less compelling than expected.

Overall, the book offered an interesting and relatable trip down memory lane, but it wasn't a page-turner. Our average rating was just over 3.

Next month's book is *The Land in Winter* by Andrew Miller

The Thursday Coffee Morning in St Peter's Church All are welcome! Pop along for a beverage and cake between 10 and 11.45 a.m. and support our continuing weekly Post Office.
Hand gel is available and respect others' space.

The North Huish Community Group – Peter Stradling

We will be holding a Coffee Morning at North Huish Church on Saturday 11th April from 10.30 - 12.30 raising funds for the Churches Conservation Trust which owns and maintains this beautiful Grade 1 listed building. There will also be a Bring and Buy cake sale and a charity raffle. All are welcome.

Ceremonial Flying of the Flag

April 9th *King and Queen's Anniversary*



April 23rd *St. George's Day and Birthday of Prince Louis of Wales*

In addition the Union Flag will be raised this year on **April 21st** to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the birth of the Late Queen Elizabeth II.

Erme Valley Riding for the Disabled- Peggy Douglas

Heading now into April with the warmer days we see our horses shedding their winter coats, and hopefully the grass beginning to chink through.

Some of our Riders will be looking forward to the competition season, with the Regionals kicking it all off on 28th April. Good luck to all our competitors.

The Education Groups continue to thrive. The younger group have worked hard on their creative writing and are learning about feeding rules; whilst the older group have been developing their Yard skills- including clipping, horse care routines, and lunging. It's been fantastic to see their confidence and independence growing.

We currently have two important fundraising projects in the pipeline:

Firstly, we are raising funds to purchase sit-on weighing scales to enable us to carry out termly rider weight checks more efficiently and comfortably. We have already received a generous £500 donation to start this fund - thank you very much to our supporters.

Secondly, we have recently purchased Jack, "the mechanical horse," from Southfield RDA Group in Dorset. A huge thank you to Southfield for loaning Jack to us for the past 10 years - he has been invaluable to our programme.

As Jack is now 17 years old, we feel the time is right to begin planning for a new mechanical horse within the next two years. This will be a significant fundraising project, with costs expected to exceed £60,000.

We believe this is an investment worth making for the next generation of participants. Jack has provided enormous benefits in rider development, confidence building and accessibility, and a new model would ensure we can continue offering these opportunities long into the future.

We warmly welcome any fundraising ideas, grant opportunities or contacts who may be able to support us with this project.

As ever, any help you are able to give is much welcomed.... Even an hour would make a difference. Do call me. 07882286348

Historical Nugget– Gareth 'Taff' Jones

Historical Nugget: 6th April 1960 – London, Dr Richard Beeching was chosen to head a four-man team to study Britain's rail network. Beeching was a physicist and engineer famous for his report on the state of Britain's railways, *The Reshaping of British Railways*, which led to great changes in the rail network. On cost grounds, just over 4,000 miles were removed from the network, leaving some 13,500 miles by 1966. By the end of the sixties a further 2,000 miles were lost while other lines were used for freight movements only.

Before Beeching's report, as is normal in the UK, our country's politicians kicked the railways can down the road for quite a few years. In 1933, the Salter Report on the railways attempted to address the issue of increasing road traffic. The appointment of the British Transport Commission in 1947 had raised the subject of uneconomic branch lines and their selection for closure. A 1955 British Railways Modernisation Plan stated that there would be a marked reduction of rail services on branch lines which were little used by the public. However, the report did result with substantial investment for the railways but would prove, yet again, to be money wasted. Losses increased from £15.6 million in 1956, to over £42 million in 1960 (imagine those losses covered by the taxpayer at today's prices)! Passenger and goods traffic was declining, nearly 10 percent of households owned, or had access to, a car in 1960 and this was increasing. Beeching's task was to find a means of returning the industry to profit as soon as possible. As the government was seeking outside professional advice to improve the railways, in 1959, the Transport Minister, Ernest Marples (Conservative), asked the chairman of ICI, Sir Ewart Smith, to become a member of an advisory group on the financial state of the British Transport Commission. Smith declined but recommended Beeching in his stead. The British Transport Commission would be abolished as part of the Transport Act 1962 and replaced by the British Railways Board. Beeching would become its first chairman and was given a five-year leave of absence from his job at ICI to concentrate on his new role.

Beeching published his first report in March 1963, *The Reshaping of British Railways*, the Report called for the closure of one-third of the country's 7,000 railway stations and 5,000 miles of railway line, this would amount to an annual train mileage of 68 million saving some £18 million a year. No proposals were made on repurposing the existing network nor on how to maintain or dispose of the redundant engines and infrastructure. Reshaping the railways also involved the loss of 70,000 British Railway jobs over three years and with Beeching forecasting the scrapping of 330,000 goods wagons would benefit British Rail accounts to the tune of some £135 million. No wonder Beeching's report was hugely controversial with trade unions, Labour MPs and the railway using public, as such, history has portrayed him as the "Butcher of the Railways". However, is the moniker a fair one?

Politically, he was tasked with bringing the railways into profit and he was expected to make quick solutions, even though the problems were deep seated. With British Railways running at a loss, cuts were the logical starting point, Beeching was unrepentant about the closures and noted; 'I suppose I'll always be looked upon as the axe man, but it was surgery, not mad chopping.' There have been significant arguments that Beeching was the scapegoat for politicians and civil servants alike; the Conservatives, with links to the road construction business, commissioned the report. Labour, with its funding from the trade unions (including unions associated with road haulage industry), implemented the report. And, finally, of course, the civil servants who would have been responsible for assessing the social cases for keeping lines open and the economies that had been tried and largely failed (they could safely stand aside and declare the results were Beeching's). Beeching was nevertheless instrumental in modernising many aspects of the rail network. At the 1964 General Election Labour came to power and Beeching was dismissed from his post the following summer and returned to ICI. You may not know that in 1968, Beeching was approached by John Lennon and Paul McCartney to discuss the possibility of heading the Beatles' Apple Corps... Beeching declined the offer, a pity, he may have made a better name for himself!

Ivybridge u3a - Roy Little

Ivybridge u3a General Meeting- Monday 20th April 2026 2 p.m. at the Watermark Centre-"S cones, Secrets and Sleuths : a Devon Writer's Life in Mystery

Author, Suzy Bussell invites you into her world of cosy mystery writing where crime scenes and ordinary people uncover extraordinary secrets. Suzy will share stories behind her Jane Austen Mysteries and Exeter Mysteries. She will reveal how Devon's landscapes spark her imagination and inspire the creation of detectives that readers love.

The event is open to members and to those no longer in full-time employment who wish to find out more of what u3a has to offer.

Ugborough Chair Exercise Class -Peter and Ann Povey

The Exercise Class will resume after the Easter Holidays in Ugborough Village Hall from 1.30 to 2.30 p.m. on Friday, 24th April, and, with a Half Term break, continue until Friday, 24th July when the Summer Holidays begin.

The Class welcomes adults of all ages who wish to do gentle exercise supervised by experienced physiotherapists. The programme is designed to exercise all parts of the body to help in our daily living, such as walking, balancing, reaching, standing, sitting, and which also helps our general wellbeing.

Everyone is welcome to come to the class and benefit from supervised exercise, but Class members all agree that as well as exercising gently with purpose, we all have great fun. The charge for each Class is £6, but we welcome people with carers, and the carers are free.

Yoga Classes in Ugborough Parish - Faith Matthews | Horizon Yoga

A new block of *Yoga Rise* classes has begun—now held in the spacious ground-floor of Ugborough Village Hall—with a few places currently available in this friendly class. Sessions run on Fridays from 9:10–10:10 a.m. If you've been thinking about trying yoga, this is a great opportunity to come along for a taster.

My teaching is rooted in the Viniyoga tradition—a gentle, breath-led approach that adapts the practice to the individual. By linking mindful movement with the breath, classes help develop strength and flexibility while encouraging calm, ease and resilience. The practice is suitable for a wide range of bodies and starting points.

Also on Friday mornings, *Haven Yoga* (10:45am–12 noon at Moorhaven) offers an even more nourishing practice focused on reconnection and restoring energy. Both classes are a wonderful way to unwind at the end of the week and reset for the day—and the weekend—ahead. Parish readers are warmly invited to try a session. Contact Faith using the code PARISHYOGA for a special Yoga Rise taster session rate.

Alongside the above, a range of other weekly classes are offered locally, including sessions designed especially for relaxation, women's wellbeing, mature bodies and chair-based practice.

Full class timetable with dates/rates:

www.horizon-yoga.co.uk/group

Enquiries:

horizonyogawithfaith@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.horizon-yoga.co.uk>

Facebook: [@HorizonYogaViniyoga](https://www.facebook.com/HorizonYogaViniyoga)

Instagram: [@faithmatthewshorizonyoga](https://www.instagram.com/faithmatthewshorizonyoga)

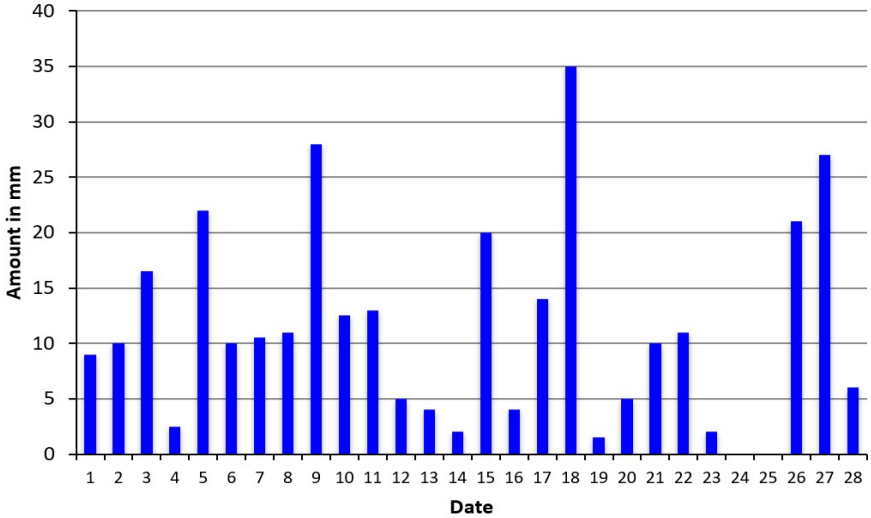
Rainfall at Shellwood Hill George Arnison

The 2025/26 'rainy season' (which started mid-October, if you've forgotten) continued all through February, during which I recorded 312.5mm (just over 12 ¼ ") of rain at Shellwood Hill. Not quite a recording breaking February, but not far off - and well above the month's average over the last 17 years of 148mm. Some parts of the county recorded rain every day during Feb....but we did get a couple of days break towards the end of the month. Despite this rain, the Met office reported that February was both sunnier and warmer in South Devon than usual.

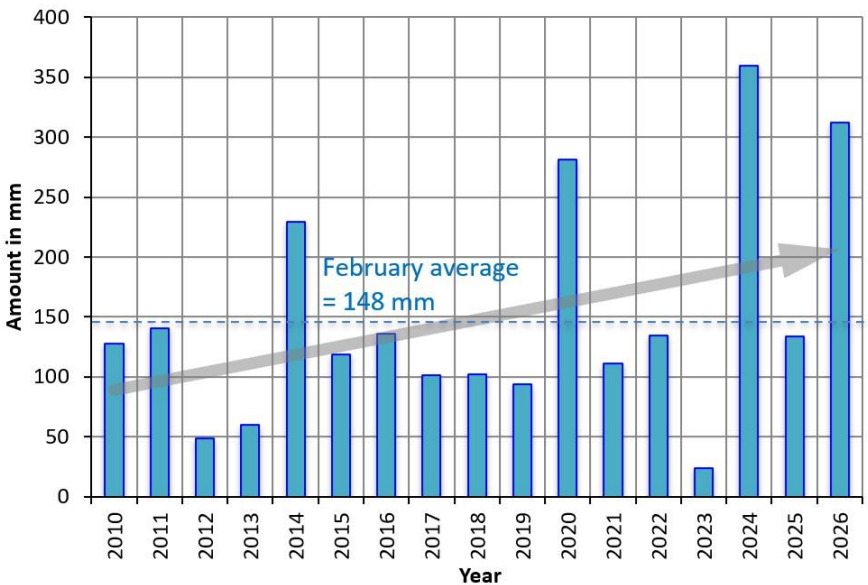
If "winter" overall is defined as December, January & February, then 2023/24 remains the wettest winter quarter we've had in that time (just), with 803mm versus the 798mm we had over 2025/26. However, if we extend the range to include November, then 2025/26 is clearly the wettest 'third' - with 1194mm of rain, the only year in my record with more than 1m of rain in just 4 months.

-

Rainfall in February 2026



February rainfalls and Trend



Ugfest update- Catherine Gwynne

Ugfest 2025 was a fantastic evening that raised an incredible £8,000! Of this, £5,000 went to local Ugborough charities, including Friends of Ugborough School, Ugborough Newsletter, St Peter's Church, Erme Valley RDA, Ugborough Village Hall, and Greener Ugborough Parish. A further £3,000 supported other wonderful causes nearby, including St Luke's Hospice, Moor Boots, Ivybridge Community College Music Department, Alex's Alzheimer's Appeal, Dinnaton Swim Club, and Ivybridge Foodbank.

A huge thank you to everyone who has supported Ugfest over the past 10 years – from our huge team of dedicated volunteers from across local charities and social groups, to local businesses and sponsors, to Hillhead Farm for hosting, and of course, our brilliant musicians. The combined efforts of so many have made Ugfest a true community event, leaving us all with happy memories of nights out with friends and neighbours.

Looking ahead, like Glasto, Ugfest will be taking a fallow year in 2026. But don't worry – we will be back! This break will give our organising team a chance to recharge and plan for the future of the event. Here's to the next chapter – we can't wait to see you all again in 2027!

Anchor Inn news- Taff Jones

People keep stopping me and asking what is happening with the Anchor Inn, this is what we know from the manager for David Noble, (who is the owner) ...

'The refurbishment of the kitchen and the upstairs bedrooms is to continue as is the decorating of the passageways etc. It is hoped to find a new manager before the summer so that the villagers can continue to enjoy the atmosphere of a country pub'. So, now you know. Thanks, Taff. *(This was written to meet the deadline of 15th March- there are now notices in the window to confirm this and give more information)*

Ladies' Lunch Pat Stephens

The date for the next lunch is Wednesday April 8th at The Ship, Ugborough for 12 noon.

Contact Pat Stephens 07704 113837 to book.

Sunday 26th April from 4.30- 6 p.m.
Stories, craft activities, songs, food and fun at
St Peter's Church, Ugborough,
All Ages welcome.
Children to be accompanied by an adult





Your Stars Tonight Just before Christmas I was sheltering from the cold easterly wind behind the Ugborough Beacon and warming myself in the crisp sunshine. I was joined by a Red Admiral butterfly which circled from one patch of sunshine to another. But what was it doing flying around in the dead of winter?

The answer was given to me a couple of months later while I was staying with my friend “Mike the Butterfly Man” in Bristol. Fourteen years ago he was involved in a catastrophic hot air balloon accident that left him a paraplegic. He loves his butterflies – even now he nurtures them from the eggs to release them on the South Downs. He tells me that there have been numerous reports of Red Admirals being spotted out and about at such an unseasonable time of year. He explains that many of them traditionally migrate from North Africa and then usually return before the onset of winter – but global warming is playing havoc with their migration software controls.

Mike watches the natural world from his tiny balcony garden on a fourth floor flat in Bristol (surely there can't be many gardens with a pot of nettles – the favourite food of the Red Admiral)? He has noted the changing bird behaviour as their search for insect food becomes more challenging with the recent collapse of insect life in Britain. How the sparrows learnt to hunt spiders under the eaves about 5 years ago and now the magpies have learnt the same trick in the battle for survival. “What have we done to our world” he asks me rhetorically, for both of us were research chemists, and although not involved in directly with insecticides we both feel a guilt by association as we were part of the explosion of chemistry in the mid-20th century that led corporate chemistry to produce fiendishly clever chemicals that will kill life at a touch.

Take Neonicotinoids that are designed to kill insects at levels of 4 nanograms. Let's try and get our heads around the mind-boggling numbers involved – 1 million nanograms make one milligram – and you take 500 milligram of paracetamol for a headache. Try another way – a grain of sand weighs about 100,000 nanograms. The same weight of neonicotinoids will kill around 25,000 bees. And now the Environment Agency is finding levels of neonicotinoids around one nanogram per litre in river water across the UK. In the east of the country this largely comes from spraying sugar beet – but where does it come from elsewhere in the UK? It looks like the most likely sources is flea treatment of pets including pet flea collars. The chemical poison leaches into the environment from brushing against vegetation, rolling in a puddle or when the pet is washed – eventually it all ends up in a river – or on a passing insect.

And on the first truly spring afternoon in Mid-March I watch clouds of gnats dancing above the lawn in the warmth of the sun – a murmuration of gnats – it is not just starlings that do it! Later in the evening I had another bonus - clear skies! It is a relief to find that after months of rain and drizzle that the planets, stars and galaxies are still there!

I felt the need to travel far, far, away from our troubled world, so I head out for deep galactic space, about 55 million miles light years away to find Markarian's Chain of galaxies – a beautiful arc of perhaps over 20 galaxies travelling through space together. They, in turn, are part of the Virgo super cluster of about 100,000 galaxies all moving mysteriously together – a murmuration of galaxies. And each galaxy contains perhaps 10 billion stars like our own Sun. So tonight's homework; if every star in the Virgo super cluster was a gnat how many teaspoons of neonicotinoids would you need to kill them? By the way - one level teaspoonful is 25 gram.

South West Water Woes – *David Roe*

I was reminded recently that way back in 2024 I had promised to organise with SW Water an Ugborough village “Know your sewage” event. It was going to involve cups of tea, scones, strawberry jam and lashings of clotted cream followed by a conducted tour of the Ugborough Sewage Works. The aim was to engage with SW Water and not only make our feelings on the water quality of Bowbrook known to them, but also to hear about SW Water's plans for the future and learn what we as the providers of the sewage can do to minimise the environmental pressures that are put on the Bowbrook and downstream all the way to Mothecombe. So I dug through the files and found the reply I had in January 2024 from Charlotte – the SW Water “Community Engagement Officer” - enthusing about my proposals and proposing it could be organised for June 2024.

Time for a quick reminder! Alas the email to Charlotte bounced back. Undeterred, I battled through the corporate sweet talk that poses as the SW Water website trying to find someone I could speak to – and ominously there is no longer a mention of Community Engagement - let alone Charlotte. Finding anyone to talk to was a challenge on a website dedicated to marketing waffle infested with help lines run by not very clever AI bots. After 30 minutes of internet frustration I eventually I spoke to someone working from somewhere in the world who promised to get back to me “dreckly”. Then a couple of weeks of silence before I received a phone call saying that SW Water does not do community outreach anymore.

The government has now insisted that Water companies publish real time data on their Sewage Treatment Works storm overflow incidents, so it was back to SW Water's website. Search for “waterfitlive” plus “storm overflow map”. Then type in “Ugborough” in the Map search box, click on the dot and we find the last overflow of “Settled Storm Overflow” was 10th March for 13 hours. That's the overflow from the tank were the sewage solids and other junk have had a chance to settle to the bottom – but please don't drink the overflow! A day later the Treatment Works was completely overwhelmed by the rainfall and for about 45 minutes raw sewage (aka Storm Overflow) occurred for about 40 minutes.

Invigorated by this you will no doubt want to see how we are doing for the rest of 2026. Scroll down to the bottom of the webpage past lots of images of surfers and to

the little boxes labelled “EDM Start/Stop data” and there is the raw data for each year since 2021 for the all the SW Water Storm Outfalls . Download the 2026 data (it’s an Xcel file) and be brave - its huge! But it is easy to filter by putting in that friendly word “Ugborough”. At this point you discover the results for Ugborough only go up to the end of January - presumably SW Water has run out of quills and Quink ink, so we have to wait patiently for the February and March results. How did team SW Water do at Ugborough in January 2026? Not bad – only Seventy two(!) Storm Overflows (that’s the “we don’t want to talk about it” stuff) discharges totalling 53 hours. Well on course to beat the 2025 total of 235 discharges. Good to know that it came from such a nice village next time you are swimming in the Erme Estuary!

Ugborough Parish Council

Clerk: Sally Smale Email:parishclerk@ugboroughparishcouncil.gov.uk

Website: <https://ugboroughparishcouncil.gov.uk> - where you can view the Newsletter to use the weblinks

Ugborough Parish Council News from our March Meeting.

14 members of the public attended the meeting.

Questions from the public and matters arising from previous meetings:

- 3 representations were made regarding **planning application 0391/25**
- **Removal of yellow lines at Wrangaton** – we agreed at our last meeting to ask Devon County Council (DCC) to progress this matter and had approached them with a proposal of partial removal. However, the estimated cost for this did not justify the minimal extra parking room it would provide and so we were left with a choice of full removal or no action. Based on correspondence received from residents we will be taking no further action, and the yellow lines will remain.
- **Barking dogs in Ugborough Village** – We have learned that the appeal process against the planning enforcement order can take up to 72 weeks. Our clerk will chase progress on work being done by South Hams District Council (SHDC) Environmental Health and Licencing departments. We urge residents affected by the noise to complete the noise diaries without which SHDC cannot act.
- **Replacement village sign at Haredon Cross** – DCC have this in hand for replacement in the new financial year
- **Flooding outside the school** - DCC cleaned the gullies in July 25 They noted that there is some sort of blockage between the two gullies. This will need to be resolved by a drainage scheme which DCC hopes to undertake in the 26 – 27 financial year. The leak is below the blockage and so will be picked up at the same time.
- **Donkey Lane wall** – Due to the delay in reaching an agreement with the landlord and tenant regarding our offer to contribute to the maintenance of the wall, it is now nesting season, and no non-emergency hedge work can take place.

Report from Devon County Council

Councillor Dan Thomas' report is available on our website – this summarises the agreed DCC budget for 2026-2027.

Councillor Vic Abbott is pursuing the matter of speed restrictions at Filham.

He asked us to provide locations for common fly-tipping spots in the parish so that SHDC officers can do regular checks. The following day a SHDC officer drove the suggested route, and a tip of asbestos was found. We have now provided 2 more routes.

Report from South Hams District Council

Councillor Alison DeWynter's report is on our website. Summary:

Fly Tipping

Briefings for Parish Councils

Garden Waste subscriptions

Abandoned vehicles

Budget

Business rates advice and support

Asset refurbishment

CLlr DeWynter confirmed that abandoned vehicles can now be reported on the SHDC website even if it is taxed. The vehicles must be left for 28 days before being removed by the Council, but their investigations might lead to an earlier removal. Our clerk has duly reported the 2 vehicles still abandoned in Ugborough Square at the time of writing this.

Planning

We looked at 10 planning applications at the meeting – details are in the minutes on our website. We had also received information of the appeal launched by Aldi against the refusal for their store development in Filham and agreed to resubmit our objections to the application and the comment prepared for the SHDC Development Management Committee in November.

Highways and Maintenance

- **Traffic calming on the A3121**

DCC confirmed at our site meeting that this road does not meet the criteria for the introduction of a speed restriction and also that any road markings would be unsustainable over a long period of time. We are now waiting to receive a proposal for increased warning signage from DCC before further consideration of the matter.

- **Bittaford Play Area**

We are in the process of gathering quotes for a replacement slide and new toddler equipment ready to apply for grant funding. We have also requested a quote for the repair of the path.

Your Annual Parish Meeting

This will take place on **Wednesday 13th May at 7 p.m. in Ugborough Village Hall.** Please do come along.

If you run a club, group or organisation in the parish do share a brief summary of activity over the last year. (If you can't attend, please email the clerk with your news)

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 8th April 2026, 7.30 p.m. in Ugborough Village Hall

Privacy policy – visit ugboroughparishcouncil.gov.uk

Litter picking equipment is available to local volunteers. To borrow, please contact the Parish Clerk Tel 07814849131 parishclerk@ugboroughparishcouncil.gov.uk

Bittaford Methodist Chapel *Chris Phillips* 07899934743

All services start at 11 a.m. unless otherwise stated.

Sunday 5th April- G Higgins

Sunday 12th April- M Cade

Sunday 19th April- M. Cade

Sunday 26th April- D Smart

Services at St Peter’s Church, Ugborough

Services start at 9.30 a.m. unless otherwise shown.

We have a variety of services, traditional and informal, so please check below to see what is available.

Special Holy Week services are shown on Page 2

Date	Service
Sunday 5 th April Easter Day	All Age Easter Worship with craft activities for children (Led by Local Worship Leaders)
Sunday 12 th April	Holy Communion
Sunday 19 th April	Morning Praise led by Local Worship Leaders
Sunday 26 th April	Holy Communion Messy Church at 4.30 p.m.

Hand gel is available and please respect others’ space.

The Three Rivers Mission Community covers the parishes of Diptford with North Huish, Ermington, Halwell, Harbertonford, Moreleigh, and Ugborough.

You can find out about everything that’s going on across all the parishes at its website, www.3rivers.org.uk

For all church business and parish matters, please contact Rev'd David Sayle, The Rectory Diptford Totnes Devon TQ9 7NY 01548 821199 email parish_sayle@me.com.

St Peter's Church APCM is to be held in Ugborough church at 7 p.m. on Wednesday April 15th.

All are welcome to attend, to have your say and to hear all about how 2025 was for us. The PCC members are currently Jeremy Wells, Church Warden, Sue Johns, Church Warden and Treasurer and Norma Roe, Safeguarding Representative.

David Sayle as our Rector is the Chairperson.

There's room for more! And you'd be hugely welcome... You just have to be on the Church Electoral Roll and fill in the forms which Sylvia Marcus, as our ex-officio minute secretary would be delighted to provide.

Village services.

The Post Office continues its service at Ugborough Church on Thursday mornings, and coffee and cake will be available from 10 – 11.45 a.m. Do pop in for a chat. Look out for notices in the church porch and in The Bugle for news of the Post Office service.

Contributions

Many thanks to everyone who has contributed to this Newsletter and to Colourbridge in Ivybridge for printing them so efficiently.

Special thanks to the team – Anne and Tom Holway for organising the delivery to the distributors, and the distributors for making sure that your copy is delivered to you. Contributions should be sent by e mail to Mrs. Norma Roe, The Editor, Ugborough Parish Newsletter at normaroe9@gmail.com

The deadline is 15th of the month please. Thank you for keeping to this.

Your Newsletter is available online at the Parish Council website-

<https://ugboroughparishcouncil.gov.uk>

and at the village website <https://ugborough.com>

Views published in the Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Editor or of the Newsletter Group, or of any other contributing group.

Contributions are published at the Editor's discretion.

The Editor's decision is final.