

UPTON TONIC



August 2025

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<p>Ladies Luncheon Contact: Pam Hunter Tel: 814289</p>	<p>Upton Neighbourhood Watch Scheme Coordinator: Position vacant. Call 101 to report anything to the police.</p>
<p>British Horological Institute BHI general enquiries 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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Upton Tonic August 2025

What Am I Reading?

Everywoman: One Woman's Truth About Speaking the Truth, by Jess Phillips
(2017) Published by Windmill Books, London

'The Truth About Speaking Up: "You will never be popular." Not necessarily what you want to hear when you've just started a new job. I'd been in Parliament for just four months when the Rt Hon. Harriet Harman placed her hand on my shoulder and spoke these fateful words to me... Being told that you'll never be popular might seem harsh. Especially when it was said to me by the woman who, aside from my mother, had probably had the greatest effect on my life. This is a woman who fought for women like me to get where I am... So there I was in the mother of all Parliaments with the mother of Parliament inspiring me with her knock-'em-dead feminism. She was right of course.'

Upton WI News

In July the ladies of the WI had an enjoyable talk on Life Under the Hammer given by Trevor Vennett-Smith. On 26th August WI members Barbara and Jean are sharing with us Local History with photographs.

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** in the Village Hall.



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.

Cover picture: Courtesy of Anthony Scott

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

2025 Upton Fete – A Grand Day Out!

The Fete took place on 12th July on a glorious summer's day. Thanks to BHI yet again for allowing us to use their grounds and facilities. It had the same look and feel as previous years with a few additions. The Bar, BBQ, Refreshment tent, Raffle and Tombola were their usual success stories. The fete rocked all afternoon to music by Pesky Alligators and Ellie Owen.

The star of the Show was **our recently retired Postman Nigel Papworth** who opened the fete and then – along with his wife Helen – helped Upton's oldest resident, Mary 'Berry' Hall, judge the Baking Competition. Nigel was also presented with his retirement gift and card from a village-wide collection over the past 6 months.

Visitors from the village and local area enjoyed the usual favourites of have-a-go stalls plus children's and adults' races. There was a mix of small, independent stalls selling clothing, crafts and gifts plus cider and honey. Argent Theatre put on shows throughout the day to celebrate 50 years of amateur dramatic performances – many previously in the village. The hot weather caused the Dog Show to be cancelled but it will hopefully be back in 2026.

An addition to this year's fete was the '**Make, Bake and Grow Competition**' where villagers pitted their skills against each other to win a coveted Fete rosette:

The Scarecrow Competition, with a Disney Character theme, saw 16 entries displayed around the village in the week before the fete. It was judged by villagers who were encouraged to walk the village and score them against each other. Mary Poppins took the 1st Prize red rosette for Rebecca McNish. Watch this space for next year.

The Chilli Competition gave those who will be competing at the Upton Cricket Club Chilli & Boules event on Saturday 30th August an early chance to display their entries in a series of fun classes, judged by Colin Brand. Sue Wood took the Show Champion Award with Theresa Pick, Roger Gilmore, Len Brown and Jim Watchorn all winners, taking red rosettes for their efforts. See you at the C&B event.

The Baking Competition had three classes with some fantastic entries:

Man in the Kitchen – a Victoria Sponge Cake won by Mike Smith.

Open Class – a Coffee Cake won by Theresa Pick.

Children's Brownies – split into two sections, with Olivia Cox and Zackie Russell Brehaut as winners.

Special thanks go to:

*All the helpers who worked in building the fete, manned the stalls on the day and then stripped down on Sunday. A great team of helpers – thanks, you know who you are.

*The Cross Keys, including the after-Fete party.

*Everyone who contributed prizes to the Tombola and Raffle (£1000-worth of prizes).

*All those who attended. We hope you had a great day. See you next year and why not join in next year – it's put together for you.

*Finally, thanks to those on the Fete Committee.

David Pick



To the Residents of Upton

Thank you for your kind words good wishes and generosity upon my retirement. I have been overwhelmed by the collection from you all that was presented to me at the Upton fete, and I can assure you Helen and I will put it to very good use.

Nigel and Helen.



Photos courtesy of Anthony Scott and other Upton villagers



Upton Fete Competition Results

Open Class – a Coffee Cake (5 entries): **Man in the Kitchen – a Victoria Sponge (5 entries):**

1st – Theresa Pick

2nd – Jean Reed

3rd – Izzy Mckie

1st – Mike Smith

2nd – Stuart Batty

3rd – Clive Gie

Children’s Brownies (9 entries in total):

Group 1

1st – Olivia Cox

2nd – Evie Duckworth-Grimm

3rd – Betsy Prestage

Group 2

1st – Zackie Russell Brehaut

2nd – Florence Simekova

3rd – Arwen Spriddel

Chilli Competition:

Overall Fete Champion – Sue Wood

Tallest Plant – Theresa Pick

Bushiest Plant – Roger Gilmore

Most Mature Plant – Roger Gilmore

Most Promising Plant – Len Brown

Cheekiest Plant – Jim Watchorn

Scarecrow Competition:

1st - McNish family – Mary Poppins

2nd - X Keys – Robin Hood

3rd - Spriddel family – Rapunzel

Thanks to all those who entered.

The 2025 Fete committee are pleased to report a profit of £450 from the fete this year. Thanks to all those who helped, participated and attended.



Church News

By the time this reaches you, we will have a new Vicar – the Revd James Moring – who, together with the vicar of Farnsfield Chris Pearce, will lead us into a new era of worship and we hope will draw the whole of the community of Upton into a greater sense of belonging to our lovely village. His first service at Upton is on Sunday 3rd August at 10.30am and we ask you to join us in welcoming him. And you will be able to admire the wonderful painting of our church commissioned by Barbara in memory of Arthur Hagues and painted by the remarkable Susan Issac.

We will be holding our Harvest Festival this year on Sunday 28th September so please let us make our church look beautiful with lots of fruit and vegetables and flowers. The produce will be sent to Newark Crop Drop and Food Bank for those in real need. It can be brought to the church the previous afternoon or to the Sunday service, which will be taken by Barbara.

Sunday Services Across the Benefice in August:

Sunday 3rd August: Service at Upton welcoming Revd James Moring
Sunday 10th August: Morning Praise at Rolleston led by David Hanson
Sunday 17th August: Holy Communion at Morton led by Revd James Moring
Sunday 24th August: Holy Communion at Hoveringham
Sunday 31st August: Holy Communion at Halloughton

Priests taking some of these services have not yet been decided.

All services start at 10.30am unless otherwise stated.

Zoom worship is held each Sunday at 9.00am.

Harvest Supper will be held on Monday 29th September. Tickets will be available from 30th August from Steve on 07444 108063, or Barbara on 813812, or any member of the PCC, at a cost of £10 (cash please). Contact us and we will deliver your tickets. *So – food, entertainment and fun for this special occasion!*

Barbara Page, Church Warden

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UPTON TONIC NEEDS YOUR HELP!

The Parish Council has now taken over the printing costs for Upton Tonic. Copies of the Tonic will be put on the new village website (www.uptonnewarkparishcouncil.gov.uk), and a pdf version is available by email. We hope to reduce the print run as much as possible to cut costs. If you have not done so already, **please can all villagers let me know** if you still need a paper copy or will in future be able to access Upton Tonic on the website, or by pdf copy on your computer or smartphone. **I'm still waiting for 97 people to contact me** and I'm concerned that some of those don't read the Tonic and we are wasting money and time delivering to them. Please phone me on 07983 422503, email me at anniefb@aol.com, or drop a note in to me at North House, 2 Main Street.

Annie Brand, Editor

Parish Council Notes

www.uptonnewarkparishcouncil.gov.uk

The Parish Council met on Wednesday 16th July in the Village Hall.

The Parish Council has received a report from the District Councillor regarding Home Farm. They are attempting to gain access to do some tidying up work on the property in the coming weeks, and are looking at a long-term solution regarding this property.

Michael Truman gave a brief report on the Collies Garden and in particular the raised bed which, I think everybody will agree, looks very good. Thank you to all involved in establishing this lovely flower bed. In the next couple of months we are planning to redo the path in the Collies Garden and place the new noticeboard outside the Collies at the same time.

Unfortunately, we have come across a few problems with the Village Hall roof, but we are assured by the builder that work will commence around 27th August. The exact length of time this will take has yet to be confirmed, but we would hope that the roof and the windows will be completed within a month. Apologies for any inconvenience caused.

The Parish Council would like to thank all those involved in the Upton Village Fete which, for those of you who were able to attend, was a fantastic event.

There is no meeting in August and the next meeting of the Parish Council is due to take place on Wednesday 17th September. However, with the ongoing building works, either the venue or the date may have to change. We will keep you informed.

Malcolm Yates, Chairman

Upton Monthly Village Draw

The Village Hall Draw took place at the meeting. Congratulations to this month's prize winners:

1st prize £50:	C Brand 131
2nd prize £25:	P Flintham 013
3rd prize £10:	L Flintham 022
4th prize £5:	E Lynn 217



New COVID Variant Spreading in the UK

Cases of a new COVID variant have been reported in the UK. The strain has been dubbed 'Stratus' and there are two variants in circulation – XFG and the spin-off XFG.3. The World Health Organization has said that XFG is growing rapidly globally and is thought to be slightly more infectious than previous variants. However, experts suggest there is no need to be unduly worried. The UKHSA says Stratus does not appear to pose any greater risk to health than other strains, and COVID cases in general are decreasing compared to recent weeks. This variant has a new distinctive symptom – a severe sore throat known as a 'razor blade sensation'. It causes a sharp stabbing pain when you swallow, often at the back of the throat. Vaccines that are currently approved are also effective against this new variant.

Upton Golf Day 2025 Report

Over 20 players, both regular and irregular, gathered on Friday 20th June 2025 at Norwood Park Golf Club for what has become a true Upton annual sporting event.

As your correspondent – being a member of the irregulars – hit a bag of balls on the driving range before play began and as the temperature gauge nudged in excess of 30 degrees, he wondered if we all would survive the hottest day ever.... Not only did we survive, your correspondent would suggest we all prospered! Armed with our usual pre-drive drink and bacon buttie, we were all given our teams and tee-off times, again superbly organised by Martin Bryant ready for action.

But this year with a twist – in cricketing terms, think a Test Match and T20 mixed together. The competition, for the first time, was the first 9 holes using the Stableford points system and then a Texas Scramble for the second 9 holes on the Par 3 course. The general vibe was brilliant. With young and old and a welcome ladies team – more next year, please ladies – with the sound of banter in catching up with old friends and making new ones, the new format worked really well with great feedback at the Cross Keys afterwards. And yes it was hot As to the runners and riders, Steve Russell won the Singles Competition with Team Rem Henry winning the Team Event. Both were the closest competitions for many years and that alone may reflect the fun new format and food for thought for the 2026 organiser Mr Steve Russell!

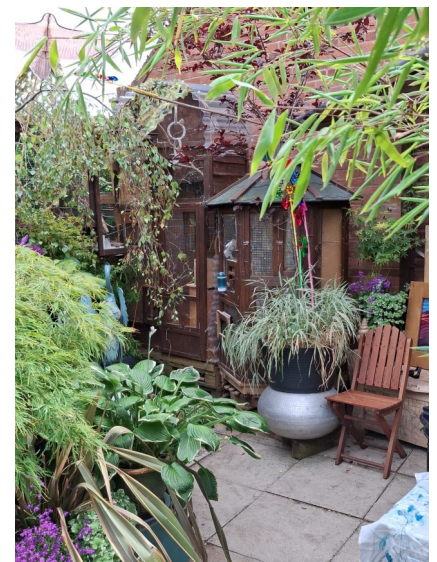
Special thanks to our 'leader' Martin Bryant, despite being poorly, for attending both pre- and post-competition and for his superb preparation and organisation, as always. This event is now well-established, and this is an early plea for those who have not attended, either recently or at all, to come and play next year. After 3 years away, your correspondent was delighted to be part of such a wonderful event and will be back next year. Put the date in your diary now for next year – 19th June 2026 (to be confirmed).

This report was written before the sad news, as many of you will be aware, of Martin's passing. All the thoughts of the Upton golfing community are with Hilary, Emily, Maddy, Laurence and all the family during this difficult time.

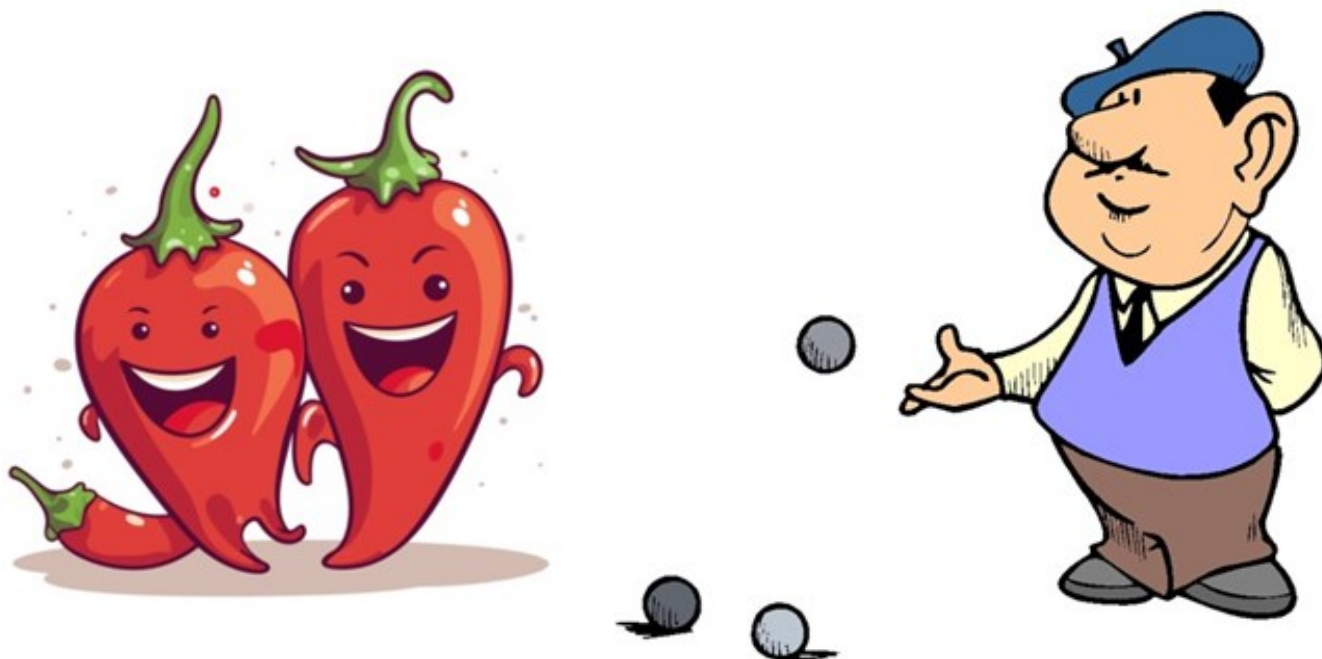
Nick Aspley

Monica's Open Garden Raises Funds for Beaumont House Hospice

Monica Adlard recently raised much-needed funds for Beaumont House Hospice. She said, 'Thanks again to everyone who visited my garden a couple of weeks ago. I just heard that we made £280.70, which is amazing!' Visitors not only admired her beautiful gardens and aviaries but were also delighted to see the stunning tapestries Monica makes.



The Great Upton Chilli & Boules Event



By popular demand, the Upton Chilli & Boules Competition is being held on **Saturday 30th August**.

The good people of Upton village and Upton Cricket Club are coming together for this fund-raising event to benefit village good causes. Last year we donated £200 of the proceeds to the Upton Tonic.

The fun starts on Friday evening at the local Cross Keys pub on Main Street Upton with a chilli plant growing competition from 7pm. Bring your best, worst or most unusual plants to be judged. There will be awards and certificates for diverse categories including lankiest plant, runtiest plant, most fruit on a single plant, hottest fruit, plant with most flowers, best chilli-themed artwork etc. Full list of categories available in the bar of the Cross Keys.

Then on the Saturday afternoon from 3pm, the Boules competition starts at Upton Cricket Club on Hockerton Road (NG23 5TG), with the eventual winners receiving the historic Upton Boules Trophy.

Entries for the Boules will only be £7.50 per team of two. There'll also be delicious home-made chilli meals (meat and veggie options) available, plus hot dogs for the kids and a paying bar. Food tickets can be purchased in advance – £12.50 for adults and £5 for children.

To enter and for more info please email chilliandboules@yahoo.com

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