

UFTON NEWS

March 2021 Diary

Tues	2	Virtual Ufton Parish Council Meeting 8.00 pm
Fri	5	Blue & Green Bin Collection
Fri	12	Grey Bin Collection
Fri	19	Blue & Green Bin Collection
Fri	26	Grey Bin Collection

Census Day Sunday 21st March 2021

Census Day is approaching and the first postcard advising residents of this was recently delivered to every property. You can complete your Census as soon as you receive your access code in the post.

Ufton Puffin Crossing

On 3rd February, the Parish Council (PC) met with representatives of Warwickshire County Council to discuss the position of the proposed pedestrian crossing. In the meeting the Parish Council was told it was their Decision to make.

All members of the PC surveyed the options and at a meeting held on 9th February they unanimously agreed the preferred location to be midway between the exit from White Hart Lane, when turning left towards Southam and the entrance to the three properties off the private road. WCC were informed of this decision on 10th February, with a request to start the detailed design and construction. The Parish Council is hopeful construction will start soon and will keep the village informed.

The Parish Council is grateful for the positive support they have received from WCC's HS2 Traffic and Road Safety Lead, Caroline Burrows and HS2 Programme Manager Sara-Louise Lee.



Attention Jam/Marmalade and Chutney Makers

I have 11 clean jam jars ready to collect for free before they are designated to the recycling bin. I will leave in a box by my front door.

Jenny Armstrong
The Stone Barn
Ufton Fields

Join the Solar Evolution with Solar Together Warwickshire

A new scheme from Warwickshire County Council and IChoosr aims to make solar panels and home battery storage accessible to all.

Solar Together Warwickshire is an innovative new scheme offering the procurement and installation of high-quality solar photovoltaic (PV) panels. It is a group-buying scheme, which brings Warwickshire households together to get high-quality solar panels at a competitive price helping residents through the process and keeping them informed at every stage.

The Scheme is provided in partnership with expert provider, IChoosr, who have already had great success in Warwickshire helping residents to get the best deal on their gas and electricity bills with the Switch and Save Warwickshire collective energy buying scheme.

For those residents who already have Solar panels installed on their homes, Solar Together Warwickshire can also help with the procurement and installation of innovative battery storage technology.

How does Solar Together Warwickshire work?

Step 1 – Registration: Residents can register before 23 March 2021 for free and without any obligation at: <https://www.solartogether.co.uk/warwickshire/home>

Step 2 – The Auction: A supplier 'auction' will be held on 23 March, when all approved solar suppliers will bid for the work in Warwickshire. The more people that register, the better the deal should be for each household. The auction is a reverse auction, meaning the lowest bid wins and so do residents!

Step 3 – Personal Recommendation: After the auction, from 12 April, residents will be contacted with a personal

recommendation based on the specifications of their roof.

Step 4 – Residents’ decide: The decision is then residents’ as to whether they want to accept their recommendation. There is no obligation to continue. Residents will have until 21 May to decide and will be invited to an online information session where they can hear more from the winning installer.

Step 5 – Installation: If residents decide to accept their personal recommendations and are happy to proceed following their personal information session, arrangements will be made for installation.

Find out whether Solar is right for your home and how affordable it can be by registering today:
<https://www.solartogether.co.uk/warwickshire/home>

Speeding, Ufton Fields

The Parish Council has recently been approached by several residents regarding speeding vehicles on Ufton Fields. The Parish Council met with representatives from Warwickshire County Council's Road Safety Team on Wednesday 3rd February 2021 to discuss this issue.

Given there are no recent measurements of speed along Ufton Fields, it was agreed a full traffic survey is necessary to enable the Parish Council (with cooperation from Road Safety) to determine the best way forward. It was also agreed the best time to do such a survey is when the A425 reopens, so the volume of traffic in Ufton Fields is 'normal'.

Children’s Boxes

Ann Ainscow is pleased to advise the total amount collected in the Children’s Boxes over the last year was £521.77.

Ann would like to thank everyone who gave so generously.

If anyone would like a box, please contact Ann on 01926 613303

Fed-up with doing the same old walks?

Then,
www.walkinginengland.co.uk/warwickshire is the website for you!

With hundreds of walks to download and print for free, it also has books of walks, contact details for all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.

John said ‘There is so much walking information on the web, but it is difficult to find. Walking in Warwickshire (part of the Walking in England suite of websites (www.walkinginengland.co.uk) – one for each county in England) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you’.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy.

John Harris www.walkinginengland.co.uk
email: john@walkinginengland.co.uk

Contributions to Ufton News

Ufton News is solely for the villagers of Ufton and we try to keep you informed of relevant and appropriate items.

If you would like to contribute an article, poem, quiz, recipe, historical information, fun fact or anything else who may feel is of interest please send it to the Parish Clerk, Jackie Chapman via email Uftonpc@gmail.com or to 12 St Michaels Close.

All submissions, in principle will be welcomed.

Parish Council Clerk, Jackie Chapman
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Ufton Parish News Editorial/Advertising
uftonpc@gmail.com

Village Hall – Ian Crowther Village Website
ian@account-able.co.uk www.uftonvillage.com

Date for items to be submitted for the April.
Edition – Thursday 25th March 2021.

Denis Peaty



Dennis – not only in his element, but in a role for which he is well remembered.

We were very sorry to learn that Dennis died on 31 January 2021 aged 74.

Born in Yeovil to Graham and Constance, it was not long before the family moved up to Ufton and it was in September Lodge (so named to celebrate the month of their marriage and Dennis' birth) where he grew up with sisters Christine and Rosalind. His education began in Ufton and finished at Southam High School. Blessed with a 'can-do' nature, Dennis opted for a varied career in mechanised transport whether as an ambulance driver, a roadie for local bands or latterly as a HGV 'knight of the road' delivering for Sainsburys.

Dennis married Vanessa in the early eighties and they moved to Lillington in 1983 where they raised their family of three: Odette, Ben and Lauren, but Dennis never forgot his strong bond with Ufton and over the years if anything, it became stronger still. His devotion to the church clock was legendary. It was also a family tradition in that he carried on where his father Graham left off - climbing that (near vertical) ladder to wind it on a weekly basis until electrification eased the pressure on his joints.

Whatever the village task, you would find Dennis there somewhere; whether hard at work on the church fabric, looking after the churchyard from his little wooden shed next to the North Chapel, donning his 'high-viz'

yellow jacket to control wedding traffic on Ufton Hill or parking cars at the Fete.

Sadly, Vanessa died five years ago. Her loss hit Dennis hard and his health suffered, but slowly he was rebuilding his life, using his links with Ufton as part of the recovery process. He was a regular supporter of the Men's Breakfast and devoured the Ufton News from cover to cover – even winning a bottle of Prosecco in our recent Christmas Competition.

On behalf of the village, we have offered our condolences to the family. In these Covid times, we understand there will be a private cremation, to be followed by a Thanksgiving Service later in the year.

Dennis' chosen charity is the Air Ambulance and donations in his memory may be sent to Goodwin's who are dealing with the funeral arrangements.

CHURCHYARD

The Ufton Church Wardens, Andy and Adelle have been concerned to hear dogs have been allowed to foul within the churchyard. It goes without saying this is very disrespectful and upsetting – please contact the church wardens if you have any information on this.

uftonchurch@gmail.com

Churchwardens Andy & Adelle 711967 / 07815 311374



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ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS CHURCH, UFTON

SERVICE UPDATE

Hello everyone, another month has come round again so fast. At the time of writing a decision has not yet been made on when to restart services. The church wardens continue to meet with those from Harbury and Ladbroke and Rev Andy to make decisions across the three churches about reopening and hope to have news in the next newsletter.

In the meantime, you are incredibly welcome to join in online worship in the parish. We send out details of these services' weekly to our email list, please get in touch with us at uftonchurch@gmail.com if you wish to be added. Alternatively, you can visit allsaintsharbury.org for further details or view via the All Saints Harbury facebook page live stream at 10:30 on Sunday mornings. There are also opportunities to join virtual coffee mornings and weekday morning prayer services, again there is more info in the weekly email and online. **It would be lovely to have you along.**

Please also let us know via email or calling us if you would be interested in having the church open for private prayer.

CHURCHYARD

We have been concerned to hear some news lately that there has been dog fouling in our churchyard. It goes without saying that this is very disrespectful and upsetting – please contact the church wardens if you have any information on this.

MESSAGE FROM REV ANDY

One of my interests in life, along with motorcycles and science fiction, is astronomy and space exploration, so I was glued to the TV during the recent live broadcast of the perseverance rover landing on the surface of Mars. It's amazing how much we are discovering about the Universe around us, even if, as yet, we don't have the technology to actually go very far in person! Another recent discovery was a system of 8 planets circling the star Tau Ceti, one of our closest galactic neighbours.

In these days of worry and uncertainty, perhaps sometimes we need to look beyond our often narrow perspective to recognise that we live in a Universe filled with majesty and wonder. The Bible speaks of how this intricate beauty points to the creativity and power of a creator God who scattered the stars across the night sky.

So why does that matter to we tiny beings on an insignificant planet circling an unremarkable star? God could have planted humanity on the Earth, a planet exquisitely designed for life, and left us to it – moving on to design another dimension. But he didn't, because amazingly, every human being has a special place in his heart. Each of us matters more to God than a whole galaxy of stars.

If we needed proof of God's love for us, then Easter provides it. At Easter we remember how the God whose word set the Universe in motion, walked with men and women as one of us, shared the joys and sorrows of our human experience. A man who was betrayed, set up, and finally executed by those who rejected his message of God's love for all, his vision of a different way of life, where everyone is valued.

What sets Jesus apart though is what happened next – his resurrection demonstrates he is who he claimed to be, the Son of God. We know that everything comes to an end, even stars and galaxies will one day die. But the resurrection demonstrates that God has more in store for his children, the good news of eternal life that is just as wonderful as any celestial marvel.

Vicar Rev Andy Batchelor: telephone 714295 email rev.andyb@gmail.com

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