

Upton St Leonards Life *incorporating Church News*

Issue 23

July 2016



Another Fantastic Village Day Event!
See more on Pages 3 & 4



Want to meet people and make new friends ? - see details of a new Village Coffee Club on page 5

What's Been Happening in USL?



Twyver WI Report

Jenny Eastwood, Editor of the Gloucester Citizen was our first speaker of the evening. Jenny became the first female editor in the history of the newspaper in 2013 and spoke with great energy and enthusiasm about **Inspiring Women** and clearly she is one inspirational woman herself. She told us that The Citizen,

Gloucestershire Echo and Stroud Life are dedicated to supporting the community and with an ever growing number of sponsors, all three newspapers actively champion the Women in Business Awards. This annual event aims to recognise and showcase a number of extraordinary women in Gloucestershire and thereby inspire the next generation. Whilst newspaper sales in general, may be falling, the Citizen continues to draw an audience of 675,000 a month, due to its online version and media coverage through Facebook and Twitter.

Our second speakers Louise and Stacey came from the charity named Gloucestershire Bundles based in Podsmead, but operating county wide. Some startling figures on child poverty were revealed (28% of the children in the UK fall into this category) and that even Upton has its share of families that are struggling financially.



Once again, two remarkable and inspirational women who carve out time from their already hectic family schedules and work commitments to raise funds for those who desperately need support. If you would like to help, more details can be found on their website www.gloucestershirebundles.org

Upton WI June Report

Tracing your family history was the subject of our June meeting and our speaker, Margaret Roy, showed us how she had traced her ancestry. She showed us how to construct a family tree and where to look on the internet to do our own research.

We are starting a luncheon club and members were asked for their support for this. Names were also taken for our canal boat trip on 10th August.

Patterns were available for Twiddlemuffs; these are for our class at the September Flower Show.

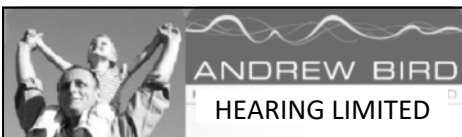
At our next meeting on 4th July George Yiend will be reciting from Dylan Thomas's Reminiscences of Childhood. Why not come and join us? We would be very pleased to see you.

Parish Council Report (Monday 6 June)

Prior to a full council meeting, the Planning Committee met to review 2 applications. Following discussion, the Committee supported applications for 21A Bondend Road (single storey front extension) and Manor Cottage, Portway (single storey side and rear extensions and first floor extension).

During the Parish Council meeting some of the key points covered were :-

- The café at the new Coopers Edge Leisure Centre is now fully open
- An internal refurbishment of the Pavilion building was agreed, including provision of broadband WiFi there
- Some repairs to the Play Equipment and Car Park area were agreed
- The kitchen in the Village Hall will be re-fitted
- Meetings with Highways England regarding noise from the M5 Motorway had taken place and a detailed update on progress for village residents will be written later this summer by Keith Pearson in USL Life



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USL Village Day - Sat 11 June

What a great Village Day, surpassing last year's both in money raised for our charities and the number of visitors. In spite of rain the Committee and helpers gathered at 8.30am Saturday to finalise all the stalls, and erect the Marquees. Of course these things don't just happen overnight. Eight months of planning and booking shows and in the week leading up to Village Day, getting the Village Green up to spec, putting all the bunting around the Village Green, Village Hall and the BMI Club. By the time the procession started from Perry Orchard, the rain had stopped and we were blessed with a dry day from then on. The procession was led by our first "Queen for the Day" Eleanor Cleverly (see front page) followed by the giant St Blaise, the Queen supported by her soldiers and St George on his horse. They were followed by the Maypole dancers from USL Primary School and fetching up the rear were the ever popular Gloucestershire Morris Men.



Once gathered on the Village Green, the large crowd was entertained with a display of Morris Dancing, Maypole Dancing and the Giants St Blaise and The Queen and their henchmen parading around the green. The crowd then dispersed and headed for the Village Hall and grounds. Activities for the children were in abundance from sumo wrestling, Punch & Judy, Discodome, shuttlecock challenge, face painting, the coconut shy, skittles in the BMI Club, beat the goalie, the amazing display of reptiles and finally the children's races. Thanks to Ian Oliver for his music.

For the Adults, inside the Hall there was the USL History stand run by our own Mike Stratford, and a display of paintings from our local artists. There were plenty of homemade cakes and tea in the Hall and visitors were entertained by Andy Field, our local Magician, who had people absolutely amazed. The dog show in the central arena was very popular.



I think everyone went home very satisfied and just in time before the rain returned.

The Village Day finale was the evening entertainment in the Village Hall, dancing to a disco, and everyone commented that it was a good night.

Of course the purpose of our Village Day is not just to bring the community together but to raise funds for our local charitable organisations. This year we excelled ourselves. We raised £3,357 (1,000 up on last year) and this will be equally divided between the Church, the Village Hall and Upton St Leonards Playgroup.

Finally as I said earlier, these things do not just happen, so our gratitude goes to Carol Evans, Keith Pearson and Paula Quinn and all the rest of the Village Day Committee, all the helpers and volunteers before and after the event and to the 1st Upton St Leonards Scout group who worked tirelessly all day.



Jim Browne



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USL Village Day - cont'd



Comment from the Editor

Despite the threat of a damp day, the weather held and it was great to see so many people supporting our Village Day.

On behalf of village residents I would like to thank everyone who helped make it happen and to those who attended and got involved on the day - great effort.

In case any lucky draw winners were not aware they had won a prize they are listed below.

Winners of the Village Day Draw

1. Fran Rodway - 32" LCD Television
2. Roy Roberts - 2 nights' stay in any Mecure Hotel
3. Ms Mackenzie - Dinner for 4 at Hatton Court
4. Joan Glendenning - Hamper
5. Liz Peters - Hamper
6. Sue Johnson - Hamper

Another winner was Editor's choice for best dressed man - Jim Browne. The Queen would have been proud! See front page.

The Playgroup Celebrates a Big Birthday

"We are 50 years old"



Upton St. Leonards Playgroup is celebrating its 50th Birthday this year. It was formed in 1966 by Mary Gledhill and some fellow mums in the village to provide a playgroup for the local children. After many changes, the playgroup is still thriving and providing stimulating Early Years provision for the village community and surrounding areas.



The current staff are wanting to celebrate in style and are hosting a ticket only 50th Birthday Party at The Royal William in Cranham on Friday 15th July 2016. Tickets are available at £15.00, from the playgroup, which is still based at Upton St Leonards Village Hall, or by contacting Michelle or Charlie. So, if you're a current or past parent or maybe you even attended the playgroup as a child, or perhaps you have worked at the playgroup at some point, everyone is welcome to come and help celebrate this amazing milestone of 50 years of fun!

Information

The Coffee Club

A new venture called the Coffee Club is starting in the village soon. This is a Monday morning meet up from 10am to 12 noon in the lounge of the BMI Club in Bondend Road which has free car parking. It starts on 1st August and every Monday thereafter.



This is an ideal opportunity to get out and make / meet friends especially if you live alone or don't have family close by in Upton.

If you know of anybody who would benefit by attending this free social event please let us know, so we can extend the invitation.

Tea and Coffee will be available at a small cost.

If anyone requires transport please let us know as this can be arranged.

If you or anyone you know would like to help by greeting people and making them feel welcome please contact us or just come along on the day.



Further information please phone Marilyn or Millie .

NEWS FROM ABBEYDALE GARDENING CLUB

The 'Friends of Barnwood Arboretum' (all volunteers) are a group of local residents who are passionate about their locality. They work in partnership with Gloucester City Council on the management and development of Barnwood Park and Arboretum. Twelve members of the Abbeydale Gardening Club went along to see the variety of work undertaken. Apart from 'Work Days' when planting and clearing work takes place, there is also a diverse programme of events. For those of you who enjoy outdoor theatre, The Rain or Shine Theatre Company are presenting 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' on Saturday, 30th July at 6.30 pm. Just take along a picnic and a chair, and drink in the atmosphere. Call Glos 521575, 396572 or 616305 for tickets.

This year's annual Garden Judging will take place in August, so there's still a month to go before the judges come round to view your 'pride and joy'.



As an addition to an actual visit, members are invited to send photographs of their gardens to Hilary Drinkwater, before 30th September. These photographs will be judged in a separate competition and shown after the Christmas party.

On Monday, 18th July, Andrew and Helen Nichols will be kindly hosting the Gardening Club's Garden Party once more. This will replace the usual meeting in the Village Hall. New members are always welcome. For further details please contact the Secretary, Maggie Theakston



Get-Together Club Summer Lunch at Hortons

Members of the Get Together Club enjoyed a Summer Lunch at Hortons Restaurant, Painswick Golf Club, for their May meeting. They were attentively served with an excellent two-course meal and coffee and the level of conversation and laughter reflected the success of the occasion. This is a new venture for the Club and was well supported by members and committee, so it may well become an annual outing.

At our next meeting on 30th June at 2.30 in the Village Hall, one of our favourite speakers, Margaret Daniels - The Bard of Barnwood, will entertain us with her stories and poems, and we look forward to welcoming members, who can also enjoy an afternoon tea.

Pam Tickner

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Information

JOBS FOR JULY/AUGUST FOR YOUR ALLOTMENT OR GARDEN

All that hoeing up of 1st and 2nd early potatoes was well worth it, as now you can harvest them and enjoy the fresh flavours. You can now if you have room on your plot, sow second cropping potatoes for Christmas. Train cucumber stems upwards instead of trailing to save space. Aubergines, courgettes and squash should now have their growing tip pinched out to encourage branching. Boost your tomatoes, peppers, chillies, cucumbers, courgettes, marrows and squashes by feeding with a high-potash fertiliser.

Pick runner beans, green beans, beetroot, peas, carrots, chard, lettuce and anything that may be ready. It may be a bit late for 'the Chelsea Chop' but any herbaceous/perennial plants in your borders can be cut back to encourage a second flourish of flowers. Dead head roses and sweet peas and if you are suffering from rust on hollyhocks spray with a fungicide.

There should be a glut of summer fruits to pick at this time of year and to make more strawberry plants for next year begin to pin down runners from previous year's plants. This is the last time to feed your lawns to encourage healthy growth, and if there is a prolonged spell of dry weather lift your mower blades. The greenhouse will need damping down on hot days, and leave windows and doors open for ventilation in the day and remember to water first thing in the morning or last thing at night.

Happy Gardening till the next time!
Carol Evans



PERRY ORCHARD ALLOTMENTS SUNFLOWER COMPETITION

GROW YOUR TALLEST AND BROADEST
SUNFLOWER TO BE JUDGED IN AUGUST

IF YOU HAVE NOT GOT YOUR SEEDS
CONTACT CAROL EVANS

History Group AGM

The Village History Group will be holding its AGM on Thursday 21 July in the Village Hall.

This will be followed by a talk given by Mike Stratford on the men from Upton who gave their lives in the Battles on the Somme from July to November 1916.

New members and visitors are welcome.

Golden Wedding Anniversary

Peter & Sue Savagar are celebrating their Golden Wedding on 23rd July 2016.

They were married at Cambay Baptist Church, Cheltenham on 23 July 1966 and moved to Upton St Leonards in June 1968.

Congratulations and best wishes from their children Joanna, Jonathan, William and families.



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CHURCH NEWS

Rev Robbin Clarke writes . . .

Dear Friends,

It was lovely to meet so many folk over the village weekend. What a lively place Upton can be! Many thanks to all who made the festivities happen. I was delighted to see so many people I'd met, at worship in church, serving in so many varied ways throughout the village.

As I wrote last month, both our parish and our diocese are engaged in a visioning process and are eager to hear from as many people as possible about their hopes for our local area and what role the church can play in realising them. St. Leonard's PCC members and I will be hosting opportunities for conversation until July 20 and feeding back input received by July 25. Please contact any of the church leaders named in the "Who's Who" list on this page if you'd like to join one of these conversations. Many yellow "Share the Vision" cards were distributed over the weekend and I'd be most grateful to you for completing one and returning it to the church. More cards are available to pick up there as well.

I write in the shadow of the mass killing in Orlando and the murder of MP Jo Cox and just before the EU referendum, so there is much to think and pray about. Please join me in serious reflection on how we can make our world a more compassionate and less violent place, both for ourselves and for the coming generations.

Blessings, *Robbin*

July Church Diary

(Correct at time of printing but subject to change - please check details in pew sheets)

SUN 3rd

8.00am Holy Communion (Rev Robbin Clark)
10.00am Family Service (Rev Robbin Clark)
12.00pm Baptism (Rev Robbin Clark)

SUN 10th

10.00am Communion4All (Rev David Eady)

SUN 17th

10.00am Communion4All (Rev David Eady)
6.00pm Evening Service (Mrs Rachel Hall)

SUN 24th

10.00am Communion4All (Rev Robbin Clark)

SAT 30th

12.30pm Wedding

SUN 31st

10.00am Communion4All (Rev David Eady)

Who's Who at the Parish Church

Priest-in-Charge:

Vacancy
Rev Robbin Clark - "Transitional Consultant"

Churchwardens:

1 Keith Robbins
2 Vacancy

PCC Secretary:

Roy Roberts

Church Treasurer:

Vacancy

Deanery Synod Representative:

Dorothy Cox

Bell Tower Captain:

Roger Fry

Mothers' Union:

Rachel Hall

Church Cleaning Rota:

Claire Appleyard

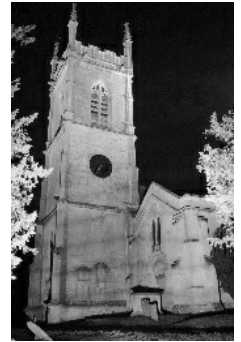
Church Flower Rota:

Evelyn Rumsey

Electoral Roll Officer:

Naomi Stanley-Gunn

Tower Floodlighting Sponsorship Details



The Tower Lights are lit on the 19th July, in loving memory of Chantelle on her 19th birthday. With all our love and so many happy memories, from Mum and Dad, Daniel, Casey, Derren and Carly; Granny and Nan x

On Monday 25th July the Tower Lights are lit in remembrance of Herbert (Bert) Shipp who would have celebrated his 90th birthday this day. Kindly sponsored by his loving wife, Barbara, father of Hilary, son in law Mike and grandson Robert.

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 Gibbs for more details.. There is no set amount for this, just what you would like to give to the Church in order to help cover running costs. If you are able to gift aid any donation this will help us too. Please note that the deadline to ensure a dedication gets in this newsletter is the 10th of the preceding month.

VILLAGE DAY / WEEKEND - FLOWER EXHIBITION & SONGS OF PRAISE

With the centre of the village full of residents and visitors for Open Day on Saturday 11 June, and the weather holding out, the Church welcomed over 350 to view a Flower Exhibition themed in honour of HM The Queen's 90th Birthday, and created by Rachel Hall and the flower arrangers from St Leonards. The Church was open again on Sunday afternoon and many visitors over both days remarked on how beautiful the Church looked - so huge thanks to all involved in preparing the

flowers and of course to those who came to see them - we hope to see you in the Church again!



Our annual Songs of Praise would have been held on the Village Green on Sunday 12 June if the early sunshine had lasted, but rumbles of thunder followed by torrential rain with 30 minutes to go before the start forced a decision to go indoors. And so the 26-strong Gloucester Brass were settled in the dry, and over 60 brave souls from Upton and local churches

battled the elements to join in the singing in Church. Mark Knight and his players were in good form and led us well, with short prayers and readings from Reverend Robbin giving our vocal chords a rest in between the well known hymns. The Twyver Ladies Choir concluded the singing with a touching rendition of the prayer of St Richard - "Day by Day". Afterwards all involved were happy to tuck in to strawberry scones and elderflower cordial before trying to get home before it rained



CHURCH NEWS



Flower photos taken by Dave Appleyard.

COMING UP - Jazz at the Village Hall

The Glevum Big Band will be playing at Upton Village Hall on Saturday September 24 from 7.30pm. Come and dance to jazz and swing music . Proceeds in aid of St. Leonards Church.

(ps - can you spot our own David Knight playing along.....?)



THANK YOU TO VILLAGE SHOPPERS

A very big "thank you", to all those who have contributed to the community board or given surplus produce to sell in our Village Shop. As a result of this Rahul and Seeta have kindly handed just over £48 to St Leonard's Church towards the repair fund.

It is wonderful that we have a village shop, whose owners over the years have remained very supportive

to the village community in many ways. We are very grateful to Rahul and Seeta for continuing this support and their involvement in the community. Please try to support them, together with other businesses in the village and close locality as it is vital for the survival of the village atmosphere. Thank you to Rahul and Seeta and their customers.

CHURCHYARD TALES

Working in the churchyard early one Sunday morning in late May I was approached by a couple from America. "Is there any chance we could have a look inside your beautiful church?" "Of course" I replied and proceeded to invite them in. "Actually we're studying our respective genealogies and we were hoping to trace my wife's ancestor by the name of Atkyns." With the limited records we have, I was able to locate a record of Atkyns and the burial plot number. Then the tricky bit started. It was plot number 137 and on sheet 1 but nowhere could we find number 137. Suddenly divine intervention stepped in as the man spotted the faded plot number and its approximate whereabouts on the graveyard plans. Can

you believe it was a table top tomb and the name Atkyns was just recognisable and it was dated 1625?!!

I learnt that if flour, (not "self-raising!") was gently rubbed over a moss and lichen-free tombstone, further inscriptions would be more easily deciphered. Sadly I could not locate flour of any description but they were happy with a cloth and bucket of water. They went away thrilled to bits with their discovery, returning to the States that Thursday. I never did ask them their name and regrettably overlooked asking them to sign the visitors' book. How amazing that I was in the churchyard early that morning, that the tomb was located and that it was dated 1625.

From Sheila Thomas

We will remember them ...

We are continuing to note the 100th anniversary of the death of Upton Villagers caught up in the WWI battles. We hope it will help our readers to appreciate how those living in the Village 100 years ago must have felt. In 2014 and early 2015 we marked a number of deaths. Since then just a single anniversary, mentioned in our April 2016 issue. So just maybe our predecessors could have started to feel the worst was behind them. How could they have known that July 1916 was to become the blackest month for the Village.

At 7.30 in the morning of 1st July 1916, hundreds of thousands of British and Commonwealth soldiers were waiting for the whistle blast that would signal time to go "over the top" from their trenches and advance towards the German positions. As you will no doubt have read or seen elsewhere the German positions were still heavily defended, despite enormous amounts of artillery shelling, and the Allied soldiers were killed or wounded in their thousands that day. Losses on the first day were horrendous but the battle continued for another 140 days until November 18th - over a million men on both sides were killed or wounded in that time. This would become known as the battle of the Somme.

The Gloucestershire Regiment was in the thick of it, and in July 1916 Upton St Leonards Villagers learnt of the death of no fewer than six of their young men in the single month. How unbearable that must have been.

Private Francis Spring - 2nd Battalion Royal Irish Regiment - killed 14 July, aged 24. He has no known grave.

Private George Miles - 2nd Battalion Royal Irish Regiment - killed 16 July aged 32. He is buried in Mericourt Cemetery on the Somme.

Private Reuben Lloyd - 1st/5th Battalion Gloucestershire Regiment - killed 23 July aged 23. He has no known grave.

Bombardier Daniel Smith - 95th Siege Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery - killed 31 July aged 26. He is buried in Bronfay Farm Cemetery on the Somme.

Sergeant Sydney Millard - 1st/5th Battalion Gloucestershire Regiment - killed 23 July aged 19. One of six Millard brothers who left the village to go to war.

Further away in the Middle East, war was also raging:

Private Edward Bailey - 7th Battalion Gloucestershire Regiment - was killed on 9th July aged 22. He is buried in Basra War Cemetery in present day Iraq.

On 21st July, the Village History Group has a special meeting on the battle of the Somme and its effect on the Village. See the calendar and notice elsewhere.



Sydney Millard

You are invited to get up early on Friday 1st July to be at the Village War Memorial. At exactly 7.30am a whistle will sound. A poignant memorial for the battle of the Somme, to the minute 100 years after those fateful whistle blasts.

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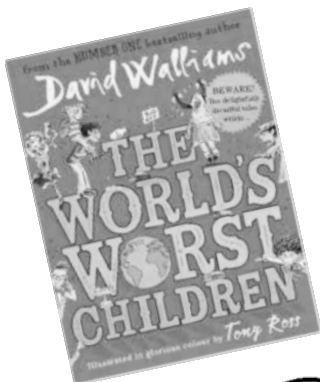
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Kids' Page

BOOK REVIEW

"The World's Worst Children" by David Walliams

Meet TV super-fan, Sofia Sofa, so stuck to the sofa that she's turning into one; Dribbling Drew, a boy whose drool gets him into trouble; and Blubbering Bertha, a girl who bawls and tells terrible tales. Plus expect an appearance from everyone's favourite character: Raj! The World's Worst Children may be Walliams' most devious, mischievous and devilishly delightful book yet.
5 Stars!



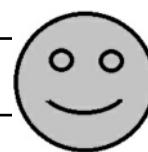
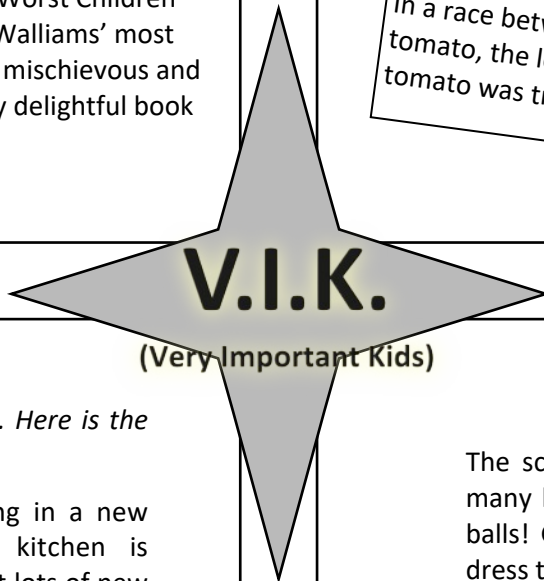
Ha ha!

Q: What do you call a fake noodle? A: Impasta!

Q: What happens if you eat yeast and shoe polish? A: Every morning you rise and shine!

Q: What is the difference between a fish and a guitar? A: You can't tuna fish.

In a race between a lettuce and a tomato, the lettuce was a head and the tomato was trying to ketchup.



There's a new kitchen at the school. Here is the article from "Upton Post" about it:

"Cookie" and the team are cooking in a new environment. The school's new kitchen is complete and we are all ready to eat lots of new dishes at lunch. We (UP) interviewed Cookie and this is what she said:

UP: What do you consider your speciality dish?

C: Roast dinner, chicken pie or curry.

UP: What is your favourite piece of equipment?

C: The Rational Oven – it is a multi-purpose oven for anything.

UP: Are you proud to work in the school kitchen?

C: Yes, very proud.

UP: Thank you.

C: You're welcome.

We also asked a year 3, Keira Chandler, what her favourite dish is on the new menu. She said, "I like the Beef Grill and how it looks."

The school year ends this month, and many leavers will go to parties, proms, balls! Girls - what would you like your dress to look like? . . .

Colour in this party dress



Year 5 writing competition

Last December USL Life sponsored a writing competition at the Primary School. It was a huge success, and the results were amazing. We published four of the best entries. So this term we sponsored another competition for the Primary School's year 5 children. The subject was "The Walk". We are delighted to announce the winners: 1st - Ruben Smith, 2nd - James McMahon, 3rd Ailsa Muir, Highly commended - Lani Kirby.

Ruben's story will be printed in USL Life in the August edition.

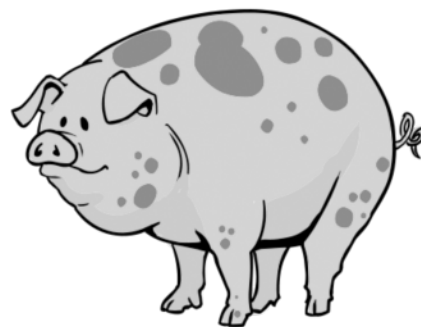
Information - cont'd



The BMI Annual Pig Roast

Saturday 13th August 7.30p.m.

Come and join us for Good Food, Great Company, A Few Drinks and a Wonderful Evening



Don't forget the . . .

Upton St Leonards Show

Saturday 10th September, 2 - 4.30 pm

Many classes: Fruit and veg, flowers, home cookery, crafts, photography, children's sections

Musical entertainment by the Cotswold Big Band

A family fun afternoon of face painting, skittles competition, raffle, hot dogs, tombola, ice creams, refreshments and side stalls

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

VILLAGE DIARY

MONTH

JULY

1	Fri	Somme Commemoration.....	War Memorial.....	7.30a.m.
2	Sat	Summer Quiz.....	B.M.I.....	8.00p.m.
4	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall Annex.....	10.00-11.30a.m.
4	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall Annex.....	12.15-1.45p.m.
4	Mon	Fitness Training (2 separate sessions).....	Village Hall Annex.....	6.00-7.30p.m.
4	Mon	Upton WI.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-10.00p.m.
4	Mon	Parish Council Meeting.....	Pavilion.....	7.30p.m.
5	Tue	Needles & Pins.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-12.00p.m.
5	Tue	Tuesday Probus.....	B.M.I.....	10.00a.m.
5	Tue	Badminton.....	Village Hall.....	8.30-10.30p.m.
6	Wed	Pilates.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.30a.m.
6	Wed	Stitchers.....	Village Hall Annex.....	10.30-12.30p.m.
6	Wed	Pavilion Painters.....	Pavilion.....	2.00-4.00p.m.
6	Wed	Upstagers Amateur Dramatics.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.30p.m.
6	Wed	Bingo.....	B.M.I.....	8.00p.m.
6	Wed	Tai Chi.....	Village Hall Annex.....	8.00-9.30p.m.
7	Thu	Senior Circuits.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.15a.m.
7	Thu	Tai Chi.....	Village Hall Annex.....	9.30-10.30a.m.
10	Sun	Copy Date for Aug issue of USL Life		
11	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall Annex.....	10.00-11.30a.m.
11	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall Annex.....	12.15-1.45p.m.
11	Mon	Twyver WI.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-10.00p.m.
11	Mon	Fitness Training (2 separate sessions).....	Village Hall Annex.....	6.00-7.30p.m.
12	Tue	Needles & Pins.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-12.00p.m.
12	Tue	Badminton.....	Village Hall.....	8.30-10.30p.m.
13	Wed	Wednesday Probus.....	B.M.I.....	10.00a.m.
13	Wed	Pilates.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.30a.m.
13	Wed	Stitchers.....	Village Hall Annex.....	10.30-12.30p.m.
13	Wed	Pavilion Painters.....	Pavilion.....	2.00-4.00p.m.
13	Wed	Upstagers Amateur Dramatics.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.30p.m.
13	Wed	Bingo.....	B.M.I.....	8.00p.m.
13	Wed	Tai Chi.....	Village Hall Annex.....	8.00-9.30p.m.
14	Thu	Senior Circuits.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.15a.m.
14	Thu	Tai Chi.....	Village Hall Annex.....	9.30-10.30a.m.
18	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall Annex.....	10.00-11.30a.m.
18	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall Annex.....	12.15-1.45p.m.
18	Mon	Fitness Training (2 separate sessions).....	Village Hall Annex.....	6.00-7.30p.m.
18	Mon	Abbeyle Garden Club.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.30p.m.
19	Tue	Needles & Pins.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-12.00p.m.
19	Tue	Tuesday Probus.....	B.M.I.....	10.00a.m.
19	Tue	Badminton.....	Village Hall.....	8.30-10.30p.m.
20	Wed	Ladies Probus.....	B.M.I.....	10.15a.m.
20	Wed	Pilates.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.30a.m.
20	Wed	Stitchers.....	Village Hall Annex.....	10.30-12.30p.m.
20	Wed	Pavilion Painters.....	Pavilion.....	2.00-4.00p.m.
20	Wed	Upstagers Amateur Dramatics.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.30p.m.
20	Wed	Bingo.....	B.M.I.....	8.00p.m.
20	Wed	Tai Chi.....	Village Hall Annex.....	8.00-9.30p.m.
21	Thu	Senior Circuits.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.15a.m.
21	Thu	Tai Chi.....	Village Hall Annex.....	9.30-10.30a.m.
21	Thu	Get Together Club.....	Village Hall.....	2.30-4.30p.m.
21	Thu	History Group AGM and talk on the Somme.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.00p.m.
25	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall Annex.....	10.00-11.30a.m.
25	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall Annex.....	12.15-1.45p.m.
25	Mon	Fitness Training (2 sessions).....	Village Hall Annex.....	6.00-7.30p.m.
25	Mon	Camera Club.....	Village Hall.....	7.00-9.00p.m.
25	Mon	Lady Downe Charity		
26	Tue	Needles & Pins.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-12.00p.m.
26	Tue	Badminton.....	Village Hall.....	8.30-10.30p.m.
27	Wed	Pilates.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.30a.m.
27	Wed	Wednesday Probus.....	B.M.I.....	10.00a.m.
27	Wed	Stitchers.....	Village Hall Annex.....	10.30-12.30p.m.
27	Wed	Pavilion Painters.....	Pavilion.....	2.00-4.00p.m.
27	Wed	Upstagers Amateur Dramatics.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.30p.m.
27	Wed	Bingo.....	B.M.I.....	8.00p.m.
27	Wed	Tai Chi.....	Village Hall Annex.....	8.00-9.30p.m.
28	Thu	Senior Circuits.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.15a.m.
28	Thu	Tai Chi.....	Village Hall Annex.....	9.30-10.30a.m.
28	Thu	Get Together Club.....	Village Hall.....	2.30-4.30p.m.



Regular weekly events not listed below this line

AUGUST

1	Mon	Upton WI.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-10.00p.m.
1	Mon	Parish Council Meeting.....	Pavilion.....	7.30p.m.
8	Mon	Twyver WI.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-10.00p.m.
10	Wed	Copy Date for September issue of USL Life		
13	Sat	Annual Pig Roast.....	B.M.I.....	8.00p.m.
11	Mon	Twyver WI.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-10.00p.m.
15	Mon	Abbeyle Garden Club.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.30p.m.
22	Mon	Camera Club.....	Village Hall.....	7.00-9.00p.m.
28	Thu	Get Together Club.....	Village Hall.....	2.30-4.30p.m.
31	Wed	Ladies Probus.....	B.M.I.....	10.15a.m.

SEPTEMBER

5	Mon	Upton WI.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-10.00p.m.
5	Mon	Parish Council Meeting.....	Pavilion.....	7.30p.m.
10	Sat	Copy Date for October issue of USL Life		
10	Sat	Upton St Leonards Show.....	Village Hall.....	2.00p.m.
12	Mon	Twyver WI.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-10.00p.m.
19	Mon	Abbeyle Garden Club.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.30p.m.
24	Sat	Autumn Quiz.....	B.M.I.....	8.00p.m.
24	Sat	Jazz at the Village Hall.....	Village Hall.....	7.30p.m.
26	Mon	Camera Club.....	Village Hall.....	7.00-9.00p.m.
26	Mon	Lady Downe Charity		
29	Thu	Ladies Probus - The Lasket and Gardens Lunch		

Contact Paula Quinn to get your event in the diary

Letters to the Editor . . .

Recreation Ground comment

After reading Councillor David Hunt's report concerning dogs being loose on the Recreation Ground I felt I had to express my opinion!

We have the most wonderful field (The Glebe) set aside especially for dogs to be exercised in safety, off the lead (in the designated area). Not only can our four-legged friends enjoy the space but so can their owners, with tables and seats provided. Also blackberries can be picked along the hedge in season.

I am sure not too many towns and villages have such a great facility provided, so come on folks - be responsible dog owners, enjoy your pet friendly fields and KEEP TO THE RULES!

Val Doll

A HOLE IN ONE!

A birthday party on a sunny late May day with the golf course looking at its best; the clubhouse immaculate, definitely a winner.

No, not golf, but the Sunday Carvery at Hortons at Painswick Golf Club

Excellent food beautifully cooked and with attentive staff. Highly recommended – we shall certainly be returning.

Anonymous

Editor: this is one of two letters we have received recently recommending this restaurant.



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Focus on a long serving resident of the village, Rachel Hall

Rachel Hall was born at Manor Cottage, the first child of Daisy and Hedley Staite. The house was bought by her parents in 1929, and would have originally been a home to farm workers. Her mother's mother, Gran Middlecote, lived at Winnycroft and came from a family of eight children.

High Street at that time was a string of cottages and farms. There was a Baptist Chapel on the street, standing where now the road turns into Perry Orchard.

Rachel, as did most of the children in the village, attended the village school (next to the church) at five until she finished there at 14! Getting to school in those days was very healthy and companionable. The children at the highest point of Portway would walk to the next house and call for their friends until all the children were walking together to school and this would be repeated as they walked home at the end of the school day. The school staff consisted of a Headmaster, Mr Marler, an extremely good teacher, three other teachers and 50 children (those were the days of small classes and individual nurturing). The basic subjects were covered, and gardening - how to grow and propagate. The boys did woodwork and the girls went to a little school in Slad Road, Stroud to take Domestic Science. This was not the period of the latch-key kids as doors were left unlocked and it was considered safe for children to get on with their lives unaccompanied!



At fourteen Rachel started work at J B Williams wholesale grocers, not far from the Cathedral. Her weekly wage was 10 shillings, 50 pence in our 'new' money! She cycled daily to her office job. After six months her wages went up to £1. At the time she attended the Commercial School in Gloucester in Midland Road in the evenings to learn shorthand and typing with Mr Faers and after some time she then went to work for the Eagle Star Insurance Company. During her married life, Rachel ran a wool shop in Innsworth, where she met some very interesting people, as at the time it was an RAF camp and married quarters. As well, over the years, she has pursued her hobbies of walking, dancing and embroidery, and has been involved in Church kneelers and cushions. She is a member of 'Stitchers' who have produced, among other things, blankets for the Family Haven in Gloucester, and items destined for Romania.

Rachel has a happy and optimistic personality. Her parents were very hardworking, and loving and encouraging to both her and her younger brother. The family had a cat and dog and during her childhood spent their holidays with an Aunt in the Forest of Dean. Church was an intrinsic part of family and village life: the school was very much connected to the Church and used for festivals and special occasions. On Sundays Holy Communion was followed by Matins, Sunday School and Evensong. The successful Youth Club was started by Mrs Salisbury, wife of the Rector at the Church, and continued by Miss Townsend, 'Misty' to friends. On occasions they would go to Cowley Manor sleeping in dormitories with young people from all walks of life. Later Rachel was branch leader of the Mother's Union. St Leonard's Church has always been integral to her life both spiritually and socially. Rachel joined all the village groups that were going, including the ladies cricket team, captained by Jean Randall and enjoyable matches were played home and away. The village also had a very successful drama group.

During the war, a soldier who was stationed locally, knocked on the door at Portway Manor Cottage and asked, "Do you know anybody who can take in my wife and children." His family were in London which was being bombed at the time. No doubt he was very concerned for their safety. The outcome was that Rachel's parents took in the family and kindly looked after them for the duration of the war.

In her teens Rachel took dancing lessons at the technical college with a Miss Whitaker. Dancing was popular and fun, and an opportunity to meet young men. The boys stood on one side of the room and the girls on the other. At the time her friend was going out with Mike Edgington and as the music struck up, and Trevor Hall spotted Rachel, Mike gave Trevor a nudge. The rest is history! Dances were held in the Village Hall and during the war soldiers stationed at Upton Hill Camp would come down to join in the fun. The band played, there were refreshments and it all cost 1s 6d!

Trevor and Rachel were married in 1954 in the Church in front of all the village. She had one bridesmaid and they spent their honeymoon in Cornwall. In 2014 they celebrated their sixty years together with a reception at the Village Hall. Firstly living in Brockworth and then Longlevens they had two sons, Phillip and David. In 1977 Rachel's father died and they moved to Portway Manor Cottage to support her mother.

Rachel and Trevor are in a very happy relationship, supporting each other all the way, with their complementary natures. Since 2013 they have settled happily in Perry Orchard finding this more convenient. They are the proud grandparents of five grandchildren and of their wide skills and achievements, are very much engaged in knowing what goes on today. Their positive approach to life, their readiness to get involved and enjoyment of each day is inspiring.

Interviewed by Kaye Redman

Scarecrows

Here are the eight entries made for the Village Day competition. Wonderfully colourful and funny!



Left is the winning adult entry, made by Carol Evans.



Right is the winner in the under-18 category, made by the Davies family



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