

The Chimes

The Chimes Online

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April 2024 No 357

Your magazine for local news and services



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EDITORIAL

In 'A View from the Hill' on page 5, Peter Lockwood asks "Can Spring be far away?" What with snow falling in March and the horrible cold, wet weather of late, we will certainly be glad to see some Spring weather.

This month we have lots going on but first we say goodbye to our long-term editor Olena Whatley. Having been with the magazine for many years, she has decided that it is now time for a well earned rest. You will be missed Olena!

We have a Curry & Quiz night taking place in Aston Ingham, whilst in Gorsley Flicks in the Sticks offers 'One Life'. Linton are hosting The Jigantics in April and Lea have a Quiz night to give your brain a workout.

In Upton Bishop, you have the opportunity to have tea & cake with a Mad Hatter whilst listening to a talk about the history of millinery and a new Lego Club is being launched in May.

If you know of any business which would like to advertise in The Chimes, please ask them to contact our Advertising Manager, Bob Smallwood.

Stay Well
Carole

COMBINED VILLAGE NEWS

LINTON AND DISTRICT HISTORY SOCIETY - PROGRAMME

3rd April 2024 AGM/ Philippa Heath: Archaeology - Members' Finds
Please bring along any archaeological objects along about which you might like to find out more.

8th May 2024 Jonquil Dodd: The most divisive President? Abraham Lincoln and Presidential Election of 1860

5th June 2024 Founders' Lecture: Simon Draper: Place-Names in the Gloucestershire and Herefordshire landscape. (Given in memory of Lee Hines)

POP UP POLICE STATION

Members of your local Neighbourhood Team/Police will be visiting with our engagement van on the following dates to answer any police queries or issues that members of the community may have. Dates will be:-

Aston Ingham 18/05/24 10-12

Gorsley Café Car Park (behind the church) 22/06/24 10-12

Lea Village Hall Car Park 27/07/24 10-12

Weston Under Penyard Village Hall Car Park 31/08/10-12

LOCAL HISTORY ARTICLE

In this month's instalment of the Ashbourne Family Saga, only available in the Chimes Online. Edward travels to Berlin in the hope of career advancement, but Alexandra is not happy, what happens next. All will be revealed in the Chimes Online at <http://www.thechimes.org.uk> and then select Info, Extras & Blogs, then select Historical Blog.

Dorian Osborne



Hartleton Lakes Photograph by Amanda Hoyle

A VIEW FROM THE HILL

Spring?

The snowdrops have brightened our winter once again, now followed by the primroses and, with the evenings beginning to draw out, can spring be far away? I recently had a rather unusual, and to me rare, sign that spring is on the way. A little after mid-night on the 24th of February I heard a pigeon cooing. I opened a window to make sure I was hearing correctly and, sure enough, a pigeon was cooing close by. Not only that, but there was another pigeon answering from afar! This was some very amorous and romantic pigeon cooing for a mate in the middle of the night. I should point out that there was a full moon with a clear sky that night. Perhaps some pigeons, like some humans are supposed to do, go a bit crazy with a full moon. They certainly give the appearance of having romantic thoughts and doing something about it. Can spring be far away?

Peter Lockwood

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ROB THE RAINMAN



February's total was 113.9mm which was about 125% more than the average so, er, a somewhat wet month then. The month did start with a dry and quite mild period before significant rainfall of 46.5mm over the 6th to the 8th followed by 29.8mm over the 13th to the 17th. The 11th was noted down as a "lovely day" but that was the only one I made note of. Another slug of 23.3mm from the 20th to the 22nd and then dry again until the month bowed out with 13.6mm on the 28th and the extra day. The saturated ground meant that even when dry it still felt "wet" as the lanes were continually running with water and walks were mud experiences. Plus it was quite a dull month but overall it was largely mild with a few cooler days and just a couple of light overnight frosts on the 23rd and 24th

But somewhat different to last February when the total rainfall was just 6.9mm. The total rainfall for the winter was 285.9mm which was about 43% more than the average. So after two relatively dry winters we were back to a wet one with all the associated problems that caused. A few cold snaps and overnight frosts but otherwise mild and no snow. But plenty of windy days, in fact very much a named storm winter but luckily for us only Henk (rain) and Isha (wind strength) caused any really serious

THANK YOU

The Chimes team would like to thank all of those who responded to our crisis call for volunteers in the February edition.

Whilst we are still in discussions with some people, we now, hopefully, will have a full complement of editorial and distribution volunteers.

We would also like to offer our sincere thanks and appreciation to Olena Whatley who has decided to take a well deserved rest after her many years of editing The Chimes magazine. You will be missed Olena!

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ASTON INGHAM

NEWS

Interim Sub-Editor: Angela Kirton

01989 378806

kirtona150@gmail.com

ASTON INGHAM CHURCH NEWS ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

All welcome on April 29th @ 7pm to be held in St. John the Baptist Church.

APRIL SERVICES

7th Evensong @ 4.30pm, Reverend David Howell

14th Parish Communion @10.30am, Reverend Michael Fass

21st Village Praise @10.30am, Nic Walker

28th Parish Communion, Reverend Fred Long

FOOD LARDER

Thank you to everyone for your donations. Always needed: tinned meat, vegetables, sugar, jam, marmalade.

CHURCHWARDENS

Allison Oastler, 01989 720465. James Harding, 01989 720528.

ASTON INGHAM WI

The next meeting will be on **Tuesday 9th April at 2pm**. This is our Annual Meeting; we will also be voting on this year's resolution. All are welcome at our meetings. **

KNIT & NATTER

The next Knit & Natter is on **Tuesday 16th April at 2pm** in the Village Hall. All welcome, you don't have to knit just come along & join in the natter. **

SHORT MAT BOWLING

Friday 12th April at 2pm in the Village Hall. If you'd like to join us, please just come along you'd be made very welcome. We are a very friendly group; our bowling is non-competitive. **

COUNTRY DANCING

The next Country Dancing will be on **Friday 5th April at 7pm** in the Village Hall. If you'd like to join us, you'd be most welcome. Any age, ability, or gender. No partner needed. **

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ASTON INGHAM NEWS (cont)

CROCHET

For details of the next meeting please contact Tania 01989 720229, 07796 955424, email tanciasclayton@yahoo.co.uk

VILLAGE HALL

The next Village Hall Meeting is on **Tuesday 2nd April at 11.30pm** in the Village Hall Committee Room.

CURRY & QUIZ NIGHT

April 20th at 7pm. Tickets £10 each – Tables of up to 6. Bring your own drinks and nibbles please. Early booking is advised.**

SHANTY EVENING with puddings on **Saturday 20th July at 7pm.** Back by popular demand. Tickets £10. To avoid disappointment please book early as the Shanty group has its own followers.**

MIDSUMMER AFTERNOON TEA with Prosecco or Cider

June 22nd at 3pm. Tickets £15 includes 1 glass of prosecco or cider plus a delicious tea. **

TO BOOK THE VILLAGE HALL

Please contact SUE HARDING 01989 720528

WHEELCHAIR

We now have a wheelchair stored in the Village Hall for communal use. If you would like to borrow it please contact Janet 01452830556 or 07340 078520.

POP UP PUB

The next Pop-up Pub is on **Saturday 11th May from 7pm to 10pm.** Come and join us for a relaxed evening! No experience required!

BOOK CLUB COFFEE MORNING

Friday 26th April at 10.30am. There will be our usual books, jigsaw puzzles and charity cards.

FOOTPATH REPORT

Leaflets for several walks are available on the front of the Village Hall or on the Village Web site. www.astoningham.wixsite.com/village

CONTACT DETAILS FOR RICHARD & JANET POTTER **

01452 830556, 07340 078520 or email richardjanetpotter@btinternet.com

ASTON INGHAM NEWS (cont)

CHURCH CLEANING

If anyone would like to join our cleaning rota, please contact Janet 01452830556. To make the job easier we split the Church into sections so no one person has too much to do. The more helpers the less work for everyone.

Aston Ingham Curry and Quiz Night

20th April 7pm

£10 pp

Raffle

BYO

Prior Booking Required Call

Janet on 07340078520

richardjanetpotter@btinternet.com

Aston Ingham Village Hall HR97LS



The Saturday of the first week of each month, prior to publication is our deadline for submitting copy, and is confirmed on the front cover. If in doubt please contact me, my details are in the heading of this section.

PHOTOGRAPHS are very welcome to illustrate news reports and should be a minimum of 300 dpi for the magazine or less for the website. Events included in the Chimes will be limited to a 2-month in advance cut-off. If beyond this please resend. Thank You **Angela.**

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ASTON INGHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

MARCH MEETING ATTENDED BY Cllr M Pettit (acting Chair), Cllr A. Johnson, Cllr N. Smith, Cllr J. Whatley, Cllr C. Yates

APOLOGIES WERE RECEIVED & ACCEPTED FROM Cllr S Smith

WELCOME TO OUR NEW CLERK

Aston Ingham Parish Council welcomes Emma Donovan as our new Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer; taking over from Heather Hobbs who retired in January after 30 years service to our community.

Emma also clerks for Lea Parish Council and Dormington & Mordiford Group Parish Council, and brings many years of corporate experience to the role Emma can be reached at clerk@astoningham-pc.gov.uk

FLOOD GROUP

Gloucestershire Natural Flood Management (NFM) update

Leaky Dams were constructed by specialist contractors along a length of stream from Woodfield Farm. Leaky dams, using existing trees and brash when placed in a stream, have the capacity to slow the flow increasingly over time. In addition, several Hazel Faggots were installed, again in the base of the stream towards the top end. These are strips of hazel wood trapped in a framework of four posts which perform a similar job to leaky dams.

We are grateful to Pete Belk, Glos NFM Manager, Mr and Mrs Phelps and Mr Stevens on whose land these NFM structures were placed.

ANDEL & CHESTER UNIVERSITY

Work continues on the water flow sensors which will eventually provide us with Flood Alerts and we await another visit. A meeting with the university is being arranged for mid-March to identify the work for Year 3 of the Project. More details to follow.

DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - Tuesday 2nd April @ 7pm

This report is an abbreviation of the unconfirmed minutes. For a more detailed account and complete minutes when approved, please visit www.astoningham-pc.gov.uk or email clerk@astoningham-pc.gov.uk

RECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

The Bishop of Hereford designated the year 2023 as a year of prayer across the Diocese. There were many events and services designed to encourage people to pray. Taking up the challenge in our own benefice, we had a day of prayer and reflection at Upton Bishop Church, which was very well attended and enjoyed by those who took part. We have also developed a benefice prayer diary and a benefice prayer.

Looking back over the past year, we have achieved a lot. Our work with young people in schools has developed and I would like to thank all those who take part in Open the Book. The number of children attending our church schools continued to grow. The junior church at Lea has held some wonderful events over the year, the last being a very successful pancake day on Shrove Tuesday, many thanks to Alice and to Iris for all the hard work. Safeguarding is an important aspect of our work with children and vulnerable adults, and I would like to thank Charlotte Newton for taking on the role of safeguarding lead.

I would like to thank everyone for their continuing generosity towards the church in this time of financial challenge. Our levels of parish giving have remained high, and we have managed to pay our parish offer in full. The church treasurers have worked really hard to put us in a strong financial position. Overall planned giving across the diocese has increased from £10.33 per person per week to £10.75 per person per week. However, this is still the lowest in the Church of England where the national average is £18.78 per week. 120 churches in Hereford have set up contactless giving. 70% of churches have signed up to the parish giving scheme.

Some churches in Herefordshire have had to cut services and limit their activities, due to a lack of financial support. All our six churches have managed to continue having regular services and have undertaken a wide range of activities in the local community. This is mainly due to the help of the retired clergy and our local ministry team. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Nick, the latest member of the team.

Our six church buildings are very well cared for and looked after by those who attend church. Aston Ingham Church carried out major repairs to the roof and other repairs this year. I would like to thank Allison and James for all their hard work. We also have plans to develop Upton Bishop Church, Linton Church and Lea Church. Thanks to the generosity of people in the local community major developments are going to take place in the near future. Weston under Penyard church has improved its disability access and is in the process of introducing a new, greener heating system. Hope Mansell Church has been in the news recently, because of the award-winning film documentary about the community. Repairs have been carried out on the pathway into church. We are very grateful to all those in the community who support our churches and care about them. Thanks to VOLT for their support at Linton.

We continue to support the local community through the food banks in Ross and Newent. We also provided a warm space in Weston during the winter. We have regular coffee warnings at Lea and Upton Bishop which provide a warm safe place for people to come and have a chat.

Continued on Page 18



GORSLEY

NEWS

Sub-Editor: [Laura Carroll](#)

[07837 485929](tel:07837485929)

laurajones13@hotmail.com

If you have any special news, events or ideas about what you would like to see in the Gorsley section of the magazine, please get in touch!

GORSLEY VILLAGE HALL

Our committee meetings take place on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm. We always welcome new people to help us put on a programme of activities to involve the village and to raise money for the hall's maintenance.

THE 100 CLUB is up-and-running to help with fundraising. It costs £12 a year per share. There are 3 prize-winners monthly. If you're interested in joining, please email margaretaevans@yahoo.com

March winners: Jo Watkins - £25; Catherine Riley - £10; and Sue Bailey - £5.

Table tennis equipment is now available to hire at the Village Hall.

For more information please contact: gorsleyvh@gmail.com

Hall Secretary, Anne Course: oldmole@btinternet.com

Hall Bookings Secretary, Margaret Evans: margaretaevans@yahoo.com

GORSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

Everyone is welcome to our Sunday morning service at 10.30am. Separate creche, children and youth activities take place at the same time so there is something appropriate for the whole family. If you want to see if our service is to your liking, all services are also live recorded and available on YouTube. We would love to get to know you, however, and YouTube cannot go as far as serve you the coffee and conversation which takes place after the service. It would be great to see you.

www.gorsleybaptist.church 01989 720312 office@gorsleybaptist.church

CHRIST CHURCH GORSLEY

Spring with its April showers continues; our churchyard begins to bloom with wildflowers; and at this very special time of Eastertide, we extend a very warm welcome to all at our regular weekly 10:30 am Sunday services welcome to all at our regular weekly 10:30 am Sunday services.

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GORSLEY NEWS (cont)

Join us for our joyful Easter family service on 31st of March. On the 7th of April there will be a service of Holy Communion. On the 21st of April at 10:30 am we will be holding our Annual Parochial Church Meeting (with refreshments). For further details of all our services please contact us on gorsleychurch@btinternet.com

KILCOT & GORSLEY WI

We have moved! We now meet in the Committee Room at Gorsley Village Hall at 7.30pm on the third Tuesday of the month. Visitors are welcome, we only sing Jerusalem on special occasions, and we are very informal. For more information, please contact Anne Course 07951 819051 or oldmole@btinternet.com

GORSLEY AND DISTRICT GARDEN CLUB

We are a group of people who enjoy gardens and gardening. We meet once a month to chat about gardening. In autumn and winter, we have talks from garden experts. (we meet in Gorsley Village Hall). During spring and summer, we visit beautiful gardens where we also enjoy delicious homemade cake. We are a friendly bunch, and new members are always very welcome. If you think you might be interested in joining our club or would just like to know a bit more about us, please call Charlotte on 01989780760.

NEWENT & DISTRICT PROBUS CLUB If you are a retired or semi-retired professional businessman looking for something new to do in 2024, then why not consider joining us at the Newent and District Probus Club. We meet on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 10am in the Village Hall, Gorsley, for tea & coffee, followed by a talk from a guest speaker. We are a very friendly group, so if you would like to meet others in similar circumstances and with like interests, why not simply come along to one of our regular meetings and find out from our members what they enjoy about the Club. You will be made very welcome. For more information: visit our website: www.newentprobus.com or contact our Club Secretary: newentprobus23@gmail.com

FLICKS IN THE STICKS

April's film at Gorsley Flicks In The Sticks is 'One Life' starring Sir Anthony Hopkins and Helena Bonham Carter. Showing on Thursday 18th April 2024 at Gorsley Village Hall. Doors open at 7pm and the film starts at 7:30pm. Tickets are £5 adult, £3 child.

Tickets can be bought in advance (to guarantee a seat) from Gorsley Community Shop or from Bob Muncey 01989 750649.

GORSLEY NEWS (cont)

COMMUNITY LIBRARY

The library is located in the shed next to Gorsley Village Hall – mind your head as you go in! There is a good selection of books, DVDs, video games and jigsaws to borrow on a 'trust-based' system.

OUTDOOR GYM EQUIPMENT

There is a selection of adult gym equipment in the grounds at Gorsley Village Hall. When the weather improves, we will be installing soft-surface matting.

KARATE

Karate classes take place at Gorsley Village Hall on Friday evenings from 6.30pm. For further details, please contact Pam Bennett: farimonds@gmail.com

BINGO

Bingo is held at Gorsley Village Hall on every 4th Tuesday at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. The Cost is £5 for 6 games with a break halfway through

PILATES

6-week classes are held on Wednesday evenings at Gorsley Village Hall. Please contact Alex Hall for upcoming dates/further details:

alexhallphysiopilates@outlook.com

<https://alexhallphysiopilate.wixsite.com/website>

YOGA

Thursday mornings at Gorsley Village Hall: Mat Yoga 9.30-10.30am and Chair Yoga 10.45-11.30am. Contact Jeni: jeni@jenihowland.com for more details and to book a place.

MOVE AND IMPROVE CLASSES

Monday mornings 10.00-11.00am at Gorsley Village Hall.

'Move and Improve' classes are aimed at older adults and will involve exercises which incorporate strength, balance and mobility... and lots of fun and laughter! Suitable for all levels of fitness and can be done chair-based if required. The cost is £7 per class, pay-as-you-go. Contact Pippa Ward on 07709 264434 or www.teachfitness.co.uk for more information.



The Saturday of the first week of each month, prior to publication is our deadline for submitting copy, and is confirmed on the front cover. If in doubt please contact me, my details are in the heading of this section. PHOTOGRAPHS are very welcome to illustrate news reports and should be a minimum of 300 dpi for the magazine or less for the website.



**Gorsley Village Hall
Thursday 18th April 2024
Doors open 7.00 p.m., film starts 7.30 p.m.**



Starring Sir Anthony Hopkins and Helena Bonham Carter. Sir Nicholas Winton rescued 669 children from Nazi-occupied Czechoslovakia at the brink of World War II. Most never saw their parents again; nearly all left behind were murdered. This is his story.

**Tea/coffee and biscuits available, bring your own soft/alcoholic drinks.
Tickets can be bought in advance (to guarantee a seat) from
Gorsley Community Shop or from Bob Muncey 01989 750649**

RECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT Cont.

We have also supported many charities, including the Royal British Legion, The Children's Society, Christian Aid, Tanga in Touch and The Additional Curates Society. Many of our church members volunteer in the local community. Much of this work goes unnoticed, but it is an important part of our Christian witness.

Mission and ministry across the six churches have been greatly helped by the number of volunteers taking our services in church. We have several new people joining our church congregations which is very encouraging. The Hudson Manor fellowship has gone from strength to strength and we now have 20+ people who regularly join us. We have Bible study groups in Upton Bishop and in Weston. We continue to baptise children and the number of marriages also seem to be on the increase. We have a very effective ministry in terms of funerals and caring for the bereaved.

I would also like to thank Debs, our office administrator, for dealing with funeral directors and weddings, and who organises printing, booklets and posters for the churches.

I hope you have enjoyed reading this report and will thank God with me for all the good things going on, a huge thank you for all your support and prayers.

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LEA NEWS

Sub-Editor: Angela Kirton

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kirtona150@gmail.com

NEWS FROM LEA CHURCH

Hello everyone, by the time you read this, Easter will probably have been and gone! I do hope you had a good one and didn't eat too many Easter Eggs!

Easter always gives me the feeling of new beginnings, plants starting to sprout, trees in bud, if not flower, and the first bees and baby birds around, singing and tweeting their little hearts out! We are so lucky to live where we do with Nature in all its glory at this time of year!

Thanks to all who came along to our Pancake Day Races and the Jigsaw Jiggle, both events enjoyed by all who came along and took part!

Our future fundraising events include a **Quiz Night at the Village Hall on 12th April**, doors open at **7pm for a 7.30 start**. There will be a licensed bar and free nibbles. Tables are for up to 6 at a cost of £5 per person. Please ring Rose on 01989 750267 to book tables.

If a quiz night isn't your thing, why not come along on **Saturday morning 13th April** for a coffee morning at the **Village Hall from 10-12 noon**. Free admission, produce stall and traders' stalls, raffle. Why not come along and have a chat and a cuppa with your fellow villagers!

A Date for your diary - **Sunday 9th June** we are having a return visit from Forest Baroque! An afternoon tea will be served. Keep an eye out for more details nearer the date!

Just a reminder that our services are shown in the Chimes, but any queries please ring me on 01989 750808.

We will be holding our APCM in May, if you would like to join our PCC - please ring me! Keep safe everyone and God Bless! Marion Martin Churchwarden

NEWS FROM GATEWAY LODGE NURSERY (part of Lea C of E Primary School) New Outdoor apparatus

Everyone at Gateway Lodge Nursery has been so lucky and enjoying our new outdoor equipment and structures. The children have thoroughly immersed themselves with playing in their new covered sandpit, wooden playhouse on a rubber mulching surface, a digging pit, mud kitchen and water table. Children at Gateway

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LEA NEWS (cont)

Nursery have free flow play to explore their outdoor area during the day, and these new additions really enhance their play and learning experiences. We are really fortunate to be able to have access to such a large, beautiful play space and we cannot wait to continue to improve it further.



This term, we have been learning all about 'Traditional Tales' and have been focusing on a different book every week. We have enjoyed looking at 'Three Little Pigs' and 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' so far. Not only have we looked at the story in great depth, but we have enjoyed taking part in activities, such as making pigs' faces and sequencing the stories independently.

After Easter, the children going up to Lea C of E Primary School will begin their weekly induction sessions for the whole of the summer term. Our very close link with the school is something we are very proud of, and we know that it really benefits the children with a smooth transition into school ready for September.



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LEA GARDEN ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

Would you like to grow some of your own produce? At the Allotment site in Lea we have a part plot available, empty and ready to use, come and join our small group of local gardeners and be eating your own produce by later in the year. Please contact Dawn or Graham on 01989 750379 or email leaallotments@gmail.com

LEA VILLAGE HALL

Here we are, it's Springtime! By the time you read this I hope the grass seed has grown on the play area and the children are making good use of it. I'm sure you all agree that it's a lovely addition to the hall.

We had our AGM recently and it was agreed by the small committee that attended that we should really try and recruit new members to be involved in the running of the hall. We are a friendly crowd and it's not an onerous task. If you feel that you would like to be involved in what is an integral part of village life, please give me a call 07812 730869 or email jacquiehopkins1943@gmail.com

For hall bookings please visit our website leavillagehall.com or call Anne Vaudin, our booking secretary on 07702 496053. Jacky Hopkins

LEA CAFÉ

Great to see how many of you made it to the March coffee morning, despite the late change of date. The next one will be back to the first Wednesday of the month as usual, so it's **Wednesday 3rd April, 10-11.30am** and Peggy, Chris, Yvonne and Rosie will be holding the fort. It will also be your last opportunity to vote on where we'll go for our annual trip out (which is on 5th June). So far, the top choice seems to be A Tour of the Royal Mint, followed by Cardiff for shopping/castle/freetime, with Black Country Museum in second place and Blenheim Palace in third. Gill Davis 01989 750442.

Lea's resident poet, Bob Choulerton, wrote a lovely poem, following a recent visit to Lea Café. It gives the reader a delightful, humorous and very well observed view of this popular village event. Here are some extracts below, but to read the complete poem contact Gill on the number above.

'With apologies to the coffee, which is as
Good as any you may find, I doubt it is
The coffee, as I doubt it is the cakes that
Volunteers generously bake – which on
The first Wednesday of every month
Draws people here, to the Lea Village Hall.'

‘Incidental, are coffee and cakes; they surely
Are the welcoming pretext for something
More – for community gathering, company
And belonging.’

‘So many community events, these
Days, have to scale down, or be abandoned,
For want of volunteers – as very likely
Would these coffee-mornings, were it not
For the likes of Gill and Nigel.’

‘What gratitude we owe to such as they:
The Dynamic Davis Duo – Gill will fulfil,
While Nige will oblige; Gill the provider,
With Nigel beside her.’

LEA LUNCH CLUB

Takes place on the last Wednesday of the month (except July and August) 12.30 – 2.30pm. The April Lunch Club will be on **Wednesday 24th April**. To book your place please contact Nicky on 07718 065946.

LEA PLAY AND CHAT

At Play and Chat we have celebrated St David's day by making daffodils and enjoying Welsh cakes! We have welcomed new families and enjoyed bubbles and parachute games and lots of toys. We have enjoyed another Animal Interactive session handling snakes, rabbits, guinea pigs and lots more animals. So, if you're free, we meet **Friday Mornings 9.00 - 10.30am** in Lea Primary School Hall. Drop in for tea/coffee and snacks, everyone welcome.

LEA ART GROUP

The Friday Painters meet each Friday at 9.30 am in the village hall. All abilities welcome. Contact Di Brice on **01989 750403**



The Saturday of the first week of each month, prior to publication is our deadline for submitting copy, and is confirmed on the front cover. If in doubt please contact me, my details are in the heading of this section.

PHOTOGRAPHS are very welcome to illustrate news reports and should be a minimum of 300 dpi for the magazine or less for the website.

QUIZ NIGHT

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LEA PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Parish Council Website: Visit www.theleaparishcouncil.gov.uk for up-to-date information. **Contact:** clerk@theleaparishcouncil.gov.uk

The Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 6th March at Lea Village Hall. All councillors were present, supported by the Clerk, with one local resident in attendance. The following issues were discussed:

Collapsed Access Cover on A40

Of significant concern is traffic control around the collapsed access cover outside the filling station. An investigation by the Locality Steward established that the cover gives access to a surface water removal facility and not a sewer. Thus, it is a Herefordshire Council asset and the authority is currently establishing how best to deal with the problem. The plan is to seek to ensure that the structure under the access cover is fully restored to avoid a repeat of the problems experienced over the past few years.

Walkers are Welcome Project

Lea is benefitting from the good work and generosity of 'Walkers are Welcome' (WaW), who are supported by grant from DEFRA and the Wye Valley AONB. Four self-closing gates are replacing four stiles to create an attractive walking route within the village. These are all on land at Moor Farm and enable WaW to publish a stile-free walking route in the village.

During research for the project, a footpaths inspector found that a concrete stile next to the former railway line is in the 'wrong' place by some 60m, due to errors in a 1950s map. The current route uses the concrete stile and always has done. The official, legal, route has never been used. The Parish Council is seeking to get the error corrected – but this is anticipated to be a lengthy process.

Street Watch is now active in The Lea. Local resident John Roberts, in his capacity as a Street Watch volunteer, completed a tour round the village with a PCSO, visiting the shop and garage and spoke to several people, one of whom expressed an interest in joining up as a volunteer.

Speed Check

Recently the West Mercia Police undertook a traffic speed check in the village, reporting a maximum speed of 31mph within the 30mph area

Annual Parish Meeting

Every English parish must hold an Annual Parish Meeting, consisting of the local government electors within the parish and normally chaired by the chairman of the Parish Council (note: the meeting is entirely separate from the Parish Council). This year the Annual Parish Meeting will be held on **Wednesday 15th May at Lea Village Hall at 7pm**. An agenda for the meeting will be published early in May. .

The next Lea Parish Council meeting is due to be held on **Wednesday 3rd April**. The Parish Council plans to obtain at least one Speed Indicator Device (SID) for use within the village. Continued on page 26

LEA PARISH COUNCIL NEWS cont

It is intended to provide two or three bases at locations agreed with Herefordshire Council. An appropriate SID has been selected and is due to be purchased as soon as the bases are ready.

Flooding

The recent heavy rainfall has gone a long way towards proving the effectiveness of the Lea Flood Alleviation Scheme. There are known to have been minor road flooding issues and very soggy fields, but nothing more in the village. More information will be released in due course by Herefordshire Council about how any eligible flood-hit property owners can apply for up to £5000 to help make homes and businesses more resilient to future flooding.



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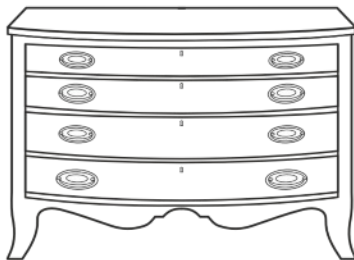
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Alma Inn Secures Rural Enterprise Funding To Expand its Kitchen



It has been nine years since Dan and I took over the reins at The Alma Inn in Linton; We have already had quite a journey, successfully introducing food to a traditionally wet-led pub, learning how to host Linton Festival and Summer Sessions, getting through a pandemic with numerous lockdowns and coming out the other end! We couldn't have done all this without the unfailing support of our regular customers who have been with us throughout.

We are lucky enough to run a thriving, CAMRA award-winning village pub with a strong community spirit. The pub aims to offer a warm welcoming environment in which to enjoy a tip-top pint and a drink and chat with friends, or a meal with your family. However, over the last year or so we have found that the demand for food has out-grown what we were able to achieve within our little kitchen! We were in great need of a bigger kitchen hence we started to explore the possibility of knocking through into an old derelict storage area to create a modern kitchen, double the size of the previous space!

We came across Herefordshire Council's Rural Enterprise Fund, a capital grant scheme funded by the UK Rural England Shared Prosperity Fund and part of the wider Levelling Up agenda. The aims of this scheme include to support rural businesses to develop products and facilities that will be of wider benefit to the local economy. The Herefordshire Council Rural Enterprise Fund contributed £47,615 towards an overall project costing of £95,231.



Alma Inn Secures Rural Enterprise Funding To Expand its Kitchen



After seven months of planning and construction, this project has now been completed. The kitchen reopened on Wednesday 13th March. The pub can now cater for more customers who wish to eat with us and enjoy a pint or two, or maybe take away a fish and chips meal to enjoy at home. The grant has also enabled us to invest in new equipment, including a pizza oven, which we hope will attract more customers, including families, to the pub, as well as offering another good take-away option for local people, especially in the summer months, when customers can make the most of the grounds to the rear of the pub. The increased business will allow us to continue to invest in our existing staff as well as recruit new staff to help out as the business grows. And as our business grows we look forward to supporting many of the fantastic strong rural businesses on our doorstep, within the food, drink and hospitality sector. We hope you will be able to join us soon to enjoy a meal from the new kitchen, complemented by a pint of something nice to drink!

Gemma

For more information on UK Shared Prosperity Fund:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-shared-prosperity-fund-prospectus/uk-sharedprosperity-fund-prospectus>

For more information on funding available to local businesses please see

Herefordshire Council's website: <https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/business-1/uk-shared-prosperity-fund>

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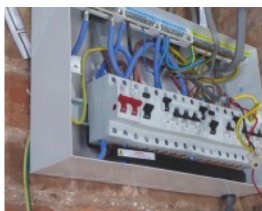
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LINTON & BROMSASH

NEWS

Sub-Editor: John Lancaster

01989 720 642

John.lancaster17@gmail.com

LINTON VILLAGE HALL

THE JIGANTICS' Friday 26th April 7pm - Cajun-kissed folk-rockery!



Welcome back to four fantastic musicians, effortlessly swopping between a range of instruments – promising a great night of entertainment. This is what others say: ***"Fantastic music from The Jigantics. A high quality, highlight act who are clearly destined for great things."*** *Daily Telegraph* 2014.

"The Jigantics bowled into town, and left behind them a wake of warm hearts, lifted spirits, and satisfied smiles. With their brand of Cajun-kissed folk rockery, they eased us into a high-quality selection of songs ranging from the not-a-dry-eye-in-the-house tearjerker, to the Doc-Martins-to-the-floor outlaw country floor shaker. A totally awesome band who deserve all the attention and rave reviews they're getting" *Ken Brown, Square Roots Promotions, Portsmouth*

Tickets £10, £6 under 18s - *Bring your pennies as its cash only folks!*

Doors and Bar open 6.30pm, email [LVH@lintonvillage.com](mailto:L VH@lintonvillage.com)

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LINTON & BROMSASH NEWS (cont)

REMI HARRIS AND TOM MOORE Friday 7th June 7pm

We are delighted to welcome back this fantastic duo. Ever popular, this is bound to sell-out. Tickets £15 from LVH@lintonvillage.com
Doors and Bar open 6.30pm

LINTON VILLAGE HALL NEWSLETTER

If you would like to be first to hear about events at the Village Hall, with priority notice to book, please email LVH@lintonvillage.com and subscribe to our newsletter via Mailchimp. We only email when we have something to say. You may unsubscribe at any time.

HALL FOR HIRE

Linton Village Hall is available for hire for family parties, classes, business meetings and charity events. The Hall accommodates up to 70 people seated, 120 standing. Skittle alley, crockery, glasses, and various equipment are available to hire for outside events. Email LVH@lintonvillage.com

THINKING OF STARTING A NEW GROUP OR ACTIVITY AND NEED A SUITABLE VENUE?

Linton Village Hall may be able to accommodate you. If you would like to discuss your requirements please call Carol on 07811 012 593 or email carol849@btintnet.com

THE GREAT COLLABORATION-LOCAL ACTION FOR SUSTAINABILITY

At the Sustainability Café held in Linton Village Hall on the 9th March, we introduced 'The Great Collaboration'. This was originally devised in Fownhope to help capture what the parishioners were doing to reduce carbon and improve sustainability. It has now been rolled out nationally and is a toolkit to allow councils - both parish and county - to see what people are doing or not doing in their area. This data is anonymous but provides insight as to what is happening locally on a parish-by-parish basis.

By registering with 'The Great Collaboration' and committing to carbon reduction, you'll be having your say in how local environmental policy is formed to meet the specific circumstances of residents where you live. By using the Toolkit, your local councils will be able to see what is already being done in your community, what people are planning to do, and what's holding them back from taking certain actions. They can use this information to inform their planning and decision making, to come up with support that is relevant to what's actually happening in your area. There are currently 64 specific actions that you can choose - many you may have done, others you feel you cannot do, or you can commit to doing more. A lot of them are free and just reading through the list will give inspiration as to how you can do more - from changing your heating to writing to your MP. Please head over to greatcollaboration.uk, sign up and help to influence local policy.

LINTON & BROMSASH NEWS (cont)

Don't forget the next café is 13th April between 10am and 12noon at Gorsley Village Hall where we will be focusing on helping you recycle your old tec.

NEWS FROM ST MARY'S CHURCH

BELL RINGING

St Mary's Church has a fine set of bells and we will be welcoming a visiting band of ringers on the afternoon of 13th April from about 4.15pm. Do listen out for them.

WAITES OF GLOUCESTER

Also on Saturday 13th April we are delighted to have an evening of music by The Waites of Gloucester. The Waites bands existed to play music for the Mayor and Councillors of Gloucester on ceremonial occasions, and for the City's Ancient Guilds. Come and hear extraordinary sounds from shawms, crumhorns, curtals and pipes! Admission free: interval refreshments and retiring collection.

BIBLE BRUNCH

14th April: Romans Course

Paul's letter to the Christians in Rome contains some passages which have comforted Christians down the ages Join us on the second Sunday of the month at Linton Village Hall to unpack this letter which has been described as the most important letter in history. It had a profound influence on greats such as St Augustine, Martin Luther, John Wesley and even David Suchet.

The mornings start with brunch at 10.30am before a combination of videos and discussion material, produced by The Bible Society, take us through the letter in 10 episodes.

ALL-AGE MORNING WORSHIP

April sees a slight change to our patterns of service with Communion services now on the first and last Sundays and All-Age Morning Worship on the third Sunday. The All-Age Morning Worship is on 21st April, looking at Love and Kindness. People of every age are warmly invited to all our services.

Refreshments afterwards.

APCM 2024

The Annual Church Report for 2023 is currently being written and will be available in April. The Annual Church Meeting will take place in the church on Monday 22nd April at 6pm. Everyone welcome.

ASCENSION DAY

Ascension Day will be on Thursday 9th May. This year we are thrilled to be hosting it at Linton. Although we do not have a tower to climb, we do have the benefit of a fabulous East Window which depicts the Ascension.

For up-to-date news on St Mary's Church please go to the website www.lintonvillage.com/st-marys-church

LINTON & BROMSASH NEWS (cont)

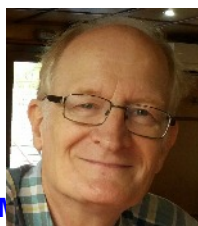
THE ALMA INN WINS CAMRA CERTIFICATE



NEW PEDESTRIAN GATES FOR THE PLATINUM JUBILEE WALK

You may have noticed that all of the nine stiles along the route of the Platinum Jubilee walk have recently been replaced with pedestrian gates. This has been done through a grant from the AONB and organised through the Ross 'Walkers are Welcome' group. This has the double benefit of replacing some of the old stiles in our footpath network and also providing easier access for walkers. The Parish Council therefore wishes to extend a thanks to the AONB for the grant funding, to Walkers are Welcome for all their effort and enthusiasm in making it happen and to the local landowners for their cooperation. The gates are designed to be self-closing but do still check to make sure that they close behind you!

For those who aren't aware, the Platinum Jubilee walk is a 6 mile circular walk created to celebrate the Jubilee in 2022. You can download a guide to the walk from the Herefordshire Council website.



The Saturday of the first week of each month, prior to publication is our deadline for submitting copy, and is confirmed on the front cover. If in doubt please contact me, my details are in the heading of this section. PHOTOGRAPHS are very welcome to illustrate news reports and should be a minimum of 300 dpi for the magazine or less for the website. Events included in the Chimes will be limited to a 2-month in advance cut-off. If beyond this please resend Thank You
John

LINTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

(Covering Bromsash, Gorsley & Linton)

March 2024

The Linton Parish Council has contacted South Herefordshire MP Jesse Norman's Office to alert them to the need for urgent action to address the speed of traffic on the B4221 through Gorsley which is increasingly dangerous and life-threatening. The Council also provided a portfolio of information and various proposals to improve the situation, plus a strongly supported petition of 725 signatures. Mr Norman's Office responded very positively, recognising the severity of the issue, and it is hoped that this will lead to the action that is required. Herefordshire Council is conducting an assessment to determine where a Speed Indicator Device would be best placed on the road to gather information, and a Community Watch Scheme is being organised.

The dangerous situation at Cut Throat Corner has been reported to the Locality Steward. On the left hand bend the road and railing have been damaged by heavy traffic leaving a dangerous unguarded drop from the road into a watercourse. This defect occurred in October 2020. At that time, some barriers were placed at the location, but these have now fallen into the watercourse. The Locality Steward raised a category 2A defect (28-day response time) which is the highest he could raise it without it being an emergency. Some temporary protection has been put in place, but a permanent solution is required.

There is currently one vacancy on the Parish Council. If anyone is interested, or would like to know more, please contact the Parish Council Clerk, Rich Hunt, via e-mail: pcclerk@lintonpc-herefordshire.gov.uk or telephone: 07763793695.



Spring Snow in Linton photograph by Roger Davis



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NEWENT ARBORETUM

This piece is a tribute to and a note of appreciation for the work involved in the establishment of the Newent arboretum by the late Sue Wellington, together with her husband Barrie some 23 years ago on a piece of bare ground. How is that related to the parishioners who receive the monthly Chimes? Your readers would be surprised at the number of people from these parishes and beyond who regularly visit the arboretum, walk their dogs; sit, chat and picnic with their friends. With so many private woodlands closed to the public the arboretum at Newent is a welcoming venue to all those who love trees. Together with its grassy areas and benches it forms a little oasis in an otherwise treeless area. All this would have been impossible without the dedicated efforts of Sue and Barrie. They instigated the supply of plants, helped the layout plan and organised the planting of the trees and shrubs. Most of the trees were supplied gratis from Sue and Barrie's nursery at Elmcroft, together with conifers from ourselves at Lynders and from Bob and Liz Taylor at Parks Farm on the Dymock road. Today the arboretum is well established and is a magnet for not only dog walkers, but for educational visits from local schools and from a local home for kids with learning disabilities. So people, get out there and say a silent Thank You to Sue Wellington who did so much to create this little paradise.
Brian Evans



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NEWS

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WHAT'S ON IN UPTON BISHOP

AT THE CHURCH:

Vicar - David Howell 01989 568736
572356

Church Warden - Jane Ayres 07989

The church is open every day - a quiet space for all to enjoy.

SUNDAY SERVICES at 10.30am in the church during APRIL.

7th Mattins

14th Communion

21st Communion

28th All Age Service

9th May Ascension Day service. Please check the church notice board for venue and time.

PLEASE NOTE our All Age/Family Service has moved from the 1st to the 4th Sunday

EVENSONG is said every Tuesday at 5.30pm A quiet way to end your day. During the winter months we meet at Graham and Ann's house (780600). All welcome.

BCP COMMUNION Wednesday 3rd April at 9.30 am in the Millennium Hall meeting room, followed by prayer group.


BIBLE STUDY GROUP All welcome. Venues vary so ring Graham (780600) for more details.

DOGS are welcome on a lead in the churchyard. Please do not use the churchyard bin for dog waste and please do not leave a neatly tied bag in the lane. Please take it home for disposal.

AT THE MILLENNIUM HALL: for hall bookings and correspondence please email: secretary@ubmh2000.onmicrosoft.com. Would you be interested in becoming involved as a member of the Management Committee? Please contact the secretary.

UPTON BISHOP WI Tuesday 9th April, 8-9 pm you're invited to a talk about Millinery: Hillary Wilson will be talking about the history of millinery and how she makes her hats and showing us some of her exquisite creations. £5.

SEE POSTER ON PAGE 47





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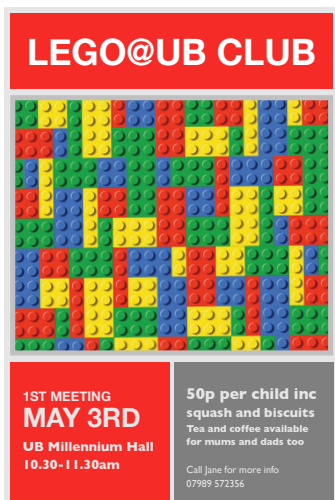
UPTON BISHOP NEWS (Cont).

SOCIAL AFTERNOON Monday 22nd April, 2.30 till 4.30pm. We do hope you will join us for a cup of tea and some home-made cake. Please note the new start time.

INDOOR SHORT-MAT BOWLS Tuesday 23rd April, 7-9pm, £2 per person including tea/coffee and biscuits. All abilities very welcome. Contact Dave Powell on 07794 429090 for more information or just come along!

MARKET TO YOUR DOOR will not be here in April. We look forward to seeing you for fresh, local produce on 4th May. There will also be coffee and cake in the Hall.

NEW! LEGO CLUB Starts Saturday 4th May and then on the 1st Saturday of each month from 10.30 - 11.30am alongside the Market Van and Coffee Morning, 50p per session including squash and biscuits for kids. We will have Lego available. Bring your own if you wish although we can't guarantee that it won't get muddled up with ours. If you or your kids would be interested in coming along, please let Jane know on 07989 572356.

A poster for the LEGO@UB CLUB. The top section has a red background with the text "LEGO@UB CLUB" in white. Below this is a large image of a colorful mosaic made of LEGO bricks in various colors (red, yellow, green, blue). The bottom section is divided into two parts: a red box on the left and a grey box on the right. The red box contains the text "1ST MEETING MAY 3RD UB Millennium Hall 10.30-11.30am". The grey box contains the text "50p per child inc squash and biscuits Tea and coffee available for mums and dads too" and "Call Jane for more info 07989 572356".

LEGO@UB CLUB

**1ST MEETING
MAY 3RD**
UB Millennium Hall
10.30-11.30am

50p per child inc
squash and biscuits
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WOMEN'S CIRCLE Offering a safe, non-judgemental space for women to connect, heal and learn from each other. Open to all women. Please contact Amy to enquire: 07867 761108.

200 CLUB DRAW FOR MARCH: £20 Clive & Wendy Beavan; £10 Dennis Stringer; £5 Andy Church. New members of the 200 Club are always welcome.

BEST WISHES to John Carroll following his recent operation. Our thoughts and prayers are with everyone who is not too well, is undergoing or waiting for treatment at present.

UPTON BISHOP NEWS (Cont).

UPTON BISHOP NEWS THE CHURCH

By the time you read this, Lent and Easter will have come and gone. Our Lent study group met every Wednesday for discussion and finished with a bring-and-share lunch in the Millennium Hall. Our Mothering Sunday Service was well attended, and posies of flowers, so beautifully made by Pam Steadman, were distributed to all the Mums in church and delivered to others in the village who couldn't make it to the service.



The Holy week walks saw parishioners and dogs walking each day between the six churches of the benefice, finishing with the traditional Maundy Thursday foot-washing and the benefice choir sang a very competent unaccompanied Bach Choral during the service.

The clocks went forward on 31st March so that the 6am Dawn Service for Easter meant getting out of bed even earlier than most years. For all that, it's a very beautiful way to start the day in darkness and finish with the church blazing in light and those who attended felt it was well worth the early start.

LOOK OUT! There may be one or two chocolate eggs from the Easter bunny still in the church yard to hunt for. They're not good for dogs, so please watch out if you're walking your pooch.

THE MILLENNIUM HALL has times available for anyone who wants to set up a new regular event and make a booking with the secretary.

UPTON BISHOP NEWS (Cont).

UPTON BISHOP WI By the time you read this, UBWI will have had our AGM and started on our 2024/25 programme. Many of the events on our programme are open to the public and we'd love to welcome you. The open events are in April, May, June, August, November and October. Please note that in last month's Chimes we said that UBWI would be celebrating its 125th Birthday, it is in fact only 105 years old! We are still having a party - so see you there, Tuesday 11th June at The Millennium Hall. Contact Frances on 01989 569881.

CHRISTIAN AID Just over a month to go before our annual effort to raise funds and help to beat extreme poverty. There will be envelopes for donations and April is the time to pot up those cuttings and seedlings for the yearly plant stall. There will be floral and vegetable plants in all colours of the rainbow - some that you may not find anywhere else! This is a chance to make a difference somehow, somewhere, for someone. Do, please, join in. Linda. 780226

UPTON BISHOP ECOMAP Come for coffee at the Millennium Hall on Saturday 4th May (not April as previously published) 10am-12 to learn more about the EcoMap which is discovering how UB residents are managing the village for nature/sustainability. You can email us on uptonbishopecomap@gmail.com.



Tea & cake with the "Mad Hatter"

Upton Bishop WI talk on Millinery by
Hillary Wilson.



Tues 9th April 8pm – 9pm

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The Saturday of the first week of each month, prior to publication is our deadline for submitting copy, and is confirmed on the front cover. If in doubt please contact me, my details are in the heading of this section.

PHOTOGRAPHS are very welcome to illustrate news reports and should be a minimum of 300 dpi for the magazine or less for the website. Events included in the Chimes will be limited to a 2-month in advance cut-off. If beyond this please resend Thank You

Olivia

UPTON BISHOP PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Any parishioner can contact the UBPC at clerk@uptonbishop.gov.uk

Four councillors, a clerk from HALC and 15 members of the public attended the Parish Council meeting on 6th February.

At the meeting, the amended UBPC Annual Governance Statement on non-compliance 22/23 was ratified.

The planning application for change of use at Woodgate House was commented on, concerning noise.

Councillors objected to the application to build three houses on land adjacent to Redlands on the grounds of ecology, drainage, impact on the transport network and questions of the NDP 'windfall allowance'.

Three individuals had put themselves forward to be a Parish Councillor and Guy Cooper was co-opted.

A further vacancy has arisen following the resignation of Mark Shuttlewood.

The next scheduled meeting is at 7pm on Tuesday 2nd April.

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CHURCH SERVICES

Date	Aston Ingham	Lea	Linton	Upton Bishop
02nd April	Evensong	Family Communion	Holy Communion	Mattins
2nd Sunday of Easter	4.30 pm	9.30 am	11.00 am	10.30am
Readings	Acts 4. ^{32-35.}	1 John 1. ^{1 thru 2.}	John 20. ^{19-end.}	
14th April	Parish Communion	Mattins	Bible Brunch @ Village Hall	Communion Service
3rd Sunday of Easter	10.30 am	8.00 am	10.30 am	10.30 am
Readings	Acts 3. ^{12-19.}	1 John 3. ^{1-7.}	Luke 24. ^{36b-48.}	
21st April	Village Praise	Parish Communion	Morning Worship	Parish Communion
4th Sunday of Easter	10.30 am	9.30 am	11.00 am	10.30 am
Readings	Acts 4. ^{5-12.}	1 John 3. ^{16-end.}	John 10. ^{11-18.}	
28th April	Parish Communion	Children's Church	Communion Service	All Age Communion
5th Sunday of Easter	10.30 am	10.00 am	11.00 am	10.30 am
Readings	Acts 8. ^{26-end.}	1 John 4. ^{7-end.}	John 15. ^{1-8.}	

CONTACT DETAILS FOR THE RECTOR: REV. DAVID HOWELL

Telephone number 01989 568 736

Please note that FRIDAY is my day off!

Email: revdavidhowell@btinternet.com

The Chimes

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

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The deadline for news to Sub Editors is shown on the front page.

Combined Village Events, should be submitted directly to the Editors by email.

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