

Upton News



Vol 4 No.1 August 2011

New look Upton News

Welcome to the new look Upton News.

We are now in 2011 and with the big purge on saving the planet and not wasting resources, we would like to go electronic from September to save paper and money and deliver a fuller version of Upton News. To achieve this we need as many residents as possible to receive Upton News by email. In order to do this please sign up as many members of your household who would like to receive an electronic copy at

www.uptonvillage.co.uk/upton-news/

There is no limit on numbers and it is then up to you if you wish to print off a copy. You can easily amend and add email addresses at any time. For anyone who does not have a computer and email access, can you please telephone the Editor (Sarah Sayers) on 851450 and leave your name and address and we will of course continue to deliver a paper copy to you. To print off the colour copies will incur some cost (and we don't currently have a budget!), therefore we are looking for sponsors. It is hoped that the number of paper copies will diminish over time. If you have a company or as an individual are prepared to run off one month's paper version in colour, please get in touch, if we get

enough support it is likely you will only be asked to do this once every 2 years. Initial thoughts are that we will publish summary articles in Upton News and use our Upton Village website for a fuller version and more detail. There will be links provided. We plan to incorporate photos and generally have a more interactive approach. We will do features throughout the year, so if for example the Playgroup or Wine Club have an event, we can give them more space in that particular month. I will also be looking for "Cub Reporters" on each street, so anyone who is interested or who fancies honing their journalistic skills and wants to provide articles, leads or information, please get in touch - but strictly no News of the World skullduggery! We may do a guest Editor one month and do new features such as a restaurant review, what's on... ideas welcome.

Sarah

Inside this issue...

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- Sports Corner
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Upton's Royal Wedding Street Party

About 175 villagers, family & friends had a wonderful day on 29 April to celebrate the wedding of Prince William and Catherine Middleton.

The sun shone and we shared a magnificent communal buffet in traditional street party style. The afternoon concluded with the children's fancy dress competition with Prince Edward Betts and Princess Joanna Wilson cutting the delicious cake made by Giulia Hannigan and a loyal toast was proposed to the happy couple and also to all the residents of Upton. Thanks must go to our very generous local sponsors who paid for a commemorative mug for the children.

Photographs taken by John Acton & Charlie Hannigan are now on the website

www.uptonvillage.co.uk/photo-gallery/royal-wedding-2011/.



If you want a keepsake to show your children & grandchildren in years to come, Brian Rippon (850158) has put together a splendid book of the photos which is available to purchase at a cost of £16. For a full preview see

www.blurb.com/bookstore/detail/2335612. If you would like a copy, Brian will be placing an order for a number of copies at the end of August. Cash with order please to Autumn Leaves, High Street. Alternatively you can order it directly from the above web site but you will incur postage costs.

TV Digital Switchover

Oxfordshire will begin switching to digital-only TV on 14 September 2011. The two-stage process will complete two weeks later on 28 September. This means the existing analogue TV signal will be switched off and replaced with a new, stronger digital TV signal.

Switchover is happening so that Freeview services (digital TV through an aerial) can be extended to people who can't currently get them. Any analogue television left unconverted will no longer be able to receive TV

programmes after the switchover. If you already have Freeview, you will need to re-tune your TV on the day of switchover.

Oxfordshire Rural Community Council will be running advice points at the Cornerstone in Didcot to help with any questions you have about switchover, including re-tuning, equipment and the Switchover Help Scheme. **10am to 4pm on 14th, 15th, 28th and 29th September.**

Sports Corner

Tennis

Blewbury Tennis Club has just got a much awaited new Club house next to the 4 hardcourts at the recreation ground on Bohams Road. Several Upton families are members. Membership is £80 for a family, £50 for single adult and £20 for a junior for the whole year, no additional courts fees payable, which represents excellent value. Competitive tennis and coaching (senior & junior) available. Club nights are 6.30pm on Wednesdays and 10.30am on Sundays. No need to bring a partner, just turn up. Membership forms available from Rosemary DeWilde (secretary) rosemary.dewilde@mac.com.



Cycling

Keen cyclists and all those who took part in the amazingly successful Uptonogood cycle ride, will be pleased to hear that part of the Sustrans cycle path Route 44 which goes along the railway line and links Didcot, Milton, East Hendred and Wantage has been upgraded at Wantage/Harwell Science & Innovation Campus.

If anyone has discovered an interesting cycle route that they would like to share with others in the village, just let us know details, distance, points of interest to see and we will publish.

Upton Short Bowls Club

We hope to book the hall for Wed 28th Sept from 7.45 - 9.45pm. This will be the first session of the new season and posters will be displayed around the village to encourage new members. Thereafter it will be each Wednesday except for the 3rd Wednesday in the month. Do you fancy coming along to give it a try? We have bowls to lend & you just bowl in flat soled shoes to begin with.

Contact Tony Durbin 850035

Hockey

Wallingford Hockey club have men's, ladies and mixed teams as well as a youth section and are looking to encourage new members. If you are interested in joining, further information at www.wallingfordhc.org.uk or email wallingfordhc@gmail.com.

St Mary's Church

Sun 7 Aug

9am Eucharist

Sun 14 Aug

9am **Patronal Festival**, celebration of Eucharist for Blessed Virgin Mary, followed by refreshments

Sun 21 Aug

10am **Morning Prayer**

Sun 28 Aug

9am Eucharist

Sat 3 Sep

2pm **FETE** - If you would like to help, please call Jessie West 851206 or Clare Lightfoot 850486.

Entertainment by Quainton Quackers, Blewbury Band, Fun Dog Show, stalls, games, scrumptious teas, plant stall and tug of war - teams are invited from local villages, pubs and organisations. 4-8 members per team - mixed welcome, free entry, up to 8 teams may enter, trophy for the winning team. 2.30pm start. To enter your Tug of War team

contact Paul Batho 851251 or Ben Shaw 07934 389171

Sun 18 Sep

10am **Harvest Festival** which will be a family service. Our harvest gifts will benefit the 'Oxford Homeless Pathways' an Oxford based charity focusing on emergency accommodation and day services and resettlement for homeless people.

Donations are urgently needed to support the welfare, educational and medical services for the homeless.

All donations of fresh vegetables, non-perishable items such as tinned food or packet foods will be gratefully received by the charity which provides meals to those in need. Certain food items and vegetables can be used for cookery lessons to develop 'life skills' for those on training programmes. Your donations will be much appreciated, please bring them to church on 18th September or in advance to

Karen Fenn 851072.

Spring Line Methodist Church

Services for August - 10.30 am

7th Local Arrangements

14th Upton Malcolm Newton

21st Blewbury Andrew Loxley

28th Upton Rev. David Rankin, Holy Communion

Emergency Church Council

An emergency meeting of the Spring Line Church Council will be held on Wednesday 10th August at 7.30 pm, in the Blewbury Centre. Anyone who is involved in any way with the Spring Line Church, either as a member of the Spring Line Church or as an interested party, is welcome to attend.

If you would like further information about the meeting please contact Jo Lakeland on 850490 or jolakeland@tiscali.co.uk

Want to reduce your energy bills?

Electricity is the most costly and least efficient medium for space and water heating and it is strongly recommended that you do a thorough inspection of your home to ensure you have very good thermal insulation wherever possible. The VWHDC has now acquired a thermal imaging camera for use by local community groups and it is in Blewbury January - March 2012. Upton is being invited to participate but we will have to co-ordinate and nominate a time period and you will also have to book your home into the timetable. For further information, visit the Blewbury Energy Initiative website www.blewbury.co.uk/energy/.

Upton Oil Syndicate

The next order is scheduled to be placed on Monday 15th August. To be included, orders in to Colin Batchelor by **Saturday 13th August** at the latest, preferably by e-mail colin.batchelor@eggconnect.net or 01491 672444 (after 7.00pm).

Dates for your diary

Thur 4 Aug	7pm, Ladies Coven, George & Dragon
Sat 6 Aug	2.30pm, VPA Summer Show
Wed 10 Aug	7.30pm Springline Church Council, Blewbury Centre
Sat 13 Aug	Deadline for Oil Syndicate orders
Sun 14 Aug	1pm, Pimms, Pate & Pudds, Rec Ground (or VH if wet). Only a few tickets left, available from Celia Davies 850684 or Maggie Maytham 850126
Sat 3 Sept	2pm, St Mary's Fete, Recreation Ground
14/15/28/29 Sept	10am-4pm, Digital Switchover advice Cornerstone, Didcot
Sun 18 Sept	10am, St Mary's Harvest Festival

Recipe of the month

Luscious Apple Cake - serves 8

This cake has no refined sugar - the sweetness comes from the dates and apples which make it deliciously moist.

Cooking time: 45 minutes + cooling
Grease an 8" x 2½" deep round cake tin and line with parchment.

Preheat oven to 180 degrees/Gas 4.

Ingredients:

- 225g soft butter or pure sunflower spread
- 225g soft dates, de-stoned and roughly chopped
- 550g Bramley apples (unpeeled weight), cored and roughly chopped
- 112g white bread flour (Doves gluten-free white bread flour can also be used)
- 112g ground almonds
- 3 level tsp cream of tartar
- 1½ tsp bicarbonate of soda
- 5 medium eggs, lightly beaten



Method:

Blend the butter or spread with the dates and apples in a food processor. Transfer to a bowl. In another bowl, mix the flour, almonds, cream of tartar and bicarb of soda. Mix half of the egg into the apple mixture and then add half of the flour mixture. Repeat so all the ingredients are combined. Spoon into the tin and bake for 45 minutes or until a skewer inserted into the cake comes out clean. Cool slightly in the tin and then turn out and transfer to cool on a rack before slicing.

Thanks to Giulia Hannigan for this delicious recipe. Please send contributions for future months to the Editor.

Welcome to the village

We would like to welcome new residents to the village:

- Steve & Jane Strange and their children Libby & Ben who have moved from Blewbury into Flett Cottage on the High Street.
- Dermot & Brenda Paddon who have moved from London into Minster House, one of the new houses just built opposite the church.
- Derek Vokins & Diane Rabbatts, who have moved into The Elms on the High Street, with Jamie & Marcus who are pupils at The Downs School.
- John & Jill McKenna (Liz Hardy's parents) who have moved from Lymington into Cornerways. We are sorry to hear that John is in hospital.

Regional Neighbourhood Watch Report

Raves and rural crime are still a priority concern; hi-visibility patrols by Police and Police Community Support Officers are carried out at beauty spots, the Ridgeway, rural locations including outbuildings, to prevent illegal raves, burglaries and the theft of plant machinery and diesel. There has been an increase of theft from vehicles, particularly from beauty spots in the South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse areas. With the warmer weather more people are going out to rural locations for walks and leaving valuable items in their vehicles. Do not leave anything on display in your

vehicle; items stolen have included bags, Sat Nav's and mobile phones. Speeding is also a priority and locations have been identified where motorists regularly exceed speed limits, causing concern amongst residents. The Police Community Support Officers are carrying out speed checks in villages with the Speed Indication Device and the Automatic Number Plate Recognition machine. Owners of vehicles found to be exceeding the speed limit will be contacted. Their details are taken and logged on the police database.

Calling all singers!

Didcot Festival Chorus is recruiting singers for its annual autumn concert with the St Birinus School Choir. The school is 75 years old this year and to celebrate, they are going to perform Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana*. The other works in the concert will follow a Last Night of the Proms theme. The singers will be accompanied by the Oxford

Symphony Orchestra. The performance is on Saturday 19th November at 7.30pm in Didcot Leisure Centre.

Further details are available from Mr A W Walker, St Birinus School, Mereland Road, Didcot OX11 8AZ tel 814444 or email:

aww@st-birinus.oxon.sch.uk

Children's Corner

(for those who understand imperial!)

"I say, ... did you hear about the marathon runner who was running for 3 whole hours but only moved 2 feet"!

Thanks to Deloro Stellite Group and Andy Caffyn for the sponsorship and printing of this edition of Upton News.



Parish Council Matters

There will be an extraordinary Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 2 August at 8.00 p.m. to discuss planning application UPT/11/01364/FUL proposed 2 storey house in Wattle Cottage field (next to George & Dragon).

Planning Application No UPT/10932/3 11/01093/FUL

Fieldside House, ground floor cloakroom with shower. The PC had no objections & the Vale have permitted this application subject to compliance with conditions.

Planning Application No UPT/16188/1

Brookside, High Street, new single and 2 storey extension and demolition of existing double garage, and conservatory. The PC had no objections to this application but requested that the Vale took into account that the extension could possibly deprive the neighbouring property of some light & attention should be given to the tree with a TPO in the garden of the Old Forge. The Vale permitted this development subject to compliance with conditions.

Classified Ads

For Upton residents (& anyone associated with the village), there is now a classified ad section on our Upton website.

If you would like to advertise your services – such as painting & decorating, physiotherapy, baby-sitting – or have something to sell – go to:

www.uptonvillage.co.uk/classifieds/

Upton Ladies Coven

We will meet for a meal at 7pm in the George & Dragon on Thursday 4 August. If you don't want to eat please do come along and join us for a drink instead. Everyone welcome - please contact Lesley Shaw for more information

lesley.thorpe.shaw@googlemail.com

or telephone 850308).

Contact the Editor

Submissions for Upton News should be sent to the Editor, Sarah Sayers, at news@uptonvillage.co.uk or to Orchard Lodge, High Street, Upton OX11 9JE. Tel 01235 851450.

Deadline for the September edition is **20th August**.

