

Upton St Leonards Life *incorporating Church News*

Issue 1

September 2014



HERE IT IS !

The first edition of your new village newsletter!

We hope you will find this new publication interesting, informative and worthwhile. It is written by village people for village people. One of the highlights is surely the diary that lists (almost) everything going on in the village. You may be surprised how much there is to do!

THE "NEW" VILLAGE GREEN

Children from the village school dance round the maypole at the ceremony to "open" the reshaped village green



Keith Pearson, the Parish Council Chairman opened the "new" village green at the end of June. Of course the village green is not new, it was always there, but lay almost unused, hidden from view by a hedge. It has now been made much more visible, and will become another prized asset and location for all sorts of activities.

Upton St Leonards Village Green Opening

From small beginnings and informal chats with the Parish Council last Autumn, to a total facelift it was a pleasure to be involved in the work for the Green. The weather was against us at times but thanks to our contractor, Russell Bramall who worked in all weathers it was completed on time. Thanks also to Roy Simpson who constructed the bench round the Ash tree.

The opening, on 29th June went without a hitch and the sun shone down on us, I must admit to having my fingers crossed most of the morning. We had an excellent turn out estimated at approximately 300 people.

The Chairman of the Parish Council, Keith Pearson, cut the ribbon and unveiled the new plaque on the Village sign.

Upton St Leonards Primary School started the festivities with the Gloucestershire Morris Men escorting them with piped music to the Green and Maypole. Always the great entertainers, the Morris Men put on a wonderful show with excellent dancing and even some of the parents had a go.

The Playgroup were awarded two winners for the Hat Competition but I think Chipmunks Nursery were a little too shy for their Sing Song.

Throughout the day, at the BMI Club there was a Fairground Organ playing, thanks to Rob Edwards and a BBQ with Strawberries and Cream.

Many thanks go to Mary McLachlan, hubby Mac and brother for their hard work cooking and serving the huge crowd of people well into the early evening.

Also a big thank you to Keith, Jan, John, Jan and Rachel behind the bar, they certainly deserved a drink for all their hard work.

So we are already starting to plan next year's festivities on the Green and hope that it will be used for lots more Village Functions.



Keep an eye open for dates and times.

Carol Evans



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About This Newsletter

The idea of a newsletter was initially discussed and then supported by your Parish Council last autumn.

Following this, a group of volunteers from the village got together and started to develop ideas and put in place a means of communication that would connect people with each other and provide information on what is happening in USL including events and activities.

Though the Parish Council set us off on the path to putting in place a regular means of communication and have provided manpower and financial assistance, they agreed when setting it up that it should be totally independent and they therefore have no control over the team or its content.

They will of course be using it to provide feedback on discussions and decisions that affect our village so everyone is fully informed, e.g. planning applications etc.

You may have noticed that the title of this publication is subtitled "incorporating Church News". Earlier in the year the Church Council decided they would like to come on board with the new Village Newsletter which was of great help as they have contributed the majority of our Distribution Team and of course the current advertisers whom we hope will continue to work with us.

You will see on the back page the current team who have worked hard to bring this Newsletter together. USL Life is

being set up as a type of limited company that is designed for non profit making community enterprises.

It has some Directors and a Company Secretary who are responsible for running the company effectively and meeting the standard reporting requirements such as finances.

The company structure brings with it a given constitution so there will be members of the newsletter and an AGM each year which will mean transparency of operation and being answerable to the community it serves.

Clearly we have a number of people in USL who do not use a computer and this is why we decided to provide hardcopy to every household in the village so no one was left out. We have also developed a website where each edition will be posted so that wherever you are in the world the latest newsletter and previous editions can be viewed (www.usllife.co.uk)

It has taken a lot of work to get to our first newsletter and I would like to thank the Parish Council for their excellent support and the team who have put in a lot of hard work to get us to this point.

We hope you find your newsletter enjoyable and informative as we move forward and if you believe you can contribute in any way whether it be personally, supplying an article of interest, suggesting improvements or even local photographs please get in touch as follows - use the email address from the website, or the postbox on the wall outside the Village Hall door.

Peter Wilson, Chairman

DO YOU WANT TO BE A MEMBER OF USL LIFE ?

What does this mean ?

If you wish to be a formal member of this company and have the right to influence its activities and attend its Annual AGM you will need to apply to become a member.

We hope to have a reasonable number of village residents joining us as members as it will help us be a less insular organisation, provide us with beneficial feedback, and identify improvements we can make as we learn and move forward.

There is no payment required only a willingness to be involved in your village newsletter.

The necessary details on how to become a member will be included in the October 2014 issue of USL Life.

TREE SURGERY

by **GRAHAM FEAKINS** *HND*

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Upton St Leonards People

Each month we will have an article on a member of our community. In our first issue the focus is on -

EVELYN RUMSEY

Evelyn is our first featured resident as she edited the Church News almost non-stop since 1967! Now 91 years young, she was born and schooled in Erdington before becoming a shorthand typist for a solicitor, an insurance company and then Birmingham National Fire Service. After moving to Wylde Green, a trip with her sister to Weston-super-Mare in 1939 provided a chance meeting with John, USL resident and future husband - just like in the movies! They married in 1943 and she became a telephonist for Gloucester Fire Service when John joined the Fleet Air Arm at Locking. They moved to Brockworth in 1946, had two children, Jenny and Tony and she joined the Mothers' Union in 1951. In 1956 they moved to Cross House, USL where Christine was born. Sadly, Christine died from breast cancer in 2005.

USL had no street lighting when she moved here. With gaslight downstairs and loos outside, you had to go to bed with a candle. Some things change for the better it seems, although it was far smaller then. Six Acres, St. Leonards Close, Perry Orchard and the M5 didn't exist.

She was an active member of the church, a choir member for over 25 years and on the Parochial Church Council for 40 years in the catering department. Evelyn still organises the Church Flower Rota and is the secretary of Upton Mothers' Union. She has been President and Secretary of the Upton W.I. This group raised money from carol singing for a tea for the Upton elderly in 1961 and this became the 'Get-together Club' where Evelyn was treasurer, then chairman and she has only recently retired from its committee. Evelyn was chosen to visit Highgrove where she and others represented the W.I. to celebrate its 90th Anniversary at a tea hosted by Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall. For years she made Upton cricketers' teas, often on both weekend days!

As if this wasn't enough, Evelyn joined the Upton St. Leonards Players and became treasurer and fondly



remembers the many soirées where she organised suppers. She served as secretary on the Village Hall Committee, joined the Social Committee when the Spring Show was formed and is delighted that it is still running. Other achievements include organising adult and junior village quizzes and the junior one is still popular. For over 30 years Evelyn served on the Flower Show committee as Catering Officer, Secretary and now sorts entry forms as she can 'do that sitting down' - we think she deserves a sit down now!

With five grandchildren and eight great grandchildren to occupy her and hobbies of crochet and knitting, Evelyn reflects that Upton is a 'lovely, friendly village' with many activities on offer. She believes modern families' many commitments make it hard to support events but she's glad the Flower Show remains popular. She was pleased to see so many supporters at the opening of our beautiful new village green in July.

We're pleased to see you looking good Evelyn and that many of the village events that you helped to start, are still going strong.

Interview by: Kathryn Alderman

Anne Skerman
Dip.Pod.M.S.R.Ch.



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VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS and CLUBS

Knowing that USL Life was putting out its first issue, many village clubs and organisations have asked us to publicise their existence and arrangements. Listed below are a number of our organisations and clubs for people to contact. For any written articles not featuring in this edition, please accept our apologies but we have had to work within space and cost constraints.

THE GET TOGETHER CLUB meets on the last Thursday of the month in the Village Hall. Contact Pam Tickner.

UPTON ST LEONARDS HISTORY GROUP meets six times a year on Thursdays in the Village Hall. Contact Mike Stratford

UPTON W.I. Meets on the first Monday of each month in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

TWYVER W.I. meets on the second Monday every month in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

LITTLE MOUSLINGS is a new parent and toddler group that meets in the Village Hall Annexe on Wednesday mornings in term-time at 9.45 am.

THE BADMINTON CLUB meets every Tuesday in the Village Hall. Call Tony Sharpe.

THE PAVILION PAINTERS meet every Wednesday at 2 pm in the Pavilion. Ring Jill or Sylvia on for further information.

Ladies Probus Club

The Upton St Leonards Ladies Probus Club started in 2006 with a small group of ladies and has grown to its present membership of 60.

We meet monthly on a Wednesday (date varies) mainly using the Birchall Memorial Institute, at 10:15 am, with speakers or entertainment providing informative and enjoyable gatherings.

Other meetings take the form of a lunch out or theatre trip. As an example, last May we visited the Wilson Gallery in Cheltenham. Our September meeting is a tour of the BBC studios in Regent Street, London.

We try to offer a wide range of subjects for our members covering many aspects of life.

Membership of the BMI is necessary for our local meetings and although the Ladies Probus Club is full at the moment we welcome ladies adding their names to the waiting list. If you are interested please contact the secretary, Pam Tickner.

For the 17 September outing, members need to be at the Village Hall by 08:45 am for the coach which leaves at 9am. We will leave London at 6 pm. Further details will follow via email. Information regarding pick up / drop off points will be given on the coach.

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VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS and CLUBS - cont'd

Nutty Badgers Explorer Scout Unit

Nutty Badgers ESU is Upton's Scout Unit for young people over the age of 14.5 years. We have the second largest group in the Gloucester District but not all our young people come from the village.

Explorer Scouting as a District Unit has 5 Leaders and 35 young people. We support a number of Beaver Colonies, Cub and Scout Packs plus Guide units with our Young Leader program.



Recently the last ever Sun Run took place on Cleeve Hill and we were there in force with 5 Leaders and 21 Explorers taking part in either the 13 or 26 mile run / walk.

Summer Camp will be a first when we experience Narrow Boating. Not the image you would associate with a summer camp ! But the Leaders have undergone 2 weekends of training and assessment. Now the tranquil waterways around Stratford and Birmingham will be disturbed by 3 narrow boats full of Leaders and Explorers. We also have our annual

County Explorer weekend in October and the County Kayaking Foundation Course to look forward to.

Two of our Explorers this summer take part in their personal goals to achieve one of Scouting's highest awards, the Explorer Belt. This really is the challenge of a lifetime and is open to Explorer Scouts over 16 and members of the Scout Network.

It is a chance to take part in a 10 day expedition that brings a real understanding of a different country, its people and way of life through travelling through a country and working as a small team with local people on projects whilst at the same time walking over 100 miles ! We wish our 2 Explorers a safe expedition as they travel with International Teams in Poland and Japan.

The 23rd International Scout Jamboree takes place in Japan in 2015 and Gloucestershire Scouting only has 30 places. As a Unit we were lucky to have 3 young people accepted along with one of our Leaders. We wish them good luck with their massive fund raising task and training program.

So whilst the unit is very active, we are always limited by funding and we are forever competing with other organisations for opportunities ie bag packing or marshalling at events. So if you think we could benefit from your company's generosity or have a supply of "widgets" we could make use of please get in touch. Likewise if you fancy helping out with the unit don't hold back. Its not all green fields and getting wet ! How about admin support, fundraising or maybe just getting active in the community ?

The Leader Team at Nutty Badgers ESU

<http://gloucestershire-scouts.org.uk>



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CHURCH NEWS

for the Parish Church, Upton St Leonards



The Priest-in-Charge, Rev Christine Birkett writes

Dear Friends

Let's embrace September with a bountiful bundle of positive expectation for the autumn season!

Although it is traditionally a time for harvest, it's also a time for starting new things. It is the start of the academic year and young people go back-to-school after the summer break. Hence it is a time to also start new routines which often revolve around school terms.

So, I offer a very warm welcome to our new village magazine. If you have anything to be included into the Church News section please forward it to me by email by the 8th of the month and I shall look forward to your input and feedback for future editions. I do hope you enjoy reading Upton St Leonards Life incorporating Church News.

Our monthly coffee morning will resume again as will our monthly afternoon Communion Service which is hosted by Mother's Union.

Did you know that it was on the 28th September 1745 that the national anthem was sung for the first time? We may not be singing the national anthem on 28th of September this year but we will be welcoming Bishop Martyn to Upton St Leonards Church to conduct our Confirmation Service at 3pm. Please come along and support our candidates and stay for tea afterwards.

In September we celebrate and commemorate many occasions and many individual Christians who have had significant impact in the church and the world, for instance there is Matthew the Apostle (21 Sept) Michael and All Angels (29 Sept) and many more.

However there is a day in particular which I want to bring to your attention and it is Holy Cross Day (14 Sept).

The cross on which our Lord was crucified has become the universal symbol for Christianity, replacing the fish symbol of the early church, though the latter has been revived in recent times. After the end of the persecution era, early in the fourth century, pilgrims began to travel to Jerusalem to visit and pray at the places associated with the life of Jesus. Helena, the mother of the emperor, was a Christian and, whilst overseeing excavations in the city, is said to have uncovered a cross, which many believed to be the Cross of Christ. A basilica was built on the site of the Holy Sepulchre and dedicated on 14 September 335 AD.

The cross is a symbol of all that Jesus did for the world, and has become the badge of a Christian and we are used to seeing it in two forms. The crucifix, a cross carrying the figure of Christ nailed to it is in remembrance of Jesus giving his life on the cross on that first Good Friday in order to restore our relationship with God. Jesus pleaded forgiveness for the human race and accepted his death in place of ours. The other cross is the empty cross; a symbol of the resurrection in which Jesus defeated death and rose again. After appearing to his followers he was eventually raised up and ascended into heaven to sit at the right hand of God, and to be our advocate. The resurrection is the sign that his plea for forgiveness had been received and accepted, and the Ascension was the point in which heaven was opened for all people and eternal life had begun.

There is no better symbol of hope than the one Jesus provided through the cross (and resurrection). It is right therefore to celebrate the Holy Cross as a symbol of our Christian faith.

For many of us the Crucifixion is the most significant event in the history of the world, and a sign of God's grace and blessing.

The hymn 'Lift High The Cross' by G.W. Kitchin and M.R. Newbolt speaks not only about the death of Christ, but about the love Jesus showed for the human race. The story of the cross is one of love, mercy, and forgiveness and calls for our response. I shall leave you with the chorus: Lift high the Cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.

With every blessing and prayer,

Christine

September 2014

**Helena Arnold, Diocesan Director of Education,
on educating one million children**

The Church of England is the largest single provider of schools in the country, with 4,500 Church of England Primary schools, and over 200 Church of England Secondary schools.

As the largest provider of schools nationally, the church is in a unique position to offer a helpful perspective into the national conversation about establishing shared 'British Values' and strong cohesive communities. After all, the 'common good' is not just the aggregate of numerous individual actions, but a shared perspective across diverse communities and an understanding about the conditions that make communities and individuals flourish.

Church schools are dedicated to serving children of Christian faith, other faiths and no faith, ensuring an inclusive education where every child receives an excellent education within a framework of Christian values.

Helping people to understand and critically evaluate the major faith traditions and to draw on their insights in relation to major ethical issues is part of preparing children for effective citizenship. Schools hold a central place in local communities, and face the challenge of balancing the needs of that community with those of a wider context.

Nearly one million children attend Church of England schools; this is more than five times as many people as are estimated to attend Church of England services on Sundays! The responsibility of the church to 'step up to the mark', to ensure schools are well-governed, teachers supported and pupils nurtured, is both a privilege and an honour and is perhaps one of the greatest gifts we can share.

How Church Schools Work

Each diocese has a Diocesan Board of Education (DBE) and Director of Education (DDE). The DBE determines school policy and focuses on standards, Christian distinctiveness, RE and strategic system development.

DBEs are made up of a wide variety of people who have the skills, experience and interests required to run the school system on behalf of the Church. The DBE Measure is the statutory instrument which determines the work and composition of the DBE.

Diocesan Directors of Education and their staff are highly capable educational administrators who have the background required to run and support Church schools. The DDE's team will comprise experts in buildings and finance, governance, admissions, RE and school support.

Parishes are encouraged to work closely with their schools. Often, the incumbent, church wardens and other PCC members are governors of the school. Beyond these formal constitutional links there is huge scope for schools and parishes to work together in the interest of good learning and community development.

To find out more about Church Schools in this area, log on to the Diocesan website at www.gloucester.anglican.org/.

From the Bishop of Tewkesbury, the Rt Revd Martyn Snow

It was announced in August that Bishop Michael has, for personal reasons, stepped back from his ministry as Bishop of Gloucester. This news has caused great sadness across the diocese.

Various news outlets have been carrying a story about a police investigation into certain allegations relating to more than 30 years ago. You will realise that this is very traumatic time for everyone involved and affected by these news reports. Please hold them all in your prayers.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has signed an Instrument of Delegation allowing me to act as diocesan bishop in the absence of Bishop Michael.

If you would like to speak to someone about this matter or any other concerns you may have, please contact me or the Diocesan Office:

The Bishop of Tewkesbury: 01452 835562 or bshptewk@glosdioc.org.uk

Safeguarding Officers: Judith Knight and Becca Faal: 07944 680320 or bfaal@glosdioc.org.uk

You may already be aware, but we have taken the very difficult decision to postpone the visits of Bishops Mary, Sadok and Thomas from our partner dioceses. We will however go ahead with the Partnership Service on Sunday 7 September at 3pm in the Cathedral.

I would like to warmly invite you to the service in the hope that we can gather to mark our own partnership in the gospel and to pray for one another and our link dioceses.

Thank you for your prayers and understanding.

Church Flower Festival

The Church featured a Flower Festival themed around the recent WW1 Remembrance weekend.

Some inspired and inspiring displays were created, arranged around typical wartime posters which made one reflect on the paradox of the beauty expressed in flowers and the tragedy of war.

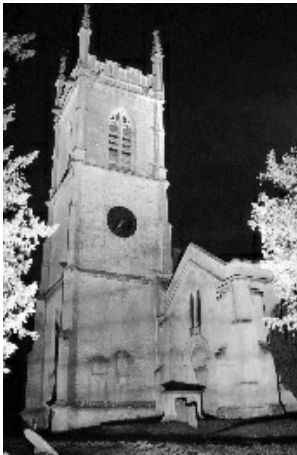
The tragedy of war is still with us and our church collected donations over the weekend in aid of the people in Gaza.

Rachel Hall writes

Congratulations and a big thank you to the Flower Arrangers for the superb decorations and arrangements in the Church. They were very much enjoyed by all the visitors and the amount raised was £750 - a wonderful result.



Tower Floodlighting



On Sunday 14th September, the Tower Lights will be lit in celebration of the baptism of Adam David Carter taking place in St Leonards Church that day. Kindly sponsored by parents, Carly and John and his older brother Andrew and his loving family.

On Tuesday 16th September the Tower Lights will be lit in loving memory of Evelyn Moaby who would have been 100 years on this day. Kindly sponsored by her daughters, Carol and Judy.

If you or your family wish to have the lights sponsored in celebration of a birthday or anniversary or for a loved one's life or any other reason then please contact Matthew.

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 any donation this will help us too.

If you would like to sponsor the Church Tower Flood Lights then please contact Matthew Gibbs for more details.



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SEPTEMBER DIARY

MON 1st 7.00pm - Prayer Group in Church
 WED 3rd 10.30 am - Coffee and Chat in Church
 SAT 6th 1.00pm - Wedding
 4.00pm - Wedding
 SUN 7th **12th Sunday after Trinity**
 8.00am - Holy Communion
 11.00am - Communion4All
 3.00pm - Partnership Service in Gloucester
 Cathedral
 THU 11th 2.00pm - Holy Communion
 (hosted by the Mothers Union, everyone is very welcome)
 SAT 13th 11.00am -Wedding
 SUN 14th **Holy Cross Day**
 8.00am - Holy Communion
 11.00am - Communion4All
 6.00pm - Holy Communion
 MON 15th 7.00pm - Lee Abbey Mission Meeting at The
 Rectory
 WED 17th 7.00pm - PCC Meeting at The Rectory
 SAT 22nd 1.00pm - Wedding
 SUN 21st **St Matthew Apostle and Evangelist**
 8.00am - Holy Communion
 10.00am - Communion4All
 6.00pm - Evening Service
 SUN 28th **15th Sunday after Trinity**
 3.00pm - Confirmation Service with Bishop
 Martyn Snow

Tesco Community Fair

We are proud to support the Community Fair being held at Tesco, St Oswalds, Gloucester on Sunday 7th September, 11-4pm.

We will be trying to raise money for the Church through the various stalls we will have there on the day.

If anyone is interested in a pitch / table, please call me for more information.

Best regards, Chris Mitchell

Who's Who at the Parish Church

Priest in Charge:

Reverend Christine Birkett
The Rectory, 12 Bondend Road, GL4 8AG.

Churchwardens:

1 Jenny Cunningham
2 Vacancy

PCC Secretary:

Ceri Darley-Jones

Church Treasurer:

Vacancy

Deanery Synod Representative:

Dorothy Cox

Bell Tower Captain:

Roger Fry

Mothers Union:

Rachel Hall

Church Cleaning Rota:

Jenny Cunningham

Church Flower Rota:

Evelyn Rumsey

Electoral Roll Officer:

Naomi Stanley-Gunn

**Fundraising Committee :
& Church News Rep**

Chris Mitchell
Chrismitchell@outlook.com

ST LEONARDS CHURCH MOTHERS UNION

After our break during August, we are holding our opening Communion Service on the 11th September, at 2.00pm in Church, everyone is very welcome. Please join us afterwards for afternoon tea at 13 Perry Orchard. We look forward to seeing you.

We meet on the 2nd and 3rd Thursday of each month at 2pm in the Church. We are part of the Worldwide Organisation of Women, and our aims are to promote marriage and family life.

2nd Thursday, we celebrate Holy Communion, this service is open to everyone male or female, and is hosted by the Mothers Union.

3rd Thursday, we hold our meeting when we have a speaker, details will be published each month. If there is a speaker you are interested in please come along, you will be most welcome.

Mrs Rachel Hall (Leader)

Village News and Activities

As well as the village diary each month we will also highlight and report back on any specific events / shows etc to keep everyone informed of what is coming up and what has happened in the last 4 weeks.

So what's happened recently ?

WORLD WAR 1 CENTENARY EXHIBITION

UPTON REMEMBERS

The 100th anniversary of the start of World War One was marked by a truly remarkable exhibition in the Village Hall on August 9-10. The exhibition was the culmination of a year or more of hard work and research by Mike Stratford and a project in the Village school. Villagers and others searched through their own family treasures to find letters, photographs, notes and other memorabilia to add to the display.

The exhibition attracted hundreds of visitors from the village and further afield. Many came just to have a quick look but found themselves staying for a couple of hours, so fascinating was the presentation.

I was particularly struck by reading about the remarkable Millard family of Pincott Farm. Widow Alice Millard raised a family of 10 children, 7 boys. Five of those seven fought in WWI, two died. What a sacrifice to have to endure.

The work done by today's school children was equally fascinating. The youngest ones drew or painted pictures of poppies. Older classes studied letters home and war diaries, and then wrote their own imagined versions. One 'diary' read like a football score: "We got 5 of theirs, they got 2 of ours, then we had tomato stew, disgusting".

WOT NO COCOA!

One of the stories researched by today's school children was a report that at one time in WWI there was a severe shortage of sugar brought about by the sinking of cargo vessels, so if children wanted their daily drink of cocoa at the Upton village school they had to bring their own sugar, if they had any. School often had to end early in winter because of a shortage of coal to heat the school rooms.

Much of the material and research is to be kept in the school for future studies.

Andy Russell

Mike Stratford says: Thank you to everyone who visited the Exhibition in the Village Hall. We had over 300 visitors and some people came back again to view our items on display.

A big thank you to those who made the exhibition possible through the loan of pictures, stories and artefacts.

I am pleased to say £517 was collected at the exhibition which will be divided between Help for Heroes and the Royal British Legion.

USL Life says: A huge thank you to

Mike Stratford

who must have worked hundreds of hours on this project.

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Village News and Activities cont'd

Perry Orchard Allotments

Party on the Plot or should I say my Car Port

Well the notices were put up and the sun shone for weeks but then the day arrived. Downpour after downpour but determined to go ahead I told everyone the annual BBQ for Perry Orchard must go on !

So after much cooking and pudding making by all, 18 of us squashed under my car port sheltering from the rain and much merriment was had.

The afternoon went into the evening with my home fire alarms going off due to plumes of smoke wafting around my house from the BBQ - the laughter rained out !

We were joined by a few people from the Stanley Allotments and as the rain subsided we spread onto the drive and I can even remember a little dancing going on, celebrating the long awaited sunshine.

We also had a raffle and raised some money for our Shed Appeal so all in all it was a very good afternoon.

Hoping for better weather next year.

Currently thinking of having a Saturday Skittles Afternoon between the two sets of allotments in the Autumn. Will keep you all posted.

Carol Evans



BMI Pig Roast



The annual pig roast was held at the BMI on Saturday 9th August 2014.

Once again this proved to be one of the most popular nights in the village despite the heavy rainstorm during the evening.

Mike Long was in his usual guise of "Chef on the Night" ably accompanied by his team of helpers.

This year it also coincided with the WW1 100 year celebrations in the village which included the WW1 exhibition in the village hall and the flower festival in our Church.

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Village News and Activities - cont'd

And Coming up in September



**Upton St Leonards
2014 Annual Flower
Show**

Face Painting


Cotswold Big Band


Ice Creams


**Saturday
13th September**
**2 - 4.30pm at the
Village Hall & Grounds**

Skittles

Tombola

Pottery Demonstration


Arts & Crafts

Raffle Tickets

Book Stall

**Refreshments-
Cakes, Hot Dogs
Tea, Coffee**

Bouncy Castle

**Show Schedule
Available From
Upton St Leonards
Post Office** 

UPTON SAINT LEONARDS FLOWER SHOW

The flower show originated in the late 19th century at Bowden Hall when in the ownership of the Birchalls. It became the highlight of the year for the village when villagers were invited to Bowden Hall grounds. It was held at Bowden hall until 1925 when the estate was sold.

It then moved to fields opposite the Village Hall where Saint Leonard's Close now stands. An idea of its importance can be gauged from the fact that the flower show committee in 1925 consisted of 32 people. The committee included the vicar, church wardens and members of the parish council. Included in the show were adult classes for fancy dress competitions. At one show there was a stagecoach which was held up by a highwayman.

The show was then held on fields adjoining Commelines Mill. The show consisted of horse jumping and showing classes, tug of war competitions, and the usual flower and vegetable exhibits.

The show has also been held on fields near the Stanley. One year the marquee blew down during the night, the show was thus delayed.

The show then moved to the Village Hall and grounds where it has been held until the present day.

Macmillan's Coffee Morning - Friday 26 September 2014

On Friday 26 September the Birchall Memorial Institute (BMI) will once again be hosting a Macmillan's Coffee Morning. This will be the third year that the club has joined in with this national fund raising morning.

There will be a competition for the "scrummiest cake" after which slices of cake will be sold together with a raffle, with all the proceeds going to Macmillan Cancer Support.

Anyone wishing to have their cake in the competition should please bring to the BMI before 09.30am as judging will take place at 10am.

We look forward to welcoming you on 26 September for this extremely worthwhile cause.

BMI Committee

Village News and Activities - cont'd

Painting and Drawing Class

A painting and drawing class is held in the Lady Downe Annex in USL Village Hall every Thursday during term times from 7.00pm to 9.00pm. It is run by Ros Hellon who has been holding classes there for many years.

All are welcome from complete beginners to more experienced painters and drawers who are looking to improve or learn new techniques. Each person is tutored on an individual basis within a friendly environment where everyone is pleased to help each other. If you are interested please come along and meet us. The new term starts on Thursday 18 September 2014 at 7.00pm.

For further info please contact Ros Hellon.

USL Neighbourhood Watch

We are lucky compared to other areas around Gloucester that crime is low in our village. There are many reasons for this and having a number of Neighbourhood Watch schemes does give us an extra layer of protection when considering the psychology of offender behaviours. We currently have 10 schemes covering a large part of the older village.

With crime so low some of you may wonder whether you are in a Neighbourhood Watch scheme because you may not have had a crime related message for a long time. If you haven't received a Neighbourhood Watch newsletter called "Cascade" in the last 3 months then you are not in a scheme or it may have lapsed.

Receiving the occasional message to review your security and think about reporting any suspicious behaviour by strangers can help make our community a safer place in which to live.

It is simple to set up a scheme. We do need a contact who we can pass the occasional crime related messages to and who can distribute the newsletters 3 times a year. I produce the introduction letters and initial information for all the members at the start of the scheme and there is no need for any meetings or other organisation.

You will then be registered with the Police and have the support of my office for any crime related information. We can also help resolve "quality of life" issues (not classed as crimes) which may require Council or other Agency interventions.

Keeping yourselves, your families and possessions safe is not rocket science. Clearly there is no way to guarantee that you won't be a victim of crime but being in Neighbourhood Watch is one preventative measure that could make a difference. If you wish to start a scheme for your part of the village, please contact me, Alan Hardacre.

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USL Sports Reports

TUG-O-WAR

Back in the 1960's and 70's Upton had a tug-o-war club that competed at national level and was of high renown, led by the likes of Mike Long and Mike Barnfield. There is a trophy cabinet in the BMI stuffed full of all sorts of awards.

Well, there is a new outfit using the Rec, indeed using the hoist installed by the old village team.

On Thursday evenings you will see a squad of young men and women practising hard. They are the Gloucestershire Army Cadet Force Tug-o-War squad. And just like the village team before, they have a national reputation. We can't claim that this is a village team, but we can enjoy some vicarious pleasure that the squad training here is so good.

At the National championships, held in Lincoln in June, the squad won silver in Junior Men 530 Kg class and silver in Junior Men 560 Kg class. The girls did even better, winning gold in Junior Women 480 Kg Class and gold in Junior Women 520 Kg Class. The girls squad will be going on to represent England in an international event.

UPTON'S CRICKETERS - a good recovery after a poor start.

The season started poorly for the Upton Saturday League sides, actually having to concede a 2nd XI game because there weren't enough players. However since that bad start, things are looking up. The first team has won 4 and lost 5 games (at the time this was written). The second team has been unbeaten since that cancelled game (and would be top of their division were it not for the penalties applied for not playing that first game). The Wednesday team won 8 and lost 2 games and have been promoted in their League.

The junior sides have had mixed fortunes. The under-11 team were all new to the club, many having had little experience of playing. Teams from bigger clubs with good coaches have shown us that we are limited technically, but there is huge enthusiasm and there are some very promising lads. Record: Won 2 and lost 6.

Our under-13's was founded round a core of players from last year, and when they played together the team was strong. Won 3 and lost 5 games.

Our web site: usleonards.play-cricket.com

PETANQUE (or French Boules as some people know it)

The Pétanque club has been going for over 15 years, using the pistes at the recreation ground.

They hold regular club tournaments and social events through the summer; many members also enter outside tournaments such as Hereford Open Doubles and Triples, Sherston Triples, Gotherington Doubles etc. We have won the Cotswold League twice.

Club sessions are on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday afternoon starting at 2pm. Weather permitting we play all through the year.

If you are interested please come along to a club session and introduce yourself, you will be made very welcome. Several members have spare boules so you can try your hand if you haven't played before.

FOOTBALL

THE SEASON APPROACHES

Training for the new season is well underway. Matches start at the end of August. The USL 1st team will continue in Stroud League Division 1, where they will be pushing for promotion into the Gloucestershire League. The 2nd team won promotion at the end of last season, so will start in the Stroud League Div 4.

Personal Column

It is sad to report the death recently of two very well-known villagers who died in July:

Dorothy Cridland moved with her husband to Upton in 1948 and immediately became very involved in the life of the village. She was a loyal member of the church, served on its Council for many years, helped with numerous fetes and harvest suppers. She was a school manager for 27 years, a Lady Downe Charity Trustee for 20 years and a governor of Brockworth School. With her fellow Lady Downe Trustees she battled to ensure that money raised from the sale of assets was saved for the Charity and its beneficiaries.

Rachel Ball writes: My brother and I have been overwhelmed with cards, letters, flowers and messages of sympathy following Dorothy's death. We wish to say a huge thank you to all and to everyone who attended the Thanksgiving Service and contributed so generously to the charities in her memory. Your support and the knowledge that she was loved and respected by so many people has been such a comfort to all of us.

Joyce Smith lived in Upton almost her whole life. She was a daughter of local builder Ben Moore. While still a teenager, Joyce looked after the Post Office side of her mother's General Store, then on the Painswick Road. That was the start of a truly remarkable 63 years in the job at the village Post Office. For many years Joyce and her husband Keith organised an annual dance in the Village Hall, with disco and fish & chip supper. Joyce loved acting, particularly in comedy parts, and was regularly on stage with the St Leonards Players. Much more recently, Joyce and Keith were founder members of the village Petanque Club.

Information for future editions

We will be aiming to share the typical Births, Marriages and Deaths information which at times was included in the Church News.

In next month's edition we will provide the necessary contact details and process for feeding this information into the Editorial Team if you wish to see it in your newsletter.



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

VILLAGE DIARY

SEPTEMBER

1	Mon	Upton WI.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-10.00pm
1	Mon	Zumba.....	Upton St Leonards School.....	6.30-7.15pm
1	Mon	Yoga	Village Hall.....	10.00-11.30a.m.
2	Tue	Badminton	Village Hall.....	8.30-10.30pm
2	Tue	Zumba Gold.....	Village Hall.....	10.00-11.00a.m.
2	Tue	Tuesday Probus.....	Birchall Memorial Institute.....	10.00a.m.
3	Wed	Pilates.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.30am
3	Wed	Pavilion Painters.....	Pavilion.....	2.00-4.00pm
3	Wed	Bingo.....	Birchall Memorial Institute.....	8pm
3	Wed	Upstagers Amateur Dramatics	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.30p.m
4	Thu	Fitness.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.15am
4	Thu	Zumba.....	Village Hall.....	7.45-8.45pm
5	Fri	Yoga.....	Pavilion.....	1.45-2.45pm
5	Fri	Tai Chi.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.30am
8	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall.....	10.00-11.30a.m.
8	Mon	Twyver WI- The Queens Bodyguard of the Yeoman Guard - Shaun McCormack	Village Hall.....	7.00-9.00p.m.
8	Mon	Zumba.....	Upton St Leonards School.....	6.30-7.15pm
9	Tue	Badminton	Village Hall.....	8.30-10.30p.m
9	Tue	Zumba Gold.....	Village Hall.....	10.00-11.00a.m.
10	Wed	Copy date for October issue of USL Life		
10	Wed	Pilates.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.30am
10	Wed	Wednesday Probus.....	Birchall Memorial Institute.....	10.00a.m.
10	Wed	Pavilion Painters.....	Pavilion.....	2.00-4.00pm
10	Wed	Bingo.....	Birchall Memorial Institute.....	8pm
10	Wed	Upstagers Amateur Dramatics	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.30p.m
11	Thu	Fitness.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.15am
11	Thu	Zumba.....	Village Hall.....	7.45-8.45pm
12	Fri	Yoga.....	Pavilion.....	1.45-2.45pm
12	Fri	Tai Chi.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.30am
13	Sat	Upton St Leonards Flower Show.....	Village Hall and Grounds.....	2pm
15	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall.....	10.00-11.30a.m.
15	Mon	Abbeydale Garden Club.....	Village Hall.....	7.00-9.00pm
15	Mon	Zumba.....	Upton St Leonards School.....	6.30-7.15pm
16	Tue	Badminton	Village Hall.....	8.30-10.30pm
16	Tue	Zumba Gold.....	Village Hall.....	10.00-11.00a.m.
16	Tue	Tuesday Probus.....	Birchall Memorial Institute.....	10.00a.m.
17	Wed	Upton St Leonards Ladies Probus - Visit to BBC Studios		
17	Wed	Pilates.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.30am
17	Wed	Pavilion Painters.....	Pavilion.....	2.00-4.00pm
17	Wed	Bingo.....	Birchall Memorial Institute.....	8pm
17	Wed	Upstagers Amateur Dramatics	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.30p.m
18	Thu	History Group - Upton in the First World War.....	Village Hall.....	8.15-9.00pm
18	Thu	Fitness.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.15am
18	Thu	Painting & Drawing.....	Village Hall Annex.....	7.00-9.00pm
19	Fri	Yoga.....	Pavilion.....	1.45-2.45pm
19	Fri	Tai Chi.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.30am
22	Mon	Camera Club	Village Hall.....	7.00-9.00p.m
22	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall.....	10.00-11.30am
22	Mon	Zumba.....	Upton St Leonards School.....	6.30-7.15pm
23	Tue	Zumba Gold.....	Village Hall.....	10.00-11.00a.m.
23	Tue	Badminton	Village Hall.....	8.30-10.30pm
24	Wed	Pilates.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.30am
24	Wed	Wednesday Probus.....	Birchall Memorial Institute.....	10.00a.m.
24	Wed	Pavilion Painters.....	Pavilion.....	2.00-4.00pm
24	Wed	Bingo.....	Birchall Memorial Institute.....	8pm
24	Wed	Upstagers Amateur Dramatics	Village Hall.....	7.30-9.30p.m
25	Thu	Get Together Club.....	Village Hall.....	2.30-4.30p.m.
25	Thu	Fitness.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.15am
25	Thu	Painting & Drawing	Village Hall Annex.....	7.00-9.00pm
25	Thu	Zumba.....	Village Hall.....	7.45-8.45pm
26	Fri	Macmillan's Coffee Morning.....	Birchall Memorial Institute.....	9.30a.m.

26	Fri	Yoga.....	Pavilion.....	1.45-2.45pm
26	Fri	Tai Chi.....	Pavilion.....	9.30-10.30am
27	Sat	Autumn Quiz.....	Birchall Memorial Institute.....	8.00p.m.
29	Mon	Yoga.....	Village Hall.....	10.00-11.30am
29	Mon	Zumba.....	Upton St Leonards School.....	6.30-7.15pm
30	Tue	Tuesday Probus.....	Birchall Memorial Institute.....	10.00a.m.
30	Tue	Zumba Gold.....	Village Hall.....	10.00-11.00a.m.
30	Tue	Badminton	Village Hall.....	8.30-10.30pm

OCTOBER

(Regular weekly events are not shown below this point)

6	Mon	Upton WI.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-10.00pm
8	Wed	Wednesday Probus.....	Birchall Memorial Institute.....	10.00a.m.
10	Fri	Copy Date For November Issue of USL Life		
13	Mon	Twyver WI - Hilarious Hats - Alexandra Stanbrook.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-10.00pm
14	Tue	Tuesday Probus.....	Birchall Memorial Institute.....	10.00a.m.
16	Thu	History Group - Gloucester Personalities.....	Village Hall.....	7.00-9.00pm
20	Mon	Abbeydale Garden Club.....	Village Hall.....	7.00-9.00pm
25	Sat	"It Could be Murder at the BMI".....	Birchall Memorial Institute.....	7.30pm
27	Mon	Camera Club.....	Village Hall	7.15-10.00pm
29	Wed	Upton St Leonards Ladies Probus -	Birchall Memorial Institute.....	10.15am
		Glass and Glass Blowing - Tony Osman (a local craftsman)		
30	Thu	Get Together Club.....	Village Hall.....	2.30-4.30p.m.

NOVEMBER

3	Mon	Upton WI.....	Village Hall.....	7.30-10.00pm
5	Wed	Bonfire and Fireworks.....	Village Hall.....	
8	Sat	Event in Support of "Children in Need".....	Birchall Memorial Institute.....	t.b.a.
10	Mon	Twyver WI - Annual Meeting - Wine and Cheese -	Village Hall.....	7.30-10.00pm
		Christmas - Cookery Demonstration, ideas for Christmas - Diana Gaskins		
10	Mon	Copy Date For December Issue of USL Life		
17	Mon	Abbeydale Garden Club.....	Village Hall.....	7.00-9.00pm
20	Thu	History Group - Roman Gloucester.....	Village Hall.....	7.00-9.30pm
24	Mon	Camera Club.....	Village Hall.....	7.00-9.00pm
26	Wed	Upton St Leonards Ladies Probus - Theatre Visit tba.....		
27	Thu	The Upstagers Variety Show.....	Village Hall.....	7.30pm
28	Fri	The Upstagers Variety Show.....	Village Hall.....	7.30pm
29	Sat	The Upstagers Variety Show.....	Village Hall.....	7.30pm

If you are organising an event and want it to appear in the Diary, please contact Paula Quinn



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Kids' Page

We need a good name, logo and layout for this page. There will be a £10 prize for best name with logo and another £10 for best sample page*. Entrants must be under 13 and entries need to be e-mailed or put in the postbox on the wall outside the Village Hall door.

Only black & white (OK - grey as well!)

* Just make up some text and pictures to put in it, or simply use what is on this page.

Have you been down to your local library?

Libraries near you are hosting a Summer Reading Challenge called "Mythical Maze"! You have to read six books to complete this challenge. Every time you read 2 books, you get amazing prizes like a glow in the dark wristband. However, be careful, those scratch and sniff stickers that you get smell deadly!

So go on down to your local library and get reading!

Did you know?

This month marks 100 years since World War 1 began. World War 1 was called 'The Great War' because the war was so massive that people thought it would never happen again.

About 13 million people lost their lives in the First World War, and every November we remember them.

Are you part of the 'loom band' craze?

Boys and girls across the globe have been hit with the 'loom band' sensation. These 'loom bands' are now available in shops all across Gloucestershire. The plain bands can be turned into impressive wristbands, which you can trade and share with your friends. YouTube (with your parents' permission) is a great way to find out how to make intricate bands.

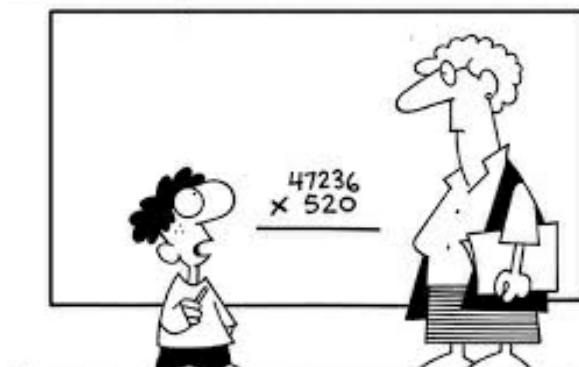
Are you part of the craze?

Ha ha

What happens when it rains cats and dogs ?

You step in a *poodle*!

Sent in by Matthew Robyns-Landricombe, ex-Year 6 School Captain, Upton St Leonards C of E Primary School



"Aren't there enough problems in the world already?"

Coming Next Month

- Details about how to become a member of USL Life - come join us and influence your village newsletter
- Feedback from September Parish Council Meeting (this will be a monthly article but the Council did not meet in August)
- a monthly quiz
- Report on the Flower Show
- Meet the Church team

COPY DEADLINE

Don't forget - any information or articles will need to be submitted to the team by 10th of each month to have a chance of publication

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If you are interested please contact Carol Evans..

UPTON ST LEONARDS LIFE

This month's editor:	Peter Wilson
Chairman:	Peter Wilson
Editors:	Peter Wilson Andy Russell Hilary Morris
Company Secretary:	Cliff Alderman
Feature writers:	Kathryn Alderman Kaye Redman
Clubs / Societies: / Organisations	Anne Matthias
Diary:	Paula Quinn
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FREE VALUATIONS CARRIED OUT WITHIN 24 HRS IF REQUIRED

CALL YOUR LOCAL OFFICE
 ABBEYMEAD 612020 LINDEN 550050
 GLOUCESTER 311220 QUEDGELEY 543200
www.michaeltuck.co.uk



Help to feed local people who do not have the money to buy food

The Church is open for donations
Friday evenings 6 - 6.30 pm
 Contact Diana Way 372212 for information