

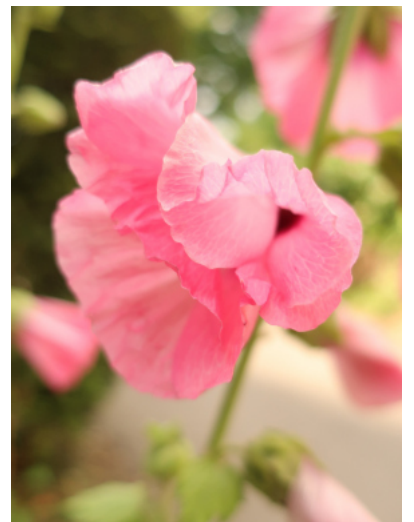
Upton St Leonards Life *incorporating Church News*

Issue 72

August 2020



**Lockdown in our
beautiful rural parish.**



**Look forward to some fun in
September with the
Scarecrow Trail - see page 3
for details.**

Announcements

The BMI is open again to members! See page 3 for details.

WI - Denman College

A WI member has reported that members may still access courses via 'Denman at Home', but Denman College itself continued to remain closed from 1st July onwards. For further information members may consult www.denman.org.uk or contact membership@nfwf.org.uk.

WI UPDATE

Twyver WI

We are planning to resume normal meetings in the Village Hall in September! Details about social distancing will be sent to members.

BEWARE!

There's a newish type of scam email doing the rounds, and it is sneaky. You get an email from an organisation you have never heard of, advertising some product or service you won't want. At the end of the email there is a line that says "If you want to stop receiving further messages from us, please [CLICK HERE](#) to unsubscribe."

Please don't click - that will take you to the scammers' website and possibly infect your computer.

This is a clever scam, because by law now all advertising messages of this sort are required to indicate how you can stop them being sent to you. That makes it look all the more legitimate. And they word the advert to make you want to stop receiving any more.

If you have no idea why this email came to you and it is not a company you know of or have any dealings with, it is almost certainly a scam. Don't click.

On the other hand, if it does come from e.g. an online store you have used, and you have received more than one advertising email from them, then it will be safe to ask them to stop sending you emails if you don't want any more.



SUMMER GNOME HUNT!
Sunday 23rd August
Starting at the Recreation Ground,
Upton st Leonards, Gloucester GL4 8AD
Book a slot between 10am - 4pm
Email uptongnomehunt@gmail.com
£4 for one map per household
This event is being organised to raise money for
MIND, the mental health charity
**Parking available, pushchair
friendly. Please allow 1-1.5 hrs to
complete the hunt**
To keep the event safe and reduce risk of COVID-19, households
will need to reserve a slot to attend for the hunt by email!
Raffle prizes and refreshments available
Any questions please contact Meryl Foster at uptongnomehunt@gmail.com



MICHAEL TUCK
Your LOCAL ESTATE AGENT
SOLD IT!
FREE VALUATIONS CARRIED OUT
WITHIN 24 HRS IF REQUIRED
01452 612020
www.michaeltuck.co.uk



B.A. Electrical Services
Domestic & Commercial
Insured & Registered
For all your Electrical Needs
A Professional and Friendly Service
Quality Work at Competitive Prices
For a Free Estimate call Bernie
01594 368607 / 07881 981352



**N.T. Boothroyd
Plumbing & Heating**
Est. 1986
All Plumbing & Heating Work
Undertaken & No Job too small!
Boiler & Fire Servicing
Central Heating Systems
Landlord Certificates, etc.
Glos: 01452 552192
Chelt: 01242 250497
Mob: 07816 103709
ntboothroyd@hotmail.co.uk
SAS safe REGISTER

Back to normal ?

On Monday 4 July the BMI reopened with normal opening hours, but only for card-carrying members. In order for the Club to control numbers in line with post-lockdown guidelines, for the time being guests would not be allowed. Perhaps by the time you read this, the situation will have changed. Please note that the following rules apply:

ALL MEMBERS ATTENDING THE BMI MUST SIGN THE TRACK & TRACE BOOK. SOCIAL DISTANCING MUST BE OBSERVED AT ALL TIMES WITH NO MORE THAN TWO HOUSEHOLDS SITTING TOGETHER INSIDE, OR SIX HOUSEHOLDS OUTSIDE. THERE IS TO BE NO STANDING OR MOVING OF FURNITURE. QUEUING PROTOCOLS APPLY TO THE BAR. HAND SANITISING WILL BE FACILITATED. PARTICULAR RULES APPLY TO THE USE OF THE TOILETS.

Does your vehicle need an MOT?

Cedar Motor House

The Government scheme to allow MOT extensions for those unable to get their cars tested because of lockdown ends 31 JULY, so there's going to be a bit of a rush for MOT tests. Cedar Motor House is ready to help, but please don't leave it to the last minute to book a test. Give us a call on 617240. We are located at Grove Court, just up the hill on the right near the Kings Head.

CALLING ALL SCARECROW BUILDERS!!

JOIN IN THE SCARECROW 'HEROES' TRAIL

13- 20 SEPTEMBER 2020



To enter your Scarecrow into the Trail

So that everyone can enjoy your efforts, please submit your house name/number and road name by 20th August online to Andrea Dawson or use the Village Hall post box

so that a trail (street map) can be provided in the September issue.

WHO IS YOUR HERO?

Scarecrows to be displayed in front gardens for judging on 20th September

Winners will be announced in the October issue of USL Life.

1st, 2nd and 3rd Prizes to be won



NEW NUT HILL FOOTPATH

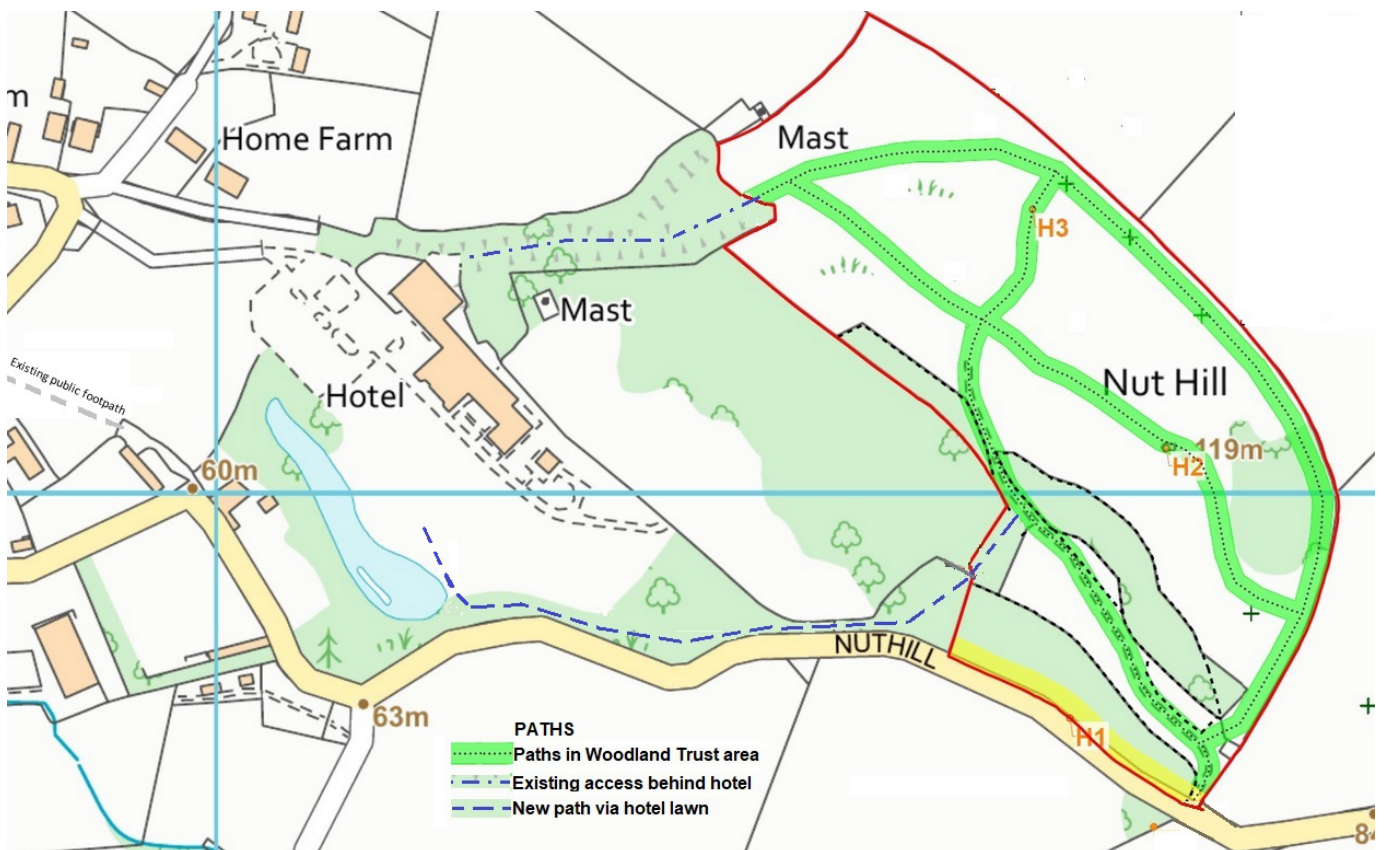
Thanks to the Bowden Hall Hotel and to the Woodland Trust, our Village footpath group is delighted to announce there is a new footpath to the top of Nut Hill. The Hotel already allows walkers to reach the top from behind the buildings, and now there is a second access through the hotel grounds, giving a circular route, and avoiding the need to walk on the Nuthill road.

The map shows the new route - the dashed line that passes across the front lawn to the end of the lake. It then runs in the woods alongside Nuthill road before cutting uphill, through a new gate into the Woodland Trust area and the top of the hill.

Huge thanks are due to the Hotel, who allowed us to make the new path. Also to the Woodland Trust who encouraged us and installed the new gate (and cut up a fallen tree near the gate). Upton's Parish Council also supplied the funding needed to make the path safe. You will probably have noticed some new fencing on Nuthill road - that was put in at the Parish Council's expense. The footpath group cleared the route and laid chippings on most of it, put in the new fence and cleared up a ton of fly-tipped rubbish.

Do try this new route. It's great that there is a complete circular walk off the road. Then go and have some tea at the Hotel to express thanks to them. Without their goodwill, this would not have been possible. You may also like to make a contribution to the Woodland Trust via their website.

Andy Russell



Lockdown Stories

Following the publication of local walking opportunities in the July edition of USL Life, we now share with our readers the experiences of two local residents: Jane, who has sent in some examples of the photos she was inspired to take during her walkabouts, and, on page 6, Sylvia, who rambled far and wide in Gloucestershire with her husband, Keith.

Photos by Jane are on the front and back covers of this issue.

Lockdown has been a challenge for most of us and many have found an outlet in gardening, crafting or DIY. As said in July's magazine, here in Upton we're lucky to have so many footpaths. I chose to start exploring some of them (with extra confidence after learning about the Nutty Badgers walks and having downloaded a mapping app). It was the right time of year for my favourite spring flower, the bluebell, and I decided to photograph them as I do every year, only this time I moved on to taking pictures of other flowers, leaves, anything that caught my eye.

I see the beauty in not only the flowers but also in what we usually think of as weeds and have tried to capture that in some my pictures. I noticed for the first time a beautiful delicate bloom and after some research I discovered it's a common wild orchid (though I'm not sure it's that common around Upton). Google was used to discover the name of a butterfly I didn't recognise and I tried to find out what bird hatched from the half a blue egg shell I spotted in a hedge on Valley Lane. As I thought I shouldn't get stuck with only macro photography I am now practising with other settings on the camera.

Every time I walk it gives me so much pleasure; whether it's long or short, through fields or along roads, there is always someone who says hello. I see flowers bloom, lambs grow, deer run and rabbits hop. I watch the parade of clouds across blue skies, and it brings me a carefree, happy feeling.

Report and photos sent in by Jane R.

Horses

With so many people now taking advantage of the opportunities to walk in our local countryside, there have inevitably been a few tricky and sometimes frightening moments. Please take care to stick to the permitted footpaths, but if you do have any trouble with over-curious or even intimidating horses, particularly at gates and stiles, let the Parish Clerk, Roy Balgobin, know. However, you will need to identify the exact location and time as well as the identity of the horse(s) and their owners if any action is to be taken. This is not easy to do. In the meantime just take as much care as you can not to antagonise any animals you meet in the fields.

MOG'S HAPPY DAYS PRIVATE HIRE
 "Why drive when you can be driven?"

LEWIS MORGAN
 Chauffeur

07814 947587
 lewismorgan58@live.co.uk

Hi! I'm Lewis Morgan, Gloucester born and bred family man. I've been driving safely for 40 years.

Independent Private Hire for up to 4 persons plus ample luggage space.

UK Holiday destinations, Airports, Weddings and Parties. Cheltenham and Chepstow races, shopping trips, hospital appointments.
 OAP discount.

Just ask for what you need and see if I can help!

07814 947587
 www.mogshappydaysprivatehire.co.uk

VOSA Family Run Business Est. In 1968

CEDAR MOTOR HOUSE LTD

Grove Court, Upton Hill
 Gloucester GL4 8DA
 01452 617240 or 07976 322735

MOT TESTING WHILE YOU WAIT FOR PETROL AND DIESEL VEHICLES
 Diagnostic Fault Code Reading.
 Vehicle Servicing & Mechanical Repairs.
 Clutches & Timing Belts Replaced, Top Quality Tyres,
 Batteries & Exhausts Fitted AT Competitive Prices.
 Insurance & Accident Repairs.
 Welding Service.

Servicing for New & Used Vehicles Using Genuine Parts If Required, at Much Lower Rates than Main Agents. All Parts and Repairs Complying with Manufacturers Warranty Requirements.
 Lube Service from £89 incl VAT
 Interim Service from £129 incl VAT
 Full Service from £175 incl VAT

We are situated on Upton Hill in Upton St Leonards. Grove Court is 100 yards past the Kings Head Pub on the right hand side. Collection service available.

Fast, Friendly & Dedicated Service In Your Local Area

VISA, Mastercard, American Express, PayPal

John Weygang
 OPTOMETRIST

Your local practitioner, providing the highest quality eye care, including **FREE NHS Eye Tests**, specialised products and services for you and your entire Family

Please contact our Churchdown practice if you would like to arrange a Home visit

LOCATIONS : ABBEYMEAD 01452 306807
 CHURCHDOWN 01452 855484 | GLOUCESTER 01452 522118
 HUCCLECOTE 01452 619100 | QUEDGELEY 01452 721108
 www.veygang.co.uk

A Walker's Lockdown Diary

Keith and I have loved walking since before we were married, whether it be climbing fells in the Lake District, or tramping coastal footpaths in Britain or forest tracks in the US or Canada. When lockdown arrived and most of our commitments disappeared, we realised we had an opportunity to indulge our hobby more than usual, albeit within our local area. It turned out we knew surprisingly little of where we lived, despite a thirty-odd years residency! And as if we needed further encouragement to strap on the hiking boots, we found ourselves experiencing the warmest, sunniest Spring that anyone can remember.



Initially, the coronavirus rules meant local walks only, without a car. We knew that Upton was criss-crossed by footpaths but were hardly aware of their extent of over 22 miles – said to be the longest networks in any English parish. With the aid of an OS map downloaded to a phone, and with the help of suggestions from friends and neighbours, we set about exploring many of these paths for the first time. How amazing to discover so many trails and views of which we were previously unaware! These local walks, starting at our front door on High Street, have taken us over Painswick Beacon, Cud Hill, and Robinswood Hill, often following ancient roads such as Wysis Way and Cotswold Way. Some of our excursions have been with friends, suitably “socially distanced”, but usually it has been just the two of us, chatting or lost in companionable silence, taking in the beautiful sights of nature, and the sounds of insects and birdsong made more audible by the diminished noise from aircraft and traffic.

As the lockdown rules have been relaxed we have ventured further afield, discovering circular walks in the surrounding countryside. Favourites have been the route from Edge village to Haresfield Beacon, which involves a wonderful stretch of the Cotswold way looking towards Standish Woods and the Severn Valley, and the routes from Bulls Cross to Bisley through Slad and from Sapperton along the Frome valley. A walk over Selsley Common starting from Woodchester church, returning through the vineyards of South Woodchester, has proved irresistible on fine clear days. Each walk has had its own unique features - a spectacular view, a path through a bluebell wood, or the exhilaration of a strenuous climb. We have come to realise how fortunate we are to live in an area of such natural beauty where one can repeat a walk many times and still see something new and inspiring.

We can certainly recommend walking as a great way to keep fit, boosting both physical health and mental wellbeing. At a time when many people are complaining about putting on a few pounds, we have both lost weight, and have suntans worthy of a Caribbean holiday.

Seeing us return from a walk the other day, a neighbour suggested we tot up how far we had trekked since the lockdown began in March. I found I could do this easily using my smartwatch, which logs the distance walked each day. Unbelievably the total came to 435 miles - about the distance from Gloucester to Aberdeen. And we're still walking. Next stop John O'Groats, I guess!

Sylvia Ardron

Your qualified village electrician



MJBoon
Electrical

☎ 07773 626241
✉ matt@mjboonelectrical.co.uk

- Free estimates and advice
- All aspects of electrical work undertaken



NICEIC
DOMESTIC
INSTALLER



Gloucestershire Gardens

Grasscutting from **£15**
Hedgecutting from **£20**

For a professional garden maintenance service, get in touch for a **free quote**

🌐 www.glogsgardens.co.uk

📍 @Glogsgardens 📷 @glogsgardens

📞 07789112791

✉ rich@glogsgardens.co.uk

Computer Playing up?

- Virus, Spyware, Malware removal
- Slow Computer
- Printer setup or fault
- Internet or wi-fi problem
- Data Recovery and Data Transfer service
- Software fault diagnosis
- Computer Tuition
- Computer Health Check
- FREE telephone support for minor problems



Call Churchdown Computers

t: Mark on 01452 534668 or 07557 483438
e: mark@churchdowncomputers.co.uk
w: www.churchdowncomputers.co.uk

Upton St Leonards War Memorial is 100 years old this August



In March 1919 a Parochial War Memorial Committee was formed in conjunction with the Village Hall Committee. The initial plan was a large cross on a site facing the church. A referendum was held in the village on the design. 259 people voted for a cross with a figure and 129 people voted for just a cross.

The Memorial Sub Committee chose Edward Warren of Bedford Square London as having the most suitable design, a cross with the figure of Christ on it all to be in stone. A piece of ground that had not been consecrated outside the gate of the church was chosen. Tenders to build the memorial were let and Messrs W T Nicholls for a cost of £472 10s 8d including the engraving, hedging and gravelling around the base won the contract.

The unveiling and dedication ceremony was performed on Sunday August 8th 1920 preceded by a service in the church. Major Birchall MP carried out the unveiling. The rector Canon Brewster read the prayer of dedication, while Rev J Uttley Hillwell (Wesleyan Methodist) assisted. The memorial was paid for by public donation and a substantial contribution from Major and Mrs Birchall. Thirty seven names of men from the Parish who were killed in World War One were engraved on the memorial. In 2000 ten names of those killed in World War Two were added to the memorial.

Do you need help around your home?

"Being local, I'm a very Handy Man!"

With over 30 years experience, here are just some of the jobs that I can do to help you improve and maintain your home.





Tiling

SPECIALIST



Bathroom installations



Hall, stairs & landing



Painting & decorating

Friendly, Caring, Trustworthy Service from a Friendly, Caring Person at Really Friendly Prices.

For a FREE quotation please ring me, **David Holder** on
Tel: 01452 611866 Mobile: 07977 099996
 or Email: holdermaxine@aol.com

DJH Home Services, Gloucester Established 1984



David Cridland Contracting

Fencing, Ground
maintenance and
groundwork contractor

3 Ton mini-digger with driver available

All types of fencing supplied and erected.
Hedges cut. Trees pruned. Ground cleared.

From small gardens
to farms, no job too small.

Service and reliability guaranteed

Fully insured 20 years experience

01452 311215 or 07836 279974

COMMELINES MILL FARM
UPTON ST LEONARDS GL4 8EG

Little Court Cottages

Cottages for long rent, and self-catering
accommodation for short breaks, in Upton
St Leonards, perfect for visiting friends and
family.

Email: info@littlecourtcottages.co.uk

Tel: 01452 615150

www.littlecourtcottages.co.uk



Arts Page

In July we considered holiday destinations. Now we consider different aspects of the strains of living in lockdown. Perhaps this first poem reminds us of isolation at home?

The Crack is Moving Down the Wall **by Weldon Kees (1914 – 1955)**

The crack is moving down the wall.
Defective plaster isn't all the cause.
We must remain until the roof falls in.

It's mildly cheering to recall
That every building has its little flaws.
The crack is moving down the wall.

Here in the kitchen drinking gin,
We can accept the damndest laws.
We must remain until the roof falls in.

And though there's no one here at all,
One searches every room because
The crack is moving down the wall.

Repairs? But how can one begin?
The lease has warnings buried in each
clause.
We must remain until the roof falls in.

These nights one hears a creaking in the
hall,
The sort of thing that gives one pause.
The crack is moving down the wall.
We must remain until the roof falls in.

BOOK REVIEW

The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse by **Charlie Mackesy**. Published in 2019, this was the Waterstones Book of the Year. It is a delicately illustrated tale which shows that love towards yourself and others is what really matters in our hectic world. Charlie Mackesy is a cartoonist and this book uses some fine artwork to illustrate the friendship between the four characters. It is suitable for all ages and has been recommended to us by a reader of USL Life.

P.S. We are sad to learn of the death of The Street Cat Named Bob who was the hero of the book we featured in the Arts Page in 2019. The ginger tom was 14 years old.

Hugging, or the lack of it, has been a major feature of our life since Covid 19 arrived. Here is part of a poem to reflect a longing for human contact.

The Hug by Tess Gallagher (1984)

A woman is reading a poem on the street
and another woman stops to listen. We stop too,
with our arms around each other. The poem
is being read and listened to out here in the open.

Behind us no one is entering or leaving the houses.

Suddenly a hug comes over me and I am giving it to you,
like a variable star shooting light off to make itself comfortable,
then subsiding.

Some Thoughts

Consider the Grass Growing by Patrick Kavanagh

Consider the grass growing
As it grew last year and the year before,
Cool about the ankles like summer rivers
When we walked on a May evening through the meadows
To watch the mare that was going to foal.

On Walking Backwards by **Anne Carson**

My mother forbade us to walk
backwards. That is how the
dead walk, she would say.
Where did she get this idea?
Perhaps from a bad translation.
The dead, after all, do not walk
backwards but they do walk
behind us. They have no lungs
and cannot call out but would
love for us to turn around.
They are victims of love, many
of them.

**This Renaissance
poem reflects
separation of loved
ones which many
of us have
experienced recently.**

The Spring of Joy is Dry by Martin Peerson (circa 1630)

The spring of joy is dry
That ran into my heart;
And all my comforts fly,
My love and I must part.
Farewell, my love, I go,
If fate will have it so.
Yet to content us both
Return again, as doth
The shadow to the hour,
The bee unto the flower,
The fish unto the hook,
The cattle to the brook,
That we may sport our fill
And love continue still.





St Leonard's Church News

Website: www.uptonstleonardschurch.co.uk



Priest in Charge: Rev Clodagh Ingram

Rev James Turk writes

I don't know about you, but I keep going back and forth between thinking that this year has been the worst year ever, to believing that 2020 has been an opportunity to slow down, reflect and reconnect, three things I have had struggles with in the past.

Back in January I wrote an article for this magazine about the importance of resting in the moment. I wrote of my own struggles with continually looking forward and planning the next thing, and not fully experiencing the present. I didn't know then that 2020 would become the year when we were all forced to slow down and re-evaluate how we live in the present moment. For many weeks I have done little planning or looking ahead because the future has been so uncertain.

As lockdown eases and things start to return to 'normal' I sit here writing this article thinking that I am not sure I want things to go back to *exactly* how they were before the pandemic. As much as I enjoyed socialising and going abroad on holiday and performing in the band I play in, I also know that in the past I was prone to forget things and not fully appreciate experiences. My role as curate means that in the past I have had to plan services and there was always a steady rhythm to our worship life at St Leonards. But that all changed with lockdown and the closure of our church building. Suddenly we all had to think differently about how we expressed our faith in worship. We have tentatively moved our Sunday services online and in the early days that just involved me but has involved more people as the weeks have progressed. I believe the online things we do are here to stay, at least for a while, but inevitably our thoughts now turn to what happens next. As the government restrictions on public worship begin to be lifted, we are all trying to work out just what the worship life at St Leonards might begin to look like in the future. One thing is certain, it can't, and won't be exactly the same as it was. We shouldn't be worried by that though; in fact, we should embrace it and see this as an opportunity.

As we look to the future, it is also worth remembering that we also must live in the present moment too, especially right now. It is in the present that we will find the guidance to how we move into our future as a church. The Christian belief is that God is active in our world right now, and that he is working his purpose out in the world around us right now. If we spend too long thinking about what will happen next, we may miss an opportunity to join in with God's mission in his world. And our sole purpose as a church is to join in as part of God's mission and not go it alone on our own mission.

Back in January I wrote of the importance of resting in the moment, and today I revisit those words and invite you all to join me in a time of rest, the kind of rest where we are setting aside our usual busyness to spend time listening, praying and being with God in the present, purposefully showing God that he is our priority. We need to find that balance between planning for the future of our church and being attentive to the present.

As we begin the process of moving back into our church building our thoughts will inevitably turn to what may or may not happen in the months ahead. I hope we will all find the right balance between planning for the future and resting in the moment. As always, this message come with my gratitude and prayers for you all as we journey together as a community.

James



Curate: Rev James Turk

St Leonard's Church News

Website: www.uptonstleonardschurch.co.uk

Opening of Church

Every Sunday the church is open from 10.00 am – 12.00 noon for private prayer and quiet reflection. Please also remember to bring along your own Bible and/or prayer book as we are unable to use the ones in church.

As the lockdown eases and life starts to return to something familiar your PCC and I have met to discuss the short term future of Sunday worship at St Leonards.

As you may know the church has been open for individual prayer and private reflection for a few weeks and this has been well received by the community. I have personally heard many positive comments from people who have found this time for reflection helpful and spiritually uplifting. We will continue with this pattern of prayer time throughout July and August.

Looking ahead and the PCC and I have decided that Sunday September 6th will be the date when acts of public Sunday worship will recommence in St Leonards Church, and planning for that has started now. We anticipate that although social distancing will still be a factor the restrictions will have been eased enough by then for worship to be viable.

Things are changing rapidly right now, and all PCC's and clergy throughout the diocese are awaiting further guidance from Church House and the bishops regarding Holy Communion and public singing and when that is received we will have a clearer picture on what services from September will look like. In the meantime, please keep an eye on the church notice boards, Pew News, USL Life magazine and the St Leonards WhatsApp group for the latest information as and when it becomes available.

All this comes with continued gratitude for all your support these past months and please know that throughout Rev Clodagh Ingram's continued absence the PCC and I are here to support you. We will make decisions on your behalf based on the latest guidelines and what we think will be best for the St Leonards community.

Rev James Turk and the St Leonards PCC

*If you would like to join the Friends of St Leonard's
Whatsapp group or you know someone who would
please text James*

Please contact James if you would like the link via email

*You can have Pew News, delivered into your inbox every
week. Please contact*

Rachel Middleton

*Leave your name and email address and enter Church
News in the subject box*

The Churchyard

The Churchyard continues to look in good condition thanks to the efforts of many dedicated volunteers. Recent high winds have identified a problem with one of the ash trees on the west boundary, visible from the entrance porch. Investigation shows that it is suffering from Ash Die back disease. There are quite a few other ash trees in the churchyard, mostly grown from saplings over the years, and some of these are likely to be similarly affected. A full survey is on-going and we will treat the trees as recommended.



St Leonard's Church News

Website: www.uptonstleonardschurch.co.uk

Here is Richard Stephenson on the lovely bench he so generously donated to the church. It is situated where visitors can sit and rest a while, also the volunteers can have somewhere to sit for a welcome break.

Thank you so much Richard!

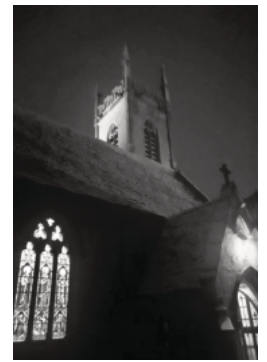


Tower Floodlighting

2020

The Church Tower is lit on the 4th August in loving memory of my dear husband Pete on our wedding anniversary, Jenny x

On the 11th August, we remember with love and happy memories, Chris, partner to Phil, and a loving daughter, sister and Auntie.



On the 23rd August, the Church Tower is lit to celebrate the 45th wedding anniversary of Dave and Val Knight

If you or your family would like to have the Church Tower Floodlights lit to celebrate a special event such as a birthday/anniversary/Baptism or in remembrance of a loved one please contact Jenny Cunningham for more details. There is no set amount for this, just what you would like to gift to the Church in order to help cover running costs. If you are able to Gift Aid your donation this will help us too. Please note that the deadline of the Church Pages of USL Life is the 10th of the preceding month.



MARY SUMNER 1828 – 1921 On 9th August the Anglican church celebrates Mary Sumner, the founder of the Mothers' Union. Usually members in the Gloucester Diocese join together for a picnic, but this year due to the pandemic this will not be taking place. However, members of the St Leonards Branch hope to meet together informally instead, socially distanced of course!



In 1876 Mary Sumner, a clergyman's wife living in nearby Old Alresford, became concerned about how local mothers related their Christian faith to family life. Wanting to encourage them she founded a small group called the Mothers' Union. She lived to see it become a worldwide organisation, now with millions of members. She is buried outside Winchester Cathedral.

Born in 1828 near Manchester, Mary Heywood moved to Hertfordshire with her family in 1832. While in Rome concluding her education she met George Sumner, youngest son of the then Bishop of Winchester. They fell in love and were married in Colwall, near Malvern in 1848, 18 months after his ordination.

In 1851, together with their two baby girls, they moved to Old Alresford, which is 9 miles north-east of Winchester. Later the family was added to with the birth of a boy, Heywood, who later became famous in the 'arts and crafts' movement.

St Leonard's Church News

Website: www.uptonstleonardschurch.co.uk

Who's Who in the Parish Church

Priest in Charge

Rev Clodagh Ingram

Curate:

Rev. James Turk

Churchwardens:

Keith Robbins

Vacancy

PCC Secretary: - Sarah Kent

Church Treasurer

Vacancy

Baptism & Wedding Enquiries

Church Administrator - Jenny Cunningham

Safeguarding

Dorothy Cox

Bell Tower Captain

Charlie Burnett

Mother's Union:

Kate Gale

Church Cleaning Rota:

Claire Appleyard

Church Flowers:

Jenny Cunningham

USL Life (Church pages) and Pew News

Rachel Middleton



August Readings

Sunday 2 nd	Romans 9:1-5 Matthew 14:13-21
Sunday 9 th	Romans 10:5-15 Matthew 14:22-33
Sunday 16 th	Romans 11:1-2a 29-32 Matthew 15: 21-28
Sunday 23 rd	Romans 12:1-8 Matthew 16:13-20
Sunday 30 th	Romans 2:9-end Matthew 16:21-end



The BMI Club

(Est 1898)

Bondend Road
Upton St Leonards

Members Club, new members welcome.

Two bars, wide screen TV with Sky/BT Sports. Snooker /Pool Tables.Skittle Alley. Regular entertainment nights. Function room hire.

Annual Fee £10 plus £5 joining fee. Senior Citizens half price

To join just call in and see Alec our Steward for details. Open Mon-Fri lunchtimes & evenings. Sat-Sun Open all day. <http://www.bmiclub.co.uk/> Tel. 01452 616384

USL Village Store



Mon-Fri
7am-7pm

Sat
7am-6pm

Sun
7am-12pm



Your Village Store and Post Office

SHOP LOCAL

SUPPORT LOCAL!

Rahul and Seeta
Churchfield Road 01452 618189



Rachel Harris

Dip CFHP MPSPract

Foot Health Practitioner

Home visits for all your footcare needs

Professional and courteous service
In the Gloucester area

07791 901 220

rachelh391@googlemail.com

A historical perspective on Lockdown

Past Lives and Survival in troubled times

Feature by Linda Munnoch with grateful thanks to Mike Stratford and Ann Morpew

So, here we are again, one month on and still the invisible 'mugger' has a grasp. It got me thinking, how did survivors cope in the dim and distant past after the Spanish Flu epidemic and other pandemics, pestilence, crop failures and wars, job losses such as in The Great Slump in the 30's, etc., when there was scant or no food aid, no NHS, and little understanding of epidemiology. Even now, we know very little about how these people went on to live through it. The fact that we are here at all is a marvel and we should be thankful to our ancestors who must have been a tough old bunch! I wondered if it might be a relevant time to peel back the layers of our predecessors' lives, and with that in mind, I called upon our fount of knowledge, Mike Stratford, and asked him if there was ever a workhouse or similar institution in or near the village, or evidence of deprivation and, unsurprisingly, he came up trumps as usual. It appears that there was indeed such a place and, in fact, it stood on the old school ground! His contribution from the archives is much appreciated as always, and a moment to ponder on.

The virus has hit the economy hard, jobs are being lost and futures are in the balance as furloughing is about to end and businesses are closing down countrywide exposing our Achilles heel. Our thin veneer of civilisation is at risk once again and for the moment we are on the back foot. But we are a resilient lot, and in light of the current resurgence in pockets of the population, we can't afford to be complacent or let our guard down yet, but let's be optimistic and live positively and hopefully.

The Poor in Upton

Upton had a workhouse - located in what is now Chipmunks car park. It was demolished before 1850 when the school was built. There is no current information on how large it was or how many people were housed there.

There is one reference to it in 1832 when there was an outbreak of cholera in Gloucester, and in Upton there was a Parish meeting to consider what precautions should be taken. The Overseers of the Poor were requested to purchase brandy, to inform the parish physician of any signs of illness and to pay attention to cleanliness in the Poor House. Parishioners were requested to pay attention to cleanliness in their own homes. When Upton Poor House closed, all the inmates were transferred to Gloucester Poor House in Great Western Road.

In 1662, the Act of Settlement defined the right of settlement within a parish. The parish was responsible for all those who had lived there for a period of 40 days or more. To meet the requirements of the poor the overseer was empowered to raise revenue from landowners and householders. These were the Poor Rates.

Paupers and vagrants were strictly controlled and any apprehended in a parish were examined by a Justice of the Peace to establish their place of settlement. Once this was established, a certificate would be sent to that parish and an order of removal was made out. The parish officers were responsible for conveying the person to this destination.

A person moving into another parish would require a certificate granted by the parish and presented to the churchwardens or justices and this would be kept in the parish chest in the church. This was an attempt to stop people being a burden to the Parish.

A common practice was for the officers of the parish to convey the poor person to the boundary of the next parish and leave them there.



The Influenza November 1918

“The influenza epidemic has reached Upton, few and fortunate are the houses unvisited by it, and the school has been closed for a fortnight. Although the disease is of a particularly virulent type, there has been as yet only one fatal case. Our sincere sympathy is extended to Mr and Mrs Broadstock on the loss of their baby girl Phyllis. (Phyllis was three years old and died on 23rd November.)

The District Nurse, whose untiring services have at this time been quite invaluable, would like it to be known that people requiring a visit should notify her as early as possible in the morning. Otherwise she has often to pay two visits to the same part of the parish, when one journey would have done.”

The flu pandemic, wrongly called Spanish flu, originated from a chicken farm in the mid west of America. It spread worldwide via American troops who came to Europe in 1918. The estimate of deaths is 50,000,000 in 1918-1919. Mortality was highest in young people. With no vaccine, control was limited to isolation, quarantine, good personal hygiene, use of disinfectants and limitations of public gatherings.

Does this sound familiar?

Getting back to normal in 2020?

Six members of the editorial team practising social distancing for the first meeting since lockdown.



In time of Plague

Thomas Nashe 1567– 1601

Adieu, farewell, earth's bliss !

This world uncertain is:

Fond are life's lustful joys,

Death proves them all but toys.

None from his darts can fly;

I am sick, must die—

Lord have mercy on us.

Rich men, trust in wealth,

Gold cannot buy you health;

Physic himself must fade;

All things to end are made;

The plague full swift goes by;

I am sick, I must die—

Lord, have mercy on us.

Beauty is but a flower

Which wrinkles will devour;

Brightness falls from the hair;

Queens have died young and fair;

Dust hath closed Helen's eye;

I am sick, I must die—

Lord, have mercy on us.

CHORLEY'S

GLOUCESTERSHIRE'S FINE ART AUCTIONEERS

Free auction valuations
Regular fine art & antiques sales
Insurance & probate valuations
01452 344499

enquiries@chorleys.com

www.chorleys.com

PRINKNASH ABBEY PARK GL4 8EU

For more info visit: www.daveylaw.co.uk

DAVEY LAW

Providing personal and professional legal services for you, your family, and your business.

Solicitors

Here's how we can help:

- Residential Property
- Wills & Probate
- Lasting Powers of Attorney
- Family & Divorce
- Inheritance Tax Planning
- Employment Law
- Dispute Resolution
- Commercial Property
- Clinical Negligence
- Personal Injury

Gloucester: 01452 508800 | Cirencester: 01285 654875
enquiries@daveylaw.co.uk

**Curtains
Blinds
Cushions**

Made to measure and alterations

For friendly advice
ring Val on 01452 372903
Upton resident Qualified

Hadwen Health New On-line Booking Service

Hadwen Health is offering its patients a new easy on-line booking system - called eConsult. It enables us to sit at home and enter the information about our request, be it administrative help, general help, help for a child or help with a condition.

It saves us the frustration of waiting on the phone and you get a response back in a timely manner. This may be around 48 hours, it could be an email or a phone call. You may be advised to have a blood test before seeing the Doctor if this is deemed advisable. This saves us time and it ensures Hadwen Health sends our request to the most appropriate clinical staff or administrative staff to deal with our issue. If the doctor wants to see you in person, you will be asked to make an appointment, again this can be done easily online.

The big advantage is this can be done at any time of the day or evening or weekend to suit your needs. You can do it on your phone in your lunch break. You get directed to the member of staff who is best placed to answer your request. Do try out the service next time you need support with your health and encourage others to use it. It's a great way to support our wonderful NHS going forward. Some people don't have the internet and Hadwen Health is very aware of this. The old system of phoning the practice to access services is still available. If the rest of us use the online service it frees up their phone line for those who need phone access. Painswick and Aspen medical practice are also using this system.

Millie Barnes

To all those very kind people who support the Gloucester Branch of The Trussell Trust Food Bank, a very big thank you.

I deliver to the Gloucester Food Bank from the contributions of non perishable (tinned /packets/long life milk or fruit juice) food and toiletries left in the Village Shop and Post Office and St Leonard's Church I will also collect from individual homes if they find these locations difficult to access. My thanks go to Rahul and Seeta for their continued support from the shop and as acting as a collecting point of food.

During 2019 the following was delivered: 350Kg from the Village Shop and Post Office, 250Kg from St Leonard's Church and 250Kg from the Village School Harvest Festival. I also delivered donations from Chipmunks Harvest Festival to The Family Haven.

A splendid offering! Thank you to everyone who has contributed to these collections; your ongoing support is greatly appreciated by those helped by the food bank.

More information can be found on the Gloucester Food bank website.

Dorothy Cox

Brothertons

Accountants & Tax Advisors

Personalised, friendly service to local business owners and individuals

All Aspects of Accountancy:

- Self Assessment Tax Returns
 - Sole Trader Accounts
 - Limited Companies
 - VAT
 - Payroll
 - Bookkeeping
- Local family firm
Established 1998
Free initial meeting
Fixed quotes*

2 Abbeymead Avenue, Gloucester GL4 5ER

01452 311711

www.brothertons.co.uk

email info@brothertons.co.uk

Roger Brown

*Painter and Decorator
Free Quotations*

Telephone 01453 454724

Mobile 07554 637175

Hill Farm Cottages

Upton Hill, Upton St Leonards, GL4 8DA

Self-catering cottages well furnished and equipped with the comforts that will make a stay in the Cotswolds one to remember fondly. Each cottage has full central heating and a colour television in the lounge. Towels, tea towels and attractive bed-linen are all provided for you; all you need to bring is food.

01452 614081

hillfarmcottages@hotmail.co.uk



The Village Diary is a little longer this month now that some of the restrictions on our lives have been withdrawn.

AUGUST		
2	Sun	Tennis Club Pavilion 10.0a.m.
4	Tue	Recycling and Food Waste Week
4	Tue	Tennis Club Pavilion 6.00p.m.
9	Sun	Tennis Club Pavilion 10.00a.m.
10	Mon	Copy date for September issue of USL Life
11	Tue	Rubbish and Food Waste Week. Garden Waste for those with brown bins
11	Tue	Tennis Club Pavilion 6.00p.m.
16	Sun	Tennis Pavilion 10.00a.m.
18	Tue	Recycling and Food Waste Week
18	Tues	Tennis Club Pavilion 6.00p.m.
23	Sun	Tennis Club Pavilion 10.00a.m.
23	Sun	Gnome Hunt..... Pavilion 10.00-4.00p.m.
25	Tue	Rubbish and Food Waste Week. Garden Rubbish for those with brown bins
25	Tue	Tennis Club Pavilion 6.00p.m.
26	Wed	Healthy Living Group..... Pavilion 7.00-9.00p.m.
30	Sun	Tennis Club Pavilion 10.00a.m.
Please note, the details below are still provisional due to coronavirus		
SEPTEMBER		
7	Mon	Parish Council Meeting Pavilion 7.30p.m.
7	Mon	Upton WI..... Village Hall 7.30-10.00p.m.
10	Thu	Copy date for October issue of USL Life
14	Mon	Twyver WI Village Hall 7.30-10.00p.m.
19	Sat	Autumn Quiz BMI 8.00pm.
20	Sun	Sunday lunch jazz..... BMI 1.00p.m.
21	Mon	Abbeydale Garden Club Village Hall 7.30-9.45p.m.
23	Wed	Ladies Probus BMI 10.00a.m.
24	Thu	Get Together Club Village Hall 2.30-4.30p.m.
28	Mon	Camera Club..... Village Hall 7.00-9.00p.m.
28	Mon	Lady Downe Trust..... Upton St Leonards School..... 7.30p.m.
OCTOBER		
5	Mon	Parish Council Meeting Pavilion 7.30p.m.
5	Mon	Upton WI..... Village Hall 7.30-10.00p.m.
10	Sat	Copy date for November issue of USL Life
12	Mon	Twyver WI Village Hall 7.30-10.00p.m.
19	Mon	Abbeydale Garden Club Village Hall 7.30-9.45p.m.
21	Wed	Ladies Probus BMI 10.00a.m.
26	Mon	Camera Club..... Village Hall 7.00-9.00p.m.
29	Thu	Get Together Autumn Lunch..... Village Hall 12.45 for 1.00p.m.
To get events listed in the Village Diary, contact Paula Quinn		

Please keep Paula informed if you have any classes or events that need to be inserted in the October Diary.

STOP PRESS!

PRINKNASH ABBEY CAFE IS OPEN AGAIN



Comings and Goings

John Warner – 1937 – 2020

John was born at Edge in March 1937.

When he was very young he lost his father, and moved with his mother, sister Phyllis and brother Brian to live at the Wheatridge and attended Upton School. John's grandparents lived at Upton Mill, Bondend - here they kept a herd of milking cows and John enjoyed many happy hours there helping with the animals. After leaving the Crypt school and doing National Service in the R.A.F. John worked at the Forestry Commission headquarters near Lydney. He met Sandra at a dance in 1960 and that year returned to Upton St Leonards to take on a milk round, which he did for 25 years. John and Sandra were married in 1964 at Bishops Cleeve church and, alongside the milk round, they kept sheep for a while. Also running residential letting and stables and grazing – enjoying the freedom and wildlife of the countryside and their home at Portway, where they lived for more than 40 years. John will be remembered as an outdoor man, placid by nature with a good sense of humour, who said that he had always enjoyed every job he had done.

John passed peacefully away on May 14th at Saintbridge House Care Home, where he had been living since August 2017.

Compiled by his loving wife Sandra.



A tribute to John Warner from friends Ted and Graham

'A little more village history by way of a sort of obituary to one more of our stalwarts, gone forever from our village life. John 'Jacker' Warner passed away, leaving his wife Sandra – and joining his brother 'Brimmer'. 'Jacker' as we old village boys knew him, was a very good player for the local football team, and afterwards a reliable benefactor who would always be happy to contribute a premium sum to boost club funds. I use his nickname 'Jacker' with some fondness, he was one of us, by which I mean a village boy. We all had nicknames in those days, I call to mind a few you may know: 'Gilly' Ballinger, 'Ocker' Gobey, 'Nobby' Womack, 'Coxy' Avery, 'Tiger' Wood, 'Melie' Moore, and 'Longey' as he is still known. I was always Ted Gardner, and the other 'Nobby' was my cousin 'Nobby' Hayes, who, along with myself, were the instigators of this small snippet of village history. Long gone but not forgotten.

Don Webb RIP

We have heard that Don Webb died a few weeks ago. Many villagers will remember Don and his wife Audrey, who died a few years ago. Don worked locally in the RAF. One of his legacies to the Village was that he was a founder member of the USCAN footpath group, so as you pass through a gate or climb a stile do pause for a moment in his memory!

And now for a some Happy Events

Two new babies in Churchfield Road!

Alphie Jake born 19th May, son of Garry and Holly Paton and brother to Pippa who was also born in Upton **AND** Martha Elizabeth Kehoe born 1st June to Claire and Adam and sister to Stanley.

Welcome to new residents

Also in Churchfield Road!

Darren and Louise Walding, daughters Emily and Charlotte and their cat, Persephone.

We also have news that Paul and Laura (Paul a former resident of Six Acres) are delighted to announce the arrival of Charlotte Isabelle, born on the 4th July, sister to Penelope.

The Story of an Ash Tree

Haiku. Ash tree grows in the garden, keys fall, a forest grows, garden disappears.



I started life in a hedge dividing two fields in Upton St Leonards. In 1969 one of the fields was sold and I became part of the boundary of one of the new houses.

I was quite old by then and if there were strong winds I tended to shed quite a few old branches as well as all my leaves and ash keys throughout the year. My owners looked after me carefully and kept the ash forest at bay, but more and more branches kept falling, so after a few years I was trimmed and felt much better after that.

Life went on and during the next 20—30 years I was regularly trimmed and fashioned. My trunk was never straight, I was quite a wayward shape and most of my trunk leant over the neighbouring field where my shade was cast over a public footpath.

In 2015 I suffered a major accident and an enormous bough fell into the garden, luckily not causing much damage. By this time I was the subject of a preservation order, so, after due inspection, it was agreed that my size could be reduced by a third. I felt and looked much better after that! At the same time it was discovered that I had acquired a fungus for which there was no known cure and that my trunk had started to decay. However I soldiered on giving shade to the field; garden birds came and went, but never nested, and a squirrel paid an occasional visit.

2020 came and so did Lockdown. My footpath became very much busier; I did not cope very well in high winds. The tree surgeon came to inspect me: he thought that there was a lot more decay of the trunk on the garden side which was putting more pressure on the part that was leaning over the footpath, the fungus had also increased.

He pronounced me a danger! Emails were sent off, the footpath was closed very quickly and on Bank Holiday Monday, May 25th, an enormous cherry picker drove up the field and the driver and tree surgeon took me down in just a few hours.

It was sad, but I had had a good long life. A little of me remains in the boundary of the garden, and next year my bare stump will be covered by a lovely Clematis Montana.

Ann Morphew

Rhys James Fencing

All types of fencing and gates supplied & fitted. From minor repairs to complete new fence, I offer a fast & friendly service.

Local contractor, fully insured, established over 20 years.

Garden work undertaken. Trees removed, stumps ground, hedges cut. All waste responsibly disposed of.

The Lodge
Rance Pitch
Upton St
Leonards

07931 380463 / 01452 372051
rhysjames64@outlook.com
and on facebook

Approved Contractor to Local social housing Association and the Diocese of Gloucester

J. BIRD
CHIMNEY SWEEP

Traditional and Power Chimney Sweeping from £40

Open Fires, Boilers, Cookers and Stoves Serviced

Chimney Pots, Cows and Bird Guards Fitted

Flue Liners and Stoves Installed to Latest Regulations

Cctv Chimney Camera Surveys

PHONE ME TODAY FOR AN APPOINTMENT

01452 521732
07973 905151

sootybloke@blueyonder.co.uk

A1 Windows
"for all your window needs"

A local friendly company with over 35 years experience

- Replacement uPVC & aluminium windows, doors and conservatories made to measure
- Replacing misted glass
- Locks
- Hinges
- Handles
- Patio rollers
- Coloured Composite Doors made to measure

Free no obligation quotations
www.a1windows-gloucester.co.uk

Simon Green
01452 535811
07989 891227



**Glorious sunsets
brightened Upton's
evenings even for people
shielding at home.**

**Flowers and wildlife were a
joy for walkers on Upton's
footpaths.**



Thanks to Jane for the flowers and to Teresa for the sunsets.