

Upton St Leonards Life *incorporating Church News*

Issue 5

January 2015



A Happy New Year to all our readers !



Snowdrops - a wonderful picture by our photographer Jim Browne



The picture on the left shows guests at the BMI's Christmas Lunch. More pictures of the revelry inside!

The current copy of each Newsletter and all previous editions can be found on our website <http://usllife.co.uk>

New Year Resolutions - have you made one yet ?

HAVE you ever wondered where the concept of New Year resolutions came from?

It is believed that the first New Year resolutions came from the Babylonians around 4000 years ago. The Babylonians would make promises to the gods, such as paying off debts, in exchange for a positive beginning to the year. At that time, New Year coincided with the beginning of the farming season and so people would resolve to return any farm equipment they had borrowed.



People all over the world have been making and breaking them ever since but the desire to start afresh each January still is very much ingrained in our human psyche!!

Did you know that around 7 million of us in the UK alone will make a New Year's resolution to improve an aspect of our health? Which leads us to the question: what are the other 57 million doing, if anything?



- > Eat the right foods
- > Kick a bad habit
- > Get fit



- Aerobics: a series of strenuous exercises which help convert fats, sugars and starches into aches, pains and cramps

- Does running late count as exercise?

- I've managed to stop smoking thanks to these special patches you can buy. I stuck one over each of my eyes. Now I can't find my cigarettes.

- Notice displayed on a plane: There are two smoking sections on this flight, one outside each wing exit.

"Cheers to a new year and another chance for us to get it right." ? Oprah Winfrey



You know it's time for that New Year's resolution to lose weight when you step on the talking scale and it says, "One at a time, please!"

People are so worried about what they eat between Christmas and New Year, when what they should be worried about is what they eat between New Year and Christmas!



Each new day is a blank page in the diary of your life. The secret of success is in turning that diary into the best story you possibly can. *May we wish all our readers a Happy New Year and a diary full of the best stories ever written in your life.*

If any of these words have got you thinking about doing something different in 2015 - have a look at our Village Diary for ideas and maybe meet some new friends as well !!

Upton St Leonards People

More about Hannah whom we introduced to you briefly last month.

Bronze Medallist Hannah sets her sights on Rio!

HANNAH HUNT won a Bronze medal at the British National Paracycling Road Circuit Championships in August 2014, just two and half years after she had an accident in which she broke her back. This was her first major success after being accepted onto the British Cycling Talent Squad in November 2013, as part of a drive to seek out women who may be potential athletes for the Paralympics in Rio 2016!

Hannah's passion for road cycling was prompted by the 2012 Paralympian Karen Darke. Like Hannah, Karen had been a keen climber who broke her back and found herself in a wheelchair. She posted an invitation to wheelchair users to take part in a selection process for female para cyclists. Hannah thought that she would give it a go! From 60 competitors, Hannah and another six women have now been selected for the British Cycling Development Squad.

Throughout 2014 Hannah has continued to train and race, competing in several national events, and internationally coming fourth in a road race in Italy, a challenging hilly terrain through the centre of Fossano's cobbled streets!

Hannah was born and brought up in USL. Her parents David and Jackie Hunt recently moved from High Street to a more 'wheelchair friendly' house in Rance Pitch, and Hannah is able to drive (with bike) from her base in the north to her 'home from home'. Following her accident, Hannah spent a month in Leeds General Infirmary and then rehab at Pinderfields hospital in Wakefield. To further aid her recovery the Lady Downe Charity contributed to the purchase of an FES machine (Functional Electrical Stimulation). This clever device allows Hannah to exercise her legs as the electrical impulses enable her to pedal and thereby maintain some leg muscle tone. As well, many local friends were kind enough to sponsor two young men from the climbing centre where Hannah had worked. Their successful Ben Nevis to Mont Blanc Challenge helped Hannah to buy her first bike. As a member of the British Cycling Development Team she also gets support from UK Sport National Lottery funding.



So life for Hannah has changed considerably. She now trains ten hours per week for her competitive cycling. She also volunteers as a wheelchair skills trainer, on behalf of the spinal injuries charity the Back-Up Trust, and continues to work part-time for an eco-build company. Her progress, drive and record to date would indicate that Hannah is surely on course to make the starting line at Rio 2016.

Interview by Kaye Redman

**GLOUCESTER
COMPUTER
SPECIALIST**



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

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

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



**ANDREW BIRD
HEARING LIMITED**

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

Book your
FREE HEARING TEST
At one of our many
centres throughout
Gloucestershire.

01242 262551

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

levelONE
hair design

UNISEX HAIR SALON

Happy New Year to all our customers!

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



01452 614433 Abbeymead Shopping Centre
GL4 5GL

What's been going on in USL ?

The Upstagers Variety Show - Review

From 27th – 29th November, our local thespians, The Upstagers took a departure from their traditional show and instead treated us to a Variety Performance of some note, in the Village Hall. Whatever your predilection; music, dance, drama or slapstick, it was all there, with something for everyone to enjoy.

From start to finish, the various acts were enjoyable and entertaining, in equal measure. The evening opened with a dance display given by Sarah and Victoria from the Centre-Pointe Dance School, demonstrating their balletic talents with seemingly effortless poise and grace. This was followed by some beautiful singing, courtesy of the St Leonard Singers; my favourite being a wonderful rendition of 'You Raise Me Up'. Beautiful solos were also part of the evening's entertainment sung by Isabella Ferraby who sang with remarkable composure for one so young.

Audience participation is always popular and two 'lucky' people in the audience (aided and abetted by their friends) were given the opportunity to show off their line dancing skills (or not!) much to the amusement of those looking on. However, the one act that stood out above all else, for me, was a slapstick sketch based on acting out alternative careers had the footlights not called. From a policeman to a cheerleader, to a gardener to a nanny, to a milkman to a tennis player, to a traffic warden to a pilot; all succeeded brilliantly in avoiding felling one another which amongst all the flailing arms and legs was nothing short of remarkable!

To conclude the evening's entertainment, the Upstagers finished with a humorous Christmas sketch including our well known reindeer friends and of course, Father Christmas himself just to get us in the mood for the festive season!

A resounding 'Congratulations' must go to the whole production team and especially to both Duncan Lord and Carol Vye for directing the crew and to Keith Pearson who compered the evening with his usual aplomb.

Why not make a date in your diary now for the next Upstagers event; a black comedy entitled 'Prepare to Meet thy Tomb', from 23 – 25 April. Come and see for yourself what gifted people there are living all around us!

B.M.I. Senior Members' Lunch

On Saturday 6th December, the B.M.I. hosted the annual Christmas Lunch for senior members. The committee served 76 guests with a traditional Christmas lunch, followed by a raffle. Entertainment was provided by "Kenny" and everyone had an enjoyable time.



What's Coming Up in USL ?

Get Together Club

Welcome to 2015. We have another exciting year of speakers for you starting with an entertaining talk from one of our favourites, Nick Rowles, on 29 January. We look forward to seeing you all then.

USL Ladies Probus Club

We start the New Year with a Coffee Morning and Bring and Buy Sale on 21 January, with some great prizes for our raffle. This is always a popular meeting so make sure you are there. Members note that subs are due by this date for both the BMI and Club.

REMINDER FOR YOUR 2015 SPRING SHOW - LET'S MAKE IT AN AMAZING SHOW !!



UPTON ST LEONARDS 42nd SPRING SHOW AND RENT-A-CRAFT STALL SATURDAY 14th MARCH 2015

*These are just a few Sections in the show. Why not enter?
Children - you have your own Section of activities too*



NOW is the time to think about preparing some of your entries

SECTION E - ARTS & HANDICRAFTS CLASS *These items should not have been exhibited in any previous show.*

- A Hand Knitted item up to 4 ply
- A Hand Knitted item in double knitting
- A Hand Knitted item in Fancy Wool/Yarn
- A Crocheted item in any yarn
- Show us your hidden talents - let us see what you have made - any media
- A picture, (Handicraft) Max size 18"/46cms square
- A picture, (Art) Max size 18"/46cms square
- Something new from something old - any media
- A Quilted item

SECTION F – PHOTOGRAPHY – Max size of photograph 12"x8" (30x20cms)

Photographs should not have been exhibited in any previous show and *must be exhibitor's own work*. Photographs may be reproduced digitally or conventionally.

- 'The Eyes Have It'
- 'World Cup Fever.'
- 'Fun In The Sun'
- 'Food & Drink'
- 'We Will Remember Them - 100 Years On'
- Black & white prints only: 'A Close Up Of Any Subject'
- Children's class - up to age 16 - 'Panoramas Taken On A Mobile Phone'

Schedules & Entry/recipe forms will be available from the Local Post Office at the end of January or from MARILYN BANNISTER RENT-A-CRAFT STALL contact JACKIE LORD

Painswick HAIR dressers and BARBERS

Beauty without Cruelty
Hair, Barber and Beauty Salon

Open Monday-Saturday
Outstanding stylists

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

Manicure - Pedicure
Beauty and Natural Health treatments

The Painswick Hairdressers and Barbers
01452 668519

email:thepainswickhairdresser@gmail.com
Follow us on Twitter: @Painswickhair
You can also 'like' us on Facebook, search for ThePainswickHairdresserandBarber

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

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

01452 614081
hillfarmcottages@hotmail.co.uk
www.hillfarmcottagesgloucester.co.uk



**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.

Tel. 01452 616384

A La Carte Private Hire



Tel: 01452 813268
Mobile: 07748 235164

Sandra Walklett

Any distance
Airports, Seaports, etc
Quotations without
obligation



No Time to CLEAN or IRON?

Then call **TIME FOR YOU**
DOMESTIC CLEANING

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

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



DW TREE SERVICES

www.dwtrees.com

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

- Thinning
 - Deadwooding
 - Tree Felling
 - Topping
 - Hedge Trimming
 - Garden Clearance
 - Pruning
 - Fruit Trees Sprayed
- Fencing - Block Paving - Turfing & New Lawns
Patios - Gravel - New Gates.

Driveways cleaned, repaired and resealed

01242 802684 sales@dwtrees.com

The Flower Show - Photography classes

Yes, we know the Flower Show is months away! (A note for your diary - it will be on 12th September) and we haven't yet had the Spring Show (see previous page) but you never know when you will have that perfect opportunity to snap a prize-winning photo for either show. The previous page lists the photography classes for the Spring Show. Here they are for the September show:

SECTION "F" - PHOTOGRAPHY - OPEN Unframed colour prints only, digital or film, with the exception of Class 166 which is for black and white prints only. Max. size for classes 161 - 165: 7" x 5" (175mm x 125mm)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 160. Panorama - print no more than 5" (125mm) high | 164. Furry or feathered friends |
| 161. Landscape | 165. In your own backyard |
| 162. You're only young once! | 166. Gloucester Docks - BLACK AND WHITE PRINTS ONLY,
Max. size 16" x 20" (450mm x 570mm) including mount |
| 163. From my holiday album | |

Please support the Annual Flower Show

Scoop!

Canine chums and comrades, it is time for you to counsel your custodians into cleaning up your c**p. Make sure they are scooping after your pooping and carrying it to the closest canister, supplied for the purpose by by the Council. Then the community would be cleaned up so my Master and I wouldn't have to play the game "Tiptoe through the faeces", and the Village of Upton St Leonards will smell and look sweeter.

Thanking you in anticipation of your efforts to motivate them into action.

A Brown Labrador

THANKS to Barbara Sproston for taking the trouble to contact the British Sundial Society regarding the Churchyard sundial (see last month). The Society sent us a note, too late for inclusion, which said much the same as our article did.

UPTON IN PRINT ... continued from the article in December's newsletter. Just after the newsletter went to press we learned of a new publication: "Upton St Leonards Remembered". In 1973, Upton Guides and their Guiders interviewed old village residents, recording their memories, some back into the 19th century. Angela Marks has had the collection printed in a booklet; it is available from her, price £5.

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



Dignity
CARING FUNERAL
SERVICES

Part of Dignity plc. A British Company

THE PAINSWICK PHARMACY



NEW STREET, PAINSWICK
01452 812263

*Delivery service available
call for more information*

Providing NHS Services



J. BIRD CHIMNEY SWEEP

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

Open Fires, Boilers, Cookers and
Stoves Serviced

Chimney Pots, 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



CHURCH NEWS for the Parish Church, Upton St Leonards

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

Dear Friends

For last year's words belong to last year's language
And next year's words await another voice.
And to make an end is to make a beginning." Little Gidding " — T.S. Eliot

As we embrace once again a New Year, we are inclined to reflect on the year past; its events, good and bad, sad or happy and perhaps to look more deeply within and to wonder how to equip ourselves for the year to come.

Endings, of course, can bring their share of sadness and last year many of us have had to say farewell to too many good friends who leave a huge gap in our lives and our community.

However, in Jesus Christ our lives are a series of beginnings, not endings as creation is an ongoing process. Beginnings offer a new challenge and new hope.

In this New Year as we seek to glorify God, and begin to know him better, we are challenged not just to look at how we can survive but how we can grow as church in Upton St Leonards.

I pray that 2015 will be a year full of positivity and that those who have suffered much will receive all that they need to rebuild their lives, and above all, have hope restored.

In the New Year may you be blessed with all the good things God has to give.

With every blessing

Christine



Plough Sunday Service and Supper with Cider – 11th January 2015 at 6pm

If you were able to come to our Plough Sunday celebrations last year then you will know what a treat it was. We are having a celebration in church again this year so please come along – and bring some bread, cheese or cider to share.

We are also hoping to be joined by the Mummers and Morris Men who have entertained us in splendid style before.

Upton St Leonards Church - Finance Statement

In recent years a number of our regular congregation have passed away and others have moved from the area. At present we are not attracting enough new members into our church community to allow us to grow as we would like. The Standing Committee has stated that we are in a serious financial position with an income shortfall.

We have estimated an average costing per service over a period of six months: Our income per service is £115.93 and it has cost £236.86 per service so we are losing £120.93 each time. This doesn't allow for expenditure outside of services and day to day running expenses.

A number of proposals are being considered, one of which is to review our Sunday service schedule - see the note to the right. St Leonards was almost unique in the diocese in providing three Sunday services with only a part time incumbent. Rev Christine is only paid for two days per week.

TRIAL PATTERN OF SERVICES

The Parochial Church Council has decided to change the pattern of Services for a trial period, starting in January. The decision will then be reviewed.

The new pattern, with occasional seasonal additions such as the Plough Sunday service is:

1st Sunday	8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 10.00am All Age Service (non-Communion)
2nd Sunday	10.00am Communion4all
3rd Sunday	10.00am Communion4all 6.00pm Evening Service
4th Sunday	10.00am Holy Communion (Common Worship)
5th Sunday	10.00am Holy Communion with Guest Speaker

This pattern is shown in the Church Diary on page 10.

Meet the Church Team: This month David Knight

Dave is Lay Chair of the PCC and thus a member of the standing committee but also studying on the Mission Shaped Ministry Course hosted by Gloucester Diocese. However, outside of his Church responsibilities he is a member of Gloucester Brass who have played many times at the Church here in Upton.



Earlier, this year Dave celebrated his 60th birthday, and with it he also achieved another milestone in his career – this year marked his 50th year of service to brass banding in Gloucestershire.

Dave started to learn cornet at the age of 10. His teacher was Mr Ossie Adlam, conductor of the Gloucester Excelsior band, who also taught many of the members of the current band. After a few years, he was invited to join the Gloucester Excelsior Band and he remained with them for over 30 years, many of them on principal cornet. It was while playing in Gloucester Excelsior as a young man that he met Val who also plays in the Band and would later become his wife. In 1993 Dave was invited to join the Lydbrook Band in the Forest of Dean. While playing with Lydbrook, the band achieved second prize in the 1994 First Section national finals held at Wembley, and with it promotion to the Championship Section. Whilst playing with Lydbrook, Dave took part in two tours – one to Hungary in 2003, and in 1999 the band's 'Tour of a Lifetime' to South Africa and Zimbabwe.

Dave was a founder member of the Band of the Gloucestershire Constabulary where he played principal cornet for 10 years. And in 1992 he was a founder member of Gloucester Brass, where he has been a valued member of the solo cornet line ever since, along with being the conductor of the training band.

Quinquennial Inspection

We are still awaiting the completion of our QI and then to receive the survey report on exactly what work is required to maintain the structure of our church building and churchyard, but we are making progress with outstanding tasks inherited from the previous inspection.

The churchyard is looking in a much better condition from a combination of grass cutting by Matthew Gibbs and removal of unwanted vegetation by our team, greatly assisted by USCAN.

The oil tank, doors to the boiler room and security posts have been painted to control rust and the area now looks good.

We also hope to paint the church door in the southwest and start work on various tasks to improve the bell tower, including access. MB

Many thanks !

to all who have attended the various fund raising events over the Christmas period, everyone for their generosity and the fund raising team ladies for all their hard work supplying and serving refreshments.

Chris Mitchell

Upton St Leonards PCC - Treasurer Required

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

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

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

PROFESSIONAL IRONING & LAUNDRY SERVICE

Collection & Delivery Service throughout Gloucester, Cheltenham, Painswick & Cranham
Other Services Available Are

The Clothes Press

Established 1984

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

Tel: 01452 616477

E-mail: theclothespress@btconnect.com

35A Churchfield Road, GL4 8BA

Autumn Reach

LANDSCAPES

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

- Fencing • Decking • Turfing
- Garden/Jungle Clearances

NEW

NEW

SHOT BLASTING RESTORATION OF Old beams Stonework Brickwork Graffiti Removal

(Old Wood and Stone brought back to life!)

Call Lee for a **free** quotation

07749 277655

PHELPS ELECTRICAL SERVICES

Established over 25 years.



Free estimates. No job too small. No call out charge. Rewiring. Additional sockets. Security lighting. New phone points. All general electrical work.

Tel: Robert on 01452 611127

Mobile: 07752 033447

PART P
Electrical Safety

IEIC
DOMESTIC INSTALLER

Resolving to help others

A new year inevitably brings with it the prospect of resolutions. As the first day of January starts, so people across the country will be vowing to be better people-whether it is a case of eating less, exercising more or any number of self-improvement regimes.

Within weeks, as the statistics constantly remind us, these will have fallen by the wayside with less than half making it to the end of the month with their good intentions.

So, perhaps this year, rather than resolving to look after yourself, why not consider doing something for those around you. It may be going to see a lonely neighbour or relative and keeping them company for a few hours every week; it could be offering your time to a local charity, such as a foodbank or homeless project; it might be that you simply offer encouragement more regularly to those around you who need it.

As we enter into the new year, we can do something which will make a difference to all of those around us, and not just ourselves. It doesn't take much but it could mean the world to somebody else.

Developing Ministry

All Christians have gifts. The ministry of the Church is not limited to those who are ordained or to a select few. We seek to encourage and develop the ministry of all God's people.

Two key ways we do so are through the development of Local Ministry teams and through the Effective Ministry in Every Parish programme.

We want to support all parishes in developing their ministry. We recognise that ministry needs to be local - rooted in particular places, using the gifts God gives to members of congregations and responding to local needs.

The Department of Mission and Ministry can provide advice, support, training and resources to help all parishes take forward the mission of God, develop patterns of collaborative ministry and encourage the gifts and ministry of all. We can facilitate vision-building, planning and team-work. We are happy to plan meetings, events and training to fit your needs.

If you are interested in finding out more, do get in touch. You can call on 01452 835544 or email nkent@glosdioc.org.uk.



The Revd Bruce Clifford, curate at St Catharine's Gloucester, on following God's calling

I have been a curate for the last three years, and I have loved every minute of it. I love enthusing others to make a difference for Jesus; I love helping shape the church; and I love coming alongside others in their joys and tribulations.

There are many ways in which you can follow God's calling. If you are considering ordination because you want to give yourself wholly to God, then you should think carefully. There is no role more or less important to God than any other.

Remember that, in your workplace, you are surrounded by people and situations that you can influence, that nobody else may have access to. You are in a unique position. We need to reflect on the approach of Jesus, who would do nothing but what the Father commanded.

If we are considering how we can best serve God in the new year, we need to reflect on what we are already doing. He will give us the strength to fulfil the role that He has for us-whether it is as a member of the clergy or in a different role. We have access to a God who will give us the resources we need for the job we have to do.

www.gloucester.anglican.org/news/publications/the-messenger



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.*

PHILIP LINES WINDOW CLEANING

WELL ESTABLISHED FAMILY RUN
BUSINESS

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

07722 003302

LAWNMOWERS

SERVICED - SHARPENED - REPAIRED

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

FREE LOCAL COLLECTION & DELIVERY

CHELTENHAM MOWERS LTD

01452 616169

Unit B3, Nexus, Hurricane Road, GL3 4AG
Visit and buy on-line
www.mowers-online.co.uk

Beauty2Go

Mobile hair & beauty therapist.
In the comfort of your own home
Free consultation

20 years of experience offering a
professional & friendly service.

Call Joanne 07873 261163
or 01452 386928

CHURCH DIARY FOR JANUARY

(The new trial pattern of services is in operation, see page 7)

SUN 4	SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS 8.00 am - Holy Communion 10.00 am - All Age Service (non-Communion)
MON 5	9.00 am - Morning Prayers in the Rectory
THU 8	2.00 pm - Holy Communion hosted by Mothers' Union
SUN 11	BAPTISM OF CHRIST – PLOUGH SUNDAY 10.00 am - Communion4All 6.00 pm - Plough Sunday Service with Supper and Cider
MON 12	9.00 am - Morning Prayers in the Rectory
TUE 13	11.30 am - Inner Wheel World Day Service
SUN 18	SECOND SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY 10.00 am - Communion4All 6.00 pm - Evening Service
MON 19	9.00 am - Morning Prayers in the Rectory
SUN 25	THE CONVERSION OF PAUL – PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 10.00 am - Holy Communion (Common Worship) 6.00 pm - Evening Service at St Oswalds, Coney Hill (Churches Together in Gloucester)
MON 26	9.00 am - Morning Prayers in the Rectory

Who's Who at the Parish Church

Priest in Charge:

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

Churchwardens:

1 Keith Robbins
2 Vacancy

PCC Secretary:

Ceri Darley-Jones

Church Treasurer:

Vacancy

Deanery Synod Representative:

Dorothy Cox

Bell Tower Captain:

Roger Fry

Mothers Union:

Rachel Hall

Church Cleaning Rota:

Claire Appleyard

Church Flower Rota:

Evelyn Rumsey

Electoral Roll Officer:

Naomi Stanley-Gunn

Fundraising Committee & Church News Rep:

Chris Mitchell

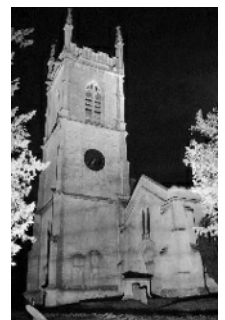
Upton St Leonards Parish Church Tower Flood Lighting Sponsorship - January

On Monday 26th January the Tower Lights are lit in celebration of the birthday of Zoe Gibbs. Kindly being sponsored by her daughter Megan and her husband Matthew.

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

There is no set amount for this, just what you would like to gift to the Church in order to help cover running costs. If you are able to gift aid any donation this will help us too.

If you would like to sponsor the Church Tower flood lights or would like more details then please contact Matthew Gibbs



Natural Definition *by Katz* micropigmentation technician

semi-permanent cosmetics
"makeup that stays put"

07758 160340

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

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



Bourne Baking

www.bourne-baking.co.uk

*Layer cakes, Cup cakes, Muffins
Cookies and Mini Sponges*

Corporate and Social Events

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



B.A. Electrical Services



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

Quality Work at Competitive Prices
For a Free Estimate call Bernie
01452 790872 / 07881 981352

Kids' Page

Film Review

Free Birds

Two turkeys from opposite sides of the tracks must put aside their differences and team up to travel back in time to change the course of history - and get turkey off the holiday menu for good.

I interviewed Bryley Robinson on the epic film, Free Birds. Q: what is your favourite part and why?

A: I quite like it when they first go in to the time machine because it's exciting.

Q: What age group would you recommend it to?

A: I'd recommend it to people aged 6+.

Age rating: PG

Q: Why do you like it?

A: Because it's really great!

Rating 4 stars

Interview by Billy Cockle



This time...

80 years ago (8 Jan 1935)

Birth of Elvis Presley, ('The King'), iconic American rock and roll singer, guitarist and actor. (Died 1977.)

50 years ago (24 Jan 1965)

Death of Sir Winston Churchill, British Prime Minister (1940-45, 1951-55). One of the greatest wartime leaders of the 20th Century. Named 'the Greatest Briton of all time'. Winner of the 1953 Nobel Prize for Literature.

30 years ago (1 Jan 1985)

The first mobile phone call in the UK was made by comedian Ernie Wise. He called Vodafone's head office in Newbury, Berkshire from St. Katherine Docks in London.

Interesting Fact

The Amur Leopard is one of the most endangered animals in the world. There are only 32 left in the wild.



V.I.K.

(Very Important Kids)



Brain Teasers

Q: You have a 5 litre bucket and a 3 litre bucket with as much water as you need, but no other measuring devices. Fill the 5 litre bucket with exactly 4 litres of water.

A: Fill the 5 litre bucket all the way up. Pour it into the 3 litre bucket until it is full. Empty the 3 litre bucket. Pour the remaining 2 litres into the 3 litre bucket. Fill the 5 litre bucket all the way up. Finish filling the 3 litre bucket.

Q: Using only addition, how do you add eight 8's and get the number 1000?

A: $888 + 88 + 8 + 8 + 8 = 1000$.

Last month's Brain Teaser - Answer

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

A: Today is January 1st. Yesterday, December 31, was Chris 8th birthday. On December 30, she was still seven. This year she will turn 9, and next year she will turn ten.

How did the barber win the race?
He knew a short cut

Why was the man running around his bed?
He wanted to catch up on his sleep.

Colour in this beautiful butterfly!



Village Information



you can visit him there on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 9am and 11am. He also maintains the Council website, which is just in the process of being revamped (see below).

The Council itself operates through several sub-committees: Recreation, Environment, Finance and Planning.

Your Parish Council and what it does for you

Some people often ask, "what is a Parish Council and why do we have them?" The answer is simple: a Parish Council is the lowest official tier of Local Government, but unlike other areas of local government, your Parish Councillors do not get any allowances, they work for you totally voluntarily. The parish of Upton St Leonards nowadays includes the Village itself and also the new development area in Coopers Edge that falls within Stroud District. There are 10 Councillors in our Council, four female and six male.

You, the parishioner, fund the Council via your Council Tax, and the Village share of that is paid back to the Parish by Stroud each year. We also receive a few grants and we are lucky to have an income from the telephone mast in the Recreation Ground.

What do we do: in short we look after the village and try to keep it in good order. There are areas where we are responsible for grass cutting, we maintain the Recreation Ground and Glebe Field, the Village Green and run the two allotments areas. We recently fully refurbished the children's play area at the Recreation Ground. We liaise with the District and County Councils on numerous matters, often raised by your good selves. Through the support of USCAN we maintain Cud Hill Common and public footpaths and were responsible for providing the bus shelters in recent years.

We have a paid Clerk to the Council who is the responsible Officer. He maintains the accounts, carries out all correspondence on behalf of the Councillors and officiates at Council meetings. He has an office at the Village Hall and

On the subject of planning, all planning applications made by householders or developers come first to the Parish Council for their comments which are sent to Stroud District Council Planning Department, which is responsible for making the final decisions on acceptance or refusal.

In these times of cuts at Local Government level it is likely that the Parish Council will have to provide more of the local services in future. At the moment the Parish Council operates on a sum equivalent to about 55p per week per household. We believe this is great value for money, but think what we could do if it were £1: more bus shelters, more dog bins, more trees, seats for people to rest as they walk round the village.

Given that many people seem frustrated by politics it should be stressed that there are no party politics in the Parish Council in Upton. It is completely apolitical and may it always be that way.

I hope that this has been a useful insight into what the Parish Council is for and what it does.

Lastly the Parish Council meets on the first Monday of each month at the Pavilion. Public visitors are not only welcome but encouraged, please come along and see what it is we do, for you.

Keith Pearson, Chairman of The Parish Council

Revised Parish Website

A new website has been commissioned by the Parish Council and work has now started on the contents. More information about the web site will be in next month's edition.

Defibrillator

The Parish Council has invested in a defibrillator for the Village which can be used in the event of cardiac arrest to resuscitate someone. It has been installed on the wall next to the Village Hall doors. More information next month.



January News from your Village Agent Lou Kemp - contact 07776 245767

Most of us spend a lot of time indoors in winter, so it's important that you are comfortable and safe there. And it's essential that you keep your home warm. Low temperatures increase the risk of flu and other respiratory problems and can raise blood pressure. Blood pressure takes longer to return to normal in older people after being out in the cold, increasing the risk of heart attacks and strokes. The colder your home, the higher the risk to your health. Keep your main living room around 70°F/21°C, and the rest of the house should be heated to at least 64°F/18°C.

Many of us worry about rising fuel costs, so it's important to make sure you're not missing out on any benefits or discounts you're entitled to that will help you keep your home warm. Most people born before 5 July 1952 are entitled to the Winter Fuel Payment in 2014-15 to help with heating costs. This is a tax-free payment of between £100 and £300 paid to you between November and December. Previous recipients should have been paid automatically, but if this is the first year that you are eligible, contact the Winter Fuel Payment help line to ensure that you don't miss out.

If you receive Pension Credit, or certain other benefits, you're automatically paid a Cold Weather Payment when the temperature is at 0°C (32°F) or below for seven days in a row.

You may be entitled to a Warm Home Discount on your electricity bill if you receive Pension Credit or if you're on a low income. It's a one-off discount usually made between October and March. Check with your energy supplier or ask an advice agency such as Age UK. Find out more at www.gov.uk/the-warm-home-discount-scheme.

...Continued on Page 14

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

VILLAGE DIARY

JANUARY

1	Thu	New Year's Day		
5	Mon	Upton WI.....	Village Hall.....	7.00-9.00p.m
5	Mon	Zumba.....	Upton St Leonards School.....	6.30-7.30p.m.
5	Mon	Fitness Training (2 separate sessions).....	Village Hall Annex.....	6.30-7.30p.m.
6	Tue	Needles & Pins.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-12.00p.m.
6	Tue	Tuesday Probus.....	B.M.I.....	10.00a.m.
6	Tue	Zumba Gold.....	Village Hall Annex.....	10.00-10.45a.m.
6	Tue	Badminton	Village Hall.....	8.30-10.30p.m
7	Wed	Pilates.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.30am
7	Wed	Stitchers.....	Village Hall.....	10.00-12.00p.m.
7	Wed	Pavilion Painters.....	Pavilion.....	2.00-4.00pm
7	Wed	Bingo.....	Birchall Memorial Institute.....	8pm
7	Wed	Tai Chi.....	Village Hall Annex.....	8.00-9.30p.m.
7	Wed	Upstagers Amateur Dramatics	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.30p.m
8	Thu	Tai Chi.....	Village Hall Annex.....	9.30-10.30a.m.
8	Thu	Senior Circuits.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.15a.m.
8	Thu	Zumba.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-8.30p.m.
9	Fri	Yoga.....	Pavilion.....	1.15-2.45pm
10	Sat	Quiz Night.....	B.M.I.....	8.00p.m.
10	Sat	Copy date for February issue of USL Life		
12	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall Annex.....	12.15-1.45a.m.
12	Mon	Fitness Training (2 separate sessions).....	Village Hall Annex.....	6.30-7.30p.m.
12	Mon	Twyver WI.....	Village Hall.....	7.00-9.00p.m.
12	Mon	Zumba.....	Upton St Leonards School.....	6.30-7.30p.m.
13	Tue	Needles & Pins.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-12.00p.m.
13	Tue	Zumba Gold.....	Village Hall Annex.....	10.00-10.45a.m
13	Tue	Badminton	Village Hall.....	8.30-10.30pm
14	Wed	Pilates.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.30am
14	Wed	Stitchers.....	Village Hall.....	10.00-12.00p.m.
14	Wed	Wednesday Probus.....	B.M.I.....	10.00a.m.
14	Wed	Pavilion Painters.....	Pavilion.....	2.00-4.00pm
14	Wed	Bingo.....	Birchall Memorial Institute.....	8pm
14	Wed	Upstagers Amateur Dramatics	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.30p.m
14	Wed	Tai Chi.....	Village Hall Annex.....	8.00-9.30p.m.
15	Thu	Tai Chi.....	Village Hall Annex.....	9.30-10.30a.m.
15	Thu	Senior Circuits.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.15a.m.
15	Thu	Painting & Drawing.....	Village Hall Annex.....	7.00p.m.
15	Thu	History Group - Ancient Wind Instruments.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.00p.m.
16	Fri	Yoga.....	Pavilion.....	1.15-2.45pm
19	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall Annex.....	12.15-1.45a.m.
19	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall.....	10.00-11.30a.m.
19	Mon	Fitness Training (2 sessions).....	Village Hall Annex.....	6.30-7.30p.m.
19	Mon	Abbeyle Garden Club.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.30p.m.
19	Mon	Zumba.....	Upton St Leonards School.....	6.30-7.30p.m.
20	Tue	Needles & Pins.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-12.00p.m.
20	Tue	Tuesday Probus.....	B.M.I.....	10.00a.m.
20	Tue	Zumba Gold.....	Village Hall Annex.....	10.00-10.45a.m.
20	Tue	Badminton	Village Hall.....	8.30-10.30pm
21	Wed	Pilates.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.30am
21	Wed	Stitchers.....	Village Hall.....	10.00-12.00p.m.
21	Wed	Ladies Probus.....	B.M.I.....	10.15a.m.
21	Wed	Pavilion Painters.....	Pavilion.....	2.00-4.00pm
21	Wed	Bingo.....	B.M.I.....	8.00p.m.
21	Wed	Upstagers Amateur Dramatics.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.30p.m.
21	Wed	Tai Chi.....	Village Hall Annex.....	8.00-9.30p.m.
22	Thu	Senior Circuits.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.15a.m.
22	Thu	Tai Chi.....	Village Hall Annex.....	9.30-10.30a.m.
22	Thu	Painting & Drawing.....	Village Hall Annex.....	7.00p.m.
22	Thu	Zumba.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-8.30p.m.
23	Fri	Yoga.....	Pavilion.....	1.15-2.45p.m.
26	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall Annex.....	12.15-1.45a.m.
26	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall.....	10.00-11.30a.m.
26	Mon	Zumba.....	Upton St Leonards School.....	6.30-7.30p.m.
26	Mon	Fitness Training (2 separate sessions).....	Village Hall Annex.....	6.30-7.30p.m.
26	Mon	Camera Club.....	Village Hall.....	7.00-9.00p.m.
26	Mon	Trustees of The Lady Downe Charity		
27	Tue	Needles & Pins.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-12.00p.m.
27	Tue	Zumba Gold.....	Village Hall Annex.....	10.00-10.45a.m.
27	Tue	Badminton.....	Village Hall.....	8.30-10.30p.m.
28	Wed	Pilates.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.30a.m.

28	Wed	Wednesday Probus.....	B.M.I.....	10.00a.m.
28	Wed	Stitchers.....	Village Hall.....	10.00-12.00p.m.
28	Wed	Pavilion Painters.....	Pavilion.....	2.00-4.00p.m.
28	Wed	Bingo.....	B.M.I.....	8.00p.m.
28	Wed	Upstagers Amateur Dramatics.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.30p.m.
29	Thu	Senior Circuits.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.15a.m.
29	Thu	Get Together Club.....	Village Hall.....	2.30-4.30p.m.
29	Thu	Painting & Drawing.....	Village Hall Annex.....	7.00-9.00p.m.
29	Thu	Zumba.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-8.30p.m.
30	Fri	Yoga.....	Pavilion.....	1.15-2.45p.m.

FEBRUARY

(Regular weekly events not shown below this line)

2	Mon	Upton WI.....	Village Hall.....	7.00-9.00p.m.
9	Mon	Twyver WI.....	Village Hall.....	7.00-9.00p.m.
16	Mon	Abbeyle Garden Club.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.30p.m.
18	Wed	Ladies Probus.....	BMI.....	10.15a.m.
23	Mon	Camera Club.....	Village Hall.....	7.00-9.00p.m.
26	Thu	Get Together Club.....	Village Hall.....	2.30-4.30p.m.

MARCH

2	Mon	Upton WI.....	Village Hall.....	7.00-9.00p.m.
9	Mon	Twyver WI.....	Village Hall.....	7.00-9.00p.m.
16	Mon	Abbeyle Garden Club.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.30p.m.
18	Wed	Ladies Probus.....	BMI.....	10.15a.m.
19	Thu	History Group - Tudor Gloucester.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.00p.m.
23	Mon	Camera Club.....	Village Hall.....	7.00-9.00p.m.
26	Thu	Get Together Club.....	Village Hall.....	2.30-4.30p.m.

To get your event included in the diary, contact Paula Quinn paulaquinn16@gmail.com

... Lou Kemp - Village Agent - continued from page 12

Contact your energy supplier if you are having trouble paying your bills. Companies should not disconnect any pensioner households during the winter months. I am aware of some help available at the moment for grants for "surviving winter". If you would like to know more, give me a ring.

Check your current energy tariff and shop around to see if you can get a better deal. Age UK have a fact sheet called "switching Energy Supplier". If you are unable to get it from them, I can get you a copy. The Age UK Group has an association with EON which offers an Age UK energy tariff. For more information, call EON on 0800 015 6784.

Age UK Advice: Lines are open seven days a week from 8am to 7pm. Tel: 0800 169 65 65 www.ageuk.org.uk

Charis Grants: directs people to grants to clear utility debts owed to certain energy providers. Tel: 01733 421 021 www.charisgrants.com

Citizens Advice Consumer Service: A consumer advice and complaints service. Tel: 0345 404 0506 www.adviceguide.org.uk

Energy Saving Trust: Provides free advice on saving energy. Tel: 0300 123 1234 www.energysavingtrust.org.uk

Home Heat Helpline: Provides advice for people having difficulty paying their fuel bills. It offers advice on cheaper payment schemes, grants for insulating homes, how to get on to the Priority Services Register for extra services, and information on extra government benefits. Tel: 0800 33 66 99



JOHN DANDY MOTORS LTD
Est. 1969

- ➔ MOTs, Servicing and Repairs
- ➔ Free collection & delivery service
- ➔ Free courtesy car
(Subject to availability)
- ➔ Quality & value where it counts

Goodridge Avenue, Gloucester GL2 5EA
(01452) 527340





John Weygang
OPTOMETRISTS FRP

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

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



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

OLISTICA
BEAUTY



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

Call Claire - 07982 258584
www.olistica-gloucester.co.uk
76 Woodland Green, GL4 8BE




Local Groups

The Stitchers

We meet in the Village Hall Committee room on Wednesday mornings from 9.45am. At the moment we are making items for a local family centre - The Haven. We are also making hats for premature babies in Gloucester Royal Hospital and teddies to comfort



children in need. The Stitchers welcome anyone who would like to knit, sew, crochet or simply join this friendly group for a cup of coffee. The pictures show the stitchers, the soft toys and a couple from The Barnwood Trust accepting them.

Contact: Rachel Hall

Zumba - Regina Spence

A few years ago I took a Zumba class at the gym and I was amazed at how much fun it was. I have danced all my life since childhood. I missed it so much that I decided right there and then to become an instructor and get back to what made me so happy !

Since then I have qualified to teach Zumba, Zumba Gold and Zumba Toning and I am currently doing 8 classes per week. I love every minute, seeing lovely people smiling and gaining energy.

Zumba is a popular fitness programme inspired by Latin dance and it involves movement to upbeat music together with cardiovascular exercise. If you want to lose weight, keep fit and have fun, Zumba can help. A Zumba Gold class is a programme for active older adults or beginners. The focus is on balance, range of motion and co-ordination. Wear comfortable clothing and trainers or dance fitness shoes and bring water and a towel. Classes in Upton St Leonards are:



Mon 6.30pm in the School (Zumba Toning) Tue 10.00am in the Village Hall (Zumba Gold)

Thu 7.30pm in the Village Hall (Zumba)

www.zumbawithregina.co.uk

Telephone 07704 600 583

Personal Column

David Hay 1941 - 2014

David will be remembered with affection by the Upton St Leonards community. From 1998 he was a highly respected secretary of Upton St Leonards Probus Club. He served as a Scouter for the local troop, was an enthusiastic Gloucester rugby supporter and a keen golfer.

He had great love for his garden and enjoyed propagating seedlings in his greenhouse, growing roses on the garden fence and spending many happy hours on his allotment plot.

There was always a smile and friendly greeting for those that he met as he wheeled a barrow back to Six Acres.

Our condolences go to Denise, Andrew and Chris.



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

AVANTGARDE CARS

PRIVATE HIRE & LUXURY AIRPORT TRANSFERS

Executive & Private tailor-made travel arrangements

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

Chauffeur driven MPV for up to 8 people.

For individual quote call
01452 618383 or 07904 502429

Do you need help around your home?

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



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

Painting & decorating

Hall, stairs & landing

General maintenance

Carpentry

All repairs

Paper hanging

Tiling **SPECIALIST**

Bathroom installations

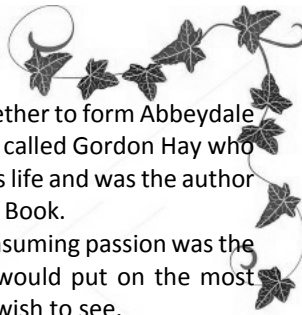
Friendly, Caring, Trustworthy Service from a Friendly, Caring Person at Really Friendly Prices.

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

DJH Home Services, Gloucester Established 1984

Local Groups cont'd

Abbeydale Garden Club



In 1985 a small group of garden enthusiasts got together to form Abbeydale Garden Club. This was the brainchild of a Scotsman called Gordon Hay who had worked in the publishing industry for most of his life and was the author of a book called The Common Sense Scots Cookery Book.

He enjoyed experimenting in the kitchen but his consuming passion was the cultivation of delphiniums. Each year his garden would put on the most spectacular display of delphiniums you could ever wish to see.

In the early years club meetings were held in Abbeydale Community Centre. This unfortunately coincided with the ladies' aerobic class and there were times when we were unable to hear our guest speakers.

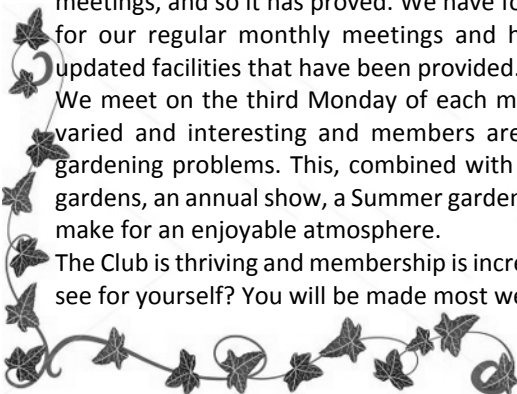
Gordon was a regular at The Kings Head in Upton St Leonards and he spotted an unused lock up garage there and immediately recognised an opportunity. It was not long before we had installed ourselves, ordered in wholesale horticultural supplies and started selling to club members each Saturday morning. This proved to be very popular and members would come along for a chat even when they did not wish to purchase. Sadly this came to an end when the Kings Head changed ownership and underwent redevelopment.

Having established a base in Upton St Leonards, the committee looked at the Village Hall and decided it would make a much better venue for our meetings, and so it has proved. We have for many years now used the hall for our regular monthly meetings and have been impressed with the updated facilities that have been provided.

We meet on the third Monday of each month at 7.30pm. The topics are varied and interesting and members are able to get answers to their gardening problems. This, combined with trips to interesting houses and gardens, an annual show, a Summer garden party, and a Christmas party all make for an enjoyable atmosphere.

The Club is thriving and membership is increasing. Why not come along and see for yourself? You will be made most welcome.

Maggie Theakston



Can you write a Valentine's Day article for our February Issue? No more than 350 words - the same size as above. We'll publish the best one received if we can. To us by 10th January.



the Garden Club article
Ahhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh!

UPTON ST LEONARDS LIFE

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

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

- This month's editor: Peter Wilson
- Chairman: Peter Wilson
- Editors: Peter Wilson
Andy Russell
Andrea Dawson
- Company Secretary: Cliff Alderman
- Treasurer: Ian Crowe
- Feature writers: Kathryn Alderman
Kaye Redman
- Clubs / Societies / Organisations: Catherine McLean
- Diary: Paula Quinn
- Advertising: Carol Evans
- Church Rep: Chris Mitchell
- Distribution: Jenny Cunningham
- Photography: Jim Browne
- Proof Readers: Carol Hardacre
Christine Ellson
Kate Davies

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

MICHAEL TUCK
Your LOCAL ESTATE AGENT

SOLD IT!

FREE VALUATIONS CARRIED OUT WITHIN 24 HRS IF REQUIRED

CALL YOUR LOCAL OFFICE
 ABBEYMEAD 612020 LINDEN 550050
 GLOUCESTER 311220 QUEDGELEY 543200
www.michaeltuck.co.uk

Roger Brown
Painter and Decorator
Free Quotations

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

Gloucester foodbank

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

The Church is open for donations
 Friday evenings 6 - 6.30 pm
 Contact Diana Way 372212 for information