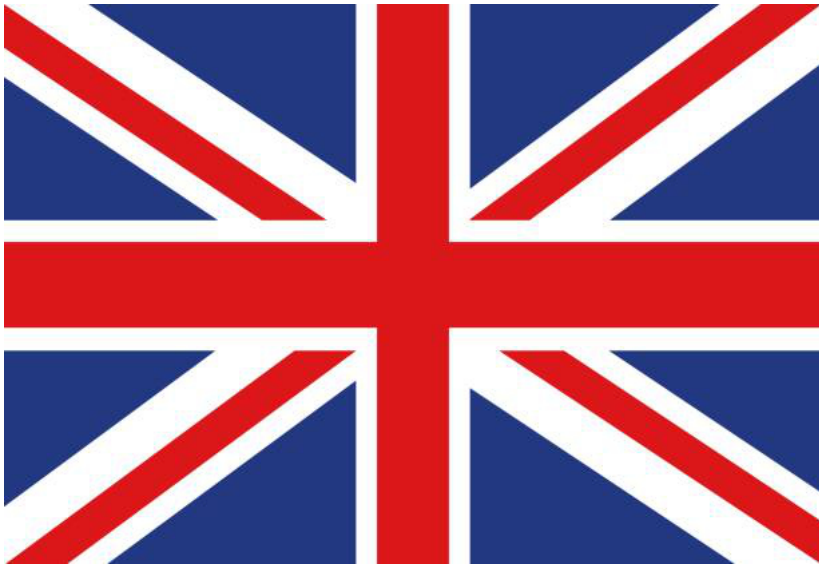


Upton St Leonards Life *incorporating Church News*

Issue 105

May 2023



This issue includes some articles to mark the forthcoming Coronation of King Charles III on 6 May 2023

The crowning of kings and queens:

Page 5: From some of Upton's more senior villagers - a few memories of the 1953 Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II

Page 7: Coronations through the Ages by Mike Stratford

Page 14 : Crowns by Linda Munnoch



Below: A rather special 1953 Coronation mug made at Prinknash Abbey



Thanks to Willie Lonie and others for the pictures of memorabilia from the 1953 Coronation

See Back Page for Upton Saint Leonards Spring Show Results

Editorial

First of all we must congratulate Angela Harris, President of Upton WI, for the splendid April edition of USL Life celebrating the Centenary of our local group, and give thanks to all who supported her. As the May edition this year will be published just a few days before the Coronation of King Charles III on Saturday 6 May 2023, you will find that we have included a number of items relating to this event and the previous Coronation which many of our older villagers remember 70 years ago. For our younger neighbours that, of course, is simply History, but what happens today will also become part of the history of the land in which we live. We hope you all enjoy any celebrations you have planned as well as the Bank Holiday, if you are one of the many people who will be benefiting from an extra day off work or school.

Barbara

ADVANCE NOTICE

ROAD CLOSURES AROUND UPTON

Monday 29 May

Cheese Rolling Event on Coopers Hill

The following roads will be temporarily closed between 00.00 and 20.00:

A46

Nuthill

Green Street

Coopers Hill

Diversion signs will be in place.

26 - 30 June

Bondend Lane, Upton St Leonards

This road will be closed (See plan on p. 20) from 26/06/2023 to 30/06/2023 to allow for pipe installation works by Severn Trent Water.

Emergency and pedestrian access will be maintained.

If you should require further information please email streetworks@gloucestershire.gov.uk

29 May to 2 June

Upton Lane Motorway Bridge,

i.e. beyond Commelines, will be closed to road traffic to allow for bridge repair works. Pedestrians may still use the route. We assume the 2A bus will be diverted to follow the 2 route.

What's been happening?

LADIES PROBUS REPORT

Our Ladies Probus Club in March had a very interesting insight into A Day in the Life of a Durham Miner, with some additional notes about the women of the pit village (as well as the pit ponies!). Alan Parker of Upton related notes taken from his father's diary with some fascinating slides showing life in the Durham pit village of his childhood.

The April meeting revealed the 'secret' in Mike Stratford's intriguing talk: 'Secret No Longer'. I hope you all attended to discover the 'secret'!

THE NEXT MEETING: On 17 May the speaker will be Celia Hargrove who will talk about 'Himalaya 100'. You are all welcome to come along to the BMI at 10.15am to find out more!

RECENT EVENTS AT THE BMI

Recently on 25th March, Bits & Splits entertained over 80 members at the BMI. Everyone agreed that it was a fabulous evening, the band playing a great selection of music: a fun night for all.

The spring quiz was held on Saturday 8th April. Fifteen teams were booked with a total of 90 quizzers. The winning team on the night with 130 points were "No Name". They were rewarded with a bottle of wine each for their win. Painswick Golfers had the lowest score and received a free drink each! It was a great evening, and Andy promised that the questions would be easier,

and he was true to his word. He did however throw in the odd question that had everyone baffled!! A total of £151.50 was raised on the night for the CT Scanner at Cheltenham Hospital, the BMI Charity for 2022-23.

It was slightly disappointing however on the night itself as four teams that had booked failed to turn up. This is very inconsiderate, as a lot of work goes into setting up tables etc so that everyone has a seat and the evening can run smoothly. It also affects the amount that we donate to the chosen charity.

OLLIE THE OWL

IT'S OFFICIAL! The Owl Sculpture on the Village Green has a name.

It's OLLIE!

The Parish Council thanks all who submitted suggestions for the Name the Owl Competition. Both Leonard and Lennie were runners-up, but Ollie is the winner. So thanks and congratulations to Kathy Quant who is the winner.

See below the poem and drawing which Kathy submitted along with the name.



'Ollie'
The Wise Old Owl.

The Wise Old Owl sits serene
from his perch upon the green.
This way and that he can see
far away into the trees.
The distant hills are beckoning
our steady hunter, in the dusky
depths of night, gliding silently
under a starry sky and the ghostly
galloon of the moon.
King of all he surveys, this wise
old owl replaces the resplendent
oak, that once stood firmly on the
green.
But nature took us by surprise,
and now the wise old Owl is
loved and prized.

Kathy Quant.

UPTON WI REPORT

Our April 3rd meeting was a busy one. Subs for the year were collected. President Angela welcomed 5 previous members who had decided to re-join our group. Welcome back!

The Pavilion was a lovely venue for our talk by David Cramp about birds of local reservoirs and Water Parks. His knowledge of the unusual birds that he had managed to photograph was amazing. He told us of their habitats and migrations, their size, and their colourings.

Beautiful panoramas of wetlands and local skies full of wildfowl in flight took us into another world.

David had risen at 5 a.m. to record nightingales. He said that he had seen 15 cuckoos on one occasion.

Afterwards Marlene gave David a vote of thanks

Then Angela described our visit to the Gloucester Archives Hub this week. They had helped our WI produce our 100 Year Booklet. They showed us the Great Seal of Henry VIII fixed to a Charter granting Gloucester the right to hold markets; also, newspaper

cuttings all about Upton, many featuring people that we still remember fondly.

Copies of our Centenary Booklet are available for purchase from our WI. Contact Angela or Treasurer Jane.

The special April Upton St Leonards Life Issue 104, celebrating Upton WI Centenary was admired. A great record for us to keep.

100 years of WI Presence in this village.

Looking to the future- a light lunch on Monday 19th June at the Pavilion to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III. We voted to go ahead with this lunch. Tickets £15 Upton WI Members, £20 cost for guests.

The January 2024 meeting will be cancelled as it falls on 1st January- instead a Garden Tea will be held this August 2023. More details later in the year!

Next meeting 'Reminiscing' presented by Anita and Maurice Hipkiss. 2 p.m. Monday May 1st. All are welcome.

Kathy Quant

What's coming up?

BMI

BMI

Events at the BMI during May

Saturday 6th May

The Coronation of King Charles III

The coronation will be televised in the lounge.
The Village Hall Field will be available for anyone
who wishes to have a picnic
(Please ensure you take your rubbish home with you)

Saturday 13th May

The Eurovision Song Contest will be televised in the lounge

Come and join us and cheer on the UK's entry and
that of Ukraine
A curry for a maximum of 40 will be available which has to be pre-booked and
paid for in advance – details on the BMI notice board

Sunday 21st May

Sunday Lunchtime Jazz

1.00-3.00p.m.

With

J G Jazz Trio

Sunday 28th May

Comedy Night

8.00p.m.

Another great line up of stand up comedy hosted by
Gloucester's Award Winning Act "Nik Hill"
Numbers this evening restricted to 100
Tickets @ £5 each for members only – the proceeds of which
will be added to the BMI Charity for 22-23
The CT Scanner @ Cheltenham Hospital
(Please note, the comedy night may include "adult humour")

And for Saturday 3rd June

Entertainment Night

@ 8.00p.m.

We welcome "Michael Ian Brown"
once again to the BMI

Summer Skittles

Sign up soon!

A summer skittles competition at the BMI will begin in June if there are sufficient teams interested in playing. This is a friendly competition with games played on a Monday to a Thursday during June and July. If anyone wishes to enter a team (6 players plus up to 4 reserves) please add your name to the list on the BMI notice board by 13th May. Ideally a total of 14 teams are needed.

70 Years Ago

Recollections of the 1953 Coronation from Members of the Coffee Club

At Upton School we had a day off and we were presented with a "Coronation Crown Piece". The Queen was portrayed on horseback on one side and there were shields of the four countries on the reverse; the edge was engraved "Faith and Trust I will bear unto you". Ted G.

At Finlay Road School we were given a Coronation Mug filled with sweets. Diane H.

A lady in the Welsh village of Ystradgynlais rented a T.V. and then sold tickets to watch the Coronation. Only one ticket per family was allowed so my mother stayed at home so that I could go and watch. Nan J.

We had a street party on Coronation Day and as a young boy I especially remember fish paste sandwiches and white blanchmange in the shape of a rabbit. Vernon M.

I remember the Coronation Games on the cricket field in Keighley, Yorkshire. I won the skipping competition. Linda M.

My most vivid memory of watching the Coronation in Oldbury, West Midlands is of the Queen of Tonga sitting in an open carriage with the rain pouring down on her during the Coronation procession. Barbara S.

I took part in a Fancy Dress Parade at the White City; It was organised by the local pub, The Northfield Hotel. I went as Miss Great Britain and came third. Lindsay T.

We all had new dresses with new white socks and sandals – we were three sisters. The street party was rained off so we moved the tables into three houses and set them up there. Corinne T.

Buses in Liverpool still ran on Coronation Day. In the morning we had a family get-together in Rainhall and then we took the buses to St. Helens to more family to celebrate the Coronation in the afternoon. Margaret J.

I was at school in Aberdeen; we went with the school to the Odeon Cinema to see the Coronation on film. At school we were given gifts of a metal pencil case, a model of the golden coach and a New Testament. Denise H.

We went up to London the day before the Coronation and walked round the route of the procession to see all the decorations. Lesley H.

I had just finished my National Service so I went home to Lydbrook. We didn't have T.V. and I was more interested in sport than the Coronation so I went out and played football. Horley

I was 3rd Officer Engineer on the S.S. Mauretania and on Coronation Day we were sailing from New York to the Caribbean and South America. Willy L.



Thank you to all who shared their fascinating recollections with Ann M for USL Life Magazine

This article brings back memories for me too. We had a most extraordinary day: my family moved house! We listened to the Coronation on the radio before we set out from Gloucestershire for Surrey and some weeks later we went to the cinema to watch the film. *Editor (the other Barbara S!)*

Composed on Westminster Bridge 1802 by William Wordsworth (1770-1850)

(This poem portrays a calm river and a quiet city and we hope that this is how London will look at dawn before the Coronation procession on 6 May 2023)

Earth has not anything to show more fair;
Dull would be he of soul who could pass by
A sight so touching in its majesty:
This City now doth, like a garment, wear
The beauty of the morning; silent, bare,
Ships, towers, domes, theatres, and temples lie
Open unto the fields and to the sky;
All bright and glittering in the smokeless air.

Never did sun more beautifully steep
In his first splendour, valley, rock, or hill;
Ne'er saw I, never felt, a calm so deep!

The river glideth at his own sweet will:
Dear God! The very houses seem asleep;
And all that mighty heart is lying still!

Extracts from Love Thy Land by Alfred Tennyson (1809-1892)

(This poem portrays thoughts and ideas of changes that may occur in the reign of Charles III)

Love thy land, with love far brought
From out the storied Past, and used
Within the Present, but transfused
Through future time by power of thought.

Nor toil for title, place or touch
of pension, neither count on praise:
It grows to guerdon* after days
Nor deal in watch-words overmuch:

So let the change which comes be free
To ingroove itself with that which flies,
And work, a joint of state, that plies
Its office, moved with sympathy.

*reward

“The Order of the Garter is a very useful institution, it fosters a wholesome taste for bright colours, and gives old men who have good legs an excuse for showing them.”

Lord Salisbury 1830 – 1903. Conservative Statesman

Royalty is a government in which the attention of the nation is concentrated on one person doing interesting actions. A **Republic** is a government in which that attention is divided between many, who are all doing uninteresting actions. Accordingly so long as the human heart is strong and the human reason weak, Royalty will be strong because it appeals to diffused feeling, and Republics weak because they appeal to the understanding.

The best reason why **Monarchy** is a strong government is that it is an intelligible government. The mass of mankind understand it, and they hardly anywhere in the world understand any other.

The **Crown** is according to the saying the “fountain of honour” but the **Treasury** is the spring of business.

The mystic reverence, the religious allegiance, which are essential to a true monarchy, are imaginative sentiments that no legislature can manufacture in any people.

Walter Bagehot 1826-1877

BOOK REVIEW

**The Blood Card (A Brighton Mystery)
by Elly Griffiths.**

This detective novel takes place in 1953 and it all comes to a conclusion on the day of the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. The mystery of one murder must be solved in order to prevent hundreds more. A gripping read.





Coronations Through the Ages

We are due to have a coronation this year for King Charles III. We all hope everything goes to plan and that it is a happy event, but this has not always been the case. Closer to home Gloucester has also hosted one Coronation in 1216.

William of Normandy later known as the Conqueror was crowned in Westminster Abbey on Christmas Day 1066. He had married Matilda, daughter of the Count of Flanders, in 1053. Her own Coronation was held in 1068. During William's Coronation the French-speaking Normans and the English-speaking Saxons shouted their approval. The Norman soldiers outside thought the noise inside was an assassination attempt and began setting fire to houses around the Abbey. Smoke started filling the Abbey and the congregation fled and riots broke out. The service was completed despite the chaos.

Westminster Abbey has been the site of the Coronation of every monarch since William I, apart from Edward V who was never crowned and was deposed by Richard, Duke of Gloucester, later King Richard III, and Edward VIII whose Coronation was cancelled on 12th May 1937.

On 28th October 1216 a hastily arranged Coronation was held in Gloucester Cathedral for a nine-year-old boy to become King Henry III. There was Civil War in the country against King John, Henry's father. The rebels were supported by King Philip II of France. John became very ill and died on 18th October 1216 at Newark Castle in Nottinghamshire.

It was then that the loyalist leaders decided to crown Henry immediately to reinforce his claim to the throne. The rebels were in control in London, so Westminster Abbey could not be used. Cardinal Guala Bicchieri, the Papal Legate to England, oversaw the Coronation in Gloucester. This was because the Archbishop of Canterbury, Stephen Langton, was in France. He had been banned from England by the Pope until peace was restored.

It is believed that King John had lost the Crown Jewels while crossing The Wash, so Henry was crowned using one of his mother's gold circlets. Henry was brought to Gloucester by his mother Isabella of Angouleme. There is a stained-glass window in Gloucester Cathedral that shows Henry's Coronation.

A second Coronation was held for Henry in 1220 in Westminster Abbey with a newly created Crown and the returned Archbishop of Canterbury.

Another unusual Coronation was that of Edward III who was crowned age 14 years. This was after his father Edward II, who died at Berkeley Castle under mysterious circumstances and was later buried in Gloucester Cathedral. Therefore, Gloucester has a connection with two Kings and their Coronations.

Since 1066 there have been 39 Coronations, so King Charles III will be number 40. We all hope the Coronation on May 6th goes to plan regardless of who is invited or who is not.

Long Live the King!

Many thanks to our local historian, Mike Stratford, for this feature.

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View from the french windows

St Leonard's Church



Services for May

7 th May	8.00 am	No Service
	10.00 am	Holy Communion Rev. Duncan Hutchison
14 th May	10.00 am	Holy Communion Archdeacon Hilary
21 st May	10.00 am	Holy Communion Rev. Jade Scholes
28 th May	10.00 am	Holy Communion TBA

Churchwarden: Gill Howell

**Church Administrator:
Jenny Cunningham**

Wedding & Baptism Enquiries



Everlasting God, we pray for our new King. Bless his reign and the life of our nation. Help us to work together so that truth and justice, harmony and fairness flourish among us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen



Tuesday Morning Prayer Group

Prayer group will now be held on the second Tuesday in the month in The Old School Room at 9.00 am

commencing Tuesday 9th May

Everyone is welcome

Keith Robbins

It was with great sadness we learnt of the death of Keith Robbins on Monday 10th April.

Keith was a much loved and respected member of our Church Family and will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife and family at this sad time.



Christian Aid Week

May 14th - 20th

Please go to their website for further information on how to donate.

www.christianaid.org.uk

Tower light dedications

Please note the deadline for the Church pages is the 8th of the preceding month

In an effort to conserve resources the church lights will only be lit between the hours of 5pm and 9 pm during the winter

If you or your family wish to have the lights sponsored in celebration of a birthday, an anniversary, for a loved one's life or any other reason, please contact Jenny Cunningham for more details.



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Gill Howell

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Sheila Thomas

Roof Fund
Raised so far
£2,641

THE ROLE OF THE SOVEREIGN IN THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.



Dave Knight

As we approach the Coronation of King Charles, it is an opportunity to consider his future role as the head of the Church of England.

The sovereign holds the title 'Defender of the Faith and Supreme Governor of the Church of England.'

It was in 1534 King Henry VIII proclaimed the Act of Supremacy, which declared the English monarch to be the Supreme head of the Church of England and to have authority over the appointments of the bishops. Henry's reasons for doing this are well known and took advantage of the church's new independence from Rome to advance the vision of the Reformation, although he remained a staunch Catholic. Since those days of the reformation, the Bible and in particular the Gospels have opened up to everyone as the Hebrew/Greek scriptures have been translated into English. This meant the works and teachings of Jesus have been made known to everyone and showing him to be the light of the world whose life Christians follow and live.

The late Queen Elizabeth had a strong faith and knowledge of the bible. She made constant references to Jesus Christ in her many speeches. Here are a few of her quotes: "The teachings of Christ have served as my inner light" and at Christmas 2000 she said, "For me the teachings of Christ and my own personal accountability before God provide a framework in which I try to lead my life".

As time moves on so does the Monarchy and the Queen said in her Golden Jubilee speech to Parliament "Change is a constant.....the way we embrace it defines our future."

As King Charles takes up his role as head of the church, I believe he leads a church that has moved on from where religion as an institution was supreme to a modern diverse church that embraces all people of all nations and creeds where the word religion is replaced by faith in Jesus Christ as the light and saviour of the world.

As we watch the coming Coronation of the King with all the pomp and ceremony, let us think of Easter when Jesus found a donkey and rode it fulfilling the prophecy that said, "Do not be afraid people of Jerusalem, the King is coming riding on a donkey".

The coming Coronation is in complete contrast to what we witness in the life of Jesus. He was also born to be a King and in Holy Week we remember how he was crowned with thorns and his procession led to the cross!

At Easter we discover a King like no other, a Kingdom that will last forever.

Dave Knight



O Praise the name of the Lord Most High

I cast my mind to Calvary
Where Jesus bled and died for me
I see His wounds, His hands, His feet
My Saviour on that cursed tree.

His body bound and drenched in tears
They laid Him down in Joseph's tomb
The entrance sealed by heavy stone
Messiah still and all alone.

O Praise the Name of the Lord our God
O praise His Name forevermore
For endless days we will sing Your praise
Oh Lord, oh Lord our God.

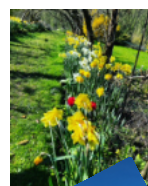
Then on the third at break of dawn
The Son of heaven rose again
O trampled death where is your sting?
The angels roar for Christ the King.

He shall return in robes of white
The blazing sun shall pierce the night
And I will rise among the saints
My gaze transfixed on Jesus' face.

Good Friday Walk to Prinknash Abbey



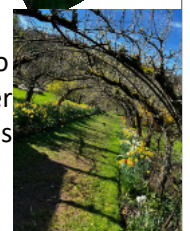
On a beautifully bright spring day 19 people joined together for the walk to



Prinknash Abbey on Good Friday. They were met at their destination



by ten or more people who all joined together to enjoy Hot Cross buns and tea/ coffee.



Mothers Union



We welcomed the Rev Pat Phillips from Newent to our March meeting and by using the readings from the Bible, she introduced us to some of the 100 or more plants mentioned in the Bible. In addition, one of our members, Pam Kelly brought along two albums of pressed specimens collected by her father when he had been in the Holy Land which added to the interest. She also showed us some frankincense made from the resin of the Boswellia tree. This tree typically grows in the dry, mountainous regions of India, Africa, and the Middle East.

At our next meeting on Thursday 18th May, Paul Hobbs will be telling us about Christian Art and Holy Ground Installations. He lives in Gloucester and makes paintings and sculptures that deal with contemporary issues from a Christian perspective and last year attended one of the Lent lectures and was well received so everyone is welcome to come along to St Oswald's Church Hall, Coney Hill at 2.30pm. There is plenty of parking.

Kate Gale - Branch Leader

Farewell to Philippa



On Easter Day a very large part of the church was filled to enjoy Rev Philippa's last service as our Interim Minister.

During the service a letter from Bishop Rachel was read, she gave her thanks to Philippa and said that during May the Diocese would be in a position to reveal their plans for our future

Following the service a farewell lunch was held in the schoolroom, and a presentation made in appreciation of everything that Philippa has achieved during her stay with us and how both she and Ian would be missed.



Gill Howell.

Rev Philippa writes:

'Thank you so much to everyone at the church for such a lovely last Sunday with you all, on Easter Day.

It has been brilliant journeying with you all, and walking beside you for the last 18 months. Thank you very much for your generous garden token and money, as a leaving gift. Ian and I went to a local garden centre on Easter Monday and looked at garden benches – we hope to replace an old one in our garden with a beautiful new one.

As I shared with you in my last sermon

"So, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm and let nothing move you. Always work enthusiastically for the Lord, for you know that nothing you do for the Lord is ever in vain." (1 Corinthians 15 v 58)

My love and prayers are with you as you wait to see what the future holds for you all at Upton St Leonard's church.



Philippa x

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CROWNS



A feature article written by Linda Munnoch



With Easter and the Coronation being so close together, there is a certain synergy in the word crown and it conjures up many different aspects of what the word actually means, and when I began researching about it there were so many avenues to go down that it would be impossible to condense everything in a review for the magazine so these are just a few thoughts ...

So who first had the idea to form a metal circlet and plonk it on someone's head and declare them 'higher born'? It seems quite bizarre really, but a crown has become one of the ultimate symbols for denoting power and supremacy over all others and has been the cause of so many wars over the centuries. Humans have committed fratricide and infanticide to obtain and retain a crown in their lust for domination.

The Bible tells us that a crown of thorns was fashioned and placed on Jesus' head at his crucifixion parodying him as 'King of the Jews' and this was in contempt of the Romans whose deity, the Emperor, wore a similar item made from laurel leaves. These wreaths were also placed on heads after achieving great success in games or battles. So crowns can be made of different materials, not necessarily metal.

A crown can be coinage, the brow of a hill, the top of your head, something the dentist puts in your mouth – so many different uses for the word, but we still keep coming back to a solid gold circle placed on the 'highest' in the land.

Then I had a thought: was there any link between crowns and halos? After all, angels and 'gods' are depicted in many medieval paintings and even earlier in Roman tesserae, with the golden circle around their heads so you can spot them immediately as an important being. Halo is from a Greek word for a crown of light rays, a disc of light found in art of angels and exalted human figures.

The Egyptians adorned their pharaohs with headdresses made from silver or gold inlaid with precious lapis lazuli and over the generations these adornments have become more and more 'flashy'. Leaders of armies wore skullcaps adorned with jewels and some of these are still on display in museums around the world. Check out oldest.org and see the Saint Wenceslas Crown kept in Prague castle and the Iron Crown of Lombardy in the Cathedral of Monza in Italy dating from the 5th century. This crown comprises of a circlet of gold around a silver ring allegedly forged from a nail from 'the Cross'.

The world's oldest known crown was discovered in a secluded cave near the Dead Sea and dated 4000-3300 BC and is kept in New York University. A piece of headwear denotes 'the leader of the pack' whatever the material.

Our new king Charles III will be crowned using St Edward's crown created in 1661 for Charles II which was once flattened with a mallet during an attempted robbery by one Thomas Blood in 1671. He had befriended the elderly guard but... Blood was pardoned and given £500 a year and an estate in Ireland! A case of keeping your enemies close? It has been modified and refashioned over the years and has become more ornate and much much heavier, so heavy in fact that it can only be worn for a very short time. When the crown is placed on his head it will be the first and only time he wears it. The definition of this crown is *'a circular ornamental headdress worn by a monarch as a symbol of authority made of or decorated with precious metals and jewels'*.

Queen Camilla will also be crowned with a very controversial headpiece which contains the Koh-i-Noor diamond. The diamond is disputed to belong to Afghanistan and Pakistan, so this will be removed and replaced with Cullinan diamonds set into the crown instead.

During the ceremony there will be other members of the royal family and peers in the congregation who are allowed to wear coronets if they so choose. Wikipedia's Crown (heraldry) is useful if you're interested in finding out more about the subject.

I'm sure we all wish King Charles a long and peaceful reign, but I am reminded of William Shakespeare's words 'uneasy lies the head that wears the crown' – how many of us would swap places?

Food Bank Report for 2022

How generous our community is to all the demands on them! In 2022 we were, as a nation, faced with many additional charities asking for help. In particular, the war in Ukraine and then the rapid increase in the cost of living and fuel in in all formats.

However, we lived in hope and those of us who remember rationing in the 40's and early 50's adapted accordingly, and once again people continued to give generously to our local Gloucester Trussell Trust Foodbank.

This once again has been done in many ways, other than through the Village Collection points, St Leonard's Church and the Village Shop. People have also been generous in their monetary contributions through me or directly to the Gloucester Food Bank. Also many people have added items to their internet orders from Supermarkets, or added to the supermarket collection crates, where they are collected by the Gloucester Branch of the Trussell Trust.

My grateful thanks to Rahul and Seeta for acting as a collection point for food, and our Church.

Due to restrictive space and continuing with limited contact the food bank continue to deliver to people. This makes it easier for those people who do not have access to a vehicle and makes more efficient use of the food bank volunteers time.

At the present time, as with all Charities, they are finding it difficult to keep up with the demand. Not only with the supply of items and monetary support but also with the number of volunteers.

The following list is an indication of what they are always in need of:

- Long life fruit juice (not chilled)
- Tinned spaghetti
- Tinned fruit
- Tinned meat (e.g. corned beef, ham, chicken, stews etc)
- Tinned fish
- Packet instant mash
- Packets of biscuits
- Long life milk (not chilled)
- Shampoo
- Deodorants
- Toothpaste and single toothbrushes
- Size 5 & 6 nappies and baby wipes

Obviously, anything that is appropriate is gratefully received, provided it is in date, due to food regulations and not perishable.

The splendid results for the calendar year 2022 from the Village were as follows:

- Village Shop Collection Point– approx. 244Kg
- St Leonard's Church (including Harvest) - approx. 298Kg
- Chipmunks Day Nursery (Harvest) - 80.3KG
- Upton St Leonards Primary School Harvest – 339.3Kg

A very big "THANK YOU" to everyone for this remarkable yearly total. This is another example of the very supportive community in which we live and the support given by our Church and Seeta and Rahul in the Village Shop, in their limited space, acting as a collection point.

Please continue to give this charity your support. Every little helps towards another meal.

Dorothy Cox



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MAY

1	Mon	Coffee Club.....	BMI	10.00a.m.
1	Mon	Upton WI	Pavilion	2.00p.m.
1	Mon	Bank Holiday		
2	Tue	Needles & Pins	Village Hall Annex.....	9.45a.m.
2	Tue	Tuesday Probus	BMI	10.00a.m.
2	Tue	Rubbish and food waste week. Garden waste for those with brown bins		
2	Tue	Tennis Club Members Evening	Tennis Courts.....	6.00p.m.
2	Tue	Badminton	Village Hall.....	8.00-10.00p.m.
3	Wed	Bell Ringing Practice.....	Church	7.30p.m.
3	Wed	Upstagers Amateur Dramatics	Village Hall	7.30p.m.
3	Wed	Bingo.....	BMI	8.00p.m.
6	Sat	King Charles III Coronation – Televised in the BMI	BMI	
7	Sun	Tennis Club Members Morning.....	Tennis Courts.....	10.00a.m.
8	Mon	Bank Holiday		
9	Tue	Recycling and food waste week		
9	Tue	Needles & Pins	Village Hall Annex.....	9.45a.m.
9	Tue	Tennis Club Members Evening	Tennis Courts.....	6.00p.m.
9	Tue	Badminton	Village Hall	8.00-10.00p.m.
10	Wed	Copy date for June issue USL Life		
10	Wed	Wednesday Probus	BMI	10.00a.m.
10	Wed	Upstagers Amateur Dramatics	Village Hall	7.30p.m.
10	Wed	Bell Ringing Practice.....	Church	7.30p.m.
10	Wed	Bingo	BMI	8.00p.m.
12	Fri	BMI AGM	BMI	8.00p.m.
13	Sat	Eurovision – Televised in the BMI	BMI	7.00p.m.
14	Sun	Tennis Club Members Morning.....	Tennis Courts.....	10.00a.m.
15	Mon	Coffee Club.....	BMI	10.00a.m.
15	Mon	Abbeydale Garden Club	Village Hall	7.30-9.30p.m.
15	Mon	Parish Council Meeting	Pavilion	7.30p.m.
16	Tue	Rubbish and food waste week. Garden waste for those with brown bins		
16	Tue	Needles & Pins	Village Hall Annex.....	9.45a.m.
16	Tue	Tuesday Probus	BMI	10.00a.m.
16	Tue	Tennis Club Members Evening	Tennis Courts.....	6.00p.m.
16	Tue	Badminton	Village Hall	8.00-10.00p.m.
17	Wed	Ladies Probus	BMI	10.00a.m.
17	Wed	Upton WI Committee.....	Pavilion	2.00p.m.
17	Wed	Upstagers Amateur Dramatics	Village Hall	7.30p.m.
17	Wed	Bell Ringing Practice.....	Church	7.30p.m.
17	Wed	Bingo	BMI	8.00p.m.
18	Thu	History Group – Mary Queen of Scots – Liz Griffiths	Village Hall.....	7.45-9.15p.m.
21	Sun	Sunday Lunchtime Jazz	BMI	1.00-3.00p.m.
21	Sun	Tennis Club Members Morning.....	Tennis Courts.....	10.00a.m.
22	Mon	Coffee Club.....	BMI	10.00a.m.
22	Mon	Twyver WI	Village Hall	7.30p.m.
23	Tue	Recycling and food waste week		
23	Tue	Needles & Pins	Village Hall Annex.....	9.45a.m.
23	Tue	Tennis Club Members Evening	Tennis Courts.....	6.00p.m.
23	Tue	Badminton	Village Hall.....	8.00-10.00p.m.
24	Wed	Wednesday Probus	BMI	10.00a.m.
24	Wed	Upstagers Amateur Dramatics	Village Hall	7.30p.m.
24	Wed	Bingo	BMI	8.00p.m.
24	Wed	Bell Ringing Practice.....	Church	7.30p.m.
25	Thu	Craft Club	The Old School Room	10.00-12.00p.m.
28	Sun	Tennis Club Members Morning.....	Tennis Courts.....	10.00a.m.
28	Sun	Comedy Night	BMI	8.00p.m.
29	Mon	Spring Bank Holiday		
29	Mon	Coffee Club.....	BMI	10.00a.m.
30	Tue	Needles & Pins	Village Hall Annex.....	9.45a.m.
30	Tue	Rubbish and food waste week. Garden rubbish for those With brown bins		
30	Tue	Tuesday Probus	BMI	10.00a.m.
30	Tue	Badminton	Village Hall	8.00-10.00p.m.
31	Wed	Bell ringing practice	Church	7.30p.m.
31	Wed	Upstagers Amateur Dramatics	Village Hall	7.30p.m.
31	Wed	Bingo	BMI	8.00p.m.

JUNE

3	Sat	Entertainment night.....	BMI	8.00p.m.
5	Mon	Upton WI	Pavilion	2.00p.m.
5	Mon	Parish Council Meeting	Pavilion	7.30p.m.
12	Mon	Twyver WI	Village Hall	7.30p.m.
14	Wed	Ladies Probus	BMI	10.00a.m.
19	Mon	Abbeydale Garden Club	Village Hall.....	7.30p.m.
24	Sat	Summer Quiz	BMI	8.00p.m.

Continued on the next page

JULY

3	Mon	Upton WI	Pavilion	2.00p.m.
3	Mon	Parish Council Meeting	Pavilion	7.30p.m.
8	Sat	Entertainment Night	BMI	8.00p.m.
10	Mon	Twyver WI	Village Hall	7.30p.m.
12	Wed	Ladies Probus	BMI	10.00a.m.
17	Mon	Abbeydale Garden Club	Village Hall	7.30p.m. person
20	Thu	History Group – AGM and talk on a personality from Upton’s past.....	Village Hall.....	7.45-9.15p.m
30	Sun	Sunday lunchtime jazz	BMI	1.00-3.00p.m.

Weekly courses

This section lists the courses that run every week.

Activity	Day	Venue	Contact	
Yoga	Mondays 10am	Village Hall Annex	Lara Bricknell	07876 764425
Pilates	Thursdays 1pm	Village Hall Annex	Philippa Barker	07861 727198
Pilates	Fridays 9.30am	Village Hall Annex	Philippa Barker	07861 727198
Chair-based Pilates	Wednesdays 1.30pm	Pavilion	Angela Harris	
Dance Workout	Tuesdays 7pm	Pavilion	Debra Law	07505 761420
Kettleball Fitness	Monday 5.30 & 6pm	Pavilion	Deb Locke	07738 104404
Seniors Fitness - NEW	Thursdays 9.30am	Pavilion	Deb Locke	07738 104404
Tai Chi - NEW	Thursdays 10.00	Village Hall Annex	Christina Caldwell	07800 569019
Art Class	Tuesdays 2pm	Village Hall Annex	Christine Hughes	01452 614227

CALLING ALL GARDENERS! DID YOU KNOW...?



STROUD BREWERY AND WILD STROUD have joined forces to encourage gardeners to help recycle waste and reduce slug damage to young vegetable and flower plants by encouraging the public to fill containers with beer slops which would otherwise go down the drain. It is well known amongst gardeners that slugs can be tempted to drink beer and, sadly for the slugs, that leads to a premature demise, thus allowing the young plants nearby to continue to grow and flourish.

Between April and the end of July you are invited to go along with your own containers to Stroud Brewery or a nearby collection point and help yourself to the dregs, which you then take back and pour into old yoghurt pots or some other small container. Put that into a hole in the soil near the plants you want to protect and encourage the little beasties to have a drink.

Unfortunately there doesn't yet seem to be a way of preserving the many types of slug which don't actually eat your potential homegrown produce, but on the other hand you are saving the birds which might have eaten the slugs you would otherwise have murdered with old-fashioned chemical slug pellets. Whatever you do, you can't be sure of totally winning on all fronts, but at least the slugs may enjoy a tasty death by an organic method and you may have the joy of unmolested lettuces.

It is suggested that collectors of the beer slops leave a small donation to help cover the cost of Wild Stroud, which is a voluntary organisation. For more information please visit <https://wildstroud.org>.

On 20 and 21 May, Wild Stroud is organising an Open Gardens weekend in Stroud with a focus on wildlife. The public is being invited to go and see what can be done to introduce wildlife into domestic gardens and there will be demonstrations and a talk about how to move to no-dig gardening. For this, visit <https://wildstroud.org/open-gardens>

Compiled by Barbara Swindin



Ruth Edgington who died in January 2023. Ruth and her late husband, Michael, were two of the original residents of Perry Orchard. Ruth was born in Upton St. Leonards. We hope to publish an obituary in the next edition of USL Life.

We are also sad to learn of the death of Keith Robbins. See Page 9.

BUS NO. 66

News about the new bus service from Stroud to Cheltenham and back via Upton St Leonards is spreading and we have reports from happy users. Also advice: make sure you're at the bus stop in good time in case the bus passes through earlier than you might expect. You'd have to wait an hour for the next one! We are pleased to see that some new bus stops have been put in place to make the service user-friendly.

The Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council is at 7 30pm on 15 May at the Pavilion and is open to all.

UPTON ST LEONARDS LIFE

Web site <https://usllife.org.uk>

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

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Next month's editor



Use the postbox at the Village Hall or via the "Contact Us" box on our web page to pass messages to us.



LOCAL ELECTION

There were not due to be any local elections in the Stroud District, but the recent resignation of Jason Bullingham, who was one of the three District Councillors for the Upton and Painswick ward has meant a by-election has been called to fill the vacancy, and will take place on Wednesday 17 May in Upton and Painswick

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UPTON ST LEONARDS SPRING SHOW APRIL 2023 RESULTS



The winning photograph in the Spring Show was taken by Amy Croose. The editors thought this picture was really stunning - it is of course of the road beside Painswick Beacon.

48th UPTON ST. LEONARDS SPRING SHOW 2023 48th	
FLOWERS	LEE BLACKSHAW
HOME PRODUCE	JULIE WINSTANLEY
HANDICRAFTS	ANNE HEMSLEY
CHILDREN'S SECTION	ISAAC PAYNE
PHOTOGRAPHY BEST IN SHOW	AMY CROOSE

Mike Stratford presents the prizes to some of the winners:

- Julie Winstanley
- Amy Croose
- Lee Blackshaw
- Anne Hemsley

