

Who's who in the Villages

Art Group
Book Lovers Group
Brownies
Community Bus Co-ordinator
County Councillor
Cricket Club
Cross Keys Golf Society
District Councillor
Embroidery Group
55+
History Group
Home to Home
Horticultural Society
Meet and Munch
Parish Council inc. Allotments
Ramsey Bridge Club
Ramsey Choral Society
Ramsey Rural Museum
Speed Watch
St. Peter's Church
St. Peter's Handbells
Small to Tall (Upwood School Clubs)
Sunday Club
Table Tennis Club
Upwood Business Association
Upwood Quilters
Upwood School PTA
Upwood School Playgroup
Upwood Pantomime Society
Upwood and the Raveleys Community Archive
Village Hall Hire
Village Fete Committee
W.E.A

Contact

Frances Ashfield 711411
Liz Carter 813008
Louise Jackson 814844
Dave Blandford 711330
Victor Lucas 822812
Neil Tuffin 812924
Malcolm Hudson 711221
Robin Howe 814393
Jane Slinn 815951
Chris Bruce 812327
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Angie Dean 813510
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David Williams 812923
Deana Hudson 711221
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Maria Crawford 710677
Angie Dean 830373
Doug Mcleod 814114
Trevor Brown 711541
Bob Child 815475
Andrew Peck 711372
Liz Carter 813008

Telephone



Upwood & the Raveleys Newsletter December 2011 Number 57

Upwood Pantomime Society
presents

CINDERELLA

Wed 25th, Thurs 26th, Fri 27th January at 7.30pm
Sat 28th January at 2.00pm & 7.30pm

Box Office (01487 814114)
opens on Wed 30th November at 6.30pm

Tickets: Adults £9.00 Child £6.50

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

Editor: David Paine 17 Meadow Road, Upwood Tel: 814350 e-mail: david.paine176@btinternet.com
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Note: Deadline for the February issue is the 20th January 2012.

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**THE EDITOR AND COMMITTEE OF THE NEWSLETTER
WISH YOU ALL A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A VERY
HAPPY NEW YEAR**

Dates for your diary

Saturday	3 rd December	Meet and Munch
Saturday	3 rd December	Upwood School Christmas Fair 12-2pm
Sunday	4 th December	St. Peter's Morning Prayer
Monday	5 th December	Parish Council Meeting
Wednesday	7 th December	Business Association lunch
Sat/Sun	10/11 th Dec	Christmas tree Festival in Church
Monday	19 th December	Home to Home Christmas Party

2012

Monday	16 th January	Ramsey & District Gardening Club
Wednesday	25 th January)
Thursday	26 th January) Cinderella
Friday	27 th January) Pantomime
Saturday	28 th January)
Wednesday	1 st February	WEA Course starts
Wednesday	8 th February	Book Lovers meeting
Thursday	16 th February	Devious Minds
Wednesday	21 st March	History Group
Saturday	30th June	Village Fete

PARISH COUNCILLORS - Names and Telephone numbers

Robert Brown	710898	Andrew Perkins	812826
Colin Bryce	813497	Pauline Rignall	813371
Robin Howe (chair)	814393	Gillian Shelford	812009
Jo Paxton	812138	Keith Sisman	710552
Jane Kirkby	813384		
Clerk to Council Tess Rogers 01487 840830			

Parish Council meetings are held on the 1st Monday of each month in Upwood Village Hall at 7.30pm



Investigating and Exploring

Upwood Small to Tall

EVERY WEEK DAY TERM TIME

Breakfast Club 8 – 9am Pre-School 8.30 – 11.30am (funded children)
9 – 11.30am (non-funded children) After School Club 3.30 – 6pm



Learning Through Creative Play



A rich early learning environment with a positive Ofsted report

PLEASE CALL ANGIE DEAN on

01487 813 510 or EMAIL upwoodsmalltotall@btinternet.com

Upwood Business Association Christmas Lunch

The Cross Keys, Upwood

Wednesday 7th December 2011

12 for 12.30

If you run a business from your home and would like to join us for this very popular annual event please contact Deana Hudson on

01487 711221

Upwood Village Hall
in association with Arts in Cambs on Tour
presents

Devious Minds

Thursday 16th February 7.30pm

Tickets £8.50 Concessions £7.50

Box Office - 01487 814114 / dougmcleod@hotmail.co.uk

Deviously funny and fiendishly clever mind-tricks from Dean Maudsley and Tim Shoesmith, professional members of 'The Magic Circle'. Shoesmith amuses with wit and slight-of-hand; Maudsley tells you it's a con from the start but by the end you'll believe he reads minds! This is a blend of comedy magic and cutting edge mind reading, created by two energetic and creative performers.

Upwood School Christmas Fayre

Saturday 3rd December

12pm to 2pm

Santa's Grotto

Raffle

Tombola

Lots of fun and games

ACTION FOR CHILDREN COLLECTION

THE HOUSE-TO-HOUSE COLLECTION RAISED A
TOTAL OF £258.46 THIS YEAR
MANY THANKS TO ALL OF YOU WHO DONATED AND COLLECTED
Josie Gaunt

St. Peter's Church Services

4th Dec	Morning Prayer 9.30am
11th Dec	Holy Communion 9.30am
18th Dec	Family Service 9.30am with "Open the Book" (Nativity) with Archdeacon Hugh McCurdy
18th Dec	Carol Service 6.30am
24th Dec	Midnight Communion 11.30pm
25th Dec	Short Family Service 9.30am
1st Jan	Morning Prayer 9.30am
8th Jan	Holy Communion 9.30am
15th Jan	"Open the Book" Family Service 9.30am
22nd Jan	Holy Communion 9.30am
29th Jan	United Benefice Service 10am – see poster on Church gate

Christmas Concert: Saturday 3rd December 7pm

We are having a Christmas Concert for the first time in Upwood Church with the Ramsey & Bury Band playing Carols, Christmas music and other festive ones.

Please let me know if you need a ticket. (£5 adult £3 under 12yrs)

Tickets to be booked by Anne-Marie 01487 812195

annemarie.upwood@virgin.net

Christmas Tree Festival:

This lovely event will be on Saturday and Sunday 10th + 11th December from 11-4pm.

Saturday will also include a Christmas Fair.

Come and enjoy the exhibit of our Christmas wreaths and trees.

If you want to take part it is not too late. You can be as imaginative as you wish to decorate your own (a 6 feet height limit for a tree and artificial trees can be used if you wish)

Your tree/wreath has to be named and signed by yourself or your group.

Please let us know as soon as possible if you are interested for me to include you to the layout of the church.

May I take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

A January wish

We wish all the best for the Pantomime cast from everyone in the St Peter Church.

STAY AND PLAY

Free weekly drop in sessions ideally suited for children 0-5 years old.

Thursday 10.00 to 11.30

Upwood Village Hall, High Street, Upwood

An opportunity for parents/carers of children under 5 years of age to meet and play together. Toys and healthy snack provided

This facility is organised and run by Ramsey Children's Centre, Unit 3, Stocking Fen Road, Ramsey.
Telephone 01487 814812

*UPWOOD ART GROUP
MEET EVERY SATURDAY
UPWOOD VILLAGE HALL*

10 AM - 12 NOON

*FOR MORE DETAILS PLEASE CALL
FRANCES ASHFIELD ON 01487 711411*

55 PLUS CLUB

At our October meeting Deana Hudson spoke to us about her experiences in making the costumes for prestigious shows everywhere. Although it was a wonderful career for her it was also very difficult and exacting work for many years. Deana is always very entertaining and funny too. In November we were once again entertained by the Ramsey W.I. Drama Group with their interpretation of Sinbad the Sailor. They had made wonderful costumes themselves. There was, of course, audience participation and lots of hilarity! There will be more socialising in January for Afternoon tea at the home of Chris Bruce, as we are unable to use the hall which will be occupied by the cast of the Pantomime. For more information about the club contact Chris on 01487 812327.

Table Tennis Club

Our return friendly match at Pondersbridge in September was lost 7-2 using a different team, and showed that there is no substitute for experience. During October we had both mens and ladies singles tournaments won by Dennis Halstead and Kerry Williams. Prizes were donated by Sophie Lang of Ramsey Tesco who also attended the mens finals. Photographs of the evening have been on display at the store. The club Christmas party in December will have a "black and white" theme which will no doubt add to the evenings hilarity. Upwood Table Tennis Club play every Tuesday night 7.30-10pm.
For more info. contact David Williams 01487 812923

Autumn Performing Arts Events at UVH

Keith Pearson's Coup De Grass – 23rd September

Our autumn season of events kicked off with a welcome return from this bluegrass quartet. Keith was once again in top form as the curmudgeonly front man with the other members of the band taking the butt of his put downs. There was great harmonica playing, as ever, from James Darby with new boy, guitarist Will (Cousin Will) Buch complementing Keith's banjo playing throughout.

Ghost Town – 21st October

Limbik Theatre from Suffolk provided us with an outstanding premiere performance of their new play Ghost Town. Ben, Will and Sarah, the 3 actors, played innumerable parts whilst Dan provided wonderful musical colour through playing a whole array of instruments including a hammered dulcimer. The audience was captivated and enthralled by this quite brilliant performance. As one appreciative audience member commented: "*I thought that last night was a great theatrical experience, very, very good! Well acted etc. They are a very talented bunch.*"

Mervyn Stutter – 11th November

A sell-out crowd had a great evening with Mervyn Stutter who had us in stitches on such diverse subjects as the Royal Wedding and Sheds. Interacting brilliantly with the audience his topical comic songs were a highlight of an excellent evening. He will definitely be coming back to Upwood.

To be added to the email distribution list for such events please contact Doug McLeod: dougmcLeod@hotmail.co.uk

UPWOOD QUILTERS

The coach left early on Sunday 9th October to visit Alexandra Palace for the Knitting and Stitching Show. We all had a great time spending lots of cash and arrived home very weary. On the 23rd October we had our Quilting Exhibition in Upwood Village Hall. It was an extremely successful afternoon with lots of visitors who enjoyed not only the Quilts, sale table, tombola and a hand bag raffle, but also a Cream Tea. The Group raffle Quilt was won by a lady from Ramsey who couldn't believe her luck! We made the fantastic amount of £500 which will be presented to Carol Roome from Help for Heroes on Tuesday 29th October. This is a charity very close to our hearts. We will also be having 'Afternoon Tea' that afternoon, yes another one.

For further information contact Deana Hudson on 01487 711221

The Upwood Quiz

The 20th Upwood Quiz took place in Upwood Village Hall on Saturday 15th October. Twenty teams of four took part and a good time was had by all with some very respectable scores being returned. Competitors were fed with a hot supper, 'watered' at the well-stocked bar and parted, generously, with their money on the raffle. The sum of £997.00 was raised of which £250 will assist in the funding of the Upwood Village Newsletter with the remainder going to St Peter's Church.

Thank you to all those that helped with preparing the food, running the bar and raffle, marking and scoring and, of course, taking part.

We hope to arrange the 21st Upwood Quiz around April or May next year. We are limited in the number of teams we can accommodate, and several teams were disappointed this time, so watch this space.

www.upwood.org news

The villages' website continues to expand and is updated at regular intervals. Here are some examples of the information you can access:-

- **Newsletter** – current and back copies
- **Parish Council Minutes** – latest approved minutes and archive back to 2008
- **Community Activities** – contact details for local societies and organisations
- **Local Services** – a growing list of local tradesmen / services
- **History** – an extensive section covering local history (incl parish registers back to 1700)
- **Useful Info** – various emergency numbers (electricity / water etc) + waste collection calendar

Ideas for improvement / general enquiries to: webmaster@upwood.org

WEA UPWOOD

The current course 'The Story of London' with David Bond as our tutor is going very well with a record attendance. As one session had to be cancelled due to ill health, this course will be running until 14th December but with slightly longer sessions to make up the hours. This course has looked at the city of London from different perspectives; investigating the city as a port, seat of government, site of royal palaces and economic centre.

Our next course will start on Wednesday 1st February at 10 am with Steven Wade-Jones and an 8 week course entitled 'Novels into Films'. Each session will be 2 hours and the cost will be £48.00. The three novels discussed in the course are: The Pride of Miss Jean Brodie by Muriel Spark, pub 1961 (film 1969); The Hours by Michael Cunningham pub 1998 (film 2002) and Age of Innocence by Edith Wharton, pub 1920 (film 1993). Everyone welcome - just contact Liz Carter (Secretary) or Ian Gaunt (chairman) for more details or watch out for a poster in the villages.

Ramsey and District Garden Club

The Garden Club is for anyone who is interested in gardens or plants. There is no need to be an expert gardener. We have talks and demonstrations on various subjects, organize visits to gardens and hold our annual show. We try to make the programme entertaining as well as informative.

The meetings are held at the Ramsey Community Centre on the third Monday of the month, starting at 7.30pm.

The last meeting, in November, was a very informative and entertaining talk on Garden Design by a local Garden designer Jan Walker. We do not have a meeting in December but that in January (16th) will be a talk by David Coop of Westland Horticulture.

We welcome new members and our current subscription is £10. Visitors are welcome at £2.00 per meeting so why not come along and sample one before you decide if you would like to join?

For further details on the Club or our programme please contact Ian Gaunt (01487 710702; ian.gaunt@care4free.net).

HELP NEEDED PLEASE

WE ARE PLANNING TO PRODUCE CHRISTMAS PUDDINGS FOR SALE FOR THE CHURCH IN 2012 BUT WE NEED BASINS. PLEASE RECYCLE YOUR CHRISTMAS PUDDING BASINS OF ANY SIZE OR COLOUR, WITH OR WITHOUT LIDS. PLEASE GIVE THEM TO JOSIE GAUNT (77 HIGH STREET, UPWOOD; 01487 710702)

Cross Keys Golf Society

On Friday 30th September the Cross Keys Golf Society had its second outing of 2011 at Elton Furze Golf Club. There were 40 members playing on the day, most of whom were able to attend the dinner in the evening. Plans are now afoot to organise dates for 2012.

Upwood and the Raveleys History Group

Meetings: This friendly group meets in the Upwood Village Hall at 7.45pm usually on the third Wednesday of alternate months. We have talks and visits that are related to local history and to history more widely. On the alternate months there is a meeting of the Archive Group that is trying to ensure that the history of the villages is recorded on the CCAN website.

The next meeting will be on 21st March. It will start with a brief Annual General Meeting followed by a talk by John Goldsmith with the title "Cromwell: a man from Huntingdonshire".

New members are welcome as are visitors to individual meetings. For more information please contact Ian Gaunt (01487 710702; ian.gaunt@care4free.net)

Timeline:

Have you ever wondered when and what has happened in Upwood and the Raveleys? Did you know that in the 10th century a wooden church stood on the site of the present day St Peter's Church? Did you know that in 1944 a plane crashed in Upwood clipping Carlton House as it came down or that electricity first came to Upwood in 1949 or that the Wildlife Trust bought Lady's Wood in 1971 or that there was major flooding in 1998 or that?

The History and Archive group is trying to produce a 'Timeline' to show when and what has happened in our villages since the 10th century. From approximately 900AD onwards there is some documented detail but by the time you get to the 20th and 21st centuries a lot has happened but little has been tracked for the future. The Timeline is a way of recording current changes and combining them with known information from the past. When complete it will hopefully go on display in the Cross Keys, the church and the village hall.

Help is needed to add information and dates to the Timeline. If your house has had a change of use; if your house was rebuilt; if you have ancient date associated with your house; if you have anything that you think is worth recording please tell us.

You can either by contact:
Ian Gaunt (01487 710702; ian.gaunt@care4free.net) or
Judith Harvey (01487 710219, judithaharvey@yahoo.com)

This is a history and Archive Group project but the information is for the village

Wildlife Trust – Huntingdonshire Local Group

www.wildlifetrust-huntsareagroup.org.uk/

Christmas Special

The Wildlife Trust, Huntingdonshire Local Group, welcomes you to our Christmas Special on Wednesday 14th December 2011. This year Pat Doody will entertain us with a short presentation on the wildlife of Islands and Jo Thomas on Ecuador.

As usual this will be supplemented by mince pies, wine and a Christmas Raffle.

Admission £2.00 members; £2.50 non-members. Please meet at Brampton Memorial Hall, Thrapston Road, Brampton, PE28 4TB at 7.30pm. Further details George Cottam on 01480 450809 or email georgecottam@dsl.pipex.com

On the Trail of Tiny Mammals

Small mammals will be the focus of an illustrated talk to be given to the Wildlife Trust, Huntingdonshire Local Group, on Wednesday 11th January 2012 at 7.30pm at Brampton Memorial Hall, Thrapston Road, Brampton.

Our presentation will be given by Sara Churchfield, who lectures in zoology at King's College, London. Sara has a particular interest in the ecology of small mammals and is best known for her research on shrews, which has taken her from Hampshire's watercress beds, to the forests of Siberia and even the African Savannah. Sara has published widely and will enlighten us on the secret lives of these numerous and ubiquitous creatures that occupy all kinds of habits from woodlands to riversides and gardens. Sara's talk will range from their population dynamics and social organization to their breeding habits and will touch upon conservation issues affecting one of our rarest small mammals, the water shrew.

Anyone interested in wildlife is most welcome to attend. Suggested donation: £2.00 members; £2.50 non-members. Please visit the web site for more information www.wildlifetrust-huntsareagroup.org.uk/ or contact George on 01480 450809

Part of the Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Northamptonshire and Peterborough. Registered Charity No: 1000412

UPWOOD BOOK LOVERS' GROUP

The next meeting for the Upwood Book Lovers' Group will be (Evenings) Tuesday 6th December at 7.30 pm when we will be discussing the current book 'On Dancing Hill' by Sarah Challis. Our December/Christmas read will be a Nevil Shute book. The morning group will be meeting on Wednesday 7th December at 10.30 am when they will be discussing their book 'Fall of Giants' by Ken Follett. Both meetings take place at the Cross Keys Pub - everyone welcome. For more information contact Julia Evans (evening group) or Maria Jackson (morning group) or Liz Carter on 01487 813008 (email: liz@backtracks.biz).

The Group Social event will be Wednesday evening, 8th February 2012 at the Cross Keys PH at 7.30 pm when everyone from both groups and anyone interested in joining the group is very welcome to join us for a social evening of book-orientated chat.

A VERY SPECIAL DATE FOR YOUR DIARY FOR 2012

The Upwood and the Raveleys Village Fete
Olympic theme is to be held in the Paddock, at the Cross Keys,
Upwood on Saturday 30th June 2012
Opening at 1.00 pm until 4.00 pm Come along and join in the fun
If you are interested in organising a stall or helping in any way
please contact Andrew Peck on 01487 711372

Mervyn Stutter

A Parish Plan

The need for a Parish Plan was mentioned at the November Parish Council meeting. Parish plans are community led, with assistance from Rural Community Councils, organisations like A.C.R.E. and local councils at all levels. Residents, businesses and local groups are encouraged to contribute to the production of a Parish Plan.

The purpose of a Parish Plan is to set out in detail a brief history of the parish, the focal points of the parish as it is today, and a forward view of the parish taking into consideration all the changes that could be proposed in the future.

For Upwood and The Raveleys consideration would focus on the development of the Airfield site, Upwood Hill House, Gypsy and Travellers sites and infilling development, while taking into account the need for starter homes for those wishing to step onto the property ladder.

Production of a Parish Plan involves everyone in the parish to some degree and the final plan would be used by local government at all levels when discussing future developments.

If you would like to see a very good example go to www.rippingalevdc.org.uk They called it a Village Design Statement. It is one of many that can be found on the web by putting "Parish Plans" into a search box.

Prize Bingo at Upwood Primary School

There is a prize Bingo event held at Upwood Primary School, fortnightly on a Tuesday evening at 7pm. The first date in December will be Tuesday 6th December. It is proving to be a great success and it would be great if we could get some more of you to come along and take part. Proceeds go to Upwood School PTA.

On Friday 11th November the Village Hall resounded to the sound of laughter and applause as Mervyn Stutter entertained a full audience with his totally unscripted free ranging humour. His political and social comments may not have been politically correct, but they were very amusing. His versions of some songs were brilliant and lyrically clever. He accompanied himself with guitar and harmonica, sometimes both at the same time. If you weren't there you missed a treat. But hopefully he will be invited back in the near future.

UPWOOD CAROL SINGING

During the past eight years, the carollers have raised over £2,500 towards local cancer treatment. Once again, we need carollers and collectors (even if you are only able to join us for part of the evening). Please come along and join our happy band and help us raise even more for this very worthy cause - everyone is welcome, but children must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

The date for your diary is Tuesday 6th December, meeting outside the Cross Keys Inn on the High Street for a 6.30pm start. At the invitation of Jane & Kevin, our last port of call will be singing in the Cross Keys bar approx. 9.00pm. Once again, Judith and Mervyn Harvey have kindly invited us to their home for refreshments at the end of the evening.

Please let me know if you will be joining us, as it is helpful to have an indication of numbers hoping to come along. Please pass this note to anyone who may be interested.

Mags Dudley 01487 812925