

## Who is who in the Villages

	Contact	Telephone
Parish Council inc. Allotments	Jane Haggar	711129
District Councillor	Terry Bell	813799
County Councillor	Victor Lucas	822812
Horticultural Society	Ian Gaunt	710702
History Group	Ian Gaunt	710702
55+	Chris Bruce	812327
Cricket Club	Pat Tuffin	812785
St. Peter's Church	Tony Place	813742
Ladies Get Together	Josie Gaunt	710702
Upwood School PTA	Jane Day	710362
Upwood School Playgroup	Angie Dean	830373
Upwood's Out (after school club)	Debbie Ayres	711118
Embroidery Group	Jane Slinn	815951
Brownies	Louise Jackson	814844
Toddler's Group	Catherine Tuffin	812924
Meet and Munch	Mags Dudley	812424
Upwood Youth Club	Denise Smith	711735
Art Group	Frances Ashfield	711411
Cross Keys Golf Society	Malcolm Hudson	711221
Upwood Pantomime Society	Fiona Bennett	719847
Community Bus Co-ordinator	Ivan Youds	814645
Village Hall Hire	Bob Child	815475
Village Fete Committee	Frances Ashfield	711411
Upwood Business Association	Deana Hudson	711221
Sunday Club	Ann-Marie Cracknell	812195
Table Tennis Club	David Williams	812923
Ramsey Bridge Club	B & A Quinton	813349
Ramsey Choral Society	June Green	813562
Upwood Quilters	Deana Hudson	711221
Upwood Road Safety Group	Graham Hillman	711407
Upwood and the Raveleys Community Archive	Margaret Jones	814031
W.E.A	Liz Carter	813008

**Note:** Deadline for the February issue is the 20<sup>th</sup> January.

The Editor is very diligent but regrets that he cannot accept responsibility for any inaccuracies or omissions.

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## Upwood & The Raveleys Newsletter

December 2008 Number 39

### Editorial

At this time with sleet sliding down the window beside me I think of all those hardy people who go out in all weathers to deliver this newsletter. Thank you all. All this effort would be wasted if no one contributed pieces for inclusion. My thanks to all the contributors. I also appreciate the service provided by Micromac Printers who always print, collate and staple each edition within my deadlines.

The Newsletter team hope that you all have a peaceful and enjoyable Christmas and hope that the New Year will bring good news.

### Be Warned.....

**If, in the run up to Christmas particularly, you receive a card through your door or an e-mail from Parcel Delivery Service (PDS) indicating that you have a parcel awaiting delivery and asking you to call 0906 661 1911 for delivery..... DON'T. It is a scam originated in Belize. Calling the number will cost you £15.**

### PLOPS !

In the past this newsletter has carried polite notices for dog owners to conform with the law and take their dogs' doings home, or put them in a litter bin. This has had no effect on the perpetrators - and even worse - someone who picks up her dog doings in a plastic bag - and then leaves it on the grass in front of the Chairman to the Parish Council's home. So when we obtain evidence there will be no warning given, the Council will proceed straight to prosecution.

### UPWOOD TABLE TENNIS CLUB

This club's members have a great time on Tuesday's in the Village Hall from 8 - 10 pm. There is room for new members, especially beginners so call David Williams on 812923 for details.

### Thanks

Generous donations to the NCH Action for Children and the Salvation Army in the recent house to house collections in Upwood raised more than last year.

NCH.....£251.55                      Salvation Army.....£128.25

Both charities have expressed their thanks to the donors and for the efforts of the collectors.

### Parish Council Matters

At the November meeting the main topics discussed centred on tidying up parts of the Parish. The cemetery hedge will be cut back and lowered. The older part of the cemetery will have brambles and ivy cleared from graves and headstones. The chapel

of rest will receive some urgently needed maintenance and some minor repairs made to the toddlers play area. There will also be some definition of the boundary of the allotments at Great Raveley. It was agreed that financial support for grass cutting in the churchyard would continue for another year. The Council was sorry to be advised that Mrs. Fiona Hopkins felt obliged to resign because she had too many other commitments. It was agreed that a replacement would be sought.

### **UPWOOD QUILTING GROUP**

We held our first Quilt Show and Cream Tea afternoon on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October in Upwood Village Hall. The Group has been going since May 2004 and we have a membership of 20. We are a totally self taught group and we meet in Upwood Village Hall on the last Tuesday in the month from 7 - 9 pm.

A suggestion was made to put on an 'Exhibition of Work' but everyone said that they hadn't made enough to exhibit. Oh how wrong they were, any visitor to this exhibition would have disagreed with them. The hall walls were groaning under the weight of the most wonderful colourful quilts and wall hangings and the tables were covered with fantastic handicrafts all made by members of the Group.

Each member made a quilt block that was then made into a large quilt. This was raffled at the end of the Exhibition. The winner was a lady who lives in Ramsey who was so excited that she had won.

In total there were over 70 visitors to the Exhibition on a very rainy afternoon. We were helped by Emilie and Mariette Cracknell who were on the door for us. They are pupils at Abbey College in Ramsey and they are trying to raise money for their trip to India. We were very happy to support them in this aim.

As the event was such a success plans are already afoot to put on another show.

For more information please contact Deana Hudson on 01487 711221

### **Home to Home**

Members enjoyed a lively enrolment evening in September at the start of a new Home to Home year. "Bags of Mystery" proved not only to be a murder mystery evening but a very funny game and which everyone who joined in had great fun.

The November meeting was entitled "Cuddly Wuddly Chocolate which sounds sinful. December is the time for the Christmas Party, sadly not open to visitors as most other meetings are. In January Phil and Noreen Evans will give a presentation entitled "Out and About". In February there will be a "Hands on Creative Evening". A little bird hinted that it may involve pottery and painting.

Visitors and new members are always welcome so why not come along one evening and meet the members.

Contact Chair Josie Gaunt on 01487 710702 for information..

### **PARISH COUNCILLORS - Names and Telephone numbers**

Colin Racey.....812380	David Paine.....814350	Terry Bell.....813799
Andrew Perkins..812826	Keith Sisman.....710552	Nigel Gowler....812742
James Rignall.....813371	Jo Paxton.....812138	Terry Bell.....813799
David McCreadie..812831		

### **Christmas in Upwood**

The annual Christmas Carol sing around the Villages will be on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup>

December so make sure that you are at home. The carol singers will meet outside the Cross Keys in the High Street for a 6.30 pm start. At the invitation of Jane and Kevin, our last port of call, we will be singing in the Cross Keys bar at around 9.00 pm. Judith and Mervyn Harvey have once again invited us to their home for refreshments at the end of the evening. Money from the collections will go to local Cancer Car. On Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December at 6.30 pm there will be a carol service in St. Peter's Church. This will be 7 lessons and carols. The organist will be Richard Batty and he will bring with him the Hepman Grove Singers. There will also be a contribution from the handbell team. A special order of service will be provided, as it was last year. So do go along and enjoy this traditional seasonal event.

On Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> December there will be a carol service at The Manor House at 6.15 pm. There will be an order of service available, including carols, and Moyra Muncer will be playing her keyboard. Any vocal support would be welcomed.

And finally, on Christmas Day, there will be a short family service in St. Peter's Church at 9.30 am. The service should last no more than forty minutes.

### **Interested ?**

The Parish Council has a vacancy for a new member who can be co-opted subject to approval by the Councillors. If you would like to be considered please contact the Chairman on 814350 or the Clerk, Jane Haggart on 711129

All that you need is an interest in the affairs of the village and time for the monthly meeting in the village hall. Held on the first Monday in each month at 7.30 pm, meetings are usually closed by 9 pm. Think about it.

### **A Worthy Cause - The 1940s Weekend**

This annual event has grown in popularity since its inception and gets visitors from far outside the county. But - the whole event is managed by only a few people, and this year Brian Cunningham resigned as Chairman after holding that post since the beginning. Previous mentions in the newsletter have resulted in one resident volunteering to join the committee, but several more would make the organisation of this event much easier. Apart from the committee vacancies, next years event will require a team of volunteers to help set up and dismantle the sit. We don't want to lose this popular event, do we? So would you spend a little time during the winter thinking about supporting the 1940s Weekend. Contact the Editor or ring Brian Cunningham on 710680.

### **UPWOOD 55 PLUS**

Starting off our new season a harvest lunch was held in the Village hall. It was inappropriate to sing "All is Safely Gathered in" as harvest had barely started. However we were entertained by our very own Doug McLeod. We look forward to having Doug, hopefully with Geoff, perform at our Christmas lunch.

Where has the summer gone? See you with our new members soon.

**October** – it is still all happening – a most interesting talk on the work of MAGPAS. MAGPAS is a lifesaving volunteer organisation and has doctors and medics who attend road traffic accidents and other emergencies. The talk was given by Mark Clingo, himself saved after suffering one of these accidents and now most grateful to them.

Nearly a full house in November looking forward to the visit of the Ramsey WI Drama group and their forthcoming production for the Christmas season. What talent!! If John Sergeant

needs a new dance partner, for a future Strictly Come Dancing, look no further. All great fun and as ever so much enjoyed. Thank you again ladies.  
The next excitement is the Christmas lunch at the cross Keys, resulting from all our fund raising efforts. Well done.



### Voices calling

On Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December a group of villagers will be singing Christmas Carols round Upwood. This year we will be raising money for men's cancer services (having raised £1,475 over the past five years for cancer care). We will stop at intervals and knock on doors to let you know that we are there, sing a carol and collect any donations. If anyone would like to join the carollers please ring Mags Dudley on 812424 or e-mail [g.mdudley@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:g.mdudley@tiscali.co.uk) because we need singers and collectors. The money raised will go directly to men's cancer treatment in this area. Thank you. Mags Dudley

### Upwood Art Group.

On December 13<sup>th</sup> The Cross Keys will be the venue for the group's annual Christmas lunch, after which we take a break to make way for the panto in the village hall. We meet every Saturday morning from 10 to 12 at the Village Hall during the winter although in fine weather we paint outdoors at various locations. Occasionally meetings are extended and we work til 2 or 3 in the afternoon and we have one or two Open Days during the winter. There is a trip to the Summer Exhibition of the Royal Academy and we always visit the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge and enjoy lunch at Browns before visiting the Botanic Gardens. Not sure which of the three is the reason that it becomes a 'regular'. Transport is shared where necessary and we park and ride to Cambridge. The group co-hosts Art Exhibition at the Ramsey Rural Museum in the summer too, so a variety of activities throughout the year. Busy life? No time for yet another commitment? Come along one morning in the New Year for a "taster" and see just how relaxing and enjoyable painting and drawing can be. There is always a supply of paints and papers for visitors to try, so no need to buy and it won't cost you a fortune - just £2 a session with tea and coffee included. A bargain! And please don't think that you can't draw a straight line - we have rulers! One to one teaching is available. Contact Frances Ashfield on 711411 for more information.

### RAMSEY AND DISTRICT GARDEN CLUB

The November meeting enjoyed a talk by Tim Sparks from Monks Wood who told us about Robert Marsham, a 17<sup>th</sup> century naturalist. As well as being 'mad about trees' and travelling over much of the UK and Europe, Marsham started carefully recording natural phenomena such as the first leafing of trees and the appearance of various species. He also established reliable ways of measuring the growth of trees. Since similar records are still maintained it allows long term comparisons to be made.

There will be no meeting of the Club in December. The first meeting of 2009 will be about the growing of Alpines, by Angela Whiting of Darcy and Everest of Somersham. This will be on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January at the Rainbow Centre Ramsey. Having visited her nursery we know that she is extremely knowledgeable and it promises to be a good meeting. The February 16<sup>th</sup> meeting will again be at the Rainbow Centre when Thomas Bedford will tell about the making of compost. Meetings start at 7.30 pm and visitors are welcome.

If you want more information call Ian Gaunt on 710702

### Meet & Munch

Please note that for the following dates Meet and Munch will be at lunchtime, 1 pm in the Upwood Village Hall: 6<sup>th</sup> December, 7<sup>th</sup> February 2009. There is no meeting in January 2009 because the hall is taken by the Pantomime.-

Are you an Upwood & Raveley resident, aged 55 and over? Why not come along for tea and chat with our friendly group .

Please contact Mags Dudley 812424 or Jean Place 813742 for further information.

### Volunteering is good for you!

Contact: Ann Bunting Ramsey, Warboys & District Volunteer Centre, Methodist Hall High Street Ramsey Cambridgeshire PE26 1AA Tel: 01487 814117

E-

mail: [volunteers@ramvol.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:volunteers@ramvol.fsnet.co.uk)

Opening Times 10am – 12 noon Monday - Thursday Don't delay – Volunteer Today!

### Ramsey Choral Society

Ramsey Choral Society Christmas Concert with pupils from Upwood Primary School and Ramsey Junior School will be performing at St. Thomas a Becket in Ramsey on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 7.15 pm. Tickets are £8 (£6 for concessions) and are obtainable from Carousel in Great Whyte, Ramsey (Tel:813562) or via the school if you have performing children.

For more information please visit our web site, [www.ramseychoral.org](http://www.ramseychoral.org), or telephone June on 01487 813562 or 07703 192967

### Ramsey Rotary Club Christmas Float

The float will be in Fairmead and Upwood Road Bury on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December and in Farm Close and Upwood Village on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December.

### Upwood and the Raveleys History Group.

A meeting held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November was addressed by Bob Burns-Murdock, the curator of the Norris Museum in St. Ives. His talk was entitled "The History of St. Ives". It took the form of a walk through Victorian St. Ives with the aid of some wonderful period photographs. It was made much more interesting by modern photographs of the same views showing how much of the architecture is essentially unchanged.

The next meeting of the group is a post Christmas dinner for members in January. The AGM will be held in the Village Hall at 7.45 pm on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March and will be followed by a

talk on the Ramsey Rural Museum by David Yardley.  
 The meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> May will feature Ian Burton exploring Papworth Villages.  
 The Archive Group will hold meetings at the Cross Keys in the months when there is no History Group meeting, I.e. 18<sup>th</sup> February, 15<sup>th</sup> April and 17<sup>th</sup> June.  
 The History Group has printed the transcriptions of Upwood Parish Registers from 1700 to 1812. These transcriptions represent a mass of work by members of the Group. A copy has been placed with the Huntingdon Records Office and another will be presented to St.Peter's Church. If anyone wishes to consult these records a copy is held by Ian Gaunt (Tel:710702). Visitors are welcome to our meetings. We are a friendly group. For more information call Ian Gaunt on 710702.

## Sunday Club



**2<sup>nd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month (9.30-10.30am)**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month as a family Service**

We want to invite any children who want to join us in the Nativity play on December 21st. I am still collecting coke cans; we are sending donations to Romania for a children's hospice dealing with HIV+ children. Those children have very little and showing our love gives them strength and hope. So thank you for collecting and bringing your aluminium cans to me. (back door of 106 High St, Upwood) AM Cracknell 01487 812195

### Cross Keys Special Nights

19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> December Christmas party Nights 3 course dinner and dance £30 per head  
 Booking ahead is always advisable and a deposit is required for the Christmas Party Nights.  
 Please call Jane to book, check menus and enquiries. Telephone: 813384

### New Year New Challenge An ideal Christmas Present

Adult Community learning is running courses in the Ramsey area from 12<sup>th</sup> January, in the following subjects:

<i>Belly Dancing</i>	<i>Ballroom</i>	<i>Salsa</i>	<i>Yoga</i>
<i>Pottery</i>	<i>Stained Glass</i>	<i>D.I.Y</i>	<i>Astronomy</i>
<i>Flower arranging</i>	<i>Furniture restoration</i>		<i>Jewellery-making</i>
<i>Spanish</i>	<i>Mandarin Chinese</i>		<i>Painting &amp; drawing</i>
<i>Digital Photography</i>	<i>Indian cookery</i>		<i>British sign language</i>
<i>Computing made easy</i>	<i>and many more</i>		

For more information or to enrol contact our office at Abbey College Ramsey between 10am and 2 pm Monday to Thursday. Telephone 01487 811338 or 812352  
 e-mail: [acl@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:acl@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk)  
 website [www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk/commed](http://www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk/commed)

### Upwood & the Raveleys Website – [www.upwood.org](http://www.upwood.org)

This has now been updated to include a short Photo Tour of the villages as well as a

Parish Council webpage where you can download minutes of previous meetings. This newsletter can also be downloaded from the website. A History section will be added shortly with a selection of old photos and links to related sites. If you have ideas for further improvements please contact the webmaster: [webmaster@upwood.org](mailto:webmaster@upwood.org) play at the end of the year.

### Chris Newman & Maire Ni Chathasaigh - Concert at the Village Hall

On Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November a packed village hall was treated to the brilliant, innovative harping of Máire Ní Chathasaigh, Irish Traditional Musician of the Year 2001, and the astonishing virtuosity and versatility of English guitar wizard Chris Newman. The concert was arranged through the Arts in Cambs on Tour scheme [act] which aims to support rural communities who wish to see professional performances taking place in their villages.

The hall was able to use its new tiered seating, demountable staging and stage lighting to excellent effect, providing a theatre-like experience for the audience who were held enthralled by the beautiful music. Many thanks to all the volunteers who helped make this evening such a success.

We hope this is the first of many such performances to be staged in the village hall as we would like to put on a variety of performing arts events (music, drama, dance etc) to suit all ages and tastes. If you would like to become part of an informal group which helps to select future events, or you would like to be put on the e-mailing list to hear about future events, please make contact via: [webmaster@upwood.org](mailto:webmaster@upwood.org).



#### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Sat.	6 <sup>th</sup> December	Meet and Munch in the Village Hall at 1.00 pm Choral Society Christmas Concert Ramsey Parish Church
Tue	9 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas carollers around the village
Wed.	10 <sup>th</sup> December	Upwood Business Association Christmas Lunch
Sat	13 <sup>th</sup> December	Art Group Christmas Lunch
Mon.	15 <sup>th</sup> December	Home to Home Christmas Party
Fri	19 <sup>th</sup> December	Cross Keys Christmas Dinner and Dance.
Sat	20 <sup>th</sup> December	Cross Keys Christmas Dinner and Dance.
Sun	21 <sup>st</sup> December	Carol service in St.Peter's Church
Wed	24 <sup>th</sup> December	Carol service in The Manor House
Wed	31 <sup>st</sup> December	Cross Keys New Years Eve Party buffet, supper & dance
Mon	19 <sup>th</sup> January	Garden Club meeting
Mon	26 <sup>th</sup> January	Home to Home Out & About - Natural Beauty of the British Isles
Wed	28 <sup>th</sup> January	start of the Pantomime season
Mon	16 <sup>th</sup> February	Garden Club meeting
Mon	23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Home to Home Hands-On evening of painting and drawing
Wed	18 <sup>th</sup> March	History Group AGM and talk
Mon	30 <sup>th</sup> March	Home to Home "Colour me beautiful"
Sun	7 <sup>th</sup> June 2009	Upwood "Open Gardens" and Flower Festival
Sat	13 <sup>th</sup> June 2009	Upwood School Annual Ball
Sat	20 <sup>th</sup> June 2009	Upwood Village Fete
Sat	25 <sup>th</sup> July 2009	Horticultural Society Annual Show,

#### **Upwood & The Raveleys Community Archive Group**

The Archive Group is now two years old. The Cambridge Community Archive Network

(CCAN) has come a long way since its inception. It now includes 50 groups spread right across the county and has over 14,000 items on the website. [www.ccan.co.uk](http://www.ccan.co.uk)

**Upwood Group** have two specific projects under way: a quiz to exercise your little grey cells and plans to record life in our villages over one year.

The quiz will be on sale from mid November for £1. The questions are about the local area, general and photo questions about Upwood and The Raveleys and others that need to be looked up on the website. If you can't use the website don't worry, one of the group will be happy to show you the ropes on the computer in the "Cross Keys". To buy quizzes or ask for computer help contact Judith Harvey on 710219 or Margaret Jones on 814031. The deadline for completing the quiz is 31<sup>st</sup> of January 2009 so you have plenty of time to finish it off when things go quiet after Christmas.

**Record of Village Life.** The Archive Network was set up to digitally preserve a record of village life past and present. The Upwood and The Raveleys Group hope to follow and photograph life in our villages throughout 2009. Everything from big events, seasonal changes, to every day happenings. This is our attempt to preserve for the future a record of 2009 - history in the making. Members of the group hope to take pictures when and where we can but would also like help from everyone in recording what happens throughout the year. If it works we will have a display in the Village Hall.

#### **JANE AUSTEN'S WORLD -**

Upwood WEA Branch (Workers' Educational Association - a charity organisation) - the tutor is the well known Fiona Lucraft. The course starts on 4th February 2009 for 8 weeks, on a Wednesday evening 8pm - 9.30pm with a coffee break. The fee is £38 for the full 8 weeks (no concessions but anyone in receipt of income-based benefit or dependent upon someone who is, is entitled to a free place). The course is held at the Upwood Village Hall and everyone will be most welcome to attend. We shall be exploring Jane Austen's world through her novels and her life and times. The novels used for this course will be "Sense and Sensibility", "Persuasion" and "Pride and Prejudice". This course will appeal to anyone who loves her novels or the films adapted from her books

For further information or to put you name down for the course call Liz Carter on 01487 813008 or e-mail: [liz@backtracks.biz](mailto:liz@backtracks.biz)

