

# Upwood & The Raveleys Newsletter

*December 2015      Issue 81*

---

## COMMUNITY LED PLAN UNVEILED



*Pictured l to r: Garth Slater (chair Roads & Transport), Carol Bilverstone (chair Communications), Robin Howe (chair Planning), Fiona Hopkins (chair CLP committee)*

Diary of Events p2  
 County Council cuts link p4  
 CLP Unveiled p6  
 Upwood CP Christmas Fayre p8  
 St Peter's Church p17  
 Who's Who in the Villages p 19

Parish Council p3 & 4  
 Cross Keys Christmas events p5  
 Performing Arts events p7  
 Macmillan Coffee Morning p10 & 11  
 Public Information p17 & 18  
 What's happening in the parish p20

# DIARY OF EVENTS DECEMBER 15 – JANUARY 16

Date	Day	Event	Time	Place / Contact
<b>December</b>				
3 Dec	Thurs	Great Fen: talk on Living Landscapes	7.30pm	710420, info@greatfen.org.uk
5 Dec	Sat	Christmas Tree Festival	10 – 5pm	St Peter's : Anne Marie 812195
5 Dec	Sat	Upwood School PTA Christmas Fayre	12– 2pm	Rebekah 07714 881806
6 Dec	Sun	Morning Prayer	9.30am	St Peter's Church: Jean 813742
7 Dec	Mon	Parish Council meeting	7pm	Village Hall: Carol 812447
9 Dec	Wed	Great Fen: Walk + Christmas lunch	1pm	Adrian: 07983 850886
9 Dec	Wed	The Magical Christmas Box: UPS	evening	Upwood School: 813510
10 Dec	Thurs	The Magical Christmas Box: UPS	evening	Upwood School: 813510
10 Dec	Thurs	Celtic Christmas Strings	7.45pm	Village Hall: Doug 814114
12 Dec	Sat	Meet & Munch with Upwood Ukuleles	1pm	Village Hall: Jan 814393
12 Dec	Sat	Re-launch of Cross Keys with 10 O'clock Curfew	8pm	Cross Keys PH: Hayley 813384
13 Dec	Sun	Holy Communion	9.30am	St Peter's Church: Jean 813742
20 Dec	Sun	Morning Prayer	9.30am	St Peter's Church: Jean 813742
20 Dec	Sun	Carol Service, at Peter's Church	6.00pm	Jean: 813742
21 Dec	Mon	Home to Home Christmas Party	8.00pm	Village Hall: Jackie 711329
23 Dec	Wed	Upwood Ukuleles at Cross Keys	7.30pm	Doug: 814114
24 Dec	Thurs	Midnight Service & Holy Communion	11.30pm	St Peter's Church: Jean 813742
25 Dec	Fri	Christmas Service: Ramsey St Mary's	9.30am	St Mary's Church: Jean 813742
27 Dec	Sun	Morning service; St Thomas a Becket	10am	St Peter's Church: Jean 813742
<b>January</b>				
3 Jan 16	Sun	Morning Prayer	9.30am	St Peter's Church: Jean 813742
4 Jan 16	Mon	Parish Council meeting	7pm	Village Hall: Carol 812447
9 Jan 16	Sat	Meet & Munch	1pm	Village Hall: Jan 814393
10 Jan 16	Sun	Holy Communion	9.30am	St Peter's Church: Jean 813742
17 Jan 16	Sun	Morning Prayer	9.30am	St Peter's Church: Jean 813742
18 Jan 16	Mon	RGDC: talk on snowdrops	7.30pm	Ramsey CC: Ian 710702
20 Jan 16	Wed	Local History: Rural Museum	7.45pm	Village Hall: Andrew: 812447
22 Jan 16	Fri	UPA: Ouse Valley Chorus & Upwood Ukuleles concert	7.30pm	Village Hall: Doug 814114
24 Jan 16	Sun	Family Holy Communion	9.30am	St Peter's Church: Jean 813742
25 Jan 16	Mon	Home to Home AGM	8.00p	Village Hall: Jackie 711329
31 Jan 16	Sun	TBA: see church noticeboard		St Peter's Church: Jean 813742
<b>Future Events</b>				
1 Feb 16	Mon	Parish Council meeting	7pm	Village Hall: Carol 812447
11 Feb 16	Thur	WEA – The Friendly Invasion	10-4pm	Village Hall: Liz 813008
15 Feb 16	Mon	RDGC: talk on cacti and succulents	7.30pm	Ramsey CC: 710702
18 Feb 16	Thurs	Local History: Must Farm trip	daytime	Whittlesey: Mervyn 710219
3 Mar 16	Thur	WEA – Pomp and Circumstance	10-4pm	Village Hall: Liz 813008
12 Mar 16	Sat	UPA: Phil Beer	7.45pm	Village Hall: Doug 814114

Deadline for the February 2016 Issue is 15 January 2016

## PARISH COUNCIL

### Upwood and the Raveleys Parish Council Budget 2016/2017



The parish council met on Monday 02 November.

Councillors welcomed the co-option of a new member. Howard Smith brings an impressive business background and demonstrable commitment to the community. He will be a great asset to the team.

Councillors were sorry to learn of the resignation of Fiona Hopkins. Fiona's exceptional commitment to the Community Led Plan has provided the parish council and the community with a sound framework for the future. Councillors wish Fiona well as she strives to achieve a good work-life balance having recently begun her new teaching career. The parish council has a casual vacancy and prospective councillors are invited to apply to the clerk.

The presentation of the Community Led Plan on 24 October was an outstanding success and the final report together with the action plan has now been delivered to all households. Councillors were delighted to learn that the bid to the Ramsey Windfarm to improve communication across the parish has proved successful and an award of £3000 has been granted (please see the separate announcement on page 6).

The parish council is pleased to announce that it has awarded a further three year contract to Andy Davis for grass and hedge cutting services. Andy has consistently provided an excellent service to this parish and councillors look forward to continuing this relationship.

The finance working party presented a three-year budget and action plan for consideration. The budget for 2016/2017 was adopted with expenditure totalling £27,129. The council agreed to maintain its precept at the same level as this year

## **PARISH COUNCIL continued**

(£22,000), managing a shortfall of almost £3,200 by dipping into reserves (which are predicted to be approximately £34,000 by the end of this financial year). Commercial land rental and cemetery fees realise an income of just under £2000 per year.

Budget considerations for the next three years include local highways projects identified by the community led plan; the need to maintain the chapel of rest; and a new fence for the southern boundary of the “new” cemetery in addition to the routine expenses outlined in the pie chart. In the longer term, the parish council is mindful that land for a new cemetery will need to be found within the next twenty years. The detailed budget and action plan can be viewed on the parish website: **[www.upwood.org](http://www.upwood.org)**. Details of all payments and receipts are published on agendas and approved by the council through the minutes.

The next meetings will be held on Monday 7 December and Monday 4 January 2016, starting at 7:00pm. All are welcome to attend.

Agendas and detailed minutes of parish council meetings; policy documents; and further information about Upwood and the Raveleys Parish Council is available at **[www.upwood.org](http://www.upwood.org)**.

*Carol Silverstone: Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer*

## **TOUGH CHOICES FOR CAMBRIDGESHIRE TO MEET £41 MILLION SAVINGS**

For more information see the website:

**[www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/news/article/373/tough\\_choices\\_for\\_cambridgeshire\\_to\\_meet\\_41\\_million\\_savings](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/news/article/373/tough_choices_for_cambridgeshire_to_meet_41_million_savings)**. There is also a link on the website to have your say **[www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/challenge](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/challenge)**.

## **HOME TO HOME**

Our next meeting is on Monday 30 November at 8pm. With Christmas on the horizon we have Ramsey florist Amanda returning to demonstrate how to make decorative bows. Guests are warmly welcome to join us on the evening. We do ask for a £3 entrance but that includes refreshments.

We finish 2015 on Monday 21 December and this evening is for members only. However, we have some great evenings lined up for 2016 - more in the next issue of the Newsletter. The first will be on Monday 25 January and will be our AGM followed by one of the ever popular quizzes.



**Hayley and Graham cordially invite you  
to their December events at the Cross Keys :-**

**Saturday 12 December**

from 8pm

**New Menu Taster Evening**

Meet our new chef, Andrew Waller, and enjoy tasting  
**FREE** samples of the new menu he has cooked for you.

Entertainment by local covers band 10 O'Clock Curfew

**Wednesday 23 December**

8pm

**Upwood Ukuleles' Christmas Singalong**

Free entry but charity collection for Magpas on the night

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> December**

**5 course Christmas Day Menu**

£60 adults, £30 children. Booking essential.

**Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> December**

**New Year's Eve:**

Full buffet plus entertainment by the ever  
popular **The King and I**: all for only £20

**We look forward to welcoming customers old and  
new to our friendly village pub**

## LAUNCH OF THE COMMUNITY LED PLAN

Saturday 24 October saw the unveiling of the Upwood and the Raveleys Community Led Plan. Over two years of painstakingly dedicated research and analysis was on show in the village hall for all parishioners to see where the parish hopes to be heading in the future. The CLP committee is made up of Parish Councillors and volunteers from the community whose role has been to discover people's vision for the future and to oversee the implementation of these ideas. The results of the questionnaire delivered to every household in June 2015 were minutely analysed and form the basis of the final action plan. Results can be accessed via the parish website at [www.upwood.org](http://www.upwood.org)



A highly informative and interesting afternoon's viewing was experienced by those who attended between 1.30 and 4pm. On hand to answer questions alongside CLP committee members and parish councillors were Shailesh Vara, MP; Michael Tew, County Councillor; Adrian Sail representing Strawsons the firm developing Upwood airfield and

Brian Robins, Cambridgeshire Police - Speedwatch.

Those present were amazed by the amount of work that had gone into the Plan and were full of praise and gratitude to the committee for undertaking such an extensive and on-going project, which will impact on the lives of everyone in the Parish.

3 sub-committees have been established to tackle some of the issues raised concerning planning, roads and transport and communications. These volunteers will continue to work on your behalf, endeavouring to bring to fruition the action plan. Already the Communications group has been successful in applying for and receiving a grant of £3000 from the Ramsey Wind Farm charity to improve access of information throughout the parish. This money will provide refurbished or new noticeboards in all 5 areas of the parish, wi-fi in the village hall and colour pages in the newsletter on a regular basis, amongst other improvements.



A big debt is owed to the volunteers on the CLP committee, ably chaired by Councillor Fiona Hopkins, and its sub-groups for creating such a comprehensive and far-reaching vision for our future and an informative afternoon. Hopefully, if the committee does decide to upgrade the Plan to the more formal Neighbourhood Plan in the future (a huge undertaking), everyone in the parish will support them in their endeavours to make life in Upwood and the Raveleys remain a very pleasurable experience.

## UPWOOD VILLAGE HALL PERFORMING ARTS EVENTS

### Thursday 10 December – Chris Newman & Maire Ni Chathasaigh – Celtic Christmas Strings - £14.00

*"One of the UK's most staggering and influential acoustic guitarists"* (fROOTS) and *"the doyenne of Irish harpers"* (Scotland on Sunday) on tour with their delightful seasonal show. A few tickets still available.



### Friday 22 January – Ouse Valley Chorus & Upwood Ukuleles - £10.00

Local acapella group, Ouse Valley Chorus, join with our very own Upwood Ukuleles to put on a fundraising concert in aid of Magpas Helimedix.

### Saturday 12 March – Phil Beer - £14.00

Phil is one half of top acoustic group Show Of Hands with Steve Knightley. He is a dazzling instrumentalist, renowned as a top flight fiddler who plays in the all-star line-up, Feast of Fiddles. But his skills don't stop there, he also plays brilliant slide guitar, tenor guitar, mandocello, viola, mandolin and South American cuatro, not to mention contributing rich vocals.



**This concert is likely to be VERY popular so get your tickets early.**



### Friday 8 April – Mervyn Stutter - Utterly Stutterly - £11.00

A welcome return to village hall favourite Mervyn Stutter. *"Celebrating the trivial and attacking the absurd, he gives a seriously funny show."* The Scotsman  
*"Stutter is as sharp as any, as funny as any and more informed than most."* The Times

### Friday 6 May – Miranda Sykes & Rex Preston - £11.00

In the space of 2 short years, Miranda Sykes & Rex Preston have emerged to become one of the most sought after duos on the English folk & roots scene. Miranda has a stunningly beautiful voice as well as being a fantastic double bass player. Rex is a virtuoso on the mandolin and bouzouki.

*"A musical partnership made in heaven. Scintillating, sensitive and brilliant."* – fROOTS



**Box Office for all events: 814114 / pndmcleod@btinternet.com**



## **UPWOOD SCHOOL CHRISTMAS FAYRE**

**SATURDAY 5TH DECEMBER 12-2pm**



Santa's Grotto, Tombola, Raffle,  
Xmas nail design, Guess the name of the Robin,  
Chocolate Slide

Lots of other fun and games.

Refreshments: Hot and cold drinks,  
cakes, mince pies and hot food.



**Everyone welcome**



## HIGH TEA AND TALL TALES



11 October saw the first staging of 'High Tea and Tall Tales' at the Village Hall. Upwood writer and storyteller Bob Elvis and his team, led by wife Sue, treated guests to an elegant and plentiful afternoon tea along with a programme of stories and readings.

As guests ordered and settled Bob gave individual poetry readings at tables. With teacups charged there were spirited renditions of Bob's own stories 'Ghislaina and the Northern Lord' - a dark mediaeval tale of forbidden love and its consequences - and 'Sweet Revenge' - a tall story of a lecherous landlord and his comeuppance. The afternoon concluded with a varied programme of readings in which Bob's own poetry and prose rubbed shoulders with those of such luminaries as Dylan Thomas, Roger McGough and Les Barker. A great time was had by all!

If anyone is interested in a similar event, readings or storytelling, please contact Bob on **07952181779/bob.elvis@hotmail.co.uk**; programmes and events can be tailored to specific requirements.

## COME & JOIN US – A POEM DEDICATED TO UPWOOD ART GROUP by John Laing

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. There's a nice little village called Upwood<br>A right friendly place, don't you know<br>And, if you think you can draw<br>But you'd like to know more,<br>Upwood Art Group is where you should go. | 3. With materials unpacked, the day's project's attacked -<br>With whatever media we choose.<br>If you don't have your own<br>There's plenty on loan<br>What's anyone got to lose?           |
| 2. There's a village hall right in the High Street.<br>Park your car opposite, nice and neat.<br>Most Saturday mornings at ten<br>We all gather there then<br>And now the fun begins.                  | 4. So whether you think you've no talent to draw<br>"Don't know how to start, what is more"<br>Or you've painted for years<br>And long lost any fears.<br>You're welcome – come and explore. |

## U3A

Ramsey and District U3A meet every second Tuesday at the Ramsey Community Centre in Stocking Fen Road at 2:00pm. The U3A is a worldwide organisation that provides opportunities for retired and semi-retired people to 'learn, laugh and live'. Our many groups hold meetings during the month and members can join to take up a new hobby rekindle skills from long ago or just continue with a pastime they love. Come and join us on 12 January if you would like to see what we have to offer. Please contact Nina on **711265** if you would like to know more.

## GREAT RAVELEY MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING



*Kay Zouhair, Helen Nel & Debbie Brown  
ready for business*

The Macmillan Coffee Morning, held on the 25 September 2015, was the fifth one held in Great Raveley, where friends Debbie Brown and Helen Nel have combined forces to raise money for this great charity. Debbie and Helen used to attend a Macmillan Coffee Morning in St Ives run by their friend Kay Zouhair but when she moved out of the district they took the decision to run their own along similar lines, and they have never regretted their decision.

Like so many other people, both Debbie and Helen have personal reasons for wanting to support Macmillan. They are delighted that so many friends and neighbours come along to support this annual event; there is even a group of walkers from Swavesey who come each year! Even their husbands, Trevor and Chris, help each year.



*Helen presents Sally  
Callis with her Abbots  
Elm raffle prize*

Each year local businesses kindly agree to provide fantastic prizes for the raffle. The Abbot's Elm, which has supported the event for the last three years, again donated a voucher to dine at their restaurant. Two local beauty therapists, The Grove and Uma Mistry, also donated vouchers for treatments and, to help the lucky winners work off the effects of all that delicious cake, Core Factor Pilates has for several years donated a voucher for five Pilates classes. This year, there were also vouchers for swimming and exercise classes at One Leisure. Other lovely prizes included: a bespoke frame from Carol Silverstone, a Christmas Wreath from Emma Carling, pampering products, Hotel Chocolat goodies and some alcoholic tipples! As you can imagine, with so many wonderful prizes, Trevor and Chris had no problem in selling raffle tickets.



Carol Silverstone enthused, '*Helen and Debbie, together with Chris and Trevor are the most wonderful hosts and provide a very special opportunity for the community to come together to drink coffee; eat cake; enjoy good company and conversation; win superb raffle prizes; and buy books and gifts.*'



*Fran Charman, Anne Pollard, Debbie Brown, Helen Nel & Kay Zouhair enjoy the coffee & cakes on offer*

are sold at her own Macmillan Coffee Morning which she traditionally holds on the Saturday. Fran Charman said *'It was a lovely friendly morning, with raffle prizes worth winning, a bring & buy sale like Aladdin's cave and best of all so many yummy cakes it was hard to make your choice.'*

Over the years the amount raised each Macmillan Coffee Morning has risen from £200, to £300, then a whopping £600, followed by £700 and this year, with so much generous support, the amount topped a fantastic £1000! An amazing total but, as Debbie and Helen are quick to point out, even if they only raised £100 all the effort would be worthwhile since the money goes to such a brilliant cause.



*Helen & Debbie relax after another successful fund raising morning*

Debbie told us, *'Helen and I have learned that it is very much a 'team event'; we really couldn't do it all by ourselves; we have drafted in raffle ticket sellers, coffee makers, washer uppers ....the list goes on.'*

Debbie and Helen thoroughly enjoy the planning and organisation that goes into each Coffee Morning and have co-opted their husbands and friends to help with the decorations, selling raffle

tickets etc. They hope to continue holding Macmillan Coffee Mornings for many years to come.

Any local businesses willing to support Debbie & Helen in their phenomenal fund-raising by donating prizes would be very much appreciated. Please contact Debbie by email at **debbiebrown219@hotmail.com**. Also 'bring and buy' donations can be left at Debbie's at any time of the year; you don't need to wait until **30 September 2016**.

## UPWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS



With Christmas fast approaching the staff of Upwood Primary School has lots of exciting events planned to look forward to.

### Christmas Fayre

We will host our annual Christmas Fayre on **Saturday 5 December**. Our Christmas Fayre is always a great occasion, with a wonderful festive atmosphere. All the money raised will be used to fund projects in school.

### Christmas Performances

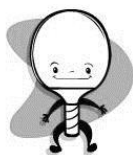
During the evenings of the **9 and 10 December**, all pupils will participate in the Upwood Primary School Christmas Performance. The play this year is entitled 'The Magical Christmas Box,' with the story focusing on two children finding the magical box and being transported to Christmas scenes of the past and present!

### Christmas Service

The whole school will walk to St Peters Church for a Christmas Service on **Monday 14 December**. The service is a combination of singing and performances, with each class contributing a carol, reading or poem.

**Upwood Primary School wishes all members of our local community a wonderful New Year.**

## TABLE TENNIS CLUB



We have 2 new champions at the club-Ladies singles Pauline Williams and Gents singles Roy Holland. Both tournaments were well supported and the winners received the annual singles trophy and a prize donated by Tesco, Ramsey. All finalists were given an engraved medallion to keep.

The winter outing on 25 November to Lakeside Lodge, Pidley, had 37 members tenpin bowling followed by a basket meal. A good evening's entertainment was had by all.

The club offers 2 meetings every week-Tuesday nights from 7.30pm and Wednesday afternoons from 2pm. There are vacancies in both sessions.

For more information about Upwood Table Tennis Club ring David Williams on **812923** or email-[hollyhouse.upwood@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:hollyhouse.upwood@tiscali.co.uk)

## MEET & MUNCH

As the end of the year approaches Meet and Munch members will be meeting in the Village Hall on **Saturday 12 December at 1pm** for their early festive celebrations. Once again we are delighted that Upwood Ukuleles are coming along to provide the after-meal entertainment. For the first time the club will be meeting in January, on **Saturday 9 January at 1pm**, where we will be welcoming in 2016.

All residents of the parish aged 55 or over are very welcome to attend these friendly gatherings. Just contact Jan on **814393** for more details.

Also if anyone would like to join the band of very friendly helpers who provide the meals and, we hope, friendship you would be most welcome. The task is certainly not arduous and is very rewarding, so if you think you could spare a couple of hours once every three to four months please contact Jan on **814393** and she will tell you more.

## LAUNCH OF NEW WEBSITE [www.upwood.org](http://www.upwood.org)

As part of the initiative to improve communications across the parish the webmasters have been working hard to launch a new improved website. Do visit it and see what is going on across the parish. Also have a look at the regularly updated Upwood Facebook and Book Exchange Facebook pages.

## RAMSEY BRIDGE CLUB *invites you to:*



***Party With Us!***

***We can offer:-***

**A Warm Welcome**

**Good Company**

**Stimulating Activity**

**Tuition if needed**

**A Stepping Stone to Greater Things**

**A new Adventure**

Have you heard of Mini Bridge? We can teach you how to play in one hour.  
We cater for learners & improvers.

And the cost? **£2** for an evening out on Thursdays. Beat that!

***Want to know more?***

**Contact Colin PAYNE on 824002**

**You won't regret it!**

**The RAMSEY BRIDGE CLUB**

## **RAMSEY RURAL MUSEM**

Your local museum is now closed until Easter 2016 but now is the time when we cover as many of the external exhibits as possible to protect them from the winter weather. There will also be developments going on to improve the visitor experience. This will include setting up new displays and improving some of the facilities. The displays and exhibits are all cleaned and reviewed and any repairs that are needed carried out.

Thanks to a grant funded by Cambridgeshire County Council and the Arts Council it will be possible to put permanent doors on one of our open buildings to protect the exhibits and to provide a covered working area for the volunteers.

The museum will open again at Easter with a food fair on Easter Monday, 28 March 2016. Although the programme for next year is not yet definite we expect to once again have many family favourites such as the animal Family Fun Day, Heritage Day; Plough Day and the country fair in September.

The normal openings are on Thursdays, 10.00am to 5.00pm, and on Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays from 2.00 to 5.00pm. The museum is available for group visits at other times by arrangement and for private parties in the tea room, barn or marquees.

For further information contact Ian Gaunt **710702**; [ian.gaunt@care4free.net](mailto:ian.gaunt@care4free.net)

## **UPWOOD CRICKET CLUB**

Upwood Cricket Club held its AGM on 9 November, following its most successful season for years. Several committee members stepped down following many years of hard work spent advancing the club. Rob Landymore replaced Jon Stevens as Chairman and Greg Chester became Treasurer. Alison Gilbert was appointed Welfare Officer and Secretary. Other committee members are David Drage, Neil Tuffin, Richard German, Mitch Newman, Matt Lawrence & Adam Dean with Richard Hyde as President. The club would like to thank retiring members for all their fantastic efforts to advance the club and wish the new committee well for the 2016 season.

The first team only lost two games and finished well clear at the top of Hunts League Division IV and will now compete in Division III next year while the 2<sup>nd</sup> X1 will continue in Division V. The junior teams have shown real progress this year and UCC run teams at U9, U11 and U13. Outdoor training will start up again in April 2016. Before the season starts it is planned to have some pre-season winter training with times, dates and venues to be confirmed. New players of all ages and abilities are most welcome particularly older juniors and any players looking to play on Sundays. If you wish for more details please contact Neil Tuffin on [npe.tuffin@gmail.com](mailto:npe.tuffin@gmail.com)

## **UPWOOD AND THE RAVELEYS HISTORY GROUP**

The History Group meets at 7.45 pm in the Upwood Village Hall on the third Wednesday of alternate months. We also organise visits to sites of interest either locally or more distantly.

The meeting on 16 September was a talk Barry Williams on 'The History of Ramsey Abbey'. Barry is a very knowledgeable and entertaining speaker and he introduced us to many aspects of the abbey that were new at least to me. He also showed us how the remains that we can see fit with the lay out of the original buildings.

Our meeting on 18 November had the intriguing title "I'll Show You Mine If You'll Show Me Yours!" Members brought their own artefacts and told the members what they knew about the item and others had the chance to add to this.

The next meeting will be on 20 January when Mike (Nick) Nixon will tell us about the 'History of Ramsey Rural Museum' and will give us a quiz.

Advance notice of History Club visit: on 18 February 2016 the club is privileged to visit the Must Farm archaeological dig run by Cambridge University.

The cost for an annual membership of the History Group is £10, payable in March, but visitors are welcome to individual meetings at a cost of £3. Why not come along and try one of our meetings? For further information please contact:

Ian Gaunt **710702**; [ian.gaunt@care4free.net](mailto:ian.gaunt@care4free.net) or

Andrew Silberstone **812447**; [bilvers@btinternet.com](mailto:bilvers@btinternet.com)

*Andrew Silberstone, chairman*

## **GREAT FEN – LOCAL GROUP**

There are two events happening locally in our area during December. If you get the chance do go along – they are always highly interesting.

Illustrated talk: Living Landscapes, by Oliver Burke, Thursday 3 December 7.30pm, at Wildlife trust Countryside Centre, Chapel Road, Ramsey Heights PE26 2RS. Cost: £3. Contact: **710420**, [info@greatfen.org.uk](mailto:info@greatfen.org.uk)

Mid-week walk: New paths from Ramsey, plus optional Christmas lunch at Jolly Sailor. Wed 9 December 10am-1pm. Cost: £2.50 (not including meal). Contact Adrian for meeting point: **07983 850886**, [adriankempster001@gmail.com](mailto:adriankempster001@gmail.com)

**THE EDITORS WOULD LIKE TO WISH  
ALL THEIR READERS  
A MERRY CHRISTMAS & A HAPPY NEW YEAR**

## RAMSEY AND DISTRICT GARDEN CLUB



The Club meets in the Ramsey Community Centre at 7.30pm on the third Monday of most months with a variety of talks and demonstrations. It is a friendly group that is aimed at everyone who is interested in gardens or plants. In addition visits are arranged to gardens such as the Royal Horticultural Society gardens.

In November we held the Annual General Meeting followed by a talk on 'The Gardens of Madeira'. This brought some warmth to a cold November evening. There is no meeting in December but on 18 January the subject will be 'Snowdrops' in a talk by Joe Sharman. In addition, Joe usually brings specialist plants for sale from his nursery. On February 15 there will be a talk on cacti and succulents. A visit to the RHS Garden at Wiseley in Surrey during September has already been arranged. It is likely that there will be some places on this visit for non-members.

Annual membership of the Club (commencing in November) costs £10 but visitors are welcome to individual meetings at £2. For further information please contact Ian Gaunt **710702**; [ian.gaunt@care4free.net](mailto:ian.gaunt@care4free.net).

## WEA UPWOOD BRANCH



The current Wednesday morning course on the History of Cambridge with Honor Ridout is going extremely well with lots of fascinating facts about Cambridge 'town and gown'.

We still have spaces on our two Day Schools in the Spring Term:

**11 Feb 2016 - "The Friendly Invasion** – the US Army Air Force in East Anglia" with Ian McLachlan. "The combat history, cultural impact and legacy of the American presence during World War 2". How did the US Airforce affect local communities?

**03 March 2016 – "Pomp & Circumstance"** with Chloe Cockerill –From the orb to the sceptre, it will examine the significance of the symbols of Royal ceremonies and sovereignty – lots of illustrations and discussion.

Both day-schools run 10 am – 4 pm, the fee is £18.00 each and you will need to bring a packed lunch – tea/coffee & cake are provided.

Our summer evening course starting in April will be Andrew Sankey with Royal Gardens.

If you would like to reserve a place on any of these courses or would like more information about Upwood WEA, just contact Liz Carter (Secretary) by email on [liz@backtracks.biz](mailto:liz@backtracks.biz) or by phone **813008** (voicemail) or Roger Peckover (Treasurer) on [rorupec@aol.com](mailto:rorupec@aol.com) or phone **812048**.



## UPWOOD ST PETER'S CHURCH

### Christmas Tree Festival & Christmas Fayre: Saturday 5 Dec: 10 -5pm

Come along to St Peter's and enjoy a very festive day including:



The Handbells playing

Non-alcoholic mulled wine, cakes and other refreshments.

A variety of wonderful craft stalls.

Don't miss the buzz of this enjoyable annual event.

All profits go towards the Church Funds.

A very happy Christmas to you from all here at St Peter's.

The door of the church is always open to everyone until sunset. You are very welcome to come in.

Our link with the school is a blessing; we take "Open the Book" stories to the children who enjoy hearing them. We love to see children in the church, they are always very welcome. We are thrilled that you have enjoyed the events we have organised and thanks to your generosity we have been able to give to charities including East Anglia Children's Hospices, Kings Ripton Lodge, the Salvation Army, and of course we have carried on supporting the Food Bank. 2016 is a new challenge and we hope to make a difference wherever we can.

*Anne Marie Cracknell*

### Classics by Candlelight

The church was full and the atmosphere was set with the candles and fairy lights for a real treat. As I sat in the pew and listened to the wonderful music performed by very talented musicians I felt that this was just the right way to celebrate All Saints Day, a feast of music in a special setting. Our thanks go to Ian Rowbotham who organised the evening and put the programme together, and I am pleased to say that we raised just over £600 for church funds.

*Jean Place*

## SAFEGUARDING ADULTS NEWSLETTER (Autumn 2015)

Amanda Davies who works for the Children, Families and Adults Information Team as an Adult Social Care Communications Officer has sent us the following information:

*Cambridgeshire's Adult Safeguarding Board has published the latest issue of their Safeguarding Adults and Mental Capacity Act Newsletter which can be found on the County Council website.*

*To download a copy go to [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/safeguardingmca](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/safeguardingmca) and follow the link to 'Newsletters, fact sheets and resources'.*

## COMMUNITY ORCHARD



We are delighted to announce that we have been successful in our bid for more free hedging plants and received a shipment of mixed trees and berried shrubs from the Woodland Trust at the start of November.

Planting along the Huntingdon Road boundary has now started – the aim is to create a hedge along the top of the hayfield to complete the boundary around the allotment site. If you would like to help with the planting – either digging the hole, pushing in canes or tying wraps just get in touch. We are trying to do a bit every Sunday morning.

Meanwhile we now have some vacant allotment plots at both the Upwood and Great Raveley sites – full plot rent is £15.00 per year. We are also creating some Starter Plots – these will be small plots suitable for first-time growers with a rent of £5.00 per year. They will represent roughly  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a normal plot – ideal for salad crops, peas, beans or soft fruit in manageable quantities. Cultivation hints and practical help always freely available.

If you are interested in trying your hand at growing your own do get in touch with Liz Carter (secretary) on **813008**, email **[liz@backtracks.biz](mailto:liz@backtracks.biz)** or Ali Miles (chairman) on **710548**, email **[amiles@gotadsl.co.uk](mailto:amiles@gotadsl.co.uk)**

## NHS: STAY WELL THIS WINTER

In the past year as many of one in four residents in Cambridgeshire visited A&E when they could have used an alternative service or looked after themselves at home. Each visit to A&E costs the local NHS £87, and that's before any treatment is given. When you look at the figures, this costs the local NHS over £4million a year. In turn this is the equivalent cost of 677 hip replacements, or 287 liver transplants or 115 more dementia nurses. Using A&E when you don't need to can also have a knock-on effect to the rest of the hospital, but you can help by:

- Staying healthy – get a flu vaccination if you are eligible
- Looking after others – check on elderly friends, relatives and neighbours especially in spells of cold weather, help them to keep warm and have the medication they might need
- Being prepared – get your prescriptions in early before the holidays and see your pharmacist or GP for any issues you might be putting off
- Choosing the right service – your local pharmacy can provide confidential, expert advice and treatment for a range of common illnesses and complaints, without having to wait for a GP appointment.

For help with finding local NHS services visit:

**<http://www.cambsandpeterboroughchoosewell.co.uk/>**

## WHO'S WHO IN THE VILLAGES

Organisation	Contact	Telephone
Art Group	Frances Ashfield	711411
Book Lovers Group	Julia Evans	711388
Brownies	Louise Jackson	079211 97850
Community Bus Co-ordinator	Dave Blandford	711330
Community Navigators	Beatrice Brown	01480 423065
County Councillor	Michael Tew	tew180@gmail.com
Cricket Club	Neil Tuffin	812924
Cross Keys PH	Hayley Huskinson	813384
Cross Keys Golf Society	Dave Murray	815071
District Councillor (Chair of Parish Council)	Robin Howe	814393
HACT: Community Bus		01480 411114
History Group	Andrew Bilverstone	812447
Home to Home	Jackie Johnston	711329
Meet and Munch	Jan Howe	814393
Parish Clerk	Carol Bilverstone	812447
Ramsey Bridge Club	Paddy Slater	812006
Ramsey Camera Club	Trevor Brown	711541
Ramsey Choral Society	June Green	813562
Ramsey & District Garden Club	Ian Gaunt	710702
Ramsey Rural Museum	Terry Haslin	815609
Ramsey Tennis Club	Jason Tuxworth	07855 887017
Small to Tall (Upwood School Clubs)	Angie Dean	802086
St Peter's Church Matters	Jean Place	813742
St Peter's Handbells	Ann-Marie Cracknell	812195
Table Tennis Club	David Williams	812923
U3A	Enid Hubbard	tandehubbard@tiscali.co.uk
Upwood Business Association	Frances Ashfield	711411
Upwood Community Orchard	Liz Carter	813008
Upwood Quilters	Margaret Jones	814031
Upwood & Raveley Community Allotments	Liz Carter	813008
Upwood and Raveley Community Archive	Judith Harvey	710219
Upwood School PTA	Rebekah Cornthwaite	07714 881806
UVH Performing Arts Events / [act] Shows	Doug McLeod	814114
Village Hall Hire	Bob Child	815475
W.E.A	Liz Carter	813008

## NEWSLETTER EMAIL ADDRESS

**upwoodnl@hotmail.co.uk**

The editors are diligent but regret that they cannot accept responsibility for any inaccuracies or omissions

Editorial Team: Paul Charman 814707 Judith Harvey 710219 Pauline McLeod 814114

**e-mail address: upwoodnl@hotmail.co.uk**

**Deadline for the February 2016 Issue is 15 January 2016**

**The Newsletter can also be viewed and downloaded online: [www.upwood.org](http://www.upwood.org)**

## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE PARISH – IN PHOTOS



*Trevor Brown, CLP member explains one of the exhibits during the CLP Open Afternoon at the village hall in October.*



*Fenharmonics, a group of local musicians, entertained a packed St Peter's church on 1 November*



*The Melrose Quartet - Jess Arrowsmith, Nancy Kerr, Richard Arrowsmith & James Fagan - performing at the village hall in October.*



*(left) Bob Elvis, local writer and storyteller performs at Upwood Village Hall on 11 October*



*(right) Upwood Under 9s cricket team are pictured before a match at Warboys this summer.*