

UPTON NEWS

September 2009

Vol 3 No. 31

ST MARY'S CHURCH

St Mary's Services for September
Sun 6 September - 09.00 Eucharist
Sun 13 September - 09.00 Eucharist
Sun 20 September - 10.00 Family Service,
followed by refreshments
Sun 27 September - 09.00 Harvest Festival –
sung Eucharist followed by refreshments
Sun 4 October - 09.00 Eucharist

UPTON METHODIST CHURCH

Services commence at 10:30am
6th September Malcolm Newton
Harvest Festival at Blewbury Methodist Church
13th September Rev. John Rowland
Holy Communion at Upton.
Blewbury Methodists Joining Us.
20th September Derek Morton at Upton.
27th September Dr. Paul Williams at Upton.

Please refer to the notice on the Chapel Gate for any alterations to the above arrangements.

PARISH COUNCIL

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Wednesday 23rd September at 8.00 in the Village Hall. The agenda will be published on the notice board and on the web site at least 4 days before the meeting

GEORGE and DRAGON

Not a lot going on apart from the usual happenings at the George and Dragon. We are very busy though. Summer is not quite over yet but I can easily report that so far, we are having an outstanding season. I expect it will start to slow down again when the children go back to school but I'm feeling confident that our pre-Christmas season will also be better than last year's. All in all, trade is definitely improving.

Reminders for your diary : 11th Sept 9pm, 80's Live Music Night. I shall tell you all about that as well as our Thai Festival trip in next month's issue.

In the meantime, enjoy the rest of the summer.

See you at the pub!

PIMMS, PATE and PUDDINGS

A HUGE thank you to all those who supported this event on Sunday 9th August 2009.

We had a superb lunchtime with glorious weather and some amazing homemade fare. I never knew that there were so many different types of pate that one could make! This was a very jolly and social occasion attended by 60 villagers in total.

Thank you to all of you who came, all the helpers, those who cooked for us and those who couldn't attend but very generously donated cash.

The final figure raised in aid of the Village Hall extension was £471.00

Celia Davies

RECTORS REFLECTIONS



A Word Beginning With M

As I have been out and about during the last couple of weeks, and admiring the beauty of our trees, shrubs

and flowers in their late summer splendour, I have been struck by the number of different shades of green there are in our natural environment. There are dark greens, lemony greens, pale greens - in fact, virtually every shade of green one could possibly imagine. And as the wind rustles the leaves, and the sunlight falls at different angles, yet more shades of green are created. How lucky we are to live in a world with such variety.

There's a lovely, but now rather old-fashioned, word which springs to mind. It is used in the traditional version of Psalm 104:

"O Lord, how manifold are thy works: in wisdom thou hast made them all; the earth is full of thy riches".

God's creation is indeed "manifold": it is full of multiplicity and variety. Let us give thanks to God for His manifold creation. Let us also give thanks to God that we have been given the ability to appreciate this manifoldness, to explore it with our minds and treasure it in our hearts.

And, if you have the opportunity, do look up the rest of Psalm 104. It is a beautiful celebration of the manifoldness of Creation, and a great out pouring of praise to the Creator. It has been used in worship for well over 2000 years, and it is particularly appropriate at this time of year when we begin to turn our minds to thoughts of Harvest Festival. "O Lord, how manifold are thy works"- how manifold indeed! Praise be to God!

Fr Jason

UPTON LADIES COVEN

Just a wee reminder that the next Coven will be on Thursday 3rd September in the George & Dragon at the usual time of 8pm. Hope to see you there !

CREAM TEAS

I would like to thank everyone who came to the Cream Teas and everyone who donated money. The sun shone which made a real difference! I raised £520 for Brain Tumour UK which I was really pleased with and thoroughly enjoyed doing it.

Many thanks, Alex Thomas

COMMUNITY RESPONDERS

Continuing from last month with ways that you can help your Community Responder Group. If you are unfortunate enough to need a member of the group to visit you in an emergency please help us to find you.

As all the volunteers live in the village they are more likely to know where you live than will members of the ambulance service but they will only be given the name or number of your house and the name of the road. Not all volunteers can be expected to know the names of all the houses so please make sure your house name or number is prominently displayed and can be seen and read from the road. If you have called the emergency services it may save valuable seconds if you get someone out in the road to wave down the volunteers and the ambulance. If it is after dark switch on as many lights as you can so that your house can be quickly located.

Last month I asked for donations towards the cost of our equipment. Please note that I should have said that our equipment has been made available to us by the South Central Ambulance Service League of Friends and it is this charitable organisation that we are looking to repay so that they may continue to assist other groups to start up in the district. If you are prepared to make a donation towards the £1600 cost please give me a call or come and have a chat with one of us at the Fete where we will be pleased to talk with you to explain our role in helping to provide our parishioners with medical help in an emergency.

Mike Brown 850135

ST. MARY'S FETE

Saturday 6th September, 2.00 p.m. on
Recreation Ground
Music by Blewbury Band
Dog Agility demonstration.
Delicious teas.
Stalls include: books, white elephant, preserves,
plants, produce, cakes, ice cream, promises
auction, games, tombola etc.
Donations for the stalls can be brought to the
hall on the evening before the fete between 6.00
p.m. & 8.00 p.m. or on the day of the fete from
10.00 a.m.

Mega raffle - prizes include: Hot Air Balloon
Ride, £100 cash, Meal for 2 at George &
Dragon, plus many other prizes. Raffle tickets
can be bought in advance from Jessie
West 851206

Bring your bikes and small items for postcoding.

There will also be a Fun Dog Show, entries can
be made on the day in the following classes:
Theme fancy dress - popular film character;
Prettiest Bitch; Handsomest Dog; Best Trick;
Best 6 legs; The dog that will not eat the
sausage; Open brace - a pair of dogs, any size or
breed: Best in Show.
Entry Fee: £1 per class. The dog show is being
sponsored by OSCAR pet food. Judge: Trudie
Hewitt-Taylor. A donation from the dog show is
being made to Pine Ridge Sanctuary.

Proceeds from the fete go to St Mary's
Church. Why does St Mary's Church need
money? Let me give you a couple of examples:
during January the interior of St Mary's was
decorated at a cost of £6,000. The fabric of the
church is generally in good condition however
cracks are appearing in the ancient font and we
would like to have work done on this before too
long.

The Church also has a policy of annually
donating a percentage of its income to charity,
the following charities benefited in 2009:
NSPCC, Helen & Douglas House, Pump Aid
and Church Housing Trust.

Clare Lightfoot

BLEWBURY WI

Blewbury WI next meet on Wednesday
September 23rd. The talk will be "The Mitford
Sisters". They are described as "Outrageous,
appalling, over privileged.....endlessly
entertaining"!! Gillian Cane presents this
fascinating topic at 7.30pm in the Vale room of
the Blewbury Village Hall.

Recent WI events have been a visit to the
Watermill Theatre, a walk plus pub lunch near
Henley, a visit to Oxford Botanic Garden,
Scrabble and a visit to Highclere castle. So you
can see we have something for everyone.
Visitors are always made welcome, come for a
couple of times to try us out and see if we suit
you!!

YOUNG ACHIEVERS

Last year at this time I reported on some
excellent exam results for a group of our young
parishioners who had achieved the results
necessary for them to go on to university. This
year I am delighted to report on more
outstanding exam results at AS level which is
the year before university.
Congratulations to Ruth Burrows, Steph Davies,
Charlie Hannigan, Kate Hardy, Georgina
Traynor and Zak Walker who I understand have
at least 11 A grades between them.
This village is so fortunate to have so many
talented youngsters with so many caring parents
behind them.

On the subject of Young Achievers that our
village should be proud of, mention should be
made of Alex Thomas, just 12 years old but with
enough initiative to do something for a charity
that means a lot to him. (See the item on Cream
Teas).
Well done Alex, that was a fantastic
achievement.

DIARY DATES

Sunday 6th September 12.30 to 3.00 Upton Open Gardens

Bring your friends & family and come and enjoy the beauty of 3 of our village gardens* and relax with a glass of wine before meandering on to the next....

£7.50 (to include a glass of wine at each garden)

£4 (soft drink, excluding wine)

Children free

Parking at the Village Hall

Proceeds in aid of the Village Hall

*Prospect House - Station Road (& plant stall)

•Stocks – Stream Road

•Orchard Lodge – High Street

Sunday 6th September at 5pm

Churn Youth Group is back and will meet at the Brassells home, Lynchets, Bessels Way, Blewbury.

Our first session will be a Barbeque at Penny's house to give everyone a chance to get to know each other. All young people of secondary school age are welcome to come along.

Please let Penny know (850082) if you intend to come.

Saturday 13 September.

Sponsored Ride and Stride in aid of Historic Churches

This very popular annual event involves being sponsored for riding or walking around as many churches as you can. Half the sponsorship money collected will be donated to the Historic Churches Trust, the other half can be given to a church of your choice. If you would like a sponsor form, or if you can help man the church for one hour on the day of the Ride & Stride please contact Clare Lightfoot 850486

Monday 21st September at 7pm

Dr Philip Wilkinson will talk on 'The Recognition of the Symptoms of Dementia and related issues for Carers' in the Woodlands Medical Centre Practice, Didcot.

There is no charge to attend this talk but places are limited so please book by ringing 750524

DROP-IN

I hope you have all been having an enjoyable Summer and are now ready to join us in the Village Hall for our new season of Thursday morning Drop-in sessions.

The next three dates for your diaries are: September 3rd, September 17th, and October 1st.
Usual time: 10.30 – 12.00 noon

Look forward to seeing you
Yvonne Collins
850989

THEATRE GROUP

The next outing has been fixed to go to see "That Old Feeling" at The Mill at Sonning on Tuesday 20 October

It's described as a "feel-good musical comedy", with words by Richard Harris, "bringing his outstanding talents to focus on love in a ballroom dancing club", and music by Denis King, "renowned composer of many West End smash hits as well as more than a 100 TV theme tunes".

The £36.48 per person covers a compulsory meal and a free programme between two as usual, and the setting is always magical. For more details please give me a ring.

Malcolm Wright 850705

Items for inclusion in the October issue to be sent to kameki39@btinternet.com or handed in to Cathy or Mike by Saturday 26th September .

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