

# UPTON NEWS

MARCH 2004

Vol.2 No.39

## IT'S A BUSY SPRING FOR OUR YOUNG SWIMMING STAR

David Yates is 15 and lives in Fieldside. He was born with cerebral palsy and has ambitions to swim competitively. Last month he won a gold and two bronze medals in Holland, at his second international event.

This month he is competing in the Disability Sport England National Junior and CP Sport Championships, at which in the past three years he has won nine medals, including one gold.

In May, for the first time he will compete in the Disability Sport England International Long Course Championships. This event is acting as a paralympic trial, so he is looking forward to swimming with the top athletes competing for a place at the Athens paralympics!

Currently he trains at the Abingdon Vale and City of Southampton Swimming Clubs and The Wave, Didcot. MY



## There will be oak picnic seats along the old railway line

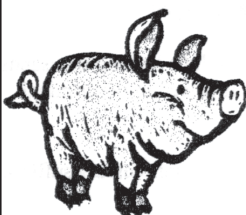
As part of their *Art and Travelling Landscape* project, **Sustrans** has applied for planning permission to place seven seats along route 44, the new Upton to Didcot cycle track. Working with a leader — artist Tim Norris — seven furniture-design students at Oxford and Cherwell College Rycotewood Centre, Thame have each made a seat, using mainly green oak. Upton PC had no objection to the two intended for the Upton stretch, which are low level and will be skillfully positioned. CH

Upton, Blewbury and Hagbourne churches are holding —

### A PIG DAY Saturday

27 March Blewbury School

11am-4pm



Fun event to raise money to buy and support breeding pigs for the Liuli Community in Tanzania

## SKITTLES SUPPER TIME AGAIN

Saturday

24 April

in the Village Hall

7pm start

GOOD FUN,  
GOOD FOOD,  
GOOD COMPANY!

Tickets £6.00 from  
Jessie West 851206 and  
Sheila Dawson 851205

**MAKING READY  
FOR THE  
PLANT  
AUCTION**



The Blewbury & Upton Village Produce Association (VPA) are holding their always popular Plant Auction on Saturday 29 May.

Vendors can bring plants, cuttings, seedlings, etc. to Hall Barn, Westbrook Street between **9.30 and 1pm**, marked with the vendor's name and the plant's name, colour and eventual size.

**1.30pm** buyers come along and register.

**2pm** auction starts: it's a great way to acquire new plants, and find out what other people have in their gardens! Our auctioneer — expert plantswoman and gardener **Norma Bird** — will explain how and where to plant things as she goes along. For more details, call Karen 850219.

**Karen Brooks**

**BROADBAND IS HERE!**

On 11 February, right on schedule, the Blewbury exchange was enabled for broadband Internet access. I've heard from individuals who have the service up and running on the eastern edge of Aston Tirrold and in West Hagbourne, i.e. the fringes of the exchange coverage area. So just about everyone should be able to get it, at least at the standard speed of 512 kbit/s.

If you want a proper Internet connection and you haven't signed up yet, there's no reason to delay.

If you do have problems getting your service installed, please let me know. Otherwise, have fun and welcome to the 21<sup>st</sup> century!

**Chris Whatmore** 851055  
*cwhatmore.tst@btinternet.com*

**THANK YOU  
UPTON!  
IT REALLY WAS A  
JUMBO  
JUMBLE SALE  
WE MADE £500**

**Tiddlywinks — SOS**

Upton's parent and baby/toddler/pre-school group is down to just a handful of regular members. It's fine to be small and informal, but there'll be only two children and three babies left next autumn term, so if you're thinking of joining us, either now or in the near future, please let us know or come along.

We meet between 12 noon and 2pm on a Tuesday in the village hall. (Term time only). Tea, coffee and squash are provided. Bring lunch for yourself and your child(ren). We have plenty of toys and there is usually a craft activity.

We're hoping to arrange a few outings during the summer holidays, which will include older children, so watch this space....

**Tracy Seelig** 851437

**Neighbourhood Watch**

Two incidents during February, at which property was stolen: a burglary in Chilton road, a shed break-in in Hollow Way. **Celia Davies**

1 *A Random History of Upton No. 6* — **Old Upton** by **Juliet and Peter Gardiner** is now available at the Post Office, price 50p.

1 **LENT COURSE** Tuesday 8-9.30pm, *chez* Elisabeth Wright, Karibu, High Street. Subject: *Tough Talk: Hard sayings of Jesus.*

**You can book now  
for discounted oil**

The Upton Oil syndicate has been running for three years, starting from a handful of Uptonians to currently a membership of just under 150 and still growing. It has expanded into Chilton, Blewbury, the Hagbournes and Astons, and I have had enquiries from Wallingford and Basildon. Over 60 members live in Upton but in theory there isn't a geographical limit. We all enjoy a discount in excess of £50 a year (more for high volume households) and boiler servicing through recommended local engineers.

If you have moved into the village recently or been meaning to join, we are about to put in a big order (with the biggest potential discount). The price is the same whatever you order (minimum 500 litres) and you pay the supplier direct. So for an annual fee of £3 you could have a significant reduction in heating bills. To find out more ring me one evening or e-mail.

For members not on e-mail, a reminder that I need to know details of your order by Sunday 14 March. The next large order will be in Aug/Sept so fill up if you can.

**Colin Batchelor** 851362  
*colin.batchelor@eggconnect.net*

1 To friends of **ELSIE BUTLER** Elsie arrived in Upton in 1944. Her stay has been a long and happy one but now she has moved on to warden controlled accommodation for her comfort and security. **Sheila** and **Marilyn** would like to thank all her friends for their kindness and support over recent years. Anyone who would like to visit her in Berkshire Court will be most welcome. She will still be a regular at the Coven which she has enjoyed since it started. Please phone Sheila on 512914 for her address and tel. no.

**50 Club Winners**

**January** £10 Wright, £7 Mrs Scotney, £5 Mrs Whitmell, £4 Mr Heckington  
**February** £10 Mr Noble, £7 Mrs Riordan  
£5 Mrs McArthur, £4 Mrs Curran

**CHURCH SERVICES IN MARCH**

**ST. MARY'S**

**Sunday 9am**

7 Parish Eucharist  
14 Mattins

*Mothersing Sunday*

21 Parish Eucharist  
28 Parish Eucharist

**METHODIST**

**10.30am — Preacher**

Rev. Tim Dibble  
Peter Hemmings

Paul Williams  
Marlene Chalkley

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