



UFTON NEWS December 2020 Diary

Tues	1	Virtual Ufton Parish Council Meeting 8.00 pm
Fri	4	Grey Bin Collection
Fri	11	Blue & Green Bin Collection
Fri	18	Grey Bin Collection
Fri	25	Christmas Day Church service @ 10.00 am
Mon	28	Blue Bin Collection
Sat	2 Jan	Grey and Green Bin Collection

* Collections for Mon 28th and Sat 2nd Jan taken from Stratford District Council website.

Christmas Eve Jingle 2020

Remember to be out at 6.00 pm on Christmas Eve to ring a bell for two minutes to help spread some joy and encourage Father Christmas on his long journey delivering presents.

Christmas Code or Conundrum

Main meal eaten, Christmas Pud consumed, comfy seat taken, Queen's speech absorbed, tea and Christmas cake eagerly awaited – what else does Christmas afternoon hold?

A simple brainteaser, that's what!

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Answers in the January issue

Parish Council Clerk, Jackie Chapman
uftonpc@gmail.com

Ufton Parish News Editorial/Advertising
uftonpc@gmail.com

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

Heart of England Farms

Festive flavour to savour

Locally reared, free range Christmas Bronze and White turkeys, Cockerels, Geese and Ducks.

Heart of England Farms have been rearing Christmas poultry for over 30 years. Specialising in free range bronze turkeys, cockerels, white turkeys and geese we can offer something to keep every tastebud happy! With sizes ranging from smaller 3kg cockerels to beautiful 11kg+ turkeys, whatever the size of your gathering we have the ideal solution.

After spending so long apart during 2020 Christmas is a time to be together. An ideal opportunity to put those new found cooking skills to the test perhaps! Our bronze turkeys have free range in open fields, the perimeter fence is to keep the wily fox out rather than the birds in! The geese wander at will being allowed acres of space for grazing, and our cockerels and ducks are allowed the time to reach maturity resulting in the tastiest birds ever!

For prices and ordering please visit our website, however for any individual questions do not hesitate to give us a call. Collection days are the 23rd and 24th December or delivery can be arranged as required.

www.heartofenglandfarms.com

Be together this Christmas

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TURKEY RAFFLE TROTS HOME A WINNER!



Parish Clerk Jackie Chapman draws the winning ticket whilst Richard Wright of Car Consultants (who kindly provided the letterbox for entries) looks on to ensure fair play!

We only received 15 entries – is the village going vegan? - for last month's (**FREE !!!**) Turkey Raffle Prize Draw (generously donated by Heart of England Farms) and we are delighted to report the winning ticket # 46 belongs to Kam Chambay in St Michael's Close and the voucher is already winging its way to her.

We used the entry form as a "Call to Arms" for more volunteers to support the good work done by three important village committees and the interest expressed in them by entries returned was:

Parish Council 2
PCC (Parochial Church Council) 3
Village Hall 8
None 8

A big "Thank you" to those potential recruits for showing you care! Each organisation will be in touch with you very shortly.



Children's Society Collection Boxes

If you have a Children's Society Collection box, hopefully brimming with all your odd change collected over the last year it is time to empty them.

Please total up the amount collected and post/give to Ann Ainscow @ The Old Rectory, Southam Road, Ufton.

If anyone is unable to take their collection to Anne due to them self-isolating please contact the Parish Clerk, Jackie Chapman on 716191. Jackie will collect the donation from you and deliver it to Ann.

Thank you to everyone who has been collecting over this last year.

If anyone wants a collection box, please contact Ann on 613303.



gg66376599 GoGraph.com

THE BOTTLE OF PROSECCO WON'T BE SPEEDING YOUR WAY – YET!

We got no response to our request for appropriate comments to last month's photo of Edwardian era cars speeding up Ufton Hill, so the competition rolls forward into this month.

The question is: -

Did you spot the deliberate mistake on the front page of the November issue?

As before, send your entries to feedback@uftonvillage.com or (if you prefer a more traditional response) **post your entry in a sealed envelope marked "PROSECCO" through the (glazed main entrance door) letterbox of Car Consultants before Monday 21st December.** The first correct answer out of the hat wins the bubbly!

Hedgehog Highway

Ensuring hedgehogs can pass freely through your garden is the most important thing you can do to help them

Hedgehogs travel around **one mile** every night through our parks and gardens in their quest to find enough food and a mate. If you have an enclosed garden, you might be getting in the way of their plans.

We now know that one of the main reasons why hedgehogs are declining in Britain is because our fences and walls are becoming more and more secure, reducing the amount of land available to them.

We can make their life a little easier by removing the barriers within our control – for example, by making holes in or under our garden fences and walls for them to pass through.

13cm by 13cm is sufficient for any hedgehog to pass through. This will be too small for nearly all pets.

- Remove a brick from the bottom of the wall
- Cut a small hole in your fence of there are no gaps
- Dig a channel underneath your wall, fence or gate

Act now!

1) Pledge to make a hole in your fence or wall

2) Once you've made a hole, map it on the BIG Hedgehog Map

3) Become a Hedgehog Champion and make sure your neighbourhood has hedgehogs in the future

Help make Ufton one big hedgehog highway

<https://www.hedgehogstreet.org/help-hedgehogs/link-your-garden/>

Electric Scooters

Warwickshire Police and partners urge people not to buy e-scooters this Christmas

Partners in Warwickshire working together to improve road safety are urging the public not to buy e-scooters this Christmas because it's currently against the law to ride a privately owned e-scooter in any public place in the UK.

Sergeant Shaun Bridle said "We understand that buying an e-scooter can be tempting, especially as you can get them from many popular retailers. However, the law is clear. You can buy one, but it is illegal to use a privately owned e-scooter in any public space including roads, pavements, parks, town centres or canal towpaths for example. The only place a privately owned e-scooter can be used is on private land."

This is because e-scooters are classified as Personal Light Electric Vehicles (PLEVs), so they are treated as motor vehicles and subject to the same legal requirements such as MOT, licensing, tax and insurance.

As e-scooters do not have number plates, signalling ability and don't always have visible rear lights, they can't be used legally on the roads.

In the meantime, please do not ride an e-scooter in a public place.

Warwickshire Police have the powers to seize e-scooters and prosecute riders— please make sure you keep your e-scooter on private land, so this doesn't happen to you.

Officers will also be using Section 59 of the Police Reform Act to issue a warning to riders of e-scooters and educate them as to the legal requirements. If a rider is under 16 years old, then this advice will also be given to the parents.

ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS CHURCH, UFTON

COMING UP

- **Next service Christmas Day –at 10:00** – Please join us on Christmas Morning to celebrate the birth of Jesus! Social distancing arrangements apply (please see previous newsletters for info)
- **Online services** - During lockdown times, Rev Andy and the rest of the church mission team have been recording services to be viewed online at home or joined live via zoom. In between newsletters please visit the t All Saints Harbury website allsaintsharbury.org for details of these.
- **Church opening for private prayer** – Please let us know if you would be interested in the church being opened between services for fixed periods for private prayer.
- **Communicating church news and changes** – Please consider joining our church email list by emailing uftonchurch@gmail.com. This will enable us to get news out quickly in between newsletters. Email address will not be used for any purposes other than providing Ufton church related communications.
- **Christmas decorating** - However, given the situation with COVID we will need to be more structured in arrangements for decorating the church for Christmas. Please contact us if you can help decorate.

LAST MONTH

- **Remembrance** – Sadly, the service was not able to go ahead as usual. However, wreaths were still laid at the memorial and hope that we were able to join in the silence wherever you were.
- **Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) – Wednesday 18th November, 7:30pm**. This zoom meeting elected Katie Harwar and Ian Crowther to the PCC, and Adelle and Andy Wainwright as churchwardens. Ian will continue as treasurer and Andy as PCC Secretary. We are still limited in number and would welcome further villagers joining the group.

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM REV ANDY

We have recently heard that worship will be able to restart in our churches. Much has been said by politicians and the media about Christmas, but most of this has revolved around the pubs and shops reopening, extended curfews, easing of travel restrictions, and the extended ‘bubble’ system to enable multiple households to meet up. Perhaps this is a reminder of how Christmas for so many is focused on socialising with friends and family, indulging, (and sometimes overindulging) in food and drink, and making sure they have acquired those ‘must have’ items. For the young, and young at heart, this year we have the battle between the newest games consoles, the PS5 and XBOX series X, that’s if you manage to get hold of one before the stocks dry up! Sadly, amongst all this materialistic frenzy, the simple, but profoundly important event which should be at the heart of everything is so often buried under the transitory stuff we surround ourselves with.

The birth of a baby in poverty and simplicity, in a land occupied and oppressed by the Roman empire would have seemed of little consequence at the time, but the nativity story that so many children re-enact each Christmas in all sorts of ways, traditional and contemporary, and maybe even in a virtual way this year, was to mark the beginning of a new phase in human history, an opportunity for every person ever since to discover the peace, joy, love and hope that Jesus brings.

As I hear politicians sombre warnings that this year must be very different and how we face a difficult winter, it reminded me of the land of Narnia in CS Lewis’s ‘The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe’ where, at the beginning of the story it was ‘winter but never Christmas’. Well we might be constrained this year in our social mixing, and we will miss singing those familiar carols together, but the reality of Christmas is as relevant and life changing as it ever has been, and actually this year in particular that message of hope, and of a light shining in the darkness which will never overcome it is surely something that resonates more powerfully than ever.

So despite the constraints we face this year, I pray that this Christmas, like John Wesley, you may find your heart ‘strangely warmed’ by Gods presence, and discover afresh or maybe even for the first time, the life changing, and life affirming, blessings of God with us in his son Jesus.

Rev Andy and the PCC wish you all a merry and blessed Christmas xxx

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

PCC email : uftonchurch@gmail.com. Churchwardens Andy & Adelle 711967 / 07815 311374