

UPPERTHONG CC

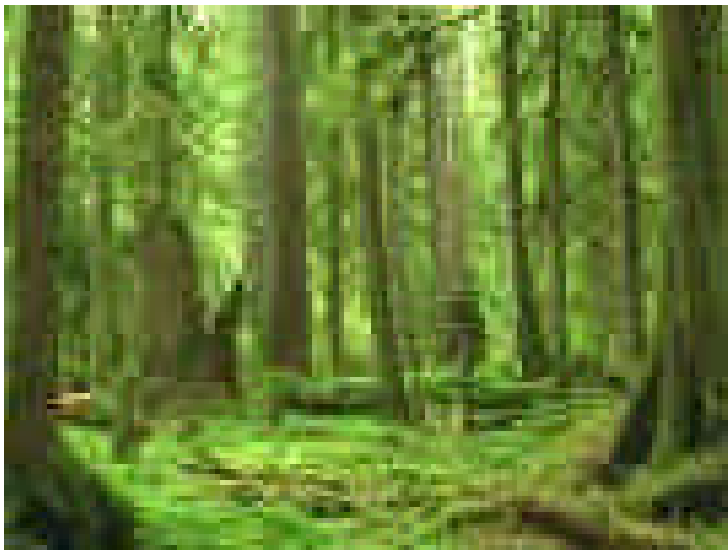
DOWN YOUR WAY I



ORIGINS OF 'UPPERTHONG'



Upperthong village dates back to Saxon times and to the time of Danish invaders. One settlement these invaders impacted upon was 'Thong'. This word comes from the Danish word 'thing', meaning 'a place where armed men congregate.' The addition of 'Upper' was not added until much later, and some older residents even today refer to the village as Thong.



When the Danes invaded, the village would have been bordered by thick forestation. Today this is long gone.

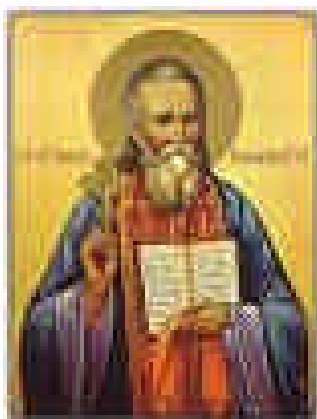
THE PARISH CHURCH



St. John's is a crucifixion or cross-shaped church, built in the Early English style. It was first erected in 1846-7. The tower stands above the south transept and houses bells.



Although only small, the church still draws a healthy congregation from the surrounding area, although modern-day parking issues were clearly not to the forefront in the 1800s - the road which leads to the church is only wide enough for one car in some places!



REST IN PEACE



Former *Last of the Summer Wine* star Bill Owen now lies in Upperthong's St. John's Church cemetery.



THE PUBS

THE ROYAL OAK



The Royal Oak has enjoyed a long running affiliation with Upperthong C.C.. It is owned by Dave Sutton who is also the Club's groundsman. The Royal Oak has hosted several 'Sports Nights' and Presentation Evenings for the Club and the local cricketers can often be found enjoying a sandwich in the pub after the match.

WEAVING A HISTORY

Upperthong's history is based very much on textiles and quarrying.

'What a place this must have been when, before mechanisation proper took woollen textile production down into the Holme Valley, many families made their living spinning and weaving their textiles in their homes for sale in nearby cloth halls.'

Historian John Spencer



DEMOGRAPHY



POPULATION: 1,166

Total Women: 589

Total Men: 577

Figures: 2001

EAGER BEAGLES



The Holme Valley Beagles have been based in Upperthong for more than 75 years.

During season, hare hunting with a foot pack is a twice-weekly event.