



Upwell Parish Council

Community Magazine

Winter Edition

2011

Inside this issue:

Chairman's Letter	2
Off Road Route For Horse Riders	2
A Letter From Mr Keith Bradley	3
Recognising The Signs Of A Stroke	4
Upwell Playing Field New	5
Goodbye Trams— Hello Health Centre	6
Unsung Heroes	8
Planning Matters For Upwell	9
Upwell Village Hall News	10
Music & Flowers Event	11
Affordable Housing Project For Upwell	12
Paraprosdokian	12
Birdie Corner	13
A Perambulation Around Upwell	14
Parish Council Meeting Dates 2012	16
School News	16

THREE HOLES VILLAGE HALL REOPENING EVENT

By Kate Cobley



**FROM THE
CHAIRMAN**

By Prue Lester

**AN OFF ROAD ROUTE
FOR HORSE RIDERS
& WALKERS**

By Prue Lester

A painting, kindly supplied by Mrs Byton, showing the location of Tom Hines's shop on Town Street. The painting is dated 1909.

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RECOGNIZING THE SIGNS OF A STROKE

By Prue Lester

Thanks to Ros Shorting for passing this on to me. I believe it originated in America but as Dr Clarke points out in his footnote, the advice is valid.

Sometimes symptoms of a stroke are difficult to identify. Unfortunately, the lack of awareness spells disaster. The stroke victim may suffer severe brain damage when people nearby fail to recognize the symptoms of a stroke. Now doctors say a bystander can recognise a stroke by asking three simple questions:

- S** Ask the individual to SMILE.
- T** Ask the person to TALK and SPEAK A SIMPLE SENTENCE Coherently — for example “It is sunny outside today.”
- R** Ask him or her to RAISE BOTH ARMS.

If he or she has trouble with ANY ONE of these tasks, call emergency number immediately and describe the symptoms to the dispatcher.

Another 'sign' of a stroke is this: Ask the person to 'stick' out his tongue. If the tongue is 'crooked', if it goes to one side or the other, that is also an indication of a stroke.

A neurologist says that if he can get to a stroke victim within 3 hours he can totally reverse the effects of a stroke...totally. He said the trick was getting a stroke recognized, diagnosed, and then getting the patient medically cared for within 3 hours, which is tough.

DR EAMONN CLARKE COMMENTS:

The basic principles are correct. The management of stroke has changed quite drastically in the last few years due to the success of clot busting drugs. As this message says the key is getting people with suspected strokes to hospital within 3 hours of onset to give them a chance of getting a scan and the injection. So people with any suspicion of a stroke should go straight to A&E and "not pass go, not collect... etc" We are now advising patients to do this or to call the paramedics if they can't get there themselves. The paramedics have had similar training about the need for speed in stroke cases. The only qualifier I would add is that this doesn't apply to all strokes. So:

- not all people with strokes will have the signs described
- not all people with those signs are having a stroke
- not all stroke patients will benefit from the injection (in fact some would get worse which just shows us complicated it can get)
-

However, the general advice is good.

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UPWELL PLAYING FIELD NEWS

By Ros Shorting

By now most of you will hopefully have noticed that the wooden pavilion has disappeared. Work started on the 1st and 2nd of December, with UK Power Networks Ltd and, as of 5th December, Simon Pope Groundwork's demolished it. On the 6th December the groundwork began, as previously requested. Please be aware of plant machinery, lorries etc., when entering the car park. All regular users of Upwell Hall are requested to open the large car parking area.

As regards funding we are in receipt of £10,000 awarded from Norfolk Community Foundation - every little helps! We are still waiting on the Lottery, but all avenues of funding are being explored from the sporting side to the social and community. With money already received it is hoped to get the building built and secure.

EVENTS: By the time you read this article our Christmas raffle will have been drawn at the 5 Bells on 16th December.

Last quarter we reported that our Pumpkin Ball was being held on the 29th October. It was, and a small

profit of £105 was made, with a meal was provided by the 5 Bells and dancing to Topnotch.

Our 2012 Calendar is on sale at J D Spikings, Upwell Post Office, or contact Ros 01945 773604 @ £5.00 each - depicting old photographs of Upwell when the main road was all Town Street, and The Old Dukes Head was on School Road.

2012 Dates:

February 11th Valentines Dance.
April 7th Pony Show/Easter Raffle
May 26th Dog Show TBC
June 4th KLWNBC 1948 - Olympic Torch and Sports Taster sessions
June 23rd Pony Show TBC
July
August 4th Football Tournament TBC
August 5th Summer Fayre TBC
August 25th Pony Show
October 27th Pumpkin Ball

As regards the event June 4th KLWNBC 1948 Olympic Torch and Sports Taster session we need four runners over the age of 14 years to run with the torch on the Tuesday morning from Upwell to Friday-bridge. The torch will arrive in Upwell - Playing Field on Monday approximately 4.30pm with the sessions of taster sports such as Archery, Kwik cricket, Rounders, Green Bowls, Short Tennis and Indoor bowls taking place earlier in the afternoon.

Should you wish to report any damage to equipment on the Playing Field or suggest an event, please contact Ros Shorting Secretary 01945 773604, Mobile 07765045377 or Christine Aston Chair - 01945 774060, or if you actually witness anything please report to the police immediately using 101. This can be done anonymously.

At this time of year I try and remember everyone who has helped Upwell Playing Field Committee: Keith Harrison, Glenn Boyce, Balloon Print, Kevley Marketing Ltd, Claudia and Malcolm Starr, Robinson's Transport, J W Brighty, Gerald Harnwell, Hazel Medlock, Helena Knight Norfolk and Suffolk Probation Trust Kings Lynn and to everyone who sponsored the Upwell Calendar. Many thanks to all the committee members who have organised events for you and your family.

.....and to you for your continued support.

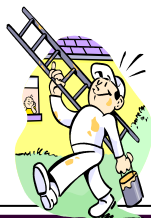


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GOODBYE TRAMS—HELLO HEALTH CENTRE!

By Neil Morgan

In the last newsletter the demise of the tram depot and its replacement by Townley Close was recalled, largely through the evidence of a project conducted by the then Upwell Women's Institute. This much-praised project was written to celebrate the diamond anniversary of the Isle of Ely Federation of Women's Institutes. At its conclusion, the project noted the arrival of the Upwell Health Centre, built on a substantial section of the old depot. The detail written at the time, -some 34 years ago – makes interesting reading now, as does the first official printed information card published by the Health Centre management at the time. We do not have the names of the individual contributors to each part of the written project, but one of the members summarised the transformation of the tram depot to a residential area plus Health Centre as follows:

With the demise of the tramway the track was eventually removed, some resurfaced with a road. A strip at Small Lode had been acquired by Upwell County Secondary School and incorporated into their playing field. The Tram Yard, an area of about 8 acres was sold by British Rail to marshland Rural District Council in 1970 to make way for a housing estate consisting of 18 old peoples' bungalows and 8 flats for the general public. In the year 1975 it was proposed as a suitable site for a health centre for Upwell and surrounding villages, and, after a lot of discussion, it was bought by the Area Health Authority from the West Norfolk District Council. The Health Centre was opened in the year 1977, and a small plot of land opposite the Centre was acquired for further amenities for a minimal rent per annum. Until it was officially named Townley Close, the road way was known as The Old Tram Site. The Health Centre was welcomed by all, although some thought it was a long way from the centre of the village. All the doctors had previously held their surgery in part of Dr. Barraclough's premises in the Crescent. Apart from the obvious benefits, there is a large car park which saves a good many parking headaches. The building itself is spacious with its own dispensary, and the Centre serves an area of some 6000 patients. Although I'm sure there are many who regret the passing of the tram, it was a fascinating form of transport, especially for a village such as ours. If there had to be a change, we could find no better a substitute for the tram station than a splendid new health centre. An intriguing thought would be if we could have had the best of both worlds and have been able to hop on a tram to get to our new health Centre!

We reproduce here the both sides of the original information card issued by the Centre when it opened:

<p>EMERGENCIES Ring Upwell 3671. If no-one is in attendance at the Health Centre a pre-recorded message will give you the name and telephone number of the on-duty doctor. If you do not receive a reply immediately, please continue to ring at regular intervals as the doctor may already be out on a call.</p> <p>MOTHERCRAFT CLASSES Wednesday, 1.00 p.m. Contact Health Visitor for further details.</p> <p>CHILD HEALTH CLINIC 1st and 3rd Monday of each month at 2.00 p.m.</p> <p>CHIROPODY CLINIC Chiropody is available for women aged 60 and over and men aged 65 and over by appointment.</p> <p>DENTAL CLINIC Dental service is available for children receiving full time education and expectant and nursing mothers by appointment.</p> <p>SLIMMING CLINIC Tues. 9.00 a.m.-10.00 a.m. 5.30 p.m.-7.00 p.m.</p> <p>SOCIAL SERVICES A social worker is at the Health Centre on Wednesday, morning 9.30 a.m.-12.00 midday.</p>	<p>Upwell Health Centre</p> <p>TOWNLEY CLOSE UPWELL</p> <hr/> <p>Dr. M. H. Handoll Dr. C. A. Rushmer</p> <p>Dr. M. D. Robinson</p> <hr/> <p>Telephone: Upwell 3671</p> <hr/> <p>Open Weekdays: 8.30 a.m.—7.00 p.m. Saturday 8.30 a.m.—10.00 a.m.</p>	<p>SURGERY HOURS</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>9 a.m.-10 a.m.</td> <td>5 p.m.-7 p.m.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mon.</td> <td>Mon.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tues.</td> <td>Tues.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Thurs.</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fri.</td> <td>Fri.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sat.</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Dr. Handoll</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Mon.</td> <td>Tues.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wed.</td> <td>Wed.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fri.</td> <td>Fri.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sat.</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Dr. Rushmer</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Mon.</td> <td>Mon.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wed.</td> <td>Thurs.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fri.</td> <td>Fri.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sat.</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Dr. Robinson</p> <p>Saturday evening surgery 5.30 p.m.-6.30 p.m., emergencies only. Friday evening and Saturday morning surgeries by rota. At any time when your own doctor is not in surgery you are welcome to see either of the other partners No appointment is needed to see the doctor.</p> <p>BRANCH SURGERIES</p> <p>CHRISTCHURCH (Institute Hall) Mon. Wed. 12 midday prompt. Fri.</p> <p>WELNEY (Village Hall) Tues. Thurs. 12 midday prompt Fri.</p>	9 a.m.-10 a.m.	5 p.m.-7 p.m.	Mon.	Mon.	Tues.	Tues.	Thurs.		Fri.	Fri.	Sat.		Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Wed.	Fri.	Fri.	Sat.		Mon.	Mon.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Fri.	Sat.		<p>LADIES' CLINIC Dr. Susan Robinson Mon. Thurs. } 2.00 p.m.-4.00 p.m. No appointment necessary</p> <p>NURSE It is not necessary to see the doctor for dressings, immunisations, ear syringes etc. You may, if you wish, make an appointment with the nurse instead. She is at the Health Centre on:- Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-10 a.m., 2.30 p.m.-3.30 p.m., 5.30 p.m.-7 p.m. Saturday 9 a.m.-10 a.m., 5.30 p.m.-6.30 p.m. Please make an appointment.</p> <p>ANTE-NATAL CLINIC Wednesday, 2.30 p.m. Book in at reception.</p> <p>PRESCRIPTIONS Prescriptions are dispensed at the Centre during surgery hours. If your doctor is agreeable you may have your treatment repeated without attending surgery. Requests should be made before 10.00 a.m. and they may then be collected after 3.00 p.m. the same day. Requests made after 10.00 a.m. will not normally be dispensed until the following day. Please give your name and address and the names of your tablets or medicines if known.</p> <p>HOUSE CALLS Request for house calls should be made before 10.00 a.m. This is of particular help to the doctor if observed during weekends and Bank Holidays.</p>
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Clearly the health teams at the Centre have completely changed over the years, and the programme of services it offers has expanded considerably.. Since the Centre publishes both a very useful booklet describing these services, and listing the personnel, together with a very well organised web site, we make no attempt to enlarge on the present situation. (The web address is www.upwellhealthcentre.nhs.uk).

Continued over...

....Continued from previous page

This article is simply meant to report the changes that occurred in the 1970's and the views and feelings of those who witnessed the changes. There are of course many of Upwell's inhabitants who will remember these changes for themselves, but for our younger generations and for all those who have been glad to move into the village, this account should give some idea of the events as they occurred.

For the record the following is a list of those who contributed to the W.I. Project, together with a photograph of some of the members at the time: Ivy Bradley, Harriet Bridgefoot, Joan Clingo, Hilda Goodley, Dora Hill, Connie Judd, Pat Judd, Hazel Medlock, Susan Mott, Florence Parker, Lucy Parrish, Ivy Russell, Daisy Russell, Pam Russell, Annette Scott, May Williams, Phyllis Watson.



CALL YOUR LOCAL POLICE

101

IN AN EMERGENCY ALWAYS CALL 999

This is the number to call when you want to contact the police and it is less urgent than a 999 call.

Valentine's Dance

Saturday February 11th 2012

Three Holes Village Hall
7.30pm to 11.00 pm

Dancing to the Nigel Portass Trio

Ham or cheese salad plus accompaniments, and dessert

Tickets £12.50 per head

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SALLY ELMER ONE OF UPWELL'S UNSUNG HEROS

By Sylvie Short

First as a tiny, new born baby, carried proudly by her mother Hasells, then as a mum, Sally has twice returned home to the bungalow at the edge of the village where she now lives with her own two children, Kayleigh and Harry. Christened Hasells because she was born in Hasells Hall, Sandy, Sally's mum, was a well known and much loved figure around Upwell, helping her daughter and taking an interest in her two grandchildren.

Sally went to Upwell Primary School, then transferred to the Secondary School before learning short hand and typing in Kings Lynn. Her first job was as a clerk at the Paragon Garage from 1978 to 1981, where her mathematical ability was seriously challenged – and ultimately improved! She didn't work again until 1991 when she joined Marshall's Motor Group at the old Norwich Road site, then moved with them when they relocated to Sandown Road. Sally stopped work to look after Kayleigh, now 13 and Harry, 8, though she did return to part time employment at Charles Martin's Nursery for five years to supplement her income when the children were still very young. When I asked her about hobbies she laughed and said any time she has left over in her busy life revolves mainly around the children's interests – a sort of hobby substitute! She is on the Association of Friends for both schools, and helps when and where she can, even qualifying once as a club level trampoline judge to encourage Kayleigh in this activity! As Harry is now in the Fenland Rovers under nines football team, Sally gets roped in for tea and burger-making – never a dull moment!

When Kayleigh was four months old, Sally's mother-in-law was diagnosed with cancer and this, together with the fact that she suddenly found she had time on her hands, provided Sally with the motivation she needed to start her fund-raising activities. She took part in the Cancer Research 'Race for Life,' walking with toddler, Kayleigh, in tow for the first few years; but is proud of the fact that she managed to run this year, after some intensive training with the Upwell 'Up and Out' ladies' jogging club! She also held a Macmillan Coffee Morning, anxiously wondering how it would go, and was amazed when she discovered she had made £125.00. This was in 2000 and, spurred on by that initial success, she has been holding them every year since then. She was invited onto the Wisbech Macmillan Committee but, owing to other commitments, was not able to serve for long; she does, however, help at events when asked.

Other altruistic activities have included packing shoe-boxes to send to children around the world at Christmas time – an idea Sally put to Vivienne Bull after she came across a Samaritan's Purse leaflet. This was ten years ago and has continued ever since. Sally's dad, Harold, was a member of the Upwell and District British Legion, so when the Secretary of the women's section retired, Sally was approached to see if she would consider replacing her, which she did, continuing in that role for the last ten years – and still counting! Approximately seven years ago Sally took on the annual job of organising the Poppy Appeal in the area which entails making and filling sixty poppy boxes before taking them around to shops and other outlets in Upwell, Outwell and Emneth – and then assisting with counting the money.

Sally joined the NSPCC and, several years ago, decided to hold a draw to raise money for them outside our local shop on the first weekend in December. Braving the elements, she sat outside with her stall full of prizes, and continued to do this for the next five years.

In 1994 Sally was approached by the Chairman of

Three Holes Village Hall and asked if she would take on the job of Treasurer. She said yes, and has continued in that role, which has now expanded to include amalgamation with the playing field committee. One of Sally's major achievements was working with the late John Chapman to put together a bid which resulted in them being awarded a lottery grant for play equipment in November 2005. The official opening was on television – an exciting event for the whole village. As if this wasn't enough, Sally took on the 160 club when John's widow gave it up. This involves going round collecting money and then distributing the winnings every month. I assumed that Sally's time nowadays is totally devoted to charity and was amazed when she told me she does domestic work for various people every day of the week.

Like most people who give unstintingly of their time, Sally doesn't reflect a great deal on what she gets out of it but, when pressed, she was able to acknowledge a feeling of satisfaction in a job well done – and rightly so. She lists being a good communicator as one of her skills and says she has the ability to see both sides of an argument, though she is still trying to arrive anywhere on time – punctuality is not one of her strengths!!

An 'unsung hero' for many years, Sally's efforts were finally recognised this year as she was nominated for, and awarded, the Mayor's Award – a fitting tribute to someone so committed to doing her best in the service of others.



PLANNING - SITE SPECIFIC ALLOCATIONS IN UPWELL

By Kate Cobley

Upwell Parish Council held an extraordinary council meeting on 10th October to discuss proposed sites for housing development around the Parish. Proposed sites had been outlined in the Borough Council's Site Specific Allocations & Policies Document. This details the Borough's suggested areas for development over the next fifteen years. Plots of land have been put forward to be included in the plan and a consultation exercise is now in progress with Parish/Town Councils and residents.

There are nine sites within Upwell that are provisionally approved for house building by the

Borough Council and a further thirty two sites that are currently not being considered, unless constraints can be overcome and/or public consultation suggest that they should be included.

The sites proposed for residential development currently include various parcels of land at the rear of St. Peter's Road, land on Stonehouse Road, New Road, Small Lode, Low Side and near Townley Close and Listers Road. It is suggested that up to 60 new homes are built across Upwell and Outwell over the next fifteen years. Many of these could be built in Upwell however and the Parish Council is aware, from the Parish Plan consultation, that residents do not want to see large scale development take place. The Council was keen to reject sites which would see grade I agricultural land used, see wildlife habitat lost or would prove problematic for access/highways.

A public drop-in session was held at the village hall in Upwell on 3rd October and the response was encouraging, with the team from the

Borough Council being busy from 4.30 until the meeting closed at 7.30pm. So many people attended that the Borough Council team ran out of response forms!

The Parish Council was asked to provide a response as to its preferred sites. After much discussion, the Council suggested a brown field site off St. Peter's Road as this is within easy walking distance of the village centre and also the School. It also asked for two currently rejected sites to be reconsidered.

There will be two further rounds of public consultation on the Preferred Options starting in the spring of next year.



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UPWELL VILLAGE HALL NEWS & EVENTS

By Dave Short

Hall Closure – January 2012: It has now been confirmed that work to replace the hall's sprung dance floor will go ahead in January 2012. This means the hall will be closed for three weeks from Monday 9th January until the 30th. Three Holes Hall committee has kindly offered us use of their indoor bowls facility during this period but all other activities and events are regrettably suspended until our hall reopens. The Upwell Hall Co-chairs and committee apologise for any inconvenience this essential work may cause.

Events in 2012. (Confirmed):
Upwell Village Hall Annual General Meeting. Thursday 9th. February, 7.30 p.m. Parishioners are invited to attend.
Valentine Dance, Saturday 11th. February. Contact Ros, 01945 773604.
Easter Fun Day. Provisionally planned for Sunday 8th. April. A very welcome return of this popular event which could not be held this year because of other commitments.

Her Majesty The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebration: An event will be announced shortly.

Pumpkin Ball, Saturday 27th. October. Details to be finalised. Contact Ros, 01945 773604.

Charity Dance, Saturday 8th. December. Contact, Ros, 01945 773604.

Gilbert and Sullivan Production, Saturday 15th. December. Contact, Peter Calver. 01945 773070.

New Year's Eve Party. Monday 31st. December. Contact, Ros, 01945 773604.

Short Mat Bowls: Our band of bowlers continues to flourish. The concept and introduction of this activity was truly inspirational.

Zumba: Classes are held on Monday mornings. If you are interested please contact Sarah Mallett on 01553 774267.

Coming Events (Proposed):

Race Night. A date in June awaits approval from co-organisers, Wisbech Lions. Details to be announced.

Quiz. Planned for June. Details to be announced.

The annual **Car Treasure Hunt** will be scheduled for some time in September.

An evening of **Folk Music** presented by local musicians has been proposed and is being investigated.

Food Hygiene Course. Norfolk County Council has withdrawn funding for this course. Consequently the hall committee has dropped this idea.

Upwell Parish Council Emergency Plan: The Parish Council has approached the Hall Committee with a request that

the hall and its resources be made available to assist implementation of the emergency plan when needed. The committee was pleased to offer this support.

Cost Reduction and General Efficiencies:

Exploitation of renewable energy sources has been investigated. The high capital cost of implementing viable schemes precludes them at the present time. Meanwhile, the committee continues to investigate general efficiencies with a view to minimising costs. If you have any ideas for areas of potential savings we would love to hear from you.

200 Club Draws:

November:

Prize	Ticket	Winner
1 st . £25.	55	George West.
2 nd . £15.	113	Margaret Morgan.
3 rd . £12.	153	Judy Green.

December "The Big One!"

Prize	Ticket	Winner
1 st . £500.	191	Les Spriggs.
2 nd . £100.	200	Joshua Smith.
3 rd . £50.	167	Dee Harrison.
4 th . £25.	162	Pat Askew.
5 th . £15.	124	Mick Matless.
6 th . £12.	126	Jane Johnson.

Congratulations to all of the winners.

Upwell Hall Committee: Meets regularly and new members are always welcome. Contact Neil, 773865 or Ros, 773604.

Your Ideas: If you would like to see, or have ideas for particular types of event or entertainment at the hall, or for general and other hall enquiries please contact me, Dave Short, 01945 774443 or email, davetoad@tiscali.co.uk and I will answer your questions or point you towards a committee member who can do so.

Hall Bookings – Private Events and Functions: Remember: If you wish to hire the hall or enquire about its facilities, call Dee Harrison on 01945 773735.



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MUSIC & FLOWERS A WINNING COMBINATION

By Sylvie Short

And Upwell Methodist Church will have an abundance of both!! Watch out for advertisements telling you all about an exciting event that's taking place the weekend before Easter next year. There will be Floral Displays, Craft Stalls, Light Lunches, Opportunities for Musical Magic – did you know that Upwell Really Has Got Talent?!? – And something for the children too!

DON'T MISS IT!!!!



UNSUNG HEROES

By Sylvie Short

We hope you enjoy reading about Sally Elmer this month – unquestionably one of Upwell's Unsung Heroes.

Is there someone/something you consider worth celebrating that will otherwise be overlooked? The Parish of Upwell, Three holes and Lakes End is a large area and it's impossible to be aware of all that happens – particularly little acts of kindness, small achievements, tiny steps that perhaps illustrate progress towards recovery if someone has been ill. It may be something that is not noteworthy on a grand scale, but has made a difference to someone's life. Have you got a good neighbour you would like to mention?

These need not be full articles – just snippets that we, the editorial team, will have no way of knowing unless you tell us. Get in touch with Sylvie Short by phone or email and your tribute could be included in the Parish Magazine.

Tel: 01945 774443

Email sylvietoat@tiscali.co.uk

CONTRIBUTE TO THIS MAGAZINE

By Kate Cobley

The feedback we get from residents about the magazine is discussed at our regular committee meetings and time and again we hear that everyone really enjoys reading about people and places they have known around Upwell in the past. So if you have any interesting stories, any information about historical events or news of people you knew, please do get in touch and let us know. We are just as keen to hear your ideas for future articles and will report any snippets of local information you would like to share with our community. You can contact the Clerk via email at upwellpc@googlemail.com

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AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROJECT

By Prue Lester

Earlier in the year the Parish Council were contacted by Hastoe Housing and the Borough Council who have jointly been studying the need for affordable housing for existing residents in Upwell and Outwell. A sum of money is available that would part cover the building costs and Hastoe are prepared to fund the balance.

The aim is to build a small, high quality development of up to 15 houses close to village amenities and although an initial site has been identified, it is some way off being finalised.

I understand that there are concerns as to who will be eligible to move into these homes once they are built and I would like to reassure existing residents that there are strict criteria for this type of development (which is not Social Housing).

These include people who have lived in the villages for a number of years and need separate accommodation (young people still

living in their parents' home, for example). Past residents who have moved away because of the lack of an affordable home and would like to move back. People with a permanent job who need to live close to it and people who need to live here to look after family members who have lived here for a number of years.

I hope this will put concerns to rest but if anyone would like more information please contact Assistant Clerk Kate Bennett.

HIGH SPEED BROADBAND FOR NORFOLK

By Prue Lester

Norfolk County Council has successfully bid for Government funding to improve broadband speeds and access across Norfolk. In the New Year the County Council will be asking residents and businesses to register their interest in receiving a better broadband service. In order to attract competitive bids from a number of telecom partners, they need to prove what the actual demand is likely to

be—not just where broadband services are currently lacking. Therefore, please go to www.norfolk.gov.uk/broadband and register your interest—this will give us all the best chance of getting a better broadband service.

For further information please telephone Norfolk County Council on 0344 800 8020.

PARAPROSDOKIAN

By David Percy

I had to look up 'paraproisdokian' - here is the definition: Figure of speech in which the latter part of a sentence is surprising or unexpected, frequently used in a humorous situation.

OK! Try some examples:- War does not determine who is right, - only who is left! I used to be indecisive, - now I'm not sure! Nostalgia isn't what it used to be! Change is inevitable, - except from a vending machine. Hospitality is making your visitors feel they are home, even when you wish they were! To be sure of hitting the target, shoot first and call whatever you hit the target! Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit, - wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad! Light travels faster than sound, - this is why some people seem bright until you hear them speak! If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong! The Evening News is when they begin with "Good Evening" and then proceed to tell you why it isn't! A clear conscience is a sign of a failing memory! A bus station is where the bus stops, and a train station is where the train stops. On my desk there is a work station!

And, finally, think on this: "The early bird gets the worm, - but the second mouse gets the cheese!"



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BIRDIE CORNER

By Neil Morgan

On most nights, from dusk to dawn, and even in winter, you may well hear the familiar call of a Tawny Owl. The young owl pictured here was photographed in a garden alongside School Road, and its presence had been given away by a cluster of corvids (crows, jackdaws, rooks) creating a noisy scene around an ivy-covered tree trunk. Fed up with the noise, this owl flew to this nearby leafy shelter where it was photographed.

An older bird might well have been more aggressive, for they do not usually take kindly to being disturbed. Normally, this owl is nocturnal, frequently calling through the night, the most common sound being a “kewick” call, although most people are more familiar with its haunting hooting, a drawn out sound followed by shorter notes in quick succession.

It feeds on insects, or such small mammals as voles, watching them silently from a perch and then swooping, also silently, and taking the prey on the ground. Not often seen in flight, but when it is observed, it follows a succession of quick wing beats with a long shallow glide. If spotted in the trees, - usually the broad-leaf kind, its most recognisable features are the facial discs in a large rounded head. Colouration is a combination of rufous brown and a grey-brown in streaks, and the tail is faintly barred. The eyes are black. With what looks very much like arched eye-brows growing almost vertically above.



Tawny Owl

Tawny owls are quite widespread in the U.K, though not in Ireland. Several pairs reside in Upwell, with one pair certainly favouring the wooded area between the school and Baptist Road.

Winter has arrived and, as in every year, birds have been returning from the far north, especially the whooper and bewick swans flying in to Welney, and the Ouse Washes. They often call as they fly over, so they should not be too difficult to spot. Quite often, on cold clear mornings, bewick swans in particular may be seen on fields around the Common, and visible distantly from School Road. Clearly though, the best place for watching the swans is the Welney Observatory itself, with their regular scheduled swan feeds.

Around the village, we are visited by flocks of winter thrushes. Fieldfares are usually the most numerous of these, but there is no shortage of redwings, and both species fly together searching out suitable feeding areas, particularly our orchards. Again, the Common fares particularly well for sightings, although flocks can be very mobile and may land anywhere where there are trees and bushes. The plumage of both birds is worth studying, and contrasting with our resident song and mistle thrushes.

Just occasionally, when it is particularly cold, we may hear of a Smew in our area. If we are really fortunate, and there is a drake smew within driving distance, it is well worth the journey, for, in my view, this bird's plumage is the smartest and most striking of all!



Smew

As it's almost Christmas, I offer you some “Crackers” -or groaners!

What was the name of the mathematician's lost parrot?Polygon

Why do storks stand on one leg?.....If they lifted both they'd fall down!

Why does a baby canary cost less?... because it's a little “cheeper!”

What do you call a sticky black bird?.... Velcrow!

Have fun, and happy birding in 2012!

Neil Morgan

A PERAMBULATION AROUND UPWELL

By Steven Calton

This is an introduction to a longer article which will follow in the March 2012 edition of this magazine.

Perambulation (or Beating the Bounds)

Before the days of reliable maps it was usual to make a formal perambulation of parish boundaries on Ascension Day (which in 1714 fell on 6th May, day 2 of the perambulation) or during Rogation week. In some cases, groups of boys went along, literally beating the boundary stones or markers with green boughs of (usually) willow. Boys were chosen so that the knowledge would be as long-lasting as possible. Sometimes, perhaps when the boys seemed not to be taking much notice, harsher methods were used: *'whipping the boys by way of remembrance, and stopping their cry with some half-pence'* was recorded in 1747.

Knowledge of the limits of each parish needed to be handed down so that such matters as liability to contribute to the repair of the church were not disputed. Beating the bounds had a religious side in the practice which originated the term Rogation: the accompanying clergy being supposed to beseech (*rogare*) the divine blessing upon the parish lands for the ensuing harvest. The ceremony also had an important practical purpose. Checking the boundaries was a way of preventing encroachment by neighbours; sometimes boundary markers would be moved, or lines obscured, and a folk memory of the true extent of the parish was necessary to maintain integrity of borders by embedding knowledge in oral traditions.

The practice is still legally allowed: parish officers have the right to enter private property in carrying it out and also use the rates to cover expenses properly incurred (including refreshments, etc.). Perambulations must be at least three years apart.

Continued...

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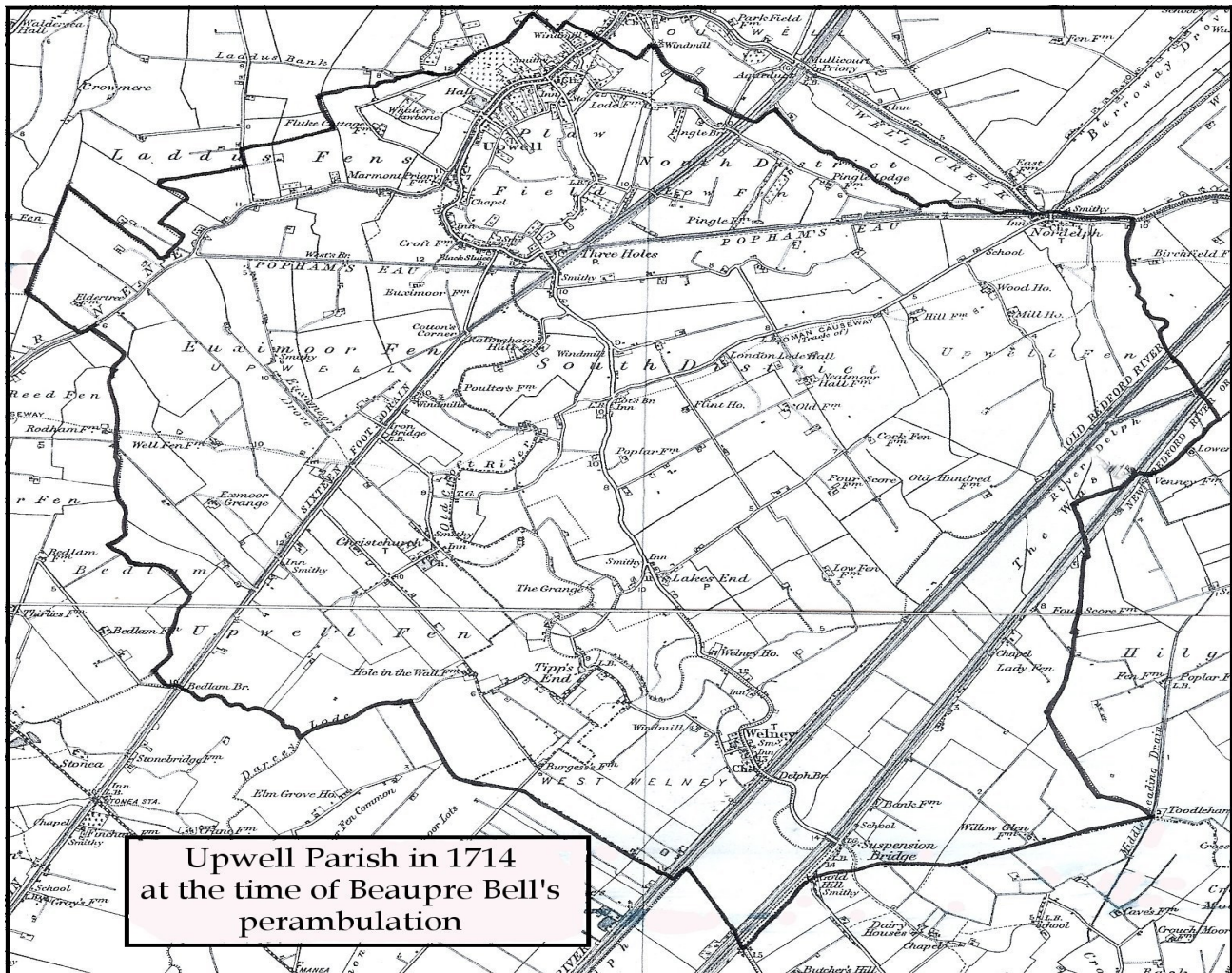
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Beaupré Manor - Introduction

The manor of *de Bello Prato* (fine meadows) in Welle (before the separation into Upwell and Outwell), was granted to Sir Thomas de Saint Omer – who fought at the Battle of Hastings -shortly after the Norman invasion of 1066 by William the Conqueror. Sir Thomas' daughter inherited the estate and married John, son of Gilbert de Beaupré. Edmund Beaupré, to whom the manor 'with all appurtenances' was granted in fee by Henry VIII, paid £282 15s for it following the dissolution of Ramsey Abbey in 1546. Edmund Beaupré was the last of his family in the male line, his daughter bringing the manor by marriage to Sir Robert Bell, Speaker of the House of Commons in 1572, Baron of the Exchequer, MP for King's Lynn and later a judge, who died at the Black Assize at Oxford (1577).E

The Bell family continued to hold the manor for nearly 200 years over four generations. Beaupré Bell senior, the last but one of the male line, 'one of the strangest of mortals, hardly allowed his son the common necessities of life'. He was reported to have had over 500 horses, all unbroken and allowed to roam wild 'letting his wild colts and cattle of 20 or 30 years old come into the very house, which was quite uncovered and every other way... in a very ruinous condition'. He possessed a good library, though neglected with the rest of the mansion. In 1688 at the age of fourteen, he seems to have run away from Westminster School or even been kidnapped: £100 reward was offered for his return by his mother Dorothy Bell. It may have been this mysterious interlude in his early life which influenced his eccentric behaviour, for although the estate paid him £1500 per annum, it deteriorated greatly under his stewardship, and he also started to sell off land. This was the Beaupre Bell who perambulated the parish in 1714 at the age of 60. It is uncertain when he died, but he was still alive in 1720 when his wife died.

His son Beaupré was an antiquary, making a collection of coins medals and manuscripts which he presented to Trinity College, Cambridge, his *alma mater*. The younger Beaupré Bell died 'of a consumption' on his way to Bath in 1741, aged only 37. His sister and heir Elizabeth married William Greaves of Fulbourn Manor, who spent much money repairing the Hall. Their daughter Jane brought it by marriage to the Townley family, in which it continued into the 20th Century, Charles E. Townley being lord of the manor in 1937. By this time the ownership of land was much divided. The manor carried with it the advowson (right of occupancy in exchange for ecclesiastical duties) of Upwell Rectory, and members of the Townley family were rectors of Upwell and renowned benefactors in the area.



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Parish Council Meeting Dates 2012

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.

January

9 th	Finance (Three Holes Village Hall)	6.45pm
9 th	Full Council (Three Holes Village Hall)	7.30pm
18 th	Environment & Parish Affairs (Three Holes Village Hall)	6.15pm
18 th	Planning & Highways (Three Holes Village Hall)	7.30pm

February

6 th	Finance	6.45pm
6 th	Full Council	7.00pm
15 th	Environment & Parish Affairs	6.15pm
15 th	Planning & Highways	7.30pm

March

5 th	Finance	7.00pm
5 th	Full Council	7.30pm
21 st	Environment & Parish Affairs	6.15pm
21 st	Planning & Highways	7.30pm

UPWELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

By Kate Cobley

The Autumn term has been a busy one at school. On 7th October the Children walked down to Upwell Methodist Church to celebrate Harvest Festival. Parents joined the children for the service and a collection was taken, raising £31 for the Seeds For Africa charity, which helps families across Africa by providing seeds, farming equipment and advice. Each class gave a short presentation on the work they had been doing to understand the differences between life as a child in the UK and Africa.

On the 18th November the school went dotty!!! Pupils and staff discarded their usual uniforms and wore something spotty to support this year's Children In Need appeal. A fantastic total of £95.17 was raised, which has been forwarded to the appeal fund. The Children were especially impressed with Mrs Dewdney's fluffy, red spotty pyjama bottoms, which she wore all day!

Years 3 and 4 enjoyed (although that might not be an appropriate description!) a day in

the life of a Victorian school child on 24th November. A visiting company transformed the school hall and an austere headmaster, accompanied by his trusty cane, conducted lessons by candlelight—and there wasn't a calculator in sight!

The children have also had a busy time on the sports field. Both our football team and netball team have had a mixed time: both have won games by double figures—and both have lost a game each. For the first time, a year 4/5 mixed team entered the 'quick sticks' festival. This is the first step in hockey and the children thoroughly enjoyed it.

At the time of writing, both Key Stage 1 and 2 are busy rehearsing for their respective Christmas plays. Key Stage 1 is presenting 'It's a baby!' and the older children are performing 'The Music Hall'. Christmas carols can be heard coming from the hall and the Christmas tree is sparkling, beautifully adorned with decorations made by the children last week.

Now, all we need is some snow...!

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