



## December 2013      Issue 69

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An entry in the  
2012 festival

### Christmas & New Year Edition

This festive edition of the newsletter contains information on many events occurring in the next 2 months including:

Manor House Fete:            1<sup>st</sup> December

Carol Singing:                10<sup>th</sup> December

Christmas Tree Festival: 14<sup>th</sup> December

Christmas Carol Service: 22<sup>nd</sup> December

Upwood Pantomime:        29<sup>th</sup> January –  
1<sup>st</sup> February

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**DIARY OF EVENTS – DEC / JAN**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Place / Contact</b>
30 Nov	Sat	Christmas Art & Craft Fair	10am - 5pm	Village Hall
1 Dec	Sun	Manor House Christmas Fete	2pm-4pm	Manor House, Susan 814333
2 Dec	Mon	Parish Council Meeting	7pm	Village Hall
4 Dec	Wed	Wildlife Trust Christmas lunch walk	10am	Details: Adrian 07983 850886
4 Dec	Wed	Panto Bookings Open	6.30pm	Doug 814114
4 Dec	Wed	Village History Project	7.45pm	Village Hall, Ian 710702
5 Dec	Thur	Coffee Morning in aid of hedgehogs	10am	72 High Street
6 Dec	Fri	Wildlife Trust: Camera Traps	7.30pm	Countryside Centre 710420
6 Dec	Fri	Johnny Coppin – All On a Winter's Night	7.45pm	Doug 814114
7 Dec	Sat	Meet & Much	1pm	Village Hall, Mags 812424
7 Dec	Sat	PTA Christmas Fayre	12 - 2pm	Upwood School, Jody 812843
10 Dec	Tue	Carol Singers – Upwood Tour	6.30pm	Start at Cross Keys, Carol 812447
12 Dec	Thur	Photos during the Festive Season (Camera Club)	Eve	Ramsey Community Centre Trevor Brown 711541
14 Dec	Sat	Art Group – Christmas Lunch	1pm	Village Hall, Frances 711411
14 Dec	Sat	Christmas Tree Festival	10am – 5pm	St Peters Church
14 Dec	Sat	10 O'Clock Curfew Christmas Party	7.30pm	Village Hall, Tim 07785317012
16 Dec	Mon	Home to Home – Christmas Party	8pm	Village Hall, Jackie 711329
22 Dec	Sun	Christmas Carol Service	6pm	St Peters Church
6 Jan	Mon	Parish Council Meeting	7pm	Village Hall
20 Jan	Mon	Garden Club – The Right Tree in the Right Place	7.30pm	Ramsey Community Centre Ian 710702
25/26 Jan	Sat/Sun	Community Orchard – Tree Planting	10.30am -2.30pm	Allotments Liz 813008
29 Jan – 1 Feb	Wed - Sat	Upwood Panto – 20 <sup>th</sup> year	7.30pm	Village Hall
4 Feb	Tue	WEA - East Anglian Churches	10am	Village Hall Liz 813008
17 Feb	Mon	Garden Club -The National Hyacinth Collection	7.30pm	Ramsey Community Centre Ian 710702
24 Feb	Mon	Home to Home	8pm	Village Hall, Jackie 711329
25 Feb	Tue	Quilters AGM	TBC	Village Hall Margaret 814031
<b>Future Events</b>				
6 Mar	Thur	WEA - Helms, Hatchments & Hedgehogs	10am	Village Hall Liz 813008
19 Mar	Wed	The Cecils: Burley House and its Park	7.45pm	Village Hall, Ian 710702
21 Mar	Fri	UPA - Secret World of Dickens	7.45pm	Village Hall, Doug 814114
25 Apr	Fri	UPA - Chris & Kellie While	7.45pm	Village Hall, Doug 814114

**Deadline for the February Issue is the 15<sup>th</sup> Jan 2014**

## **PARISH COUNCIL**

The Parish Council is always pleased to welcome parishioners to the PC Meetings which are held on the first Monday of the month (except for August) and start at 7.00pm in the Village Hall.

NEW PARISH COUNCILLOR: At the November meeting Councillors unanimously agreed to co-opt Garth Slater to the Parish Council to fill the vacancy left by Carol Bilverstone when she became Parish Clerk. Garth has lived in Upwood since 1974 and wishes to play a greater role in village life now that he has retired.

POTHoles: Problems can now be reported on-line by members of the public. This should speed up repairs. Go to [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk) - Home page - Roads and Parking – Report a pothole. You can also telephone 0345 045 5212.

FAULTY STREET LIGHTING: Go to [www.lightingcambridgeshire.com](http://www.lightingcambridgeshire.com) or phone 0800 7838 247

DISTRICT COUNCIL COST SAVING: In addition to the c £2 million shortfall already identified in the 2015/16 budget additional savings of £3.6 million must be made by 2018/19. A comprehensive review of all council expenditure is being made and this will lead to proposals on changes to service levels in the next 1 to 3 years.

High cost services such as Leisure Centres, CCTV surveillance, welfare benefits, refuse collection, grass cutting along with the whole Council administrative infrastructure are under scrutiny. The Parish Council will be regularly updated on developments in these areas by the District Councillor.

CROSS KEYS PUBLIC HOUSE: It is understood, though not confirmed, that two offers have been made which Enterprise Inns are considering and that another offer might be made if these bids are refused. The Council is keen to support any attempt to re-open “our pub”, which plays such a central role in the village.

TREE WORK IN ST. PETER’S CHURCHYARD: Work is due to commence shortly including the felling of the dead horse chestnut near the High Street.

ELECTRICITY CUTS: A series of very short but annoying “blips” in the electricity supply has occurred in the village of Upwood. Whenever this happens consumers are advised to telephone their supplier as suppliers are not aware of these short “blips” which can cause problems with security lights and other installations.

COMMUNITY ORCHARD: There has been a very good response to the development of a Community Orchard. A mix of semi-standard grafted apple, pear, plum and gage trees has been ordered from the East of England Apple Orchard Project. Although the

### **PARISH COUNCIL continued:**

trees are supplied free of charge there are expenses incurred in setting up the orchard. Please see the separate report.

COMMUNITY LED PLAN: This is making good progress. Please see the separate report.

DOG WALKERS: Please do not forget to continue to use a plastic bag and dispose of it in the bins provided around the village.

**NEXT MEETINGS: MONDAY, 2ND DECEMBER 2013 & MONDAY, 6TH JANUARY 2014 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall.**

### **COMMUNITY LED PLAN UPDATE**

The October open afternoon in Upwood Village Hall was extremely well attended and generated a lot of comments about how we view our local community. 'Thank you' to everyone who came along and made suggestions.

The CLP group will now be creating a questionnaire based on the feedback and comments that have been received since the project was launched. The intention is to distribute the questionnaire to every household in the parish during Spring 2014 and further details about this next important step will be given out in due course. In the meantime please keep in touch via the Upwood and The Raveleys website, Facebook or contact us on **upwoodandtheraveleysclp@gmail.com**

### **UPWOOD COMMUNITY ORCHARD**

The Upwood Community Orchard project has started! Check out the village website for more details. This is a community project and although the trees and stakes are delivered free, ready to plant, we are looking for sponsorship to help with the running and providing essentials like weed suppressant material, hedging and perhaps a seat in due course. It is not funded by the parish council or the allotments although it is situated on the allotment ground, just inside the main entrance on Meadow Road, Upwood on the right-hand side.

**SPONSORSHIP** - £25 will sponsor a tree in the orchard, which will have a special plaque next to it with your details. For a sponsorship form, contact Liz Carter 813008 email **liz@backtracks.biz**. All monies collected will be paid into the special 'orchard' bank account and a sponsorship certificate will be provided.

**PLANTING WEEKEND** - 25/26 JANUARY 2014 (with back up date of 7-8 Feb if weather is bad). Come along and watch or lend a helping hand. The trees will be delivered ready to plant but we will need to prepare the soil so if you are interested in helping, contact Liz – details given in the preceding paragraph. All sponsors will receive a special invitation to attend the planting ceremony.

## **UPWOOD AND THE RAVELEYS HISTORY GROUP**

We meet in the Upwood Village Hall at 7.45 pm on the third Wednesday of alternate months. November's talk was by Brian Jones entitled "The Life and Times of John Clare". Brian was informative but his relaxed style of presentation ensured that we were also entertained. This talk followed a visit, during August, by a number of members to John Clare's house in Helpston.

There is no meeting in January. Our next talk will be on 19<sup>th</sup> Mar. It will be another talk by Brian Jones entitled "The Cecil's Burley House and its Park". This will be followed by a visit to Burley House on 14<sup>th</sup> Jun when Brian will give us a guided tour.

On March 14th there will be a visit to Flag Fen to see the 'Must Farm Boats' following the talk by Mark Knight in September when we heard about the excavation of these boats and other artefacts.

Annual membership is £10 and visitors are welcome to our meetings at a cost of £3. Further information contact Ian Gaunt 710702 [ian.gaunt@care4free.net](mailto:ian.gaunt@care4free.net)

## **VILLAGE HISTORY PROJECT**

On Wed 4 Dec at 7.45pm in the Village Hall anyone with an interest in local history is invited to join some members of the local history group to discuss a project to compare our three villages as they were in 1910 with the villages as they are now in 2013/14. It is an opportunity to create a wonderful addition to the red and green books. No skills required; a lot can be done in a small group or individually, with all the individual pieces of information collated and compiled to give a complete picture.

A simple summary of the idea behind the project is: To compare the information from the 1910 valuations with the 1911 census information, and then link it to both the 1901 maps and our modern villages' layouts. Hopefully we will also be collecting old and new photos as the project progresses. Come along to the Village Hall on 4 December when Liz Carter will give you more details. If you can't make the meeting then contact Ian Gaunt, 710702 or Judith Harvey 710219 to register your interest.

### **MINCE PIE & COFFEE MORNING IN SUPPORT OF HIGH STREET HEDGEHOG HOSPITAL**

at 72 High Street UPWOOD

Thursday 5th DECEMBER 10am to 12.30

All Welcome: Tickets £2 or pay at the door

Bric-a-Brac & Raffle

## UPWOOD AND THE RAVELEYS FETE COMMITTEE

The Committee would like to announce the awards made to the following groups:

Upwood and The Raveleys Website	£100.66
St Peters Hand Bells	£50.00
Upwood Art Group	£150.00
Meet and Munch	£50.00
St Peters Church	£300.00
Village Newsletter	£400.00

Many thanks for all who supported the fete

*Anne Prince*

**(The members of the Newsletter Committee would like to take this opportunity to say 'thank you' to the Fete Committee for their generous donation to the newsletter funds).**

## MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

Over the last few years Debbie Brown and Helen Nel have joined forces to host a Macmillan coffee morning in Great Raveley. This year's event was at Debbie's house and featured a raffle, bring and buy stalls, fresh produce stall, a cake stall and lots of books and DVDs. We had fantastic support, with friends and neighbours attending from the local area of Upwood and The Raveleys, but also friends and colleagues from further afield, took the time to travel and support us. Our thanks go out to everyone; with your fantastic generosity and support this year's event raised an amazing £610 on the day! Same time, same place next year, when we do it all again!

Upwood Pantomime Society's **20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** Production

### ***The Old Woman Who Lived In A Shoe***

Wed 29<sup>th</sup>, Thurs 30<sup>th</sup>, Fri 31<sup>st</sup> Jan at 7.30pm

Sat 1<sup>st</sup> Feb at 2.00pm & 7.30pm

Box Office: 01487 814114 opens 4<sup>th</sup> Dec at 6.30pm

Tickets: Adult £9.50 Child £7.00

Tickets also available for Dress Rehearsal Preview Performance on  
Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> Jan @ 2.30pm (Adult: £7 / Child: £5)

## **UPWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS**

Charities As a school community, we believe our pupils gain a great deal from taking part in fundraising events for both our school and charities, as it develops empathy for others, a sense of community and an understanding of the wider world. We have agreed to support the following three charities for this academic year:

- Operation Smile
- The Poppy Appeal 2013
- Sport Relief

Volunteer Support The School recognises the great contribution volunteers make to our school community, including parent/carer, grandparent and members of the local community. They support the day to day running of the classroom, including listening to children read and assisting with craft projects. They may also assist with the running of school trips. We would ask you to please consider whether you, or a member of your family, have some spare time to offer Upwood Primary School, from one hour to a whole morning or afternoon. All volunteers working with children need to undertake a DBS check (formally known as CRB check). If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please contact a member of the School Office Staff on 01487 813510, who will explain the DBS process.

Cricket Masterclass Some pupils from Upwood Primary School met Sports Personalities Charlotte Edwards and Jenny Gunn, Captain and Vice-Captain of the Women's England cricket team. Six Year 6 girls from Upwood developed their cricket skills with the well known sports women on Tuesday 24th September in Ramsey.

The session began with some fun warm up activities that incorporated the key skills needed to play cricket successfully. The England stars then provided a personal coaching session for the pupils and they were given tips and advice on how to improve their game. After the session, Charlotte and Jenny spent time with the pupils taking photographs and signing autographs. The children clearly had an amazing afternoon, spending time with these two inspirational cricket stars.

### **UPWOOD SCHOOL PTA CHRISTMAS FAYRE**

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December 12-2pm**

Santa's Grotto – Tombola – Raffle - Xmas Gifts made by the school children  
Chocolate Slide, including an adult version - Xmas Nail design for the children

Giraffe Cakes and From the Heart

Hot and cold drinks, cakes, mince pies, crisps, hot dogs and soup and a roll

### THE END OF AN ERA - UPWOOD 55+ CLUB

Since 1973 a group organised for the older members of the parish has met in the Village Hall and has been organised on a fortnightly basis. A dedicated group of ladies have served on the committee, some for over 30 years, but after the December 2013 meeting the club will close.

Members of the current committee have searched their memories for some 'nuggets' to share with us.

### Milestones and Memories from the Club:

The idea for forming The 55+ club [Over60's as it was originally] seems to have been triggered by a competition run by The WI in conjunction with The Hunts Post and also the need at the time for a social gathering for the older people in the village.

- \* The first meeting was held on 11th September 1973 at 7pm.
- \* Refreshments in 1973: a plate of 2 sandwiches a cake and a cup of tea 5p, just a cup of tea 2p.
- \* Places visited on outings over the years for members and friends included Felixstowe, The London Palladium, Harlaxton Manor, The Lavender Fields, Rutland Water followed by tea at Wing WI [always a popular venue] and Bressingham Gardens.
- \* Evening and afternoon mystery tours were enjoyed and included afternoon tea or a sandwich supper at a pub. One mystery tour included visiting Barnwell Manor where the owner, the Duchess of Gloucester, came out to speak to us. In 1974 the mystery tour cost 40p, which included a plate of sandwiches.



*A visit to the Raptor Centre 2011*

- \* Visits were arranged for many years to The Key Theatre Pantomime and later to The Westwood Players production. Members were also invited to the dress rehearsal of The Abbey School plays.



\* At its peak the club had 45 members.

\* Beginning in 1976 and continuing for around 25 years the club ran a 10 week draw to raise funds for a Christmas meal.

\* In the 1970's the club ran a village fete to raise funds. In 1976 the fete was opened by the boxer Joe Bugner....and it rained all afternoon.

\* The first Christmas dinner was held in 1974 and was catered for by Ramsey Outside Caterers. From 1997 until 2012 the Christmas meals were held at The Cross Keys. Members enjoyed a 3 course meal followed by coffee and mints. On many occasions entertainment was provided after the meal and each member received a Christmas gift before going home.

\* For the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977 members of the Over 60' club were given a salad lunch.

\* Fund raising for the club took many forms other than the 10-week draws and fetes. These included strawberry teas, coffee mornings, market stalls in Ramsey, Bring and Buys and club raffles.



*Strawberry Tea 2011*

\* Annual subscriptions 1973 - 10p; 1987 - £1.00; 1994 - £5.00; 2006 £7.50 and 2012 £10.00.

\*In 1999 the club became Upwood 55+.

Over the past 40 years the club has aimed to provide its members with informal, friendly meetings, which included bingo or a quiz followed by a speaker or entertainment and then tea provided by the members of the committee.

The club is now unable to form a committee and based on attendances at club meetings over the past few years it appears that the club is no longer viable.

Regretfully, although we know that over the years the club has been valued by many members, we feel that after the Christmas lunch the club will close.

## UKULELE CLUB



Is anyone interested in forming a Ukulele Club?

Would you like to learn the basics of playing the ukulele or meet with other local ukulele players?

Probably starting on Thursday evenings once the panto season is over. Contact Doug McLeod 814114 / [pndmcleod@btinternet.com](mailto:pndmcleod@btinternet.com)

## UPWOOD VILLAGE HALL PERFORMING ARTS EVENTS

The first shows of our 2013/14 season have been very successful. Chris Newman and Maire Ni Chathasaigh entertained a sell-out audience with virtuoso performances on acoustic guitar and Irish harp while Robert Lloyd Parry provided a wonderful evening of ghost story-telling. Johnny Coppin's "All On A Winter's Night" show on 6<sup>th</sup> December is also completely sold out.

Looking ahead to 2014 we have:-

**Fri 21 March - Ian Keable – The Secret World of Charles Dickens**  
**Tickets: £9.50 (no concessions)**

Charles Dickens was not only one of the world's greatest writers, but also a talented **magician** and fascinated by **spiritualism** and **ghosts**. In this **humorous** and **mystifying** show, Ian Keable reveals this secret side of Dickens and recreates his **favourite tricks** and the **spooky practises** of the Victorian psychics.



Back by popular demand: **Fri 25 April - Chris & Kellie While** Tickets: £10.50  
**Box Office for all events: 01487 814114 / [pndmcleod@btinternet.com](mailto:pndmcleod@btinternet.com)**

## UPWOOD QUILTERS

We met at the end of October and started making our decorations for the Christmas Tree Festival being held in St Peter's Church on 14 Dec. We expect to finish these in November. On the 10th December we will be celebrating our Christmas lunch at Brampton Garden Centre. Our next meeting after Christmas will be on the 25th Feb.

## MEET & MUNCH

Meet & Munch members will be meeting in Upwood Village Hall for lunch, 1.00pm to 2.00pm on the following dates – 7th Dec 13 and 1st Mar 2014 – ( No meeting in Jan and Feb 14 - Village Hall is not available). We are open to all Upwood & Raveley residents aged 55 plus, and new members are always welcome. Contact Mags 812424.

## TABLE TENNIS CLUB

We have new singles champions. This year's finals were closely fought matches; Ann Deaville beat Sophie Evans in the Ladies contest and Phil Manning beat Tony Evans in the Gents' Tournament. Both events were well attended by the club members and a few guests, which provided a superb atmosphere. The club now has 32 full members with an average turn out of 20. The last night's play before Christmas will be on Tuesday 17 Dec when the club will have their annual party. An extra night has been booked for Mon 30 Dec to help work off those Christmas calories!

Due to the Panto only one table is in use for Jan 14. Normal service resumes on Tue 4 Feb 14. The club is considering running daytime table tennis on Wed aft 2.30-4.30pm. If interested? Contact David Williams 812923 [hollyhouse.upwood@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:hollyhouse.upwood@tiscali.co.uk)

## MANOR HOUSE

The Christmas Fete takes place on Sunday 1 Dec from 2.00- 4.00pm; refreshments, stalls and raffle. Everybody most welcome.

Do you have time to spare each week? Are you a good listener and do you get on with people? Do you have an interest in the elderly and the stories they tell? If you answered 'yes' and you are interested in volunteering please contact the Activities Coordinator, Susan, at Manor House on 814333

## POLICE NOTICE

Fraudsters have been cold calling members of the public in the middle of the night, claiming to be from the Police, stating that a criminal has been arrested with a substantial sum of money on them and a list of names and addresses, including that of the person who they are speaking to. The 'phoney officer' advises the person on the end of the phone to call their bank using a number on the back of their bank card, or the Police on 101. The victim hangs up but the caller does not, so the call is not terminated. This means that you are still talking to the fraudster, **not** the bank or the Police. The fraudster then claims they want to examine the victim's bank card and will also need their PIN number as it might be compromised. The fraudster says he will send a courier to collect the card, and then a smartly dressed man arrives at the victim's home. The card is then taken and the PIN number used to withdraw cash.

**Your PIN number is personal to you** and should **never** be written down or given to anyone and your **cards** should **never** be given to anyone who knocks on your door. If you receive such a call, hang up immediately, and wait 5 – 10 minutes to ensure the line has cleared before ringing an official number, such as the Police or your bank. Any incidents of this nature should be reported to Action Fraud on 0300 1232040.

## UPWOOD ST PETER'S CHURCH

1st December	Morning Prayer 9.30am
8th December	Holy Communion 9.30am
15th December	"Open the Book" Family Service (Nativity) 9.30am
22nd December	Holy Communion 9.30am
22nd December	Carol Service 6pm
24th December	Christmas Eve Holy Communion Service 11.30pm
25th December	Christmas Day Service 10am
29th December	United Benefice Service @ Ramsey St Thomas a Becket 10am (NO SERVICE IN UPWOOD)
5th January	Morning Prayer 9.30am
12th January	Holy Communion 9.30am
19th January	"Open the Book" Family Service (The Magi's) 9.30am
26th January	Holy Communion 9.30am

## Christmas Tree and Craft Festival - Upwood St Peter's Church

The Upwood Christmas Tree Festival will take place again this year in St Peter's Church on Sat 14 Dec between 10am-5pm (free entry). A number of craft stalls will be also be sited in the church. There may still be time to enter a tree for the Festival so if you would like details contact Anne-Marie on 812195 or email [annemarie.upwood@virgin.net](mailto:annemarie.upwood@virgin.net). This year we will again have an activity tree for any young people (or those who are still young at heart) to enjoy creating together. Come and view the display of Christmas trees, beautiful Christmas wreaths, nativity sets or peruse the array of gifts on the craft stalls. You can also enjoy festive refreshments – mince pies and mulled wine, to the sound of festive tunes with the Handbells playing in the afternoon. Happy Christmas and best wishes for 2014.

## CAROL SINGING

The Upwood Carol Singers have raised over £3000 for local cancer charities in the last 10 years. This year we will collect money for "The Cambridge Cancer Research UK Centre".

**We will meet in the High Street on Tue 10 Dec**, outside the Cross Keys (on street parking only please) at 6:30pm, although please feel free to join us later if you wish. Children accompanied by adults are welcome, as are dogs on leads. The more the merrier! As always we need collectors as well as carol singers. We will sing our way around the village, knocking on doors and collecting donations as we go. Jean and Tony Place have very kindly agreed to provide refreshments for us all at the end of the evening. Contact Carol Bilverstone on 812447, [cpbilverstone@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:cpbilverstone@tiscali.co.uk)

## **HOME TO HOME**

Home to Home is a women's group which meets on the last Monday of the month in the Village Hall at 8.00 pm. We have a new committee and are looking to recruit more members. Everyone is welcome to come along as a visitor to enjoy the talks, demonstrations or activities. We are open to suggestions for future events and as we are in the process of putting together a programme for 2014, suggestions are most welcome!

Our meeting in October was an extremely interesting talk on the making of wills, which also took into account the benefits of a lasting power of attorney. We all left the meeting with a great deal of information on items some of us had not given a thought to previously! In November Janet showed us how to make Christmas poinsettias which we will be putting on our tree at the Christmas Tree Festival. Our December meeting on Monday 16th will be our Christmas party and we are looking forward to a fun evening, plus food and drink!

There is no meeting in January. The next meeting in 2014 will be on Monday 24th February. We will include the 2014 programme in the next edition of the newsletter. More information, please contact Jackie on 711329.

## **UPWOOD ART GROUP**

UAG has had a good year. Members have enjoyed a wide variety of art "experiments", tried different media and produced some exceptional works. We're always happy to entertain visitors and new members are very welcome. Membership is inexpensive and there is a big range of materials for newcomers to try. We're keen artists but not at all "arty" so come along one Saturday morning and meet the group and try your hand at painting or drawing. The Christmas lunch is on Saturday 14th December at 1pm. "Retired" members please let UAG know if you will be attending. For any information about membership or the lunch please call Frances 711411.

## **UPWOOD QUIZ NIGHT**

The Twenty Third Upwood Quiz was held in the Village Hall on Sat 26<sup>th</sup> Oct. Seventeen teams of players took part and some creditable scores were achieved. At half time, the players dined on sausage casserole or chilli prepared by the two Margarets and sipped ale and other beverages served by Jean and Tony. Thanks to all who baked the potatoes, to Val and Maggie for marking and scoring and to John Taylor for coming in specially to do the washing up. £766.00 was raised to go to St Peter's Church funds.

## **WEA UPWOOD BRANCH**

'East Anglian Churches' with Chloe Cockerill - Tue 04 Feb - Cost £16.00

This course is a study of these fascinating buildings with their special regional characteristics, from the early round towers and flint-work to the splendours of the wool churches. Details of their fine roofs, stained glass, screens and wall paintings are highlighted. Depictions of the important local saints such as Edmund and Etheldreda and the significance of the weird array of animals from camels to cockatrices on the medieval bench ends are explained.

'Helms, Hatchments & Hedgehogs' with Chloe Cockerill - Thur 06 Mar - Cost £16.00

Heraldry is all around us, not only when we visit country houses, cathedrals and castles, but in all our towns and cities and nearly every village. The Royal Arms appear on our newspapers, passports and outfits of our sporting heroes. School uniforms, college gateways and almshouses often depict the arms of their generous benefactors. A straightforward introduction to what is often dismissed as an esoteric subject.

These are both one day courses and will run from 10 am to 4 pm in the Upwood Village Hall. Refreshments will be provided but you will need to bring a packed lunch. To reserve a place, contact Liz Carter 813008 or email [liz@backtracks.biz](mailto:liz@backtracks.biz)

## **RAMSEY AND DISTRICT GARDEN CLUB**

The Club meets in the Ramsey Community Centre at 7.30pm on the third Monday of the month with a variety of talks and demonstrations.

The meeting in October was a talk by our Celebrity Speaker for the year, Nick Hamilton from the Barnsdale Garden. Nick talked on "Growing Vegetables throughout the year". He stimulated those who grow vegetables to widen our horizons. In November we held our AGM followed by a talk by Angela Whiting who runs a nursery at Pidley specialising in alpine plants. Her talk was "Alpines and Alpine Containers" There is no meeting in December. January's (20th) meeting will be a talk entitled "How Trees Grow – The Right Tree in the Right Place" by Andrew Papworth. He is a local arborist so we can expect that he will have a detailed knowledge of our gardens and their conditions. In February (17th), the presentation will be on "The National Hyacinth Collection" given by Alan Shipp. Annual membership costs £10 and visitors are welcome to individual meetings at £2. For further information please contact Ian Gaunt 710702 [ian.gaunt@care4free.net](mailto:ian.gaunt@care4free.net)

## **UPWOOD & RAVELEYS COMMUNITY ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION**

Winter has arrived and all we need is a sprinkling of snow! There are still a couple of plots available - at both Upwood and Gt Raveley. Winter is a good time to take on a plot - you have time to draw up plans, order seeds and seek advice on what and when to plant before the Spring.

If you are interested, contact the Parish Clerk (Carol Bilverstone); the URCAA chairman Ali Miles, or the secretary Liz Carter. We can offer advice and encouragement for all new-comers and tenancies run from November, so you would be able to take over a plot straight away and get settled in before Spring arrives.

Contacts: Carol Bilverstone [upwoodraveleyclerk@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:upwoodraveleyclerk@yahoo.co.uk),  
URCAA Chairperson Ali Miles 710548 [amiles@gotadsl.co.uk](mailto:amiles@gotadsl.co.uk)  
Secretary Liz Carter 813008 [liz@backtracks.biz](mailto:liz@backtracks.biz)

## **NEW ORGANISATION – RAMSEY CAMERA CLUB**

A few like-minded people have formed a local Photography Club in Ramsey with a view to helping improve photographic skills. The idea is to provide an informal, friendly, and supportive environment for photographers at all levels. We offer a means for members to share ideas and knowledge with each other and to promote an interest in photography. The club's emphasis is on fun, providing a friendly and social atmosphere, with photography regarded as a shared interest. Our aim is to help members improve their work, explore new branches of photography and understand techniques like composition and exposure. For more info contact Trevor Brown on 711541 or [www.ramseycameraclub.co.uk](http://www.ramseycameraclub.co.uk)

## **RAMSEY & DISTRICT U3A**

Ramsey & District U3A meets on the second Tuesday of each month (except August) at the Community Hall Ramsey, from 2pm. Alternatively you may wish to look at our website at [www.u3asites.org.uk/ramsey](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/ramsey) to find out more about our leisure activities. The December meeting will be in the form of a Christmas Party on Tuesday, 10 Dec at the Ramsey Community Centre, starting at 2pm. Lots of fun and games! Visitors are welcome (Tickets are £3.00 plus visitor fee £1.00). Further information available from John Austin on 01733 844 474

**"Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year"**  
**from your newsletter team**

## WHO'S WHO IN THE VILLAGES

Organisation	Contact	Telephone
Art Group	Frances Ashfield	711411
Book Lovers Group	Liz Carter	813008
Brownies	Louise Jackson	079211 97850
Community Bus Co-ordinator	Dave Blandford	711330
County Councillor	Michael Tews	tew180@gmail.com
Cricket Club	David Drage	07796 352200
Cross Keys Golf Society	Malcolm Hudson	01840 779425
District Councillor (Chair of Parish Council)	Robin Howe	814393
55+	Chris Bruce Caroline Lloyd	812327 813455
History Group	Ian Gaunt	710702
Home to Home	Anne-Marie Cracknell Jackie Johnston	812195 711329
Meet and Munch	Mags Dudley	812424
Parish Clk (inc Allotments)	Carol Silverstone	812447
Ramsey Bridge Club	B & A Quinton	813349
Ramsey Camera Club	Trevor Brown	711541
Ramsey Choral Society	June Green	813562
Ramsey & District Garden Club	Ian Gaunt	710702
Ramsey Rural Museum	Michael Latchem	01354 694241
Ramsey Tennis Club	Jason Tuxworth	07858 151966
Small to Tall (Upwood School Clubs)	Angie Dean	802086
Speed Watch	Keith Sisman	710552
St Peter's Church Matters	Gordon Slinn	815951
St Peter's Handbells	Ann-Marie Cracknell	812195
Table Tennis Club	David Williams	812923
U3A	John Austin	01733 844474
Upwood Business Association	Frances Ashfield	711411
Upwood Community Orchard	Liz Carter	813008
Upwood Quilters	Margaret Jones	814031
Upwood & Raveley Community Allotments	Liz Carter	813008
Upwood and Raveley Community Archive	Judith Harvey	710219
Upwood School PTA	Jody Howell	812843
Upwood Pantomime Society	Doug McLeod	814114
UVH Performing Arts Events / [act] Shows	Doug McLeod	814114
Village Hall Hire	Bob Child	815475
Village Fete Committee	Andrew Peck	711372
W.E.A	Liz Carter	813008

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

Editorial Team: Paul Charman 814707 Judith Harvey 710219 Pauline McLeod 814114

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