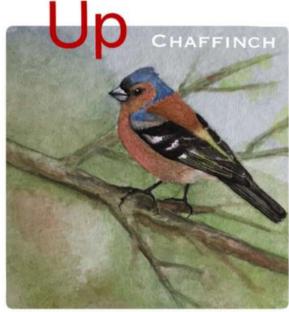
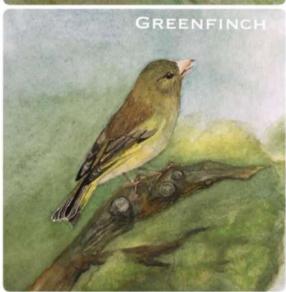
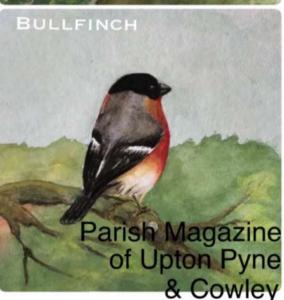
Speke









& Cowley and Brampford Speke

September 2024

Issue 373

Mark Leveridge - Professional Strolling Magician

Your Own Personal Magician



Imagine that at your next family party, whether it's to celebrate an adult birthday, or an anniversary, or just a get together with your nearest and dearest, that you could surprise everyone with an amazing close up magic show! Inner Magic Circle member Mark is happy to be your

personal magician and to bring his sleight of hand comedy magic, which is suitable for the whole family, to your next gathering.

To watch Mark in action or to get a quote, go to his website at

www.markleveridge.co.uk/strolling-magic/

Or if you would like to chat about your event, call

07773 303558



Speke Up Matters

Welcome to the September magazine – our Harvest issue.

We welcome a new contributor, nutritionist and cook Sarah Lumley, who is looking at seasonal produce and gives a delicious recipe for apple cake in *Sarah's Kitchen* on page 35.

Revd. Tim celebrates the bounty of season and introduces our new curate on page 20. On page 12, Charlotte Tofts welcomes pupils back to a new year at the school and outlines some of the projects coming up.

Gardener Nicola Baker is hoping for an Indian Summer to continue harvesting produce but also outlines jobs to do in preparation for autumn in *The Gardening Year* on page 32.

You'll find the reports of events held over the summer and news of those coming up in September. Don't miss Abi Hann's annual Macmillan Coffee Morning – details below.

from the Speke Up team

Cover design: Sally Tuckey

ANNUAL ADVERTISING RATES FOR 2024

Full page (black & white) £100

" " (colour) £220 (£300 with guaranteed

cover placement)

Half page (black & white) £65
" " (colour) £140
Quarter page (B/W only) £40

Please note that these annual rates are for 10 issues over the year. We do not publish in January or August.

We accept short-term advertising at a pro-rata monthly rate for bookings of three months or more, and pro-rata plus 50% for bookings of less than three months.

Advertising copy should be in **j-peg or Word doc format** with an accompanying PDF for checking purposes only. The only PDFs we can accept for publication are full page ads. Artwork must be received by the **15**th of the month before publication. Material received after that is likely to be held over to the next issue.

Colour artwork will be reproduced in the print version of the magazine in black and white (unless space on a colour page has been booked); it will, however, appear in colour in the on-line version at www.spekeup.org.

Maximum dimensions:

Full page 18.2cm x 24.4cm Half page 18.2cm x 12.2cm Quarter page 8.5cm x 12.2cm

If you would to advertise with us, please contact Richard Tillett or Ruth Matthews at:

advertising@spekeup.org.uk



Macmillan Coffee Morning

You are all invited to our Macmillan Coffee Morning in the front garden of 5 Orchard Close, Upton Pyne, EX5 5QG

On Saturday the 28th of September, 10am - 1pm

There'll be lots of yummy cakes, hot drinks & raffle tickets to buy, so please bring plenty of money!

If you'd like to donate a cake or a prize for the raffle, I'd be extremely grateful.

Feel free to bring a chair and enjoy a fun morning whilst raising lots of money for this fabulous charity!

Please spread the word - the more the merrier!

Abi Hann - 07835259514 abituckey@aol.com



Zumba Fitness Class at Upton Pyne Village Hall

Thursday (Term time) 9.30 -10.30am

£6.50 Pay as you go! No need to book just turn up

Certified Instructor Caroline Anstead 07796 950652

Facebook – Caroline Anstead Zumba and Dance Instagram – caroline-a-zumba

AGRICULTURA INN

What's on at the Agi

Summer Events

TRIBUTES IN THE TIPIS **Elvis by James Burrell** Saturday 7th September 7pm

Elvis is back!! again! Join us in the Secret Garden for an evening with Elvis, by James Burrell the South West's premier Elvis impersonator.

Ouiz night is back and now hosted by the amazing Adam in the hat! Ouiz starts at 7:30, max team size of 6, book on 01392840043 or reservations@agriculturalinn.co.uk Next quiz dates, Sunday 1st Sep, 13th Oct, 3rd Nov, 1st Dec

Cheers to 5 years!

Saturday September 14th

We're celebrating our 5th anniversary and couldn't have done it without you! Through COVID lockdowns, a cost of living crisis, and even getting married, your support has been our anchor.

Join us in the secret garden to help us celebrate our 5th anniversary! There'll be live music from Blush and the Oasis Tribute band "Absolute Oasis" special drinks offers and all our usual garden games & fun.

Takeaway Fridays at the 'Agi'

Every Friday 6-8:30pm Fish 'n Chips £12, small portion £8, pre ordering is recommended

BRAMPFORD SPEKE - EX5 5DP - PLEASE CALL 01392 840043 www.agriculturalinn.co.uk

Cover Notes

Fringillidae (Finches)

Glory be to God for dappled things –
For skies of couple-colour as a brinded cow;
For rose-moles all in stipple upon trout that swim,
Fresh fire-coal chestnut-falls; finches' wings.
GM Hopkins Pied Beauty

When I decided to write about finches, I had no idea there were quite so many. The Devon Wildlife Trust lists 16 common finches in Devon although the International Ornithological Committee recognises 240. You will be relieved to hear that this article will include a very small selection!

What could be more beautiful than a finch? All finches have a powerful bill because they eat plants and the most nutritious part of any plant is the seeds. They need a beak strong enough to open the shells around the seeds without destroying the precious contents.

One of my favourite poems includes one of my favourite birds:

O to be in England
Now that April's here
And whoever wakes in England
Sees, some morning, unaware,
That the lowest boughs and the brush wood sheaf
Around the elm-tree bowl are in tiny leaf,
While the chaffinch sings on the orchard bough
In England - now!

Robert Browning Home Thoughts from Abroad

The chaffinch (Fringilla coelebs) is one of the commonest in the family and has adapted from a woodland to all kinds of agricultural settings and country gardens. Chaffinches are distinctive with their blue/grey helmets over a pinky, orange face and top of the wings and a faded orange breast. A chaffinch has a call which sounds like 'pink pink' but its other song is cheerful and melodic.

I hear a lot of greenfinches (Chloris chloris) in my garden, though I see them very rarely. Unfortunately, their numbers have declined as a result of finch trichomonosis, which inhibits swallowing and leads to death. The parasite can survive for a day or two in damp bird food so hygiene is very important. Greenfinches are an olive green and can be quite bossy with other birds. They like large seeds and will eat elm, yew, hawthorn, brambles and rosehips.

The redcap is a painted bird and beautiful its feathers are.

In early spring its voice is heard While searching thistles brown and bare It makes a nest of mosses arey



And lines it round with thistle down. Five small pale spotted eggs they lay In place never far from town

John Clare Redcap

Redcap is one of the other names of the goldfinch (Carduelis carduelis), probably referring to the crimson area around its beak. The long, pointed beak is especially adapted for plucking the seeds from various fluffy seed heads — especially thistles and teasels. The collective noun, a charm of goldfinches, seems very appropriate for a bird that is not only beautiful but also has a very joyful song.

The bullfinch (Pyrrhula pyrrhula) has always been one of my favourite birds. On 18 May this year, I was lucky enough to see three in my garden. Since then, I haven't seen one! The male is especially beautiful with his glossy black cap, rose pink underparts and blue/grey wings edged with black. The voice is a soft, rather mournful two-note piping.

In the last 40 years, siskin numbers have increased hugely, partly due to increased conifer plantations and also to the rich seed mixtures with which we feed our birds. It is a small, yellow-rumped, dark streaked, yellowish greenfinch. It is similar to the serin, which has a bright yellow area on its tail. The latter is closely related to the canary. Unfortunately, so many of these lovely finches were, in previous centuries, captured and kept in cages. The linnet, with its beautiful song and pink breast was no exception. Hence, 'me old cock linnet' in the musical hall favourite Don't Dilly Dally on the Way. Other members of this huge family include crossbills, redpolls, twites, bramblings (with beautiful orange markings on the chest) and the very rare hawfinch with its amazingly powerful beak that can crack open cherry stones.

Caroline Fox

The Art of John A Howells



I am opening on the 7th of September 2024 for Devon Open Studios, the county wide chance to visit artists and makers in their studios. An opportunity to see new art and talk to the creative minds behind it as well as peeking into our studios and homes!

New for this year are the charcoal pictures I have been working on (the deer and the thatched shelter amongst others) as well as my photography of wildlife and natural

would love to meet you and chat about my art, as well as answer any questions you have about the process - you could even have a go at some charcoal drawing yourself!

places.







There will be originals and prints available, as well as cards, bookmarks and magnets.

Opening times are 10am to 5pm on September 7,8,10,13,14,15,17,20,21,22

I am based in 'Springfield' at the bottom of Upton Pyne village opposite the pond - there will be signs up so you cannot miss it!

07816846562 Johnahowells@hotmail.com www.johnahowells.co.uk

Following the Flame



Régine Mourier, chair of the twinning association in Commes, followed the Olympic torch and attended the opening ceremony in Paris. Here she gives a taste

of the excitement of the event.

Dear Friends

I am so happy to share with you some of the vibrant moments I have lived since the arrival of the Olympic flame at Omaha Beach on May 30th. The same day, we could follow the path of the flame in Bayeux.

Next step for me and not least, the opening ceremony in Paris, a

really great memory despite the rain!

You must have watched it on TV but it was so moving to be on the spot.

Still a lot to experience in the weeks to come... See you soon. Take care.

Régine

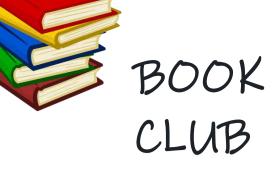


At Omaha Beach



Torch bearers in Bayeux





The Days of Abandonment by Elena Ferrante

Families falling apart form the basis of *The Days of Abandonment*, as with so many of Elena Ferrante's novels. It is the story of Olga's descent into despair and breakdown when she is left by her husband, in a high-rise apartment in Turin. Her life had always been about pleasing her husband and she had lived this life through him and her two children; once he has gone her life implodes.

She neglects her children, forgets to feed them, fails to notice when her son becomes ill, and leans heavily on her young daughter. As a parent, it was almost unbearable to read and hard to feel any empathy for her. Her anger almost overwhelms you and makes you want to look away.

Elena Ferrante writes with such extraordinary power and savagery about women, family, and identity. **CL**

The Little Book of Humanism various authors

This is an interesting book as it covers a lot of issues regarding the human condition. It draws on the 2000-year-old tradition of humanism and is not presented in a preachy way. Having been brought up in a Christian tradition, I found a lot of parallels between religion and humanism as well as some obvious and striking differences. Many authors contributed to this book including some of the top scientists, authors, poets and musicians. Sir David Attenborough, Bertrand Russell, Stephen Fry, Charles Darwin and others are quoted effectively. It's the kind of book you can dip into and out of, and indeed this leaves plenty of room for personal contemplation. I was struck by the kindness and wisdom in this book. **SP**

Limitless by Tim Peake

This autobiography takes you from his beginnings as a keen Boy Scout and cadet through his journey towards space via the RAF where he was a highly-qualified helicopter test pilot who saw action in Bosnia. There are many tales of service life (including some excellent pranks) and a terrifying account of flying through a valley in heavy fog, hoping not to hit the steel cables that were sometimes strung up in order to bring down British choppers.

The selection for space sounds intense though he was clearly mentally and physically cut out for the mission on the International Space Station. He shows a lot of joy towards the job, even the mundane parts of space travel.

He is a true ambassador for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) subjects in schools and has inspired many youngsters to take these important and rewarding paths.

This guy is a proper old-school hero! SP

An Irish Country Doctor by Patrick Taylor

Along the lines of the James Herriot vet books, this is about a country doctor in Northern Ireland in the 1960s. Barry Laverty is newly qualified and accepted as an assistant to Dr O'Reilly.

The life of a small rural village is amusingly captured, and the inhabitants come to life on the pages. Sonny, who lives in his car because his house has no roof; Maggie, who was to marry Sonny but didn't because she refused to live in a house with no roof; Seamus and Maureen who hope to make a new life in America; Major Fotheringham, hypochondriac extraordinaire; Jeannie, a little girl who is rushed to Belfast with appendicitis; Councillor Bishop, called the local Hitler. And Mrs Kincaid, known as Kinky, housekeeper to the doctors. Animals feature too: cats, dogs and pigs with distinctive characters.

The book is a series of short stories with connecting threads and, mostly, happy endings. It's a nostalgic look at what life was like for a country GP then. Modern drugs were beginning to be more commonplace, but many people still relied on medicines that their grandmothers would have been given. Amusing, occasionally laugh-out-loud funny, I found it enjoyable. **SG**

The Shepherd's Life, a tale of the Lake District by James Rebanks

Rebanks comes from generations of sheep farmers on the unforgiving fells and dales of the Lake District. His book is a straightforward telling of the hardships of those farmers from the viewpoint of himself, his father, his grandfather and their neighbours.

His devotion to his Herdwick sheep shines through, showing that it's a tough life for both sheep and people, but he wouldn't want to do anything else or be anywhere else.

The book is split into the four seasons, starting with summer. That first part also describes his childhood, growing up watching and learning from his grandfather and how, when he gets to secondary school, he loses his way.

His frustration that the Lakes District is just seen as a beautiful place to have a holiday is obvious. To him it is a workplace, beautiful only in the continuation of a way of life.

He gets in with a bad crowd, argues with his father and leaves school with 2 GCSEs. But he starts to read and once he does, he can't stop, eventually taking A levels at evening classes. His tutor says he could get into Oxford - he does, getting a double first in history at Magdalen College, but all he wants to do is get back to the farm.

The heartbreak of foot and mouth disease in 2001 is described in devastating detail, having to have most of the sheep destroyed, losing all his best animals which have been bred over decades.

This is a wonderful paean to a rural way of life that has been modernised, but is basically the same as it has been for hundreds of years. **SG**

Thank you, Brampford Speke Village Hall Committee, from St Peter's Church

On a splendid sunny late June afternoon, people in Brampford Speke enjoyed the annual Village Hall cream tea where, as well as treats to eat, there were interesting local artisan table top sales.

The Brampford Speke Village Hall Committee generously donated the funds raised from their annual cream tea to St Peter's Church which is in need of funds.

Thanks are due to donors and bakers who provided the teas and cakes.

Hats off to Sue Satchell for her excellent organisation from beginning to end and members of the Village Hall committee who ably supported her during the afternoon.

Special thanks to Rosie Paskins and Chris Bamford who baked such beautiful cakes that they were snapped up. Chris then went more than the extra mile and took orders for more beautiful cakes for delivery the following week!

Overall, £220 was raised for St Peter's Church.

Time and Tide Quiz

- 1 What was the name of the song Johnny Cash recorded for *The Man in Black* album that told the story of a relative's time piece?
- 2 Where in the UK would you find the world's second highest tidal range?
- 3 In what year was the Speaking Clock introduced in England?
- 4 The Panama Canal has locks to raise and lower ships because of the differing sea levels of the Atlantic and Pacific. In which month of the year are they more or less equal?
- 5 Seleucus of Seleucia, an astronomer, was the first person to determine what?
- 6 Who invented the marine chronometer??
- 7 What is the name of the company that owns Tide washing powder?
- 8 Who said: "Time with cats is never wasted"?
- 9 What make of watch was the first to be worn on the Moon in July 1969?

10 Who composed the Clock Symphony (Symphony no 101)? **SG**

Answers on page 36



Newton St Cyres Tennis Club

Juliet Daniel from the club was selected to represent Devon Over-35 Ladies in the County Cup on the famous grass courts in Eastbourne.

The conditions were tricky, with high winds and rain showers, which meant that on the second day short sets were played to complete all the matches. The team played five single and five double matches every day against three different counties in Division 6B and was promoted to the next division 5A - a great achievement.

Finals Day of our Club Tournament is on 15 September, 10 to 5 pm. Do pop over to meet some members and watch great tennis all at your local club. Junior coaching, run by our club coach Jon Wills, is well attended and takes place on Wednesdays after school during term time. If you would like to enrol for the autumn term,please email

juniors@newtonstcyrestennisclub.co.uk



Community land, sustainably managed • Affordable homes for local people

Brampford Speke, Upton Pyne and Cowley Community Land Trust (CLT)

Do you know a local who's facing difficulties due to high housing costs?

If so, they might be eligible for an affordable home next time one becomes available at Lake's Down in Upton Pyne. Eligibility is based on both a strong local connection to Upton Pyne & Cowley or Brampford Speke Parishes, and also meeting the Devon Home Choice household income criteria.

If you'd like to be considered for an affordable home in future, you need to do three things now:

- 1. Register now with Devon Home Choice: www.devonhomechoice.com
- 2. Monitor the Devon Home Choice website for vacancies
- 3. **Become a member of the CLT**: We email members when a home is becoming available at Lake's Down, so being a member ensures you are among the first to know.



Check out the CLT website at www.bsupcclt.co.uk (or use the QR code on the left) for more information. For information on membership or advice on registering for a tenancy please contact our membership secretary at sallydiscombe@gmail.com.





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Speke Up About Music

Song: **Stick Season** by **Noah Kahan** Suggested by: **Jonathan Clapp** (aged 12)

Jon says: "I like the tune, especially the chorus and folky guitar."

Stu and Debbie say: "This folky/country pop song gets going straight away with guitar chords and vocals, quite a pacy feel with plenty of energy. The lyrics tell a tale of regret and hope, references to drinking and missed opportunities.

It has a real campfire feel especially when the banjo and drum (cahon? bodhrán?) join in. We love the emotive vocal and stripped-back arrangement. It's nice to be able to hear the words clearly, the heartfelt story and sentiment. There is a load of space in the song's simplicity and the 'coming and going' dynamics just add to the feel.

A great choice, Jonathan. We had heard this one on the radio and it sounds like a festival classic – thanks!"

We only have one more song suggestion to review, so please contact us if you have a song you'd like us to listen to.

Please email suggestions for favourite songs you would like reviewed to noordinaryfish@hotmail.com

Song title:

Artist:

Where were you or what were you doing when you first heard it?

What is it about the song that makes it your favourite?

See also the Spotify playlist which we will add to each month with your suggestions



http://tinyurl.com/y8ytdeyr

Answers to the quiz on page 36



Science Fiction films this time.

Q1 The 1980 film *Blade Runner* is a classic of the genre with a soundtrack to match. Who composed the musical score?

Q2 David Bowie took the leading role of an alien stuck on Earth looking for a water supply for his people. What was the name of the film?

Q3 Close Encounters of the Third Kind has a musical feature involving communication between the alien mothership and scientists at the Devil's Tower landing site. How many notes are in the tune that the humans prepared?

Q4 Name the 1982 musical (and 1986 film starring Rick Moranis) that features a murderous, singing plant.

Q5 Thus Spake Zarathustra was the theme tune to which classic 1969 space film directed by Stanley Kubrick.

Q6 The Black Hole is a Disney film from 1979 with a memorable and dramatic orchestral theme tune. The composer also composed the James Bond theme – name him.

Q7 Hans Zimmer has composed some award-winning soundtracks for several amazing films including two recent movies of an iconic 1960s desert-based sci-fi epic. What was the name of this film.

Q8 Who composed the soundtrack for *Jurassic Park* and *ET*? (HINT – he is one of the most prolific and award winning composers in cinema history, mainly for science fiction films)

Q9 Olivia Newton-John starred and sang the title song in a 1980 film which involved roller skates and had dreadful reviews! Name the film (HINT – there is a link to Marco Polo in the title)

Q10 The Tears for Fears song *Mad World* was a UK number 1 single for Gary Jules in 2003. In which Jake Gyllenhaal film (featuring a

mysterious character in a grotesque rabbit outfit)

did it feature?







Brampford Speke C of E Primary School



News from the Head of School

The end to our school year was packed with events and important milestones. We had our Sports Afternoon led by Jared Evans from Scrum Kids and our Summer Fayre and open afternoon which was a huge success and raised muchneeded funds for FOBSS (Friends of Brampford Speke School). We said farewell to our Year 6s with various events including our end of year performance, Y6 treat (kindly funded by FOBSS) and the Leavers Assembly with Reverend Tim.

We look forward to a super start to our autumn term and welcome new pupils in both Skylark and Finch class.



Last term's teaching and learning



Sports Day in the River Fields





Summer Fayre in our playground

Waking along the bridge at Painton Zoo

A whole school trip was kindly funded by a member of the village.



Pupil Voices

"It was really exciting going to Paignton Zoo! The baby Orang-utan was so cute, but it was a little smelly in the enclosure." (Our whole school trip, including ice creams, was kindly funded by a community member.)

"I enjoyed running the stall at the Fayre and winning prizes on the Teddy tombola."

"Sports Day was so much fun especially the Mums and Dads doing the Tug of War! Kingfishers won this year, too."

Upcoming events and projects

We are hoping to continue working on our school environment inside and out this year by having a 'School Force' weekend this autumn that would see our Library, and the outside shelters and storage decorated and organised. More details will follow in the coming issue of *Speke Up* of how you could contribute if you are able.

Harvest Festival. We will hold our annual service this month and will be collecting for a local food bank this year. Please pop a contribution into the school office if you are able and would like to join us in this good cause.

School improvement and projects this month

- Gardening in the raised beds
- Repairing and painting our noticeboard
- Listening to children read

How you could help?

Contact us or pop into the office if you think you could help with any of the above.

You can contact our lovely FOBSS team on: FOBSS@exevalleyfederation.org. uk

I do hope you have enjoyed finding out what we have been getting up to in our lovely little school. If you would like to know any more, or are interested in a place for your child **in any year group**, don't hesitate to get in touch via the school office:

brampfordadmin@exevalleyfederation.org.uk

01392 841414

We look forward to hearing from you

Charlotte Tofts

Brampford Speke Parish Council

New councillor: we're delighted to welcome Lisa Langdon as our new councillor, replacing Nichola Vickers who is stepping down after four hard-working years; her contribution has been highly valued and we shall miss her.

Lisa has lived in the village for over 20 years and has already been involved with various community activities. We're looking forward to working with her on the council, once the necessary formalities are completed.

Affordable housing: there have been no significant developments since our July meeting. We understand the Community Land Trust is exploring modifications to their previous Stonilands proposal in light of comments made at consultation and council meetings in March, and are considering a preliminary meeting with the East Devon District Council planning department to discuss options. We have not learned anything further about the possible proposal for new housing on Templer's Field (half way up Sandy Lane on the left), probably with a significant affordable housing component. We understand this is being explored on behalf of the family trust owners of the field but have no further information about this at present, either in terms of possible size or timescale. We will circulate information as soon as we have

Verges: the roadside margins have been trimmed; the back of the verges will be trimmed in the early autumn.

Village Hall: the porch woodwork and some external doors are in poor condition and the trustees are exploring options for repairs/replacement. Costs will be met from reserves, with a grant from our Devon County Councillors, for which we are very grateful. River pollution: we have heard worrying reports of sewage being seen in the river locally. If you see evidence of this, take a picture and contact the Environment Agency incident hotline (0800 80 70 60).

Speeding tractors: several residents have expressed concern about large tractors and trailers speeding through the village. These are not our local farmers, but probably contractors working further afield. Photographic evidence would help persuade the police to investigate; if you see the problem vehicles, take a picture and contact the police direct on 101.

Next PC meeting: Weds 11th September 2024 at 7.30pm in the village hall.

If you have any issue that to raise with the PC, please feel free to contact any of the councillors, or the clerk (names and contact details in *Speke Up* or on the website: https://www.middevonparish.co.uk/brampfordspeke. The website also contains other information about the Council.

Upton Pyne and Cowley Parish Council

Bus Stop near Cowley Chapel: Cllr Hewlett said this has now been repaired by Highways.

Police Report: no crimes reported to April 2024.

East Devon and Devon County Council

Councillors: the Clerk has contacted the Devon Association of Local Councils to ask for advice regarding the lack of attendance of both the Devon County Council (DCC) councillor and East Devon District Council (EDDC) councillor at the Parish Council (PC) meetings. She read out the email reply, which suggests steps the PC has already taken. Cllr Gent has been advised of the dates and times of PC meetings by the Clerk, as he asked for these details again recently. There has been no EDDC or DCC Councillor attending our meetings for some time.

Footpaths: The gate at Jackmoor has been tied back temporarily. The footpath below Glebelands Farm has been cleared of vegetation.

24/1070/FUL: Upton Pyne Equestrian Centre Seychelles Farm, Upton Pyne, Exeter, EX5 5HY:

The Clerk provided the minutes and comments from the site meeting which took place on the 26 August 2023. It was agreed that the original comments still stand and the Clerk to contact ED Planning to reiterate these and the PC concerns put forward at the time and that these remain unchanged.

Wi-Fi and Internet in the Village Hall: to discuss at the meeting in

September.

Upton Pyne Parish Plan (QR code right): this is now complete and the Clerk will submit to EDDC.

Noticeboard at The

Causeway: it was agreed by all that there is no requirement for a



noticeboard at this location. The map which is currently in this location will be made smaller by Cllr Ryles and copies will be installed in the Village Hall, on its noticeboard and in the church porch. Leaflets will be produced to be left here also. The new noticeboard for Cowley is now completed and is to be installed near Bernaville Nurseries and the Clerk will contact the Nursery to arrange this. Update from Cllr Cormack regarding contractors: she said John Howells has become the gardener for the Causeway.

Digestate Lagoon: the Chair said the size of the bags used have been reduced along with some other amendments.

Date of the next meeting: 9 September 2024

An American trail

with Upton Pyne footpath warden, Amanda Ryles

With a last-minute trip to see family overseas, there was no time for a local walk in August. Instead, our walks were in the pretty state of Rhode Island, USA. At 1,212 square miles, Rhode Island's area is less than half that of Devon though parts of it seem curiously familiar: the towns of Exeter, Taunton, Tiverton and Bristol reflecting the origins of the initial settlers.

Indeed, the coat of arms of Exeter, Rhode Island bears the triangular, three-towered castle we are familiar with from our coat of arms and hallmark. Although the main reason for the visit was to see relatives, the 13-mile daily round trip to the nursing home gave us the opportunity to walk and cycle some fantastic footpaths and see great wildlife every day.

Despite its modest size, Rhode Island has 400 miles of stunning coastline and inlets and we were lucky that our regular walk included part of the East Bay Bike Path. This 14.5-mile paved route winds along the Narragansett Bay from Bristol to India Point Park over the Seekonk River at Providence, the state capital. It largely follows the route of the old Providence, Warren and Bristol railway and is one of the many trails that make up the East Coast Greenway.

In a country where the car is king, there have been real moves to get pedestrians and cyclists away from the roads, and paths such as these are a godsend. With mandatory speed limits slowing cars down wherever the path crosses a road, and plenty of benches in the shade, we looked forward to our journey every day. Much of the wildlife seemed oddly recognisable but with its own differences: rabbits were aplenty, but smaller and redder than their Devon counterparts; squirrels were smaller; swans looked identical but it seemed strange seeing them sharing the sea and land around Pomham Rocks lighthouse with a group of cormorants; song sparrows looked similar to our tree and hedge sparrows but for their crisp, clear singing and high warbling trills.

It was the unfamiliar that was the most exciting to see though. Rare glimpses of cheeky chipmunks were met with squeals of excitement and, every time a loud whistle followed by a shrill 'pewpewpew' was heard, we paused and looked for the scarlet flash of a northern red cardinal, invariably in a conifer. Each day



we stopped at the wonderfully named Spooky Bottom and were thrilled to see a big fat groundhog. Their other name is whistlepig, as they stand upright when they sense danger and whistle warnings to the rest of the family group. We christened the one we saw Albert, and he clearly didn't feel threatened by our presence as he came out of the undergrowth several times over the fortnight.

Birdlife shares an overlap with Devon with easily recognisable gulls, geese, cormorants, swans, terns and grey herons. The birds that aren't common to the UK were certainly the more exciting to see though: the large American robin, a thrush-sized bird, black with an orange chest and white flecks around the eyes; American goldfinches and Baltimore orioles, bright yellow birds with duller females, flitting ahead of us alongside the water; the soft pinky-grey mourning doves; wild turkeys; flashes of red and yellow on the shoulders of red-winged blackbirds; statuesque great egrets pacing the wetlands and the shoreline. The most riveting birds were the ospreys. In several places, we were able to watch young osprey in their lofty nests, screeching for their parents. The young ospreylets grow to more than 90% of their adult size before they fledge, so it was no surprise to see the adults flying in with fish in their talons to feed their demanding offspring.

Sunset walks to the beach, always with a camera, and often with some ice-cream, were always a beautiful end to the day. To add to the drama, as the sun finally dipped below the horizon each night, a cannon went off on the opposite shore. Darkness brought different creatures: a nocturnal skunk; secretive racoons who ran off into the undergrowth; the chirruping mating call of male cicadas. Two weeks flew by too quickly, but recharged the batteries immeasurably. Hopefully, a few more warm weeks before the autumn will mean we can get out and enjoy some Devon sunsets, and appreciate the familiar and all the beauty of the Parish.

Brampford Speke Classic Car Show & Village Fair

Saturday 14th September
Chamberlain's Field
Vintage Cars, Table Top Sale,

Village Games, Refreshments, Cakes, Bar and Food

Email Douglas Ford: ffrford@outlook.com for further details, registration of classic vehicles and volunteering (We need your help)

Heritage Open Days at two local churches

Visitors to the Heritage Open Day at Newton St Cyres church on the morning of Saturday 14 September will be invited to walk the pilgrimage way from there to Upton Pyne church in the company of the local Ramblers group.

Both churches are on the recently-created Crediton to Exeter Pilgrimage Way and are taking part in the Heritage Open Days initiative (HODs) – Upton Pyne for the first time this year. With the theme of 'Routes, Networks, Connections', the churches decided to celebrate their historic link with a walk across the lovely countryside between the two.

Between 10am and 12 noon, at the NStC end, there will free guided tours of the church, churchyard and tower. The History Group will be launching their new booklet, *The History of the A377* (very relevant to the village as the original road footpath is still used along the side of the graveyard).

At Upton Pyne, visitors will have the opportunity to explore the church with a guide. There will be a

children's trail with prizes and the chance to create some artwork. For the more adventurous, the tower will be open with tours to the top. Booking is recommended - 01392 841339. Refreshments will be served on the Causeway.

"We look forward to welcoming visitors and the pilgrims from Newton St Cyres," said church warden Lisa Clapp. "It promises to be a really fun and stimulating afternoon!"

Newton St Cyres organiser Christine Fraser commented: "HODs is a major national festival. It is therefore a great opportunity to encourage local people, visitors, enthusiasts to learn the history of our rural churches, explore the countryside and link up where we can."

The full programme of events can be found at www.heritageopendays.org.uk

Come and celebrate our 2024 Heritage Open Day at Upton Pyne Church on Saturday 14 September from 2pm to 4.30pm



Guided Tours of the Church Children's trail and prizes

Tower tours

Refreshments

This is a FREE event. To book a tower tour or for more details contact Lisa Clapp 841339



HISTORY TOURS OF

NEWTON ST CYRES CHURCH – OPEN TO ALL

Do you know your local History? Come along and enjoy more.

Wednesday II September – 10.00 – 12 noon Saturday I4 September – 10.00 – 12 noon

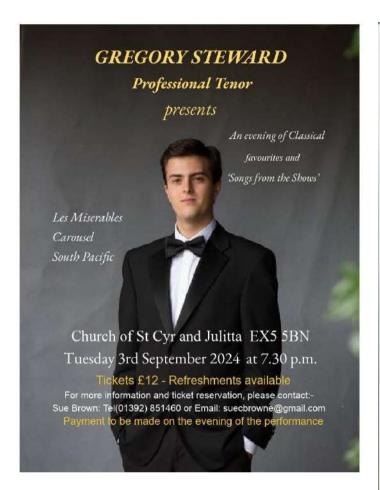
Plus, a chance to climb the Tower!

And on 14 Sept, join the 2.5mile countryside
'Pilgrimage' to our sister Church in Upton Pyne

PLEASE BOOK YOUR VISIT BY CALLING, CHATTING OR TEXTING:
Christine – 07773038689 & 01392 851988

https://www.heritageopendays.org.uk/whats-on.html







Newton Ramblers

Heritage Open Day

Saturday 14th September

Our walk this month takes a slightly different form as we are linking it with the Heritage Open Day events organised by Newton St Cyres and Upton Pyne parish churches.

The walk takes the form of a 'pilgrimage' from the church in Newton St Cyres to the one in Upton Pyne. The route follows part of the St Boniface Way which runs from Crediton to Exeter. It will take about an hour and a quarter with refreshments offered on arrival. Participants can

then enjoy a guided tour around the church.

We shall leave from the Newton St Cyres church door at 1.15pm and you may like to join us for a picnic lunch in the Arboretum from 12.30 pm.

The walk is virtually flat going from the village to the river at Sweetham, along the river and up to Langford, then along Bidwell Lane and across to Upton Pyne. Suitable footwear – walking shoes/trainers – is recommended.

For more information contact Rosemary or Nigel Chambers on 01392 851400.

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



UPTON PYNE CHURCH NEWS

September greetings from The Church of Our Lady in Upton Pyne! Summer seems to have passed so quickly and now we are anticipating autumn. During the summer the Parochial Church Council has worked with the Friends of Upton Pyne to maintain the church and churchyard. Funds for this were boosted when the Friends hosted a very successful visit from the Jane Austen Society of North America, who thoroughly enjoyed their visit to the village and the church, which may have been the setting for Sense and Sensibility. Another planned volunteer day in the churchyard will help alleviate the maintenance costs.

Our services continue with Holy Communion on the second Sunday in the month at 10.30 am, so all are welcome on Sunday, 8 September; there are refreshments afterwards and a good opportunity to meet those from other villages who regularly support us.

There is a lot going on in the Netherexe parishes in September; early on there is a concert at Newton St. Cyres on 3 September and a Flower Festival at Stoke Canon on 7-8 September. There are posters about these up in the village. On Saturday, 14 September our church in Upton Pyne is open all afternoon for a Heritage Day event (details elsewhere in *Speke Up*) And on Friday, 27 September we have our next ever-popular Curry & Quiz evening, organised by the Friends. Details of how to book elsewhere in *Speke Up*.

We look forward to seeing our neighbours at any of these events at the church or elsewhere in the villages around us. You can be assured of a warm welcome. **VC**

TEA, CAKE & CHAT ON THURSDAYS

The Thursday teas take place in Upton Pyne Village Hall. The hall is open every Thursday 2pm - 4pm and anyone who turns up is assured of a warm welcome, tea and a chance to catch up with neighbours and friends. Our grateful thanks to the hall committee for making it available and to Adrienne, Lyn and Rose for hosting this community event.

THE LUNCH BUNCH

We next meet on Tuesday 10 September at 12 noon at The Thorverton Arms for a good lunch and good company. Anyone is welcome to join this friendly group: to book a place call Pat on 841 599 or Veronica on 841 530.

VILLAGE COFFEE MORNING

We continue to open Upton Pyne Village Hall on the first Monday of the month and offer a warm welcome, tea, cafetiere coffee, biscuits and a chance to buy homemade cakes and to browse for bargains at the Bring & Buy stall. Do come along and support this community event. The next is on 2 September at 11am.

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The Season of Mists and Mellow Fruitfulness...

While, hopefully, there are still many warm and sunny days to come over the next month or so, there is no doubt that we are entering that most wonderful of seasons - autumn.

Even in the middle of August, as I write these few lines, I can see some leaves are turning a glorious golden colour, apples are ripening nicely on our trees, and even the brambles - with which we fight a constant battle - are providing a little peace-offering of some delicious blackberries.

I know that for many people, spring is their 'season' as it were, full of promise and new growth, of lengthening days and hints of warmth. But autumn, for me, is just such an incredible season - a sense of completion all around, of a job well done, with harvests gathered in, fruit and vegetables aplenty. A time for celebration. And of planning for the future, with thoughts already turning to next year's crops.

But before thinking too far ahead, take a little time to wander and enjoy the lanes around our villages; take in the sights and smells as the hedgerows and fields abound with their cornucopia of blackberries and hazelnuts, sloes and elderflower, rosehips and mushrooms - a veritable feast, with the promise, too, of much fine wine and gin. The gifts of creation are all around and, for me, a constant reminder of the bountiful promises of God's extravagance.

And of course, the churches will soon be filled with these wonderful gifts and more, as we celebrate Harvest, give thanks for all that we have and all that the world around us provides. Please keep an eye out for a Harvest service in a church near you in September or October - for posters and notices, and perhaps even a quick search on our website. It would be great to see you there.

For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat – Matthew ch35v35

But even as we celebrate the abundance all around us, we are also reminded, on the news, online and in the papers, that there are too many in this country and around the world who struggle to put a meal on the table, who struggle to find enough to eat.

As Christians, the verse from Matthew resonates deeply and in many of our churches there are

already collection boxes for the various local food support programmes.

On the 29 September, at our mission community service at Brampford Speke, we will welcome Chris Roe, as he talks with us about a food aid programme undertaken through Barnabas Aid. Called food.gives, the campaign seeks to provide food to countries around the world that are struggling because of war, persecution, famine or other challenges.

Since its launch in 2021, at the height of the pandemic, it has shipped thousands of tonnes of food to many different places, including Ukraine, Tonga, Eswatini, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, providing food and other essential life-saving supplies to millions of people.

The churches will seek to support food.gives through a regular collection of clearly-identified foodstuffs (generally dried foods such as rice and lentils) which won't detract from our local projects. Your support for this would be gratefully appreciated.

Do though enjoy this autumnal season and give thanks for all that we have.

A welcome to Deborah

Revd. Deborah Leighton
Plom *(pictured right)* has
joined the Netherexe team.
She will be serving her curacy
with us - in essence, it is a
period of about three years



'on the job' training. I'll let her introduce herself:

"Thank you for your warm welcome so far to the Netherexe mission community. I am your new curate and am looking forward to working in the team led by Revd Tim Collins, your priest-in-charge.

"We have moved into Stoke Canon vicarage, but have not come far as we have just relocated from Exeter. I'm here with my husband Ash and our son Alfred, who is 13. (Our two older daughters have now left home). Ash is also ordained - most recently he has been serving as clergy at St. David's church in Exeter, and is currently working for Exeter YMCA. He is licensed as a priest for the whole diocese, so he may help out occasionally in the mission community here too.

"I trained for ministry at St. Mellitus theological college, having been prodded and cajoled by God into

hearing a calling to priestly vocation. Before training, I worked in prisons across the South West, supporting people who were due for release and helping them plan how they would resettle into the community. Prior to that, I was an advocate in the NHS complaints system, ensuring people had their voices heard when things went wrong. Supporting people on the margins to have a voice has always been at the heart of my vocation.

"In my spare time I love reading, creative writing and painting. Watching the birds in the garden is currently bringing me great joy. I am very much looking forward to finding out about all the activities going on in the community and meeting people across the parishes over the coming months. If you see me, do say hello!"

We offer Deborah and her family blessings for a fruitful ministry in this wonderful part of Devon.

All blessings,



Priest-in-Charge, Netherexe Mission Community

St Peter's Church, Brampford Speke

Questionnaire

We would like to thank everyone who completed the questionnaire delivered to households across Brampford Speke last month.

However, we know that many people needed a little more time, so there is a collection box in the church porch for you to 'post' your questionnaire.

All the responses will be collated, and we will produce a report of the findings, presenting these to all those interested at the village hall in October.

All blessings Tim Revd Tim Collins Priest-in-Charge, Netherexe Mission Community

01392 860767 07449 111663

Thorverton Royal British Legion



The cream tea delivery service on Saturday 10 August organised by the Thorverton branch of the Royal British Legion, was again very popular and well supported. We had a

limit of 200, which we reached with just a few days to go. Our sincere apologies to the people who had left it late to book as we regrettably had to turn them down. A fantastic sum of £1,060 was raised. A very big thank you to all the people who bought the cream teas and to those who gave a little bit extra and, of course, to all the generous people who just gave donations, it was all very much appreciated.

We are donating £500 to the Legion Poppy Appeal, £175 to the Thorverton Defibrillator Community Trust, £175 to Lucy's Larder, £105 to the Thorverton branch and £105 towards the winter flowers and compost at the village green and primary school. I would like to say a special thank you to all the team who worked so hard on the day: Penny, Steph, Bev, Clare, Nic, Chloe, Sarah & Dave who prepared, packed and delivered all the cream teas. It wouldn't work without a great team.

Thorverton RBL Quiz nights our annual quiz night at the Exeter Inn (sponsored by the 'Thorverton old boys') will now take place on Wednesday 23 October 7.30pm just three days before Matt & Rick leave on Saturday the 26th. Our second quiz night will be a week later at the Thorverton Arms on Wednesday 30 October 7.30pm. (sponsored by Sam & Nic Fice 'Energy Systems'). As normal, a draw and a Port toast will take place at both quizzes. A maximum of six in a team, £2.50 each. In aid of the Poppy Appeal and Branch funds. Please book your table early to avoid any disappointment.

This year the **Remembrance Church Service** will be on Sunday 10 November at 10am followed by the Act of Remembrance outside at the war memorial. The **Armistice** at 11am on Monday 11th, is a short service outside at the war memorial. Afterwards, light refreshments at the Thorverton Arms.

After 14 years' service Penny Fice has finally retired as our Poppy Appeal Organiser (PAO). During her time in office an amazing £43,032 has been raised and we would like to express our sincerest thanks and appreciation for the time you have given to this role. Our new PAO is Jan Birmingham from Brampford Speke.

A.Fice

SERVICES & INFORMATION SEPTEMBER 2024

The Netherexe Parishes - A community of Anglican churches in Devon

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

Sunday 1 September

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

Sunday 8 September

09:30 amCommunion & BaptismThorverton10:30 amCommunion by ExtensionUpton Pyne

Sunday 15 September

09:15 amBaptism & Bubble ChurchThorverton10:00 amHarvest ServiceStoke Canon

10:30 am Communion & Harvest Service Brampford Speke

11:15 am Communion Cadbury
02:30 pm Harvest Service Netherexe

Sunday 22 September

09:30 am Communion Newton St Cyres

10:00 amHarvest ServiceThorverton11:00 amHarvest ServiceHuxham11:15 amCommunionRewe

Sunday 29 September

10:00 am Mission Community Service Brampford Speke

Sunday 6 October

10:30 am Harvest Service Upton Pyne

Sunday 13 October

11:00 am Harvest Service Newton St Cyres

11:15 am Café Church & Harvest Service Rewe

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

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

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

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

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

Revd Tim Collins [Priest in charge] Tel: 01392 860767 tim.collins@netherexe.org

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

Juliette Lea [Administrator] Tuesday & Thursday [09:00 – 15:00]

Tel: 07594 714590

Email: administration@netherexe.org

Peter Shepherd [Administrator]

Monday & Wednesday [09:00 - 13:00]

Tel: 07551 844321

Email: administration@netherexe.org







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NEWTON ST CYRES GARDENING CLUB is pleased to invite you to

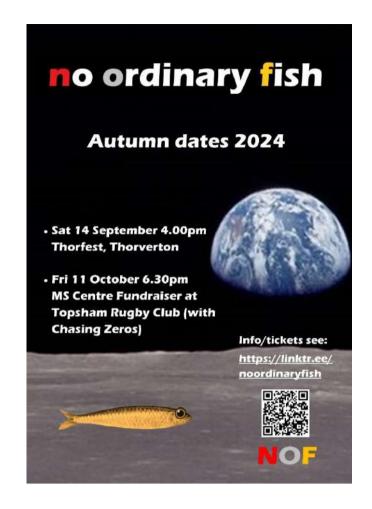


An evening with TOBY BUCKLAND

(BBC Gardeners' World & BBC Radio Devon)

on Wednesday 2nd October at 7.30pm Tickets £10

Contact Nicola on 01392 851985 Book now to be sure of a seat!



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How to 'cement a relationship'

Ros Leveridge meets Nick Gilbert Scott

Alongside the pleasure of meeting so many wonderful and interesting local people, sometimes comes the invitation to visit them in their homes. When I met up with Nick Gilbert Scott, I was soon to discover that his house in Brampford Speke is quite special and unique, for the simple reason that he designed it himself. Not only that, but he built it too, together with his wife Sarah who had the most unenviable task of mixing the cement!





It was quite an ambitious undertaking for a young newly-married couple with little money and not much DIY experience! What might have been a disaster turned out extremely well however: through his project, Nick met local builders, who then asked him to design other projects for them. His architectural business took off and the return to Devon, which had been intended as a 6-month break from practising architecture in London, became permanent. The



Nick at a recent exhibition of his paintings

house itself, of course, is still standing and has been their lovely home for nearly 50 years.

Nick has always led, and continues to lead, a lively and rich creative life. Becoming an architect, he says, was difficult to avoid, since he is a fifth-generation descendant in a long line of distinguished architects with nationally treasured buildings to their name. And if you have ever made a call from inside that British cultural icon, the red telephone box, you will be familiar with just one of the many designs, dating from the 1920s, for which Nick's grandfather, Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, is well known.

For Nick, being an architect is only one of the many strands that make up his artistic life. Staging shows and being responsible for designing innovative sets and props has always interested him, and even taken him to the Olivier stage at the National Theatre in London with a class of 16 and 17-year-old drama students when teaching at South Devon College, following their win in a national competition. Nick has also always had an enduring commitment to community theatre. He has regularly contributed stage designs for local drama performances in Crediton, beginning with *A Tale of Two Cities* at QE School, and evolving over many years into the

productions called 'Shakespeare in the Square', with which he is proud to be still actively involved.

In 1996, after many years of teaching, it was time for a change of direction and a new adventure.

"I had the opportunity to take a break from architecture," Nick explains. "I had been doing some teaching and choreographing in the theatre, so I applied for an MA in Dance Studies at Laban Centre in London and was successful."

At the remarkable age of 49, he gave himself 10 weeks to see whether the course was for him. Although most of the other students were in their twenties, he found he loved the stimulating environment and revelled in the mix of cultures which it offered. Nick successfully completed the course and, at the age of 50, even did a solo performance.

"After Laban, I continued as a Visiting Lecturer there for 11 years. My deeper understanding of human movement, behaviour and use of space were to feed into teaching in Architecture at the University of Plymouth, and invigorated my practice as an architect," he said.

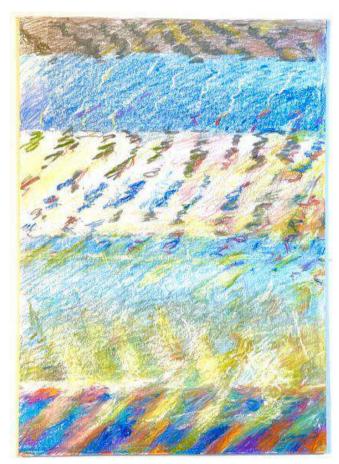
From delivering just one workshop at the university – on making hats with aeroplane wings, which he still has on display in his sitting room – he became absorbed in the importance of understanding the social side of architecture. He is still teaching there some 25 years later. In Nick's classes, he encourages his students to gain an understanding of how to feel space through the senses, whilst also learning perspective drawing, giving them some of the practical skills and methods needed for their future work.

Underpinning all this is Nick's deep love of art. Painting is a great passion of his, and there are many of his colourful works hanging on the walls (and, due to an inevitable lack of wall space after so many years, one or two more leaning against them). His wife, Sarah, is also an artist, weaver and silversmith, and beautiful examples of her colourful weaving adorn the sitting room.

His aim, in this busy life full of architecture, dance and drama, is to find more time for his art and for painting in particular. As part of a painters' group, Nick recently exhibited some of his work in Norfolk. He describes the act of painting as "an expression of life" and

emphasises how important it is to "see it all around you".

Sir George Gilbert Scott, Nick's great great grandfather, when asked about his approach to designing the Albert Memorial, said: "I have thrown myself into the subject with all the enthusiasm and earnestness of which I am capable." This enthusiasm has clearly carried down the generations and is very evident in Nick's conviction and passion for all his projects, whether artistic, dramatic or architectural.



A recent pastel titled Sand and Sea, exhibited and sold in Norfolk in May this year.

How does it feel to belong to such a famous family, I wondered finally.

"You have to be independent, live your own life, and be your own person," he replied. Wise words to follow indeed.

Friends of Upton Pyne

We held two successful fund-raising events in the early summer. Pynes House was the venue for both, and we are immensely grateful to the owners for allowing us to use such magnificent surroundings.

In June, we had spectacularly sunny weather for An Evening with Rosemary Griggs, appearing as the Lady Katherine and informing us of life and clothing in Tudor times.



Rosemary Griggs
Refreshments were served in the rose garden, which was in glorious full bloom.



Alfresco interlude

Rosemary has written two books about Tudor life and was happy to sign purchases. We were also treated to a display of Tudor-style embroidery by Adrienne Howells. The evening raised just under £400 for the Friends.

In July, we hosted a visit by the Jane Austen Society of North America, as part of a tour themed around

Sense & Sensibility. Upton Pyne is thought be the possible setting for the novel. The morning began with a tour of Pynes House led by Nigel Chambers (owner Kate Tilley's father), who gave a wonderful account of the history of the house and the changes over the centuries. The group then visited the church, where Revd. Tim Collins and Veronica Clarke spoke about life in Jane Austen's day. Revd. Tim then offered a tour of the tower for those who were able and wished to see an exciting view of the surrounding countryside.



At the top of the tower

Afterwards, in the village hall, the group were treated to coffee, scones and Devizes cheesecakes - a delicacy eaten by Jane Austen herself - which Sue Glanville had researched and baked.



June and Alan

June and Alan Nicks provided a display about Woodrow Barton, which is thought to be the setting for Barton Cottage. The group was delighted with the bookmarks created by *Speke Up* artist Sally Tuckey and given as mementoes of the visit.



Coffee and cakes in the village hall

The visitors were full of praise for their experience and went away having had a very happy morning – as did we. Comments received by the tour organiser afterwards, in reply to a question about their favourite place included:

"Favorite place was the visit to Upton Pyne, visiting the manor house, the church and the wonderful hospitality."

"I loved visiting Upton Pyne and the village and getting to send time with the people who live there. It was the most unique experience."

"Upton Pynes everything!"

"Pynes House and Upton Pyne village."

"Upton Pyne bell tower"

Generous donations of over £800 were received.

Our next fundraising event is the ever-popular Curry and Quiz on 27 September in the village hall – please see the advert (right). It is essential to book in advance by phoning Sue Glanville on 07753 605726. Teams are normally of four people, but if you do not have a team do let Sue know: we can mix and match people on to teams.

We hope to have a churchyard tidy-up day – probably 1 September. Do keep an eye out for notices of when we are working and please do join us for an hour or so to help keep our churchyard beautiful.





Curry & quiz

Fri. 27 Sept

7 for 7.30 pm Upton Pyne Village Hall

£12 booking essential, call 07753 605726.

Bring your own drinks (free drink on arrival)

Friends of Upton Pyne

UPTON PYNE & DISTRICT GARDEN CLUB

All events are held in the Upton Pyne Village Hall CONTACT June 01392 841272

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE GARDENING CLUB?

Mon 16th Sept - a talk by MARTIN GODFREY No dig Gardening- Best for Wildlife and you

Mon 23rd Sept -CAR SHARE TRIP to <u>RHS ROSEMOOR</u>

Rosemoor is a joy to visit any time of the year and less than an hour from Upton Pyne.

Please contact Pat Overton 01392 841599 if you would like to join us. As RHS members are able to take in a guest for free, we should be able to reduce the overall cost for non members.

Mon 21st Oct advice & chat with ALAN FRENCH Autumn Colour + Plants for Sale ****

Sat 23rd Nov ANNUAL GARDEN CLUB XMAS DINNER An enjoyable & relaxed evening with festive cheer, food and entertainment

Mon 2nd Dec at the local Village Coffee Morning Make your own Xmas Wreath quided by professional wedding florist, Katrina, from BLOOM BLOOM of Upton Pyne. A ready mossed 12 inch ring & wire for fixing foliage, plus ribbon for bows will be provided. These rings can be made into a wreath of your own design. You will be asked to bring your own foliage or decorations. I feel sure that some of us with larger gardens will be happy to help out with fir or holly if needed. The tutorial will last for $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours at a cost of £20pp. We would ask for you to reserve and pay for your place by Saturday 25th November please call June Nicks 01392 841272

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Thorverton History Society

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27 September

John Dyke 200 Years of Photography

25 October

James Brent Rebuilding the Royal Clarence Hotel

22 November

Richard Parker The Merchants' Houses in St Martin's Island, Exeter

The Gardening Year



Pampas Grass (Cordaderia selloana)

While writing this it is hard to know what the September weather will bring. The days will be shortening, but there may still be an Indian Summer giving heat. Hopefully we will still be harvesting produce including raspberries, apples, grapes, tomatoes and peppers.

Last September, on a visit to Lyme Regis, I saw this amazing display of Pampas grass, Cortaderia selloana, in a front garden. As many of you will know, this is an ornamental grass, forming large, compact tufts of rough-edged leaves. In summer, dense silvery flower panicles emerge on the strong stems. It can grow to 4 metres in height in two to five years and can spread up to 2.5 metres. It was traditionally grown as a specimen in the middle of a lawn, but it also looks good grown in a shrub border, among herbaceous perennials. In a large garden, it can look spectacular when planted in informal drifts among trees, and it makes a good intruder-proof boundary, due to the sharp-edged evergreen leaves. It grows best in welldrained soil in full sun, and should be tidied annually, either in late winter or early spring, to keep it free from debris. However, as I have pointed out, the leaf edges are extremely sharp, so do wear gloves for protection. If you wish, the plumes can be cut and dried for flower arranging, but they also look beautiful if left in the garden when the frosts come in the winter. If this is too large for your garden, there is a smaller, shorter variety - Cortaderia selloana Tiny Pampa. This will flower prolifically for six to eight weeks and grows well in containers.

A-Z of Rose Growing – Peter Beales Roses (continued)

G – Ground-cover Banish the sight of bare soil beneath shrubs with glorious ground-cover roses. These roses might be smaller, growing broad rather than tall, but they pack a punch for flower power. Technically known as procumbent roses, they're ideal for filling beds with summer colour, keeping difficult-to-reach banks carpeted in colour and for growing in containers. More

here: https://www.classicroses.co.uk/roses/procumbe nt-roses.html

H – Hybrid tea These classic garden favourites tend to bear a single bud on the end of each stem which opens to reveal a single, glorious bloom (unlike floribundas, which produce clusters of flowers). Hybrid teas have one of the longest flowering periods of any garden plant, getting the show on the road in early summer and blooming until the first frosts of autumn. Browse the selection

here: https://www.classicroses.co.uk/roses/hybrid-teas.html

- I Insects Although roses are low-maintenance, generally hassle-free, plants sometimes greenfly and blackfly can infest foliage and flower buds. Ladybirds often descend to feast on these unwanted bugs, but if nature's pest control is in short supply, aphids can easily be despatched by blasting them from plants using a hosepipe. Tackling infestations before they've built up makes it easier to rid plants of unwanted invaders, so be vigilant during the warm months.
- J John Innes John Innes No3 compost, to be precise because that's what gardeners should fill large pots with when planting roses into containers. This loambased growing medium is formulated for plants that will sit in containers for many years. Specialist rose composts mix 70% John Innes No. 3 with 30% multipurpose compost or dried manure. Avoid planting into only multipurpose or rose compost, which are designed to be used for up to six months and will become compacted and depleted in nutrients.
- K the symbol for potassium Look at any plant food and the packaging will state the NPK rating. K stands for potassium (also called potash) and high levels of K in fertilisers will encourage abundant flowering. Tomato food is rich in potassium and works wonders on roses growing in containers give summer displays a boost by feeding roses in pots with tomato food once the flowering season is underway.

L – Label Every rose is different, so check the label before buying for the mature height and spread to make sure you have enough space. By leaving 60cm between floribunda and hybrid tea rose bushes, plants will have room to grow without becoming overcrowded, and you'll have easy access, to deadhead, prune and weed. Shrubs should be planted further apart.

Jobs for September

- Sow winter salads. Lamb's lettuce, mizuna and rocket can be sown now in a sheltered spot or cold frame/greenhouse ready to cut in autumn and winter.
- Clear fallen leaves and store in a separate enclosed area to create leaf mould. If you have insufficient room to create this, specific bags for their storage can be purchased from garden centres.
- If you are looking to replace a boundary fence, maybe consider planting a hedge instead. This will provide shelter for birds and other wildlife. Hedges will also absorb noise, capture pollution, mitigate flooding and make better windbreaks than fences.
- Take lots of cuttings from flowering shrubs. Once established, you can then use these in different areas of your garden or give them to friends. This is also a good way to ensure you still have your favourite plants, should you lose any of the originals overwinter.
- Plan your Christmas flowers. Buy forced or prepared hyacinth bulbs or Paperwhite narcissi and either plant in pots or you can still buy the glass vases specifically designed for this. If using these vases, you can place some pebbles or glass beads in the bottom 1/3 of the vase and then add water. Place the bulb on the top of the vase with the pointed end at the top and the base of the bulb just above the water level. Keep the water levels topped up but do not let the base of the bulb sit in water. This then allows the roots to grow downwards into the water. The hyacinths should flower within 10-12 weeks and Paperwhite narcissi in 6-8 weeks

What's On

Friday 6 Sept & Saturday 7 Sept NGS Open Gardens Pounds, Hemyock, Cullompton, Devon, EX15 3QS Open 1pm - 4pm Admission £5. Cottage garden of lawns, colourful borders and roses, set within low flint walls with distant views. Slate paths lead through an acer grove to a swimming pool, amid scented borders. Beyond lies a traditional ridge and furrow orchard, with a rose hedge, where apple, pear, plum and cherries grow among ornamental trees. Further on, an area of raised beds combines vegetables with flowers for cutting.

Saturday 7 September Hospiscare Open Garden Southey Farm, Sampford Courtenay, Okehampton, EX20 2TE Open 9am - 3.30pm. The gardens at Southey Farm were started in 2005 after the son of the original owner bought the place. He continued to work in London while laying paths and planting trees. Highlights include a box maze, a Japanese Garden, a Cottage Garden, a Tropical Garden and more than 100 different varieties of holly. Admission: By donation

Parking: Parking for around 10 cars available in the farmyard Refreshments: Tea and coffee Wheelchair Access: Most of the garden is accessible by wheelchair or mobility scooter Dogs: Yes Toilets: Yes

Saturday 7 September RHS Rosemoor Plant Heritage Autumn Plant Fair 10 - 3pm normal admission charges apply.

Wednesday 2 October 7.30pm Newton St Cyres Gardening Club 'An evening with Toby Buckland' talking about his top favourite plants and answering your questions. Tickets £10 from Nicola 01392 851985

Happy Gardening!

Nicola Baker



Harrest Time

The richness of the year comes towards its peak around this time. Fields come to harvest, the hedgerows come to ripeness: blackberries like little jewels, green and red and glistening black. Leaves hang heavy on the trees, as if weary with the year's work. People take the fruits of their labour.

Birdsong quietens. No need to police your territory when there is enough for everyone. The young of all kinds explore the world, slowly getting off their parents' books, finding or being lunch. A ferocious buzzing overhead announces a hornet, our native gentle, if alarming, species. They are kept at bay earlier in the year by the house martins, and get bolder when the summer visitors go. We saw a little nest of slow worms, enjoying the warmth held in their roof of a large flat stone.

We've been trialing the Global Farm Metric, allowing us to think about our sustainability, food and farming and our impact on the planet, measured in one go. I've peered at lichens on trees, dipped for insects in our river, and dug for earthworms in our soil, indicators of air, water and soil health. So far? Good and we seem short on earthworms. Good to get that understanding that our former ways of farming may not have allowed our hidden friends to support us.

The combine harvester is clanking around the landscape, collecting the grain we sowed last Autumn. When it's dry, the machines go out, cut the straw, thresh the grain from the ear and literally separate the wheat from the chaff. We take the grain to the barn and come back and bale up the straw, with another clanking machine. That becomes feed and

bedding. Everyone works together to get the harvest in. It's such a fulfilling time.

Animals graze sleekly in the fields. The grass has been more abundant, if not as rich, in this cool year. One herd of cows is calving now, grazing stalky grass while they wait in the maternity field, to keep them full but not fat. We reserve some tender new growth for the calved cows with their sudden need to make milk.

The cheese has had its annual makeover, deep cleaning, tests and repairs that we can't do when we are making cheese. The stores have all the cheese maturing for the months ahead: here is cheese for now, for Autumn, Christmas, next year and even next Christmas. The cheese starts off as glowing pale yellow pristine in its muslin cloth. At a month, there is a scattering of moulds. By five months, the moulds are at their richest, a feast of colours, shapes and styles, Mondrian, Jackson Pollock or Paul Klee. Then mite come in and trim the moulds and secondary moulds come, and they develop more muddy Abstract Expressionist shapes, detailed dense and darker with successive generations of mould and mite.

The Affineur of the Year competition in June had 10 of our cheeses go out (along with a Cropwell Bishop Stilton, a Baron Bigod soft cheese and a Whitelake Solstice washed rind cheese) to be matured by other people. Our cheese was matured in hay, with olive oil and smoked paprika amongst others. Specialist judges and many of our cheese family from the UK and abroad judged the cheeses. The winning cheese was remarkably matured in a replica of an old-fashioned coal hole which produced some lovely rich and nutty notes. It's exciting to see a wave of affinage, different approaches to maturing, develop in this country. There is as much to learn about rind as there is about soil and the myriad wonders of the natural world.





In season this month

Eating seasonally gives us an opportunity to connect with nature and enjoy the bounty of delicious, diverse, local ingredients at their optimum level of nutrition.

Now is the time to enjoy the following: Beetroot Butternut Squash Celeriac Courgettes Lettuce Marrow Mushrooms Runner Beans



Sweetcorn
Watercress
Apples Blackberries
Damsons
Elderberries Figs
Greengages Pears
Plums Sloes
Cobnuts

Apple Cake

Apples are abundant in September and this recipe makes good use of windfall

eating apples or those that are ready to pick and use. I add a generous amount of spice to give a lovely layer of flavours to this dense cake. You may need to cover the cake for the first half hour of cooking if you have a range-type cooker to avoid it getting too brown on the top. Just remember that ovens vary enormously so check the cake after 40 minutes, using a skewer, if you have a fan-assisted oven.

Golden caster sugar

Butter

130g, soft

Self-raising flour

250g

Eggs

3, medium

Ground cloves

½ tsp

Mixed spice OR cinnamon

Baking powder

1 tsp

Apple 4 medium, cored &

finely chopped (approx 400g prepared)

Raisins or Sultanas 60g

Optional - Preserved ginger 40g, chopped
Cob or hazelnuts 40g, chopped
Demerara sugar 2 round tbsp

- 1. Line a 20 cm (8 inch), loose-bottom cake tin. Set the oven to 180°c / 160° fan / Gas mark 4.
- 2. Combine the sugar and butter until pale (use a food mixer or processor as you wish).
- Add half the flour with the eggs and spices.
 Mix and add the remaining flour and baking powder.
- 4. Use a large spoon to fold in the apple and raisins.
- 5. Spoon about a third of the mixture into the cake tin.
- 6. Scatter the ginger and nuts over the mixture and then add the remaining cake mix to the tin.
- 7. Smooth the top and sprinkle with the brown sugar. Bake for 50 minutes (you may want to check it after 40 minutes) until golden.
- 8. Leave to cool in the tin for at least 20 minutes, then transfer to a cooling rack.
 - Delicious served slightly warm with a generous dollop of Devon clotted cream.

Variation – Blackberry + Apple cake Since blackberries are often still found in hedgerows at the beginning of the month, this makes a delicious variation.

Add

Blackberries 70g Self-raising flour 50g

Remove

Raisins

Sarah Lumley

Sarah went from a career in public relations to food writing and styling, writing the Dairy Cookery books and Dairy Diaries throughout the 1990s. She then graduated once more and worked as a nutritional therapist in London for 20 years whilst continuing her food writing, lecturing and hosting various cookery workshops. She moved to Upton Pyne in December.



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We also offer venue hire at the Coach Hall and lovely
holiday accommodation at Fursdon Cottage.

Answers to Music Quiz

- Q1 The soundtrack to the film *Blade Runner* was composed by Vangelis.
- Q2 David Bowie was an alien in the film *The Man* Who Fell to Earth.
- Q3 The memorable tune that enabled humans and aliens to 'talk' to each other in *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* has 5 notes:



- Q4 The murderous singing plant featured in *The Little Shop of Horrors*.
- Q5 Thus Spake Zarathustra was the theme tune to 2001: A Space Odyssey.
- Q6 *The Black Hole* soundtrack was composed by John Barry.
- Q7 *Dune* is the desert-based sci-fi epic for which Hans Zimmer composed the most recent versions.
- Q8 John Williams composed the soundtrack for *Jurassic Park* and *ET*.
- Q9 The roller-skate themed sci-fi film starring Olivia Newton-John was *Xanadu*.
- Q10 *Mad World* appeared in the film *Donnie Darko*.

Answers to Time and Tide Quiz

- 1 *My Grandfather's Clock* (written in 1876 by Henry Clay Work)
- 2 The Bristol Channel / Severn Estuary
- 3 1936 recorded by Ethel Jane Cain, a telephonist and actress
- 4 February
- 5 He discovered that the moon affected tidal motion
- 6 John Harrison
- 7 Procter & Gamble
- 8 Sigmund Freud
- 9 Omega their Speedmaster, worn by Apollo astronauts, is sometimes called the Moon Watch
- 10 Joseph Haydn



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Many thanks to Nick Gilbert Scott for allowing us to use his drawing of the Village Hall

CHAT about waste

Wasted or unused medicine is a serious and growing problem within the NHS. For every £25 the NHS spends on medication, £1 is lost due to unused or partially-used drugs. There are multiple factors relating to repeat prescribing and the dispensing process that can lead to excessive volumes of medicines being supplied but never used.

The NHS South West Pharmacy Team has asked us to look at how the NHS could reduce this drug wastage and we started this project during August.

The NHS pays for every medicine it dispenses so for the Government there is no such thing as a free prescription. Wyndham House dispenses around 2,000 medications per week. Almost all of these are repeat prescriptions and so it is easy to understand how small mistakes or miscommunication between the practice and patients can mean that items are dispensed that are not required or have not been requested. Patients will sometimes over-order to create a stock pile of medication; most often this applies to 'when required' medication due to patient concerns over medicine shortages. These are actually fairly rare and we protect ourselves by ordering supplies of alternatives long in advance of any predicted supply problems. We also need to acknowledge patients' concerns about how their ordering will be interpreted: "I always ask for everything on the slip as I don't want to run out... it's easier to say everything... I don't want the doctor to think I'm not using them properly by not re-ordering." Rest assured our only inference from a patient not ordering an item is that they already have enough.

The project aims to look at how we can address some of the above factors and so reduce over-ordering. We hope to make a big difference to drug wastage by concentrating on a few simple steps. With this as the aim, we would like to ask all patients to:

Check what medicines you have at home before reordering. Only tick the boxes on your repeat prescription forms for medicines that you need. Check your medicines before you leave the dispensary – open your prescription bag while you are still in the dispensary; you can return any unwanted medicine to us at this point and we will be able to use it for somebody else. Once medicines have left the surgery they cannot be recycled or used by anyone else, even if you never open them. **Ask** our dispensary team to remove any items from your repeat list that you no longer need.

Tell us if you have a lot of medications that have built up at home – we will be able to help you get your ordering back in balance and make use of the stock.

CHeck, Ask, Tell is going to be the approach we will take and we hope you will be happy to CHAT about the medicines you are ordering and help us with the review we have been asked to complete. Dispensing practices are recognised for their efficient and effective provision of healthcare; any lessons we learn about how to make reductions in our drug wastage will be even more powerful when applied and multiplied across the many thousands of UK general practices.

Dr Anthony O'Brien Wyndham House Surgery



BATTY EVENING

Thank you so much to everyone who came to our Batty Evening back in July. The bats put on a wonderful aerial display for us, Kari Bettoney gave us an excellent insight into bat ecology using bat detectors and infra-red cameras. Some of us were able to watch several orphaned baby bats (pictured) being bottle fed. The weather was perfect, all the drinks and snacks were consumed - and we raised £160 for Mid Devon Bat Rescue!



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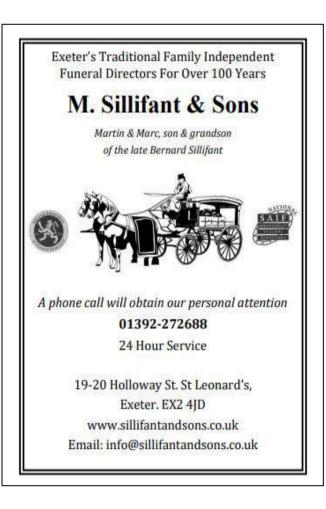
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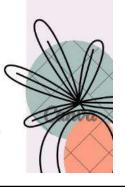




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Councillors

Brad Hillson

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brad.hillson.bspc@gmail.com

Other Contacts in Brampford Speke:

Village Hall website

Brampford Area Baby and Toddler Group

Friends of BS School (FOBSS)

Village Hall Bookings Footpath warden

Tree Warden, Elaine Hollingsworth

Twinning Association

www.brampfordspeke.org.uk

Catherine Bending 07964 967278 hellofobss@gmail.com or 841414

Molly Luxton 841270

footpaths.BSPC@gmail.com

01392 841434

Kate Cavill 0751 3002 708

Upton Pyne & Cowley Parish Council

Council website <u>www.uptonpyne-pc.org.uk</u>

<u>Clerk</u> Jacqui Ward 01392 851918 <u>parishclerk@uptonpyne-pc.gov.uk</u>

Councillors

Bob Short UP bobshort@uptonpyne-pc.gov.uk Chairman

Jessica Dalton UP jessicadalton@uptonpyne-pc.gov.uk

Amanda Ryles Cowl amandaryles@uptonpyne-pc.gov.uk Footpath Warden

Maggie Cormack UP maggiecormack@uptonpyne-pc.gov.uk

Sophie Ward UP sophieward@uptonpyne-pc.gov.uk IT & Communications

Mark Hewlett Cowl markhewlett@uptonpyne-pc.gov.uk CLT representative for the PC

Mike Leach UP mikeleach@uptonpyne-pc.gov.uk

Other Contacts in Upton Pyne

Garden Club June Nicks (Chairman) 841272

Village Hall Bookings Ian Findlay iankfindlay@outlook.com

Footpath Warden Amanda Ryles

Whatsapp Group Sue Glanville 07753 605726

Gerry Farrell Morrish 07974 249466 Abi Hann 07835 259514

East Devon District Council

Blackdown House, Border Road, Heathpark Industrial Estate, Honiton, EX14 1EJ. Tel: 01404 515616

Councillor: Jamie Kemp 07538 570551 jkemp@eastdevon.gov.uk

EDDC Dog Warden: 01395 571517

Devon County Council

Councillors: Henry Gent Henry.Gent@devon.gov.uk

Sara Randall Johnson 01404 822524 sara.randalljohnson@devon.gov.uk

Tel: 03451 551015. Highways Operations Control Centre 01392 383329 (8am -8pm) or 0345 155 1004 (out of hours) for reporting fallen trees, flooding, potholes etc.

Redlands 01363 727111 (inc. Thorverton Surgery)

SpekeUp www.spekeup.org

Material for publication should be sent by 15th of the month by email to contributions@spekeup.org.uk
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September DIARY

Monday	2 nd September	11am	Upton Pyne Village Coffee Morning & Bring and Buy Sale Upton Pyne Village Hall All welcome.	Veronica Clarke 841 530
Sunday	8 th September	2pm	Whist Drive Upton Pyne Village Hall	David Taverner 01884 855459
Monday	9 th September	7.30pm	Upton Pyne and Cowley Parish Council Upton Pyne Village Hall	Jacqui Ward 01392 851 918
Tuesday	10 th September	12 noon	Lunch Bunch Thorverton Arms	Pat 841 599 or Veronica 841 530
Wednesday	11 th September	7.30pm	Brampford Speke Parish Council Meeting Brampford Speke Village Hall	Tracy Watkins 07811 938614
Saturday	14 th September	All Day	Brampford Speke Classic Car Show & Village Fair Chamberlain's field Vintage Cars, Table Top Sale, Village Games, Refreshments, Cakes, Bar and Food	For more information, registration of classic vehicles and volunteering (we need your help!) contact: Douglas Ford ffrford@outlook.com
Saturday	14 th September	2pm – 4.30pm	Heritage Open Day at Upton Pyne Church Guided Tours of the Church, Children's trail and prizes, Tower Tours & Refreshments.	To book a Tower Tour or for more details contact: Lisa Clapp 841 339.
Friday	27 th September	7 for 7.30pm	Curry & Quiz Night Upton Pyne Village Hall	£12pp – booking essential 07753 605726 Bring your own drinks – a free drink on arrival.
Saturday	28 th September	10am – 1pm	Macmillan Coffee Morning 5, Orchard Close, Upton Pyne Bring a chair and enjoy a fun morning whilst raising money for Macmillian Cancer Support. Cakes, Hot and Cold Drinks and a Raffle.	Abi Hann – 07835 259514 <u>abituckey@aol.com</u> Any donations gratefully received.
			Weekly	
Monday		10.30 am	Pilates Brampford Speke Village Hall (Term Time only)	Nicki Stumpf 07838 260290
Wednesday		10am	Art Class Upton Pyne Village Hall	John 07816 846562
Thursday		9.15am – 11am 9.30am (term	Toddler Group Brampford Speke Village Hall (Term time only)	Emily 07511 623314 Caroline Anstead 07796
		time)	Zumba Upton Pyne Village Hall	950652, canstead4@gmail.com
		2-4pm	Tea Upton Pyne Village Hall	Adrienne 07791 609068
Friday		10.30- 11.30am	Pilates Upton Pyne Village Hall	Rebecca Cunningham 01363 866047





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