

UPTON NEWS

JULY 2007

Vol 3 No. 5

ST MARY'S CHURCH

Church Services at St Mary's during July

There will be some changes to services at St Mary's during the interregnum. Please note in your diary the following:

Sunday 1 July, 9.00 a.m. – Sung Eucharist
Sunday 8 July, 6.00 p.m. Evensong at St Andrew's Church, East Hagbourne,
Farewell to Fr Edwin. - **NO SERVICE AT ST MARY'S**

Sunday 15 July, 9.00 a.m. – Morning Worship – (no communion on this day)
Sunday 22 July, 9.00 a.m. – Sung Eucharist – Feast of Mary Magdalene
Sunday 29 July, 10.30 a.m. – United Benefice Service at South Moreton

NO SERVICE AT ST MARY'S

Church Services at St Mary's during August

Sunday 5 August, 9.00 a.m. – Sung Eucharist
Sunday 12 August, 9.00 a.m. – Sung Eucharist
Sunday 19 August, 10.00 a.m. – Family Service

THE METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday at 10:30	Preacher
8 July At Blewbury (Communion)	Rev John Rowland
15 July	Ruth Price
22 July	Paul Williams
29 July	John Dennis

Advance notice – On Sunday the 16th of September we will be celebrating our present church's 50th anniversary; the service will be at 4.00 p.m. followed by tea. All are welcome.

THE UPTON 'COVEN'

Upton Ladies Coven will be meeting in the George & Dragon on:
Thursday 2 August at 8.00 p.m.
Everyone welcome - we look forward to seeing you there!

VILLAGE FETE

At 2.00 p.m. on Saturday 1st September

On the Recreation Ground.

Blewbury Band, Craft Demonstrations, cakes, preserves, books, white elephant, tombola, face painting, raffle, games, teas etc etc.

If you have anything to donate or would like to help, please call Jessie on 851206

VILLAGE HALL

50 Club Winners for

May

£10 Ms Spackman	no.123
£ 7 Mrs Smith	no. 7
£ 5 Mrs Walker	no. 67
£ 4 Mr Williams	no. 72

June

£10 Mrs Whitmell	no. 124
£ 7 Mr Curran	no. 161
£ 5 Mrs Smith	no. 102
£ 4 Mr Summers	no. 31

VILLAGE TEA PARTY

Austin and Margaret Maytham are again kindly making the garden of Toad Hall available for a tea party on Friday 17th August at 2.30 p.m. All parishioners are welcome to come along. Contact Maggie on 850364 or Clare on 850486 for more information.

BIKE NIGHT

The North Berks Motor Cycle Club are organising a BIKE NIGHT on Tuesday 17 July at 7.00 p.m. in and around the car park at the Horse & Harrow public house, West Hagbourne. There will be 100s of classic bikes and cars on display, plus a trials demonstration. This has become a very popular event attended by over 3,000 people last year. Well worth a look.

PARISH COUNCIL

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 10th July at 8.00 p.m. in the Village Hall. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

Village of the Year

In line with the backing given at the Annual Parish Meeting the Parish Council has entered our village in the Calor Oxfordshire Village of the Year competition. The competition is to recognise community effort within both large and small villages.

The village has always been a caring community and now with the increase in social activity, the improvements in our methods of communication and the lists of available volunteers that have resulted from our Parish Plan it is right that the village should put itself forward.

Last Year 43 villages entered the competition, 16 were short-listed, hopefully we will make the shortlist but if we don't we can learn from the exercise and identify areas where we can make further improvements.

Recreation Ground

Please could you spare a couple of hours to help us with the on-going improvements to the Recreation Ground?

We have now taken delivery of the new goalposts and the ball wall and hope to have the kiddie's rocker delivered in the next 10 days. We would like to get all items installed in time for the summer holidays. We are organising two working parties, the first one on Sat 14th July at 9-30 to dig out the bases and cement in the support structures with a follow up party on Sat 21st July again at 9-30 to complete the installations. If you can make either party we will be delighted to see you there.

BLEWBURY & UPTON VPA NEWS

The talk on Rose breeding was well attended, and although quite a long session, most interesting. Bill Bossom has won many awards and medals for his Roses and showed us how we could follow in his footsteps.....The 60th Summer Show will be held in Upton Village Hall on Saturday 14 July 2007. This year the Autumn show will be held in the Blewbury School on 8 September 2007; the AGM is in the Vale Room - Blewbury Village Hall on 7 November 2007.

UPTON VILLAGE THEATRE GROUP

Just one ticket at £10 for "The Rivals" in Trinity College Gardens on Friday 27 July has become available. Are there any takers?

I've been asked whether I would consider a trip to The Globe in Southwark. I'm initially apprehensive about timing, weather, comfort and expense, but I know that those who have been rate it as an unforgettable experience. Please let me know what you think, and I'll maybe see what 2008 has to offer.

Malcolm Wright (850705)
malcolmwright@f2s.com

BLEWBURY AUTUMN LEAVES CLUB (OVER 60'S)

The Blewbury Autumn Leaves welcome any over 60's from Upton to join their club, the cost is just £2 for a year's membership. For more information call Phyllis Belcher on 850571 or Pam Savage on 851082.

On 10 and 24 July and on the 7 August it's Bingo, Tea and Bring and Buy at 2.30pm in the Vale Room at Blewbury Village Hall.

On 17 July there is a trip to Swanage £8.50. For further information about the trips contact Phyllis Belcher on 850571.

UPTON VILLAGE FAMILY PICNIC

The inaugural Upton Family Picnic went ahead on Sunday 24 June despite the persistent rain. We are very grateful to the Upton Methodist Church for letting us (at 30 minutes notice) use their hall to host an indoor picnic.

Eight families, with children aged from 6 months to 10 years old, enjoyed their picnics inside. The adults chatted whilst the children played musical chairs, Twister, and crawled through the pop up playhouses. Later on the rain dried up and we could all move out to the playground to continue the fun.

I think we'll try this again - perhaps later in the summer. We can pray harder for a dry afternoon! Any takers?

Kathryn Fletcher (851490)/ Sarah Stoves

THE TIDDLYWINKS CLUB

The Tiddlywinks club meets every Friday at 9.30 in the Village hall and is there for anyone with children who wants a chat and a cup of tea, In August we are planning several outings and anyone is welcome to come and join us.

3rd August - We're off to Farmer Gows (www.farmergows.co.uk), we will meet there at 10.30, all info is on their website.

10th - Harcourt Arboretum at Newnham Courtney (<http://www.botanic-garden.ox.ac.uk/Harcourt/harcourtintro.html>) for a picnic lunch, we will meet there at 10.30.

17th - Beale Park, (www.bealepark.co.uk 10.00 at the village Hall or 10.30 at the entrance.

24th - Abbey Gardens water park in Abingdon, meet on the grass at 11.00 for a picnic lunch.

31st - Wittenham Clumps, Kite flying, poo sticks and picnic, 11.00 at the top !!

If you are interested or want more info ring Lindsay on 851222 or lindsay.lott@bp.com
Hope to see you there. "

TABLE TENNIS

Upton Table Tennis Club is looking for new members to join the local league. If you fancy playing come to the Methodist Church on Monday 9th July and then every 2nd Monday after that. It will only cost you £1; tea, coffee, squash and biscuits are available. You don't even need to bring a bat; we've got enough to go round. The hall will be open 7.30 – 9.00. For more information contact Stuart on 07980983960

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Ben and Abi Amos from Church Cottages who were married on Saturday 16th June at The Tythe Barn just outside Bicester. Family and friends joined in a wonderful day of fun and celebration, which lasted well into the small hours. The happy couple are honeymooning in Thailand.

GEORGE AND DRAGON

July has finally arrived and the smoking ban is on. For our smokers, it's no cause for celebration and that is why we have taken great pains to make sure that they are not made to feel less important! A sheltered area in the patio is now in place as well as new chairs and tables in the lounge area to keep them comfortable. We even have new curtains! We hope that our beer, food and the company of their good friends will give them enough reason to carry on visiting the pub.

Two things happening at The George this month, a Jazz Band is doing an informal gig on the 9th of July from 8pm. Please come around if you're not too busy as they are in need of an audience! Also, the summer holidays are coming and so, we are celebrating the end of school runs and homework with an End of Term Disco on the 20th of July, 9pm. To try and squeeze ourselves into our old high school uniforms is purely optional but much encouraged! Finally, we hope all this rain will end soon! We haven't tried our brand new barbeque yet!

WELCOME

The village is pleased to welcome two new families to Upton.

The Pinckney family, David and Lizzi together with Frederica (aged 3) and Georgette (aged 1) have moved into Springside Cottage, Stream Road from Osney Island in Oxford.

David, whose interests are Cross Country Running, Tennis and Cooking, works as a development manager for a local construction company.

Lizzi, whose interests are Yoga, Horse Riding and eating David's cooking, works as a Teacher at Steventon School.

Welcome also to the Powell family, Paul and Kim together with Baylie (aged 7) who have moved into Wattle Cottage, Prospect Road from Didcot.

Paul and Kim's hobbies are Keeping Fit, Cycling, Dancing and Music.

We hope you all enjoy your time living in Upton.

BROWNIES and GUIDES

Upton is indeed very fortunate to have two very active Brownie Packs as well as a pack of Guides. All packs meet once a week in the Village Hall 1st Upton and Blewbury Brownie pack meet on Wednesday evening under the leadership of Danyelle Paton.

2nd U. & B. pack meet on Tuesday evening under the leadership of Angela Newlands.

The Guides meet on Friday evening under the leadership of Lynne Nickerson.

The District Commissioner of Guides is looking for volunteers to open an additional guide unit in Upton, as with two Brownie packs feeding into one guide unit, there is a long waiting list for places.

All units have a break during the summer from the middle of July until the schools restart again in September.

At the end of this term, 2nd U & B will be losing Sam to University. Sam joined when she was 15 as a young leader and decided to take her adult qualifications. If anyone is interested in taking Sam's place to help run Tuesday evening please contact Angela on 211324 or maybe just pop in one Tuesday evening and speak to her.

As well as Tuesday Brownies requiring another adult, the guides are also in need of adult help. If anyone is interested again please contact Angela who will put you in touch with the District Commissioner.

If there are any aspiring brownies who would like to join either of the packs, they have a joint waiting list, please contact Angela on 211324.

LOST CAT

Lucy is Black with White paws and a white patch on her face. She is three years old and quite a small cat. She was last seen on Thursday 7 June in the evening. She was wearing a purple collar with her address details.

Any information would be greatly appreciated.
Tel: Lisa Morgan 01235 851555

DUST OFF YOUR BICYCLE

Ever wonder how life would be if we travelled in ways that benefited our health and our environment? We'd have safer roads, cleaner air and a better quality of life.

Sustrans, the UK's leading sustainable transport charity has just launched its brand new Change Your World campaign and is asking you to swap just one car trip during the week 1st - 7th July 2007 and choose something that's better for the planet and for you.

And guess what? If we all give up one car journey that week we'll reduce car traffic by 10%.

Visit www.changeyourworld.org.uk to tell them of your swap and you will have a chance to win a bike worth £449.99.

WEATHER IN MAY

The temperatures were about average for the month, however the rainfall was well above the average for May. Cloud cover meant less than average sunshine. It has been the second coldest May in our area since records were started in 1949, the coldest was 1979.

In order to help the Coven and the V.P.A. who both have monthly meetings in the first week of the month Upton News is going to bring its printing date forward by one week. In future the deadline for items to be included will be about the 25th of each month, regular subscribers will be sent a reminder on about the 20th of each month.

Items for inclusion in the August issue to be submitted to kameki39@btinternet.com. or handed in to Cathy or Mike by 25 July.

Printed at the Duck House, Blewbury.
Delivery organised by Jessie West

