

FUTURE NEWSLETTERS

If you have any ideas for future newsletter articles, we really want to hear from you. Whether it's about a local group or charity, an interesting fact about the village, a local photograph or something you want locals to be aware of, please get in touch via the email address below
admin@upweysociety.org.uk

We can't guarantee that all ideas/articles will be used, but we will try and use as many as we can. Remember, as an Upwey resident, this is your newsletter so we want to create something that is of interest to you.

Your email address will not be used for any other purpose.

FIND US AT

www.upweysociety.org.uk
www.facebook.com/UpweySociety/

Membership

Name	
Address	
Email	
	By putting in your email address you agree to receive communications from the Upwey Society about its events. It will only be used for Upwey Society business.



- AUTUMN 2024 UPWEY NEWSLETTER -
Distributed to all Upwey Households

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Message

FROM THE CHAIR

We hope you enjoy the Upwey Society's Autumn Newsletter, which we hand deliver to every household in Upwey. We've had a busy time since the Spring edition, with fantastically successful events in the form of Open Gardens and Scarecrows in June, the Big Affair in August, in the grounds of Upwey House, and just a few weeks ago the fireworks and bonfire to which you came in greater than ever numbers.

Those events are part of what gives Upwey its genuine community feel and you can read more about them on the following pages.

We absolutely love organising them and other activities, such as litter-picking. But doing so needs people, which is where you come in.

First, if you haven't already joined the Upwey Society, why not do so? Membership is only £5 per household, which goes towards our events and these newsletters. But it's not just about the money. Membership makes you a part of what we do, giving you the chance to influence the committee's decisions or even stand for the committee. Oh, and it means you get regular (but not too frequent!) emails about upcoming events. See the form on the back page.

Second, we always need volunteers to help on and around the days of our events. From stewarding car parks to making cakes to serving teas or driving a minibus to help less mobile visitors, there's plenty to do.

And third, the committee needs new people to stand for membership. Being a committee member is hugely rewarding – whether watching excited children at the fireworks or seeing newly planted daffodils come through in Spring. And we need the new ideas that new members can bring so that the Upwey Society keeps fresh and stays in tune with the times.

Whether you want to join the Society, add yourself to our volunteer list or are considering standing for the committee, the easiest way is to contact us by email at admin@upweysociety.org.uk.

We'd love to hear from you.

Tony King

Children's colouring page

MERRY CHRISTMAS



ARE YOU A GNU?

How well do you know your neighbours? Do you help them? Do they help you? Would you like someone who can come round for a chat, who will pop to the local shop for you occasionally, who you can call when you have an emergency and don't know what to do?

Neighbours are important. They are your closest point of contact when something goes wrong, useful when you have run out of eggs in a vital part of your favourite recipe and vital in an emergency.

Do you know your neighbours well enough to ask them for help or to offer help? Few people have the knowledge and abilities to help in all circumstances, which is where GNU comes in.

As a group of residents, between us, we can provide knowledge and support to those who need it.

OUR AIMS:

- Put residents in touch with each other
- Network
- Individual & community emergencies
- Dissemination of local knowledge

Is this something you would be interested in? If so, we want to hear from you. Let's build a network of GNUs in Upwey who can support us all in our times of need.

Call Diane on 01305 812030
or email: decrumble@hotmail.com



Good Neighbours of Upwey

Membership

Membership now runs from 1st September each year and remains at the bargain price of £5. If you are not sure whether you have paid this year, email me and I will let you know.

As a member, if you give us your email address, you will receive emails about future Upwey Society events via Mailchimp. If you have given me your email address and not received any emails from me, look in your junk email box. We will only use the email for Upwey Society business.

Ways to pay: for those of you who prefer online banking you can pay using the bank details below or, better still, set up a standing order so that you don't have to remember to renew in future years! Please remember to put your surname, and first line of your address in the reference box, or we won't know who has paid.

Bank Details: The Upwey Society
Sort code: 30-99-56
Account number: 00355679

It would be very helpful if you can then send me a quick email. I can be contacted by email on: admin@upweysociety.org.uk

Or, alternatively, you can fill in the membership form on the back page and put it with £5 in an envelope, then put it through my letter box.

My address is:
40, Elwell Street, Upwey. DT3 5QF.

THANK YOU,

Diane Crumbleholme

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Looking back at Upwey Society events

UPWEY OPEN GARDENS AND SCARECROW COMPETITION



We held our Open Gardens on the 29th and 30th of June this year and once again we were blessed with good weather. The owners of the gardens, which ranged from front gardens to small cottage gardens, courtyards and larger formal gardens, had worked hard to get them ready on time.

We welcomed hundreds of people, some coming from considerable distances, to see the lovely gardens on display.

We provided a free hop-on hop-off mini bus to take people to the hilly bits or to the gardens that just seemed too far to walk to.

The Tea Gardens were once again held at Mill House. Many thanks to Sue and Richard for allowing us the use of their beautiful tranquil gardens where we served home-made cakes and scones, and allowed people to rest and revive before going on to see more gardens. There were also stalls and a cake raffle.



829 Dorchester Road was the local bakery, established by Mr OW Baker. Although modern double glazing has been installed the building still maintains its shop exterior. The sliding doors on the side were the entrance to the bakehouse.



B Smith & Son (a Weymouth Baker) took over the bakery in the late 1950's. Bert Trevett and George Hopkins were also long serving employees. By the 1970's the shop was trading under the umbrella of Weymouth Bakeries, although baking no longer took place on the premises.

When the bakers shop closed, it was for a time an antiques shop, then a haberdashery before becoming in 1994 Peter Read's flower shop. Peter moved the florists to larger premises further down the Dorchester Rd in 1998 and trading at this site stopped.



The junction of Dorchester Road and Elwell Street was known as 'The Royal Oak' because of the pub of that name on the right of the picture.

The pub was well used in its time as it had an Assembly Room at the back which was used for meetings, dinners, parties and dances. Although it only had a 6 day licence (built on land belonging to 'Keys College', Cambridge they refused the sale of alcohol on a Sunday).

There was a water trough fed by a spring at the side where steam engines filled up with water before the climb up Ridgeway and horses were able to enjoy a drink whilst their master had a pint in the pub.



Looking back

ROYAL STANDARD TO ELWELL STREET

Sue Virgin delves into the Upwey and Broadway history collection. The Royal Standard has been an inn for over 150 years. In the late 1800's Eldridge Pope became the owners.



The picture was taken c.1911 when Alice Langford (38) was the innkeeper, assisted by her sister Teresa (34). Alice had taken over from her father, Hezekiah.

Mr and Mrs Hyde ran the Royal Standard pub for many years (1922 to 1955) and Jack Beck remembered their eldest son Peter would organise little film shows in a loft at the back of the pub. "He would charge one penny for the privilege of sitting on a tea chest to watch a Charlie Chaplain film. We youngsters thought it was wonderful as we hadn't by then been inside a cinema."



The pub in the late 1940's. The van belonged to Gill's chicken farm whose premises were in Littlemead, Broadway.

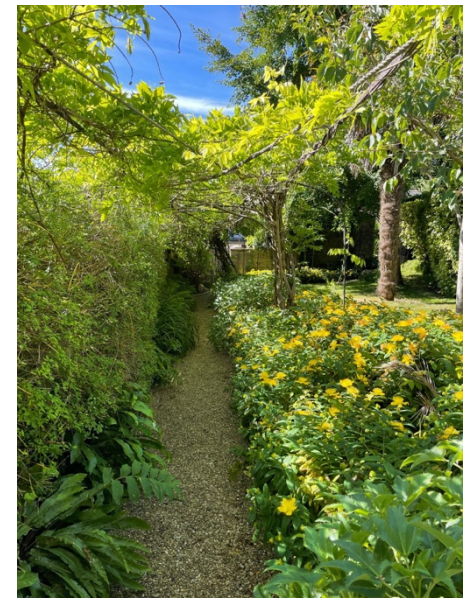
There have been several other landlords over the years, the pub having darts and football teams. Today it is described as a traditional friendly pub.



Among the village attractions there were the impressive vintage cars which were viewed and admired by many. Thank you to all the owners of the vehicles for displaying them for us to enjoy. The event went extremely well, helped by the sunshine (weren't we lucky!). Hope to see you all in 2025.

AND NOW FOR THE SCARY BIT...

Our annual village scarecrow competition was also held the same weekend and, as visitors strolled around the village, they would have seen an array of interesting characters.



Some you may have recognised from book and screen; some were showing their sporting prowess while others were sleeping off the night before!! A big thank you to all those who released their inner child and took part.

Well done to the winners:

3rd place to the Glastonbury scarecrows, created by Gillian Browne in Elwell Street.

2nd place to Mary Poppins created by Littlemoor Youth Club.

1st place to those 3 scarecrows sleeping off the night before by Island Garden Nursery!

But a big well done to everyone who took part.

THE BIG AFFAIR

Once again, the Society hosted the ever-popular Upwey Big Affair in early August. While the morning saw volunteers donning wellies to help set up, luckily the sun started to peek out from behind the gloom and, by the afternoon, we were basking in glorious sunshine.

As always, we would like to thank Kerry and everyone at Upwey House for their magnificent support. Without them we wouldn't be able to put on this event for locals and visitors to relax and enjoy some delicious food, drink and great entertainment.

Visitors were welcomed with a performance by the wonderful Festus Derriman Morris Dancers, who set the scene for what would be a fun-filled afternoon of food, drink and merriment. And while people milled around and found their picnic spots they may have been treated to a bit of magic from our wandering magician.

Members of the Upwey Society had decided to make a few changes and additions this year, which seemed to be extremely popular with those enjoying the afternoon.



Once again delicious food was provided from A-Yum Yum Thai and Bigger Bites Dorset, with a Mad Mitch Ice Cream van offering dessert. But this year we were also extremely pleased to have with us well-known local baker, Lizzie Baking Bird, who provided a delicious array of wonderful goodies. Drinks were provided by Cerne Abbas Brewery and Little Waddon Vineyard, who did a roaring trade, and were much appreciated.

There were activities for the young, and young at heart to enjoy. Youngsters enjoyed the bouncy castle and crazy golf. Those who took part in the egg and spoon and sack races were extremely competitive and well-rewarded for their efforts.

We are hoping to expand on these children's games in years to come. And for some, face painting was just the ticket.

It is such a busy time of year so here's something quick and simple that you can make.

A nutty, chocolaty and slightly spicy treat. Make panforte for Christmas as a lovely gift or snaffle it yourself. It will keep easily for a month so can be made in November.

The best peel for this recipe is bought whole and chopped finely. Although you can buy the mixed peel that is readily available. The nuts suggested can be substituted with any of your favourites.

Once cooked and cold these can be wrapped in parchment and foil and tucked away until ready to gift (or eat). Keep airtight.

This recipe makes 20 slices.

Ingredients

120g dark chocolate
100g flour
20g cocoa powder
2 tsp cinnamon
125g dried figs, chopped
35g orange peel (chopped)
420g almonds, pistachio nuts and cashews
120g honey with 4 tbsp water
75g caster sugar
75g soft brown sugar

LIZZIE THE BAKING BIRD



Method

1. Heat oven to Gas mark 2/150C. Prepare a 20cm (8 in) tin by lining with baking parchment.

2. Melt the chocolate in the microwave (or in a bowl over hot water) taking it slowly so that it doesn't burn. Tip the flour, cocoa and cinnamon in a bowl and mix in the fruit and nuts.

3. With the honey, water and sugars in a small pan gently heat until the sugar has dissolved. Bring to a gentle simmer and leave it for 5 minutes. Pour the hot syrup onto the dry ingredients, add the chocolate and mix well.

4. Pour the mixture into the prepped tin and press down with a wooden spoon. Put in the oven for around 40 minutes until it is set and slightly firm.

5. Take the panforte from the oven and leave to cool in the tin. When cold remove it and the old baking parchment. Wrap and store until you fancy a wedge.

Serve in slices with strong, hot coffee and enjoy!

CHURCH NEWS

ST. LAURENCE CHURCH, UPWEY

Whilst the till bells are all ringing out to remind you that winter holidays and the great spend is not far off, the Church bells wait until Advent, four weeks before Christmas, to deliver their message of hope and heart.

A lot of people with a wide variety of skills bring their talents, their time and their traditions to making St. Laurence's ready for Christmas. We welcome flower arrangers, tree decorators, manger makers, brass polishers, candle lighters, the bellringers of course and many others. Perhaps it's the music, our wonderful organists and splendid full choir who make it all just that bit extra special.

Everyone in the village and beyond is invited to come and join us at the Christmas services, details below, and especially at our very traditional Carol Service on 23rd December, that's the Monday this year. Bring a candle each, listen to the old story and sing the carols you knew from childhood – you and Thomas Hardy, Charles Dickens and all the great pantheon of writers and musicians who have so enhanced our lives through the centuries. It really is an event not to be missed.

In the run-up, the Christmas Fair was held at St. Nicholas Church on Saturday, 23rd November, the

proceeds of which were shared between the churches and nominated charities.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES:

December 23rd, 6.30pm, Carol Service, St. Laurence.

Christmas Eve, 4.00pm Christingle, St Nicholas.

Christmas Eve Midnight Mass, 11.30pm Holy Trinity, Bincombe.

Christmas Day, 10.30am Service of Holy Communion, St. Laurence.

December 29th, 10.30am, all churches combined service at St. Laurence.

A complete change of subject; car parking. On Sunday mornings, until the notice is removed, our car park is reserved for churchgoers, likewise any other church service or event, funerals for example. The car park is a constant nightmare and we are so very grateful to Mike, Adrian and John, especially, who keep an eye on things there. The condition of the car park is very poor and urgently in need of restoration and repair. It is very costly, and, as it is used by so many people – village residents, churchgoers, visitors to the Wishing Well and walkers, we do invite donations. Think on! For now, Happy Christmas, everyone.

Eve Price

PRESIDENT, UPWEY SOCIETY



We were so pleased that the alpacas could come again this year and, once again, they were extremely popular. Who wouldn't love these gentle creatures! Also, we welcomed back some beautiful old cars as well as something a little faster; Blue Watch and their fire engine. And for those wanting a little retail therapy, there were a number of local talented artists and crafters on hand.

We would like to thank, local, Neil Coad, who once again began the musical entertainment for the afternoon. We were then treated to a couple of performances from local legends Robbie McIntosh and Steve Wilson, with Johnny Burden on second guitar and Ady Milward on drums.

A very big thank you to the band for taking time out of their busy schedules to take part. They went down a storm.

But all was not entirely peaceful; Saxons and Vikings never mix well even on a lovely sunny Sunday afternoon! Local Saxons had set up camp but soon were defending themselves from marauding Vikings; much to the delight of everyone. We were treated to some fighting demonstrations, which had everyone holding their breath and cheering for their favourites. Oh dear, who would come out victorious!

As if that wasn't enough excitement for the afternoon the day finally ended with the drawing of the raffle. Again, we had some wonderful prizes very generously donated by local businesses. So, a big thank you goes out to Came Down Golf Course, Toymaster, Moonfleet Manor, Weymouth Sealife Centre, The Fat Badger, Weymouth Pavilion, Shire Hall in Dorchester and Alexandra Gardens. A lucky few people had some amazing prizes.

Finally, the Upwey Society would like to send out a huge thanks to all those people who volunteered to help organise and support us on the day and to those of you who came along and enjoyed a wonderful afternoon.

We hope to see you all again next year.

FIREWORKS NIGHT

After a fabulous year of society events, the annual bonfire night came with high expectations. This year, as a result of the success of the Open Gardens and the Big Affair, we decided to make this a free event and settled on the no charges option with a donations bucket to offset some of the financial burden to the society coffers.

As ever, the online meteorologists were hard at work trying to predict the conditions for the day of the bonfire. There was a distinctly optimistic mood to our society forecasts this year, compared to last, and we set about firming our plans as the week progressed. Come the day of the event itself, the setting up of the site was a joy to behold. As the members and volunteers gathered at the West Farm site, the whole operation came together through a range of complex, synchronised and choreographed manoeuvres.

Within an hour and a half, the fire was primed, food stalls erected and the car park team had gone through their rehearsals and role plays having committed Dave's car parking instruction manual to memory.

At dusk, in the damp mizzle, we waited. Helen's team assembled under the gazebos with spatulas and forks in hand, ready to deliver the traditional fireworks night fare; Kyle and the brave souls at the front of the site armed with torches (and pitchforks); Dave with his well-drilled car park warriors sentried and armed, and Chris trying to keep his pyromaniacal urges in check, on bonfire duties. The usual doubts and concerns started to encroach into our collective minds creating a low-level generalised anxiety. Will anyone turn up? What if thousands of people decide to come? Will the fire start? What if ...? All unfounded and born from uncertainty and a strong desire to put on the best show for everyone.



Ongoing activities include continuing to press Wessex Water to implement a scheme to stop the raw sewage spilling out onto Church Street and Watery Lane. Their efforts so far have been ineffective so we continue to make accurate spillage reports and demand the immediate clearance of the pollution. Further downstream, we are giving our thoughts to the local authorities to try and resolve the problem of controlling the water level in Radipole Lake. This could include the re-design and revised operation of the Westham Bridge sluices or a significant dredging programme.

Our Annual General meeting will be held on 21st November where we hope to establish a varied programme for 2025.

Bob Turner

CHAIRMAN OF RWS

THE RIVER WEY SOCIETY



UPWEY MUSIC

Local charity, Upwey Music, organises and promotes performances in Upwey.

Most of our events are held in St Laurence Church, which has great acoustics and a wonderful atmosphere (as well as rather firm pews!) We usually put on about ten concerts a year.

We try to cater for all tastes and, in addition to our more popular concerts, we aim to give less well-known local performers a chance to be heard. Recently we've hosted fantastic folk group, Leveret, and a classical afternoon with local bass-baritone Stefan Oakes alongside the Dorian String quartet with clarinettist Claudio Bollani.

COMING UP:

20 December – Upton, McIntosh, Wilson. Jess, Steve and Robbie return for their annual Christmas gig in Upwey Old School Village Hall.

March 23, 2025 – Daoirí ("Derry") Farrell. Superb Irish singer and bazouki player who sold out the church in 2023.

April 23, 2025 – Island Voices. An afternoon concert by a local choir based on Portland.

May 2, 2025 – Jon Boden. A special solo concert from folk maestro Jon Boden, front man of the mighty Bellowhead, the Remnant Kings, Spiers and Boden and others.

TICKETS

www.ticketsource.co.uk/upwey-music
or 0333 666 3366.



River Wey Society

If you need an accurate long range weather forecast, please get in touch with the River Wey Society Chairman. That is, if you want to know the best sunny days in the summer for a garden fete or outside activity, know that the dates suggested by him can guarantee strong winds and heavy rain!



So was our summer; the planned riverside meets were called off and we actually spent more time in river bank maintenance than expected. That said, after over 6 years we have finally achieved our major project of getting the Littlemead footpath safely restored.

Many of our members have helped to try and keep the path clear of vegetation so that the edge of the path by the relief channel could be seen. However, thanks to great work by Martin Madley and John Restorick the Environment Agency finally gripped the task and we now have a safe, fully useable footpath to link the bottom of Mill Street with Littlemead and Nottingham further south.

This was a cause for a celebration, so mindful of our weather ace's track record, a members meeting was held under cover.

Our attention is now focused on preparations for winter, noting that we really need to keep the main river and supporting channels clear of obstructions.

In particular I would again emphasise how important this is, and any debris or obstructions removed must be disposed of very well clear of the banks.



As people started to arrive, it quickly became clear this would be one of the best supported bonfire nights in living memory. The cars were parked with exquisite precision, tessellating up the back field to maximise all of the space available. We were very soon at capacity, but still they came. The brave warriors out front had the brilliant idea of directing people up the old Dorchester Road to park, a master stroke. Once everyone was in, the countdown began and Shaun let loose the fireworks.

What a fabulous, mesmerising display and great thanks go to Anytime Fireworks for their wonderful support once again. With the orange of the fire illuminating the expectant crowd the display itself was truly spectacular. With their usual panache, Shaun and the team lit up the sky with vibrant reds, blues, golds and silver.

The display started with modest bangs and pulsing lights. Moving the focus from the horizon to the sky above the crowd the show progressed to a pyrotechnic super nova crescendo. What a wonderful evening.

The Upwey Society bonfire night is a firm staple of the Autumn calendar and this year reminded us why. This event wouldn't be possible without the hard work of the Upwey Society Committee, the squad of volunteers, Anytime Fireworks and the Foot family for the kind use of their land.

Many thanks to everyone for all of your support and also to the residents, near and far, who attended our event.

THE UPWEY SOCIETY DONATES TO LOCAL CHARITY

Open Gardens this year was a great success, drawing visitors to the village who are happy to pay a small entry fee to see the many gardens that open up.

The Society's committee decided in advance of the event that this year we would give some of the proceeds to STARS, a charity that operates across Dorset, with offices in Poundbury. STARS stands for "Sexual Trauma and Recovery Service" and offers one to one support, free of charge, for anyone of any age or gender who lives, works or studies in Dorset and has experienced any form of sexual violence at any time in their life.

Recently our President, Eve Price, and Chair, Tony King, visited the charity's offices to hear Helen Stevens their Chief Executive Officer talk about their work, and to arrange for the donation of £500 to be paid. Helen said: *"We are so grateful to The Upwey Society for choosing to support our work which is much needed throughout Dorset. Their donation will ensure we can purchase resources for our children and young people's service which will be used in the sessions we provide to help them on their journey of recovery. Thank you to all involved in making this donation."*

In the photo, Eve and Helen are admiring one of the "Trauma Teddies" knitted by volunteers to comfort children who need support. If you want to knit or crochet teddies for STARS you can find details at <https://www.starsdorset.org/trauma-teddies>.



LITTER PICK

A big thank you to those who turned up for the litter pick back in September.



From around the village we filled 11 bags of rubbish including 32 bottles, a plastic box and the proverbial wheel trim! After all that hard work, volunteers enjoyed a tea and coffee at The Royal Standard pub.

Once again, many thanks to those who took the time to come along and help keep our village neat and tidy.

We will be organising more litter picks throughout 2025, so keep an eye out on our Facebook page.

If you would like information about any future litter picks please email us on admin@upweysociety.org.uk

John Simpson

UPWEY SOCIETY EVENTS

to look forward to

FAMILY BOARD GAMES AND SHARING SUPPER

Sunday 22 December 3pm – 8pm

Once you have finished your shopping for Christmas, why not relax with the family at the Old School Village Hall in Upwey. There will be board games available (or bring your own) and afternoon refreshments. Stay longer for supper – bring something to eat and drink and share with others.

If you need more information phone Diane on 01305 812030.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

MORE DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

The Upwey Society will be organising a number of events for next year, so please make a note of these important dates in your diaries. Further activities will be organised throughout the year, so follow us on Facebook for all the up-to-date information.

UPWEY SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday 20th March 2025

OPEN GARDENS

Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th June 2025

THE BIG AFFAIR

Sunday 10th August 2025

Keep an eye on our social media and, if you're a member, emails for future events and updates.