

# Upton St Leonards Life incorporating Church News

Issue 38

October 2017



Guess Who? Spiderman Perhaps?



To discover this resident's identity, see  
page 14

They're on the Loose Again!!  
See Page 6 to find out more



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# Letters to the Editor



## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The resurfacing work in Bondend Road that was due to be done in August will now take place at the end of October - during half-term week.

The work will now include some repairs on kerbs and pavements, and the area being resurfaced has been extended along the Perry Orchard allotments. It is hoped there will also be some resurfacing done in Six Acres, in Spring 2018.

Lobbying for further noise and pollution reduction from the motorway continues. The Parish Council and neighbouring councils are pressing for noise reducing fences.

The stairlift in the Pavilion is now so old that it can no longer be serviced or repaired, and is therefore due to be replaced.

### TWYVER WI

11 September, 2017

Our group welcomed three new guests and enjoyed a fun Social Evening. We were also encouraged to think about how best our county could be depicted in a wall hanging that will eventually be displayed at Denman, the WI's centre for learning. Unfortunately we did not manage to proceed to the final of the skittles but we did have a lot of fun along the way!

Meanwhile our choir, TLC have a number of performances coming up; the first being at Trevone House in Gloucester on 16<sup>th</sup> October. In November they will be performing for Twyver WI itself and on 15<sup>th</sup> December they will perform at Hucclecote Day Centre. This concludes the 2017 events but TLC will be performing once again in January/February next year at Magdalen House and the Guild House.

Our next meeting will be held on Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm where we look forward to welcoming Nicole Mayall who will talk to us on the work of the British Legion.

### UPTON ST. LEONARDS WI

4 September, 2017

We held our September meeting at The Fire Station, Shepherd Road. We saw all the equipment that was carried by a Fire Engine and what it was used for. There were also some Land Rovers drawing boats for use during any flooding or on the river. An ambulance is also stationed there. We were shown the Education Suite where children from 4 to 18 come with their schools from all over the County. There are working traffic lights with crossing lights and the children are shown how to cross the road safely. There is also a working rail crossing. There are sounds of a train approaching, then the train blows its whistle and you then hear the sound of the train speeding past. It is very realistic! The children are taken into shops and taught what they can buy at what age – cigarettes, alcohol for instance. There is a Custody Suite and Court. Next month we meet in the Village Hall where the talk will be about "Making a Garden at the Chelsea Flower Show". We meet on the first Monday of the month at 7.30, everyone welcome.

*Diane Thomas*

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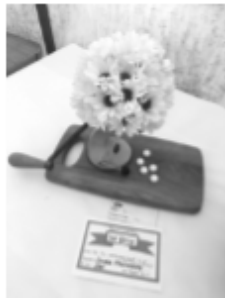
 

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# What's been happening in Upton?

## Upton St Leonards Flower Show Trophy Awards 2017

# 1st



### Keeping it in the family

From left to right, Grandma Linda Munnoch, Granddaughter Annabelle Munnoch and Grandson Harry Lewis all scoop 1<sup>st</sup> prizes!



A full list of the Trophy Awards can be seen on Page 19

On Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> September, all looked promising on the weather front, as the Annual Show welcomed its visitors. However by 3pm the late summer sunshine had given way to thunder, lightning and heavy rain which persistently blasted the marquees, the stallholders and everyone else in the vicinity! Whilst it did dampen the spirits a little, there were plenty of entries for those brave enough to attend and to view them. We were also very fortunate to be entertained by the Cotswold Big Band, that lifted everyone's spirits.

A **BIG** thank you to all those that came to support us. Thanks to the exhibitors, the local firms that donated raffle prizes (Bowden Hall, Hatton Court, Rococo Gardens, Portway Farm Shop), the Parish Council and Lady Downe trust for their financial support and for the variety of willing helpers both on the day, setting up and taking down tents, chairs and tables etc.

The Committee will be losing some members and whilst no-one likes to commit for fear of being dragged in, we really do need new and extra input. There will be a call to arms in the next few weeks but please do give it some consideration. I can almost hear Leo Sayer singing: The Show Must Go On!

*Cliff Alderman*



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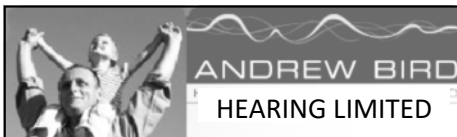
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# Scenes From Upton Show



# What's been happening in Upton?



On Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> August, my friends and I attended the first night of **The Upstagers**, "One Act Play - Alternative Accommodation" followed by a quiz. For those who did not get to attend any of the three night's performances, you really did miss a treat!



The first 10-15 minutes of the play focused on this poor old lady, who had sadly lost her husband, and how concerned her grown up children were, as to how she was going to manage living on her own. (Needless to say, none of them wanted to take on the responsibility of welcoming her into their homes!)

However, this "poor old lady" was not as senile as her family were led to believe, as she overheard them discussing what the best course of action would be! She played along with them, right to the very end when she put all three in their place! So when you get to

the age of three score years and ten – there is still a life out there!

At the end of the play there was a short quiz. This too was enjoyable and we actually came second! (That's not to say the questions were all easy!!!)

Congratulations to the whole of the Upstagers Team for their efforts. It is to be hoped that they will continue to provide us with this light entertainment. We look forward to their next production.

**Well done "Upstagers."**



## The UpStagers - Wanted - Sound & Light Person

The UpStagers amateur dramatic group has been running for over 10 years now. The current sound and lighting system has been run for around eight years by a local man, Duncan Lord, still ably supported and advised at times by his mentor. Duncan now wants to find a successor and have a gradual handover to that person.

### Are you the person the group is looking for?

#### Requirements:

Some experience of PCs.

A willingness to climb up and down ladders to sling the lighting!

Time commitment:

- **For productions** (typically pantomimes) where musical accompaniment is needed, possible backing tracks need to be supplied to the director for consideration.
- **Sound effects** and special lighting effects need to be considered reasonably in advance of the productions, as advised by the director.
- **Attendance at rehearsals** two or three weeks prior to the actual performances: Wednesday evenings (and occasional Sunday afternoons and Monday evenings).
- **Attendance at performances** – usually Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings.



Training, support and help will be provided by Duncan and his mentor.

**Interested? Call Duncan**

# What's Coming Up in Upton?

**ATTENTION!**

**They're back & on the Loose!**

**CAN YOU FIND THEM?**



## UPTON ST LEONARDS GNOME HUNT

**SUNDAY 15<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2017**

**STARTING AND FINISHING at the Village Hall. (Pushchair friendly)**

**CLUE MAPS ISSUED between 1.30pm & 3:30pm. Map £4.**

**Refreshments in the Hall from 1.30pm – 5.30pm SEE YOU THERE!**

**All funds will be split between Cheltenham & Gloucester Hospital Charity FOCUS -(Funds for Oncology Centre Users & Supporters) and St Leonards Church**

**IF YOU ARE A COMPANY, BUSINESS OR FAMILY why not Sponsor a GNOME for £20?**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL  
Marilyn Bannister**

## AUTUMN QUIZ

**For B.M.I. members and  
signed in guests**

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2017**

**With Eric**

**@ 8.00p.m.**

**£1.25 per person for teams of up to 6**

**All profit on the night to be donated to the BMI Charity for  
2017 – 2018**

**"AIR AMBULANCE AND MAGGIES"**

**PLEASE ADD YOUR NAME TO THE BOOKING SHEET BY  
THURSDAY 12<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER TO ENSURE THAT THERE ARE  
SUFFICIENT COPIES OF QUIZ SHEETS AVAILABLE TOGETHER  
WITH TABLES ON THE NIGHT**



## Painswick and Upton Conservatives

**Are holding a**

**"Fun Quiz Night "  
In**

**Upton Village Hall**

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2017**

**@ 7-30pm**

**Tickets £10-00 includes a hot supper and Bar  
available.**

**Teams of 4**

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# What's Coming Up in Upton - cont'd?

Upton St Leonards Life  
presents

## WINE TASTING CALL MY BLUFF

**In the Village Hall,  
Saturday 25th November,  
7pm for 7.30pm**

Come and enjoy a hilarious evening of wine tasting. Three consummate blaggers will try to convince you that they are describing the wine in front of you, and of course only one is correct. Can you and your table see through the bluster?

We'll have six wines in all, supplied by Laithwaites.

The St Leonards Singers will perform in the interval

Water, biscuits and cheese will be provided to give your taste buds a rest from trying to detect that "hint of raspberry" that is apparently there, or so a blagger tells you.

**Admission will be by ticket only in advance, costing £12; your seat will be reserved for you when you get your ticket, so you can share a table with your friends.**

Contact Peter Wilson or Andy Russell  
to book your place. It's sure to be a sell-out, so don't delay!

**This event is organised by USL Life to raise funds for the newsletter.**

## Saturday 4th November

Entertainment Night at the B.M.I.  
From 8.30p.m. until late

With

### The Dudettes

Open to members and signed in guests



## Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November

Tickets Adults £4.50 Child £2.50  
Family £12 (2 adults & 2 children)

Gates open 5.30pm  
Bonfire lit 6.30pm

Held at the Village Hall, Bondend Road,  
Upton St Leonard's



# Phone and Computer Clinic



Our session on clearing up and backing up was the most successful of the seminars to date. It was great to see the training room at the Village Hall filled to capacity with laptops and tablets, wires everywhere – just what that

room was designed for. Most of the attendees ran a de-clutter task there and then – we hope they have since noticed an improvement on their computers.

We used a free program “Ccleaner”. There are others available for downloading, but this one is popular and good. If you don’t regularly run something like this to clear up unnecessary junk that piles up in your computer’s storage, we strongly suggest you try it! To get hold of it, just search using the name and if you instead search the net for “declutter free”, you will see some of the other products available. Getting rid of clutter can speed up your computer, tablet or phone considerably.

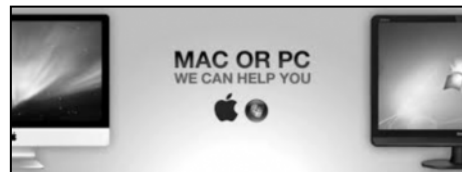
We also discussed backing up. If you have files, messages, emails, photos, music tracks on your computer, and you’d rather not lose them, you need to back them up regularly. Some of these things, it is quite likely, are automatically backed up for you, particularly if you use apps like iTunes for music, or photography apps. It takes

a little bit of understanding of File Managers (like Windows Explorer or Apple Finder) to look to see what is stored on your computer that might need backing up. But backing up is easy and can be free. We recommend using “Dropbox” and Microsoft’s “OneDrive”, and there are others, to store precious items on the net, or you can simply use a memory stick or removable drive.

We have been asked about what we think is the best way to manage photos. There are plenty of apps set up to do this; we suggest you try using “Picasa” – it’s free. This, and other apps, help you select “keepers” and organise your photos by topic or date into albums. The apps let you do lots of other things, e.g. adding titles, dates, editing the photos themselves.

If you’d like help with these topics you know what to do: contact one of us!

Richard West -  
Andy Russell -  
Jane Reed -



## Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal - 2017

The usual House-to-House sale of Poppies will be made during the fortnight leading up to Remembrance Sunday, November 12th. Please give generously to help our servicemen/women and their families. Thank you to everyone who continues to help with the collection. If you have an hour or two to spare and would like to help, please contact us.

We will also have the poppies on sale at Morrisons and we need as much help as we can, to cover the dates between the 30th October-12th November. Any time that you can spare will be greatly appreciated. Please contact us if you feel you can help us to help others. Thank you, we look forward to hearing from you.

House-to-House Collection - Jenny Cunningham

Morrisons Collection - Meg James

PS: Last year we raised £995 house-to-house in the Village and over £3400 at Morrisons

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### An Invitation from St Leonards Church

We live in a world full of conflict. We are each one

of us unique and with our uniqueness comes diversity. Diversity brings richness to our lives but often we find ourselves feeling frightened by people whose ideas are different from our own and rather than embrace one another we put up barriers and find ourselves in conflict.

We see and hear about conflict all the time - it exists in our own relationships, in our families, in our communities, in the news of the wider world and it even saturates our TV and film viewing. Conflict appears to be the norm and yet many of us want to avoid conflict at all costs because we see it only as destructive. Christians and non-Christians alike mistakenly think conflict is wrong, that it is sinful. However it is not conflict itself that is sinful, it is our inability to address conflict in ways that lead to the restoration of broken relationships that is wrong. Jesus himself didn't say conflict between believers is wrong, he assumed that there would be conflict and provided teaching to enable those who followed him to resolve conflict and find reconciliation with one another. (Ref: Matthew chapter 20 verses 15-20)

Sadly communities of faith are often as reticent as others to face up to conflict and those of you who have lived in the village for some time have experienced that reality. Unresolved conflict diminishes the faith of individuals and diminishes the witness of St Leonards to the Son of God who came to restore relationships between humanity and God and between individuals. Unresolved conflict leaves people hurting and sometimes even hating.

It is with great sadness that I have been hearing of the hurt and damage conflict has caused here in the past. I am sorry for what has happened and it seems important to take the opportunity to acknowledge what has not been done well and for us as a community of faith to express our sorrow for what has gone wrong, as well as thanking God for his

### CHURCH CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER

- Sun 1st** 8.00am Communion (Revd Clodagh)  
10.00am Family Service with Baptism (Revd Clodagh)
- Tue 3rd 9.30-9.50am Morning Prayer  
9.50-12.00 Coffee & chat in Church
- Sun 8th** 10.00am Holy Communion (Revd Clodagh)
- Tue 10th 9.30-9.50am Morning Prayer  
9.50-12.00 Coffee & chat in Church  
PCC Meeting
- Sun 15th** 10.00am Holy Communion (Revd Clodagh)  
6.00pm Evening Service (Revd Clodagh)
- Tue 17th 9.30-9.50am Morning Prayer  
9.50-12.00 Coffee & chat in Church
- Thu 19th 2.00pm Mothers' Union. Sister Catherine:  
"More Memories"
- Sun 22nd** 10.00am Holy Communion (Revd Clodagh)
- Tue 24th 9.30-9.50am Morning Prayer  
9.50-12.00 Coffee & chat in Church
- Sun 29th** 10.00am Holy Communion (Revd Clodagh)
- Tue 31st 9.30-9.50am Morning Prayer  
9.50-12.00 Coffee & chat in Church

faithfulness and praying for the future witness and ministry of St Leonard's. With all this in mind we are holding a special service at 10am on Sunday 5th November to mark St Leonard's Day. I am issuing an invitation to each and every person who would like to come along and join us for that service and I am doing so on behalf of the PCC and the church community. We are also planning a Bring and Share lunch to take place after the service in the church to which all are welcome.

Jesus teaching about how to handle disagreement is hugely challenging and it turns our normal way of thinking on its head. Jesus taught us to care for the offender and not necessarily establish the rights of the offended, particularly challenging when we are the one feeling offended. Jesus places the responsibility on the offended to seek reconciliation with the offender. In fact the responsibility for seeking reconciliation rests with the individual and the church community for the benefit of those who has offended and for the well-being of the whole community. Each one of us needs humility if we are going to carry out this ongoing work of reconciliation day by day and week by week.

*Clodagh*

## CHURCH NEWS

### ST LEONARD'S DAY



(The picture portrays St Leonard blessing a prisoner. It is from the Scobell window in the Church. St Leonard's Day is actually 6<sup>th</sup> November.)

To mark the occasion there will be a special service at 10am on Sunday 5th November. The service is intended as an opportunity to gather together to give thanks for God's faithfulness, to say sorry for past hurts and pray for the future work of mission in the parish. All are invited to join us and stay on for a Bring and Share lunch in the church following the service.

Rachel Ball writes: "The Children's Society boxes, held by local residents, have been emptied and the money banked: £409. This is a wonderful result and on behalf of the Children's Society, I want to thank everyone who has contributed, so generously, to the important work they do. I know how much it is appreciated.



If there is anyone interested in hearing more about the work of the Children's Society, or in having a collection box, please do let me know. I will be delighted to hear from you."

### Tower Floodlighting in October

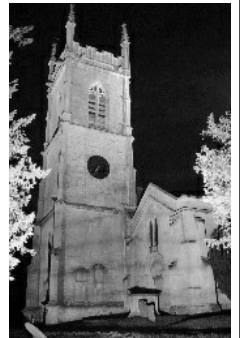
The Tower Lights are lit on the 4th October in memory of Rich on his birthday. Sponsored with much love by Mum and Libby.

On Monday 10th October the Tower Lights are lit in remembrance of Derek Brinkley who passed away two years ago on this day. Kindly sponsored by his son, Alan.

On the 11th October the Tower will be lit in memory of Chris Rumsey on her 60th birthday. With love and so many happy memories, Mum, Jen, Tone & Phil, Sarah and family, Paul & family, Elaine, Ben, Tom & Laurel.

On Thursday 12th October the Tower Lights are lit in memory of Mr Denis Devereux who would have been 96 years old on this day. Jane & Barry, Richard & Yvonne, Nan, Robert & Hanika, George, Sarah, Alice and Zoe will always remember him and the 'golden moments' we all shared together.

On the 17th October the Tower Lights are being sponsored by Ruth Edgington and family, in loving memory of Michael William Edgington, who passed away on this day, 11 years ago.



*If you or your family wish to have the lights sponsored in celebration of a birthday or anniversary or for a loved one's life or any other reason then please contact Jenny Cunningham. There is no set amount for sponsoring, just what you would like to gift to the Church in order to help cover running costs. If you are able to gift aid any donation this will help us too. To get the announcement here in time, please note that the deadline is the 10th of the preceding month.*

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Sadly, the weather was decidedly dodgy on August 20<sup>th</sup>, so we couldn't risk holding the service outdoors on the Village Green as intended, and we reverted to the Church. There were lots of visitors from the neighbouring parishes and churches, and the church was pretty packed, as you can see from the photographs. Gloucester Brass made their usual great contribution to the event. Thanks to them and to all the organisers and to those who brought food and served refreshments afterwards to the attendees. It was a great occasion despite the weather!



## *Revd James Turk reflects on "Songs of Praise"*

### **Singing In The Rain? .... Not this time!**

Music plays a very important part in our spiritual journeying. Hymn lyrics are very often remembered more than biblical texts. New Christian songs have been the vehicle for much renewal in the life of the church and great music always has the capacity to touch people profoundly. If our spirituality is so deeply shaped by music, it follows that it can be

helpful sometimes to make music the basis for an entire church service, and this is exactly what happened one Sunday evening at St Leonards. And what an inspiring evening of praise, worship and fellowship it was!

As the newly arrived curate, it was a personal privilege to be invited by Clodagh to lead such a joyous and special service. The original plan was to hold the service outdoors on the village green, however, it became very clear to us that God

had other plans! .... It was an easy decision to move the service to inside the church because of the rain. We also welcomed congregations from St Oswalds in Coney Hill, St Phillip and St James in Hucclecote, Christchurch in Abbeydale and St Lawrence in Barnwood. A couple of people from St Barnabas in Tuffley were also there along with folks from the Methodist church in Matson. Afterwards we all shared in the refreshments laid on by the team at St Leonards.

Continued over the page

### **Who's Who at the Parish Church**

**Priest-in-Charge:**

Revd Clodagh Ingram

**Curate:**

Revd James Turk

**Churchwardens:**

1 Keith Robbins

2 Rachel Hall

**PCC Secretary:**

Roy Roberts

[pccsecretary@uptonstleonardschurch.co.uk](mailto:pccsecretary@uptonstleonardschurch.co.uk)

**Church Treasurer:**

Vacancy

**Baptism & Wedding Enquiries:**

**Church Administrator:**

Jenny Cunningham

**Deanery Synod Representative:**

Dorothy Cox

**Bell Tower Captain:**

Charlie Burnett

**Mothers' Union:**

Rachel Hall

**Church Cleaning Rota:**

Claire Appleyard

**Church Flower Rota:**

Evelyn Rumsey

**Electoral Roll Officer:**

Vacancy

## CHURCH NEWS

As is traditional in a Songs of Praise service, some members of the congregation were asked to choose a hymn that had a special meaning for them. They were invited to share with the congregation the reason for choosing their hymn and I was interested to hear how the familiar hymns of the church have so deeply touched people in so many different ways. To some people it is the melody or words, to others it is because the hymn invokes memories of a specific point or person in their life. Trying to articulate how music makes us feel can be incredibly difficult, and quite rightly so, since, I think music has to be experienced. This is even more true with worship music and to sing these specially chosen hymns in a packed out church with the sound of the Gloucester Brass band, on a late summers evening was a wonderful experience indeed. Revd Clodagh gave an inspiring sermon on Psalm 67. In this Psalm we see that every verse mentions God's relationship with the entire globe. Throughout history God repeatedly speaks about his love for all nations and all people. The peoples response to God's love is to sing for joy!

I am so grateful that God puts songs in our hearts and lyrics on our lips, to express what is sometimes the deepest part of us. God gave us music for joy and celebration, for sadness and consolation, and for faith and inspiration, and for every season in our lives there is a song. Listening to the carefully chosen words from those people who had picked a hymn to be sung that night, one characteristic was constant, they had all been touched by the music. My personal thanks to everyone that made the service such a success, Gloucester Brass were a delight and they led the sung worship beautifully. It seems right to also give thanks for the great hymn writers of old - Charles Wesley, Isaac Watts, George Herbert and others, and for their modern counterparts, all seeking to take our hearts and minds to heavenly places.

*James*

# HARVEST FESTIVAL



On a dry and not too cold September 17<sup>th</sup> morning the church celebrated and gave thanks for all the Harvest, not in the church but appropriately outside on the allotments. Our thanks to Gloucester Brass Band who accompanied us with well known hymns such as "We plough the fields and scatter", to Carol Evans who facilitated the use of the Perry Orchard allotments and Tony who cut the grass for us, to everyone who came including some new faces and to Keith Robbins for entertaining us



with the auctioning of the produce at the end. The money and the collection went not just to the church but also as a tithe offering to a charity organisation to be agreed by the PCC.

## WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

### Arthur Charles Rice

Arthur was born in 1895 in Gloucester, the son of Albert Edward and Florence Kate Rice. He enlisted in Gloucester and served in the 1st/5th Battalion of the Gloucestershire Regiment. He went to France on 29th March 1915 at which time he was living in Snedhams Green, Upton St Leonards. He died on Thursday 4th October 1917 age 22. At the time of his death he was a Sergeant with service number 240110. He has no known grave and his name is recorded on the Memorial Wall to the missing at Tyne Cot Cemetery Passchendaele. It is reported he was wounded in the back while attacking a German trench on Passchendaele ridge.

### Harold Samuel Millard

Harold was born in Deerhurst near Tewkesbury, in 1889, the son of John and Alice Millard. The family moved to Pincott Farm, Nut Hill, Upton St Leonards. John Millard died in 1901, not long after moving here, but Harold's mother Alice, with her 7 sons and 3 daughters carried on working the farm. Six of the Millard boys joined up in the war and two were killed. Harold's brother Sydney was killed in July 1916. Harold served in the Gloucestershire Regiment and the 1st Battalion Devonshire Regiment, a Private with service number was 33594. He died of wounds on Sunday 7th October 1917 age 28. He is buried in Estaples Military Cemetery 27kms south of Boulogne near a large military hospital.

### Edwin James Mills

Edwin was born in 1881, the son of James and Jane Mills of Birch Tree Cottage, The Pound, Upton St Leonards. He married Alice Jones in 1912, and they had one son – James. Edwin served in the 6th Battalion Berkshire Regiment; he was a Private with service number 220225. He died on Friday 12th October 1917 age 36. He has no known grave and his name is recorded on the Memorial Wall to the missing at Tyne Cot Cemetery Passchendaele.



## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

(aka SHOEBOXES!)

What is it?

Operation Christmas Child is organised by the Samaritan's Purse international relief charity. Lots of churches, and ordinary members of the public, get involved in filling shoeboxes with small presents for children. These are dispatched to parts of the world where poverty means that children get no presents at Christmas or any other time. "A small shoebox can have a big impact. What goes into the box is fun, but what comes out of it is eternal. Be a part of changing children's lives all over the world through the power of a simple gift with Operation Christmas Child. See the impact a simple shoebox gift packed and sent with love, has on a child and how it reaches into a community." Last year over 7,300 shoe boxes went from churches in Gloucestershire to children in the poorest region of Belarus. Altogether churches worldwide sent out millions of these presents.



You may have spotted the Operation Christmas Child stand at this years Show. If you'd like more information about how you can help, or would simply like to fill one or more shoeboxes, please get in touch with Jenny Cunningham (her contact details are on page 11).

# Barbara Swindin - A Woman of Fortitude

In a quiet corner of this village there lives a quintessentially English lady, Barbara Swindin.



An unusual name for an unusual woman, for Barbara's petite stature belies a life of rugged strength and determination.

Born in Widnes and migrating first to Nailsworth then Surrey and eventually back to the Gloucester area, she finished her secondary education at Pates Grammar where she showed a flair for languages. She went on to gain a place at Birmingham University, where, she says, 'that's where life began'. Whilst gaining a degree in French (Hons) with German, she was given the opportunity to study languages abroad for 18 months and then the world of academia came to an end. She spent time in Essex but returned to begin an independent life here and put down roots in her own flat on the edge of Gloucester whilst taking a position in export sales at a local engineering company.

One fateful holiday, Barbara and her sister were in Scotland walking on Arran when she became curious about mountain and rock climbing and when she met a lady who gave her the name of Gloucestershire Mountaineering Club – the die was cast.

It started with a meeting, then a rock climbing weekend on the Gower. She found this experience frightening but exhilarating – having never even climbed a tree as a child! 'You just went out and did it!'

Climbing can be an expensive business but, with a rudimentary kit of climbing gear, a pair of jeans and walking boots, she headed out. During her first year climbing, Barbara met her future husband Les, who also climbed. He'd trained as a chemistry teacher 'in order to have the long summer holidays!'. They first got to know each other by chance, on a climbing trip when the Mountaineering Club was staying for a weekend Meet in a cottage in North Wales. Barbara speaks lovingly of him 'he had a sports car and he was tall, dark and handsome – good reasons to be together!'

By 1967 Barbara was teaching French at Selwyn School and mountain climbing by now had become a joint passion, climbing, even in winter, over snow gullies and rock faces. Barbara loves the snow. Their love of climbing propelled them on to tackle even more challenging prospects and the pull of the Alps was overwhelming.

## Hairy Moments!

Climbing the Matterhorn in 1970 with a group of climbers, negotiating loose rock which makes it dangerous, someone ahead of them clipped a boulder which rolled down and after 'jumping' over their rope, sailed on down the mountain – they'd heard it coming but there was nowhere to run!!

On the border of Switzerland and France they went rock climbing above a glacier on the eastern side of the mountain and when almost at the top, noticed a few snowflakes coming down (it's July/August time!) Two climbers in front suddenly called out "it doesn't look too good!" Seconds later, like the 'god's had awoken, black clouds appeared, there was a roar of thunder and lightning struck the mountain close to the man in front.

They hadn't been able to see over the ridge, and although none of them were novices, conditions on the mountains can be so unpredictable and it's easy to get caught unawares. They abseiled back down to the glacier and the storm chased them back across the ice. They could hear their metal gear "singing" from the lightning around them!!

Twenty years later in 1990 on Les Droites in the Mont Blanc range, a piece of cliff (above a glacier) the size of a car was breaking off due to the hot summer – three of them, Barbara, Les and companion, were roped together walking down the sloping face to the glacier below. Les heard it coming and fortunately, it broke up into pieces and fanned out and they survived – Barbara flattening herself against a rock whilst Les dodged the debris. **Continued on page 15**



# Barbara Swindin - A Woman of Fortitude, cont'd

## Pause for thought

During our chat, the inevitable thought popped into my head – ‘Could I ask a very personal question?’ - Barbara knew immediately what I was thinking! ‘Ah yes! one has been known to tether oneself with a strong rope to an immovable object and very carefully position oneself out of sight in order to do what’s necessary’ ..... imagine that in the freezing cold!

In her late 40’s climbing began to take its toll on her body and other interests began coming to the fore. The arts had always been something she’d mulled over to pursue but what to do – Art or Music? Art was quiet and contemplative so later, on early retirement, she took an Access Course at Stroud College and nowadays maintains a studio at the Painswick Centre. The hands and fingers that clung on to the crags now hold paint brushes and pencils. She’s currently working on alpine paintings using old photos and the sketch books she now produces when she still goes out to the Alps on her own. She hopes to exhibit the paintings in future.

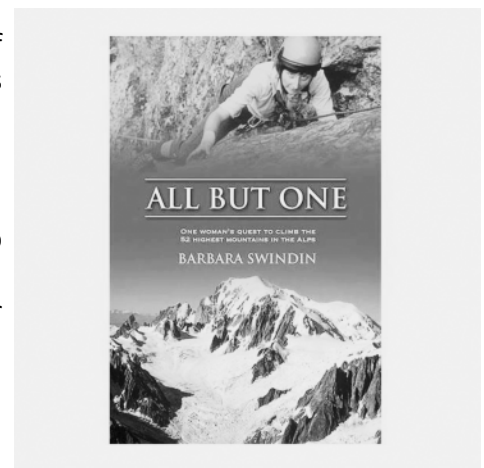
Sadly, Les died in May 2015 but later that summer she went out to Switzerland for the anniversary of the 1<sup>st</sup> Ascent of the Matterhorn in 1865 and this year she saw “Oetzi the Iceman” exhibited in Bolzano in the Italian Dolomites.

## So, plans for the future – EXTREME TRAVEL!

Barbara’s cruising the South Pacific and later on visiting the Arctic Circle of Norway in the company of Sir Chris Bonnington, who will be leading groups on a walk to see the Northern Lights – ‘Why not?’!

Had Barbara completed the 52 4000m peaks in the Alps she would have been the first British woman to do so. She has written a book on her and Les’ exploits called ‘All but One’ and I can tell you, it puts my feeble attempt to enthuse our readers, in the shade and I recommend you get yourselves a copy. There are a few available for £10 each and all proceeds will go to Sue Ryder in memory of Les.

Thank you for your memorable story Barbara.



One Woman's Quest to Climb the 52 Highest Mountains in the Alps

*Written by Linda Munnoch*

Footnote: Age is just a number



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# Cricket Report

The 2017 playing season is over. USL First XI, playing in the County Division 6, finished fourth, with 10 wins and 7 defeats. Captain Rich Dwight took more wickets (37) than any other bowler in the whole County League. None of the other USL teams fared well. The Saturday 2nd team and the Wednesday side will be relegated. The youth teams lost most of their games. However, on the brighter side, the youth players have shown great spirit and enthusiasm, and are likely to do much better next season. Coopers Edge, who also play at the Rec, won promotion in the Wednesday League and next season they will play in the top Division of the Gloucester Evening League.



The picture shows most of the players who represented the club at the Lord's Taverners game. Left to right front row: Dave Elkins (Youth Coach), Jon Nixon, Nick Croft, Sam Warner and Chairman Simon Harkin. Back row: Alan Preece, Rich Dwight (1<sup>st</sup> team skipper), Rich Woolley, Ashley Bick and the club's President Paul Mount.

Paul's company MIUS sponsors the team, as you can see from the shirts.

# Tennis Report

## Results from the Dunlop Gloucestershire Summer League 2017



This year the Ladies A and B Doubles teams amalgamated to form one USL 'A' team in Division 3A. The team eventually finished in 4<sup>th</sup> position winning 44.8% of their matches.

The Mens Doubles team were also placed in Division 3A and won the majority of their matches, finishing in a very creditable 2<sup>nd</sup> position, winning 52.2% of their games.



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## Tru cuts

We welcome Marie to the team. She has 25 years experience and specialises in long hair for all occasions.

We will now be able to offer more flexibility on appointments.

We would like to thank everyone for the warm welcome we have received into the village community and for your continued support.

We look forward to seeing you.

35a Churchfield Road

*Trudy &  
Debbie*



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

# VILLAGE DIARY

## OCTOBER

2	Mon	Coffee Club.....	B.M.I.....	10.00-12.00p.m.
2	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall Annex.....	10.00-11.30a.m.
2	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall Annex.....	12.15-1.45p.m.
2	Mon	Fitness Training (2 sessions).....	Village Hall Annex.....	6.00-7.30p.m.
2	Mon	Zumba.....	Upton St Leonards School.....	6.30-7.30p.m.
2	Mon	Parish Council Meeting.....	Pavilion.....	7.30p.m.
2	Mon	Upton WI.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-10.00p.m.
3	Tue	Recycling and Food Waste Week		
3	Tue	Needles & Pins.....	Village Hall Annex.....	9.45-12.15p.m.
3	Tue	Badminton.....	Village Hall.....	8.30-10.30p.m.
4	Wed	Pilates.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.30a.m.
4	Wed	Wednesday Probus.....	B.M.I.....	10.00a.m.
4	Wed	Stitchers.....	Pavilion.....	10.30-12.30p.m.
4	Wed	Pavilion Painters.....	Pavilion.....	2.00-4.00p.m.
4	Wed	Upstagers Amateur Dramatics.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.30p.m.
4	Wed	Bingo.....	B.M.I.....	8.00p.m.
4	Wed	Tai Chi.....	Village Hall Annex.....	8.00-9.30p.m.
5	Thu	Senior Circuits.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.15a.m.
5	Thu	Tai Chi.....	Village Hall Annex.....	9.30-10.30a.m.
9	Mon	Coffee Club.....	B.M.I.....	10.00-12.00p.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 sessions).....	Village Hall Annex.....	6.00-7.30p.m.
9	Mon	Zumba.....	Upton St Leonards School.....	6.30-7.30p.m.
9	Mon	Twyver WI.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-10.00p.m.
10	Tue	Rubbish and Food Waste Week (and Garden Waste for those with brown bins)		
10	Tue	Needles & Pins.....	Village Hall Annex.....	9.45-12.15p.m.
10	Tue	Tuesday Probus.....	B.M.I.....	10.00a.m.
10	Tue	Badminton.....	Village Hall.....	8.30-10.30p.m.
10	Tue	Copy Date for November issue of USL Life		
11	Wed	Pilates.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.30a.m.
11	Wed	Stitchers.....	Pavilion.....	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.
14	Sat	Autumn Quiz.....	B.M.I.....	8.00p.m.
16	Mon	Coffee Club.....	B.M.I.....	10.00-12.00p.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	Fitness Training (2 sessions).....	Village Hall Annex.....	6.00-7.30p.m.
16	Mon	Zumba.....	Upton St Leonards School.....	6.30-7.30p.m.
16	Mon	Abbeyle Garden Club.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.45p.m.
17	Tue	Recycling and Food Waste Week		
17	Tue	Needles & Pins.....	Village Hall Annex.....	9.45-12.15p.m.
17	Tue	Badminton.....	Village Hall.....	8.30-10.30p.m.
18	Wed	Pilates.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.30a.m.
18	Wed	Wednesday Probus.....	B.M.I.....	10.00a.m.
18	Wed	Stitchers.....	Pavilion.....	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.....	8.00-9.30p.m.
19	Thu	Senior Circuits.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.15a.m.
19	Thu	Tai Chi.....	Village Hall Annex.....	9.30-10.30a.m.
23	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall Annex.....	10.00-11.30a.m.
23	Mon	Coffee Club.....	B.M.I.....	10.00-12.00p.m.
23	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall Annex.....	12.15-1.45p.m.
23	Mon	Fitness Training (2 sessions).....	Village Hall Annex.....	6.00-7.30p.m.
23	Mon	Zumba.....	Upton St Leonards School.....	6.30-7.30p.m.
23	Mon	Camera Club.....	Village Hall.....	7.00-9.00p.m.
24	Tue	Rubbish and Food Waste Week (and Garden Waste for those with brown bins)		
24	Tue	Needles & Pins.....	Village Hall Annex.....	9.45-12.15p.m.
24	Tue	Tuesday Probus.....	B.M.I.....	10.00a.m.
24	Tue	Badminton.....	Village Hall.....	8.30-10.30p.m.
25	Wed	Pilates.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.30a.m.
25	Wed	Ladies Probus.....	Prinknash Cafe – Walk from 9.30 or coffee from 10.30a.m.	
25	Wed	Stitchers.....	Pavilion.....	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.....	Village Hall.....	2.30-4.30p.m.
30	Mon	Coffee Club.....	B.M.I.....	10.00-12.00p.m.
30	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall Annex.....	10.00-12.00p.m.
30	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall Annex.....	12.15-1.45p.m.
30	Mon	Fitness Training (2 sessions).....	Village Hall Annex.....	6.00-7.30p.m.
30	Mon	Zumba.....	Upton St Leonards School.....	6.30-7.30p.m.
31	Tue	Recycling and Food Waste Week		
31	Tue	Needles & Pins.....	Village Hall Annex.....	9.45-12.15p.m.
31	Tue	Badminton.....	Village Hall.....	8.30-10.30p.m.
31	Tue	Recycling and Food Waste Week		

Regular weekly events not listed below this line

### NOVEMBER

4	Sat	Firework Display.....	Village Hall.....	5.30p.m.
4	Sat	Entertainment Night.....	B.M.I.....	8.30p.m.
6	Mon	Parish Council Meeting.....	Pavilion.....	7.30p.m.
6	Mon	Upton WI.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-10.00p.m.
10	Fri	Copy date for December issue of USL Life.....		
13	Mon	Twyver WI.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-10.00p.m.
16	Thu	History Group – The Whittards of Cheltenham and Gloucester –	Village Hall.....	7.45-9.15p.m.
20	Mon	Abbeyle Garden Club.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.45p.m.
22	Wed	Ladies Probus.....	B.M.I.....	10.15a.m.
25	Sat	Wine Tasting/Call My Bluff Evening.....	Village Hall.....	7.30p.m.
27	Mon	Camera Club.....	Village Hall.....	7.00-9.00p.m.
27	Mon	Lady Downe Charity Meeting		
30	Thu	Get Together Club – School Concert.....	Village Hall.....	2.00-4.00p.m.

### DECEMBER

4	Mon	Parish Council Meeting.....	Pavilion.....	7.30p.m.
4	Mon	Upton WI.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-10.00p.m.
9	Sat	Pensioners Lunch.....	B.M.I.....	12.00p.m.
10	Sun	Copy Date for January issue of USL Life		
11	Mon	Twyver WI.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-10.00p.m.
14	Thu	Get Together Club – Christmas Lunch.....	Village Hall.....	12 for 12.30p.m.
16	Sat	Christmas Draw and Carols.....	B.M.I.....	8.00p.m.
18	Mon	Abbeyle Garden Club.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.45p.m.
24	Sun	Christmas Eve Entertainment Night.....	B.M.I.....	8.00p.m.
31	Sun	New Year's Eve Entertainment Night.....	B.M.I.....	8.00p.m.

Contact Paula Quinn to get your event in the diary

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# Upton St Leonards Flower Show Trophy Awards 2017

## TROPHIES

		NAME
The Eacott Perpetual Challenge Cup	Most Points in show	Anne Hemsley
John Millard Perpetual Challenge Cup	Most Points in Section A & B Classes 1 to 76 excluding novices classes	Anne Hemsley
The Christine Rumsey Memorial Cup	Highest Points in Section A Classes 16 to 24	Anne Hemsley
USL Perpetual Challenge Cup	Most Points in Section DP Classes 120 to 129	Carol Evans
Robert Wallace Perpetual Challenge Cup	Most Points in Classes 54 to 58 (Roses)	Paula Quinn
The Stan Hooton Memorial Rose Bowl	Most Points in Section A Classes 1 to 37	Anne Hemsley
The Royston Gardiner Memorial Salver	Most Points in Section B	Paula Quinn
The Dinkie Memorial Rose Bowl	Most Points in Section C	Val Moore
The Ethel Edey Memorial Cup	Most Points in Section D	Carol Evans
The Rumsey Memorial Trophy	Most Section E	Anne Hemsley
The Joan Finch Memorial Salver	Winner of the First Prize in Class 140	Jackie Hastings
The Bob Ayland Memorial Shield	Most Points in Section A	Anne Hemsley
The Abbeydale Gardening Club Shield	Presented to a Club Member with highest number of points in the show	Doug Monkman
Joseph T C Edey Salver	Most Points in Section F 160 to 166	Lisa Payne
The Fred Ball Memorial Trophy	Awarded to the novice exhibitor with most points in Section A & B Classes 38 to 42 & 77 to 80	David Miller
Banksian Medal	Exhibitor most points Section A & B	Anne Hemsley
Top Tray - Sponsored by Upton Village Store		Sara Hemming
Top Vase - Sponsored by Upton Village Store		Peter Macey

## CHILDREN'S SECTION

The Evelyn Rumsey Children's Cup	Most Points - ages 5 to 7	Rose Lennon
The Juvenile Cup	Most Points - ages 8 to 11	William Dodd
Ethel Wallace Perpetual Challenge Cup	Most Points in - ages 12 to 16	Robert Ashworth
RHS Children's Certificate of Merit	Most points in Section J	William Dodd & Lily Ellis



# USL LIFE ANNUAL WAYZGOOSE

On Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 25 members of the USL Life Team met for a late summer gathering.

It was a true team effort with everybody bringing a delightful array of savoury and sweet dishes to accompany the wine.



For once the weather was kind and it was lovely to be able to mingle in the garden - that is until a slight autumnal chill made itself known when, all but the diehards, wandered inside!



**Could you be an Editor?**  
**Could you be a Feature Writer?**



We are always looking to welcome new members onto the team in all sorts of capacities.

We are aware that there are many talented people that live in our village and we would be only too pleased if you would consider joining us?

**Why not give one of us a ring and find out more?**

## UPTON ST LEONARDS LIFE

Web site: <http://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:

This month's editor:

Editors: Andrea Dawson  
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