The Bampton Beam

DECEMBER 1994

VOL.9.NO.3

£5,000

£10.000

£15.000

£20,000

£25,000

£30,000

Every Contribution Counts!

No one who heard John Blair and Simon Townley's fascinating talks on the past history of Bampton can be in any doubt about the importance of the Church in its development. From the early beginnings as the chapel and home of a holy man named Beornwald to its importance as the mother church of the whole area from the Cotswolds to the Thames it has influenced the way the town has grown to be the attractive place in which we live today.

Throughout the ages Bampton people have helped to preserve this beautiful and important building and now WE need to invest for the future.

The Friends of St Mary's has undertaken the daunting task of raising £250,000 over the next four years from every source in Bampton and from other charitable institutions with interest in preserving historic buildings.

The first priority is to spend £30,000 on repairs to the Spire so that once more the bells can be rung again. Let us hope that 1995 will be the last silent New Year!

There are other areas equally in need of restoration and over the next decade or two there are bound to be urgent repairs. It is hoped that the current fund-raising campaign will provide a substantial sum in order to pay for these without further appeals to public generosity. The success of the Friends of St Mary's depends on the commitment and generosity of everyone in Bampton.

HAS YOUR HOUSEHOLD CONTRIBUTED?

So far The Friends of St Mary's has raised £20,461.32 of this £16,021.00 is in the form of Gift Aid & Covenants from the 250 households personally visited so far.

It takes a long time to knock on everyone's door asking for your help and discussing the best way you can support the Appeal. If you have not yet been contacted, please telephone one of the Trustees or volunteer 'door knockers' below and they will be delighted to come and see you.

David & Liz Rose Tel: 850214 Lord Donoughmore Tel: 850231 Ray & Lynden Burley Tel: 850793 Mark Robinson Tel: 850342

John Parrish Tel: 850564 Jonathan & Susan Phillips Tel: 850321

Molly Rose Tel: 850135 Jill Rogers Tel: 850766 Jean Walker Tel: 850943 Alan Gaydon Tel: 850882 Joan Haslam Tel: 851014

YOUR help.

On page 2, you will find details of how, with your help, we can obtain a substantial sum of money from the Inland Revenue.

£50,000 £100,000 £150,000 £200,000 £250,000 Our aim to raise £250,000 in four years is a massive task and we need

Anyone wishing to advertise in The Bampton Beam Volume 10 (1995), please fill in the form on the back page.

HOW TO LET THE INLAND REVENUE CONTRIBUTE TO OUR APPEAL!

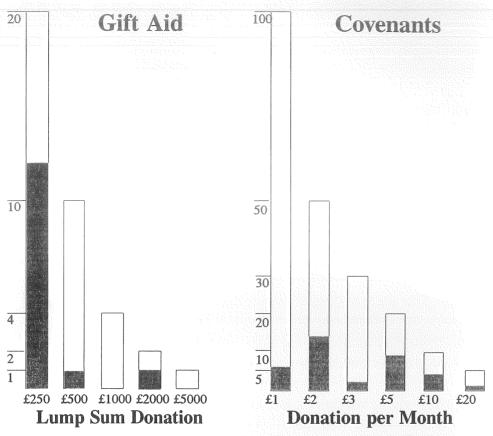
Lump sum donations of any amount are welcome. If you are a taxpayer and can give £250 or more, we can claim back the tax you have already paid and increase the amount at no extra cost or trouble to you. A Gift Aid donation of £250 will become £333.33 with the rebate of £88.33 tax from the Inland Revenue.

Annual or monthly contributions suit many people better and these too can be used to channel tax money back to the charity. If you are a tax payer and sign a covenant form, each £1 you give is worth £1.33 with the tax rebate. £1 per month or £2 is not even the cost of a pint of beer or a packet of cigarettes or 5 first class stamps!

If every tax paying household in Bampton would give a monthly £1 or £2 (or more!) covenanted donation, £50,000 could be raised relatively painlessly.

To all those taxpayers who have already given most generously in this way we extend our most sincere thanks. We are grateful too to those who have made cash donations. Very few people have refused to help at all.

Our Fund Raising Aim and Results to 20.11.94



The tax we will recover this tax year is £2267 which is a great DONATION from the INLAND REVENUE - and more to come over the next 3 years!



Moonraker Lane, Market Square, Bampton, Oxon OX8 2JH

THE ELECTRIC VEHICLE SPECIALISTS

- Regular routine maintenance
- 24-hour emergency breakdown service
- Spare parts for most makes of vehicle from stock
- Service exchange units (diffs, motors, steering boxes)
- Replacement batteries and chargers
- Body repairs and rebuilding facility
- New and used vehicle sales department
- Charger and battery service facility
- Electronic control specialists

ALL AT COMPETITIVE PRICES

For details telephone WITNEY (0993) 850714/850025







YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT

ST.MARY'S CHURCH (CofE) **BAMPTON METHODIST CHURCH** ST.JOSEPH'S, CARTERTON (RC)

Sunday 11th December

6.00pm at the Methodist Church UNITED CANDLELIT CAROL SERVICE

Do come - Everyone is welcome

Sunday 18th December

10.30am at St. Mary's Church **HOLY COMMUNION**

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

Rev S. Barcha (Collection for the Children' Society)

Christmas Eve

11.30pm at St Mary's Church **MIDNIGHT COMMUNION** The Vicar

11.45pm at St.Joseph's, Carterton **CAROLS & MIDNIGHT MASS**



Christmas Day

Photo: Roy Barratt

9.00am at St. Mary's Church 10.30am at St. Mary's Church 10.30am at the Methodist Church 11.00am

The **Nativity Scene** from the East window of St Mary's Church

This Christmas card is being sold in aid of the Friends of St Mary's Spire Appeal and can be obtained from LONDIS (£1.25 for a pack of 5)or from the Trustees.

They are most grateful to Tony Scott of LONDIS for selling the card without markup and also to Blackwell's Art and Poster Shop in Broad Street, Oxford.

They would also like to thank Roy Barratt for his expert photography.

DAWN MASS (Roman Catholic) HOLY COMMUNION (Bishop Walker) **FAMILY SERVICE**

at St.Joseph's, Carterton THIRD CHRISTMAS MASS



Christmas Concerts

BAMPTON SUMMER OPERA presents a concert of **Christmas Music** and Carols at St Mary's Church, **Bampton** on Saturday 17th December at 7.30pm

Seasonal choral music including works by Bach, Sweelinck, Poulenc and others will be performed by the soloists of Bampton Summer Opera and their friends, with David Murphy (organ).

The proceeds from the concert will be divided between the Friends of St Mary's Spire Restoration Appeal and the Bampton 1995 Opera.

Tickets £6 (to include a glass of wine) available from 1st December from Abbey Properties, Bampton or by post from Holcot House, Market Square, Bampton OX18 2JJ (S.A.E.) please, cheques to 'Bampton Summer Opera'

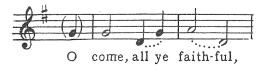
THE BURFORD SINGERS' next concert is to be held on Sunday 11th December at 7.30pm in Burford Parish Church



It is a performance of the John Rutter Requiem, and carols by Rutter and Christopher Tadman-Robins with the Cotswold Chamber Orchestra.

The soprano soloist is Caryl Kelly and the conductor Brian

Tickets, priced at £8 & £6 (with concessions for students at £5 & £3.50) and any further information are available from



BAMPTON YOUTH CLUB

After the absence of a youth leader for some months the Club has re-opened its doors and is now enjoying a new lease of life under the leadership of Gary Gummer and Tracy Charlton. Gary has recently moved to Bampton and brings with him 12 years experience in the youth service. He is a qualified youth worker and has worked with young people in inner cities, ethnic minorities and children with challenging behaviour. Tracy lives in Witney and has recently become a youth worker. She has many interests, including photography, all types of sports, dancing and aerobics, which she teaches.

The Youth Club is open to young people living in Bampton between the ages of 13 and 21. Those who are presently using the Club have agreed to implement a constitution and have drawn up a list of rules and guidelines to be followed by all members.

Each week we offer a range of activities including games such as volley ball, pool, darts and table-tennis; listening/dancing to music and jewellery making. We also hold discussion sessions on topical issues and events reported in the media. We have had a successful trip to London for the girls, the A-team visit and a disco.



Sarah Constable, Ashley Sturges and Sarah Paintin enjoying a session at the Youth Club with Tracy Charlton.

Photo: Gary Gummer

The following events are currently being arranged for future dates:

Education & Awareness sessions to include living in a multi-cultural society; HIV/AIDS and safer relationships; drugs/alcohol and how to say 'NO'; self-defence and confidence building.

Art & Craft sessions

to include the design and creation of a mural for the Youth Centre wall.

Sports sessions

to include outdoor pursuits such as orienteering and quad-biking

Ice-skating trip - 2 December Xmas Party/Disco - 22 December A London trip for the boys - 28 Jan 95

At present, the activities we can offer are somewhat limited by our resources. Although we intend to use Club funds to buy more sports equipment, we would like to ask the community of Bampton to donate anything that they feel would be of use to the Club. For example, paint, wood, paper and cloth for art/crafts; old chairs, sofas, tables etc. to improve comfort and atmosphere; old TVs/videos for group and individual working sessions. We will be holding a 'Drop-in' evening on 26th January for this purpose and for the community to meet and talk with the youth workers.

Finally, we would like to invite any young people who have not yet visited the Youth Club to come along on Thursday evening (7.00 to 10.00pm) and find out for themselves what the Club is all about.

Both Gary and Tracy look forward to meeting you.

THE PRE-SCHOOL PLAYGROUP

In 1965 a group of mothers formed a committee and opened a Pre-School Playgroup in the Old Grammar School, now used as the Library. A more suitable venue became available 2 years later at the old Primary School in Church View. Regular sessions were held there for the next 10 years until the heating cost and deterioration of the building obliged the committee to seek an alternative solution and it was decided to purchase their own building. Planning permission was given for it to be sited at the Primary School and the first session was held there in February 1977. The parents involved put a lot of hard work into raising the money for the new building and fund-raising has never stopped to extend and improve facilities for the children.

The activities at Playgroup are very wide ranging and the children learn to play with each other, to trust new adults, to experiment with new things, to express themselves in many ways, to listen to stories together, to use language, to work things out and to do things for themselves. There is a good working partnership with Bampton Primary School, the rising 5's visit school regularly and meet their teacher.

Every session begins with calling the register so that the Playgroup Leader knows which children are in her care. This gives the children practice in answering their names; also required for the fire drill. Generally there is a short discussion on the weather, the date, time and topics of interest. The children go to tables where materials are laid out for their use - modelling, painting, cutting and sticking, stencilling and many other activities There is also a dressing up corner, sand pit and telephone box. Occasionally special activities are arranged such as simple supervised cooking, performing music and dance and sometimes they go on outings. Children help

with tidying and clearing up; halfway through the morning they wash their hands and have a drink and biscuit. There follows a collective activity, usually story-telling, rhymes, or singing. Finally, the children collect their toys, pictures, etc. and prepare to go home.

The Supervisors are Mrs Elaine Townsend and Mrs Caroline Smithson (Assistant) backed up by a Committee of parents. Times are 9.15 to 11.45am Monday to Friday - £2 per session.

For further information and availability of places contact:

Miss Christine Greaves Tel: 850675

The affiliated Mother & Toddler Group meets on Wednesday from 2.00 to 3.30pm and on Friday from 2.00 to 4.00pm during term time - 50p per session.

For further information contact:

Mrs Christine Kent Tel: 851574

ACTIVITIES FOR THE YOUNG

"3 to Tea" Club

Lynn Shuker has been running an 'After School' Club for the past year in the Playgroup Building behind the Primary School in Bowling Green Close.

It provides care for the children of working parents and is open every school day from 3 to 6pm. It is open to ALL primary aged children, not just those attending the Bampton school. The charge is £1.25 per child per hour.

The Club has received a grant from the Oxfordshire Play Association and has been nominated for an award.

For further details contact: Lynn Shuker, 17 The Pieces Tel: 850830

Lynn Shuker (top right) provides refreshments and her assistant, Helen Mellin (below) helps the youngsters prepare for Halloween









Made to Measure Curtains
Alterations and Accessories
Your Material or Samples Available
Fast Door to Door Service

ADVICE AND ESTIMATES FREE CARTERTON 841368

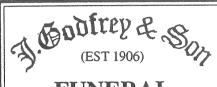




The Cottage Market Square Bampton Oxon

Telephone 0993 851550

- Homeopathic Remedies
- Photographic
- F Health Foods
- Baby Care
- Medicines
- Cosmetics
- Toiletries
- Perfumes
- F Gifts



FUNERAL DIRECTORS

TEL BUCKLAND 036787 210 or 655

FOR A DAY & NIGHT CARING, PERSONAL SERVICE



DOG GROOMING
ALL PET BREEDS

LANA TURNER 40 COTE RD, ASTON

TEL: 0993 850496

CALLS BETWEEN 6 - 8PM PREFERRED

BAMPTON FAX BUREAU

Call in and send a fax message or ask for details of special schemes

Emmie's

NEWSAGENTS

Bridge Street, Bampton Tel. 850467 Newspapers delivered anywhere in Bampton

J. Temple

Hardware, DIY Fancy Goods & Toys

Market Sq., Bampton, Oxford Telephone (0993) 850877

"If you can't find it at Temple's. you can probably get by without it".

M. H. THOMAS

Building Landscape Gardening and Fencing Contractor



ORNAMENTAL PONDS ROCKERIES LAWNS COMPLETE GARDEN LAYOUTS TREE POLLARDING PRIVACY, POST & RAIL CLOSE BOARDED FENCING

For Competitive Quotations Ring **BAMPTON CASTLE 850937**

> 1 Hill View, Lew Bampton, Oxon.

SUPPLIERS OF

CUT FLOWERS POT PLANTS HANGING BASKETS **BEDDING PLANTS SHRUBS** BOUQUETS, WREATHS, ETC.



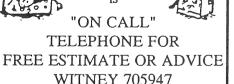
ALSO AT

BAMPTON MARKET SATURDAY MORNINGS **ORDERS TAKEN**

SICK WASHING MACHINE POORLY COOKER?



APPLIANCE DOCTOR



Evening and Weekend Calls at NO Extra Cost Comprehensive stock of Parts



Frank and Eve Godwin

THE JUBILEE INN

Now A Free House invite you to call in and try **TRADITIONAL** WADWORTH ALES & GUEST BEERS



Pub Games Aunt Sally and Darts

Bampton Driving School

Dual Controls, Expert Tuition, Approved ADI Member MSA

Phone 0993 85 1344



ABBEY PROPERTIES

ESTATE AGENTS

VALUERS

MORTGAGE CONSULTANTS

Your Local Independent Estate Agent



1 Abbey Street Eynsham Oxford OX8 1HP Telephone (0865) 880697

Bampton Oxfordshire OX18 2HA Telephone (0993) 851881 Fax (0993) 850953

BRADFORD &BINGLEY AGENTS

Flaine's Ambition Fulfilled

A Local Profile interview by Billy Count

Elaine was actually born in Peterborough but the family moved back to Bampton two years later. One of her earliest memories is of her brother being born, on her 3rd birthday. Her mother, Sheila Daniels, had gone into hospital and Elaine was staying with her Aunty Cath. When she woke the next day, and saw all the presents, she thought it was Christmas!

Elaine's mother is one of twelve children, whilst her father, Bill, is one of eight, so there are lots of aunts and uncles in the area, several in Bampton, lots of cousins too. Elaine attended the primary school in Bowling Green Close except for the top two years when she was at the Annexe; because of overcrowding problems, some children were taught in what is now the Youth Centre. The children had to walk up to the main school for assembly and sometimes school dinners. Mr Smith was headteacher and Elaine remembers him as always having at least two children hanging on to his hands, he was very popular with the children. Mr Merrick took over while Elaine was at the Annexe so she didn't see much of him except for french lessons.

Elaine recalls walking down what the children called 'Baker's Alley' (Rosemary Lane) redolent of freshly baked bread, having stopped at Mr Slim's (now Mr Simmonds') to buy 4 chews for 1/2d. On the way back from school, the children would test out a 'legend' by waiting for the bells to chime four o'clock, then knocking four times on the door in the side wall of the Manor - apparently this would summon the "Lady of the Lake"!

Elaine went to Wood Green School in Witney as part of the first year of the comprehensive system. She enjoyed maths and science subjects and was in the first year to do 'integrated studies' which was geared towards equal opportunities. This meant that both boys and girls got the chance to learn metalwork, woodwork, needlework etc. While at school, Elaine had a Saturday job at The Cotswold Grill, now The Romany, which was run by Dave Passmore as a guest house and cafe. "In the cellar was a Coke bar, that was a special time," Elaine commented, "to have somewhere to go as a teenager. There's nowhere now, and that's awful."

Elaine wanted to work with children when she left school, but the closest course then was in Oxford and getting there by public transport was impossible, so she worked first in the offices of Early's Blan-



ket Factory, and then in W H Smiths, until she married Trevor. Although they knew each other at school, they first went out together after meeting at a disco in Bampton. Trevor had already signed up for the Army, so a lot of their courting was done by post! They became engaged in August 1975 when Trevor had completed his training.

In November, Trey was posted to Germany for 3 years. They married two weeks later by special licence but Elaine could not join her husband at RAF Gutersloh until February. They remained in Germany for four years and both Paul and Sarah were born out there. Trevor was posted to West Berlin when Elaine was expecting Sarah, and as they drove through 'the corridor' Elaine went into labour! Luckily Sarah delayed her entrance into the world until all were safely in West Berlin. They were there for nearly a year and Elaine comments, "It was like living in London, but greener, and more spread out, A lot of the time you could forget you were walled in."

When they came back to England they lived with Elaine's family until they were offered a council house in Standlake. While there, Elaine began, finally, to work with children. She was a 'Mum helper' at the school, was on the playgroup committee and also trained as a cycling proficiency

In 1985 they were able to swap council houses and moved back to Bampton, with Paul, Sarah and baby David. At school Paul was being taught by Mrs Carter, and Sarah by Mrs Barker, both of whom Elaine knew from her own school days. Elaine volunteered to run a cycling proficiency course. "A lot of the kids I taught during six years are now driving cars. I got to know them well, and they still speak to me, which is lovely."

Elaine Townsend, the Supervisor, helping Sam Duffy atBampton Playgroup.

When David started at Playgroup in 1987 Elaine served on the committee for two years. She worked as a 'hearing aid' to a hearing-impaired child at playgroup for a year and then successfully applied for the post of Assistant Supervisor. She went to college for a year on day release and gained a Diploma in Playgroup Studies. She is now the Head Supervisor.

Elaine worked too as a lunch time Supervisor at the school and was on the PTA for 3 years and helped raise money to re-tile the swimming pool. Previously, it had to be painted annually. "We'd all be on our hands and knees in the swimming pool that was fun!", Elaine laughed. She has also volunteered to run a country dancing club after school with Monica Owen, "to give the children an insight into the fun we had as children when Francis Shergold taught us."

Elaine was a founder member of BEWG. "The people I worked with were genuinely concerned for the village, and more importantly, its people" she commented. She campaigned for the protection of an ancient boundary hedge that runs along the school field. "We managed to get stipulated that it wouldn't be pulled up, that damaged areas would be re-planted with mature specimens and that owners/occupiers shouldn't damage the hedge if it formed part of their boundary. Unfortunately, people have been living in the Housing Association owned houses for some time now and the builders still haven't re-planted. and how do they expect to re-plant where people have put sheds? Re-planting should have been done before anyone moved in."

For some thirty years, Elaine has been involved with the Bampton Traditional Morris team. Her father, brother, husband -"only once, he's not an extrovert like the rest of us!"- and two sons are dancers. David, 10, danced out for the first time this Whitsun. "I was devastated when I first realised I couldn't dance because I was a girl, so the next best thing is to be involved through the family" said Elaine. The women usually provide the clean 'whites', most important, and a Morris Tea on Whit Monday. There is also a Morris Social in the autumn for all involved.

Bampton has grown a lot since I was a child," said Elaine, "the traffic's got heavier and faster. On the whole, the pace of life's stayed the same, and so have the people. If it hadn't been for them, and the atmosphere I grew up in, I wouldn't be the person I am. and I'm grateful to Bampton for that.'

from Gilly French

for a couple of minutes.

Dear Mrs Phillips

I would like to offer you my very sincere thanks for publishing Vernon Cannon's tribute to my late brother Godfrey in the August edition of the Bampton Beam, I thought you and Vernon did an excellent

I usually pick up a copy of the Beam from Clanfield Post Office when it is published and as a former Bampton 'lad' I find so much of interest in it to read.

I very much hope that you and your 'staff' will be able to keep up the good work! I am sure everyone apppreciates the time and effort you must all give to produce such an interesting publication.

Yours sincerely, Philip Horne

Dear Sir.

I have recently been given a copy of the August edition of The Bampton Beam which I have found quite a fascinating read.

I enclose a cheque for £2.50 as I would like to subscribe to it. As my family lived at Bampton for many years I would like to take an interest in its present, and proposed future, events.

Incidentally the lady, a distant relative, who gave me the August copy also lives in Lavender Square.

Yours faithfully,

Christian Steer, Shaw, Newbury

TO THE EDITOR OPPROVICE OF SOME

Dear Editor

May I through your Letter page, thank Jack Morton (of Chippenham) for his response to the article, written by my late brother Jim Daniels, in the April edition of the Bampton Beam and to say: Yes, Jack, myself and the family have very proud memories of our Jimmy and his many achievements, such as Senior Industrialist. Chief Executive and Chartered Engineer

All this from humble beginnings, educated at Bampton school. I expect you remember our headmaster "Daddy" Fry. Jimmy left school at 14 to work in the Central Garage, Bampton.

Jack, what memories it brought back, when you wrote in you letter about working as Errand Boy for Eeles & Son.

I remember as kids when we used to take the jam jars back to Eeles shop and got paid a penny for 6 of them and pay the penny back for a length of plaited rope off the orange boxes to use as a skipping rope. Happy Days!

Freda Bradley, Colvile Close, Bampton

It is letters like these that make the task of editing The Bampton Beam seem well worth all the time and effort. Thank you. Ed.

A letter addressed to the District Councillor

Re: Speeding Traffic - Bampton





Dear Mr Phillips,

I apologise for writing what may well be one of many letters you receive regarding the above. However, I noted a small article in the "Oxford Mail" which indicated a move away from traffic calming measures as a possible cure, toward the use of Speed Cameras. The article mentioned that all but one of the main roads into Bampton were being considered for Camera sites.

I am sure that you are aware that the Buckland Road suffers as much, if not more, than the Clanfield, Brize Norton and Aston Roads in this respect. I would like to ensure that if any measures are taken within the bounds of Bampton the residents of the Buckland Road are not excluded from your considerations.

To put this claim into perspective I should estimate that in the periods: 7am - 9am and 4.30pm - 6.30pm on weekdays and most of the Sunday daylight hours, the Buckland Road suffers a 50% traffic speeding rate from about 3 vehicles a minute. A police constable and mobile radar unit visit about once per year so statistical evidence will not only be sparse but unusable. The new recreation ground has added to the probability of a major accident, whilst the increase in the numbers of elderly people within the village as a whole further increases that probability. I have witnessed the near calamity as a very old lady was blown off the narrow pavement by the back-draft of a large speeding lorry.

Dear Editor.

I don't know if there is anyone else in Bampton, wondering like me, "What's happened to Bampton Cricket Club?"

Three years ago there was a big drive to get the Bampton Cricket Club up and running again. My husband and myself bought Trustee Units to help raise enough money for the Cricket Club to purchase a field along Mount Owen Road. We also became Life Members but, unfortunately, to this day have never heard anything from this Cricket Club or of this Cricket Club mate-

I am also interested as I have two boys who love cricket, but as we have never heard from Bampton Cricket Club have had to play for another club, which means we have had to drive them to where they have been playing. This I don't mind as they then can play this wonderful traditional game, but what we do mind is that we invested money into the Bampton Cricket Club so our boys could play here in the village.

I would be very pleased for anyone to enlighten us all to exactly what has happened to the Cricket Club and, more importantly, what has happened to the money raised for the Cricket Club?

Mrs F Gray, Aston Road, Bampton

This letter was passed to Peter Smith (former President) and John Lawrence (former Chairman) of the Cricket Club but no explanation or apology was forthcoming. There is an assurance that a new Cricket Club will be started in the New Year - see page 16. Ed.

Of known technology, the camera seems to offer the best medium term solution. Camera sites cost little but the time and effort in gaining siting permission from the various layers of bureaucracy in local government. The camera itself costs about £26000. I am aware that the Lord Chancellor's department would receive that sum within about two months of operation - in fixed penalty fines alone - and considerably more from the idiots who persist in driving at 50 - 70 mph in the 30 mph limit. To cover the 4 inbound and 4 outbound traffic lanes to Bampton as well as the High Street (where speeding is not uncommon!) 7 sites may be needed, the Aston corner covering three directions from one site.

R.M.H. Arnott, Buckland Road

A New Food Page

I love making soups; not only are they cheap and satisfying but they are very easy to make and taste enormously better than anything that I have found in the readymade line. I am still trying to convince some of my less adventurous friends to switch to making their own; they usually enjoy mine but then complain that everything is too complicated. Nothing could be more wrong: all you need is a blender (I'm told a mouli-legumes also does the trick) and some stock, either home-made or from a jar (I don't recommend cubes unless in an emergency).

'Soups that Satisfy'

The general method, for blended vegetable soups, is to peel and roughly chop an onion and a clove or two of garlic and cook them in butter (if you want a creamy taste) or olive oil until tender, then add whatever beans or vegetable you want the soup to consist of, followed by one & a half pints of stock for every 4 people. Simmer for

about 15 minutes, leave to cool slightly, and puree in a blender. For delicate flavoured soups such as celery, use leeks instead of onions and omit the garlic. A peeled potato helps to give a creamer texture, e.g. in mushroom soup, whilst a slice of good brown bread instead of, or in addition to, the onion helps to give a more rustic feel. For a more luxurious version add a small glassful of wine, dry vermouth or sherry before the stock and let it bubble

Here are two favourite luxury soups. They would make an elegant first course at a dinner party or for Christmas lunch, and are given in quantities for six people.

We're on call for all your

home heating needs.

FUEL SERVICE SPARES & ACCESSORIES

Stilton Soup

2 oz butter 1 onion

2 celery sticks

1.5 oz flour

half a small glass dry white wine

1.5 pints (30 fl oz) vegetable stock

1 bayleaf

half pint milk

6 oz white Stilton, or 4 oz Stilton and 2 oz mild Cheddar

Melt the butter and fry the chopped onion and celery in it for about 5 minutes. Stir in the flour and cook for another minute. Stir in the wine, milk and stock, add the bayleaf, and simmer for about 20 minutes. Leave to cool a little, remove the bayleaf and puree in a blender.

double cream to taste (half to 1 small pot)

Return puree to the rinsed-out pan, reheat and add the cheese(s), a little at a time so that they melt. Add the cream, season to taste and serve garnished with toasted almonds or croutons.

Authorised TEXACO DISTRIBUTORS

Cream of Smoked Haddock Soup

1 onion

2 oz butter

1 tsp curry powder

half a glass dry white wine

1 medium-large potato peeled and cut into small chunks

1 yellow pepper or a little grated nutmeg 1.5 pints (30 fl oz) milk (or a mixture of

milk and water)

half pint double cream

1.5 lb undyed smoked haddock

Chop the onion and fry in the butter until soft. Add the potato and chopped pepper, if used, and cook for another couple of minutes. Add the curry powder, stir until the onion is coated, then add the wine and let it bubble. Add the milk, cream and fish and simmer for about 15 minutes. Puree in a blender and strain into a clean pan (one that is suitable for serving the soup in, perhaps), pushing through as much of the liquid as you can. Season to taste, add nutmeg if used and maybe, if you think it needs it, a little lemon juice.

BRIZE NORTON

FUEL LINE

(0993) 851122

We'll see to it personally.

MICHAEL LOWE & PARTNERS

Fully Qualified and Registered **OPTOMETRIST &** DISPENSING OPTICIAN

5 STREATFIELD HOUSE ALVESCOT ROAD CARTERTON



EYE CLINIC

at Bampton Surgery on the first Tuesday of the month from 3.30 - 6.00pm

For appointments please telephone (0993) 850257

CARTERTON BRANCH

Monday - Friday 9.00 - 5.30pm Thursday 9.00 - 7.00pm Saturday 9.00 - 4.00pm

Telephone: CARTERTON (0993) 844291

Your eyecare is our main concern





CHILDREN NEED FAMILIES

There are many reasons why children have to be cared for away from their own families. There may be a family crisis, parents who are unable to cope or adolescent problems. Many children who are looked after on a temporary basis will eventually return home.

In some cases parents have serious problems, and may never be able to care for their child, and a permanent substitute family will be needed.

In all of these circumstances children need mature people, with the patience and commonsense to help them understand their situation, and overcome their difficulties.

We need foster families for all ages of children but especially for school age children, brothers and sisters who need to stay together, and teenagers.

Allowances are paid, and support and training is provided.

THINKING OF FOSTERING?

We need carers to offer:-

- Temporary fostering
- Long-term care for school age children
- Placements for brothers and sisters together
- Supportive lodgings for teenagers

If you would like more information without obligation, please contact the

> **Family Placement Team** Tel: 01993 704517

THE CHILDRENS' SOCIETY

The annual collection from box holders this year made £259.35 and we are very grateful for your continued support. Special thanks are due to the Surgery and Londis in Market Square where boxes are displayed all year round for willing givers to make a valuable contribution.

Anyone who feels they would like to keep a box can contact Pauline Hawkins Tel: 851066 and she will be delighted to bring one to you.



NATIONAL BLOOD **TRANSFUSION**

A Blood Donor Clinic will be held in the Bampton Village Hall on Wednesday, 14th December 1994. Sessions: from 2.00 to 3.55pm from 5.00 to 6.45pm

BAMPTON PRE-SCHOOL PLAY-

Do you have a child aged between 3 & 5 years old who would like to join a Pre-School Playgroup? We have qualified friendly staff who will care for and help educate pre-school children.

Give your child a bright start.

For details, please contact Mrs Christine Greaves (formerly Hills), 38 Bushey Row, Bampton Tel: 850675

BAMPTON WIVES CLUB

The Club meets in the Village Hall on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 8,00pm. It is very informal and, we hope, enjoyable. Various speakers are invited i.e. St John's Ambulance, Oxfordshire Bat Group and there are occasional outings.

Annual Subscription £5, Guests £1.

Chairman: Eva Gooding Tel: 851049 Treasurer: Jan Webb Tel: 851533 Secretary: Joan Farthing Tel: 851206

BAMPTON BRIDGE CLUB

The Club meets in the Village Hall every Tuesday 7.30 to 10.30pm. The Annual subscription is £5 with a charge of 75p per session. Duplicate Bridge is played on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month; Rubber Bridge on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday and Individual Chicago on any 5th Tuesday. New members are always welcome. For more information please contact:

Mrs Joan Granville Tel: 850407

CHARITY CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Bampton Village Hall Saturday 10th December 10.00am - 2.00pm

It's that time of year again when our thoughts are galloping towards Christmas with varying degrees of excitement. Our Bazaar will get you in training for the main event. The proceeds this year will be divided between the British Diabetic Society and Asthma Research. with the ever deserving Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund also running their own stalls.

Any donations towards cakes, tombola, or raffle would of course be gratefully received but more important we would love you to join us on the day.

Lin Edgar Tel: 851770

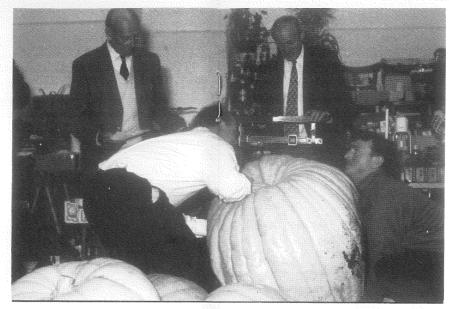
PS. The real Father Christmas is unable to attend but has promised to send a deputy.



Please submit items for the Notice Board page in a sealed envelope together with a pre-payment of £1.50

THE PUMPKIN CLUB

Photo: Laurence Hickman



"The Great Pumpkin Weigh-In on Saturday evening 8th October when members' pumpkins were trundled to the Village Hall for weighing was watched by a large crowd. They could not believe their eyes when the winning entry was a mammoth gourd, too heavy for weighing on the scales! It was taken elsewhere and found to weigh 396 lb! Nothing like it had been seen in Bampton before. It was grown by a Bampton man, John Buckingham, who for the past few years has been the Pumpkin Club champion, but this seemed past believing. After the cups and trophies had been presented to the winners by the May Queen, an auction was held of all the articles and goods donated by local people for the Pumpkin Club's funds to provide each registered pensioner with a cash gift at Christmas. The public responded generously to the brisk and lively auctioneers."

Caring for someone?

Feeling stressed, need to relax?

Join us at SOLACE

for . . .

'Relaxation and Festive Cheer'

WEDS 14th DECEMBER 12 noon - 1.30pm Moorview, Moorlands Road, off Welch Way, Witney



The Princess Royal Trust North Oxfordshire Carers Centre

regular INFORMATION DROP IN each Wednesday 1.30 to 3.30pm at MOORVIEW

SOLACE

invites you to a

relaxation session followed

by Christmas Refreshments.

Come and join other Carers

and take a little well earned

time out for yourself

SOLACE also holds a

the Carers Support Group

RELIEF CARE AND TRANSPORT CAN BE ORGANISED. CONTACT APRIL ON **CARERS HELPLINE: 01345 125546**

Alexandra House, Church Passage, Banbury OX16 8JZ

The old Victorian Primary School in Church View houses the Youth Centre which provides accommodation for a range of activities for the young people of Bampton. The Centre is generously supported by Oxfordshire County Council and the Bampton '250' Club.

BAMPTON YOUTH CENTRE

Sadly we have to announce the sudden death of our Treasurer, Bill Brookson, By the wish of his family, donations made on the occasion of his funeral were generously passed to the Youth Club.

The Youth Club is now thriving under its new leaders - Tracy Charlton (Tel: 705416) and Gary Gummer (Tel: 851913) - with regular meetings on Thursday evenings. Anyone - particularly parents - who is willing to help in running the Club should contact Frank Piercy (Tel: 850005) or the new leaders.

All groups of the Scouts and Cubs are flourishing but there is still a pressing need for additional helpers and anyone who can spare a little time to assist in any capacity would be greatly welcomed. Contact should be made with the Scouter in Charge, Barbara Heaton (Tel: 706020); the Scout Leader, Paul Tomlin (Tel: 843942); or the Cub Leader, Richard Bird (Tel: 850622).

The Centre is available for private bookings at weekends and also most mornings and afternoons. With extensive parking space, attractive architecture and pleasant atmosphere the Centre is particularly suitable for wedding receptions and larger gatherings.

For further information please contact: Hire of Hall - Liz Banham - Tel: 850019 General - Colin Allport - Tel: 850411

Bampton Drama Group presents

> THE LATE LATE PANTO **SHOW**

"Robin Hood, Prince of Morris Men"

Join us for auditions The Village Hall Friday, 9th December 1994 8.00pm

or contact Pauline Tel: 851503 or Jacky Tel: 850368



The house to house collection for the Oxfordshire Animal Sanctuary at Stadhampton, held in Bampton during the first two weeks of September, raised £190.26. The Society wishes to thank everybody who collected or kept a tin on their shop counter, and all those who made contributions.

The Sanctuary's shop in Witney, at 29 Corn Street, is open from Mondays to Saturdays, from 9.30am to 4.30pm for bargains in clothes, small items of furniture, household goods and bric-a-brac. Goods for sale are always needed, particularly at the moment winter clothing, toys and bric-a-brac. Please telephone Witney 708080 if collection is required.



ATTENTION Owners of pet rabbits

Has your rabbit been vaccinated against myxomatosis?

Where myxomatosis is rife in the local wild rabbit population - as it is in this area at present - vaccination and a booster at least once a year is generally recommended.

Please consult your own veterinary surgeon for advice.

BAMPTON ENVIRONMENTAL WATCH GROUP

WODC's rejection of the proposed development of additional houses and industrial premises in New Road is a source of satisfaction to a good number of Bamptonians. It illustrates the value of community objection. The Open Meeting in July featured a talk on the complementary roles of local planning authorities and amenity groups in regard to issues and problems in development projects, with illustrations from Cirencester.

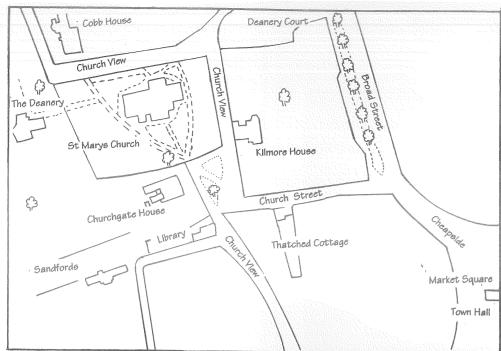
The October meeting heard a lively account of a large-scale family business engaged in breeding day-old chicks. Acquiring eggs, hatching them and marketing the chicks in this country and overseas revealed a number of interesting facts. The lecture on flowers of the Pyrenees region originally billed for October will now take place on 26th April 1995. At the AGM on January 25th 1995 Philip Hicks will give an illustrated talk on the effect that living and working in a rural environment has had on his paintings. This meeting is open to Members only but prospective ones can join by paying their subscription at the door.

For more information contact Ann Norman Tel: 850823

Lest anyone should doubt the fact, I can report that Dr John Blair of The Queen's College, Oxford continues his investigations into the history of Bampton, which have in the past few years produced such a quantity of interesting facts. Some months ago he contacted me with a wish to organise a dig in my garden at the Thatched Cottage, Church Street, a prospect I found of great interest, and warned by this possibility, I left a piece of the vegetable patch, an area indicated by Dr Blair, unplanted.

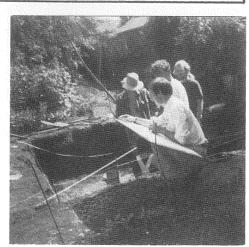
His theory, as I understand it, was as follows: Before the erection of all the houses on the east side of Church View. and of Bourton Cottages on Church Street, (and probably before their predecessors too), Church View was very wide, in fact extending as far as the western boundary of my garden. You can notice how church View still widens rapidly where it passes the church. In early mediaeval times this area was the original Bampton market place and it would most probably be fringed by houses, shops or booths. It was to try and prove the latter fact that the dig was to take place.

Dr Blair and his colleague Mrs O'Brien arrived on Monday 20th June and unloaded spades and pickaxes, wheelbarrows, pegs and string, trays for potsherds, tape measures and all the equipment of the archaeologist. Rose trees were dug up and heeled in elsewhere, edging stones removed and the topsoil stripped off. On the following days Dr Blair was accompanied by either three



or four students who all worked steadily, deepening the square pit, defined by string lines, while the subsoil variations were marked out in section on a drawing board.

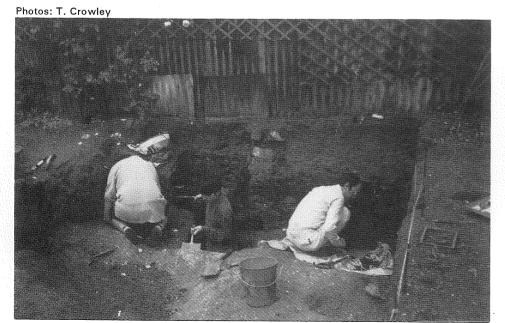
It was very frustrating to the archaeologists to discover that by chance a part of the chosen area had been dug up before to a considerable depth in Victorian times, as indicated by the potsherds found, and all early evidence destroyed by the cesspit then made. To that extent, a part of the excavation at least would seem to have been wasted, but otherwise, at a depth of between four and five feet, a stone foundation was revealed. This was removed, and underneath it were found three post-holes,



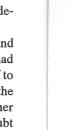
5th day of The Dig - noon 26th June 1994

the evident remains of a wooden dwelling made of logs driven into the ground and probably infilled with wattle and daub. Dr Blair kindly sent me a copy of his report, and he concludes it formed "the south east corner of a sunken floored and post walled building which in a secondary phase was partly filled in and its wall rebuilt on the same line on a stone footing. Some of the pottery from its fill is clearly no earlier than the 10th century but nor . . . need any of it be much later. . . . This is exactly the sort of structure that might be expected to develop along main frontages."

The work took altogether eight days and the garden was restored exactly as it had been before; Dr Blair expressed himself to me as very satisfied with the results of the project and is already planning further excavations in the area. I have little doubt that eventually he will give Bampton a talk on his discoveries - I hope I shall be there to hear.



Dr John Blair and two members of the team at work on the 4th day of The Dig in Terry Crowley's garden - 24th June 1994



THE BAMPTON BEAM - December 1994



WOAA presents exceptional entertainment in all the arts: exhibitions of painting, sculpture, photography, crafts & gifts, as well as book discussions, poetry evenings, playreadings, lectures, theatre and music.

The Gallery is located upstairs in the Town Hall, Bampton. Opening hours are Tuesday to Saturday

from 10.30 am to 12.30pm & 2 to 4pm. Sunday 2 to 4pm.

Admission to all exhibitions is free. New members are always welcome. Membership forms are available at the Gallery.

> Single membership - £12 Family membership - £20

Student membership - £5 For further information Tel: (01993) 850137



DRAWING CLASSES IN THE ASHMOLEAN with Tony Smith MA. (Royal College of Art).

Fridays 10.00am - 1.00pm

Develop drawing skills and use them to explore one of Oxford's oldest collections. For more information Tel: 0171 435 8477

LIFE CLASS

- untutored weekly sessions held in the Gallery and aimed at those without the need for guidance. No booking necessary, pay as you attend.

No classes on Bank Holidays. Closed for Christmas and New Year from 18th December starting again 16th January 1885. Please contact Sarah Edwards at the Gallery if you need more information.



AN EXHIBITION OF CRAFTS FOR SALE TOWN HALL • BAMPTON • OXFORDSHIRE

December 4 to 18

OPEN TUESDAY TO SATURDAY 10.30 TO 12.30 AND 2.00 TO 4.00 • SUNDAY 2.00 TO 4.00 CLOSED MONDAYS ADMISSION FREE



RICDARARG

5 - 26 February 1995

Once again WOAA is staging one of its most popular events - the ninth exhibition of the Rich and Rare work of mastercraftsmen.

The object of these very lively exhibitions is to show to a degree of excellence the work of 30 to 40 top-quality craftsmen. The standard is extremely high and the range varies enormously. It will be stimulating and surprising.

Opening hours as above.



stock and commission taken for reception areas hotels, pubs, restaurants weddings, functions (including flower arches) shop windows ~ homes ~ gifts

PLEASE PHONE BAMPTON CASTLE (0993) 850483 or 85180.

7% OF ALL SALES TO THE BRITISH DIABETIC ASSOCIATION.

The Flower Studio

Creative Floristry at affordable prices Weddings: Anniversaries Funeral Tributes and all other occasions

Telephone Orders Welcome Same Day Delivery

(a touch of Dutch flair!)



11 Burford Street, Lechlad Gloucestershire GL7 3AP

TEL/FAX: 0367 252342

Local Manufacturers of

- Roller Blinds
- Verticals
- Venetians
- Conservatory Blinds including shaped roof blinds and specialist applications.

Competitive Prices for Design, Supply & Installation.

Peter & Dawn Jobson provide a fast, efficient & friendly service.

Telephone:

Bampton 0993 850916 (evenings)

0000

Wantage 0235 760385 Factory & Showroom

Unit 1 Bolenium Works

Wantage, Oxon OX12 9AJ

TALBOT HOTE Restaurant & Bars

Large Secluded Beer Garden Comfortable En-Suite Accommodation

Try Our Special 3 Course Sunday Lunch Telephone 0993 850326

N. WOODLEY BUILDING MAINTENANCE

Small Extensions Built
Roof Tiles And Ridges Replaced
Patios And Garden Walls Built
Electrical, Plumbing And Carpentry Work Undertaken

COMPETITIVE RATES

20 NEW ROAD, BAMPTON TEL. (0993) 850753 Mobile No. 0860 274155

GREY GABLES GARAGE

CURBRIDGE, WITNEY, OXFORD OX8 7PD

TELEPHONE: WITNEY (0993) 702609

NEW SKODA DEALER

New & Used Cars of other makes available

MOT and garage repairs

BMW SPECIALIST





E. TAYLOR & SON

Funeral Directors

Established 1885

Personal Service

Complete Funeral Services
Private Chapel of Rest
Day and Night Service
All kinds of monumental work carried out
Golden Charter
Pre-paid Funeral Plan available

19 CORBETT ROAD, CARTERTON OX8 3LG

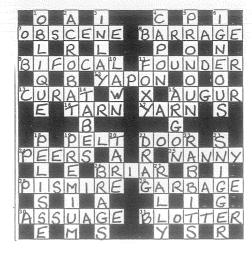
Telephone:

Carterton (0993) 842421

Witney (0993) 702123

Solution to
BEAM PRIZE CROSSWORD
August1994

THE BAMPTON BEAM - December 1994



Correct solutions were received from Dr A. Gaydon, Mr R.J. Terry and Mr A. Higman who receives the £5 prize. Congratulations!

Junior Beam Number 4

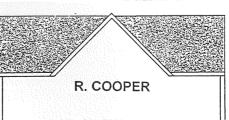
The Junior Beam Workshop which WOAA had planned for the last weekend in July had to be cancelled at the last minute due to be be reavements in the families of the two people who were to run it.

It was not possible to arrange an alternative date during the summer holidays. We apologise to all those who wished to take part and to disappointed readers.

If anyone is prepared to take on this activity in the foreseeable future, please contact Sarah Edwards at The Gallery Tel: 850137.

Drawing
Competition
for the
Donkey Derby
programme
was won by

Mark Paradine aged 7



BUILDERS - PAINTERS - DECORATORS CARPENTRY - JOINERY - GENERAL REPAIRS SPECIALISTS IN DRY STONE WALLING

The Old Gasworks, Aston Road, Bampton Oxon OX18 2AL Phone/Fax 01993 851851

The Bampton Beam's New Code Crackers Crossword

£5 to Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund as thanks to Barbara Osborne who supplied this puzzle.

£5 Cash Prize for the first correct solution opened on 15th January 1995

3	5	18	19	20	26	14	7		1	9	25	20	26	5
	4	Aurente	25		5		5	26	20		10		20	
1	19	25	26		20	23	17		17	20	22	5	26	10
	5	Canada 1	1	20	14			6			5		5	
24	26	12	5	10	14		23	20	10	14	12	14	8	7
	17			17	26	20	25	15	20		8		7	
24					5		2		17					13
5	8	22	5	26	1		<u>kunak</u>		12	16	10	12	17	5
11					1		5		18	. : 2: : b.	and Charles			2
	24		6		5	26	26	20	10	17			1	
24	8	18	25	10	14	5	26		20	5	26	20	17	5
	5		26			14			8	5	20		26	
2	5	17	17	5	26		18	2	12		23	26	20	2
	23		8		20	10	14		17		5		17	
1	5	8	5	23	17		14	20	7	2	26	5	20	21

Name
Address

Α	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
N	0	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
1	² B	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26 R

In this "Crossword" there are no clues, but every letter is represented by a number. Three are given to start you off - when you have filled all of those in, it is time to crack the code, bit by bit, until you have completed the puzzle! The solution will be published in the next issue; if you can't wait until then, send a s.a.e. with your entry to:-

The Editor, The Bampton Beam, Haytor, Lavender Square, Bampton OX18 2LR

'SAPPERS' TO THE RESCUE on the new Sports/Recreation Field



Bampton Fire Brigade help members of 218 Field Squadron with their task of installing the infrastructure needed for further development on the Buckland Road site.

Although the money raising activities had produced the £4,000 to pay for the materials required for necessary work on the new Bampton sports complex, it would have been many months, possibly years, to find sufficient funds for the labour and expertise. This is when the 'sappers', of 218 Field Squadron at RAF Brize Norton, came to the rescue.

218 Fld Sqn is a TA Royal Engineer unit specialising in airfield damage repair, which includes mending holes in the runways and taxiways after air raids. They hold training days at Brize Norton and other RAF airfields both in the UK and abroad ant their members, who come from all walks of life, travel from all over England for these training sessions. It was when the Station Commander at Brize Norton, Group Captain Brian Poulton, heard about Bampton's

need, that the idea of 218 Fld Sqn carrying out their training on the Sport's Complex became a possibility.

After several planning meetings, led by Ian Tupman, the work got under way in mid-October. New recruits to 218 Fld Sqn were trained and tested on the construction of the new car park and access road and then, later in the week, the more senior members of the Squadron undertook the more difficult training tasks.

Suffice to say that the new trainees passed their tests, the experienced soldiers got some very good training and Bampton children, in particular, will benefit from a much safer entrance, a large car park for the parents' cars, and several other improvements to the Complex.

Well done 218 Sqn and many thanks to all at RAF Brize Norton.

Attention all those interested in playing Cricket in Bampton!!

The new sports field will include a cricket pitch that will be available from the beginning of 1995 and will allow the game to be played again in Bampton.

It is hoped that a new Cricket Club will be formed in the New Year. The emphasis at first will be on youth cricket from U9 - U13. The way forward will be put to all those interested at a meeting in January 1995. Details will be published in the local papers and on notice boards throughout the village.

The priority at the first meeting will be to organise 3 or 4 parents who will be willing to run the team or possibly teams. They will have to organise the games, sort out the teams and hopefully give all youngsters a chance to play cricket on the new field.

Senior players will not be forgotten and although only a few games will be played next year, a full fixture list will be available the following season and the sound of leather on willow will once more be heard in Bampton.

So watch out for notices of the meeting in January and if any one out there would like to be involved, please contact John Lawrence Tel: 851141 for more information.

LOCAL COUNCIL -

WE CAN INFLUENCE OUR FUTURE

The Commission for Local Government Reorganisation has been inundated with replies from the leaflets sent to every household. Oxfordshire had the highest return among all the Counties in England with 177 returns for every 1000 households. In West Oxfordshire the vote was 87% for the Status Quo which topped the poll throughout the Country. Our thanks to all of you who took the trouble to fill in the form or write a letter.

In February this year Jonathan Phillips called a public meeting in the Village Hall in Bampton to hear the views of the County and District Councils on reorganisation. At this stage the County Council wanted to do away with Districts and the District Council wanted to do away with County. The 80 plus people attending the meeting were not impressed with either case and made their views known. As a result of this, and no doubt other meetings, the County and District Councils changed their minds and decided the Status Quo was the preferred option. They listened to their electorate! Douglas Hurd our MP also decided the Status Quo was the right answer for Oxfordshire and was interested in the result of the public meeting in Bampton. It is refreshing to know that there are still people who will listen to the voice of the people who elect them. The Government Commission has now also recommended the Status Quo to the Secretary of State. Let's hope he

GOOD NEWS ON UNEMPLOYMENT

It was good news indeed to see that West Oxfordshire had the biggest drop in unemployment in the whole country between 1 April 93 and 1 April 94 with a fall of over 30%. A great deal of the credit for this should be given to WODC who's employment policies have been so successful in attracting businesses to the area.

Will this continue? It was sad to see that the Compton Webb factory at Newland were having difficulty in recruiting another 15 workers. Although piece work wages are low to start with because training is needed, as skills and speed improve so hopefully will the wages. There are other businesses also encountering this problem. Surely work of this kind is a better option than drawing the dole? Some of the 2000 plus still unemployed in the District could take advantage of this opportunity.

Would an earlier bus into Witney and a later one back in the evening help the unemployed to get jobs?

Let the Bampton Beam know.

- NEWS ITEMS

WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL HOUSING SURVEY

This was the result of the questionnaire sent out to all the 37,000 homes in the West Oxfordshire area last year. In over 2000 households in the District someone has already moved away because they cannot afford to rent or buy at market prices. 80% of these would return tomorrow if there was affordable housing available. A further 4000 households may be similarly affected in the next three years.

The survey shows a great need among young married couples many of whom would like to start a family but feel they can't until they get a home. Young couples are having to compete with the homeless who also have a real need. Have we got the balance of allocation right? The survey also showed up the need for single peoples flats and bungalows. Just because they have not got families does not mean they do not need a home of their own.

What is the solution? The obvious answer is to build more homes to rent but this costs a great deal of money which the District Council does not control. Funds for house building is made available by Central Government and comes from us as tax payers and for which there are many other demands. If you feel that more money should be provided for housing, write to your MP now at The House of Commons, Westminster, London SW1. The Government is trying to encourage the private sector to rent out their empty properties but the rents being asked are beyond the means of most people in need without having to apply for Housing Benefit.

The Survey predicted that over the next three years Bamptonians would need 69 more low cost houses, nearly all to rent. If anyone in your family is in need of low cost housing now or likely to need it in the next 2 years, please ask for a Parish Council Housing Questionnaire so we know of our own need and can put up a case for more housing. We need your help.

We must also make better use of our existing housing stock. There are many Council house tenants in properties which are now too large for their needs. In the District 97 single people (aged over 65) live in 3 bedroom Council houses. If you are in this position, please ask the District Council Housing Department (Tel: 01993 702941) if something smaller and more suitable for your requirements is available so that your house can be re-occupied by a young family.

Can you give those in need the chance of suitable housing in this Year of the Family?

100 Years of Bampton History in Photographs



A pre-First World War photograph of an incident near the Church when the bakers cart overturned. An early photograph sent to the The Bampton Beam by Mrs Gladys John.

Many people will know that 4th December 1994 is the centenary of the first Parish Council meeting in Bampton. To mark this anniversary the present Council feels it would be appropriate to produce a pictorial record of Bampton's past 100 years. This will serve as an anniversary document and an addition to the archive for future generations. Ideally we hope to publish this in a booklet format before next Spring or, if this is not possible, produce an Anniversary Album.

We do have a number of superb pictures and some sources of copy for the accompanying notes. However we would be delighted to hear from any Bamptonian who could contribute anything at all to this project in the way of photos, ideas, remembrances, anecdotes, skills or time to help.

If you have anything to offer, please contact:

Councillor Janet Newman Tel: 850755 or Councillor Roger Howard Tel: 850588

THE PARISH CLERK - a vital role

"The perfect Clerk has legal skills to advise the Council, financial skills to keep the books and give financial advice, secretarial skills to minute the meetings, literary skills for dealing with correspondence and personal skills for dealing with the public, Council and its Chairman. So ideally someone with a law degree, a qualification in accountancy, and a diploma from a secretarial college might well fit the bill! Also providing they have an angelic nature.

However, such paragons do not exist, and if they did would hardly be tempted by the relatively small sums a typical Parish Council can pay." John Faulkener, who wrote this in the West Oxfordshire Observer (September 1994) was wrong in only one statement - such a paragon is John Ackerman, Clerk to the Bampton Parish Council for 26 years and whose expertise and diligence has been greatly valued by those whom he served so well.. He is a true professional and a model of discretion perhaps influenced by his banking background. Because he and his wife do not live Bampton and are not involved in the various activities he has been able to be dispassionate and keep matters in perspective when opinions were in conflict.

It is a great relief to the present Council that Mr Ackerman has reconsidered his resignation and will stay on as Treasurer. His knowledge of the village and his skill in handling the increasing number of regulations imposed on local government will continue to be of great benefit to the recently elected members. They welcome Mrs Brenda Sapsford as Secretary and feel sure that she will greatly ease the burden of the Clerk's job.

Following a recent spate of break-ins and burglaries in and around Bampton members of the public may be interested in the following advice from the Police in making their homes more secure.

Burglar Alarms: Alarms do deter. It is no longer, "I've an alarm system, so I've got something worth stealing". It shows (if you have one) "I've been wise". The offenders do not want to get caught by an alarm so they go elsewhere. People say "nobody takes any notice of ringing alarms". Not strictly true. If you were breaking in somewhere and the alarm went off, what would you do? Run! Obviously the list of installers is too numerous to mention. However it is advisable to obtain three quotes. Details of companies in your area can be obtained from the National Approval Council of Security Systems. If in doubt, contact your insurance company.

Lighting: When leaving you home in the hours of darkness leave at least two lights on where you would normally be, to give the impression of occupation. This costs very little and may prevent a burglary. An outside light is useful at night to see callers clearly.

GOOD NEIGHBOURS POLICE and

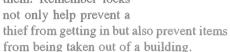
When leaving premises unoccupied it is important to make arrangements with a neighbour to pay some attention while you are away. Leave a key with them so they may check your home and remove mail from your hall. Do not leave notes for tradesmen, cancel all deliveries and try to keep it looking occupied. LOOK AFTER EACH OTHER. It may well prevent a lot of heartache and misery. Consider setting up a Neighbourhood Watch in your area.

There have been two meetings in Bampton in recent years to explore the possibility of setting up such a scheme but although a number of people showed interest no one was prepared to take on the role of area coordinator. If there is now someone prepared to take this on in any area in Bampton, the local Crime Prevention Officer would be very pleased to provide further information and help.

Membership of a scheme has many practical advantages. For example, you can feel secure knowing that your neighbours are keeping an eye on your property. You can sometimes get lower insurance premiums. Neighbourhood Watch members are ex-

Crime Prevention Advice for Householders

Key Security: All external door locks may be keyed alike to reduce the number necessary for securing a building. They should not be identified and not left lying around either inside or hidden outside the house. Never leave keys in doors when locking up, hide them! Remember locks not only help prevent a



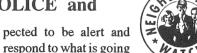
Ventilation may be essential but control open windows with security stops.

If you lose your door keys or move into a new home, change your locks immediately.

Lock up every time you leave, if only for a few minutes, a burglary may only take 4 or 5 minutes to occur.

Doorstep Callers: The best defences against a doubtful caller is to install and USE a viewer or spyhole in the door and a stout door chain. Remember, if in doubt, keep him or her out.

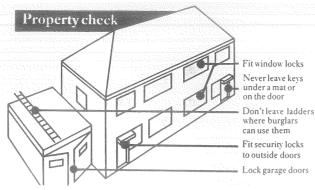
Ask for proper identification and take your time examining it. Check any photograph to ensure it is the person presenting the identification.



on in their neighbourhood. But the scheme does not expect members to patrol the streets or be vigilantes. In fact, it aims to avoid this type of 'busybodying'.

If you think you are seeing a crime being committed, call '999', stay calm and carefully write down everything you have seen, particularly the registration number of any vehicle. Don't be afraid to call your local police station to report an incident; the correct numbers appear on page 4 of the current Bampton Directory. The police always welcome genuine calls. Remember - the partnership that you and your neighbours form with the police is one of the most important features of Neighbourhood Watch.

The above information has been taken from booklets supplied by the local Crime Prevention Officer, D/C Hampshire who can be contacted at Witney Police Station (Tel: 01235 776463)



If you are in any doubt, ask the person to either wait outside or call back later, so that you can ring the company he or she claims to be representing for verification. Do not worry about keeping callers waiting, it is important to make sure you know they are genuine. If you have reason to doubt that a caller is genuine, call the police and write down any description as soon as possible.

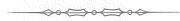
In the unlikely event that you hear an intruder enter your home at night, turn on the light and make a loud noise. In most situations an intruder will leave. Avoid direct confrontations.

Don't encourage car crime - advice from PC Steve Patrick

Vehicle related crimes represent 55% of all reported crime in the Witney Police Area and unfortunately Bampton certainly gets its fair share. Very few vehicles are actually stolen from Bampton, most are just broken into and items stolen. I know car alarms can sometimes be a nuisance, but they certainly deter the would-be thief. The best advice I can give, which I cannot stress enough, is: Do NOT leave anything of value in your car. Mobile telephones and quality stereos are favourite at the moment. so **REMOVE** these if possible when your vehicle is left unattended. Don't leave cash, credit cards, handbags or the like in your vehicle. If you must leave your briefcase in your car, then lock it in the boot out or sight. Electric tools tend to be another favourite, so those of you who bring home the works van think about what is on display. In fact, this applies to all vehicle owners in the village If we all heed such advice, thieves who are intent on breaking into our cars will get the message that Bampton is NOT the place to come for their Late Night Shopping!!!

A. SIMMONDS

Market Square, Bampton Tel: 850204 The Old Fashioned Village Store



Traditionally Baked Bread & Cakes

Groceries, Confectionery, Toileteries

Whole Foods

Large Range of Pet Foods & Requisites



FREE LOCAL DELIVERIES

The Romany Imm Probably the best value in Oxfordshire

Enjoy a 3 course meal choice menu including: 6oz Sirloin Steak, 8oz Pork Chop, Plaice or Roast Chicken.

Mondays to Thursdays £5.25 AVAILABLE LUNCHTIMES & EVENINGS

Separate Dining Room, Good Homemade Food
 at Sensible Prices, Served 7 days a week



Extensive bar menu served lunchtimes and evenings with a choice of over 40 main courses including:
-Homemade pies, Homemade Curries,

Sunday lunch – 3 course – £5.25 including –Roast Beef, Roast Lamb and Roast Chicken.

Restaurant- English Cuisine - Starters from £1.25 - Main courses from £4.25

Wedding receptions & family parties catered for - up to 40 people

Bed and Breakfast En suite accommodation - Double rooms from £30.00 including BREAKFAST

Call in for a drink in a fun and friendly atmosphere!

Bridge Street, Bampton Oxon OX18 2HA Telephone: (0993) 850237



QUALITY PARTS, COMPONENTS & ACCESSORIES

THE COMPLETE MOTORING SERVICE ROLLING ROAD ENGINE TUNING STATE OF THE ART DIAGNOSTICS

CAR REPAIRS
SERVICING
MoT WORK
BREAKDOWNS
DISCOUNT CAR PARTS
FOR ALL MAKES AND MODELS



S DAYS A WEEK

OXFORD CARB SERVICES
Weber • Solex • Pierburg etc

Tel: Witney 0993 850654



Unit 1, Viscount Court, Station Road, Brize Norton



BAMPTON PHYSIOTHERAPY AND SPORTS MEDICINE CLINIC

Moonraker Lane, Bampton

Dr John C. Reynolds MB Bs MRCP Orthopaedic Physician

Mr Grant Watson
MCSP DipMT ADP(MT) DipMDT
Chartered Physiotherapist

Mrs Fiona Geary
MCSP SRP DipMDT
Chartered Physiotherapist

SPORTS & MANIPULATIVE
PHYSIOTHERAPY
ACUPUNCTURE

Consultation by Appointment Telephone

(01993) 851359 or 830913

Diary of Events in Bampton

DECEMBER 1994

2nd Youth Club Ice Skating Trip

4th WOAA "More Gifts Galore" The Gallery, Town Hall (until 18th)

4th Bampton Tennis Club **Traditional Children's Tea Party** Village Hall (for details see local posters)

9th Bampton Drama Group Auditions The Village Hall 8.00pm

10th Charity Christmas Bazaar The Village Hall

14th Blood Donor Clinic Village Hall 2.00 - 3.55pm & 5.00 - 6.45pm

17th Bampton Summer Opera presents Christmas Music & Carols 7.30pm St Mary's Church (for details see page 3)

22nd Youth Club Xmas Party/Disco The Youth Centre

JANUARY 1995

25th BEWG AGM & Talk by Philip Hicks 7.30pm

26th Youth Club Drop-in Evening The Youth Centre

28th Youth Club London Trip for the boys

FEBRUARY

5th WOAA "Rich & Rare Exhibition" The Gallery, Town Hall (until 26th)

MARCH

Bampton Drama Group THE LATE LATE PANTO SHOW

For WOAA dates & events see page 13 or collect a Calendar from the Gallery

If you would like an event listed in this calendar, make sure your Notice Board (£1.50) and Calendar entry (free) are handed in before the next Deadline - 5th March 1995

The Bampton Beam

RATES for DISPLAY ADS

Volume 10 - April, August & December 1995 £144 per1/2 page; £114 per1/3 page; £75 per 1/6 page; £42 per 1/12 page in the 3 issues

For further information contact: Jim Taylor, Middle Prospect, New Road, Bampton Telephone: 01993 851781

o take a half/				
in the next 3	issues of	The Bam	pton l	Beam

Name	
Address	
	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
Tel·	

Please return to the above address by DEADLINE - Friday 31st January 1995

The Bampton Beam

is published three times a year and distributed free to all residents in Bampton. Extra copies available from the Post Office

EDITOR:

Susan Phillips Tel: 850321

SUB-EDITORS & ART WORK:

Jim Taylor, Janet Westman & Jinnie Brown EDITOR'S Invaluable Assistant:

Jonathan Phillips
ADVERTISING:

Jim Taylor Tel: 851781
DISTRIBUTION:

Kari Rossie Tel: 850764

Contributions are welcome at any time and

should be sent to:-

The Editor, Haytor, Lavender Square, Bampton OX18 2LR

DEADLINE DATES FOR COPY 5th March, 5th July & 5th November 1995

While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of information printed in The Bampton Beam, the editor & publishers cannot accept any responsibility for the consequences of any error that may occur. The views expressed in The Bampton Beam are not necessarily those of the Editor. Personal views are the responsibility of the author in each case.

The Editor is grateful for the financial support of the Parish Council and to ORCC for a grant from The Rural Initiatives Fund made possible by a generous donation from Mr & Mrs J.A. Pye's Charitable Settlement.

THE BAMPTON BEAM is printed on Recycled Paper

Annual Subscription - £2.50

If you wish to have **The Bampton Beam** posted to yourself or to a relative or friend on a regular basis, please send your name, address and cheque (made payable to The Bampton Beam) to:

Bampton Beam Subscriptions, Haytor, Lavender Square, Bampton OX18 2LR

Adam James Russell and
Kathy Cross (the new owners)
look forward to welcoming
local inhabitants
and their friends to
The Talbot Inn

over the festive season.