

UPTON TONIC



Cover picture of Paul Flintham and David Pick: Courtesy of Theresa Pick

October 2025

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<p>British Horological Institute BHI general enquiries Tel: 01636 813795 www.bhi.co.uk</p>	<p>The Museum of Timekeeping For details of opening hours see www.museumoftimekeeping.org.uk</p>
<p>Police Contact Phone Number: (Non-Emergency) Dial 101 Only Emergency: (Crime in Progress) Dial 999 Only www.nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk Crimestoppers: 0800 555111</p>	
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Deadline for November issue: Wednesday 22nd October

Upton Tonic October 2025

What Am I Reading?

A Thousand Feasts: *Small moments of joy ... a memoir of sorts*, by Nigel Slater (2024) Published by 4th Estate, an imprint of Harper Collins, London

'Pruning the roses: *Pruning the roses is the single thing my father taught me. My father is wearing his gardening cardigan, with its leather buttons and darned elbows. He is taking me round the garden, rose bush by rose bush, passing on his pruning wisdom. I am not keen on the roses in our garden ... they are the flowers of the 1960s, hybrid tea roses, and "all the rage". Along the drive is a particularly hideous arrangement of screaming coral-red ... next to a variety called Blue Moon, a depressing washed-out mauve. But there, climbing up the whitewashed brick walls of the garage is the rose of my dreams, a rose so utterly charming, so delicate and fleeting that I can forgive him his screeching reds and wishy-washy purples. It is rarely without a flower, its petals open wide, in shades of cream, faded fawn and soft pink, and here and there a crimson petal or two. (This rose, *chinensis Mutabilis*, is to this day my favourite.)'*

Upton WI News

On 23rd September, Caroline Barns described the wonderful work done by the Lincs & Notts Air Ambulance. On Tuesday 28th October Rebecca Sarginon will give a talk on Bramley & White Furniture Design. **Please note that meetings will be held in Upton Church while the Village Hall roof is under repair.**

Penny Stephenson

Upton Volunteer Cooperative Coffee Mornings

Are you new to the village, newly retired or at a loose end on a Tuesday morning? Join us for a lively chat with refreshments, **every Tuesday from 10.30am to 12 noon. Coffee mornings will be held in Upton Church while the Village Hall roof is repaired.**



Upton Volunteer Cooperative Knit & Natter Group

Knit & Natter Group will be back in the autumn.

For more details, email Annie Brand at anniefb@aol.com or phone 819989.

Upton Tonic is published monthly February to December and can be viewed on the village website www.uptonnewarkparishcouncil.gov.uk An emailed pdf version and paper copies are delivered free to villagers - contact Annie Brand for more details.

Colligs Charity and Upton Parish Council Support Upton Tonic

Upton Chilli & Boules Event was a Great Success!

The 2025 Chilli growing competition, organised by Upton Cricket Club, took place on Friday 29th August at the Cross Keys – thanks to Joy & Neil for hosting. The competition was a precursor to the Chilli & Boules day held on Saturday 30th August.

There were 26 plants entered, which was a fabulous turnout – well done and thanks to all those who took part. The judging was carried out blind (no names of entrants known) and was undertaken by Len Brown and Theresa Pick, with David Pick as master of ceremonies and head of administration.

These are the winners who were awarded Rosettes and medals:

Healthiest plant: Roger Gilmore

Lankiest plant: Sue Wood, runner up Theresa Pick

Runtiest Plant: Dave Sted

Most fruit on a single plant: Tony Raven, runner up Chris Gilliat

Hottest fruit: Jean Reed

Plant with most flowers: Laurence Wilcox, runner up Theresa Pick

Best-looking plant: Roger Gilmore

Plant closest to death: Susan Issac

Judges special award: Sue Wood

Most decorated plant: Rob Parlett

Biggest fruit: Sue Wood, runner up Sam West

Best in show/Overall winner: Roger Gilmore

Special thanks to Paul Flintham who stepped forward to do the taste test judging. After seven he got as far as Jean Reed's – it nearly blew his head off and he had a pint of milk! Well done, Paul. Thanks again to all those who entered, took part, and attended the evening at the Cross Keys.

David Pick



Chilli & Boules Event Worthy Winners Crowned Champions

The Chilli & Boules event at Upton Cricket Club on Saturday 30th August 2025 was a great success. Eighteen teams of two competed for the famous trophy and, after 3 hours of intense competition, the winners were declared as Jonty Redgate and Dan O’Kane.

Four boules courts were set up on the car park of the Cricket Club, and David Chambers provided the boules expertise and knowledge in his role as Tournament Director. David Pick brought the village marquees that were strategically placed to allow the boules to continue in spite of the rain and, as a result, the occasion went very smoothly and no one got wet.

Intense competition ensued with some very good and close matches taking place. The nature of Boules is that it is easy to learn and the rules are simple to understand. That enabled everyone involved to get absorbed by the matches and suddenly there was a buzz about the place as the rivalries became real.

After group matches and semi-finals, the competition came down to the final and our worthy winners were crowned champions after a brilliant run through the tournament. Once finished, the presentations were made and then we all ate Anna Eastgate’s and Tony Raven’s delicious chilli and jacket potatoes.

Special thanks go to Adrian Wood and Len Brown for their help, without which the event could not have gone ahead.

Tom Anderson





BRITISH HOROLOGICAL INSTITUTE

BHI Clarifies Future Plans for Upton Hall

The British Horological Institute (BHI) has been based at Upton Hall since the early 1970s and has long been part of the fabric of Upton village. When Upton Hall was listed for sale, it naturally raised questions and concerns among residents about the future of the building and the wider impact on the community.

The decision to place the Hall on the market came as part of a broader review of the BHI's business and long-term direction. At the time, the uncertainty over whether Upton Hall could be sold made planning for the Institute's future extremely difficult.

Following a period of review, the BHI Board has clarified its position: while Upton Hall remains on the market, moving away is not the Institute's primary plan. The Board is planning to remain at Upton Hall for the foreseeable future, but it will also continue to assess the situation carefully and keep all options open to ensure the best path forward for the organisation.

As part of this commitment, the Board is acutely aware of the importance of engaging with the local community. The BHI recognises that by supporting and working alongside the village, both the Institute and residents can benefit.

In summary, although the Hall remains available for sale, the BHI's focus is on staying at Upton Hall while continuing to review its long-term plans and opportunities.



Upton Cricket Club End-of-Season Supper and Presentation Evening

The Upton Cricket Club End-of-Season Supper and Presentation Evening will be held on Saturday 11th October at 7.30pm.

The Event includes food by Anna and Tony, a bar, a quiz and the presentations. Tickets are £22.50 each.

Please contact Tom Anderson on 07713 637181 for tickets.

On Freedom's Wings

On Freedom's Wings is a life-size model of a Lancaster bomber in Lincolnshire.

The structure was unveiled in September 2025, and is next to the A46 road in **Norton Disney**, Lincolnshire – between Newark-on-Trent and Lincoln, near former RAF Bomber Command station RAF Swinderby. It was erected by the Bomber County Gateway Trust, formed with the object of designing, procuring, constructing and installing an iconic landmark art installation on the county border of Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire, as a result of a project that began in 2018. Lincolnshire became known as ‘bomber county’ during the Second World War, with the county hosting nearly seventy airfields.

The £1 million artwork rivals the Angel of the North in scale. Construction was by Lincolnshire-based Timmins Engineering and Construction Ltd.



Upton's own Wing Commander Adrian Wood, as an engineer, has been involved with the project from the start. He spoke of the tremendous support and donations from the local community and how so many companies and people have given materials and time freely to commemorate Lincolnshire's links with Bomber Command.

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gqvNmRKYq8M>)

Church News

Many, many thanks to you all for your donations at our Harvest Festival with a wonderful collection of fruit, vegetables and grocery produce. Special thanks to Colin Brand for his abundant and so colourful contribution to Newark Food Hub and Crop Drop. I am sure we are keeping Newark full and satisfied for weeks! I hope you also enjoyed the service on Sunday – so good to see so many of you.

Unfortunately, the Harvest Supper has had to be delayed pending the ending of the Village Hall's renovations. As soon as we know the date we will book the Hall and let you know the arrangements for tickets. Plans are already in hand for a delicious meal.

Our new vicar is now living in Thurgarton and – wherever he preaches – congregations are soaring. The Revd James will next be at Upton on Sunday 2nd November (All Saints Day) when we will be holding a special service for Lost Loved Ones and the West Trent Choir will also be with us. More on this in the next Tonic.

However, I would urge people in Upton to travel around the Benefice on Sunday mornings to visit other churches and get to know their congregations. We are all part of the family of God.



Photo courtesy of Anthony Scott

Sunday Services Across the Benefice in October:

- Sunday 5th October: Morning Praise at Upton led by David Hanson
- Sunday 12th October: Harvest Festival at Halloughton led by Revd James with choir
- Sunday 19th October: Holy Communion at Thurgarton led by Revd James
- Sunday 26th October: Holy Communion at Hoveringham led by Revd James
Bible Sunday Morning Praise at Morton led by David Hanson

*All services start at 10.30am unless otherwise stated.
Zoom worship is held each Sunday at 9.00am.*

Barbara Page, Church Warden

Parish Council Notes

www.uptonnewarkparishcouncil.gov.uk

The Parish Council met on 17th September. The meeting was held in the Dovecote at the Cross Keys due to the Village Hall being closed for ongoing roof repairs. I am pleased to announce that these works are on course to be completed by 3rd October, so the Village Hall should be available for hire from Saturday 4th October onwards. All village events are welcome to return to the Village Hall from that date. For those unaware, there is a large tree outside The Poplars on the edge of the parish. This tree has a preservation order on it, but Newark & Sherwood have granted the owner permission to remove the tree as they say it is in a dangerous condition. We are just bringing this to your attention as, whilst driving to Southwell, it will alter the view.

We have once again raised the condition of Hockerton Lane and various other roads with potholes with Nottinghamshire County Council. We hope to complete the works on the Collies Garden within the next month, including constructing a new path and installing a new Notice Board on the outside. The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place in the Village Hall on Wednesday 15th October at 7.30 pm. All are welcome.

Malcolm Yates, Chairman

Upton Monthly Village Draw

The Village Hall lottery was held at the meeting. Congratulations to the September prize winners:

1st prize £50:	O Townley 223
2nd prize £25:	J Lund 068
3rd prize £10:	J Johnson 055
4th prize £5:	J Robinson 168



The Collies Charity

The Collies Charity was first founded back in the 1500s to provide help to the poor of the village. Over the years the demographic of the village has changed considerably, but the Charity is still active and open to requests for aid from clubs and organisations in the village. In recent years, among other grants, we have helped with the printing costs of the Upton Tonic, contributed to the maintenance of the playground and the pétanque court at the Cricket Club and have made several contributions to the improvements to the Collies Garden, including the purchase of a Notice Board. One half of the Notice Board will be for the Collies Garden group for updates on their plans and the other half for details of the Collies Charity together with some history of the Charity, which we are sure will be interesting. We hope the Board will be erected soon, so please do have look at it when it is up.

Does your club, society or other organisation need some help with running costs or with unusual expenditure? If so, please do get in touch with me on 07885 374519 or with any of the other Trustees – Cath Jewitt, Theresa Pick, Adrian Wood and Nick Aspley. We will do our best to help.

Steve Russell

CROSS KEYS UPTON



Booking in advance is advisable: 01636 813269

Please see updates on our website: crosskeysupton.co.uk

Cooked takeaway food can be collected from us from 5pm to 8pm,

Monday to Saturday – orders taken throughout the day.

Beer is also available on a takeaway basis.

Menus will vary according to availability. Vegetarian or other dietary requirements catered for. If you want any other food, please ask.

Call us if you have special requirements.

Please speak to a member of staff if you have any allergies.

Pash & Joy xx

◊ Cross Keys Menu ◊

All priced at £12.50 All served with Chips or Rice, Peas or Salad

Fish Scampi Pie Burger Lasagne Sausage & Mash Curry Chilli
Jacket Potato (various fillings) £12.50

Specials:

Horseshoe Gammon with Egg or Pineapple, Chips & Peas £15.95

BBQ Pork Ribs with Onion Rings, Chips or Rice & Peas £15.95

Liver & Bacon in Onion Gravy with Mash, Carrots & Peas £15.95

12oz Sirloin Steak with Chips, Onion Rings, Mushrooms & Salad £17.95

Pasta Bake Tomato & Mascarpone or Chicken Arrabbiata

With Garlic Bread & Salad £15.95

Kids' Menu:

All priced at £7.95 and served with Chips & Beans or Peas

Chicken Nuggets Fish Fingers Sausages Burger

◊ Sunday Lunch Choice of Meats £13.95 ◊

Served from 12 noon to 4pm Please ring in advance to order.

Opening hours:

Mon to Tues 4pm till close Wed to Sun 12 noon till close

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