

UPTON NEWS

JUNE 2007

Vol 3 No. 4

ST MARY'S CHURCH

Church Services at St Mary's during June

9.00 a.m. Sung Eucharist each Sunday during June.

Sunday 8th July – no 9.00 a.m. service. There will be a 6.00 p.m. service at St Andrew's, East Hagbourne when we bid farewell to Fr Edwin.

Fr. Edwin announces his retirement....

In a recent note to his parishioners Fr Edwin writes...."After a great deal of thought and prayer, I have decided to retire from full-time ministry. I have accepted a "house for duty" post at Shellingford in the Uffington Benefice where I shall work part-time for Rosanna Martin and it has been agreed that my first service there will on Sunday 29th July.

I shall finish working here on Thursday 21st June but my final service will be on Sunday 8th July. This will be at St Andrew's, where I began in 1988, and will be at 6 p.m. The only services in the Benefice that morning will be at 8.00 a.m..." Fr Edwin will be missed very much by the parishioners of the Churn benefice.

Clare Lightfoot, PCC Secretary

Tickets are now on sale for the Eliza Tones Flute Ensemble and Geoff Summers Concert. This is taking place on Tuesday 24 July at 8.00 p.m. in St Mary's Church.

Tickets priced at £5 to include light refreshments are available from Clare Lightfoot on 850486.

THE METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday 10.30	Preacher
10 th June (Communion)	Rev Helen White
17 th June	Libby Bolton
24 th June	Geoff Caudle
1 st July	Alan Fudge

BLEWBURY & UPTON VPA NEWS

As I write this the heavens have opened and we have a stream running down our road, at least I

don't have to go down the garden to water in my beans and sweetcorn.

I need to remind you all that the Summer show is in Upton this year, in the village hall on Sat 14th July. Entries need to be in to Maggie in the Post Office by Weds 11th July (10pm), then bring your plants, flowers, jam & handicrafts along from 8.30 am till 11am. Show opens at 2.30pm, prizes at 4 ish, auction of produce at 4.30 ish. We would love to see your photos too, for next years calendar, "Gardens & Gardening" is the title of this year's bestseller! If you have no show schedule then pop in to Maggie at the PO or into Blewbury PO where you can also join the VPA.

Please do not worry if you think that your flowers etc are not up to standard, I just bung in any old bit of stuff and I seem to do quite well, (perhaps my fingers are a bit green), my sweet peas are a disaster this year, (I put the seeds in a safe place and then forgot where they were!) But I have put them in a pot on a warm windowsill to start off, and they are now in a big pot in the greenhouse to try to bring them on a bit faster. Come and see if it works!

Happy Gardening Karen Brooks

CHRISTIAN AID

The total amount raised in the village during the recent house-to-house collection for Christian Aid was £277.10, an increase of £17.08 over last year. A sincere thank-you to all who contributed and also to those who helped with the collection. Alec Chenery

THE UPTON 'COVEN'

Upton Ladies Coven will be meeting in the George & Dragon on:

Thursday June 7 at 8 pm and on

Thursday July 5 at 8 pm

Everyone welcome - we look forward to seeing you there!

UPTON VILLAGE THEATRE GROUP

One minibus and two cars are booked - and filled - to go to Stratford to see "Twelfth Night" on 12 September. This was so popular, I've ordered extra tickets three times so far. Any more - though I can't guarantee transport, or even seats near the rest of the group?

But before that, I've just ordered 20 tickets for the Oxford Theatre Guild's production of "The Rivals" in the garden of Trinity College, and these are for the evening of Friday 27 July. Please contact me if you are interested in the show - first come, first served.

Do let me know if you have suggestions for future trips, or want to be added to (or subtracted from) the mailing list.

Malcolm Wright (850705)

mcw@ox119je.freeserve.co.uk

GEORGE AND DRAGON

The month of May was truly merry at the pub. Our Thai Cuisine Night was well attended and although there were one or two things that we could have improved on, our diners assured us that they've enjoyed the food and would be looking forward to the next time. I would also like to report that the live music performed by the Triple A Band last Saturday was even busier than their last gig!

We do not have any exciting plans for June but the George and Dragon will be busy getting ready for the smoking ban that will come into full force on the 1st of July! A shelter will be provided for our smokers but we hope that the new comfy furniture that we will be purchasing to replace the back-breaking stools in the lounge will motivate them to spend more time indoors and help them cut down on the 'ciggies' if not completely quit.

A special thank you to The Coven and the Wednesday Cyclists group for once again, making the pub, your home. Also to our Aunt Sally and Pool teams for doing a good job of representing us when they're away. We do get by with a little help from our friends!

BLEWBURY SCHOOL

"Blewbury School will be holding open school as part of the Blewbury Festival over the weekend of 29th June – 1st July. The school will be open 2 – 4:30pm on the Friday and 2-6pm on the Saturday and Sunday. There will be an exhibition of pupils' work and photos and mementoes of the history of school. All welcome.

Blewbury School's 300th anniversary Parade and Reunion Picnic is happening on the afternoon and evening of Friday 22nd June at the school (Westbrook St, Blewbury). Events will start with a parade, in which current pupils will be in costumes from the past 300 years. The parade will leave the school at 3:30 and proceed around the village. Onlookers are welcome. The picnic will be on the school fields afterwards. The BBQ and bar will be open for business from 4:30pm and people are welcome to bring their own picnics. Some very nice commemorative china mugs will be available as well now we've ordered some more! It would be great to know how many people are coming - Mrs Mills, the current head teacher can be contacted on headteacher.3248@blewbury.oxon.sch.uk, or the school telephone number is 01235 850411.

Kathryn Fletcher

Vice Chair, Governing Body, Blewbury School

DIAMOND PUBLIC OPEN DAY

Diamond Light Source invites you to an Open Day on Saturday 14 July from 10.00 - 18.00 hrs. Come along to join in the fun and discover what the facility is all about. All ages welcome. Entry will be free of charge but by ticket only. Places are limited, so early booking is recommended.

To register go to: www.diamond.ac.uk

PARISH COUNCIL

The new Parish Council met for the first time on 8 May the minutes of the meeting are available at the Post Office, on the village Notice Board and on the web site, www.uptonvillage.co.uk.

At the meeting Mike Brown was elected as Chairman and Belinda Drew as Vice Chairman for the coming 12 months.

In order to share the workload members of the council have agreed to take a lead role in the following areas of the councils activities and should be your first line of contact should you have problems or useful information to pass on. John Dickens (851330) will be progressing the development of the Recreation Ground in accordance with the proposals agreed by the village at the meeting last year.

Tracy Seelig (851437) will be council's representative in helping Upton Village Hall Amenities Trust (UVHAT) with the development and improvement of the Village Hall. Tracy will also continue with her responsibilities for the children's play area but may pass on that role when a sixth member of the council is co-opted.

Belinda Drew (850584) will be taking the lead role in dealing with local planning applications and also keeping up-to-date with the wider planning issues including the development of Didcot, the proposed new reservoir and the on-going South East Plan.

Stuart Norman (850745) will be dealing with road and footpath issues that affect the parish including ensuring the footpaths are kept clear and the roads are kept in a reasonable state of repair.

Mike Brown (850135) will be responsible for communications within the village (notice board, website and newsletter) as well as acting as link between the council and village amenities other than the Village Hall and the Recreation Ground. The council are actively seeking to co-opt a sixth member who will act as a link between the council and the younger members of our community.

Although it will help to share the workload if you contact the councillor dealing with the area in which you may have concerns please be assured that all councillors will do their best to help out with any issues that may arise.

VILLAGE FETE – Saturday 1st September

Plans are being made for the fete which will be held on the recreation ground on Saturday 1st September at 2.00 p.m. If you are able to help with preparations, or on the day we would be pleased to hear from you. We are grateful to our existing band of helpers but we can always use extra help, in particular we need somebody to organise the white elephant stall. Training will be given! Gifts for the stalls and raffle prizes will be needed nearer the time. If you can help in any way, or have a new idea for a stall, please call Jessie on 851206.

Calling all gardeners..... please can you have a look round your garden and pot up things, which we might sell on the plant stall. For the first time in many years Simon is not available with his fantastic plant stall so please, please, help stock the plant stall.

UPTON FAMILY PICNIC

Come along to the inaugural Upton Family Picnic at the recreation ground on the afternoon of Sunday 24th June from 1 pm. Bring a picnic and your (grand) kids. This will be a chance to meet other families in Upton with young(ish) children. Everyone new and old is welcome. There'll be the field, the playground and perhaps a football or rounders game or two for the older kids. If it's wet come along anyway with a flask and your waterproof coats!
Sarah Stoves & Kathryn Fletcher

St Mary's Parochial Church Council are having an auction in the Village Hall, date to be confirmed, about beginning of Oct. A "Cash in the Attic" auction in aid of Church funds.

Items for inclusion in the July issue to be submitted by 30 June to kameki39@btinternet.com.

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Delivery organised by Jessie West

