

# *Upton St Leonards Life*

*incorporating Church News*

Issue 114

February 2024



## **Defibrillator Awareness Session**

**7 30pm Tuesday 20 February at the Village Hall**

**Please do not arrive before 7 15pm**

**Limited spaces available so if you wish to come along, please email to book a place:  
[Usclerk@btinternet.com](mailto:Usclerk@btinternet.com)**

**Free attendance - Everyone welcome to apply**

**Events for your 2024 diary:**

***The Hopeful Diamond Caper* in February  
TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW! See page 4**

***Upton Spring Show* on 16 March, see page 15**

***Twiddle Racing* at Upton Village Hall in May**

***Barn Dance* in June**



*Photo by Sylvia Humphrey*

## **Editorial**

It was good to see furniture removal vans outside the Rectory the other day in January. The USL Life team welcome to the village Helen Champion, who is to be our next Priest-in-Charge, and her husband Brian. We wish them well in their new home at the Rectory. See the Church Pages for more details.

In the meantime it has been drawn to our attention again that various adults, children and horses continue to use Staites Orchard as a through route in the wrong direction. The Parish Council is aware of this foolhardy behaviour, but it seems that signposts are sometimes ignored and we can only hope that no child, adult or animal either causes or becomes the victim of an accident. The junction with the bottom of Churchfield Road is potentially dangerous unless used in accordance with the rules. Please respect the signs and encourage others to do so at all times. *Barbara*

## **Raise the Roof The Church Roof Fund**

### **February 2023 Update.**

Very sensibly most of the fund raisers and event organisers for the St Leonards Church Raise the Roof Appeal took a few weeks off over New Year to enjoy a bit of well deserved R&R, so the Fund total hasn't increased by much over the last month or so.

Fundraising will gain momentum as we go into February, starting with the Lent Lunches on the 15th February (please see the "What's Coming Up Section" on page 4), but for now we are hoping that the numerous Grant Applications that have been made to various Charities will start to produce positive results. If we are fortunate to be granted funds as a result of our applications, be they small or large amounts, all will be welcome.

As I have walked through the churchyard over the last few weeks it has been wonderful to see all the newly placed Christmas themed flowers and wreaths and even a small Christmas tree, that have been placed on relatives and friend's graves by so many people. It just illustrates how very important the graveyard is to so many people and how essential it is that the church gets its new roof and the churchyard continues to be open and available to everyone.

As highlighted in last month's USL Life, if you have a great fund-raising idea please come along to the fund raising "Ideas" meeting to be held on the 27th February at 7pm in the School Room. All ideas will be considered . . . such as is there anyone who may be able and willing to organise a sponsored fun run in the summer? Proceeds would go to the Raise the Roof fund. If you think you are the person we need to set this idea in motion please come along to the meeting and make yourself known or contact Richard Sugdon before then to have a chat.

Don't forget to keep taking those scenic photographs to prepare for the "St Leonards Church through the Seasons" Photographic/Calendar competition. Submissions will be requested in July 2024.

If you still haven't made a donation via your donation envelope and you want to do so, please speak to Gill Howell if you need help.

### **Climate Group Update**

#### **E-Bikes**

Due to no feedback being received as a result of the E-Bike article in the December edition, this initiative will not be progressed by the climate group for Upton.

### **Road Closures**

The works in the High Street have already begun and will continue until early March, so we can expect the road to be closed intermittently. There will continue to be access to homes and businesses. Diversion signs are in place.

# ***What's been happening in Upton?***

## **Events at the BMI**

Christmas Eve at the BMI was once again a very busy night. Eighty members enjoyed the music provided by Bak 2 Bak. A lovely start to the Christmas festivities.

Ninety members attended the annual New Year's Eve entertainment night on 31st December. Again this was a most enjoyable evening with Ian Oliver providing the music in the lounge. There were the usual party pieces on the tables including rocket balloons, hats and blowers, and at 12.00 o'clock we welcomed in the new year in the traditional way. The evening came to an end at around 12.30a.m. after which we made our weary way home!

The first quiz of the year took place on Saturday 6th January, and as usual was extremely busy with 16 teams. Everyone enjoyed the quiz. The winners on the night were "Julie's Team" with a score of 127 just 3 points ahead of the joint runners up, "Good Neighbours" and "No Name", each with 124. A total of £213.70 was made on the night which will be added to the BMI Charity for 2023-2024, The Upton St Leonards Church Roof Fund. The Spring quiz will take place on Saturday 23rd March 2024.

### **TWYVER WI MEETING 8 JANUARY 2024**

First meeting of the new year 2024, and as expected we were all happy to wish each other greetings. First point of business was voting for the Resolutions:

#### **Resolution 1: Dental Health Matters**

There is a chronic shortage of NHS dentists and people are suffering health issues as a result. The NFWI calls on the Government to increase investment in the training and retention of dentists and to review the current inadequate NHS contracts in order to ensure everyone can access an NHS dentist wherever they live.

#### **Resolution 2: Impacts of poor housing conditions.**

Poor housing can have a deleterious effect on human health and well-being, safety and quality of life and can disproportionately affect the most vulnerable groups in society. The NFWI calls on the UK Government to boost housing standards and regulations, increase funding for housing renovations, increase the supply of affordable and secure housing and strengthen collaboration with local authorities, housing associations and other relevant stakeholders to develop strategies that address local housing challenges.

#### **Resolution 3: Say 'no' to gambling advertising.**

Harm caused by excessive gambling is a global problem. Some countries are already addressing this by banning advertising. The NFWI calls on members, the Government, regulators, the NHS, educationalists and gambling charities to work together towards achieving a

complete ban on gambling advertising. This will reduce gambling harm, save the NHS money, protect family relationships and decrease the number of suicides, around 400 per year at present.

#### **Resolution 4: Improving outcomes for women in the criminal justice system.**

There is an urgent need to radically reform decision making in respect of women in the criminal justice system and, in particular, pregnant women and women with children. We urge cross-government collaboration to deliver on the 2018 female offender strategy by setting goals, robust governance and performance measures to reduce the number of women who have committed non-violent offences from being imprisoned.

We, who attended the meeting, have all voted and await the outcome. Which would you have voted for? In 1918 the first resolution was passed at the second annual meeting, calling for convenient and sanitary housing for all - not much change there then in 100 years. In 1943 a resolution was passed for Equal pay for Equal work ... Do you think this has been attained?

We moved on to forming teams and participating in a great quiz organised by Nicola, testing our knowledge of WI, birds and music, which was won by The Misfits with the rest of us not far behind. A very welcome light supper followed, to which members contributed 'a plate'.

The meeting was brought to a close, next one 12th February, all welcome. *Linda Munnoch*

## ***What's been happening? Continued***

### **Ladies Probus**

The first meeting of the year is always our January Bring & Buy sale in aid of charity. We hope to raise an acceptable sum for the Church Roof Repair Fund this year.

We are fortunate to have a varied programme for 2024 - there is sure to be something for everyone! Many thanks to all those members who made suggestions for speakers as they have made such a valuable contribution.

**Please come & join us at 10am at the BMI on Wednesday 21 February** when Wendy Stafford will tell us all about Artpad, which in this case is, intriguingly, about flowers in glass..

### **Abbeydale Gardening Club**

The Gardening Club meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Do come along and join us if you are interested in gardening or have an allotment and an interest in growing plants. We have sociable meetings, sometimes with guest speakers, and we like to share our gardening problems and our knowledge. In January we had our AGM, during which two of our longstanding members were awarded Honorary Membership: Anne Evans and Doug Monkman, who have contributed so much over the 38 years since the Club started up. Every year we have a mini-show of our own and then in September numerous members participate in the Upton Show where one of the trophies is specifically awarded to an Abbeydale Gardening Club member.

After the AGM we still had time for a short talk by our President, Andrew Nicol, Founder of the group. Andrew briefly described some of the January jobs he does in his own garden and also initiated a discussion on climate change and how it is impacting on our own gardening efforts. A thoroughly interesting meeting. The new year brings a new programme of events and on Monday 19 February we will be having a social evening, an excellent opportunity to get to know some of the members. *Barbara Swindin*

### ***What's Coming Up?***

**The Upstagers**

will present

**“The Hopeful  
Diamond Caper”**

A comedy play by Patricia Winter and Carl Megill at

Upton St Leonards Village Hall on

15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Performances at 7.30pm

(Doors open at 7pm)

Tickets £11 (£8 under 16)

**To book tickets go to**

**[www.ticketsource.co.uk/theupstagers](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/theupstagers) or**

**Phone Ann**

**LENT LUNCHES**

**You don't have to be a churchgoer to participate in the LENT LUNCHES at the Old Schoolroom. All are welcome. Proceeds go to the Church Roof Fund.**

The cost of lunch is £6 pp.

Menu is soup, cheese and biscuits and tea/coffee.

First lunch is on the 15 February, then every Thursday until 28th March

No need to book. 12noon onwards.

(See also the Church Pages)

**Saturday 17th February  
2024**

**Entertainment Night**

With

"Bits & Splits"

From 8.00pm

At the BMI

For members and signed in guests



**Walking Cricket at Coopers Edge**

Starts on 6 February at The Edge Community Centre in Coopers Edge.

**This is a new group for people of over 50!**

**Health Improvement Course**

Three information evenings in Feb/Mar will enable you to regain/improve your health and wellbeing.

Support with reversing Type 2 Diabetes & getting good glucose control

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How can we measure our health?

What is Metabolic Syndrome?

Does snacking damage our health?

What does our BP tell us?

How can we monitor our health at home?

What effect does the food we eat have on our health?

What is real food and what is fake food?

Does sleep make a difference to health?

How do I build healthy habits?

Am I feeding my family healthy food?

Answers to these and more at:

**Living well - 19 Feb, 18 Mar, 25 Mar**

**7.30-9.30pm at the Pavilion**

**Call/Whatsapp Millie to register**

**Raise the Roof**  
**The Church Roof Fund**

**Sunday 24th February**

**"Fun Race Night"**

From 8.00pm

At the BMI

***If you can think of any new fund raising ideas for the Church Roof, please come along and share them at the next meeting on***

***27 February***

***At 7.00 p.m.***

***In the Old School Room***

## *What's Coming Up? continued*

**For members and signed in guests**

**Sunday 17th March**

Sunday lunchtime Jazz from 1.00-3.30pm.

with "Cygnet"

At the BMI

For members and signed in guests

**Saturday 9th March**

**Entertainment Night from 8.00p.m.**

With

"Michael Ian Brown"

At the BMI

For members and signed in guests

**Upton  
Spring Show  
Saturday  
16<sup>th</sup> March**

**At Village Hall  
See p. 15 for details**

**Saturday 23rd March**

**Spring Quiz**

For members and signed in guests

From 8.00pm

At the BMI

Please add your name to the booking sheet in the BMI

by Thursday 21st March

£1.50 per person (Minimum £6 per table)

## **UPTON VILLAGE HALL – 18 MAY 2024**

A few more details on this exciting evening at the Village Hall on May 18<sup>th</sup>.

Please save the date in your diaries for an alternative Race Night. It's called 'Twiddle Racing' and 6 members of the audience, who we will call Jockeys, reeling/winding the model horses as fast as they can down a track. You will also be able to bet on the horses and Sponsor Races. No doubt there will be vocal enthusiastic encouragement for your horse to win.

We will be providing food and there will be a bar and soft drinks available, tickets will go on sale in April.

More details and where you can purchase your tickets in March's Magazine.

Village Hall Committee

**Barn Dance - 29<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

**Reserve this date in your diary. Proceeds will be donated to the Church Roof Fund. This event will take place at Portway Farm.**

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**FEBRUARY**

**Will we have snow, will we have rain  
or will we have a mild month?  
What we will have is weather in all  
its variety.**

**The Twelve Months**

**by George Ellis (1753 – 1815)**

Snowy, Flowy, Blowy,  
Showery, Flowery, Bowery,  
Hoppy, Croppy, Droppy,  
Breezy, Sneezy, Freezy.

**A Song For England**

**by Andrew Salkey (1928 – 1995)**

An' a so de rain a-fall  
An' a so de snow a-rain

An' so de fog a-fall  
An' so de sun a-fail

An' a so de seasons mix  
An' a so de bag-o-tricks

But a so me understan'  
De misery o' de Englishman.

Whether the weather be fine,  
Or whether the weather be not,  
Whether the weather be cold,  
Or whether the weather be hot,  
We'll weather the weather  
Whatever the weather,  
Whether we like it or not!

**BOOK REVIEW**

SNOW by John Banville published in 2020

Banville is an Irish writer and this whodunnit is set in Wexford, Ireland in the 1950s. There is a touch of Agatha Christie as a body is found in the library of a Protestant landowner. The victim was unable to leave the property after dinner due to a heavy fall of snow. There is plenty of atmosphere in this novel and the snow plays a major part. John Banville is a novelist, short-story writer, adaptor of dramas and screenwriter. He is considered a contender for the Nobel Prize for Literature.



**EPIGRAMS**

“The poet may be used as the barometer, but let us not forget that he is also part of the weather” by Lionel Trilling (1905 – 1975)

“When two Englishmen meet their first talk is of the weather” by Samuel Johnson (1709 – 1784)

**A Frosty Day**  
**by John Warren, 3<sup>rd</sup> Baron de Tabley (1835 – 1895)**

Grass afield wears silver thatch;  
Palings all are edged with rime;  
Frost-flowers pattern round the latch;  
Cloud nor breeze dissolve the clime;

When the waves are solid floor,  
And the clods are iron-bound,  
And the boughs are crystall'd hoar,  
And the red leaf nailed a-ground.

When the fieldfare's flight is slow,  
And a rosy vapour rim,  
Now the sun is small and low,  
Belts along the region dim.

When the ice-crack flies and flaws,  
Shore to shore, with thunder shock,  
Deeper than the evening daws,  
Clearer than the village clock.

When the rusty blackbird strips,  
Bunch by bunch, the coral thorn;  
And the pale day-crescent dips,  
Now to heaven, a slender horn.

(Arts Page team cannot confirm the author of this poem – could it be the late Benjamin Zephaniah? Any evidence would be welcomed via our website [www.usllife.org.uk](http://www.usllife.org.uk))





Rev Helen Champion

# Saint Leonard's Church

Churchfield Road  
Upton St Leonards  
Gloucester  
GL4 8AT



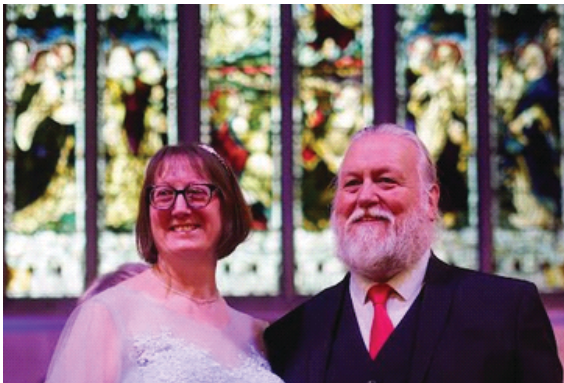
Website: [www.uptonsteonardschurch.co.uk](http://www.uptonsteonardschurch.co.uk)

A warm welcome is extended to our new Priest in charge Rev Helen Champion and her husband Brian.

We are so pleased to have her leading our worship, also they will be living in the village, moving into the Rectory in the coming weeks following their recent marriage.

Rev Helen has said one of her priorities is to meet her parishioners, so if you see her out and about do have a chat.

She officially takes up her post on Sunday February 4th and will be licensed sometime during the summer.



## Services for February 2024

4 <sup>th</sup> Feb	8.00 am	Holy Communion
	10.00 am	Morning Worship
11 <sup>th</sup> Feb	10.00 am	Holy Communion
18 <sup>th</sup> Feb	10.00 am	Holy Communion
25 <sup>th</sup> Feb	10.00 am	Holy Communion

### **Priest in Charge:**

**Rev Helen Champion**

### **Churchwarden:**

**Gill Howell**

Interment and burial of ashes enquiries

### **Church Administrator:**

**Jenny Cunningham**

Wedding & Baptism Enquiries

### **Parish Safeguarding Officer**

**Sue Downey**



*Lent Lunches*  
*In the Old School Room*  
*Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February*  
*At 12.00 noon*



Home made soup and bread followed by cheese and biscuits with fruit and tea or coffee, available in the schoolroom

***The charge for the lunch will be £6.00, which will go to church roof fund.***

Children's Corner

### **Jesus was no ordinary man**

*Although he was without sin, Jesus became one of us, the people he came to save*

#### **Matthew 3: 13 - 17**

One day Jesus came to the banks of the river Jordan and asked John to baptise him.

John knew who he was immediately.

'But you have done nothing wrong!' John said. 'You do not need to say sorry. Instead you should baptise me!'

But John did as Jesus asked. As he came up out of the water, everyone there saw the Holy Spirit come to Jesus like a dove and hear God's voice say, 'This is my Son, I love him and am pleased with what he has done today.'

#### **Matthew 4: 1 - 11 - Do we give in too easily? What makes it hard for us to resist temptation**

Jesus then went into the desert and ate nothing for forty days and nights. When he was at his weakest, the devil tried to persuade him to use God's power to help himself.

'If you really are God's son, turn these stones into bread, then you won't be hungry any more.' the devil tempted him.

But Jesus did not give in to temptation.

The devil took Jesus to the very top of the temple in Jerusalem. 'If you really are God's son, why don't you throw yourself down so God's angels will save you?'

But Jesus did not give in to temptation.

The devil took him to the top of a very high mountain. 'I will give you all that you can see, if you will bow down and worship me.'

But Jesus loved God and did not give in to temptation. Then the devil left him



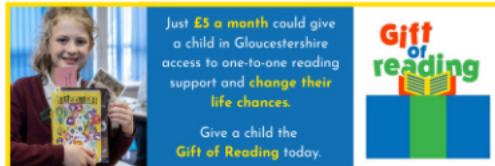
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*Sat 17th February*

*Snowdrop Day*

*Shurdington Church & Hall*

*10 - 12 & 2 - 4*

*Flower displays, tea and cake available*



***Lent Lunches at St Augustine's***

*Fridays at 12 noon*

*From 15 February to 22 March*

*£5.00*

*ALL WELCOME*

***World Day of Prayer Service***

*Prepared by the Christian Women of Palestine*

*FRIDAY 1st MARCH*

*10.30am*

*Matson Baptist Church*

*Matson Lane.*

*ALL WELCOME*

**Would you like some company and a hot drink on a cold winter Wednesday?**



We are open for anyone from 0 to 100 at

**St Philip & St James Church Hall, Larkhay Road, Hucclecote**

We can provide somewhere warm, hot drinks and things to do like puzzles, children's toys

etc. and there is no charge. St Philip & St James Church Hall will be open every Wednesday from 9am to 1pm, until the end of March 2024  
Gloucester Foodbank will also be there from 11am to 1pm



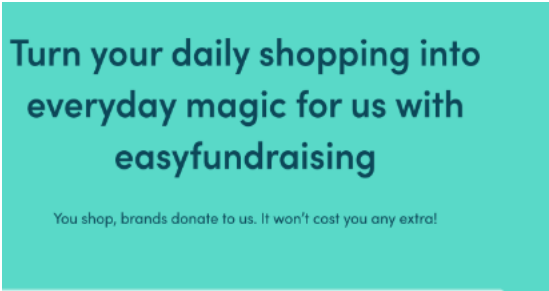


**Tower light dedications**

*Please note the deadline for the Church pages is the 8<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month*

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

On the 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.



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*500 Club Winners for January*


First Prize	£30	No. 43
Second Prize	£20	No. 68



The Annual Christmas 500 Club Draw was won by no.29



*Mother's Union*



In December Mothers' Union members celebrated with a delicious Afternoon Tea at Norton Garden Centre, Twigworth. It proved to be quite a feast, and everyone went home with "Doggie bags".

As part of the St Leonard's Christmas Tree Festival, one was decorated for our organisation in blue and Gold, with blue lights and stars depicting the Aims and Objects of Mothers' Union.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 15th February at 2.30pm. (Please note the later time as there will be a Lent Lunch held before). It will be our Annual General Meeting followed by a fun quiz. We try to keep the business side as short as

possible so please do feel you can come along and join in.

Kate Gale  
Branch Leader



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View from the french windows

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## Looking back 100 years in Upton

An article written for us by Mike Stratford

What will 2024 mean for the people of Upton? We can't foretell the future even using AI. What we can do is look back one hundred years to 1924 to what awaited the residents then.

Unknown to most people at the time the Birchall family were planning to leave Upton. This family had since 1869 played a very important part in the life of the village. Not least among their legacy are the BMI and the Village Hall. 1924 was to be the Birchalls' last year in Upton. The family had sold Saint Bridge House in 1908 together with 76 acres of pasture land. Saint Bridge was at that time part of Upton Parish.

In June 1925 the Birchall estate of 512 acres was to be auctioned. The estate was put up for auction as one lot, but was withdrawn when the bids reached £26,000. It was then sold as separate parcels of land and farms.

Upton in 1924 was still recovering after the Great War, due to losing 37 men killed including two Birchall brothers. There was to be a General Election in October that year, and this is one event we can foresee in 2024. In 1924 it was won by the Conservative Party under Stanley Baldwin. At that election women could not vote, as it was not until 1928 that women over 21 could vote. At the turn of the year in Upton the school had an extra half day holiday as a reward to the pupils for the splendid attendance of the children in the last three months. Would this happen in 2024?

The last wedding of 1923 saw the marriage of Captain John Bourne to Isobel Fielding, the youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs John Fielding of Broadsground, Upton Hill (now Hatton Court). Community life consisted of the Young Men's Club at the Village Hall who had arranged a Dance for January. The Women's Institute was also well attended. Its President was the rector's wife Mrs Tanner. The Sunday School had their Christmas Party at the Village Hall. Prizes for games were presented by Mrs Birchall. The party ended with a verse of the National Anthem. Could that happen in 2024? The Tennis Club arranged to hold a Fancy Dress Carnival Dance later in the year. The Football Club were doing well and top scorer was T. Middlecote.

In the wider world of 1924, a small electrical company had just started called IBM. Adolf Hitler was sent to prison for the failed coup d'état by the Nazi Party. Vladimir Lenin dies, the first crossword is published and the Olympic Games are held in France. The British Empire Exhibition opens at Wembley Park. Despite being open for two years it still made a loss of 1.5 million pounds.

For home entertainment you could buy a 78rpm record of Al Jolson singing "California Here I come" or "Rhapsody in Blue" by George Gershwin. For a night out you could go to Gloucester and the cinema to see "The Thief of Baghdad". In 1924 a young director named Alfred Hitchcock started at Islington Studios .

In 1924 no one in Upton could foresee the changes that were to take place. It was still one of the largest parishes in England with most people working either in Gloucester or on one of the many farms. 2024 sees a very different Upton and a very different unstable world.

We can only wish everyone has a Happy and Peaceful New Year.

## **February may be the shortest month of our year, but in 2024 we have two important dates:**

*Not only is it **Valentine's Day** on the 14<sup>th</sup>, but it is **Leap Year**, so we have an extra day on the 29th. Traditionally, both dates have romantic associations, so perhaps it will be a lucky month for some, even though times have changed and we are now in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.*

## **Around and About**

***Snowdrop Season at Painswick Rococo Gardens has begun and lasts until 29 February.***

***In Tewkesbury the spectacular Gaia sculpture by Luke Jerram will be floating in the Abbey from Friday 2 February to Tuesday 20 February. Don't miss the opportunity to see this seven-metre replica of the Earth viewed from Space. This is a touring exhibition and we are fortunate to have it in our area for nearly 3 weeks. See [soglos.com](http://soglos.com) or contact The Roses Theatre box office (01684 295074) if you wish to go and see it.***

***In Cheltenham you can take a spin on the Observation Wheel and see the sights from Friday 9 February to Sunday 3 March.***



## PLUM AND CARDAMOM CAKE

After the Twyver Walk which was reported in December, many of our ladies provided food and sustenance to the walkers, and cake was very much on the menu. Here is a recipe from one of our members for you all to enjoy – it was gone in a flash!

### Ingredients:

200 g softened butter

200g caster sugar

3 large eggs

200g S/R flour

¼ tsp ground cardamom

### Plum Sauce

6 plums, stoned and quartered

2 tbsp soft brown sugar

¼ tsp ground cardamom

1 tbsp water or dessert wine

### Cream Cheese Filling

80g softened butter

120g full-fat cream cheese

80g icing sugar

Glaze Icing

100 icing sugar

Warm water to mix

Gas 5, 170C

Grease and line 2 x 18cm sandwich tin

Start by making the plum sauce. Place plums in a pan with the sugar, cardamom and water or wine. Heat gently until the plums are tender and beginning to break down. Remove from the heat and strain through a sieve set over a bowl. Set liquid and plums aside.

Beat the butter and sugar add the beaten eggs a teaspoon at a time, adding a tbsp. of the flour after each addition. Continue until all the egg and flour are combined then add the cardamom.

Divide between the tins and bake for 15 minutes until golden. Leave to cool in the tins for a few minutes, then cover one of the sponges with ¾ of the cooled plum liquid, allowing it to soak in. Leave to cool in the tins completely.

Make the filling by beating the butter in a bowl until smooth. Add the cream cheese and mix until combined. Sift in the icing sugar at intervals until it is all combined. Add a tablespoon of the remaining plum liquid and mix well.

When the sponges are completely cool, turn the plum-soaked sponge onto a plate and cover it with the cream cheese filling, then the reserved plums. Place the other sponge on top.

Make the glaze icing and drizzle over the cake and leave to cool.

With grateful thanks to Twyver WI member Julia Paton. Enjoy!

Linda Munnoch

## Upton St Leonards 48th Spring Show

Saturday 16th March 2024

At the Village Hall. Doors Open 2pm

### The classes will include:

#### Photography Section

Village highlight  
Relaxation  
Action shot  
Pet(s) having fun  
The Owl of USL  
Black & White – The Moon

#### Flowers, Plants & Bulbs

#### Home Produce

#### Preserves & Pickles

#### Arts & Handicrafts

### Children's Classes

#### Age 7 and under

Draw your family  
Decorate a plant pot  
Make a vehicle from recycled materials

#### Age 8-16 years

Draw and name your own superhero  
Make a useful item from recycled materials

#### Any child age group

Something I have made from Lego using my own design  
Cooking - Marshmallow crispy squares  
A photo I have taken – countryside

*Volunteers are needed on the day from 1:30pm to help run the event: manning the door, helping in the kitchen, selling raffle tickets, etc.*

**Cakes & Raffle prizes** – Any donations of cakes and raffle prizes for the day will be very gratefully received.

**Craft Stalls** – If anyone would like to have a craft stall for the event, these will be rented at a rate of £10 per table.

Enquires and offers of help to Sarah Desforges

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

# VILLAGE DIARY

## FEBRUARY

4	Sun	Tennis Club Members Morning	Tennis Courts	10.00a.m.
5	Mon	Coffee Club	BMI	10.00a.m.
5	Mon	Upton WI	Pavilion	2.00p.m.
5	Mon	Parish Council Meeting	Pavilion	7.30p.m.
6	Tue	Rubbish and food waste week/garden waste for those with brown bins		
6	Tue	Needles & Pins	The Old School Room	9.45a.m.
6	Tue	Tuesday Probus	BMI	10.00a.m.
6	Tue	Badminton	Village Hall	8.00-10.00p.m.
7	Wed	Upstagers Amateur Dramatics	Village Hall	7.30p.m.
7	Wed	Bell Ringing Practice	Church	7.30p.m.
7	Wed	Bingo	BMI	8.00p.m.
10	Sat	Copy date for March issue of USL Life		
11	Sun	Tennis Club Members Morning	Tennis Courts	10.00a.m.
12	Mon	Coffee Club	BMI	10.00a.m.
12	Mon	Twyver WI	Village Hall	7.30p.m.
13	Tue	Recycling and food waste week		
13	Tues	Needles & Pins	The Old School Room	10.00-12.00pm
13	Tues	Badminton	Village Hall	8.00-10.00p.m.
14	Wed	Wednesday Probus	BMI	10.00a.m.
14	Wed	Upstagers Amateur Dramatics	Village Hall	7.30p.m.
14	Wed	Bell Ringing Practice	Village Hall	7.30p.m.
14	Wed	Bingo	BMI	8.00p.m.
15	Thu	Upstagers Production – “The Hopeful Diamond Caper”	Village Hall	Doors open at 7.00p.m. for 7.30p.m.
16	Fri	Upstagers Production – “The Hopeful Diamond Caper”	Village Hall	Doors open at 7.00p.m. for 7.30p.m.
17	Sat	Upstagers Production – “The Hopeful Diamond Caper”	Village Hall	Doors open at 7.00p.m. for 7.30p.m.
17	Sat	Entertainment Night	BMI	8.00p.m.
18	Sun	Tennis Club Members Morning	Tennis Courts	10.00a.m.
19	Mon	Coffee Club	BMI	10.00a.m.
19	Mon	Abbeydale Garden Club	Village Hall	7.30-9.30p.m.
20	Tue	Rubbish and food waste week/Garden waste for those with brown bins		
20	Tue	Needles & Pins	Village Hall Annex	9.45a.m.
20	Tue	Badminton	Village Hall	8.00-10.00p.m.
21	Wed	Ladies Probus	BMI	10.00a.m.
21	Wed	Upstagers Amateur Dramatics	Village Hall	7.30p.m.
21	Wed	Bingo	BMI	8.00p.m.
21	Wed	Bell Ringing Practice	Church	7.30p.m.
24	Sat	Fun Race Night	BMI	8.00p.m.
25	Sun	Tennis Club Members Morning	Tennis Courts	10.00a.m.
26	Mon	Coffee Club	BMI	10.00a.m.
27	Tue	Recycling and food waste week		
27	Tue	Needles & Pins	Village Hall Annex	9.45a.m.
27	Tue	Badminton	Village Hall	8.00-10.00p.m.
28	Wed	Wednesday Probus	BMI	10.00a.m.
28	Wed	Upstagers Amateur Dramatics	Village Hall	7.30p.m.
28	Wed	Bell Ringing Practice	Church	7.30p.m.
28	Wed	Bingo	BMI	8.00p.m.
29	Thu	Craft Club	The Old School Room	10.00-12.00p.m.

## MARCH

4	Mon	Upton WI	Pavilion	2.00p.m.
5	Mon	Parish Council Meeting	Pavilion	7.30p.m.
9	Sat	Entertainment Night	BMI	8.00p.m.
10	Sun	Copy date for April issue of USL Life		
11	Mon	Twyver WI	Village Hall	
17	Sun	Sunday lunchtime Jazz	BMI	1.00-3.30p.m.
18	Mon	Abbeydale Garden Club	Village Hall	7.30-9.30p.m.
21	Thu	History Group – Inns & Traffic in the Coaching Age	Village Hall	7.45-9.15p.m.
23	Sat	Spring Quiz	BMI	8.00p.m.
27	Wed	Ladies Probus	BMI	10.00a.m.
28	Thu	Craft Club	The Old School Room	10.00-12.00p.m.
29	Fri	Good Friday		
31	Sun	Easter Sunday		

## APRIL

1	Mon	Easter Monday		
8	Mon	Twyver WI	Village Hall	
15	Mon	Abbeydale Garden Club	Village Hall	7.30-9.30p.m.
20	Sat	Entertainment Night	BMI	8.00p.m.
24	Wed	Ladies Probus	BMI	10.00a.m.

Contact Paula Quinn to have an event mentioned in the diary

## Weekly courses

This section lists the courses that run every week.

Activity	Day	Venue	Contact	
Yoga	Mondays 10am	Village Hall Annex	Lara Bricknell	07876 764425
Art Class	Tuesdays 2pm	Village Hall Annex	Christine Hughes	01452 614227
Dance Workout	Tuesdays 7pm	Pavilion	Debra Law	07505 761420
Chair-based Pilates	Wednesdays 1.30pm	Pavilion	Angela Harris	
NEW Yoga	Wednesdays 6.30	Village Hall	Kat Hill	07507 971578
Seniors Fitness	Thursdays 10am	Pavilion	Deb Locke	07738 104404
Tai Chi	Thursdays 10am	Village Hall Annex	Christina Caldwell	
Pilates with Sam	Fridays 9.30am	Village Hall Annex	Sam Slatter	07894 757360

## Football report

The USL adult teams are struggling and will have to have a better second half season to avoid relegation. The first team are 11th out of 12 in Stroud League Division 2, played 13, won 1, drawn 1, lost 11. The reserves are 9th out of 10 in Stroud League Division 4 North, played 11, won 2, drawn 1, lost 8.

By contrast, the youth teams are doing brilliantly. Our Under 16s play in the Severn Vale Youth League Division U16B and are in 3rd place, played 10, won 6, lost 4. And best of the lot, our Under 13s play in the Cheltenham Youth League and still have a 100% record having played 8 games and won them all, top of the division of course.

It is good to be able to report, however good or bad the results, that having had just one adult team last season we now have two adult teams and two youth teams using the Rec.

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### Linda Davis

We are sad to announce the death of Linda Davis, who had lived in Upton all her life and was just a few months short of her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. USL Life published an article about Mrs. Davis in the December 2019 issue. We offer our condolences to her family and friends.

**Richard Stoneman** We are also sad to have learned of the recent death of Upton's long serving and well known postman, Richard Stoneman. We offer our sympathy to his family and friends.

### New year quiz - answers

Last month we published part of the quiz from the Fish & Chips supper organised by the church. If you tried to answer the questions, we hope you enjoyed it. Remember there was an overall theme, and each section had its own theme. The overall theme was "Fish and Chips!"

#### Group 1 - Theme "Cod"

- |  |               |
|--|---------------|
| A Nonsense   | Codswallop    |
| B The final section of a piece of music                                | Coda          |
| C A Menswear item of the 15 <sup>th</sup> and 16 <sup>th</sup> century | Codpiece      |
| D An Old man   | Codger        |
| E An analgesic   | Codaine       |
| F An appendix to a will  | Codicil       |
| G An oily dietary supplement rich in vitamins                          | Cod Liver Oil |
| H One form of encryption   | Code          |

#### Group 2 - Theme "Chips"

- |  |          |
|--|----------|
| A A carpenter's nickname                             | Chips    |
| B In an eponymous novel, a long serving schoolmaster | Mr Chips |
| C Used in a casino                                   | Chips    |
| D Cowboy leggings                                    | Chaps    |
| E Pork or lamb cutlets                               | Chops    |
| F Blokes   | Chaps    |
| G The great pyramid                                  | Cheops   |
| H Tiny electronic circuits                           | Chips    |

#### Group 3 - Theme "Fish"

- |  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| A A port in Wales                            | Fishguard       |
| B Effective with least waste                 | Efficient       |
| C Dressed snappily, rakish                   | Raffish         |
| D Lacking                                    | Deficient       |
| E Suspicious                                 | Fishy           |
| F Archbishop who crowned Elizabeth II        | Geoffrey Fisher |
| G An appointed person, e.g. from the Council | Official        |
| H A method of scamming                       | Phishing        |

#### Group 4 - Theme "Salt"

- |  |                |
|--|----------------|
| A A sailor                             | Salt           |
| B A Cornish resort                     | Saltash        |
| C An attack                            | Assault        |
| D Capital of Utah                      | Salt Lake City |
| E Lot's wife                           | Pillar of salt |
| F Diagonal cross on a shield           | Saltire        |
| G Mineral forming the Giant's Causeway | Basalt         |
| H Gymnastic move                       | Somersault     |

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### Next month's editor - Andy Russell

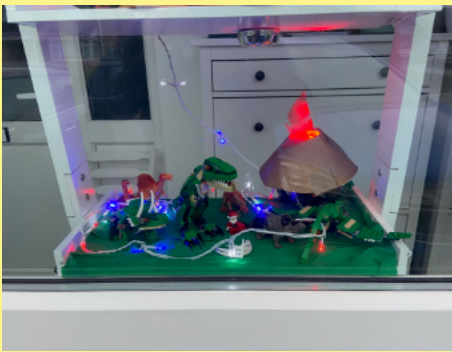


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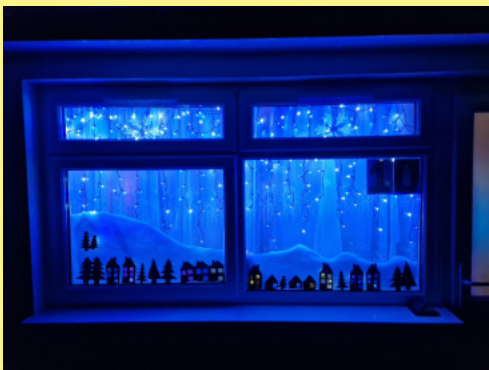
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## Advent Windows around Upton

The first five pictures below feature one large installation which shows Christmas over Time from the era of dinosaurs to the space age. Quite unforgettable! Congratulations to Neil Eley and family.



And here are just a few of the other many beautiful installations created for Advent. A joy to behold. Well done everybody who contributed to these splendid windows.



L to R: Kaz Smith, Becky Clement, Sylvia Humphrey, and thanks to others who sent us their Advent window photos, but we couldn't print them all.