

IN THIS ISSUE

A REAL TRIUMPH FOR THE TOWN!

Naval crew to be honoured before official opening of Newton's Place

PLUS:

WOOD YOU BELIEVE IT?

Carved oak panel reunited with its decorative counterparts!

SPRING IS IN THE HEIR

Seasonal events crowned by the Coronation of King Charles III

DRAWING ON THE PAST

Hidden artefacts inspire new art



THE NEWTON

Cryer

SPRING 2023

NEWSLETTER OF NEWTON ABBOT TOWN COUNCIL





EDITOR'S NOTES

Open for business!

It's been two years in the making, but in April we'll at long last be able to declare Newton's Place officially open! Due to the chaos caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, the original grand opening had to be postponed and, because of the unbreakable commitments of our very special guests, we've been waiting for a date that fits well with everyone's packed schedules – and it's finally here!

The event, to be held on Saturday 1st April, will include a special ceremony to award the Freedom of the Town to HMS Triumph, whose distinguished name has long been associated with our town.

With springtime chasing out the last of the winter chills, we'll also see a multitude of outdoor events for everyone to enjoy; check out the listings in this issue and plan some days of fun in the sun!

In May, the UK will crown Charles as our first new monarch in almost seventy years and Newton Abbot will be celebrating along with the rest of the country with some royal revelry around the town, plus another chance to view the incredible collection of commemorative pottery with links to the throne, on loan to the museum from the Torquay Pottery Collectors Society – well worth a visit.

Since the beginning of the year, it's been an especially busy few months for the museum, with several other exhibitions and events in the pipeline as well as the unexpected return of an important panel from the Sanford Orleigh carvings – if there's one thing we've learnt from lockdown, there's nothing more satisfying than dropping in the final piece of a tricky puzzle...

Sam

Samantha Scott, Deputy Town Clerk.

Keep in touch

call us: 01626 201120 | email us: info@newtonabbot-tc.gov.uk

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Edited by: **Samantha Scott** (sam.scott@newtonabbot-tc.gov.uk)



Give a new sport the green light!

Newton Abbot Bowling Club will be opening for its 112th season on Saturday 15th April and the green will be officially opened at 2pm by our local MP, Anne Marie Morris.

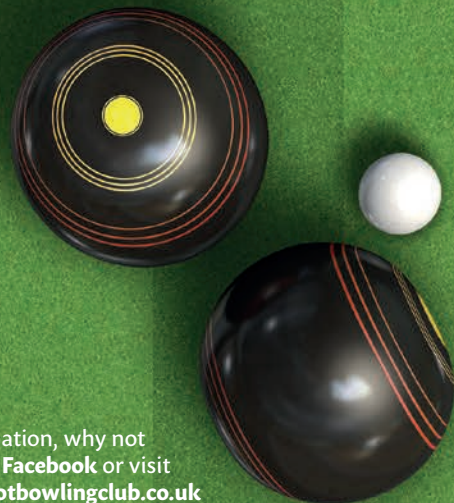
Situated in Courtenay Park, opposite the railway station, the club has about 100 members (of all ages) for whom bowling is free of charge on most days during the season. The clubhouse has a licensed bar and kitchen facilities and regularly holds social events.

Bowls is a great sport for people seeking two to three hours of gentle exercise in the fresh air – and a great way to make new friends while you play.

The club will be holding an open day event on Saturday 29th April with everyone from Newton Abbot and surrounding towns invited to come and have a go at bowling for free !!!

The open day will run from 10am and members will be on hand to get you started. All you need to bring is a pair of flat soled shoes and a willingness to try something new.

For all enquiries about Newton Abbot Bowling Club, please contact the club secretary, Mr Paul Hawkins, on 07976 515418 or email paul.h.nabc@outlook.com



For general information, why not follow the club on **Facebook** or visit www.newtonabbotbowlingclub.co.uk

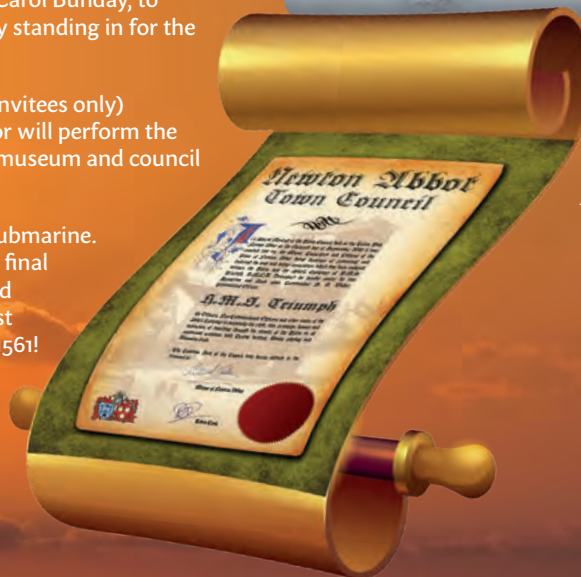
Triumphant return

After a long association with Newton Abbot, HMS Triumph will exercise its Freedom of the Town on Saturday 1st April. The event will consist of a parade of the HMS Triumph ships company contingent accompanied by the TS Ramehead Sea Cadet Volunteer Band.

The parade will start from Victoria Gardens in Newton Abbot town centre at 2pm and parade through the pedestrianised part of the town through to Wolborough Street. At Wolborough Street there will be a presentation of the freedom scroll by Phil Rowe (town clerk) and the Mayor of Newton Abbot, Cllr Carol Bunday, to Commander Shaun Southwood who is kindly standing in for the Commanding Officer of HMS Triumph.

Following the ceremony there will be a VIP (invitees only) reception at Newton's Place, where the mayor will perform the official opening of this community building, museum and council offices.

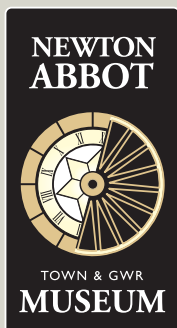
HMS Triumph is Newton Abbot's affiliated submarine. She is of the Trafalgar Class, the seventh and final example of her type, and the tenth vessel (and second submarine) to bear the name. The first HMS Triumph was a 68-gun galleon built in 1561! As of 2023, she is the Navy's nineteenth nuclear-powered hunter-killer submarine and the last boat of her class remaining in service.



The role of HMS Triumph is extremely varied, from tactical strike duties to fleet protection and intelligence gathering. Commissioned in 1991, she has participated in the war in Afghanistan and Operation Ellamy in Libya. In 1993 she sailed to Australia, travelling 41,000 miles unsupported – the longest solo deployment ever completed by a Royal Navy submarine

NEWTON'S
PLACE
A COMMUNITY SPACE





Museum News

WITH **DR CHARLOTTE DIXON** (CURATOR) AND **KATIE PETLEY-JONES** (CURATORIAL ASSISTANT)

A big thank you to all our visitors who came to the museum last year. Between January and December 2022 we welcomed over 12,500 people! We really value your support and know how important it is to make sure there is something new to see when we welcome you back. With around 16,000 objects in the collection, changing the displays is a great opportunity to share more stories surrounding the history of our town.

Change of circumstance

Until recently, there was little evidence of any Roman influence in Devon beyond Exeter, but in 2007 two metal detectorists discovered coins at a site in Ipplepen, challenging perceptions on the extent of Roman activity in the south west and prompting a series of archaeological surveys and excavations run by the University of Exeter, the Portable Antiquities Scheme, the British Museum and Devon County Council.

The project revealed Iron Age roundhouses, evidence of a town pre-dating Roman presence in the area. Of particular significance was the presence of around 150 Roman coins and Roman pottery suggesting that an exchange in goods and money was taking place here on a larger scale than known in other villages in Britain at this time.

This site is invaluable to our understanding of Romano-British history and we are delighted to be exhibiting a selection of the incredible Roman coins, kindly on loan to us from Torquay Museum.

These 2,000 year old coins are on display in the museum throughout 2023.



NEW LOOK FOR THE COSTUME CASE

In museums we are constantly faced with the challenge of showcasing our wonderful objects for public viewing whilst also conserving the collection. Light is one of the conditions we monitor and, to ensure our costume collection isn't exposed to too much brightness, we change the display every year.

During our winter closure we carefully packed up the 18th century gentleman's sleeved waistcoat and bicorne hat on display in our costume area and set to work on installing a new display around the theme of 'childhood'. One of our volunteers worked on making new mount supports for a 1950s child's corduroy coat and a 1960s handmade smock dress. This display is supported by a charming doll's house that was hand made in the 1920s (currently on loan) and a collection of vintage toys.

Final piece of the Sandford Orleigh puzzle rediscovered?

Last year we had a surprise visit from a gentleman who donated a wooden panel believed to be from the Sandford Orleigh carvings that now reside at the museum. Sandford Orleigh House, the former home of the carvings, was built by industrialist George Templer in the 1830s. The wealthy landowner, whose family made its fortune in the granite and clay industries, was also warden of St Mary's Chapel in the town.

According to a contemporary newspaper article, Templer had some of the chapel's ancient oak carvings removed and, along with sections taken from similar structures, reconfigured at his new home to create a large and magnificent fire surround.



In the mid 20th century the house was used as a private school and following its closure in the 1970s a former student, hearing that the fire surround was being dismantled, wanted to help preserve it and was given a panel to assist his search for a new home for the carvings.

Luckily for Newton Abbot, no one could accommodate the huge structure, so it remained stored at Sandford Orleigh House until we were able to rescue it in 2014. Meanwhile, the orphaned panel was displayed in the donor's house as a treasured memento of his school days until it was donated to the museum.

With the new acquisition now on display alongside the intricately carved oak centrepiece, visitors can judge for themselves whether or not this is indeed the missing panel that once occupied the blank space at the bottom left hand side of the fire surround!

MONTHLY EVENTS

MUSEUM: MAKE AND CREATE

1st Saturday of the month, booking needed

FREE family-friendly creative workshops with a new theme every month. To keep up to date with what workshops are coming up check out our website and social media.

Places can be pre-booked in the museum, on our website (see the What's On page) or over the phone.

RELAXED VISITS

Dates vary, drop-in sessions so no need to book.

Next session on Saturday 15th April, 1pm – 3pm

Each month we set aside special visiting hours for anyone who might benefit from visiting the museum at a quieter time. Reduced sound levels and a chill-out room upstairs make this a great time to visit if you have additional needs, but everyone is welcome.

To stay up to date with the latest family-friendly events you can sign up to our monthly Family Newsletter. Contact the museum to be added to the mailing list.

TODDLER TUESDAYS

Every Tuesday 9:30am – 10:30am (during term-time only)

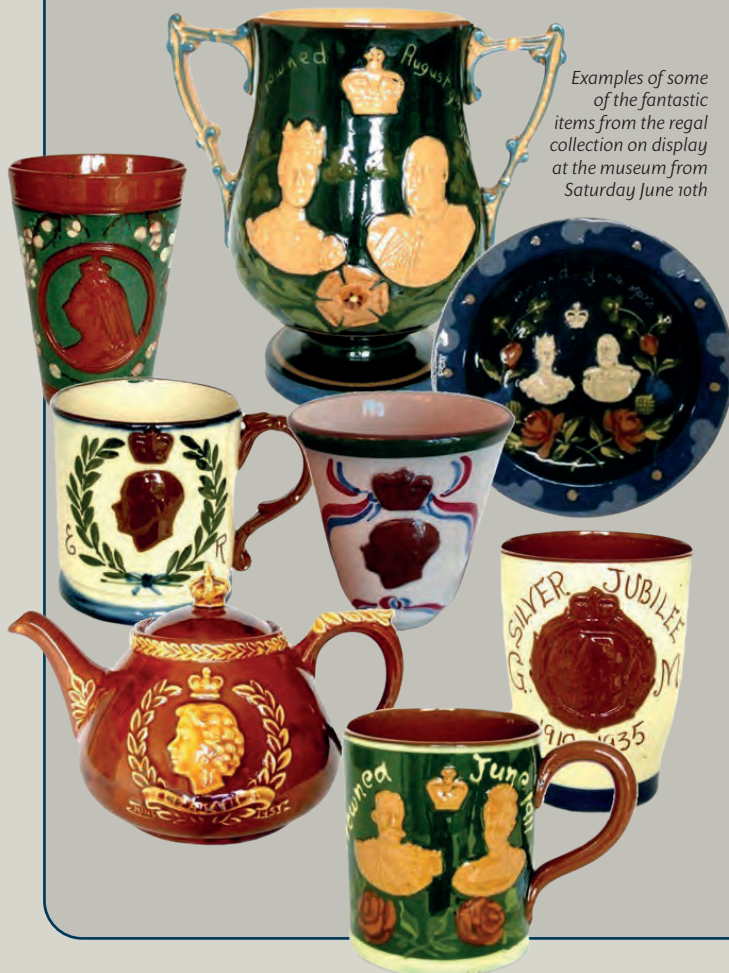
Join us in the museum every Tuesday during term time for our FREE story-time sessions in the museum gallery for children of up to four years of age. On the last Tuesday of each month the session also features a hands-on activity. You are welcome to come to just one, a few, or all the sessions.

Pre-book your FREE place through the What's On page of our website and find out about upcoming sessions.

MUSEUM NEWS (CONT.)



Royal Commemoratives from the Torquay and South Devon Potteries



Examples of some of the fantastic items from the regal collection on display at the museum from Saturday June 10th

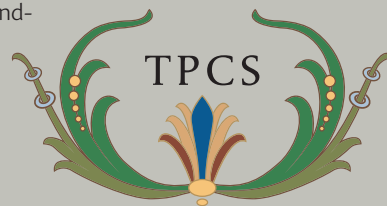
In celebration of the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III, Torquay Pottery Collectors Society are putting together a unique chance to view a range of local pottery that have links to commemorative events through history. These wonderful pieces will be displayed within the museum for you to come and see and it is free to visit!

It is a reflection of the importance that the monarchy has always played in national life that Britain produced so many souvenirs to commemorate royal events – more than anywhere else in Europe.

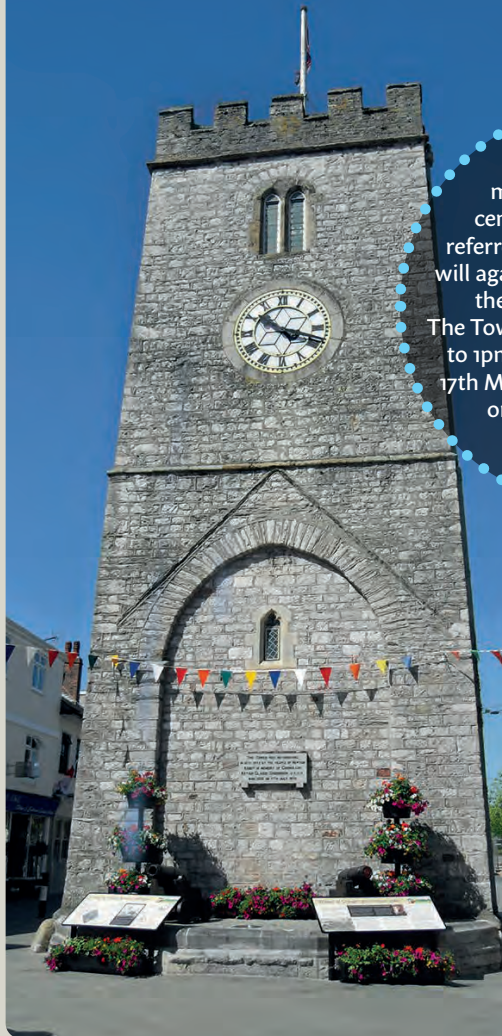
During the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries commissioning royal commemoratives remained the prerogative of the well to do; however, the Industrial Revolution brought forth opportunities for a much wider market.

The establishment of the Watcombe Terracotta Company in 1869, the Torquay Terracotta Company in 1875 and the Aller Vale Art Pottery in 1881 coincided with the period of renewed glory in patriotism and the Empire, and these South Devon potteries produced a number of royal commemoratives for the prominent royal events.

This exhibition, which runs from Saturday 10th June through to Thursday 6th July, celebrates a range of pieces made by these local potteries. Often these local pieces contained more hand-applied work than the better-known transfer decorated Staffordshire ware, so it is an exhibit not to be missed.






St. Leonard's Tower opening



The incredible medieval tower in the centre of the town, often referred to as the Clock Tower, will again be opening its doors to the public free of charge. The Tower will be open from 10am to 1pm every Wednesday from 17th May to 13th September and on selected Saturdays. See the website for more details.



KEEP UP TO DATE WITH ALL THE LATEST NEWS:

-  @Newton.Abbot.Museum
-  @NewtonsPlace
-  museum-newtonabbot.org.uk



UPCOMING EVENTS

MUSEUM EGGS-TRAVAGANZA!
Saturday 1st – Saturday 15th April



Can you crack the clues to find all the eggs in the museum? Embark on a cracking adventure and discover the letters needed to be unscrambled to make a word.



Complete this egg-cellent trail to be rewarded with a prize.

Plus, there's all the usual fun to be had when visiting the museum including our interactive railway signals!



To find out more about this egg-citing trail visit the What's On page on our website: www.museum-newtonabbot.org.uk

ENHANCED BY WORDS

Saturday 22nd – Saturday 29th April

This exhibition, in collaboration with Bright Lights Writing Group, will take place in the community room in Newton's Place and is free to visit. During this week there will also be creative writing interspersed throughout the museum offering new interpretations of objects on display through a creative writing lens.



AND DON'T FORGET TO... BRING YOUR POCKET MONEY!

We are excited to announce that the museum gift shop continues to expand the range of products for sale. With museum stationery and railway badges, history inspired keyrings and books by local authors – and even tote bags and tea towels featuring a lino-cut clock tower design by Elizabeth Rashley – there really is something for everyone!

Spring events

A FULL PROGRAMME OF FAMILY EVENTS FOR 2023, SOME WITH A VERY ROYAL FLAVOUR!

HMS TRIUMPH FREEDOM OF THE TOWN EVENT (Parade to start at 2pm) Saturday 1st April

- ✦ HMS Triumph and the TS Ramehead Sea Cadet Volunteer Band parade through Newton Abbot town centre
- ✦ Make and Create (flag making) and live music in the town centre during the day
- ✦ 2pm parade start from Victoria Gardens to Wolborough Street stage
- ✦ Freedom of the Town scroll to be presented on stage at 2.15pm by Phil Rowe (town clerk) and Cllr Carol Bunday, Mayor of Newton Abbot

NEWTON ABBOT EGGSTRAORDINARY EASTER EGG TRAIL (Town centre) Saturday 1st April – Saturday 15th April

Hunt down fifteen egg displays at shops and businesses around the town for the chance to win! Entry forms available from the museum and library.

- ✦ First prize of £40 Gift Voucher for Austins plus Easter egg
- ✦ Second prize of £20 Gift Voucher for Austins plus Easter egg

**Libraries
Unlimited**

AUSTINS
Department Store

EASTER SATURDAY Town centre 10am – 2pm Saturday 8th April

- ✦ Creative Newton Abbot stall
- ✦ Live music from the Eddie Kingdom Jazz Band
- ✦ Balloon modelling
- ✦ Face painting
- ✦ Easter egg giveaway
- ✦ All FREE activities
- ✦ Walkabout act The Chef and The Egg



CORONATION OF KING CHARLES III Town centre Saturday 6th May

- ✦ Live music in town including performances from The Hot House Combo and Cahoots
- ✦ FREE balloon modelling
- ✦ Walkabout characters
- ✦ Clock Tower 'Coronation Corner'



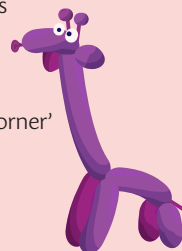
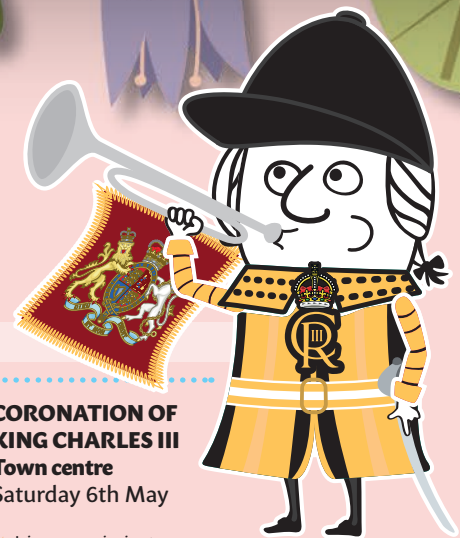
All events are subject to change at short notice, and many are weather dependent. For latest news check the website and NATC Facebook page.



newtonabbot-tc.gov.uk



[NewtonAbbottowncouncilcommunity](#)



PARTY IN THE PARK

Courtenay Park 12 noon – 4pm
Sunday 7th May

- ★ Music from SW Comms
- ★ Drinks bar and ice cream van
- ★ Make & Create workshops
- ★ Coronation selfie frame
- ★ Magical bubbles
- ★ Face painting
- ★ Balloon modelling
- ★ Giveaways
- ★ Bring your own picnic (part of the Coronation Big Lunch)



Look out for our mascot, 'Newton' at spring events around the town!



CLASSIC CAR SHOW

Town centre
Saturday 27th May

Classic cars throughout the pedestrianised part of the town centre



- ★ Live music from the Liberty Sisters

SUNDAY BAND CONCERTS

Courtenay Park Band Stand 2.30pm

7th May, 2pm – SW Comms ★
(Party in the Park for the Coronation)

11th June, 2.30pm – Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service Concert Band ★

2nd July, 2.30pm – Bay Brass

13th August, 2.30pm – Exeter Railway Band

10th September, 2.30pm – Spectrum Music Concert Band ★

Key (and thanks!) to our amazing band sponsors:

- ❖ Davie Construction Ltd
- ★ Best Accountancy Services
- ★ Major Braden



Davie Construction Ltd



Best Accountancy Services
(Newton Abbot) Limited



Devon Somerset Fire & Rescue Services band entertain the crowd in Courtenay Park with their performance in July 2022



Out & About

with **Sally Henley**, TOWN DEVELOPMENT MANAGER



FOR
MORE INFO:
check our website:
newtonabbot-tc.gov.uk



or follow us:

@newtontownwoman



Newton Abbot
Now

It's always good to review Christmas before we go into a new year and despite the seemingly endless doom and gloom in the media, I'm pleased to say that business was brisk over the festive tide in Newton Abbot. Our town was busy and the switch-on and our late-night shopping events were very well attended.

We received so many compliments about our Christmas illuminations too, which many commented were some of the best ever. Queen Street looked spectacular, as did Courtenay Street, with the added impact of the pea-light-wrapped tree trunks. Put this together with carols, music, lanterns, Father Christmas and mulled wine and it made a compelling formula.

Strong
backing
for our dog-
friendly carol
service



Christmas
market stalls
in colourful
Courtenay
Street



We partnered with local animal shelter charity AID for our second outdoor dog-friendly carol service, where we were treated to music from local close harmony group Forte and Reverend Gareth gave a heart-warming sermon.

Those who attended also enjoyed his home-made gingerbread biscuits (Rev Gareth is clearly a man of many talents!) and, not to be left out, there were dog biscuits for the pooches too. We introduced 'Fireside Selfies' in the clock tower for the first time this year and shoppers loved the opportunity of taking a seat by the log burner in Father Christmas's parlour. Children also had lots of opportunities to have a chat with Santa and all events were free at a time when there is such a strain on family budgets.

Reverend
Gareth leads
the canines'
carolling
companions



We have a lovely programme of events and entertainment for 2023, focusing again on fun and free entertainment, including our very popular monthly 'Creative Newton Abbot' town centre craft pop-up. In partnership with the museum, the library and Austins this Easter, we will have an Eggstraordinary Egg Trail. Over the Easter school holidays, as well as fun finding the eggs in town centre businesses, there will also be prizes. Look out too for our Easter Saturday fun in the town centre.

As you will have already read, HMS Triumph has been given the Freedom of Newton Abbot – I am so looking forward to the event celebrating this on Saturday 1st April. There will be music and fun in town on the Saturday of His Majesty's Coronation too, including an opportunity for 'Clock Tower Coronation Selfies'. Check out our website for more details nearer the date.

The Coronation Sunday is all about communities and so the Party in the Park is a chance to bring a picnic and have fun in the very beautiful Courtenay Park.

Moving on into the summer, the first of our two classic car shows is on 27th May, brought to the town once again by the members at Teignbridge Classics car club. It's a joy to be working with them once again this year as they organise this event with military precision and ensure that it is a day not to be forgotten. If you love a bit of a trip down memory lane, do put this date in your diary!

I just wanted to mention our facilities maintenance officers in this piece. Whilst the team is small, they get through a huge amount of work in and around the town and they make a massive difference.

I spend a lot of time in the town and it's fantastic that when I spot something that needs addressing, I know that I can report it and it will be dealt with. Take a look at the NATC Facebook page and see for yourself. For example, it's fantastic just how much pavement has been brought back into use, by cutting back vegetation. I know that Devon County Council, which used to carry out this sort of work, rarely do so anymore and some parts of the public highway had become very narrow indeed. Pedestrians and cyclists are really noticing the work of our FMOs and I'm thrilled with this new service for Newton Abbot.

Newton Abbot is home to some brilliant businesses. Whether it's a spot of retail therapy or some socialising with friends and family or some mood enhancing pampering, our town has bags of choice. That's why we see so many visitors and shoppers from the broader region. They tell me they travel here for the goods and services but also because they know that they will find a welcoming atmosphere and the possibility of 'something going on'. I'm adding to the calendar of entertainment all the time, so do visit the events page of the NATC website regularly.

Thank you for supporting the town centre and the businesses that trade there. Keeping it local is so important to the vitality of Newton Abbot and popping into town certainly beats looking at a screen.

I look forward to seeing you in town!


Sally Henley
Town Development Manager



NEWTON ABBOT TOWN COUNCIL in partnership with TEIGNBRIDGE CLASSICS






Email exhibitor and general inquiries to:
teignbridgeclassics@gmail.com

9am – 4pm



Hidden Treasures

WITH KATE GREEN, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OFFICER FOR NEWTON'S PLACE



Did you know that most museums can only show about 10% of the collection of objects that they hold? Newton Abbot Museum looks after around 16,000 objects but we can only show about 300 at a time in the museum itself. That means that we have a lot of wonderful artefacts in our museum store.

Our project this spring, called *What's in Store?*, aims to share many unseen items from our collection, but through the eyes of young, talented artists in the town. We have shared a range of objects with pupils from local schools and they have interpreted each object using various artistic media. Their wonderful artworks will be on show throughout April in our Your Space cabinet and community area in the museum. Pop in and have a peek at hidden objects via the artworks.

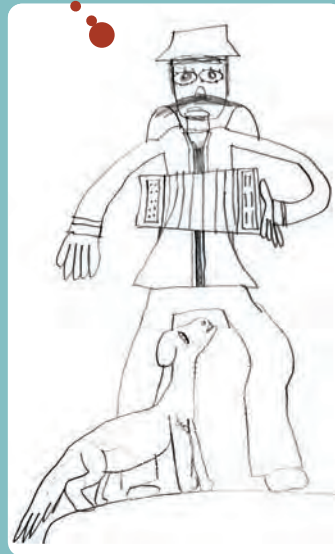


This painted wooden Polish folk art figure of a musician and dog was carved by a known artist near Warsaw. Woodcarving was once a popular way of depicting religious and secular themes in Poland.

All of the artwork featured here was created by students from Glendinning Academy, Wolborough School and Highweek School.



Crafted from beads made from camel dung, this little bag was owned by Dr Mapleton, medical officer of health for Newton Abbot Urban and District Councils from 1890 to 1932.



Make & Create

Taking place on the first Saturday of every month, our free Make & Create family workshops provide an opportunity for families to have fun together, be creative and discover local history, too.

In April, we'll be making celebratory flags to wave on the Freedom of the Town parade for HMS Triumph. This time the workshop will be based in town, so come along to the Creative Newton Abbot stall, make a flag and join the parade!

In equally celebratory mode, our May Make & Create workshop will take place just before the Coronation of King Charles III. Obviously, we will be making crowns!! And we would also like you to make your very own proclamation, so get your thinking caps on about what laws of the land you would decree if you became King – or indeed Queen – for the day.

In July, our workshop will celebrate our Polish friends who first joined the community of Newton Abbot after the Second World War. Inspired by the colourful, floral, traditional headdresses worn by Polish women, families will be able to make their own summer garlands to wear.

We look forward to seeing you!

This brightly coloured traditional Polish headdress was given to the museum in 2003 for an exhibition celebrating Newton Abbot's connections with the Polish people and their culture.



...AND DON'T FORGET TO CHECK OUT:

Newton Abbot Natters!

An oral history project for the town

We would love to hear your stories and memories of Newton Abbot – it might be about a visit to Madge Mellor's cafe, or the floods in the town, or when Buckland housing estate was built. Anything that you would like to share, we would like to record.

Pop into the museum on a Thursday afternoon, at any point from 1pm - 4pm and meet our friendly sound recording volunteers.

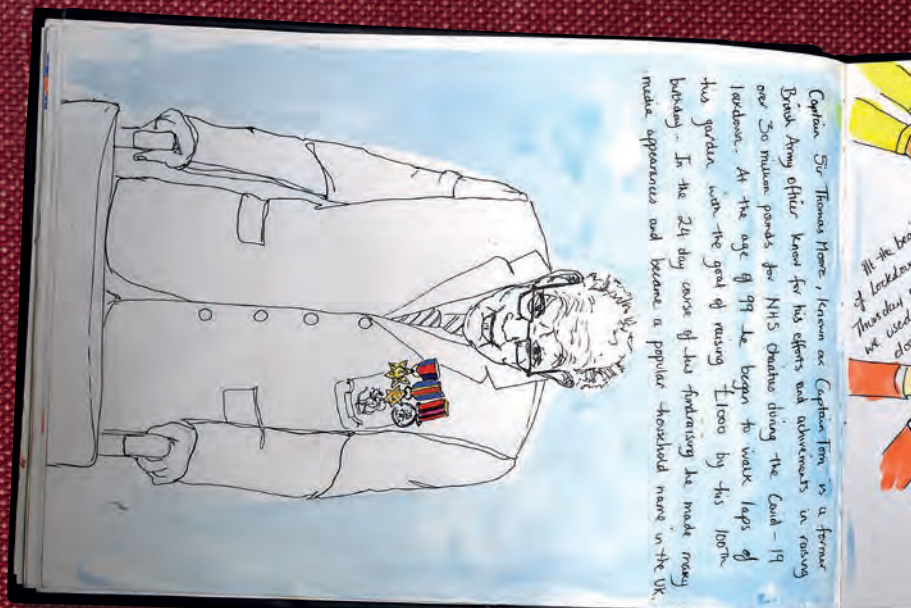
Newton Abbot Museum, Wolborough Street, Newton Abbot. TQ12 1JQ

Your Space

We like to keep changing our community cabinet to make sure that there is always something new for you to see when you call into the museum.

In May, following the children's artwork featured in *What's in Store?*, the cabinet will house a fascinating set of visual diaries created during the Covid-19 lockdowns by Newton Abbot artist, Jackie Bailey. Vibrant snapshots of the world during the strange times of the pandemic burst off the pages of Jackie's journals – a must see!

Then, in June, a much gentler set of curios will fill the cabinet; a collection of china cats! This will coincide with the exhibition of royal-themed pottery from Torquay Pottery Collectors Society, *Fired for Royalty* – we are very lucky to be able to showcase these beautiful cats. In July, it is over to you!! We would love to showcase anything that you collect – beer mats, glass ornaments, fridge magnets or, as it is during the school holidays, perhaps we have a postcard collector in Newton Abbot?



Captain Sir Thomas Horn, known as Captain Tom, is a former British Army officer known for his efforts and achievements in raising over 30 million pounds for NHS charities during the Covid-19 lockdown. At the age of 99 he began to walk laps of his garden, with the goal of raising £1000 by his 100th birthday. In the 24 day course of his fundraising he made many media appearances and became a popular household name in the UK.

Right: A regal feline from the Torquay Pottery china cats display



Your Space is exactly that, so if you or anyone you know would like to share a prized collection with the community, then do get in touch with us here at the museum!

The latest bit in the jigsaw is understanding how likely somebody who has had Covid-19 is likely to catch Omicron. Omicron has now been detected in 30 countries. The spike proteins on the Omicron helps the virus enter the human cells. The New Variant has 32 mutations on the spike protein. I am no scientist and it is confusing, but looking at the images on Google of the Covid-19 compared to the new strain it looks like it has changed shape to me.

Go away Covid we have had enough!

Omicron (B.1.1.529v)

Mandatory mask wearing has been introduced by the Government again amid fears of the new variant. Travel restrictions have also been looked at again and implemented. Anyone in the UK who test positive for Omicron will have to self isolate for 10 days regardless of their vaccination status. However Boris went on to say that this Christmas would be "considerably better" than last year when the country was in lockdown.



Mask Mask Mask

Snap to it!

From 4 May, voters in England will need to show photo identification (ID) to vote at polling stations in local elections, Police and Crime Commissioner elections, UK parliamentary by-elections and recall petitions. From October, photo ID will also be mandatory in general elections.

This follows the government's decision to require voters to show photo ID when voting in person. A wide range of photo ID will be accepted at polling stations including:

- ◆ Free Voter Cards, provided by local authorities
- ◆ Various concessionary travel passes
- ◆ Ministry of Defence identity cards
- ◆ Photocard parking permits issued as part of the Blue Badge scheme
- ◆ Driver's licences
- ◆ PASS cards
- ◆ Passports

Details of all current photo ID options are set out on the electoral commission website:

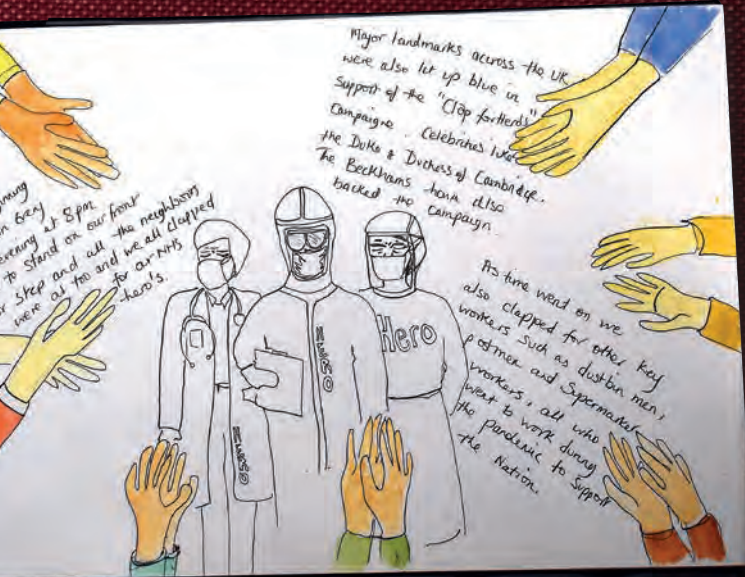
[electoralcommission.org.uk](https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk)

ID CARD



People who don't already have an accepted form of photo ID, but are registered to vote, can apply for a free Voter Authority Certificate on line. The deadline to apply for a Voter Authority Certificate for the May local elections is 5pm on Tuesday 25 April.

Paper application forms will be available from our electoral services team and in addition to information on its website, the electoral commission has also set up a helpline on **0800 328 0280**. Those not wishing to show photo ID when voting can apply for a postal vote.



Above & below: colourful pages from Jackie Bailey's lockdown diaries



Make a Change – Become a Councillor



What do local councils do?

Your local (parish and town) council has overall responsibility for the well-being of your local community. Their work falls into three main categories:

- ♦ Delivery of services
- ♦ Improving quality of life for residents
- ♦ Giving communities a democratic voice

Local councils run numerous services, depending on the size of the council. Many you will see day-to-day, but some are less known. These include introducing solar panels, setting up dementia-friendly groups, organising community buses, creating neighbourhood plans, implementing suitable housing, establishing youth projects, managing allotments and open spaces, maintaining footpaths, public seating and litter bins.

Becoming a local councillor

Local councillors can be voices for the community and make a real difference. They are community champions, investing time in local projects and issues to the benefit of residents and the neighbourhood.

Local councillor responsibilities fall into three main categories:

- ♦ Decision-making
- ♦ Monitoring
- ♦ Getting involved locally

Local councillors attend to local needs of residents, local groups and businesses, make decisions on local services, collaborate with district and borough councils to adhere to local needs, and progress vital projects to invest in the future of the community.

Can I stand for election?

To stand for election to a local council you must be:

- ♦ A citizen of the UK, Commonwealth, Republic of Ireland; or another member state of the European Union
- ♦ At least 18 years old
- ♦ An elector of the local council; or in the past 12 months occupied land or other premises in the area the local council serves (as owner or tenant); or work in the area local council serves (as your principal or only place of work); or live within three miles of the local council boundary

To find out more, call **01626 215104**
or email **electoralservices@teignbridge.gov.uk**

