

Winter 2019



Upwell Parish Council



Community Magazine

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DEC
11

WED
3:30
TO
8:00



Courtesy of Wisbech Lions Santa and his sleigh arrive at Upwell Hall at 3-30. The Parade will start at 4-30 and travel down New Road, along St.Peter's Road, Newbridge, Hall Bridge Road, Town Street and back across Church Bridge finishing at Upwell Hall at 6-30. The Lions will be doing a charity collection.

Father Christmas will be in the hall after the parade, there will be lots of fun activities, including face painting, stalls and carols.



In conjunction with Wisbech Lions

**Copy Date for
Spring
Edition
is
Friday
20th March**

**Children are welcome to post their letters to
Father Christmas in the post box on the sleigh**



FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Winter is here again and with it the latest edition of the parish newsletter. Christmas is around the corner and we have a VIP visitor coming to Upwell on December 11th. Thanks to Wisbech Lions, who have influential contacts at the North Pole, Father Christmas is coming to hand out sweets to the children and collect money for charity. The village hall committee thought it would be

great to make an event of the visit and they are staging some fun seasonal activities at Upwell Hall on that evening. Santa is coming back to the hall and will be present to greet children until about 8-30. There will be food and drink, craft stalls, face painting and carol singing. Whatever your age you're sure to have a great time and the children especially should have an evening to remember. There is no charge for admission so come on down with your family to join in the fun.

Earlier this month I attended the Remembrance Sunday service at the war memorial in Upwell. There was an excellent turn out and the weather, for a change, was good. As is customary in Upwell, I, as parish council chairman, read out the names of the fallen in both World Wars. It is always sobering to realise quite how many perished in the Great War from just our small parish, and I can't imagine the pain some families suffered to lose two or three brothers or cousins. It was sobering to hear the haunting sound of the bugler playing the Last Post. However, it is good to see just how many people still turn out to remember them.

There are some changes on the parish council. Firstly, David Pope has resigned his place on the council. David

has served as a parish councillor in Upwell for over 20 years and I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank him for his service; whatever the circumstances of his departure it doesn't diminish the efforts he has made for the people of Upwell over the years. Thank you David. David's resignation means there will be a casual vacancy on the council and the adverts for that vacancy will be out imminently. If you have ever thought of getting more involved in working for the benefit of the parish then why not apply for the vacancy? Being a parish councillor gives you the opportunity to help improve our living and working environment and help design and deliver a bright future for the villages of Upwell, Three Holes and Lakesend.

We are also in the process of changing our parish clerk. Kate Bennett advised the council some months ago she wished to step down. She agreed to stay on until we had a replacement and we appointed a new clerk, Melanie Hilton, in November. There will be a transition period where both clerks work in parallel to allow Melanie to learn the ropes. Kate has been an excellent long serving clerk. In fact she was first appointed during my previous tenure as Upwell parish Council chair in the 1990's. I know many of the councillors can't imagine council meetings without her. On behalf of the council I'd like to thank her for her long and excellent service and wish her well for the future.

The Neighbourhood Plan, which was developed with wide consultation by the previous parish council, was submitted to the Borough Council recently. This means you should all have the opportunity to vote either in favour or against its adoption at a referendum in the first half of 2020. In this your vote will actually count in helping to shape our parish in the next few years.

Finally, may I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

Dr Paul Williams

Blunt Charity Update

Things have been progressing slowly but steadily over the last few months. We have now applied to the charity commissioners to become a registered charity. The application has been acknowledged but so far we have not heard back a definitive decision. There is currently £50000 in the bank account, we will get the rest of the money once the charity has been registered. The estate has still not been wound up so we are not yet in possession of a statement of the estate accounts. Following the launch meeting in the summer we didn't have the expected deluge of applications. In fact so far we have only had two applications and have not yet paid out any money, although we hope to do so in the

near future. We are keeping a record of all applications and our decisions so any member of the public can see what we are doing with the legacy.

We have appointed a contractor to construct a path in the nature walk and work should start on that any day, in fact I hope it has begun by the time this is published. We have received a number of young trees from the Woodland Trust which we will be planting in the nature walk area in the coming months.

The anniversary of Edith's death is December 3rd and the Trust will be placing flowers/wreath on the grave of this benefactor to the village as a mark of our respect.

Dr Paul Williams

VE Day 2020

The government has decided to mark the 75th anniversary of Victory in Europe Day by making it a bank holiday. The date is Friday May 8th so we have a nice long bank holiday weekend in flaming June next year.

The Parish Council felt it would be a wonderful opportunity for our community to come together to celebrate this momentous historical event and we held a meeting for anyone interested to attend on November 13th. There was a good turn out from the parish and as a result we have a series of events planned. Elsewhere in this magazine Meggan Mercer has written a piece to encourage any of you who were alive on VE Day to share your memories with her as we are planning to publish a special edition of this magazine dedicated to memories of that auspicious day.

Currently the following events are planned:

Friday May 8th afternoon: Children's activities and games- Methodist Church, Upwell

Friday May 8th evening: 1940s themed dance at Upwell Hall with a 5-piece swing band (the singer has previously performed at the O2 so they should be really good). This will be a chance to dress up in period costume and celebrate in style. There will be more details to follow but tickets for this will be available from Upwell Hall Committee nearer the time. Put it in your diary now.

Saturday May 9th: Free Children's "street party" and period games at Upwell Hall and Garden.

Sunday May 10th: Afternoon tea and nostalgic film show at Three Holes Village Hall - hopefully this will be free for anyone who was alive on VE Day.

We hope to liaise with Outwell, the British Legion and Upwell Playing Field to try to ensure there is a good mix of events so the whole community can get involved and so that similar events do not clash with each other.

We also hope that local businesses will get into the swing by decorating their shops and sponsoring the weekend.

The next meeting of the VE day Upwell Committee is Dec 3rd so will be too soon for this publication however if you want to get involved contact me and I'll give you details of the January meeting which should be set by the time of publication.

Dr Paul Williams

The Wisbech to Upwell Tram Project

-saying a huge thank you.

By now, most people in our community will have seen the splendid memorial to the former Wisbech to Upwell Tramway that is sited outside the Health Centre in Townley Close, the former tram depot and terminus. You may also remember that it was thanks to an anonymous donation of £500 that the purchase of the required components was made possible so that the installation was able to go ahead.

With his preceding permission, we are now able to reveal that the anonymous donor was Edward (Ted) Harper of Lister's Road, Upwell who, following a short illness, sadly passed away on Sunday 20th October. Ted developed a profound love of Fenland and Upwell in particular. He was proud to call it his home and helped many deserving causes. His funeral took place in Bermondsey on 4th November.



Above - Ted is pictured in the summer, helping to dig the footings for the installation.

Below - In his memory, a copy of this photograph and flowers were placed at the Tram Memorial.




VE Day Memories for a VE Day Edition of the Community Magazine

The 75th Anniversary of VE Day is on 8th May 2020. Whether you lived locally, in London or elsewhere, even in another country, your memories of how you, your family and your community celebrated VE day, as well as photos and souvenirs and memorabilia will be a very welcome contribution to a proposed publication to be distributed next spring.


I'm Meggan Mercer and have offered to scribe for those willing to share their memories. Please get in touch if you would like to share your memories of VE Day. Please call 07707557689 and leave a voicemail- I will get back to you or get in touch

via email meggan_mercer@hotmail.co.uk


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Lakesend Happy Circle
2019 Coach Trips

Wednesday 20th November –
Bawdeswell Garden Centre



Bus fare £10 per person.
Pick-ups start in Upwell from 9am
(There is no parking at Hircrocks.)

Club Christmas lunch – a Monday in December – i.e.c.
at the King of Hearts, West Walton



You do not have to be a member of the Lakesend Happy Circle Club to go on any trip or attend the Christmas lunch, but please call Hazel first so seats can be saved on the coach and a place can be reserved for the meal.

Please ring Hazel for details on 01945 773327


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Green Fingers Gardening Club

The year has flown by and we are facing winter once more. The recent wet weather has made tidying up in gardens tricky. Thankfully, we have been spared the flooding that, sadly, other areas have experienced. Long may our flood defences and pumping stations continue to keep it so. At the AGM in November the committee was re-elected more or less unchanged. There is one vacancy should anyone feel like stepping forward.

The extra helpers have also agreed to carry on.

We have had many interesting speakers over the last few years. One of them, David Reeve is returning in January. Last time he talked about the Sandringham Flower Show but, as a retired Police Officer, he is back to talk more generally about 'Protecting the Royals'. In May 2020 we plan to visit the Fenland Garden at Somersham we heard all about in June this year.

We meet at Upwell Methodist Church Hall at 7.30pm on the third Tuesday of each month. Visitors are charged a nominal £3. Feel free to come along if any of the talks appeal. You can contact, Susie, the Chairman (773576) if you want more information about the club.

Meanwhile, **Merry Christmas and Happy New Year**

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR OPENING HOURS

UPWELL HEALTH CENTRE

Usual surgery hours but closed bank holidays:
Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day

G&B

Normal opening hours except Christmas Day,
8.00 a.m. -10.00 p.m.

Brian Tweed Butchers

Saturday 21st December – Tuesday 24th
8.00 a.m.-2.00 p.m.
Wednesday 25th December – Sunday 29th CLOSED
Monday 30th and Tuesday 31st December
800 a.m.-2.00 p.m.
Wednesday 1st January CLOSED
Thursday 2nd January 800 a.m.-5.00 p.m.

Russell's Butchers

Christmas Eve 7.00 a.m.-1.00 p.m.
Closed until Monday 30th December
9.00 a.m.-1.00 p.m.
New Year's Eve 9.00 a.m.-1.00 p.m.
Normal opening hours from Thursday 2nd January

Rav's Fish and Chips

Closes 9.00 p.m. Saturday 21st December
Re-opens 4.00 p.m. Thursday 2nd January

Joanne's Pantry

Closes midday on Christmas Eve.
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Sun 29th Dec – 10.00am to 4.00pm.
Mon 30th Dec - 8.30am to 5.30pm
New Years Eve - 8.30am to 4.00pm.
New Years Day - Closed.
Thurs 2nd Jan - 8.30am to 5.30pm.

Five Bells Inn

Christmas Day and Boxing Day:
Bar only 11.30 a.m.-2.30 p.m.
New Year's Eve and New Year's Day: Closed.
For more detail please check the website:
<https://www.fivebellsupwell.co.uk>



RAF Benevolent Fund launches new community scheme to help isolated RAF veterans

Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Suffolk and Lincolnshire have been selected as pilot locations for a new project aimed at supporting RAF veterans who face loneliness and isolation.

The RAF Benevolent Fund, the RAF’s leading welfare charity, is launching a Community Engagement Worker scheme to help older RAF veterans get involved in their local communities. The scheme comes in response to research carried out by the Fund which highlighted these challenges as issues which most concern the older generation of RAF veterans.

Pete Ashcroft, Welfare Projects Manager at the RAF Benevolent Fund, said: “The Community Engagement Worker project is just one measure we have introduced to tackle the issue of loneliness and social isolation among older veterans. Other new initiatives include telephone friendship groups and group wellbeing breaks.

This year marks the RAF Benevolent Fund’s centenary and we are asking the public to help us reach out to the members of the RAF Family who may have fallen off the radar and let them know, we are here to help. We want to ensure every RAF veteran, no matter how long they served, including National Service, receives the support their service to their country deserves. We want to get these people back onto the radar, and we aim to almost double the number of people we help – from 53,000 to at least 100,000 over the next three years”.

The Community Engagement Workers will get to know the social activities, groups and associations across the four counties and work with individuals to understand what the barriers are to them becoming more socially engaged and help them to overcome that, from attending a veterans’ breakfast meeting with someone for the first time, to establishing activities where none currently exist. Matt Rowe, of Peterbough, will be taking on the Cambridgeshire Community Engagement Worker role. His career in the Royal Air Force means he knows the service well.

He said: “It has always been deeply humbling, the sacrifices that those who fought before us made and coming from an RAF family I have some insight into that. “This is an opportunity of a lifetime, and I feel like I’m part of the RAF family again. Success in this job is going to be very different for each person. This is about individuals and what they need to feel part of the RAF Family, and the wider community again.”

The pilot scheme will run for two years.



From left Community Engagement Workers Matt Rowe, Cambridgeshire, Sue Grogan, Norfolk, Graeme Spark, Lincolnshire and Declan Geraghty, Suffolk. Photo: RAF Benevolent Fund



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UPWELL PLAYING FIELD COMMITTEE

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HORSE & PONY SHOW RESULTS 2019

In-hand Classes:

Best Turned Out Smart & Punch Trophy	Pip Read	
Best Condition	Medals For All	Rebecca Bradford
Veteran 15 Yrs + S.C.S. Agric Contr		Harry Jackson
M.M. Large	Showdayz Rosettes	Craig Green
M.M. Small	Neddies Rug Wash	Harry Jackson
Novice Handler	UPFC H & P	Chloe Wiles
Heavy Horse	Chemex	Pip Read
U10yrs	UPFC H & P	Poppy & Lexi
11 – 19 L Horse	A & S Mann Ag Contr	Craig Green
20 Yrs + L Horse	Chemex	Robert Wiles/Rebecca Bradford
Non-Coloured	UPFC H & P	Rebecca Bradford
Coloured	Pro-Equestrian	Poppy Bell
Cob	UPFC H & P	Holly Cowlan
Young Stock	Kenbourne Stud	Pip Read/ Helen Chester
Shetland & Min Mo	Blackford	Rebecca Bradford
Rare & Foreign	UPFC H & P	Pip Read
Jnr Heavy Horse	Green Family	Steph Thorpe
Snr Heavy Horse	UPFC H & P	Jan Allen
Working Hunter	UPFC H & P	Poppy Bell
Driving Type	UPFC H & P	Pip Read

In-hand Champion	Pip Read
Reserve In-hand Champion	Jan Allen
Jnr In-hand Champion	Craig Green
Reserve Jnr In-hand Champion	Steph Thorpe

Ridden Classes:

Concourse De-Elegance	Rosy	Poppy Ireland
Tack & Turnout	Hot Fuss.L.	Oughton-Auker/Nicole Woodford
Veteran 15 +	Greenacres Stud	Harry Jackson
Novice H & P	UPFC H & P	Chloe Wiles
Novice Rider	Henfrey Family	Chloe Wiles
10yrs U /Lrein	A, L, & S Thorpe	Poppy Ireland
Jnr Rider 11 – 19 Yrs	Stowbridge Shires	Maicey Henfrey
Snr Rider 20 +	UPFC H & P	Nichole Woodford
Mm Large	In Memory Of Cole	Maicey Henfrey
Mm Small	UPFC H & P	Harry Jackson/Summer Eichner
Non-Coloured	UPFC H & P	Nichole Woodford
Coloured	S.C.S. Agric Contr	Emma Hunt
Open Ridden	UPFC H & P	Nichole Woodford
Heavy Horse	Gemma Newton Farrier	Poppy Bell
Working Hunter	UPFC H & P	Poppy Bell
Cob	UPFC H & P	Nicole Woodford
Rare & Foreign	UPFC H & P	Emma Hunt

Ridden Champion	Nicole Woodford
Reserve Ridden Champion	Emma Hunt
Under 12years	Whitewater Bonnie Trophy Harry Jackson
Supreme Champion Overall	Pip Read
Reserve Supreme Champion	Nicole Woodford

As we come to the end of 2019, what have we been up to? Valentines Dance in February, then we started the carboots on a regular weekly Thursday morning in April through to the second week of October, all profits to the playing field for the usual maintenance and upkeep. Met some lovely people who come and support us, from Littleport, March, Boston, Long Sutton. This year we recruited Christine Bidwell on a voluntary basis as and when needed, brilliant cake maker for our Horse and Pony Shows, huge thank you, and next year we will be joined by Miriam Calton who has offered to help out serving refreshments, thank you ladies.

Horse and Pony shows started in April, May July, August and September, due to the wet weather June was carried over to August. Our judges and stewards provide us and competitors with their expert advice all for a bottle of wine, the weather has been mostly good had a bit of rain once or twice before the end of a show. Our season finished with a presentation evening in Upwell Hall, all results later.

July weekend was a mixed bag weather wise, cold damp and miserable on the Saturday evening for Party in the Park but some of you still came out and supported our event and bands. Sunday was totally different brilliant sunshine, lots of stalls, games, dog show, vintage vehicles, demonstrations by Fenland Falconry and our own local fire service, and afternoon tea, again we have a group of volunteers who pitch in every summer and help with providing equipment, setting up, running stalls etc., a huge thank you once again.

September was a busy month, we did a whole weekend again!, Tack sale on the Friday, Horse and Pony Show Saturday and a Dog show Sunday, some of us may just have a bedroom in the loft of the pavilion!

We have one person who, when walking to the shop for his daily newspaper, walks the playing field... and litter picks, His name is Keith Corridon - a big help particularly during the summer months when our field is frequented until late evening and rubbish is left all over.

Our Christmas raffle tickets are on sale at various shops, and from committee members, to be drawn on Thursday 12th December in the 5 Bells, support your local playing field!

Dates for your diary 2020!!

February 8th Valentines Dance, Carboots April 9th, Horse and Pony Shows April 18th, May 16th, June 20th, July 18th,

September 19th Presentation evening October 31st

Summer weekend 4th and 5th July.

Dementia Cupcake Day THURSDAY JUNE 18th Macmillan Cancer coffee morning Saturday September 26th

A supper of jacket potatoes with various fillings was served and disco provided by Jonny All Stars



It's hard to believe that 2020 is almost upon us, and what a year 2019 has been for Upwell Academy FOSA!

We have welcomed many new members and volunteers, held some fantastic fundraising events and provided the children at

the Academy with some truly memorable moments. We look forward to the New Year with bags of enthusiasm, exciting ideas and lots of events for the whole community to get involved in.

Who are FOSA and what do we do? For those of you who are unfamiliar with our organisation we are a group of parents, carers, teachers and friends who aim to enhance the experience of the children attending Upwell Academy.

How do we do this? Our members and volunteers work together to organize events throughout the year, which not only provide fun times for the children but also raise money for lots of extras that the school itself does not receive funding for. Here are just a few examples:

- ✓ Book bags for all children joining Reception class
- ✓ Leavers' hoodies for all year 6 students moving on to secondary school
- ✓ Pumpkins for all children at Halloween
- ✓ Gifts for all children at Christmas
- ✓ Transport to Kings Lynn for Xmas pantomime
- ✓ We donated funds to the school for the Trim Trail play area
- ✓ Disco's throughout the year
- ✓ Movies and popcorn events
- ✓ Summer and Xmas fairs
- ✓ Bingo nights
- ✓ Spelladrome

Who's Who?

Chairperson/Vice Tinika Sooley/Hannah Delgarno

Secretary/Vice Anneka Norris/Melanie Crane

Treasurer Tanya Gibson

Elected Committee members:

Kerry Maher, Jenny Wyllie, Chloe Buckenham,
Alison Clarke, Emma Powley, Suzy Secker

2019 highlights

Back in March our year 3 and 4 students enjoyed a sleepover at the school. FOSA were able to provide all of the children with cookies and milk before bedtime!

Our Easter Egg Tombola, which was a huge success, so thank you to all of you who donated and made this event possible!

After a sweltering sports day in July FOSA helped the children to cool down by providing free ice cream! An ice cream van parked in the playground for the afternoon, which was a very welcome treat!

Also in July our summer disco provided a red carpet experience for Year 6 students leaving Upwell Academy for secondary

school. The children were treated to mock-tails, a chocolate fountain, photo booth and lots more to mark the end of their time at the Academy as we said goodbye and good luck! Without a doubt the most worthy achievement in 2019 has been the success of the Safe Parking campaign, which involved FOSA working closely with both the Academy and the Parish Council. A near miss incident earlier in the year brought to a head this long running safety issue, which we are delighted to



say has greatly improved since the new term started in September. FOSA provided new signage on the gates outside the school and continue to raise the awareness with parents and local residents using School Road.

What's coming up?

- ✓ **Thursday 19th December** 3.15pm – 5pm FOSA Christmas Fair
- ✓ **Tuesday 14th January 2020** - Phil the Bag. A chance to offload some post Christmas clutter and raise money for a great cause! If you have any unwanted clothing, hats, shoes, belts, handbags, and household textiles including sheets, pillowcases, duvet covers, curtains or towels please do pop it all in a bin bag and let FOSA turn it into money! Collections can be arranged throughout the local area so please email Upwell.FOSA@Gmail.com to arrange a time and date for your collection. The Parish Council has kindly agreed for us to use the Upwell Village Hall as a "drop off" point for any donations that you may have. The hall will be open every Monday, Wednesday & Friday 2pm till 4pm and Tuesdays 9.30 – 11.30am so please do feel free to leave bags in the entrance hall when we are campaigning.
- ✓ **Tuesday 3rd March 2020** – Bingo in Outwell Village Hall times. Doors open 6pm – eyes down 7pm.

To keep up to date with what's on please keep an eye on our notice board (outside the school reception) through our Facebook page or via email at Upwell.FOSA@Gmail.com FOSA would like to invite new members to join us in the year ahead. This may be through volunteering at events, sharing ideas about future fundraisers or how funds should be spent. Our meetings take place once a month and provide a great opportunity to make new friends. Please feel free to join us at one of our future meetings.

And finally.....we wish you a wonderful Christmas and a healthy, happy 2020!



We are now into the second part of the Autumn term and the weather has really changed! We try to use the school field as much as possible but it's rather muddy at the moment. Christmas will soon be upon us with play rehearsals under way and our upcoming visit to the pantomime....Oh yes it will! Thirty children from years 5 and

6 are volunteering their time for choir rehearsals as we will be signing carols for Luncheon Club. We are really pleased to be invited back again this year as all (young and old) really enjoyed the experience last year.

New staff and children have settled in, including those who have joined in the last couple of weeks. Children are really enjoying their learning and our website has two sections which will explain our curriculum in more detail. The curriculum tab shows our subject intents for all subjects, this is the reasoning behind our planning and what we hope children will leave Upwell with. The second tab is the class page where you will find information on the current themes being taught and the knowledge organisers for some of the subjects. So far this year we have focused on anti-bullying and parliament week. Year 5 led our remembrance assembly and we observed a two-minute silence. Year 3 had a fabulous Greek day and the children looked amazing in their Greek clothing. Year 6 will soon be visiting Gressenhall to support their work on the Victorians and year 4 will make a trip to Cambridge to the Zoological museum.

In the summer term, year 5 and 6 held an entrepreneur day where each group had £10 to buy or make something to sell. They raised an amazing amount of profit of £360. Just under £200 has been spent on games for KS2 break times and they have asked that the remainder be donated to Children in Need. What amazing and caring children we have at Upwell.

We have registered with The Sun's Books for Schools scheme and tokens will be printed from 23 November up to 18 January. We need 3,500 tokens to receive over 100 free books. Please,

if you buy The Sun or know anyone who does, save the tokens for Upwell Academy.

FOSA (our wonderfully enthusiastic parent group) are making preparations for our Christmas fayre and there will be fun things to do and make, and seasonal refreshments too. Please come and join us on Thursday 19th December from 3.15pm. Our 'Reading Bus' is really coming along and we are still working toward a December launch. The children are really keen to be able to use it and it will provide a much needed and vibrant area for children to learn in. The sensory garden too is coming along well. The first phase of clearance has shown just how big the area is and I can start to picture how wonderful the area will be.

Clubs are up and running and include crafts and dance. We have recently taken delivery of new ICT equipment to support our computing curriculum and look forward to starting a coding club shortly.

Little Sunshines Pre-School is now open and provides a truly wonderful environment for children to learn and explore in. If you are considering the pre-school for your child, staff will be happy to give you a tour.

Parking outside of school is not yet perfect but it is certainly better. Thank you to everyone who is considerate of the parking signs and thinking about the safety of our children.

We provide children at Upwell Academy with an amazing start and are above national in both early years and the year 1 phonics screening check. We still have places available in EYFS and KS1 if you have recently moved to the area and we always welcome families to come and visit us. On 2 December we have our final open days for Reception children who are due to start school in September 2020. However, if this date is not convenient we would be happy to show you around on an alternative date.

If you are starting to think about schools for younger children, or are moving to the area, please call to arrange an appointment to visit. I welcome the opportunity to show off the amazing work we are all doing.

Mrs Norman (Principal)

office@upa.eastern-mat.co.uk 01945 773220



Little Sunshines Preschool opens at Upwell Academy

Little Sunshines Preschool opened on 1st October 2019 in the grounds of Upwell Academy. The preschool is run and owned by Leigh and Faye, who together have over 30 years of experience in the childcare sector.

Having trained, worked and managed in a variety of settings over the years, they decided it was time to realise their dream and open an environment where learning is stimulated through play and children follow their individual interests.

The setting presents inspirational indoor and outdoor spaces to encourage and captivate young minds and is furnished with toys and equipment focused on natural and recyclable materials.

The Preschool has provision for up to 20 children from ages 2 to 4 years and is open Monday to Friday, 9am till 3pm term time only. It offers 15 and 30 hours early years government funding for all eligible children. Additional sessions are available from only £10 per 3 hour session.

Please feel free to follow our progress on facebook and instagram and if you should wish to make an inquiry please do so via either, email: Littlesunshines.upwell@gmail.com or tel: 07903 068464

Little Sunshines Facilities



Upwell Village Hall 6 New Road Upwell Wisbech Cambs PE14 9AB

be face painting, hopefully some carol singing, and light refreshments.

New Years Eve Celebrations – 8pm – til late (12.30am), dancing to Adlib, raffle and a buffet, fully licensed bar, tickets available from Nigel 01945 738022, Ros 01945 773604.

Our hall is all ready for Christmas! The first of the decorations went up at the end of October for the Christmas Craft Fayre that was held on Sunday 3rd November. This was a roaring success by all accounts, lots of stalls with plenty of choice for that early Christmas present. With refreshments, raffle and stall fees we made a profit of £1,414; well done to all concerned. The ceiling decorations went up on Saturday 16th November, a bit earlier than usual but they look brilliant and so does the Christmas Tree. Our next event is Wednesday December 11th when Father Christmas will be touring the village on his sleigh from about 3.30pm (kind permission of Wisbech Lions), we will have a banner up on the bridge giving details of where Father Christmas will be travelling making a collection for charity. In the hall there will be a mini craft fayre, so if you missed it the first time do come and have a look. There will also

200 Club tickets are already available from committee members for 2020. I wonder who will win the £500 in the final draw for 2019?

200 CLUB NOVEMBER:

£25 177 Mark Elliott, £15 106 Miriam Calton,
£12 160 Stewart Brown.

As the year draws to a close what would you like to see happening in Upwell Hall? – our AGM is usually held in February, so look out for the date, come and join the committee and help organise a new event!

Merry Christmas everyone from Upwell Hall Committee :
Paul Williams, Brian Carr, Amanda Williams, Linda Carr,
Pat Moat, Charles Martin, Mark Elliott,
Meggan Mercer, Christine Aston, Ros. Shorting.

Last blog of 2019

Hello,

This is my last blog of the year, so thank you for reading it. The NHS is one of our best loved institutions, it's here to look after you when you're ill or hurt and also to help you look after yourself to prevent illness. So with that in mind, let me state the obvious - winter is coming - and with it come the whole range of health problems that come to the fore this time of year.

Have you had your flu jab yet? Remember if you are in one of the following groups you are entitled to, and we recommend that you should have, a free flu jab:

- all children aged two to ten (but not eleven years or older) on 31 August 2019
- those aged six months to under 65 years in clinical risk groups
- pregnant women
- those aged 65 years and over
- those in long-stay residential care homes
- carers
- close contacts of people whose immune system is not strong

There are a number of "at risk" groups but the common ones are people with long-term heart and lung problems such as heart failure, COPD and asthma, also patients with diabetes and those with a compromised immune system. Ask your surgery if you are unsure if you qualify. Flu injections are available from your GP surgery and some pharmacies.

What the flu season was like over our summer in the southern hemisphere is often a guide to how much flu we will experience

and this year they have had a very high number of flu cases so this is a good year to make sure you get immunised.

And on the theme of helping us to help you.... we can all help those who really need to see their GP by making sure we use right NHS services and advice when we are under the weather. Your local pharmacist has the necessary skills to spot those who need to see their doctor and the ability to help those with more minor illnesses. Also NHS 111 can give you advice if you have an urgent medical problem and are not sure what to do. This service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. You can also get help online by visiting 111.nhs.uk (for people aged five and over only). Or a smart way to find the help you need is on the NHS App. You can use it to check symptoms, book an appointment, order repeat medications and even see some of your medical records securely. It's simple to log on and register and I'd encourage you to sign up.

As I have urged before, let's make sure we support our community over the winter. Keep an eye on your elderly neighbours and offer to help where necessary, especially over the festive period.

I really hope you have a wonderful Christmas and may I finish off by wishing you a healthy and prosperous New Year as we enter the 2020s. Keep warm this winter and look out for each other.

Dr Paul Williams
Chair West Norfolk CCG

UPWELL PARISH WALKS

We are fortunate to have a well connected network of public footpaths and other rights of way. Supplementary cutting will have been done, so everywhere should be passable. Most of the footpaths have finger posts or way marks where they leave the road but many of the other droves, tracks and soft roads are not marked. This is to discourage their use by vehicles, for which they are not suitable, but they are easy enough to find from the 'Parish Walks' map on the Council website, which also gives directions for 3 circular walks, varying in length from two to four and a half miles. This leaflet can be downloaded and printed off.

Weather permitting, there is a group that meets on Friday mornings at Upwell Village hall at 9.30 a.m. and walks the paths and droves through Outwell and Upwell, ending up with a coffee somewhere. This is a very informal group, nobody is actually in charge and you're responsible for your own health and safety! Where to go is a decision made on the spot. You will be welcome if you just turn up but contact Edna Hollands on 01945 772723 if you would like to find out more.

Prue Lester



Have you just moved into the villages of Upwell and Outwell, or even Three Holes and Lakes End and would like to meet people and make friends? WELLE W.I. meets on the first Monday of every month at Upwell Village Hall at 7.30pm. and would be very pleased to meet you. Maybe you have been here some time (or always), but now have the opportunity of joining social groups and taking up a hobby.

WELLE W.I. is a relatively new branch of the W.I. but we are a friendly group of women who enjoy a chat over a cup of tea/coffee (with, of course, cake), and maybe learn a new craft or listen to an engaging speaker on topical subjects.

Our programme for January through to April 2020 consists of: BodyShop beauty evening; making lavender bags and fabric flowers; a talk on the history of WW1 war graves throughout Europe and trying Encaustic Art.

Not sure if this group is for you? Come along as a guest, paying a nominal fee, and try us out. Don't have a friend who can come with you? No problem come along and make some new ones.

We hope to see you very soon. If you would like further details please contact our President, Muriel Johns on 078097 43805



Three Holes Village Hall & Playing Field

Charity no. 304483

Junction of Main Rd & Squires Drove, Three Holes,
PE14 9JY

HAPPY CHRISTMAS ONE AND ALL
from the committee at Three Holes Village Hall & Playing Field.
Thank you for your support in 2019

Like most of the area, Three Holes has new homes being built and new residents moving in. The committee members of THVH&PF are delighted to welcome everyone to the community - the long-standing residents, the people newly arrived/arriving and also those just passing through. We are looking forward to our village being rejuvenated by this expanding population – do come and see us!

At the time of writing this article we are just getting ready for our **annual fundraising bingo** taking place on Sunday 24th November at our hall. This event is incredibly important for the village hall and playing field at Three Holes as it is the main event for raising extra income to help with the upkeep of the facilities. It could not happen without the support of local businesses, regular hirers and well-wishers who donate prizes, our hard-working volunteers who willingly roll up their sleeves to help with whatever gets thrown at them, everyone who turns up to support the event on the night and last, but not least, Dennis Martin and his team (who run the usual Saturday Bingo at Three Holes) as we would not be able to put on the event without them!

A MASSIVE THANK YOU TO THEM ALL

The Three Holes Village Hall & Playing Field is a charity owned by the village of Three Holes. It has no guaranteed funding from any source other than its own efforts. The hall is fantastic for family parties, weddings or to start an exercise class, set-up a club or hold your business meetings. **You can book & pay online at www.threeholesvillagehall00.org.uk or phone Helen on 01354 610318 .**

Upwell and Outwell Age Concern Luncheon Club

Charity No: 1082825

AGE
Concern

By the time you read this the members of the luncheon club will have enjoyed their first ever autumn outing (see pic) and also celebrated their thirty first December meeting with a traditional Christmas lunch and entertainment by the thirty strong choir from Upwell Academy who will have put everyone in a very festive mood.

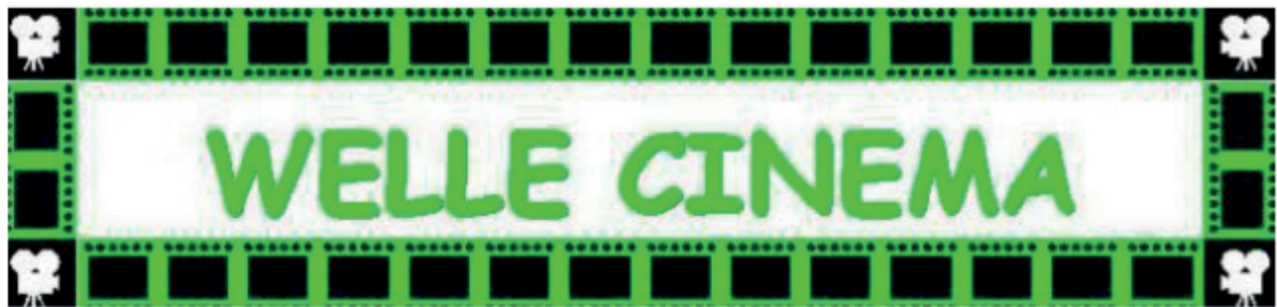


The crackers and decorations will have been cleared away and we will be looking forward to our first meeting of 2020 on 7th January. We already have lots planned for the new year including entertainment by *Just Us Too*, a special extra meeting for the 75th celebration of VE day and outings.

If you would like to join us for a hot two course lunch once a fortnight (we can arrange walker and wheelchair friendly transport for anyone less mobile), or if you are interested in knowing a little more before making a decision please don't hesitate to telephone me on 07584 735805 or Pearl on 01945 773566.

We would love to see you there.

Jackie Scotten



THREE HOLES VILLAGE HALL *Charity No. 304483*

Junction of Main Road & Squires Drove, Three Holes, PE14 9JY

Sunday 8th December 2pm

YESTERDAY (12a)



Jack Malik is a struggling singer-songwriter in an English seaside town whose dreams of fame are rapidly fading, despite the fierce devotion and support of his childhood best friend, Ellie. After a freak bus accident during a mysterious global blackout, Jack wakes up to discover that The Beatles have never existed. Performing songs by the greatest band in history to a world that has never heard them, Jack becomes an overnight sensation with a little help from his agent.

NO NEED TO BOOK - Admission is £3 per person. Doors open 30 minutes before screening commences. Refreshments and licensed bar available. Tel. 01945 773710 or 772824

Sunday 12th JANUARY 2020, 2pm: ALADDIN (PG)

ALADDIN is a live action version of the Disney animation in which a young thief encounters a genie who grants him three wishes.

Sunday 9th FEBRUARY 2020, 2pm: BALLOON (12)

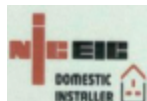
One of the most spectacular escapes from communist East Germany, a true story, set in 1979, in which two families sailed over the heavily fortified border in a homemade balloon.

Sunday 8th MARCH 2020, 2pm: ROCKETMAN (15)

Elton John collaborates with singer-songwriter Bernie Taupin to become one of the most iconic figures in pop history.

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AND ALL SURROUNDING AREAS

Since my last update, we have continued to push forward with development and progression of crew skills which are progressing very nicely.

At present FF Edward Bidwell is on his 1 week Initial Incident Command Course, which once progressed through that and some additional assessments, he shall be an additional Officer In Charge of Incidents, meaning our appliance shall still be able to respond when I am not about. This is a very in depth course, and Ed is taking it in his stride.

Ollie Skeels is also on his 1 week Emergency Fire Appliance Driving Course (EFAD). As I type this he is driving around Norfolk learning the art of response driving to incidents with blue lights and sirens on. This will enable us to be fully crewed most days with the skills we need to respond when needed as quickly as possible. Reports I am getting back so far are that he has a permanent big smile on his face!

Sanjay Markland has not only started with us but is now prepared for his 2 week On-Call Induction Course to start on Monday which will train him to be able to ride on our appliance and respond to 999 calls. Good luck Sanjay. Keep up the good work.

Next month we also have our last crew member to start. Daniel Suckling will commence his on station training in preparation for his On-Call induction in early January. With him on board it then means we will have a full station of crew, for the first time in nearly 5 yrs. Now we just need to consolidate the skills we have and we shall be back where we were.

I would like to thank all my crew and everyone else who has and continues to support us.

We also have several people who have recently applied to join us and are on a waiting list should a space appear.

We have attended some very serious incidents lately. With the colder months upon us, could I please urge everyone to take extra care in all you do to enable you and your families to stay safe?

Remember push the button not your luck. Get Out & Stay Out!!

Watch Manager Glen Gates

WM Glen Gates Mob: 07946331359 Email: glen.gates@fire.norfolk.gov.uk

Outwell Fire Station, Churchfield Road, Outwell, PE14 8RL



FIRE SERVICE NEWS

ST PETER'S CHURCH



CHRISTINGLE:



**December 1st
4.00 pm**

**MEDITATION
& COMPLINE:**



**December 11th
7.30 pm**

**CAROLS BY
CANDLELIGHT:**



**December 22nd
6.30 pm**

**CRIB
SERVICE:**



**December 24th
6.00 pm**

MIDNIGHT MASS:



**December 24th
11.30 pm**

**ST. CLEMENT'S CHURCH, OUTWELL:
CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE: 10am**

[SCOUTS]



Hello and welcome to our Winter Scouting update! As it's my first I wanted to give you an update on what we've done during my first term as leader. We've been very lucky to visit our local fire station to get to grips with how to deal with an emergency and the most common causes of fire in our homes. I'd like to say a



massive thank you to Glen Gates and the crew at Outwell Fire Station for an enjoyable evening.

We've had a taster of Karate this term as well as stretching our legs on two different village hikes. (If you see a massive group of children wandering the village in Hi-Viz vests – it's probably us). We've learnt about the stars, started working on our meteorology badge and tackled some of the current issues in the world today. Coming up we'll be having a go at Scuba Diving, and will report back on how we got on in the Spring. Alongside all this, we've had a lot of fun playing new games and welcoming some new faces to our group.

We do have some limited spaces to start in January so if you know someone who may be interested in joining Scouts, please get in touch on 12thwisbechscouts@gmail.com. It's not just a young person who benefits from taking part in Scouting; parents and carers can also reap the rewards.

In an independent survey of over 2,000 parents of Scouts, nine out of ten parents said Scouting is worthwhile and nine in ten said their children find Scouting enjoyable. As your child progresses through Scouts you should be able to see signs of the impact their Scouting adventure has on them.

Parents tell us Scouting gives their children more confidence, responsibility and a broader set of friends. Scouting can help develop your child's social skills and encourage self-sufficiency, and gives them access to activities and opportunities that may have been otherwise unavailable to them. A huge number of parents agreed that since their child joined Scouting family life was easier and they were 'nicer children to live with'.

One of our current Scouts, Patrol Leader Penny Gibson has taken the time to give us her top 10 benefits to joining Scouts:

1. It benefits your education!
2. It's fun (that's self-explanatory)
3. You get to make new friends
4. You get to go on trips and do cool new things
5. You can participate in our parades and represent us
6. Have I mentioned that you sometimes get biscuits?
7. Fresh air and time outside broadens the mind
8. If you love arts and crafts, you can do that too!
9. You won't regret joining us!
10. It gives you time out of the house (this one is more for the parents)



All that's left for me to say is I've really enjoyed the first term as the

villages Scout Leader. I'm sure we'll be doing lots more in 2020 and would love to see anyone interested there. I am also very grateful to John and Shelly, who look after our cubs, for their continued support during this first term.

Alex



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**THE LOCAL ELECTIONS
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CASUAL VACANCY IN THE OFFICE OF
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PARISH OF UPWELL**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that ONE casual vacancy has arisen in the office of Councillor for the above Parish. If, within 14 days of the date of this Notice (see note below) a request, in writing, that an election be held to fill the vacancy, signed by ten local government electors for the Parish is given to:-

The Proper Officer
c/o Electoral Services
Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk
King's Court
Chapel Street
King's Lynn
Norfolk PE30 1EX

an election will be held, and Notice of this will be published in the Parish.

If no such request is received by the Proper Officer, the Parish Council will take the necessary steps to fill the vacancy by co-option.

Signed *Neil Bennett* Dated *19/11/19*
Clerk to the Parish Council

NOTE: In computing this period, the following days are to be disregarded:-
(a) Saturdays and Sundays (b) Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Good Friday or a Bank Holiday (c) A day appointed for public thanksgiving or mourning.



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Outwell Fire Station - Norfolk Fire & Rescue Service

Have you ever thought of joining a highly trained and respected team that responds to emergency calls and protects your local community?

If so then please either contact myself, for an initial chat using the details below, or visit us on a Wednesday evening at Outwell Fire Station, Churchfield Rd, Outwell, PE14 8RL. Alternatively please use the link below to register your interest:-

<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/safety/norfolk-fire-and-rescue-service/recruitment/becoming-a-retained-firefighter>

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- Live, work or both within approximately 5 minutes of Outwell Fire Station.
- Be willing & able to respond to emergency calls at short notice during agreed periods.
- Be available to attend weekly drill periods on Wednesday evenings (times may vary depending on the training need).

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Applications welcome from all walks of life, male or female and who are at least 18 yrs. old.

WM Glen Gates Mob: 07946331359 Email: glen.gates@fire.norfolk.gov.uk



Upwell Parish Council

Meeting Dates For 2020

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings will take place at Upwell Village Hall. The Press and Public

are cordially invited to attend any meeting. Residents can address the Council at the start of the meeting but may only speak thereafter with the permission of the Chairman

Full Council 7.00 p.m.

January 6th

February 3rd

March 2nd

April 6th