



## Upton Village Fete

### 1pm Saturday 7th Sept 2019

Upton Recreation Ground, Station Rd, Upton, OX11 9HX

Why not come along and spend a fun afternoon at our traditional Village Fete

Dog Show

Homemade Preserves

Tea & Cakes

Plant Sale

Raffle

FUN ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN  
Glitter Tattoos Entertainer  
Beat the Coconut Shy  
Goalie AND MORE !

Vintage Car Display

Tombola

Various Displays in Main Arena

Zero Waste Stall

Book Stall

BBQ, Pizza & Beer Tent

Follow us on Facebook for updates @Uptonvillagefete

For more information about the Fete please see Page 4

## District Council

Hello! It is now almost 3 months since we were elected, and we have been enjoying getting stuck into council business. At the latest Planning Committee meeting, Sarah addressed the committee to highlight the objections of local residents and parish councils to the proposed service station at the A34 Chilton interchange, and we're very pleased to report that the application was refused after a unanimous vote.

15th July was the second Full Council meeting since the elections, and as new councillors it was a real honour to be part of the important decisions made by the council that evening. Council voted to officially oppose the building of the proposed Oxford to Cambridge Expressway, due to the negative impact that it will have on the residents and the natural environment across the Vale, and the extra traffic it will bring to the already overstretched A34. Another big decision of the evening was to establish a brand-new Climate Emergency Advisory Committee, which will work with partner organisations, local businesses and community groups to tackle the issue of the climate emergency. Hayleigh used her maiden speech at Council to show her support for this, and to highlight the work of groups such as Sustainable Blewbury and Sustainable Harwell right here on our doorstep. Hayleigh will be a member of this new Climate Committee, so if you have ideas you'd like to share then please do get in touch! We know from conversations during our election campaign that protecting the environment is important to the residents of Upton village, and we would love to hear your feedback.

**'Turn it Off' for better air quality:** Vale of White Horse and South Oxfordshire district councils have launched a joint campaign to help improve air quality across southern Oxfordshire, by asking drivers to turn off their engines when stopped for a minute or more. The campaign has been endorsed by Public Health England, for more information visit [www.southandvale.gov.uk/turnitoff](http://www.southandvale.gov.uk/turnitoff)

**Polling stations review:** The councils are carrying out a review of the polling districts and polling places to help ensure that they meet the needs of voters. All views are welcome, and the council is especially keen to hear from disabled residents and those who have experience of assisting disabled people with access requirements. Comments are open until Friday 27th September. Have your say by visiting the Vale website <http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/> or send a written response to Electoral Services, South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils, 135 Eastern Avenue, Milton Park, Milton, OX14 4SB.

Remember, if you have any queries or issues you'd like to raise with us, please do not hesitate to get in touch - our email addresses are [hayleigh.gascoigne@whitehorsedc.gov.uk](mailto:hayleigh.gascoigne@whitehorsedc.gov.uk) and [sarah.medley@whitehorsedc.gov.uk](mailto:sarah.medley@whitehorsedc.gov.uk). We have also now set up a dedicated councillor Facebook Page: [Cllrs Hayleigh Gascoigne & Sarah Medley](#). To stay up to date with the latest news, please Like our Facebook page and Follow us on Twitter: [@hayleighhelium](#) and [@SarahMedley91](#).

*Sarah and Hayleigh*

## Parish Council

### New councillors

We are very pleased to welcome two new councillors, Ben Shaw and Stuart Fraser, both experienced former members who have stepped up to keep the council quorate and share their knowhow. Stuart retired as chair earlier this year and has agreed to help out temporarily. Ben was a town councillor in Didcot until recently; he has agreed to become the new Chair.

### Playground equipment

The equipment in both playgrounds was examined recently by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, and some has been classed as high risk. PLEASE DO NOT USE THE FOLLOWING:

- The pump track
- The multi-play with bridge
- The kick wall

We will be taking steps very soon to mark them as unusable, and are getting quotes to repair the multi-play and the pump track. The kick wall is likely to be dismantled.

### Speed Watch

Blewbury has set up a Speed Watch group to monitor traffic on the main roads. We are making enquiries about its effectiveness and about setting up a similar group for Upton to monitor speeds on the A417. In theory, would anyone be willing to volunteer to join the group? Please contact Liz at [parish.clerk@uptonvillage.co.uk](mailto:parish.clerk@uptonvillage.co.uk)

*Jo Fidgen*

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## St. Mary's Church Services

Sun. 4th August 9.00am	Sung Eucharist*.
Sun. 11th August 9.00am	Sung Eucharist.
Sun. 18th August 9.00am	Sung Eucharist.
Sun. 25th August 10.30am	All Age Service*.
Sun 1st September.9.00am	Sung Eucharist*.

\*Refreshments served after these events.

Please see porch notice for weekday services.

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## Drop In

The Drop-In is an informal gathering to enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and a pleasant chat, meetings take place every other Thursday from 10.30am to 12.00pm.

Due to the continued closure of the village hall meetings will continue around the houses during August. The meeting on the 1st will be at Yvonne's and on the 15th will be at Cathy's. There will not be a meeting on the 29th.

## **Upton Village Fete**

Everyone's welcome to the village fete which this year will be at the recreation ground on Saturday, 7th September starting at 1.00pm.

As ever, it will be a 'proper' village fete with plants, books, home-made produce and 'White Elephant' for sale, a barbeque, pizzas and magnificent tea and cakes, a raffle, tombola and a special fun zone for kids. Carl will provide some amazing magic and there will be a dog show, vintage car display and lots of other attractions to keep you amused. And if it all gets too much, visit Kenny's bar for a refreshing pint while you listen to melodies from Blewbury Brass Band!

Would you be able to contribute a cake for the teas? If so Rosemary de Wilde (850345) would love to hear from you. Jacqui Reid is organising the raffle and would appreciate donations for prizes - she is on 07973 818171. Judy and Ian Robertson are organising the book stall and would welcome donations in advance so they can sort the books into order - if you give them a call on 850179 they can collect or arrange delivery to their house. Liz Evans (07715 477868) is running the kids' zone and she's especially looking for jam jars filled with sweets, mini toys, hair clips, pens and stationery She'd also love unused boxed toys, lego and new cuddly toys for prizes.

White elephant contributions can be taken to the village hall on the Friday evening before the fete between 4.00pm and 8.00pm.

If you'd like to keep really up to date, the Facebook page is [@Uptonvillagefete](#). Looking forward to seeing you all on 7th - and tell your friends to come too!

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## **Theatre Group**

I have 3 tickets still not paid for for "Kiss Me, Kate" at the Watermill on 4th September. Do come - they are excellent seats, and it's a great show, and all for only £26.20 per person.

*Malcolm Wright 850705*

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## **Didcot U3A**

The University of the Third Age (U3A) offers the opportunity to share your knowledge, experience and talents with other like-minded individuals with over 35 Interest Groups to choose from! Membership is £25 per year, visitors are welcome to attend one meeting as a taster before joining. Each month we have an interesting Guest Speaker followed by tea/coffee and biscuits where everyone is encouraged to stay and chat and make new friends.

This month's meeting is on Tuesday August 20th. Start time is 2.00pm, early arrival is recommended. The guest speaker will be Captain William Wells - Myths and Legends of the Bermuda Triangle.

## Ride and Stride

This year's sponsored event that raises money for Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust will take place on Saturday 14th September.

Last year our lone rider Paul raised £155, half of which benefitted St Mary's Church. It would be great if more people could join in, perhaps by walking around Oxford Churches. It's amazing how many churches are within walking distance of the city. If you would like more information or a sponsor form, please contact Clare Lightfoot 01235 850486

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## Upton 50 Club

Prize Winners in the June draw were as follows:-

1st	£25	No.181	Godfrey and Julia Nehring
2nd	£20	No.155	Kim Gould
3rd	£15	No.31	Richard Burrow
4th	£10	No.144	Sarah Tennant-Flowers

Congratulations to the winners

*Jacqui Reid*

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## Blewbury Post Office

Due to a combination of illness, heat and granny child care in the summer holidays, the Post Office will only be open in the mornings 9.30 am - 12 noon and closed in the afternoons, ( not open on Saturdays until further notice!)

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## Bake Up

Angel Delight, Rice Pudding, Granny's Buns - what was your all-time favourites as a child? That's the theme (courtesy of Chris and Rob who are hosting) for the next Bake Up. Hopefully we'll hear the stories that go with the tastes too. Bring your treats to Pentrose (on Fieldside opposite Chapel Furlong) at 11.30am on 13th September.

Looking back to July, we had a fine ol' time at Frances' Fourth of July celebration. The sun streamed down, and the Stars and Stripes fluttered over a groaning table of sweet treats and BBQ-style goodies.

Looking forward to December, we've got another masterclass in the pipeline. Following Ros's canape extravaganza last time out, this year it's Giulia Rippon's turn. She'll be demonstrating how to make ravioli from scratch, and her famous chocolate truffle-making technique. More details to follow, but put 6th December in your diary to avoid disappointment.

Kieron

# **Wine Club**

## **Making the most of your Summer wine**

I hope you are all enjoying your Summer? This is the time of year when some of us decide to travel away from these shores to more exotic locations and (just to be social) try some of the local wines! If you are feeling that little more adventurous then pick up a local cheese to go with your wine and see if the local produce really does go best with the local wine!

Whether it's a vacation or "staycation" then here are a few more tips and recommendations to try out! Most of which have been tried and tested by our wine committee!

Going to a Summer BBQ round friends and want to ensure you are able to drink a nice bit of plonk with your chicken burger/salad/Prawns....etc Take a good bottle of Rose.....most people will assume this is a cheap bottle from one of the budget supermarkets and leave well alone, heading for the white instead. Leaving you to enjoy some good quality wine all to yourself!

Want to try something different to cool you down? Look no further than the drink of this Summer, An Aperol Spritz! Cool, easy to drink, looks and tastes amazing! How do you make it? 4 oz chilled prosecco, 2 oz Aperol, Sparkling water and a slice or two of orange. Put it in one of those large round gin glasses you got for Christmas with buckets of ice. Sit back and enjoy!

Food idea? Meal for one (or two small eaters) and cannot finish off the entire bottle? Open a bottle of nice dry white wine and make a risotto. Have a glass whilst you are making it. Pour a glass in as you make it and then have a glass whilst eating it! Nothing wasted and a great use of wine! (For reference I use the Jamie Oliver simple risotto recipe, although I normally end up opening a second bottle!)

Lastly, and something I know we have all experienced. If you are on holiday and find yourself sitting down by the pool, with the hot sun on your back and a glass of some local wine in your hand (for probably less than 5 EUROS), drink it ALL and leave it out there, along with the wonderful memories of your trip. If you try bringing it back home to recreate that magical moment, then the likelihood is you will get to realise why it was just 5 EUROS!

Whatever you are doing, enjoy your break! The Upton Wine Club will be at the Fete this year on the 7th September. Please do come along and say hi! Our first meeting will be on the 18th September at the village hall. If you are new to the club and want to give it a try then please do send me an email: [ian.langley@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ian.langley@yahoo.co.uk)

*Ian Langley*



### Foot Care



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Local Authority Food Hygiene rating 5



### Upton Dog Days



We walk, rest and play  
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Facebook: Upton Dog Days



## Village Produce Association

Well, the 72nd Annual Show has taken place! Unfortunately, Karen our Show Secretary being unwell was unable to carry out the work needed to prepare the Show so the Committee rallied round to get the work done. A special thanks to Maggie Maytham who did all the work necessary for us to be able to provide tea and cakes and raffle prizes and also for sticking all the raffle tickets on the Tombola prizes! Thank you also to my friend Ruth (from London), who helped me with the paperwork which included entering every entry received from each exhibitor on the Excel spreadsheet ready for recording the results on Saturday after the judging. Of course, thanks to Chris, Toby and Malcolm who helped with the setting up of the village hall on the Friday evening. Well done to Mary Gutfreund who did a grand job serving the refreshments on Saturday afternoon.

We had a total of thirty four exhibitors including five children. With a total of 170 exhibits in the fruit, vegetable, flower, cookery, handicraft and photography it provided a very full and colourful hall. Entrants came from Blewbury, Upton, Harwell and Didcot. We award the Royal Horticultural Society Banksian Medal to the exhibitor with the most points in the horticultural section and this year Joanna Fielden from Didcot was the winner - congratulations Joanna!

It's lovely that the Blewbury pre-school always put in an art exhibition from the children and this year was no exception. It was a really colourful display. Thank you for taking part.

Despite one or two hiccups, the Show was a great success and enjoyed by all the visitors in the afternoon.

We are now preparing for the 73rd Show and hope to have something extra special. Watch this space!!

I hope those of you who are off on your summer hols are enjoying yourselves, whether it's in the UK, Europe or further afield. For those of you who are still at home, don't forget our special event in Upton. On Thursday 8th August, Maggie Maytham of Toad Hall, Stream Road, Upton, is very kindly opening her garden (weather permitting - otherwise in the house) for an afternoon tea (cost £3 per head) starting at 5pm. After tea we will then walk to Prospect House and have a guided tour of the 2-acre garden. Alternatively you can drive from Maggie's and park in the Village Hall car park. You MUST register for this event either at Blewbury Post Office or with Maggie (01235 850126) by the 1st August.

**DID YOU KNOW ?** *Howard Carter and his archaeological team found many seeds and plants stored in the tomb of Tutankhamen in the Valley of the Kings including, garlic, cumin, coriander, watermelon, wheat, barley, lentils, fenugreek, chickpeas, olive oil, almonds and dates.*

Happy Gardening

Eileen



## **Blewshed**

Blewbury Community Shed is a workshop and craft centre where members can meet and share experiences, learn practical skills, build projects and repair equipment both for themselves and for the community. The shed which is situated next to the cricket pavilion in Boham's Road (opposite Savages), is open on Tuesday and Saturday afternoons but as the membership and the activities increase so will the opening times.

So far the activities mainly involve using wood and metals with some expertise in electronics, stain glass, fretwork and modelling but as the present number of 15 members grows it is hoped to cover an even greater range including silversmithing and ceramics, any activity in which a member has the skills to be able to supervise the work.

The shed is already well stocked with good machinery including a lathe, pillar drill, bandsaw and a table saw. Experts like Mike Magney and Brian Lewis are on hand to ensure training is available and that safety procedures are adhered to.

Members are welcome to turn up with items to make or repair themselves or to get assistance from others to do most of the work for them or to go along to help with the repair or manufacture of items for the community.

Membership costs £24 per year so just one project where you would have paid to get a piece made or an item repaired and you have more than recovered your outlay. If you have a skill which will help the group grow its expertise please get in touch even if you do not immediately want to join.

For more information check out the website <https://blewshed.home.blog> or call 07790348123.

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## **Swop Shop**

1) Gas BBQ in exchange for donation to St Mary's Building Project.  
Clair Lightfoot 850486

2) A substantial, home-crafted set of book shelves. Free Malcolm Wright 850705

3) An exercise bench. Free Malcolm Wright 850705

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## **Accommodation Wanted**

Property to rent for family members, short term, in Upton, Blewbury or local area. Ideally 2-3 bedrooms. Please contact Clare Lightfoot 01235 850486

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Submissions for *Upton News* should be sent to

[kameki39@btinternet.com](mailto:kameki39@btinternet.com)

Deadline for the September edition is

**Tuesday 27th August**