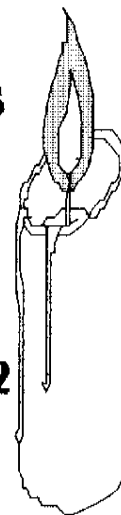
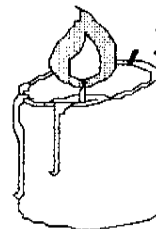
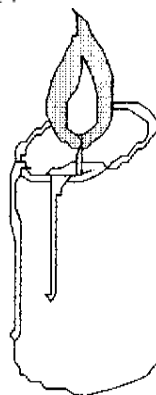


UPTON NEWS

FEBRUARY 2002 Vol.2 No.20

SHOULD WE PLANT MORE TREES?

Last year the village took advantage of the Vale's free Amenity Tree Planting Scheme and four ash trees were put at the far end of the recreation ground. (Sadly, initials have been carved on them and if vandalism continues they will not survive.) This year, the Parish Council wonders whether anyone would like to adopt a tree? This would mean nominating where to place it, deciding what kind of tree it should be and — after the Vale had planted and staked it — keeping an eye on it! Your thoughts on this please to Jo Joel (850119).



**Celebrate
Candlemas
St Mary's
Family Eucharist
Sunday
3rd February 2002
at 9 a.m.**

OXFORD TOURING
THEATRE COMPANY presents

ARTHUR

THE SWORD AND THE LEGEND

It is the 5th century. The King, Uther Pendragon, lies dangerously ill, his people are troubled and at war...only he

who can pull the sword Excalibur from the stone can unite the nation ... then a boy, Arthur, steps forward.

An adventure of castles and kings and swords and sorcery unfolds as we follow Arthur as child king, his romancing of Guinevere, heroic and chivalrous deeds with the Knights of the Round Table and Sir Galahad's quest for the Holy Grail

**Coming to Upton Village Hall,
Tuesday, 19th February 2002, 7.30pm
FOR A FAMILY AUDIENCE FROM 6 — 96!
Tickets £5, £3 concession, from
Jessie West 851206**

120 YEARS AGO

Thursday, July 2 1885. On this day, by God's Blessing, our dear old church was opened. We began the day with an early celebration at half-past 8am. The Bishop came at 1pm and drove to the Rectory. After a short stay, we went down to the schoolroom, where we all robed. I then headed a procession singing Hymn 397 in hymns A & M. The Clergy followed and immediately preceding the Bishop, the Rev. D.H. Whitehead walked, carrying the Episcopal Staff. Sir John Hoskyns, Rural Dean followed the Bishop. The gateway into the churchyard had been prettily decorated with roses etc, and a triumphal arch over which floated the Parish Banner of St. Mary's, Upton. This was the work of the Misses Humphrey. On our arrival in church (which was crowded, so much so that many had to stand outside) I said the prayer...

Press report: Upton Church is said to be one of the smallest in the diocese of Oxford and at the same time one of the most interesting on account of its antiquity. It consists of a nave and chancel, and prior to restoration, there existed a west gallery which has now been swept away. When in 1883 it was proposed to put the fabric into a state of complete repair, doubts were expressed by some as to the possibility of saving the building on account of its extremely dilapidated condition, but the Architect, Mr. Slingsby Stallwood of Reading, had no doubts and the state of the restored edifice today is an example of what can be done for the preservation of all that is of interest in our ancient buildings. (Excerpt from the diary of the Reverend Richard Hooper, Upton's first vicar.)

Upton & Blewbury VPA

ENGLEFIELD MAY FAIR

10th and 11th May



in aid of the Duchess of Kent Hospice in Reading and the Motor Neurone Disease Association

If anyone is willing to donate to these charities any shrubs or trays of plants (suitably named) they may be delivered to Malcolm Wright, Karibu, High Street, (850705) on 5th or 6th of May from where they will be collected. We need to advise organisers of approximate details ahead of these dates to enable them to arrange collection.

The last event in 2001 was the Social Evening at Toad Hall, hosted by Austin and Margaret Maythem, to whom we extend our thanks. This

Lent meetings

Lent Group Meetings will be held at Dr. Rowbotham's, Corderoys, Stream Road at 7.30pm on Wednesday, February 20th and 27th, March 6th, 13th and 20th.

The subject this year will be the Church Seasons. Further details from David Dendy (85076)

event was a great success and enjoyed by all.

The next meeting is at the Vale Room, Blewbury on 6th March at 7.30pm when Fruit Parker will speak about Fruit Fungi and Berries. We look forward to a full hall.

Alf Tim-

Tenders are invited for the grass cutting of the recreation ground and play area for the 2002 season. For more details please contact **Lynne Riordan**, Clerk to Upton Parish Council, The Briary, Stream Road (850165). Closing date for tenders 28 February.

Women's World

Day of Prayer

Friday 1st March at 2.30pm in St. Mary's Church. Theme: Challenged to Reconcile. Speaker: Reverend Joan Impey. (Prepared by Christian Women of Romania)

Elizabeth Wright

CHURCH SERVICES IN FEBRUARY

ST. MARY'S
Sunday 9am

10.30am — Preacher

3 Family Eucharist
10 Parish Eucharist
17 Mattins

Dibble

METHODIST

Pearl Maunder
Geoffrey Caudle
Reverend Timothy

24 Parish Eucharist — Brenda Woods

THE MANORS OF UPTON

We are doing some research on village history and in particular, at the moment, on the Upton manors. There were essentially three manors — the Manor of Upton, Upton Russells and Upton Moyles. We know more or less where the land of these estates lay, and probably two of the manor houses or farms, but we are unable to identify Russell Court, the manor house of Upton Russells. Does anyone know where this would have been?

Juliet and Peter Gardiner, Willows, Stream Road (850499)

LETTER TO THE PARISH CLERK

We are eager to encourage more people back to the Dentist, as statistics show that more than half of the population are not regular attendees, resulting in more gum and health problems.

As a rapidly expanding practice (and the largest in the area), we are able to offer a range of services to help provide for, and to look after our patient's needs.

Jodie Summers
Practice Manager, Broadway Dental Care, 200a The Broadway, Didcot (813245).

50 Club Winners

December £20 Mrs M. Bucknell; £20 Mr N Davis; £10 Mrs M. Dawson; £7 Mr S. Brown; £5 Mrs M. Hetherington; £4 Mrs C. Hughes.

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