

# UPTON NEWS

APRIL 2003

Vol.2 No.30



Upton and Blewbury Station 1936

## ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

**Tuesday 8 April, Village Hall, 8pm**

At this get-together the chairman, Tracey Seelig, will report on Upton Parish Council's business during the past year, and also invite representatives of the village hall trust, Blewbury school governors, the Blewbury & Upton charity, transport affairs and the parochial church council to give the meeting their own year's news. The Villagers' Open Forum allows anyone to raise anything, and get on their soap box if they wish.

The meeting will not take long, and your involvement would help the parish council to make the right decisions for the village.

For the kind attention of the Editor of the Upton News (Mrs. Carol Hall)

I write as the husband of the late Sheila Mary Parker (died Upton 23.12.2002). On her behalf I know I should take this belated opportunity to say a very big thank you to all her friends and associates (no doubt, more friends) for the appreciation shown her (and to me) for her input into the life of Upton. We were a loving partnership which now embraces me with our extended family. Finally my neglect to answer the flood of mail on her behalf please excuse — I am a quiet old stiff.

**Douglas Clifford Parker**  
Four Winds, Upton

## ALL CHANGE AT THE GEORGE & DRAGON

The interesting picture on the left was handed to Chris Linney last month, just before he, Sue and the family vacated the pub. After four years of pulling pints and feeding football, darts, pool, cribbage and croquet teams every day of the week, not to mention the locals, he says: 'We built up a fairly decent trade, and don't want to go'. But the rent shot up so he's returned to a job in plastics. As a keen football ref, who once ran the Upton Youth George & Dragon reserve team, his parting shot was: 'Upton's football pitch is far better than Blewbury's', where the G&D team recently migrated, except for lunch.

The new landlord is a Mr James Wood, who has three other pubs around Wallingford.

## LITTER DAY

It's that time of the year again. We thought the week before Easter would be a good time to clear some of the rubbish that's accumulated in and around the highways and byways of the village.

If anyone can give an hour or so of their time on **Saturday morning 12 April** to walk round with a black bag and collect up litter it would be much appreciated.

**We'll meet in the Village Hall Car Park at 9.30am.** You'll need a stout pair of gloves, and black bags will be provided. Please bear in mind this is probably not a child-friendly exercise (glass and sharp objects, etc.) Please give your time, it simply helps to keep our village looking reasonable. The more people the quicker we can get it done. Don't forget! Thanks very much.

**Graham de Wilde**  
for Upton Parish Council

## 140 YEARS AGO

**April 7, 1864:** Drove our dear old pony for the first time since his accident to Wallingford Road Station to meet my wife.

**April 11:** Saw the first Swallow this morning at Aston Upthorpe.

**April 26:** Drove the pony to Bampton, Oxon, baited at Abingdon. Heard the Nightingale for the first time as we passed by Culham.

**April 27:** At Bampton, heard and saw Cuckoos ...

**April 28:** Drove from Bampton to Faringdon, Stanford-in-the-Vale, to Wantage St. Mary's Home — visited Anne Pope a penitent, arrived home at 6pm. (Excerpt from the diary of the Reverend Richard Hooper, Upton's first vicar.)

## A new year for the 50 Club

April brings the start of another 50 Club year, with 162 subscribers paying £6 annually. Monthly prizes add up to £432 for the year, leaving £540 for Village Hall funds. Thank you for your valuable support, long may it continue. New subscribers warmly welcomed. The following will be collecting soon: **Sheila Dawson, Olive Prior, Julia Williams** (Collingwood) **Celia Davies, Jessie West.**

## Village Produce Association

The talk given by Richard Roslyn on 5 March was a great success. Approximately 30 people attended to enjoy the evening and they were not disappointed. Thank you Richard.

The next event will be on **2 April, 7.30pm in the Vale Room, Blewbury.** The speaker will be May Parker. The subject *Monet's House and Garden and the Carmargue.* Don't forget your support is required.

**7 May** at the Vale Room will be *Quiz Night.* Full details in our next bulletin.

**Alfred Timblich**

### Upton Children's Party

**Wednesday 16th April**

**Upton Village Hall**

**2.00 - 5.00**

Organised by parents of Upton Tiddlywinks  
funded by Upton Village Hall Amenities Trust

We need to know numbers now  
please call **Colin Batchelor (851362)**

Organised activities for under 5's      Varied Sports activities for 5 to 11's

Its all free and there is tea included

### NOTE ON ST. MARY'S

The Parochial Church Council have recently been discussing the fact that the Family Eucharist has failed to attract families and lost some of it's regular communicants. A group from the pews got together to discuss what might be done to rectify the situation. Their report was presented to the PCC at the last meeting. The decisions reached were as follows:

1 From April the service will revert to the traditional liturgy.

1 A working group will be set up to

consider ways of getting to know village families better.

1 Consideration will be given to holding a Family Service at 10.30 on a Sunday morning.

### GOOD FRIDAY

As a start on Friday, 18 April at 10.30 there will be a Family Service to consider the meaning of Good Friday (see below). For further information or comments contact **Ann Dendy** (Secretary to the PCC, 850760).

## CHURCH SERVICES IN APRIL

### ST. MARY'S

#### Sunday 9am

6 Parish Eucharist  
13 Parish Eucharist,  
Palm Sunday

8pm 14 Monday of Holy Week  
Eucharist with homily

10.30am 18 Good Friday Family Service

20 Festive Eucharist  
EASTER DAY

27 Parish Eucharist

### METHODIST

#### 10.30am — Preacher

Terence Adams  
Brenda Boyer

John Dennis

Andrew Lockley

St Mary's  
Upton



Friday  
18 April 2003  
10.30

*Good Friday Service  
for Families with  
children*

*Followed by Hot Cross Buns & Squash*

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