



# Upwood & The Raveleys Newsletter

**APRIL 2019    Issue 101**

## PARISH COUNCIL RECEIVES PRESITIGIOUS AWARD



In February Henry Clark, Chairman of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Association of Local Councils, presented Upwood and the Raveleys Parish Council with its Local Council Award Scheme Quality Gold Award. Chairman Robin Howe and Parish Clerk Carol Silverstone are pictured having received the award on behalf of the Parish Council. This is a fantastic achievement for our Parish Council, who are working very hard on our behalf.  
photo: Doug McLeod

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# DIARY OF EVENTS APRIL /MAY 2019

| Date                      | Day        | Event                                                   | Time            | Place / Contact                                 |
|---------------------------|------------|---------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| <b>April</b>              |            |                                                         |                 |                                                 |
| Weekly                    | Sunday     | Church Services: venue, time and type of service varies | Varies          | See Church notice board                         |
| Weekly                    | Mon & Fri  | Seated Exercise Class                                   | 9.15am          | UVH: info@oakactivities.com                     |
| Weekly                    | Wed        | Morning Prayer                                          | 8.30am – 8.50am | UVH: Jean 813742                                |
| Weekly                    | Tues & Wed | Table Tennis Club                                       | 7pm or 2pm      | UVH: Jack 711511                                |
| Weekly                    | Wed        | Breakfast club, all welcome                             | 8.50am          | UVH: Jean 813742                                |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> April     | Mon        | Parish Council meeting                                  | 7pm             | UVH: Parish Clerk 812447                        |
| 6 April                   | Saturday   | Parish Council organised litter- pick                   | 10.00am         | Around the parish: Jodie jodietwose@hotmail.com |
| 6 April                   | Saturday   | Lent Lunch                                              | 12.30pm         | UVH: Jean 813742                                |
| 6 & 7 April               | Sat & Sun  | The Bridge Arts Festival in Huntingdon & Godmanchester  | 10am – 5pm      | See website for details. Address on page 5      |
| 7 April                   | Sunday     | Ramsey Heritage Day                                     | 11am            | Various venues around Ramsey                    |
| 13 April                  | Saturday   | Lent Lunch at St Mary's                                 | 12 noon         | The Barn, St Mary's; Jean 813742                |
| 15 April                  | Monday     | RGC: Nigel Start on pruning                             | 7.30pm          | RCC: Ian 710702                                 |
| 21 April                  | Sunday     | Easter Sunday service                                   | 9.30am          | St Peter's Church: Jean 813742                  |
| 21 April                  | Sunday     | 1 <sup>st</sup> cricket match of the season             | TBA             | Neil: 812924                                    |
| 21 April                  | Sunday     | Easter Egg Hunt                                         | 11am            | RRM: Ian 710702                                 |
| 24 April                  | Wed        | Newsletter AGM                                          | 6.45pm          | UVH: Doug 814114                                |
| 24 April                  | Wed        | Village Hall AGM                                        | 7.30pm          | UVH: Steve 813074                               |
| 27 April                  | Saturday   | Living History Day                                      | 11-4pm          | RRM: Ian 710702                                 |
| 29 April                  | Monday     | Home to Home: Bunny Drive                               | 7.30pm          | UVH: Pauline 814114                             |
| 30 April                  | Tuesday    | Craft & Chat Group                                      | 1.30pm          | UVH: Heather 814432                             |
| <b>May</b>                |            |                                                         |                 |                                                 |
| 4 May                     | Saturday   | Meet & Munch: afternoon tea                             | 3.00pm          | UVH: Jan 814393                                 |
| 9 May                     | Thursday   | UPA: Fara                                               | 7.45pm          | UVH: Doug 814114                                |
| 13 May                    | Monday     | Parish Council followed by Annual Parish Meeting        | 6pm/ 8.00pm     | UVH: Parish Clerk:812447                        |
| 15 May                    | Wed        | History Group: Mortuary Chapel talk                     | 7.30pm          | UVH: Andrew 812447                              |
| 19 May                    | Sunday     | Ramsey Fen Fair                                         | TBA             | Rural Museum & The Camp                         |
| 20 May                    | Monday     | Home to Home: Recipe Swap                               | 2.30pm          | UVH: Pauline 814114                             |
| 20 May                    | Monday     | RGC: Cow Barn to Crocosmia                              | 7.30pm          | RCC: Ian 710702                                 |
| 22 May                    | Wed        | History Group: walking tour of Kimbolton                | TBA             | Andrew 812447                                   |
| 28 May                    | Tuesday    | Craft & Chat Group                                      | 1.30pm          | UVH: Heather 814432                             |
| <b>Forthcoming Events</b> |            |                                                         |                 |                                                 |
| 1 June                    | Saturday   | Meet & Munch: summer party                              | 1.00pm          | UVH: Jan 814393                                 |
| 3 June                    | Monday     | Parish Council meeting                                  | 7pm             | UVH: Parish Clerk 812447                        |
| 22 & 23 June              | Sat & Sun  | St Peter's Flower festival                              | TBA             | St Peter's Church: Anne-Marie                   |
| 23 June                   | Sunday     | Open Village                                            | TBA             | Upwood Village: Josie 710702                    |

**Deadline for the June 2019 Newsletter is 15<sup>th</sup> May 2019**

The parish council met in Upwood Village Hall on 04 February and 04 March.

**Councillors:** The council welcomed the appointment of Mark Bacon in February. Councillor Bacon has been actively involved in this community for 25 years. Councillor Hall has resigned his position and a vacancy for his replacement has been advertised. Please apply to the parish clerk. There are currently 2 vacancies.

**St. Peter's Church:** The church path has been repaired. A second green bin is on order and the parish maintenance contractor will collect and dispose of arisings from the churchyard site in future.

**SID:** The speed indicator device is providing valuable data which will help to support future traffic calming strategies. Results indicate that 38% of vehicles approaching the village from Ramsey Heights were in violation of the 40mph speed limit with 2 vehicles travelling in excess of 80mph and a further 27 in excess of 70mph.

**Children's summer sports:** The parish council is keen to provide six 2-hour activity sessions in conjunction with the district council's "Active Lives" programme. The cost of each session is confirmed at £129.24 + VAT. Two sessions have already been sponsored by William Hunt. The parish council would welcome sponsorship from other interested parties and is currently exploring options to work in partnership with Bury Parish Council on this initiative.

**Memorial dedicated to Upwood Airfield:** The parish council has been approached by Airfields of Britain Conservation Trust (ABCT) with a proposal to erect a memorial. The existing memorials specifically commemorate a squadron and individual airmen. Councillors are keen to support this initiative and further information will follow.

**Huntingdonshire District Council news:** There will be slight increase in the cost of collections of bulk waste from domestic properties from 01 April. The cost of a second green bin will rise to £50 and the delivery of a replacement bin will be £15.

Huntingdon based company Charpak Ltd has led the development of a localised circular economy in the re-manufacture of recycled plastic into new packaging products. Huntingdonshire currently diverts over 55% of its waste from landfill.

An online benefits app has been added to the "myhuntingdonshire" portal which provides quick access for registered customers to council services.

**Future Meetings:** 01 April, 13 May (including the Annual Parish Meeting).

Detailed information pertaining to the business of the parish council may be found at **[www.upwood.org](http://www.upwood.org)** Please "like" the parish council's facebook page for regular updates.

*Carol Bilverstone*  
*Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer*

## THE CRAFT & CHAT GROUP (formally Quilt Group)

This group meets from 1.30pm – 4.00pm in Upwood Village Hall on the last Tuesday of each month, except December. Originally started as a group where people could learn how to quilt from experienced quilters who lived in the parish the group has expanded to embrace all enthusiastic crafters – whichever craft they prefer. Tuesday afternoons are the chance to admire other people's creations, to ask more accomplished members how to overcome problems and, of course, to have a good ole natter!

So, if you are an experienced crafter or even if you have never made a thing in your life but fancy having a go, why not come along and see what's happening. You never know you might find yourself a new hobby and make some new friends along the way. Contact **Heather on 814432** for more details.

## WEA UPWOOD BRANCH



Sadly, after ten years of hosting weekly courses and occasional day schools, the Upwood branch of the WEA is closing at Easter. This closure is due to a lack of volunteers coming forward to organise the events and comes at a testing time for the WEA as a whole, as government funding is being withdrawn leaving smaller branches without financial support.

Over the past ten years here at Upwood we have offered a wide range of courses including social and local history, the role of the RAF in WW2, the history of medicine and women's suffrage. Some of our tutors became regular favourites and we shall miss their lively presentations and the linked field trips.

I am sure that students, past and present, will regret the decision to close down the branch and the Upwood & Raveley community as a whole will miss the opportunity for life-long learning on their doorstep. Our thanks must go to Ian Gaunt, the chairman; Roger Peckover, the treasurer and, most importantly, Julia Evans, the 'tea lady' who supplied us with excellent cake and biscuits over the years.

Thank you, everyone, for all of your hard work in making the Upwood branch such a welcoming place to learn.

*Liz Carter*



This very friendly and informal ladies group meets on the last Monday of the month in Upwood Village Hall. Our meetings start at 7.30pm and most of them are open to everyone who wants to come along and join in with the talks/activities offered.

Our March meeting saw us all doing seated exercises under the guidance of Tom Milner and we are looking forward to our Bunny Drive on 29<sup>th</sup> April and our recipe swap on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May which starts at 2.30pm. Visitors are always very welcome. For further information please contact Pauline on **814114**.

## UPWOOD PRIMARY ACADEMY - WORLD BOOK DAY



We celebrated World Book Day in March. This is a global event celebrating reading and books. Many fun events were organised in school including pupils and staff dressing up as their favourite goodies and baddies, historical characters or pirates, to fit in with our whole school themes of 'Heroes and Villains,' 'Step Back in Time' and 'Land Ahoy'. We also had a treasure hunt around the school looking for Peter Pan characters. Our treasure was

a chocolate treat. Classes decorated their classroom doors with a book theme as part of a whole school competition and children were invited to dress a raw potato as a book character, at home.

### COMING UP.....

As the Spring term draws to a close, we will be holding our annual 'Easter Craft Day.' This year the children have to create something in a shoe box, relating to either a book, film or tv show. There will be prizes for each class and an overall winner. The judges will be arriving in school during the afternoon to choose the winners. Creations will be displayed in the hall at the end of the day for parents/carers to view. This day always proves to be very successful and popular, and hopefully this year's will be no exception.

At the beginning of May, Year 6 will be undertaking their SATs tests in reading, maths, spelling and grammar. The children have worked very hard throughout the year and we hope they will be extremely successful. Good Luck Year 6!

*Lindsey Clarke, Deputy Headteacher*

## THE BRIDGE ARTS FESTIVAL



The Huntingdon and Godmanchester Twinning Association is organising 'The Bridge Arts Festival' at venues throughout the two towns on 6 & 7 April from 10.00am - 17.00pm. Absolutely free. There are exhibitions of art work at various locations across the towns and performances ranging from bell ringing to drama to poetry to theatre to the story of swing to...

Contributions include displays from local organisations and groups as well as from their twin towns in Poland, Germany and Italy. A massive 'Yarnbomb' throughout both towns is promising to steal the show - knitted items everywhere. Admission to exhibitions really is free. You can find more details on their leaflet:

<http://hgta.eu/pdf/Bridge%20leaflet%2002%20Feb%20Final%20copy.pdf>

**The AGM of the Upwood & the Raveleys newsletter will take place in the village hall on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April, starting at 6.45pm. All parishioners are very welcome to come along and tell the committee what they would like to see in the newsletter.**

## UPWOOD OPEN VILLAGE 23<sup>rd</sup> JUNE



### Much more participation is needed to make this event successful

It would be really good to create extra interest around the village to support the open gardens and the flower festival taking place in the church thus making this long-standing village event an even better attraction to raise funds for the village hall and the church.

To do this we need more garage sales and other activities; in your drive or perhaps with your neighbours, cakes, books or plant sales, games such as hoop la or skittles and any other ideas so creating the atmosphere of an **OPEN VILLAGE**. We are also looking for more people willing to open their gardens – they do not need to be weed-free and pristine, the greater the variety the more interesting for the visitors!

We hope to have some craft traders in the village hall along with an art exhibition and displays of village activities as well as all day refreshments.

If you would like to help this to happen and to keep our village 'on the map' please contact me with your ideas and offers of help at **josephinegaunt@gmail** or ring **710702**.

## YOUR PARISH NEEDS YOU

From the 23rd March to the 23rd April 2019, the Great British Spring Clean campaign is calling on the country to help improve the environment on their doorstep.

The Parish Council is joining this initiative by running a parish wide litter-pick on **Saturday April 6th 2019, from 10am.**

Would you like to join the clean up? If so, please send an email to Councillor Jodie Twose ([jodietwose@hotmail.com](mailto:jodietwose@hotmail.com)) and let her know if you are available that day and which part of the parish you live in.

If we have enough support, we will get back to you with further details of the event.

## WHAT WOULD YOU DO TO IMPROVE HEALTH SERVICES IN CAMBRIDGESHIRE?

Your local NHS needs to hear from you about what it should do to make care better for your community. You can feedback online at <https://www.healthwatch.co.uk/what-would-you-do>; or call your local Healthwatch on **0330 355 1285**, text **0752 0635 176**; or visit [www.healthwatchcambridgeshire.co.uk](http://www.healthwatchcambridgeshire.co.uk)

## UPWOOD AND RAVELEY COMMUNITY ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

### ALLOTMENT NEWS- 'March wind doth blow'



At the time of writing, the allotments look as fresh as the young buds beginning to open on saplings in the community orchard. This is owing to the wonderful, unseasonably warm weather we experienced in February. Although we had little rainfall during the winter months, the ground still seems quite damp underfoot and the fine weather during the last couple of weeks has encouraged those 'plants in the wrong places' (i.e. weeds!) to start covering the plots once again. Dwarf daffodils give a splash of yellow from the raised beds in the orchard and nod gently as they are protected by the hedge from the cool blasts of post Storm Freya.

Some hardy, organised folk have already started seriously preparing the soil and planting potatoes and onions. Some plot holders are experimenting with a 'no dig' idea, which involves improving the soil with organic material before covering it with membrane, prior to planting through this later on in the season. The idea is that the soil beneath is warmed but that the weeds are inhibited from growing. This definitely sounds like a good idea, so I will report on the success of this experiment later!

There are still several plots that are looking for willing 'allotmenters' to till the soil, sow and harvest produce. If you have not seriously considered taking on a plot, please give it some thought. We are a friendly group of people who support one another and there are some who have a lifetime of horticultural knowledge to share. You can have a Green Gym workout for free, feel the fresh air on your face, hear birdsong and have an amazing view to boot! Plus, the sun always shines in Upwood (!) and the view across to the rolling hills in the distance is magnificent!

There are a few allotments for rent. If you are interested, please contact our secretary Liz Carter on [liz@backtracks.biz](mailto:liz@backtracks.biz)

*Lesley Owen*

### UPWOOD SMALL TO TALL

Upwood Small to Tall offers outstanding childcare for children aged 2–11 years and we have a few vacancies available at each of the clubs: pre-school, breakfast and after school. We are all ready for the fun and challenges that lie ahead for the summer term. Please feel free to enquire on **802086** or by email to [manager@upwoodsmalltotall.co.uk](mailto:manager@upwoodsmalltotall.co.uk).

Please, also feel free to join us for our new '**Stay and Play**' sessions which are free and take place on Friday afternoons 2.15pm until 3.15pm. A relaxed session open to parents and children under five, where you can make use of our lovely play space whilst also spending time with other parents.

*Angie Dean, manager*

## SPOTLIGHT ON UPWOOD ST PETER'S HANDBELL RINGERS

St Peter's Church has been the home of the Handbell Ringers for over 30 years. It was in 1981 or 1982 that Fred Cracknell first took a group of people from St Peter's, who were interested in playing the handbells, to Buckden to listen to an established group. However, this group played 'by numbers' and Fred was determined that the St Peter's group would play 'by music' – and they still do! The players were directed and organised by Fred,



practising every Monday evening and as their skills developed they started entertaining groups and playing in church services.

In the beginning the group used St Thomas a Becket's set of handbells but they had to go to Ramsey to play them as, for some unknown reason, the handbells had to be always kept in Ramsey. Life became much easier for the St Peter's Handbell ringers when, after a huge fund-raising effort, the group were able to purchase their own set

of bells from the Whitechapel Foundry in 1987. John, Daphne and Ruth brought the handbells back from London and that evening they were used for the very first time in Jean & Tony's dining room. This is the set of bells that are still in current use. Some hand chimes were later bought to enable children to experience the concept of hand bell ringing and they are currently used to assist newer members of the group gain confidence in their ringing ability. The membership of the group may have changed over the years but the ethos of playing and enjoying creating music together has never altered.



The Handbell Group has recently changed its meeting time and now meets every Monday afternoon from 2-4pm in St Peter's Church. However, during the winter months, the meetings often take place in someone's house, as these tend to be a lot warmer than the church!

I persuaded a few of the current members to tell me a little bit about their involvement with the Handbells.



Margaret thinks she made the music stand covers over 10 years ago and they certainly add to the professional appearance of the group. Gwen, who is the treasurer, joined in 2003, when 'empty nest syndrome' enabled her to have the time necessary to pursue a new hobby. She generally rings the G & A bells but said that they try to ring each other's bells every so often and several of the team play up to six bells when they 'ring from the table'. Gwen said she particularly enjoys playing for groups who show a keen interest in the handbells, their history and ask about the music being played. Gwen feels that it is even better when they have a go at playing the bells themselves.



Anne-Marie, the events coordinator of the group, joined about 15 years ago because she wanted to have the opportunity to learn to play music in a friendly non-judgemental environment. She also joined husband Vernon, the only original member of the group still playing. Anne-Marie loves being part of a group and playing music that gives joy to its listeners. To quote one satisfied customer: *"We all enjoyed your excellent performance and I noticed those with dementia were fully engaged with the music and the interesting explanations. You and your bells are very precious! Thank you once again. Janet"*. When asked how he coped with all the women in the group Vernon said, *"I have to deal with a wife and 2 daughters at home so I'm used to tuning out!"*

St Peter's Handbell ringers can be booked to entertain local groups and on these occasions the audience is often invited to 'have a go'. The group requests a donation for their funds to ensure that they can keep adding to their repertoire. If you are interested in either playing or booking the group please contact: Anne-Marie on **812195** or email **[annemarie.upwood@btinternet.com](mailto:annemarie.upwood@btinternet.com)**

## UPWOOD ART GROUP



Upwood Art Group meets in Upwood Village Hall on the first and third Saturday of the month from 10.00am to 12.00pm (unless it falls on a Public Holiday) so there is only one meeting for April on April 6th because of the Easter Bank Holiday weekend. Meetings for May will be on the 4th and the 18th, for June on the 1st and 15<sup>th</sup>, and for July on the 6th and the 20th.

We are always pleased to welcome new members to come and have a go and offer the first three sessions free of charge. We are a friendly group and plenty of help can be given if requested.

*Gill Shelford*

## MEET AND MUNCH



During the winter months, from September to March, the members of Meet and Munch have enjoyed their lunches served by a dedicated team of volunteers. We will have our usual short break while Lent lunches are served, and meetings will re-start with afternoon tea being served from May to September, starting at 3pm. The exception will be on 1<sup>st</sup> June - we will be holding our summer party, celebrating 50 years since the first moon landing, and we will be serving a party lunch from 1pm.

We meet on the first Saturday of the month, so if you would enjoy a lovely afternoon tea and a good chat, please come and join us. We would also welcome any volunteers who could help make and serve the food.

For further information please contact Jan Howe **814393**



### RAMSEY WINDFARM COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND

Every year, acting on behalf of a consortium of operators and stakeholders, GrantScape makes £40,000 available to the parishes of Ramsey, Bury and Upwood & the Raveleys to be used by local community organisations to help fund their activities.

#### ***Our Parish is entitled to 20% or £8,000 of the total***

Almost all clubs and associations are eligible; quilting, play groups, clubs and allotments among others and a simple application form on the Grantscape website <https://www.grantscape.org.uk> could mean your organisation receiving hundreds or even thousands of pounds.

The deadline for applications is the **21<sup>st</sup> August**, so don't hesitate!



### ARE YOU UNHAPPY WITH YOUR BROADBAND SPEED?

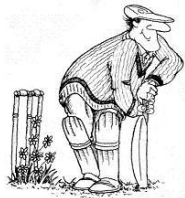
If any resident of Upwood & the Raveleys is suffering from slow broadband speeds, please send me your permission to share your email and home addresses with both the Communications Manager for Connecting Cambridgeshire, who is responsible for the broadband roll-out across the county, as well as Adam Longford, the Regional Director for Openreach.

Both organisations have requested that we compile a list of affected customers and they have promised to resolve the problem, even if it means passing it up to the Openreach Chairman's portal for resolution.

So, please email me your details so that I can compile and send the list on your behalf. Let's resolve this scandal once and for all!

Robin Howe, Chairman, Upwood & the Raveleys Parish Council  
**robinhowe@blackfyne.com / 07778 593606**

### UPWOOD CRICKET CLUB



The new season is fast approaching and, as I write, the cricket club is waking from its winter slumber. We made use of the unusually warm spell of weather in February and started preparing the pitch, outfield, pavilion and grounds. After a few teething problems the outfield mower was fired up and made short work of the lengthening grass with Jon Gaillard at the helm. Chairman Rob Landymore worked on the square cutting whilst it was rolled by Neil Tuffin. The pavilion has had

some tweaks thanks to Mark and Alison Gilbert, including a much-needed fixing of the toilet and changing room doors. The ground was a little worse for wear following the instalment of the new nets over the winter and this too has been rolled, tilled and seeded in preparation for the new season which kicks off on 21<sup>st</sup> April vs CAMRA.

As a trial this year the club has been open on some Friday nights through the winter with the help of Richard and Janet German and this is something that we will look at possibly continuing through the summer.

Many people at the club and local cricket in general were saddened to hear of the passing of club stalwart Ed Ward. As well as being groundsman for many years Ed will be remembered fondly for setting up and driving the junior cricket at Upwood. RIP Ed and thanks for all your hard work.

We are running more junior and adult teams this year so we are always looking for new players, so please contact the club via email **npe.tuffin@gmail.com** or visit **<https://upwood.play-cricket.com>**

*Neil Tuffin; Junior Co-ordinator*

**THE VILLAGE HALL AGM WILL TAKE PLACE ON WEDNESDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> APRIL IN UPWOOD VILLAGE HALL STARTING AT 7.30PM. ALL PARISHIONERS ARE VERY WELCOME TO ATTEND.**

### **ST PETER'S CHURCH**

The brief signs of early spring have been very evident in the churchyard. Thanks to the hard work of the contractor supplied by the Parish Council the snowdrops at the east end have made a beautiful show this year. It makes me realise how blessed we are that past generations of parishioners have planted snowdrops, aconites, daffodils and other spring flowers which come up year after year to delight anybody who walks through or past the churchyard. These flowers are also enhanced by the welcome return of the tubs of hyacinths and daffodils which have been nurtured by Peter Haddon over the winter and are now back to line the pathway to the Church. They arrived just in time for the baptism of Matilda Rose Ellis on February 17<sup>th</sup> when the family and friends of her parents, James and Victoria, filled St Peters on a beautiful Sunday morning. They joined the congregation for a service conducted by Canon Darmody, who had married them at St Peters in 2017.

Thanks to the Parish Council, the church path, which has been cracking due to some subsidence and a problem with a soakaway, has been repaired with the offending drainage properly sorted out and the entrance flagstones re-laid level with the newly repaired path. The work has been beautifully done by a local contractor and we are all extremely grateful to those involved.

The PCC has been looking at replacing the heating system and we live in hope that, by next winter, worshippers and visitors will be able to enjoy the benefits of having a much warmer Church.

Lent Lunches started on March 9<sup>th</sup> and are being shared between St Peters and St Mary's. The usual delicious array of homemade soups and bread with cheese and pickle will be held in the Village Hall at Upwood on April 6<sup>th</sup> and at the Barn at Ashbeach School, Ramsey St Mary's on March 23<sup>rd</sup> and April 13<sup>th</sup>. The lunches in Upwood start at 12-30 and those at St Mary's at 12-00 noon.

We look forward to Easter with a service of Holy Communion at St Peters at 9-30 on Easter Sunday to which everyone is welcome. There will be other events during Holy Week so keep an eye on the noticeboard for details.

*Jo Paxton*

### **STAGECOACH BUS TIMETABLES**

Once again there have been some changes made to local time tables which are too numerous to list here. Please visit the Passenger Transport Team if you require further information. Phone: **0345 045 0675**;

Email: **[passenger.transport@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:passenger.transport@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)**

Post: **Passenger Transport Team, Box SH1013, Shire Hall, Castle Hill, Cambridge CB3 0AP**

## RAMSEY & DISTRICT U3A

April is the month when the U3A hold their Annual General Meeting. Members of the committee who have served for five years stand down to make way for other members who wish to further the U3A in our district, to keep the wheels turning so to speak. Following the official business on April 9<sup>th</sup> Gillian Rayment is coming to speak to us about the Ramsey Mortuary Chapel.

On May 14<sup>th</sup> Terry James will be representing the Royal National Lifeboat Institution to tell us about their work and his job as fund raiser. If you would like to come along to either of these meetings, they begin at 2:00pm at The Ramsey Community Centre, Stocking Fen Road, Ramsey. A small charge is made for refreshments. *Enid Hubbard, Publicity Officer*

## RAMSEY RURAL MUSEUM



Our first day open this season is 30<sup>th</sup> March and from then until the end of October we are open on Thursdays (9.00 to 5.00) and on Saturday afternoons, Sunday afternoons and Bank Holiday afternoons (2.00 to 5.00).

On Sunday April 7<sup>th</sup> we shall be joining in with Ramsey Heritage Day. The theme of the day is the hidden waters of Ramsey and there will be a display concerning the river under the Great Whyte in the barn at the museum. A vintage coach will take visitors around the various heritage sites starting from the library. At the same time the Museum is running the first Food and Craft Fair of the season. The event will open at 11.00 and, as part of the Heritage Day, admission will be free. On Easter Sunday (21<sup>st</sup> April) there will be an Easter Egg hunt, starting at 11.00am. On Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April a living history day (11.00am -4.00pm) will involve displays relating to World War 1 including weaponry and uniforms. One of the displays will relate to the De Ramsey family in the war. There will be a demonstration of medical equipment (Wenches in Trenches) and of the First Aid Nursing Yeomanry (FANY) with their horses. At the same time there will be a small display of classic cars by the Cambridge Car Club.

On 19<sup>th</sup> May the museum and the 40's Camp are hosting the Ramsey Fen Fair which will include amusements, games, food outlets and craft traders. There will be music (1950's to 1970's) and dancing at the camp on the previous evening.

In addition to these events there will be sessions of brass rubbing on the first weekend of each month. The museum is entirely managed and run by volunteers and we can always use more help. In particular we need volunteers for manning the museum when it is open at the weekends. This need not be a regular commitment but involve as little or as much time as you can spare. We will train you on what has to be done. If you would like further information about any of the events or volunteering please contact Ian Gaunt **710702**; [ian.gaunt@care4free.net](mailto:ian.gaunt@care4free.net)

## RAMSEY AND DISTRICT GARDEN CLUB



The Garden Club is a friendly group that provides a range of talks and demonstrations about many aspects of gardens, plants and gardening. The regular meetings of the club are held in the Ramsey Community Centre at 7.30pm on the third Monday of the month. The annual subscription is £10. Visitors are welcome to attend individual meetings at a cost of £2.

In addition to the meetings, each year we organise a visit to one of the Royal Horticultural Society gardens. This year it will be a visit to the Royal Horticultural Society garden at Wisley on June 2<sup>nd</sup> and there will be a trip to Kew Gardens in September. We welcome non-members to join us for these visits.

The talk in February was by Robin Bletsoe on photography at Kew. Robin had trained at Kew and had an absolutely amazing range of photographs both of the garden and specific plants. In March the talk was on a single type of plant, the begonia. We got some hints on how to get the best displays for our show in July.

On 15<sup>th</sup> April Nigel Start will deal with the massive topic of pruning. In May (20<sup>th</sup>) Neil and Clair Callan will tell us about developing their garden in Somersham from an old farmyard (Cow Barn to Crocosmia)

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

## UPWOOD AND THE RAVELEYS LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

The Annual General Meeting was held on 13 March 2019 and was well attended.

The programme for the next few months of this year includes:

- 15 May a talk by Jane Yardley on the Ramsey Mortuary Chapels and Walled Garden,
- 22 May an evening walking tour of Kimbolton,
- 17 July a talk by Tony Walsh of Headlands Archaeology on the A14 Finds and Archaeology. (You might have seen some of the finds on the news and this talk coincides with the bringing together of all their onsite activity)

Visitors are welcome to attend the talks which are held at 7.30pm in the village hall at a charge of £4 per meeting (includes tea/coffee and biscuits). Alternatively come along and become a member of this thriving and enthusiastic group for £10 p.a.

Additionally, we are also looking at a project of recording normal life in Upwood and the Raveleys in words and photos during 2020. We are thinking about tracking village life month by month with features on particular village activities. This project is very much in its infancy and we are hoping that the History Group might provide the initial members of a group to undertake this project. However, it is envisaged that once some form of project structure is developed, then contributions from the whole village would be encouraged and suggestions for further development welcomed. Hopefully, there will be more information in time for the next newsletter.

*Mervyn Harvey*

## WHO'S WHO IN THE VILLAGES

| Organisation                                     | Contact              | Telephone                    |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|
| Art Group                                        | Gill Shelford        | 812009                       |
| Book Lovers Group                                | Julia Evans          | 711388                       |
| Community Bus Co-ordinator                       | Dave Blandford       | 711330                       |
| Community Navigators                             | Beatrice Brown       | 01480 423065                 |
| County Councillor                                | Terry Rogers         | rogers@cambridgeshire.gov.uk |
| Cricket Club                                     | Neil Tuffin          | 812924                       |
| District Councillor (Chair of Parish Council)    | Robin Howe           | 814393                       |
| HACT: Community Bus                              |                      | 01480 411114                 |
| History Group                                    | Andrew Bilverstone   | 812447                       |
| High Street Hedgehogs                            | Jean Noble           | 814356                       |
| Home to Home                                     | Pauline McLeod       | 814114                       |
| Meet and Munch                                   | Jan Howe             | 814393                       |
| Nene Valley Gliding Club                         | Peter Valentine      | 8541653                      |
| 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                              | Ian Gaunt            | 710702                       |
| Ramsey Tennis Club                               | Jonny Wicks          | 07724 152382                 |
| Seated Exercise classes                          | Tom Milner           | info@oakactivities.com       |
| Small to Tall (Upwood School Clubs)              | Angie Dean           | 802086                       |
| St Peter's Church Matters                        | Jean Place           | 813742                       |
| St Peter's Handbells                             | Anne-Marie Cracknell | 812195                       |
| Table Tennis Club                                | Jack Holloway        | 711551                       |
| U3A                                              | Enid Hubbard         | tandehubbard@tiscali.co.uk   |
| Upwood Community Orchard                         | Liz Carter           | 813008                       |
| Upwood Craft & Chat Group (formally Quilt Group) | Heather Wakefield    | 814432                       |
| Upwood Golf Society                              | Howard Smith         | 711999                       |
| Upwood & Raveley Community Allotments            | Liz Carter           | 813008                       |
| Upwood and Raveley Community Archive             | Judith Harvey        | 710219                       |
| Upwood Academy PTA                               | Holly Piaggese       | holly321@live.co.uk          |
| UVH Performing Arts Events / [act] Shows         | Doug McLeod          | 814114                       |
| Village Hall Hire                                | Bob Child            | 815475                       |
| W.E.A                                            | Liz Carter           | 813008                       |

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

Editorial Team: Lesley Gee 815816; Judith Harvey 710219; Pauline McLeod 814114;

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**Deadline for the June 2019 issue is 15th May 2019**

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

## IMAGES OF SPRING

Photos courtesy of Esther Rowley

