



Upwood & The Raveleys Newsletter

APRIL 2020 Issue 107

Dear Parishioners,

The information and articles in this edition of the newsletter were accurate as at 17th March 2020.

Owing to the ongoing coronavirus restrictions as well as print and distribution lead times, some information about forthcoming events may well have changed by the time you receive your copy, so please check with individual organisers.

In the immediate future the newsletter team intend to work closely with the voluntary parish covidhelp group and the parish council in providing you with relevant and supportive information.

If we all pull together as a parish I am sure we can provide help to whoever requires it.

Kind regards,

Doug McLeod

Newsletter Committee Chairman

Diary of Events p2

Upwood Primary Academy News p5

Corona Virus VH update p7

Mixology Dance Class p13

Who's Who p15

Parish Council p4

New Bus Service 415 p7

RAF Upwood Development p8-9

Groups & Societies p 3,6, 10-13

Valentine Dance Images p16

DIARY OF EVENTS APRIL 2020 / MAY 2020

Date	Day	Event (subject to government guidelines)	Time	Place / Contact
Weekly	Sun	Church Services: venue, time and type of service varies	Varies	See Church notice board
Weekly	Mon & Fri	Seated Exercise	9.15am	UVH: info@oakactivities.com
Weekly	Wed	Morning Prayer	8.30 – 8.50am	UVH: Jean 813742
Weekly	Wed	Breakfast Club,	9.00am	UVH: Jean 813742
Weekly	Thurs	Ramsey Bridge Club	6.45pm	Bury VH: Paddy 812006
Weekly	Thurs/ Sat & Sun	Ramsey Rural Museum	Varies	Ian 710702
MONTHLY CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES (subject to government guidelines)				
Third Mon of month		Ramsey and District Garden Club	7.30pm	Ramsey CC: Ian 710702
Last Mon of month		Home to Home	7.30pm	UVH: Pauline 814114
Last Tues of month		Craft & Chat	2.00pm	UVH: Heather 814432
Third Wed of alternate months (May onwards)		Local History Group	7.30pm	UVH: Ian 710702
First Sat of month (May onwards)		Meet and Munch	3pm	UVH: Jan 814393
April (subject to government guidelines)				
6 th	Mon	Parish Council meeting	7pm	UVH: Carol 812447
May (subject to government guidelines)				
4 th	Mon	Annual Parish Meeting	6pm	UVH: Carol 812447
4 th	Mon	Annual Parish Council meeting	7pm	UVH: Carol 812447
Forthcoming Events (subject to government guidelines)				
15 th July	Wed	History group- "Reading Between the Lines".	7.30pm	UVH: Ian 710702
24 th July	Fri	"Active Lives" Youth sessions start	10.30am	Carol 812447

Deadline for the June 2020 Newsletter is 15th May 2020
(but we might need to change the format of the newsletter in the light of the need for more regular updates in responding to the current situation)

For the latest up-to-date information re the Coronavirus please use the national website
nhs.uk/coronavirus

Upwood and the Raveleys Covidhelp Group

Parishioners have set up a group of people willing to help
other residents who may require assistance
during the coronavirus restrictions.

To register your interest in helping or to ask for help
please send an email to: covidhelp@upwood.org



Unusually our February meeting was our AGM which
was very well attended

- maybe knowing that all the committee were
standing for re-election was a contributory factor!

At any rate the business was conducted efficiently and a break was taken for refreshments, whilst Veronica Barker & Jo Paxton got the "Food Bank" display organised. We certainly learnt a lot about the way in which the "Food Bank", which is based in St Thomas a Becket Church, operates and is organised. Many of us will be donating even more regularly following Veronica's excellent talk.

The March meeting was planned to be a visit to the HLC factory on the old RAF Upwood site but had to be postponed owing to the Coronavirus precautions. All future meetings are subject to postponement.

For more details of this very friendly club, now in its 40th year, contact Pauline **814114**
or email pndmcleod@btinternet.com

PARISH COUNCIL



Meetings took place on 31st January and 2nd March with an extraordinary meeting primarily to review planning applications on 9th March.

Councillors: There is one vacancy. Please apply to the parish clerk or contact one of the councillors for further information.

SIDS in January: 1 was located in Great Raveley recording traffic approaching from Woodwalton. Of the 16,142 vehicles recorded 32.66% exceeded the 30mph speed limit. 50 vehicles were recorded travelling at speeds between 50 and 60mph.

SID 2 was located by the cricket field entrance on the Huntingdon Road monitoring traffic approaching from Bury. Here 12.39% of 62,919 vehicles were exceeding the 40mph speed limit with 1,844 travelling between 50-60 mph, 44 travelling between 60-71 mph.

SIDS in February: SID 1 was located in Great Raveley recording traffic approaching from Huntingdon road. 14,507 vehicles were recorded with 28.52% exceeding the 30mph speed limit. 630 vehicles registered speeds ranging between 40 - 52 mph.

SID 2 was located by the allotments on Huntingdon road, recording vehicles approaching from Great Raveley. 7.9% of the 49,446 vehicles recorded exceeded the 40mph limit. 126 vehicles were recorded at speeds between 61 and 84 mph.

Councillors will consider potential projects for the Local Highway Improvement Initiative for 2021/2022 at the next meeting.

Community Matters: Arrangements are underway for installation of a defibrillator in the outside porch of the village hall. Plans for training will be confirmed shortly.

Youth Activities: "Active Lives" sessions will take place on Friday mornings from 10:30am to 12:30pm on 24th & 31st July & 7th August on the playing field in Upwood. on 14th, 21st & 28th August sessions will take place on the field at Bury Village Hall. These activities are suitable for children aged between 5 and 14. Local businesses or members of the public who may wish to sponsor one or more of these sessions are invited to contact the parish clerk.

Future Meetings: 6th April, 4th May (Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parish Council Meeting). 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 Silverstone. Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer

UPWOOD PRIMARY ACADEMY



We had a fantastic time celebrating World Book Day. Our children dressed up as their favourite book characters and took part in lots of story-based activities. Y4 made Paddington Bear pictures and Y3 worked in pairs to write their own stories. Y6 also got creative, producing comic books thinking about the title, speech bubbles, captions, cartoons and different sections of the comic. Y6 are now looking forward to reading their comics to their Foundation buddies! We also ran a decorate your door competition, with each class turning their door into a scene from a book. We had some amazing entries including The Tiger Who Came to Tea and Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory.

Congratulations to Y2 who had the winning door with Wind in the Willows.

It was wonderful to see the children so inspired and enthusiastic about reading. Thank you to all our families who helped create such imaginative outfits.

Y3 have been looking at their Design and Technology Cooking unit this month. Exploring food groups and categorising different types of foods humans need to grow to be strong and stay healthy. They worked in groups to create an 'Eat Well Plate', identifying which foods were protein, carbohydrate, fat, dairy or fruit and vegetables. They also blind tested different bread thinking about the smell, texture and taste of the product. They then had to guess which bread was which. They are now planning to make their own bread, using everything they have learnt.

The Thomas Deacon Education Trust schools came together to raise money for the NSPCC. We were very excited to take part in the Numbers Day to raise funds and awareness for the cause as well as building our children's understanding of numbers. Throughout the day our children created some fantastic drawings for the trust-wide competition, took part in numbers-themed lessons and even wore clothes with numbers on and Y4 also made some fantastic number collages. A special congratulation to one of our Y4 pupils who won a commendation for her 'collage of numbers', based on 57 Varieties of Heinz.

Our Y1 children have been reading Handa's Surprise as part of their 'On Safari' topic. They made delicious kebabs using the fruits from the story and enjoyed tasting exotic fruits that some had never tried before!

Y4 studied electricity with Mr Duddridge (Primary Science Champion) and really enjoyed learning through lots of fun practical experiments!

Our Foundation class continued with their scientific investigative skills this month to see if they could make a paper clip float. They began by thinking that metal was heavy and it would always sink, but soon realised that boats are made of metal too. The children displayed lots of perseverance and thinking skills and with the introduction of a piece of tissue paper their ideas grew, some of them even managed to make the paper clip float!

Rachel Allerton

UPWOOD AND THE RAVELEYS HISTORY GROUP

We held our AGM in January and contacts are now Ian Gaunt as Chairman and Steve Lamb as Secretary, Judith Harvey continues as Treasurer. Our future programme organisers are Mike Quincey, Julia Evans and Mervyn Harvey.

After the AGM an interesting in-house evening followed as some of our members had provided photographs of '*something of meaning*' to them, setting the photographs in context with a brief commentary. The very varied subjects included wartime family photographs; early photos of Upwood homes and businesses that still have links to current Upwood residents; photos of a fishing port and fishing fleet as it was in the late 1800s that had a series of family connections and photos of two peaceful local bridges in south east Europe which featured as flashpoints for wars – one quite recent. This proved to be a fascinating evening, particularly so when a photo could be amplified and put into context by personal experience.

Subject to future government guidelines, the next meeting will be on 20th May when Jeff Hawley will be talking about the US Air Force at Brampton and surrounding area at the time of WWII. Then, in a complete change of direction, on 15th July Liz Carter will be investigating the records of St Peters here in Upwood in "Reading Between the Lines". The group will also be visiting Kimbolton School and Castle on 27th May.

We welcome new members and occasional visitors. Membership is £10 for the year with visitors paying £4 per session, inclusive of refreshments.

Mervyn Harvey

PANCAKE COFFEE MORNING



The pancake coffee morning took place during the half term week and what a great morning we had. From the time we opened at 10.30am until midday, there was a constant flow of people, children and pushchairs. Everyone enjoyed not only the refreshments and lovely pancakes but also the handbag stall, the bring and buy book stall and, of course, the tempting cake stall.

There was a table specifically set up with activities for our younger visitors to explore and be creative, offering opportunities for colouring, cutting and card making. Modelling with playdough and giant Lego proved quite a hit with the toddlers. We had 2 types of delicious pancakes with many fillings to choose from, and all the children were invited to toss the pancake from its pan – great fun!

This enjoyable morning raised £249 for the church funds. A big thank you to all our helpers, and those who donated raffle prizes and cakes, making this event possible.

Anne-Marie Cracknell

DEWS' BUS SERVICE 415



Did you know that this service exists, because the editors didn't until they were told about it by one of our readers? The service was introduced in January and is on a 4-month trial, ending in April. It runs from Upwood to Peterborough, once a week, on a Wednesday. Leaving at 9.45am and arriving at Peterborough at 10:53am. It leaves

Peterborough at 13:30pm, giving travellers about 2½ hours in Peterborough. However, if you need more time you can always return on the 'normal' service, via Whittlesey. The timing means that senior citizens can use their bus pass!

The route starts in Upwood High Street, opposite the church, and turns up Meadow Road, (the safest place to wait is by the entrance to the allotments) but it seems that the driver is willing to pick up passengers anywhere safe along the basic route through the village. Very few people have taken advantage of this service and unless numbers increase it is very likely that the service will cease at the end of the trial period, so if this service is going to be retained villagers will need to use it quickly.

The timetable can be found at: <https://bustimes.org/services/415-peterborough-upwood-2>

UPWOOD AND THE RAVELEYS VILLAGE HALL

CORONA VIRUS PRECAUTIONS

The Village Hall Management Committee and Trustees have recognised that the Village Hall, in common with every other public amenity, is a place where there is a potential for person to person transmission of the Coronavirus. We are committed to reducing the risk by whatever measures are available to us. Our cleaner has already taken the initiative to give special attention to cleaning door handles and other contact surfaces. Regrettably, we are unable source hand sanitiser products and would urge visitors to bring, and use, their own. We do have plenty of hand washing facilities.

Unless the Government directs otherwise, we intend to keep the hall available for use. Obviously, it is up to user groups to decide how to proceed with their own events and for individuals to decide if to attend bearing in mind whether they would be particularly vulnerable to the effects of the virus if they were to become infected.

Please help us to protect each other and ourselves by following published guidelines with particular attention to hand washing and sanitising. Please do not visit the hall if you are unwell and if you do become unwell shortly after a visit please inform your group organiser and/or the Village Hall Committee.

The situation is evolving very rapidly and may have changed by the time you read this. Thank you.

Geoff Carrington, Trustee/ Steve Howes, Chairman

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF RAF UPWOOD

We thought that our readers would be interested in seeing some of the plans for the Phase 1 development of 160 new dwellings at RAF Upwood & Upwood Hill House (the old station commander's house). We are grateful to Evera Homes LLP for giving us permission to print these pictorial representations and plans. Full documentation and plans can be viewed on the Planning Applications pages of Huntingdonshire District Council's website.

*Proposed design of housing as at **A** on the plan opposite*



*Proposed design of housing as at **B** on the plan opposite.*

ST. PETER'S CHURCH

There is no doubt that at long last Spring is on its way. The churchyard has been a colourful picture, with a wonderful display of snowdrops and early daffodils and has recently had its first grass cut of the year. Best of all, the wonderful tubs which have been nurtured by Peter Haddon during the winter are back in place, lining the church path. Some of the tight buds have been brave enough to break open, bringing the scent of hyacinths back.

St Peter's held an extremely successful Pancake coffee morning a week early to coincide with half-term which leads us into the Lent period. The weekly Breakfast Club, which follows a short service of Morning Prayer on Wednesday mornings, has been suspended until further notice, as have the popular Lent Lunches.

However, probably the most important event this March was the retirement of the Rector Canon Richard Darmody. Richard has looked after the three Churches in the Benefice for the last 20 plus years. With his commitment many changes have taken place and he leaves the Benefice in a very strong position. The alterations to St Thomas a Becket Church, with a new kitchen, toilets and access ramp, are a wonderful and well used addition, and the church is now a centre for the Foodbank, which has encouraged more people to join the Church community. We at St Peters will miss both Richard and June very much and look forward to hearing from them in their new home in Ely; I am sure that they will find an exciting new life ahead of them.

Until a new appointment is made, St Peter's will be led by the Churchwardens with the Revs Fred and Valerie Kilner and Vicki Latter taking the services, if they are allowed to be held. Please check the church noticeboard for further information. We look forward to meeting the new Rector in the fullness of time.

Josephine Paxton

UPWOOD ART GROUP



With much regret the Art Group has had to close after two decades. Over the years we have had many members, some from the village and others from further away. The group was founded by Frances Ashfield and under her dynamic leadership members of the group went on several painting holidays to the Norfolk coast as well as holding regular exhibitions.

There is however one positive. Several of the current members are joining with the Craft and Chat Group (formally The Quilt Group) which meets each month on the last Tuesday, in the village hall, when it is hoped that former Art Group members will continue meeting to enjoy their love of painting.

Gill Shelford

UPWOOD & RAVELEYS COMMUNITY ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION



At the time of writing, the allotments do not look particularly inspiring, having been lashed by the dreadful storms of last month. The soil is saturated and allotment holders have needed to tread carefully in order not to slip and slide on the track leading up the hill. Plastic sheeting has been placed on several plots to cover the soil, as this method of planting proved popular last year and certainly saved folks from the task of heavy digging and eliminating the necessity to weed. Some determined, hardy allotmenters prepared their soil well in the autumn and are now adding fertiliser to improve their plot before planting. I have noticed several clumps of rhubarb venturing their red stalks and leaves above the surface, having benefited from the heavy rainfall.

The raised beds in the orchard area are looking fresh and colourful, especially with the planting of miniature daffodils. More compost needs to be applied soon to bulk out the beds. Unfortunately, some walkers are taking shortcuts across the orchard area in order to avoid the soggy track, so temporary fencing has been erected to protect the area.

We are delighted to announce that a new noticeboard made from recycled plastic has been erected just inside the entrance to the allotments on Meadow Road. Funded by a grant from Ramsey Community Benefit Fund and sourced through Fitzpatrick Woolmer Ltd in Kent, local gardener and landscaper, Andy Davis, with the willing support of Ali Miles and Tim Carter, erected it during dreadful weather. Our thanks go to them all for their great efforts! The noticeboard is well positioned allowing notices to be viewed in weatherproof housing. The current key holder for displaying updates is Liz Carter.



Lesley Owen

CRAFT & CHAT



February saw Upwood Art Group joining the members of Craft and Chat in the Village Hall at our usual meeting time of 2.00pm on the last Tuesday of the month. This initiative seemed to work, so fingers crossed for a successful amalgamation of the two clubs.

Craft and Chat is open to anyone who enjoys “creating” in a wide range of media. We are always looking for new ideas and welcome new members and visitors with several cups of tea or coffee, biscuits or cakes and lots of friendly banter. So why not bring along your latest project to our next meeting in the village hall and see for yourselves.

Pauline McLeod



The Museum was due to open on the 4th April. However, due to current government guide lines this will not happen. For further information on future events and opening times please contact Ian Gaunt 710702; ian.gaunt@care4free.net

To maintain the site and the displays and to run the museum and events during the summer we need more volunteers. We can utilise any skills. Our most urgent need is for volunteers for staffing the museum when it is open at the weekends. Training for these roles will be given. The aim is that no individual will be called on more than once a month and whatever time that you can give will be welcome.

In addition, there are a number of specific roles that we need to fill:

- A museum chairman/ manager –mainly a communications role
- A treasurer to keep an overview of the finances and report to the trustees, the day to day cash flow and payments are dealt with by other volunteers
- A team to maintain and manage the marquees that we use for various events
- A volunteer to assist with running events
- A volunteer to monitor and arrange grants from various sources

Why not come along and talk to us and maybe join the friendly group of volunteers.

If you would like further information about any of the events or volunteering please contact Ian Gaunt 710702; ian.gaunt@care4free.net

RAMSEY AND DISTRICT GARDEN CLUB



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 7.30 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 (RHS) gardens. This year we hope to visit the RHS at Hyde Hall. We welcome non-members to join us for this visit.

The talk in February was by Peter Walker entitled 'Wild Flowers in Cambridgeshire'. In March the talk was on 'Death in the Garden' by Michael Brown. This was an interesting talk on the various types of poisonous plants that we commonly find in the garden. Future meetings are cancelled for the time being because of the current situation.

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

MIXOLOGY DANCE CLASSES



A dance class is coming to Upwood Village Hall and as always, the newsletter team wanted to bring you the news 'hot off the press' so that you can take advantage of this

fun way to keep active and fit.

The class is going to be led by Michaela Walker, IDTA and I asked her a few questions to find out more about this exciting opportunity. The first question was **"What sort of dance classes will you be offering?"** *"Ballroom & Latin beginner classes and Modern Jive beginner classes. No experience is necessary, total beginners are very welcome as well as those who have some dancing experience. It's always best to wear dance shoes or leather soled shoes as they will allow you to spin and glide on the floor. Trainers or anything with a rubber sole are definitely a 'non-starter'. However please don't buy shoes for the taster session but try to find a pair that will be suitable for your first foray".*

My next question related to **paying for the classes**. Michaela was quick to point out that classes are *"Pay As You Go. There is no need to book in advance, you can just turn up on the night. In both classes I ask that everyone rotates partners throughout the lesson. This means that you can turn up on your own or with a partner. If you would rather stay with your partner throughout the session just let me know. It's not a problem, but from my experience it's like the blind leading the blind."*

The taster session was going to be on Thursday 9th April at Upwood Village Hall: Beginners Waltz from 7pm-8pm and Beginners Modern Jive from 8.15pm-9.15pm. Each class will cost £6, but if you are really keen you pay just £10 for both classes. **However, with the coronavirus situation Michaela has delayed the taster session until the situation improves. Watch this space for future details.**

RAMSEY BRIDGE CLUB



Pictured are Lainey Holden and Paddy Slater with the Jessop Jug, which they were presented with earlier this year. It is presented by the Ramsey Bridge Club committee to the pair who have improved the most against their handicap during the year - so well done Upwood residents Laine & Paddy for consistently playing so well. The bridge club meets at Bury VH every Thursday evening at 6.45pm to play duplicate bridge. It is a small friendly club with the number of tables varying from 4 to a maximum of 8 on any one evening. New members are always welcome but, you do need a partner.

For further information contact **Paddy on 812006.**

KEEP OUR PARISH TIDY



Great Raveley resident Kym Bannister became so upset about the amount of discarded rubbish that litters the road verges on his walks from Lodge Farm to the village, he decided to do something about it. For two hours over six days he cleared the rubbish from a mile and a quarter of the country lane, collecting and sorting a huge amount, twice filling both his

blue and grey recycling bins and also loading up his trailer to take the rest to the local tip, as the council informed him that it was unable to collect rubbish that had not been collected from a pre- arranged community collection!

Sadly, a month on Kym has collected and filled another full bag, from just a third of the distance. Councillor Jean Noble has been doing similar clear-ups in Upwood village and is constantly concerned at the amount of rubbish she collects.

On behalf of all local residents, the editorial team wishes to thank Kym and Jean for their dedicated (and in Kym's case costly work as he lost a contact lens in the process) trying to keep our parish's countryside clean.

Please bin rubbish in your own back yard (and bins) – not nature's – and encourage others to do the same.



STAGECOACH BUSWAY CHANGES

We have been informed that Stagecoach is to alter their Busway services at the end of March 2020. Full details of what the changes actually mean can be found by following this link: https://www.stagecoachbus.com/media-library/files/east/busway_-_we_re_adjusting_our_timetables_-_leaflet_website.pdf?la=en

PLEASE HELP YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS AS MUCH AS YOU CAN DURING THE CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK.

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 / Graham Bull	jill.tavener@huntingdonshire.gov.uk graham.bull@huntingdonshire.gov.uk
HACT: Community Bus		01480 411114
History Group	Ian Gaunt	710702
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	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	Heather Wakefield	814432
Upwood Golf Society	Howard Smith	711999
Upwood & Raveley Community Allotments	Liz Carter	813008
Upwood and Raveley Community Archive	Ramsey Rural Museum	815715; treasurer@ramseyrural museum.co.uk
Upwood Academy	Rachel Allerton	Rachel.Allerton@athene- communications.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 June 2020 issue is 15th May 2020

The Newsletter can also be viewed and downloaded online: www.upwood.org



**St Valentine's Day
Speakeasy Dance
at
Upwood Village
Hall
with
10 O'Clock Curfew**

