

100 Years on: We Will Remember Them - Special Issue

100 years on: Special Feature

The First World War brought about profound changes everywhere in Britain. On this, the 100th anniversary of the armistice which ended the fighting, in our special feature we will endeavour to show how Upton St Leonards was affected, not just in terms of lives lost, but how the very nature of the Village was changed. We have five pages here with items about this, but please also visit the exhibition in the Church on Saturday 10 and Sunday 11 November which has much more on the subject.

Much of the information in this feature comes from the material added to the booklet "Records of Upton St Leonards", in 1920, by Canon A J Brewster, who was Rector of Upton during and after the war. The booklet was originally created by Ven. E C Scobell, a pre-war Upton Rector.

There has also been a large amount of work done by Mike Stratford and Roy Roberts, particularly on the names and records of service personnel. Work on the census was done by Andy Russell.

Over the page is a list of 226 men and women associated with the Village who joined up for war service, and it includes the 37 who were killed, marked + . The list includes two women, Margery Evans and Alice Percival who joined the Red Cross, Alice serving as a nurse in France.

Two of those listed, marked ++, died soon after the war, war injuries being a major factor in the cause of death, it is believed. They are buried in Upton churchyard, their graves marked with a military headstone. Their names were not recorded on the war memorial, but will be on the new WW1 memorial tablet being installed in the church.

1918 - 2018

Commemorative Exhibition and Ceremonies

On Saturday 10 and Sunday 11 November there will be an exhibition in Church to commemorate and remember the men from Upton St Leonards who gave their lives during and after the Great War. On the Saturday there will be music and songs from 1914-1918 sung by Karen Stratford accompanied by Andrew Stratford.

Timetable of events

Saturday				
10am-4pm	Exhibition open			
	Songs and music of 1914-18			
2.30pm	A short dedication service for the			
	new WW1 Remembrance plaques			
Inside the Church				
	Sunday			
9.30am	Scouts & Guides meet in the Village Hall			
(You are welcome - see page 8)				
10.50am Assemble at the War Memorial				
11am Act of Remembrance, wreath laying				
	Followed by a short service in Church			
12pm-4pm	Exhibition open			
Mike Stratford and Roy Roberts are responsible for the				

Mike Stratford and Roy Roberts are responsible for the exhibition - our thanks to them.

On Thursday 15 November at 7.45pm in the Village Hall Mike gives a talk to the History Group on the men of Upton who died in WW1. All are welcome to attend.

Why is there a new WW1 memorial plaque inside the church? At the end of WW2 names of those who gave their lives in the second conflict were initially engraved on a plaque inside the church, and later the names were also engraved on the War Memorial. There was no corresponding memorial inside the church naming the WW1 fallen. That has now been put right.



The picture (courtesy of Mr & Mrs James of Six Acres) shows the Pound, as it was then called, i.e. the junction of High Street and Rance Pitch. The date of the picture is not known, but it must have been taken in the early 1900s.

Miles Albert Harold Allaway William Allaway William Apperley + George Avery William Avery + Edward Bailey William T Baker Snr William T Baker Jnr Archibald Ballinger + Arthur Edward Ballinger **Benjamin Ballinger Charles Ballinger** Edgar Ballinger **Ernest Ballinger** Henry Ballinger Percy Ballinger Wilfred Ballinger George Bance + Arthur Edwin Barnard Frank Barnard **Robert Barnard** Hanmer Barnes **Thomas Barnes Edwin Barnfield** Edwin Bastock William Bayliss Herbert Bending Albert Bennett Alfred Bennett George Bennett Hubert Bennett Henry Betteridge James Betteridge + Arthur Percival Birchall + Edward Vivian Birchall John Dearman Birchall James Bishop Thomas Bishop James Brawn Alfred Brown Edwin Bruton John Bruton Valentine Bruton Alexander Cameron + Ewen Arthur Cameron

+ Frederick John Chorley **Thomas Clissold Godfrey Colderick** Arthur Cook Frank Cook **Thomas Cooper Robert Cotesworth** Cecil Cove **Ewart Curtis** Albert Dando **Alvington Dashwood Campion Dashwood** + Theo Dashwood Frank Davies Albert Davis + Alfred James Davis Cyril Davis **Edward Davis** Harold Davis Harry Davis William Davis Charles Drake George Dyer + William Francis Dyer **Geoffrey Evans** Margery Evans + Rupert Ancrum Evans Harry Farmer George Faulkner John Cheslyn Fielding Walter E Fox Alfred George Frank Groves Sidney Groves William Groves **Charles Gurden** James Hale + Luther Hardy Ernest Harford Ivor Harris **Ockford Harris Stanley Harris** James Hartright George Harvey George Francis Helm William Herbert

John Hewlett ++ Renford C Hooper + Henry Hopkins William Hopkins Frank Hopton Sidney Hopton **Henry Humphries** Charles Hunt **Ernest Ireland** + Walter Ireland Lionel Jackson + Lionel Arthur Jackson Norris Jackson Percival Jackson **Rowland Jackson** Lloyd Jesse Albert Johnson William Johnson Frank Iones **Guy Jones** William Jones Arthur Jordan Melville Jordan Leonard Langan Henry Leach Thomas Leach Albert Little Arthur Lloyd Frederick Lloyd Jesse Lloyd + Lewis Henry Lloyd + Reuben Edward Lloyd Thomas Luker John Godfrey Lyth William Merrett Alfred Middlecote Henry Middlecote James Middlecote John Middlecote Walter Middlecote Albert Miles Alexander Miles + George Henry Miles Edward Millard George Millard + Harold Samuel Millard Leonard Millard + Sydney Millard Trinder Millard + Edwin James Mills Alfred Morgan **Charles Moss** Henry Moss + Arthur James Mourbey Benjamin Nash **Frnest Nash** Henry Nash Henry Newman Thomas Newman William Newman Wilfrid Nicholls Albert Organ Alfred Organ + Henry Panter Alfred Pegler Henry Pegler Alice Percival David Percival Norman Percival Albert Perry Thomas Perry William Perry + Ernest Phelps Jack Pimble Alfred Poole Harry Poole James Poole Jesse Price Walter Pugh + Arthur Charles Rice Frank Rice Walter Rice **Charles Ridgway** Albert Ridler Henry Ridler + Henry Charles Ridler + William George Ridler Walter Robbins Sidney Sadler **Albert Saunders** Arthur Shewell Albert Smith

+ Albert John Smith + Daniel John Smith **Douglas Smith Ernest Smith** + Ewart Smith + Francis Smith George Smith Hartley Smith Herbert Smith Sidney Smith Willoughby R Smith **Frederick Spencer** Henry Spencer Louis Sprackling + Francis John Spring Harold Steele Frederick Steinle Frank Stock George Swinburne **Charles Taylor** John Taylor **Richard Taylor** William Taylor Arthur Thomas John Thompson + Henry Isaac Tranter **Cecil Trotman** John Trotman Frank Turner George Turner William Twyning David Wagstaff + Frederick G Wasley John Webb Snr + John Webb Jnr ++ William Webb William Whitney Arthur Williams + Ernest Frank Williams Sidney Williams William Wollcock Stephen Woolford

War work - the women of Upton

Very many women and girls did war work, by nursing, by working at the munitions factory at Quedgeley, and by taking the place of men in farms, offices and many other places.

In addition, there were many voluntary tasks taken on. Women of Upton and Matson helped to manage a YMCA tent at an Army training camp set up at Sneedham's Green. Each Christmas the women of the Village got together to send a parcel to every Upton man on active service. Women ran the local branch of the Soldiers and Sailors Families Association - a real help, not only to families bereaved or anxious about their menfolk, but also to the men on service who knew there was a support organisation at home.

Ernest Robert Clarke

In the churchyard there is a military headstone bearing the name Ernest Robert Clarke, who died in 1915. He was not an Upton man; you won't find his name in the list above or on the war memorial. He was from Bristol. Too old for active service (he was 44 when he died) he had enlisted in one of the support units of the Gloucestershire Regiment. He died of exposure on a cold November night and his body was found near Pincott Farm at the top of Nut Hill Road. At his inquest it was not established why he was away from his barracks.

His name will be added to the new WW1 memorial plaque in Church.

The War Memorial

Money was very quickly raised by Upton people for a permanent war memorial. No time was wasted and by summer 1920 the memorial had been designed, made and was in place. It was dedicated on 8 August 1920. The picture on the right was taken soon after completion.

The Village Hall

The Birchall family paid for the building of the Village Hall, in memory of the brothers Percy and Vivian who were killed in the fighting, and their younger brother John who died at school in 1918. Just like the war memorial, the project was done in double quick time - it was completed by spring 1920 and opened on 10 April of that year.

Interior furnishings for the Hall were paid for by donations from Villagers.

Again, we have a picture taken in 1920 soon after completion.





Social Life

During the latter part of the war the BMI, built 20 years earlier, had to be closed, but of course it reopened fairly soon after hostilities ceased.

After the war there was a sustained effort to develop the social life of the Village. An Education Committee arranged lectures and a branch of the Workers' Educational Association was formed. A Cinema Club organised film shows (if you look in the main hall you can still see a filled-in aperture, above the kitchen, which used to be for the cinema projector). There were dancing classes for adults and children in the Hall.

The Tennis Club and the Football Club were founded

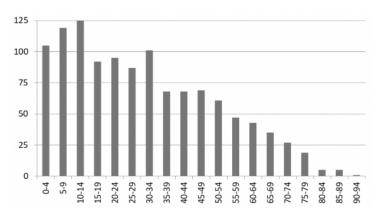
at this time, and the Cricket Club re-formed. There was, apparently, a Bowling Club - where was their green? "The Upton Brass Band has been revived under Bandmaster Melville Jordan", Canon Brewster recorded in his book.

The 1911 Census

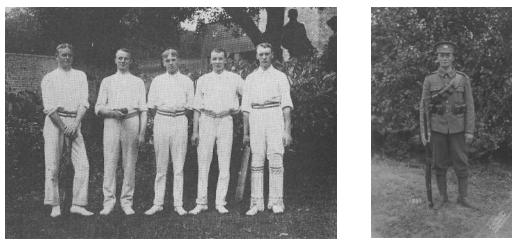
The census gives us a snapshot of the village a few years before the start of the war. It shows there were 1179 people living in Upton St Leonards, Matson* and the Prinknash areas. The diagram on the right shows the age distribution in 1911, with just 11 people aged over 80. How different from today!

* At this time the Upton St Leonards parish, and census area, went right up the Painswick Road as far as Saintbridge. Matson was a very small parish with a population of maybe 50 and was grouped with Upton for the purpose of the census.

Not all the names in the list of the fallen and the list of those who served actually lived in Upton. For example, Theo Dashwood, who was killed in January 1918, never lived in Upton, but his brother did. Only about half the



names listed on the previous page also appear in the 1911 census in the Village. But each name is certainly connected in some way with the Village, each person was dear to someone in the Village.



Percy Birchall, killed in 1915, pictured here as a young man in 1898.



Vivian Birchall, killed in 1916

Five of the six Millard brothers, photographed in cricket kit in 1912. All six brothers are named in the list on page 3. Sydney Millard, pictured in his army uniform, was killed in the battle of the Somme in 1916. Harold Samuel Millard was killed in 1917.



The picture on the left is truly remarkable. It shows four British "Tommys" who were invited to stay with a German family in 1919, in recognition of the end of the fighting. They are pictured with the family. Second from right in the picture is Charlie Harris, the father of Villager Margaret Brown. (Charlie Harris is not in the list on page 3 - he was from Hartpury.)

We will remember them



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TURN TO US FOR

Times Past in Upton

We are so fortunate to have a wonderful history group keeping tabs on Upton events for us.... here are just a few anecdotes from the group that continue the focus on the end of the Great War this month.

Items from the Parish News

Saturday December 28th 1913

A celebration was held to welcome the new Rector, Canon Brewster and his wife. It was held on the Recreation Ground, hosted by Mr Birchall, nearly 400 people attended. After refreshments there was entertainment provided by Mr Genge and his Glee Party who sang several times "Old King Cole", fairly bringing down the house. Mr James sang two songs and Mr Will Hutchings of Bristol gave some very clever lightning pictures and did some conjuring tricks. At the close there were well deserved cheers for Mr and Mrs Birchall.

"During the winter of 1913, 1,491 cups of cocoa have been supplied at a farthing a cup to the school children staying at school for dinner. The parents owe the lady members of staff a debt of thanks for their willingness to continue with this Upton custom."



This handsome young man is Walter Middlecote, uncle of Rachel Hall. Walter served throughout the war, initially in the Territorial Army, but before long with the Gloucestershire Regiment. The Middlecotes are an Upton family of course, and Walter is among the 5 Middlecotes, all brothers, listed on page 3. (Picture courtesy of Rachel Hall) Perhaps things don't change, because in May 1914 the Parish Council reported "The Council regrets that their efforts to provide in the Recreation Ground amusements for the children, have not met with the approval of some mischievously disposed persons. Constant repairs are required to damage to the swings and property of the Parish. No right minded person will see the children robbed of a privilege, which very few parishes have the benefit."

The ladies of Upton have always been good at handicrafts as this item demonstrates from January 1915:

"The garments made in the Parish since last August for Upton men serving in the forces amount to 550. These are 153 shirts, 118 pairs of socks, 118 scarves, 71 bed jackets, 22 night shirts, 19 knitted body belts and 5 pairs of mittens. Also made for soldiers' children are 13 petticoats, 8 nights dresses and 6 sleeping suits. These items are being divided between our men at the front and the Weston Sanatorium and the Soldiers and Sailors Families Association."

My grateful thanks to Mike Stratford, who will continue to look out for more items from history to share with us.

Linda Munnoch

Save the Children Fund

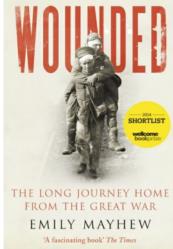
Probably not many people realise that the "Save The Children" Fund was associated with the end of WW1.

In April 1919 Dorothy Buxton and her sister Eglantyne Jebb founded the Fund as an effort to alleviate starvation of children in Germany and Austria-Hungary during the Allied blockade of Germany of World War 1, which continued after the Armistice.

Book Review for November - an appropriate, but rather different view of the end of WW1

Wounded : The Long Journey Home From The Great War by Emily Mayhew ISBN 978 0 099 58418-6

This book, published in 2013, focuses on the British Army on the Western Front between 1915 and 1918. It traces a soldier's journey from injury on the battlefield to recovery in Britain, and tells how innovative medical procedures adopted by those working in the field during the Great War changed how medical care is provided to front-line soldiers today. The story is told mainly from the perspective of a few wounded soldiers and those who fought to save them - including stretcher bearers, medical officers, surgeons, nurses, orderlies, chaplains, ambulance trains and finally the London Ambulance Column.



What's been happening in the last few weeks?

USL Ladies Probus Club

Our speakers in September were Richard Auckland and Brian McBurnie, local historians with a passion for the history of Barnwood. Their fascinating subject was Mary Cole, the butcher's daughter from Barnwood, who in the late eighteenth century caught the eye of the rakish Earl of Berkeley. She refused to become his mistress and after a marriage ceremony held in secret, believed she was legally married to him. Mary, thinking she was the 5th Countess of Berkeley, bore him thirteen children throughout their relationship. The exploits of Becky Sharp of Vanity Fair fame, do not compare with the ups and downs of Mary's life. Suffice to say they were eventually legally married but most of their children were held to be illegitimate and their eldest son Fitz could not inherit the title. Once established in society, Mary was well regarded and on being widowed was offered his hand in marriage by William III who was very keen to produce an heir. Mary declined the honour as she did not want any more children! Had she accepted who knows how different the royal landscape might be now. As they say, the rest is history.

Upton St Leonards WI

At our October meeting the speaker was Margaret Daniels, "The Bard of Barnwood", hugely entertaining with her poetry and local tales, humorously told. Margaret had a lilting voice similar to Pam Ayres and held the members enthralled. She began writing in the 70's when working at Barnwood School in its various guises. She joined a writers' guild; members there encouraged her to get her poems published. Her children featured frequently in her poems, for example one about the time her young son kept peering under the door, and when asked what he was doing he said he was looking for a "Giraffe" (draught!). Her poem of little children acting the Christmas Nativity story with shepherds, kings , animals and a mis-matched inn keeper made us laugh. Many more stories and poems followed but my favourite was Tales of the Cotswolds similar to the poet Frank Mansell's poem "The roads go down to Gloucester town and the Severn seeks the sea." Margaret is a vibrant speaker and writer who made our evening bright.

Margaret generously donated her fee to the James Hopkins Trust.

Chris Ellson

We meet again on Monday 29th October for our AGM followed by a



fish and chip supper at Upton Village Hall at 7.30pm. All ladies very welcome.

Kathy Quant

Twyver WI

Our speaker's car broke down, thereby depriving us of an evening of planned entertainment, however, being the stalwarts that we are, we pulled together and a Trivial Pursuit Quiz was admirably constructed by our Treasurer Sue Downes. Forming 5 teams we gallantly got our brains into gear and in the end we all had a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

A wall hanging designed and stitched by our clever ladies has been presented to WI House and received with great acclaim.

Walking Netball - Sandy Baker is currently spreading the word of this newest sport and encouraged others to join. Although it is obviously slower than the original game it is subsidised by Netball England, and some coaching is provided. It takes place on Mondays and all ages and abilities are welcome. This is now a nationwide sporting interest and not just for WI members.

Monica shared copies of Conversation Starters relating to mental health issues which is very current at the moment. This is to encourage people to open up and talk more about this important subject.

After an unusual but enjoyable evening proceedings were drawn to a close. The next meeting is 12th November at 7.30 everyone welcome.

Linda Munnoch



What's been happening?

HISTORY GROUP

Edward Wyatt gave an illustrated talk on "Chest Tombs" in churchyards. You probably know these as "Table" tombs, but the proper name is "Chest". Upton churchyard has a good number of these chest tombs, so the speaker was able to focus his talk around our examples. A chest tomb in memory of Henry Roberts and one next to it in memory of Robert Tayloe, both very close to the main door of the church, are the oldest examples in our churchyard, dated 1648 and 1656 respectively*.

The next talk, fittingly, on the Upton men who gave their lives in WW1, will be given by Mike Stratford on Thursday 15 November at 7.45pm. Non-members are welcome to attend.

*NB They are the oldest datable monuments of any type in the churchyard.

BMI AUTUMN QUIZ

The autumn quiz at the BMI took place on Saturday 29th September, and was very well attended with 19 teams taking place.

Two teams had the same top score, "Us Four" and "The Georgians" so it went to a tie-break question answered first by "The Georgians".

A total of £200 was raised on the night which has been added to the BMI charity funds for 2018-19 going to CLIC and Prostate Cancer. The next quiz will take place in the New Year on Saturday 12th January.



Jackie Hunt, of the indomitable Twyver Walkers, pictured above, with Whiteshill church in the background, writes: "Our walk this month was part of the Whiteshill and Ruscombe Diamond Jubilee Walk. It was quite varied and passed through village, wood, valley and fields with some ups and downs. Coffee and lunch were enjoyed at the Whiteshill Community Village Shop."



Scouts and Guides Remembrance Sunday Event

The Scouts and Guides host a special Remembrance Event at the Village Hall, 9.30-10.30am on Sunday 11 November, and all members of the village are invited to take part in the activities for all ages, after which the Scouts and Guides will parade to the War Memorial for the Act of Remembrance.

Your qualified village electrician



work undertaken





What's coming up? Bonfire & Fireworks

Village Hall

Monday 5 November

Gates open 5.30 -- Bonfire lit at 6.30 Admission £4.50 adult, £2.50 children £12 Family ticket (2 adults, 2 children) Refreshments, games etc.

ADVENT WINDOWS

As announced in last month's issue, Karen Morris is organising an "Advent Windows" event in the Village. **SHE NEEDS MORE HELPERS**: the task is to set up a lit and decorated window in your house on one evening in December (she will tell you which day is "yours"). Villagers get hold of a trail map, the Advent Calendar, which shows where the lit window is each night, and go to find it. If you can set up a window for one night please call Karen



Upton Show AGM

Tuesday 27 November

7.45pm

At the Pavilion

YOUR SHOW NEEDS YOU!

The UpStagers

Present

The Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomens Guild Dramatic Society's production of "A Christmas Carol"

by David McGillivray & Walter Zerlin (and Charles Dickens)



The Village Hall 29th, 30th November & 1st December 7.30pm (Doors open at 7)



Tickets £9 (£8 Concessions) Refreshments available

For tickets call 03336 663366 (£1.75 Service Fee applicable per booking) or online at www.ticketsource.co.uk/theupstagers Having completed university, Hannah Saunders, of Six Acres, is going on an International Citizen Service placement, and she needs to raise some funds. Here's an imaginitive scheme she has come up with:



Cotswold Companions

A new business venture

After growing up in Cheltenham I moved to Upton St Leonards in 2002. I am a mum to three children, who are all at senior school, and am looking to start a new business "Cotswold Companions" that can benefit our community. Realising there is a shortage of good old fashioned help, I would like to offer a friendly, reliable home help service in and around Upton St Leonards. I am able to offer the following:

- Household help and companionship
- Accompanied shopping trips and days out
- Accompanied Doctors appointments and hospital visits
- Preparation of home cooked meals and baking
- Pet care and dog walking
- Managing tradesmen
- Pop in well-being checks for loved ones
- Or anything else helpful!

Please call me now for a chat - Amanda Cook







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Website: www.uptonstleonardschurch.co.uk

Priest in charge: Revd Clodagh Ingram

Curate: Rev

Revd James Turk

You will be very welcome at all of our services

Photo by Jenny Innes

Church Calendar for November Sun 4 8.00 **Holy Communion service** 10.00 **Celebration Service** St. Leonard's Day Mon 5 4.00 - 4.30 Evening Prayer Tue 6 9.30 - 9.50 **Morning Prayer** Coffee & Chat 9.50 - 12.00 Wed 7 4.00 - 4.30 **Evening Prayer** Sat 10 WW1 Plaque Dedication 2.30 Sun 11 10.50 At the memorial for an Act of Remembrance followed by a service in the Church Mon 15 4.00 - 4.30 **Evening Prayer** Tue 13 9.30 - 9.50 **Morning Prayer** Coffee & Chat 9.50 - 12.00 4.00 - 4.30 Wed 14 **Evening Prayer Communion Service** Sun 18 10.00 4.00 **Evening Prayer** 4.00 - 4.30 Mon 19 **Evening Prayer** Tue 20 9.30 - 9.50 **Morning Prayer** 9.50 - 12.00 Coffee & Chat Wed 21 4.00 - 4.30 **Evening Prayer** Sun 25 10.00 **Communion Service Christ the King Sunday** 4.00 Word and Worship Mon 26 4.00 - 4.30 Evening Prayer Tues 27 9.30 - 9.50 Morning Prayer 9.50-12.00 Coffee & Chat Wed 28 4.00 - 4.30 **Evening Prayer**

Operation Christmas Child

If you would like to help with this year's shoe box appeal Jenny will be happy to deliver a box to anyone who would

like one. The filled boxes need to be returned no later than 18th November. All donations will be gratefully received, including cash towards the transport costs. For more information, please contact Jenny Cunningham.



Ringing Out for Peace

Sunday 11th November 7.05 pm

1000 cathedrals and churches will ring

out their bells across the nation after the 'WW1 Beacons of Light' are lit across the nation and beyond at 7.00 pm in celebration of Peace.

St Leonard's Parish Church will be ringing on this occasion - please listen out - and remember all those who gave their lives so that we can live our lives as we do today - Pray for

Peace in the World.

	Charlie Burnett
1400 ringers were killed during the conflict	
and as part of the Ringing Remembers	10wer Captain
campaign we have attempted to recruit	
and train an additional 1400 ringers	
nationally this year ready to ring on	
Remembrance Day.	

	Sun 4 th Nov	<i>Dates for your Diary</i> St. Leonard's Day celebration 12 noon Bring & Share Lunch
Tues 6 th Nov		Music Group 7.00 pm in Church
	Sat 10 th Nov	Service of Dedication WW1 Plaques 2.30 pm
	Sat 10 th & Sun 11 th Nov	WW1 Exhibition
	Sun 25 th Nov	Christ the King Service 10.00 am
	Sun 25 th Nov	Word & Worship 4,00 pm

Mothers'UN ON

Thursday 15th November

2.00 pm in the Church

Speaker Judy Jackson - Christmas Decorations



Website: www.uptonstleonardschurch.co.uk



Christ The King Sunday

Many people may not be familiar with Christ The

King Sunday. For those who carefully observe the events of the Christian year, it is the last Sunday before Advent begins. As such, it helps worshipers who are already thinking about Christmas to remember that the event of Christmas is about much more than a baby in a manger—it's about a sovereign Christ.

On Sunday 25 November we will be marking Christ The King Sunday at St Leonard's. For those of you who like a little history and background, the day has its roots in the Catholic church and was officially instituted by Pope Pius XI in 1925. In a short time the Anglican Church, and other major protestant denominations, adopted the festival which was a direct response to the rise of secularism and popular nationalism. You have to remember that the devastation of World War I was still in everyone's mind at the time that this feast was instituted. Mussolini had just seized power in Italy. Stalin had seized control of the Soviet Union from Lenin, and many of these leaders were executing Christians (and everyone else) and essentially declaring their independence from God. To state it simply, Pope Pius XI wanted to remind the world exactly who was the true leader of nations.

Jesus' life was bookended by kingship. The Magi, when seeking him at his birth, ask directions for the "new-born King of the Jews." And at the end of his life a sign was hammered to his cross which mockingly said, "This is Jesus. King of the Jews." What King of any worth would be hung on a cross? This king started life in a stable, and ended it with a public execution. Jesus' kingship is very different indeed from the kingdoms of this world. Just look at what has become of the earthly empires and kingdoms over the past 2000 years.

The Roman Empire..... Gone! All that remains are museum pieces and some crumbling old buildings. The Mongolian Empire....There was a time that every country in Europe quaked at the mention of Genghis Khan and his Mongolian army. An unstoppable army now gone, if not forgotten. The Greek empire... Alexander the Great cut great swathes across the Middle East and further East in an astonishingly quick time, and it all disappeared almost as quickly as it appeared. And what about the British Empire? At one time about a quarter of the world's population was under British rule but, again, very little left of it now.

The point is empires and kings rise and fall. They have a moment of glory, and are then consigned to pages in a history book. But Jesus' kingdom is different.

We are at the end of the church year, and on the first Sunday of December in St Leonard's, and all other churches across the land, we will start to hear again the story of Christ the King. Over the next 12 months we are going to have a look for a King in a stable. A King eating with the outcasts of society, a King on a cross, a King who is raised from the dead but whose body still bears the wounds. If any of us wants to understand Christ the King we need to listen to that story, especially in a world full of uncertainty, suspicion, constant change and mistrust.

Jesus is a king, but a different kind of king than we're used to. He isn't a king with a gold and jewel crown, who has riches and jewels and servants, and who orders people and armies around. Jesus is a king, but the best kind of king. Jesus doesn't want to be king of countries and armies, He wants to be the King of our hearts and our lives. He is the most wonderful King, the best kind of King, a King who wants to give us forgiveness, love, heaven, and eternal life with Him!

James

Website: www.uptonstleonardschurch.co.uk

Christmas Services

2rd Dec

8.00 am	Holy Communion
10.00 am	Celebration Service
4.00 pm	Christingle
9 th Dec	
10.00 am	Communion Service
16 th Dec	
10.00 am	Communion Service
4.00 pm	Carol Service
23 rd Dec	
10.00 am	Communion Service
24 th Dec	
2. 200	
4.00 pm	Nativity
11.00 pm	Christmas Communion
25 th Dec	
10.00 am	Christmas Celebration with

30th Dec

4.00 pm Word & Worship with Communion

Upton St Leonard's Primary School

Communion

19th December 9.00 am Carol Concert in Church

Coopers Edge School 20th December 9.30 am Christingle service at Coopers Edge School



Tower Floodlighting

On Sunday 4th November, the Church Tower is lit in remembrance of the 100th birthday of Rose Gardner. With love from all the family.

The Church Tower is lit in remembrance of the 96th birthday of Evelyn, on Tuesday 6th November. With love from all the family.

On Friday 9th November, the Church Tower will be lit in memory of James Bruntnell Williams. With much love from Yvonne and all the family.



On Sunday 12th November, the Tower Lights are lit in celebration of the 16th birthday of Ben Davies. Kindly sponsored by his grandparents, Brenda and Keith Davies.

On Monday 13th November, the Church Tower is lit in remembrance of the 100th birthday of Marion Hooton.

If you or your family would like to have the Church Tower Floodlights lit to celebrate a special event such as a birthday / anniversary / Baptism or in remembrance of a loved one please contact Jenny Cunningham for more details. There is no set amount for this, just what you would like to gift to the Church in order to help cover running costs. If you are able to Gift Aid your donation this will help us too. Please note that the deadline of the Church News is the 10th of the preceding month.

Harvest Festival 'Oh What a Beautiful Morning'



It was indeed, a little breezy but the sun shone down on us as we congregated in the allotments at Perry Orchard to give Praise and Thanksgiving, as we celebrated our Harvest Festival, led by Revd James Turk. The address was given by Revd Clodagh Ingram. The congregation was in good voice as we sang our Songs of Praise accompanied by the representatives of the ever faithful Gloucester Brass Band.



The auction, under the hammer of Church Warden Keith Robbins, was a success with the sale of local produce. The proceeds of £100 will go to the aid of the charity Gloucester City Mission.

Fortunately the fine weather held until nearly the end, after which the autumnal clouds and rain caught up with us.



A big Thank You to all who helped in the preparation, the transporting of the chairs and table from the church and providing refreshments.

Margaret Hakim



Website: www.uptonstleonardschurch.co.uk

Churchyard Tales





Walking through the churchyard one cannot fail to see what enormous improvements have been going on with extensive pruning, weeding, clearing, and mowing, and what a difference this has made. During the hot spell when the grass conveniently stopped growing Jenny, Gill and Sheila (Jolly Green-gym Squad) filled countless huge builders bags with excess greenery: and with Mike Stratford offering to take it all away, the churchyard has taken on a whole new look uncovering hidden gravestones and even an original cobbled footpath by the bottom gate. Keith has helped by cutting obstinate branches and there is now a clear view of the fencing in the far top corner of the churchyard. Richard willingly takes away any old rubbish such as cans, bottles and miscellaneous rubbish as well as emptying the bins on a weekly basis and Alan continues to take a pride in the area to the left of the main path to the church. Thank you too to other volunteers who are helping out in the churchyard. We hired a shredder and created a huge pile of shredded branches, twigs and leaves, now dispersed. The churchyard now looks loved and cared for but none of this would be happening without the willing and enthusiastic help from our volunteers. Of course there is plenty left to do, particularly in the pruning of the trees, but to date thanks to our volunteers who work tirelessly in the churchyard they have succeeded in transforming its general appearance.



On page 19 there is a thank-you for this work, from Ginny Ring.

Sheila Thomas

Who's who at the Parish Church

Priest in Charge: Revd Clodagh Ingram

Curate: Revd James Turk

Churchwardens:Keith RobbinsRachel HallPCC Secretary:Sarah Kentpccsecretary@uptonstleonardschurch.co.uk

Baptism & Wedding Enquiries: Church Administrator - Jenny Cunningham

Deanery Synod Representative: Dorothy Cox Bell Tower Captain: Charlie Burnett Mother's Union: Rachel Hall Church Cleaning Rota: Claire Appleyard Church Flowers: Jenny Cunningham

Church Treasurer: Vacancy

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Recycling Centres

New arrangements

From 28 October new opening times come into use at sites throughout the county.

As the evenings get colder and darker, the sites across the county receive almost 30 per cent less waste and recycling. In order to reflect this and save money, they will be open from <u>10am</u> until <u>4pm</u>, for <u>six</u>, rather than seven days a week. The closed day for each site is shown below.

The council collected data from recycling centres and this showed that midweek is the quieter period at the sites. Importantly, the closure rota also means sites in the county will still be open on Bank Holiday Mondays and Good Friday, which are especially busy days at the sites.

Residents will have a reasonable alternative recycling centre with this closure pattern, by closing sites at opposite sides of the county. The new opening arrangements, and how the sites are used, will be monitored.

Cirencester Fosse Cross - closed on Tuesdays	Bishops Cleeve Wingmoor Farm - closed on Wednesdays
Coleford Oak Quarry - closed on Tuesdays	
Stroud Horsley Pike Quarry - closed on Wednesdays	Gloucester Hempsted - closed on Thursdays

The information on the closure days and new seasonal times are now online at www.recycleforgloucestershire.com

Portway - road closure

Portway will be closed from Monday 3rd to Friday 7th December. This is to allow for drainage repairs by Amey working on behalf of Gloucestershire County Council. Portway residents will get their own notice about access, but for everyone else - please use another route that week.



My winter wardrobe was on my mind the other day as I strolled in the fields with my dogs. The chill in the air had, almost overnight, changed the leaves of the chestnut trees from the deepest green to autumnal russet. Soon the fields and bridleways will be too wet for the dogs who are more inclined to be the comfort loving

the dogs who are more inclined to be the comfort loving type, enjoying a soft chair and glowing fire, but while nature allows, the open spaces will be our chosen walk.

Editor: we haven't had an article from "The Villager" for many months - it is a pleasure to have another one to publish!

There are still some blackberries in the hedgerows, only small ones though - the choice berries having been picked for jam making, and some in the freezer for later in winter.

The cotoneaster and pyracantha are vying for attention with their scarlet and orange berries as good as any baubles on a Christmas tree.

Upton is blessed with walker-friendly paths. Turn the box off, lift your eyes from your smartphones and iPads, and your whole being will be the better for it; get your walking shoes on and delight in the glorious countryside surrounding our Village - and it's all for free!

HEDGEHOGS

We are grateful for a delightful piece received from a resident about his passion for hedgehogs. We haven't got space this month for his piece, we hope we can



find space at another time. The picture is from him of a visitor to his garden.

He included a timely warning about the dangers to hedgehogs from bonfires, see on the left. If you want to find out more about these creatures and how you can help to look after them, he suggests you contact the British Hedgehog Preservation Society - they have lots on their website.

FIREWORKS & BONFIRES -PRECAUTIONS

Make sure there is no livestock anywhere near your fireworks. Animals are easily scared and can injure themselves badly trying to run from the noise and flashes. Two years ago in the Village a horse was badly hurt as a result of a firework being carelessly let off in a space adjoining its paddock.

If you do have a bonfire, before lighting it, please check for hedgehogs. Preferably move or build the whole bonfire just before lighting it. If that's not possible, look underneath it.



Jazz lovers - A special treat in January for you!

The musical evening at the BMI on Saturday 26 January features the renowned band "Swing from Paris", who play in the style of 1930's *Hot Club de France* - Django Reinhardt and Stephane Grappelli etc. Vintage swing and gypsy jazz with violin, guitars and double bass. A fabulous evening. Put it in your diaries now!

http://swingfromparis.co.uk/







sootybloke@blueyonder.co.uk



VILLAGE DIARY

NOVEMBER

		N O V E M		
1	Thu	Tai Chi	-	
1	Thu	Senior Circuits		
1	Thu	Fitness (three 30 min sessions)		•
5	Mon	Yoga		
5	Mon	Coffee Club		
5	Mon	Yoga		
5	Mon	Yoga		
5	Mon	Fireworks & Bonfire		
5	Mon	Parish Council Meeting		7.30pm
6	Tue	Rubbish and Food Waste Week and Garden Waste for those wi		
6	Tue	Needles & Pins		
6	Tue	Junior Jujitsu		
6	Tue	Brownies		
6	Tue	Badminton	5	
7	Wed	Stitchers		
7	Wed	Pavilion Painters		
7	Wed	Bingo		
7	Wed	UpStagers Amateur Dramatics		
7	Wed	Bell Ringing practice		
8	Thu	Senior Circuits		
8	Thu	Tai Chi		
8	Thu	Fitness	Pavilion	6.00pm
10	Sat	Copy Date for December Issue of USL Life		
	ge 2 for eve	nts on Nov 10 and 11 to commemorate the 100 th anniversary of		
12	Mon	Yoga	5	
12	Mon	Coffee Club	BMI	10.00-12.00pn
12	Mon	Yoga		•
12	Mon	Yoga		
12	Mon	Twyver WI	Village Hall	7.30-10.00pm
13	Tue	Recycling and Food Waste Week		
13	Tue	Needles & Pins		
13	Tue	Junior Jujitsu		
13	Tue	Brownies	Pavilion	5.30pm
13	Tue	Badminton	Village Hall	8.30-10.30pm
14	Wed	Stitchers	Pavilion	10.00-12.00pn
14	Wed	Pavilion Painters	Pavilion	2.00-4.00pm
14	Wed	Healthy Living Group	Pavilion	7.00pm
14	Wed	Bingo	BMI	8.00pm
14	Wed	UpStagers Amateur Dramatics	Village Hall	7.30-9.30pm
14	Wed	Bell Ringing practice	Bell Tower	7.30-9.00pm
15	Thu	Senior Circuits	Pavilion	10.00-10.45an
15	Thu	Tai Chi	Village Hall Annex	9.30-10.30am
15	Thu	Fitness (three 30 min sessions)		
15	Thu	History Group -"In a Foreign Field Where Men From Upton Lie"		
17	Sat	Entertainment Night	BMI	8.00p.m
19	Mon	Yoga	Village Hall Annex	10.00-11.30am
19	Mon	Coffee Club	5	
19	Mon	Yoga		
19	Mon	Yoga	5	
19	Mon	Abbeydale Garden Club		
20	Tue	Rubbish and Food Waste Week, also the last collection this yea	5	
20	Tue	Needles and Pins		9 45-12 15nm
20	Tue	Junior Jujitsu	-	-
20	Tue	Brownies		•
20	Tue	Badminton		
20	Wed	Stitchers	5	
21	Wed	USL Ladies Probus		
21	Wed	Pavilion Painters		
21	Wed	Bingo		
21	Wed	UpStagers Amateur Dramatics	5	
21	Wed	Bell Ringing Practice		
22	Thu	Senior Circuits		
22	Thu	Tai Chi	-	
22	Thu	Fitness (three 30 min sessions)		
26	Mon	Yoga		
26	Mon	Coffee Club		
26	Mon	Yoga	5	•
26	Mon	Camera Club	5	•
26	Mon	Lady Downe Charity Trustees Meeting	Upton St Leonards School	7.30pm
27	Tue	Recycling and Food Waste Week		

27	Tue	Junior Jujitsu	Pavilion	4.00-5.00pm
27	Tue	Brownies	Pavilion	5.30pm
27	Tue	Upton Show AGM	Pavilion	7.45pm
27	Tue	Badminton	Village Hall	8.30-10.30pm
28	Wed	Stitchers	Pavilion	10.00-12.00pm
28	Wed	Pavilion Painters	Pavilion	2.00-4.00pm
28	Wed	Bingo	BMI	8.00pm
28	Wed	Upstagers Amateur Dramatics	Village Hall	7.30-9.30pm
28	Wed	Bell Ringing Practice	Bell Tower	7.30-9.00pm
29	Thu	Senior Circuits	Pavilion	10.00-10.45am
29	Thu	Tai Chi	Village Hall Annex	9.30-10.30am
29	Thu	Get Together Club	Upton St Leonards School	2.00-4.00pm
29	Thu	Fitness (three 30 min sessions)	Pavilion	6.00pm
29	Thu	UpStagers - "A Christmas Carol"		
30	Fri	UpStagers - "A Christmas Carol"	Village Hall	7.30pm
		DEC	EMBER	
1	Sat	UpStagers - "A Christmas Carol"	Village Hall	7.30pm
3	Mon	Parish Council Meeting	Pavilion	7.30pm
3	Mon	Upton WI	Village Hall	7.30-10.00pm
8	Sat	BMI Pensioner's Lunch	BMI	
10	Mon	Copy Date for January issue of USL Life		
10	Mon	Twyver WI	Village Hall	7.30-10.00pm
12	Wed	Healthy Living Group	Pavilion	7.00pm
13	Thu	Get Together Christmas Lunch	Bowden Hall	
15	Sat	BMI Christmas Draw	BMI	8.00pm
17	Mon	Abbeydale Garden Club	Village Hall	7.30-9.45pm
18	Tue	Salvation Army Band & Songsters	Christchurch Abbeymead	
22	Sat	Family Party		
24	Mon	Christmas Eve Entertainment	BMI	8.00pm
31	Mon	New Year's Eve Entertainment	BMI	
			NUARY	·
7	Mon	Parish Council Meeting	Pavilion	7.30pm
7	Mon	Upton WI	Village Hall	7.30-10.00pm
10	Thu	Copy Date for February issue of USL Life	5	
12	Sat	Post Christmas/New Year Quiz	BMI	8.00pm
14	Mon	Twyver WI	Village Hall	7.30-10.00pm
16	Wed	USL Ladies Probus	BMI	
17	Thu	History Group - "Cathedral of Cloth - Ebley Mill"		
21	Mon	Abbeydale Garden Club		
26	Sat	"Swing from Paris" entertainment night		
28	Mon	Camera Club		
31	Thu	Get Together Club		

Contact Paula Quinn to get your event in the diary

Next month's editor is Andrea Dawson



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Letters to the editor



I am sure that I speak for the whole community when I say how very grateful I am to the six (and more) people who have worked so many hours in the churchyard in the past year. What a difference they have made!

There are three graves now that I try to keep tidy and it was only a few weeks ago whilst going to my grandparents' and my baby John's grave at the bottom gates that I shed a few tears: what had been a dark untidy little spot has now been transformed.

I really appreciate your hard work Sheila, Gill, Jenny, Mike, Alan and Keith (and I know there are others). Thank you so much.

Ginny Ring

A reader (who wants to remain anonymous) writes:

As a regular reader of the Newsletter, I feel compelled to write to congratulate the whole team on the quality and usefulness of each edition. I note that October was Barbara Swindin's first month as Editor, so well done to her for keeping up the high standards. The use of colour really enhances the look, especially when showcasing the skills of Diana Rosewell in last month's edition.

Sadly, we announce that Mike Prawl, one of our advertisers, died last month. We know many of you called on him for your plumbing jobs. We send our condolences to his widow.

Why has USL Life been delivered late the past few months???

Our apologies for this. It isn't the fault of our delivery team! But we've had a bad run recently. First it was the presses at Leyhill breaking down, then we had a couple of months with small problems there. Last month it was our fault - we sent the material to Leyhill with two pages missing. I hope we are over this bad patch and we will try to get back to the routine of getting copies to you before the 1st of the month.

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WORLD'S BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING

There were (at least) two events in Upton for the annual "World's Biggest Coffee Morning" raising money for Macmillan Cancer support. Once again **Rahul and Seeta Odedra at the shop** organised a street café and raised over £400. What a great use of that space outside the shop; thankfully it was a fine day. Lovely to see Rahul and Seeta's daughter who was born days before last year's event, and also to welcome Rahul's father on his first visit to this country.

Not to be outdone, the Monday BMI Coffee Club raised over £200.

A great effort and huge thanks to those who organised and those who went along to drink, eat, chat and give donations.

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