

Upper Sapey NEWS - most recent first

- January 2018: A new What's On flyer was distributed. Click [HERE](#) to view it. We held our first Plough Sunday service for many years on 14th January, with John Thacker representing local farmers, accompanied by an old plough kindly provided by Rob Wilks. The normal pattern of services has now been changed to 11am Holy Communion (or a special service) at 11am on the first and second Sundays of each month. The Film Night film on January 19th 7pm will be Churchill (2017), rated PG. All welcome, donation of £2 per head welcome!
- November 2017: Another "What's On" Flyer, with CORRECTED time (2-5pm) of our Christmas Fair on 2nd December. Click [HERE](#). Also, a new book has been written and printed "Upper Sapey - its Church and Community". It costs just £2, and can be bought from the church, or ordered by email to john@jcbland.f9.co.uk. Payment and postage to be agreed.
- October 2017: The latest 3-month "What's On" has been distributed widely around Upper Sapey. Click [here](#) to read it on-line. You will see that we have plans for a Christmas Fair at the church on Saturday 2nd December, from 11am to 1pm. We hope to see you there! The Summer Fair on 2nd September made a very useful £411 for a couple of Friendship Room chairs and a donation to church funds.
- June 2017: The organ is currently unplayable, so we are looking into what needs to be done, so that we might have "live" music for our worship in the future. Here are some pictures of the instrument:



- June 2017: From this month, an extra monthly service is being introduced, on the FIRST Sunday of the month at 9.30am. This will be a Holy Communion service with hymns. ALL WELCOME! The SECOND Sunday service of Holy Communion will continue as usual, at 11am. See the [Church Planner](#) for ALL the services in Greater Whitbourne, where you will also find exceptions to the normal pattern listed.
- May 2017: A lot has happened since the last update. The church is now fully in use, and from June we have an extra service each month: Holy Communion at 9.30am on the first Sunday each month, as well as the 11am service on the second Sunday each month. There is also the possibility of an organist at the second-Sunday service, but the organ will need servicing first. The Palm Sunday service was preceded by a procession through the village with a real live donkey, and was a joy to behold. A "Taster Week" was held in Olly's Friendship Room - our fantastic new community facility inside the church - during Holy Week - the week before Easter. We expect regular Table-tennis and Astronomy clubs to be starting soon as a result. Watch this space! The annual Rogation Walk started after a short All-Age Holy Communion service on 7th May. Eight walkers left Upper Sapey to walk to Whitbourne via Wolferlow, Edvin Loach and Tedstone Delamere churches- over 11 miles in all. Five made it all the way, and enjoyed delicious Tea & Cakes at Whitbourne following the Tea Concert by the Bromyard Choral Society. The weather was superb, and prayers were said for seed, land, and rain at each stopping point.
- December 18th 2016: The Church is now OPEN! After nearly a year's work by our main contractor, M V Gammon, the church of St Michael and All Angels at Upper Sapey is now open again. We had a very successful "Come and See" with mince pies and mulled wine on Saturday 17th December, and the first service will be Holy Communion on Christmas Day at 9:30am. We hope to see lots of you there. We can promise a warm church, and space to enjoy a coffee afterwards in the brand new "Olly's Friendship Room". Happy Christmas!
- November 9th 2016: [Newsletter No. 6](#) distributed. This covers the Remembrance Service on 13th November, our new Interim priest Rev'd Dawn Hyett, Christmas services, Building Works latest status, how we might use the new Olly's Friendship Room, and a few other matters. Read it [HERE](#).

- June 8th 2016: The contractors continue to work diligently and expertly on the church, under the watchful eye of David Roberts, project manager. Services are taking place in people's homes, although the July 10th service he HOPE will be in church for David's last service in Upper Sapey. Visit the [Rescue web page](#) for more information.

The LMDG team (the Lay Team) are working with the churchwardens and Rural Dean Revd Alan Seabrook to organise things during the interregnum. Visit the [LMDG web page](#) for more information.

- April 30th 2016: We were all sad to hear on 24th April that our Rector - Revd David Howell - and family will be leaving us after the summer. They are moving to the Benefice of Ariconium near Ross - six churches!. We wish them well, of course, and wonder how we will manage during the Interregnum. David's farewell service will be at Whitbourne Church on 31st July, before their summer holiday. Don't miss it!

Thanks to Mark & Ruth Maddock for hosting Matins on 10th April. This was lay-led by John Bland, and the four of us managed to sing three hymns AND a Psalm - all *a capella*! Our next service will be Holy Communion, celebrated by Revd David Howell, at Redlands, next to The Baiting House pub, on 8th May. Before then, we have the annual Rogation Walk, starting from Upper Sapey church at 10am (after a quick peek inside to see how the repairs etc are going) and proceeding to Whitbourne Church by about 4.30pm for tea and cakes, via Wolferlow Court and Church, Edwin Loach Church (for a picnic lunch break - don't forget to bring one!), and Tedstone Delamere Church. There will be free transport available at each church to take you back if you've had enough, or you can start at any intermediate point. We **leave** Upper Sapey at 10am, Wolferlow at noon, Edwin Loach at 2pm, and Tedstone Delamere at 3.15pm.

Congratulations to Ian and Carol Evans-Fisher for being re-elected as churchwardens, and Carol Wilde as church treasurer. John Bland continues as Treasurer of the Rescue Appeal and Church Electoral Roll Officer for Greater Whitbourne.

- April 7th 2016: See the Rescue page for details of what's happening. The Easter Sunday service at Tedstone Delamere had a good turnout. It was a great opportunity for the two small congregations - Upper Sapey and Tedstone Delamere - to celebrate ***Christ is Risen!*** together. The Annual Parochial Church Meeting for Greater Whitbourne is on Thursday 21st April, 7.30pm at Saltmarshe & District Hall. This meeting is for all the parishes in Greater Whitbourne, at which elections of PCC members and churchwardens, etc. are held. Do come if you can - a once-a-year opportunity to review the last year and get excited about the future. See you at Matins at 11am on 10th April in Brook House?
- March 14th 2016: Building & Repair work progresses apace. The April church service is on 10th April, and will be lay-led Matins at Brook House, 11am. Many thanks to Mark Maddock!
- 5th March 2016: Well - Christmas has come and gone - what a turnout at Church on Christmas Day! - and the building & repair work started on 8th February. The church is now "out of bounds" for about eight months - i.e. until the end of October 2016 we think. Monthly services are being held nearby - look out for signs. Our Easter Day service will be at Tedstone Delamere church (HR7 4PS) at 11am, joining with their regular congregation. We hope to see you there.
- Building work starts on 8th February, so the church will be "out of bounds" for a few months. In the meantime, services will be held in Courtyard Cottage, next to The Old Rectory. See [Newsletter 4](#) for the latest about the Rescue of Upper Sapey Church.
- The year for the Church and the Rescue Appeal is summarised in the flyer "[2015 by numbers](#)" and distributed throughout the village.
- There was a jolly crowd at the Christmas Day service, as this photo above shows. Happy New Year all you Upper Sapiarians!
- We had an enjoyable Carol Service on Sunday 13th December, with the usual format of alternating readings and well-known carols. The service was led by the Rector, and the readings were read by members of the congregation. The music was provided by CD recordings - what a shame we don't have an organist. Do you know of anyone who might play for us from time to time? It would make such a difference to the quality of our worship. If you do know someone, please tell the Rector, a churchwarden, or a member of the Lay Team. All contact details may be found on the Greater Whitbourne [Who's Who](#) page.

For the latest on the Rescue Appeal, and what happened at the Christmas Fair, visit the [Church Rescue page](#) - where else?

- There was a good turnout for the **Remembrance Service** on Remembrance Sunday, 8th November 2015 - the first such service at Upper Sapey for many years. An amazing £68 was raised by the retiring collection for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. Many thanks to all who gave so generously. Now the Local Ministry lay team is established, more non-communion services can be provided. How about a good old-fashioned Matins or Evensong? If this appeals to you, please speak to one of your local Lay Team members (Brenda Allan, John Bland, William North, or Sylvia Bland) and we'll see what can be done.

See the Church Rescue web page for details of the upcoming Carol Concert on 1st December at Whitbourne church, 50% proceeds to Upper Sapey; our own Christmas Fair on 12th December; the progress of the Rescue Appeal.

- [Patronal Festival pictures](#)
There was a good turnout for the Patronal Festival/Appeal Launch service on 27th September 2015. It was nerve-racking for the lay leader (John Bland) but it all went off without a hitch. The decision to have a non-communion service on this occasion seemed to help, in that there were one or two who would not have come otherwise.
- [Number 3](#)
- [Number 2](#)
- [Number 1](#)