

Ugborough Parish Newsletter

October 2026



What's on

Fridays 2 nd , 9 th 16 th and 23 rd October	Chair exercise class at Ugborough Village Hall from 1.30-2.30 p.m.	Page 8
Saturday 3 rd October	EVRDA Barn Dance at Bowcombe House from 5.30 to midnight	Page 4
Sunday 4 th October	All Age Harvest Festival followed by Harvest Tea at Ugborough Church at 4.30 p.m.	Page 2
Saturday 10 th October	Ugborough Sustainable Saturday at Ugborough Village Hall from 10 a.m.-12 noon Bring and Share Harvest Supper at Ugborough Village Hall at 6 p.m.	Page 3 Page 2
Wednesday 14 th October	Ladies' Lunch at The Ship at 12 noon Ugborough Parish Council meets at Ugborough Village Hall at 7 p.m. (to include information about Local Government Reorganisation)	Page 5 Page 14
Saturday 17 th October	Taff's Autumn Quiz at Ugborough Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.	Page 2
Monday 19 th October	Ivybridge u3a meets at The Watermark at 2 p.m.	Page 7
Saturday 24 th October	Ugborough Sustainable Saturday at Ugborough Village Hall from 10 a.m.-12 noon	Page 3
Saturday 31 st October	Halloween Bash at The Anchor from 5 p.m.	Page 7

Details of services at Bittaford Methodist Church are on Page 14

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

St Peter's Church – Sue Johns

Throughout September we have said farewell to Rev David Sayle at various services - as he moves on to his new job at a Mission Community based at South Molton in North Devon.

We wish David and Heather well in their new challenge, and thank them for all the care they have given to us in Ugborough and the whole 3 Rivers Mission Community over the years. They will be missed very much.

September saw our All-Age Service at its new time of 4:30, and included Tea. We were delighted to welcome several families as well as our Regulars to a service that in addition to the usual format included activities, contributions from Musicians and Tea for All.

Our Services for the immediate future continue mostly in the same vein as before - with the exception of the 1st Sunday's All Age Service, which will continue to be held at 4.30 p.m. every month, and be followed by tea.

Any variations will be advertised in the Newsletter, on the church notice board and via The Bugle.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

On Sunday October 4th at 4:30

An informal All Age Service

With Revd Jane Lankester

and the church community.

Hymns, activities, the Word

and a Harvest Tea for All

Please note there will **not** be a Service in Ugborough on October 18th - instead there will be a joint Mission Community Service at Ermington at 11 a.m., led by the Archdeacon of Totnes, the Rev'd Douglas Dettmer.

And as for Social Events.....

Bring and Share Harvest Supper.

6 p.m. Saturday October 10th In Ugborough Village Hall.

Donation of £3 per adult to cover hire costs. Children free. BYOB

Taff's Autumn Quiz

Saturday October 17th at 7.30 p.m.

£8: adults £5 16 and under

Draw & Bar

Teams of 6 in advance to Phil 07866 5183330751 or Sue 07889 737967

Or on the night.

All proceeds to St Peter's Fabric Fund.

And Christmas is a-coming!!

So calling all those who'd like to sing in the Church Community Choir at the **Annual Candle Lit Carol Service** on Saturday December 12th at 6.30 p.m.

Please let me know if you're interested Sue 07889 737967

Practices will be at 5.30 on a Friday evening. Starting Soon!

YOUR VILLAGE HALL NEEDS YOU !

Following the closure of the Pre-school usage of the village hall has dropped considerably so that the hall is now available most of the time during the day as well as in the evenings.

If you have any thoughts on new activities that could take place in the hall and are willing to help get these started, could you please email the chairman of the village hall committee at mgreaves1@gmail.com. Better still, book the hall to try out a new activity. Ideas that have come forward so far are pickleball, short mat bowls and table tennis. The Hall Committee are keen to sponsor trial events if you would like to see what the appetite is locally.

Apart from wanting to see the hall used as a community hub we also need to increase usage to keep it financially viable.

USS- Ugborough Sustainable Saturdays - Juliet Collis

USS is a welcoming and supportive environment for new makers or for people looking to develop a hobby or interest, by providing an outlet for the sale of produce. I started baking bread 13 years ago and USS gave me somewhere to sell my bread. I was able to learn much more quickly by baking lots of batches and receiving direct feedback from customers. Having started with bread, I now also make pastries (croissants and pain aux raisin) and have diversified into Fair Isle beanies! None of this would have happened without USS.

If you would like to have a chat about selling at USS, please either drop in one Saturday to the Village Hall or email us.

October dates: Saturdays 10th and 24th.

November dates: Saturdays 7th and 21st.

For more information email ugboroughss@gmail.com

The Thursday Coffee Morning in St Peter's Church

Pop along for a beverage and cake between 10 and 11.45 a.m. and support our continuing weekly Post Office.

All are welcome!

Remembrance Time Concert! One Night Only!

Join us for an evening of music, memories and the occasional note so good that we might even have to apply for RAF clearance if those notes get too high!

A selection of 40's songs aided and abetted by local sea shanties. Sounds great!

Our featured singer, Nick, from Bristol, will bring us those heartfelt songs, gentle humour and a voice strong enough to raise the Village Hall by another storey. He is a professional singer.

Bring your friends, and bring your best singing voice!

Nick insists that all his jokes will be 'tastefully patriotic'.

Come along, clap loudly, and pretend you didn't hear your partner sing a wobbly note.

Book early - even the chairs are getting excited.

One singer at the front with one microphone - one evening of singable songs.

Liquids available to wet throats as required, with a hot pasty to stave off hunger!

Only £12.00 a ticket, which includes the pasty.

All proceeds to local charities.

Tickets can be ordered in advance (some already sold!). 07704 159817 (Sean)

DO COME!

Saturday 14th November, 7 p.m. start. Village Hall, Ugborough

Erme Valley RDA- Peggy Douglas 07882 286421

Well, we're right back in the swing of things! Horses, Participants, Coaches and our wonderful Volunteers! What a Team! !

Huge thanks to star Volunteer Sarah Chambers as she pedalled from London to Brighton with 5000 others to raise over £1500 for Funds!

Thanks also to an Ace Team from Lee Mill Calor Gas who did an excellent job Poo Picking (vital for the health of our horses and pasture) and clearing old fencing. A brilliant help!

Erme Valley Riding for the Disabled

BARN DANCE

3rd October: 5:30 til midnight

At Bowcombe House, Ugborough

With Unshuffled, Rick the Stick & Ollie Whitfield

Line Dancing & The Rodeo Bull

Hog Roast, Ram Roast & Veggie Options

Games & Photo Booths

Fully Stocked Bar & Huge Raffle

Tickets £25: 15&U £12.50

Tickets on Sale NOW:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-erne-valley-barn-dance-tickets-1997390611086>

On October 5th we welcome the CEO of National RDA on a visit to see us in action.

We're launching a new venture on October 10th: **Family Meet Up** for our younger participants, their parents, families and siblings. The first Session at The Brook. Will be an Indoor Play Session and will give everyone a chance to meet other families, support each other and relax in a welcoming environment.

We continue our Appeal to raise funds for a new Mechanical Horse. Jack has served us brilliantly over several years, but as software and technology constantly requires updating, we are looking to the future. We find him a hugely valued asset, allowing us to extend our range of services many fold - not only for our most challenged participants - but as a vital teaching aid for all abilities.

The South Devon West Pony Club are running a 12-hour Sponsored ride on Jack combined with a Cycle Ride. Good Luck everyone! All proceeds to the Mechanical Horse Appeal.

On Sunday October 18th There will also be a Concert in aid of Funds in Ivybridge Methodist Church. Details tbc
Half Term is week beginning October 23rd.

Look out for details of another Ukulele Fund Raiser on November 1st in Ugborough Village Hall. (Time tbc) This is becoming a really popular event where all ages can enjoy a relaxed concert and a slap-up Tea! Hope to see you there.

Ladies' Lunch *Pat Stephens*

The date for the next lunch is Wednesday October 14th at The Ship, Ugborough for 12 noon.

Contact Pat Stephens 07704 113837 to book.

Historical Nugget– *Gareth 'Taff' Jones*

Historical Nugget: 21 October 1805 – The Battle of Trafalgar. I thought for this issue to delve into the nineteenth century for this month's historical nugget. Most people in the UK should know about this famous battle, Trafalgar Square in central London with the figure of Nelson atop his column looking towards Portsmouth is a much-photographed iconic area; but apart from Trafalgar and Nelson what do people know about the battle? What follows is the "abridged" version...

Geographically, Cape Trafalgar is a headland in the Spanish province of Cadiz in Spain, NW of Gibraltar. Nelson's fleet had been blockading the French fleet, under the command of Vice Admiral Villeneuve, at Toulon in the Mediterranean and in trying to

lure the French fleet out to sea the British fleet was blown off station by storms allowing Villeneuve to escape. The British chased the French fleet across the Atlantic only for the French to double back intending to break the blockade at Brest. However, the British fleets blocking Brest and the Spanish port of Ferrol combined to intercept Villeneuve's fleet at the Battle of Cape Finisterre, Villeneuve managed to make port in Ferrol and was ordered by Napoleon to sail north-west towards Brest.

Villeneuve had shown a great reluctance to engage with the British since the French defeat at the Battle of the Nile in 1798, there were more competent officers, but these were employed elsewhere or had fallen from Napoleon's favour. Villeneuve sailed from Ferrol, but disobeying orders sailed to Cadiz to rendezvous with the Spanish fleet. Nelson returned home after two years sea service but was only ashore for twenty-five days when word reached Britain of the combined French and Spanish fleets at Cadiz. At the end of September, Nelson sailed in HMS *Victory* and kept his main force some fifty miles offshore hoping once again to lure the French and Spanish fleets out to do battle. Finally, on 20th October, Villeneuve managed to organise his fleet to sail SE towards Gibraltar in three columns that same evening the French ship, *Achille*, spotted a force of eighteen British ships of the line in pursuit. At around 6am Nelson gave the order to prepare for battle including the famous signal 'England expects that everyman will do his duty'; the British were outnumbered by six ships of the line. The *Santisima Trinidad* was the largest warship in the world carrying 112 guns, HMS *Victory* in contrast carried 104 guns. Due to this imbalance, Nelson sailed his fleet directly at the flank of the opposing columns and although Villeneuve had worried that Nelson may use this tactic he had failed to prepare. The French and Spanish columns broke, in the ensuing battle eighteen French and Spanish ships were lost or captured, the Royal Navy lost none. The plan by Napoleon to invade England never came to fruition and the Royal Navy's dominance of the oceans lasted until the Second World War.

Aftermath; Villeneuve was captured and while on parole attended Nelson's funeral. In 1806 he returned to France and during a stopover at an inn on the way to Paris he was found dead with six stab wounds in his chest. It was officially recorded that he had committed suicide! Less than two months after the battle Napoleon defeated Austria at the Battle of Austerlitz, and famously carried on for another ten years before his final defeat at Waterloo in 1815. News of the victory at Trafalgar and of Nelson's death reached Britain on 4th November when Lieutenant Lapenotiere of the cutter, HMS *Pickle*, reached Falmouth and rode post chaise (changing horses 21 times) to deliver the dispatches to the Admiralty.

Royal Navy strength: 27 ships of the line – 4 frigates – 1 schooner – 1 cutter

Casualties: 458 killed – 1208 wounded

French/Spanish Strength: 33 ships of the line – 5 frigates – 2 brigs

Casualties: 4395 killed – 2541 wounded

Ivybridge u3a - Roy Little

Ivybridge u3a's General Meeting is on Monday 19th October at 2 p.m. at the Watermark Centre

Guest speaker, Robert Hesketh will talk about...

"Devon Inns"

Robert is a writer and photographer based in Devon. He will delve into the stories behind the names of Devon inns.

Many of Britain's most historic buildings are inns and many are listed buildings with long and varied histories.

The colourful slides will illustrate this point as well as showing the sign painter's art to be alive and well.

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

The Anchor Inn are hosting a Halloween Bash on Saturday 31st October
Adults - £5 and children 11 and under are free. All Children to be accompanied by an adult.

From 5 p.m. we are having-

Apple Bobbing

Mummy Wrap

Donut Bobbing

Fancy dress competition

Good Bags

From 7 p.m.

Live Band (Swamp Hogs)

Food In the Barn

Moorhaven tennis courts- Moorhaven Management Co. Ltd

One of these courts has now been totally refurbished with a new surface, net posts, and net.

The fencing and entrance gate have also been renewed.

This was part funded by a Section 106 grant from South Hams District Council.

The relevant housing development is in Ugborough Parish.

The court is open for the benefit and enjoyment of all Ugborough Parish residents.

There is no charge for using the courts.

Ugborough Chair Exercise Class -*Peter and Ann Povey*

The Exercise Class meetings in October will be Fridays 2nd , 9th , 16th and 23rd at 1.30 to 2.30 p.m. in Ugborough Village Hall. The Half Term break is 30th October.

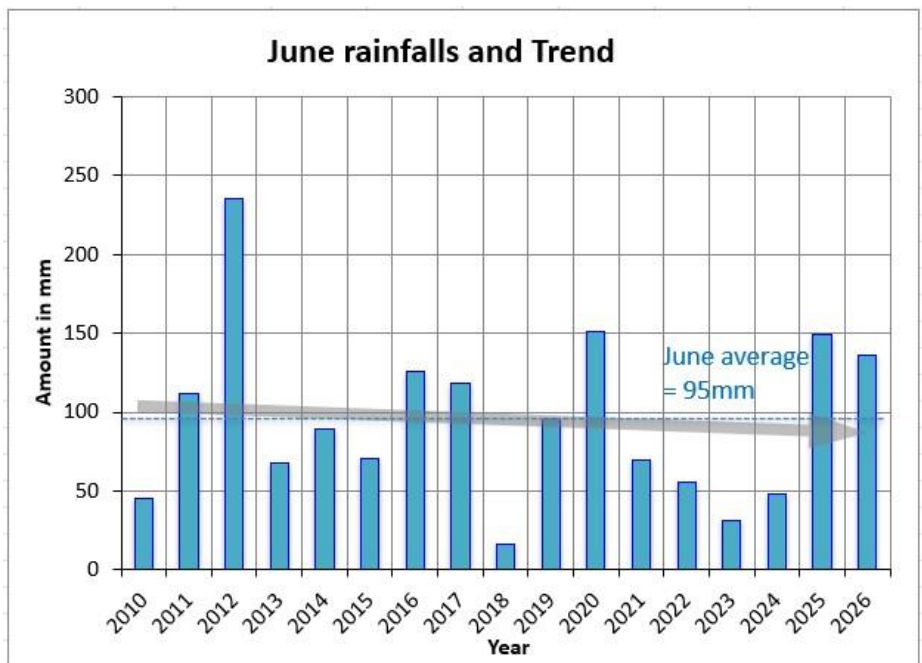
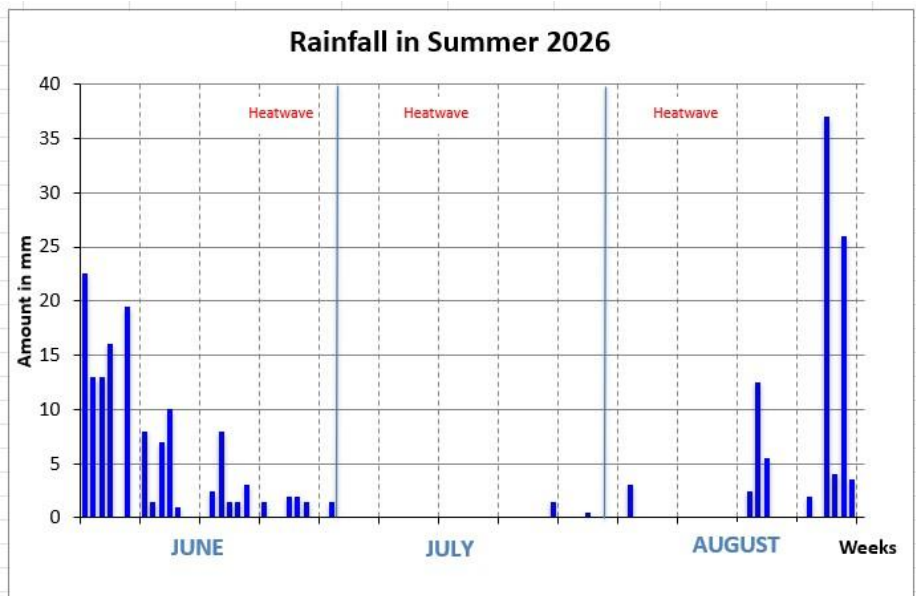
Rainfall at Shellwood Hill *George Arnison*

A record-breaking summer - locally, nationally and internationally (maybe we can now stop referencing 1976 ?).

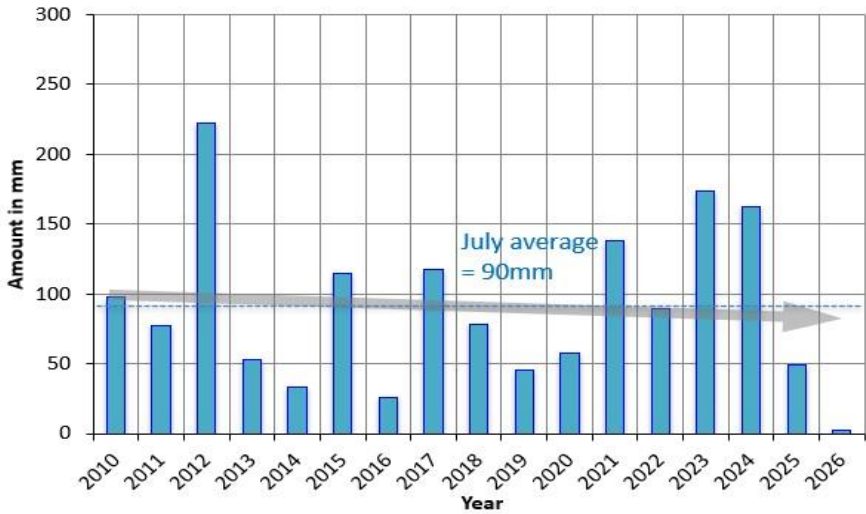
At Shellwood Hill I recorded 136.5mm (just under 5½") of rain in June, just 2mm (!) in July and 96mm (3¾") in August. June was slightly wetter than the average, August slightly drier than the average, and July was the driest single month in the seventeen years I have been recording. Despite this, the wet start to June and the wet end to August meant that our overall summer rainfall total of 234.5mm (9¼") was actually only the fourth driest summer in that period. Nevertheless, these figures don't really tell the whole story. We had a further three heatwaves, including most of the first half of July, and between the beginning of July and mid-August we had only 5mm of rain in 48 days. Everything went very brown.

Overall, this summer was the warmest on the UK record, hotter than 1976 and notable in particular for its persistent heat. The 26th June was the hottest June day on record (38.0°C) - significantly hotter than the previous June high of 35.6°C in 1976 - and there was a rare Met Office Red heat warning. For England, July was the driest and sunniest on record, leaving two thirds of the country officially in drought. The 13th August brought the hottest day of the year (38.1°C) which was also the fifth hottest day on record.

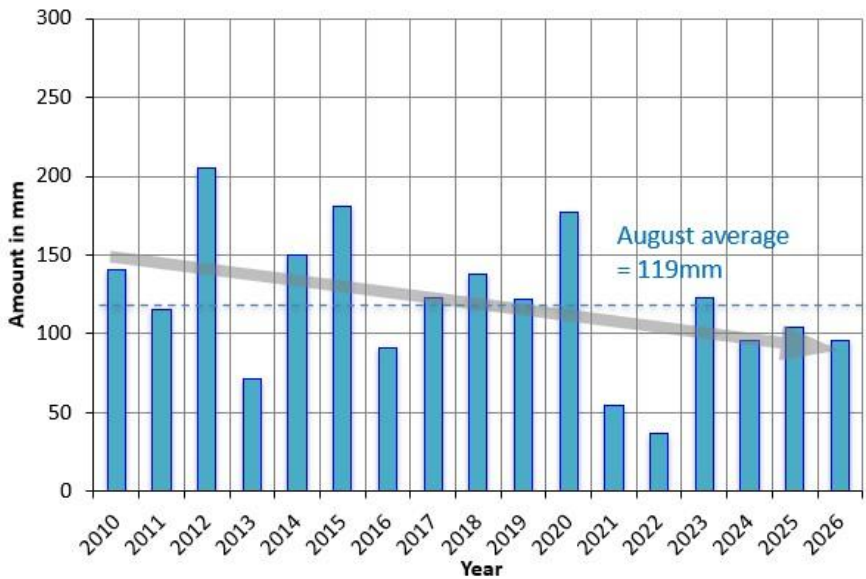
Internationally the extreme heat and dryness saw temperature records being broken all around the world, and there were devastating wildfires across Europe and North America. Globally August was both the warmest August, and the warmest month full stop - ever recorded !



July rainfalls and Trend



August rainfalls and Trend



Beryl's Bookworms – *Norma Roe*



Our September book was Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt and this proved to have very mixed responses from members of the group!

The main problem was the remarkably bright giant pacific octopus, Marcellus, who is one of the 3 main characters in the story, which is told through alternating points of view. Can you accept we are able to share the thoughts of a giant pacific octopus? And that he is able to solve a mystery and empathise with a human? If you can suspend your disbelief and accept this, then you will probably enjoy this book, but if it is stretching your credulity too far, then you probably won't!

At our meeting, we first heard some very interesting facts about giant pacific octopuses. They are incredibly intelligent, having 9 brains, and have distinct personalities. In captivity they have been known to recognise and form relationships with their keepers and other people. They can solve problems, complete mazes and tasks to get food rewards, grow bored without stimulation and can escape from their tanks. These facts helped to put some of the book's seemingly outlandish strands into perspective. Marcellus then seemed more believable when he empathised with Tova and escaped from his tank to feast on other aquariums and on human left overs he finds in the waste bins.

Apart from the octopus, we also have the story from the point of view of Tova, a 70 year old widow who works at the aquarium as a cleaner. She is haunted by the loss of her only son, Erik, who disappeared on a boating trip 30 years previously. There is a mystery about his death and Marcellus is able to help her to solve it. She has a group of friends, the Knitwits and they provide some humour. Also the grocery store owner, Ethan Mack cares for her, and is an interesting minor character.

The third point of view is from Cameron Cassmore, thirty years old and apparently very smart, but who lacks direction. He was brought up by his aunt (another well drawn character) because his alcoholic mother walked out on him when he was 8 and he never knew his father. It is his search for his father that leads him to the same town as Tova and the aquarium. He is temporarily offered her position after she injures herself in a fall and begins to make a life for himself, meeting and falling for a woman, (Avery), who will sort him out in the future!

The book has been a huge success and even the hardback sold more than 2 million copies. It has recently been made into a film and won awards. Goodread's readers overwhelmingly scored it 4 or 5 stars....but Bookworms were less impressed!

We were split more or less down the middle, with some loving it, and others awarding very low scores, (for some the coincidences were just too much) so the average was just over 3. Next month we are reading Niall Williams, This is Happiness.

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 August and September Meetings.

Questions from the Public and Matters Arising

1. Installation of a permanent Petanque Court in Ugborough Square – we agreed that the current installation has been a popular and successful addition to the Ugborough Fair but as concern had been raised regarding responsibility for the court, what insurance was in place should there be an incident, and also the reduction in parking spaces we agreed that the clerk would contact the individuals who set up the Court to discuss plans for the future. Devon County Council have indicated that a permanent installation on the Highway is not an option at all. Although they were prepared to turn a blind eye for the temporary structure over the May Fair holiday period, they have requested that the court be removed now. We have decided to reconsider the matter at our October meeting and would welcome any feedback from residents and suggestions for possible locations
2. We had received a complaint regarding the vegetation left on the road from hedge-cuttings. Devon County Council shares our concern, and it is an issue around the county, but the situation has never satisfactorily been resolved.
3. Our Lengthsman is concerned that the debris at the side of Lutterburn Stream is washing back into the stream. As this is on private land Devon County Council cannot clear it. However, following the flood meeting earlier in the year they are now in a position to fix a new grill which should improve the situation. We will be talking to Undertown residents regarding the matter.
4. We are pleased that our grass cutters have agreed to trial an alternative non-glyphosate weed-killer in Ugborough
5. Cllr Beable thanked Cllr May for clearing the overgrown vegetation along the footpath in Wrangaton

Devon County Council and South Hams District Council

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Thomas (DCC), DeWynter (SHDC) and Abbott (DCC and SHDC) for our September meeting. The September report received from SHDC Councillors DeWynter and Abbott is on the [website](#).

Summary:

Call for development sites

Fly-tipping CCTV cameras

Free Adult Education Opportunities across Devon

Reduce the risk of Wildfires

Crisis and Resilience Fund

Stay safe around water

Volunteer drivers wanted

Cllr Abbotts August reports for Devon County Council and South Hams District Council are also available on the website.

Planning

Ten new applications were considered at the two meetings, and we had received 12 decisions made by South Hams District Council and Dartmoor National Park – details are in the minutes of the meetings on our website.

Finance

We were pleased to receive the External Auditor's Report in August giving us a clean bill of health.

Highways, Parish Paths and Transport

1. We have purchased another vehicle activated speed camera for Bittaford where there are on-going concerns regarding speeding through the village.
2. Cllr May has now undertaken Road Warden training, and we have agreed to join the Devon County Council Road Warden Scheme which will enable us to do minor works (including filling potholes) on non-classified roads. We do now need volunteers to join a team and if you would like further information, please email our clerk.

Assets and Maintenance

1. We have received an estimate of £1000 for the refurbishment of the bus shelter in Ugborough Square and will be requesting a detailed quote before making a decision.
2. We have purchased a new bench for the Lucerne Fields' Estate

Local Government Reorganisation Update

We welcome the Government's decision to pause the plans for reorganisation in Devon. This will now be a standing agenda item for us, and we will continue to work with our neighbouring Councils (the 13 currently proposed to be absorbed into a Greater Plymouth) to ensure the voice of Ugborough Parish is heard.

Our next meeting on Wednesday 14th October in Ugborough Village Hall will start at 7 p.m. and you are all welcome to come along for a discussion with Devon County Cllr Dan Thomas regarding The Local Government Review.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 14th October, 7 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 4th October Revd D Youngs,

Sunday 11th October Mike Cade,

Sunday 18th October Brian Hart,

Sunday 25th October Mike Cade.

Services at St Peter's Church, Ugborough

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

Date	Service
Sunday 4 th October	All Age Harvest service at 4.30 p.m. with craft activities followed by Harvest meal for all.
Sunday 11 th October	Holy Communion led by The Archdeacon of Totnes
Sunday 18 th October	Joint service at Ermington led by The Archdeacon of Totnes at 11 a.m. No service at Ugborough church
Sunday 25 th October	Holy Communion

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

Sue Johns (Church Warden)- email- suejohnsdunwellfarm@gmail.com

Tel. 07889737967

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 Holway for organising the delivery to the distributors, and the distributors for making sure that your copy is delivered to you. (We send our very best wishes to Tom.)

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.