



Upwood & the Raveleys Newsletter

April 2014 Issue 71

CROSS KEYS TO RE-OPEN



Readers will be delighted to know that we can confirm that the Cross Keys is re-opening in May. The new owner is Hayley Huskinson who has been running a pub in Kent. Previously she lived in the area for 14 years.

Her Australian chef is already devising a full new menu of 'upmarket' pub food. She is hoping to re-open for the May bank holiday.

You may remember Hayley as the lady who took her horse and trap for a drink at the pub!

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DIARY OF EVENTS – APRIL 2014

| Date | Day | Event | Time | Place / Contact |
|----------------------|------------|--|----------------|--|
| 2 Apr | Wed | Book Lovers' Evening Group | 7.30pm | Village Hall Liz 813008 |
| 4 Apr | Fri | Great Fen Project - Talk | 7.30pm | Countryside Classroom |
| 5 Apr | Sat | Lent Lunches | 12.30pm | Village Hall |
| 6 Apr | Sun | Morning Prayer | 9.30am | St Peter's Church |
| 7 Apr | Mon | Parish Council Meeting | 7.00pm | Village Hall |
| 12 Apr | Sat | Lent Lunches | 12.30pm | St Mary's Village Hall |
| 13 Apr | Sun | Palm Sunday- Holy Communion | 9.30am | St Peter's Church |
| 16 Apr | Wed | Great Fen Project - walk | 10.00am | Little Gidding |
| 17 Apr | Thu | Maundy Thursday service | 7.30pm | St Thomas a Beckett |
| 18 Apr | Fri | Walk of Witness | 9.45am | Meet Rainbow H.C. Car Park |
| 20 Apr | Sun | Easter Sunday –All Age Communion | 9.30am | St Peter's Church |
| 23 Apr | Wed | WEA course starts | 8.00pm | Village Hall, Liz 813008 |
| 24 Apr | Thu | Church APCM | 7.00pm | Village Hall |
| 25 Apr | Fri | UPA - Chris & Kellie While | 7.45pm | Village Hall, Doug 814114 |
| 27 Apr | Sun | Holy Communion with Baptism | 9.30am | St Peter's Church |
| 28 Apr | Mon | Garden Club – 'Easy Gardening' | 7.30pm | Ramsey Community Centre, Ian 710702 |
| 4May | Sun | Morning Prayer | 9.30am | St Peter's Church |
| 11 May | Sun | Holy Communion | 9.30am | St Peter's Church |
| 12 May | Mon | Parish Council Meeting | 7.00pm | Village Hall |
| 16 May | Fri | Coffee morning for Papworth Hosp. | 10.30am | 8 High St. |
| 18 May | Sun | Open the Book | 9.30am | St Peter's Church |
| 19 May | Mon | Garden Club – 'Design for Wildlife' | 7.30pm | Ramsey Community Centre, Ian 710702 |
| 19 May | Mon | Home to Home Fashion Show | 7.30pm | Village Hall, Jackie 711329 |
| 21 May | Wed | Hist Gp.:Cambridgeshire in WW1 & 2 | 7.45pm | Village Hall, Ian 710702 |
| 25 May | Sun | Holy Communion | 9.30am | St Peter's Church |
| Future Events | | | | |
| 6 Jun | Fri | Cross Keys Golf Society Tournament | From 7.30am | Pidley Golf Club |
| 7 Jun | Sat | Meet & Munch lunch party | 1.30pm | Village Hall, Mags 812424 |
| 14 Jun | Sat | Fund raising event for Alder Hey Children's Hospital | 11am | Kathryn 812891 |
| 16 Jun | Mon | Garden Club – Plot to Pot | 7.30pm | Ramsey Community Centre, Ian 710702 |
| 21 Jun | Sat | CLP Event | 2 - 4 pm | Village Hall, Fiona 710045 |
| 27 Jun | Fri | Gala Eve Abbot's Ripton Garden Show | | Abbot's Ripton Hall |
| 28-29 Jun | Sat-Sun | Abbot's Ripton Garden Show | | Abbot's Ripton Hall |

Deadline for the June Issue is the 15 May 2014

PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council is pleased to welcome parishioners to the PC Meetings which are held on the first Monday of the month except for May when the date CHANGES because of the Spring Bank Holiday. There will be no meeting in August. Meetings now start at 7.00pm in the Village Hall.

ELECTION OF NEW PARISH COUNCILLOR: The Council was faced with the difficult task of electing the new Parish Councillor. Three excellent candidates presented themselves and after much deliberation it was agreed to appoint Jason Edwards. Jason has a lifelong connection with Upwood, managing the family farm and running the farm shop. He previously served as a governor of Upwood School. His knowledge of the land around Upwood and local history, combined with his responsibility as District Officer for the local Drainage Board means we have a valuable addition to the Parish Council.

SPEEDWATCH: Two more volunteers have come forward so that Upwood and the Raveleys will qualify for signs to be erected stating that this is an official 'Speedwatch Area'. The erection of these warning signs on entry to other villages has been seen to cause motorists to reduce their entry speed to the built up area.

CROSS KEYS PUBLIC HOUSE: See front of Newsletter.

CARS PARKING ON PAVEMENTS: Car Drivers need to be aware that they are liable to be issued with a fixed penalty notice if they park on the pavement. Parking on the pavement is illegal, as the vehicle is causing obstruction to users of the pavement.

BARRIER GATE TO ALLOTMENT: A gate has been purchased and will be fitted at the Meadow Road entrance when conditions allow.

COMMUNITY ORCHARD: Please see separate report.

COMMUNITY LED PLAN: Please see the separate report.

FOOTBALL PLAYERS: The playing field is due to be cut in April so that football playing can be started there again. **Ball Games are NOT PERMITTED on the play area in Bentley Close. Dogs are not permitted in either the play area or the playing field.**

DITCHES, DRAINS, POTHoles AND ROAD SIGN DETERIORATION: The Council is currently addressing these issues

NEW WOODLANDS CENTRE at Hinchingsbrooke Hospital: The Parish Council received a request for financial assistance from the charity that is raising funds for the extension to the Woodlands Centre which supports the treatment and recovery of cancer patients. The Parish Council agreed to donate £20. Individual groups may like to arrange fund raising events within in the village for this worthy cause.

PARISH COUNCIL continued

DOG WALKERS: DON'T BE THE FIRST OWNER TO BE FACED WITH A FINE OF £1,000.

Only a few dog owners are guilty of not clearing up after their pet. This annoys responsible owners who do and other residents who discover it, whether walking in the village or over to Lady's Wood.

Five dog waste bins are located around the village and a sixth will be ordered for the junction of Church Lane and Huntingdon Road. Dog owners need to be aware that the council will press for prosecution of owners failing to clear up after their dogs; parents will be held responsible if the dog causing the mess is under the control of a child.

NEXT MEETINGS: MONDAY, 7th APRIL 2014 & MONDAY, 12th MAY 2014 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall.



UPDATE

CLP Parish Questionnaire: What YOU need to do

The CLP steering committee has been working hard to create a questionnaire covering many important aspects of our community. This will be distributed to all the households in the parish with the June newsletter. It has been designed so that every member of every household will be able to complete the questionnaire and make their views known.

This is YOUR chance to express YOUR views about the way in which YOU would like to see the parish develop over the next 10 – 15 years. It is vital that EVERYONE responds so that a true picture of the views of the community is reflected when the questionnaires are analysed.

If you require a large print copy (A4 size as opposed to A5) please contact Fiona Hopkins on 710045 as soon as possible.

On Saturday 21st June in the Village Hall there will be a further opportunity to see the CLP exhibition and talk to members of the steering committee.

Completion and collection details will be attached to the questionnaire and will also be included in the June edition of this newsletter, along with further details of the 2nd CLP Open Event.

COMMUNITY ORCHARD

The Upwood Community Orchard has arrived. A team of sponsors and volunteers enjoying the lovely spring weather planted the 15 trees on Sunday 16th March. The orchard comprises a selection of pears, plums and apples, culinary and eating varieties. All the trees are local to our area and were sourced through the East of England Apples & Orchards Project, a charity protecting and promoting regional trees and developing traditional orchards. Bridget Halford from HDC was on hand to lend support (literally!) and the splendid labels were supplied by George Munford of Plant Advice based in Upwood.



A huge, huge, thank you to all our supporters, from the planning to the planting. It was a wonderful sight to see you all, from grandparent to grandchild (and a dog or two as well), working together to transform an empty plot into a brand new community project. Thank you all.

UPWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

ANCIENT GREEK HISTORY DAY: Year 5 fundraised to pay for a special History Day. The children organised a cake stall and sold handmade Christmas cards. Year 5 pupils had invited Nick King, formerly of the Cambridgeshire Recycling Bus, to come and help them make all sorts of wonderful Greek related crafts, including chariots and horses from tubes and cereal packets! The children really enjoyed their Greek day, particularly as they had worked so hard to fundraise for it. Well done Year 5.

WORLD BOOK DAY: We also celebrated 'World Book Day,' on Thursday March 6th. This is a global event celebrating reading and books. Many fun events were organised in school including pupils and staff dressing up as their favourite characters from books such as 'Where's Wally?' and 'Harry Potter.' Staff selected their favourite stories and pupils chose which story they listened to in a 'Story Roundabout.' Staff and children would like to thank, Mr Vincent, who organised our special events.

COMING UP..... As the spring term draws to a close, we will be holding our annual 'Egg Day.' Years 1-6 will be invited to take part in a competition to design 'something' using a hardboiled egg. There will be prizes for each class and an overall winner which will be displayed for parents/carers. This day always proves to be very popular.

55+

Following the closure of 55+ club the committee members met and decided that the remaining funds should be allocated to the following organisations:

Village Hall (to supply chairs with arm support) £636; Parish Newsletter - £500.

UPWOOD VILLAGE HALL PERFORMING ARTS EVENTS

Some good news and some not so good news.

Firstly the not so good news: we have been informed that Hunts District Council is withdrawing its funding from the Arts in Cambs on Tour [act] scheme which has been so successful at UVH over the last few years. This means that we will not be able to host any more subsidised shows for the foreseeable future. Whilst recognising that budgets are tight it seems a real shame that £3000 cannot be found to maintain this wonderful scheme which benefits so many rural communities across Cambridgeshire.

Now the good news: we will still be staging shows at UVH although undoubtedly ticket prices will have to rise to reflect the increased artistes' fees we will have to meet.

Fri 25 April - Chris & Kellie While

Tickets: £10.50



Mother and daughter, Chris & Kellie While, are returning to UVH by public demand. With wonderful harmonies and deft guitar playing they are sure to provide another memorable evening of acoustic music.

KEEP THESE DATES FREE:-

Sun 14 Sept – Kathryn Roberts and Sean Lakeman



Winners of Best Duo at the 2013 Radio 2 Folk Awards. As well as appearing with his wife, Kathryn, Sean also plays guitar for his famous younger brother Seth Lakeman. Kathryn sings as well as playing keyboards, flute and clarinet. A class act.

Tues 16 Dec – St Agnes Fountain



Surely the best festive band you will ever see. Usually playing to sell-out audiences in theatres and concert halls, we have been very fortunate to be able to book this brilliant 4-piece band to appear in the intimate surroundings of UVH. Don't miss this event.

Box Office for all events: 01487 814114 / pndmcleod@btinternet.com

UPWOOD UKE CLUB



We currently have 12 members and have been meeting weekly on Thursday evenings in members' houses since February. We even have our first public performance in June!

If you would like to join us contact Doug McLeod 814114 / pndmcleod@btinternet.com

UPWOOD AND THE RAVELEYS HISTORY GROUP

The History Group meets in the Upwood Village Hall on the third Wednesday of alternate months and arranges visits to places of interest.

On Saturday 15 March we had a very exciting visit to Flag Fen. As well as looking round the usual exhibits in the museum such as the Bronze Age Round House (pictured) 27 members and friends were thrilled to be able to see the log boats 'in situ'. The preservation of these wonderful Bronze Age boats is following exactly the same process used to preserve the Mary Rose and we were delighted to be given a glimpse under some of the bubble wrap (kindly arranged by Mark Knight) and see the intricate carving for ourselves.



The next meeting is on 21st May and will be a talk by Mike Petty on "Cambridgeshire in World Wars 1&2". We know that Mike is a knowledgeable and entertaining speaker. There will be a group visit to Burley House in June linked to a talk given in March by Brian Jones and the visit includes a guided tour by Brian. In July there will be a talk by Liz St Hill Davis with the intriguing title "Kill or Cure- Doctor T.J. Walker".

Membership is £10 but visitors are welcome to individual meetings at a cost of £3.

VILLAGE HISTORY PROJECT

Edwardian Upwood: We are planning a project to explore the available records to define how the villages looked in 1910, who owned the various properties, who lived in them and what trades were carried out. Longer term we hope to compare these records for properties and land with current use to give a broad-based comparison of the old and modern villages but with no specific detail for a property. The project will run in bite sized projects with an aim to completing in 2018 to coincide with the anniversary of 'Peace'. If interested in joining in with this project let us know.

Time Line: Also we are developing a time-line chart of the villages. We are interested in anything that happened back to the medieval period but also more recent events. If you have any information, however minor, please let us know.

GREAT FEN PROJECT

TALK: Flag Fen: An Ever Changing Story – Sarah Wilson. On 4 April at Countryside Classroom, Ramsey Heights. Suggested donation £3. info@greatfen.org.uk

WALK: On 16th Apr. Meet at 10.00 in car park, Ferrar House, Little Gidding, PE28 5RJ for a 5 mile walk. Suggested donation £2.50. Contact Adrian Kempster 07983 850886, adriankempster001@gmail.com

UPWOOD TABLE TENNIS CLUB (TT) – A SEVEN YEAR HISTORY OF SUCCESS

In 2007 the idea for a Table Tennis club was put to me by Bob Child. At that time I had approached Bob for a private booking for a few friends to play but instead advertised for general interest in the Village Newsletter. I had thought of running the club in the daytime but the response suggested evenings would be better. So, on 13 March 2007 we kicked off on a Tuesday night from 8-10pm with 6 members and charged £2 per head. We were allowed to use the youth club table which we had in the back hall and we discovered how much fun could be had playing doubles.



Christmas Party -2013

Balls were now white or orange and bat technology had advanced enormously - the blade (wooden bit) of different weights and balance, the rubbers graded by speed, control and spin. Having understood all of that some players still preferred to keep the bats they were used to.

Our previous experiences of the game were mainly from our schooldays, so we were all a bit rusty and had to get acquainted with the latest rules and changes. The diameter of the ball had moved from 38mm to 40mm, scoring to 11 points (previously 21) to win a game and changing serve every 2 points (previously 5).



Dinner/Dance – Mar 2014

The first year saw a slow increase in membership but by the summer of 2008 it had increased to 16. Word had finally got around that Table Tennis was a **SUPER FUN GAME!** Friends brought friends until we had 20 members by the end of that year. We decided to limit the club to 24 members with a waiting list, and to purchase our own TT table so that we could use both halls with 2 tables, thus ensuring members got sufficient games during the evening.

About this time a committee was created to handle the club affairs. Those on the waiting list were allowed to play one Tuesday a month as guests so that they could feel part of the club and not forgotten. Within a very short space of time we were able to purchase a second table to replace the old youth club table which was on the point of collapse!

As well as enjoying the Table Tennis we all got on together socially and so we had our first summer coach outing to Hunstanton in 2009, subsidised by the club. The outing has become a tradition, with a different venue chosen by the club members every July. As time went on we introduced a singles night on a Monday for those who wanted more concentrated action



First Outing to Hunstanton

and although never as popular as Tuesday doubles it has been highly successful in developing players' skills.

Tournaments have become a highlight of the year in March (doubles) and October (singles) with intense competition for the trophies. Also every March is the annual dinner dance-again heavily subsidised by the club and held in different venues, the latest involving a buffet meal with a live band in the village hall.



Doubles Final - 2013

This year we have had tuition from a qualified coach, who has visited the club on 4 occasions, which has improved the overall playing standard. One delight for club nights is the celebration of birthdays when a member brings cakes for all to enjoy.

Current membership stands at 32 with nobody on the waiting list. Average attendance numbers between 18 and 22, which allows most members to play several games during an evening. The atmosphere we have maintained on a club night is excellent, mainly because most players accept that the social side of the club is as important as the game itself.

We have recently started a daytime club operating on a Wednesday afternoon, which after only a few weeks has already proved to be very popular with as many as 18 people turning up to play. Several new faces have appeared, alongside some of the Tuesday evening players, and a good time looks guaranteed for all.

From an initial idea in 2007, seven years later the Upwood Table Tennis Club is going from strength to strength.

David Williams Chairman of UTTC

WEA UPWOOD BRANCH



* **SUMMER COURSE 2014** * at Upwood Village Hall:

THE PLANT HUNTERS

Tutor: Andrew Sankey

6 WEEKS STARTING Wednesday 23 APRIL 2014

From 8 - 10 pm including refreshment break

Cost: £36.30



Concessions are available - please ask Liz for details.

Learn about the men who forded rivers, climbed mountains, faced danger and death - so that they could fill your garden with wondrous plants from the four corners of the world. The course will cover the Tradescants, Joseph Banks, 'Chinese' Wilson and David Douglas amongst others. Interested? Just come along to the first session on 23rd or email liz@backtracks.biz to reserve a place.

MEET & MUNCH

Summer will be welcomed in true Meet & Munch style in Upwood Village Hall, on Saturday 7th June 2014, at 1.30pm to 3.00pm, with a "June is Bursting Out all Over" lunch party. Members, once again, can wear their party hats and "Summery" clothing to celebrate, or maybe even bring along a floral buttonhole etc!!

During the following months, delightful "Afternoon Tea" will be provided for members by our team of ladies at 3.00pm to 4.30pm on the following dates – 5th July 2014, 2nd August 2014, 6th September 2014

Meet and Munch members welcome Upwood and Raveleys residents, aged 55 and over to join them for "tea and a chat" – contact Mags Dudley on 812424.

UPWOOD VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

It has been necessary to increase hiring charges as from June 2014. This will be the first increase in charges since January 2011. For full details of these new charges please contact the Bookings Secretary, Bob Child: 815475 / bobchild82@virgin.net or view the chart on the village website: www.upwood.org.



However, in spite of significant increases in fuel costs nationally, we have been able to control our expenditure on electricity which means that the unit charge to hirers, which has been in place since 2009, will remain unchanged for the time being.

A ceiling mounted digital projector and wall screen has now been installed in the large hall for use by hirers by pre-arrangement.

UPWOOD ST PETER'S CHURCH

Holy week services at St Peters - both led by Rev'd Gita Bond:

Palm Sunday, 9.30 am: Holy Communion and blessing of Palms.

Easter Day, 9.30 am: All Age Holy Communion Service. This Easter service will be suitable for all the family and the children will be included.

Details of other services and Lent Lunches – see Diary of Events, Page 2.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

St Peter's APCM will be held on Thursday 24 April in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. This is a very important meeting for St Peter's church. The following extract, from a letter written by Richard Darmody (Canon), gives more information:

This is always an important meeting in the life of the Church, but this year it is especially the case. I believe that the Parish Church has a place in the life of the village. It has been going through testing times in recent years. The post of Vicar has been gone for some time now and there is little likelihood of it being re-instated. This means that there can only be Clergy at Sunday services for two Sundays in the month. However, there is a faithful if small group of people who are working hard to maintain the ministry of our Parish Church within Upwood. Not least for their sakes we want to find ways of staffing the other two Sundays.

In truth we need help. We have been grateful to Gordon Slinn who has acted as the named minister for the past four years, and has been a Licenced Lay Minister for many more years. Gordon is now retiring from that post as from the APCM. We need the members of St Peter's to rise to the challenge that is before us. We require two Church Wardens, members to come onto the Church Council and volunteers to keep the ship on course. I recognise that this is a sacrificial work in a busy life.

One sure way of knowing that there is plenty of good will is to have a better attendance at the Annual Meeting. Therefore I would like to encourage you to be present if you possibly can. Even if you can't take on any responsibility it will encourage us to know that you are there. Do keep St Peter's Church in your thoughts and prayers. Yours, Richard Darmody (Canon).

Bishop's Visit: On Sunday, 9 March the Right Rev'd Stephen Conway, Bishop of Ely took the morning service at St Peters. The visit was part of his intensive diocese wide Lent Visits programme. With a friendly ease he brought something special to Upwood. After the service he joined members of Upwood and St Mary's parishes for lunch in the Village Hall. It was not the 'Bishop' title alone that impressed but the person himself.

Abbots Ripton Garden Show: This year St Peter's will be a recipient of money raised. Gala evening on 27 June and Garden Show – 28-29 June, 2014. Details in next edition.

CROSS KEYS GOLF SOCIETY

There is a Cross Keys Golf Society golf day on Friday 6th June 2014 at the Lakeside Lodge Golf Centre at Pidley. As the Cross Keys pub is closed at the moment there will be no evening meal this time but food is available at the Golf Club.

The format for the day with approximate times will be:

07:30 onwards Coffee and bacon butties in the club house.

08:36 First tee time for 18 hole Texas Scramble Competition on the Lodge course

13:00 Lunch as teams arrive back. (Ham, eggs and chips)

14:20 First afternoon Tee Time for the 9 hole Stableford Competition on the Manor course

The prize giving will be at the end of the competition, in the Clubhouse.

The cost for the day is £38:00. Places are limited so if interested please contact Dave Murray on 815071, d.murray354@btinternet.com or Steve Matthews at stephen-matthews@live.com. Deposits have to be paid early. Looking forward to hearing from you all. SHC

RAMSEY SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB

I see the Upwood Senior citizens club has closed. As the Chairwomen of the Ramsey Senior Citizens Club, I would like say that Upwood seniors would be most welcome to join our club. We meet on the first Wednesday of the month in the village hall, Bury - starting at 2pm. Afternoon tea, raffle and entertainment is provided for £1.50. Annual subs, including a two course catered Christmas Lunch, is £5.00. Further information and pictures can be found on our website: ramseyseniors.wordpress.com

COFFEE MORNING
in aid of
Papworth Hospital Charity

Friday May 16
10.30am – 12 noon

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 8 High Street Upwood | Raffle £1 entry |
|-------------------------|--------------------|

www.papworthhospitalcharity.org.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. Anyone is welcome to come along as a visitor to enjoy an evening of talks, demonstrations or activities and we aim to interest women of all ages. In May we will be having a fashion show of end of line clothing from quality high street retailers – see flyer.

TREES OF UPWOOD – 2. ASH (*Fraxinus excelsior*)

This is the second of an occasional series of articles about our local flora and fauna.

The ash is the most frequent deciduous tree in our county. It occurs in woods, hedgerows, copses and railway embankments throughout the area and is especially common on clay soils. It is a major tree in our hedgerows since the loss of elms due to Dutch Elm Disease.

Ash is easily recognised in winter by its black, conical buds. Flowers appear in early spring before the leaves in dense clusters on the bare twigs. Each flower is insignificant; there are no petals because the flowers are pollinated by the wind so there is no need of showy flowers or scent to attract insects. The leaves are made up of several leaflets arranged in pairs along a midrib, with a single leaflet at the tip.

Fruits develop in clusters and are much more obvious than the flowers. Each one is made up of a seed with a broad wing attached to it. When the seeds are ripe, they are detached by the wind and the wing enables the seeds to be spread well beyond the parent tree so increasing its chances to grow into a new plant.

Ash is an important timber tree. Its wood is light coloured, strong and hard wearing and is used for furniture making, in house interiors and for making wooden implements. Recently, it has been much in the news because of a disease called *Chalar fraxinia* that has invaded this country causing the leaves to wilt and resulting eventually in the death of the tree. At present it is not known how many of our trees are likely to die. Urgent research is being undertaken to identify resistant strains in our native population in case we need to replant woodlands after they have been devastated by this disease.

On a walk round the village one can see a number of ash trees of varying age. There are some reasonably young specimens in the hedge line along the cricket field – no doubt planted to replace the dead elms. Older specimens are seen on the right-hand side of the road, while in Charters Spinney, there is a superb example of a mature coppiced ash with huge branches arising from a stool, many years of age. Why not see how many ash trees you can count on your next walk?

Sheila Wells

RAMSEY AND DISTRICT GARDEN CLUB

The Club meets in the Ramsey Community Centre at 7.30. Normally the meetings are on the third Monday of the month with a variety of talks and demonstrations. The club also holds an annual show in July (on July 27th this year) at the Ramsey Rural Museum. This show is open to entries from all of the community and not just our members so consider getting a schedule and making some entries. It is not only for flowers and vegetables but has classes for cookery, preserves, needlework and photography.

The meeting in April is on 28th (not the third Monday on this occasion). There will be a talk by Geoff Hodge, a gardening writer, on "Easy Gardening". This is a topic that should attract everyone. We have had other talks by Geoff and know that he is very knowledgeable and entertaining.

The meeting on 19th May is a talk on "Design for wildlife-including water features" by Stephen Hall and that in June (16th) is "Plot to pot" by Gail Summerfield.

Annual membership of the Club costs £10 and visitors are welcome to individual meetings at £2. For further information please contact Ian Gaunt (01487 710702; ian.gaunt@care4free.net).

RAMSEY RURAL MUEUM Re-opens in April

Wood Lane, Ramsey PE26 2XD. 815715

New for 2014: Beautiful Sensory Garden –an experience for all

Displays: Chemist & Cobbler shops, Pump room, Ferrier, Wheelwright.

Agricultural Tools, Carts, Machinery; Life style rooms, Schools, armed Forces, Railways, Trade Room, Archive, Local Family History Archive

Facilities: Tea-room, gift shop, book shop, FREE PARKING, toilets, wheel chair access, picnic area plus special events.

www.ramseyruralmuseum.co.uk

ADULT SUPPORT DROP-IN SESSIONS IN RAMSEY LIBRARY

Are you: Living with a long term illness or disability? Providing unpaid support to adult family members or friends who could not manage without your help? Struggling with an age related condition? If you answered 'yes' to any of these then drop into one of the specialist sessions organised to help you. (4th Tuesday of the month, 10– 12)

22 April 2014 Activity: Therapeutic Art – Screen printing

27 May 2014 Specialist Advice: Headway

24 June 2014 Advice: Trading Standards

PUBLIC INFORMATION

CAMBRIDGESHIRE NET

www.cambridgeshire.net is a free website provided by Cambridgeshire County Council. It provides information on clubs, societies and community facilities in Cambridgeshire. Go to the website to add your group.

CHANGES TO BUS TIMETABLES

Changes have been made to services which affect this area.

Bus Route A (Chatteris/Ramsey/Somersham via St Ives P&R to Cambridge, Addenbrookes & Trumpington P&R). Peak hour services now operate up to every 5 mins Mon-Sat.

Bus 30: Ramsey to Huntingdon. New times: 15.05 and 17.05 (i.e. 30mins later).

Bus 30: Huntingdon to Ramsey. New time: 17.30 (i.e. 15 mins earlier)

DO SOMETHING SPECIAL...BECOME A FOSTER CARER IN 2014

Cambridgeshire County Council needs more foster families to help transform lives and meet the needs of local children and young people. Call our freephone number on **0800 052 0078** or email **fanda@cambridgeshire.gov.uk**

TRADING STANDARDS WARNINGS

Telephone scams

Beware of callers who claim to be calling about the non-payment of telephone bills and threatening to disconnect you unless immediate payment is made. Check the facts and contact your provider on the number provided in your paperwork. Ensure there is a dialing tone before calling them in case the fraudsters have remained on the line ready to pose as your service provider. If there is no dialing tone, try again in 5 minutes.

You may experience a series of silent calls, followed by a call from a company offering to help prevent silent calls, for a fee. This call is made by the same fraudsters who were making the silent calls.

Door-to-door callers

With regards to house alarms, beware of telesales calls (often followed up by a house call) offering an alarm system at virtually no cost. The catch is the annual service charge which amounts to thousands of pounds.

Beware of any trader who knocks at the door offering to do home improvement or gardening work for you, no matter how friendly they seem or how cheap the job appears. This is the prime way rogue traders find customers. Be cautious of door-to-door callers who claim to be ex-convicts who are trying to turn their lives around by items. Their story is untrue and once you buy they will call on you again and again.

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 | Dave Murray | 815071 |
| District Councillor (Chair of Parish Council) | Robin Howe | 814393 |
| 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 | Terry Haslin | 815609 |
| 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

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