

UPTON NEWS

OCTOBER 2003

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DIARY DATES

SHEILA PARKER

MEMORIAL TREE —

official planting
ceremony



I am delighted to confirm that a final total of £410-15 was raised by friends of Sheila in Upton and Harwell towards the purchase of a Copper Beech Memorial Tree for planting in the Village Recreation Ground in her memory.

The tree will be professionally planted and staked by a local well-known nursery — Littlebrooks — in advance of the ‘official planting ceremony’ which will take place on —

**Saturday 25 October at 3.00pm
on Upton Village Recreation Ground**

Douglas Parker will be invited to cut the ribbon around the tree to declare it officially planted and we will be serving tea in the Village Hall afterwards. My thanks in particular to Maggie Maytham for helping with the collections and to Jessie West for helping with the teas.

We hope to have a photographer and reporter from the *Didcot Herald* to record the event for posterity. Please do come along and join in. We look forward to seeing as many people as possible there to support this historical event. My thanks again to all who contributed to the tree. **Lesley Shaw**

UPTON VILLAGE HALL
Thursday 30 October
Oxford Touring Theatre
Company will perform

BLEAK HOUSE

An adaption of the novel

by **Charles Dickens**

This is a story about the mist and fog that surrounds the 19th-century world of chancery and justice. A satire on the abuses of the court system; the delays and costs that brought misery and ruin upon most of its suitors and, of course, significant profits to lawyers and judges! Coincidence, murder and mystery, lost and found orphans, lords and ladies, Bleak House is a masterpiece of intrigue and social comment.

Teaming up with
Oxford School of Drama
O.T.T.C brings you this vibrant and
colourful dramatisation —
with a cast of sixteen.

Adults only, but suitable for over-14s.
Tickets £6.00 full,
£4.00 concessions,
from Jessie West 851206.

COMING IN THE NEW YEAR!
O.T.T.C Family Theatre
The Nutcracker and the Mouse King
Upton Village Hall, January 2004
Details nearer the time.



VILLAGE PRODUCE ASSOCIATION NEWS

Many thanks to Mr and Mrs Collins, Mr and Mrs Telling and Mr and Mrs Dawson for opening their gardens on 3 September. A goodly number of VPA members attended and discussed what they had seen over refreshments with Margaret and Austin Maytham at Toad Hall.

The Autumn Show at the Methodist Hall went very smoothly. Although we would like to have seen more exhibitors, those who did so made it a very pleasant day. The various cups, and prizes donated by Savages and Notcutts, were all presented to proud winners. Many thanks to the organisers.

The next event is the

Bring and Buy Plant and Cake Sale at Abners, Church Street, Blewbury on **Saturday 11 October at 2.30pm**. Any contributions should if possible be delivered during the morning. Joyce Gilbert, our president, has run this event for a number of years and will appreciate a good turnout.

The **Annual General Meeting** is on **Wednesday 5 November at 7.30pm in the Vale Room, Blewbury**. Any question you wish to ask, this will be the time to do it.

After business has been concluded Mr Ian Butterfield will talk on China with 3D slides. Do come along and enjoy the evening.

Alf Timblick

ANOTHER PLEASURABLE CHURCH FETE

The sun shone, the band played and once again Upton was *en fête*. Well-deserved thanks are due to the stallholders and all those who worked so hard to make the afternoon happy and successful. Close on £1,800 was raised and will be used to help maintain St. Mary's Church.

The balloon flight was

won by Mrs Dunkley of Blewbury. Tickets for this event proved popular with the intrepid, and for the less adventurous the prizes in the raffle were numerous and desirable.

As always the teas were a great attraction and in no small way contributed to the success of the afternoon.

Daphne Simpson

CHURCH SERVICES IN OCTOBER

ST. MARY'S Sunday 9am

5 Parish Eucharist
12 Parish Eucharist
19 Matins
26 Parish Eucharist

METHODIST 10.30am — Preacher

Rev. Timothy Dibble
Pearl Maunder
Brenda Boyer
Mark Kimber

Neighbourhood Watch

A recent message from Didcot Police warns people to be extremely wary of all callers at the door. There have been numerous reports of bogus callers in this area. Please be vigilant when opening your front door to strangers and always ensure that your back door is locked as 'distraction burglaries' have been on the increase lately.

Celia Davies



Telephone this freecall police number if you have any information about crime.

THE OXFORDSHIRE BE-FRIENDING NETWORK is looking for reliable and trustworthy people in this area to befriend someone with a life threatening or terminal illness. They offer excellent free training and on-going support. Their next course starts this month. To find out more about this registered charity you should please contact **Catherine Gundry** on **01865 316200** or **oxford@befriending.net**.

50 Club Winners

August £10 Mrs Potter, £7 Mrs Summers, £5 Mrs Curran, £4 Mrs Wright.

September £15 Mr Abbott, £15 Mrs Telling, £10 Mrs Bray, £7 Mrs Bucknell, £5 Mr Hubbard, £4 Mrs Miller.

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