



The Breeze

Upper Rissington's Newsletter

Summer 2015

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It may be hard to believe, but 'The Breeze' is now into its second year of publication! Yes, we've now seen all four of Martin Sayers' fantastic title designs so can now tie in a bit more closely with the seasons (apologies to everyone who found Winter/Spring a confusing title for the last edition!). Many thanks to everyone who has contributed over the last year, especially to 'The Breeze' production team (Wayne Fisher, David Harrison, Polly Sayers, and Rob French, plus our proof-reader, Pat).

Thanks also to our advertisers and others who have contributed to the cost of printing, allowing us to continue in full colour. We're hoping that, in the future, different village groups might help with some of the production costs, so that 'The Breeze' can become a sustainable, high-quality, village publication. We're also planning to have a stall at the Village Fete to help raise funds towards our costs, so hope you will all support us then.

Special features this edition include an updated map of the new development, which hopefully will help us all find our way round the new road names! There are also reports from some new village organisations - namely the Little Hurricanes toddler group and the Rissington Singers - both of which would welcome our involvement and support.

Finally, it was great to be at the official opening of the new school and we look forward to being able to include more news from the school in future editions. In the meantime, you can find out a bit more about the Head of the new school by reading Rob's interview on page 7.

Sue Handy

Village News

URSC Events Update *An Eggciting Easter for UR Children*

Over 360 eggs, a few snacks and drinks, and a lot of energy and enthusiasm from the children (and sometimes even the parents). The annual Easter Egg hunt was well supported as little legs hurtled around the fields collecting hidden tokens. This year we also had a bouncy castle raising funds for equipment for the new village hall.



Upcoming Events

The following dates are planned events for the year ahead. The Summer Fete will go ahead from whichever Hall is available and this year we hope to be working together with other groups in the village to make sure that the 2015 Upper Rissington Village Fete will be the best yet. The sports group are making plans to entertain the crowds with a match on the day rumoured to include a number of the village veterans. Despite some of the less generous comments of those of us watching from the sidelines, the fundraising for the defibrillator is unconnected.



Saturday July 11 th	Summer Fete
Saturday August 22 nd	Barn Dance
Saturday September 19 th	Curry/Quiz
Saturday Nov 14 th	Fireworks
Sunday Jan 3 rd 2016	Pantomime

There may be some changes to the above dates or events so please keep an eye out for posters, information on the web and flyers coming through your door that will give you full details of the events closer to the time.

The team would welcome you if you want to get involved with the social committee, either organising or on-the-day help. So, if you've got the goodwill and can make the time please get in touch. URSC@btinternet.com or call 07592 533596.

Upper Rissington Village Hall

The Story So Far

Well it's difficult to imagine that it will be much longer before the community can start using the village hall. It's there, we can see it, admire it and touch it. Unfortunately, until the legal processes are complete, we can't go in it.



Currently the legal process is still between the builders (Kier) and the developers (Linden/Bovis). The next step will be between the developers and the Parish Council. From there we have a hopefully short negotiation between the Parish Council and Upper Rissington Village Hall Trust, who are the planned management team for the new hall (see the previous edition of 'The Breeze' for details of the team).

The future for the hall is so exciting though. It will bring new facilities to the village. Some of the activities that are already planned include Children's Gym, Badminton, and a Children's Sewing Group, along with groups who are driving ahead in advance of the new hall such as Little Hurricanes Mums and Toddlers and The Rissington Singers.

You may be silently singing the chorus of "Why Are We Waiting?" in anticipation of the new hall, but we hope that the next edition of 'The Breeze' will be reporting on an exciting range of activities taking place in the hall. Remember that the hall will be there for the community, so when planning a family or community event remember the contact details: URVH@btinternet.com or call 07857 340836. Online booking will be available on URVH.org shortly after the site goes live.

Little Hurricanes

Little Hurricanes meet every Thursday from 10 -12 in the Village Hall. For newborns - 5 years old. £2 per family. Come and join us for some fun and games, a snack and a different craft activity every week. From June onwards the local Health Visitor will also be paying us a visit on the first Thursday of every month and will be available to do weighing and offer some friendly advice on all matters from breast feeding to weaning and potty training! Find us on Facebook or get in touch at Littlehurricanes@hotmail.com



Little Hurricanes is run by seven enthusiastic mums who all have pre-school children who attend the group. We are currently looking for a couple of volunteers who do not have children under the age of 5 to join us on a Thursday morning to help out with making cups of tea and preparing snacks for the little ones. If you can spare an hour or two a couple of times a month and would like to help us please do get in touch!

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Following the elections on 7th May Geoffrey Clifton Brown MP was re-elected to represent our interests (including pursuit of natural gas, Broadband etc). Mark Mackenzie-Charrington was elected to represent the Rissingtons on the District Council. We congratulate them both and look forward to their support in village matters.

There are a number of people who have made significant contributions to the village over the past year while in office. I would like to thank Venetia Crosbie Dawson for all her hard work in village matters. I would also like to thank our former clerk, Sharon Henley, for all her hard work, and wish her well in her new job. Thanks also to the outgoing chairman, Edward Timms, and members of Upper Rissington Parish Council for all their hard work. I was sorry to lose so many good Councillors who are also good friends.

Three Councillors have been elected to the Upper Rissington Parish Council - myself (Caroline Maclean), Brian Hanks and Dawn Laird.

At the Annual Parish Council meeting there was a consensus that getting the new village hall open was the top priority. I'm sure that Councillors are not the only ones wandering past the new hall wondering why we have to put up with the existing one!

The Council has already committed to giving £35,000 of tax payers' money over 3 years to the Village Hall Management Trust to ensure the village has a facility we can all be proud of and affordable for residents to use. Councillors will be working with the trustees (who are also unpaid and doing this to improve the village) to ensure that this facility is available as soon as possible. There are lots of legal hoops to jump through, but we are hopeful that by the time we write the next Breeze article the new hall will be up and running.

I mentioned above that, currently, we only have three Councillors - the minimum number needed to conduct Council business. We are keen to get back up to strength, but we also want to ensure that the Council represents the whole parish - including Sandy Lane Court, Southgate Court, the original village and the new development of Victory Fields. If you are interested in joining the Parish Council, then look at the PC website (www.upperissington-pc.gov.uk). The email address of each Councillor is there - we will all make time to talk you through what being a Councillor involves, why we are here, and to answer any questions you may have. Details of how to apply to join the Parish Council are also on the website."

Caroline Maclean

Chairman, Upper Rissington Parish Council

Did you know ...?

'The Breeze' is an independent village publication and we welcome contributions from all residents. If you would like to write something for the next edition (due out September 2015), or if you would like an event publicised please email:

URNEWS@btinternet.com or call 07592 533596. Closing date for articles and advertising is Friday 21st August.

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After many months spent enduring a typically cold and wet Cotswold winter we seem to have turned a bit of a corner recently and have consequently been able to enjoy the added benefit of working on our tans while playing sport. Long may it continue! With the arrival of better weather we have also changed the program of what happens slightly, so make sure you read the 'what's on' section below extra-carefully!

We have had another instalment in the ongoing battle between the 'Lads and Dads'. This time round saw a combined match with one half football (won by the youth) and the second half touch rugby (comprehensively won by the Dads). There was a bonus third of touch rugby where the youth were able to pull it back to 7-8 which made for a tense end. By this stage fatigue in both sides (but mainly the Dads) was setting in and the Vets ended up running out narrow winners. Until the next time!

As mentioned, now it's the summer we want to make the most of the good weather. Details are all given below but there is now some extra jogging and fitness happening after the football on Saturday mornings. This will run simultaneously with a multi-sport session for primary-school age. A perfect opportunity to get a bit of exercise in whilst the kids also use up some energy! Finally, more details will be coming out soon but we are hoping to have a few rounders/softball matches over the course of the summer which will be great for the whole family to get involved in. We'll let you know about those when we've sorted some dates out though.



As always, if you have any questions about any of the sport just chat to Gary Black, Rob Eccles, Dean Beard, Hans Ziebeck or Rob French.

Weekly Activities:

Saturday morning:

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 10.00-11.00 | football for years 1-2 (providing there are enough volunteer coaches to run this extra session) |
| 10.00-11:15 | football for high-school age and above (we do even have a few who are pretty much OAPs but still play) |
| 10.00-11:45 | football for years 3-6 |
| 11:45-12:30 | multi- sport for primary age (touch rugby for the next few weeks) |
| 11:45-12:30 | jogging and fitness session for everyone of all abilities |

Sunday afternoon:

- | | |
|-----------|-------------------------------|
| 4.00-5:30 | touch rugby, year 9 and above |
|-----------|-------------------------------|

Getting to know ... the Head at The Rissington School

Rob French, The Breeze's roving reporter, has been out and about again, this time buttonholing Mrs Bannister, the Head at The Rissington School. This is what he discovered:



When did you become head at The Rissington School (previously Great Rissington)?

I was appointed head of Great Rissington on 1st September 2009. I teach as much as I can, as this is still the most enjoyable aspect of my job.

Have you had any experience in setting up a new school or additional sites before?

This is the fourth time I have been involved in setting up a new school build! The first time was when I was deputy head in Corsham. We moved from a crumbling Victorian build to a brand new school which was across the road from us. It was great fun to look over the playground to watch the progress of the school over the year during which it was constructed. That time the old school was closed, so all of the children moved to the new building. My second involvement with new build was at the start of my first headship in Staverton, Wiltshire, when I was lucky enough to be appointed to a brand new school with just 68 children on roll. During my five years as head there, an additional 200 children joined the school, so it was important to make sure that the community feel of the school remained intact; just like we are aiming to do at The Rissington School. My next headship was at a school which was expanding and I was involved in designing a new school wing for it. The builders were actually on site as the children were in lessons – very noisy! This time at The Rissington School I have again been fortunate enough to be involved in the project from an early stage, so have been able to have my say in all of the design, which has been lovely. I have been able to apply all of my 37 years of experience of working in school buildings to getting the interior design of the new build just right for the children and I think that it is brilliant!

What do you most love about your job?

It is the best job in the world. Every day is different; I always plan my days carefully, but invariably something happens to change the course of the day and that is what makes my job so enjoyable. Plus I get to work alongside a great staff and 135 brilliant children, who are keen, happy and enthusiastic – nothing is better!

What do you like the least about your job?

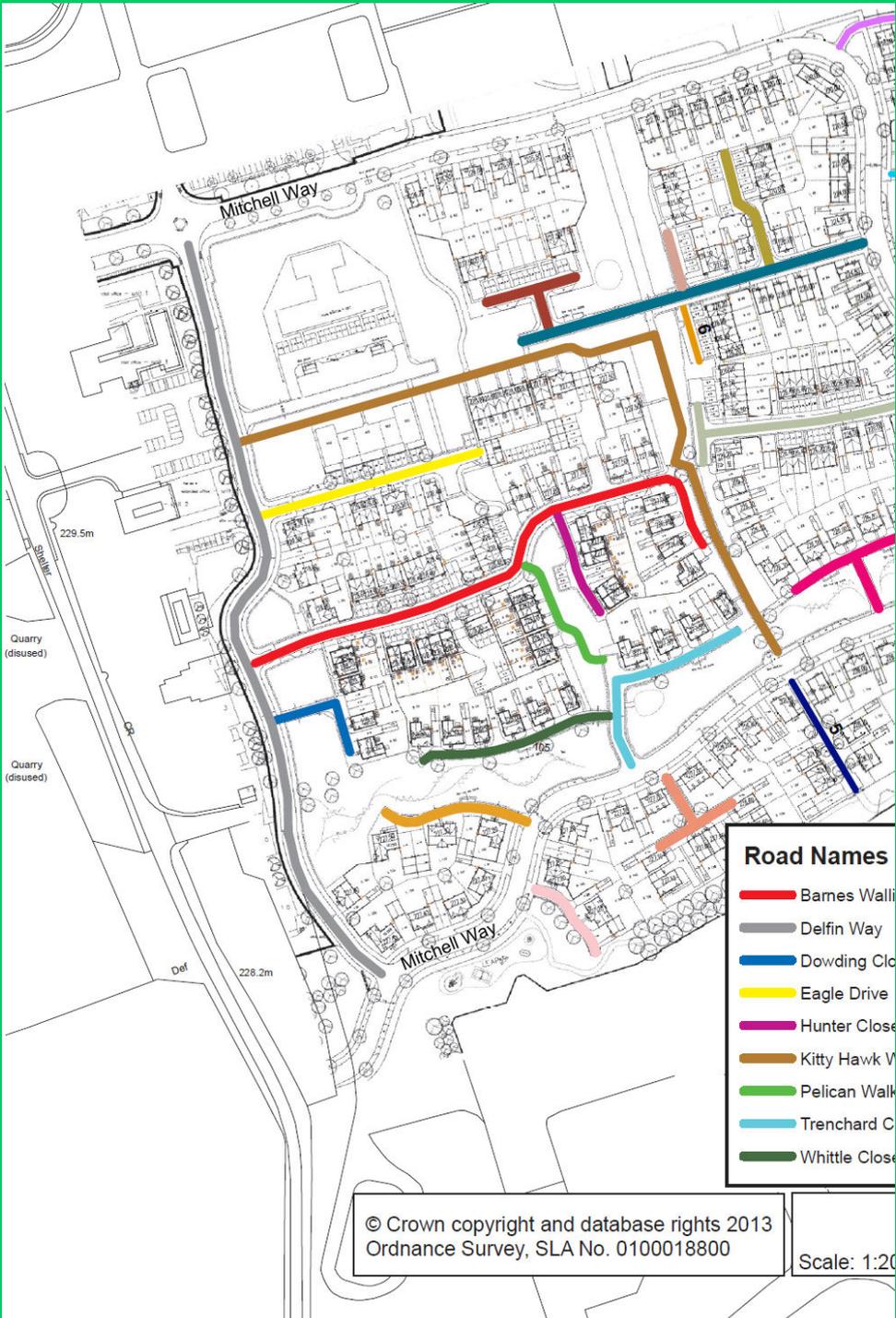
I could grumble about all of the constant change in education, but in truth I tend to look carefully at new initiatives and only do the things that enhance the learning experience for our children.

What are you most looking forward to about being on the new site?

It will be lovely to have more space and to have a proper gym, big enough for a whole class to have PE lessons at the same time. We plan to use the minibus to transport the children from the Great Rissington site so that they can have PE lessons on the Upper Rissington site as well.

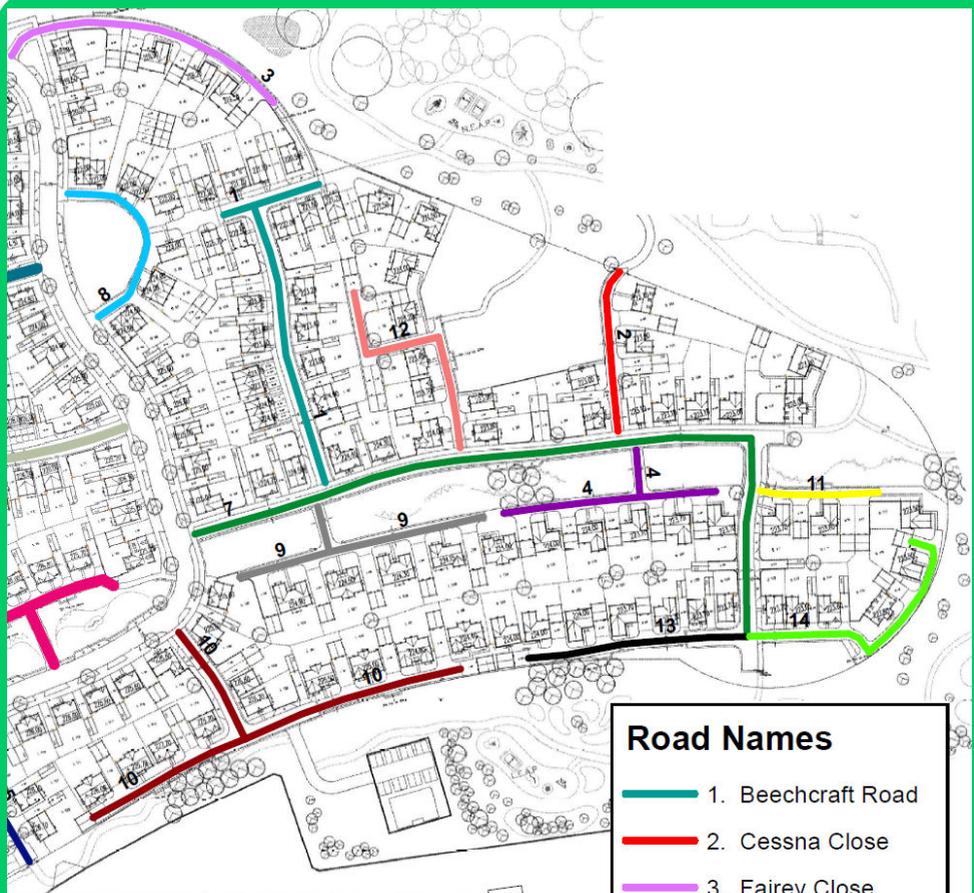
What sort of things do you like to do when you're not at school working?

I love being with my family and friends, especially when I get to cook for them, which will come as no surprise to the children at school! I also try hard to go the gym and I keep up with my piano lessons. I must admit that I do enjoy shopping and have a lot of clothes!



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Scale: 1:2000



Names	
es Wallis Way	Varsity Close
n Way	Provast Close
ding Close	Merlin Close
e Drive	Cranwell Road
er Close(Footway)	Meteor Close
Hawk Walk(Footway)	Anson Court
an Walk(Footway)	Spitfire Place
chard Close	Hart Close
ttle Close	Red Arrows Close

Road Names	
	1. Beechcraft Road
	2. Cessna Close
	3. Fairey Close
	4. Firefly Close
	5. Hercules Close
	6. Prentice Court
	7. Proctor Way
	8. Skylarks Crescent
	9. Slingsby Close
	10. Sparrows Way
	11. Squirrel Close
	12. Westland Close
	13. The Vintage Pair
	14. Cadet Close



Youth News

One of the highlights over the last few months was an Easter social we had a few weeks ago. A group of us went over to Swindon to pit our wits against each other in a few games of Laser Quest. Fun fact for you: if played in an energetic manner over the course of an hour you can burn up to 600 calories playing Laser Quest. Fun way to get fit! Given this statistic we agreed it was of vital importance to refuel asap. This warranted a trip to Pizza Hut where we took full advantage of the unlimited buffet meal deal they had on. Definitely be doing that one again.

During normal Wednesday nights we have been busy building some model rockets with the help of a local rocket scientist who lives in the village. Launch date is 3rd June so keep an eye out for those. We've also got another social lined up for a couple of weeks' time when we take a trip to Aztec watersports to try a few of the activities there. We'll give you an update on how that one goes in the next edition of 'The Breeze'.

Everyone is welcome at Youth Club – it's for 11-16 year olds (high-school years 7-11). Also if you live in Upper Rissington and have friends who may want to come along as well they are very welcome: 7:00-8:30 in the Village Hall on Wednesday nights, except during holidays.

*For more info please contact: Rob French:
rob.french407@ntlworld.com (07906301007) or Zoe Branch:
z.branch@tiscali.co.uk.*



“The Rissington Singers” Start Singing!

Anyone who has watched any of Gareth Malone's TV programmes will have witnessed the power of bringing people from all walks of life together to sing. Here in Upper Rissington we are hoping to experience this for ourselves, with the launch of our new community choir, The Rissington Singers. The choir is open to all ages and abilities, and everyone is welcome. Our priorities are enjoying making music together, meeting people from within our expanding community, and having fun! Our first rehearsal will be on Tuesday 2nd June, 7-9pm in the old village hall. There is a small charge of £3 per person to cover costs. Please come and join us! For further information or any questions please e-mail rissington.singers@btinternet.com



Emily Bounces for Kate's Home Nursing

Almost a year ago, Emily lost her Grandma to Cancer. We were given only 6 weeks from diagnosis to the end, so it was all rather a shock. As her Grandma lived with her she experienced watching her progress from a very active, young Grandma to her dying at home. It was of course a hard time for all.

Emily knew the first anniversary of her death was approaching and wanted to do something special to recognise it. She eventually decided that she wanted to raise money for Kate's Home Nursing. She saw, first hand, the amazing work that these ladies did – not only for her Grandma but for the family unit as a whole. They enabled Grandma to stay at home, which was her request. They provided the most amazing nursing care, especially in the final 10 days, but also cared for and supported everyone. They were so sensitive.

As we live in a rural area (Upper Rissington), we do not receive such support from the other better known charities. Kate's Home Nursing is the only palliative care that we have and they have to fundraise 80% of their costs each year to keep going. We can't even begin to imagine how much harder it would have been without their help.

So ... Emily decided to bounce on her trampette for 6 hours! It was no mean feat. She stopped for meals and to go to her gymnastics lesson (crazy child!) but completed the whole 6 hours. She contacted family and friends and raised an amazing £535.80 for Kate's Home Nursing.

If you'd like to support Kate's Home Nursing then please go to their website to find out more <http://www.kateshomenursing.org>



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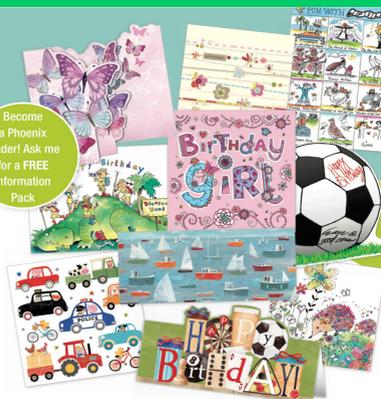
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Gardening On a Hill

There is a bit of a change to my usual garden tips for this edition, but the theme is still very much gardening – in fact, I would say the most important part of gardening.

Did you know that 2015 is the International Year of the Soil?

If you think about it, we would not survive for long without soil. After all we rely on it for all our food production. If we can improve our soil by adding organic materials like composts and manures then our gardens and allotments will thrive. If you get the soil condition right then your garden plants – and more importantly the food you grow – will be a more healthy and nutritious crop.

Garden Organics, which is based at Ryton Gardens in Coventry, is campaigning to promote the use of green manures and home composting (see <http://www.gardenorganic.org.uk/support> for more information). They are working together with Gloucestershire County Council to promote composting of our kitchen and garden waste and hopefully decrease the amount of green waste going into our bins.

When I heard that the Council were asking for volunteers to promote composting in their area I jumped at the chance to learn more. As a result, I have recently been on the course for Master Composters organised by Gloucestershire County Council in partnership with Garden Organics.

It was very interesting to hear about what other people are doing in their areas to promote recycling. However, I learnt about more than just composting garden waste. In fact, I was shocked by how much other waste we produce in the Cotswolds and – more importantly – how much it costs us to dispose of that waste. So if we can cut down on the amount of our waste going to landfill and make our garden soil more fertile at the same time then it is surely worthwhile.



I hope to have a stall at the summer fete, where I will have more information on home composting and recycling. If you can't make it to the fete, then please feel free to contact me directly.

Just to give you some idea of what OUR waste costs US to dispose of:

Every year Cotswold District residents pay £1.25 MILLION to bury waste.

On a more positive note, recycling and composting by Cotswold District residents saves almost £1.7 million on landfill tax costs every year. However, there is always room for improvement and the Council is trying to get residents to save money by recycling as much of our waste as we possibly can.

Gardening on a Hill is written by Polly Sayer, our resident expert. If you have any questions for her email 'The Breeze' at URNEWS@btinternet.com

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What's on in your local Church of England churches.

The village churches in The Rissingtons (Great, Little, Wyck) are part of the Bourton-on-the-Water group. The clergy team comprises Rev Rachel Rosborough, Rev Christopher Etherton, and Rev Michelle Porter-Babbage. The team supports, and works with, CUR:ve; Christopher lives in Upper Rissington and is on CUR:ve's management group.

We thought it would be good if you knew what was happening in the local churches during the next couple of months. For further details contact Christopher on 01451 798651.

- Sat 20th June** Michelle is to be ordained priest in Gloucester Cathedral at 3pm; BBQ celebration at 7pm in Bourton (*venue tbc, ask Christopher*)
- Sun 21st June** Klee String Quartet, concert in Great Rissington Church at 6.30pm
- Sun 28th June** Songs of Praise with Salvation Army band, Rectory Field, Bourton, at 3pm (*organised by Bourton Christian Council of which CUR:ve is a member*).
- Sun 28th June** Patronal Festival Evensong at Great Rissington at 6.30pm – *celebrating the Saint in whose name the church is dedicated (St John the Baptist)*
- Sat 4th July** St Lawrence (Bourton) Church Fete and Fun Day – Bourton village centre
- Sun 5th July** Patronal Festival at Little Rissington (St Peter) at 3pm – refreshments after in Little Rissington Village Hall
- Tue 18th August** Great Rissington Church Fete in *Bourton*, in and around Victoria Hall

And advance notice – Sun 13th Sept, 3pm we have our annual **RAF Commemorative Service** at **Little Rissington Church**, further details in the next issue of 'The Breeze.'

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The Church in Upper Rissington:

valuing everyone

The last few months seem to have been as busy as ever on the CUR:ve front. Here are a few of the highlights:

Village Coffee Mornings

running alongside the Saturday morning sport activities have

proved popular, raising money for the Village Hall Defibrillator Fund and for the Nepal Earthquake Appeal. The cake stall seems to have become a fixture (well, we are talking CUR:ve here!), with some new cooks appearing on the scene – thank you to everyone who has contributed!

The plant swap also seems established as an annual event (though I'm sure there were some perennials too!) so let's just hope everything grows!

Easter Sunday saw a group of us gathering at the shop at 6am for a Sunrise Walk across the fields to Gawcombe and Westcote. (I won't tell you whose idea it was or who was still in bed when we knocked on his door ...!). We arrived back just in time to wash the mud off before an informal Communion Service at 8am, followed by breakfast together in the Village Hall, and then Sunday Café and Easter Praise. Phew ... I don't know about anyone else, but after that it was definitely time for a rest!

Finally, **CUR:ve Creative** kicked off with a 'taster session' on April 14th and is now running on alternate Tuesday afternoons, 2-4pm, at the Vicarage (6 De Havilland Road). I'm not sure how much craft was done, but the conversations created plenty of laughter! You don't have to be good at craft to join in, so do come and check us out if you're around – if you don't have a craft project on the go, Rose and Diane will soon find you something!



What's on?

Coffee@CUR:ve

10-12 every Wednesday
7 Hawker Square

Sunday Cafe

drop in 10.30-12 first Sunday
every month
Village Hall

Sunday Cafe Plus

10.30-12 all other Sundays
Village Hall
(worship 11-11.30)

Saturday sports

every Saturday am
on the playing fields

CUR:ve Creative

alternated Tuesdays 2pm
The Vicarage (6 De Havilland)

Community and Sport Worker

Many of you will know that Rob, our Community and Sport Worker, is coming to the end of his time with us this summer. We have put together a job description for a new worker and are hoping to have someone in place to take over when Rob moves on. More details in the next edition of 'The Breeze'!

Useful Contacts In Upper Rissington

This is a list of people and organisations in Upper Rissington who provide goods or services in the village. Inclusion in this list is not a recommendation. To add names and details or to correct inaccuracies please email URNEWS@btinternet.com or call 07592 533596.

Name	Service	Web/email	Phone
Police	Non-Emergency Number		101
Albion Water	Water Service Emergency		0800 917 5819
	Customer Services		0845 604 2355 01451 600295
Parish Council	Clerk	clerk@upperrissington-pc.gov.uk	01451 810839
Polly Sayers	Gardening Services		01451 810796
UR Social Committee	Community Events	URSC@btinternet.com	07592 533596
The Breeze	Newsletter	URNEWS@btinternet.com	07592 533596
Parish Plan Steering Group	Copies of or information on The Parish Plan	clerk@upperrissington-pc.gov.uk or URNEWS@btinternet.com	01451 810839 07592 533596
Kier Construction	School and Community Centre – Project Mgt	Steven.Threadingham@kier.co.uk	07824 550873
Runner Bean	Health and Fitness	www.runner-bean.co.uk	01451 822541
Martin	Electrical and Handyman		01451 824227
John Surch	Great Rissington Cricket Club - Seniors	surch@gotadsl.co.uk	01451 820567 07808 307364
Pete Garrett	Great Rissington Cricket Club - Juniors	Petegarratt117@gmail.com	07788 896496
Pete Garratt	Painter and Decorator		01451 821944

Did you know ...

...that there is a trial bus service going to Chipping Norton? But it needs to be supported if The Villager is to carry on serving the village. The Chipping Norton bus is on Monday and Tuesday, leaving Upper Rissington at approx 9:27am (best to be there a bit before) and departing from Chipping Norton at 11:30am. The bus stop is the one on the main road at the top of the village, practically opposite Bristol Road.

There is also a bus to Witney every Wednesday leaving from the same bus stop at approx 9:20am, while on Fridays a bus to Tesco in Stow leaves from the Farman Crescent Bus Stop at approx 11:25am.

Let's hope they all get good support so that people without transport get the chance to go somewhere a bit different to do their shopping."