



The Breeze

Upper Rissington's Newsletter

Autumn 2017

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Where did the summer go to? And how did Upper Rissington manage to find one of the few sunny days (again!) for the Annual Fete? If you weren't able to get there, check out the report on page 2 to see what you missed. And if you were there, can you find yourself in the photos?

Once again, we have a packed issue of 'The Breeze' for you this quarter, with all the regular favourites plus the welcome return of 'The View From Here' (thanks Polly!). As always, many thanks to all our contributors, it's great to be able to include such excellent articles.

Thanks also to our advertisers, without whom we wouldn't be able to produce such a high-quality newsletter. You may not be aware that 'The Breeze' receives no other funding, so we depend on our advertisers to keep us going. If you appreciate 'The Breeze' and would be prepared to contribute something to our costs, do please get in contact with us at the usual address (URNEWS@btinternet.com). We'd also love to hear from you if you have any ideas for the magazine or would like to contribute a news item or article for a future edition.

Enjoy the Autumn

Sue Handy

Village News

SOCIAL COMMITTEE UPDATE

Fantastic weather, a great turnout, loads of attractions and a great community spirit from the volunteers and villagers all contributed to the best UR Annual Fete yet.



A wonderful opportunity to catch up with friends and neighbours and meet new friends. The UR annual fete just gets better.

This years fete raised record amounts of money for so many local organisations. The Social Committee added over £2000 to it's funds, enabling it to offer immediate support to a number of local organisations, including a donation of £500 to help refurbish the Community Room of the Village Hall, an offer of £250 to help secure the future of our Scouts, and some token thank-you donations to the school and Youth Club for their on the day support.



A dog's life isn't always so bad.



The pull of the fete???

The rest of the money will help to do two things. Firstly it will help secure the future of the Social Committee, with enough money in the bank to cover the up-front investments needed to secure events. Secondly, it will help us to develop an ambitious list of community assets such as good quality, large, covered gazebos, barbecue equipment, PA systems, and film and audio equipment, so that we can develop more events for the community.

The next event is the **Barn Dance** at the

Village Hall. This is the third Barn Dance we've run and they have all been sold out and a great family night out.



Take your partners,, to burn off all the food and drink and laugh as you learn...

It's on 23rd September, look out for the posters and get your tickets as soon as they go on sale. The *Bees Knees* will again call the tunes. The *Travelling Kitchen* will sort us out with fabulous food, and the bar and barbecues will get another outing to fuel you up for the rootin', tootin'. hootin' and a hollerin'. Start time is planned for 6.30pm with a break in the fun for the food, and the evening will finish at 11pm.

The **Fireworks Display** is planned for Saturday 11th November, but look out for other events as we develop a new programme for the next 12 months.

If you want to get involved with the Upper Rissington Social Committee you'll be very, very welcome. Please get in touch with us on URSC@btinternet.com. It's often hard work, but it's a great group to be involved with and there's a lot of fun to be had as well as being a great way to get involved with the community.

PIONEERS

New to Upper Rissington? Keen to meet people? Why not come and give Pioneers a try?

Pioneers started meeting a few months ago and so far has proved a big success. The aim was to provide an opportunity for people to meet in a friendly, welcoming and relaxed atmosphere, and it seems to be doing just that! We serve coffee and a selection of other hot and cold drinks, and there is usually something nice to nibble as well. We spend a lot of time chatting, but have also enjoyed a visit from a computer expert, an informal tai chi taster, and a bring-and-share lunch, and we're open to ideas for new activities as we go forward. It's also a great place to meet people with similar interests and maybe arrange to do things together—dog walking and theatre visits having featured so far!

Pioneers meets on alternate Wednesdays (from September 13th) in the Community Room at the Village Hall, and you can drop in any time between 10.30 and 12.30. There is a small charge of £2 to cover the cost of hiring the hall. Do have a look at our facebook page for more information or contact us via email (on urpioneers@gmail.com) or by phone (01451 824328).

VILLAGE HALL UPDATE



It's been a busy start for the Trust since taking ownership of the Village Hall on 2nd June. Sorting out gas and electric so that the usage and unit costs are significantly reduced. Applying for and receiving 100% business rate relief for the next few years (thank you CDC). Arranging telephone and broadband, online banking, insurances. All of these things that we'd planned for couldn't be done until the day the lease was signed and the first grant from the Parish Council was in the bank.

The busy start hasn't been limited to the Trust. You might have noticed a group of busy folk sorting out the planting around the hall. Jackie's work on re-establishing borders and shrubberies is making an enormous difference. Mark and John's strimming, digging and weeding has helped in the drive to transform the overgrown borders. The Little Hurricanes work on organising the storage, Ashley North sorting out our boilers, and a wealth of goodwill and support is fuelling our belief in the potential of the hall to form a major hub for the community.

The furniture in the hall is in need of updating. The community room is the priority. The existing furniture is wonderful quality, but heavy and difficult for users of the hall to move. So the new furniture will be lighter, will fold up and will store in racks in the community room. We will be keeping some of the older furniture for use on coffee mornings and it can be usefully deployed in the foyer for everyday use. The rest of the furniture will be replaced within the next two years and we hope that we can benefit from grants to develop a more ambitious investment programme to give us more options on lighting, internal decoration and storage.



We've just committed to a new cleaning machine for the village hall floors. Currently the hard floors, including the sports hall, are cleaned using a bucket and mop. Following an assessment of the different machines available we've chosen one that will help us make sure the floors are kept in tip top condition.

The real drive is to get the hall busy. And the best sort of busy is the sort that brings new services, events, clubs and social gatherings into the community. The sports committee is looking to get a table tennis club going, we would like to encourage the development of badminton and we'll be developing our marketing effort to build the use of the hall so that we can meet another of our aims, which is to make the hall self sufficient within three years.

Check out our website at URVH.org for details of what's going on in the hall. Currently booked activities include the Little Hurricanes, Yoga, Dance Classes, Karate, Kids Relaxation classes, Pioneers coffee mornings, local history talks and of course the Barn Dance on 23rd September. We've seen the hall being used for private parties with indoor bouncy castles, Panto, the Village Fete and a host of other activities So, for your next big family occasion, talk to us about using your village hall. Get in touch on 01451 821820 or email us at urvh@btinternet.com.

Finally, if you'd like to help and support the community, through working to help the hall meet it's potential, please email us at treasurer@urvh.org or leave a message on 01451 821820 and we'll get back to you.

Rissingtons Local History Society

In **May**, following a short AGM, Hugh Collins gave us a fascinating talk on the History of Communication, with lots of humour thrown in – starting with Moses and the stone tablets and finishing with cars phoning emergency services following a crash!!!

On a sunny afternoon in **June** a small group of members walked round historic Stow and Maugesbury with Tony Ellam. We stopped and really looked at the buildings which we had walked past many times before without knowing the history behind them, fascinating!

Forthcoming events:

Friday 22nd Sep 1.30pm. Visit to Woodchester Mansion near Stroud.

A guided tour of this Cotswold jewel, a Grade 1 listed unique *unfinished* Gothic Revival House owned by the National Trust. Set in parkland, it is possible to see how the house was constructed and admire the wonderful stone carvings.

Please contact Hugh Collins to reserve a place and for more details on 01451 822286 or email hughacollins@gmail.com.

Friday 20th October 7.30pm. Military Gardens

-An illustrated talk by Richard Wheeler about the gardening Generals
—the Duke of Marlborough at Blenheim Palace, Cobham at Stowe and Orkney at Cliveden.

Venue Upper Rissington Village Hall

Friday 17th November 2.30pm. Dad's Underground Army

A talk by Bill King on the secret units of the British Resistance Organisation that would have been operational in the event of Hitler invading Britain.

Visitors Welcome £3.50 to include refreshments. For further information, please contact Sue Brown on 01451 820233 / spsb@hotmail.co.uk or Tony Ellam on 01451 8333854 / anthonyellam@btinternet.com.

U3A

You may have heard of the University of the Third Age and it's principle of 'It's never too late to learn', but did you know we had a local branch?

At 10am on the third Wednesday of each month the local branch meets at the British Legion Hall in Bourton. The next meeting is on 27th September which is also the recruitment day where all the groups are on display. On 25th October the meeting will start with coffee at 10am with a talk from Helen Schofield on the 'Wonders of Westonbirt'. On 12th November Neil Alcock will be giving a pottery wheel demonstration.

Membership of the U3A is £13 (£22 for joint) a year and more detail is available from Roger Harris on 01451 789125.



Rissington Stargazers

Welcome to our Autumn 2017 Astronomy Diary. As the nights grow longer and cooler, our ever-changing sky has plenty of treats for you. Here is a selection of sights you'll be able to see over the next few months, whether you use binoculars, a telescope or just your eyes.

Conjunction of the Moon, Mercury, Venus and Mars.

During mid- to late September, in the early pre-dawn sky, above the eastern horizon (where the sun is about to rise) will be the thin crescent Moon, Mercury, Venus and Mars. Because it never strays far from the sun, Mercury is the most difficult of the naked-eye planets to spot but should be easy to pick out as part of this stunning conjunction. If you observe these objects on different days you'll notice how each moves in relation to the other. The Moon is best placed within this conjunction on September 19th (See image).

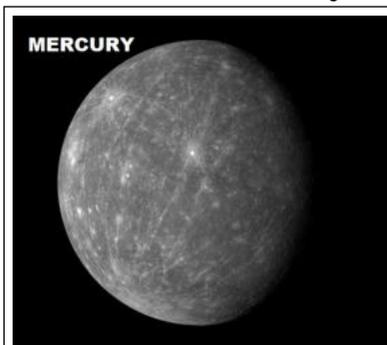


Moon, Mercury, Venus and Mars on the morning of September 19th

Copyright Stellarium – www.stellarium.org

Mercury at elongation.

Mercury, as the name suggests, is the quickest planet to complete each orbit of the sun. A year on Mercury lasts 88 days, which means that every 44 days it's at its furthest point from the sun as we observe from Earth. These points are known as elongations. When Mercury is at its greatest western elongation it can be seen in the eastern sky before the sun rises, while at its greatest eastern elongation it can be seen in the western sky just after sunset. To see it you'll need a pretty good, uninterrupted view of the horizon in question. To the naked eye, Mercury looks like a faint star in the glow of the rising or setting sun. Surprisingly few people, when they see Mercury, realise that it's a small planet (only 20% or so larger than our Moon) whizzing around the sun and not just another star. A day on Mercury (ie. one rotation of the planet on its axis) lasts 127 Earth days which means its day is longer than its year! The surface temperature on Mercury jumps between -120°C on the 'night' side and $+480^{\circ}\text{C}$ on the 'day' side. Two upcoming elongations are on September 12th (western elongation, so look for it in the east before sunrise) and November 24th (eastern elongation so look for it in the west after sunset).



Mercury. Copyright space-facts.com

Autumn equinox.

September 22nd marks the autumn equinox - everywhere on earth has approximately 12 hours of daylight and 12 hours of night-time. It signifies the start of autumn in the northern hemisphere. The word "equinox" comes from Latin equi or "equal" and nox meaning "night".

Conjunction of Venus and Jupiter.

On November 13th, in the eastern pre-dawn sky, early risers will be treated to a spectacular conjunction between the planets Venus and Jupiter. Apart from the Moon, these two are the brightest objects in the night sky and will be only 0.3 degrees apart which is close enough to be in the same field of view of smaller binoculars and low powered telescopes. Rarely do two notable celestial bodies appear so close together, let alone the two brightest. In reality they are separated by tens of millions of miles, they just happen to be the same line of sight from our vantage point on Earth. If you were to go to Jupiter or one of its moons at this time and look back in this direction, you'd see a conjunction of Earth and Venus.

Full Moons:

September 6th, October 5th, November 4th and December 3rd.

The View From Here

Polly Sayers reflects on broken knees and new paths ...

Some of you may have heard that I broke my knee in the spring, right at the beginning of my gardening year. So apart from being unable to do any gardening for clients, I have had to sit in my own garden and just watch while the plants grow, along with those unwanted weeds.

I also missed the unveiling of the new path that the developers kindly gave back to the community after a little word in their ear about bylaws, Path Preservation Orders and broken promises. I did however get down there a few weeks later with the help of a wheelchair borrowed from Sue Handy. Thank you Sue!



The new path

I must say it is not as bad as I imagined it to be. Of course it would be better with the trees in view and a little biodiversity for the wildlife but let's look to the positive. We have our uninterrupted access to the two fields and that's great. So well done Bovis and Linden.

Having an injury and being unable to do anything which involved moving about has not been as bad as I thought it would be. After a month or so of shouting and throwing things with frustration I decided to make the most of this time I had been given.

After a few months I joined in with the Pioneers group which proved to be very enjoyable and stopped me going stir-crazy. I would recommend popping in if you have a spare hour or two. The group will be back to Wednesday mornings after the August break. All are welcome.

Most of all I enjoyed the time I had sitting in my own garden. Over the years I can count on one hand the amount of times I have actually made time to just sit and enjoy my garden. We all have busy lives these days rushing here and there but it's so beneficial to our wellbeing to just give ourselves some time in the day to recoup and I highly recommend it.

Behind the Road Names in Upper Rissington - part 7

Cadet Close

RAF Little Rissington has a long history as a location for training cadets and pilots.

Built during the 1930s, the station was opened in 1938 and closed in 1994. The married-quarters and main technical site were sold in 1996 (the former becoming the village of Upper Rissington) but the aerodrome has been retained by the Ministry of Defence and remains active along with the southern technical sites.

In 1946 the RAF Central Flying School (CFS) moved to Little Rissington and was here till 1976. During this time, the airfield also became the home to the RAF's aerobatics teams which included the Red Pelicans and later the Red Arrows.



RAF Little Rissington - Viking T1 glider

After a Defence Review, the disposal of RAF Little Rissington was stopped in 2006. In 2008, RAF Little Rissington was designated a Core Site up to 2030, under the Defence Estates Development Plan 2008.

It is now home to No. 637 Volunteer Gliding Squadron RAF as the primary military unit, who provide elementary flying training for Combined Cadet Force and Air Training Corps Cadets. In 2016 (information from the College of Arms), for the first-time RAF Little Rissington was officially authorized to have its own Badge, which was based on the Badge of No. 22 (Training) Group with Motto "Semper Resurgens" (Always Rising Again).



Cessna Close

The Cessna Aircraft Company is an American general aviation aircraft manufacturing corporation headquartered in Wichita, Kansas. Best known for small, piston-powered aircraft, Cessna also produces business jets.

Clyde Cessna, a farmer in Rago, Kansas, built his own aircraft and flew it in June 1911. He then moved to Wichita and formed the Cessna Aircraft Company in 1927 with Victor Ross, who resigned just one month into the partnership.

With the Great Depression, Cessna Aircraft Co. closed its doors in 1932. However, a Cessna CR-3 custom racer won the 1933 American Race in Chicago and later set a new World speed record for its class.



Cessna 172

Cessna's nephews Dwane & Dwight Wallace bought the company in 1934 and rebuilt the company into what would become a global success.

There have and are many different planes that have the Cessna name and are flown all over the World. The Cessna 172 introduced in 1956, a high-wing, single piston-engined, four-seat aircraft, became the most produced airplane in history.

Cranwell Road

Originally, RAF Cranwell in Lincolnshire was the Royal Naval Air Service Training Establishment, after the Admiralty requisitioned 2,500 acres of land off Earl of Bristol's estate, in November 1915.

With the establishment of the Royal Air Force as an independent service in 1918, the RNAS Training Establishment became RAF Cranwell. Cranwell became the entry point for all those who wished to become permanent officers in the RAF.

Today, Cranwell is home to the Royal Air Force College (RAFC), which trains the RAF's new officers on a 24-week initial course, after which they are dispersed to their Phase II training for specific branch instruction. It is thus the RAF equivalent of Sandhurst or the Britannia Royal Naval College and is considered by some to be the spiritual home of the RAF.



College Hall at the Royal Air Force College, Cranwell

Want to get involved?- volunteers always welcomed

Are you new to the village? Have you lived here forever? Do you want to get more involved in village life, a little or a lot? Well your community needs you and there are lots of new and established groups in the village. We particularly need help and organisational ability to support the development of Youth through our Youth Club and Scouts. We also welcome help and support across Sports, Social and Community Events, Village Hall Management, Pioneers, The Neighbourhood Development Plan and new and emerging groups. If you'd like to be signposted to these groups 'The Breeze' is happy to act as a clearing house so contact us at urnews@btinternet.com or leave a message on the Village Hall phone (01451 821820.) The benefits of getting involved are obviously enormous for the community. While the commitment of your time and energy is also obvious, the payback from being involved with like minded positive people is less obvious but a tremendous personal reward. Also, a shout out to the youth of the village: why not get organised yourselves? I'm sure we can support you with the development skills necessary for you to drive your own programmes for developing the village as a great place for all ages. Again, get in contact and we'll pull together the list of like minded people and help you to draw in the appropriately resources. '

The Rissington Singers

As this wonderful summer draws to a close, as our tropical tans start to fade and the days get shorter our thoughts may turn to how to occupy those long dark evenings. Some of us will dig out those thousand piece jigsaws; some may try to find the missing Scrabble tiles and others may hope that there will at least one program worth watching on one the 500 TV channels. What a prospect! However, here in Upper Rissington, there is a solution to this problem: joining us, The Rissington Singers!

The Rissington Singers were formed 2 years ago by Rhian Frankcom, our patient leader, and Lydia Tomita, our talented pianist. We are a friendly mixed group of about twenty who welcome anyone of any age who wants to sing. We all enjoy singing for the sheer pleasure of it, but we also look forward to the occasions when we have the opportunity to perform at local community events: you may have seen us at the Upper Rissington fete, at our own concerts or local Christmas Celebrations.



To join us, all you need is a desire to sing. You do not have to be able to read music or have extensive previous singing experience, Rhian and Lydia will teach you all you need to know. Our repertoire is extensive and varied, in many styles from songs from the Musicals to Carols, so there really is something for everyone.

We meet on Tuesday evenings at the Upper Rissington School at 7pm during term time. Part of the evening is our well-deserved tea break where we can lubricate our vocal chords, catch up on local news and get our breath back!

Many of us last sang at school but even after a long break it is amazing how quickly you can pick it up again and re-discover the sheer joy and satisfaction that learning and performing a new song or repertoire can bring.



To discover the Joy of Song why not come along on any Tuesday evening during term time for a FREE first session, you will be made very welcome. Our first meeting is on Tuesday 12th September at 7pm and we do hope you will join us.

Youth News

Youth Club have had an amazing early summer and have been making the most of the warm weather. Every session has been outdoors on the sports field with various team games, but Rounders seem to win the majority vote. The Youth Club group meets on Wednesdays in term-time (6.30-7.30-pm) and is for children from years 4-6. The children enjoy games, friendship and of course the tuck shop!

Sports and community worker Kami Kalsi has thoroughly enjoyed working with the youth of Upper Rissington, and wishes them all the best as he moves on this autumn!

Unfortunately due to the lack of volunteers the older group has had to close for the time being. If you can help, please do get in touch!

As always we are looking for volunteers as without enough volunteers we simply cannot run Youth Club to its full potential.

For more info please contact Helen Lucey on theluceys@live.co.uk

LITTLE HURRICANES

We wanted to start our update with a massive 'thank youuuuu' to the amazing mums who've been running Little Hurricanes for the past 3 years and who have now quite rightly decided that they deserve a break. They have passed the running of the group over to a new set of mums (no pressure!) and we're really excited to let you know about a few plans we have for the next few months.



We start back on Thursday 7th September and will be kicking off with a messy-play session (at our free August messy-play, jelly, rainbow spaghetti and cornflakes were winners so we'll be thinking of some more ideas for September). We'll also have one of our lovely Health Visitor sessions and she'll be continuing to attend on the first and third Thursdays of the month.

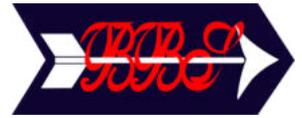
Really excitingly, we're also going to having a Monkey Music session once a month. If you've never been to Monkey Music, think tambourines, monkeys and really fun music! We can't wait for this and we think that all our little attendees are going to love it. This'll be the second Thursday of every month.



We'll also be doing plenty more messy play sessions, craft activities, and special themed sessions for Halloween and Christmas. We have also booked a Baby Massage session on 21st September to help new mums and arranged for Alastair Currell Photography to return on 23rd November so make a note if you want to have a photoshoot with your little one. More details will pop up on our Facebook page nearer the time.

If you've never been to Little Hurricanes, we'd absolutely love to see you at one of our sessions. If you are anxious about popping in please drop us a note on Facebook or email us at littlehurricanes@hotmail.com to let us know you're coming and we will make sure we look out for you. Walking into a room full of strangers isn't our favourite thing either, but it's a really friendly group and such a great way to meet people.

Upper Rissington Scout Group



We had a busy summer term to round off our first year. The Beavers completed their Helpful Beaver and Crafty Beaver badges while the Wolf Cubs finished off their Observer Badge. We also held our second Induction ceremony which was a great evening and an important mile-stone for the children.

It was with a heavy heart we had to come to the decision to close the Beaver group at the end of term. Unfortunately, after a year of searching, we had not been able to find anyone to run the group on a full-time basis. If anyone would like to take up the gauntlet in the future please do get in touch with us. There is a great group of young children aged 5-7 who would love to see the group re-established in the village but without enough helpers it is not viable currently.



We had a fabulous time at the Village Fete. It was fantastic to see the village come together for the event, thank you so much to everyone involved for organising it and giving us the opportunity to raise vital funds for the group.

We were very fortunate to receive a generous donation this summer from the Social Committee and also from North Plumbing and Heating Ltd; we are so overwhelmed by the support and are very much looking forward to purchasing some new equipment over the summer holidays to further enhance the Wolf Cub group. We have also been gifted a beautiful compass and a great telescope, which we are looking forward to putting to use when the children start their orienteering and astronomy badges later next year!



Michael is still the only leader within the group, although we do now have a very supportive team behind us with a secretary, treasurer, chairman and some great parent-helpers. If anyone else in the village or surrounding area would like to get involved, drop us an email or contact us through our facebook page. It's a really rewarding way to spend a Monday evening and the kids are full of enthusiasm and energy! It would be great if we could get a couple more leaders involved so that

when Michael is unable to make a session the group can still continue to run. The more people we can get involved the wider the range of activities we can offer will be.



We are looking forward to the start of term in September and what the new year will bring. The Wolf Cub group is currently full but we do have a waiting list if your child would like to join.

The sports activities especially Saturday Football are continually drawing good numbers. Remember Football for the Primary Academy is from 10am-11pm. Junior Arrows 10am-12pm and Dads/teens 10am -12pm. All are welcome, no experience in playing football is necessary as we teach from grass roots upwards. Please just turn up on the sports fields, dress according to the weather and prepare to have some fun!

For more info please contact Gary Black (blackgary4@aol.com) Rob Eccles or Dean Beard (deanbeard@btinternet.com)

Boxercise is still running every Friday at 6.30pm in Runner Bean Studio. It is catered for children age 6 upwards and adults. Boxing with circuit style training is a great calorie burner and a fun way to get fit! Please contact kami_curve@outlook.com for details

Buggy fit for parents is a great way for getting back into an exercise routine or even starting one! We meet Tuesday morning 10am at the village hall car park. Free for all who want to get a bit fitter and a bit of social banter!

For more info on the sporting activities please contact kami_curve@outlook.com



If you love dogs – you'll love this very special event!

The one and only time this International event has happened in the Cotswolds and right on our doorstep!!

Come and see these well trained Sheepdogs competing with their owners. This International event happens every 4 years all over the world, but this year, this very special event is happening right on our doorstep in the beautiful grounds of Lodge Park, Northleach GL54 3PP

Also : Trade Stands, Craft Tent, Catering, Face Painting and Climbing Wall

8th – 10th September 2017 8am – 5pm

Adults £7.50 Children under 14 – free

National Trust members £5.00

ISDS Badge holders Free

www.internationalsheepdogtrials.org.uk

DON'T MISS IT!!

Gardening On a Hill

It may be lovely to sit and enjoy the summer garden (see The View From Here for my recent experience!) but back in the real world (and most certainly my real world as gardening is my life and it has been so frustrating for me not to be out there) the autumn months are the busiest time in the gardening year. so the gardener will be lucky to find five minutes to sit and ponder.

However, autumn is also a really good time for planning and that can be done sat down in the garden with a cuppa or a glass of wine, so in between the hard work you can have the odd "planning break", as I like to call it.

Autumn is also the time for transplanting and sowing grass seed because the soil has sufficient moisture thanks to regular rain showers. The ground is also still warm from the summer months, therefore the plants still have enough time to get used to their new position and form new roots.

Clump-forming plants such as agapanthus, day-lily, and iris can become congested, making them look messy and flower poorly. This is the best time to dig them up and divide into smaller clumps, and you don't have to be gentle about it. Put half the plant back to re-grow and use the excess elsewhere or offer them to friends and neighbours.



This is also the last chance before the winter to bring a bit of colour into the garden. Roses, for example, should be planted ideally in the autumn, before the first ground frost.

Spring bulbs can also be planted in autumn so their flowers germinate from the soil at the right time in spring. Bulbs should be planted in the ground at a depth of two to three times their height.

You can extend the interest in the garden well into late autumn and winter with some late flowering plants like Rudbeckia; they light up the garden in late summer and autumn in shades of yellow and orange, before leaving distinctive black seed-heads. The spent flowers look beautiful against a backdrop of golden ornamental grasses.

Sedums are also a great addition for late interest in the front of the border and combine beautifully with other late-flowering plants such as asters and ornamental grasses. Once the show is over, the flat forms of their seed-heads come to the fore.

Alliums are a key part of any border in spring, with their lollipop-like purple or white flower heads on tall, strong stems. Their seed-heads are attractive, too, and equally look good in a vase. Alliums have a tendency to self-seed, so if you don't want more plants, remove the spent flowers.

Erygium (sea holly), with its distinctive, powder-blue flowers in autumn forms equally distinctive seed heads which stay on over the winter months. If you can bear to leave the seed-heads on over the winter they are not only added interest in the garden but also are attractive to many wildlife species, including providing a great energy source for birds to feed on in the winter months.



Hedges

Hedges and trees should also be planted now to make the most of the moist, warm soil. Incidentally, it is also a good time to prune hedges and shrubs for the last time to prevent decaying if damp accumulates. Only cut deciduous hedges back as far as you can without creating any holes as these will not grow back over the winter, leaving the hedge looking bare. Any tree-leaves lying on the hedge should also be removed as otherwise the hedge will not get enough fresh air and sun, resulting in rot.



Lawns

In winter, the wet, low temperatures and weak sunshine all affect the lawn. That's why lawns need some TLC before the cold spell begins. When the leaves fall in autumn, they should be cleared from the lawn regularly. Leaves left lying on the lawn will deprive it of light and encourage the formation of dry, brown patches and the growth of moss. Mow your lawn for the last time around the beginning of November. Make sure the grass is not cut shorter than 5cm as longer grass can make better use of less sunlight. This will ensure improved resistance against weeds and moss.

Protect your pond

Check and clean the pump and filter. Trim off dead foliage from plants in and around the pond. If floating plants are covering the pond surface too thickly after their summer growth, scoop some out and leave on the side of the pond for a day or so in order for the wildlife to return to the water, then add the vegetation to the compost heap.

Wildlife

Feed the birds if you can and help them over-winter by leaving the garden tidy-up till the spring. This will also help bees and other small creatures.

Create compost

Being part of a group of Master Composters supported by the County Council and Garden Organic I am obviously going to say homemade compost is the best product for your garden and apart from all the good things it does in the garden you can make it for free while reducing the amount of waste going to landfill. So with that in mind, if you don't have a compost heap, now is the time to start one. In Upper Rissington, with our poor soil with little depth, we need as much compost as we can produce. So if you want a great garden get composting.



Autumn leaves are a fantastic source of nutrients and organic matter and will soon be in plentiful supply here in Rissy so please help yourself to this wonderful natural product on your door step. Just collect the damp leaves and pile them up in an unused corner of the garden or bag them up and leave for a year or two, then either dig into the soil when planting or just lay on the top of the soil as a mulch. Mulching between plants and shrubs before winter can help

to protect the soil as well as keeping in vital nutrients and moisture which are needed for the soil to remain fertile and keep your garden looking good throughout the year.

All this work now will help toward giving the garden soil life and in turn your plants will be healthy and strong.

Happy gardening!!!

Polly.



The Church in Upper Rissington:

valuing everyone

The Sunday Café continues to welcome new and returning faces. If you would like to connect with us, do please pop along to the School on a Sunday morning at 10.30am. The first Sunday of the month is a more informal meeting with bacon butties, pastries, teas and coffees, and a chance to chat or share a few thoughts. The rest of the month sees a more organised service with songs of worship and a talk, with story and craft

activities for younger children. The fourth Sunday of every month now includes a Communion service.

CURve has just enjoyed its annual Holiday Club GO Wild! The children were whole heartedly involved with games, singing and dancing, sports activities, crafts and hearing some amazing stories from the Bible. Kami and Liz would like to thank all the group leaders and volunteers to make this all happen and especially the Rissington School for the venue.

Sadly, Kami Kalsi our Sports and Community Worker is leaving in September. He has thoroughly enjoyed his two years in the village, but has now a new opportunity which sees him and his family return to Glasgow, Scotland.

CUR:ve will be celebrating its 10th anniversary this September! It has been an amazing 10 years with CUR:ve blooming from a monthly community café, to a growing family church with a range of village activities during the week. It has been and still is a blessing to serve the community of Upper Rissington.

We hope you all can come join us on the 10th of September from 10.30am for our anniversary service, and/or afterwards for an extended celebration from 12pm at the Rissington School.

Please email sendtocurve@gmail.com if you would like to be included in the mailing list which details the coming week's activities at CUR:ve.



What's on?

Sunday Café: drop in 10.30-12 first Sunday every month @ The Rissington School

Sunday Cafe Plus: 10.30-12 all other Sundays @ The Rissington School (worship 11-11.30)

Buggy Workout: every Friday 10am @ The Village Hall

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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. If you would like your business included the cost will be £5 towards the printing costs of 'The Breeze'. Contact URNEWS@btinternet.com or call 07592 533596 for more details.

Other useful sources of information about the village include the facebook page and the independent website www.upperrissington.org. Please note that any opinions expressed on these sites are personal to the contributors and are not promoted by 'The Breeze'.

Name	Service	Web/email	Phone
Police	Non-Emergency Number		101
Albion Water	Water Service Emergency Customer Services		0800 917 5819 03300 242020
Parish Council	Clerk	clerk@upperrissington-pc.gov.uk	01451 810839
Little Hurricanes	Baby and Toddler Group	littlehurricanes@hotmail.com	
Social Committee	Community Events	URSC@btinternet.com	07592 533596
Village Hall		urv@btinternet.com	01451 821820
The Breeze	Newsletter	URNEWS@btinternet.com	07592 533596
Rissington Singers	Village Choir	rissington.singers@btinternet.com	
CUR:ve	Church in UR	sendtocurve@gmail.com	
UR Sports	Saturday football	blackgary4@aol.com	
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

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For advertising enquiries you can also email Keelin McLeman



(picture courtesy David Harrison)