

# *Upton St Leonards Life*

*incorporating Church News*

Issue 4

December 2014



## *CHRISTMAS ISSUE*



This wonderful picture of a snowy day in Upton was painted by local artist and villager Sue Gage. It won the 2014 President's Cup at the Gloucestershire Society of Artists. Congratulations Sue! *(Picture reproduced with permission)*

### *Our Christmas Issue...*

...is a packed one! A lot of news and reports and details of the many events coming up. Upton School kids have created their own kids' page. Try out a novel Christmas Cake, make this beautiful Christmas wreath, or try



your hand at a couple of fiendish prize puzzles!

Do have a really good look at the diary, the BMI ad on the back page and the Church pages to see the large number of events you can join in to mark this special season.

*Merry Christmas to all our readers*

# What's been going on in Upton ...

## *A night to remember* (the 5th November)

What a great evening it was at the annual Village Hall bonfire and firework display! Everything was as we wished for including perfect weather conditions, a cloudless sky and no wind. Chipmunks Nursery made and donated the guy. There was a deluge; not rain, just people. They kept on coming. The folks on the gate were under great pressure and those working in the kitchen serving the food were exhausted at the end, having sold everything. The result was the best level of fund raising ever, thanks to all those who turned out. We heard that there was a local power cut at the time, so perhaps they came for dinner?

Our sincere thanks to all those who helped with the event in any way, but special thanks to Duncan Lord, our firework master, and his two helpers Phil Hayes and Andy Skelton; a great show, guys!

## *Murder mystery night*

The lounge bar of the BMI was transformed into a fine dining Italian restaurant just for one night, with songs by Dean Martin in the background. Well, maybe not quite a fine dining restaurant but the sentiment was there!

So this was the venue for a night's entertainment - a murder mystery with an Italian theme. The seven cast members read their lines with great hilarity and laughter from the seated diners, as they tried to solve the murder. A lovely supper of Spaghetti Bolognese, garlic bread and salad was served to make it a really great evening.



The food was provided, as always, by the Portway Farm Shop and we know how popular their sausages and burgers are. We always have very favourable comments about them.

Village Hall Bonfire Night Winners:

Treasure Hunt - Elizabeth Quant

Sweets in the jar - Bridie McCann

Teddy Bear's name - Millie Warner

Thanks again to all who came, making it such a great event!

Jackie Lord - Village Hall Social Committee

Keith Pearson - Village Hall Chairman

## *BBC Children In Need Event at the BMI*

Saturday 1st November was our whole day event with proceeds for the BBC Children In Need. On a busy day, there were raffles, cake sales, various tables with jewellery, cards and bric-a-brac for sale and Christmas Baubles for children to make.

Later there was an evening of entertainment with "Smokestack", and an auction. The majority of the raffle prizes and auction lots were donated from various local companies and individuals, for which we are extremely grateful. The total amount raised on the day was a massive £964.64 which surpassed the target of £500. Fantastic fun, a really enjoyable day, all for a good cause.

A raffle was held during the evening, which raised £71 towards the BMI's charity this year - Research into Alzheimer's.

Looking back, I now think it rather strange that out of 7 characters (4 male and 3 female) one female died and the other two fainted!

On the left is a photo of the cast. If anyone is looking for a team of waiters, please do not get in touch! And if you have never attended an event such as this, then do give it a go when you get the chance.

 **VOSA**  
Family Run Business  
Est. In 1968



Fast, Friendly  
& Dedicated Service  
In Your Local Area

**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.*

*Roger Brown*  
*Painter and Decorator*  
*Free Quotations*

*Telephone 01452 617750*  
*Mobile 07786 765722*  
*7 Twyver Close*  
*Upton St Leonards*

**BDS Home Improvements**

- Extensions & Alterations
- Bathrooms & Kitchens
- Roofing
- Carpentry & Joinery
- Hard Landscaping
- General Maintenance

For a High Standard of Quality  
Workmanship & a Free Estimate -  
Tel 01453 824801 or 07811 978078  
E-mail jon.savagar@btinternet.com



# More Upton News ...

## PORTWAY CLOSURE - 17-19 Dec

Portway will be closed between the junction with The Stanley and the A46 from 17th December to 19th December. This is to allow for re-surfacing and repairs. If you require any further information regarding the work please contact Amey Gloucestershire on 08000 514514.

## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORT

Just a very brief report this month, summarising a note from Alan Hardacre: Upton people contacted the police 14 times in the 4 weeks from 9<sup>th</sup> October, but there were no actual crimes reported! That's great news, no doubt due in part to continued vigilance and awareness. As Alan has often said: crime cannot flourish in a community that cares. But we mustn't delude ourselves into thinking it won't happen, or relax our vigilance. The article on the right shows how important it is to remain on guard.

## RECENT PLANNING APPLICATIONS: 1 Oct to 13 Nov

- 86 Woodland Green - ref S.14/2382/HHOLD  
Single storey extension to side and rear of dwelling to provide accessible accommodation for parent.
  - Old Barn, Valley Lane - ref S.14/2352/HHOLD  
Two storey and single storey extension to dwelling.
  - 26 Staites Orchard - ref SS.14/2337/HHOLD  
Single storey extension to rear and new porch to front.
  - 1 Joiners Row, Ash Grove - ref S.14/2175/HHOLD  
Single storey rear extension.
  - Oldway House - ref S.14/2204/FUL  
Erection of dwelling within grounds of existing house.
  - 1 Staites Orchard - ref S.14/2250/TPO  
Trimming of a yew tree, subject of a preservation order.
- All current planning applications can be seen at Ebley Mill or on the Stroud Council website.

## Hannah's Medal

SPORTSWOMAN HANNAH HUNT won bronze at British Cycling's National Para-cycling Road Circuit Championships in August 2014! In the January issue read Hannah's story of determination and success, following her serious accident in 2011. Hannah is the daughter of villagers Jackie and David Hunt.



## AN UNPLEASANT ENCOUNTER WITH A SALESMAN

Early in November, Village resident A responded, unusually for him, to a cold telephone call offering a "Government funded boiler replacement", and invited a salesman to come to explain the details of the scheme. It was a really unpleasant hard sales pitch, borderline illegal. Sign here and now, with a deposit, against no actual quote except that the boiler, at an unspecified cost, would somehow be paid for out of savings on future gas bills. Very fortunately, A, no fool, had his wits about him. He'd also very recently read Khim Mortimer's piece in last month's USL Life. The salesman became quite aggressive, calling A a "time waster". Worst of all, he would not leave A a card, or piece of headed notepaper, so A has no record of the salesman's name or who he works for - and therefore can't report him to Trading Standards.

An important lesson: If a salesman won't identify himself and his company on a written record - discontinue the contact straight away.

It is also very important to add that, no doubt, some cold calls about upgrading boilers come from perfectly respectable and reputable companies, whether Government schemes or not.

## PLANNING APPLICATION - WINNYCROFT FARM

Gloucester City Council has received a request for Outline Planning Permission for up to 420 dwellings on the land to the south of Winnycroft Farm, i.e. most of the area to the left of Corncroft Lane as you drive towards Sneedham's Green.

## TURN TO US FOR HELP AND SUPPORT

In your time of need we'll take care of all the funeral arrangements.

Call us 24 hours a day.

- Funeral Pre-payment Plan
- Memorials

## SELIM SMITH & CO FUNERAL DIRECTORS

HERON LODGE, PAINSWICK ROAD  
GLOUCESTER GL4 4QJ



01452 502685



Part of Dignity plc. A British Company

## 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  
www.hillfarmcottagesgloucester.co.uk



ANDREW BIRD

## HEARING LIMITED

Book your **FREE HEARING TEST**

At one of our many centres throughout Gloucestershire.

**01242 262551**

We also welcome existing hearing aid users who are dissatisfied with their current service & are looking for a local company.

The Latest Digital Technology  
90 Day money back guarantee  
No cancellation fees  
FREE aftercare for the life of your aids  
FREE home visits  
FREE repair estimates  
LOW COST batteries

# In the mood for Christmas!

## UPTON IN PRINT

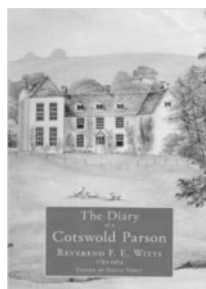
This may give you an idea for a Christmas present!

There are two books, both edited by David Verey, well known architect and Gloucestershire historian, still available from bookstores and the web. "The Diary of a Cotswold Parson" is a collection of extracts dated 1820-1852 from the diary of the Reverend F E Witts, who travelled widely in Gloucestershire, so the book covers many parts of the County, but Rev Witts records a number of visits to Upton, in particular to stay at Prinknash Park. The second is "The Diary of a Victorian Squire", which contains extracts from the diaries and letters of John Dearman Birchall and Emily Birchall, and naturally this book has much about the Village, from the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and into the early years of the 20<sup>th</sup>.

A few people in the Village have copies of a third book, "Records of Upton St Leonards". This is a slim volume of collected writings and letters of Archdeacon Edward Scobell, written while he was Rector of the Village (1889-1912). It was published in 1921 after Archdeacon Scobell's death, by his successor as Rector, Canon Brewster. This book is unlikely now to be found, it was probably only sold locally. The preface states that Scobell published the book himself in two parts previously, and these proved to be so popular that they were soon out of print in the original form.

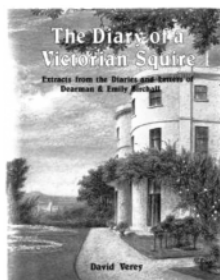
Diary of a Cotswold Parson, edited by David Verey

Sutton Publishing Ltd, ISBN: 9781848680159



Diary of a Victorian Squire, edited by David Verey

Sutton Publishing Ltd, ISBN-10: 0862990556



Finally, there is the booklet "A Village History", written by Ken Herbert, David Chave, Mike Stratford and others, as a millennium project, published by the Church in 1999. A few copies are still on sale in the Church. There are also booklets produced by the BMI and the Cricket Club - both are now only available as on-line versions, see the relevant web sites.

## 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  
**01452 790872 / 07881 981352**

## Painswick HAIRDRESSERS and BARBERS

Beauty without Cruelty  
Hair, Barber and Beauty Salon

Open Monday-Saturday  
Outstanding stylists

Weddings catered for:  
book the whole saloon for the bride and her party!

Manicure - Pedicure

Beauty and Natural Health treatments  
Coming in November!

**The Painswick Hairdressers and Barbers**  
**01452 668519**

email: [thepainswickhairdresser@gmail.com](mailto:thepainswickhairdresser@gmail.com)

Follow us on Twitter: @Painswickhair  
You can also 'like' us on Facebook, search for ThePainswickHairdresserandBarber

## MIKE PRAWL PLUMBING & HEATING

Tel/Fax 01452 547166  
Mobile 07946 685419

### ALL PLUMBING AND GAS WORK

- Landlords gas safety checks
- Energy efficient boilers installed
- Boiler breakdowns
- Boiler servicing
- Gas fire servicing
- Cookers installed
- General plumbing
- Over 20 years experience
- Free quotations



## PHYSICAL & SPORTS INJURY CLINIC

**SARA HEMMING**

Dip FTST, Dip IIST, IIHHT, LCSP(Phys)

**SPORTS INJURY / PHYSIOTHERAPY TREATMENT**  
Including: Diagnostic massage, Injury treatment & rehabilitation

### SPORTS MASSAGE

Deep soft tissue manipulation for diagnosis & remedial purpose

### HOT STONES MASSAGE

For chronic injuries as a Sports Massage with a Hot/Cold treatment, or a warming massage for Arthritis sufferers, or a relaxing massage.

### SWEDISH MASSAGE

For relaxation, body tone and Lymphatic drainage

**Upton Mill, Bondend Road**  
**Upton St Leonards, GL4 8DZ**  
**Tel: 07954 629323**

## R.P. GREEN TREES

FOR ALL ASPECTS OF GARDEN MAINTENANCE

- TREE WORK
- TREE FELLING
- TOPPING
- PRUNING
- HEDGING (Topping/cutting edges)
- LAWN CARE (Mowing)
- JET WASH PATIOS AND DRIVEWAYS
- FENCING
- GRAVELLING
- ALL GARDEN RUBBISH REMOVED

- TREE WASTE RECYCLED

FREE ESTIMATES

**Tel: 01452 527301**

# In the mood for Christmas, continued ...

## LEMON AND MARZIPAN DRIZZLE CAKE

An alternative to Christmas cake that can be prepared ahead and frozen. **RECIPE SENT IN BY TWYVER W.I.**

### INGREDIENTS

225g (8ozs) unsalted butter  
225g (8ozs) caster sugar  
Zest of 4 lemons, juice of 1 lemon  
150g (5oz) marzipan, chopped into small chunks - about 1cm (½in) squares - toss in a little flour to keep them separated  
4 large free-range eggs  
150g (5oz) self-raising flour  
100g (4oz) ground almonds  
1 tsp baking powder  
*For the drizzle*  
Juice of three of the lemons (from ingredients)  
3 tbsp Amaretto (optional)  
4 tbsp caster sugar  
*For the glaze*  
200g (7oz) icing sugar  
Lemon juice  
Toasted flaked almonds and lemon zest to decorate

You will need 20cm (8in) springform cake tin, lined

### PREPARATION

Pre-heat the oven to 180°C, 160°C fan, gas mark 4.

Beat the butter and sugar together until pale and fluffy, then add the lemon zest and juice and the marzipan pieces.

Beat in the eggs one at a time (The mixture will probably curdle because of the lemon juice but will come back together when the flour is added.)

Sift in the flour and baking powder, add the ground almonds and stir through the mixture, beat lightly until smooth.

Transfer the mixture to the prepared baking tin, level the top and bake in the middle of the oven for 20mins, then turn the oven down to 170°C, 150°C fan, gas mark 3 and bake for a further 50 mins, or until springy to touch.

## MAKE A CHRISTMAS DOOR WREATH

### MATERIALS

Wire wreath frame  
Florists wire  
Sphagnum moss  
Fir tree pieces (Blue Pine is beautiful for this)  
Holly, flowers, baubles, fir cones and other Christmas bits and pieces, berries, ribbon for a bow

BY CAROL EVANS

### METHOD

Cover the wire wreath frame with the moss and the fir tree pieces, or holly, securing it all with florists wire. Alternatively you can purchase a pre-mossed ring.

You are now ready to wire in all your colourful Christmas flowers and baubles etc. It's a good idea to place them around your ring to judge the look of the whole before securing.

Finally finish with a nice bow and hang.

Note: Cover the top of the cake with foil if it begins to look too dark, but only after it has been cooking for 30 mins.

Just before the cake has finished cooking, make the drizzle: put the lemon and amaretto in a pan and heat until steaming, stir through the sugar. When the cake is ready, pierce all over with a skewer and pour over the syrup. It will take a little while to be absorbed. Once all the liquid has been absorbed, remove the cake from the tin and leave to cool completely. Note: you can freeze the cake for a month at this stage.

To glaze, mix the icing sugar with just enough lemon juice so that you have a very thick icing. Spoon over the cake and allow the icing to run over the edge with the back of the spoon.

Decorate with the toasted flaked almonds and lemon zest.

This will keep in an airtight container for 3 to 4 days.

## PORTWAY FARM SHOP

Upton St Leonards GL4 8DP  
Tel: 01452 613255

Fresh home produced and local  
Meat, Sausages, Burgers, Free Range  
Chicken

Vegetables, Fruit, Eggs, Preserves,  
Ice Cream, home-made cakes,  
Gloucestershire fruit juice, Cheese,  
Local Organic Milk & Cream

Open: Tuesday to Friday 9.00 – 5.30  
Saturday 8.00 – 3.00pm



## The BML 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.

Tel. 01452 616384

## Martyns Gardens Garden Services & Transformations

- Quality service at competitive rates
- Free visit and no obligation quote
- Design service available
- All jobs considered

Martyn Davis  
Hucclecote  
Gloucester  
Tel: 01452 558787

# In the mood for Christmas, continued ...

## Winter

**"In seed time, learn, in harvest teach, in winter enjoy" - William Blake**

At the time of writing, early November, it is impossible to predict whether Upton will be snow-bound, rained-off or un-seasonally warm this December. The weather may be unreliable but elements of winter and its traditions are reassuringly familiar. Although this is a season of hibernation, nature still provides much to enjoy.



The migrant birds are here to over-winter and there's Redwing and Fieldfare, Mistle Thrushes and Blackbirds. Notably in December are Blue, Great, Coal

and Marsh Tits, Finches, Robin, Grey Wagtails and Nuthatch. Some Upton residents have even spotted Blackcap in their gardens. An awe-inspiring winter sight must surely be the thousands of wildfowl arriving at Slimbridge - Bewick Swans, White-fronted geese and ducks of all varieties, Wigeon, Teal and Pintail.

In countryside and garden, berries feed wildlife and many villagers too have harvested blackberries and sloes. Trees sustain insects, birds and mammals during winter months. The Crab Apple hosts bees and hawk-eyed moths, blackbirds, crows and thrushes, mice, foxes, voles and badgers. Celts burned its wood during fertility rituals and if its pips explode when burned in a fire as a love's name is spoken, then the love is true. Holly and Mistletoe abound. Snowberries, those delightful, pure white spheres are poisonous, but were once considered food for wandering ghosts, hence their less savoury name of Corpseberry.

The eerie spectacle of winter mists and snows has spawned many fireside stories and 'The Snow Foresters' Mist Gate' is particularly spooky. As

Anthony Nanson re-tells it in *Gloucestershire Folk Tales* (2002), otherworldly creatures steal a gypsy 'Babbi' to vanish her through their mist-gate near St. Edward's church, Stow, on Christmas Eve. If you talk to a cat in verse on that night 'she might talk back' and a gypsy boy is befriended by one that he saves from the Snow Foresters' 'ice-cold breath' ... see the story for what happens!

Folk traditions continue with Wassailing, Morris dances and Mummers. 13th Century Robert of Gloucester recounts the legend of British king Vortigern who toasted his bride Saxon Princess Rowena with '*waes hael*' (be healthy), invoking the response, '*drink hael*'. Mummers enact verse plays with stock characters - a comic quack doctor, the hero - St. George or Robin Hood, adversaries - a soldier (Slasher) or, less comfortably nowadays, a Turkish Knight. These were performed at Christmas and other festivals in pubs or private houses. There's a City of Gloucester Wassail and the Lassington Mummers play at midday each Boxing Day at Gloucester Cathedral.

Winter solstice revels arguably began in Nordic countries before the year 1000. Yule (old English, *gēol(a)*) from the Old Norse *jól*, links to the Old-Nordic word for wheel or *hjól* to suggest the year's cycle. The original Yule log was a whole tree burned upright in the fire. The earliest recorded gift-giving around the winter solstice was at Kalends, a Roman New Year festival where gifts or *stenaes* were given on January 1st. They decorated homes with greenery and lights, ate cakes and honey and gave offerings to their gods.

So, tree decorating, carolling or preparing food over Christmas continues ancient tradition. However if your cat speaks to you on Christmas Eve, perhaps it's time to stop speaking in verse, or cut down on the sherry.

*Kathryn Alderman - with thanks to Botanist, Ruth Ineson, and Birder, Lynne Garner.*



**Natural Definition by Katz**  
micropigmentation technician

semi-permanent cosmetics  
"makeup that stays put"

07758 160340  
katejr@blueyonder.co.uk  
treatment room in  
upton st leonards

Qualified - insured - licensed  
Free consultation & patch test  
Treatments start at £150  
20% discount for NHS staff



  
Bourne Baking  
[www.bourne-baking.co.uk](http://www.bourne-baking.co.uk)  
*Layer cakes, Cup cakes, Muffins*  
*Cookies and Mini Sponges*  
*Corporate and Social Events*

Call Esther on 01452 371083 or  
Mobile 07528 486389 for a free  
quotation



**Anne Skerman**  
Dip.Pod.M.S.R.Ch.

State Registered Chiropodist  
Home Visits: 01452 522495



# CHURCH NEWS for the Parish Church, Upton St Leonards

The Priest-in-Charge, Rev Christine Birkett writes ...

*Dear Friends*

If you have children or grandchildren, you're probably involved already in the countdown to Christmas; the lists of presents sometimes seem endless.

I have thought a lot recently about the gift of children as I have listened to family stories of inspiration and joy, but also some sadness. Parents are presented with their new-born bundle of love and step out on a new adventure as the family learns how to adjust and grow. However, some families experience tougher challenges when their perfect gift turns out to be temporary and they encounter the unexpected deep pain of grief and loss.

How vulnerable a new born child is. Yet this is exactly how we believe our God decided to make himself known to us. He didn't seek to impress us with power, but chose to win us with his vulnerability. A vulnerability which carried on throughout his human life and exposed him to ridicule, danger and death.

Love is vulnerable. Suddenly we realise how much another person means to us and understand that there is nothing that we would rather do than spend time with him or her; or that we would face any danger to protect and care for the ones we love.

That's God's gift of love to us.

In all the hustle and bustle of our Christmas preparation, with our deadlines, "to-do" lists, and activities we just have to attend, let's just take time out to prepare to be amazed by the vulnerable gift at the heart of our celebration.

The gift of Jesus, Son of God, Saviour of the World.

May I wish you the gift of love at Christmas, to bring you joy and peace.

With every Blessing

*Christine*



## QUINQUENNIAL INSPECTION UPDATE

The Church building has to be inspected by a registered Architect every five years and we have inherited a huge backlog of tasks from the previous QI Recommendations.

The situation is as follows:

Urgent work - six tasks identified - none completed.

Work to be undertaken in the following eighteen months - nine tasks identified - two completed - one in hand.

Work to be undertaken in the following five years - two tasks identified - none completed.

Recommendations for maintenance - sixteen tasks identified - seven completed and three in hand.

The following work is going on now or will happen soon:

- Unwanted vegetation is being removed from the churchyard. This is proving to be a massive task and despite considerable

effort from the church work party and USCAN, there is a long way to go.

- Boiler House: Paint or treat door, de-rust and paint steel joists in ceiling. Install a submersible pump at the lowest point in the boiler room to avoid the regular flooding. Opening lights to be made to work.

The 2014 QI survey is still in progress and when complete we await the architect's report with considerable trepidation!

You will have gathered that there is a considerable amount of work to do, and if you are interested in volunteering please contact our new Churchwarden, Keith Robbins.

It will also be very expensive. If you would like to make a contribution towards the cost of the repairs your donations will be greatly appreciated.

**PROFESSIONAL IRONING & LAUNDRY SERVICE**

Collection & Delivery Service throughout Gloucester, Cheltenham, Painswick & Cranham

Other Services Available Are

- Dry Cleaning & Service Washing
- Duvets & Curtains
- Very Competitive Prices & Efficient Services

**The Clothes Press**

Established 1984

Tel: 01452 616477

E-mail: [theclothespress@btconnect.com](mailto:theclothespress@btconnect.com)

**35A Churchfield Road, GL4 8BA**

**INDIVIDUAL TUITION**

**For Primary Pupils**

**Secondary school selection tests**

**Literacy & Numeracy**

**Mark Collier PhD, B.Ed(Hons)**

**Tel: 01452 612230**

**[www.mark-collier.co.uk](http://www.mark-collier.co.uk)**

*Autumn Reach*

LANDSCAPES

Some of the **many** services we offer:

- Fencing • Decking • Turfing
- Garden/Jungle Clearances

**NEW** SHOT BLASTING RESTORATION OF Old beams Stonework Brickwork Graffiti Removal **NEW**

*(Old Wood and Stone brought back to life!)*

Call Lee for a **free** quotation

**07749 277655**



Keith and his wife Diana

### Meet the Church Team - This month the new Churchwarden Keith Robbins

Keith was born in Blandford Forum in Dorset and at the age of 16, he joined the Royal Air Force as a Boy Entrant. His very first posting from R.A.F. Cosford was here at the ATCC Gloucester on Eastern Avenue. Nearing the end of his tour here he met his wife Diana and they have been together for 55 years.

After leaving the R.A.F. in 1979, Keith worked for Glevum Estates and in 1987 he set up his own business until he retired and handed the business over to his sons, Richard and Michael.

Although Keith says that he feels very privileged to be Upton's Churchwarden, he also feels that he has a hard act to follow in previous churchwardens such as Matthew, Sarah and Jenny. He is also very appreciative of the "Good Will" that exists in the village towards the church. He would challenge anyone who might doubt that, to visit the churchyard and see for themselves. He feels that the work that has been done by so many parishioners makes it one of the best kept in the Diocese and urges you to "Please keep in touch with your church, especially as we try to meet the challenge from our Quinquennial Inspection".

#### Upton St Leonards PCC - Treasurer Required

Are you interested in finance? Would you be able to do the following key tasks:-

- Carry out the financial decisions made by the PCC. The responsibility for both raising and spending money to meet the PCC's responsibilities lies with the PCC. The Treasurer implements its decisions.
- Draft an annual budget to assist the PCC to plan how it will fulfil its objectives for the coming year.
- Record all financial transactions carried out on behalf of the PCC and ensure they are properly authorised.
- Monitor the PCC's finances throughout the year, and alert the PCC if any difficulties are likely.
- Work with the PCC to meet all its financial obligations, especially Parish Share, clergy expenses and insuring the church buildings against fire, theft and public liability.
- Maintain, and set up if needed, a book-keeping system.
- Prepare the annual financial statements for approval by the PCC and submission to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, ensuring that they comply with current Charity Commission requirements. Send a copy to the Diocese, and complete the national financial information return.

If you feel that you might be able to help as our honorary treasurer please contact Rev. Christine.

#### IN MEMORY of "BILL" OSBORN

A very big thank-you to family and friends of the late Mr "Bill" Osborn in respect of the very generous donations made, in lieu of flowers, to St Leonards Church.

### CANDLELIT CHRISTMAS FAYRE & CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

The Festival and Fayre opens at **7pm on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December**, with mulled wine and a raffle on entry.

The Church will also be open to view the displays on **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> from 10.30-3.30p.m.**

It is not too late to book room for your own stall at the Fayre, and you can also take part by bringing a decorated Christmas Tree (lights must be battery operated).

For further details, contact Rachel Hall or Sheila Thomas.

#### THE PAINSWICK PHARMACY



**NEW STREET, PAINSWICK  
01452 812263**

*Delivery service available  
call for more information*

Providing NHS Services



## J. BIRD CHIMNEY SWEEP

**Traditional and Power Chimney  
Sweeping from £35**

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](mailto:sootybloke@blueyonder.co.uk)



## PHELPS ELECTRICAL SERVICES

Established over 25 years.

Free estimates.

No job too small.

No call out charge. Rewiring. Additional  
sockets. Security lighting. New phone points.

All general electrical work.

**Tel: Robert on 01452 611127**

**Mobile: 07752 033447**







## The Bishop of Tewkesbury, the Rt Revd Martyn Snow, on the perfect Christmas

Most of us, when we picture the perfect Christmas, think of the young child waking early and rushing to see what has appeared under the tree. Every present is touched, shaken and inspected with a sense of awe and wonder.

It is a wonderful tradition. Gifts are a way of creating or deepening relationships. They draw us into community and give us a shared sense of belonging. They require thought, care and preparation. But they also create a sense of obligation: how will you return the gift? Or how will you pass it on?

This Christmas we will hear again from the shepherds and angels. And we will ponder the supreme gift of God's own Son. A gift offered to us with the intention that it (he) draws us into relationship and into community.

But such a gift also creates an obligation. How will we respond? How will we pass it on? Giving to God our devotion and our love is our supreme gift. But love for God cannot be divorced from love of neighbour. I hope this Christmas, we will also give to our neighbour in Syria, Iraq, or Sierra Leone or to the homeless and isolated in our own town or village or to the person using the foodbank or the credit union. Such gifts may create new relationships, which will bring us much blessing and joy.

[www.goucester.anglican.org/news/publications/the-messenger](http://www.goucester.anglican.org/news/publications/the-messenger)



## Our Christmas starts with Christ - does yours?

Christmas is a wonderful time of year for many different reasons. We all enjoy exchanging gifts, and take delight in eating well in the warmth of our home, surrounded by friends and family. But have you ever stood back from the mince pies and the tinsel and wondered what it's all about?

As Christians we believe there is more to Christmas than simply gifts, food and good cheer - although these are all part of a joyful Christmas. For us, the thing which gives Christmas its meaning and purpose is the celebration of the birth of Jesus and his love for us.

Today through action, word and deed our churches, voluntary organisations and diocesan partners are alive and well with the love of Jesus.

We'd love to hear from you how you are keeping the spirit and truth of Christmas alive in our communities. Do you support people in need? Do you dedicate your time to a Christmas cause? Do you lead an initiative in your community that is a reminder of God's love for us all?

Please email the diocese and tell us how you're putting Christ at the heart of Christmas. Please provide us with a few details of your initiative along with a photograph. We will showcase your initiative on social media and on the diocesan website throughout Advent. Email: [bevans@glosdioc.org.uk](mailto:bevans@glosdioc.org.uk)

## How our Diocesan Partners around the world celebrate Christmas

### Swedish Christmas

- In Sweden, presents are exchanged on Christmas Eve, when a large meal is also eaten.
- Straw goats are made to guard Christmas trees in homes, as a reminder that Jesus was born in a stable.
- Santa and his elves are known as *Jultomten* and *Nissar* or *Tomte*.
- Happy Christmas in Swedish is *God Jul*.

### Indian Christmas

- Christmas trees are not used in India - instead, a banana or mango tree is decorated. People also use mango leaves to decorate their homes.
- In some parts of India, small oil-burning clay lamps are set on the flat roofs, representing Jesus as the light of the world.
- Father Christmas, who is known by a number of names including Christmas Baba and Christmas Papa, brings presents to children on a horse and cart rather than a sleigh.

### CAROL SINGERS WANTED

Upton Church's annual carol singing at Tesco, St Oswald's, Gloucester will take place on Saturday 20th December at 2pm. We need singers to support this event. If you would like to be involved please contact Rachel Hall. We are holding a practice session in the Church on Monday 8th December at 7pm. Look forward to seeing you there.



### PHILIP LINES WINDOW CLEANING

WELL ESTABLISHED FAMILY RUN BUSINESS

WE USE THE TRADITIONAL METHOD WATER FED POLE FOR 3rd STOREY CONSERVATORY ROOFS GUTTER CLEARANCE & CLEANING

**07722 003302**

### LAWNMOWERS

SERVICED - SHARPENED - REPAIRED

ALSO: RIDE-ON MOWERS, CHAINSAWS, ROTAVATORS, STRIMMERS, HEDGE TRIMMERS ETC.

FREE LOCAL COLLECTION & DELIVERY

CHELTENHAM MOWERS LTD

01452 616169

Unit B3, Nexus, Hurricane Road, GL3 4AG

Visit and buy on-line

[www.mowers-online.co.uk](http://www.mowers-online.co.uk)

### Beauty2Go

Mobile hair & beauty therapist.

In the comfort of your own home

Free consultation

20 years of experience offering a professional & friendly service.

Call Joanne 07873 261163

or 01452 386928

## CHURCH DIARY FOR DECEMBER

FRI 5th	7.30pm - Band Concert in Church
<b>SUN 7th</b>	<b>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b> 8.00am - Holy Communion 11.00am - Communion4All 6.00pm - Evening Service
MON 8th	9.00 am - Prayers 7.00pm - Carol Singing Rehearsal 8.00pm - Fund raising meeting
THU 11th	2.00pm - Holy Communion hosted by Mothers' Union
FRI 12th	7.00pm - Christmas Fayre and Tree Festival
<b>SUN 14th</b>	<b>THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b> 8.00am - Holy Communion 11.00am - Communion4All 6.00pm - Evening Communion Service
MON 15th	9.00 am - Prayers
TUE 16th	9.00am - USL Infants Christmas Service 2.00pm - Chipmunks Christmas Service
SAT 20th	2.00pm - Carol Singing at Tesco (St Oswald's)
<b>SUN 21st</b>	<b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b> 8.00am - Holy Communion 11.00am - Communion4All - Nativity 6.00pm - Carol Service
<b>WED 24th</b>	<b>CHRISTMAS EVE</b> 4.00pm - Christingle Service 11.15pm - Midnight Communion
<b>THU 25th</b>	<b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b> 8.00am - Holy Communion 10.00am - Family Service
<b>SUN 28th</b>	<b>FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS</b> 8.00am - Holy Communion 11.00am - Communion4All 6.00pm - Evening Service
<b>JANUARY</b>	
<b>SUN 4TH</b>	<b>SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS</b> 8.00am - Holy Communion 11.00am - Communion4All 6.00pm - Evening Service
<b>SUN 11th</b>	<b>BAPTISM OF CHRIST - PLOUGH SUNDAY</b> 8.00am - Holy Communion 11.00am - Communion4All 6.00pm - Plough Sunday Service with Supper and Cider

## Who's Who at the Parish Church

### Priest in Charge:

Reverend Christine Birkett 627828  
The Rectory, 12 Bondend Road, GL4 8AG.  
rev.christine@uptonstleonardschurch.co.uk

### Churchwardens:

1 Keith Robbins  
2 Vacancy

### PCC Secretary:

Ceri Darley-Jones

### Church Treasurer:

Vacancy

### Deanery Synod Representative:

Dorothy Cox

### Bell Tower Captain:

Roger Fry

### Mothers Union:

Rachel Hall

### Church Cleaning Rota:

Claire Appleyard

### Church Flower Rota:

Evelyn Rumsey

### Electoral Roll Officer:

Naomi Stanley-Gunn

### Fundraising Committee & Church News Rep:

Chris Mitchell

## Tower Floodlighting

*A Correction:* In the November edition an item was incorrectly printed. We sincerely apologise for this mistake. It should have read: "On Sunday 9th November the Tower Lights were lit in loving memory of James Williams. Kindly sponsored by his wife, Yvonne, and his family."

On Wednesday 5th November the Tower Lights were lit in loving memory of Ian Dance who recently passed away. Kindly sponsored by his sister, Angela Edwards, and family.

On Thursday 11th December the Tower Lights will be lit in memory of Iris Lewis-Thomas on her birthday. Kindly sponsored by Liz Brownhill.

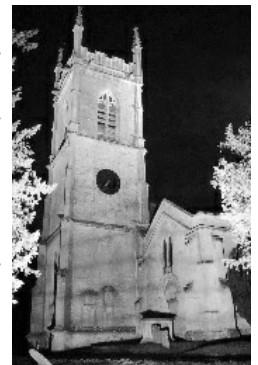
On Thursday 25th December, the Tower Lights will be lit in loving memory of Joe Stubbs and also Harry and Cathlyn Small. Kindly being sponsored by their loving family.

Thank you to everyone who has sponsored the Tower Lights over the past few years. Your support and generosity has been really appreciated.

If you or your family wish to have the lights sponsored in celebration of a birthday or anniversary or for a loved one's life or any other reason then please contact Matthew.

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 any donation this will help us too.

If you would like to sponsor the Church Tower Flood Lights then please contact Matthew Gibbs for more details.



## Book Review

**Awful Auntie** by David Walliams

This is David Walliams' best book yet! Aunt Alberta is on a mission to cheat the young Lady Stella Saxby out of her inheritance - Saxby Hall. But with mischievous and irrepressible Scot, the Cockney ghost of a chimney-sweep, alongside her, Stella is determined to fight back ... and sometimes a special friend, however different, is all you need to win through!

Rating: 5 Stars \*\*\*\*\*

Olivia Green and Ellie McMahon  
(Year 6)



## Ha Ha!

Why did the banana go to hospital?  
**It wasn't peeling too well!**

What do you call an alligator with a vest on?

**An investigator!**

What never eats at Christmas?

**A turkey - it's already stuffed!**

Why should you be careful at Christmas?

**There are many mean spies about!**

What is a child's favourite king at Christmas?

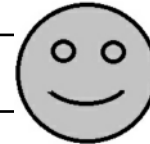
**A stocking!**

Olivia Green, Josh King and Poppy Wynter (Year 6)



# V.I.K.

(Very Important Kids)



## Brain Teaser

The day before yesterday, Chris was 7 years old. Next year, she'll turn 10. How is this possible? Answer next month.

## This Time...100 Years ago...

(24- 25 December 1914)

World War I: the Christmas truce. British and German troops observed an unofficial ceasefire at several points along the Western Front, singing songs and exchanging greetings from their trenches and even crossing into 'no man's land' to exchange food and souvenirs and play football.

**GET YOUR  
CRAYONS**

Oh dear! Christmas is black and white. Help Rudolph get the colour back in the world!!



## COMPETITION WINNERS!

We asked young people to design this page.

everyone in year 6 at the school sent in an entry. There were some really great and useful ideas. We'll be using many of them in the next few months. One competition was for a name and 'logo'. This was won by **Poppy Wynter** - and we've used her idea here (VIK, the star and smileys). The other competition was won by **Olivia Green**, for the best whole page layout. And again we've used Olivia's design, logo at the centre and the quartered page, this month. The winners were announced at a school assembly on 14<sup>th</sup> November.

We had a huge response - more or less

## A La Carte Private Hire



Tel: 01452 813268  
Mobile: 07748 235164

**Sandra Walklett**

Any distance  
Airports, Seaports, etc  
Quotations without  
obligation

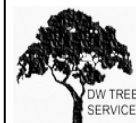


## No Time to CLEAN or IRON?

Then call **TIME FOR YOU**  
DOMESTIC CLEANING

- All local Cleaners vetted and insured
- Same cleaner each week
- Back up if your cleaner is off
- Local family-run business

Typically £10.50 per hour  
01452 899655  
www.timeforyou.co.uk



## DW TREE SERVICES

www.dwtrees.com

We are a small, friendly, family run business caring for trees, shrubs and hedges in the Gloucestershire area.

- Thinning
- Hedge Trimming
- Deadwooding
- Garden Clearance
- Tree Felling
- Pruning
- Topping
- Fruit Trees Sprayed

Fencing - Block Paving - Turfing & New Lawns  
Patios - Gravel - New Gates.  
Driveways cleaned, repaired and resealed  
**01242 802684 sales@dwtrees.com**

# USL Sports Report

## Pétanque - 2014 season results

Our team is the "Upton Saints", in the Cotswold League.

We regularly play league matches against 9 other teams from all over the Cotswolds. Each match consists of three games of doubles and two games of triples.

It was a really good season for Upton Saints this year, finishing third in the league, winning 6 of the 9 matches played. The two clubs above us in the League table also had six wins, so the title chase was really close, decided on points scored.

Many thanks to all this year's team players who were: Mike Axworthy (captain), Richard Compton, Ian Robinson, Graeme Smith, Ray Dawes, Alistair McFarlane, John Butcher, John Roberts, Keith Smith, Sally Langley, Jackie Hunt, Frank Langley and Pam Axworthy.

If you would like to play or even just come and watch, we are located at the far end of the sports ground near the children's play area. We play (weather permitting) every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday afternoon at 2.00p.m. We also play on Wednesday evenings in the summer months at 6.30. We look forward to seeing you there.



A beautiful autumn afternoon at the "terrain"

### CHRISTCHURCH ABBEYDALE CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Christchurch Abbeydale once again hosts the Gloucester Salvation Army Band and Songsters

Tuesday 16 December at 7.30

Tickets: Adults £5, Children £1, including refreshments

Admission will be by ticket bought in advance only, available from David & Kath Barber

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.

- Painting & decorating
- General maintenance
- All repairs
- Tiling **SPECIALIST**
- Hall, stairs & landing
- Carpentry
- Paper hanging
- Bathroom installations

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

## TREE SURGERY

by GRAHAM FEAKINS HND

- Tree felling
- Reshaping
- Crown reductions
- Wood chipping
- Timber logging
- Stump grinding
- Hedge trimming
- Fruit tree pruning
- Shrub pruning

TREE/SHRUB PLANTING  
GARDEN MAINTENANCE  
GARDEN CLEARANCE  
WOOD CHIP MULCH  
**LAWN MOWING**

**FREE ADVICE**

**QUALIFIED STAFF**  
**FULLY INSURED**  
**RESIDENTIAL**  
**COMMERCIAL**

OVER 20 YEARS  
EXPERIENCE



FULL COUNTY COVERAGE 01242 680362  
GREEN ORCHARD, DEERHURST WALTON,  
CHELTENHAM, GLOS, GL19 4BS

## AVANTGARDE CARS

**PRIVATE HIRE**  
**& LUXURY AIRPORT TRANSFERS**  
Executive & Private tailor-made travel arrangements

Birmingham	£130	Heathrow	£200
Bristol	£130	Luton	£240
Cardiff	£170	Manchester	£240
East Midlands	£180	Stansted	£290
Gatwick	£240	Southampton	£200

Chauffeur driven MPV for up to 8 people.

For individual quote call  
01452 618383 or 07904 502429

levelONE  
hair design

UNISEX HAIR SALON

**XMAS OFFER - 15% OFF**  
Happy Christmas to our USL customers!

Experts in all aspects  
of hair design. Open  
Monday to Saturday.

Not to be used with  
any other offer



01452 614433 Abbeymead Shopping Centre  
GL4 5GL

We have put as much in here as space permits.  
Events happening weekly are only shown for  
the first month or so

# VILLAGE DIARY

## DECEMBER

1	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall.....	10.00-11.30a.m.
1	Mon	<b>Upton WI</b> .....	Village Hall.....	7.30-10.00p.m.
1	Mon	Zumba.....	Upton St Leonards School.....	6.30-7.30p.m.
1	Mon	Fitness Training (2 separate sessions).....	Village Hall Annex.....	6.30-7.30p.m.
2	Tue	Needles & Pins.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-12.00p.m.
2	Tue	Zumba Gold.....	Village Hall Annex.....	10.00-10.45a.m.
2	Tue	Badminton.....	Village Hall.....	8.30-10.30pm
3	Wed	Pilates.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.30am
3	Wed	Wednesday Probus.....	B.M.I.....	10.00a.m.
3	Wed	Pavilion Painters.....	Pavilion.....	2.00-4.00pm
3	Wed	Upstagers Amateur Dramatics.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.30p.m.
3	Wed	Bingo.....	B.M.I.....	8pm
3	Wed	Tai Chi.....	Village Hall Annex.....	8.00-9.30p.m.
4	Thu	Tai Chi.....	Village Hall Annex.....	9.30-10.30a.m.
4	Thu	Senior Circuits.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.15a.m.
4	Thu	Zumba.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-8.30p.m.
5	Fri	Yoga.....	Pavilion.....	1.15-2.45p.m.
5	Fri	<b>Band Concert</b> .....	Church.....	7.30p.m.
6	Sat	<b>BMI Senior Members Christmas Lunch</b> .....	B.M.I.....	12.00p.m.
6	Sat	<b>Race Night</b> .....	B.M.I.....	8.00p.m.
8	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall.....	10.00-11.30a.m.
8	Mon	<b>Get Together Christmas Lunch</b> .....	B.M.I.....	12.30p.m.
8	Mon	<b>Twyver WI- Mulled Wine &amp; Mince Pies</b> .....	Village Hall.....	7.00-10.00p.m.
8	Mon	Zumba.....	Upton St Leonards School.....	6.30-7.30p.m.
8	Mon	Fitness Training (2 separate sessions).....	Village Hall Annex.....	6.30-7.30p.m.
9	Tue	Needles & Pins.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-12.00p.m.
9	Tue	Tuesday Probus.....	B.M.I.....	10.00a.m.
9	Tue	Zumba Gold.....	Village Hall Annex.....	10.00-10.45a.m.
9	Tue	Badminton.....	Village Hall.....	8.30-10.30p.m.
10	Wed	Pilates.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.30am
10	Wed	Bingo.....	Birchall Memorial Institute.....	8pm
10	Wed	Tai Chi.....	Village Hall Annex.....	8.00-9.30p.m.
10	Wed	Upstagers Amateur Dramatics.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.30p.m.
10	Wed	<b>Copy date for January issue of USL Life</b>		
11	Thu	Tai Chi.....	Village Hall Annex.....	9.30-10.30a.m.
11	Thu	Senior Circuits.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.15a.m.
11	Thu	Zumba.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-8.30p.m.
12	Fri	Yoga.....	Pavilion.....	1.15-2.45p.m.
12	Fri	<b>Christmas Fayre &amp; Christmas Tree Festival</b> .....	Church.....	7p.m.
13	Sat	<b>Christmas Tree Festival - view displays</b> .....	Church.....	10.30-3.30p.m.
14	Sun	<b>Scouts Christmas Fair</b> .....	Village Hall.....	2.00-4.00pm
15	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall.....	10.00-11.30a.m.
15	Mon	Fitness Training (2 separate sessions).....	Village Hall Annex.....	6.30-7.30p.m.
15	Mon	<b>Abbeydale Garden Club</b> .....	Village Hall.....	7.00-9.00pm
15	Mon	Zumba.....	Upton St Leonards School.....	6.30-7.30p.m.
15	Mon	<b>Parish Council Meeting</b> .....	Pavilion.....	7.30p.m.
16	Tue	Needles & Pins.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-12.00p.m.
16	Tue	Zumba Gold.....	Village Hall Annex.....	10.00-10.45a.m.
16	Tue	Badminton.....	Village Hall.....	8.30-10.30pm
17	Wed	Pilates.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.30am
17	Wed	Wednesday Probus.....	B.M.I.....	10.00a.m.
17	Wed	Bingo.....	Birchall Memorial Institute.....	8pm
17	Wed	Upstagers Amateur Dramatics.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.30p.m.
17	Wed	Tai Chi.....	Village Hall Annex.....	8.30-9.30p.m.
18	Thu	Tai Chi.....	Village Hall Annex.....	9.30-10.30a.m.
18	Thu	Senior Circuits.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.15a.m.
18	Thu	Zumba.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-8.30p.m.
20	Sat	<b>Church "choir" sings carols at Tesco's</b> .....	Tesco St Oswalds.....	2p.m.
20	Sat	<b>Christmas Draw and Carols</b> .....	B.M.I.....	7.30p.m.
22	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall.....	10.00-11.30a.m.
22	Mon	Fitness Training (2 sessions).....	Village Hall Annex.....	6.30-7.30p.m.
22	Mon	<b>Camera Club</b> .....	Village Hall.....	7.00-9.00p.m.
22	Mon	Zumba.....	Upton St Leonards School.....	6.30-7.30p.m.
23	Tue	Badminton.....	Village Hall.....	8.30-10.30pm
24	Wed	Pilates.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.30am
24	Wed	<b>Christmas Eve Entertainment Night</b> .....	B.M.I.....	8.00p.m.
29	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall.....	10.00-11.30a.m.
30	Tue	Badminton.....	Village Hall.....	8.30-10.30p.m.
31	Wed	<b>NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY</b> .....	B.M.I.....	7.30p.m.



## JANUARY

5	Mon	Upton WI.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-10.00p.m
5	Mon	Parish Council Meeting.....	Pavilion.....	7.30p.m.
5	Mon	Zumba restarts (weekly).....	Upton St Leonards School.....	6.30-7.30p.m.
6	Tue	Needles and Pins restarts (weekly).....	Pavilion.....	9.30-12.00
6	Tue	Zumba Gold restarts (weekly).....	Village Hall Annex.....	10.00-10.45a.m
7	Wed	Pavilion Painters restarts (weekly).....	Pavilion.....	2.00-4.00pm
4	Thu	Zumba restarts (weekly).....	Village Hall.....	7.30-8.30p.m.
9	Fri	Yoga restarts (weekly).....	Pavilion.....	1.15-2.45p.m.
(Regular weekly events not shown below this line)				
10	Sat	Post Christmas/New Year Quiz.....	B.M.I.....	8.00p.m.
10	Sat	Copy date for February issue of USL Life		
12	Mon	Twyver WI.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-10.00pm
15	Thu	History Group - Ancient Wind Instruments.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.00p.m.
19	Mon	Abbeyle Garden Club.....	Village Hall.....	7.00-9.00p.m.
21	Wed	Ladies Probus.....	B.M.I.....	10.15a.m.
26	Mon	Camera Club.....	Village Hall.....	7.00-9.00p.m.
26	Mon	Trustees of The Lady Downe Charity Meeting		
29	Thu	Get Together Club.....	Village Hall.....	2.30p.m.

## FEBRUARY

1	Sun	Rabbit Show.....	Village Hall.....	10.30a.m.
2	Mon	Upton WI.....	Village Hall.....	7.00-9.00p.m.
2	Mon	Parish Council Meeting.....	Pavilion.....	7.30p.m.
9	Mon	Twyver WI.....	Village Hall.....	7.00-9.00p.m.
10	Tue	Copy date for March issue of USL Life		
16	Mon	Abbeyle Garden Club.....	Village Hall.....	7.00-9.00p.m.
18	Wed	Ladies Probus.....	B.M.I.....	10.15a.m.
23	Mon	Camera Club.....	Village Hall.....	7.00-9.00p.m.
26	Thu	Get Together Club.....	Village Hall.....	2.30p.m.

If you are organising an event and want it to appear in the Diary, please contact Paula Quinn

### THE SUNDIAL IN THE CHURCHYARD

To follow up Elvi's query in November's USL Life: The unusual sundial is a Grade II Listed Monument, and its listing states that the sundial itself is from the 18<sup>th</sup> century, on a 19<sup>th</sup> century base. The main dial faces the South, but there are dials for the morning and evening on the East and West faces. Only the West face still has a gnomon (the part that casts a shadow). There are appropriate words on each face. East: "Man goeth forth to his work", South: "Children of Light", West: "The night cometh" and North (not very readable now): "A rest for the people of God". The words are carved on the 19<sup>th</sup> century base.

Sundials of this shape, with three vertical dials facing E, S and W are known as "cube" dials. There is another one above the doorway of the Dial House Hotel in Bourton-on-the Water.

In his book "Records of Upton St Leonards", (see page 4 of this newsletter) Archdeacon Scoble notes that the sundial once stood at the apex of the East wall of the chancel, implying it was removed from there and placed in the churchyard when the chancel was extended and rebuilt in the 1850's. There is a sketch of the church drawn in 1800, a copy of which is on display in the church now. It indeed shows there was a cube sundial above the East wall. In a footnote in Scoble's book, Canon Brewster refers to the sketch, saying that the sundial there does not much resemble the one in the churchyard. I disagree - I think it looks very similar.

*Andy Russell, with thanks to David Chave who showed me the Scoble/Brewster note*



**JOHN DANDY MOTORS LTD**  
Est. 1969

➔ MOTs, Servicing and Repairs

➔ Free collection & delivery service

➔ Free courtesy car  
(Subject to availability)

➔ Quality & value where it counts

**Goodridge Avenue, Gloucester GL2 5EA**  
**(01452) 527340**






**John Weygang**  
OPTOMETRISTS FRP

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.weygang.co.uk](http://www.weygang.co.uk)

**OLISTICA**  
BEAUTY




FACIALS • MASSAGE • GEL NAILS  
MANICURE & PEDICURE  
WAXING & EYE TREATMENTS

Call Claire - 07982 258584  
[www.olistica-gloucester.co.uk](http://www.olistica-gloucester.co.uk)  
76 Woodland Green, GL4 8BE



## TWO CHRISTMAS PUZZLES

**UP-TON.** Each clue leads to two words, one which contains consecutive letters UP, the other contains TON. The words can be in either order. The jumbled letters after the clue are the letters in the two words excluding UP and TON, just listed in alphabetic order. Example: Colour of a meal: EEPRS      Answer: TONE and SUPPER

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Sugary plate:.....ECCIRSTY                          | 11. Highest fastening on your coat: .....BEPRTU     |
| 2. Eat a snack in South Africa:.....BGILS              | 12. Set hard: .....EGORS                            |
| 3. Indian money in your mouth?.....EEGRU               | 13. Amazed by an airtight box! .....AAEEDHIPRRSSTW  |
| 4. Chop and get back:.....CEMORTU                      | 14. A pick-me-up broth: .....CIOS                   |
| 5. Churchill's very proper:.....GHIINTRSW              | 15. Fool on the edge of the Cotswolds: .....ACDEERT |
| 6. Uncontrolled fast poll, by the sound of it: AAGLLNW | 16. Make up for a duck? .....AACES                  |
| 7. German manufacturer's heavy cloth: .....CEEKNPRR    | 17. Sauce in Birmingham: .....ACEHKST               |
| 8. Take over, but not physically: .....ACCILOP         | 18. Sing for the prize! .....CEIN                   |
| 9. Small fry and a large fish: .....AEGKLNOPRR         | 19. Dealer and poet: .....CEILMORR                  |
| 10. Pain in the neck flares up: .....IELRSST           | 20. Distressed - no key! .....AAELST                |

**CONNECTIONS.** In this puzzle the list of words below is in alphabetical order! I lie of course, but if you replace each word with another connected word, the replacements are. For example, suppose the list was SILVER, GOLD, COPPER, LEAD, TIN. You should spot that these are all chemical elements and you might then notice that their chemical symbols Ag, Au, Cu, Pb, Sn are in alphabetical order. That was relatively straightforward, if obtuse. To make things a bit more difficult I have selected five sets of five words, so 25 words in all. Within a set of 5, the connections are of the same type (i.e. like the chemicals list above), but you have five types of connection mixed up - remember there are just 5 of each type. You solve the whole by listing the replacement words (which are in alphabetical order of course). Unlike the example above the replacements are all actual words. I've only given 24 words so one set is a word short. The missing word is MERE - where does that go in this list? Read the words row by row, so BUSH follows GREAT etc.

LINCOLN	CHRISTMAS	LANE	LITTLE	RIGBY	GREAT
BUSH	FORD	OR	HOOVER	JUDE	BLEAK
WOOD	PLUME	LANE	LOCKS	PITCH	ROUGE
ACRES	STANLEY	DENT	OLIVER	GRANT	SUBMARINE

Is there a Village connection in this puzzle - of course there is!

We hope lots of you will try these, and enjoy them. They look quite hard to begin with, but some easy answers should jump out at you; persevere, and once you get started and get the hang of what is going on, many more solutions will tumble out. You may need an encyclopaedia or the web to finish completely. Get the whole family involved. We are offering a prize of a bottle of wine. Send your answers in by 10<sup>th</sup> January (see how to contact us on the back page) even if they are incomplete. If there no completely correct answers, we'll award the prize to the best. Otherwise we'll pick the winner from a hat. The full answer and winner's name will be in the February edition.



**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

**GLOUCESTER COMPUTER SPECIALIST**




**Troubleshooting  
Computer Virus Problems  
Desktop and Laptop First Aid  
Broadband and Wireless Setup  
Hardware and Software Updates  
Home and Business Network Setup**

**NO CALLOUT FEE**  
Only time spent on site is charged for  
(Subject to a 30 minute minimum charge)

Working in the IT Industry since 1983  
t:08456 803 805    m:07780 664 516  
e:support@gotogcs.co.uk  
w:www.gotogcs.co.uk  
10% Senior Citizen Discount with this advert

**Dian Longley hairstyles**  
UNISEX



31 Billbrook Road  
Hucclecote  
Gloucester  
GL3 3QS

01452 610021  
07899 980813

Dian Longley  
STYLIST  
dianlongley@hotmail.co.uk

**DECEMBER EVENTS AT THE**

**BMI**



Saturday 6th December

Traditional Christmas Lunch for Senior Members of the Club with entertainment by "Kenny" (now fully booked)

Saturday 6th December

Race Night with the profits for Gloucester Football Club – doors open at 7.30 – racing starts at 8.00p.m.

Monday 8th December

Christmas Lunch for The Get Together Club

Saturday 20th December

Christmas Draw and Carol Singing

Wednesday 24th December

Christmas Eve Entertainment Night for Members

New Year's Eve

New Year's Eve Buffet and Entertainment Night to welcome in the New Year  
(Ticketed event for Club Members Only)

**UPTON ST LEONARDS LIFE**

Web site: <http://usllife.co.uk/>

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

This month's editor: Andy Russell

Chairman: Peter Wilson

Editors: Peter Wilson  
Andy Russell  
Andrea Dawson

Company Secretary: Cliff Alderman

Treasurer: Ian Crowe

Feature writers: Kathryn Alderman  
Kaye Redman

Clubs / Societies / Organisations: Catherine McLean

Diary: Paula Quinn

Advertising: Carol Evans

Church Rep: Chris Mitchell

Distribution: Jenny Cunningham

Photography: Jim Browne

Proof Readers: Carol Hardacre  
Christine Ellson

USL Life is published by USL Life CIC, a Limited Company, and is printed at Leyhill Prison

Thanks to you,  
readers and  
advertisers, for your  
support, now ...



**UPTON ST LEONARDS LOCAL SHOP & POST OFFICE**

39 Churchfield Road  
Telephone 618189

Everything you need under one roof!

- Milk - diary - frozen - fruit & veg
- Bread - cakes - sweets - off licence
- Hot drinks - pet food
- Medicines - toiletries

- Newspapers & magazines - stationery
- Photocopying - Lottery - tobacco

**Special offers throughout the store!**

<b>Shop opening hours</b>	<b>Post Office</b>
Mon-Fri 7am-5.30pm	9am-5.30pm
Saturday 7am-12.30pm	9am-12.30pm
Sunday 7am-11am	

**MICHAEL TUCK**  
*Your LOCAL ESTATE AGENT*

**SOLD IT!**

FREE VALUATIONS CARRIED OUT WITHIN 24 HRS IF REQUIRED

CALL YOUR LOCAL OFFICE  
 ABBEYMEAD 612020 LINDEN 550050  
 GLOUCESTER 311220 QUEDGELEY 543200  
[www.michaeltuck.co.uk](http://www.michaeltuck.co.uk)



**Help to feed local people who do not have the money to buy food**

**The Church is open for donations**

**Friday evenings 6 - 6.30 pm**  
Contact Diana Way for information