









Upwood & The Raveleys Newsletter

DECEMBER 2019 Issue 105

UPWOOD UKULELES' 5th CHRISTMAS CONCERT Friday 13th December @ 7.45pm



Upwood Village Hall will be rocking to the festive sounds of Upwood Ukuleles on Friday 13th December. This time last year they were celebrating raising £30,000 for Magpas Air Ambulance. This year they hope to pass the £40,000 mark – not bad for a group of local people who just wanted to learn a new instrument.

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Parish Council p3

DIARY OF EVENTS DECEMBER 2019/JANUARY 2020

| Date | Day | Event | Time | Place / Contact | |
|---|------------|--|------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Weekly | Sun | Church Services: venue, time and | Varies | See Church notice board | |
| • | | type of service varies | | | |
| Weekly | Mon & | Seated Exercise | 9.15am | UVH: info@oakactivities.com | |
| | Fri | | | | |
| Weekly | Tues | Upwood Table Tennis Club | 7.30pm | UVH: Jack 711511 | |
| | & Wed | | 2pm | | |
| Weekly | Wed | Morning Prayer | 8.30am – | UVH: Jean 813742 | |
| | | | 8.50am | | |
| Weekly | Wed | Morning Coffee, all welcome | 8.50am | UVH: Jean 813742 | |
| December | | | | | |
| 2 Dec | Mon | Parish Council meeting | 7pm | UVH: Parish Clerk 812447 | |
| 4 & 5 Dec | Wed & | Upwood Primary Academy | TBC | Upwood Primary Academy | |
| | Thurs | Christmas production: Yrs 1 - 6 | | | |
| 6 Dec | Fri | Great Fen: Little Bugs Pre-Christmas fun | 10.30-12 | www.greatfen.org.uk | |
| 7 Dec | Sat | Upwood Art Group | 10am | UVH: Gill 812009 | |
| 7 Dec | Sat | Meet & Munch | 1pm | UVH: Jan 814393 | |
| 10 Dec | Tues | Upwood Primary Academy | TBC | Upwood Primary Academy | |
| 12.5 | | Christmas production: Foundation | 7.45 | | |
| 12 Dec | Thurs | UPA: Jez Lowe & the Bad Pennies | 7.45pm | UVH: Doug 814114 | |
| 12 Dec | Thurs | General Election | 7am - | Cross Keys | |
| 12.0 | F: | Harris and Hillindal as Chailetanas a sanas at | 10pm | LIVIII Davia 04 444 4 | |
| 13 Dec | Fri | Upwood Ukuleles Christmas concert | 7.45pm | UVH: Doug 814114 | |
| 13 Dec 14 Dec | Fri Sat | Rotary Santa Float in parish Christmas Tree festival, St Peter's | evening | St Peter's: Anne-Marie 812915 | |
| 14 Dec | Sat | | 10-4pm | www.greatfen.org.uk | |
| 16 Dec | Mon | Great Fen: Felting Workshop | 2-4.30 | UVH: Pauline 814114 | |
| 22 Dec | Sun | Home to Home Christmas party Carol service | 7.30pm 6.00pm | St Peter's: Jean 813742 | |
| 24 Dec | | Midnight Christmas service | 11.30pm | St Peter's: Jean 813742 | |
| 24 Dec | Tues | | 11.50piii | St Fetel S. Jean 813742 | |
| January 4 Jan Sat Meet & Munch 1pm UVH: Jan 814393 | | | | UVH: Jan 814393 | |
| 6 Jan | Mon | Parish Council meeting | 1pm 7pm | UVH: Parish Clerk 812447 | |
| 9 Jan | Thurs | UPA: Cup O' Joe | 7,45pm | UVH: Doug 814114 | |
| 15 Jan | Wed | Local History Group: AGM | 7.43pm 7.30pm | UVH: Andrew 812447 | |
| 16 Jan | Thurs | Great Fen: Gordon Buchanan | 7.30piii 7pm | wildlifebcn.org/celebrity-talks | |
| 20 Jan | Mon | RGC: Tom Peacock; Plant Breeding | 7.30pm | RCC: lan 710702 | |
| 27 Jan | Mon | Home to Home: Phil Evans' photos | 7.30pm | UVH: Pauline 814114 | |
| 28 Jan | Tues | Upwood Craft & Chat | 1.30pm | UVH: Heather 814432 | |
| 20 3011 | 1 0 6 3 | Forthcoming Ever | | OVII. Heather 014432 | |
| 3 Feb | Mon | Parish Council meeting | 7pm | UVH: Parish Clerk 812447 | |
| 6 Feb | Thurs | UPA: Ninebarrow | 7.45pm | UVH: Doug 814114 | |
| 14 Feb | Fri | Valentine's Day Massacre Dance | 7.43pm 7.30pm | UVH: 0737799209 or | |
| | | and a supplied that the supplied suppli | / | curfew@gmx.com | |
| 17 Feb | Mon | RGC: Peter Walker; Wild Flowers | 7.30pm | RCC: lan 710702 | |
| 24 Feb | Mon | Home to Home AGM & quiz | 7.30pm | UVH: Pauline 814114 | |
| 741CD | IVIOII | Home to Home Adivi & quiz | 7.30piii | O V 11. 1 dullile 014114 | |

Deadline for the February 2020 Newsletter is 15th January 2020

PARISH COUNCIL



The parish council met in Upwood Village Hall on 4th November. **Councillors:** The parish council has one vacancy. Please apply to the parish clerk or contact one of the parish councillors for further

information.

Broadband: The migration (configuration of lines to the new DSLAM (green fibre cabinet)) is planned for 19th and 20th November. There may be some disruption to the broadband service during this time. Providing the migration is successful, those with fibre connections will see instant improvement on their broadband speed/reliability. Those not currently on a fibre service should also see improvement and they will be able to order an enhanced service from their chosen service provider within a couple of weeks of the migration.

SIDs: SID 1 was positioned on Huntingdon Road, Little Raveley recording vehicles approaching Great Raveley/Upwood. Of 13,681 vehicles recorded, 1,186 (8.67%) were in violation of the 40mph speed limit. Of these, 324 were travelling at speeds ranging between 50 and 68mph. SID 2 was positioned by the junction of High Street and Longholme Road recording vehicles travelling towards Ramsey Heights. Of 14,153 vehicles recorded 635 (4.49%) were in violation of the 40mph limit. 215 vehicles were recorded travelling at speeds between 50 and 69mph.

Finance: The finance working party presented a financial forecast confirming that the parish council is predicted to end this financial year with a bank balance of approximately £57,750, having drawn £9,500 from its general reserves. This balance includes community infrastructure levy (CIL) of £11,569.89 plus earmarked reserves for the cemetery of £6,000 and a further £9,000 for the play area. Predicted unallocated reserves therefore stand at approximately £31,200. The finance working party presented recommendations for a lean draft budget for the next three financial years and this was adopted in principle. If the precept is held at £25,000 per year, the parish council would expect to draw approximately £38,000 from its reserves by the end of the financial year 2023 leaving a balance of just under £20,000. The parish council adopted a budget of £39,167.11 together with a precept of £25,000 for the financial year 2020/2021. This will necessitate drawing approximately £12,000 from reserves. Grants were awarded to support the operational costs of the village hall and the parish newsletter. Councillors consider both to be vital assets to our community.

Future Meetings: 2nd December, 6th January 2020. All are welcome to attend.

Detailed information pertaining to the business of the parish council may be found at www.upwood.org. Please "like" the parish council's facebook page for regular updates.

Carol Bilverstone. Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer



Our September meeting was one of the best of the year so far. Doug brought along a whole range of stringed instruments including his Fylde Guitar, Fylde Bouzouki,

Bowed Psaltery, Auto Harp and, of course, several Ukuleles. He gave us a potted history of his life playing a stringed instrument, from the first guitar made for him by his dad when he was about 10 to his latest acquisition of a Braguinha, the Madeiran version of the ukulele. He told us about the history of each instrument, how they are tuned and entertained us with a tune on each one. Doug was very generous with his time and answered numerous questions as well as allowing the enthralled audience to 'have a go' playing his wonderful instruments. We will be inviting him back.

In October Anne-Marie helped us to develop our creative skills and we were very busy talking and having a great laugh as we produced lanterns for the Home to Home Christmas Tree entry for the festival on 14th December. In November we learnt how to use up old magazines – Elizabeth Clark from ETC Crafts was our speaker. Our December meeting will be a members' only Christmas Party and on January 27th 2020 Phil Evans will be showing us some of his wonderful photos of East Anglia. New members and visitors are always welcome. Just contact Pauline on **814114** or email **pndmcleod@btinternet.com**

UPWOOD PRIMARY ACADEMY



With Christmas fast approaching, the staff and students of Upwood Primary Academy have lots of exciting events to look forward to.

Christmas Fayre

We will host our annual Christmas Fayre on the 29th November at 3.45pm. 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, so do come along and enjoy all the "fun of the Fayre".

Christmas Performances

During the evenings of the 4th and 5th December, all pupils from Year 1 – Year 6, will participate in the Upwood Primary Academy Christmas Performance. The play this year focuses on Christmas through the decades. Children will perform a range of dances, songs and sketches. Foundation pupils will have their own Christmas performance, on Tuesday 10th December. The children are very excited about participating in their respective performances.

Upwood Primary Academy wishes all members of our local community a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Lindsey Clarke, Deputy Headteacher

SANTA FLOAT COMES TO UPWOOD



The Rotary's Santa Float will be visiting Farm Close, Barclay Close and Upwood Village on Friday 13th December. Unfortunately, there was no mention in the information sent to the newsletter as to

when it will be visiting Great or Little Raveley or Fairmead Park.

UPWOOD CRAFT and CHAT



This very friendly ladies group meets on the last Tuesday of the month in Upwood Village Hall from 1.30pm – 4pm. As its name indicates we bring along whatever we happen to be working on at the time and whilst we 'work' we chat. Admittedly there is a lot more chatting than crafting but things do get finished eventually. For example, at the last meeting Anne-Marie brought along the

quilt she has just finished making from Emilie's old t-shirts to show us – it's only taken her 4 years to complete it!

Heather, our leader, is full of creative ideas; so don't think that you can't come because you haven't got a 'project' on the go – there will always be someone to give you advice or something that you can help with. In October we were busy making the decorations for our entry for the Christmas Tree festival, which we will have completed on 26^{th} November. We don't meet in December but will be meeting on 28^{th} January. So why not make a New Year's resolution to get 'craftier' and come along to Craft and Chat – you won't regret it.

UPWOOD ART GROUP



The next meeting of the Upwood Art Group will be held on Saturday 7th December. We will be discussing and deciding upon arrangements for our future meetings in 2020 so please come along and let us know your *Gill Shelford*

UPWOOD ARCHIVE GROUP upwood.ccan.co.uk

The Archive Group has struggled for several years as a one-man band but has now been placed under the over-sight of Ramsey Rural Museum (RRM). In terms of what you see when you visit the site there will be no change. It will remain dedicated to Upwood and the Raveleys, it will still be under the umbrella of Cambridgeshire Community Archive Network (CCAN), the web-host will remain unchanged and existing items on the site will remain and be added to. RRM will assume financial responsibility for the site. The museum already holds artefacts from Upwood and the Raveleys and has an archivist as part of their team, so having RRM administrating the site seems appropriate - the future looks bright for the Upwood Archive.

Judith Harvey

ST. PETER'S CHURCH

As Autumn moves inexorably towards winter the grass still seems to be growing. The beautiful flowering tubs which have made the church path such an explosion of colour throughout both spring and summer have now been removed to their winter home, to be lovingly replanted and nurtured ready for next spring. Our thanks, as ever, to Peter Haddon for his hard work throughout the year in making the churchyard such a feature of the village, and also for his gift of the new water butts and their installation, which has made the care of the flowers much more manageable.

There were representatives from St Peters in the congregation of a packed Glatton Church as the Rev. Canon Darmody, in the presence of the Bishop of Ely, made a very moving commendation to introduce Rev Becky Dyball to her new parish. We all took part in a poignant service where the family were made very welcome which was followed by a selection of refreshments in the Church Hall opposite. Thank you very much to everyone who made this day so memorable.

We will be celebrating our 10th annual Christmas Tree Festival on Saturday December 14th. This is always an enjoyable day, with an opportunity to find a variety of unusual Christmas presents at very competitive prices. On offer will also be (non-alcoholic) mulled wine, home-made cakes, as well as tea and coffee amid a number of beautifully decorated trees.

There will be a Carol service as usual on Sunday December 22nd (see the notice board for details) and a Midnight Service at 11.30 on the 24th. There will be no service in St Peters on Christmas Day but the Church will, as usual, be open for anyone who wishes to visit.

On a sad note - on September 26th St Peters lost a very loyal friend in John Hickman. As Churchwarden John worked tirelessly to bring the electrical and sound systems in St Peters up-to-date. I am sure that, many like me, have treasured cassettes of baptisms/weddings and other services made thanks to the kindness of John. He and Daphne were also original members of the Upwood Handbell Ringers - we are blessed to have such an enduring legacy.

Jo Paxton



Happy Christmas to all our readers and contributors. from your Newsletter committee



Upwood Village Hall Performing Arts Events

UVH Performing Arts Events has now been staging concerts at the village hall for 11 years and continues to attract audiences both from the locality as well as further afield. After Christmas this year there is an excellent and varied line-up of acts appearing at the hall. Why not give one of the following concerts a try?





On **Thursday 9th January** we host **Cup O'Joe**, an outstanding family bluegrass trio from Northern Ireland, who will be playing at the prestigious Celtic Connections in Glasgow after they have been to UVH! As an added bonus, Tabitha Benedict (nee Agnew), will be bringing along her husband, David, a brilliant mandolin player from the USA, so they will be a four-piece band for the evening. Local duo Hannah Elizabeth and Griff Jameson will also

be playing a support slot at the beginning of the concert. Tickets for this concert are £13.00.

On **Thursday 6th February** there is the welcome return of **Ninebarrow**. They are a multi-award-winning folk duo from Dorset, who are impressing audiences across the country with their innovative and captivating take on the folk tradition. Jon Whitley and Jay LaBouchardiere combine breath-taking vocal harmonies and melodies, delivering songs that are inspired and rooted in the landscape and history of the British Isles. Tickets for this concert are **£14.00**.





Friday 27th March is a date to put in your diary to come along and see one of Ireland's top folk singers — Daoiri (pronounced "Derry") Farrell. Dublin-born Daoiri has been described by some of the biggest names in Irish folk music as one of the most important singers to come out of Ireland in recent years. Tickets for this concert are £15.00.

We are delighted to announce that **Chris & Kellie While** will be appearing at UVH on **Friday 26**th **June**. Mother and daughter, Chris and Kellie, rarely get to perform together these days due to Chris' commitments with Julie Matthews and Kellie's work as Head of 7digital Creative. They both possess sublime voices which blend together effortlessly as well as both being accomplished guitarists. Tickets for this concert are £14.00.



Box Office: 07709 930398 / pndmcleod@btinternet.com

ST PETER'S CHURCH CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL: Saturday 14th December 10am-4pm



The Christmas Tree Festival started 10 years ago in December 2009. It was the brain-child of Anne-Marie Cracknell and Joyce Taylor, who were both church wardens at the time. They had been to similar festivals in other churches and felt that it was an event that the Upwood & the Raveleys community could work together on. Owing to the fact that all the pews are different dimensions Anne-Marie was finding it difficult to bring her vision to life until Paul Rowley came to the rescue by supplying the idea, the wood and making the bridges to link the pews. Anne-Marie continues to be the coordinator of this lovely annual event.

In 2009 there were 19 trees and in 2010 the festival had a record 28 trees but the average over the years has been 17 trees. Stall holders started adding to the Christmas atmosphere in 2011 and the stalls were a popular

addition with visitors. Judging the best tree also became a feature but caused some controversy so now all the children taking part are rewarded. Anne-Marie said "the very best thing for me is to see happy faces, people taking photos, welcoming new people



and the village being together enjoying a good day. Also, the stallholders are getting better and better with their wonderful crafts, giving us possibilities of buying that very

special gift." She added that if you would like to take part this year, "it is free and a lot of fun. Just let your imagination flow and decorate an artificial tree of any colour or type. (N.B. no taller than 6ft). There is no specific theme. You can work on your own or as part of a group, using any material

you want to, to create your design, adding LED lights, if you want to. Be prepared to decorate the wooden plank that your tree is likely to be placed on. You will need to give your tree a title, and let me know at least 2 weeks in advance the name of the tree you are





entering in the festival so that I can put it in the programme. Anything goes - one year we had some decorated teabags on a tree!" (see photo to the left!)

If you are taking part, trees can be set up in St Peter's on Thursday 12th or Friday 13th December from 9am – 5pm. Inside the church there will be a map indicating where to set up your tree. Your tree can be removed from the church at any point during the following week (it is open from 9am – 4pm), but please note that the church

service on Sunday will not finish until 11am.

Anne-Marie finished our little chat by saying that she hoped that everyone in the parish would be able to come and visit the Christmas Tree Festival.

sample the refreshments with the ever-popular nonalcoholic mulled wine & mince pies and generally enjoy the spirit of Christmas engendered in the church. If you want to know any more about taking part in the festival or just to find out more about it please contact:-





Put the date in your diaries, **Saturday 14th December**, and make sure you pop along to St Peter's – you certainly won't regret it and you might find that elusive Christmas gift!







RAMSEY AND DISTRICT GARDEN CLUB



The talk in October was by Andrew Sankey entitled 'Re-thinking your garden'. He gave good advice on how to get the best from your garden - some good advice was "if it is not doing well – get rid of it" and "don't impulse buy plants". Andrew is a very knowledgeable and entertaining speaker and gave us a very good evening.

The November meeting was the Annual General Meeting of the Club and this was followed by a talk on 'Photography in the Alps' by Alice Hunter.

We have no meeting in December - people seem to be occupied with other activities at this time of year! The first talk of the new year (January 20th) is by Tom Peacock on 'Plant Breeding'. This promises to be an unusual talk. The talk in February (17th) will be 'Wild flowers and their habitats in Cambridgeshire' by Peter Walker. This talk has a lot of local interest and, I hope that it will attract a lot of non-members.

The Garden Club is a friendly group that provides a range of talks and demonstrations and 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.

As well as the monthly meetings we arrange visits to gardens, particularly those of the Royal Horticultural Society and organise the Annual Show in July.

For further information please contact Ian Gaunt 710702; ian.gaunt@care4free.net

UPWOOD TABLE TENNIS CLUB



On Tuesday 12th November the men's singles' championship was held. Starting at 7.30pm in Upwood Village Hall the contestants were seeded and split into 3 groups. The three group winners went on to play each other; Roy Holland, who won all of his matches was declared the winner, with Geoff Dudley a creditable second.

All the games were played in a relaxed atmosphere; allowing everyone present to have an enjoyable evening.

The committee has now started planning for the club's next

competition, the 'Ken Alderton Trophy', which will be held in February.

The club meets on a Tuesday evening and a Wednesday afternoon; for further details please email Ann Deaville, the club secretary, on ann56dea@gmail.com



The museum is now closed to the public until Saturday April 4th 2020 and on Sunday 5th April we are again joining in with the Ramsey Heritage Day when the museum, like all of the other heritage sites in the town, will be open without charge. The museum will be holding a Food and Craft Fair as part of this day. From 4th April 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). There is an enormous amount to see so, even if you have visited before, it is well worth another visit. The tea room is available whenever the museum is open and will make your visit complete. We can open the whole museum at other times for group visits.

During the closed season there is a great deal going on to maintain the site and buildings and to get ready for the opening. There is cleaning of the various areas and reorganising of the displays as well as conservation of artefacts. To carry out this work and to run the museum during the summer we need more volunteers. We can utilise any skills but in particular we need:

- Volunteers for manning the museum when it is open at the weekends (greeting visitors and staffing the tea room).
- A museum manager/chairman mainly a communications role
- A treasurer
- A team to maintain and manage the marquees that we use for various events
- A volunteer to assist with running events
- A volunteer to manage the marketing of the museum.

Why not come along and join this friendly group of volunteers. Our usual 'working day' is Thursday. If you would like further information about the programme for next year or volunteering please contact Ian Gaunt 710702; ian.gaunt@care4free.net

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING



This year's event took place on Thursday 26th Sept. The Great Raveley Macmillan team joined forces with two friends from Abbots Ripton and had a big joint event at Abbots Ripton Village Hall. This worked really well; providing level access, masses of parking and loads of space for stalls, together with tables and chairs so that people could

sit and chat over their coffee and cake. We raised £1195.02 and are looking forward to doing it all again next year in the last week of September. Thanks to everyone who supported us with wonderful raffle prizes and donations of cakes, bring & buy and craft items.

Debbie Brown



MEET AND MUNCH



As the nights draw in and the days get colder there's nothing nicer that a good, hot home-cooked lunch followed by a range of delicious puddings. This is what Meet and Munch provides for older residents of Upwood and surrounding communities during the winter months. It's a great opportunity to meet old friends, make new ones and have a good chat, putting the world to rights!

It can be daunting to join an organisation for the first time, but be reassured we are a very welcoming group. We would warmly welcome new members (55 years and over) and we would also love to recruit more volunteers (no age limits), but an enjoyment of preparing food for others to savour is an advantage! We meet once a month on the first Saturday of the month and lunches are at 1p.m.

For further information contact Jan Howe 814393

THE GENERAL ELECTION



The Cross Keys public house, in Upwood High Street, is going to be the venue for the polling station for Upwood & the Raveleys on Thursday 12th December. You can cast your vote from 7am to 10pm.

UPWOOD AND RAVELEY COMMUNITY ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION



Now that we have almost reached mid-November, with even more rain, the ground is saturated and a reduction in temperatures has meant that only the most stoic 'allotmenteers' have braved tending their plots. A quick check on the TV weather forecast each evening

has meant that some delicate plants have needed to be covered with protective fleece as the temperatures approach freezing. Most of the allotments have been dug to rest over winter: organic material, including manure and bark, have been spread to add nutrients and bulk to the soil.

In the Community Orchard, I have been working on the raised beds and moving the succulents with some rocks to the low gravelled area to give interest and height. In the bed to the left of the seat, small tulips and daffodils have been planted for variety and colour in the Spring. The lavender beds still need some work and the wood needs treating. Hopefully, these tasks will soon be addressed, once it stops raining, the temperature increases a bit and the sun shines to inspire me!



Many thanks to those hardy folks on the committee who did such a fantastic job designing and building such a wonderful bug hotel in the orchard, near the hedge where it is protected from the elements. If you haven't noticed it on your rambles through please take a close look. Natural organic materials have been used and the final result looks amazing.

There are quite a few small vacant plots available at a peppercorn rent. If you are new to the area and unfamiliar with the position of the allotments, they are opposite the cemetery. There are many advantages to having an allotment: no pesticide use, easy parking, access to water and the ability to have a 'green gym' experience, whilst also having an amazing view too. Last, but by no means least, the folk are friendly and helpful if you would like some advice. Please contact Liz Carter if you wish to take on a plot: lizcarter261@btinternet.com

Lesley Owen

Great Fen

Our Little Bugs group (for pre-school children) will be meeting on 6th December for pre-Christmas Fun at the Countryside Centre Ramsey

Heights 10.30 to 12pm. On Saturday 14th December we are holding a Felting Workshop. Come and learn how to do this amazing craft – no experience necessary. 2pm to 4.30. Tickets £40 which includes all materials. Booking essential via **www.greatfen.org.uk** Hinchingbrooke Performing Arts Centre is the venue for a fantastic talk "Animal families and me" with celebrity presenter Gordon Buchanan. 16th January 2020 7pm. Tickets £22 or £17 for Wildlife Trust Members (Booking fee applies) Book at **wildlifebcn.org/celebrity-talks**. Wildlife Watch for primary age children starts again in February 2020. Keep an eye on our website for latest news and events. **www.greatfen.org.uk**

UPWOOD AND THE RAVELEYS LOCAL HISTORY GROUP



At the September meeting we listened to Roger Mould describing the work to explore and make sense of the remains of the earlier versions of Ramsey Abbey. We heard that the Great Benedictine Abbey of Ramsey was the first of the great religious houses in Eastern Fenland to be founded, and in its time was one of the most important, influential

and wealthiest Abbeys in the Fens. In its heyday Ramsey Abbey was home to at least 80 monks but in 1539 the Abbey was dissolved by Henry VIII. The Ramsey Abbey Community Project has carried out geophysical surveys and used ground penetrating radar in order to build up a picture of the remains that are spread over a wide area. Test pits, some excavation work and drone flights are all contributing to an evolving picture. This was a fascinating talk about what is so close to us.

The meeting on 15th January 2020 will our AGM with in house speakers and activity. We hope that all members will attend and that volunteers will be found to assist in the running of this lively and enthusiastic group. If you wish to volunteer please contact our chairman Andrew Bilverstone on **812447**.

Mervyn Harvey

UPWOOD CRICKET CLUB



The cricket club held its annual end of season celebration on Saturday 21st at September at the Huntingdon Road ground. Adult and junior members enjoyed bouncy castles, face painting, diamond cricket games, a disco and a hog roast. The junior awards were presented at 3-30 pm and the adults at 7pm. Our President Richard Hyde was unfortunately not able to attend

but we had a more than adequate replacement as the club welcomed none other than the Mayor of Ramsey, Councillor Steve Corney, who did a grand job handing out the trophies. We had over 120 people attending from all ages which is a record for any event at the club.

On the 2nd November we were visited by a number of club members, their friends and families for our annual firework night. The event was a great success with a great display followed by food, drinks and great company.

Neil Tuffin

"GET INVOLVED IN THE BIG CONVERSATION ABOUT HOW WE SHAPE OUR NHS"

Local residents are being encouraged to have their say on the future of local NHS services as part of 'The Big Conversation'. Funding for healthcare across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough is under pressure. More people are using NHS services locally, and resources are limited. At the moment, the local NHS is buying more than it can afford which means that some difficult decisions need to be made about the services it can afford to provide in the future. Find out more about 'The Big Conversation' and local events online at bit.ly/NHSBigConversation"

WHO'S WHO IN THE VILLAGES

| Organisation | Contact | Telephone | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Art Group | Gill Shelford | 812009 | |
| Book Lovers Group | Julia Evans | 711388 | |
| Chairman of Parish Council | Robin Howe | 814393 | |
| 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 Councillors | Jill Tavener / | jill.tavener@huntingdonshire.gov.uk | |
| | Graham Bull | graham.bull@huntingdonshire.gov.uk | |
| HACT: Community Bus | | 01480 411114 | |
| History Group | Andrew Bilverstone | 812447 | |
| 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 | lan Gaunt | 710702 | |
| Ramsey Rural Museum | lan Gaunt | 710702 | |
| Ramsey Tennis Club | Jonny Wicks | 07724 152382 | |
| Seated exercise | 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 | Heather Wakefield | 814432 | |
| Upwood Golf Society | Howard Smith | 711999 | |
| Upwood & Raveley Community Allotments | Liz Carter | 813008 | |
| Upwood and Raveley Community Archive | Ramsey Rural | 815715; treasurer@ramseyrural | |
| | Museum | museum.co.uk | |
| Upwood Academy PTA | Holly Piaggesi | holly321@live.co.uk | |
| UVH Performing Arts Events Shows | Doug McLeod | 814114 | |
| Village Hall Hire | Bob Child | 815475 | |

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:

NEWSLETTER EMAIL ADDRESS upwoodnl@hotmail.co.uk

Deadline for the February 2020 issue is 15th January 2020 The Newsletter can also be viewed and downloaded online: www.upwood.org

Autumnal Fungi & Flowers

Photos courtesy of Esther Rowley (taken as she walks through the parish)

