

No. 7

Autumn 2025

KIRTON quarterly

a magazine for the CREDITON community



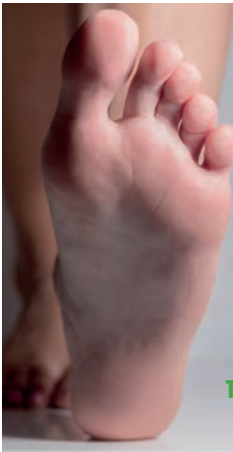
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and LOTS MORE



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Is this the real life or just (digital) fantasy?

Half of us grew up before social media. Some remember when there were no computers or games consoles, and a few recall when their family got their first black-and-white television. One local resident was in a crowd outside a Crediton radio store in 1953, watching the late Queen's coronation on TV - through the shop window.

Once upon a time people didn't have a telephone: they posted letters in an envelope in a post-box. If one was out somewhere and needed to make a call, one went to the nearest telephone box. No longer! The last red phone box (at St Lawrence Green) has just been decommissioned.

Some great-grandparents never encountered music in any recorded format, let alone digital, let alone on a portable device. Wanted some music? You'd have a sing-song around the piano. Films and DVDs didn't always exist, let alone live-streamed.

It was great (wasn't it!) to watch the Lionesses win a soccer tournament in July in Switzerland - and in real time. In the old days, if people wanted to watch football they went to a match in Newcombes Meadow or, since 1976, at Lords Meadow. You still can!

Folk didn't go shopping with plastic cards, but paid in pounds, shillings and pence – well, up to about 1970. Beware of paying by card in supermarkets! Political parties purchase the data to study your shopping habits. Buying Stilton? Definitely a Conservative voter. Tofu? Probably on the left or Green. They can match your protein preferences to your home address. Cripes!

Digital gadgetry takes us where we aren't, detaching us from the here and now. All those walking along looking at their phones, are you conscious of being in Crediton at all? Life's essentials (and non-essentials, including many less savoury diversions) seem obtainable by tapping keyboard or screen. How strange! It's no more than a pixelated approximation, a mere illusion. And A.I. and chatbots? *'Here to help'*? Not when you want to talk to someone.

The more time given over to virtual 'communities', the more the real world recedes. De-skilled, losing the facility and unconscious skills required for a civilised lifestyle, some of us end up losing their grip on it all together. Confidence is sapped by nagging paranoia, reinforced by a stream of anxious lonesome selfies.

You'd think missing out on direct sensory, cognitive, muscular experiences must have a poor effect on bodies as well as minds. We evolved our animal senses to negotiate life and our surroundings, our organs to process natural foodstuffs, limbs to enable movement, cognitive abilities to make sensible decisions. They must be wasting away.

The more we inhabit virtual worlds, the less time is left to care for the Earth that sustains us. Also – and sorry to mention it - there seems to be scant space on-line for fostering principles of morality and ethics. Quaint, irrelevant . . . optional?

And how about Community - that poor neglected intangible un-monetised remnant of a world some of us can still remember?

RECENT EVENTS

Big Boniface Bash

building an annual summer festival for Crediton?

Sunday 8th June, Newcombes Meadow



St Boniface statue (in far distance) overlooks festival in the saint's honour - complete with Xmas tree (in foreground)

Crediton is edging towards an annual festival. While villages around have well-established music events, revels, fairs and shows, Crediton – being the size it is – has more of a challenge to create an event that appeals to its whole community. The *Big Boniface Bash* (building on last year's inaugural event) aims to offer that unifying gathering.

It's the brainchild of Crediton Town Council, and led by Events Officer Jo Davey, who was ever-present on the day making sure everything ran smoothly. Weatherwise it had been touch-and-go but luckily it turned out mostly bright and sunny: if this event is to be a certain success, it needs to be more weather-resilient with more under-cover provision.

Vans and trucks arrived from 8am, with teams to erect gazebos and a large beer and burger tent, and to set up p.a. equipment. A sizeable workforce of town council staff, willing town councillors and young volunteers set up tables and seating, took up stewarding and marshalling roles.

At 11am began a busy schedule of activity around the field, including a roster of amplified live pop music acts. There were diverting things for children: face-painting, hair-extensions and balloon-modelling, and in one corner of the field there was a splendid Punch & Judy show. There were ice-cream vans and coffee was provided by the Turning Tides group. There were portaloos, a first-aid area and an information point.

Children were invited to dress up in green and tinsel and take part in a procession around the park. This was a wonderful spectacle, led by members of the Crediton Samba Band with big drums, and tail-ended by two female stilt-walkers dressed in green with lavish floral adornments. Reaching the bandstand, the party was rewarded with glistening buns from Co-Co's coffee shop.



Children star in procession around the park, accompanied by stilt-walkers and drummers of Crediton Samba Band



Around the field were several stall-holders, both commercial and community-based, whose presence was welcome - even if it wasn't quite clear why some were there while other local organisations weren't. In a shady spot were outlets selling cakes and jewellery respectively. They seemed to be getting rather a raw deal: they must have yearned to be next to the ice-cream queue!

The BAPS breast-feeding support group had a stall, and there was a Ukrainian street-food stand. Crediton Lions were present supervising a small pond for catching plastic ducks with a hook. Staff from local industry sponsor Ernest Jackson Ltd were giving out free packets of chewy vitamin pastilles. But why just these

groups? If you're going to have independent selling outlets and stands for local groups, don't hold back, let's have a whole street of them! The BBB seems a good opportunity to showcase distinctive local businesses and organisations.

A 40-plus contingent from the national *Rock Choir* opened the musical entertainment. Other performers, including local acts *Joy Machine* and *Better Luck Next Time* would have been pleased to have a different audience from their usual pub bookings.



The Punch & Judy show shocked and delighted small children and their parents

St Boniface theme

Over the last few years, in both Crediton and across Devon, there have been efforts to promote greater recognition for St Boniface, the early and great Christian missionary to northern Europe. Crediton has long claimed (though on rather flimsy evidence) to be the place of his birth (around 680AD). Originally named Winfrith, Boniface's saint's day (observed widely in the Roman Catholic church) is 5th June, hence the choice of early June for an associated event. But the *Big Boniface Bash* - as its name suggests - is no solemn spiritual occasion. It was a day of unashamedly popular entertainment for local families, untroubled by notions of history, culture or religion.



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The Exeter area Rock Choir (with some Crediton members) is part of a 25,000-strong (nationally) singing phenomenon

So the era of St Boniface was represented by an Anglo-Saxon re-enactment group, who lolled about with swords and shields, engaging passers-by in mock duels, presided over by a brown-tunicked monk character as Boniface himself.

Some suggest that St Boniface appropriated the pagan habit of decorating fir trees for winter festivals, claiming that the triangular shape of the evergreen tree represented the Holy Trinity of Christian doctrine. With this in mind, the Big Bash team installed a tinsel-covered Xmas tree on the field. Crediton has surely found a unique, if dubious, claim to a piece of cultural history: long may we defend it!

All that said, and Xmas tree feature apart, the history of Boniface is arguably of little interest to local people at a popular event such as this. Why not just get on and make this an all-inclusive



A tinsel-clad Xmas tree: an unusual summer exhibit

celebration of all things distinctive in today's Crediton – and leave the saintly Boniface for our churches to pay their respects to.

The essential question is whether Crediton's residential population – who are funding this at the end of the day – will take the BBB to their hearts, endorse it as a relevant annual celebration, and participate in overwhelming numbers as participants and supporters.



The Ship Hotel's catering team's shelter, seating, bar and burger stand

Apart from the commendable efforts to engage smaller children, there was perhaps a sense that we should be grateful to be enjoying a free mini-festival but were being 'done to' rather than feeling we 'belonged' or that we really 'owned' it - that we were consumers of a 'bought-in' entertainment, rather than fully involved in our own community celebration. It's early days, of course, only in its second year. But what's with the title?! What exactly is a *Big Boniface Bash*?!

Opportunities to develop

One of the delights of a community gathering is the opportunity to catch up with friends. Dedicated enclosed areas to meet and chat, irrespective of the official programme, can

promote a relaxing enjoyable experience. So lots of seating areas would really make a big difference: a tea tent for the more sedate members of the community? A teenager-run cafe? A top-notch coffee outlet?

There would still be many in the town, and certainly in the wider district, who remained either unaware of the event or, if they did know about it, didn't know what it was about or who it was meant for, or sensed the *Boniface Bash* title – dare one suggest – was just a little down-market?

That said, all those who came – several hundred at least - seemed well satisfied. It felt busy but not crowded like Christmas in The Square. There could surely have been some bold signage on the High Street, and the event might have been promoted in *Kirton Quarterly*?!

Future aspirations might include more games and competitions for small children and contests for teenagers? A second stage, for gentler musical performances? There are some lovely acts to be scouted out at local Open Mic events and from our local dance, theatre groups and numerous small choirs. Where was the Town Band, and our Crediton Youth Orchestra? And did anyone think about access for less mobile members of the community?

One outstanding issue is the limited electric supply to Newcombes Meadow, currently only at the bandstand. This, combined with the council's reluctance (on environmental grounds?) to permit a generator on-site, meant some problems for those wishing to run a fridge or heat a water urn!

Where to go from here? Double the budget (and ask for public donations on the day?), advertise a little wider than just Crediton - via posters and village newsletters along the Tarka railway and local bus routes?, a printed programme of events at the entrances? More chairs, more hot food, scones and cream . . . all these could big it up further.

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Dragon Patcher, a new breed of pot-hole fixing vehicles (of which Devon County Council has four).

Crediton Food Festival

Sat 12th July, Town Square and surrounding streets

An exceptionally hot and cloudless Saturday was both blessing and (warm) challenge for the Food Festival, organised by the town council's Events Officer, with generous sponsorship from Ashgrove Kitchens, who have regularly supplied the demonstration stage and equipment.

This is the first year under the direct control of the town council, who opted to take over from the original organisers, retiring after 15 years. Several town councillors, some sporting hi-vis jackets and walkie-talkies, laboured in the sunshine, setting up and volunteering as stewards and donors of emergency water supplies. It was very well attended by locals, enjoying refreshments with their *al fresco* lunches, and buying tasty Devon-made drinks and comestibles to take home.



Pedestrianised streets are popular!

It's also a joy to experience a pedestrianised Market Street and Parliament Street free of cars and delivery vans and packed with stalls selling hot food, pastries, coffees and ice cream, with straw bales creating rustic seating enclaves. Perhaps Cllr Fawssett's calls to permanently restrict through-traffic here – with bollards across the street next to the Three Little Pigs - will

overcome the so-far modest interest expressed by fellow town councillors . . .

The festival's centre-piece is a marquee where a programme of cooking and culinary tips provide the event's educational uplift. Nearby is entertainment for children including Punch & Judy, a miniature-theatre experience and, for bigger folk, a test-your-strength-with-a-big-hammer stand. Some of the entertainers and stall-holders were back for more, having appeared at June's Boniface Bash in Newcombes Meadow.

As was the BAPS breast-feeding support group, a group which seems a particular favourite of the Events Officer (Mothers' milk is a novel inclusion at a food festival!) For non-new-borns, unpasteurised cows' milk and milk-shakes were available from the enterprising Sandford Gate Farm. They have a self-serve outlet off the roundabout next to Mole Avon.

Close by were examples of Devon's independent alcoholic spirit producers – rum, vodka and gin (mother's ruin, as it was once called!) and an award-winning local cider and perry producer Rull Orchards from near Bickleigh. Barny Butterfield of Sandford Orchards (see elsewhere in this issue) and organiser of the Breakthrough Cider Maker Awards says: '*Their Autumn Unwrapped Perry is technically sensational*'.

One could sympathise with local food producers struggling to keep sausage rolls, meat, cheese, vegetables, brownies, cupcakes and fudge from warming dangerously or wilting (as some of their proprietors were certainly by 4pm), but it looked as if hot-dogs, burgers and freshly made curries were enjoying sizzling sales.



Shelter - under marquee, traders' stalls and the council's own parasols

There seemed to be just enough seating at shaded tables to satisfy demand. The rarely-seen town council-owned green parasols had come out for the occasion, though it was remarked that the bench/tables on The Square don't seem to have been washed for quite some time.

Both adjacent pubs The Ship and The Three Little Pigs benefited from enhanced custom as visitors slaked their understandable thirst. Their outdoor seating, as at Ashton's coffee shop, was much in demand. Crediton's continental-style café culture was thriving!



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QE goes walkabout!



Posse of QE students round the corner of Western Road/St Martin's Lane

On the morning of Tuesday 15th July, Queen Elizabeth's School's inaugural Community Walk took place – an expedition of around 7 miles around Crediton and out to Sandford for a picnic lunch. The outing involved all 500 or so remaining pupils of the school, plus most of the 200 teaching and administrative staff.

6th formers (year groups 10 and 11) were absent, either doing work experience elsewhere, or having retired after their A level exam exertions. A further batch of Lower School pupils were away on a school trip to France.

This major logistical exercise - including careful staffing at sensitive road junctions - was smoothly achieved. Undeterred by light showers, pupils travelled in their separate tutor groups, wearing black/yellow sports kit and carrying packed lunches - to be consumed at Sandford's

Millennium Green. They were all counted out and back in again at the end of the exercise.

Headteacher Paula Smith commented:

"We are thrilled that our students participated in our first Community Walk with such enthusiasm and determination. Through students and staff walking together we aimed to demonstrate the value of time spent together in conversation while walking in our beautiful local landscape and the benefits this can bring to our well-being. On returning to school, all students enjoyed a well-deserved ice cream. The walk was a huge success and we hope to be even more ambitious in our aim next year".



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Old Landscore School to be renovated by end of 2026!

After considerable procrastination the Town Council has prepared a redevelopment plan, leading to anticipated completion in November 2026.

Old Landscore School (OLS) was built in 1908 when it was known as the Council School. It was replaced in the 1970s by the present Landscore Primary School (at the western end of Threshers). The vacant premises, owned by Devon County Council, was leased to the Early Birds day nursery from 1992 until 2019. Crediton Town Council expressed an immediate interest in acquiring the building and was granted free use of it by DCC before completing the purchase two years later. The transfer cost was just £16,000, under the condition that the building was for community benefit: the town council may not profit from a re-sale.

CTC has since used the building for council meetings and other events, but this year abandoned the venue due to cold winter conditions and other factors. OLS has also been used periodically by community groups and the council's own youth service. Crediton Youth Orchestra's founder Alison Golby also expressed an interest in a renovated OLS to run a centre for music education, but the Town Council has not indicated that having a single tenant is its preferred outcome for the building.



Old Landscore School: generations of Creditonians attended school or nursery here

CTC has sent *Kirton Quarterly* the following schedule. Cllr Steve Huxtable, Chair of the Town Council, adds a cautionary note: *"This plan may still be optimistic, and we appreciate that it will inevitably need to be flexed to take into account other needs, priorities and issues as they arise, not least the moving and settling into Manor Office [the town council's new rented premises at North Street] which will be the main priority in the coming quarter."*

Old Landscore School Redevelopment Plan

Feasibility & Visioning: April 25 – Oct 25

Community Needs Assessment: Re-engage with local groups, organisations, and stakeholders to identify desired uses (e.g., meeting rooms, co-working spaces, youth centre).

Building Survey: Review structural and condition survey covering the building's integrity, asbestos presence, and suitability for conversion.

Initial Plans: Obtain initial plans including accessibility upgrades, energy efficiency, and compliance with modern standards.

Reporting: Business Plan to Full Council for consideration, review and subsequent approval.

Planning & Permissions:

Sep 25 – Jan 26

Planning Permission: Liaise with Conservation Officer to understand her views and based on her feedback submit a full planning application, especially as structural changes are likely to be required. Include items from sustainability discussion too.

Consult and obtain Building Regulations: Ensure compliance with fire safety, accessibility (Part M), insulation, and ventilation standards.

Design & Funding:

Jul 25 – May 26

Architectural Plans: Fully develop detailed plans that balance modern use with preservation based on discussions and feedback.

Public Consultation: Share plans with the community for feedback and support as necessary.

Funding Applications: Apply for grants to assist with the building and assess the appropriate 'corporate' structure.

Procurement & Tendering:

Jan 26 – May 26

Tender Process: Issue tenders for contractors, ensuring they have experience with heritage and/or community buildings.

Contract(s) Awarded: Select based on quality, experience, and cost.

Construction & Fit-Out:

May 26 - Oct26

Phased Work: Depending on funding and use, consider phased development (unlikely but to be considered).

Sustainability Upgrades: Include insulation, solar panels, heat pumps, and LED lighting where feasible.

Final Inspections: Ensure all work complies with building regulations and planning conditions.

Launch & Operation:

Sep 26 – Nov 26

'Soft' Launch/Opening: Open with limited services to test operations.

Official Opening: Host a community event to celebrate and promote the new facility.

Ongoing Management: Set up an appropriate management committee or trust structure to oversee bookings, maintenance, and programming.

CREDITON TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

For venue see meeting Agenda posted on CTC website

Tues 2 Sept, 7pm Full Council (incl. planning items)

Tues 16 Sept, 7.30pm Full Council (incl. finance items) (from 7pm: informal public-councillor discussions)

Tues 7 Oct, 7pm Full Council (incl. planning items)

Tues 21 Oct, 7.30pm Full Council (finance) (from 7pm: informal public-councillor discussions)

Tues 4 Nov, 7pm Full Council (incl planning)

Tues 18 Nov, 7.30pm Full Council (incl. finance) (from 7pm: informal public-councillor discussions)

Tues 25 Nov, 1pm Grants committee

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Youth project
transformed BT store at
Parliament Street in July.



Can you deliver?

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Would anyone like to volunteer to deliver to Blagdon & Creedy Road?

Latest News

Crediton United Football Club

On Saturday 19th July the club helped long-term club stalwart Dave Lee celebrate his 20+ years at the club with a testimonial match. Players and supporters, old and new, attended to pay their respects for the service he has provided to the Club over so many years.

In many ways this stands in contrast to other events around the club in the last few weeks, as there have unfortunately been some resignations over the summer break, of both club staff and a number of players. Some changes have also taken place which may affect how the club operates, well into the future. At June's AGM a motion was unanimously passed to incorporate the club as a Company Limited by Guarantee (Crediton United Football Club Limited). A new management team of Paul Harris and Steve Goss has been appointed and pre-season games have commenced with promise, and some new young players recruited.

Activities at the clubhouse continue, though more staff are urgently required – including club general secretary, match-day gate operator, match-day tea-shed staff and general repair & maintenance staff. We'd also love to meet people with skills in fund-raising and marketing. Our Vice-President's Club has re-opened for those wishing to offer financial support, and the club's £5-a-month lottery is available for those who'd like to chance their luck!

To check out all upcoming fixtures and club events, please inspect our noticeboard outside The Ship Hotel. Or consult W: fulltime.thefa.com

Come and watch a home match soon! Saturday 16th August 3pm (for example) is a league match against Newton Abbot Spurs. See you there?! Admission is just £6.

Any offers of support, contact: Dr Rod Hawker (Chair) doctorrod@icloud.com
or via creditonunitedafc@gmail.com

Cider Making at Sandford Orchards



High Street promotion in UK, on bus shelters and buses

You probably can't improve on a slogan like *Cider done right*. Concise and easily understood, with just a hint of Westcountry rusticity? *True to our roots* – another Sandford Orchards motto – neatly grafts integrity on to its core product. This summer Sandford Orchards launched a national advertising campaign using the slogan *Choose the Right Cider Life* and featuring bottles of its best-selling Devon Red cider.

Cider has been made locally for centuries, but orchards growing apples for cider-making have been getting rarer over many decades and there aren't many left. (In Crediton, as elsewhere, there are several housing developments whose names derive from the orchards they were built over.) The apples for Sandford Orchards are grown on a few Devon farms, with new orchards being planted - supported by long-term contracts between farmer and cider-maker.

Once, however, most small farms had both an orchard and a cider press, furnishing their thirsty out-door workers with naturally fermented liquor, rough and strong. With the advent of motorised transport and a growing level of entrepreneurship, dedicated cider-makers set up business - such as

Whiteways at Whimble, Inch's at Winkleigh and Gray's at Tedburn St Mary with their more refined products being imbibed in the comfort of home or local public house.

These days the sale of cider from supermarkets and licensed premises is dominated by a few much larger companies; Bulmers (who make Strongbow) and Thatchers, for example, who produce in industrial quantities. Some are owned by even bigger multi-nationals. Horror of horrors, they don't even use fresh apples but manufacture all the year round using sweetened and watered-down apple concentrate. But there are still some individuals determined to conserve the traditions of proper cider-making, and prepared to devote their career to the task.



Bulk liquid storage (and casks) on Commonmarsh Lane

Barry Butterfield, founder of Sandford Orchards and brought up among apple trees in nearby Sandford, took a degree in Philosophy & English Literature before turning his attention to cider-making: "I wanted to make cider," he says, "not because I wanted to be a cider-maker, but because I couldn't get the cider I wanted to drink."

In the relatively short history of the business Barny has convinced a sizeable cohort of discerning regular drinkers to treat his cider as their beverage of choice – an amazing achievement, really, for a drink historically associated with cheap, heavy consumption or shunned for its comic rusticity (cue an irritating 1977 recording by The Wurzels). There is a fine line between that and cider's genuine folkloric traditions, still honoured with rowdy wassailing, especially in January in Sandford!

Is Sandford Orchards now a big player in the cider market? *"Hardly!"* says Barny. *"Out of a total of 800 million litres sold nationally we sell less than half of 1%. We produce about the same annually as the milk output of one small dairy farm".*

The Sandford Orchards enterprise was born in 2002 and established in CREDITON at Lower Park Farm, south of Barnfield.

Ten years later Barny was delighted to purchase and restore the former Creedy Valley Cider works, at the top of the Lords Meadow industrial estate, which had been closed since 1967 (after Bulmers bought out Creedy Valley Cider Co. and then shut it down). The cavernous shed had been built under the south side of the hill to shelter from the heat of the sun and so keep naturally cool. If the temperature does rise, roof lights open to let out hot air. Cider-making needs to be cool, otherwise the natural fermentation process goes wild.

Proper cider is made with cider apples, small sour things that have no other purpose than to be crushed in late autumn, their tannin-rich, acid-laden juice fermented into alcoholic liquor whereby it can be stored for months before being drawn off and drunk. Like other preservation techniques (think jam, pickles, dried and salted meats and cheeses) the making of cider is a means of preserving the nutritional element of fruit way beyond the harvest season.

Cider apple varieties have some wonderful names that never make it into the shops: Tremlett's Bitter, Kingston Black, Dabinett, the intriguing Slack ma Girdle, and many more. They are classed from bitter to sweet, and how you blend them together is an important part of the cider-maker's craft.

Should you be strolling up Downshead Lane in late autumn, you may well observe apples being unloaded at Commonmarsh Lane into one of several concrete bays. Washed and checked, crushed and pressed, the juice flows on into large steel tanks (though smaller batches are still matured in old oak casks). The remaining pomace is taken off by conveyor belt, ultimately for animal feed or composting, but it also produces the carbon dioxide used to add sparkle to the bottled products.

Visitors from the beer trade sometimes express surprise at the combined massive volume of the tanks. Barny points out that traditionally made cider differs from beer in one major aspect. With ale-brewing the principal (dry) ingredients are always available, so beer can be brewed week in week out. With cider the apples arrive only once a year. The whole annual supply is gathered, crushed and juiced in one short hectic season, thus requiring very substantial storage.

Many of us will have sampled Sandford Orchards' Devon Red, which is by far its most popular cider, served by the pint in many a pub in Devon and increasingly around the UK – and also available in our local Morrison's. But there are several other tasty alternatives: some weaker,



Barny Butterfield, founder of Sandford Orchards

Amapola

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Curious Cinema Club

1st & 3rd Fridays of month, 7.30pm

(NB: not in Aug)

Licensed bar, complimentary snacks
contact: tccinemaclub@gmail.com

The Night Train

Open mic evening

2nd Friday of the month, from 6.30pm

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local groups and organisations



Areas for canning, bottling, labelling, wrapping, dispatching

some stronger, drier, sweeter, rustic, smooth, some with earthier flavours, some flavoured with berries and some low-alcohol. As with the apples themselves, Sandford Orchards' products come with pleasing names such as Devon Mist, Rib Tickler, Fanny's Bramble, Devon Scrumpy, Shaky Bridge and the strongest of all (at ABV 8.4%), The General.

These and still more can be sampled up at the cider works and/or purchased for home consumption or in gift packages.



Local haulier disgorges freshly harvested apples in late autumn



NOTES Visit Sandford Orchards' website – and enjoy Barney's promotional video, W: sandfordorchards.co.uk

The Cider Works tap room is open every Friday and Saturday night from 4pm until 11pm for ciders and stone-baked pizza - drink in and/or take home.

21st October is Apple Day, an event created by environmental charity Common Ground in 1990 to promote awareness and knowledge of our orchard heritage. In 1992 the charity started its campaign to encourage the planting of Community Orchards.

The Yeo Cider festival is on Saturday 18th October in Yeoford Community Hall, featuring local ciders, a couple of real ales, food and live music. Top tip for tipplers: take the Tarka Line train to Yeoford and back. Yeoford Village Hall is a 5-minute walk from the station. Bear in mind that Yeoford is a request stop on the Barnstaple-Exeter line, and passengers may need to flag the train down to catch the return service. (Yeofest also organises a beer festival in the spring.)

KIRTON QUARTERLY NOTES

Please send items for publication (e-mails preferred) by 15 October for the Winter 2025/26 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 2025 issue 8

Full page £180 | 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 Winter issue is 20th Oct (magazine covering period mid-Nov – end of Feb)

2026 ADVERTISING: bookings for all four issues in 2026 (KQ9-12) receive 30% discount: invoices payable following publication of KQ9 (mid-February)

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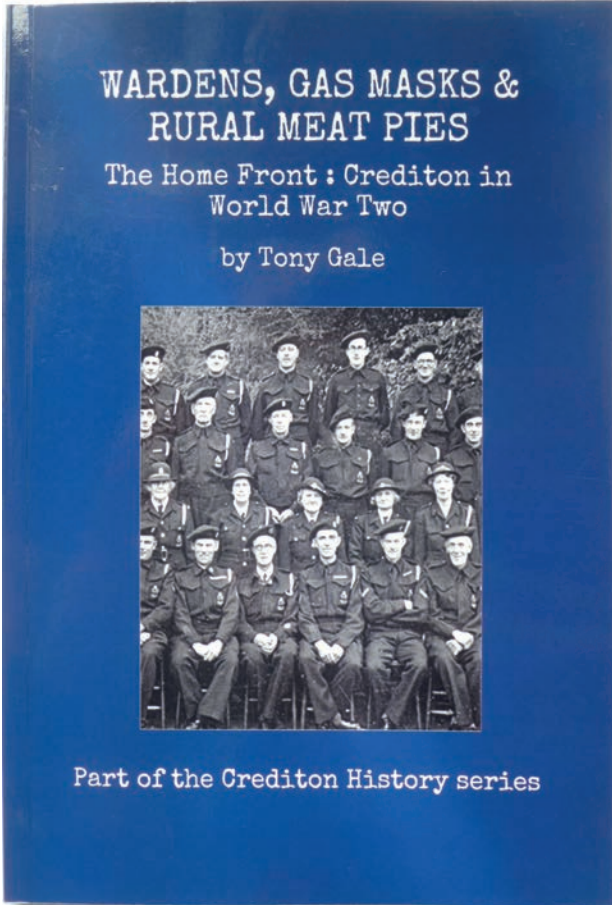
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Wardens, Gas Masks & Rural Meat Pies

The Home Front: Crediton in World War Two, by Tony Gale



In this lively slim volume local historian Tony Gale revives the intensity - and sheer busyness - of civil co-operation and voluntary efforts from 1938 to 1946, as Crediton and its rural surroundings did its bit for the war effort, even ensuring the town and its population was prepared for an airborne enemy invasion. Drawing from local archives, Gale's entertaining short chapters reveal fascinating and detailed information about the initiatives taken in Crediton when the area remained on high alert.

2025 marks the 80th anniversary of the end of the Second World War. This book, focusing on activity in Crediton, uncovers the actual experience of the local community and of those evacuated to the town from elsewhere.

Even on the day war was declared (3rd Sept 1939) a train left London Waterloo for Devon carrying over 300 south London children (unaccompanied by

their parents) to be lodged with families in Crediton and the surrounding area. The young evacuees arriving at the train station were taken to Haywards School where they were allocated to volunteer families. Later, in 1942, arrangements were in place to take in families who had lost their homes in the heavy bombing of Plymouth.

These weren't the only temporary new inhabitants. Early on, 150 staff of the Gaumont British Picture Corporation (then a major film producer and owner of movie-houses) moved from their London premises to Newcombes House and were housed in quickly erected chalet accommodation in the grounds.



Those who had not qualified for military service by reasons of age, gender, infirmity or other incapacity, took up alternative full or part-time roles, designed to ensure the well- being of the local population. Gale's account is peppered with official posters, photographs and lists - of local persons charged with organising the salvage of re-usable materials, of those responsible for emergency rest centres, for tools and equipment to deal with bomb-damaged roads, bridges and buildings (from crowbars and shovels to handcarts and wheelbarrows, mattresses, hurricane lamps and hot water bottles) and for numerous other procedures in the case of one contingency or another.

In April 1942 Operation Raleigh involved much of southern Devon in an exercise to test Police and Civil Defence Organisations in their role in the event of an invasion . . . and to make this part of Devon 'invasion minded'. One of the outcomes was Crediton's War Book, containing details of what was to be done in the event of emergency – and who would do it.

Gale details the numerous volunteer organisations co-ordinated by the local authorities, Crediton Urban and Crediton Rural District Councils. The ARP (Air Raid Precautions) service included not just wardens on the look-out for fires, but rescue and demolition roles, first aid providers and ambulance drivers. In the event of a gas attack wardens might help with the fitting and distribution of civilian gas-masks. Ten locations around the town were equipped with torches, whistles, hand-rattles and bells, first-aid book and a logbook. Each of the noisy instruments indicated the need for a particular action, or else to announce that danger had passed. In 1939, the town's ARP First Aid Post was in the gym at QE School.

In 1939 the Women's Land Army also came in to being: '*a mobile force consisting of women who are ready to undertake all kinds of farm work in any part of the country*'. The uniformed Land Girls who worked on farms around Crediton had mixed experiences of both work and their farmer employers. Some relished the opportunity to drive tractors and look after sheep. Pulling up swedes was back-breakingly unpopular, but the long hours and hard work were compensated often by wonderful camaraderie, local dance events - and much better food than back home.

Meanwhile, the Local Defence Volunteer force, set up nationally in 1940, attracted over a million men within a few weeks and was renamed the Home Guard – the Dad's Army of the popular TV series. The Crediton area detachment was led by Major Knight-Bruce from Shobrooke.

In 1944 American soldiers arrived in large numbers and set up camps in the area. They came bearing gifts - chewing gum, chocolate and nylon stockings – thus creating a good deal of excitement and gaiety while they prepared, around local lanes and South Devon beaches, for the D-Day landings in France. For many local residents it was the first time that they had encountered black people.

In 1941 a long pre-fab building was constructed in Newcombes Meadow which served as a British Restaurant serving nutritious meals at moderate prices (see editorial KQ6 for more info). But this government initiative, which boasted over 2000 venues across the country serving over 600,000 meals a day, did not reach those toiling in the countryside. So the Minister of Food put out a call to the WVS (Women's Volunteer Service) Women's Institutes and others to operate a Government Agricultural Pie Scheme. By 1943 around 500 pies or pasties were being delivered, and consumed, weekly in the Crediton area.

And was Crediton ever attacked? A single bomb fell on the town, somewhere around what is now Meadow Gardens. It may not have been intended for Crediton but jettisoned on a bomber's return from raids on Exeter in May 1942. A number of local households put in claims for broken windows and damaged roofing.

The physical legacy

Today the shelter used as a bus-stop on Union Road, is a one of the few physical reminders of this period of great social upheaval and wartime readiness – built 'as a lasting memorial' next to the War Memorial which incorporates those who gave their lives in both first and second wars. The shelter was built in 1953 using left-over funds raised by whist-drives, dances, bazaars and from private donations to provide a Welcome Home Supper for service personnel (returning as late as September 1946).

And, though not mentioned in this book, one of the very first evacuees, then a small boy just short of his 8th birthday has, apart from a few years after the war, lived in Crediton ever since, employed by a prominent local building company and playing rugby for Crediton's first XV for many years.

NOTE:

The book, published by Crediton Area History & Museum Society (CAHMS) is available from Crediton Museum at £7.50. It was produced to accompany the exhibition The Home Front: Crediton in World War Two at the Museum until the end of October. The Museum is open Wed, Thurs, Friday, 10 - 4pm; Sat, 11 - 2pm.



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Why our Paddling Pool is worth keeping

There's something utterly joyful about the sound of children splashing, laughing, and playing together on a sunny day - and our local paddling pool, recently repainted and re-opened, brings exactly that kind of magic to our community.

The re-opened pool is once again a place where babies, toddlers, and older children can cool off, play freely, and build confidence in water. Parents and grandparents also benefit from the space either joining in or sitting round the edges, sharing conversation, and relaxing in the knowledge that their children are having fun close by in a safe, enclosed space where they can be seen and heard.

Unfortunately though, it seems that the future of the paddling pool is uncertain. It's been suggested that it could be replaced by water fountains, due to ongoing maintenance costs and limited funding. While water fountains may sound like a good idea they do not offer the same diversity of play nor are they suitable for such a wide age range of children.

There are also practical concerns. Fountains, while attractive in theory, often suffer from technical problems, and neither are they immune to maintenance issues. In fact, in many towns where fountains have been installed, they've frequently gone out of order - leaving an expensive but unusable space behind.

Paddling pools provide so much more than a splash - they offer space for children of different ages to play together, for younger ones to paddle safely, and for carers to sit nearby, connected to both their children and other parents and carers. Water play is not only fun - it's educational. It helps children develop confidence around water, encourages early physical coordination, and can even lay the foundations for learning to swim.

It also fosters social skills as children naturally begin to play and interact with others, often across age groups. Moreover, this facility is suitable for babies as well as children,

something not really catered for in the rest of the playground area.

And it's an opportunity for new mums to meet and connect with other parents. It encourages a sense of community for the parents, grandparents and carers who gather there. It's more than a play facility - it's a place of connection, growth, and shared fun.

As someone who's spoken to a number of local parents, the message from most is clear: we prefer the paddling pool. It offers far more than just a way to cool down although a shaded area would be appreciated - especially in the recent heatwave. Fountains might be an attractive addition, but not an alternative.

As a community, we should be looking at how to protect and support spaces like this, not replace them with less effective alternatives.

Loren Burton

Something's not right at Uton

Access to the Ladywell has never before been restricted. Now it has been fenced off, for no apparent reason. The path which leads down to the well has been made inaccessible, by the erection of a metal fence and padlocked gate.

The Ladywell is a natural spring, delivering clean water which feeds a stream tributary of the River Yeo. It is a holy well. The nuns from Posbury St Francis would come down the hill to visit, and the supply would be blessed.

No doubt, the land itself is privately owned. But the water is not. A local farm is fed by abstraction from inside the well. Downstream of that abstraction, people can collect small quantities for their own use, and have done for centuries. The surplus runs to the river. Flows continued even through the drought of 1976, when Crediton residents were reduced to reliance on standpipes.

To date, the landowner has always allowed free access to this shady hollow. What has changed? And why?

Rupert Grantham

New Mayor of Crediton

Steve Huxtable was voted in as Chair and Mayor of the town council in May. Having relocated to Crediton five years ago (from Swindon, where employer Zurich Insurance is based) he was initially co-opted to the council a few years ago, and was elected as an Independent councillor (for Boniface ward) in 2023.

By-elections return Lib Dems

Following the death of former town Mayor Frank Letch, who held three council seats – at town, district and county level – recent by-elections have now taken place to fill each vacancy. All three seats were contested, but voters returned a Liberal Democrat candidate to each of them. Cllr Jim Cairney (who, like Letch, now holds seats at all three levels) won the county council seat, while newcomer Tim Stanford won both district and town seats at a by-election on June 26th.

Striding (belatedly) into Copplestone mel-strom

Upstream of Crediton on the A377 the potential collapse of cob walls at The Cross hotel and pub, Copplestone, continue to cause infuriating delays for thousands of drivers on the main road and great inconvenience for residents and local services in the village itself.

Part of the problem is that the A-road was already divided into one-way sections, with the return section from Barnstaple/A3220 (to Winkleigh) coming past the pub through the middle of Copplestone so that, the village section being closed off, this has meant traffic-lights on the main section of the A377 hold up traffic in both directions, and also to and from the A3072 off to Bow and Okehampton.

Central Devon MP Mel Stride (Conservative, majority 61 at last election) writes in the Crediton Courier

(July 17): *"When it comes to . . . the closure of a key part of the A377, I totally get that constituents have had enough. In fact many are furious! It's clearly unacceptable that the road adjacent to the Cross Hotel pub has been closed since April 3rd."*

The member of Parliament says he has now written over a dozen letters to Mid Devon District Council in response to constituents' concerns. He is now requesting a meeting with senior officers. *"Constituents,"* he says, *"need answers and a solution".*

Crediton's bishop and rector talking out of their stained glass?

Perhaps they have been reading the Crediton Visitor Guide?! In recent statements the new bishop of Crediton, and parish church rector have both made statements mentioning the 'stained glass panels' commemorating the life of St Boniface, situated at 8 locations around the town. Although they are intended to look (a bit) like ecclesiastical stained glass, they just aren't! The images are printed on vinyl and enclosed between toughened glass panels.

The execrable Crediton Visitor Guide (which the town council hotly denies it's responsible for, despite its logo appearing prominently on the front cover) may be responsible: it refers to *"beautifully produced stained glass panels to celebrate the town's celebrated son . . ."* The Visitor Guide is available from Crediton Library and the town council offices.

Three times a lady bishop

The appointment of a new bishop of Crediton was approved by the King on 3rd June. The Venerable Moira Austin, previously Archdeacon of Reigate, follows in the footsteps of former Crediton bishops Jackie Searle and Sarah Mullally (who is now Bishop of

London). This is thought to be the first time three women bishops have been appointed in succession to the same post. Crediton has a suffragan bishop – whose role is subordinate to the diocesan bishop whom they assist.

Town council grants top £43K

Members of the town council are delighted at the annual take-up for its grants scheme. This year over £43,000 has been awarded to 29 local organisations, including charities, sports and cultural groups, with amounts ranging from £350 to £3,000.

At least one council member is in favour of 10% of the council's Precept (council-tax allocated to town council activities) being re-distributed in this way. The Precept this year is over half a million pounds. Nearly 50% is spent on staff and office costs, while another significant chunk is allocated to running the council's own youth service. Town/parish councils have few statutory responsibilities, beyond holding a community gathering once a year and maintaining allotments.

Independents for Crediton, a political think-tank which includes residents and some serving town councillors (and supports residents wishing to stand for election), has discussed whether the council's grants scheme can benefit from further improvements.

It suggests that members of the council's grants committee might identify potential local groups who have not yet applied; might encourage membership organisations to set up 'hardship funds' to support those, particularly children, who may not otherwise be able to afford to attend); and that the town council could publish the purpose for which each grant is given.



Town council buys last phone box

Crediton's last remaining red phonebox, at St Lawrence Green, has been de-commissioned.

The classic K6 model, designed by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott (architect of Liverpool Cathedral etc) was introduced in 1935, and followed a number of earlier models

starting in 1924. Around 77,000 red telephone boxes were made in total, the last in 1982.

Crediton Town Council has purchased this one – for £1. BT engineers removed the coin- and card-operated equipment on 9th July. It is not clear what future purpose the town council has in mind: perhaps it will run a competition for suggestions?!

QE 6th form buildings mothballed

Scaffolding has been put up around the historic red-brick former grammar school building at QE's Western Road site, which is apparently no longer usable due to deterioration of its fabric and leaking roof.

Speculation continues to surround the future re-development of the school – in the hands of the Ted Wragg Federation of schools. The current thinking seems to be that the Barnfield (Lower School) site, originally the separate Shelley Secondary Modern school, will be closed and the two year groups (7 and 8) based at Barnfield will be moved to the Western Road site.

This prompts further speculation as to how a greater number of pupils will be accommodated on the one campus – and the fear that the 6th form may be discontinued. QE has been invited to enlighten readers.

Party in Exeter on Saturdays till 3pm!

A new partnership between police, county and bus company, has enabled Crediton residents (and those in other parts of the county) to stay out in Exeter for longer. The last Saturday night bus to Crediton from Exeter now leaves Paris Street at 3.20am (with earlier ones at 12.20am and 1.50am. Green Party county councillor Jacqui Hodgson welcomed the change, citing safety and affordability benefits, as well as reducing the carbon footprint (incurred by individual taxi journeys).

This of course means that Exeter people can enjoy Crediton's Saturday night-life for longer too! Each of the above bus services returns from Crediton to Exeter roughly ½ hour later than the times above. The same service will also be available on Fri 19th December and on New Year's Eve.

Or party more locally - at Shobrooke Park!

There has been local anxiety over an application to hold many more outdoor events in the grounds of Shobrooke Park – with an alcohol licence granted to 4am.

An end-of-year ball for 7,000 Exeter University students has been held in June these last few years, the festivities continuing into the early hours – and requiring around 70 coaches to transport the eager post-exam celebrants. Some noise from amplified sound systems carries as far as Crediton, but who would deny these young people some late-night fun after all their hard work?! Mid Devon has agreed to the application.

Lamb-entable situation over Sandford pub

Local residents are aghast at a planning application to convert The Lamb Inn (in Sandford) into residential property. Over 120 objections have been received by Mid Devon District Council, many emphasising the key role the Grade II-listed 16thC public house has played in the local village community.

A local campaign aims to raise funds to purchase the property and to transfer the pub into community ownership.

Library closed 'temporarily' on Mondays

Following the recent retirement of Sue Lee, library supervisor, the departure of a part-time staff member and another away on maternity leave, Libraries Unlimited announced that our library will remain 'temporarily' closed on Mondays.

Regular users of library services and a number of activity groups have had to find new days/times to meet or relocate elsewhere, and the library is open now only on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturday mornings.

KQ understands that, due to diminishing financial settlements from Devon County Council, Libraries Unlimited (an independent charity running Devon's libraries) is not in a position to renew paid staff roles around the network of 50 or more libraries.

We await news of DCC's next funding package, due to be implemented from Spring 2026. Libraries Unlimited (motto 'Enriching Lives, Building Communities' has a feedback form available from the library asking users to: Tell Us What You Think.

New names for jewellers – and accountants

Desire Jewels is the new occupant of

well-established jewellers at 114 High Street, previously owned and run since 2004 by Valerie Barker. Desire has a number of outlets in both London and Devon. According to its website it is *"a boutique jewelry brand specializing in custom-made wedding bands, engagement rings, and unique, made-to-order pieces."*

On a different scale, accountancy firm Haines Watts (office on Market Square) has been absorbed into Gravita – *"an independent Member Firm of DFK International, a global alliance of accounting firms . . . [who] share an extensive and diverse base of international expertise, equipping them to deliver client-focused solutions across multiple jurisdictions."* Make of that what you will!

Other (smaller) accountancy practices in Crediton include Bedford & Co, H. W Martin & Co., Stapletons, Smarter Accounting, Westcotts and Wortham Jaques.

Cott death

A delapidated property called The Cott, in Stanbury Court just behind Adams hardware store, was demolished without permission by a purchaser after it was sold at auction. Subsequent applications to rebuild a new 3-storey property on the site have been rejected by Mid Devon District Council on grounds of inappropriate materials and failure to include storage for bins.

An understandably miffed conservation officer dismissed the applicant's proposal to cover concrete block construction with traditional lime plastering.

Waste no paint!

UK-wide initiative Community RePaint is in operation at Punchbowl recycling centre. In a few short weeks, the scheme has been successful, with over 1,750 litres of paint being re-distributed to members of the public.



No longer there! The Cott, as offered for auction in 2022. Image courtesy Clive Emson auctioneers.

Our beautiful laundrette!

The proprietor of the new Bubble It laundrette, in the former premises of Co-Co's café, hopes to be up and trading, washing and drying by the time you read this!

As well as washing and drying, ironing and other services are promised. She explains that customers may appreciate the larger washing machines when it comes to cleaning bulkier items such as duvets and sleeping bags.

She promises to be open on Sundays too (so you could get it all done in the time it takes to have Sunday lunch across the road at The Ship?

If the name seems familiar, the new premises is a sister operation of the long-established Bubble It at Buddle Lane, Exeter.

CREDITON AUTUMN CALENDAR

Info for next issue required by 15th October (covering period c15 Nov to end of Feb)

EVENTS: CIVIC & COMMUNITY

Mon 18 Aug, 2-5pm
CREAM TEA (FoCL)
Crediton Library

Sat 23 Aug
SHARE IN THE SQUARE
(local musicians)
Town Square

Sat 30 Aug, 7pm
QUIZ & SUPPER (Holy Cross church)
Boniface Centre

Sat 6 Sept, 10 -1pm
CRAFT FAIR
(Holy Cross church)
Boniface Ctre

Sat 13 Sept, 10.30-3.30pm
HERITAGE OPEN DAY
Parish church

Sat 8 Nov (times tbc)
COME AND SING DAY
(Music Endowment Fund)
rehearsal and performance of 'The Armed Man'

1st & 3rd Saturdays
FARMERS MARKET
9.30am -12.30
Town Square

4th Sat, 10am-12
REPAIR CAFÉ (Sus Cred)
Elephant (NB: 4th Sat is not always the *last* Sat of the month!)

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Sat 20 Sept, 6.30pm
DINNERTIME
Pop-up restaurant £37
Elephant [B]
(also Sat 22 Nov – tbc)

PERFORMANCES/ EXHIBITIONS/TALKS/ FILMS/WORKSHOPS

Until Oct: Wed, Thurs, Fri 10

– 4pm; Sat 11 – 2pm
Exhibition: **THE HOME FRONT: CREDITON IN WORLD WAR II** (CAHMS)
Crediton Museum, Old Town Hall

Fri 29 & Sat 30 Aug, 7.30pm; Sat 4pm
THE SHADOWS OF MONTPARNASSE (CYT) [B]
Arts Ctre £5

Sat 6 Sept, 3 - 5pm
SHIATSU WELLBEING AFTERNOON [B] (hands-on taster workshop)
Elephant

Sat 6 Sept, 7pm
JOANNE HARRIS (In conversation author presentation, book signing, chocolate sales)
Boniface Centre
Tickets £10 from Crediton Library

Thurs 11 Sep, 7.30pm
MANUS NOBLE
(classical guitar) (SBCS)
Parish church £15 (students free)

Sun 14 Sept, 3.30pm
MUSIC ENDOWMENT FUND CONCERT
parish church

Sat 11 Oct, time tbc
CREDITON TOWN BAND
Parish church

Sat 4 Oct, 7.30pm
HARBOTTLE & JONAS
(folk duo)
Arts Centre

Thurs 23 Oct, 7.30pm
DAN WHITEHOUSE AND GUSTAF LJUNGGREN
(singer-songwriters)
Arts Centre

Fri 7 Nov, 7.30pm
JAYWALKERS
(folk trio)
Arts Centre

OUT OF TOWN
Until 14 September
Exhibition: **INTO ABSTRACTION: MODERN BRITISH ART & THE LANDSCAPE** (incl. works by Henry Moore, Patrick Heron, Barbara Hepworth, L.S. Lowry)
Burton Art Gallery & Museum, Bideford (free)

Mon 18 Aug, 7pm
Open Air Theatre: **MUCH ADO/MACBETH** (Four Forty Theatre/The Plough)
Lapford Mill

Mon 25 August
LUSTLEIGH HORTICULTURAL SHOW
nr. Moretonhampstead

Sat 18 Oct
YEO CIDER festival
local ciders, real ales, food, live music
Yeoford Community Hall

QUICKE'S CHEESE TOURS
Various Fridays [B] (ticket required)
Quicke's Farm, Newton St Cyres

ESPECIALLY FOR FAMILY/ CHILDREN
Mon 18 & Wed 27 Aug
EMMYLOU'S KIDS FINE ART WORKSHOP
White Room, Commonmarsh Lane

Wed 27 Aug, 10 -2pm
CRAFT DROP-IN SESSIONS (aged 5+ free)
The Bookery

REGULAR ENTERTAINMENT

1st Thurs, 6.30pm

JAZZ ON THE GREEN

(jazz/Sri Lankan buffet: £27 advance booking only) Arts Centre [B]

3rd Thurs, 7.30pm

MOON JAZZ CLUB

(regular band, plus jammers)
3 Little Pigs

1st & 3rd Fri, 7.30pm

CURIOUS CINEMA CLUB

Elephant (NB: not in Aug)

2nd Fri, from 6.30pm

OPEN MIC NIGHT

Elephant

Last Fri, 7pm

OPEN MIC NIGHT

@100 Cafe

Last Sun, 7pm

OPEN MIC NIGHT

Red Deer

REGULAR SOCIAL EVENTS/ ACTIVITIES

Tues 10-11.30am **TUESDAY**

DROP-IN (coffee social)

Boniface Centre

Tuesdays 10.30am – 12

KNITWITS (knitting)

group) Library

1st Wed, 7pm

GAMES NIGHT

@100 Café, High St

Wed 10am-12

CAUSEWAY (coffee social,
esp for those with learning
disabilities, carers etc)

CCC

Thurs 10-11.30am

COFFEE & COMPANY

(esp older residents) CCC

Fridays, 10.30am-12

CRAFT INN

(Sus Cred craft activities)

@100 Cafe

Fridays 12.30 – 2pm

SOUP & STORIES

The Bookery [B]

4th Fri, 6.30pm

BSL SOCIAL

(deaf/hard of hearing)

Elephant (NB: not in Aug)

Last Fri of month

CIDER TASTING & PIZZA

(Sandford Orchards) £35 [B]

Commonmarsh Lane, Lords

Meadow Ind Est

Sat 10am

TOGETHER 4 COFFEE

Methodist Church

SPECTATOR SPORTS

CREDITON RUGBY CLUB

Exhibition Road

CREDITON UNITED AFC

(football)

Lords Meadow pitch

SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES

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

9.30am

SCHOOL DATES

QE Academy

Autumn term: First days of

term: Mon 1 Sept (Year 7

students Wed 3 Sept, Year

12 students Mon 8 Sept) ;

half-term 27 -31 Oct; last

day of term: Fri 19 Dec

Haywards and Landscrope Primary Schools

Autumn term First day of

term: Thurs 4 Sept; half-

term 27-31 Oct; last day of

term Fri 19 Dec:

NB: This is not a

comprehensive listings

service. Readers are

recommended to sign up

to mailing lists or social

media pages for any/all

of the above venues and/

or organisations. See

also *Crediton Courier's*

Kirton Raiser events diary,

published Thurs weekly.

NB: booking may be

required for some events –

please check! Events include

free or drop-in events as

well as those with admission

charge

Abbreviations

CAHMS = Crediton

Area History & Museum

Society; CCC = Crediton

Congregational Church; CTC

= Crediton Town Council;

CUFC = Crediton United

Football Club; [CUT!] =

Crediton Urban Taskforce;

CYT = Crediton Youth

Theatre;

Elephant = Elephant on the

Green; FoCL = Friends of

Crediton Library; SBCS = St

Boniface Concert Society;

Sus Cred = Sustainable

Crediton

Useful websites

[crediton.gov.uk/Your-](http://crediton.gov.uk/Your-Council/Meetings)

[Council/Meetings](http://crediton.gov.uk/Your-Council/Meetings)

[u3asites.org.uk/crediton/
home](http://u3asites.org.uk/crediton/home)

creditonartscentre.org

creditonheartproject.org



Baroque-style guitar, hand-made by Shaun Newman



For over 30 years luthier Shaun Newman has been making exquisite stringed instruments at his workshop on Searle Street. With commissions from musicians worldwide, Sean's work is often based on early historical examples.

Using only sustainable materials, the 6-string Baroque-style guitar above includes woods such as (plantation) rosewood, padauk, spruce and cedar, with intricately carved or punched calfskin vellum for the interior ornament. Made during the Covid lockdown, the guitar is based on a 14thC Italian design. A number of Shaun's instruments can be heard via his website: [W: shaunnewmanguitars.co.uk](http://W:shaunnewmanguitars.co.uk) Click on Sound Files

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