



# The Breeze

## Upper Rissington's Newsletter

### Autumn 2018

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Well we certainly can't say we haven't had a summer this year! I hope you've all enjoyed it as much as I have, though I know not everyone has appreciated the heat - and, as Polly points out (pages 14-15), our gardens have found it hard going. But 'The Breeze' is packed with reports of many of the activities and events that have been taking place, so it hasn't stopped everyone being busy! Thank you to everyone who has contributed - both to the life of the community, and to the pages of 'The Breeze'.

As always, autumn means the nights drawing in, but also activities restarting after the summer break and new ideas being launched, some of which are featured in this issue. Have a look and see if there is anything you might like to get involved with - from singing to scouting, drama to food-waste research (see pages 17-18), there's lots to choose from, and new members and volunteers are always welcome!

By popular request, David has provided us with an up-to-date map of the newer part of the village (see centre pages), so if you've been reading 'Behind the Road Names' and wondering where some of them are hiding, hopefully you'll be able to find them at last! Why not take a stroll round the whole village sometime and see how it all fits together? You never know what you might find ...

Have a great autumn

Sue Handy

# Village News

## SOCIAL COMMITTEE UPDATE

### **Fete, Football and Fiery temperatures**

Hot weather and Football Fever didn't deny us yet another fantastic village fete. Thirty degree heat and the draw of an England quarter final against Sweden in the World Cup had an impact on the attendance, but the fete was a great success in providing so many village groups with an opportunity to raise funds and share their activities with the community.



We had demonstrations from our self-defence, gymnastics and fitness groups; the Rissington Singers performed; and we had 25 stalls and attractions as well as games, races, drinks, food and refreshments. The ice cream bar was a new one for us and as a result of the conditions was a great success. The dog show attracted a limited number of entries this year due to the heat and we endeavoured to provide entrants with shade and plenty to drink.

The Social Committee members always meet and discuss what we can learn from past events to improve on next year. If you have any points you feel to be of value please either email [ursc@btinternet.com](mailto:ursc@btinternet.com) or chat with one of our committee members.

### **Upcoming Events**

The next event is the **Bonfire and Fireworks** display. This event has become so popular that we're trying something new this year to address the queuing problems we had at last year's display. We're moving the catering tents across the road to the field where we have the display and the bonfire. We are purchasing a second large drum barbecue to increase the speed with which we can dish out burgers and sausages and the purchase of a generator this year means that we can provide power and heat to the marquees that will house the bar, barbecue and sweet shop.

Our 'thing' with bonfire night is to always run it a week late so that you can attend other displays and still come to the display in your own village (and of course we get the display at half the price we would otherwise have to pay). The planned date is Saturday 10th November and the fire will be lit at 6.15pm with the firework display planned for 6.30pm. Arrive early as the bar and barbecue will be ready for service from 5.45pm. The firework display is getting a reputation so expect it to be busy and atmospheric. Look out for posters closer to the date as times could change.

We always have a Christmas-time event just into the New Year before the children go back to school. This coming year we're planning it as a **film night** showing a film that will appeal to a wide range of ages while focusing on the youngest. We're planning this at the moment and more detail will be in next edition of 'The Breeze.' If you have any views, please email us at [ursc@btinternet.com](mailto:ursc@btinternet.com).

### **Committee News**

We have a healthy membership of the Committee now with 12 members. In the next edition of The Breeze I'll include a list of committee members so that you can talk with them about your ideas for our community events.

### **Volunteers Needed**

We have a list of volunteers who help the Social Committee in setting up for events. As you can imagine, the amount of work required to set up, manage and make the most of our events runs far beyond the resource available through our committee members so it's with the wonderful support of groups like the Scouts and the Pioneers that we're able to keep our events fun, safe and well-organised. If you'd like to help us on the day of the Fireworks, either with manual labour in the setting up of the fire, fencing off secure areas, and setting up marquees etc, or on-the-evening support such as marshalling, bucket collecting etc, please let us know. You know the email address by now - [URSC@btinternet.com](mailto:URSC@btinternet.com).



If you believe that singing be the food of love  
then satisfy your hunger by joining



## **THE RISSINGTON SINGERS**

We meet every Tuesday evening between 7 and 9pm at Upper Rissington School and we have a wide repertoire from Gilbert and Sullivan to Justin Timberlake. No previous choir experience required. We are keen to strengthen our male section: Countertenor, Tenor, Baritone, Base.

Our sessions are very informal and we have a tea break at half time for a good chat!

Our new term starts in September and you are welcome to come along for a free taster session.

**Saturday 6th October 2018, 7.30pm** The Rissington Singers will be performing in St. Lawrence's Church, Bourton on the Water with the Banbury String Orchestra in a fundraising concert for a new piano for St. Lawrence's church. The evening will be a mixture of classical, film, folk and popular music including Vivaldi Cello Concerto, the theme from the film The Mission with Gabriel's Oboe and much more. Tickets are on sale from members of the Rissington Singers, Bourton Tourist Information, Shalom in Bourton at £10, Under 16's are free and this includes refreshments of wine and soft drinks with nibbles afterwards and a chance to chat to the performers. If you would like further information please email [rissingtonsingers@aol.com](mailto:rissingtonsingers@aol.com)

# VILLAGE HALL UPDATE



## **News from the last quarter ...**

This quarter we've completed the furniture replacement program so that we now have a range of portable, modern, comfortable and flexible furniture in keeping with the needs of the hall. We've finished covering the windows so that users of the hall can do so with appropriate privacy and we've done this by applying a low cost opaque film to the windows. This gives us the freedom to upgrade to something a little more decorative in the future whilst achieving our main aims in the short term. We've agreed the supplier and entered into an agreement for the ongoing maintenance of the heating system. We now have our emergency contact mobile phone number and this is displayed in the Village Hall so that if users have problems they can immediately contact a member of the Management Team.

## **The Hub of the Community**

After a quiet August following the lull we always experience through the holiday period, the Hall is again ramping up with classes, events, parties and clubs. To see what's on and when please visit [www.URVH.org](http://www.URVH.org).



*The Hall providing a respite from the heat and a venue to watch the football at our recent fete*

Remember that the Village Hall is there for you. We have a range of assets which could be used more often, including the badminton equipment and the table tennis tables. If you have any ideas for the Village Hall, or if you want to set up a group such as a table tennis or badminton club please contact us. We don't have the resources to set up and run these things, but we might be able to put people together to create new vibrant community groups.

If you want to hire the hall or get in touch, please contact us at [URVH@btconnect.com](mailto:URVH@btconnect.com). If you don't have email, leave us a message on 01451 821820 or drop a note in the letter box at the village hall.

## **The Trust and The Management Team**

This quarter our Trust and Management Committee Chairman, Dean Beard, moved to Bourton-on-the-Water. Dean has agreed to stay on as Trust Chairman but has resigned as the Chairman of the Management Committee. Dean has always been completely committed to the Trust and we are delighted that he's agreed to stay on as its Chairman while fully understanding his need to resign the Management Committee position. We are delighted to welcome David Oliver as the new Chairman of the Management Committee and look forward to working with him to continue to develop the hall for the community. [URVH@btconnect.com](mailto:URVH@btconnect.com).

## **Thanks**

This month's thanks go to Bovis for donating sufficient paving slabs to enable us to pave the rear of the Village Hall. They have also committed the labour to put the paving slabs in place. This is a real benefit as, with the addition of a ramp, it will give us proper wheelchair access to the main hall

# PIONEERS

Despite the holiday season, Pioneers continued to meet throughout the summer, including a special celebration to mark our first birthday—thank you Rose for the splendid cake! Do come along and join

us on alternate Wednesday mornings—we are friendly and welcoming, the coffee (or tea) and other refreshments are great, and there's even the chance to find something good to read on our book-swap table!

Much as we enjoy them, Pioneers isn't just about coffee mornings, and over the summer there were a number of outings to National Trust properties. Sunday lunches together at the Wychwood Golf Course have also become a regular feature, and the monthly walks continue to prove popular. You don't have to come on a Wednesday to join these activities, just see our facebook page for details or contact us via email (on [urpioneers@gmail.com](mailto:urpioneers@gmail.com)) or by phone (01451 824328).



***Come and join us in the Community Room at the Village Hall on alternate Wednesdays***

***Drop in any time between 10.30 and 12.30 for refreshments and a chat***

***(next dates 27th September and 10th & 24th October)***



## Yoga For Men

**Upper Rissington Village Hall: *Sundays, 11.00-12.00 (from 30 Sep to 21 Oct)***

A four-week introduction to a dynamic form of yoga, suitable both for beginners and those with some experience. You don't have to be bendy to start, or exceptionally fit. Many sportsmen use yoga to help them recover and stay injury-free: the practice helps focus the mind while developing strength and flexibility. The course costs £25 for four one-hour classes, held on Sundays from 11.00-12.00 in the community room at Upper Rissington Village Hall. We start on 30 September.

Find out more and sign up at:

<http://danielsimpson.info/uryoga>



As we start our new school year, it is always a really good time to reflect on all the exciting events from last year, and to think about the year ahead.

Last year, my first as Head at The Rissington School, was extremely busy – not only being jam-packed with learning and a full range of school trips and events, but also with the on-going building works at the Upper Rissington Site! Of course, we work extremely hard to ensure that the educational provision at school is of an extremely high standard (our teachers are an extremely dedicated and talented team) so that pupils achieve to their potential academically. However, we also ensure that our children get a balanced education and have opportunities to develop other skills and talents. For example:



We are well known for our sporting opportunities, and this year our Athletics, Gymnastics, Netball, Rounders and Cricket teams all got through to District or County competitions, and even took part in the School Games Primary Debate Competition where they debated 'what is the most important aspect of physical education?'

Music & drama is often an area which gets squeezed in the curriculum, and the impact of this has been well reported in the press. At The Rissington School, we are committed to ensuring the profile of the arts is still high, and classes regularly perform to their peers and to parents. The leavers performance of 'Dream On' – a musical version of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' with a twist – was outstanding! We are also supported by a range of peripatetic music teachers, and have some very talented musicians. This was showcased in our 'Rissington Proms' when children as young as 5 performed to their parents and friends – a grand piano was even kindly arranged by a parent. What a treat!



The strength of the School is the wonderful community feel, and the great support that we get from all involved is outstanding. At the end of last year we held a 'Science Week', which was based around the theme of flight in recognition of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the RAF. We are lucky that



many of our parents are involved in 'flying' and they were so willing to support the event. Several parents came into school to talk to children about flying, and we also had a visit from a Gazelle helicopter piloted by one of our parents. How many schools have a helicopter landing on their school field?

So to next year! Once again, we have more building work at the Upper Rissington Site, as the school building is expanding to accommodate the increasing number of pupils. We know this is not only a challenge to the School, but also impacts on our families and neighbours – we thank them all for their patience. We hope this will be the final phase of construction! There are already a wide range of topics, trips, activities and events organised for the upcoming year, and I know it will be another great year for The Rissington School.

**Would you like to be involved with this wonderful school?** The Governing Body of the School, which is responsible for the strategic leadership and management of the school, is made up of a mix of parents and members of the community. **We currently have a vacancy, and would like to add to the current strengths by reaching out to the wider community for a volunteer with financial or managerial strength** (this need not be in education). If you would like to find out more, please call the school office, or email the Clerk to Governors on [finance@greatrissington.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:finance@greatrissington.gloucs.sch.uk)



**Sue Dawe, Head**

## **Rissingtons Local History Society**

In **May**, following a very short AGM, David Brown gave a fascinating talk on the History of RAF Little Rissington to a packed hall – over 100 people attended! He highlighted the wartime history of the base and that of the Central Flying School with their mascot Freddie the Pelican. He included footage of planes flying out of Little Rissington in its heyday. There was plenty of discussion after the talk concluded.

On a sunny day in **June** members walked round historic Burford in 2 groups, with an excellent guide, meeting at the Warwick Hall café for lunch. We discovered, amongst many things, that Burford had a lot of industry in the past behind the Bay Tree Hotel, and Nell Gwynn and her lover King Charles II had stayed there!

### Forthcoming events:

**Friday 21st September.. Visit to the Soldiers of Gloucestershire Museum with guided tour.**

**Lunch followed by optional visit to the Waterways Museum in the afternoon.**

Both Museums are at Gloucester Docks.

*Please contact Tony Ellam to reserve a place on 01451 833854 or [anthonyellam@btinternet.com](mailto:anthonyellam@btinternet.com).*

**Friday 19th October 7.30pm. The British Suffrage Movement** – an illustrated talk by Simon Wenham about the campaign leading to the enfranchisement of women, celebrating the centenary of the first women gaining the vote.

**Venue** Upper Rissington Village Hall

**Friday 16th November 2.30pm. Raleigh-ing to the Cause** – a talk by Tony Hadland tracing the use of the bicycle for military purposes and how Raleigh became a major manufacturer of munitions.

**Venue** Great Rissington Club

**Visitors Welcome £3.50 to include refreshments.**

For enquiries, please contact

Sue Brown on 01451 820233/[spsb@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:spsb@hotmail.co.uk)

or Tony Ellam on 01451 833854/[anthonyellam@btinternet.com](mailto:anthonyellam@btinternet.com).

# Upper Rissington Scout Group

Well it has been a busy few months for the 1<sup>st</sup> Upper Rissington Scout Group. We are making changes to the section, starting with leaving the WBBS and applying to join the Baden Powell Scout Association; this is to allow us to expand and take in more activities and learn more skills.

We were very lucky this year with generous funding from both GCC and CDC which will help us immensely in progressing our group and taking them on scout camps and visits. We would all like to extend our thanks to the respective councillors for their assistance in securing these funds. Thanks also to the Parish Council for their funding, and a very big thanks to the Co-op at Upper Rissington for their continuing support. Tesco in Stow also donated for our recent scout camp which was gratefully received, so thank you to everyone. The funding has enabled us to buy a couple of scout tents which means the camps will be better equipped and we will not have to rely on the site or others for tents; it also opens the opportunity for us to have true 'wild' camps.



August saw our Wolf Cubs and Scout sections go on their first scout camp at Cranham, where there were many opportunities to learn the basic scout life as well as camping skills; they cut firewood for the camp fire and learned some camp songs as well as teaching each other a few songs.



The kit inspections were a bit of a shock each morning to some but I must say they all made a tremendous effort to ensure their kit was kept tidy and laid out each morning for inspection; there were even a few disappointed faces on the morning we ran out of time to do an inspection (some had got up a 6am to get their kit ready!)

Learning archery was highly enjoyable, with Hawkeye and No1 (Phil from Cirencester scouts) having a go as well. Luckily they all managed to learn the basics without any mishaps, and they wished they had a longer lesson. The team building games got a bit frustrating but they all pulled together in their groups and completed each task. Our camp was the first camp to complete the six -tyre puzzle, other groups only manage five so well done to them all!

We are currently organising a winter camp in October for the Scouts only and hopefully two camps next year to include all our sections!

In the new term all sections will be learning new skills, covering whittling and knife work, fire safety, knot tying and many more, with some new games and events at our Friday sessions. We are also looking into more adventurous trips out with the possibility of some caving and climbing experience being considered.



We still have spaces in our groups so if you would like to join us in our traditional scouting group please let us know either by dropping in to the Village Hall on a Friday evening or by emailing [rissiscoutgroup@mail.com](mailto:rissiscoutgroup@mail.com); we also have a website at [1stupperrissington.wixsite.com/scouts](http://1stupperrissington.wixsite.com/scouts).

Our groups are:            Beavers age 5 to 8 years starts at 5pm until 6pm  
                                      Wolf Cubs age 8 to 11 years starts at 6pm until 7.30pm  
                                      Scouts age 11 to 15 years starts at 7.30pm until 9pm

*All on a Friday at the Village Hall.*

We are looking to start Senior and Rover scout sections which will cover ages 16 upwards, but until we have some confirmed numbers we have not arranged a day to hold sessions, so if you would be interested in these sections let us know. We are also on the lookout for more leaders; we offer a uniform and full training, just get in contact if interested.

***Hawkeye. Group Scout Master 1<sup>st</sup> Upper Rissington Scout Group.***

## The Church in Upper Rissington:

*valuing everyone*



As the village has continued to grow this year, it has been a pleasure to welcome some new faces to CUR:ve. Sunday mornings are always very relaxed and there are activities for children and time to worship through singing, prayer and bible teaching. There is always a welcome cup of coffee or tea on arrival, with squash for the children, and cake, biscuits or fruit.

Saturday café continues to take place on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month, 10-11.30am (note: new time) at the Village Hall. We serve sausage or bacon rolls and cake as well as hot drinks. So if the youngsters are part of Saturday football and you want to be able to enjoy waiting for them in the warm ... this is where to be! In addition, there are toys for all ages and games available for those who are not playing football! Come and meet your neighbours!

In July, CUR:ve had a fun photo-booth at the Village Fete where people could pop in and dress up and take a selfie for free. It was great just to chat to people. We are pleased to be supported by several of the local churches and have recently enjoyed visiting some of them for services on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of a month.

Looking ahead, with December approaching all-too rapidly, we are making plans for our annual Carols by candlelight service in the Village Hall on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> December at 4pm. We hope to welcome many of you there! Then, in the New Year, look out for details of our Alpha course which we plan to run at the village hall in the weeks leading up to Easter. Another great chance to meet new people, share food and chat about some of life's big questions.



For up-to-date information about what we are doing, please check our website [www.curveweb.org](http://www.curveweb.org), find us on Facebook, or email us at [sendtocurve@gmail.com](mailto:sendtocurve@gmail.com).

# Rissington Stargazers

Hello stargazers! Longer nights are here, giving us more opportunities to explore and observe the wondrous night sky. But do you ever see something moving overhead and wonder what it is? Is it a plane? A satellite? A meteor? Here's how to identify them.

**Is it moving very fast?** (By very fast, I mean 'would it travel from horizon to horizon in a couple of seconds as opposed to a few minutes?')

If 'YES' - It's a meteor. Meteors almost always last for only a fraction of a second and can be anything from barely visible to so bright you have to look away. Meteors are pieces of natural debris (dust and rocks from comets, or simply bits left over from the formation of the solar system 4.5 billion years ago) or occasionally debris from old or malfunctioning artificial satellites returning to earth once their orbital speed can no longer counteract the pull of Earth's gravity. As they encounter the resistance of our atmosphere at a speed of between 11 & 70 km per second (24,000 & 156,000 mph) at an altitude of between 80 & 120km (50 & 75 miles), the friction created causes them to heat up and briefly glow brightly. They come in different colours – yellow, green, red, orange – depending on the chemical makeup of the burning object. Most natural meteors are no larger than a grain of sand, or maybe a pea, but very occasionally something bigger hits the atmosphere and we're treated to a longer-lasting and far brighter event. If a meteor survives the journey and makes it to the ground, it's known as a meteorite. It's estimated that approximately 500 meteors make it to the ground every year, but recovering them is notoriously difficult, which is why finding one can earn you a nice little sum of money and a degree of albeit short-lived fame! Anywhere covered with snow is the best place to find meteorites because when they do land, they're much easier to notice against the white landscape.

If 'NO' – read on...

**Is it flashing?**

If 'YES' - If it's moving in a relatively straight line, has a constant white light accompanied by flashing red and green lights (even though you may not see all three coloured lights from the angle you're observing), it's a plane, probably anything between 1,000 & 40,000 feet above you. 40,000 feet is 12km (7.5 miles).

If it's a single point of white light which flashes slowly but regularly as it passes, it may be a 'tumbling satellite', also known as a 'flare satellite' or an 'Iridium Flare'.

Some regular satellites, once they have been decommissioned or have malfunctioned, lose the ability to make orbital corrections and decay into a tumbling motion which creates the flashing effect we see on the ground as sunlight is reflected off their more shiny parts. An Iridium Flare is a particular type of satellite whose tumbling motion is deliberate and therefore predictable. Based on your location, the flaring of an Iridium satellite can be predicted to the nearest second with absolute accuracy.



*As an example, you can see the regular bright spots in the plane 'trail' as it passed by during a 20 second exposure.*

The flaring is much slower than the flashing and you may well only see it once from your location for each overhead pass. There are many websites and apps available where you can see an Iridium Flare forecast for your location. Over the next few years Iridium satellites will be decommissioned and replaced with non-flaring alternatives and eventually there will be no more predictable Iridiums in service. The altitude of a satellite can be anything between 2,000 and 36,000km (1,200 & 22,000 miles) depending upon their purpose.

If 'NO' – It will be either The International Space Station (lots of online resources predict visible passes from your particular location) or a regular communications, weather, or military satellite. Depending on its purpose it can be anything from 2,000 to 36,000km above you. In the case of the ISS, the altitude is around 400km or 250 miles – almost skimming the atmosphere by other satellites' standards! Interestingly, because of the relatively low altitude, the crew of the ISS experience about 80% of the gravity we experience on the ground – the 'floating' effect they experience is to do with them being in constant free-fall around the planet as they orbit it once per 90 minutes or so. That's right – the ISS is constantly falling towards the ground! But thanks to physics and some clever mathematics, as they fall, the curved earth's surface is moving away from them at exactly the same rate. That's why, with the exception of making occasional minor boosts to maintain the correct altitude, the ISS uses no fuel in flight.

That covers the most likely things you'll see moving in the night sky. For more information, or to ask any questions, please join our Facebook group 'Rissington Stargazers' and we'll do our best to help. Wrap up warm and keep looking up!

## **Bourton Youth Theatre.**

A new youth-orientated group launches in September. Aimed at 11-18 year olds, the new Bourton Youth Theatre will give teens the chance to express themselves in a fun and educational way. We will provide a safe and welcoming space for all young people to cultivate and develop a love for drama and theatre. Designed to build confidence and long-lasting friendships, one-to-one tuition will be available to ensure that each child's needs are addressed.



We are an inclusive group and welcome all levels of experience and abilities. Performance will be included but will be optional for each child in terms of participation. Aspects of backstage and technical work will also be offered for those less confident in performance.

The group's founder Kate-Marie studied Drama at the Cotswold School to an A-level standard and ran the drama club there as well as co-directing the Upper-School musical "Into the Woods". Through doing this a true passion was developed for giving all young people an opportunity to discover themselves through drama and build confidence to prepare them for later life.

We are supported by the Drama department of the Cotswold School and have full insurance, first aid training and DBS checks. Meetings will be at the George Moore Community Centre (Moore Road, Bourton on the Water), Sundays from 6-8pm. Please get in contact to ensure a place and to get further details:

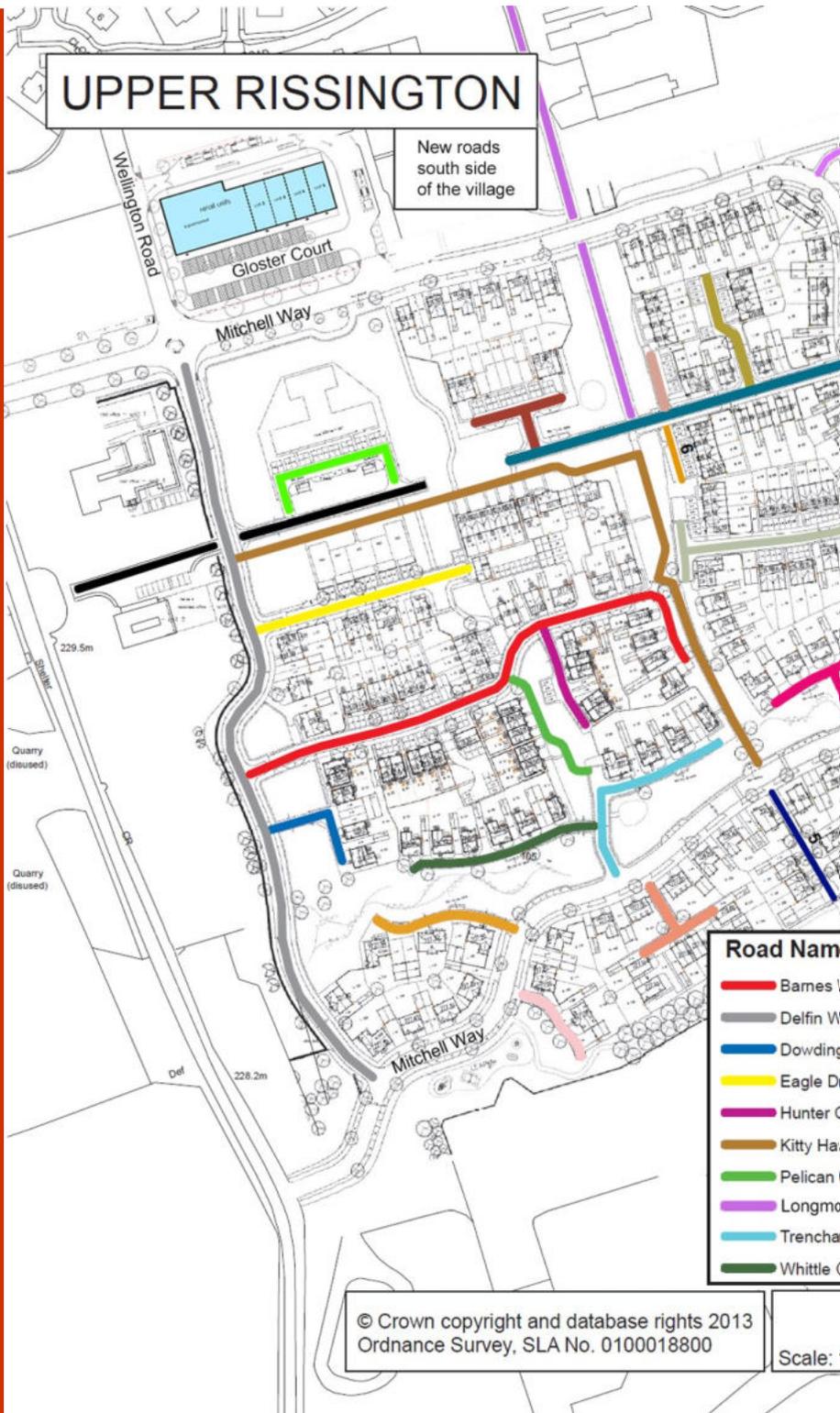
Facebook: Bourton Youth Theatre/BourtonYouthTheatre2018@outlook.com/07592908980

In the words of Drama Practitioner Augusto Boal:

*"We all must do theatre to find out who we are and to discover who we could become"*

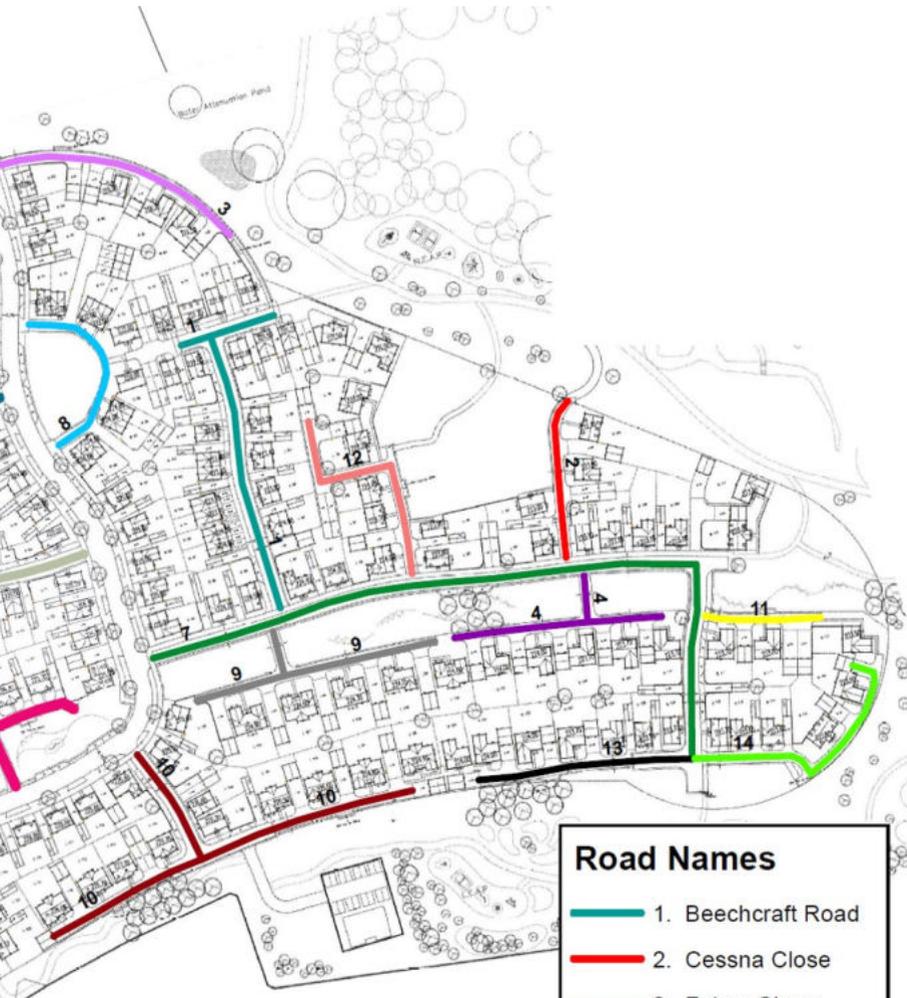
# UPPER RISSINGTON

New roads  
south side  
of the village



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Ordnance Survey, SLA No. 0100018800

Scale:



es	
Wallis Way	— A P Ellis Road
ay	— Varsity Close
g Close	— Provost Close
ive	— Merlin Close
Close	— Cranwell Road
rk Walk(Footway)	— Meteor Close
Walk(Footway)	— Anson Court
re Walk(Footway)	— Spitfire Place
rd Close	— Valiant House
Close	— Hart 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

# Gardening On a Hill

September is here and I for one am glad the weather is cooler now. It has been very difficult at times working outside in this summer's heat. I wasn't doing very well with the hot weather until my husband came home with a paddling pool one day. I would come home at midday and sit in the water to cool myself down before going back to work in the afternoon. Some really hot days I just couldn't work in the afternoon heat and I would talk myself into staying in the pool: after all it was the best thing I could do to keep cool for most of the day. I highly recommend it as the best place for anyone who doesn't do well in the heat. You can then use the water on the garden or for topping up the pond so twofold it is a good idea.



This summer everything in the garden needed a little more water than usual. My water butts were empty by June so I think I may have to invest in a few more! I am sure many of you enjoyed the long hot days, but the heat took its toll – and on the plants in the garden most of all. Plants that were not in the shade of a tree or some sort of structure suffered with the heat of the sun.

We are so lucky to live in a place with so many mature trees and therefore so much shelter from the sun. We need to keep protecting our trees locally. They don't just improve the appearance of our community, they also help to cool it down. They are so integrated into our daily life here that it is easy to forget the whole variety of benefits they provide. Of course, most of our trees are protected by a Tree Preservation Order and this means you need permission from the District Council to do any kind of pruning work on them. Cutting down a tree without permission can mean a costly fine added to the bill.

I was impressed to see all our cherry trees doing well this year with plenty of fruit after a few years of looking like they might not recover.

If our summers are getting hotter then we may need to change the way we garden in the future but for now I am pleased to say my favourite time of the year is here. Autumn is a busy time in the garden, clearing away the decaying vegetation of the summer and preparing the garden for the cold winter months ahead.



By September, the days are shorter, and light is an increasingly valuable resource. If you have applied a shade-paint on your greenhouse to protect the plants from the heat of the sun then removing it now will maximise the sunlight available to your plants. I am still picking tomatoes from my greenhouse but the nights are getting colder and the fruit will find it more difficult to ripen with the shorter days. But green tomatoes make a great chutney that can be stored away for use later on (or as a great Xmas present for those cheese lovers you know!).

Don't forget that you can still sow plenty of vegetables to grow in the winter months. Autumn-planting **onion sets** are easy to grow and will virtually look after themselves over winter. Onions have a long growing season and won't be ready until next summer, so plan carefully as they will still be in the ground when you start planting other crops in spring.

Growing **garlic** couldn't be easier and there are lots of varieties to choose from for autumn planting. Like onions, they have a long growing season and won't be ready to harvest until next summer, but it is well worth the wait!

Winter-hardy varieties of **spring onion** make a tasty accompaniment to winter salads. They are a fairly quick growing crop and early autumn sowing should be ready by early spring. **Salads** are not just for summer! Sow tasty 'cut and come again' mixes under cover for harvesting throughout the winter months. Plant lambs lettuce, land cress and mustard alongside to add a spicy, peppery flavour to your winter salads. For tasty, crisp heads of lettuce you can also try '*Winter Gem*'.

Autumn sown **broad beans** can be harvested in spring up to a month earlier than spring sown plants. You can also enjoy an early crop of **peas**; autumn sown rounded varieties such as 'Kelvedon Wonder' and 'Meteor' are particularly hardy and will give you a head start next season.

Autumn provides an ideal opportunity to move poorly-placed plants and divide overcrowded perennials while the soil is still warm. Cut back faded perennials to 5cm above ground level, but don't be too tidy as some perennials have attractive seed heads that look wonderful covered in autumn dew and provide some winter interest. They will also provide shelter for overwintering insects and food for some birds.

Dig up annuals and add them to the compost heap. You can replant your beds with winter bedding such as pansies, bellis daisies and wallflowers for a colourful display next spring. Collect fallen leaves from grass and borders and put them in a shady corner to rot down into leaf mould. Leaf mould adds structure and organic matter to your soil. Most leaves from deciduous trees and shrubs will rot down to make lovely compost in a couple of years. Once your borders are clean and tidy, spread a thick layer of compost, leaf mould or well-rotted manure across them. Don't worry about digging it in: let the worms do the hard work for you. This mulching of the soil will help with the structure as well as keeping in the much-needed moisture next summer.



### **Protecting the pond**

When the days shorten and there's a chill in the air, your main concern will be dead foliage falling into the water. It is very important to prevent this, as the decaying leaves release gases that are harmful to both fish and plants, and may encourage algae growth in the spring. Remove any dead foliage from the water, trim back summer growth, and tidy pond plants, dividing any that are becoming too invasive. Some plants may not be fully hardy, so think about protecting them with fleece when the weather starts to get colder.

### **Bulbs in the garden**

From September to mid-November you can plan ahead for spring colour by planting spring flowering bulbs. Bulbs can be the first flowers we see after a long winter and for me they are a sign that things are improving and the weather is getting warmer. They are a joy to see, popping their heads out of the ground, sometimes while there is still snow about. What a wonder they are! I encourage you all to plant some; if you haven't got space in the garden then grow in a pot near the front door or in a window box. I guarantee your spirits will be lifted by the sight of them after the long winter months.



# Little Hurricanes

Baby & Toddler Group for the under 5's and their parents/grandparents/carers

Every Thursday during term time 9.30am to 11.30am  
@ Village Hall, Wellington Road, Upper Rissington GL54 2QW  
littlehurricanes@hotmail.com



We hope you all enjoyed your summer holidays and whilst we usually take a break, this summer Little Hurricanes were kept extremely busy.

Thank you everyone who came out to support our annual fund raiser at the Village Fete where we were painting faces, arms and legs, young and old, glitter aplenty. Your donations helped us to subsidise the 6 activities we held over the summer which included a messy play session with Mess Around Oxfordshire, a road safety play event with Ride on Time, a magical puppetry show with Showtime Shane, two extended play sessions along with Velo Pizzeria and an NHS Clinic, and a Picnic in the Play Park before the first phase of its refurbishment got underway. It was lovely to provide a summer program of activities for the parents and children and to see lots of happy faces too.

Our weekly drop-in gatherings return this September and continue with our twice monthly NHS clinics and popular musical sessions delivered by Monkey Music and Songtime Sally. We are always delighted to welcome new faces, so please don't hesitate to pop along, grab a drink and meet up with friends, old and new.

We have had to say farewell to a few committee members, so we are also appealing for help if you would like to get more involved in keeping this service available to our community. Please talk to us at one of our sessions or send an email if you are interested and have any questions.



[Like us on Facebook to keep up to date with arranged events or see our noticeboard at sessions.](#)

Donation of £2 per family suggested

# Upper Rissington's unique role in UK research

*PhD researcher Abi Legge from the University of Sheffield explains ...*

## Recovering biogas from food scraps

How do you get rid of your food waste? Does it go into a special bin or does it go in with all the other rubbish? Is this good for our environment? Food waste is nutrient rich and underutilised. Tossing it into landfill is a sad waste.

We at the University of Sheffield are investigating how to turn food waste into a useful resource and part of this takes place in Upper Rissington. Similar projects in other countries, including Sweden, Holland and America, are collecting food waste in the kitchen sink, grinding it into small particles with a food waste disposer and flushing it into the drains, for transport to the sewage plant. Here green, or renewable, energy can then be extracted from the food scraps using existing infrastructure.

## Why Upper Rissington?

What makes your village so unique is that the sewer network has two distinct branches and its own wastewater treatment plant. One branch, in the new development, has had a high density of food waste disposers installed by a previous project and the other branch, in the original development, has no or few food waste disposers which means that it can be used to compare the effects of food waste disposers on the sewer network and how food is transported to the sewage treatment plant.



*The University of Sheffield Research team and Albion Water are working together to look at the sewers in Upper Rissington*

## July open evening

For residents to know more about the project, we hosted an open evening on the 17<sup>th</sup> July in the Village Hall. Here there were stalls, presentations and the opportunity to chat with the research team, along with Albion Water, your local water utility, and InSinkErator®, who manufacture the food waste disposers. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the residents who gave their

time and participated in this event. Their feedback has been very valuable in determining how to proceed with research in your local area.



*PhD Researcher Abi Legge at the resident's Open Evening*

## School science day

To get in touch with the younger generation in Upper Rissington, we also ran a full day event at the Upper Rissington School. This was set up with fun water-themed experiments similar to those that are used in our real laboratory tests. Additionally, themes of sustainability and the importance of clean water were highlighted through a number of the experiments. We discussed our Upper Rissington research project with the children and their engagement and enthusiasm was tremendous. We had a great time at the school and hope that the school children also enjoyed an experience that was a little different from day-to-day school activities.



*Some of the pupils at the filtration station as part of the school event (Picture courtesy of Upper Rissington School)*

## Do you have a food waste disposer?

Part of our research in Upper Rissington is to identify where food waste disposers are located and, (equally important) where they are not. Residents are invited to complete a short online survey about food waste, with the chance to win one of two £20 Amazon vouchers. To find out more about the project or fill out the questionnaire, please head to: <https://sites.google.com/sheffield.ac.uk/fwd-s-in-upper-rissington/home>

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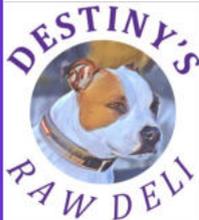


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## Useful Contacts In Upper Rissington

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](mailto: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](http://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	Service	Web/email	Phone
Police	Non-Emergency Number		101
Albion Water	Water Service Emergency Customer Services		0800 917 5819 03300 242020
Parish Council	Clerk	<a href="mailto:clerk@upperrissington-pc.gov.uk">clerk@upperrissington-pc.gov.uk</a>	01451 810839
Little Hurricanes	Baby and Toddler Group	<a href="mailto:littlehurricanes@hotmail.com">littlehurricanes@hotmail.com</a>	
Social Committee	Community Events	<a href="mailto:URSC@btinternet.com">URSC@btinternet.com</a>	07592 533596
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The Breeze	Newsletter	<a href="mailto:URNEWS@btinternet.com">URNEWS@btinternet.com</a>	07592 533596
Rissington Singers	Village Choir	<a href="mailto:rissington.singers@btinternet.com">rissington.singers@btinternet.com</a>	
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John Surch	Great Rissington Cricket Club - Seniors	<a href="mailto:surch@gotadsl.co.uk">surch@gotadsl.co.uk</a>	01451 820567 07808 307364
Pete Garrett	Great Rissington Cricket Club - Juniors	<a href="mailto:Petegarratt117@gmail.com">Petegarratt117@gmail.com</a>	07788 896496

The next issue of 'The Breeze' is due to be published at the beginning of December 2018. Please contact us at [URNEWS@btinternet.com](mailto:URNEWS@btinternet.com) or call 07592 533596 if you would like to contribute articles or news items. The deadline for contributions is Friday 16th November.

For advertising enquiries you can also email Keelin McLeman  
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