

UPTON NEWS

Sir Michael Spicer
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In my October 2004 article for the Upton News I wrote of news that a grant might be made available from the Department of Transport to try and reduce the number of heavy lorry journeys through the town by carrying freight by barge along the River Severn. I was pleased to hear that this has now become a reality and that for the first time in more than ten years major freight traffic will make use of the waterways network we have in this part of Worcestershire. I understand that approximately 200,000 tonnes of sand and gravel will be carried by barge each year to Ryall for processing, each barge carrying the equivalent of ten lorry loads of material. I will await with interest to see how this new system develops.

I am becoming increasingly disturbed to hear that petty crime and anti-social behaviour seem to be on the increase once again in the town. I was particularly saddened to hear of instances of vandalism in the cemetery off Rectory Road, which must have been most disturbing for the relatives of those concerned and at the New Street recreational area. These mindless acts have an affect on all members of our local community and I would urge local people to be ever vigilant. I know this has been a growing concern in Upton for a number of months and I will ensure that the local police continue to be made aware of these strong feelings.

I have long held the view that Upton is one of the most vibrant towns within the West Worcestershire constituency and the sense of community is very apparent. I was interested to learn of imaginative initiatives by parents of pupils at Upton Primary School to raise funds to put networked computers in every class and other information technology equipment. The success of The Peppercot Players recent production of Rumpelstiltskin.com is an illustration of the wealth of talent within the town; and how splendid it is that Clives Fruit Farm continues to thrive winning the recent accolade of making the best apple juice in the West Midlands at a competition organised by Heart of England Fine Foods.

As your Member of Parliament I am always pleased to discuss local or national issues of concern. I can best be contacted by writing to me at the above address or by attending one of my monthly interview sessions at the Memorial Hall in Upton. Details can be found in the local press, by calling 01684 573469 or logging on to my website www.sirmichaelspicer.net

Sir Michael Spicer MP
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