

# Upton St Leonards Life

incorporating Church News

Issue 120

August 2024



**The Barn Dance was a tremendous success, raising a MASSIVE £9,507 for the church roof.**

Pictures here show the Ceilidh Band and the Rock Band. There are more pictures on the back page. (Pictures were taken by Jim Browne and Rachel Middleton)

In the Church pages, the people who worked so hard to make it happen, are properly thanked.



**Don't forget! The Upton Show is on Sept 14, only 6 weeks away. Get schedules from the show website or at the Post Office.**

**AND . . . Can you help set up, take down, steward? See page 19 for a *cri de coeur* from the Show committee.**

## **PIG ROAST!**

It's time, once again, for the ever popular Pig Roast at the BMI.


Saturday 10 August, 7pm  
Cost £5

## Raise the Roof

### Update and announcements

# Raise the Roof

## The Church Roof Fund



### PHOTOGRAPH AND 2025 CALENDAR COMPETITION "St Leonard's Church through the Seasons"

The closing date for entries is 16 September

Email your entries (pdf/jpeg) to [jowraisetherooft@gmail.com](mailto:jowraisetherooft@gmail.com), giving the name of the photographer, child's age (if applicable), with the entry fee paid to the church Raise the Roof fund. See the account details on the right.

Adults: £5 first photo, £2.50 per photo thereafter. Children: First photo free, £2.50 per photo thereafter.

In submitting an entry, you give permission for the church to reproduce your photograph in a calendar or other publication.

Donations to the Roof fund (and entry fees for the photographic competition) can be paid by bank transfer:

You can, of course, pay by cash or cheque, in an envelope suitably labelled and handed to a church official or Raise The Roof committee member.

*If you are a UK income tax payer, please consider making a Gift Aid declaration so we can claim an extra 25% from HMRC. Simply write a note or send an email with the words: "I am a UK taxpayer, and I would like to enhance my donation of £nn.nn through Gift Aid. Then give your name, first line of your address and postcode.*

## UPDATE

- The Barn Dance raised £9,507 for Raise the Roof.
- Hardwicke Farm garden open day raised £545
- From the BMI charity collection for 2023-24: £3,281
- Gift Aid has contributed £1,049 so far this year alone
- Interest on the money raised has been £4,769 this year

Money raised so far from all sources, since the appeal was launched is £183,550.

## TO COME SOON

- Gloucester Brass concert in Church - Sunday July 28 at 3pm
- Taiko Drumming performance in Church - Saturday 31 August at 7pm (see right)
- Church Fete - Saturday 7 September in the Old School Room



CCS Taiko (our local group) are performing in church on Saturday 31 August at 7pm. Tickets £10 (under 16s free), include a glass of wine or soft drink in the interval.

In aid of the Roof Fund. Tickets via [ticketsource](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk) or at the door. Ear defenders will be available for anyone who may need them.

The picture shows the group performing in the Cathedral.

## BMI News and events



June 20th was "Ladies Day" at Royal Ascot races. Naturally, several BMI members dressed appropriately and spent the afternoon watching the racing at the BMI. Accompanying their Prosecco was a superb afternoon tea prepared by Lorraine.



The BMI has won the CAMRA Club of the year award, for the Gloucester area, for the second year in a row. Well, we all know it is that good!

### Gift to the Church Roof Fund

For its charity of the year 2023-24 the BMI chose to raise money for the Church Roof Fund. A cheque for the huge amount of £3,281 was handed to Rev Helen and churchwarden Gill by BMI president Mike Long and ex-chairman Keith Pearson.

It was a stunning achievement to raise that much.

*The nominated charities for 2024-25 are "Charlies" and the Gloucester City Mission. Charlies offers support to anyone affected by cancer and the Gloucester City Mission supports the homeless in the area.*



### BMI Annual Pig Roast Saturday 10 August

Come and enjoy some delicious slow roasted pulled pork, hot, in a roll with apple sauce and other trimmings! Hoping for decent weather, this event is usually held in the car park. Crowds expected so get there early. Starts at 7pm, tickets £5.

### Quizzing

In a devious effort to stop Woodentops winning again, two of their players, Julie and Clive Winstanley, were invited to set the questions at the summer quiz. The plot failed and Woodentops won (or was there some insider info?). Georgians came second not far behind. The Golden Girls, who came last, were treated to a complementary drink each.

### The next Quiz . . .

. . . is on Saturday 21 September. Andy R will return as quizmaster. Add your name to the booking sheet in the BMI by Thursday 19th September.

### Sunday Lunchtime Jazz

Sunday 15th September

with Diane and Emma

"Cygnet Duo"

1.00-3.30pm

Thank  
you ❤️

### Thanks

Rachel and Trevor Hall thank everyone for the cards, flowers and good wishes sent for their 70th Wedding Anniversary. They write: "We know how fortunate we are to be able to celebrate such a long and happy marriage and have been overwhelmed by the attention we have received. Special thanks to those catering and organising the lunch in the Village Hall."

# Probus and WI Meeting reports

## Ladies' Probus

Our June meeting was very interesting &, at times, a touch emotional as Mags from Patchwork Basket in Newent told us about the Foundling Hospital in the 18th Century. Mags also had a lot of beautiful items which she had created & sewn to illustrate her story about these newborn babies & their mothers. What tragic times!

In July we have Charlene Spackman talking about the James Hopkins Trust, which provides nursing respite care for Gloucestershire's life-limited and life-threatened young children.

Angela Lerwill is booked to tell us 'Tales of a Sussex Family Farm' for our meeting in August. So please come & join us at the BMI at 10am on 14 August to find out about these tales!

## Twyver WI

Our speaker this month was Victoria Troughton who set up a wonderful display of her creations labelled "Totes from Tatters". Victoria, the sister of one of our members, started her business in Wales after realising she had re-awakened her love for art and creativity when asked by her son to help raise funds for children's charities. She realised she had a knack for sewing and began making items to sell from donated materials which raised thousands of pounds. She then found she had a mountain of donated and sourced items and decided to turn them into her business. She crafts tote bags, bottle bags, book covers and other items from 'tatters' (hence the business name above,) from sources in charity shops such as leather jackets, sofas, jewellery, zips, shoes – in fact anything that can be reused. Her ethos is to re-purpose as much as possible in order to cut down on landfill and reduce our carbon footprint.

Victoria also makes items to order. Her website, with details of how to order is [www.totesfromtatters.co.uk](http://www.totesfromtatters.co.uk)

Many of our members purchased items which will bring them joy for many years to come.

There will be no meeting in August so the next group meeting is scheduled for 9th September, all welcome at the Village Hall. Wishing everyone a great summer break.

Linda Munnoch



## Upton St Leonards WI

### A talk on FRAUD

given by David McLaren, retired Deputy Chief Constable from the Surrey Police Economic Crime Team

Please read this, and last month's report from Twyver WI on the same subject. Think about how it applies to you!

David's talk to the Upton WI was both illuminating and disturbing. It is estimated that over £1.17 billion was lost to fraud in the UK in 2023. The internet is, of course, widely used and has revolutionised society in so many good ways, but it also has a dark side. You will meet attempted fraud there, and on the phone and on the doorstep. "Take 5" is a nationwide effort to protect against fraud. The core is that you Stop and think for 5 minutes (hence "Take 5".)

- STOP: Take a moment to stop and think before parting with your money or information. This could keep you safe.
- CHALLENGE: Could it be fake? It's OK to reject, refuse or ignore any requests. Only criminals will try to rush or panic you.
- PROTECT: Contact your bank immediately by phoning 159 if you think you've fallen for a scam, and report it to Action Fraud.

People can be fooled by on-line dating and fake photographs. Of course it's money the criminals are after. There's an old saying: "If it's too good to be true..."

David suggested for personal protection that we have a spy hole in the door and a chain to stop it opening more than an inch or two. Burglar alarms, security lights outside, front and back, thorny hedges, a dog - these are known to be good deterrents.

There is no meeting in August, so we meet again on Monday 2 September, at 2pm in the Pavilion, and the talk will be on Wildlife in the Garden. All are welcome.

Kathy Quant

Editor's PS: there have been fraud attempts recently reported in the Village, perpetrated by door-to-door people pointing out that your roof is damaged and needs to be fixed, and they can fix it for you. There is the usual rush to get you to sign up, and they claim to have done work at one of your neighbours'. Why not adopt the simple scheme that you will never buy a service or anything else from a door-to-door salesman, however convincing and sincere they might seem to be. Just say NO.

← The Twyver WI walkers enjoyed the first sunny day in July by catching the 66 bus to Painswick and walking back, stopping for lunch at the Prinknash Cafe.

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As part of their 20th Anniversary, the UpStagers performed two one-act plays each night on two evenings in July.

“Dead Ringer” is a play about a marital hoax which ends with

totally unforeseen circumstances arising, a truly excellent twist.

The other was a black comedy “Counter Secrets”, which had a taste of Sweeney Todd about it. The action taking place in a butcher’s shop where the owners were killing customers for their meat. Again the play had a good turn around twist at the end.



Both nights saw good audiences who were really receptive to both. Well done the UpStagers for another successful presentation! The plays were directed jointly by Davyd Hunt and Tom High – well done to both! Pictures here and on the back page were taken by Jim Browne.



## The UpStagers are 20 years old!

About 25 years ago the stage in the Village Hall was not really used at all, and the management committee at the time were considering removing it and enlarging the main hall. There was a “Save our Stage (SOS)” campaign, and the management relented. It had been said “now it is saved you will have to use it”. And so the UpStagers group was founded. Forty or so productions on, they are now celebrating their twentieth year. Their first performance, 20 years ago, was of two one act plays, so it was fitting that the production this year had the same format.

The UpStagers will gladly welcome anyone who wants to join, as an actor, or backstage. They meet every Wednesday at 7.30pm in the Village Hall – just go along if you are interested.

## “Shakespeare Rocks” at the School

Many villagers received through their letterboxes an invitation, from Year 6 at the school, to attend one of the performances. I was delighted to be there!

The production was an amusing look at William Shakespeare’s life and the times that he lived in, interpreted in a modern way. The musical was written in a style to engage children in learning about Shakespeare and his world.

The show begins with Aubrey, the ‘Rough Shakespeare Company’ director and his assistant Al claiming that they have found William Shakespeare’s secret diary. Aubrey narrates from the diary as we go through the Scenes. There were seven very well written and extremely well sung songs. The song ‘Will’s Wonderful Words’ was performed by Minstrels in sunglasses whilst Will was





chased by a legion of fans. The song 'No Girls Allowed' was performed with great gusto by Year 6. This song highlights how absurd the rules were at the time, e.g. no women were allowed to perform on stage, so all female parts were played by men and boys. There were shrieks of laughter from the children when they saw the boys they knew from Year 6 dressed as women.

Scene 4 begins in the newly constructed Globe Theatre. The builders, all in Hi-vis jackets, are applying the finishing touches to the Globe in preparation for the performance of King Henry V. 'Show In The Globe' is sung and Queen Elizabeth 1 makes a grand entrance. Scene 5 is set in a rehearsal room and the cast of Macbeth are rehearsing. The cast are very superstitious and will not mention Macbeth by name in case it brings bad luck. 'Don't Mention Mac' is sung just prior to one of the cast saying the dreaded word. The Witches conclude that the only solution is to spin around three times and say a naughty word. Unfortunately, it was too late as the Globe Theatre had just burnt down! Bernie Bottom, the cannon operator, was the bearer of this bad news. His appearance was met with great laughter from the audience, especially the children, as he turned around to

reveal what part of his clothing had been burnt off!

The next scene takes place in the burnt out Globe Theatre. Romeo and Juliet are there and they are discovered by Minstrels trying to find their instruments. The Minstrels are shocked to discover that Juliet is a woman and not a man dressed as a woman. A duet was sung by Romeo and Juliet. This song entitled 'Romeos and Juliets' was a very thought provoking love song about understanding, empathy and unity. The children playing Romeo and Juliet sang this song brilliantly

Scene 7 takes place in William's bedroom. He is now older and not feeling well. Anne, his wife, tells him to rest and as he lies down he comes across a new-fangled pencil which inspires the song '2B or Not 2B'. This song is performed by all of the cast, again with all the energy of youth.

This musical was a joy to watch. There were in excess of 60 children performing and they were all amazing. Not only was the performance exceedingly good but so was the scenery. The teacher informed us that this was all done by Year 6. It was evident that a lot of time and effort had been put into this production and it paid off. Well done teachers and WELL DONE YEAR 6.

Julie Watson

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## Home Start Stroud & Gloucester

We promoted this great charity in a previous issue. They have asked us if we can do it again, and to mention that the next volunteer training session starts on October 10th.



Home-Start Stroud and Gloucester is a local charity supporting families within the community who need a little extra help and support through a challenging time in their lives. Our volunteers are there to offer others their parenting experience, practical and at times, emotional support. To find out more details and to express an interest please visit our website [www.homestartsd.org](http://www.homestartsd.org), call the office on 01453 297470 or email: [Enquiries@homestartsd.org](mailto:Enquiries@homestartsd.org).

Volunteering for us is a chance to help make a real difference to families with young children when they need it the most.



## Have you heard of "Transition Stroud"?

Transition Stroud works through action groups to focus on key areas such as transport, food, reuse and repair, and reducing carbon. They also convene a Forum for climate action groups across Stroud District and Upton's own climate action group is linked to them. Their website is well worth a visit: [www.transitionstroud.org](http://www.transitionstroud.org)

For example, there is a "Repair Cafe", which, as its name implies, seeks to repair things - clothing, furniture, electrical goods, etc., and they also can teach you how to repair things yourself.

There are also groups concentrating on transport, local food production, solar heating, reducing plastic use, and the list goes on.

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The 'neighbours' were very interested in what was happening

The Barn Dance was a big success again. A heartfelt THANKYOU to everyone who organised and helped, a truly amazing effort from all concerned. Firstly and most importantly, it was all made possible by the Herring family for allowing this event to take place in their barn, putting in hours of work to move animals and clear the area, clean it, add lighting, seating, bar and stage, and also manning the bar on the evening and leading the BBQ team, and clearing up in the days after. Then there was the team led by Richard Sugdon that organised everything else. And last, but not least, was a team of other helpers who cooked and served food, looked after stewarding and security, tidied up. Thanks also to the Taiko drummers, the Ceilidh Band and Freefall for our entertainment.

**Thank you for attending!**



Robert and Norma Spratt kindly opened their beautiful garden to the public on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July to raise money for the Raise the Roof campaign. There were plenty of places to explore in the orchard and wooded area and a large amount of different plants and shrubs to view.



The barn was decorated with bunting and housed the teas and coffees being served, thanks to Gill and Sarah.



It was touch and go with the weather at first but the sun shone through for long enough to make it a lovely afternoon, reverting to type about 20 minutes after the event finished.

Mac and Rose generously provided a raffle prize and sold tickets which contributed to the amount raised. Thank you also to Mike Stratford who manned the gate, Roger for ferrying tables and chairs to and fro for both events, Anthony and Gill for organising, and last but not least, thank you for the cakes!



*Thank you so much for raising £545 for the church roof.*



<p><i>Church Fete</i></p> <p><i>Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> September</i></p> <p>In the School Room</p> <p>and</p> <p>Car Park</p> <p><i>More information in next edition USL Life</i></p>	<p><i>Save the Date</i></p>  <p><b>Visit our NEW Facebook Page</b></p> <p>St. Leonard's Church, Upton St. Leonards</p>	<p><i>Harvest Festival</i></p> <p><i>Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September</i></p> <p>On the Green (Church if wet)</p> <p><i>More information in next edition USL Life</i></p> 
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We all hear about Samaritans Purse and Operation Christmas Child at Christmas time, when we are asked to donate or fill a shoe box for children in need across the globe. But what most people don't realise is that the organisation doesn't just spring into action in October / November, and hope that there will be enough gifts to go around. Volunteers are working tirelessly the whole year round. Sewing, knitting, crocheting along with other handicrafts talented contributors give. Not only that, the empty shoe boxes roll in through every season and are diligently Christmas gift wrapped throughout the year to be ready and waiting for the packing days.

Jenny was recently, one of five volunteers in the UK to have her 'shoebox' story told in the OCC Special Report publication and here it is below



If you visit Jenny's home in Gloucester, you'll be in no doubt about her love for all things Operation Christmas Child! Boxes of school supplies, toys, personal care items and accessories line the walls, along with the beautifully wrapped shoe boxes ready to fill.

Jenny runs a local Facebook page and encourages her community to drop off boxes, quality crafts and other shoe box items all year round. She then works with three local churches to pack these gifts together at packing parties. Last year they packed around 400 shoe box gifts at the parties and 1284 shoe boxes overall.

Jenny said "Every shoe box represents a child feeling loved and an opportunity for them to hear about Jesus, and that spurs me on to pack even more gifts."

Jenny is also Collections Coordinator for Gloucestershire and organises picking up all the shoe boxes from drop-off locations in the area. She arranges for them to be taken to the National Ministry Centre in Coventry or the pop-up processing centre in Cardiff, where she also volunteers. Last year Gloucestershire collected a fantastic 3,525 shoe box gifts!

"I am part of a brilliant team of volunteers locally, and it is a privilege and joy to be a small part of such an amazing ministry," said Jenny.



*Services for August 2024*

4<sup>th</sup>                    8.00 am   *Holy Communion*

                          10.00 am   *Celebration Service*

11<sup>th</sup>                   10.00 am   *Holy Communion*

18<sup>th</sup>                   10.00am   *Holy Communion*

25<sup>th</sup>                   10.00am   *Holy Communion*



*Tuesday Morning  
Prayer*

**9.30 am**

**In the Rectory**

**Bond End Road**

**Everyone is welcome**

*Who's Who in the Church*

**Parish Priest:**

**Rev Helen Champion**

**Churchwarden:**

**Gill Howell**

Interment and burial of ashes enquiries

**Church Administrator:**

**Jenny Cunningham**

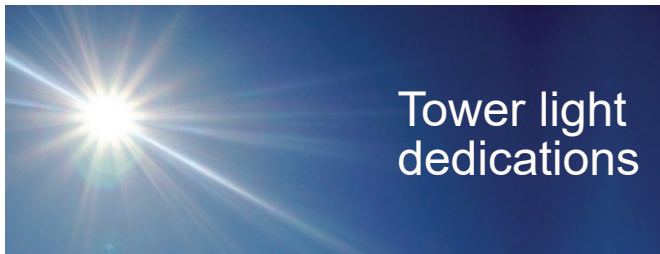
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**PCC Secretary**

**Kay Hutton**



If you or your family wish to sponsor the lights in celebration of a birthday, an anniversary, for a loved one's life or for any other reason then please contact Jenny Cunningham for more details.  
Please note that the deadline of the Church News is the 8<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month.

On the 12<sup>th</sup> August, the Church Tower is lit in celebration of the 18<sup>th</sup> birthday of Charlie Davies, kindly sponsored by his Nanna, Brenda Davies

The Church Tower is lit on the 26<sup>th</sup> August in memory of Keith Davies on his birthday, sponsored by his loving wife Brenda



First Prize	£30	39
Second Prize	£20	16

### *Mother's Union*

In June members visited St Paul's Church, Shurdington where the Church Warden, Clare Stewart explained the history of the Grade II listed building. The church's claim to fame is that it is taller than it is long with a very elegant spire. Recycling was noticeable including the second-hand box pew and the very low Norman door had been moved several times along the north wall.

Behind the altar there was an intricately carved stone reredos and to the right two beautiful Thomas Denny windows given in memory of local parishioners, Betty Jones and David Davis, an undertaker and farmer.

Both windows display the interests and loves of them both. Betty's showing young girls in blue representing

her lifelong connection with the Girl Guiding movement and her love for exploring the local countryside with the "Devil's Chimney" on the side of Leckhampton Hill depicted. At the bottom of the window her love of nature is captured featuring poppies, thorn bushes, small birds, butterflies and even a hedgehog.

The other window captures the view of a stony path leading over a stile into a field scattered with cattle and pear trees and stretching away to the Malvern horizon pierced in the middle by a slender spire. A small Cotswold farm is visible, such as that of the Davis family, and a donkey looking over the hedge by the stile welcomes those who pass into the sloping field.

Afterwards everyone enjoyed tea and cakes in the Church Hall.

The meeting in August will be on Friday 9<sup>th</sup>, Mary Sumner Day, when we celebrate our Founder. Venue to be confirmed so please look out on the Pew News for further details but be prepared to come along with something to eat and a chair.

Kate Gale



## Parish Council Report

It has been a busy period for the Parish Council, with plenty of business to be sorted before the holidays. Please note that there is no Council meeting in August, so the next meeting is on Monday September 2, at 7.30pm in the Pavilion.

### Meeting with Gloucestershire Highways

The Council held a meeting with Yakub Mulla, from Gloucestershire Highways, to go through many village issues to do with clearing road drains, uneven pavements, potholes, broken man-hole cover surrounds, etc.

Yakub confirmed that street drains are cleared twice per year, and special call-outs are sometimes made when issues such as a blockage are reported. There have been some pothole repairs done. But what of many issues,

such as breaking up pavements in Six Acres, cars cutting the corner at the turn into Bondend Road by the church, getting a speed camera, the crossing of Churchfield Road just below the shops, crumbling surface of Ash Grove, more potholes all over the village and more? Some of these issues are under investigation, some remedial action is planned, and some can't be done because the Highways budget won't stretch.

The two paragraphs above are condensed from a 4 page write-up of Yakub Mulla's visit. To see the whole report, contact the parish office: [usclerk@btinternet.com](mailto:usclerk@btinternet.com).

***If you spot a problem, then you are urged to report it online using [www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/fixmystreet](http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/fixmystreet). If you can't use an online reporting system, please ask a friend who can.***

# Upton St Leonards Life

## incorporating Church News



### USL Life is 10 years old!

On the front page you can see that this is issue no 120, which marks 10 years of USL Life newsletters!

We were conceived at a Parish Council meeting in spring 2014. Pete Wilson was the pre-natal consultant and recruited most of the team. We produced a mock-up unpublished copy, Issue 0, for August 2014, and Issue 1, dated September 2014 was printed and distributed by the start of that month.

The last issue of the "Church News" was timed to be August 2014, so there was a smooth

transition. We took on Church News advertisers who had paid for adverts to the end of the year, and Church News distributors willingly agreed to distribute most of the copies of the new publication.

Many of the editorial and distribution team who started with USL Life are still in the team. That's good, of course, but it does point to a potential problem over sustainability. Any healthy organisation should have a steady turnover of people, and we don't really have that.

### Thank you, Christina

Christina Caldwell was in our features team from the beginning, but has now decided formally to step down. . Thanks very much for many years on the team and for all the inspirational and innovative articles.



### New Faces - can you join us?

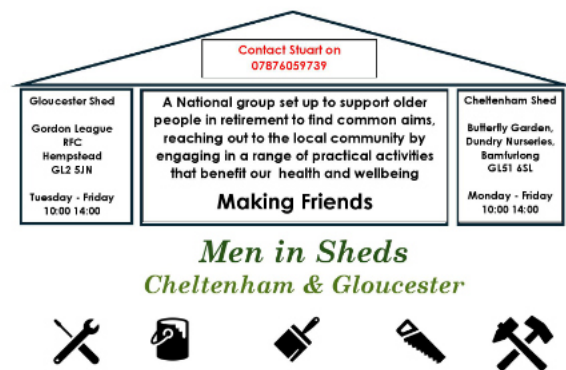
We are trying to recruit new people by making personal approaches, that's usually the best way. But maybe that means we have missed you perhaps? If you think you can do one of the jobs where we need new people, please don't hesitate to contact any member of the team (see page 19). We need at least one new editor, more than one to help write features, and an advertising sales person.

## Parish Council website

The website is being redesigned, improved with more information and better updating.

## Road Closure

We have received (in time to publish here) notice of the closure of a small section of Bondend Road (again!) on Monday 9 September, 0930-1430. This is between Upton Mill and Nuthill road, see right. This is "to allow for pole testing works by Openreach".



## Men in Sheds

We are a bunch of retired gentlemen assisting charities, schools, nurseries, playgroups and churches. We repair everything wooden, sheds, benches, tables, fences and have also made mini kitchens for playgroups. Four members from Upton recently refurbished a bench in the churchyard, which was almost condemned (see photo). They are also working on a further bench at the Church. Contact details are above - do you want to join, or

have them repair something?



## Arts Page

This month we take a poetic journey starting in Kensington Gardens and ending in Paradise!

### A Walk in Kensington Gardens by Dorothy Featherstone Porter 1954 – 2008

Solitude is where writers  
chatter best  
  
a soothing static -  
the ambulatory, admit it, happy  
ticking over  
like this afternoon  
in the sweet green cold London  
spring  
I watch a tall grey heron  
stomping down its reed nest  
that's sprouting everywhere  
like garden-sheared air  
  
and all my living  
and all my dead  
run up my arms  
like squirrels.

### A limerick from Australia – anon

A limerick fan from Australia  
Regarded his work as a failure  
His verses were fine  
Until the fourth line . . . .

### EPIGRAMS

There are no foreign lands, it is the traveller only  
that is foreign, and now and again, by a flash of  
recollection, lights up the contrast of the earth.  
(Robert Louis Stevenson)

Like all great travellers I have seen more than I  
remember and remember more than I have seen.  
(Benjamin Disraeli)

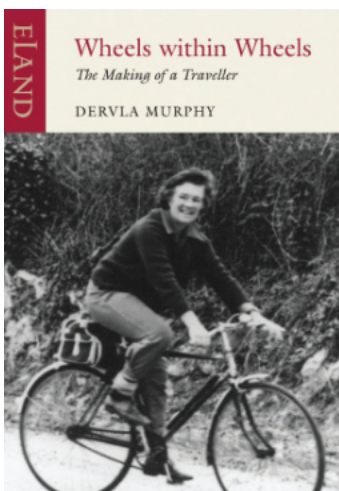
### Report from Paradise by Zbigniew Herbert translated by C. Milosz & P. Dale Scott

In paradise the work week is fixed at thirty hours  
salaries are higher prices steadily go down  
manual labour is not tiring (because of reduced gravity)  
chopping wood is no harder than typing  
the social system is stable and the rulers are wise  
really in paradise one is better off than in whatever country

At first it was to have been different  
luminous circles choirs and degrees of abstraction  
but they were not able to separate exactly  
the soul from the flesh and so it would come here  
with a drop of fat a thread of muscle  
it was necessary to face the consequences  
to mix a grain of the absolute with a grain of clay  
one more departure from doctrine the last departure  
only John foresaw it: you will be resurrected in the flesh

not many behold God  
he is only for those of 100 per cent pneuma\*  
the rest listen to communiques about miracles and floods  
some day God will be seen by all  
when it will happen nobody knows  
  
As it is now every Saturday at noon  
sirens sweetly bellow  
and from the factories go the heavenly proletarians  
awkwardly under their arms they carry their wings like violins

\*pneuma means spirit or soul



### BOOK REVIEW

#### Wheels within wheels, the making of a traveller by Dervla Murphy (1931 - 2022)

What is it that makes us who we are? In this searingly honest autobiography the intrepid Irish cyclist and traveller, Dervla Murphy, remembers her unconventional first thirty years. She describes her childhood determination, her love of books, her intermittent formal education and the intense relationship of an only child with her parents. She demonstrates a gift for friendship, a love of writing, hardiness and a strong desire to travel. If this book does not appeal to you we recommend you consider one of her other twenty books – choose your country!

# Advertising

If you use any of the services provided by our advertisers, please mention that you saw them in USL Life. They can then understand the impact of their advertising. Thank you

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Dates, times, venues and contacts for the Yoga, Pilates and Art etc. classes that run every week can be found over the page.

# VILLAGE DIARY

## AUGUST

4	Sun	Tennis Club Members Morning	Tennis Courts	10.00am
5	Mon	Coffee Club	BMI	10.00am
6	Tue	Rubbish and food waste week/Garden waste for those with Brown bins		
6	Tue	Needles & Pins	Village Hall Annex	9.45am
6	Tue	Tuesday Probus	BMI	10.00am
6	Tue	Tennis Club Members Evening	Tennis Courts	6.00pm
6	Tue	Badminton	Village Hall	8.00-10.00pm
7	Wed	Wednesday Probus	BMI	10.00.a.m
7	Wed	Upstagers Amateur Dramatics	Village Hall	7.30pm
7	Wed	Bingo	BMI	8.00pm
10	Sat	Pig Roast	BMI	7.00pm
10	Sat	Copy date for September issue of USL Life		
11	Sun	Tennis Club Members Morning	Tennis Courts	10.00am
12	Mon	Coffee Club	BMI	10.00am
12	Mon	Abbeydale Garden Club	Village Hall	7.30-9.3,30pm
13	Tue	Recycling and food waste week		
13	Tue	Tuesday Probus	BMI	10.00am
13	Tue	Needles & Pins	Village Hall Annex	9.45am
13	Tue	Tennis Club Members Evening	Tennis Courts	6.00pm
13	Tue	Badminton	Village Hall	8.00-10.00pm
14	Wed	Ladies Probus	BMI	10.00am
14	Wed	Upstagers Amateur Dramatics	Village Hall	7.30pm
14	Wed	Bingo	BMI	8.00pm
18	Sun	Tennis Club Members Morning	Tennis Courts	10.00am
19	Mon	Coffee Club	BMI	10.00am
20	Tue	Rubbish and food waste week/Garden waste for those with brown bins		
6	Tue	Tuesday Probus	BMI	10.00am
20	Tue	Needles & Pins	Village Hall Annex	9.45am
20	Tue	Tennis Club Members Evening	Tennis Courts	6.00pm
20	Tue	Badminton	Village Hall	8.00-10.00pm
21	Wed	Wednesday Probus	BMI	10.00am
21	Wed	Upstagers Amateur Dramatics	Village Hall	7.30pm
21	Wed	Bingo	BMI	8.00pm
25	Sun	Tennis Club Members Morning	Tennis Courts	10.00am
26	Mon	Coffee Club	BMI	10.00am
27	Tue	Recycle and food waste week		
27	Tue	Needles & Pins	Village Hall Annex	9.45am
27	Tue	Tuesday Probus	BMI	10.00am
27	Tue	Tennis Club Members Evening	Tennis Courts	6.00pm
27	Tue	Badminton	Village Hall	8.00-10.00pm
28	Wed	Upstagers Amateur Dramatics	Village Hall	7.30pm
28	Wed	Bingo	BMI	8.00pm
29	Thu	Craft Club	The Old School Room	10.00-12.00pm
31	Sat	Taiko drumming in church!	Church	7pm

## SEPTEMBER

2	Mon	Upton WI	Pavilion	2.30pm
2	Mon	Parish Council	Pavilion	7.30pm
7	Sat	Church Fete	School Room	tba
8	Sun	Harvest Festival Service on the Green	The Green	10am
9	Mon	Twyver WI	Village Hall	7.30pm
10	Tue	Copy date for October issue of USL Life		
14	Sat	Upton Show	Village Hall	2.00pm
15	Sun	Sunday Lunchtime Jazz	BMI	1.00-3.30pm
16	Mon	Abbeydale Garden Club	Village Hall	7.30-9.30pm
21	Sat	Autumn Quiz	BMI	8.00pm
25	Wed	Ladies Probus	BMI	10.00am
26	Thu	Craft Club	The Old School Room	10.00-12.00pm

## OCTOBER

7	Mon	Upton WI	Pavilion	2.30pm
7	Mon	Parish Council	Pavilion	7.30pm
14	Mon	Twyver WI	Village Hall	7.30pm
19	Sat	Entertainment Night	BMI	8.00pm
23	Wed	Ladies Probus	BMI	10.00am
31	Thu	Craft Club	The Old School Room	10.00-12.00pm

Contact Paula Quinn to have an event mentioned in the diary

## Weekly courses

This section lists the courses that run every week.

Activity	Day	Venue	Contact	
Yoga	Mondays 10am	Village Hall Annex	Lara Bricknell	07876 764425
Art Class	Tuesdays 2pm	Village Hall Annex	Christine Hughes	01452 614227
Dance Workout	Tuesdays 7pm	Pavilion	Debra Law	07505 761420
Chair-based Pilates	Wednesdays 1.45pm	Pavilion	Angela Harris	
Yoga	Wednesdays 6.30	Village Hall	Kat Hill	07507 971578
Tai Chi	Thursdays 10am	Village Hall Annex	Christina Caldwell	
Pilates with Sam	Fridays 9.30am	Village Hall Annex	Sam Slatter	07894 757360
Seniors Fitness	Fridays 10am	Pavilion	Ian Preston	07306 334222

### Painswick Surgery

News from the Painswick Patient Group (PPG)

#### Increase in PPG Membership

We have welcomed four new members recently, bringing the PPG up to full strength. An induction session included a focus on understanding the complexity of the organisation and management of the NHS.

#### Physician Associates

There has been some alarm regarding these two-year trained 'assistants' to Doctors - no wonder when it takes about ten years to train a GP or hospital consultant. We are reassured by our Practice that they neither employ Physician Associates nor intend to do so.

#### Changes to eConsult availability

Largely because of the pressure caused by reduced finances from NHS England, the Practice has had to, reluctantly, reduce the hours during which eConsult is available to 08.00-18.30 Monday to Friday. Outside these hours, we will need to use the NHS111 online or phone service for immediate advice or out-of-hours doctor

services visits.

#### Staff changes

One receptionist left recently to return to her homeland and another will leave soon to embark on a nursing career. Whilst finances mean these two cannot as yet be replaced, please consider the alternatives to GP attendance, not forgetting the Pharmacy for repeat prescriptions and minor ailments.

#### Patients in their own home

NHS England is urging more use of virtual wards, where people suffering from respiratory conditions or heart failure are treated at home through an intravenous drip or a nebuliser. In addition, more people living with frailty will be supported through the virtual ward programme.

#### Missed appointments

There has been a worrying increase in the number of missed appointments, or of patients arriving late. If an appointment is no longer necessary, please let the Surgery know in advance so someone else can use it.

*If you would like to be put on the PPG mailing list for more news and information, please email [painswickppg@gmail.com](mailto:painswickppg@gmail.com).*

(We published an update from the Hadwen PPG a month ago)

### Advertising:

We welcome a new advertiser this month: **Annie's Gardening**. Annie West lives locally, advertises in the Beacon in Painswick, and now with us too.



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The Upton Village Show is on Saturday 14th September . . . **and it could be our last if we don't get more volunteers joining the committee and helping out with the show itself.**

I appreciate there have been a number of requests for help with various community groups over the last few months, including the annual show, but, unfortunately, no one has come forward. The reality is that without more people joining the committee to help organise the show and more people to help with the setting up and dismantling, we will not be able to continue. The current committee is too small, a number of the members are physically unable to do the heavy work involved any more and we have come to the point where the future of the show is in serious doubt.

The annual show has been a key village event for more than 50 years, showcasing people's horticultural skills, baking and crafting talents, as well as photographic abilities and, in recent years, we have added the dog show, as well as a bouncy castle and face painting, so it's a real family event. It would be a great shame if the show were to finish as it's obviously popular, if the number of exhibitors and visitors are anything to go by, but we cannot carry on without more help. It's not a big ask – we only have a few meetings each year that we keep as short as possible and we are a friendly bunch so it's all very informal.

So, please, if you want the show to keep going, donate a little of your time to support it. To volunteer or find out more about what's involved, contact me Kate Brooks



**Do come to the show!**

The show is, first and foremost, for the people who come to look and chat and the exhibitors - without those there is no show.

On our website you can see more detail, exhibit schedules and entry forms [uptonstleonardsshow.com](http://uptonstleonardsshow.com)

**WANTED**

Good clothing you no longer need or use.

Upton St Leonards WI members are running a stall at the Village Show (September 14) to sell good used (or even new!) clothing. Can you donate something?

Call Angela Harris - to donate.

**UPTON ST LEONARDS LIFE**

Web site <https://usllife.org.uk>

To contact us, use the website above or the postbox by the Village Hall main door, or use the contact details that appear below:

- This month's editor: Andy Russell
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Andy Russell  
Barbara Swindin  
Peter Wilson
- Company Secretary: Cliff Alderman
- Treasurer: David Morris
- Feature writers: Linda Munnoch  
Ann Morphew  
Jane Reed
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- Clubs / Societies / Organisations: Catherine McLean
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**Next month's editor -**



Andrea Dawson use the postbox at the Village Hall or via the "Contact Us" box on our web page to pass messages to us.

**DISCLAIMER:** USL Life welcomes adverts for goods and services but reminds readers to make their own checks before entering into any contract or other arrangements with advertisers, as USL Life cannot be held responsible for the accuracy of the advertisements.



### More pictures from the Barn Dance.

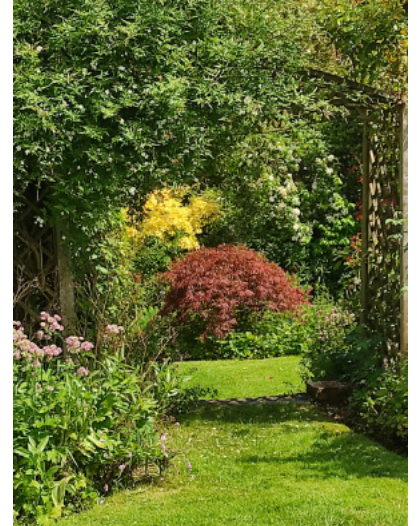
Tony and Peter are pretending they did all the cooking. Gill finally has time to sit down, and the picture below gives an idea of the size of the event!



### Hardwicke Farm Garden Open Day

Two of my pictures from Norma and Robert Spratt's garden at Hardwicke Farm, taken on the day it was opened up to visitors. The pictures hardly do it justice - you needed to be there to see the huge variety of colours, shapes and smells. I was very struck by the way it was divided into small sections like a series of rooms. Archways formed the 'doors' between, and I have selected shots of two of the views through from one area to another.

Andy Russell



Scenes from July's production

