

Who is who in the Villages

Parish Council inc. Allotments
District Councillor
County Councillor
Horticultural Society
History Group
55+
Cricket Club
St. Peter's Church
Ladies Get Together
Upwood School PTA
Upwood School Playgroup
Upwood's Out (after school club)
Embroidery Group
Brownies
Toddler's Group
Meet and Munch
Upwood Youth Club
Art Group
Cross Keys Golf Society
Upwood Pantomime Society
Community Bus Co-ordinator
Village Hall Hire
Village Fete Committee
Upwood Business Association
Sunday Club
Table Tennis Club
Ramsey Bridge Club
Ramsey Choral Society
Upwood Quilters
Upwood and the Raveleys Community Archive
W.E.A
St.Peter's Handbells

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Note: Deadline for the June issue is the 20th May.

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

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Editorial

How many people noticed on Saturday 14th March, two Parish Councillors cleaning the road signs and direction signs in the parish. Well done. Many residents do what they can to make the villages attractive. Not only are gardens well cared for and a delight to the eye, they also keep the verges where they live regularly cut. Sadly there are those - hopefully not villagers - who dump rubbish in the parish. The ditch by Farm Close has a child's tricycle dumped in it, and other ditches contain junk food wrappers, plastic bottles and drinks cans. There are also those who seem unable to keep their hedges trimmed where they are growing over the footpath. But overall, we look after our environment, because if we don't no one else will.

Farm Close deliveries.

Is there anyone living on Farm Close who would like to deliver the Newsletter around the Farm Close estate. It would only take less than an hour once every two months and would reduce the load of the present volunteer. If you would like to help please call the Editor on 814350 and give him your name and address. Thank you for considering this.

Huntingdon Wildlife Trust

On Sunday 5th April at 2.30 pm you can join the first of the year's Wonderful Woodlands programme, visiting Wistow and Warboys woods which are a site of special scientific interest. Wistow Wood should have a wonderful display of Wood Anemones around the circular path and pond. Nearby is privately owned Warboys Wood which is normally closed to the public. Everyone is welcome. Adults £2, children free. For more info call George on 01480 450809 or go to www.wildlifetrust-huntsareagroup.org.uk.

Upwood Carol Singers

It's a bit late admittedly, but you may like to know that despite a chilly evening, the Carol Singers collected their way round the village, making the last port of call at The Cross Keys Inn, where Jane and Kevin invited us to sing. Finally a hot buffet and mulled wine awaited us at the home of Judith and Mervin Harvey. A magnificent £300 has been raised towards men's cancer treatment in this area. Thank you to everyone who sang and collected and all those who made donations. Mags and Geoff Dudley.



ROBIN HOOD AND THE BABES IN THE WOOD

Director Martin Muir

The achievements of societies performing in difficult village venues never cease to surprise and impress me. The limitations of Upwood Village Hall are obvious but quickly forgotten when confronted with the positive enthusiasm and commitment of this community group celebrating their 15th anniversary of annual pantomimes.

The pace was fast, the humour infectious and the scenery and presentation effective. I liked the special touches such as the spinning head, the archery contest, the use of strobe and the varied dance routines. The relatively small cast, of all ages, created a large sound musically and the number opening Act 2 was particularly effective. This is a good choice of story for a pantomime containing all the necessary ingredients and focussing on the plight of relatively helpless children at the hands of their uncle, the wicked Sheriff of Nottingham, played with great panache by director Martin Muir,

At the forefront of all the action were Dee Smith as a very versatile Nurse Nora and Carole Spivey as an heroic Robin Hood. Both of these performers created very strong and likeable characters with good humour. They were well supported by David Honour as the sympathetic but dim Herman and Hannah Butson as a charming and melodic Maid Marion. Once again Doug McLeod and Geoff Dudley had some memorably funny moments and Sam Richter and Emily Howard also impressed. The two Bailiffs at the performance I attended were Hannah Fisher and Harry Butson who provided plenty of the aaah factor combined with a keen sense of humour and stage presence. Altogether a very enjoyable experience.

Review by Michael Williamson, National Operatic and Dramatic Association.

COULD YOU SAVE A LIFE?

Did you know that in our community there is a Magpas Community First Responder Group? The group was set up in 2002 and provides cover to the community when the

volunteers are at home. We need some more volunteers to enable this life saving group to continue to provide for the needs of all of us.

What is a Community First Responder?

He or she is a local volunteer living within the community who has undertaken training in first aid, oxygen therapy and defibrillation, and when they are available they respond to local 999 calls. This response provides initial care and treatment for the patient in their time of need while the ambulance is on its way.

Who does a responder attend?

He or she will be notified of patients over the age of 8 who are suffering from life threatening problems like breathing difficulty, chest pains, unconsciousness, fits and cardiac arrest. They can attend and provide lifesaving treatment until the ambulance arrives and then assist the ambulance crew.

How can I get involved?

You can volunteer to fundraise for the charity because without financial support Magpas would not be able to provide any of the life-saving care in Cambridgeshire, or you can become a Community First Responder by contacting Magpas on 01480 371060. For more information visit www.magpas.org.uk

What about you?

The Village Hall Management Committee now needs more new members. Representatives from the various groups in the village would be welcome. It is not an onerous task. Meetings are usually held monthly, but sometimes are further apart and only last for an hour to an hour and a half. Discussion is centred in the Village Hall, administration, general management functions, maintenance and sometimes capital expenditure. The hall has been much improved in recent years due to the hard work of some members, from which we all benefit. So, please - think about volunteering. If you want more details please contact Heike Penny,(Secretary) on 01733 844190.

STOP PRESS *There will be a special coffee afternoon in early May in the Village Hall. There will be posters everywhere - watch out for them.*

NEW Local History pages on Villages' Website

Visit www.upwood.org to view the new web pages full of interesting information about the history of our villages. There are plenty of old photographs and articles to browse through as well as the complete St Peter's Church register of baptisms, marriages and burials from 1700 to 1950.

The website is regularly updated - amongst other items you can view parish council minutes as well as back copies of this newsletter.

Parish Council Matters

The Annual Parish Meeting took place prior to the March Parish Council meeting - and very poorly it was attended too. Leaders of various groups in the villages produced reports of past and future events but maybe 7.30 pm is too early for those who work outside the area. The Parish Council reviewed and slightly uplifted the fees for interment in the cemetery, discussed the problems that arose during the bad weather, particularly the provision of adequate

warning signs and insufficient gritting arrangements. There was also concern about increased "rat-running" if the demolition of the A14 flyover at Huntingdon is implemented. In the past the council has approved expenditure on the chapel of rest and the cemetery and the results have improved the facility immensely. The ivy and brambles have been removed and the chapel of rest has been repaired and repainted to a very high standard. A good home needs to be found for the burial cart which is slowly deteriorating and the benches inside the chapel of rest need treating for woodworm before they become unusable.

Upwood Village Hall Forthcoming Events
in association with [act] - Arts in Cambs on Tour

"Fur Coats & Magic Knickers"

Thursday 21st May 7.45pm

A comedy performed by the award-winning MSFits Theatre

Tickets £7.50 Concessions £6.50

Box Office 01487 ... opens at 6pm on Sunday 19th April

ALSO PRESENTING

Saturday 27th June "Mamma Mia"

The Upwood premiere of this hit film - screening arranged in association with [act]. Other arrangements including times and cost of tickets yet to be confirmed. Further details, including booking information, will be issued as they become available.

The Bells...

Upwood Bell Ringers meet in the Church every Monday from 7.15 until 9.00 pm and enjoy playing from a broad range of music. We would welcome new members, young or old, as no experience is necessary. Please feel free to come along to watch, or listen or join in.

For further information or an informal chat please contact Margaret Jones on 814031 or e-mail her on normanmag@jones52.eclipse.co.uk

UPWOOD QUILTING GROUP

Please note that Upwood Quilters are moving their meetings to the last Tuesday in the month from 1.30 - 4.00 pm in the afternoon.

The calendar for 2009 meetings is: 28th April 26th May 30th June
28th July 25th August 29th September 27th October 24th November
.....and the Christmas Social is on 1st December.

The trip to York to the Quilt Museum on Friday 29th May is almost fully booked. If you want one of the remaining chances to go to York for the day shopping or sightseeing we do have some spare seats at the cost of £18 which just covers the cost of the coach and the driver's tip. Seats are available on a strictly first come first served basis. If you are interested in adding your

name to the list please contact one of the committee members listed below. If you would like more details please contact Deana Hudson on 711221 or Margaret Jones on 814031 or Janet Philipp on 711462.

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	David Oldale	Graham Hillman 711407

Cross Keys Diary Dates

Thursday 23rd April Sr.George's Night Dinner.

Also- new for 2009

Winter Warmer menu, Tuesday to Friday evenings.

1 course £6.95, 2 courses £9.95, 3 courses £12.92

And continuing

Over 50s lunches every Thursday a two course home cooked lunch for only £5.95.

And

Every Thursday is Steak Night - 8oz rump or sirloin, 10oz gammon and a dessert for £10.95, or a 16oz. Rump steak and dessert for £14.50.

UPWOOD 55 PLUS

After the winter seasonal break the new year's meetings started off in March with a delightful programme given by Upwood School Choir. This was so much enjoyed by the members and our thanks go to their intrepid conductor Mrs Mumford who was full of enthusiasm, helped by the Deputy Head Teacher.

The children so enjoy performing to an audience that it must be beneficial to them and long may it continue.

The Thursday coffee morning at Chris Bruce's, in aid of club funds, was a great success. Thanks again to Chris for a most enjoyable and pleasant morning. If you want to join, or have more information, contact Ruth Peckover on 812048

Meet & Munch

Please note that Meet and Munch will not recommence until Saturday 4th July, as the Village Hall is unavailable to us on 2nd May. In addition there will not be a meeting on 6th June due to the St. Peter's Church Flower festival and Upwood Gardens Open weekend. We welcome Upwood and Raveley residents aged 55 and over, to come along for afternoon tea between 3 and 4 pm in Upwood Village Hall on 4th July, 1st August, and 5th September..

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

Upwood Art Group.

UAG is now in its 7th year and membership numbers are at an all time high with four new members joining this season. We meet in the Village Hall every Saturday from 10 til noon. There is a wide range of materials available for visitors and new members to try and there is always subject matter provided although everyone is free to work on their own project.

Occasionally we have a professional model sit for us and sometimes we work from various sources including photographs and pictures. The group co-hosts the summer Open Art Show at the Ramsey Rural Museum, we visit the Fitzwilliam and the botanic gardens in Cambridge, the Summer Exhibition at the Royal Academy and enjoy a Christmas lunch at the Cross Keys. Throughout the summer, if the weather is kind, we visit a variety of sites in the area to paint and draw. Transport a problem? No worries, we are happy to share rides. All in all it's a very friendly and talented group who enjoy meeting and working together. Help is always available for newcomers and members alike so do come along one Saturday morning, maybe you will be tempted to join. Contact Frances Ashfield on 711411 for more information.

RAMSEY AND DISTRICT GARDEN CLUB

At the March meeting members enjoyed a talk on the Great Fen Project by Chris Gerard. He covered the background to the project, the programme to date and showed slides of some of the plants and animals in this unique environment. The next meeting will be at the Rainbow Centre in Ramsey at 7.30 pm on Monday 20th April when John Green will be talking about growing pelargoniums and fuchsias for show. Even if you don't want to show your plants it is likely that there will be tips that will improve your summer display. Visitors are welcomed.

The club will be running a trip to Kew Gardens on 6th September. The cost for transport and entry to the gardens for non members will be £24. If you are interested in joining us on this trip contact Josie Gaunt on 710702 to reserve a place or for more information..

An Indian Evening

You are all aware now that Emilie and Mariette Cracknell are fundraising to go on their expedition to the Himalayas.....a coffee morning was held at the home of Margaret and Geoff Carrington on 18th February to help raise funds for this worthwhile cause. The event was very well supported and £285 was given to them at the end of the morning. As it was half term the girls were able to be present to help serve coffee and talk to many people about their planned trip. On Saturday 25th April a group of students from Abbey College are holding an Indian Evening to fundraise for their trip to the Himalayas with World Challenge. The two girls will be involved in many activities including trekking and working on a local charity project. This event is being held in Ramsey Mereside Village Hall from 7 - 11 pm. The evening will be filled with authentic recipes, quizzes and much more. Tickets are £8 for adults, and £4 if you are under 11 years old. If you are interested in buying a ticket please call 812195

Home to Home

After the overindulgences of the Christmas season it was a pleasure to relax and enjoy the beautiful and simple delights of the slide show presented by Phil and Noreen Evans in January. Their photographs of local flowers and countryside were stunning and they gave a lovely start to the New Year. Thanks to them and our host, Mrs. Deirdre Manchett.

February's was quite a different meeting. Members were encouraged to explore their artistic side and paint along with Frances Ashfield. Everyone (much to the surprise of many) painted two pictures in acrylics. The first, a stylised rendering of "The Three Little maids" produced some amazing results. The second, a landscape of mountains and water produced equally impressive pictures. Judging by the noise and laughter everyone enjoyed the experience. Wonder how many ladies will be joining the Upwood Art Group?

On Monday 27th April there will be a talk on the Ramsey Walled Victorian Kitchen garden project in the Village Hall at 8 pm. In May Chris Slack from "Lavender Blue" will demonstrate the art of "Modern Flower Arranging". Venue and time as before.

Home to Home is a really friendly un-stuffy group and new members and visitors are made very welcome. Doesn't matter if you are 25, 65 or 105 or even new to the area, come along and meet us. Contact Josie Gaunt on 710702 or Frances Ashfield on 711411 for more information

Contact Josie Gaunt on 01487 710702 for information.

Garage Sales Sunday 7th June

Do you look at the accumulation of 'surplus' stuff in your garage or loft and say "We really should get rid of this lot" or "Let's take it to a boot fair when the weather is warmer". Well, restrain yourselves, cos help is at hand.

To co-incide with the Village Open Garden Day, we are going to repeat our very successful Upwood Garage Sale day of previous years. On Sunday 7th June the village will, as always, be a magnet for visitors. Visitors will not be able to pass up a chance of a bargain or two from your own driveway, eh. You won't have to do anything, we will advertise and put signs up round the village. There will be a request for a modest sum to help with the outlay for adverts Give me a ring if you want more detailos or to register an interest. Call John Laing on 812686 - now.

News from Ramsey Heights

We now have a travellers site in Harpers Drove, Ramsey Heights.

Huntingdonshire District Council have, it is learned, issued an enforcement notice, which takes 28 days to become enforceable, after which, if they appeal, the time scale stretches out considerably.

Springtime Reminder.

This may be a good time to remind you that you should always be mindful of the security of your home, garage and garden shed. There has already been one report of an attempt to enter a property in the village. There have also in the past been occasional drive-by smash and grab attacks on cars parked with valuables left on view. You don't just have to lock up your daughters.

Upwood and the Raveleys History Group.

There was a good attendance at the AGM on 18th March when we also welcomed a new member. The membership fee remains at £10. Ian Gaunt was elected Chairman, Freda Fotheringham is Secretary, Judith Harvey is treasurer, all being re-elected. The next meeting will be in the Village Hall on 20th May at 7.45 pm when Ian Burton is booked to give a talk on 'Papworth Villages'.

There are still some **Red Books** entitled "Upwood & Raveley Village memories 1900-2000 for sale available from Ian Gaunt (Tel: 710702).

Meetings are held every two months and during 2009 there will be talks on Victorian prisons and Pickwick's Fen. We are also visiting Stamford (with a guided tour) and Rockingham Castle. Visitors are always welcomed to come to our meetings.

The business meeting was followed by a very interesting talk and photographic show given by Jane and David Yardley on the growth and development of Ramsey Rural Museum from 1977 to the present day. They also brought some items of interest for members to try and identify.

The next large project for the museum is to raise sufficient funds to erect an original Fen Cottage that they have been given and in which the late Marshall Papworth was born. Support for this venture will be very much appreciated. For information call Ian Gaunt on 710702.

Ramsey Rural Museum

Remember that you have your local museum in Wood Lane Ramsey (entrance opposite the cemetery). It is an ideal spot for a visit or to take visitors to and introduce them to the locality. This isn't just a collection of old farm machinery, there are replica shops of the Victorian period and a wheelwright's and blacksmith's shop .There is a Victorian schoolroom and displays relating to World War 2 and Upwood aerodrome. And there is a tea-shop selling refreshments as well as helpful volunteers to answer you questions.

The Museum is open on Thursdays (from 10 am til 5 pm) and Sundays (from 2 until 5pm) as well as Bank Holidays and "Special Events".

11 th -13 th April	Easter weekend grand sale of books, cds, DVDs and records.
Sun 26 th April	Ford Side Valve Car Rally -visitors welcomed.
Sun 17 th May	"All Creatures Great and Small" a Pets Fun Day
Sun 14 th June	Plant Sale - good quality plants from local growers.
Sat/Sun 27 th /28 th June	International Museums "On Air " weekend.
Sat 25 th July	Ramsey Horticultural Society Annual Show. Open to all.
Sat/Sun 8 th /9 th Aug.	Art exhibition by local artists - fantastic show.
Sun 16 th Aug	Model Railway Day - layouts, trade stalls, rides.
Sun 27 th Sept	Heritage/genealogy Day. How to research your family.
Sun 27 th Sept	Classic vehicle Show - cars, commercial vehicles, and Much more in this new for 2009 event.

Want more information? Call Jane Yardley on 01487 814304



Sunday Club

Palm Sunday 5th April.

Come and join us on our Palm Sunday Praise Parade at St Peter's Church. We will gather at the top of Ailwyn Road at 9.15 am and walk down Ailwyn Road to the footpath through to the south side of the church. The service starts at 9.30 am and there will be coffee and biscuits after the service.

There will also be a walk of witness 10 am from Ramsey Surgery car park (opposite Rainbow).

Easter Sunday Service

Will be on Sunday 12th April and the children may be lucky enough to have Easter Eggs.

The next Sunday club session will be on 10th May.

St. Peter's Upwood Flower festival - 6th and 7th June

The theme is Weddings. It is hoped that we will have wedding dresses on show from weddings that have taken place in St. Peter's Church over the years.

The church will be open on Saturday from 2 pm and you will be able to get a

cream tea from then until 4.30 pm.

On Sunday there will be a service at 9.30 am to which everyone is welcome, and then from 11 am you will be able to purchase a guide to the Village Open Gardens. In the afternoon the Handbells will be playing in the church, so do come along and listen to them. For more information contact AnneMarie on 812195 or Jean Place on 813742

The Village Website

Doug Mcleod has done lots of work on the history pages of the village website. Direct links to CCAN pages are now being added. You will be able to find more information and pictures by following these links from the village website www.upwood.org

Upwood and Raveley History and Archive Group

The two groups are now linked together and it is hoped that some joint projects will expand our knowledge and recording of local history when they are started later in the year. An event to reminisce is planned for 22nd July so keep the date free. If you would like to come along and share your memories please do so. Don't forget that the group also welcomes pictures of events that happen this year for their records.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sun 5 th April	Palm Sunday Praise Parade. Huntingdon Wildlife Trust visit Wistow Woods.
Mon 20 th April	Garden Club meeting "Pelargoniums and Fuschias"
Thu 23 rd April	St. George's Night dinner at the Cross keys
Sat 25 th April	Indian Evening at Mereside Village Hall
Sun 26 th April	Garden Club trip to RHS Harlow Carr
Mon 27 th April	Neighbourhood Policing Panel meeting Home to Home talk "Ramsey Victorian Kitchen Garden"
Tue 28 th April	Quilters meeting
Wed 20 th May	History Group meeting
Thu 21st May	Fur Coats and Magic Knickers in the Village Hall
Tue 26 th May	Quilters meeting
Sun 31 st May	Team service in St Peter's Church
Sat/Sun 6 th /7 th June	St.Peter's Flower Festival
Sun 7 th June	Upwood "Open Gardens" and Garage Sales
Sat 13 th June	Upwood School Annual Ball
Sat 20 th June	Upwood Village Fete
Sat 27 th June	"Mama Mia" in the Village Hall
Tue 30 th June	Quilters meeting
Sun 12 th July	Party in the Paddock - at the Cross Keys.
Sat 25 th July	Horticultural Society Annual Show,

Annual Parochial Church meeting (APCM)

The APCM will be held in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm on Thursday 2nd April.

Girls who want to play football, read on.

Sawtry Colts FC are building on the success of their girl's football teams and are looking to recruit more players for next season.

Sawtry Colts will be running six girls' teams next season, from Under 8s to Under 14s and are looking for girls in school years 1 - 8 to join them.

The club will be running some open training sessions over the Easter break to allow new girls to come along and give football a try-out, without any commitment to join the team. The session will include some agility work, basic ball work and will finish with small sided games.

Sawtry Colts are an FA Charter Standard Development club with a football for all philosophy and even if you have never played football before we would be very pleased to see you.

Should you decide that you would like to join a team they will provide you with all the information that you require and teach you the basic skills that you need.

You will only need to supply your own boots and shin pads and the club will provide everything else that you need.

Anybody interested in attending these open sessions can contact Steve Purnell for more details on 07964 496259 or e-mail steve.Purnell@sawtrycolts.org

Cross Keys Golf Society

The next outing of the Cross Keys Golf Society is on Friday 13th May.

The format is the same as in previous outings.

The entry sheet was be in the public bar of The Cross Keys inn the week commencing 23rd March.

If you require any further information please contact Malcolm Hudson on 711221.

The truth behind Delia's cooking tips.

Delia: To keep potatoes from sprouting put them in a bag with an apple.

Truth: Buy Cadbury's "Smash", it lasts for years

Delia: If you wrap celery in aluminium foil it keeps for ages.

Truth : It can keep for ever, who eats it anyway.

Delia: As a cure for a headache, cur a lime in half and rub it across your forehead. The throbbing will go away

Truth: Take a lime, cut it in half, drop it into 8 ounces of vodka. Drink the vodka. It wont cure the head ache but you won't care.

Delia: Freeze leftover wine in an ice cube tray for future use in casseroles.

Truth: Left over wine.....Helloooooo

That's it for now, use the rest of this page for a shopping list.....