

UPTON NEWS

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VILLAGE BOY WINS IN MALAYSIA

Carl Davis at 16 Fieldside went to Malaysia in July for the Tae Kwon-Do World Championships and came away with a Bronze medal in the 13—17 year-old category. He went over to Kuala Lumpur with his parents and the rest of the England Team.

There were an amazing 36 countries competing. Carl's Dad, Neil Davis says: 'To win a Bronze medal at a World Championship is a tremendous achievement and Carl is very happy with his success over the past two years.

He also took part in the Welsh Open Championship in September and won a Gold medal, and he has been undefeated in national competitions for over two years. He is hoping to go to the British Championships in November, then to Dublin for the European Championships.'

All this is funded by his parents, so Carl asks anybody who wishes to help him make his way in a sport to please contact his parents who would be only too pleased to discuss things further.

Have you walked along the **Upton to Didcot Cycle Path** yet? Well I have not, but someone called Ruth Pavey has. She has written a most enthusiastic 4-page article, containing beautiful pictures, in the prestigious glossy magazine *Crafts*. If you would like to see the article, please come to Cedarwood, Stream Road. You could phone first to make sure I was in — 850263. **Sidney Hardwick**

**Upton Village Hall
Amenities Trust and
Abingdon College and
District Film Society**

bring to

**Upton Village Hall
TOUCHING THE VOID
on Tuesday 30 November
at 7.30pm**

This film is a documentary about a 1985 climbing expedition in the Peruvian Andes undertaken by Joe Simpson and Simon Yates. Simpson has a fall on the way down and Yates cuts the rope to save himself, but Simpson survives to tell the story. The narrative is divided between interviews with the climbers and a dramatisation with actors and stunt doubles doing the climbing.

**Much acclaimed, particularly for its acute sense of drama and breathtaking photography
(106 minutes)**

**Membership for this one screening
£4.50 and £3.50 concessions
(available in advance)
from JESSIE WEST
851206**

Curate's Jottings

This summer I spent a week with my cell group in a house in the south of France. It was a large and lovely town house, with three *boulangeries* just two minutes walk away, so fresh baguettes were present every day at breakfast straight after our morning eucharist.

Just a stone's throw away was the village square, cafés rubbing shoulders with the parish church, the florist and the *tabac*. One night, while we were eating out, a band was playing in the square, and perhaps a hundred villagers were dancing in large, slow-moving circle dances. It was such a pleasant occasion, and though we didn't join in the dancing, we were glad to be a part of the evening.

Social life is strong in villages here too, but what struck me about that particular night's dancing was the impromptu nature of it all. It seemed as though a few instrumentalists had got together on the spur of the moment, and, hearing the music, the villagers had turned out of their houses suddenly ready to dance. I'm convinced this way of living is bound up with the immediacy of the daily bread. Baguettes that aren't eaten for breakfast are thrown away rather than eaten, already stale, at lunch-time.

All of this is a far cry from

the meticulous planning of shopping and social life for weeks in advance that I'm so used to. I am rather obsessive about organizing and planning my time (as anyone who's seen the intricate coloured charts on my digital diary will testify). It was good for me to spend a week that wasn't highly timetabled, and to experience a little of the French village life that seemed so spontaneous and relaxed. **Russell Dewhurst**

I Father Russell has just launched a state-of-the-art website for St. Mary's, St. Michael's and St. Andrew's. www.hubchurch.co.uk covers history and news and has useful links to the three village websites. So far there have been over 300 hits, half of them from the United States.

SUMMERFETE

It seems a very long time ago that we were beavering away in the recreation ground on a scorching hot day getting ready for the Fete. Just in case you haven't already heard over £2,000 was taken, with a profit of £1,894. Didn't we do well! We must just mention that the top stall was **Jessie's** Preserves which raised £313.50. This is amazing and reflects the hard work which Jessie does throughout the year to prepare for her stall. **Piran's** Grand Prix game was new this year and caused loads of excitement,

especially the final. Another highlight was of course **The Thin Controller** — he was brilliant — we kept waiting for the 'twenty-to-four' to come chugging up the line from Didcot!

A big thank you must go to everyone who helped in all sorts of ways. We are grateful to those who loaned us equipment, provided transport, donated goodies, and gave so freely of their time in setting up and serving on the stalls. As ever the teas were very much appreciated by both customers and helpers. We must say a huge thank-you to the cake bakers who provided the delicious tray bakes and so on, and to the slaves in the kitchen who have to work so hard to keep up with demand. Well done everybody.

What about next year? Perhaps we should put our thinking caps on now and see how we might attract more people. Is there a juggler out there (or anyone with a special talent) who'd like to offer their services? Don't be shy.

Could we ask anyone with even a bit of an idea to e-mail **Clare Lightfoot** at Lthimbles@AOL.com or give her a ring on 850486.

C.L. for St Mary's Fete Working Party

The **Harvest Supper** was well attended and raised £240.50 to be shared equally between St. Mary's and Upton Methodist Church. Thank you for all your support.

Jessie West

50 Club Winners

September. £15 Mrs Schumacher, £15 Mr Powell, £10 Mr Ireson, £7 Mrs Lightfoot, £5 Mr Hawkins, £4 Ms Shaw.

CHURCH SERVICES IN OCTOBER

ST. MARY'S

Sunday 9am

- 3 At Methodist Church
- 10 At St Andrew's
- 17 Matins
- 24 Parish Eucharist
- 31 Parish Eucharist

METHODIST

10.30am — Preacher

- Barbara Sexton
- Michael Howlett
- At Blewbury
- Mariene Chalkley
- Derek Morton

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