

UPTON NEWS

NOVEMBER 2002 Vol.2 No.26

POST OFFICE NEWS

Christmas is coming and I will be ordering Gift Vouchers again for those of you who cannot stand Christmas Shopping. I can get hold of vouchers from W.H.Smith, HMV (including Waterstone's), Dixons, Curry, PC World, The Link, Book Tokens, Homebase and High Street, which are valid in 70 high street stores including Boots, Mothercare, Iceland, Comet, Woolworth, Index, New Look, Peacocks, BHS and H.Samuel to name but a few.

I will be taking orders — with money up front — until 5 December. The vouchers are worth £5 each.

Last posting dates for this year are: Outside Europe — 6 December, Eastern Europe —

10 December, Western Europe — 14 December, 2nd class UK — 18 December, 1st class UK — 21 December.

Finally, if you plan to go abroad over Christmas I can get currency and travellers cheques within three days. There is only a commission on sterling travellers cheques and no commission on Buying Back what you have not spent.

A new addition this year to your Post Office is the sale of a few chocolates, which help pass the evenings with a hot drink.

I hope to see you in the run up to Christmas, our busiest time of the year. Best wishes.

Margaret Maytham
Postmistress

PARISH CLERK

Mrs Lynne Riordan, Clerk to the Parish Council, has moved to Freshfields, Down End, Chieveley, Berks, RG20 8TF. Hand deliveries for her may be left with Mrs Sheila Parker, Four Winds, Prospect Road, Upton.

OXFORD TOURING
THEATRE COMPANY

bring us their first night production of

THE LITTLE PRINCE

an adaptation of Antoine de Saint Exupery's strange and wonderful parable. A pilot who crashes into the Sahara desert meets a little prince, a boy who tells stories of poetic and magical worlds — stories of his home planet and his fantastic journey to earth... Join the Little Prince on his travels amongst the stars, with their comical and exotic inhabitants. This classic fairy tale will move, amuse and mesmerise young and old, using Mask, Music and Song. A journey through the galaxy of our imagination...

Coming to Upton village hall
Tuesday, 19 November 2002, 7.30pm

Tickets £5, £3 concession, from
Jessie West 851206

A Random History of Upton

A series of short chapters on the history of Upton, as researched and interpreted by Juliet and Peter Gardiner. No 1. Upton in the time of Typhus for sale at the Post Office, 30p. If there are insufficient copies, please leave your name or feel free to take your own photocopy. The next title (probably) will be The Census — 1801 to 1901. *Note:* there will be no recent history included in these pieces. The latest date will be about 1901.

A REMINDER TO YOU ALL!

Tiddlywinks Fundraiser

TRASH OR TREASURE

TABLE TOP SALE

Saturday 23 November,

Upton village hall, 10-30-12.30pm

To book a table to sell your own trash or treasure call Jo (850702) or Deborah (851488). Cost £6 per table. Otherwise, just come along and find a bargain. There will also be a cake stall!

Footnote. Tiddlywinks is a Pre-school Lunch Club in the village hall, Tuesday, 11-1pm. To all carers, do join us, with sandwiches and a toy or two.

Jo Murphy

VPA Events

Many thanks to Joyce Gilbert for raising over £50 at her Bring & Buy Plant & Cake stall in her garden at Abners on 12 October.

Wednesday, 6 November.

Annual General Meeting 7.30pm Vale Room, Blewbury. After the update of the year's events and proposals for the coming year, which we hope to conclude with all due speed, the experts from Upton's own cider makers will be giving a talk on the secrets etc. used in producing this local brew.

Tickets will be on sale for the Social Evening on **Friday 6 December** at Toad Hall, Upton, 7.30pm. £2 each. Our hosts Margaret and Austin Maytham produced an excellent evening last year and we are assured of a repeat performance. Don't miss your chance to get tickets.

CHRISTMAS GOODIES

RAFFLE

for Village Hall Funds

Tickets will shortly be available from any of the following: Jessie West, Sheila Parker, Sheila Dawson, Francis Telling, Sue Bibby, Celia Davies. We will be using cloakroom tickets, so only buy from any of the above.

Charity Mass

To celebrate 33 years of singing and to raise money for the Roof fund 'Sine Nomine' singers present a special Eucharistic service using music from the High Renaissance at St. Mary's Upton on **Thursday 5 December**, 7.30pm. The Ordinary will be sung in Latin to the *Missa Sine Nomine* of Palestrina. Officiant: Rev'd David Platt.

SPRUCING UP

THE VILLAGE HALL

The six large windows have been replaced. They not only look good but have a feel-good factor in terms of added warmth in the hall. We are grateful for grants of £1,750, with the balance of £550 coming from village hall funds. We must also replace fascia boards and curtain tracks, which brings us to the wish list! We have long appreciated that an extension to the back of the hall is needed for storage of equipment for the hall, Tiddleywinks, Brownies and Guides.

It is regrettable that it takes a Disability Discrimination Act to make the hall user-friendly to able-bodied and disabled people alike. Fortunately we have dealt with toilet facilities, but by 2004 other adjustments should have been assessed. Improvements to the external approach and entrance threshold, surfaces and levels are required. More cosmetic items are lever taps, entrance mats and contrasting colours around light-switches. Our priority will be for the car park area, entrance and fire exit, and possibly a hearing induction loop. We are advised that in the parking area a 1-in-20 gradient would be applicable.

Combining the extension building and car park landscaping would seem the best way forward, but the cost is somewhat daunting. A rough estimate for both projects is £25,000. We will be looking for 50% in grants, which still leaves a lot of fund-raising to do. For queries on any of the above please contact me on 851206. **Jessie West**

News in brief

1 Three months after their Marriage worshippers at St. Mary's were invited to Karibu after church on Sunday 27 October, to celebrate the marriage of regular attenders **Julie and Keith Mintern** (from Chilton). Fifteen gathered and were able to enjoy the occasion and see some of their lovely photos. In Malcolm's absence I was most grateful for the generous help of the groom and Simon Powell and willing assistant Tim in removing the fencing panels dislodged by the gale force winds. Thank you Keith and Simon and Tim. **Elizabeth Wright**

1 Neighbourhood Watch

Would all neighbours please be aware that a car was broken into recently at Beeching Close. Clearly we still have prowlers around the village. If you have a car alarm always use it, particularly at night. If anyone would like to receive NHW updates by e-mail please contact me at **Celia Davies @ aol.com**. This will ensure a speedier circulation.

1 John Greenfield

Many in the village will remember John and Elizabeth Greenfield who lived here for many years before moving to East Sussex. Elizabeth's tapestry remains on the wall in the church, and who could forget the youthful church choir of the '80s with their striking cassocks and surplices for which she was responsible. Always in support was the delightfully enthusiastic John. But alas, John died peacefully at St. Michael's Hospice, Hastings on 10 October after an illness of four years. For all those who knew him this is very sad news. Elizabeth lives at 6 Rectory Park, Pett Road, Pett, nr. Hastings, TN35 4EU.

John Grimshaw

50 Club Winners

September £15 Mr Davies, £15 Mrs Schumacher, £10 Mrs Williams, £7 Mrs Gardinar, £5 Mr Field, £4 Mr Curran.

October £10 Mrs Collins, £7 Mr Davies, £5 Mr Hammond, £4 Mrs Williams.

CHURCH SERVICES IN NOVEMBER

ST. MARY'S

Sunday 9am

- 3 Family Eucharist
- 10 Parish Eucharist
Remembrance Day
- 17 Mattins
- 24 Parish Eucharist

METHODIST

10.30am — Preacher

- David Kershaw
- John Harding
- Barbara Kershaw
- Rev. Timothy Dibble

UPTON NEWS is published monthly, the copy deadline being the 25th of the previous month. Please deliver or send items for publication, including letters on village topics, to The Old School, Church Street, either on paper, by fax (851779) or by e-mail to carol-uptonoxon@oxfree.com

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