

No. 2

Summer 2024

KIRTON quarterly

KIRTON quarterly

Delivered
free to
nearly
3,800
homes,
shops and
businesses
in Crediton



INSIDE:

Bigging up Boniface! -
our saint's presence in Crediton

Crediton United football club

CCC – Crediton Congregational Church
and LOTS MORE

a magazine for the Crediton community



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Amapola

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Can you deliver?

KQ would dearly like to share the task of delivering this quarterly community mini-magazine among more local residents. Would you be willing to take a batch of these to, say, 100 homes near you, once every three months? If so, we'll bring you a consignment as soon as it's printed for you to deliver at your early convenience. In the meantime, of course, very many thanks to the 20 or so individuals and families already distributing the 4000+ print-run.

City of Crediton!

A member of a local church congregation lately confided to one of our district councillors a vision of Crediton's future status - as a city. She was disappointed when the idea was abruptly dismissed as nonsense: Crediton wasn't big enough came the reply.

But there was a flaw here. It's true that most cities are big, but size isn't a criterion for city status. One only has to cast an eye to Wales where the little cathedral city of St David's has fewer than 2,000 inhabitants, or St Asaph's, another tiny Welsh town which acquired city status only in 2012, on account of having a very small 14thC cathedral church.

Even if size were a relevant factor the imminent building of a thousand new homes in and around Crediton still won't make us a major urban centre, nor will Lidl or a drive-thru McDonald's confer city status on us - though what UK city is without these icons of mass consumerism?

Historically it was having a cathedral that denoted city status. And indeed Crediton did most certainly have a cathedral once upon a time. That's before it relocated to Exeter in the year 1050, to protect it from Viking raids.

Since Vikings no longer pose a serious threat perhaps it's time to relocate it back to Crediton? Thus enhancing the status of Holy Cross parish church might help fund its roof repairs, while Exeter's pre-eminent church venue could then be given over to music events and all-night raves. As it happens, the present (Suffragan) Bishop of Crediton (yes, we do still have a bishop) is temporarily filling the vacant Bishop of Exeter's post. Maybe she can fix this for us?

Anyway these days it's not necessary to have a cathedral to become a city. Take the new cities of Milton Keynes or Doncaster, for instance. It's more about exerting regional influence, or at least having an aura of particular significance. What with our famous Crediton son Boniface (born Winfrith in this parish) who dedicated his life to bringing Christianity to northern Europe, isn't that aura enough?

Crediton's future destiny as a city, a seemingly wild notion, is not so misplaced an idea after all. Being a city is about a shared understanding, not just a physical construction. Richard Sennett, a sociology professor, describes a city as *'a place where strangers meet, where new ideas are formed in a public space, a common ground'*.

Our well-appointed Town Square, reclaimed for the community nearly 20 years ago, provides that public space where our future city status shall be incubated. Developed imaginatively this essential feature, with its mystic internal ring of 12 wooden picnic tables, is the natural centre of hospitality for all of Mid Devon and visitors from near and far.

Crediton Town Council

Why are they building *there*?!

Planning is one of the areas that parish and town councils find most perplexing and frustrating. This is often because the first time that town councillors see proposals for larger developments in their community is when the planning application is sent by the Local Planning Authority (LPA) - which is, for us, Mid Devon District Council.

By this point key decisions may already have been made that increase the likelihood of the development being supported by the LPA, some of those decisions having been taken a decade or more earlier. Councillors and residents may be unaware of them, so when they feel the development is inappropriate or needs radically amending the chances of this happening can be very limited.

The planning system talks a great deal about involving communities in local decision-making on development but does very little to enable or achieve it. Professional planners, developers, land agents and owners are involved from the start but local representatives and local residents are way behind, or nowhere at all. The opportunity for everyone to have the relevant information, to assess and debate the quality of any proposals, just isn't there.



Farmland to the south of Barnfield, soon to be developed for housing? Photo: G Fawssett

Local people say they would like to understand the whole process better and be involved at a much earlier stage. To help achieve this, Crediton Town Council and Sustainable Crediton's Climate Action Group organised a *Crediton Community Conversation on Land Use* on 23rd March.

Georgie Barber from the Food, Farming & Countryside Commission (FFCC) spoke to us about the principles of land use being developed by the FFCC to assist government departments in planning for future development across regions. Our event was the first time these principles had been looked at in relation to a single community.

The land south of Barnfield, down to the river Yeo, was identified several years ago in the *Greater Exeter Strategic Plan* as having development potential. Around 50 people came to the Conversation, heard about the principles, then applied them to this agricultural area of the town. The town council is collating all the thoughts, ideas and comments that were made. These will be used to inform both an updated *Neighbourhood Plan* and our responses to the district council's new local plan, *Plan Mid Devon*, which is in the early stages of being created.

The town council will publish progress on the debate on land use locally. Anyone who is interested in how the built Crediton community will develop over the next 20 years will be able to stay informed and join in the debate going forwards.

Liz Brookes-Hocking, Chair

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10 - 4

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30 stallholders

music

takeaway food

demos

children's entertainment

bar

festival fringe events



PECK AND STRONG



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Games

Ye olde Saxon fayre

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PLACE
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WAS BORN
680 AD

BRING A PICNIC!

BRING YOUR NEIGHBOURS!

Sunday 9th June

12 - 4

Newcombes Meadow

Festive events in olde Kirton

A busy Summer programme in Crediton, then! At the end of May the parish church puts on *Our Church Treasure*, a 3-day display of its historic artifacts for visitors to inspect. Combine with a cream tea at the nearby Boniface Centre. *Crediton Food Festival* returns to The Square on Sat 8 June, closely followed by the Big Boniface Bash, a town-council-organised fun-day on Sun 9 June in Newcombes Meadow. A Saxon fayre is promised, alongside much more!

Shakespeare in The Square, with cast drawn from the local community, presents *Twelfth Night* on the Town Square in early July. The keen members of Crediton Area History & Museum Society are holding their latest show *Customs, Charms & Cures* at the Museum, drawing on local folklore. CCC does its own *Fun Day* (famous for its free burgers!) in Newcombes Meadow on Sat 13 July.

Anniversaries

The Bike Shed celebrated 30 years in business at its Union Road store/workshop in March. Crediton is the centre of an enterprise with two more outlets in Exeter and one in Barnstaple. Charity cycle rides supported by The Bike Shed include *The Smuggler*, from Barnstaple up to Exmoor on Sun 2 June, and *The Nello*, from Topsham to Exmoor and back through Crediton on 30 June. This event attracts up to 1500 riders.

Baker Stevie has been baking bread in Crediton for 40 years, starting at the long-gone Crusty Loaf on East Street, and

active these last 20 as co-proprietor with wife Lyn of *Stevie B's* bakery at Union Road (where Lyn also sells wholefoods and natural products weighed to order).

Congratulations to Dave Blanchford, President of Crediton United AFC, whose 60 years' association with the football club – including captaining the First XI in the 1960s – will be celebrated at its clubhouse on Sat 20 July.

Farewells to . . .

Norsworthy Dairy Goats: Dave and Marilyn Johnson are no longer stall-holders at the Farmers Market having retired from cheese-making. (Their goats have moved to new pastures at Dartmouth). We shall miss their Norsworthy, Posbury and Gunstone varieties.

And wishing a happy retirement to Barry and Denise Shears from 22 years' ownership of *Hillbrow Residential & Nursing Home* on Park Road. New owners Nicy Sebastian and Tintu Tojo have taken over the business.

Sadly, farewell also to Gastronomical, the gourmet burger bar on St Lawrence Green. Having suspended trading last year for health reasons, partners Chris and Mel have reluctantly decided to close permanently. *Exe Vale Pizzas*, who have enjoyed sales to local residents and commuters from their twice-weekly pizza vans outside QE, have now taken over the premises.

And best wishes to Debbie Main, headteacher at Landscore Primary School, who retires at the end of the Summer term after 7 years in charge. She writes: *"I will miss all the wonderful children and incredible staff and governors at the school. It has been an absolute pleasure getting to know the children and families of Landscore. Thank you to everyone for all your help and support during my time here."* Tim Williams, head at Hampreston First School in Dorset, takes over as headteacher in September.

New hospitality

Dive In is an appropriate name for the new foyer and pool-side café at Lords Meadow Leisure Centre, opened 1 May. Refuel here after swimming or weight training, squash, zumba sessions - or just drop in without taking any exercise at all. Best of luck to mother & daughter entrepreneurs Jo and Gemma.

Madrid is the new Spanish tapas bar at 50 High Street, formerly Age Concern's charity shop. Opening soon with colourful exterior imagery and intimate interior, expect an authentically Spanish welcome!

Visit the refurbished *Crediton Station Tea Rooms* run by the Turning Tides Project community group. Open for refreshments 6 days a week, there is also a function room for hire. It is based in the historic station building dating back to around 1847.

Welcome, too, the bold re-imagining of the old Liberal Club (latterly Wetherspoon's General Buller) as *The Kirton Cow*. A lively atmosphere, ample

floor space, pub games, popular food menu and flattering range of drinks will ensure a great venue for evenings out.

Boxing clever

The one-time pine-stripping premises on Mill Street, so long empty, is now the home of *Bang Bang Boxing*, a new training studio with weight-training equipment and supervised coaching. Finally a great new use for this building - and a sure-fire hit for local youth!

Crediton Urban Taskforce [CUT!]

Neglected pavements, paths and public areas around town are getting long overdue attention thanks to an innovative residents' initiative. The informal CUT group (with logistical and financial support from the town council) visit pre-arranged destinations fortnightly, armed with hand-tools, sacks for weeds, litter and other debris, offering support to like-minded local residents.

Lately the raised walkway at Exeter Road has been scraped and de-weeded, buddleia and brambles at Spinning Path Gardens pruned back and a High Street Sweep! event was a successful, hopefully annual, communal clean-up along our busy thorough-fare. Not everyone's in support, though. Some passers-by have muttered about it being 'the council's job' and others seem to be sympathetic towards the weeds.

Town Council declines King's portrait

A Full Council meeting in January was asked during Public Questions if it would be applying for a free portrait of King

Charles III - a photo of whom was offered to all local councils by HM Government.

Chair Liz-Brookes-Hocking reported back that, following an on-line poll that the Lib Dem-majority council conducted (on Crediton Community Noticeboard, a Facebook page with over 11,000 members) asking: *"Should Crediton Town Council apply for the official portrait of King Charles III, at no expense, to display in the town council offices?"* more than half of the 250 or so who took part had voted No. The town council, said Brookes-Hocking, had therefore decided not to proceed.

Want cash? Just flash your head-lights!

A Yeoford resident returned to his car on Crediton's Town Square one evening lately. He briefly switched the headlights on and off, and was surprised when a man briskly approached, got in the car, counted out £120 in notes, and passed them over.

Our resident queried if the man had in fact got the right driver, at which point the man leapt out and ran into the shadows. Shocked and/or perplexed, our Yeoford friend pulled away but noticed as he did so another vehicle of the same colour slowly pulling up behind, flashing its lights as it did so. Is this how drugs are routinely traded in this town?

Congratulations

Marie Belston has won an award against competition from 300 other entries for her play *Malaise*, entered in Enter.Stage.Write, a national event to identify outstanding playwriting and screenwriting talent. Marie is a Crediton resident and active in local theatre, music and arts events. Numerous local bands were supported in the past by CRAMP (Crediton Arts & Music Project) which she founded.



The first [CUT!] expedition in April tackles overgrown cobbles and path at Exeter Road

Crediton Congregational Church (CCC)



CCC's main church interior and balcony pews, with Fishtank meeting space in front

Crediton Congregational Church has been part of the town for well over a hundred years. It's a lively community – there's something going on in and around the building every day of the week, with projects catering to all ages and a broad range of interests.

Young People: The week opens and closes with groups for young people. Monday and Tuesday mornings see the church hosting *Mainly Music* (a singing and activity group for pre-schoolers) and *Fishtank* (a parent and toddler group). And on Friday evenings, there can be upwards of 60 young people gathering for *Friday Kids* (where a free hot meal is included) and *Friday Youth*, a drop-in club with pool, air hockey, various consoles, chilled spaces, and more food!

Every now and then, the team break open their huge Scalextric Digital set, which sees up to six cars racing on four lanes around a track that takes up most of the church's floor space. And each summer CCC (and the other Crediton Churches) run a *Holiday Club* for 5-11s, where young people can play games, sing, make craft projects, hear stories and share lunch together.

Adults: On Thursdays the church opens its doors to *Coffee & Company*, where people gather for conversation over coffee, jigsaws, puzzles and games. It's also an opportunity to engage with various helpful community figures and agencies, such as Age Concern, IT support and energy advice.

CCC holds regular *Community Lunches* each month, with people coming from all over for a warming meal. A few times each year there are *Men's Breakfasts* and *Ladies' Breakfasts* for yet more food and chat!

Adults with learning disabilities (with friends and carers) meet for *Causeway* on Wednesday mornings, and CCC has a long-standing relationship with the *Rowell Centre* (an adult day-care centre) which runs through the week.

Community Support: There are various support agencies based at CCC. In the former manse* you can access the *Crediton Foodbank* several times a week (including their new Friday café), drop in to get advice from the *Crediton Housing Action Team* (CHAT) or receive wise words and support from the *Journey Counselling* team (by appointment).



Even more: CCC has hosted the *Ukraine Conversation Café* since it launched. It meets on Monday evenings, providing a social space for both Ukrainians and host families. There's a monthly *Sunday Walk* for anyone who fancies getting their boots muddy. In July the church will be running a *Fun Day* in Newcombes Meadow, where there'll be all sorts going on.

And - being a church - CCC holds weekly Sunday services, which are always open to anyone and everyone. The services include groups for pre-schoolers, 5-11s and 11+ and are followed by plenty of coffee and iced buns!

Dave Poulson

W: creditoncongregation.org 772577

**A manse is the name given to a house inhabited or formerly inhabited by a clergy minister, usually used in the context of non-Church of England Christian traditions*

Author addresses Ukraine war in latest thriller



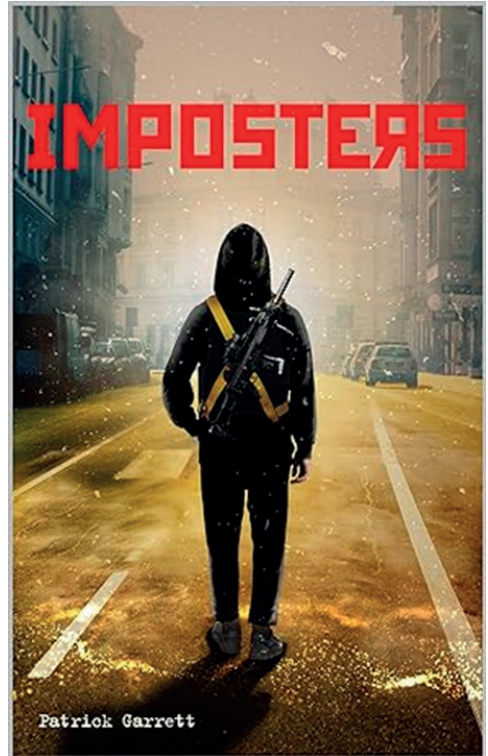
Patrick Garrett is a local resident and member of staff at Chulmleigh Academy where he has taught English for 20 years. He is also an author when time permits.

*His recent book *Imposters* was originally based on a teacher's experience with a challenging new pupil (both fictional!). It took on another dimension when the war in the Ukraine began and schools began to enrol children of refugee families. Garrett recounts the writer's process, how to obtain a copy of the book – and the hunt for a major publisher.*

"In 2022 I wrote *Imposters* - 90,000 words in 4 months. I had a word count target for every day, and just went for it, though the novel changed over several edits, responding to feedback from friends and professional editors.

"A Ukrainian artist Art Forest, surviving in Odessa, created the cover art. A Ukrainian editor advised on making the national cultural elements realistic. A Ukrainian refugee living in Crediton helped with Ukrainian and Russian pronunciation for an audiobook. Despite the atrocities of war the text is suitable for all readers, but it touches on sensitive themes.

"An agent to advance the book as a major publishing phenomenon has so far eluded me . . . but I'd love to recruit



some readers in the meantime. A Just Giving page (with donations going to the British Red Cross Ukraine Crisis Appeal) enables readers to receive a free e-book. A larger donation secures the audiobook too. I'm delighted to report that donations have so far exceeded £1000."

W: amazon.co.uk/Imposters-thriller-Patrick-Garrett-ebook/dp/B0CTXTNIGV?ref_=ast_author_mpb

W: justgiving.com/page/patrick-garrett-imposters-fundraiser





Kirton players (in blue) in action against Bovey Tracey at Lords Meadow

Crediton United Football Club

Among the 100 or so home supporters by the Lords Meadow railings on a Saturday afternoon is a formidable roll-call of Crediton United's former players, coaches and managers, spanning every decade as far back as the late 1950s! Despite their mature years they're as intent as ever to catch every goal-mouth clearance, well-threaded pass, set-piece opportunity and shot on goal from Kirton's youthful first team.

Those former players, heroes in their day, are now the legends of Crediton United football club. The names of Grinney (father and son), Blanchford, Gillard, Hole and (more recent) player-then-manager Matt Trenaman have earned respect not just for their playing feats of old, but for their enduring commitment to club and community. Others may have passed away or moved to pastures new, but those still here represent the continuity of a club whose history goes back well over a century.

Crediton United is in the Premier Division East of the South West Peninsula league (where normally they'd

expect to finish close to top). This league sits within the 10th tier of English football, with 5 higher leagues (sets of divisions) separating Crediton from the 4 top divisions of the Football League (headed by the elite clubs of the Premiership). Crediton's matches are mostly played against teams no further afield than Ivybridge, Bridport, Honiton and Dartmouth.

Could Crediton win the F.A. Cup? Well, yes, theoretically . . . Within the structure of English football it's possible for a high-achieving 10th tier side to enter, but even the early qualifying rounds would contain some daunting opposition. Does Crediton United want to move up the divisions? Yes, of course!

Fixtures have been played at Lords Meadow since 1976 before which the club's home matches were held on Newcombes Meadow. The present fenced-in pitch beyond Crediton Leisure Centre's rear car-park boasts all the essentials of a proper football club: floodlights, covered standing and seating areas, changing rooms and nearby clubhouse.

The latter is used frequently for committee meetings, and numerous fund-raising and social events. (Note: it's also available for hire for private parties for up to 120 people.) The bar is freely open to spectators and visitors on match-days for post-match refreshments, where spectators rub shoulders with players and coaching staff.

The club-house is shared with the popular Crediton Youth Football side of the club, which provides community-friendly sport for at least 300 local children from the age of 6 up.

Adult members of the football club are not all players, either past or present. Some are simply keen followers of their local club and some take on the key administrative roles. Without chair, secretary, treasurer, social secretary, bar manager, grounds staff and more – all volunteers - no such club can survive. (Hint: volunteers always welcome!)

These days players receive a very small sum for their on-field efforts, but there are many more costs, and a good stream of income is essential. Alongside admission to matches, advertising hoardings around the pitch and adverts in the (on-line) programme record the support of local businesses Tuckers and Eakers, Crediton Auto Services, Crediton Milling Co. and Cox's the butchers, Graphic and Charlesworth Nicholls, Westcotts and Stapletons,

Sandford Orchards and S. P. Paving, Adams and Adaero – and many more.

Healthy bar takings, hire of the club-house and fund-raising events are another source of revenue, but members dream of the day when a major donation builds them smarter changing facilities and a new pitch-side clubhouse.

Come along one day soon and see some match-day excitement. The season starts again with some friendly contests in July before the first league fixtures in mid-August. Admission is a mere £6 for home matches usually on Saturdays at 3pm or a week-day evening at 7.30pm.

Matchday programmes, including future fixtures are published on-line at: [W: fliphtml5.com/bookcase/jslgp/](http://W:fliphtml5.com/bookcase/jslgp/)

To keep up with Crediton's progress this season, follow match reports in The Courier and check on league tables at: www.fulltime.thefa.com

A noticeboard outside The Ship Hotel posts information re upcoming games and other club events

Kirton Quarterly notes

KQ expands this issue from 24 to 32 pages to accommodate a growing demand for advertising, (which intends to cover all production costs). The paper used is a touch lighter, 90gsm rather than 100gsm, so the actual weight is very little changed.

Please send items for publication (e-mails preferred) by 15 July for the Autumn issue.

If you would like to be involved in the magazine's content, production, advertising or distribution, contact pveclipse@btinternet.com

edited by Paul Vincent

published by Friends of Crediton Library

Information is published in good faith but KQ does not accept responsibility for its accuracy. Opinions expressed are those of individual contributors.

KQ ADVERTISING

Less 20% for run of 2 adverts
booked for issues 3 - 4 (to end of 2024)

Single issue rates:

Back cover (if available) £200

Full page £160

Half page £90

Quarter page £50

Eighth page £25*

**NB: We are happy to help you prepare a basic design for no extra charge. For artwork specifications please contact pveclipse@btinternet.com*

Latest date for artwork for Autumn issue is 15th July
(magazine covering period mid-Aug – end of Nov)

DOLPHIN

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Now then, about your products and services... KQ questions its advertisers...

This issue: Dolphin Stairlifts

"Surely I'm not old enough for one of those?! What's more, my staircase is too narrow and goes round a corner . . ."

"Ah, the age-old stereotype of the stairlift - reserved only for the elderly, right? The reality is that stairlifts are not just for the maturest age groups. Many people with mobility challenges benefit from the convenience and safety of a stairlift, regardless of age. Future-proofing empowers you to stay independent and continue living in your own home, rather than moving to a single-level residence or assisted living facility.

Now, about those narrow, twisty staircases . . . Stairlifts these days are like the ninja warriors of home mobility. They can navigate curves, twists, and turns with finesse. Your staircase might be challenging, but our stairlifts are up for the adventure! And these days they are sleek, discreet and come in different styles and colours to suit your home.

Our showroom lets you try out ways that a lifting solution can benefit you. We have the largest variety of lifting options in the Southwest, including Stannah and Stiltz Homelift, and we're here to guide you through the process. Encounter the different types of ride, colour schemes, prices of different options and experience the personal service of our friendly, family run business!"

*Antonia Nixon,
Business Support Manager*



Boniface wields a (not very impressive) axe to cut down an oak tree in Hesse (in the middle of present Germany) sacred to pagan worshippers. (Photo from a series of stained glass panels in Holy Cross church)

Bigging up Boniface!

our famous offspring's local imagery

June 5th is St Boniface Day – and our town council is keen to build our associations with Devon's patron saint. It will hold a *Big Boniface Bash* at Newcombes Meadow on Sunday 9th June, with numerous local stall-holders, entertainers, an olde Saxon Fayre, food & drink outlets and a measure of 'Devonshire silliness'.

Boniface (c.680-754/5) is thought to have been born here in Crediton, as Winfrith, somewhere around Tolleys (off Mill Street), becoming an important Christian missionary to northern Europe and acquiring the official name of Boniface from the then Pope, who made him a bishop.

He is considered a major figure in the history of the Roman Catholic church, having converted much of northern Europe from paganism to Christianity, before being killed by a mob at Dokkum in the Netherlands.



Back in Crediton, episodes of Boniface's life are illustrated on eight glass panels that were installed five years ago (and funded by a European Union grant) forming a trail starting at St Lawrence Green with the saint's birth and ending up at the Roman Catholic church on Park Road with a depiction of his burial.

The project, led by the late Rod Brookes-Hocking, was the work of The Town Team, a local group of volunteers whose achievements include the summertime flags along the High Street and the installation of picnic tables on the Town Square. (The Town Team has recently been absorbed into the Crediton Heart Project, which also publishes the on-line guide Crediton In & Around)

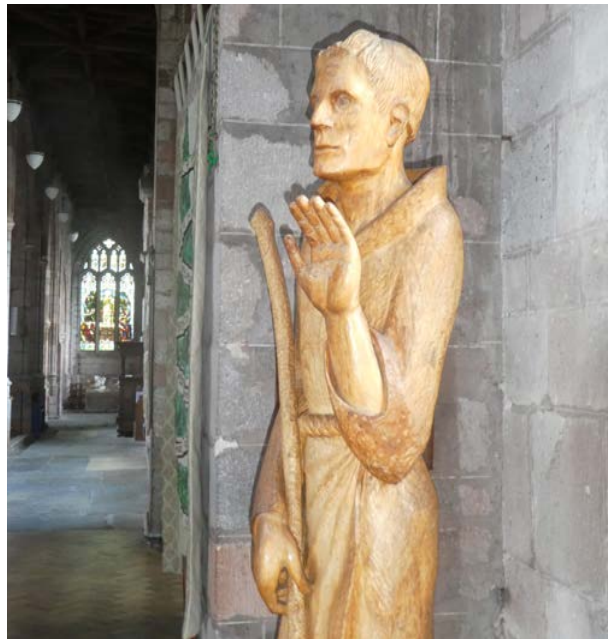
*Statue of St Boniface in Newcombes Meadow, unveiled in 1960.
Sculpture by Alan Durst.*



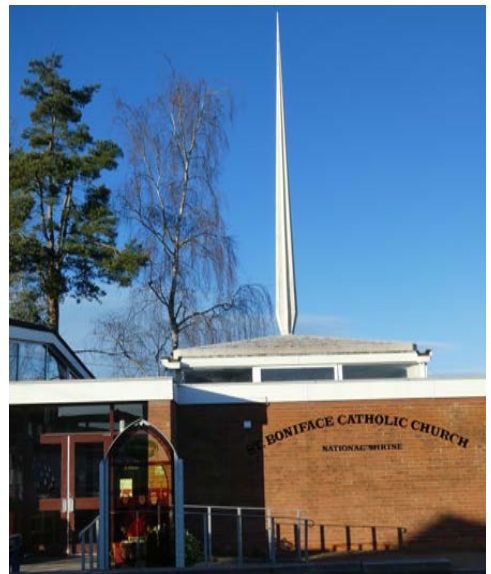
Winfrith appointed bishop by the Pope. (Original design by Charlotte Turner for one of the 8 glass & steel panels around Crediton)

There is a statue of Boniface in Newcombes Meadow and a sculpture carved from wood in the parish church. The emblem of Boniface is central to the logos of the Town Council, QE Academy, Crediton Town Council and Crediton Rugby Club, among others, and no doubt his bishop's headgear was the inspiration for The Mitre pub's name?

A less reverential homage to Boniface (see cover image) can be seen on a side door at Old Landscore School, now used for some town council meetings and by the council's youth club. This colourful piece of street art was the work of several young people in collaboration with Nick Halahan (Olas Art).



Wooden carving of Boniface by Crediton sculptor Witold Kavalek in the parish church. Small resin-cast figurines of the sculpture can be purchased nearby



Crediton's Catholic church in Park Road is the UK National Shrine to St Boniface. A casket here contains a fragment of bone taken from the saint's tomb in the cathedral of Fulda, Germany

Residential streets, developments and businesses drawing on our saint's name and history include Boniface Road, Winfrith Mews, Dokkum Road and Fulda Crescent, the Boniface Centre and the St Boniface Concert Society. We even have a St Boniface Veterinary Clinic.

Given our shared commitment in keeping the memory of Boniface alive, isn't it time the town had a dedicated Boniface Festival - a *Bonifest* perhaps?!



One of several versions of Boniface as a local emblem – this one belonging to the rugby club

A small anomaly!

Surely no-one has failed to notice the signs on the east and west approaches to the town commemorating the dates of St Boniface. But take a closer look. While his birth is stated on both signs as 680, the date of his death (killed by brigands at Dokkum in the Netherlands) appears as 754 as you approach the Wellparks roundabout from Exeter, but as 755 on Higher Road (near the junction with George Hill). Can anyone explain this curious anomaly?



NB: For a historical appreciation of the saint's life and works, St Boniface – the first European by David Cook, with foreword by former Archbishop Rowan Williams, is held at Crediton Library.

Blue plaque at Tolleys/Downshead Lane



KIRTON CONTACTS

where a Crediton landline phone number is given the area code 01363 should be prefixed

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Crediton Town Council

The Bungalow, 8a North St

W: crediton.gov.uk

Town Clerk: Rachel Avery

r.avery@crediton.gov.uk

773717

Crediton town councillors

Boniface ward:

Jim Cairney (Liberal Democrat)

John Downes (Liberal Democrat)

Joyce Harris (Independent)

Steve Huxtable (Independent)

Natalia Letch (Liberal Democrat)

Paul Perriman (Liberal Democrat)

Lawrence ward:

Liz Brookes-Hocking (Chair/Mayor, Independent)

Rachel Backhouse (Independent)

Guy Cochran (Liberal Democrat)

Giles Fawssett (Environmentalism)

Frank Letch (Liberal Democrat)

Georgina Stone (Liberal Democrat)

Meetings: W: crediton.gov.uk/Your-Council/Meetings Venues are stated on the Agenda

Mid Devon District Council (MDDC)

Phoenix House, Phoenix Lane, Tiverton

01884 255255 W: middevon.gov.uk

Mid Devon district councillors for Crediton:

Jim Cairney (Lib Dem/Boniface ward)

jcairney@middevon.gov.uk

Guy Cochran (Lib Dem/Lawrence ward)

gcochran@middevon.gov.uk

John Downes (Lib Dem/Boniface ward)

jdownes@middevon.gov.uk

Frank Letch (Lib Dem/Lawrence ward)
fletch@middevon.gov.uk

Waste & recycling collection dates

middevon.gov.uk/residents/recycling-rubbish/check-collection-dates/

Devon County Council (DCC)

County Hall, Topsham Rd, Exeter

0345 155 1015

devon.gov.uk

DCC county councillor for Crediton:

Cllr Frank Letch

fletch@devon.gov.uk

Report pot-holes/highway issues

devon.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/report-a-problem/

TOWN/LOCAL FACILITIES

Post Office

7 Market St. 0345 611 2970

Royal Mail Sorting Office

(drop-off & collection point)

Hawkins Way 03457 740 740

Crediton Library

Belle Parade 772578

W: devonlibraries.org.uk

Lords Meadow Leisure Centre

Commercial Rd. (01884) 234970

Punchbowl Recycling Centre

Open Mon-Fri 9-5pm, Sat & Sun 10-6pm (April-Sept); Mon-Fri 9-4.30pm, Sat & Sun 10-4.30pm (Oct-March). All year round except Xmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Day

SPORTS CLUBS

Crediton United (football club)

Lords Meadow
creditonunitedafc@gmail.com
774671

Crediton Rugby Club

Exhibition Road
W: creditonrfc.rfu.club
772784

HEALTH, SAFETY, WELLBEING

GP Surgery

Redlands Primary Care, Joseph Locke Way
727111 (out-of-hours GP phone 111)

Crediton Community Hospital

Western Rd. 775588

Pharmacies

Crediton Pharmacy, 19a High St. 773030 ; Boots, 126 High St. 772062; Tesco, Joseph Locke Way 0117 240 3898; Threshers Pharmacy, Threshers 772841

Emergency Services

Police: non-emergency calls: phone 101 or via dc.police.uk
Police, Ambulance, Fire: phone 999

Defibrillators

outside Leroy Funeral Directors, Cox (butcher's), Post Office, Masonic Hall, Boniface Centre, Morrison's, Tesco Wellparks

Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB)

at The Manse, CCC 01237 879230

Age Concern

Lady Mills Centre, Deep Lane
W: ageconcerncrediton.co.uk
775008

Crediton Foodbank

The Manse, CCC
07740 202721
help@creditonfoodbank.org.uk

SOCIAL & CULTURAL incl. CHARITIES

Crediton Arts Centre

East St. 773260

Crediton Museum

Old Town Hall, High St. 773919
CAHMS
W:creditonhistory.org.uk

u3a (University of the 3rd Age) 84376

W:u3asites.org.uk/crediton

Crediton Boniface Rotary Club 84242

Crediton & District Lions Club

0345 833 4962

HOSPITALITY VENUES

Pubs

The Crediton Inn, 28a Mill St. 72882; The Duke of York, 74 High St. 775289; The Kirton Cow, 37 High St 530008; The Mitre, 9 High St. 772508; The Plymouth Inn, 38 Dean St. 777778; The Red Deer, Joseph Locke Way 774248; The Ship Hotel, 132 High St. 894020; The Three Little Pigs, 1 Parliament St. 774587; The White Swan, 33 High St. 77226;

Cafes/Restaurants

Ashtons, 9 Market St. 0791 471144; Baobab, 2 Market Square House, Market St. 894004; Café @100, 100

KIRTON CONTACTS

High St. 0759 831 5423; Crediton Tandoori, 137 High St. 775548; Dive In, Leisure Ctre 07702 411744; Elephant on the Green, 14 St Lawrence Green 775048; Eva's Restaurant, 22 High St. 0787 749 2488; Exe Valley Pizzas, St Lawrence Green 07955 193 323; Kitchen at No. 25, 25 High St. 772332; Madrid Café, 50 High St; Mel's Diner, 11-12 High St. 07407 536729; Motovelo, 3 Union Rd. 777299; Yummy Tummy Thai, 113 High St 779416

SCHOOLS & DAY NURSERIES

Queen Elizabeth's Academy (QE):
Lower School, Barnfield 773401
Upper School, Western Rd. 773401
reception@qe.devon.sch.uk

Landscore Primary School
Threshers 772018

Haywards Primary School
East St. 772970

Leapfrogs, next to Arts Centre, East St. 776474

Pippins, Market Square House, Market St. 772474

Sunflower Day Nursery, 82 High St. (01392) 777020

CHURCHES

Crediton Congregational Church (CCC)
98 High St. 772577

Crediton Methodist Church, Union Rd. 777308

Holy Cross Parish Church, Church Lane 773226

St. Boniface Roman Catholic Church, Park Rd. (01392) 271191

TRANSPORT

Taxis: **Crediton Cars** (07764 302301); **White Swan Taxis** (07928 115421). [If not available try: Apple Taxis in Exeter: 01392 433433 or Smartway Taxis in North Tawton: 01837 880055]

Trains: **GWR** services to Exeter, Barnstaple, Okehampton W:thetrainline.com

Buses & Minibus Services: **Stagecoach** services to Exeter, Hatherleigh, Bideford, Chulmleigh 5, 5A, 5B, 5C W: stagecoachbus.com; **Dartline** services: Crediton circular, to Exeter, Cheriton Fitzpaine 369, 607 W: bustimes.org

Mid Devon Mobility (Ring & Ride) 773303
W:middevonmobility.org.uk

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

Bang Bang Boxing
(boxing gym)
Mill Street 07852 965362

Crediton Rugby Club
Exhibition Road 772784
juniorsecretary@creditonrfc.co.uk

Crediton Youth Club (town council-run)
held at Old Landscore School, Greenway
W:crediton.gov.uk/Youth-Work

Crediton Youth Football Club
Lords Meadow clubhouse
W:creditonyouthfc.co.uk

KIRTON CONTACTS

Crediton Youth Orchestra

held at CCC

alisongolby@hotmail.com

Crediton Youth Theatre

held at Crediton Arts Centre

cyt@waxroom.co.uk

First Crediton Scouts

W:scouts.org.uk/groups

Friday Youth (church-run)

CCC

cccyouth10@gmail.com

Girlguiding Devon

Lords Meadow clubhouse

[W: devonguides.org.uk/](http://W:devonguides.org.uk/)

Holy Cross Junior Choir

(Parish church)

creditondirectorofmusic@gmail.com

Queens Badminton Club

held at QE gym, Western Rd

W:queensbc.co.uk

MISCELLANEOUS

Crediton In and Around

(What's On website run by Crediton Heart Project)

W:creditoninandaround.co.uk

Accommodation

Motovelo, 3 Union Rd 777299 Taw Vale,

2 Taw Vale Terrace, Station Rd 777879;

The Ship Hotel, 132 High St. 894020.

See also airbnb.co.uk

Allotments

Around 140 plots at Exhibition Road, Barnfield, Moffats Land (off Newcombes Meadow) e.armitage@crediton.gov.uk

Sustainable Crediton

(environmental projects)

W:sustainablecrediton.org.uk



Crediton Heart Project

(organizing town events, displays eg: flag project)

rosemary@creditonheart.org

Cashpoints

SPAR, Tesco Express, Lloyds Bank,

High St (soon to go!), Post Office,

Tesco Wellparks, Morrison's, Exeter Rd Garage

Newspaper

Crediton Country Courier

(publ. Thursdays)

102 High St. 774263

editor@creditoncourier.co.uk

Visitor information

Crediton Library, Crediton Museum, The

Bookery

The Hub at The Bookery

(professional work space)

21 High St 774740

NB: abbreviations used: CAHMS – Crediton Area History & Museum Society; CCC – Crediton Congregational Church

OVERHEARD IN SPAR

A local resident, doing some shopping at SPAR, took a box of eggs to the counter.

He checked the box and noticed one egg was broken. "Shall I just go back and get another box?" he asked. "Yeah, you crack on" was the sales assistant's reply.

KQ

(lines on the launch of a new publication)

A visitor asked me, *What's it like really?*
Credition? Well it's a bit like a pasty
It's warming and charming with football and farming and
Fine art and foibles and function

It's spicy and vicy and fresh as a turnip
As meaty as ground beef, as grave as the gravy, at times
It's quirky and arty and honest and earthy
And wholesome and decadent and worth your attention

If you want to find out what's occurring in Kirton
Be certain to turn to the new publication
It's local, the folk'll be urged to be vocal
Original, vibrant; no favours, no graces

A trimonthly slate, a filtration, titration
A distilled dispatch from the rooftops and thatches
As offspring adopted, proud son-like or daughterly
Don't take my word, ask the new Kirton Quarterly.

© Jez Taylor 2024

Jez Taylor, resident, playwright, musician and poet, is the director of the Credition Youth Theatre, whose next production, Community Spirit, will be staged in August. His first collection of verse 'Lost Love At The Launderette' is on sale at the Bookery, with a second collection 'A Banana On The North Devon Link Road' is due to be published later this year.

Community Spirit is an original musical play by Jez Taylor, suitable for all ages, and features tension, comedy and a live band. CYT's previous shows include *Hopping Mad*, *Carpe Diem* and last year's *Tough As Old Boots*. Arts Centre, Fri 23, 7.30pm & Sat 24 Aug 4pm & 7.30pm (booking strongly advised).

"Sticklebrook is a village divided. For generations, the Williams and Tucker families have been enemies as the result of a tragic event a century ago. They do not mix and they do not like each other. Now, the visit of a community theatre company threatens to inflame old tensions and fire new passions. It may even reveal the forgotten truths from the past".

The Kirton Cow

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37 High Street, Crediton, EX17 3JP

01363 530008 / Moo@KirtonCowCrediton.co.uk

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Monday Burger Club - 2 for £20!

Monday Real Ale Club - £3.80 a pint!

Tuesday - Free Pool!

Wednesday Pizza Party - 2 for £20!

Thursday Curry Night - 2 for £22!

Friday & Saturday - 2 Cocktails £13!

Sunday Roasts - Two for £25!





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CREDITON SUMMER CALENDAR

Info for next issue required by 15th July (covering period c20 Aug to end of Nov)

EVENTS: CIVIC & COMMUNITY

Tues 21 May, 7pm
Crediton Town Council: Full Council Meeting
 incl. election of Chair/ Mayor for 2024/25
 Old Landscore School
(live-streamed on council's Facebook page)

Farmers Market

1st & 3rd Saturdays,
 10am-1pm, Town Square

4th Sat of month, 10am-12
Repair Café

(Sustainable Crediton)
 Elephant on the Green

Sat 8 June, 10am-4
Crediton Food Festival
 Town Square

Sun 9 June, 12-4pm
Big Boniface Bash
 (fun-day organized by Crediton Town Council)
 Newcombes Meadow

Sat 13 July, 11-4pm
Fun Day
 (organized by CCC)
 Newcombes Meadow

PERFORMANCE / EXHIBITIONS / TALKS / EVENTS

Until Sat 26 Oct: Wed/ Thurs/Fri 10-4pm; Sat 11-2pm

Customs, Charms & Cures - recollections of local folklore

(CAHMS) Crediton Museum

Fri 17 May, 7.30pm
Behold Ye Ramblers
 (performance by Townsend Productions)
 Arts Centre

Sun 19 May, 3pm
Fibonacci Quartet
 (SBCS) Parish church

Sat 25 May – Sun 2 June, 10-4pm (Sun 10-2pm)
Summer Show
 (local artists)
 Crediton Arts Centre

Fri 31 May - Sun 2 June, 10-5pm
Our Church Treasure
 Parish church

Thurs 6 June, 7.30pm
Ignas Maknickas (piano)
 (SBCS) Parish church

Sat 8 June, 3pm
Duncan Wauchope
 (organ)
 Parish church

Sat 8 June, 7.30pm
Yellabellies + The Red Dirt Band Arts Centre

Sat 15 June, 6.30pm
Staircase Opera
 Downes House

Sat 15 June, 7.30pm
The Tempest
 (Ruby Sage & Rivka Green)
 Arts Centre

Sat 22 June, 10 – 1pm
Busk It!
 (local musicians perform)
 High Street/Town Square

Fri 28 & Sat 29 June, 7.30pm
Possession
 (Darkstuff Productions / Moveable Type)
 Arts Centre

Thurs 29 June, 7.30pm
Hannah Condliffe & Dominic Doutney (oboe & piano) (SBCS) Parish church

Sun 30 June, 3pm
Ryan Corbett (classical accordion)
 (SBCS) Parish church

Wed 3 - Sat 6 July, 7.30pm
Twelfth Night
 (Shakespeare in The Square)
 Town Square



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4 July, 7.30pm & 8.30pm
Swift Talks Take 2
Talk by Edward Jackson
(Sustainable Crediton)
Town Square

Fri 19 July, 7.30pm
Film: Stop Making Sense
(Talking Heads concert)
Arts Centre

Sat 20 July, 7.30pm
Lost in the Woods
(Hawk & Hill Theatre)
Arts Centre

Sun 28 July, 3pm
The Tuffnell Trio
(SBCS) *Parish church*

Mon 5 – Sun 18 August
Summer Workshops and Performances
(Crediton Heart Project)
Arts Centre

Fri 23 Aug, 7.30pm; Sat
24 Aug, 4pm & 7.30pm
Community Spirit
(Crediton Youth Theatre)
Arts Centre

REGULAR ENTERTAINMENTS
1st Thurs, 6.30pm
Jazz on the Green
(jazz combo/Sri Lankan buffet: advance booking only)
Arts Centre

3rd Thurs, 7.30pm
Moon Jazz Club
Three Little Pigs

1st & 3rd Fridays, 7.30pm
Curious Cinema Club
Elephant on the Green
tccinemaclub@gmail.com

3rd Fri, 7pm
Open mic
@100 Café

Last Fri of month
Cider Tasting & Pizza
(Sandford Orchards)
Commonmarsh Lane

1st Sun, 6-9pm
Trev the Pianoman
Crediton Inn

Sundays 7-10pm
Blues Jam, Open Mic, Great Crediton Jam Night (in rotation)
Red Deer

REGULAR SOCIAL EVENTS
Tues 10am
Tuesday Drop-in
Holy Cross Parish Church

Wed 10am-12
Causeway
(Coffee & social esp for those with learning disabilities, carers, friends)
CCC

Thurs 10-11.30am
Coffee & Company
(esp for older members of community)
CCC

Sat 10am
Together4Coffee

Methodist Church
SPORTS FIXTURES
Crediton Rugby Club,
creditonrfc.rfu.club

Crediton United AFC
(football)
fulltime.thefa.com/

CHURCH SERVICES
(Sundays)
Holy Cross Parish Church 9.30am
Choral Evensong 1st Sun, 6pm

Congregational Church
(CCC) 10.30am

Methodist Church
10.30am

St Boniface R.C. Church
Mass 9.30am

OUT OF TOWN: FESTIVALS & SHOWS
Elston Farm Open Day
19 May 11 – 4pm
Elston Farm,
Coppelstone, EX17 5PB

Thurs 11 June, 7pm
A Comedy of Errors
(Cygnet Theatre)
Lapford Mill (open air)

Sun 21 July, 6pm
A Midsummer Night's Dream
(Immersion Theatre)
Lapford Mill (open air)

Sat 22 June, 12 – 10pm
Withyfest
Witheridge

Sat 29 June, from 12 noon
Coldridge Fete & Vintage Rally

Various Fridays

Quicke's Cheese Tours

Quicke's Farm, Newton St Cyres (see website)

SCHOOL DATES

Queen Elizabeth's Academy

Half term: Mon 27 May - Fri 31 May;

Last day of term: Fri 19 July

Haywards Primary

Half term: Mon 27 May - Fri 31 May

(NB: 3 June is non-pupil day); Last day of term: Tues 23 July

Landscore Primary

Half term: 27 May – 3 June

Last day of term: Tues 23 July

This is not a comprehensive listings service. Readers are recommended to sign up to mailing lists or social media pages for the above venues and/or organisations.

See also Crediton Courier's Kirton Raiser events diary, published every Thursday.

NB: booking required for some events. Events here include free events as well as those with admission charge.

NB: abbreviations used: CAHMS – Crediton Area History & Museum Society; CCC – Crediton Congregational Church; SBCS – St Boniface Concert Society

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