

UPTON NEWS

MARCH 2005

Vol.2 No.50

LIVELY TURNOUT FOR PARISH PLAN MEETING

Over 50 parishioners filled the village hall for the Parish Plan Open Meeting on 23 February, at which we presented results from the recent questionnaires.

From the Adult questionnaire, the presentation included your views on Planning, Roads, Street Lighting, Paths, Communications, the Village Hall and the Recreation Ground. And for the younger members of the village, feedback on Places to Go, Things to Do and Transport were covered. Questions and comments were invited, and these clearly demonstrated the interest of village residents in road safety and recreational facilities in particular.

The Parish Plan group is now pushing ahead to turn popular requests into action, and is preparing a draft plan for adoption by the Parish Council. We will keep you informed of progress. In the meantime, there has been a great deal of interest in village societies and community projects — we have already set to work to establish these.

If you missed the Open Meeting or would like a another look at the evening's presentation, it is available on the village website at www.uptonvillage.co.uk

William Betts, Chair
Parish Plan Steering Group

EDITOR'S NOTE

This is the 50th issue of the newsletter produced by the present editor, who is constantly looking for ideas and input to make it more lively. For instance, the Youth Questionnaire threw up a suggestion for a regular round-up of young people's doings in the village. Let's have one! With a website, too, there are all sorts of possibilities. If you can help develop our village media outlets, do please lend a hand.

Carol Hall, 850811

VILLAGE DIARY SKITTLES & SUPPER EVENING

not to be missed

Saturday, 23 April

6.30 for 7pm

Village Hall

**good FUN good FOOD
good PRIZES**

**Tickets £7 available from
JESSIE WEST & SHEILA DAWSON
for Village Hall funds
We will also be running a raffle
during the evening**

TRAfalgar WEEKEND 21-23 October 2005

The nation will unite to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar. Beacons will blaze across the land, church bells will peal and festivities will take place in pubs, schools and village and town halls throughout the UK.

**Does Upton want to join in? Should we have such as a bring and share lunch, supper, picnic, or a catered meal which would be paid for?
Any ideas? Any interest?**

**Please contact JESSIE WEST
851206 with suggestions
and for more info —
if Upton is to take part.**

Curate's Jottings

When I'm at home during the day, Radio Four is my constant companion: the *Today* programme while I'm getting up, *You and Yours* while I'm making lunch, usually some comedy while I'm fixing my supper. I find that radio has so much more variety, and so much more of interest than television.

Just today I caught a programme about spirituality in the countryside. It was a wonderful opportunity to hear village dwellers talk about their experiences of God, how living where they did affected the way they saw the world. On TV, I fear, there would have been attempts to rustle up some imagined 'conflict', or provide some distracting visual effects. But here we had ordinary people, being allowed to talk plainly about things that mattered to them. I felt very privileged to be listening.

Radio is, of course, much more intimate than TV. The presenters, the comedians, the characters from *The Archers*, all become our companions in our home as we potter about

getting things done. And even when we're not really listening, background noise reassures us that the world is still ticking over.

Now, of course, those of us with broadband Internet connections can 'Listen Again' to programmes we might have missed. I find it very handy for *In Our Time*. Radio, far from being dead and buried by its younger sister television, is alive and kicking, and entering eagerly into the Internet age.

Russell Dewhurst

GEORGE & DRAGON

Good News for Pensioners!

15% discount on lunch on Tuesdays until end April

Aunt Sally Pool and Dart Team

players needed — anyone interested please come in and register your name

Carol West

50 Club Winners

February £10 Mrs Abbott, £7 Mrs Timblick, £5 Mrs Napper, £4 Ms Shaw

CHURCH SERVICES IN MARCH

ST. MARY'S

Sunday 9am

- 6 Parish Eucharist
- 13 Parish Eucharist
- 20 Palm Sunday — Parish Eucharist

Holy Week
Monday 21 8pm Holy Eucharist with sermon

Friday 25 10.30am Family Service
2pm One Hour at the Cross
27 Easter Day — Parish Eucharist

Mid-week services in St. Mary's

On Tuesday the Daily Office is said at 8.15am and 5.30pm.
On Thursday at 11am the Eucharist is celebrated.

METHODIST

10.30am — Preacher

Brenda Boyer
Pam Martin
United Service with St. Mary's (9am)

POST OFFICE UNDER THREAT

The Post Office will be closed from Monday April 4 to 7. On April 11, 12, 13, 14 and 18 it will only be open between 1 and 3pm. The postman will collect mail at 5pm as usual on these days. From 19 April times will be back to normal. Pension books will be finished by these dates, but you can collect money with Lloyds, Barclays, Co-Op, Clydesdale and Girobank banks.

Currency can be ordered, and flowers by post, Argos Postal Orders can be bought with no commission and much more at your Post Office. With the loss of the pensions the use of the Post Office has declined dramatically and once again we are under threat. Please do not forget to use the Post Office. Best wishes.

Margaret Mayham
Post mistress

Upton & Blewbury VPA

The 6 April talk will be on Delphiniums. I have never got one to flower yet, so I am hoping for tips. The new show schedules should be out by then.

We are going to try a Plant Swap scheme. If you have lots of a particular plant, or are looking for something special, we will have a list of both. Ring Karen on 850219.

We have bought a Mantis multi-purpose machine which will till, hoe, dig, cut lawn edges. You can borrow this for a small donation to funds, along with a returnable deposit and enough fuel for one day's digging. Call Maggie or Austin on 850364 to book. Other tools available. Happy gardening!

Karen Brooks