



## Upper Rissington's Newsletter

### Winter 2021

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Welcome to another bumper issue of 'The Breeze'! Upper Rissington certainly seems to be doing its best to bounce back from lockdown, with so many events having happened or being planned. It's wonderful that we are able to mix and enjoy activities together again, but please do continue to be careful and abide by any precautions that are in place; if we're kind to one another, everyone can enjoy things more.

Highlights this quarter include an extended 'Gardening on the Hill' - who knew there was so much to do in the garden at this time of year?! We also feature the return of 'Recipe Breeze', with a suitably warming winter dish. Don't forget, if you have a favourite recipe you'd like to share, we're always happy to receive new ideas!

Many thanks, as always, to everyone who has contributed articles and adverts - and also, a big 'thank you' to those who ensure all the copies are delivered, a growing job as the village continues to develop. Do get in touch with us if you would like to help! Also, if you're involved with something in the community why not write an article for the next edition? Our aim is to make 'The Breeze' representative of the whole community, but we can only do that if people let us know what's going on. Any comments and suggestions are also welcome, so do contact us (email URNEWS@btinternet.com), we'd love to hear from you.

Looking at the various articles and flyers, Christmas looks as though it will be busy again this year, so hopefully there will be something that appeals to you. Whatever you choose, keep warm and well and enjoy the winter. The Breeze team wishes all our readers a very Happy Christmas and a positive New Year.

Sue Handy

# Village News

## SOCIAL COMMITTEE UPDATE

### We're back

Well it's been an active few months after the long layoff – and what a wonderful community response to both the delayed Summer Fete and the Fireworks display!

### The Fete

This year's fete was delayed from its normal date of the first Saturday in July to Sunday September 19th. We were entertained by the brilliant magician and top-notch entertainer Lee Joseph. We had Alex engaging us with her independent spirit and resolute determination as she successfully completed her amazing challenge in 38 minutes. Her target of one hour was smashed and she raised just under £1,000 towards the costs of motorised parts for her wheelchair. We're all so proud of her.



The cake competition was well-contested with delicious entries across all age ranges. The job of judging the cakes was the most envied job of the day but few could have done the job with the impartiality and focus of our judge Emma Selwood, thank you. Congratulations to the winners and thanks to all the entrants, it was a great effort from all.

As always the dog show was fun and was as popular as it's ever been. The live music was provided by our local and immensely talented singer Flora Kenning.

The fete was a success by any measure. It raised money for the Social Committee and a host of local organisations through their stalls, raffles and competitions. The weather helped, not too hot, and a lovely dry day.

We have so many to thank. Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped to make the day. It would be impossible to run the event without your good-humoured and hard-working support.

We are so grateful for the valuable donations we received from so many generous local companies. Please support them. Thank you for your wonderful raffle-prize donations to:

- The Lansdowne B&B *for their donation of a one night stay*
- The Feathered Nest *for the Afternoon Tea for two donation*
- The Wyck Hill House Hotel *for their afternoon tea for two*
- Giffords Circus
- The Hangar *for donating a meal for two*
- NicFit *for the vouchers*
- VéloTecnica *for the bicycle service vouchers*
- Dough Wood Fired Pizza
- The Cotswold Food-store
- Cotswold Pottery
- Lingotots

- Upscale Nails and Beauty
- Maxey Images Prints
- Hair at Home
- Stow Flower Shop
- Cotswold Candle Company
- Bea Dickman Beauty
- The Yoga Tree



And thank you to everyone else for the many donations that made this such a spectacular raffle, including all the contributors to the wheelbarrow full of booze.

Next year we will return to the normal date of the first Saturday in July and let's hope that the weather and the atmosphere is as good.

### **The Fireworks Display**

What a turn out on a perfect evening for a Fireworks Display. We hold our display a little later than most as it allows families to visit other village displays and still attend our own. The other big reason is that the cost of the display is half the cost of a performance at peak time around the 5th November. It seems to work for us really well as again this year the attendance was at capacity.



The evening was enhanced by the performance of Paige and The Red Shift who worked tirelessly and with enormous talent to keep the music flowing either side of the display.



We had a few issues with technology in the form of our card machines but this was small when compared to the wonderful spirit of the evening with constant streams of dancing and smiling children accompanied by a great community feel.

We have listened to the suggestions with regards to making the display silent in future years and we've taken note of Social Media comments with regard to whether we should be running the event at all. This did prompt us as a committee to seriously consider the issues again and we should share the outcome of our discussions. The first is that the Fireworks Display was a massively popular item in the research conducted for the 2013 Parish Plan where 76% of respondents identified a Bonfire Night celebration as one of the things they would like to see in Upper Rissington. The second area of discussion was that the real

problem of fireworks, particularly in large conurbations, is the frequency and unpredictability of the noise they generate. By contrast, an organised display such as ours allows livestock owners to be informed of the timing and duration of displays. It might also have an impact in reducing the number of individual displays. Consequently we hope we can rely on tolerance for the wishes of the majority when it impinges on sensitivities. These community events are a great way to get to know our neighbours.

*(continued on page 4)*

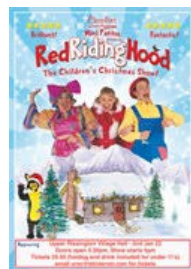
### **Future Events**

We're arranging the **Christmas Panto** and have booked the troupe that gave us such a superb performance in 2020. The date we've got them booked for is January 2nd 2022 at 4pm but keep an eye out for our posters shortly.

The **Easter Egg Hunt** will probably return to normal format for Easter next year, but we'll update you through the next issue of *The Breeze* and posters closer to the time.

### **Committee News**

We've a great team of people on the Social Committee drawn together by their desire to support the development of our community. We've strengthened the committee this quarter with two new energetic and capable members. We run regular events for the community and we always welcome new committee members or on-the-day support. If you'd like to help the committee in the organisation, management or support of events, please get in touch at [ursc@btinternet.com](mailto:ursc@btinternet.com)



## **Parish Council Update**

Clearly since the last time the Upper Rissington Parish Council (PC) commented in *The Breeze* there have been some changes! Recent events have depleted our number and we now have an inexperienced PC who are very focused on the improvement of our village and the completion of the Public Open Space (POS). I would like to put on record my thanks to all the departed councillors who invested their energy into getting us where we are today and hope that the residents will get behind us to enable us to meet our aim of POS completion, adoption and then ... finally, some normality for the village.

There is a real and tangible way you can get involved and help – become a Councillor! We have spaces for new and enthusiastic residents to join the PC so if you can spare a couple of hours each week please do consider it and help make Upper Rissington a better place to live for everyone.

In more immediate news, we're about to receive the 200 trees arranged by Cllr Garrett as part of the Ash Dieback Replanting Scheme - this has been a big effort from Sandi to coordinate the numbers, delivery and positions of the new trees. Hopefully by the time you read this some of them will have begun to appear, so please do get involved.

We're also reopening regular discussions with the developers to make sure we start to see some real progress with all the work around the village, and have even received the outlines plans of what the Bowling Green will look like! We're following through on the mandate given by our predecessors to ensure we get a full and proper handover in due course. Just a reminder that we still have the ongoing snagging list on the website where you can monitor and assist with identifying any problems around the village.

If you want all the latest, up-to-date information on what's happening with the Upper Rissington Parish Council then please head to the PC Website at [www.upperrissington-pc.gov.uk](http://www.upperrissington-pc.gov.uk) . You can also "like" the recently liberated Facebook page for all the updates that are shared from the website. 2022 could ... should ... will ... be a big year for Upper Rissington, and with your continued support the Parish Council can help everyone enjoy the true potential of this beautiful village.

**Andy Cairns,**  
**Chair, Upper Rissington Parish Council**

# VILLAGE HALL UPDATE



## **The last word**

The Village Hall Trust has now been formally dissolved. On the day of dissolution the Trust handed a cheque to the Parish Council for the balance of its accounts, £16,141.99.

During the time of operation the Trust received grants from the Parish Council totalling £35,000 of community money. During the time of operation the Trust invested over £26,000 in equipment and furniture which it has transferred to the Parish Council. In the final years of operation, due to Covid, incomes were slashed and operational costs of over £10,000 were absorbed from reserves. So together it can be seen that the community has received excellent value from its investment in the Trust.

Going forward, the Hall is being well managed by the Parish Council and the signs are healthy for volunteers and paid professionals combining to maintain the Hall as a vibrant hub of the community. The outgoing Trustees and Management Committee wish the Parish Council success with the Hall and are optimistic for the spirit of cooperation and community focus of the current Parish Councillors.

## **Rissingtons Local History Society**

After 18 months of not meeting face-to-face, we enjoyed a visit in **September** to Lodge Park, Sherborne on a lovely sunny day, with a guided tour by Mike Marshall – the building has such a fascinating history. In **October**, David Worlock spoke on “Facing up to Father – a Cotswold Story” about growing up on a farm in Evenlode during the 1950’s as mechanisation was introduced on the farm – what a wonderful raconteur. In **November**, Victoria Bentata – an Oxford Guide – will talk on “Einstein and the Refugee Scholars”. It is so good to be together at last.

There will be no event in December so Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to our members and future members.

### **Forthcoming events:**

#### **Friday 21st January 2022 @ 2.30pm. “The Archaeology of Stowe Landscape Garden”**

- a talk by Stephen Wass charting the discoveries of Roman, Medieval & Tudor periods in the garden.

***Venue: Upper Rissington Village Hall GL54 2QW***

#### **Friday 18th February 2022 @ 2.30pm. “RAF Brize Norton – over 80yrs of Flying Operations”**

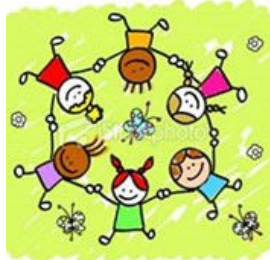
- a talk by Trevor Jackson charting the activities from WW2, through the cold war, USAF and today’s RAF operations.

***Venue: Upper Rissington Village Hall GL54 2QW***

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

For enquiries, contact [information.RLHS@gmail.com](mailto:information.RLHS@gmail.com),  
Sue Brown on 01451 820233, or Sue Lee on 01451 822692





# 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  
£2 donation per family      littlehurricanes@hotmail.com

Little Hurricanes was delighted to fully reopen in September. Since then, we've welcomed more than 50 families to our group! We'd like to thank everyone for your continued support and attendance, we live in a great community!



With the start of new term, we held the first Lingotot West Oxfordshire session where Catherine sang songs and played games in French. Since then, we've been very busy! We invited Nicky from Eaubaby to give families more information about local swimming lessons. And at the start of September, Kay from Gloucestershire Bundles popped along to offer free goodies and supplies, and raise awareness about the amazing support they offer to struggling families.



The September Village Fete meant we were able to raise some much-needed funds for the group. Thank you to everyone who donated, helped, and made purchases on the day. We raised £300 (!!!) which will be spent on new toys and paying for external companies to come into the group and offer their services.

Before breaking for half term, we celebrated Halloween in style with a spooky themed group. We had face painting and a special Halloween craft, and were thrilled with the number of children and their carers who dressed up.



November has been non-stop! The Pottery Place, Witney came along and 20 families made Christmas-themed gifts for their loved ones. Alastair Currill's Christmas photography shoot was popular; it was lovely to see the little ones in their Christmas outfits!



Here at Little Hurricanes, we are excited about Christmas and look forward to holding our annual Christmas party on Thursday 16th December where there will be a special Christmas buffet and a small gift for the attending children. We will break over the Christmas period (the last session is Thursday 16th) but we look forward to welcoming everyone back on Thursday 6th January 2022!

Sadly, the NHS Baby Hub still hasn't been given the green light to return to our community group. We are in contact with the Health Visiting team, but it seems unlikely that they will be back to us in the foreseeable future.

We are always looking for ways to improve and evolve our group. If you have an idea of something you'd like to see happen at the group, please share your thoughts! If you've attended a creative, fun, or educational session elsewhere and thought it would work at Hurricanes, please let us know. Alternatively, if you run a group or offer a service which you think would be beneficial to our community group, don't hesitate to get in touch on the email address above.



Finally, Little Hurricanes is a group run voluntarily by a small group of mums. We are supported each week by some amazing mums and dads but we always need extra helping hands at the start and end of the session. If you're able to help set up from 9am or tidy up and clean at the end of the session, we'd really appreciate your support!

*Donna, Kathryn and Lizzie - Little Hurricanes Committee*

As the sun sets on another tumultuous year, it's naturally a time of reflection at Lingotot West Oxford.



This time last year I knew I was going to start something special as soon as Covid would allow. Working through the winter on launch plans I didn't really take the time to think where I would be 12 months on. At time of going to press we have run six holiday clubs, multiple extra-curricular clubs, two toddler groups and have started delivering French lessons in a nearby school to 100 eager KS2 children. But what this really means is I have been lucky to meet countless children and their families each week, sharing my passion for languages in a way I never thought possible. I have loved every minute of devising creative ways to help the children learn – from bath foam to water beads, fly swats to blindfolds, balloons to catapults, pasta to toilet rolls, parachutes to bubbles – I have thrown everything (sometimes literally) at the children to help them love languages.

And so a thank you to those parents and children who have helped share in my vision this year; it is truly humbling and there are no real words to express my gratitude.

On to 2022 and what else I can bring you? Well ... we're adding Spanish into the mix, and chat classes for grown-ups (why should the kids have all the fun?!), and starting work with some new schools too in our neighbouring communities. But before all that there are our Christmas camps, and they're proving to be our most popular yet ... youpi! Follow our antics on Facebook and Instagram, @lingototwestoxford, and email [westoxford@lingotot.com](mailto:westoxford@lingotot.com) to make sure you hear first about our plans.



Grazie di cuore, Catherine xx



## A FRUITFUL SUMMER FOR ROTARIANS

How were we going to get through the Summer months with all the events and activities we had planned? It was going to be busy ... and it was! Looking back, was it worth it? ... of course it was!



We enjoyed serving tea and cakes at **Chastleton House** on three occasions, which raised over £1600 for our charity account. We managed the Raffle at the **UR Village Fete**, which netted £490 for village funds. The first prize was an unbelievable wheelbarrow full of booze; the lucky winner is no doubt still enjoying it and will be for some time to come! **Cotswold Festival of Motoring** in September took up much of our time but being able, together with North

Cotswold Rotary, to donate £8000 to the charity MIND made it all worth it. We have visited **Cotswold Riding for the Disabled** where we presented a first cheque of £500 to help with their activities. The last load of equipment, including sewing machines, was recently delivered to **Tools for Self Reliance**. Last but not least was the **Flock Comedy Night** held in the Village Hall. Those who attended enjoyed a great night of comedy provided by comedians from Liverpool and London. Our final event of the year will be working with the children who make up the **Junior Jumpers** at the Cheltenham November Meeting.

What a year it has turned out be, from a slow start to a gallop at Cheltenham. Thank you, **Team RitR** for your dedication during 2021 in **Helping our Community**. I will reveal the plans for 2022 in the next edition of *The Breeze* and on Facebook.

We can be found in the UR Village Hall on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month enjoying wine and crisps and looking to the future. You will be very welcome ... white or red!

Pioneers is a friendly group who meet on alternate Wednesdays in the Community Room of the Village Hall, 11.00am-12.45pm for coffee, cake and chat. We are always ready to welcome new people. So come and give it a try!

In December we are meeting on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup>. We resume on January 5<sup>th</sup> and continue every 2 weeks.

For more information,  
email: [urpioneers@gmail.com](mailto:urpioneers@gmail.com)

# PIONEERS



# Who is your local hero in The Rissingtons?

Who in YOUR community has really made a difference to you in 2021?

Now is the time to say "thank you" by nominating them for the prestigious Brian Honess Community Award

Request a nomination form from [ritrinfo@gmail.com](mailto:ritrinfo@gmail.com)



**Rotary in the Rissingtons**  
Helping Our Community



# Gardening on a Hill

Recently I visited Batsford Arboretum in Moreton-in-Marsh. I have visited Batsford many times over the years but never as late as November. The autumn colours were really beautiful and I highly recommend a visit if you have the time.

It got me thinking about our trees in the village and how little autumn colour we have in our open spaces. Our cherry trees of course have lots of interest in the spring and summer but it would be lovely to add some of the reds, yellows and oranges that come from Acers, Rowans, *Cercidiphyllum japonicum* and *Ginkgo biloba* (Maiden Hair Tree) to name but a few.



I think it would be lovely to see some growing around the village. I know we are getting some young trees to plant in the village soon so perhaps we will have some autumn colour varieties amongst them. If not, then maybe you can plant one in your garden. If you only have a little space you can still plant a tree in a pot. These autumn colours really do lift the heart. With climate change and protecting the environment high on the agenda at the moment, I think if we can help our local community by planting a tree this would go a long way to helping our environment in the future.

COP26 means world leaders and big industries are finally agreeing that something needs to be done. How much they actually do is another story. Gardeners and growers like myself have noticed the changes to the seasons for many years now. April showers are more like May showers with the addition of violent rainstorms. The summer months are hotter and drier. Plants that normally stop flowering in early autumn are going on till late November. However, it's not all doom and gloom. If we all commit to making a few small changes in our own patch of earth then the future could look brighter for the generations to come.

The scale of the problem can feel overwhelming at times, but we can all play a part in the solution. Garden Organic have made a list of things we can all do in our gardens. Regardless of how much space or experience you have, below are some simple steps that everyone can take to support the natural habitat on our doorstep:

**Get composting.** Home composting is a win-win for increasing the sustainability of your garden. Each compost bin stops 125kg of green waste from having to be transported away. It also ensures that organic matter is returned to the soil so that the carbon returns to where it belongs. Globally, the soil is the largest store of carbon on land, storing around three times the amount of that stored in plants, trees, and animals. What's more, home compost is a valuable source of nutrition for your plants, reducing the need to buy in fertilisers or feeds.



For a few years now I have had raised beds on my allotment and every year I use the no dig principle. I empty my compost bins onto the soil and cover it till the spring. The worms do all the work and I get out of the digging it over.

This can be done for flower beds and shrub borders too. The compost can act as a mulch which helps keep in the moisture and suppress weeds. Apply at least 15 cm of an organic, well-decomposed mulch to your beds. You don't need to dig beforehand, as soil organisms such as worms will rise to the mulch, eat and digest it, creating a rich and well-textured soil. You can plant or sow direct into the surface compost, just as you would normally. You will find there are less weeds to hoe. The soil beneath is firm but not compacted, as the undisturbed soil organisms develop a honeycomb of small air passages – perfect for plant root penetration.

Ongoing maintenance involves annual applications of just 5 cm or so of compost or manure. This should be applied ideally in the autumn, when crops are cleared, or in spring on beds where winter crops have been growing.

**Think about refuse/reduce/reuse/recycle** in your garden. Buying things for your garden is a huge industry, and not always necessary. Waste household containers like yogurt pots and milk cartons make good growing pots. You can make your own plant feeds with nettles or comfrey. Try saving your own seed. And repair, share or source tools second-hand rather than buying new. Minimising the number of new materials that have to be brought in is an important part of organic growing and a great way to reduce the carbon footprint of your garden.



**Create biodiversity in your space.** The UK has fared very badly in terms of conserving biodiversity and has been reported as one of the most nature-depleted countries in Europe. However, there are changes that can be made and with the total area of UK domestic gardens exceeding the area of Northumberland, every garden can make an important contribution to biodiversity. Growing a mixture of plants, leaving grass areas to grow, leaving a log pile, planting a hedge, or creating a pond all play an important role in enhancing biodiversity.

**Ditch the pesticides.** Recently there has been a lot more awareness that key pesticides such as neonicotinoids and glyphosate have had detrimental effects on populations of pollinators and beneficial insects, the wider environment, and human health. All natural life forms - great and small - have a place in our garden, it is a terrible mistake to eradicate them, thereby destroying a vital ecosystem.

**Go peat-free.** The reasons for avoiding using peat in your garden are numerous. Globally, peat bogs store three times as much carbon as forests, but the process of peat extraction results in significant amounts of this carbon being released as carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. Here in the UK, a recent RSPB report found that peat extraction currently emits more greenhouse gases than all the HGVs on UK roads. These emissions also cancel out any benefits of the new climate emergency forestry planting. Peatlands are important wildlife habitats that are home to a wealth of plants, birds, and insects. If you're buying bagged garden compost or plants, make sure you choose peat-free, and if it's not available, ask why not.

**Water wisely.** In the UK, we tend to take a plentiful supply of water for granted, but climate change predictions point towards this being an increasingly unpredictable resource. As well as collecting and storing rainfall, give consideration to what you grow and how you manage the important reserve of water stored in the soil. Cover any bare soil with a mulch to reduce evaporation, and add compost to improve its ability to hold water. Lawns will always recover from drought, so a sprinkler is completely unnecessary. Water the soil rather than the plant and avoid watering in the midday heat, when much of your precious water will simply evaporate.



(continued on next page)

# Caring for your Garden this winter

## Lawn.

This is the month to spike the ground to open it up, and brush or lightly rake in a soil conditioner such as mature leaf mould, or composted green-waste. Suitable products, labelled 'soil conditioner', are also available in garden centres. Either use a garden fork for spiking, or hire a machine for the purpose. No chemicals needed, just elbow-grease! If you take good care of your grass, then problems like compaction (which can generate moss), and thatch, will be less likely.



## Herbs.

Clear away and compost dying foliage and stems. Dig up and destroy mint plants affected by rust. Replace next year with new, clean plants. Check rosemary plants regularly for rosemary beetle. Remove and destroy adults and larvae on sight. Pot up some chives to keep them growing a bit longer; they can sometimes produce growth throughout the winter in a cold greenhouse.

## Trees and shrubs.

Continue to plant new trees and bushes supplied as 'bare rootstock'. Grass in particular is very greedy and can reduce cropping and may even kill young trees. Allow a square metre of clear soil for each tree and mulch to suppress re-growth of unwanted weeds.

## Things to plant now

You can pick up some bargains now as the garden centres want to clear the space for Christmas decorations. Spring bulbs can still be planted till the end of November.

Winter is on its way and with the cold weather comes cold and flu viruses. Eating **Garlic** may help keep your immune system in prime condition and if you use a lot of garlic why not try to grow your own? It's easy to think of garlic as a Mediterranean plant and therefore a tender crop that needs lots of warmth to grow well. However, if you choose a good variety and give it the right conditions, you can produce a decent crop no matter where you live in the UK.

Garlic needs a long growing season to do well, and autumn through to early winter is the perfect time to sow. This helps the plants develop roots and shoots before the heavy frosts. Some varieties can be sown in spring. Home-grown garlic takes up little space and requires hardly any effort to get a good crop. Grow it in a warm, sunny spot, in fertile, well-drained soil that doesn't get too wet in winter. It's grown from garlic cloves rather than seed and can be sown directly in the ground, or started off in small pots if you have heavy soil. It can also be grown in a large container.



Whichever way you decide to grow garlic, always buy bulbs at the garden centre or order from a seed supplier – don't use bulbs from the supermarket. Break up the bulbs into separate cloves and plant the large ones with the fat end downwards and the pointy end 2.5 cm below the soil surface. Harvest from July onwards, once the top growth has begun to die back. Leave the bulbs to dry in the sun for a few days before storing.

Happy gardening and keep well this winter.

# DEFEND YOUR PONDS!

I think most people are fans of otters. They are one of the UK's few apex predators and their appearance and sense of fun makes them one of our cuter native species. However, we have a local otter (maybe more than one) who's developed a taste for the rich pickings in garden ponds. The photo here is a still from the wildlife camera of Julian Rogers, who is one of the residents who received a nighttime visit from the local rogue.

Julian says "The video was taken on my wildlife camera in the early hours of 18/10/21 in our garden pond. The time/date stamp is wrong as I've never set it up properly. The 'vandal' in question has taken 14 goldfish and several frogs over two visits. We have lived here 24 years and never had an otter visit before. It also managed to knock 4 large planters (8/10kgs) off the pond shelf into the deep area and generally wreck the pond. But what a lovely creature."



Julian's discovery was reported in an item on [gloucestershirelive.com](http://gloucestershirelive.com).

Since then we've heard of a number of attacks in the village – including David and Jill Harrison, who I found filling in their pond after it had been completely cleared of its resident population of fish and frogs.

## Recipe Breeze

### Healing Chicken, Ginger and Garlic soup

#### Ingredients

Chicken Thighs  
Olive oil  
Garlic,  
Fresh ginger,  
Onion.  
Cayenne pepper,  
Salt & black pepper  
2 pints of Chicken Broth  
Water  
2 large Carrots

Enjoy!

#### Method

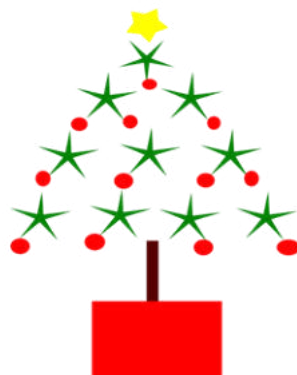
Heat olive oil in a large pan.  
Add the onion and fry for 3 minutes  
Add Ginger paste, cayenne pepper, and salt & pepper. Cook for an additional minute  
Add the chicken broth, water, chicken thighs, and carrots.  
Cook for 40mins to an hour





**St John the  
Baptist Church**

**Great Rissington**



# **CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL 2021**

**FRIDAY 10<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**

**Join us for Mulled Wine from 6.00pm - 7.00pm**

**SATURDAY, 11<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 10.00am - 5.00pm**

**SUNDAY, 12<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 12.30am - 5.00pm**

**Tea, Coffee and cake available!**

**Children - come and make a Christingle on Saturday**

**Christingle Service on Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> December  
11.00am All welcome**

**Trees supplied by Phipp Feeds**

**Select your favourite tree!**

Editor's note:

This year, there will be an entry from Upper Rissington Social Committee featuring mini Pots & Co - so an extra reason for us all to go along!

# Message from Barnardo's

Wow! What a year. We would like to start by saying thank you to Debbie and all at The Looking Glass Antiques Shop in Bourton-on-the-Water who, this year, have donated all proceeds from the sale of carrier bags in their shop to us. We are incredibly grateful and these funds will be going, directly, to help some of the UK's most vulnerable children.

We would also like to thank everyone who has rung up before making donations to check if we have room. Those short phone calls make the world of difference to us as it really helps with stock control. We work hard throughout the day to process as many donations as we can but sometimes, we do end up with a bit of a backlog. If anyone needs it, our phone number is 01451 821102. We've also noticed a decrease in donations being left outside the shop when it is closed. Again, thank you for this. There is nothing worse than having beautiful clothing donated that we can't sell because it has been left out in bad weather. We would really appreciate it if people continue to only make donations when the shop is open in order to keep goods clean and also keep the path by the shops accessible for all.



By the time you read this, preparation for Christmas will be well underway. Make sure you pop in to see us for all of your last-minute Christmas needs including brand new goods, donated gifts, wrapping paper and decorations. We will also have a number of fund-raising events in store throughout December including lucky dips and the ever-popular tombola!

As a team we have really grown over the last 12 months, it's been a pleasure to welcome so many of our fellow villagers into the Barnardo's family. There's always room for more though. We are particularly short on Thursdays and Fridays so if working in your local charity shop is something that appeals to you, pop in and say hello. We have volunteers from all kinds of backgrounds, it's a great place to meet people, or if you have a teenager, it's a good setting for them to get some valuable work experience and till training.

Thank you so much for all the support this year. It never fails to surprise us what a wonderful community we live in. So, to everyone who has shopped with us, donated to us, dropped in sweet treats for us, or just swung by for a chat in 2021, we would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and all the best for 2022. We will be closed on Christmas Day and Boxing Day but back open on the 27th December ready to receive any unwanted Christmas gifts or decorations!

*With Warm Wishes from Nicola, Heather and the Barnardo's team*



**Believe in  
children**  
**Barnardo's**

# Behind the Road Names in Upper Rissington – part 16

## Trenchard Close

Marshal of the RAF Hugh Montague Trenchard, 1st Viscount Trenchard, GCB, OM, GCVO, DSO (3 February 1873 – 10 February 1956) was a British officer who was instrumental in establishing the Royal Air Force (RAF).

During his formative years, Trenchard struggled academically, failing many examinations and only just succeeding in meeting the minimum standard for commissioned service in the British Army. As a young infantry officer, Trenchard served in India and with the outbreak of the Boer War, he volunteered for service in South Africa. While fighting the Boers, Trenchard was critically wounded and as a result of his injury, he lost a lung, was partially paralysed and returned to Great Britain. During this time, he took up reading, providing himself with an education, which he had failed to do earlier in his life.

On medical advice, Trenchard travelled to Switzerland to recuperate and boredom saw him taking up bobsleighbing. After a heavy crash, Trenchard found that his paralysis was gone and that he could walk unaided. Following further recuperation, he returned to active service in South Africa.

In Summer 1912, Trenchard learned to fly and gained his aviator's certificate on 31 July, flying a Henry Farman biplane of the Sopwith School of Flying at Brooklands. He was subsequently appointed as second-in-command of the Central Flying School. He held several senior positions in the Royal Flying Corps during the First World War, serving as the commander of the Royal Flying Corps in France from 1915 to 1917. In 1918, he briefly served as the first Chief of the Air Staff before taking up command of the Independent Air Force in France. Returning as Chief of the Air Staff under Winston Churchill in 1919, Trenchard spent the following decade securing the future of the RAF.

In the autumn of 1919 the budgetary effects of Lloyd George's Ten-Year Rule were causing Trenchard some difficulty as he sought to develop the institutions of the RAF. He had to argue against the view that the Army and Navy should provide all the support services and education, leaving the RAF only to provide flying training. He viewed this idea as a precursor to the break-up of the RAF.

Having convinced Churchill of his case, he oversaw the founding of the RAF (Cadet) College at Cranwell as the world's first military air academy. In 1920 he inaugurated the Aircraft Apprentice system, which provided the RAF with highly technically-trained specialist ground-crews for the next 70 years.

On 1 January 1927, Trenchard was promoted from Air Chief Marshal to Marshal of the Royal Air Force, becoming the first person to hold the RAF's highest rank. Trenchard felt that he had achieved all he could and offered his resignation in late 1928; this wasn't initially accepted and he continued as Chief of the Air Staff until 1 January 1930. Immediately after he had relinquished his appointment, he was created Baron Trenchard of Wolfeton in the County of Dorset, entering the House of Lords and becoming the RAF's first peer.



*Trenchard as Chief of the Air Staff in June 1919*

Trenchard continued to 'fight' for the RAF and, with the onset of the Second World War, was offered several posts, which he didn't take up. From mid-1940 onwards, Trenchard realised that by the rash demands he had made, he had excluded himself from a pivotal role in the British war effort. He then took it upon himself to act as an unofficial Inspector-General for the RAF, visiting deployed squadrons across Europe and North Africa on morale-raising visits.

In the aftermath of the war, several American generals, including Henry H. Arnold and Carl Andrew Spaatz, asked Trenchard to brief them in connection with the debate which surrounded the proposed establishment of the independent United States Air Force. The American air leaders held him in high esteem and dubbed him the "patron saint of air power".

Trenchard's work in establishing the RAF and preserving its independence has led to him being called the "Father of the Royal Air Force". For his own part, he disliked the description, believing that General Sir David Henderson deserved the accolade. His obituary in The Times considered that his greatest gift to the RAF was the belief that mastery of the air must be gained and retained through offensive action. During his life, Trenchard strongly argued that the bomber was the key weapon of an air force, and he is recognized today as one of the early advocates of strategic bombing and one of the architects of the British policy on imperial policing through air control.

# Forest Church

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**Meets at 3pm  
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**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December**

**Sunday 6th February  
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**(No January Forest Church)**

Please join us to worship God through the beauty of creation in  
Upper Rissington.

We walk to an area of the village and soak up the beauty of the  
trees, sky etc. We let nature inspire simple activities and prayers

Suitable for all ages. Well-behaved dogs on leads are welcome.  
Wellies and coats recommended.





# **Carols by Candlelight**

**Saturday 18th Dec  
4pm**

## **Village Hall**

The Church in Upper Rissington invites you to  
Carols by Candlelight in the Village Hall  
on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> December.

Bring the whole family to sing carols and hear the Christmas story.

Mulled wine, mince pies & hot chocolate will be served afterwards.

To reserve your free seats, contact: [revd.nina@summerfieldrissington.uk](mailto:revd.nina@summerfieldrissington.uk)

Please wrap up warmly. The Hall will be well-ventilated and seating will be spaced. Please wear a mask.

For those who wish to give, there will be baskets at the door for donations to local charity, [cheltenhamopendoor.org.uk](http://cheltenhamopendoor.org.uk)



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# Great Experience Travel



As we approach the end of 2021, and my wife and I look forward to our first Christmas in Upper Rissington, on behalf of my whole team, we would wish all our clients and all The Breeze readers a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Needless to say, this last 12 months has been a very difficult time for us, as it has been for many other businesses, so we would like to thank everyone for their support and encouragement that has seen us through the worst.



We can now start plan positively for 2022. If you are looking to get away to the slopes, somewhere in the sun or perhaps a cruise, then we have experts on hand to find you the best deals, whatever your budget. If you are committed to travelling during the school holidays, it is never too early to start booking your Easter or summer getaways.



Please come and see us in the office, or if easier, call me and I will come and see you somewhere convenient in the village.  
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email: [david-g@greatexperiencetravel.co.uk](mailto:david-g@greatexperiencetravel.co.uk);  
[www.greatexperiencetravel.co.uk](http://www.greatexperiencetravel.co.uk)



## 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
Village Hall		Parish Clerk (as above) or PC website	
The Breeze	Newsletter	<a href="mailto:URNEWS@btinternet.com">URNEWS@btinternet.com</a>	07592 533596
Pioneers		<a href="mailto:urpioneers@gmail.com">urpioneers@gmail.com</a>	
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 March 2022. 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 18 February 2022**.

For advertising enquiries you can also email  
Keelin McLeman  
([keelinbracken@gmail.com](mailto:keelinbracken@gmail.com))



*Frosty morning in Upper Rissington  
(photo courtesy David Harrison)*