

Upton St Leonards Life

incorporating Church News

Issue 54

February 2019



Happy Valentines Day for the 14th

John Dearman Birchall was the son of a wealthy Quaker family from Leeds. In 1861, then aged 33, he married Clara Brook, also from a rich Leeds family. A daughter, also named Clara, was born soon after, but tragically, Dearman's wife Clara died only a year after the daughter's birth. So it was as a widower and single father that Dearman Birchall purchased Bowden Hall in 1869.

The story moves on to 1872. Dearman had frequently visited a related family in Leeds, the Jowetts. Their fourth daughter, Emily, was "a striking personality, handsome in a dark and aqualine style, vivacious and brilliant in manner, of untiring energy and immense ability" (These words were written quite a few years later by the daughter Clara). Emily was also very talented intellectually. She had sat the Cambridge Examination for Women and obtained first class honours, distinguished in divinity, literature and French. She was 24 years younger than Dearman, and only 10 years older than his daughter Clara. We let Dearman take up the story in his own words:

Friday Oct 11, 1872: Dearman was attending a reception at the Victoria Hall in Leeds. "I found it very crowded. One of the first persons I encountered was Emily Jowett, alone. Following the impulse of the moment, I offered her my arm, and we spent the evening walking about together. She was very sociable and pleasant and I was much smitten with her."

Two days later he writes: "Emily looked bewitching in church, and was very communicative on her way home . . . The impulse of Friday night still possessed me, and wandering up and down the Harehills gardens, I asked her to accept the mission of living with me and taking charge of Clara."

"Astonished and overpowered as she was, she pleaded unfitness and repeatedly asked why, with all the world to choose from, he should have selected one so young (she was then 20) and inexperienced."

There was some to-ing and fro-ing with Emily's parents, mainly wondering if the age difference was a problem, but by the end of the month, the engagement was accepted. Emily writes of the meeting at church, in a letter to a friend: "At church we sat in a square pew. Though I did not notice it, Florence says he (Dearman) hardly took his eyes off me all the time. He squared himself round in the corner so as to have a better view". After church, "he put my hand in his arm and hurried me right off." And then in accepting the engagement, Emily writes to the same friend: "I will love him and will try to help him to be happy and be a good wife to him, God helping me. I am now going to write to him. It is an awfully responsible position for me but somehow I do really believe I shall have strength for it, but oh dear how young I feel."

A few days later, Dearman came to the Jowett's for dinner. Emily writes: "He kissed me ever so many times and generally spooned a good deal and said 'Oh my darling, I do love you so', and was altogether most sweet and tender."

They were married on January 22, 1873, and went on a honeymoon tour in Europe from January to June.

The tale and the quotes above come from the book "The Diary of a Victorian Squire" written by David Verey. Dearman kept a diary and Emily was a great letter-writer, so the author had plenty of first-hand sources! Emily and Dearman had five children. Rather sadly, Emily also died young aged just 32, and is buried in the Upton churchyard. On the right soon after entering, you can see a beautifully carved tall cross marking her grave.



The couple on honeymoon in Naples, Italy

What's Been happening?

UPTON ST LEONARDS WI - JANUARY 2019 REPORT

Our President Lynne Cook welcomed all members to our first meeting of 2019 and wished everyone a Happy New Year with a special welcome to our visitor, Theresa. Business was brief as Lynne mentioned the painting and photography competition for GFWI Centenary Celebrations in October. Our lunch club meet at The Swan Coombe Hill on January 22nd. Judy is holding a workshop on Thursday April 4th. A reminder of Upton Spring Show on 30th March. We have an outing to Kew Gardens on 14th May, spaces still available. A decision had been taken to cancel the table top sale in March.

Our new year programme opened with a talk and demonstration on the "Fear and Phobia of Water" by Ian Rampton. After serving 31 years in the RAF as an all round sportsman Ian enjoyed basketball, badminton, running and water polo but his greatest love was swimming. Gaining knowledge in all sports by teaching, coaching, umpiring and volunteering spurred him on to use his skills to coach others, especially those with a fear of water. Demonstrating how to hold our breaths he placed his face in a large bowl of water to exhale and later to breathe out under water. The diaphragm controls our breathing under the lungs and our brain reacts accordingly. Knowing the rules of the water world helps us to understand, cutting out fear and panic which happens in many situations.

Ian is very keen to teach in schools or on a one to one basis. Kathy volunteered to demonstrate and somehow managed to breathe correctly under water, much to members' amusement. Questions were asked and answered. A warm round of applause was followed by a vote of thanks from Marlene.

Our next meeting is Monday 4th February at 7.30pm when our speaker, Ian Caskie, will give us a talk on SS Gt Britain, "Launch to Re-launch".

Kathy Quant

The Monday Coffee Morning Club

The weekly Coffee Morning held in the BMI lounge every Monday at 1000am triumphs again.

The club was well attended both on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. Bank Holidays can be both lonely and stressful and it is good to know the Coffee Club is open.

We can just drop in, no need to book, no cooking or preparation is required to enjoy meeting friends.

This could not happen without the welcome we have at the BMI, hosted by Alec manning the coffee machine and not forgetting the wonderful team who organise our meetings every week.

Ann Morphew

Coffee Morning

Everyone Welcome



USL Ladies Probus Club

We started the year with our annual "bring and buy" sale to raise funds for the Club's charity: and we were delighted that over £300 was raised which will be donated to the Gloucester Child Contact Centre.

If you have not heard of this great little charity, it provides a warm, safe and welcoming venue (at St Pauls's Church, Stroud Road) for children to meet their estranged parents.

We especially want to thank David Hunt who very kindly donated two mounted watercolours of local scenes for a silent auction.

This was a great help in boosting our charity fund this year. Our next meeting is on Feb 20th when our speaker will be Richard Trelfa on "People who have put Gloucestershire on the map"

Gloucester 01452 508800
Cirencester 01285 654875
www.daveylaw.co.uk

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

**DAVEY
-LAW-**
Solicitors

FOR YOU
YOUR FAMILY
YOUR BUSINESS

9 Pullman Court
Great Western Road
Gloucester GL1 3ND

Contact us today:
01452 508800
enquiries@daveylaw.co.uk

**Rhys
James
Fencing**

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

Local contractor, fully insured, established over 20 years.

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

The Lodge
Rance Pitch
Upton St
Leonards

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

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

Little Court Cottages

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

Email: info@littlecourtcottages.co.uk
Tel: 01452 615150
www.littlecourtcottages.co.uk



What's Been happening? - Cont'd

BMI Post Christmas/New Year Quiz

The post "Christmas/New Year Quiz" at the BMI is always popular, and this year was no different with 20 teams taking part on Saturday 12th January,

The winners were "Wilkie's Wonders" with a fantastic total of 228 points, 10 ahead of the runners up who also had a great score of 218. **A total of £206.40 was raised on the night which will be added to the BMI Charity Fund for 2018/2019, "CLIC and Prostate Cancer".**

Thanks again to Eric, our quiz master who as always continually provides the questions. The next quiz will be the "Spring Quiz" which takes place on Saturday 16th March 2019.

Why not get a team of 4-6 people together and come along to enjoy the fun - it would be good to see more new faces next time.



Twyver W.I.

Monday Jan 14th 2019

After singing Jerusalem, members were reminded that subscriptions were due. We then reviewed the six resolutions that we were required to vote on. The resolution chosen by the GFWI will be taken forward and voted on at the National Annual Meeting.

Points of interest were selected from the Gloucestershire News, including the Centenary Exhibition at the Cathedral in October. Twyver is participating and members were asked for ideas and names of members interested in helping. Also the Centenary Fair and Picnic in Cirencester Park in July was brought to members' attention.

Unfortunately our speaker did not turn up so after a glass of wine and the raffle, Janine Black told us about the voluntary work that she was doing at the SkillZone run by the Fire and Rescue Service at Tuffley.

This scheme is designed to help youngsters keep safe in all aspects of life where danger lurks - in the home, on the street, near water, on a building site, near a railway, in the park, on a farm and using a computer. The scheme clearly has a seriousness to it but is also designed to be fun.

Our next meeting is on Feb 11th 2019 when our speaker will be David Snell telling us about 'Writing a Wartime Saga'.

New Year's Eve at the BMI

Over 85 members and guests welcomed in the New Year on Monday at the BMI. Entertainment was provided this year by Bak2Bak. This popular duo played a great range of music and had everyone dancing throughout the evening - a great way to say "goodbye to 2018" and "hello to 2019".

Cotswold Companions

I live in the Village and would like to offer a friendly, reliable service to anyone in need of a helping hand:

- Household help and companionship,
- help with shopping trips and days out,
- doctors appointments and hospital visits,
- preparation of home cooked meals and baking,
- pet care and dog walking,
- managing tradesmen,
- pop in well-being checks for loved ones.
- Or anything else helpful!
- Regular or one-off arrangements.

Please call me now for a chat:

Amanda Cook 07816 761773

Fully insured and DBS checked

Do you need help around your home?

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

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



Tiling



Bathroom installations



Hall, stairs & landing



Painting & decorating



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

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

DJH Home Services, Gloucester Established 1984

ANDREW BIRD
HEARING LIMITED

FREE HEARING TESTS

now available with Andrew Bird Hearing

Wax Removal

Andrew Bird Hearing is now able to offer a wax removal service.

£10 Inspection Fee

One Ear £40 - Two Ears £60

Centres in Cheltenham and Gloucester

To book your appointment or for information call

01242 262551

Hesters Way Community Resource Centre,
Cassin Drive, Cheltenham. GL51 7SU

www.andrewbirdhearing.co.uk

What's Coming Up?

International Book Giving Day - 14 February

14 February is International Book Giving Day - an initiative aimed at increasing children's access to and enthusiasm for books. The National Literacy Trust reported in December 2017 that 1 in 8 disadvantaged children in the UK don't own a single book.

On or around 14 February individuals are invited to (1) gift a book to a friend or family member, (2) leave a book in a waiting room for children to read or (3) donate a book to a local library, hospital or shelter or to an international charity that distributes books to children in need.



Entertainment Night at the BMI

Saturday 23rd February 2019

The Duettes

From 8.00p.m.

Open to club members and signed in guests



SPRING QUIZ For BMI members and signed in guests

Saturday 16th March 2019

@ 8.00p.m.

£1.25 per person for teams of up to 6

(MINIMUM £5 for teams of up to 4)

All profit on the night to be donated to the BMI charity for 2018-2019

CLIC AND PROSTATE CANCER

PLEASE ADD YOUR NAME TO THE BOOKING SHEET BY THURSDAY 11th MARCH TO ENSURE THAT THERE ARE SUFFICIENT COPIES OF QUIZ SHEETS AVAILABLE TOGETHER WITH TABLES ON THE NIGHT



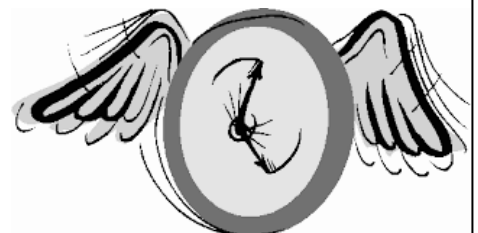
RENTACROWD

Saturday 9th March 7.30pm at Village Hall

**Contact Mel Williams as soon as possible
to be sure of securing your table for this annual event**

The Theme for this year is TIME

Tickets will be £8 each



What's Coming Up?

Here's one of those maddening puzzles for you to solve. What does it say? Answer below.



The Upton Spring Show 2019

Only 8 weeks to go - get ready!

Saturday 30 March at the Village Hall



We printed details of the Photography section in last month's USL Life - have another look and start getting those snaps ready.

Last month we also printed details of the "Charity" section, and now there is another item you could be preparing, this class sponsored by Upton WI: A knitted garment for a child up to 18 months old; these will be donated to the Eastwood Park mother and baby centre.

Wanted:

- Raffle Prizes
- Cakes to sell on the day

Wanted:

We'd dearly like to have more entries from young people. We get plenty of entries in the "closed" classes for Brownies, school, etc., but entries in the "open" children's classes have been disappointingly low recently. Encourage youngsters you know to try - something to do at half-term, for example!

The full schedule of classes will be available from the Post Office from mid February.

The Spring Show is organised by the Village Hall Management Committee and profits from the show go to Village Hall funds. If you have enquiries on any aspects of the show, do call Jackie Lord.

Saturday 30TH MARCH 2019



Entertainment Night at the BMI

From 8.00p.m.-late

With Bitz and Splitz

Tickets £5.00 (At least 50% to be donated to the BMI Charity for 2018/19 - Prostate Cancer and Clic)

Information

Healthy Living Forum

In November we discussed the message from The Widow Maker Movie. Members gave updates on their journey and the progress being made, be it making small changes such as giving up sugar or no longer snacking between meals. New members were welcomed to the Forum, good to hear one had been introduced to Lifestyle Health Improvements by her GP and was now following a Low Carb lifestyle and had already achieved considerable success.

We looked at a book "The Complete Guide to Fasting" by Jason Fung, this shows us how this style of eating improves our health and is easy of follow. It busts the myth that breakfast is the most important meal of the day and proves that actually brunch gives us the health improvements we desire.

Self monitoring of Blood Glucose was demonstrated by one member showing how this has helped us to understand which foods can spike glucose levels. This will be explored again in our next meeting demonstrating a software program that gives continuous monitoring such as worn by our PM. If I was Type 1 or my child was Diabetic Type 1, I would want one of these for Christmas.

In January we will have watched the movie The Magic Pill and discussed its message, and had a report from the Stonehouse Group known as Diabetic Lifestyle which supports a Real Food Low Carbohydrate Lifestyle. Their information is on Morrison's noticeboard. They support Type 1 and Type 2 Diabetics and their families and friends. It's good to know we are not alone and other groups are active in Gloucestershire.

Do feel free to join us at any of our meetings. We meet in the Sports Pavilion at 7pm.

Dates for future meetings will be Tue 12th February, Tue 12th March and Wed 10th April, all held at The Pavilion at 7pm. We look forward to seeing you there.

Millie Barnes

B.A. Electrical Services



**Domestic & Commercial
Insured & Registered
For all your Electrical Needs
A Professional and Friendly
Service**

**Quality Work at Competitive Prices
For a Free Estimate call Bernie
01594 368607 / 07881 981352**

Upton St Leonards Pilates Group



New Beginner Mat Classes in

The Village Hall, Upton St Leonards

Starting Friday 1st March 2019 at

11:30-12:30pm.

Suitable for all ages and abilities, male and female.

Pilates can help improve strength and flexibility, enhance posture, relieve many aches and pains, strengthen the core and improve balance as well as decrease stress and boost energy.

Fully qualified Body Control Pilates Instructor & Back4Good Practitioner.

5 x 1 hour sessions £50 or £12 a session

To reserve your place Contact Jo Daley

Fully qualified Body Control Pilates Teacher

07968799741

josephinedaley@me.com

www.jodaleyPilates.co.uk



OBITUARY

Richard Anthony Lock 22.4.79 - 9.12.18

We were saddened to hear of the sudden death of villager Richard Lock in a road traffic accident in December.

Richard was brought up in the village and married his wife Emma, also an Upton girl, in September 2008. He is survived by Emma and their three children, Harry, Georgina and William. Emma is well known to many of our school children as she works at the school and is very much involved with Brownies and school events. She is being supported by Winston's Wish and Brake and a family liaison officer and would like to thank the parents and teachers for the level of support she has received.

Monica Sims Memorial Service

12 noon, Wed 27 March at St James, Paddington

There will be coach from the village (free). More details in next

month's magazine, but if you'd like to be there and travel in the coach

please ring Meg James.

SECOND PRIZE in the School story competition - Poppy Kulesz (Year 6)

IT WAS ALL GOING SO WELL UNTIL . . .

. . . the girl turned ten. She had always known she was a bit . . . different, only now it was becoming more obvious to her. In that the things she liked were not what everybody else liked, the way she thought was definitely not how everyone else thought. It's not that what she was thinking was wrong, it was simply different. For example, the girl thought about what might happen to the world if no one helped it, she thought about how much better the world would be if everyone was kind. She like to get lost in books. Books were easy to understand.

The girl found solace amongst nature, so she often walked in the woods. On one particular date the girl was feeling lost within. She sat beneath a tree she had not seen before, nestling into the soft, golden leaves that had fallen from its sparkling canopy above. There was a sensation within her that felt like she was a part of the forest. It soothed her in a way she did not understand, so much so she returned to this spot every day for four weeks. The girl felt an acceptance here that she didn't have elsewhere; she began to talk out loud whilst she was sat under the tree.

On one particular evening as the golden sun was setting, there was a charge in the air, a sort of sparkly static. The girl was sat under the tree listening to the soft birdsong when she felt something tickle her ankle; she thought it was a beetle, so she leant over to take a closer look. There on the woodland floor, amongst the fallen leaves, was the smallest four-legged creature she had ever seen. It was not something she had ever seen or

heard of. Its fur was velveteen golden brown with over-large tufted, and pointed ears that sat aligned with its temples. Its eyes were as big as its ears, and whiskers the length of its body. The creature had a long tail with a silky tuft on the end and a tiny pink nose with almost comical pussycat lips below it. It had short legs ending with tiny paws on the end and a large moon shaped face. As quickly as it had appeared, it was gone.

Over the next few weeks, the girl and the creature spent more and more time together, all the while she would open her heart to it. When a girl would look deep into its chocolate brown eyes it would grow ever so slightly, it was as though her love was feeding it. The creature was soon her permanent companion, going everywhere with her, curled up in the folds of her clothes or nestled deep in a pocket, offering her comfort and understanding in a world that she found confusing and often lonely.

Something most unexpected happened, something the girl could only have dreamt of; the girl understood the creature, the creature understood the girl, and a deep friendship grew. Being with the creature was simple, the girl was not left wondering nor did she have to guess what it needed or what it wanted from her. It was a beautiful symbiotic relationship, the girl's touch was soothing, bringing peace to the creature; stroking the creature brought a stillness to the girl. Happiness pulsed through her, bringing a calming feeling to every cell in her body.

When things became too much, the girl would look into the tiny creature's big, chocolate brown eyes and she felt could walk in the world with more strength. The girl knew others hadn't changed; instead she had begun to learn how to understand people better than she did before. The girl didn't know if it was the creature that made this happen, or just her.

As time passed, the girl felt stronger and safer. The creature had given her confidence and self-acceptance. She had a new sense of belonging, a place in the world, with an everlasting friendship, a friendship of unconditional love.



Your qualified village electrician

 **MJBoon**
Electrical

☎ 07773 626241
✉ matt@mjboonelectrical.co.uk

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

 **NICEIC**
DOMESTIC INSTALLER

LAWNMOWERS

SERVICED - SHARPENED - REPAIRED
*ALSO: RIDE-ON MOWERS, CHAINSAWS,
ROTAVATORS, STRIMMERS, HEDGE
TRIMMERS ETC.*

COLLECTION & DELIVERY AVAILABLE

CHELTENHAM MOWERS LTD
01452 616169

Unit B3, Nexus, Hurricane Road,
Gloucester Business Park, GL3 4AG

Visit and buy on-line www.mowers-online.co.uk

Computer playing up?

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



Call Churchdown Computers

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

Well Done!

Congratulations to Karen Morris for organising the Advent windows in the village in December. What a great idea!

My family and I (there were 6 of us) waited until the 24th December to stroll round the village to see the windows, when all had been "opened" of course. We left our house at 4pm and immediately came across two other family groups doing the same thing, and all the way round our walk there were others. It was great to see so many people outside in their family groups. And there were some lovely displays.

Huge thanks to all those who set up a window. Luckily, I had the map, so we were able to plot a good route to see them all. Next year (hoping there will be another), we will try to ensure the map is printed in USL Life December Issue!

Andy Russell

A picture of the window at Highclere Cottage, Churchfield Road.



Quality of Death

A Lifetime's experience necessary! "An awfully big adventure" (to quote J M Barrie)

I am considering running a series of group sessions to discuss and become more informed about all the things around Quality of Death.

I imagine something like: short speaker sessions for information, sharing of experiences, preferences and wishes; questions for discussion, and encouraging research to share the next time. Jokes and poetry might come into it, and tea and biscuits or cake too. I see this as a highly collaborative venture, participants deciding together what to cover.

We talk of Quality of Life, particularly in elder years and with specific health challenges. We talk much less about how to prepare for our own demise, and what happens after. We are frequently encouraged to change our lives, why not also invest some time challenging and perhaps changing our understandings and awareness around death.

Would you be interested in taking part? Let me know so I can see if there is enough interest, then do some planning on when and where to meet etc.

Mary Russell

N.T. Boothroyd Plumbing & Heating Est. 1986

**All Plumbing & Heating Work
Undertaken & No Job too small !
Boiler & Fire Servicing
Central Heating Systems
Landlord Certificates, etc.**

**Glos: 01452 552192
Chelt: 01242 250497
Mob: 07816 103709
ntboothroyd@hotmail.co.uk**



WANTED PATRICK OLIVER ANTIQUES



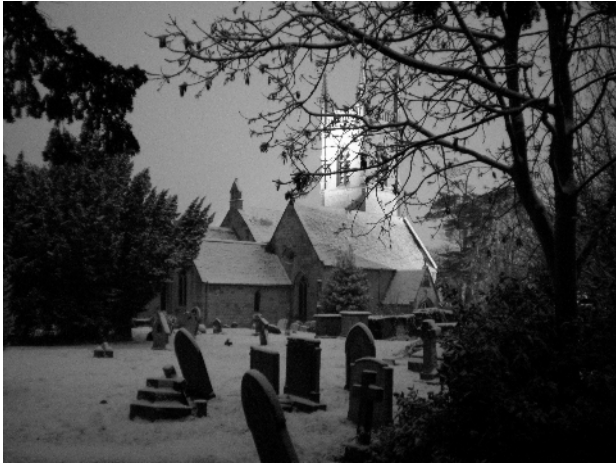
Furniture, clocks, silver, jewellery, books,
watches, medals, toys, pens etc.

COMPLETE HOUSE CLEARANCES
4 Tivoli Street, Cheltenham, GL50 2UW



LAPADA member
Valuations for
insurance, probate
& dispersal

Tel: 01242 519538 / Mob: 07970 052808



St. Leonard's Church News

Website: www.uptonstleonardschurch.co.uk

Priest in charge: Rev. Clodagh Ingram

Curate: Rev. James Turk



Rev Clodagh Ingram Writes

Over the New Year I have been reading a story created from a historical event that took place in Iceland in the 1600's when over 400 islanders were captured and taken to Algiers and sold into slavery.

The story centres on one woman's story. Her name was 'Asta' who was the wife of a Lutheran Pastor and mother to three children, one captured with her and her husband and the third born when she was aboard the ship.

The story follows her through nine years of captivity and the long journey back to Iceland which took a further year. She returned without either of her children, she returned to her husband who had been dispatched home to raise a ransom within weeks of arriving in Algiers.

The part of the story that moved me most was how lost Asta felt on her return to her homeland, so much had changed and so much had been lost. She only begins to recover when a friend assures her: 'You are deeply and at every age and for all time known. And you have it in you to know also.' (P325 'The Sealwoman's Gift' by Sally Magnusson)

The words were like an echo of something else I'd previously read: 'Being heard is so close to being loved that for the average person they are almost indistinguishable': words written by author and theologian David Augsburger.

We all have a deep hunger to be loved and to be loved we need to be known and we need to be heard. As we journey through life there are times when we feel lost and unknown, the relationships we have change and ultimately they end.

There is however one relationship within which we can always be known and always be heard and that is the relationship with Jesus, God's son who came into the world to rescue us and not condemn us. God created each one of us and calls us by name, we are known to God and when we hear his call to follow his son Jesus and trust Jesus with our life we learn more and more what it means to be deeply and at every age and for all time loved.

We will be running an Alpha course after Easter, come and join us and explore what it means to be deeply and for all time loved and how we can love in return.

Clodagh

Tower Floodlighting

On the 25th February, the Tower Lights are lit in remembrance of Derek Brinkley, whose birthday it would have been on this date. Kindly sponsored by his Son, Alan.



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



Interested?? Learn more on Page 11

"The whole school community thoroughly enjoyed iSingPOP - from the beginning through to the spectacular concert at the end. The children learnt the songs and took part with great enthusiasm and effort and the staff were singing and dancing along too. Parents were very positive about the concert at the church which was a wonderful finish to the project. I would heartily recommend iSingPOP to other schools and churches, it's been a great experience for all!

James Twigg / Headteacher, Lane End Primary School, Cheadle Hulme

"iSingPOP, what a fantastic experience for the children and staff alike. No one could have imagined the advantages we gained from all working together. Some of the best memories will be seeing our less confident singers on stage having the time of their lives. These songs will stay alive within school for a very long time."

Rob Dean – Headteacher, St Thomas' Primary School, Westhoughton

St. Leonard's Church News

Website: www.uptonstleonardschurch.co.uk

Church Calendar for February

Sun 3	8.00 am 10.00 am	Holy Communion service Celebration Service
Mon 4	4.00 - 4.30	Evening Prayer
Tue 5	9.30 - 9.50 9.50 -12.00	Morning Prayer Coffee & Chat
Wed 6	4.00 - 4.30	Evening Prayer
Sun 10	10.00 am	Communion Service
Mon 11	4.00 - 4.30	Evening Prayer
Tue 12	9.30 - 9.50 9.50 -12.00	Morning Prayer Coffee & Chat
Wed 13	4.00 - 4.30	Evening Prayer
Sun 17	10.00 am 4.00 pm	Communion Service Evening Prayer
Mon 18	4.00 - 4.30	Evening Prayer
Tue 19	9.30 - 9.50 9.50 -12.00	Morning Prayer Coffee & Chat
Wed 20	4.00 - 4.30	Evening Prayer
Sun 24	10.00 am 4.00 pm	Communion Service Word & Worship
Mon 25	4.00 - 4.30	Evening Prayer
Tue 26	9.30 - 9.50 9.50 -12.00	Morning Prayer Coffee & Chat

Coffee Morning

After making coffees and teas for a very long time at the Coffee and Chat mornings after Morning Prayer on a Tuesday, Mike Blanch has decided not to continue. We would all like to say a very BIG thank you to Mike who has made superb coffee over the years we shall all miss him although we hope he will continue to put in an appearance on Tuesday mornings in his retired capacity. We must also thank him very much for the donations he has made both to Christian Aid and to St. Leonard's Church from the proceeds of the coffee mornings. It has been much appreciated. Thank you Mike
P.S: There will still be coffees and teas served after morning prayer. Meg James and Rachel Hall have volunteered to step into Mike's shoes.



Mothers' UNION

2.00 pm at St Oswald's Church Hall

Thursday 21st February 2019

Speaker

Judy Jackson

In Memorium

David and Kathleen Chave

In 2018 David Chave sadly passed away. David and Kathleen Chave along with their four daughters moved to Whornes Orchard, Upton St Leonards in December 1974. They were followed shortly by David's parents Jack and Fay who lived in Staite's Orchard.

They were very involved in village life over the 40-plus years that they lived in Upton and made many great friends. St Leonard's church itself was a pivotal place for them, bringing them both great joy and also sanctuary during tough times in their lives. David was church warden for a total of 13 years during periods of immense change and challenge in the church. He supported a number of reverends and his time also included an interregnum period when there was no incumbent rector at the church. David and Kathleen were also on the PCC and David was a lay representative of the Gloucester Deanery Synod. Kathleen was a member of the Mother's Union. On behalf of the church David was a Governor of Upton St Leonard's C of E Primary School and was involved in many interviews for new teachers and Head teachers. He also gave school children tours around the church with one child once referring to him as the King of Upton. Over the years they were also involved in the organisation of harvest suppers and men's annual dinners. All four of their daughters were married in the church.

Together they were part of the Upton Walkers and were on the inaugural walk on New Year's Day in 1988. They were also on the committee of USLGO, an Upton 'travelling' group, organising holidays to Paris, Amsterdam and further afield to Sicily. They also had separate interests with Kathleen being the president of Twyver WI for a number of years and part of the village hall committee. David was a member of the group awarding money from the Lady Downe Trust to young people and was instrumental in setting up the Upton History Group. They will be joining David's parents when they are laid to rest together, as they always wanted to be, in St Leonard's churchyard alongside their eldest daughter, Elizabeth. Upton St Leonard's is a fantastic village in beautiful surroundings with a wonderful community spirit. Once they settled in Upton, David and Kathleen never wanted to be anywhere else. Long may it continue to be a delightful home for many families to come.



The first time I heard the name 'i sing pop' I thought the person talking to me had said 'icing pop' and I thought they were talking about some fancy topping for a cup cake. How wrong can you be? iSingPOP is Innovation Trust's primary school singing and recording project. The trust gives thousands of children the

chance to learn an amazing set of specially written pop songs, record their very own album and perform a fantastic concert in the local church.

'iSingPOP' is a joyful, uplifting celebration of song, music and dance which shares the message of God's love with primary school children, local churches and communities.

Joyfully 'iSingPOP' is coming to St Leonard's Primary School in early February with the support of St Leonard's Church and the Lady Downe Charity.

The children from years 3 and 4 will be in rehearsal for three days and they will then have their songs recorded professionally before performing at St Leonard's on the afternoon and evening of Monday 11th February. Do contact the school if you would like to attend one of the concerts

On the 24th September I had the opportunity to be present in the school hall when the team from 'iSingPOP' came and introduced the idea to the year 3 and 4 children. The atmosphere was electric and there was great excitement among the children and the staff. I am really looking forward to the concert. It is wonderful to be sharing in an event that will build the children's confidence and bring joy to families and members of our wider community.



Confirmation Service 2019

It was with great delight that we welcomed Bishop Robert to our Confirmation Service which took place during our morning service on Sunday 13th January 2019. Sarah Downey, Harry Turk and Carly Carter supported by family, friends and members of the St Leonard's community publicly affirmed their faith in Jesus Christ. It was a joyful service in which the Bishop affirmed and encouraged us as a community of faith and called down the Holy Spirit to fill Sue, Harry and Carly with the spiritual gifts of wisdom and understanding, counsel and inner strength, knowledge and true godliness.

At a time and in a world of great uncertainty we were

From Left: Harry Turk, Rev James Turk, Carly Carter, Bishop Robert, Sarah Downey, Rev Clodagh Ingram

reminded that our identity can be found in Jesus Christ who is the light of the world. The newly confirmed Christians were sent out from the service with the words: 'God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and has given us a place with the saints in light. You have received the light of Christ; walk in this light all the days of your life.'

If you would like to walk in the light or want to know the confidence and hope there is to be found in Jesus do consider coming along to the next Alpha Course. We will be running one at the beginning of May.



St. Leonard's Church News

Website: www.uptonstleonardschurch.co.uk

Electoral Roll



Belong



Participate



Contribute

The electoral roll at St Leonard's Church is the same as the electoral roll in every Church of England parish. It is the basic list of all those entitled to vote

on elections within the Church of England e.g. the main significance being to vote for members of the PCC, the parish church council, who work alongside the priest in charge and church wardens to uphold the mission and ministry of the church.

Those entitled to have their names on the electoral roll have to be 16 years of age or more and they must reside

in the parish or be regular worshippers at St Leonard's church. The roll is completely renewed every six years, at which point all members have to re-apply for membership or else their names will be deleted. By this means, the continuing validity of the roll is maintained.

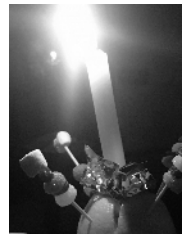
2019 is the year for a complete renewal of the roll so whether you are presently on the electoral roll or wish to come onto the roll you will need to fill in an application this year. Church Law is very specific about how the roll is renewed. So between the 1st Feb and a minute before midnight on 17th March application forms need to be submitted to our Electoral Roll officer Dorothy Cox. Forms will be available in church during the time frame outlined above and completed forms can be handed to Dorothy, or a member of the clergy or one of the Church Wardens, Keith Robbins or Rachel Hall.

The Answer

To the Question in January's Issue

It would take 4440 sweets to make 370 Christingle's

so in the end we used 8 sweets rather than 12 per Christingle and only needed 2960 sweets!!!



Who's who at the Parish Church

<p>Priest in Charge: Rev Clodagh Ingram <i>Clodagh is available to be contacted Sundays through to Wednesday</i></p> <p>Curate: Rev James Turk <i>Please note due to James's work commitments, calls, texts and emails will be answered evenings and weekends</i></p> <p>Churchwardens: Keith Robbins Rachel Hall</p> <p>PCC Secretary Sarah Kent pccsecretary@uptonstleonardschurch.co.uk</p>	<p>Church Treasurer</p> <p>Baptism & Wedding Enquiries: Church Administrator - Jenny Cunningham</p> <p>Deanery Synod Representative Dorothy Cox</p> <p>Bell Tower Captain: Charlie Burnett</p> <p>Mother's Union Rachel Hall</p> <p>Church Cleaning Rota Claire Appleyard</p> <p>Church Flowers Jenny Cunningham</p>	<p>Vacancy</p>
--	--	-----------------------

Rachel Harris
Dip CFHP MPSPract
Foot Health Practitioner
Home visits for all your footcare needs
Professional and courteous service
In the Gloucester area

07791 901 220
rachelh391@googlemail.com

A La Carte Private Hire

Mobile: 07748 235164
sandrawalklett@gmail.com

Sandra Walklett

Any distance
Airports, Seaports, etc
Quotations without obligation

MICHAEL TUCK
Your LOCAL ESTATE AGENT

SOLD IT!

FREE VALUATIONS CARRIED OUT WITHIN 24 HRS IF REQUIRED

01452 612020
www.michaeltuck.co.uk

Spotlight on Local Business

This month we are turning the spotlight on the Village Shop and Post Office.



How time flies. Rahul and Seeta Odedra arrived to take over the Village Shop and Post Office exactly three years ago. And what a difference they have made! They have thrown themselves whole-heartedly at the job to make changes and improvements, and I hope you will agree that their efforts have been most worthwhile.

Just to mention some of the changes: the shop layout and "look" has been completely renewed; they have introduced a much wider range of goods; they are now selling meat from the Farm Shop; the fruit and vegetable area has been considerably expanded; they can now take clothes for dry-cleaning. The opening hours are much extended: from 7am to 7pm every weekday, Saturday 7am to 6pm, Sunday 7am to 12pm.

In talking to Rahul, he sends his thanks for all the goodwill he and Seeta have received and thanks to all those who use the shop. He particularly wanted to mention thanks for the patience shown by customers when the person serving has to switch between the Post Office counter and the Shop counter - he simply cannot afford to have a salesperson at each counter.

If you do go in merely to buy a lottery ticket, newspaper or use the Post Office facilities, please do take a look at what else is there - you'll be surprised!

Rahul and Seeta have started to play a very full part in the community, and we are very grateful that they have taken the effort to do so. Rahul plays for the Village cricket team, the Shop has made donations to the Church and to Village events. There is a Foodbank collection point. Many of you will have been to the Macmillan Nurses coffee mornings held at the shop for the past two years. Their older daughter has attended the Playgroup /Chipmunks and will be going to the Village School in September, followed in due course by their younger girl, no doubt.

Many Village Shops are under threat from not enough turn-over and competition from the big supermarkets and their "convenience" stores. the Upton Shop has the same issue. Please do consider using the competitors less and using the Village Shop more - it really is a case of "Use it or Lose it". Rahul and Seeta are trying very hard to keep it going, but they admit it is difficult.



Our thanks to this wonderful couple for their enterprise and keenness
and willingness to join in the community.

J. BIRD
CHIMNEY SWEEP

Traditional and Power Chimney
Sweeping from £40

Open Fires, Boilers, Cookers and
Stoves Serviced

Chimney Pots, Cowsls 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



 **Courtlands Dental**

Set in the heart of Gloucester, Courtlands Dental Practice offers the care and attention you would want from your dentist:

- Welcoming and friendly practice with a relaxed atmosphere
- General, restorative and cosmetic dentistry, including implants. We cater for NHS, private and Denplan patients
- Payment plans to help you budget for your dental care
- Facial aesthetics - botox

01452 304800 reception@courtlandsdental.co.uk
www.courtlandsdental.co.uk
Come and see us at:
208 Painswick Road | Gloucester | GL4 4PH

Bring this advert with you and you'll be entered into our monthly prize draw for half-price tooth whitening.
(Valid until March 2019 and on sign up to Denplan. Treatment not suitable for all patients)





St. Valentine's Day is 14 February so this month we portray love in three different aspects - constant love, passing love and doomed love.

Constant Love

To My Dear and Loving Husband by Anne Bradstreet
1612 - 1672

If ever two were one then surely we,
If ever man were loved by wife, then thee.
If ever wife was happy in a man
Compare with me, ye women, if you can.
I prize they love more than whole mines of gold,
Or all the riches that the East doth hold.
My love is such that rivers cannot quench,
Nor ought but love from thee give recompense.
Thy love is such I can no way repay;
The heavens reward thee manifold, I pray.
Then while we live, in love let's so persever
That when we live no more we may live ever.

Passing Love

You were a great Cunarder, I by W. H. Auden 1907 - 1973

You were a great Cunarder, I
Was only a fishing smack.
Once you passed across my bows
And of course you did not look back.

It was only a single moment yet
I watch the sea and sigh,
Because my heart can never forget
The day you passed me by.

Doomed Love

In a Bath Teashop by John Betjeman 1906 - 1984

"Let us not speak, for the love we bear one another -
Let us hold hands and look."
She, such a very ordinary little woman;
He, such a thumping crook;
But both, for a moment, little lower than the angels
In the teashop's ingle-nook.

And finally, two anecdotes on love:

Love conquers all things except poverty and toothache
.....Mae West 1893 - 1980

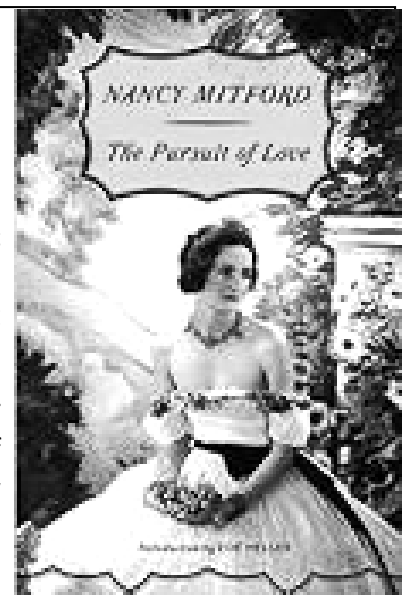
Marriage is a wonderful invention; but then again so is a bicycle
repair kit....Billy Connolly (Sir William Connolly, CBE)

Book Review

The Pursuit of Love by Nancy Mitford (1904 - 1973), published in 1945.

This is the first in an autobiographical trilogy about an upper-class English family in the interwar period. Although a comedy, the story has tragic overtones. It describes members of the Radlett family and the bizarre upbringing of the many Radlett cousins and the activities of their secret society, "the Hons."

Nancy Mitford wrote about upper-class life in England and France and her writing demonstrates her sharp and often provocative wit. The Pursuit of Love was followed by Love in a Cold Climate in 1949. The third in the trilogy Don't Tell Alfred (1960) is less well known. Happy Reading!



Garden Birds in Winter - by Lynne Garner

Some years ago a group of Gloucestershire ornithologists organised a winter survey of garden birds. Those taking part were asked to list week by week the different bird species they saw in their gardens, recording the maximum number of each species seen at any one time. The survey went on through January and February, and after the end of February the lists were sent away for analysis. As the years went by the information given by these records became increasingly valuable. Bird populations would naturally vary from year to year with the weather, but long-term trends of a rise or (more usually) a fall in national populations, would become apparent only after several years.

At the time of writing, the survey for the first week of 2019 has been completed. 19 species were seen in my garden, which is on the edge of Upton, surrounded largely by a mixture of farmland and woodland. In gardens where feeders have been put out, the species list is headed by Blue and Great Tits, but in my garden a regular and very obvious bird, rarely absent at this time of year, is a cock Pheasant, resplendent in his breeding plumage. He is sometimes accompanied by one or more soberly coloured females, and he or they spend most of their time under the bird feeders, picking up the scraps dropped by the smaller birds above. Other tit species come and go - Coal and Marsh Tits, and sometimes a party of half a dozen or more Long-tailed Tits.

These are particularly fond of fat balls, and it is a delight to watch them squeezing through the bars of the feeder to get at the contents. Apart from the tits, Robins and Blackbirds are regularly seen in this, as in most gardens, and the situation encourages woodland species to call in from time to time - Nuthatch, which likes to feed head-down, Tree Creeper running like a mouse up the tree trunks, and Great-spotted Woodpecker. The males and females of this species can be easily distinguished by their head colour: males have a red patch at the back of the head, and this is absent in the female. I have seen both males and females on the feeders, but rarely more than one at a time, so I can only count one in the official list. However, early last year I was

able to identify five different Great Spotted Woodpeckers visiting the feeders, four males were distinguished by a distinctive shape to their red patch on the head and slight variations in the colour of the white on their breasts and the red on their rump, one even had a crest on its head and red feathers on its breast which was an extremely unusual plumage variation. Once the breeding season started most of these disappeared and have not reappeared in the same number or plumage.



The notes which accompany the survey form include a list of the species which are most commonly seen in Gloucestershire gardens. What is striking is the species on the list which I rarely



if ever see in the garden. Greenfinch, House Sparrow and Starling appear quite high in the "official" list. Although there seems to be a thriving population of House Sparrows in the local farmyard, no more than a quarter of a mile

away, I never see them here, and Starlings are likewise missing (Starling populations UK-wide have declined dramatically in the last 20 years and the spectacle of thousands of them flocking to roost in late afternoon has become a tourist attraction in areas such as the Somerset Levels). Greenfinches were present regularly in small numbers five years ago, but it is rare to see even one here during the whole survey period. In this case a disease has had a dramatic



effect on Greenfinch populations across many parts of the country. I do see Chaffinches, but Goldfinches, which are so common in many gardens in Gloucester and the surrounding area, are absent despite my attempts to attract them.



The survey is fun to do, particularly easy if there are bird feeders to provide a focal point in the garden, and is valuable for scientific studies. The more people take part, the more valuable it becomes. If anyone reading this is interested in knowing more, please get in touch. By the time this is published it will be too late to start this winter's survey, but new volunteers will be welcome for next year.



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

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



The BMI Club

(Est 1898)

Bondend Road
Upton St Leonards

Members Club, new members welcome.

Two bars, wide screen TV with Sky/BT Sports. Snooker /Pool Tables. Skittle Alley.

Regular entertainment nights.

Function room hire.

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

To join just call in and see Alec our Steward for details.
Open Mon-Fri lunchtimes & evenings.

Sat-Sun Open all day.

<http://www.bmiclub.co.uk/>

Tel. 01452 616384

Looking Further Ahead



Upton Show - September 7th

In the past, the Upton Show was held on the second Saturday in September.....but not this year.

Please note the date: 7th September. The schedule will be largely the same as last year with regards to Sections A and B (fruit, veg and flowers). We will tweak the the other sections and I include the Photography section here so that you can start snapping. Please note the size requirements.

It is worth noting that the Show is an open one ie anyone can enter as you do not have to live in USL. If you have friends and family in the area you may care to keep them posted.

It is also worth noting that although there are rules and regulations it is ultimately for our entertainment and enjoyment. Please have a go if you have not entered before. I often dine out on the knowledge that friends are allowed some of my award-winning preserves. I think they are suitably impressed.

Cliff Alderman USL Show Publicity

SECTION "F" – PHOTOGRAPHY - OPEN

Unframed colour prints only, digital or film, with the exception of Classes 165 and 166, which are for black and white prints only. Maximum size for classes 160-166: 175mm x 125mm (7"x5"). Classes are :-

160 Cobwebs / 161 Still life – one single flower / 162 A landscape to include cattle or sheep / 163 Family
164 Hedgerow colours / 165 Trees in black and white / 166 An insect – black and white

Can you help us?

USL Life is now in its 5th year and its success reflects all the hard work and support from everyone involved both inside and outside the Team.

Sales

You will know that our income is mainly reliant on advertising revenue, plus support from our Parish Council and our own fund raising activities.

We would still really like to have a member of the team dedicated to selling advertising space in our newsletter - could that be you? We would not expect anyone to be spending days of their time on this but now and then (at a time to suit themselves but during the working day) spend a few hours contacting people to see if they would be interested in advertising with us.

Members of the Team would provide initial support and guidance. If you think you could help please contact Andy Russell.



Guest Editors



Next month (for the March edition) we are welcoming our first guest editor (Keith Pearson) to have a go at editing our newsletter - with the full support of our team.

Would you like to have a go? - it might only be a one off but if you have basic computer skills you will be shown how to use the software and supported through the process. If I can do it anyone can!! If however you have no computer skills, an editor can work with you to put the content into the software.

If you would like to discuss this please contact me.

Peter Wilson, Chairman

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

VILLAGE DIARY

MONTH

FEBRUARY

4	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall Annex.....	10.00-11.30a.m.
4	Mon	Coffee Club.....	BMI.....	10.00-12.00p.m.
4	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall Annex.....	12.15-1.45p.m.
4	Mon	Yoga.....	Pavilion.....	5.30p.m.
4	Mon	Parish Council Meeting.....	Pavilion.....	7.30p.m.
4	Mon	Upton WI.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-10.00p.m.
5	Tue	Recycling and Food Waste Week		
5	Tue	Needles & Pins.....	Village Hall Annex.....	9.45-12.15p.m.
5	Tue	Junior Jujitsu.....	Pavilion.....	4.00p.m.
5	Tue	Brownies.....	Pavilion.....	5.30p.m.
5	Tue	Badminton.....	Village Hall.....	8.30-10.30p.m.
5	Wed	Stitchers.....	Pavilion.....	10.00-12.00p.m.
5	Wed	Bingo.....	BMI.....	8.00p.m.
5	Wed	Upstagers Amateur Dramatics.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.30p.m.
5	Wed	Bell Ringing Practice.....	Bell Tower.....	7.30-9.00p.m.
6	Thu	Senior Circuits.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.15a.m.
6	Thu	Tai Chi.....	Village Hall Annex.....	9.30-10.30a.m.
6	Thu	Fitness.....	Pavilion.....	6.00p.m.
10	Sun	Copy Date for March issue of USL Life		
11	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall Annex.....	10.00-11.30a.m.
11	Mon	Coffee Club.....	BMI.....	10.00-12.00p.m.
11	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall Annex.....	12.15-1.45p.m.
11	Mon	Yoga.....	Pavilion.....	6.30p.m.
11	Mon	Twyver WI.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-10.00p.m.
12	Tue	Rubbish, Food and Garden Waste Week		
12	Tue	Needles and Pins.....	Village Hall Annex.....	9.45-12.15p.m.
12	Tue	Junior Jujitsu.....	Pavilion.....	4.00p.m.
12	Tue	Brownies.....	Pavilion.....	5.30p.m.
12	Tue	Healthy Living Group.....	Pavilion.....	7.00p.m.
12	Tue	Badminton.....	Village Hall.....	8.30-10.30p.m.
13	Wed	Stitchers.....	Pavilion.....	10.00-12.00p.m.
13	Wed	Bingo.....	BMI.....	8.00p.m.
13	Wed	Upstagers Amateur Dramatics.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.30p.m.
13	Wed	Bell Ringing Practice.....	Bell Tower.....	7.30-9.00p.m.
14	Thu	Senior Circuits.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.15a.m.
14	Thu	Tai Chi.....	Village Hall Annex.....	9.30-10.30a.m.
14	Thu	Fitness.....	Pavilion.....	6.00p.m.
18	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall Annex.....	10.00-11.30a.m.
18	Mon	Coffee Club.....	BMI.....	10.00-12.00p.m.
18	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall Annex.....	12.15-1.45p.m.
18	Mon	Yoga.....	Pavilion.....	6.30p.m.
18	Mon	Abbeylea Garden Club.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.45p.m.
19	Tue	Recycling and Food Waste Week		
19	Tue	Needles and Pins.....	Village Hall Annex.....	9.45-12.15p.m.
19	Tue	Badminton.....	Village Hall.....	8.30-10.30p.m.
20	Wed	Stitchers.....	Pavilion.....	10.00-12.00p.m.
20	Wed	Ladies Probus.....	BMI.....	10.00a.m.
20	Wed	Bingo.....	BMI.....	8.00p.m.
20	Wed	Upstagers Amateur Dramatics.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.30p.m.
20	Wed	Bell Ringing Practice.....	Bell Tower.....	7.30-9.00p.m.
21	Thu	Senior Circuits.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.15a.m.
21	Thu	Tai Chi.....	Village Hall Annex.....	9.30-10.30a.m.
21	Thu	Fitness.....	Pavilion.....	6.00p.m.
21	Thu	Pavilion.....	Ramblers.....	7.30p.m.
23	Sat	Entertainment Night.....	BMI.....	8.00p.m.
25	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall Annex.....	10.00-11.30a.m.
25	Mon	Coffee Club.....	BMI.....	10.00-12.00p.m.
25	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall Annex.....	12.15-1.45p.m.
25	Mon	Yoga.....	Pavilion.....	6.30p.m.
25	Mon	Camera Club.....	BMI.....	7.00-9.00p.m.
26	Tue	Rubbish, Food and Garden Waste Week		
26	Tue	Needles & Pins.....	Village Hall Annex.....	9.45-12.15p.m.
26	Tue	Junior Jujitsu.....	Pavilion.....	4.00p.m.
26	Tue	Brownies.....	Pavilion.....	5.30p.m.
26	Tue	Badminton.....	Village Hall.....	8.30-10.30p.m.
27	Wed	Stitchers.....	Pavilion.....	10.00-12.00p.m.
27	Wed	Bingo.....	BMI.....	8.00p.m.
27	Wed	Upstagers Amateur Dramatics.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.30p.m.
27	Wed	Bell Ringing Practice.....	Bell Tower.....	7.30-9.00p.m.

28	Thu	Senior Circuits.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.15a.m.
28	Thu	Tai Chi.....	Village Hall Annex.....	9.30-10.30a.m.
28	Thu	Get Together Club.....	Village Hall.....	2.30-4.30p.m.
28	Thu	Fitness.....	Pavilion.....	6.00p.m.

Regular weekly events not listed below this line

M A R C H

4	Mon	Parish Council Meeting.....	Pavilion.....	7.30p.m.
4	Mon	Upton WI.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-10.00p.m.
9	Sat	Rentacrowd.....	Village Hall.....	7.30p.m.
11	Mon	Twyver WI.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-10.00p.m.
12	Tue	Healthy Living Group.....	Pavilion.....	7.00p.m.
16	Sat	Spring Quiz.....	BMI.....	8.00p.m.
18	Mon	Abbeydale Garden Club.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.45p.m.
21	Thu	History Group- SS Great Britain.....	Village Hall.....	7.45-9.15p.m.
25	Mon	Camera Club.....	Village Hall.....	7.00-9.00p.m.
25	Mon	Lady Downe Charity.....	Upton St Leonards School.....	7.30p.m.
27	Wed	Ladies Probus.....	BMI.....	10.00a.m.
28	Thu	Get Together Club.....	Village Hall.....	2.30-4.30p.m.
30	Sat	Spring Show.....	Village Hall.....	t.ba.
30	Sat	Entertainment Night.....	BMI.....	8.00p.m.

A P R I L

1	Mon	Parish Council Meeting.....	Pavilion.....	7.30p.m.
1	Mon	Upton WI.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-10.00p.m.
8	Mon	Twyver WI.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-10.00p.m.
10	Wed	Healthy Living Group.....	Pavilion.....	7.00p.m.
13	Sat	Entertainment Night.....	BMI.....	8.00p.m.
15	Mon	Abbeydale Garden Club.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.45p.m.
22	Mon	Camera Club.....	Village Hall.....	7.00-9.00p.m.
24	Wed	Ladies Probus.....	BMI.....	10.00a.m.
25	Thu	Get Together Club.....	Village Hall.....	2.30-4.30p.m.

Contact Paula Quinn to get your event in the diary

A look back in time

It's fascinating to hear of times gone by - and once again Mike Stratford has kindly made an offering for the magazine from his archives.

Some people might complain about the Welfare State, but consider what happened in Upton in 1873. An extract from a report of the Board of Guardians (of the Union Workhouse in Gloucester) December 6th 1873.

"It appeared that a case of small pox at Upton St Leonards was reported on Monday evening, and the Master had to send three old men, one of whom was over 70, with the hand carriage to fetch the patient to the house. One of the men suffered from heart disease, the process made him so ill that it was doubted that he would ever be vigorous again."

Upton had a Poor House, on the site of the old school (now Chipmunks) slightly to the north of the school, near the boundary wall. This was demolished in 1846, and the poor and elderly who could not fend for themselves were sent to the workhouse, in Gloucester

Brothertons
Accountants & Tax Advisors

Personalised, friendly service to local
business owners and individuals

All Aspects of Accountancy:

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

2 Abbeymead Avenue, Gloucester GL4 5ER
01452 311711
www.brothertons.co.uk
email info@brothertons.co.uk

Roger Brown

Painter and Decorator

Free Quotations

Telephone 01453 454724

Mobile 07554 637175

Hill Farm Cottages
Upton Hill, Upton St Leonards, GL4 8DA

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

01452 614081
hillfarmcottages@hotmail.co.uk



Phone / Computer Clinic

This is just a short reminder to our readers that the phone and computer clinic is still going and much used.

If you are having trouble remembering how to do something or something doesn't seem to be working on your phone, computer or tablet, do give one of us a call or email:

Richard West

Jane Reed

Andy Russell

This is a free service. One of us is usually at the Monday coffee morning at the BMI, so you can contact the clinic there, or we can come to your home.



Scam emails and text messages

There are frequent scam messages doing the rounds. At the moment I am receiving one every day or so saying I must renew my TV Licence, and giving me a link to click on to do so, apparently. I have also had a few saying I have overpaid income tax, and one recently on my phone to say I overpaid my car licence. Just ignore these. No reputable organisations send out messages like these. Please don't click on the link.

There are a number of very easy ways of checking to see if a message you have been sent is a fraud. One really easy way is to type some text from the message into a Google search. The fraud will have been reported in the past and the result of the search will probably show it is a fraud. Again, contact one of us (above) if you are still unsure.

UPTON ST LEONARDS LIFE

Web site: <http://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: Peter Wilson
 Editors: Andrea Dawson
 Andy Russell
 Barbara Swindin
 Peter Wilson

Company Secretary: Cliff Alderman

Treasurer: Owen Stinchcombe

Feature writers: Teresa Clarke
 Christina Caldwell
 Linda Munnoch
 Ann Morphew

Church pages: Rachel Middleton

Clubs / Societies / Organisations: Catherine McLean

Diary: Paula Quinn

Advertising: Contact: Andy Russell

Admin Support: Janine Black

Distribution: Jenny Cunningham

Photography: Jim Browne

Proof Readers: Carol Hardacre
 Christine Ellson
 Kate Davies

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

The next Editor for the March Edition will be our first Guest Editor, Keith Pearson. He will be ably assisted by Andy Russell

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.

John Weygang
 OPTOMETRISTS

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
 HUCCECOTE 01452 619100 | QUEDGELEY 01452 721108
www.weygang.co.uk

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

LEWIS MORGAN
 Chauffeur

07814 947587
lewismorgan58@live.co.uk

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

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

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

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

07814 947587
www.mogshappydaysprivatehire.co.uk

Fast, Friendly & Dedicated Service
 In Your Local Area

Family Run Business:
 Est. In 1968

CEDAR MOTOR HOUSE LTD
 Grove Court, Upton Hill
 Gloucester GL4 8DA
 01452 617240 or 07976 322735

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

Servicing for New & Used Vehicles Using Genuine Parts
 If Required, at Much Lower Rates than Main Agents. All
 Parts and Repairs Complying with Manufacturers
 Warranty Requirements.

Lube Service from £89 incl VAT
 Interim Service from £129 incl VAT
 Full Service from £175 incl VAT

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

Upton's Airfield

How many of us know or perhaps even have personal memories of the time when Upton St Leonards. once had an active airfield, partially located within the Parish boundary at what is now known as Cooper's Edge? The airfield and associated factory, owned by GAC (the Gloster Aircraft Company) operated from the 1930's until the last Gloster built aircraft flew out on 8th April 1960. Building some of the world's first jet aircraft, the company soon acquired an international reputation. To assist with production, the company acquired an additional airstrip at nearby Moreton Valence, into which test pilots flew aircraft made in Brockworth for further flight testing and fitting out.

The two main runways were close, no more than 7 miles apart and the quickest route from Brockworth to Moreton Valence took aircraft along what is now the alignment of the M5, directly over Upton St Leonards at virtually no height at all!

Imagine the decibels! M5 motorway noise objectors please note.

Our Parish Church sits on a knoll, directly under the line of flight, only one mile from the end of the Brockworth runway. Not surprisingly, pilots used the church tower as a visual marker to help them on their way.

Matters came to a head when the then Vicar of Upton lodged a formal complaint that a Javelin all-weather fighter, flown out of Brockworth by test pilot Geoff Worrall, had flown so low over Upton that the jet efflux had made the weather cock on the church whiz around at high speed. (This story was recently retold at Geoff Worrall's funeral)

The reconstructed photograph shows how the event might have looked.

Very little evidence remains of these airfields today. The last stretch of old runway at Brockworth is presently being built over by the new Dowty factory in Gloster Business Park. At Moreton Valence, the last remaining airfield hardstanding, where Javelins parked before despatch to their squadrons, is now the site of the soon to be opened 'Javelin Park' Incinerator.

However we have all had the pleasure of driving down the old runway at Moreton Valence, which lies directly under the M5, running south from Junction 12, for just over one mile.

For those of you who haven't seen a 'Javelin', Jet Age Museum at Staverton has a fine restored example that can be appreciated in close up. The Museum has free admission and is open at weekends (Sat and Sun) Do come and visit.

A leaflet, describing a walk around the old airfield site at Brockworth (The Whittle and Wildlife Walk) is available from the Parish Office.

David Hunt, Jet Age Museum, Staverton

Website: <https://jetagemuseum.org>



Here is our regular item on Mike Long and the new born lambs who arrived on New Year's Eve.



CHORLEY'S
GLOUCESTERSHIRE'S FINE ART AUCTIONEERS
Free auction valuations
Regular fine art & antiques sales
Insurance & probate valuations
01452 344499
enquiries@chorleys.com
www.chorleys.com
PRINKNASH ABBEY PARK GL4 8EU