

Upton St Leonards Life

incorporating Church News

Issue 21

May 2016



UPTON ST LEONARDS

Village Day 2016

June 11th
1pm - 4.30pm

Celebrating
the Queen's
90th Birthday

Pimms
Cakes

Hot Dogs

Painting
Exhibition

Children's
Races

M
a
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p
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Scarecrow
Competition

Royal
Exhibition

Reptiles

Disco
Dome

Grand Draw
Top Prize
32" TV

Parade led
by the
Queen
for the day

Punch
& Judy

Pantastic
Band

Stalls &
Games

Morris Men

Dog Show

★ Evening Dance & Buffet

★ In Village Hall—Tickets £10



Letters to the Editor



UPTON C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL CALLING WORKING EX-PUPILS

We would like our ex pupils who are now in the world of work to get in touch with us. Sharing their skills and aspirations with us will be great for the children and will give them a taster of the huge range of opportunities available to them. The children are always delighted to have visitors to school so please do get in touch.

You can contact Mrs Melanie Cordall through our school email address admin@upton-st-leonards.gloucs.sch.uk or through the school number 616109. We look forward to hearing from you!

B.M.I. SPRING QUIZ

There may have only been thirteen teams* at the recent quiz on Saturday 19th March, but it was still an enjoyable and “challenging” evening. We were delighted with the number of teams that were able to attend.

The winning team were “The No Hoppers”, Cilla, John, Charlotte and Richard. Well done to them!



From left to right: Cilla, John, Charlotte and Richard

A total of £124.05 was raised on the night for “Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy”, including a donation of £30. The final amount for the year from quizzes, raffles and the weekly bonus ball was £1103.85. Thank you once again for supporting the B.M.I.’s annual charity.

A new charity for 2016-2017 will be selected after the A.G.M. on 13th May.

Paula Quinn



*(with another event being held in the Village Hall and the last game of the Six Nations on TV on the same evening!)

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What's been happening in Upton?



Rent-a-Crowd

The annual Rent-a-Crowd took place on 19th March and once again was well supported, with a new table of 'youngsters' joining the more established revellers. This year's theme was "Characters from a Children's Book" and as always there was no shortage of interpretative imagination.

Prizes were awarded to Best Lady: Pam Stratford as Tinkerbell; Best Man: Andy Metcalfe as Captain Hook and the Best Group prize was won by The Hungry Caterpillar.



Best Lady - Pam Stratford Best Man - Andy Metcalfe



Our thanks go to the Winstanleys for organising such a successful evening and raising £75 for Alzheimer's Research.



Best Group - The Hungry Caterpillar

TENNIS AGM FEEDBACK



The AGM for Upton St Leonards Tennis Club held in March was well attended. The club is again entering 3 teams in the Summer Gloucestershire League, the Men in Division 4B and the Ladies teams in Division 2A and 4B respectively.

Sunday club mornings from 10am remain popular all year round, whilst Tuesday evenings are now in full swing from 5.30pm. Saturday mornings continue to be set aside for Juniors. A new social secretary was voted in and will re-introduce the Quiz night at the end of Summer season. It was also agreed that one team would enter in the Winter League mixed doubles for 2016-17.

Membership rates remain extremely competitive, and we have attracted several new members. Why not join in and improve your fitness and make new friends at the same time?

For details please contact Maureen Snell

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News from the WI's

TWYVER WI HOSTS GFWI COUNTY WALK

On Saturday, 19th March, Twyver WI hosted the GFWI county walk. All 60 tickets were sold out well in advance and visitors had the choice of opting for a 2 mile, 4 mile or 6 mile walk. Each walk leader explained in turn the points of interests on their walk with a description of the type of terrain to be covered, whilst members decided how energetic they wanted to be over coffee.



From left to right: President, Margaret Buckley, Mandy Garstang, Jackie Hunt, Penny Owen, Jackie Clouting

On returning to the village hall, the walkers were greeted with steaming hot bowls of various home-made soups. A tempting array of home baked cakes was also on offer with more tea and coffee to fortify our visitors before setting off home.

A most enjoyable day for walkers and helpers alike which helped to raise a profit in excess of £365.



TWYVER WI – April meeting

President, Margaret Buckley opened the meeting by paying tribute to the life of Joan Ashton and her long standing and active involvement with the group.

Our speaker for the evening, Millie Barnes, talked about 'The Conversation' that we so often avoid but one we really need to have with our families, in preparation for our own mortality. We learned much about the advanced decision making process and a lively debate ensued. The letters WWW have become synonymous with the world wide web but Millie urged members to focus on a personal alternative WWW - Walking, Water and Well-Being.

UPTON ST LEONARDS WI – April meeting

Flowers have medicinal properties and our speaker, Caroline Sheldrick, explained the different uses to which flowers can be put. Caroline is a medical herbalist who holds regular clinics in Stroud, Cirencester and Nailsworth.

There had been seven entries in our class for the Spring Show and members who had put in an entry were thanked. New Start Cat Rescue Charity was very pleased with the items donated.

Members were reminded of our beading workshop on 28th April and informed that in August we hope to go on a boat trip on The Boadicea down the canal from the Waterways Museum including a cream tea on board.

Next month's meeting is a social evening with a fish and chip supper and a beetle drive.

FASHION SHOW

On Friday 8th April we held a very successful fashion show with fashions by Bon Marche. Eight of our members acted as models and walked the catwalk very professionally. Clothes were on sale after the display and the evening was very enjoyable.

Lynne Cook



What's been happening in Upton?.....cont'd

Twyver WI Ladies Go Racing



After joining the Twyver WI, I heard about the Gloucestershire WI Racing Club. It

sounded so interesting, I joined, and I was delighted to find that I was offered tickets to The Festival in March on Ladies Day – the most important meeting of the jump racing calendar!!.

As it is usually cold in March, I polished up my warm boots, got out my best winter coat and purchased the all essential hat for the big day.

The best bit about my ticket was that it included a car parking space on the racecourse, a Club enclosure ticket with the fancy badge to wear and the use of a private marquee with a food and drinks bar; it even had its own tote and lovely staff to look after us novice racegoers.

My friend and I set off all excited but not quite sure what to expect. The weather was glorious with cool bright sunshine and I was glad I dressed appropriately. On the way in we met some gorgeous young ladies who were all dressed up in their killer heels and matching outfits. They looked wonderful, having their photos taken in groups and set for a good day out. This meant the day began in a carnival atmosphere, complemented by the county set in their tweeds and fur hats.

Sue Wilson who is on the Gloucestershire WI Sports and Leisure Committee and a Twyver member, is the organiser and she was there to meet all the members and to ensure we all felt welcome.

We found our venue and settled in with a lovely coffee to study our complimentary race card and to choose our potential winners for the day. The gentleman running the tote gave us a talk on how to place a bet and we even had a short talk from a racing journalist who shared his

tips for the day's racing, as well as explaining the background to each race. We each chose our horses and placed our bets. We then ventured out into the crowds



to see the racecourse and where everything was set out. The atmosphere was electric and we certainly got swept along with the sense of fun and anticipation of a good day's racing. The Irish accents around the course added to the occasion and everyone was so well dressed we enjoyed admiring the fashions on show.

The tented village offers plenty of opportunity to spend your money with high end shopping on offer, lots of tweeds from Scotland and everything from jewellery and furniture with a horse and country house theme. We could easily see why people love the Cheltenham Festival and come back year after year to enjoy this wonderful spectacle.

The time for the first race was approaching so we found the parade ring to see our chosen horses and see the colours our jockeys were wearing. These horses looked magnificent, perfectly groomed with shining healthy coats. They paraded round the ring several times with their stable boy or girl, so we were able to admire them at close quarters, which was wonderful. Then off they set for their starting position, so we went to find a good viewing place, but there are large TV screens around the course, which means everybody sees the race no matter where you stand. Our marquee had large TV screens, so you could spend the whole day inside enjoying the races in the warm and dry should you have desired.

We thoroughly enjoyed each race, made more special as one of us had a horse placed in all but the last race.



Janine Black, Margaret Buckley, Sue Wilson, Millie Barnes

There were four of us from Twyver WI as you can see in the photo, but all the WI Ladies from other groups were so friendly and welcoming.

At the April race meeting the Gloucestershire WI Racing Club Trainers' Championship Trophy is presented. Racing Club members are then invited to the winning stables in October for a tour and a chance to watch the horses on the gallops.

In the summer we have a summer lunch in the renowned panoramic restaurant at Cheltenham Racecourse with a guest speaker. There is also a race meeting in November when members can bring a guest to enjoy the facilities. Our day at the races gave us a chance to admire the new award winning Grandstand which was designed by Gloucestershire architects Roberts Limerick. Gloucestershire really has a lot to be proud of and our local racecourse did us proud on our day out at the races.

Primary School Writing Competition

Our previous newsletters have featured the winning entries. This story was amongst those in the runners-up category.

Mario Kart! By Ceri Prosser

It was all going so well until Danny got sucked into Mario Kart! Anyway let's go to the beginning.

It was a miserable day and Danny was playing Mario Kart in her room when she was rudely interrupted by her little brother Jamie. He wanted to play Mario Kart as well. Their Mum wasn't at home so Danny was in charge of Jamie - he hates it when Danny is in charge because all she does is boss him around. On the other hand Danny loves being in charge because all she does is boss him around and nobody can stop her. "Give it to me now" screeched Jamie.

"It's mine, get your hands off of it now!" It seemed like they were having a shouting competition for who could be the louder. At this point their hands were both secure on the D.S and they were both trying to snatch it from one another. You could tell it was going to end in disaster, but not in this way!


They were pulling harder than ever. Then, suddenly Danny mysteriously got sucked into the D.S. Jamie was trying to hold in his laughter but he couldn't help it and he burst into laughter so the whole world could hear him. You could see Danny in her favourite car about to start racing in the Grand Prix. She was infuriated whereas Jamie was over the moon. It was the first time ever he could control her instead of the other way round.

She was going red with anger and then the race started. Danny was trying to stop the car but she could only stop if Jamie stopped and Jamie would definitely not stop! He was enjoying himself so much he forgot Danny was inside the game. He just wanted to play the game. Of course Danny didn't forget it was DRIVING her crazy. She didn't realise he could hear her so she kept talking to him and at one point she said "STOP IT RIGHT THIS INSTANT JAMIE!!!". He heard her yet carried on playing.

Soon there was a knock on the door. It was Mum

What's coming up?

CRICKET NETS OPENING
Thursday, 5th May, 6pm
Recreation Ground




Andy Russell
610002

All welcome to come to see the ceremony

Gloucestershire Traditions
Cheese Rolling - 30th May

The Gloucestershire Cheese Rolling is expected to make another unofficial comeback in 2016, with spectators flocking from far and wide to see the world-famous sporting action on Cooper's Hill. Competitors chase a weighty 8lb Double Gloucester cheese down a death-defyingly-steep hill.

The first race traditionally starts at 12pm



B.M.I. AGM
Friday 13th May
8 p.m.

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What's coming up? cont'd



5th MAY ELECTIONS

- Police and Crime Commissioner
- District Council
- Parish Council

On 5th May you are asked to vote in the elections shown on the left.

Please remember that for the District Council election Upton St Leonards is now in a joint ward with Painswick, which elects 3 councillors. You should therefore vote for up to 3 of the candidates.

At the time of writing there are fewer candidates than posts for the Parish Council, so the election will be uncontested.

BMI SUMMER SKITTLES COMPETITION

A meeting will be held in the BMI @ 8.00p.m on **Friday 20th May for Team Captains.**

This "friendly" competition attracted several new teams last year, and we hope to welcome your entries again.

Anyone wishing to enter a team may do so. The booking sheet is on the notice board in the BMI foyer. Each team consists of 6 players plus up to 4 reserves.

Players have to be BMI members.

The fixture list will be available during the following week. Games will be held during June and July.

BIRCHALL MEMORIAL INSTITUTE

SATURDAY 7TH MAY 2016

**ENTERTAINMENT NIGHT
IN THE LOUNGE**

Dancing to
The Music of
"IAN OLIVER"
8.30 - late



19th Gloucester Dragon Boat Regatta Sunday May 8th 2016 10AM - 6PM



The Rotary Club of Gloucester Severn proudly announces a family fun day at Gloucester Docks.

There will be 30 teams competing and many other attractions including: Danter's funfair, numerous stalls and a live music stage, taking place in the Mariners square.

This is a free family day out offering a great day of entertainment and fun. This is a charity, fundraising spectacle, which has become a highlight of the Gloucester calendar. **Gloucester Severn Rotary Club extends a warm welcome to everyone.**

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Out and About

WHAT TO DO IN YOUR GARDEN/ALLOTMENT IN MAY

This month you can sow courgettes, pumpkins, squashes, outdoor cucumbers, runner beans and climbing beans all ready to be planted out next month. You can also make direct sowings of lettuce, radish, spinach, turnips and beetroot for your summer use.

If you have got ahead of yourself and planted leeks, Brussel sprouts and French beans under glass they can now be planted out. Don't forget to keep them watered and weed free. You can also put up the bean poles/canes for runner beans and earth up early potatoes.



The second part of May I like to plant up my summer flowering baskets and keep them in the greenhouse until they can be brought out and hardened off ready for hanging in their place mid June. The same goes for bedding plants for borders and tubs. Such a lovely month - enjoy your gardening. If you would like to write into USL Life and tell us about your successes or disasters in your gardens we will try to print them.

Carol Evans

Open Gardens at Edge Sunday, 5th June 11am to 5pm

Six gardens to view, with parking
Two-mile circular walk through Edge
Maps & shuttle transport provided
Ploughmans lunches and Afternoon teas

Tickets £5 each from:

Viv Barrett on 01452 814654
Malcolm Hollingsworth on 01452 812780
Or on the day at the Village Hall



Lawn Mower Man

Spring comes in softly,
Gentle as the dawn.
I have seen the first sign,
A man mowing his lawn.

February Valentine's
Flatter and fawn,
But not for the sad man
Who is mowing his lawn.

The garden is stirring,
Snowdrops are newborn.
But precision is all
To him, mowing his lawn.

Birds begin nesting
Frogs, yet to spawn.
It's never too early
To start mowing his lawn.

No blade out of place.
Each stripe cleanly drawn.
Gardening by numbers,
So he's mowing his lawn.

Gnomes in their places
And one leprechaun
Stands to attention,
While he's mowing his lawn.

Bowling Greens slumber
Cricket fields yawn
But no rest for the wicked
Out there mowing his lawn.

Alfred Lord Tension*
Author of 'It Could Have Been Verse'

* An Upton resident!



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CHURCH NEWS

Our "Transitional Consultant" Canon Robbin Clark writes . . .

Dear friends

I am so looking forward to spending the next several months (through end September) working with you all to move effectively and graciously into the next phase of parish life in Upton. One of the hallmarks of the Church of England is that the Parish is made up of all who live within the parish boundaries (in this case, the whole village) as well as those who choose to come along to services and get involved, wherever they reside. I'll be working most closely with the PCC (the lay leadership group of the congregation), but I hope to get to know and consult with a much wider number of folk across the congregation and the village. Feel free to invite me along to a meeting of your group so we can chat. I'll come if I can, but be mindful that I only spend the equivalent of one day per week in this role!

St. Leonard's Church is a real village landmark, both beautiful and historic, and like all precious things it needs a lot of looking after. You can help whether or not you'd call yourself a churchgoer. For example, see elsewhere in these Church Pages an advert for help to keep the lovely churchyard tidy and welcoming by mowing the grass- equipment provided. Your work will be appreciated by all who pass by or who stop to remember a loved one.

Many people have questions about the life of the church or about the Christian faith and many wonder how to live by it. I can't pretend to have all the answers but I'd love to reflect with you about these "matters that matter". Watch the board outside the church and this space next month for notices about dates and times when I'll be available to chat over coffee or tea. Here's your opportunity to play "stump the vicar".

May brings us the final two weeks of Easter (did you know that Easter lasts for 50 days?), ending with the great festival of Pentecost on May 15 which celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit, God's way of guiding, encouraging and strengthening us for daily life. You're warmly (and I do hope it will be warm by then!) invited to come along at 10am for Communion 4All with a bit of a party after.

Blessings,

Robbin

May Church Diary

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

SUN 1st - SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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

SUN 8th - SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION

10.00am Communion4All (Rev Martin Riley)

Thu 12th - 2.00pm Mother' Union meeting

SUN 15th - PENTECOST

10.00am Communion4All (Rev Robbin Clark)
6.00pm Evening Service (Mrs Rachel Hall)

Christian Aid Week starts (see next pages)

SUN 22nd - TRINITY

10.00am Communion4All (Rev David Eady)

Tue 24th - 2.30-4.00pm. Tea and cakes in the Village Hall Annex, for Christian Aid

SUN 29th - FIRST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

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

Report from the Annual Parish Church Meeting

The APCM was held on 17 April. Keith Robbins was re-elected as Churchwarden, but unfortunately the other Churchwarden post remains vacant. Naomi Stanley-Gunn and Rachel Hall were elected to the Parochial Church Council to join Sheila Thomas, Margaret Hakim, Dorothy Cox, David Knight and Roy Roberts.



Farewell to Rev Christine

After the Palm Sunday service on 20th March, congregation, friends and colleague priests from local churches gathered to bid Rev Christine a fond farewell. Christine reflected on her 2 ½ yrs as Priest in Charge, and hoped that her legacy relating to various initiatives - Plough Sunday, Songs of Praise on the Village Green, Harvest Service in the Perry Orchard Allotments - would be sustained. She has moved from the Rectory to a church flat in

Abbeymead and, following a period of Retreat, she will be looking forward to a future appointment.

Churchwarden Keith presented Christine with gifts of vouchers and flowers from her many friends. We wish her God Speed in her future ministry.

Pictures - Churchwarden Keith presents flowers to Christine - Keith gives Christine a farewell hug!



CHURCH NEWS



The congregation of St Leonards will continue to support the good work of Christian Aid through the annual fund-raising of CHRISTIAN AID WEEK. Sadly we don't have enough volunteers to collect envelopes across the parish, but we will be delivering them to as many houses as we can.

We then ask that you place your donation in the envelope and drop it off at one of the following times and places:

- Sun 15 May - St Leonards Church will be open 11.30am (following the morning service) until 5.50pm (and then there will be the monthly Evening Service starting at 6pm)
- Fri 20 May - Church open 6pm - 7pm
- Sun 22 May St Leonards Church will be open 11.30am (following the morning service) until 4 pm
- **Tues 24 May - "Stitchers" Group - Tea and Cakes at the Village Hall Annex 2.30pm - 4pm**
- Fri 27 May - Church open 6pm - 7pm

Please help us to support CHRISTIAN AID WEEK. Thank you so much.



← *This could be you!*

Last month we said "thank you" to Matthew Gibbs for his many years as guardian of the churchyard's grass - and so we now need to find more volunteers to share a rota with Keith, Sheila and Roy to keep the churchyard looking spick and span. USCAN members have also volunteered to help, but the more the merrier. So this picture of one of the team using the modern petrol mower could be you! If you can spare a couple of hours once a month, please let Churchwarden Keith know on 611797. Thank You!

VOLUNTEER!

Quinquennial update

Observant villagers may have noticed that the "Thermometer" displayed on the board opposite the church and old school is showing a rise. It is wonderful to report that fund raising is doing well, and since we started in 2014 looking to boost funds for the various works identified in the quinquennial survey, people in the Village have raised over £15,000. But much more is still needed! Please continue to give generously towards the large bills we are facing to keep the building in a fit condition.



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Independent inquiry into child sex abuse-what does it all mean?

By Head of Safeguarding, Judith Knight

Last year, the Government announced a national Independent Inquiry into Institutional Child Sex Abuse (IICSA) in England and Wales. Led by Hon Dame Lowell Goddard, this inquiry is set to span five years, and investigate whether public bodies and other non-state institutions, have taken seriously their duty of care to protect children from sexual abuse.

The inquiry is examining allegations of past and ongoing failures to protect children in a range of institutions including schools, children's homes, secure accommodation and local authority care; and it is reviewing the responses of institutions to allegations of child sexual abuse. These include the police, health service, Crown Prosecution Service, churches and other religious institutions.

The Church of England is one of the first institutions to be reviewed, and already every diocese and cathedral has been asked to provide historic and recent information about our policies, practices, records, and systems; and show a development of our learning, training and awareness. This is a massive amount of information.

The scale and magnitude of the issue of child sexual abuse means there is no easy fix or one size fits all approach for any institution, but for our churches and worshipping communities our absolute commitment must be to ensure they are the safest spaces for children and vulnerable people.

Whilst the IICSA is ongoing, so too is a process of auditing diocesan and cathedrals' current safeguarding practices, policies, training, and systems. The Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) has already published a number of these audits, our Diocese's audit will take place in July this year - more news of this to follow.

The diocesan safeguarding team continue to provide support if you have any concerns about someone known to you - you can speak to your nominated safeguarding representative in your parish or contact us on 01452 835526.

Journeying Together: Next Steps

Bishop Rachel wants to hear your thoughts about where the Holy Spirit is leading the Diocese, so we can plan our key priorities for the next five years. From 15 May, you are invited to hold conversations within your churches and within your communities to consider

- What is the Holy Spirit saying to us in this Diocese?
- What is your dream or vision for the Church in our Diocese in five years' time?
- What could we do to realise this vision?

Thank you for joining in as we journey on together. Find out more at www.gloucester.anglican.org/about/vision-statement

Speak up, seek help - men's mental health

by Ruth FitzJohn, Chair of 2gether NHS Foundation Trust

It is shocking and saddening to learn that the male suicide rate in the UK is at its highest since 2001. With other statistics telling us that men are three times more likely to die by suicide than women, and suicide is the most common cause of death in men aged 20-45, it is more important than ever that men speak freely about mental health.

Men report feeling the weight of cultural restrictions when it comes to talking about mental illness. However, staying silent is not the same as being strong. With one in four of us experiencing a mental health problem at any given time, it's certainly nothing to be embarrassed about. As well as making sure there are services and resources available to men at a time of need, families, friends and loved ones also have a big role to play in offering compassion, support, and a listening ear. Services heal illness, but communities heal lives and churches have a significant opportunity to contribute.

If you are experiencing a mental health issue, or are concerned about the mental health of someone you know, there are some excellent sources of support and information available for you and your loved ones:

- Your GP should be your first port of call for any health issue and can provide a range of support and advice.
- Let's Talk is a free Gloucestershire NHS service offering information, guidance and therapy during times when people feel stressed, anxious or depressed. Ring 0800 073 2200 or visit www.talk2gether.nhs.uk
- The Campaign Against Living Miserably (CALM) is a charity which looks to prevent male suicide in the UK: www.thecalmzone.net
- The Samaritans provide round-the-clock support. Visit their website at www.samaritans.org or call them on 116 123.

OBITUARIES

It is with great sadness that our village has lost some dear friends in recent weeks.

JOAN ASHTON (1922 – 2016)



What a sad time of the year with yet another loss of a villager who was known by so many of us in Upton.

Joan moved to Perry Orchard from London in 1979. At the centre of her world was her commitment to volunteering. Her record speaks for itself. A lifetime of service to the British Red Cross and 35 years as an invaluable member of the Upton St. Leonards Playgroup team.

Joan with her gregarious personality and love and empathy for young children never lost her ability to connect with pre-school children and was affectionately known as “Auntie Joan” by them all.

Upton benefitted throughout Joan’s time in the village be it her presence in Red Cross uniform at the Annual Bonfire Nights and School Fetes; her support for the Annual Flower Show, the Amateur Dramatic Society productions, the Village Hall Management Committee and, not least, the Twyver Women’s Institute.

Joan will be sorely missed by all those who came to know and love her.

Jackie Clouting

JENNY LONG

On 8th April Jenny Long was laid to rest in the heart of the village she loved, with all her favourite people present.

Jenny was born in the village as was her husband Mike and his parents before him. She was a servo performance aircraft engineer by trade but was happy to give this up when she had her children and enjoyed working alongside Mike in his farming and contracting business and dedicating her spare time to contributing to village life.

In her early years she enjoyed acting with the Upton Players and helping with the playgroup, she later went on to help for many years with the Flower Show, organising and letting off the village fireworks and arranging and helping with the pig roast. She was proud to serve as a Lady Downe Trustee for many years and also broke tradition by being the first lady member of the BMI.

Jenny was an inspiration to us all in the way that she coped with cancer, never once complaining about what she endured. During the last part of her illness our family were all overcome by the endless kindness and generosity of her friends in the village.

Words simply cannot express our gratitude for the kindness of the constant stream of visitors and offers of help, not to mention all the gifts of delicious home cooked food and cakes which she thoroughly enjoyed.

Jenny will be greatly missed. I feel proud to be her daughter and lucky to be born in such a wonderful village.

Joanna Payne



Further obituaries are on the next page



Thank You

To the 6 people
that turned up to
the village litter
pick

OBITUARIES

It is with great sadness that our village has lost some dear friends in recent weeks.

FRED JONES (1933 - 2016)

Fred's working life began at sea in the merchant marine. When he 'came ashore' it was to join the Nationwide Building Society, which led to a move to Upton St Leonards in the early 70s with his wife Margaret.

His liking for village life soon found him involved with the Church, the stage (with the St Leonards Players) and Village Hall affairs. In the Church he was a Churchwarden, a chorister and then organist. He was a key driver in the successful appeals for the repair of the bells, the roof (what's new) and a replacement organ. Rector Peter Jackson used to say about him, "if you want to get things done, ask a busy man", as yet another task was pushed Fred's way. He was chairman of the Village Hall management committee at the time of its first extension. He was also a keen gardener and at one time was producing 12,000 various blooms a year to raise funds for the Church, the Cathedral, Age Concern and the Air Ambulance. He was a speaker of renown and gave over 150 talks to Probus and other clubs. Latterly he was organist in Churchdown, then Painswick (for 10 years) and Sheepscombe.

So many organisations benefitted from his work that his influence will remain with us.

Alan Parker

Margaret Jones wishes to thank all those - a very large number of friends - who called, sent letters or cards. She is most grateful for the wonderful surge of support at this sad time for her following Fred's death.

MARGARET LONIE

Margaret and Willie, with sons Kenneth and Craig, arrived in Upton in 1972.

Within weeks of her arrival Margaret had entries in the Flower Show winning an incredible 32 prizes! Margaret worked in the Village Shop for a while and then became a dinner lady at the Village School, a job she really loved.

An avid knitter, Margaret ran a wool shop in Churchdown for some years. Margaret always seemed to be first in line to help a needy cause, from Samaritans Christmas Shoe Boxes, to Guide Dogs and gifts for "Our Boys" in Afghanistan. Many will also associate Margaret with the Scottish Dancing evenings she and Willie ran in the Village Hall and elsewhere.

There was never a more generous person, an absolute joy to have known, and Upton St Leonards has been richer for having Margaret and her family in its midst.

Val Doll



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Village Day Preparations are underway....

42 DAYS AND COUNTING
TO
UPTON ST LEONARDS VILLAGE DAY 2016

11 JUNE 1pm - 4-30pm

**STALLS, FOOD, ENTERTAINMENT
MAYPOLE DANCING, MORRIS MEN
CHILDREN'S RACES, REPTILES
WANDERING MAGICIAN
PUNCH & JUDY SHOWS
DISCO DOME
THEN IN THE EVENING
LIVE MUSIC AND LOTS MORE**

**7.30PM ONWARDS
EVENING ENTERTAINMENT
MUSIC AND DANCING**



**VILLAGE DAY 11TH JUNE 2016
1PM – 4-30PM**

THIS DAY CAN NOT GO AHEAD WITHOUT
SUPPORT OF FRIENDS AND FAMILY.

WE URGENTLY NEED DONATIONS OF
TOMBOLA PRIZES FOR ADULTS AND
CHILDREN

ALSO DONATION OF BOOKS ON THE DAY
BEFORE 12PM TO THE VILLAGE HALL PLEASE.

THE UPTON WI HAVE VERY KINDLY AGREED
TO MAKE TEA AND SERVE CAKES ON THE DAY,
ANY DONATION OF CAKES WOULD BE
GREATLY APPRECIATED ON THE DAY FROM
12PM ONWARDS. PLEASE TAKE TO THE
VILLAGE HALL.

PLEASE CONTACT CAROL EVANS 849350



Do you feel like running one of our stalls on village day 11th june or helping with putting up and taking down the stalls and tents?

There is always tea, coffee and cakes available to keep your strength up!

Please contact Carol Evans 849350
or Keith Pearson 617349.

THIS IS A CHARITY EVENT TO HELP YOUR VILLAGE.

**VILLAGE DAY DANCE
AND
PLOUGHMAN'S SUPPER**

7.30 - 11.30pm 11 June



TICKETS £10

On sale from 1st May from
CAROL EVANS 849350
61 PERRY ORCHARD

Village Day Preparations cont'd....

SCARECROW COMPETITION

To be displayed and visible in your Front Gardens

Judging on 4th June

Prizes to be Awarded for Children and Adults at the Village Day, 11th June



TO ENTER:

Please fill in the tear off Entry Form on page 17 and place in Village Hall Post Box

NO LATER than 31st May

DOG SHOW

Last registration 1.30pm on the day

Maximum 10 dogs per class

DOG SHOW CLASSES

- Waggiest Tail
- Prettiest Bitch
- Most Handsome Dog
- Best Puppy
- Best Veteran 10 years and over
- Best child handler
- Best rescue
- Scruffiest dog/bitch
- **Best in show**

Rosettes, trophies and medals for 1st, 2nd and 3rd placed dogs in each class



TO ENTER:

Please fill in the tear off Entry Form on page 18 and place in the Village Hall Post Box

NO LATER THAN THURSDAY 9TH JUNE

Tear off Entry Forms ✂ ✂ ✂ **Can be found on pages 17 and 18.**

Petanque Club

Upton St. Leonards Petanque Club is now in its 20th year, it was founded by a local couple Keith and Joyce Smith.

Petanque or French Boules as some people know it, is a sport which can be played by all ages. The rules are not complicated but there is potential for developing great tactical skills and ability which makes the sport most enjoyable.

Equipment is minimal - a cochonnet or jack (which is a small wooden coloured ball) plus a set of three boules which come in a range of weights and sizes, is all that is required.

The aim of the game is to get your boule as near as possible to the jack and gain as many points as you can for your team.

The Club plays in the Cotswold League which involves playing with other clubs within an approximate range of 30 miles.



We have regular Tournaments and social events, and also play in Tournaments at Sherston, Gotherington and Hereford.

Club sessions are on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 2pm. Weather permitting we play throughout the year.

Membership fees are currently £15 per year.

New members are always welcome, please come along to any of our club sessions, or contact our Club Secretary Sue Gage or Chairman Jane Arnold.

Upton St Leonards is a very friendly and welcoming club and it has given many of its members the opportunity to meet new people and make new friends.

Come and join us.

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

VILLAGE DIARY

MAY

2	Mon	Bank Holiday		
2	Mon	Upton WI.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-10.00p.m.
3	Tue	Needles & Pins.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-12.00p.m.
3	Tue	Badminton.....	Village Hall.....	8.30-10.30p.m.
4	Wed	Pilates.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.30a.m.
4	Wed	Stitchers.....	Village Hall Annex.....	10.30-12.30p.m.
4	Wed	Wednesday Probus.....	B.M.I.....	10.00a.m.
4	Wed	Pavilion Painters.....	Pavilion.....	2.00-4.00p.m.
4	Wed	Bingo.....	B.M.I.....	8.00p.m.
4	Wed	Upstagers Amateur Dramatics.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.30p.m.
4	Wed	Tai Chi.....	Village Hall Annex.....	8.00-9.30p.m.
5	Thu	Elections.....	Village Hall.....	7.00a.m.-10.00p.m.
5	Thu	Senior Circuits.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.15a.m.
5	Thu	Cricket Nets Opening Ceremony.....	Recreation Ground.....	6.00pm
5	Thu	Zumba.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-8.30p.m.
7	Sat	Entertainment Night.....	B.M.I.....	8.00p.m.
9	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall Annex.....	10.00-11.30a.m.
9	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall Annex.....	12.15-1.45p.m.
9	Mon	Fitness Training (2 separate sessions).....	Village Hall Annex.....	6.00-7.30p.m.
9	Mon	Parish Council Meeting.....	Pavilion.....	7.30p.m.
9	Mon	Twyver WI.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-10.00p.m.
10	Tue	Copy date for June issue of USL Life		
10	Tue	Needles & Pins.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-12.00p.m.
10	Tue	Tuesday Probus.....	B.M.I.....	10.00a.m.
10	Tue	Badminton.....	Village Hall.....	8.30-10.30p.m.
11	Wed	Pilates.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.30a.m.
11	Wed	Stitchers.....	Village Hall Annex.....	10.30-12.30p.m.
11	Wed	Pavilion Painters.....	Pavilion.....	2.00-4.00p.m.
11	Wed	Upstagers Amateur Dramatics.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.30p.m.
11	Wed	Bingo.....	B.M.I.....	8.00p.m.
11	Wed	Tai Chi.....	Village Hall Annex.....	8.00-9.30p.m.
12	Thu	Senior Circuits.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.15a.m.
12	Thu	Tai Chi.....	Village Hall Annex.....	9.30-10.30a.m.
12	Thu	Zumba.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-8.30p.m.
13	Fri	B.M.I. Annual General Meeting.....	B.M.I.....	8.00p.m.
16	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall Annex.....	10.00-11.30a.m.
16	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall Annex.....	12.15-1.45p.m.
16	Mon	Abbeylee Garden Club.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.30p.m.
16	Mon	Fitness Training.....	Village Hall Annex.....	6.00-7.30p.m.
17	Tue	Needles & Pins.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-12.00p.m.
17	Tue	Badminton.....	Village Hall.....	8.30-10.30p.m.
18	Wed	Wednesday Probus.....	B.M.I.....	10.00a.m.
18	Wed	Pilates.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.30a.m.
18	Wed	Stitchers.....	Village Hall Annex.....	10.30-12.30p.m.
18	Wed	Pavilion Painters.....	Pavilion.....	2.00-4.00p.m.
18	Wed	Upstagers Amateur Dramatics.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.30p.m.
18	Wed	Bingo.....	B.M.I.....	8.00p.m.
18	Wed	Tai Chi.....	Village Hall Annex.....	9.30-10.30p.m.



VILLAGE DAY - SCARECROW COMPETITION



Name:

Under 18 or Over 18 The scarecrow to be displayed in the front garden

Contact number at (address)

Tear off this entry form and place it in the post box at the Village Hall by 31 MAY

19	Thu	Senior Circuits.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.15a.m.
19	Thu	Tai Chi.....	Village Hall Annex.....	9.30-10.30a.m.
19	Thu	History Group – The History of Prinknash Abbey.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.00p.m.
20	Fri	Meeting for Summer Skittles.....	B.M.I.....	8.00p.m.
23	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall Annex.....	10.00-11.30a.m.
23	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall Annex.....	12.15-1.45p.m.
23	Mon	Fitness Training (2 separate sessions).....	Village Hall Annex.....	6.00-7.30p.m.
23	Mon	Camera Club.....	Village Hall.....	7.00-9.00p.m.
23	Mon	Lady Downe Charity Trustees meeting (date may change)		
24	Tue	Needles & Pins.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-12.00p.m.
24	Tue	Tuesday Probus.....	B.M.I.....	10.00a.m.
24	Tue	Tea & Cakes for Christian Aid.....	Village Hall Annex.....	2.30-4.00p.m.
24	Tue	Badminton.....	Village Hall.....	8.30-10.30p.m.
25	Wed	Ladies Probus – Cookery Demonstration.....	Waitrose.....	11.00a.m.
25	Wed	Pilates.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.30a.m.
25	Wed	Stitchers.....	Village Hall Annex.....	10.30-12.30p.m.
25	Wed	Pavilion Painters.....	Pavilion.....	2.00-4.00p.m.
25	Wed	Upstagers Amateur Dramatics.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.30p.m.
25	Wed	Bingo.....	B.M.I.....	8.00p.m.
25	Wed	Tai Chi.....	Village Hall Annex.....	8.00-9.30p.m.
26	Thu	Senior Circuits.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.15a.m.
26	Thu	Tai Chi.....	Village Hall Annex.....	9.30-10.30a.m.
26	Thu	Get Together Club Summer Lunch.....	Hortons (Painswick Golf Club).....	12.30 for 1.00p.m.
26	Thu	Zumba.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-8.30p.m.
30	Mon	Spring Bank Holiday		

Regular weekly events not listed below this line

JUNE

6	Mon	Upton WI.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-10.00p.m.
6	Mon	Parish Council Meeting.....	Pavilion.....	7.30p.m.
10	Fri	Copy Date for July issue of USL Life		
11	Sat	Village Day.....	Village Green/Village Hall.....	1.00p.m.
11	Sat	Village Day Dance.....	Village Hall.....	7.30p.m.
13	Mon	Twyver WI.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-10.00p.m.
20	Mon	Abbeydale Garden Club.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.30p.m.
22	Wed	Ladies Probus.....	B.M.I.....	10.15a.m.
27	Mon	Camera Club.....	Village Hall.....	7.00-9.00p.m.
30	Thu	Get Together Club.....	Village Hall.....	2.30-4.30p.m.

JULY

2	Sat	Summer Quiz.....	B.M.I.....	8.00p.m.
4	Mon	Upton WI.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-10.00p.m.
4	Mon	Parish Council Meeting.....	Pavilion.....	7.30p.m.
10	Sun	Copy Date for August issue of USL Life		
11	Mon	Twyver WI.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-10.00p.m.
18	Mon	Abbeydale Garden Club.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.30p.m.
20	Wed	Ladies Probus.....	B.M.I.....	10.15a.m.
21	Thu	History Group – Annual General Meeting, followed by Presentation – Upton men at The Battle of the Somme.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.00p.m.
25	Mon	Camera Club.....	Village Hall.....	7.00-9.00p.m.
25	Mon	Lady Down Charity Trustees Meeting		
28	Thu	Get Together Club.....	Village Hall.....	2.30-4.30p.m.

Please contact Paula Quinn on to get your event in the diary

VILLAGE DAY DOG SHOW ENTRY FORM



Owner's Name: **Dog's Name**

Classes Entered:

Entry fee is £1 per dog per class, to be paid on the day.

Tear off this entry form and place it in the post box at the Village Hall by THU 9TH JUNE



This month's feature article is on Upton Mill



This month I was welcomed into the home of John and Lesley Hemming. They have been the

custodians of Upton Mill since 1967.

Although not exactly known, it is believed that a building has stood on this site since the twelve hundreds and there are tales that "Richard, Earl of Arundel was seized at a mill in Upton St Leonards in 1398."

There is evidence that the property was sold in 1589 by Margery Litteler. The property was described as ... "A dwelling house. 3 bay with a mill house and a water mill in ye one and of ye ad house in tother end a kitchen and a cut end Romes of ye ad Dwelling House being lofted and a Barne and Stable adjoining 3 bay with a hay curtillage mill hey orchard and garden adjoining".

The property has changed very little over the years and still retains many of the original internal workings including the large Fly wheel, with its holly (wood) teeth, which drove the crushing stones. The overshot water wheel is no longer complete and the mill pond has been filled in, but there is still evidence of the stone work that held the sluice gates that diverted the water to the mill from the river Twyver.

The wooden beams in the lounge are unique to this part of the country being square in design and weight-bearing over the windows. Stroud Museum has informed the present owners that this design was popular in South Wales.

The existing barn dated 1626 was built from old ships timbers and the joints are pegged.

From 1884 to 1911 the Upton Mill was owned by Mr J. S. Archer-Snelling, who leased the mill and farm to Mr G. Drinkwater, who baked bread on the premises and sold it to the villagers. The three bread ovens are still in existence.

On 17th February 1911 the mill was purchased by Major J. D. Birchall M. P. who eventually moved to Bowden Hall. Corn continued to be ground here until 1914, when it was changed to a grist mill producing animal corn until about 1922.

From 1922 to 1927 Mr. A. R. Davis resided at Upton Mill, though the deeds show he was not the owner. Then from 1927 to 1967 Mrs E. Gosling was the owner, Mr Gosling being a coal merchant.

Over the years there have been four flour mills located in Upton St Leonards, Upton Mill was the uppermost, followed by Commelines Mill, Ritchens Mill, and Stewarts Mill. Upton Mill has also had several names - Atkins Mill, Sadlers Mill, Archers Mill, Goslings Mill, and Upton Upper Mill. The Mill was last used in the early 1950s.

I would like to thank John and Lesley for making me so welcome, and to their daughter Sara for showing me some of the beautiful features in her parents' home.



Interview by Teresa Clarke

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Resident Artist: From time to time we feature local artists' work, (particularly when we have a colour page). This familiar venue was painted by David Hunt.



UPTON ST LEONARDS LIFE

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

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

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- Photography: Jim Browne
- Proof Readers: Carol Hardacre
Christine Ellson
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USL Life is published by USL Life CIC, a Limited Company, and is printed at Leyhill Prison

MAY DAY SCRAMBLE

[answers will appear in June USL Life]

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. AAYDMY _____ | 9. NDALBYIOHKA _____ |
| 2. IPNRGS _____ | 10. YMQUEENA _____ |
| 3. TFAILEVS _____ | 11. YPOLMAE _____ |
| 4. ALETEBIROCN _____ | 12. SCONROSPIE _____ |
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