

THE BAMPTON BEAM

August 2003

Volume 18, No2

Bampton Market Square Phase 2 Improvements

by Graham Haslam, Bampton Parish Council

In Millennium year, the first phase of the Market Square project was completed, with the installation of the Notice Board, the circular seat around the tree, the repairing of the surrounding area, and the commissioning of the Mosaic by W.O.A.

During this time, the Parish Council were holding further discussions with West Oxfordshire District Council's (WODC) Planning and Leisure Facilities Services on the second phase, which would aim to complete the 'upgrade' of the Market Square.

After 2 years of talks, the WODC, and the Oxfordshire County Council agreed to provide significant financial support to phase 2, and many meetings were held to agree on which of the various ideas put forward would be incorporated

into a proposal which could be presented to the Bampton Parishioners for their comments.

This was achieved, and on April 11th and 12th this year, a 2-day exhibition was held in the Town Hall to enable

everyone to have the opportunity to make their comments on the proposals.

The great majority of people were in favour of the second phase and the main features of the 'up-grade' will be:

- To introduce restrictions to prevent the Market Square being used as a 'Rat Run'. These will include a 'Buildout' at the entrance from the

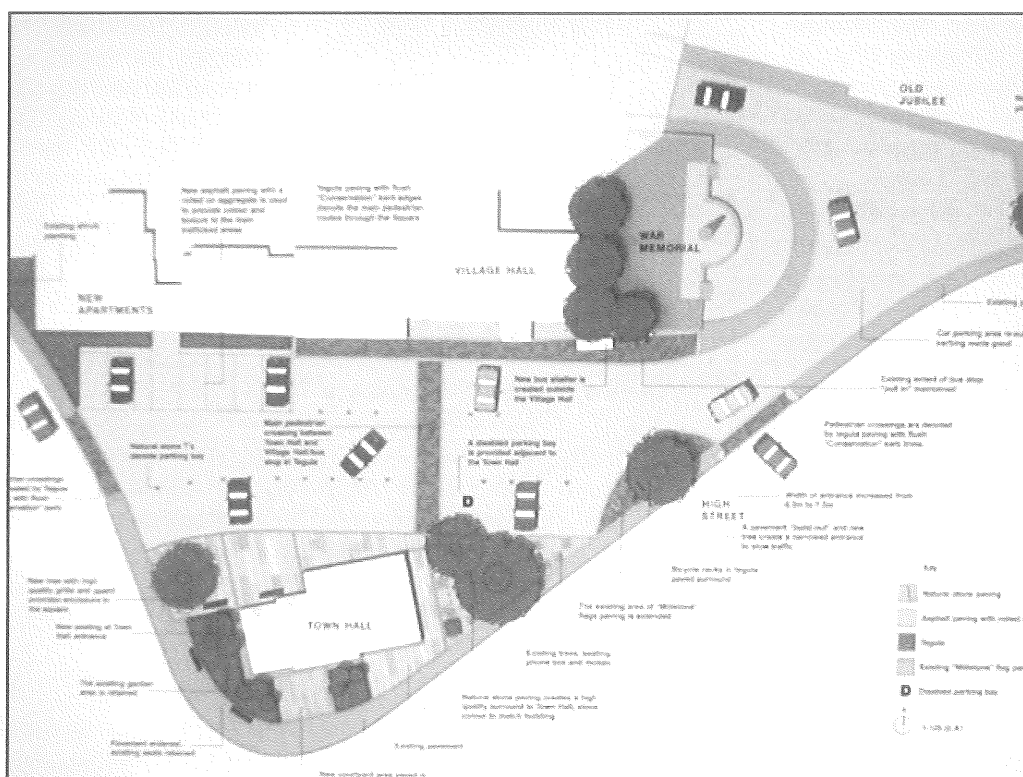
- Planting of new trees of a manageable size.
- Construction of a suitable Bus Shelter adjacent to the Village Hall.
- Extension of the pavement area in the Market Square around the Town Hall.
- Re-vamp of the Town Hall gardens with the assistance of the Bampton Gardening Club.

- Rationalisation of the existing signage.

The finalised Plan has been consolidated into a Tender Package by the WODC, and is in the process of being tendered at the time of writing.

It is expected that the phase 2 construction works will commence early October, and be completed by end November.

The Parish Council are sure that the revamp of



Market Square Development Phase 2

High Street and a pedestrian crossing between the Town Hall and the Village Hall.

- Total re-surfacing of the road in the Market Square down to the War Memorial.

the Market Square will prove popular with Village residents and visitors alike, and will greatly enhance the character of the centre of the Village compared to what we have today.

And well done Graham for getting it this far! - Ed

Bampton Village Hall



An excellent venue for meetings, classes, parties, performances & fund-raising events. Main hall with stage, curtains, lights & piano. Well equipped kitchen and servery with separate locked bar. Badminton court marked and equipment available. Modern toilet facilities.

Lettings Officer: Martin Barrett,
The Post Office, Bridge Street, Bampton
Tel: 850304

The A.G.M. of the Village Hall

The Annual General Meeting took place in the Village Hall on Monday, 28th April 2003.

All residents of Bampton over the age of 18 are entitled to attend and to vote.

The Bampton Village Hall Management Committee is made up of representatives of the various organisations who use the Hall plus five elected members; three other members may be co-opted if needed.

The Committee for 2003/2004 is as follows:

Mr Alan Dunbar
Parish Council & SPAJERS
Mrs Jean Howell
Elected
Mrs Susan Phillips
Elected
Mrs Carolyn Main
Pumpkin Club
Mrs Vera Allport
Bridge Club & Bush Centre
Mrs Margaret Bishop
BEWG & West Ox Arts
Mrs Pauline Smith
Bampton Drama Group
Mrs Lynne Borrett
Bampton Ladies Group
Mr Michael Wooloff
Elected
Mrs Jill Rogers
St. Mary's CCC
Mr Philip McFarlane
Bampton Gardening Club
Mrs Judy House
Badminton Club
Mrs Sian Hughes
Bampton Baby & Toddler Group
Mrs Jo Ader
Bampton Pre-School Playgroup

Chairman's Report on 2002

We have had another good year with the Hall with plenty of lets and no serious problems.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank both Susan Walker, Lettings Officer and Glyn Silman, who does the cleaning, for their hard work and reliability. Susan Walker has now handed on the job of Lettings Officer to Martin Barrett at the Post Office. We would like to thank him for taking on this vital job.

The regular bookings during the week continue to be well supported.

There have been some new activities

in the past few months – **Judo** and **Belly Dancing** on Wednesday and Friday mornings.

The main hall floor was sanded and resealed in August last year and the main hall, annexe and toilets were redecorated in January 2003.

We are very grateful to Mike Wareham who helped to remove the old stage lighting system and tidied up the wiring. The stage curtains have been taken down and stored upstairs for the time being as they have not been used for a performance for some time. They can be put back up again very easily when the stage is up.

The Loop/PA System is available for hirers but if there are any problems, please contact Alan Dunbar who has sorted out the various 'teething' problems.

There have been 2 well attended performances – Orbestra's 'Gipsies' and OTTC's 'The Little Prince' - which have been put on in the Hall in conjunction with WOA and others are planned for 2003/04. OTTC's 'The Nutcracker and the Mouse King' has been booked for 12th December 2003.

BAMPTON '250' CLUB

A monthly lottery which raises money for The Bampton Village Hall and The Bampton Youth Centre.

List of Winners 2003/2004

MARCH	£100	219	Mr & Mrs Hjul	Castle Fields
	£25	066	Mr F Stanger	Queen Street
	£15	001	Mr & Mrs Battersby	Buckland Road
	£15	247	Mrs C Hawcutt	Broad Street
	£15	062	Mrs L Borrett	Chandler Close
APRIL	£250	026	Mrs E Quick	Aston Road
	£25	107	Miss K Wylie	Cheyne Lane
	£15	059	Mrs F Henly	Carterton
	£15	188	Mrs B Sapsford	Church Street
	£15	068	Mr J Chance	St.Marys Court
MAY	£25	058	Mr J Henly	Carterton
	£15	034	Mr & Mrs Williams	Bushey Row
	£15	188	Mrs B Sapsford	Church Street
	£15	142	Mrs P Gardner	Station Road
	£15	184	Mrs M Banbury	Church Street
JUNE	£100	004	Mr M Hirons	Weald
	£25	174	E Amos	Fox Close
	£15	128	Mrs D Green	Buckland Road

THE BAMPTON DIRECTORY 2003

Free copies are available from The Post Office and Abbey Properties.

BAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

By David Hawkins, Chairman, Bampton Parish Council

New Road Housing

Over 100 Bampton residents turned out for a special meeting called by the Parish Council to enable all aspects of the proposal to build 100 new houses off New Road to be fully aired.

All agreed that Bampton needs more affordable housing, but only a few speakers supported the New Road proposal. It was explained that Bampton residents on the housing list might only get 2 or 3 of the affordable homes with the rest going to the most needy in Oxfordshire.

The search for small "exception" sites for affordable homes which would be 100% occupied by Bampton people continues.

Skatepark Safety

The Council are most concerned that, 3 months after the skatepark was opened, users are ignoring our plea for everyone using the Skatepark to wear suitable protective clothing. Parents, please note that it is **YOUR** responsibility to ensure that your children are protected.

Accidents have occurred and will continue to do so.

Flooding Prevention

A meeting with Mr Chris Blacker from the Environmental Agency, about our fears of future flooding in Bampton, was most informative.

He explained that the rainfall over the New Year was the worst since 1947 and the fact that Bampton had only minimal flooding, compared to many Oxfordshire villages, was most encouraging. He explained that the Shillbrook is inspected and cleared between Fishers Bridge and Bridge Street every August and below Fishers Bridge and Bridge Street every 3 years. He did, however, point out that many of Bampton's ditches have been filled in in front of certain houses in New Road and Aston Road. The owners of these houses will be responsible for removing these obstructions and will be contacted shortly.

Allotments Available

There will almost certainly be 4 half size allotments available to rent in the next few months. There is no waiting

list at present so, if you are interested, call **Marion Dowding Tel: 850167** for more details. The cost of renting a allotment per annum is only £5.

Broad Street Parking

Plans to provide 16 more car parking spaces in Broad Street were presented to the Parish Council at their July meeting. Parking on the grass has been a problem for years and these four parking areas – each to take 4 cars – will be positioned on what is now well worn muddy patches. There is another view in the village that no further car parking spaces should be provided and that the grass area should be cordoned off. Residents will get every opportunity to have their say on either option at a consultation day to be arranged shortly.

Traffic Calming Build Outs

OCC have informed the Parish Council that they have approved the installation of a Buildout on each of the 4 main roads leading into the Village. A meeting has already been held on-site with the OCC and their Consultant to look at the best places to position the Buildouts, and work will hopefully start later this year. Each Buildout will cut the width of the road by around half, depending on the design, and will hopefully slow down incoming traffic.

HGV Traffic

Much concern has been expressed about the number of HGVs using Bampton as a 'Rat Run'. The Parish Council's Transport Representative has already taken up the issue with OCC and is attempting to have the Buckland Road classified as 'Unsuitable for HGVs', which we feel sure would help reduce HGV traffic. OCC has yet to reply to the request, but is being chased.

Additionally, when he obtains evidence that HGVs are using the Village as a 'Rat Run' he writes to the company concerned and requests them to instruct their drivers to use other routes. Some success has been achieved by these letters.

If you have evidence on 'Rat Running' HGVs, please pass the details to our Parish Council Transport Repre-

sentative via the Parish Clerk, and he will take the issue up with the company concerned, and the OCC.

Tower Hill Tournament

Over 1200 children took part in the 2 day tournament organised on the Bampton Recreation Ground by the Tower Hill soccer club in late June. With 10 pitches in use, the tournament was extremely well run and we hope to see them back again in 2004.

Future Projects on the Recreation Ground

With 16 projects now completed at the Recreation Ground in its first 10 years, the Council has produced a wish-list for future improvements. These are:

- Multipurpose Wall for soccer, tennis, cricket or basketball practice.
- New storage shed.
- To tarmac the car park.
- Third tennis court

Anyone who would like to sponsor one of these projects please contact **David Hawkins Tel: 851066.**

New Street Lights

After several requests, a new street light is being installed in Bridge Street, close to what was the Elephant and Castle Pub. The Pub's outside lighting had previously sufficed.

If you feel that lighting needs to be improved in your part of the village, contact the Clerk now, **Tel: 850776.**

We put money aside each year for one new light.

Use of Pavilion

If you have had quotes of several thousands of pounds for your future wedding plans, why not hire the excellent Pavilion with its superb facilities for less than £200 for the day. With unlimited car parking and the freedom to have either buffet or sit down meals with your own drinks obtained at perhaps quarter of hotel prices. Why not contact the Pavilion Manager, **Ray Willis Tel: 852483** to make a booking.

Minute Secretary

The Council is still looking for someone to take and type up the Minutes of Council meetings. The time taken will involve no more than 10 hours per month and is paid on an hourly basis.

For more information contact the Clerk Tel: 850776.

District Council Business

Local Plan -New Road

By District Councillor
Jonathan Phillips

I would like to thank all those who wrote in to West Oxfordshire District Council during the consultation period giving your views on the proposed housing development in New Road.

I gather from WODC that many of you did write in support of including it in the Local Plan, thank you so much.

The owner of the land is asking WODC to make all the low-cost houses available for residents of Bampton and surrounding villages and those with a Bampton connection. If you are on the housing waiting list, please make sure that you have filled in the form for local connection. WODC informs me that some of you appear not to have done this - a local connection does give you extra housing points!

District Council Elections

By District Councillor
Mark Booty

First may I thank everybody who voted in the District Council election on May 1st. This area achieved a turnout of some 38% which, while about average for the Country as a whole, still in my view demonstrates that there is a huge amount of apathy towards Politics and Politicians in general.

My belief is that whatever your political beliefs are, involvement at District or County level will make a difference to what happens in our area and the quality of our life. So please next time you have an opportunity to vote please do so.

Local Plan -New Road

The most topical issue facing Bampton at the moment is the inclusion in the West Oxfordshire Local Plan of 100 new houses in New Road 50 of these would be defined as Affordable run by a Housing Association, which will go to people in the local area.

The consultation period for the document ended on the 27th of June prior

to a probable public enquiry sometime next year and I have looked at the letters which have been received. There are unquestionably arguments both ways.

I know that Thames Water have objected but equally that the Landowner through his agent has written that he wishes "to ensure that the affordable housing to be provided will be for Bampton residents in housing need in the first place, or those who have close social ties with Bampton or are within the Bampton catchments". The Parish Council will come up with a view guided by Ralph Norman, and I will obviously take into account that view before making my submission to the District Council.

Affordable Housing

Affordable Housing is one of the top priorities of the district at the moment as we recognize that we must make properties available to local people who are unable to afford to buy due to the high prices market housing attracts in this area. In response to this the Planning Department are now starting to insist that any new development of two houses and above makes an allowance of up to 50% for affordable housing (this will vary between 30% on the major developments in Witney and Carterton up to 50% elsewhere).

The principles I have outlined above are already adopted. What this will mean to the nature and types of plan-

ning applications we have yet to see. Some of the applications going through the procedure at the moment could be seen as test cases as the legal agreements which will need to accompany the permission are being finalized.

As a new Councilor I am trying to get to grips with this whole area as there are different types of affordable housing which cope with different requirements of different age groups, and different circumstances. It is not a one type fits all solution, and there will be full rental, social, and Part buy schemes included.

Our task is to make sure that we can meet the requirements but at the same time not ruin the environment or over stretch the public services and physical infrastructure.

In simple terms the immense and real requirement for affordable houses has to be balanced with the effect on the environment.

Local employment

We must create Local employment. All politicians of all parties agree that, in our area we have just lost about 80 jobs due to the unfortunate closure of Aylesbury Mushrooms Limited and while it is encouraging that most of those people have found jobs we cannot be complacent.

If we encourage Businesses to open in our Parishes and employ people from those Parishes then over and above the obvious benefit that jobs have been created, those people will use the village shops, meet in the Village pubs, use the Post Office etc. On top

of that the Business itself will use the local services so the whole local infrastructure will benefit.

On a wider scale as these people are working in the same or nearby Parish it will cut down on the amount of private traffic cause more Local public transport and drive the need for more Cycle paths etc.

Local employment should also include encouraging people who work for companies who are out of the area to become Home workers so rather than travel to their office each day they can with the use of technology work from home.

There is at times a problem with this in that many Houses are not suitable for this because they may be too small, or inappropriate for other reasons. So we should also encourage local centers in towns and villages where people can go and work "online" with their office in privacy. (This would have been the perfect use of many of the Pubs we lost to residential use).

The goal has to be to get as many people as possible employed to work in their own or nearby Parishes.

With the national road and rail system broken almost beyond repair it will take years to fix and the best we can hope for is that with massive investment in the short term it will not get any worse. To minimize the effect on us and give it a chance working locally is the only answer.

There is a lot of good happening in the local parishes and the district at the moment. Bampton is about to get its long awaited make over to the Market square and in Witney the new Shopmobility scheme should be up and running before Christmas.

Coronary Care Unit

at the

John Radcliffe Hospital

Coffee Morning

Saturday 30th August

Village Hall, Bampton

10am - 12am

The money raised goes towards buying equipment to help people with breathing difficulties.

We look forward to seeing you at the Coffee Morning.

For more information contact:

Daphne Pullin, Tel: 851221.

Broadband 4 Bampton

30th June 2003 -for immediate use

Broadband campaign in Bampton gets under way.

Internet users in Bampton could soon be enjoying high-speed web access as a campaign to get the local exchange broadband is launched.

BT has set a target for the Bampton Castle exchange of 300 people to pre-register their interest in broadband access. Last week the total number of pre-registrations reached 95, nearly a third of the way already!

Local resident Simon Hayler is co-ordinating the Broadband 4 Bampton campaign. He comments:

"The interest level in broadband is really high. A lot of people are looking forward to broadband access we have teenagers who want to use the Internet to help with their homework, and small businesses who need always-on email".

"At this point it's important to stress that people have to register their interest with BT or an alternative Internet Service Provider. If anyone hasn't yet registered and wants to find out more we have leaflets in the local library and we have a web site www.broadband4bampton.co.uk

Broadband 4 Bampton is an independent campaign to help the people of Bampton, Aston and surrounding areas to get online with broadband Internet connections.

The goal of the campaign is to get local telephone exchange enabled for broadband by generating interest in the form of pre-registrations. Once 300 people have pre-registered, BT will enable the exchange for broadband and homes and businesses across the area will be able to order high-speed Internet access.

For more information contact:

Simon Hayler, Broadband 4 Bampton Campaign

Tel: 01993 851232

Email: campaign@broadband4bampton.co.uk

Website: www.broadband4bampton.co.uk

BAMPTON LIBRARY IS NOT JUST A LIBRARY

There are Books

(fiction and non-fiction)

Best Sellers

(soon after publication)

Talking Books, Videos

Free use of Computer

Children's Section

Books on Wheels

also

The Robert Vesey Room for exhibitions of local artists and exhibitions of photographs and oral history from the Bampton museum.

Coffee and Tea and Biscuits

Library opening hours

Monday 2.30pm to 5.00pm & 6.00pm 'til 8.00 pm.

Wednesday & Saturday 9.30am to 12.30pm

Thursday & Friday 2.30pm to 5.00pm

The Robert Vesey room opening hours

Monday, Thursday and Friday 2.30pm to 4.30pm

Wednesday and Saturday 10.00am to 12.00noon.

USE IT. DON'T LOSE IT!

Bampton Welfare Trust

Charity No. 202735

The Trustees may make gifts to the needy in Bampton, Aston, and Lew - as far as their funds allow - to relieve sudden distress or sickness, help with travelling expenses to hospitals, provide fuel and food for the sick.

The Trustees also assist the local primary schools, playgroups and clubs for the elderly in that area.

Trustees: Vicar of Bampton with Clanfield, The Reverend D Lloyd,

Mrs R Colville, Mrs J Haslam, Mrs J Newman, Dr M Perry,

Mrs S Phillips, Mr C Rouse, Mr G Wiltshire and Mr G Mills (Aston),

Mrs A Grinsell (Lew).

Clerk to the Trustees: Mr D Pullman,

Mill Green Cottage, Bampton, Tel: 01993 850589.

Welfare Officer: Mrs J Newman,

Leofric House, 81 New Road, Bampton, Tel: 01993 850755

ABBEY PROPERTIES ESTATE AGENTS

*Specialising in the sale of property in
Bampton and surrounding villages*

OUR UNRIVALLED KNOWLEDGE OF THE LOCAL
AREA COMBINED WITH OUR PROFESSIONALISM
AND WILL TO ACHIEVE THE BEST POSSIBLE
PRICE AT ALL TIMES MAKES
ABBEY PROPERTIES
THE OBVIOUS CHOICE TO
SELL YOUR HOME

*For marketing advice and a free valuation entirely without obligation,
contact YOUR local agent.*

MARKET SQUARE, BAMPTON, OXON.
Tel: 01993 851881 or Fax: 01993 850953

See also our Website www.abbey-properties.tv

The Romany Inn

Bridge Street, Bampton
01993 850237

Your Host: Trevor Johnson

A Fine Old Hostelry

Bar

Relax over a drink in our convivial surroundings in our L-shaped bar, with its oak beams, and its basket log fire set into a pillared alcove.

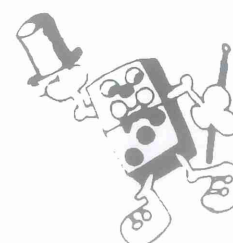
Accommodation

The Romany Inn boasts an excellent range of accommodation. There are 11 single and double rooms - all ensuite. All have tea and coffee making facilities, and come equipped with a remote control colour TV.

Restaurant

Enjoy a meal in our softly-lit dining room, with its open brickwork and gleaming brasses and copper canopied fireplace. Wide choice of menus, including vegetarian. Or you can eat in our comfy bar-restaurant with its open log fire.

DOMINO



Quality Menswear

44 Corn St. Witney
Tel: 01993 771413

FORMAL HIREWEAR
SPECIALIST

EVERYTHING FOR THAT
SPECIAL OCCASION

IMMEDIATE HIRE OF

AGENTS FOR

Dinner Suits
Morning Suits

Highland Wear
Page Boy Suits
Lounge Suits

THE STANDLAKE GARAGE

Proprietor: Peter Saxel
153 Abingdon Rd, Standlake, Oxon OX8 7RR
Tel: 01865 300203

REPAIR AND
SERVICING TO ALL
MAKES OF CAR
(Collection and Delivery Service)

M.O.T. TESTING STATION - PETROL
DIESEL - ACCESSORY AND
CONFECTIONERY SHOP - TYRES,
BATTERIES & EXHAUST SYSTEMS
ALL AT COMPETITIVE PRICES
(Fitting free of charge when supplied)
WHEEL BALANCING
CRYPTON TUNING
COAL, PARAFFIN, BARBECUE FUEL

DON'T HESITATE TO
CALL US
ALWAYS HAPPY TO
ASSIST



Electric Vehicles Ltd

Moonraker Lane, Market Square, Bampton, Oxon OX18 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 (01993) 850714/850025



(1418)

R. Cooper

BUILDERS - PAINTERS - DECORATORS

CARPENTRY - JOINERY - GENERAL HELPERS

SPECIALISTS IN DRY STONE WALLING

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

BOJANGLES

Rosemary Lane, Bampton
01993 850850

All aspects of hairdressing
Woven Highlights + Perms
Gents & Children

Senior Citizen's Days

Tues, Wed, Thur 8.45am - 5pm
Fri 8.45am - 5.30pm
Sat 9am - 2pm

Appointments not
always necessary

Dawn Puckey PAHCP

Remedial & Sports
Massage Therapist

Baby Massage
&

Ante-natal Massage

'Body-Talk'

Bampton

01235 524309

The Carers Centre

Need some information

- How do I get an orange badge for the car?
- Will my Mum get something off her council tax for her disability?
- My daughter's been diagnosed with epilepsy - how can I find out more about it?

Don't wait until you have a crisis
Ring the Carers Centre with your Query. Tel: 0345 125546

Bampton Carers meet the last Wednesday in the month at The Methodist Church Centre, High St, Witney. 1pm—3pm.

Citizen Advice Bureau

Would you like to make a difference to the community?

Then join the West Oxfordshire CAB! The Citizens Advice Bureau is one of the UK's largest and best-known voluntary organisations. In 2002 the West Oxfordshire CAB, (with bureaux in Witney and Chipping Norton) responded to almost 13,000 requests for advice from the local community, which represented 1 in 4 households in West Oxfordshire! These queries ranged from simple requests for local information to more complicated issues regarding employment rights or debt management. Volunteers and staff at West Oxon CAB were delighted with the results of a recent Client Satisfaction Survey, which showed that 92% of clients felt that visiting the bureau had made a real difference to their situation. This was supported by very positive comments such as:

"The CAB shared our problems without making us feel like we were to blame, for which I thank them very much".

And: *"I was extremely happy with the Chipping Norton CAB. To be truthful they saved me from a nervous breakdown. I will always be grateful for their help".*

The service of the CAB as a problem-solving organisation is provided by trained volunteers who derive a great deal of satisfaction from the work. As one volunteer commented:

"The work itself is quite challenging and it is rewarding to be learning all the time. I think volunteering at the

CAB is fantastic for making you feel a valued and useful member of the local community, and it's fun to be part of an active team. You never know what kind of query will come through the door next, which makes it very exciting."

Liz Pride, our Recruitment and Training Officer, thinks that the root of our volunteers satisfaction lies in the fact that the CAB offers Advisers the rare and rewarding opportunity *"to make an immediate and lasting difference to the quality of an individuals life within just a few minutes"*.

The West Oxon. CAB is currently recruiting for volunteers to join the next training programs scheduled to start over the next few months.

If you would like to find out more, please contact Liz on **Tel: 01993 708492**. Or you can drop in for a chat at 33a High Street, Witney.
E-mail
bureau@westoxfordshirecab.org.uk

IMAGINE.....

Imagine sitting in a meeting with as many as 7 professionals who are discussing your child and their Special Educational Needs, possibly using jargon you don't understand.

Imagine coming away, not clear what has been decided, unhappy that you hadn't felt brave enough to say what you really felt and wishing there had been someone there to support you.

Now, imagine you are the person there to offer support. You've had a chance to talk things through before the meeting with the parent or carer so you know what they want to say, what are the important points. You can encourage them to have their say, check with them they understand the jargon, perhaps even ask the questions the parent is reluctant to ask. Afterwards you can discuss the meeting with them and help them follow up what was agreed.

Can you imagine the difference you could make as a volunteer Independent Parental Supporter? Training and expenses are provided, so you won't be thrown in at the deep end or out of pocket.

Interested?

Ring Oxfordshire Parent Partnership Tel: 01865 810516.

Volunteer Reading Help

Have you got patience and a few hours to spare each week

Volunteer Reading Help recruits, trains and supports volunteers who visit a local primary school twice a week to give individual help to children who are finding reading difficult.

No formal qualifications are needed to be a reading helper, and volunteers can be of any age from 18 upwards. There is a short and relaxed training course which takes place locally.

If you'd like to find out more, please contact **Hilary Burr at VRH, 36 Windmill Road, Oxford OX3 7BX; Tel: 0845 4500329** or e-mail: **vrh.oxfordshire@tiscali.co.uk**

Volunteer Link-Up

It's our Birthday

Volunteer Link-up, the volunteer bureau serving your area, is celebrating its 20th Anniversary in 2003.

For 20 years our volunteers have been helping out in their communities - working in local organisations, visiting housebound people, doing gardening and other practical tasks, providing transport in their own cars.

If you're interested in joining us contact **Anne, Allison or Ruth Tel: 01993 776277**. The office is open 9am - 1pm Monday - Friday at the Methodist Church Centre, Wesley Walk, Witney.

AGE Concern

OXFORDSHIRE City & County

Voluntary Work that makes a difference

Our Information & Advice Service is looking for volunteers: To help staff the Telephone Helpline at our office in Oxford and to visit people in their own homes to help with form filling and benefits checks. No particular qualifications required. People of all ages welcome. We offer training, plenty of support and expenses. For more details telephone:

Sandra or Jenny Tel: 01865 247852

OSTEOAPATHY AT THE BAMPTON CLINIC

Philippa Rayne is your Osteopath in Bampton; she has been practising in the area since she qualified from the European School of Osteopathy in 1989.

Admittedly not all this time has she been at Moonraker Lane there were a few years away in New Zealand and Southern Africa, working as an Osteopath and safari guide!

Philippa has worked for the Osteopathic Child Care charity in London and has in the last year been teaching at Oxford Brookes University in the clinic on their Osteopathic degree course.

Some of you know her already and I hope have been helped by Osteopathy.

What is Osteopathy?

Osteopathy is an established, recognised system of diagnosis and treatment that lays its main emphasis on the structural integrity of the body.

It is distinctive in the fact that it recognises that much of the pain and disability we suffer is due to abnormalities in the function of the body structure as well as damage caused to it by disease.

Osteopathy uses many of the diagnostic procedures and assessment used in conventional medicine. Its main strength is the unique way the patient is assessed from a mechanical, functional and postural standpoint and the manual methods of treatment applied to suit the needs of individual patients.

What is the difference between Osteopathy and Chiropractic?

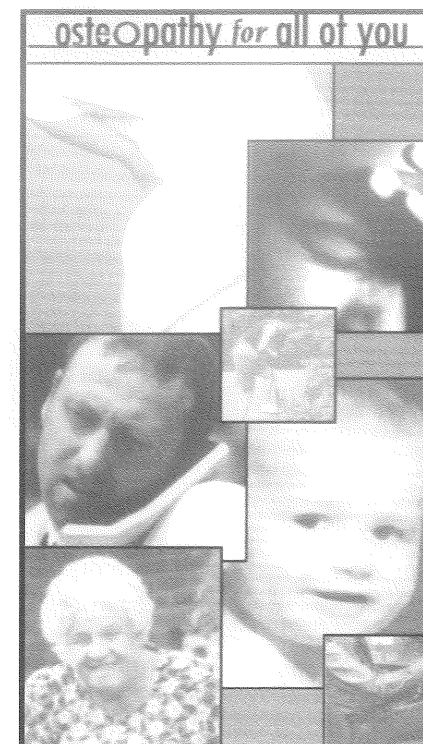
Both these professionals will assess the musculoskeletal systems and from their individual philosophies behind their training will make their own diagnosis as to the pain-causing problem.

To an Osteopath the rule of the Artery is supreme. so to improve circulation is the main objective.

The rule of the Nerve is supreme to a Chiropractor and will concentrate on spinal mobility.

What about treatment?

Osteopaths use their hands to diagnose and treat the underlying problems that can cause pain. There are a variety of techniques including, muscle and connective tissue stretching, rhythmic joint articulation and the



high velocity thrust. which can cause a loud release. which is the crack to improve joint mobility. Gentle release techniques are often used particularly when treating the elderly or children.

The cranial approach is a very gentle technique, which uses the Osteopaths highly trained sense of touch to identify and correct mechanical disturbances and limitations both in and around the joints of the skull and in the rest of the body.

What can Osteopathy treat?

Using the varied techniques available Osteopaths can treat a wide range of patients with conditions as diverse as lower back, neck and joint pain, headaches, as well as children and babies with glue ear, colic or fretfulness. which can be attributed to difficult deliveries.

SPURGEON'S CHILD CARE

WANTED

Men and women volunteers of all ages and backgrounds, particularly African, Asian and Caribbean to befriend or advocator for children and young people in care in Oxfordshire.

What are You:

Doing next Saturday afternoon, or do you have any other spare time?

Do You:

Want to make a real difference to disadvantaged children & young people in Oxon?

Are you:

- Looking for a rewarding challenge?
 - Willing to invest time with a child or young person?
 - Able to commit yourself long term?
- Available to train as a volunteer?

Could you offer:

- A few hours once a fortnight?
- Friendship, Support or Advocacy to a young person in care?
- Enthusiasm and Willingness to befriend a child or young person and
- Participate in fun activities?

We need you

To find out more information contact: **Tony Thomas, Spurgeon's Child Care, Courtyard Youth Arts Centre, Launton Road, Bicester, OX26 6DJ.**

Tel: 01869 602570 or e-mail: oxoniv@hotmail.com.

Spurgeon's Child Care is an International Christian Voluntary Agency providing a range of services for children and families in need This is a joint project with Oxfordshire Social Services.

Spurgeon's Child Care is also a company limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales, no. 3990460, and a registered charity, no. 1081182. Chief Executive : David Culwick . Life President: Archer Spurgeon.

Dear Editor,
**Society for the
 PROTECTION OF BAMPTON**

Many of your readers will already be aware of the proposal, included in the West Oxfordshire District Council's latest Draft Local Plan, for 100 new homes in New Road, of which 50 would be affordable houses.

The Society for the Protection of Bampton recognises the need for some more affordable housing in Bampton. The need has become greater because the rise in house prices (and rents) has greatly exceeded the rise in average earnings. Consequently many people, young and old, cannot afford to rent or buy a house in Bampton. For those on low incomes affordable housing can be their salvation. Rents and house prices tend to be around half of commercial rates and this means that they are "affordable" for most families.

The New Road scheme, containing 50 commercial houses as it does, would give no priority to those with Bampton connections. Such priority only goes with schemes on "exception sites".

These are sites on which planning permission would not normally be granted. In such schemes, priority would be given to those with Bampton connections. Hence the New Road scheme might only provide one or two homes for Bampton people - the other 98 or 99 would go to outsiders. Clearly a very poor deal for Bampton. This scheme, in our view, is completely unsuitable for Bampton.

The Parish Council, fully supported by our Society and B.E.W.G., has a study in hand looking into "Affordable Housing", and it is hoped to complete the study within 6 months.

All homes in Bampton will be asked to complete a Survey on Affordable Housing needs. It is important that every household completes the survey, whether they have such a need or not.

With the results of the survey the Parish Council hopes to be able to put forward proposals for building affordable houses on exception sites.

At the latest count only 21 people on the W.O.D.C. waiting list for housing

**LETTERS
 and
 E-MAILS
 TO THE EDITOR**

have "Bampton" points - certainly far less than some have suggested. But there may be others who would put their names down if they thought they had a chance of an affordable home.

Yours sincerely
 The Earl of Donoughmore

Dear Ed

After 29 very enjoyable years as a Barn Dance Caller, done mostly with the Bampton Barn Dance band, I have decided to 'call it a day', hang up my microphone, take off my green wellies and throw away my yellow 'Y' fronts, which of course was my official uniform, though not in recent years as the 'Y' fronts were showing signs of stitch rot!

I would like to go out with a bit of a 'Bang', as it were, a sort of party in the SPAJER tradition. A Junket, having fun whilst making a bit of money for others to benefit.

So Saturday 18th October at Woodgreen School, Witney will see 'Don's Last Bash'! I would like to invite all those who have enjoyed a 'knees up' with us in the past to join us for one more time. I do realise that some of you who were only thirty something when I started and now you are pushing seventy views this invitation with some trepidation. But fear not, already this year we have done two different seventy birthday celebration Dances and one Golden Wedding Dance, the oldest person that I have knowingly had on the dance floor was ninety two!

I have always prided myself on being versatile, so what I normally do when I have a wide diversity of ages on the dance floor is to have the 'oldies' on left side and the 'youngies' on the right. The part of the Band that has the 'oldies' in front of them plays much slower than the other side!

Now I know you are very perplexed as to how it works, well to find out you can get tickets from me, C.T.C. in Corn Street Witney, or at the Bamp-

ton Surgery. They will be £8.00 each, which will include a Ploughman's Supper. A bar licence has been applied for. Dancing to start at 7.30pm. We are fortunate in Bampton to have such a great team at our Doctor's Surgery. They have always been very obliging whenever the SPAJERS have needed medical cover at any of their functions, never charging a penny, yet to have the St John's ambulance on duty would knock a big hole into £100.00.

As a way of saying thank you, I enquired of them as to whether there was a piece of equipment that they needed that could benefit the people of Bampton. They have asked for an Automatic Defibrillator that they claim is absolutely Foolproof! Not that I would suggest that there are any fools there!

Any musicians that have in the past played with the Bampton Barn dance Band and would like to take part in this event please get in touch with me and I will forward it to the band leader Frank Purslow.

I would like to point out that it is me retiring, not the Band.

Yours sincerely
 Don Rouse

Dear Editor

I was born in Weald; at three years of age moved to New Road then returned to Weald aged eight when Dad bought Backhouse Farm. I grew up and married, continuing to live in Weald for many years thereafter.

Bampton was a small community at the time I grew up; everyone knowing each other, many related. The farm and surrounding countryside was my playground. St Mary's Church a part of my social life with the choir and Sunday school.

It was a very secure environment for which I consider myself very lucky to have had. Although as a teenager I resented peoples interest in what I was doing, with "I'll tell your parents" if caught going into a pub, smoking a cigarette or perhaps flirting with boys. It gave me a good grounding coupled with my happy loving family in growing up.

So it was a surprise to many when after living in our cottage for 35 years my husband and I decided to move.

We were in our mid fifties and thought if we were going to go, now was as good a time as any.

Somerset was our chosen county partly because our daughter, son-in-law and grand children lived there and of course a lovely part of England, the town, Glastonbury. Most have heard of the Glastonbury Festival although this is actually held in a village about 8 miles away called Pilton from which we do not hear the music but see many of the participants. Most are a riot of colour, with different ideas of living and dressing and from all walks of life. Glastonbury is also known for the Tor, a steep hill with a tower at the top, visited by tourists and believers in the mystic, as here is a town full of legends and myths, which keeps the visitors coming here.

We moved from an old cottage surrounded by fields to a new house on an estate at the edge of a busy town. There is a large rolling hill overlooking the estate called Wearyall Hill and I must say it does make me very weary walking up it but the view is tremendous looking across the Somerset Levels. Besides the many trees growing on it is the Holy Thorn, legend is that Joseph of Arimathea placed his staff in the ground and it took root. A sprig is cut and sent to the Queen each Christmas. At Easter a wooden cross is placed on the hill, which looks very poignant.

Glastonbury has changed a great deal say many of the locals. It was a market town that took on the mantle of being a mystical place, bringing in alternative faiths, beliefs and living. Many 'ordinary' shops have gone, replaced by Gothic, African, Indian, Buddhists and Herbalists, many selling gems to help the mind, body and soul. We even have a shop for white witches with roots, dried leaves, flowers or herbs for appropriate spells. Many scents assail the nose as you walk past some shops, joss sticks burning or scented oils in burners. In the summer a machine blows bubbles, the colourful orbs wafting down the High Street bringing many a smile to peoples faces.

I haven't mentioned the people, the locals so interesting to talk to about how things were and the hippy types in their alternative style of dress, and

**LETTERS
 and
 E-MAILS
 TO THE EDITOR**

hair, all coloured very bright. who most are kind and gentle in their manner, and loving to each other. We also have buskers, the saxophonist a joy to hear, also the flute but not I'm afraid the bagpipes. The man obviously loves playing them but needs to learn how, he performs by the Church opposite the Charity shop where I work, and the noise can be quite overpowering. I love the colour and enigmatic feel to the place but of course it is not perfect.

We do get people hanging around the seats on the pavement outside the Church, who have nothing to do but drink and perhaps have other things wrong with them too. They do not cause too much trouble just not nice to experience, but tolerated.

In the town are the Abbey ruins, set in 36 acres of land; peace and tranquillity envelopes you as you wander around unaware of noise from the nearby traffic. During the year there are a great many parades and activities, dancing in the square, people demonstrating their skills with pavement art, juggling, acrobats, fire eating and people who want to express their feelings on their favourite subject.

In November, there is a huge Carnival that travels for a week going to major towns finishing in Weston-super-Mare. It's exciting, noisy, and a spectacular sight to see, as about 70 different trailers parade at night. Each depicting a song, book, nursery rhyme, or just a chosen theme, some actors static others dancing. All lit up by a brilliant show of coloured lights on and around the scene twirling and flashing.

We have the Polden, Mendip and Quantock hills around us as well as the levels, the roads narrow and winding. The people here have been kind and friendly, the place exciting and interesting, the area still a dairy farming community, reminding me of Bampton past with all it's small hold-

ings and shambling buildings. Perhaps this goes towards why after two years we have no regrets in moving. Teresa and Frank Piercy. Glastonbury.

Dear Editor,

I wonder if you know of anywhere or anybody in Bampton who may be able to help me in finding out anything about my grandfather, Edwin Bowles, who was born at Bampton in 1858. Any address or email contact would be appreciated,
 Yours sincerely
 Keith Haines, 202 Essex Street
 Footscray West, Victoria 3012.
 Australia

Dear Ed

I am replying to the Bamptonian who wrote about the "Pudden" stones on Pudding Corner. Well, I would like to tell him/her that the Big One is still there. It is not as pink smooth and shiny as the childhood memories would recall. Born in Bampton, 76 years ago, my childhood was spent in this area, running through the alleys, and the white wooden crosses, that were there to stop us riding our bikes there. So as you can imagine I have a lot of memories. Such as when the circus used to come to town and put the BIG TOP in the Bowling Green Field etc.

If Bamptonians want to see things in Bampton, I'd advise that they walk round and not drive!

Yours sincerely
 Freda Bradley

Dear Editor

A baby to be christened? A daughter who is getting married? Or even a funeral? There are alternative venues for all these nowadays; but there are still many who like the place where their ancestors lie buried, or (having chosen to live in this friendly place) like the thought of the gracious and ancient surroundings provided by the local church for their christenings and weddings.

It is because so many choose this way, and also because many like the thought that the church is there for them when they need it, when our Patronal festival comes in July and envelopes are delivered through the door asking for financial help, very many are extremely generous.

But it occurred to the Church Council members that perhaps you would like to know how we spend those donations, and where we get the rest from! In 2002 it cost just under £49,000 for ordinary running costs; (this is subject to inflation, never reduction!) so in 2003 we expect it will reach £1000 per week. This includes £24,000 which we are obliged to produce to help pay for clergy salaries, pensions, expenses, and to help poorer churches (e.g. inner cities). On top of that we have to provide for church fabric needs, like replacing the electric cables or installing new lighting. Then we have to seek extra help or dig into the already depleted resources. The new kitchen and lloo of which we are so proud is an example of this; also the lighting of the spire which gives so much pleasure. For the help we received for these, and all the other appeals over the years, we are very grateful.

Of course St Mary's was once Roman Catholic- before the Tudors were on the throne - and we are very happy that nowadays the Catholic community still worship there every week. During that time most of England was agricultural and everyone gave their 'tithe' to the church; seldom was it given as money.

In return the church gave a tithe (tenth) of *that* back to the poor - again as goods rather than money. Cash (gold) was used solely for the decoration of the church to the glory of God. (We have a silver Elizabethan chalice, hallmarked 1595, which must have been given by some wealthy parishioner, probably in remembrance of a loved one.)

This church tries to give away a tenth of our income £5000 in 2002. In this world where there are people so much worse off than us, as anyone who watches the news knows, need is overwhelming; so some goes to causes abroad. For years we supported Bondi hospital at Corymeela in Zimbabwe; nowadays we tend to choose several good causes each year so as to spread what we can among more people.

In 2002 we gave half of what we made at the annual Bazaar to Bampton School, this is on top of supporting it anyway as it is a church school.

LETTERS and E-MAILS TO THE EDITOR

We gave to Douglas House and Helen House, both hospices at Oxford which are for young people with cancer. We supported the Langley House Trust, a Witney-based charity for ex-offenders and we supported Mission Aviation Fellowship, which flies aid to vulnerable people world-wide Their letters of thanks are moving.

Our total income, from all sources was under £49,000. Those of us who are committed to St Mary's give regularly; we sign a pledge and a gift aid declaration which means that the hon Treasurer can claim back some of the tax which donors have already paid on that money and such gifts are worth nearly 1/4 more to the church. Those who give on Gift bay and complete the simple details on the envelopes, achieve the same recovery of tax.

So when you drive south down the hill into Bampton at night, and see the floodlit spire pointing proudly to heaven; if the sight gives you any pleasure, please think of that and the other ways donations have been used as you put your donation in the Gift Day envelope!

Dear Mr Gray (should I be so formal in an email?)

My two uncles were evacuated to Bampton House, during WW2, to a Colonel and Mrs Bliss. My mother a short time after got a job here as a kitchen maid (to escape the bombs of the East End). So many stories they tell of their time in Bampton. Some funny, some sad!! Other children from the East End were evacuated there along with other houses around. Mrs Bliss continued to write to both of my uncles long after the war ended. A few years ago I took my mum to visit Bampton House. This obviously was not as she remembered. The lady that now lives there invited us in and showed us up into the rooms where the evacuated children slept. She certainly made my mum's visit back to Bampton that day.

Is there anyone in the village who is still in contact with any of the evacuees from World War 2. I would be very grateful for any news
Many thanks
Wendy Cantlon

Dear Mrs McLintock

Please find enclosed cheque of £2.50 for your excellent Bampton Beam, which I greatly enjoy reading.

May I add I am a 91 years of age and was born and lived in Bampton for my teenage years. If any Bamptonians remember me, please give them my regards.

I visited Bampton last year when I was 90, unfortunately on a day when most places were closed. If anyone in the village still remembers me, my father kept a cycle shop in the High Street and sold petrol from two pumps on the pavement. I often helped with the pumps. Petrol was 1 shilling and 1 penny a gallon! I see the shop no longer exists.

I still have a brother Colin Townsend still living. Unfortunately he is now blind 92 years of age.

I thoroughly enjoyed my days in your wonderful village and often think of the excellent years I spent there.

I have your wonderful book of Bampton and can remember many events before it was written.

I now live on my own in a bungalow looking out onto a lovely moor. My back gate opens onto the moor and I have the most wonderful views.

Sincerely yours

Miss Rita Townsend.

If anyone remembers Miss Townsend and would like to get in touch, please give the Ed a call Tel: 851653 and she will pass on the address.

Dear Editor

Bampton Blues

I wonder if you would be willing to publish the enclosed verses in your next issue of the Bampton Beam? I have read them to a few Bampton residents of my acquaintance and they have urged me to send them to you as they feel they will strike a chord with many people who love Bampton as I do. I penned the poem when I was away in Spain during last winter

Yours sincerely

Frank Stanger, Queen St.

Bampton Blues

When I'm away from Bampton and by
a distant sea

I think about that little town and all it
means to me

The Shillbrook flowing past the Mill
will be an easy guide

Then daily by the kingcup stream with
cottages beside

Tall Gothic houses come in view and
then a rarer thing

For lo a childhood farm is there to
make a child's heart sing

Ponies horses ducks and hens with
oft a tiny broodit's handy if you have
some scraps to win their gratitude

Then back across the footbridge,
You're by the butcher's shop

Where tasty sausages and steaks will
make you want to stop

Unless it's closing afternoon our
Butcher's busy there

And he and his assistants will smile
back if you stare

Walk now along the High Street,
stone buildings everywhere

And see the Town Hall tall and fine
the centre of the Square

Two coaching inns of yesteryear stand
almost side by side

And Bampton folk are always dry and
drinking is their pride

Those who died in War long past are
honoured in the Square

St George and Dragon fight atop a
column standing there

While down below are cut in stone the
names of those who died

Young men all who paid the price of
old men and their pride

I've watched the townfolk honour
those who died so long ago

The firemen and the airmen all
standing row by row

And then of course the Vet'rans, an
ever dwindling band

And little children with their mums
and teachers hand in hand

St Mary's Spire now beckons me; I
turn off to my right

Along Church View and then the
Church stands foursquare in my sight

The ancient tree and grassy plain,
great houses stand nearby

Now through the gate and past the
graves where former worthies lie

I stop to read an epitaph which I have
often read

Writ by a husband for his wife so
young when she was dead

He tells us of her beauty then and of
his sadness great

I hope he loved her as he should be-
fore she met her fate

The Church is mirrored in my mind;
its bold asymmetry

The massive stonework, golden grey,
is sheer delight to me

Its tower topped by spire and saints is
e'er a welcome sign

That Bampton's near, I'm almost at
the village which is mine

The footpath signs would tempt me
sore if I had time to spare

And Bampton boasts a host of these
crisscrossing everywhere

But I must really hasten on or lose my
reverie

And Landells beckons me to pass the
local cemetery

Now leafy Broad Street comes in
view no finer road I say

I peep up Manor driveway where
crocus blue hold sway

Then onwards to the Primary School
and where the people dwell

The folk who have the time for you
and know their neighbours well

My interest in these Bampton folk is
not a thing that palls

There's Cyril on his bicycle who
builds the Cotswold walls

And try and find a single thing which
Adrian hasn't got within his crowded

little shop;
He seems to have the lot

Tis sad that Inns are closing down
their signs have gone for ever

They've gone from eight to only four
despite the town's endeavour

But still the town's heart strongly
beats despite the tides of time

And my thoughts wing across the seas
to that fair town of mine

Copyright reserved to Frank Stanger
The Poplars Queen Street Bampton
Oxfordshire OX 18 2LP

Dear Oxfordshire Resident

Living in Oxfordshire, has a special character of its own, achieved through its unique mix of lovely villages and attractive towns. Indeed, you live in the most rural county in the south-east of England. The countryside is dominated by agriculture, from canal side Cropredy in the north, to riverside Wallingford in the south. The Thames and The Cherwell, The Windrush and The Evenlode enrich and shape our county. Oxford City, The Vale of White Horse, The Chilterns and The Cotswolds all lend their history and geography to create a very particular landscape. Everywhere there is a feeling of a unique blend of town and countryside, full of interest and tradition. I am sure that you agree that all this is well worth preserving. The questions are: *Who will do it?* and *How will it be done?*

The Council for the Protection of Rural England - CPRE - believes passionately that such an important matter cannot be left to chance. There are so many conflicting pressures on this marvellous part of rural England that we have to work hard to represent it at every turn. The alternative is to risk losing it forever. As our President, Sir Max Hastings recently pointed out, this does not mean we are opposed to change. What it does mean is the fostering of the stewardship of our inheritance: that we see ourselves as guardians of our countryside, working to ensure that our children and grandchildren can also enjoy what we have been privileged to have experienced. We are committed to preserving the rural characteristics of Oxfordshire. You have probably noticed the proliferation of roadside signs many of these are unnecessary. We are seeking to influence councils to develop more careful policies so that only signs that are absolutely essential are used. In this way we can help preserve the natural appearance of our environment.

As a registered charity, we rely heavily on subscriptions and voluntary donations. If you feel you would like to join us please contact me Tel: **01865 874780.**

Yours sincerely
Margaret Preston, Campaign Manager, CPRE Oxfordshire.

Gray's Taxis*Your Local Family Taxi Company***01993 852383***Local and Long Distance**Airports**Contract Hire**Seaports**24 Hour Service by Appointment**All Major Credit and Debit Cards Accepted in the Cars**National Transport Tokens Welcome***The Morris Clown****A True Free House***A better quality insult from your hosts**Tom and Steve***Over 100 Guest
Beers a Year****High Street, Bampton,
CAMRA Member Since 1997
(Campaign for Real Ales)****Proud not to do
Food!****Darts****Aunt Sally****Bar Billiards****Licensed Integral Function Room**

Enjoy the contemporary atmosphere and Moulin Rouge Décor of this old coaching inn, which is the only pub we know to have fully absorbed the principle of the emancipation of the fairer sex, with having the ladies toilet outside! The gents of course is inside in the warm!

Cotswold Bed & Breakfast

Comfortable and well appointed accommodation in a
quiet backwater of Bampton, Oxfordshire
(on the edge of the Cotswolds 8 miles from Burford)

Ample off road parking**For information and booking****Tel: 01993 852703 or 01993 851126****E-mail: poshmargaret@btopenworld.com
or Encompass5@aol.com****SICK WASHING MACHINE
POORLY COOKER?**

THE
APPLIANCE DOCTOR
IS
"ON CALL"

TELEPHONE FOR
FREE ESTIMATE OR
ADVICE
WITNEY 705947



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

**BAMPTON FAX
BUREAU**

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

**Emmie's
NEWS AGENTS****Bridge St. Bampton
Tel: 850467***Newspapers delivered anywhere in
Bampton***PHILIPPA RAYNE**

**Registered Osteopath
Treatment for all
ages, including
Cranial Osteopathy
for Babies**

FIONA FARMER

**Chartered
Physiotherapist
(Spinal and Sports)
Therapy +
Acupuncture**

**MOONRAKER LANE,
BAMPTON, OXON. OX18 2JH****TEL: 01993 851359****E. TAYLOR & SON***Established 1885***FUNERAL DIRECTORS**

A caring personal service from a
family business

Funeral Directors**BRIAN TAYLOR & PETER SMITH****Tel: Carterton 842421
(24 hr Personal Service)****Witney 702123 9am - 5pm**

Home Arrangements - Private Chapel of Rest
SET IN LANDSCAPE GARDENS
Golden Charter Funeral Prepayment Plan

**Curtain
Choice**

Makers of Fine Soft Furnishings
*A personal and professional service for
all your*
CURTAINS, BLINDS, LOOSE COVERS ETC.
*To arrange a home visit and a quote
without obligation telephone:*
01993 843103

*E-mail: enquiries@curtain-choice.co.uk
www.curtain-choice.co.uk*

**OXFORD
DOUBLE GLAZING**
Established 1964**Simple,
Straightforward
Advice**

Buying double-glazing need not be complicated! Let us
advise you on windows, doors, conservatories, patio
doors, sash windows and secondary glazing - no pressure,
no obligation.

Call (01865) 517200

E-mail: info@oxforddoubleglazing.com

www.oxforddoubleglazing.com

Opening hours:**9.30 - 5.30 Monday to Friday****10.00 - 4.00 Saturday****Showroom****3 South Parade, Summertown, Oxford OX2 7JL****GGF****GREY
GABLES
GARAGE****CURBRIDGE, WITNEY, OXON OX18 7PD****Telephone****01993 702609****Fax****01993 774169****NEW SKODA****DEALER**

**New & Used Cars
of other makes available**

MOT and garage repairs**LONDIS****MARKET SQUARE, BAMPTON****OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK****UNTIL 10PM****YOUR FRIENDLY COMMUNITY SHOP
AT YOUR SERVICE**

**ELECTRICAL METER KEYS CHARGED • NATIONAL LOTTERY • TOP UP MOBILE PHONE CARDS
'ET VOILA' FRENCH BREAD BAKED ON THE PREMISES • FRESH FRUIT & VEGETABLES
FRESH MILK & CREAM • FREE RANGE EGGS • WINES, SPIRITS, BEERS & CIDER
COOKED MEATS & BACON • FROZEN FOOD & GROCERIES • POSTAGE STAMPS • VIDEO HIRE**

**OPEN EVERY SUNDAY UNTIL 10PM
BANK HOLIDAYS UNTIL 10PM****WE DO NOT CLOSE FOR LUNCH**

Fond Memories of Arthur

Sadly, Bampton has lost one of its few remaining characters; Mr Gerring, or as everyone knew him, 'Arthur', passed away in July.

Arthur was a very quiet and unimposing man, and someone who never seemed to age or change as the years went by. He was, however, very easy to talk to, especially if you wanted to reminisce with him over the old times. He had seen a lot of changes in his time, but he himself was not one who went for change for the sake of it, and he liked to continue to do things his own way on the farm, going about his business in a very contented fashion. How many of us can say that about ourselves!

I remember the time when he had to go into hospital, having broken a leg, and Mrs Gerring decided that she would have to part company with Arthur's chickens. Quite what Arthur thought about this is not recorded

- at least as far as we know! - but they were soon replaced when he was up and about once again. After that unwanted absence from the farm, Arthur did begin to look a little bit older, but it was not the work that did this; more likely the stress of lying in a hospital bed with nothing to do! Arthur did not like to be idle.

Unfortunately, I could not attend his funeral, or perhaps I would have learned a few more things about him from his friends and family that I could have put in this article to make it more interesting! Instead I will just have to tell you a few of the memories I have of him.



Arthur with Mrs Rosie Gerring and son Fred enjoying a break some years back!

I have lived for many years next door to his field where Arthur kept his chickens along the Aston Road - in the earlier years with my parents, and in the latter years with my own family. I hate housework and it was great to be able to 'down tools' and go across and have a chat with him if you spotted him in the field. It was never too much trouble for him to stop what he was doing and have a chat. Days I will now sorely miss.

My two boys, in their younger years, held Arthur to be a hero; "Mum, Arthur's in the field, can we go and see him, he's on his tractor?", they would say as they ran off to see what he was up to. The thrill was even greater when he brought the equipment along to mow and bale the hay in his field; and greater still, when he would arrive at our small field behind our house to do our hay.

Arthur would even allow them to sit on his tractor as he went round the field, and this was the highlight of the year for the boys. I remember them pestering me to buy, from Mrs Ham's shop in the Market Square, a blue tractor just like Arthur's. It is still a treasured item for my oldest son.

Arthur believed in getting the most out of his machinery - he didn't want anything 'modern' - and he had his own 'personal engineers' to attend to and mend the equipment, one being my late father John Quick, and latterly Trevor Hawkins. It seemed to work, because the machinery kept going, although there must have been times when Arthur's 'personal engineers' advised him that new equipment might just be worth considering, given the frequency of breakdowns that seemed to occur!

Many of the Villagers will have their own memories of Arthur, but many

will remember him particularly for his driving; he would drive his little car or his tractor through the streets at what could be described as a 'leisurely pace'! The key was not to get behind Arthur if you were in a hurry!

Retirement was never in Arthur's vocabulary, and he told me he would continue to work his fields until he was at least 90; he made it. Our thoughts go to Mrs Gerring, Mary, Fred and their respective families.

Arthur was part of the fabric of the Village. He will be sorely missed.

West Oxfordshire Conservative Association

Bampton, Clanfield and Black Bourton Branch

By Graham Haslam, Branch Chairman

In November 2002, the amalgamation of the Bampton, Clanfield and Black Bourton branches of WOCA took place.

At the end of November, we held the first event of the 'new' branch, with a highly successful Christmas Drinks evening, at The Grange in Clanfield. David Cameron, our MP, dropped in to tell us about his work in Westminster, which was of great interest to us all!

On July 12th this year, the Summer Garden Party took place on a fine, warm evening in the lovely gardens of Ann and Brian Ferguson, and we were again fortunate that David Cameron and his wife, Samantha, were able to be present. David was congratulated on his promotion within the Conservative Party to the position of shadow Deputy Leader of the House.

A good cross-section of age groups was represented in the 117 attendees, and we all enjoyed a superb barbecue cooked by the 'Singing Chefs', and a wide variety of delicious puddings prepared by the Ladies.

Our next event is the annual Christmas Drinks, to be held at Weald Manor on 12th December. Everyone is welcome, no matter your political persuasion, to come along and share in the Christmas Cheer.

THE MAY GARLANDS THE NOSTALGIA AND THE NEW



The 2003 Winners : Mathew and Alex Morgan. Well done to all the other competitors, and we look forward to seeing you again next year.



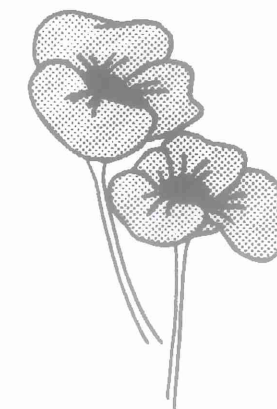
Whitsun sometime in the 1930s
From the left Ruth Dixey (the late Mrs Ruth Ferguson) and Rosie Sollis (now Mrs Rosie Gerring).
Garland made by Mrs Brenda Dixey.



Whitsun sometime in the 1930s
From the left June Seymore, Laurence Dixey, and Ruth Dixey.
All lived in Buckland Road.
Garland made by Mrs Brenda Dixey

We would like to thank Ted Dixey for sharing these photos with us.

We wear them with pride



"We will remember them"
Remembrance

Sunday
November 9th 2003
10.45am War Memorial
11am St Mary's

6pm Methodist Chapel

I Vow to thee, my country
Cecil Spring-Rice 1859-1918

I vow to thee my country,
all earthy things above,
Entire and whole and perfect,
the service of my love;
The love that asks no questions,
the love that stands the test,
That lays upon the altar the dearest
and the best;
The love that never falters,
the love that pays the price,
The love that makes undaunted the
final sacrifice.

And there's another country,
I've heard of long ago
Most dear to them that love her,
most great to them that know;
We may not count her armies,
we may not see her king;
Her fortress is a faithful heart,
her pride is suffering;
And soul by soul and silently her
shining bounds increase,
And her ways are ways of gentleness
and all her paths are peace.

THE BUSH CLUB NEEDS YOU!

The Bush Club needs people aged 60 and over.

We meet every Wednesday in the Scout Hut,
Church View 10am - 2pm

Collection arrangements can be made for you

Come along and enjoy a day out in a different environment
then your usual one.

We provide morning coffee, lunch and tea.

Most weeks we have entertainment or a speaker comes to visit

Sometimes we go on a trip somewhere - Pantomime at Christmas, Lunch
out at The Ferryman Inn, Millets Garden Centre

Strawberry Tea at the Manor and lots more.

We celebrate Christmas, Easter and Harvest Festival.

Raffles and Coffee Morning

And if that's not enough we have a game of Bingo or a Sing-a-long.

Why don't you come in and visit- drop by for Morning Coffee -

Join us for Lunch - or come and listen to the entertainment.

You don't need to stay the day with us, come in to suit yourself.

*During August we close, but the first Wednesday in September we are up
and running once again.*

For more information contact

Vera Allport Tel: 8510441 or Barbara Daw Tel: 851491

**IF YOU DON'T USE THIS FACILITY HERE IN THE
VILLAGE WE MAY HAVE TO CLOSE DOWN AND
THAT WOULD BE AN AWFUL SHAME FOR THOSE
WHO ALREADY DO USE IT AND ENJOY
A SOCIAL DAY OUT.**

**Cooks, Drivers and Helpers are urgently needed. An hour or two now
and then would be very helpful.**

Bampton Welfare Trust

If anyone has a electric mobility scooter that is no longer needed, please contact The Bampton Welfare Trust who may know of a good home for it.

Bampton Footpath Map

Free copies available from BEWG, Abbey Properties, the Post Office The Bampton Footpath Maps, designed by BEWG and first published in the Bampton Beam in 19?? have now been produced in leaflet form. Funding has been provided by grants from Bampton Parish Council, WODC and the accumulated profit from the Bampton Directory.

Apologies for the delay after this notice appeared in the April issue of *The Bampton Beam*.

St. Mary's Church

We will be holding a Harvest Barn Dance in the nave of St. Mary's Church on Friday 19th September 2003. The Woodpecker Band will lead the dancing and we are hoping that some guest musicians will add extra special Harvest flair to the evening. Last year's Barn Dance was a total sell-out so early purchasing of tickets is advisable. Tickets will go on sale on Friday 15th August. Further information please contact **Colin Cordy Tel: 851296**.

Bampton Youth Centre

Bampton Youth Centre is continuing to fulfil its main objective of providing a venue for youth activities in the village. The Centre, which is conveniently situated in the old Victorian primary school in Church View, is also used for various other purposes and we are now welcoming Bampton Weightlifting Club as a regular occupant.

The Youth Centre is funded partly by a generous annual donation from the 250 Club but is, otherwise, heavily reliant on income from rental of the premises to organisations and individuals. These include the County Youth service, which pays part of the cost of the use of the Centre by the Youth Club. The Youth Club is also supported to a substantial extent by the Parish Council who pay for the

NOTICE BOARD

services of one of the two youth workers. In addition, the Youth Centre is regularly helped by the Bampton Welfare Trust in funding of major expenditure. The main hall of the Centre is a particularly attractive venue for parties, wedding receptions and meetings and we would recommend it for anyone seeking to hold such an event in the village. There is a small but convenient kitchen and an additional major factor in its favour is the ample parking in the old playgrounds in front of and to the rear of the building. The cost of hire is modest and details can be obtained from **Mrs Jill Ruck Tel: 852010**. The Secretary, **Colin Allport Tel: 850411** is always happy to provide general information.

The Youth Club is continuing to flourish with a Tuesday evening meeting for younger members and Thursday evening senior session. Anyone wishing to join or any parent or adult willing to help should contact **Gary Gummer Tel: 842416851913** or the area youth worker **Shelley Vaisey**.

Rachael Newman's Piggot School of Dance has dance lessons for children on a number of occasions during the week and Rachael can be contacted **Tel: 852355**.

Bampton Weightlifting Club is commencing use of the premises in the second half of July and their Secretary, **John Davies Tel: 702266** would welcome enquiries from prospective members.

Old Birthday Cards

Please continue to let me your Birthday Cards, after you have enjoyed them, so that I can continue to recycle them into resaleable items which then make money for worthy causes. **Daphne Gaydon, 3 Broad Street**

The Childrens Society

Our house-to-house collection this year raised £109.73 and we are enormously grateful to our collectors for kindly giving up their time on our behalf. Our numbers have sadly dwindled over the years and I would be very happy to hear from anyone who could give up an hour or two of their

time to help next year. The collection always takes place over the Easter period when the weather should be improving - always a great help when collecting!

We also collected £68.94 from Londis, which is proving to be a very valuable source of income. Our thanks to all those kind people who regularly give us their change.

Please do consider whether or not you can help us. Contact **Pauline Hawkins, Tel: 851066**.

Bampton Exhibition Foundation

The Foundation exists to maintain the Old Grammar School building (now the Library), and to provide financial support to young people residing in the Ancient Parish of Bampton, Aston, Lew and Weald. The financial help is for young people who would like to participate in any academic or sporting course or activity of educational value which would otherwise be beyond their means. We try to offer a bursary of 50% of the amount required. Anyone who feels they qualify (or knows of someone who may do so) should contact the Correspondence Secretary, **Roger Snow, 40 Bushy Row, Bampton, OX18 2JU or Tel: 850113**.

Cancer Research Bampton Branch

Here is a list of our forthcoming events between now and Christmas.

Saturday September 20th

Coffee Morning, Village Hall

Wednesday November 12th

Bingo, Village Hall

Friday December 5th

Quiz Night, Village Hall

Friday December 19th

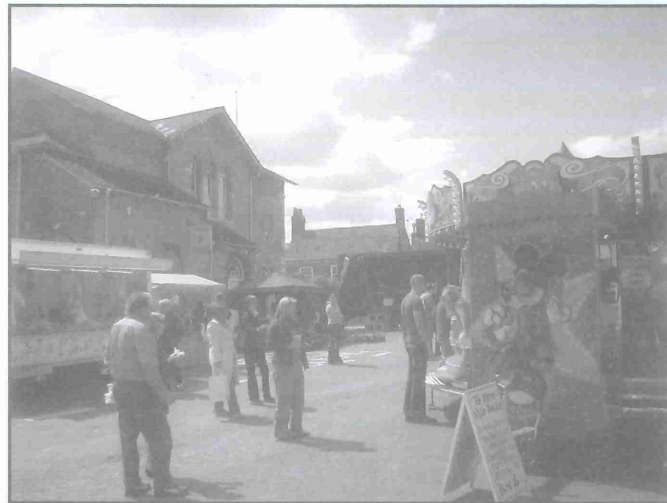
Country & Western Dance, Carterton Social Club.

The Bush Club

Cooks, Drivers and Helpers are urgently needed. An hour or two now and then would be very helpful. The Club meets every Wednesday in the Scout Building, Church View, and caters for up to 40 pensioners. We provide tea, coffee and a hot meal. For more information please contact **Barbara Daw Tel: 01993 851491**.

OUT AND ABOUT

The Annual Pumpkin Club Street Fair



Good Weather and Well Attended as Usual

The Gardening Club Goes Dutch - A Visit to the Bulb Fields at Keukenhof



And to Volendam : To See The Great Old Sailing Ships Regatta

OUT AND ABOUT

The SPAJERS' Great Annual Shirt Race



Radio Oxford's Pippa Shay and Her Partner Mark Presented the Prizes - To Young and Old!

Morris Dance Day - Another Great Day Out in the Village



*The Next Major Event is the SPAJERS' Donkey Derby at Sandfords
August Bank Holiday Monday*

For more information please contact
Barbara Daw Tel: 01993 851491.

Bampton French Book Club

Having recently moved to Bampton from Swindon where I ran a French Book Club, I am wondering whether there may be interest in the village to set up a similar club here. The Swindon club proved very popular amongst those who had attained a good standard of French - roughly A level - and who wished to maintain this level without committing themselves to formal weekly language classes. The meetings would be roughly every two months, where a book which had been chosen in the previous session would be discussed. The only cost involved would be the purchase of the book - less than £5 per session. Interested? Please contact: **Grace Wilkins, 3 Beam Paddock.**

Bampton Bridge Club

The Club meets in the Village Hall every Tuesday, 7:30 pm to 10pm. Duplicate Bridge is played on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Tuesday of the month.. Rubber bridge on the 3rd and 4th Tuesdays. The annual subscription is £5 with a charge of £1.00 per session. New members are always welcome. For more information contact, **Joan Granville, Tel: 850407**

Bampton Ladies Group

We are a group of Ladies who meet in the Village Hall on the third Wednesday of each month at 8pm. Our aim is to have a variety of light-hearted talks, demonstrations and outings. If you would like to come along, the first visit is free. Further information from Joan Farthing Tel: 851206. *Well done to the Bampton Ladies Group who have just celebrated 30 years. The entertainment was excellent and so were the refreshments. Great to see so many of the old members there, especially those who had to travel to join us. Thanks once again to the committee for working so hard to make the evening. I had a good time so thanks again.*

Talent Show

Bampton Pre-School

Do you have a talent that is just bursting to be seen? Have you always craved the limelight but never had the

NOTICE BOARD

opportunity to shine? Do you simply want your 15 minutes of fame?

If you do then Bampton Pre-school Playgroup invite you to take part in our Talent Show. We are encouraging everyone in Bampton to join in whether as an individual or part of a group/society. It could be a recital from your school Recorder group, a set from your up-and coming pop group or you may just want to show off your amazing ability to juggle spoons.

Whatever your particular talent is - we'd like to hear from you!

The Talent Show will be held in **St Mary's Church on Saturday 22nd November** starting in the early evening for the younger entrants then going on into the evening. There will be no entry charge for those taking part but we will be selling tickets nearer the time to those coming to watch. Please contact **Jo Ader Tel: 850328 or Sarah Radband Tel: 852828** to let us know what you can do. We are hoping this will be a big success and raise lots of money for our new building fund.

Bampton Zimbabwe Project

Plans are getting under way linking Bampton to Zimbabwe to raise support for a needy community on the edge of Harare. The scheme in partnership with World Vision is intended to give the people of Bampton the opportunity to share their resources with a large improvised community without proper water and housing in a country which has the highest rate of HIV/AIDS infection in the world. It is planned to raise and send more than £3000 over a three-year period as a minimum. The project is linked to 20 other villages in this country who will combine to make a major impact on the needs of the community in Zimbabwe.

The expectation is that individuals, schools, youth groups and the church will join together to create a pool of funding and resources to help change a huge sprawling shanty town - largely without any resources of its own.

More details will appear in future

issues. But all interested in the early stages may contact **Michael St. John Parker Tel: 01993 851219 or the joint secretaries, Cathy Wybrand and Gill Waite Tel: 01993 851979.**

Bampton Composer's Work Featured in Music Festival

A Bampton resident has had his musical composition performed at the annual Hungerford and District Community Arts Festival. The Newbury Symphony Orchestra gave the first public performance of Richard Wilkins' piece for strings, entitled "Moving Home" in its concert in July which also featured works by Purcell and Mozart. This follows the performances, in 2002, of his viola concerto by the Leicester Sinfonia and his settings of English folk songs by the Marlborough Choral Society.

Richard is now planning to compose a children's opera. As he has only recently moved to Bampton he has not yet made any musical contacts in the area. If any readers are interested in taking part or collaborating with him in this new venture, they are asked to contact him **Tel: 01993 690406 or by writing**

Some Useful Telephone Numbers

Police	Witney	01993 703913
	Carterton	01993 893951
	Urgent	01865 266000
Witney Hospital		01993 602900
Minor Injuries Unit		01993 602966
Power Cuts		0345 708090
Gas Emergency		0800 111999
Water & Sewerage		0645 200800
BT General Enquiries		0800 309409
BT Line Fault		151
Env.Services		01993 770222
Abandoned Vehicles		01993 770308
Bulky Waste		
	Collection	01993 770222
Witney Town Council		01993 704379
Tourist Information		01993 775802
Citizens Advice		01993 705691
Train Information		08457 484950
Trading Standards		01865 815000
Bampton Surgery		01993 850257
- out of hours		01993 851616
Witney Health Centre		01993 703641
Stagecoach Witney		01993 702197
WODC		01993 702941
Lost & Found		01608 659029
Clerk Parish Council		01993 850776

What goes around, comes around!

By Don Rouse

On the 19th July, the Bampton Weightlifting Club returned to Bampton after 44 years in exile at Lew.

The Club which began its life in a chicken house at Backhouse Farm Weald in January 1956 is now in situ at the old scout room by the youth centre.

In the 1950s and 60s the club often entertained at various fetes and carnivals, they even entered a float at one of Bampton's carnival processions.

In those days the emphasis was on the sport of competition Weight Lifting, with Bampton taking on and beating many of the top Clubs in Britain. Bampton School was the venue to witness the defeat of Birmingham and the W.I. Hall saw Bristol go the same way!

The Bristol team included Dave Prowse who was then the British Heavyweight Champion. He later became better known as Darth Vader in Star Wars and of course the Green Cross Code man. Another team to suffer at the hands of Bampton's strong men was Northampton. Their team had the Commonwealth Bantamweight Champion, Precious Mackenzie. During its time the club boasted 2 British Schoolboy Champions, 1 English National Champion and one British Champion; they were Gordon Gough, Colin



W.I. Hall, Bampton, 1963

Don Rouse M Dowsett Dave Prowse Dave Hedford M Fields Nige Chivers
Bampton Bampton Bristol Bristol Bristol Bampton



Mary Cooper (now Rouse), Lynne Rouse (now Barber), Daniel Johns, Colin Rouse, Don Rouse, Brian Shurey, Albert Radband
Bystanders: Reg Rouse, Rodney Adams, Peter Benedikz. Year 1958?

Winterbourne, Nigel Chivers and Alan Winterbourne respectively. Many sportsmen and women have used the club's facilities to enhance their performances, from water skiers to Judo, wrestlers to athletes, javelin throwers to golfers. One winter we had the responsibility of training the Bampton football team.

I remember in those days we were desperate for facilities, some nights we were up at the signal camp, some nights at the school. How things have changed?

In the late 1980s the club saw some big changes. Health clubs were popping up all over the place and good competition lifting coaches could not be found, so the emphasis changed to Fitness and body building training, with loads of mirrors around the walls.

What I jokingly call the 'Cream Puffs'! Mind you, I would not dare say that to their faces as they are too big and strong to upset! So please do not tell them will you! Their equipment includes several modern appliances as well as many 'free weights', a facility that many modern gyms do not have.

I would like to say a big thank you to all those people who have helped the Club to find its new premises.

I am sure that the Club will be a great addition to Bampton's ever increasing sport facilities. I do hope that many of you will contact the secretary **John Davies Tel: 01993 702266** who will provide you with all the necessary information that you will require.

DANETREE

Veterinary Surgeons

14 Coxwell Road
Faringdon
Oxon. SN7 7EZ

Tel: 01367 242777

www.danetreevets.com



N Nurden
Motor Body Repairs
1 Rosemary Lane
Bampton
Oxon OX18 2NF
Tel 07970 255594
Free quotations
Insurance work undertaken

= P&S Builders =

ROSEBROOK, ASTON ROAD, BAMPTON,
OXON OX18 2AF

Office: 01993 851700

Mobiles: 07764 281289 or 07747 612826

All Building Aspects Covered

including

Design and Build

FREE ESTIMATES

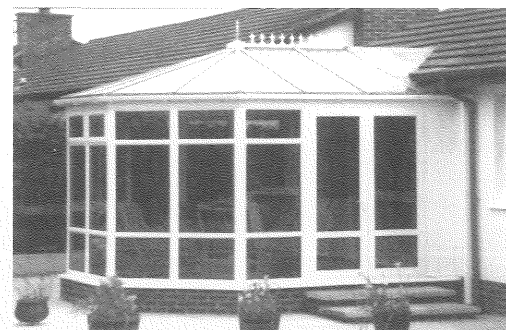


Lynwood Leisure Buildings Ltd.

Suppliers and Installers

of

Conservatories, Windows, Doors Garden Buildings



Failed Glass doesn't mean new Windows
Replacement Glass supplied and fitted
Call us on 01993 842257

Carpenter/Handyman A Bonner

Carpentry Decorating
Electrical Plumbing

Fencing
Shed Building

Any Job Undertaken

Tel: 01993 852124

Mob: 07802 413008



Grange Photographic

Portraits
Events—social & sporting
Weddings
Copies, enlargements &
restoration of your treasured
photographs

For details contact Caroline on
01367 810452
or e-mail
cdhudson@btopenworld.com

THE POST OFFICE

Bridge Street

*Foreign Currency
Stamps
Pensions
Variety of Cards
Stationary
Etc*

The new Pension
Scheme is a threat to
the existence of
Bampton's Post Office.
Please continue to sup-
port us by collecting
your pension here!



Summer Sale Starts 1st August

From September
Closed Wednesdays p.m.

THE HORSESHOE INN

Bridge Street, Bampton
01993 850201

Your Hosts are Alan and Kath Clarke

The Horseshoe public house was rebuilt in 1923/24 after the original pub burned down in 1923. This makes the Horseshoe the only purpose-built pub in Bampton!

Relax in our lounge bar in front of an open log fire with a pint of real ale or fine wine. Or, if you like pub games, then try our other bar with its a pool table, dart board, music and Sky TV. We also have a walled garden where, in the summer, you will see 'Aunt Sally' been played, and from April to the end of May, on Sunday evenings, we have Morris Dancing.

Come and join us - we know that you will make it a regular habit



PATRICK STRAINGE

(Butchers)

Bridge Street, Bampton, Oxon

Tel: 01993 850350

Quality Meat Direct From Our Family Farms

Hire of Pig Roasts for Parties etc.

Extensive Range of Cheeses Now Stocked



Don Rouse Cars

Fully Qualified P.C.V. Driver

AIRPORTS & SEAPORTS

Business Trips

COURIER SERVICE

Air Conditioned Luxury

PEOPLE CARRIER

Up to six passengers
NON-SMOKING

Telephone
01993 851480

Mobile
07770 533764

THE BAMPTON RECREATION GROUND

Buckland Road, Bampton.

THE SPORTS ROADSHOW HITS BAMPTON FOR THE SUMMER

18th - 19th August

Recreation Ground

Children from across the district will have the chance to have fun this summer thanks to West Oxfordshire District Council's Summer Events Programme.

This Programme gives young people the chance to get stuck into activities such as trampolining, basketball, lawn bowls, cycling, archery, fencing, golf, sailing, and various team games.

Cllr Tony Walker, Cabinet Member for Cultural Services said: "There really is something for everyone. Young people can have a go at activities they've never tried before or use the opportunity to improve their sports skills"

The holiday programme is for children aged from 6 to 16 years old.
For more information about the different schemes or to book .

**Cultural Services Tel: 01993 861080 or email
cultural.services@westoxon.ciov.uk.**

Alternatively pick up the Summer Events 2003 Programme at Council reception points.

For further information contact:
Carys Davies / Helen Ellis
Publicity Office

Recreation Ground Sporting Activities

Bampton Youth Football Club

Sec: Mrs Mandy Bowman, Tel: 850116.

Under 13s Adrian Smith Tel: 212549.

Under 9s Alan Day Tel: 210093

Under 6s Philip Walker Tel: 852361

Meetings at The Talbot Hotel every
1st Wednesday of the month at 8pm.

Bampton Archery Club

Chairman: John Hill Tel: 850513.

Short Mat Bowls

Mr G. Taylor Tel: 850566

Bampton Tennis Club

Membership fees for 2002/03

Adults £25

Juniors £ 5

Family Membership £50

(2 adults + 2 children)

Membership Secretary:

Gill Berry Tel: 850963

Chairperson:

Penny Fowler Tel: 852357

Club Night - Thursday

Other Sporting Activities

Bampton Town Football Club

Chairman :Mr J. Shuker Tel: 850830

Sec: Mr S. Paintin Tel: 850871

The Horseshoes Football Club

Chairman: Alan Clarke Tel 850201

Manager: Bill Godfrey

Bampton Gun Club

Sec: Debbie Holifield Tel: 01451
822327 or Trevor Gardner Tel:
850950.

Clay Pigeon Shooting: Sunday 10-
12am

Bampton Weightlifting Club

Chairman: Don Rouse Tel: 851480

Sec: John Davies Tel: 702266.

Bampton Badminton Club

Enquiries: Judy House Tel: 851406

Meets every Tuesday 10 - 12am

Bampton Village Hall.

**Don't forget you can hire the 'all
weather' court for 5-a-side football,
netball, basket etc.**

THE PAVILION

The Pavilion, with its large social area, changing rooms, referees' facilities, kitchen and bar is for hire by members of the public for all varieties of functions such as wedding receptions, birthdays or anniversary parties. The Multisport court can also be hired for games or practice sessions for floodlit tennis, basketball, and netball.

Some General Hire Prices

Pavilion

Monday - Thursday

£30 morning, afternoon, or evening
sessions

Friday, Saturday, Sunday

£30 morning and afternoon sessions

£60 evening session

All week

Whole Day £150

Football Pitch £25 per game

Multisport £7.50

Bampton Residents

£10.00

Non- Residents

For more information on charges and
facilities for hire please contact:
Ray Willis 01993 852483 or 07855
537559.

Bampton in the Bush Cricket Club 2003 Fixtures

Aug 3rd Sunningwell

Away

Aug 17th Eynsham

Home

Aug 24th London Erratics

Home

Sept 7th Minster

Away

The club would like to hear from
anyone interested in playing. Also
boys and girls who would be inter-
ested in forming a youth team.

**Please contact Alan Clarke Tel:
850201, The Horseshoe, Bridge
Street, Bampton.**

There's nothing quite like hearing a
ball hit willow on a lovely summer
afternoon sipping a good English cup
of tea!

THE GARDENING CLUB NEWS

The Autumn Gardening Club Show

Saturday 20th September

Youth Centre, Church View

Registration

Collecting Boxes in Temples and Strange's Butcher Shop

From Monday 8th Sept - Wednesday 18th Sept

For extra copies of the Schedule - Fenella Gray Tel: 851653

Coffee Mornings & AGM

4th October, 6th December, Town Hall 10 - 12pm

AGM Saturday 22nd November - 7.30pm Village Hall

Forthcoming Trips

Sunday 28th September Malvern Show

Sunday 12th October Wisley

Saturday 16th November Christmas Shopping

Sunday 13th December London - Sight Seeing & Carols

Unfortunately, due to increases in costs, anyone not informing Ellen regarding
cancellations in advance will be charged half the cost of the ticket. For more in-
formation contact, **Ellen Parker Tel: 843985.**

Gardening Club Summer Show

Cup Winners

Overall Points Adults- Lady Anne

Montague Cup

Mrs Ellen Parker

Runner-Up - Jack Horne Memorial

Cup

Mrs Daphne Pullin

Cucumbers - John Smith Cup

Mrs E. Quick

4" Arrangement - Frank Collett Cup

Mrs Annette Minto

Craft Overall Points Section 4 - W.E.D.

Godwin Cup

Mrs Daphne Pullin

Cooking Classes Overall Points Section

5 - Grace Wiltshire Cup

Mrs Ellen Parker



Mrs Daphne Pullin receiving one of her many prizes!

Roses x 4 Ilene Hammond Rose Bowl

Mr Ray Taylor

Single Rose - Raymond Taylor Cup

Mrs Alexander

Sweet Pea - Sydney Constable Cup

Mrs Diana Alcock

Busy Lizzie - Win Woodley Cup

Mrs Annette Minto

Begonia - Henry Bone Cup

Gill Gummer

Under 5 Years - Peter Rainbow Cup

Sarah Ader

6 - 8 Years - Betty Adams Cup

Thomas Jenkin

9 - 13 Years—Win Woodley Cup

Gemma Henderson

Most Deserving Effort - Vice Presidents

Cup

Mrs Yvonne Taylor

Best in Show

Sweet Peas - Diana Alcock

Results of the 'Bampton Only' Competition

Class 1

**Best Window Box or Tub
(commercial)**

Sponsored by The Horseshoe Inn

1st The Morris Clown

2nd The Romany

3rd Simmonds Shop

Class 2

Best Window Box or Tub (private)

Sponsored by The Morris Clown

1st Brockstone

2nd 22 Bowling Green Close

3rd 6 Colville Close

Class 3

Best Hanging Basket (commercial)

Sponsored by The Romany

1st Simmonds Shop

2nd The Morris Clown

Class 4

Best Hanging Basket (private)

Sponsored by Emmies Newsagents

1st 22 Bowling Green Close

2nd September Cottage

3rd 1 Pockocks Close

Class 5

**Best Kept Private Vegetable
Garden**

Sponsored by Temples of Bampton

1st Mr R. Shergold

2nd Mrs P. Robson

3rd Ms J. Lewington

Class 6

**Best Kept Private small front or
back garden**

Sponsored by Abbey Properties

1st 7 Ampney Orchard

2nd Bay Tree Cottage and Falcon
Cottage

3rd 1 Pockocks Close

Class 7

Best Kept Allotment

**Sponsored by Bampton Parish
Council**

1st Mr A. Govier

2nd Mr Lewis

3rd Mr R. Pratley

**Prizes will be given out at the
Autumn Show
Saturday 20th September
Doors Open for Viewing 2.30pm
Presentation of
Trophies & Prizes
3pm**

OUT OF WORK FARMER - TURNED AGRICULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

By Don Rouse

It is with great sadness that we acknowledge the passing of Arthur Gering. Arthur was a great reminder of the important part that farming has played in our community; only a few days before he died I saw him driving his little tractor through the middle of Bampton, and I use the word 'little' intentionally; forty years ago this was the normal size of tractor used by all of the farmers around here. This was an era when farming employed many Bampton people to till the soil, sow the seed and reap the harvest. OK, so I am an old romantic fool who is reluctant to move on. But this was an era that cared; every square yard was tended with care, be it field or allotment.

With the allotments in Bampton, there were three times the number that there are now and there was a waiting list, and this had nothing to do with 'Bampton Man' wanting to escape from 'er indoors; they were in demand and they were all well cared for.

This made for a good market in farm manure, farmers and gardeners shared a common aim, that of producing food. Where are we now? Well to start with many new people to Bampton whose homes are standing on those very allotments that I am referring to, think that farm manure smells, and that the public should not have to endure it; tractors should only be allowed on the roads at night, and cattle in the fields should be banned as they

produce methane gas that is destroying the Ozone layer! Me thinks that they suffer from too much information! My father always said that 'a little knowledge is a very dangerous thing!'

Sorry I have digressed. Back to Arthur. When I first came to Bampton back in 1943 he was one of those

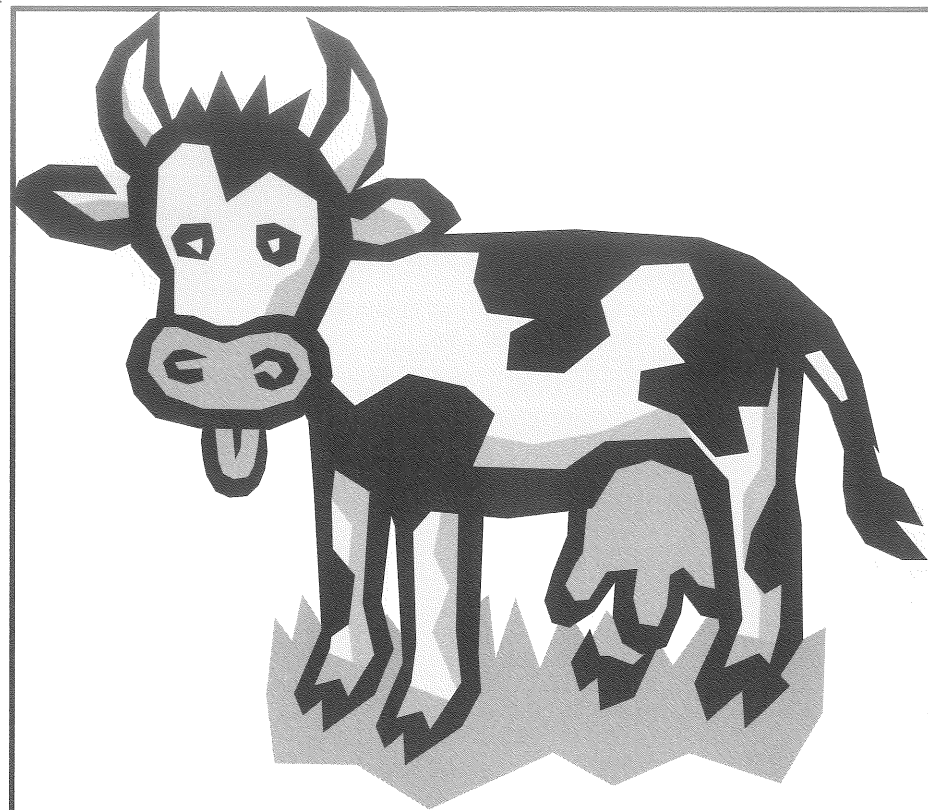
It was always a pleasure to see Arthur going through the streets with his machinery. It was as if he was making a very important statement. May there always be a place for the small farmer to make his contribution to feeding us. By comparison to Arthur, I saw a combine harvester going through Bampton that was so big that it had to

travel in two pieces. It probably did as much work in one hour as he did in a week, yet they would not have a clue as to the soil that they had passed over. These contractors work at high speed and anything up to twenty hours a day! I know what I would sooner have. Yes, you are right, I am a romantic old fool and should retire gracefully!

They tell me that farm subsidies are going to be interfered with again. Why don't they do away with the lot and let the consumer pay the market price? It works very well in New Zealand. If there is a demand for a commodity it will be supplied; if the public will not pay the price, it will not be produced. If it is too dear, they will not buy. Sounds simple enough to me.

I remember when they brought out a rabbit clearance subsidy! That worked well didn't it! All the hedges were pulled out, ditches filled in and we have still got millions of rabbits running about on the roads! I bet you thought it was the farmers who wanted the hedges pulled out, when in fact it was an inspiration from your government.

valuable assets to agriculture known as a contractor - small farmers who could not afford the equipment, manpower or time, would call upon Arthur to help them out with the necessary fieldwork. His knowledge of all the quirks of farm machinery and local fields was immense. Oh yes, fields have their special quirks. The way that the layers of clay were formed, had an effect on the drainage, so each field had to be ploughed in a certain direction. Arthur knew every character of every field in Bampton. He also knew each field by name as each field had its own name in those days.



The original idea of subsidies was also the government's dream for a cheap food policy. They decided to subsidise the producer to appease the consumer. What that did was to create animosity, with the consumer moaning about the producer being 'feather-bedded'; come to think of it they probably still think the same.

But that of course was before we joined in with the rest of Europe!

Now the new subsidies are geared to suit every country in the EU, the result being so chaotic and complex that farmers have to employ members of the legal profession to interpret the rules so that no fraudulent claims are made. We all know who will be picking up the bill for that little lot! The environmentalists will be pleased to hear that the new schemes are geared to enhancing the environment, but as yet very few people can understand them, and Margaret Becket has gone on holiday!

I would like to finish with a lovely story about Bampton's agriculture industries working together.

One of our farmers grows wheat straw for the thatching industry. The thatcher cuts the corn the old fashioned way, bundles it up using modern methods and hauls it to his premises where it is thrashed the old way. He keeps the straw and returns the grain to the farmer, who then grinds the corn to feed his animals as needed, thus providing tasty beef with a Bampton label.

Any grain left over is then sold to another farmer who feeds it to the pheasants who wander around the fields of Bampton and one way or another end up on the dinner plates of Bampton! Absolute Magic!

Bampton people looking after Bampton people!

SPAJERS NEWS

By Don Rouse

The Shirt Race

What a fantastic Shirt race we had this year, definitely one of the better ones. We had good weather, lots of sporting competitors, a very large and extremely generous crowd, and to top it all we had Radio Oxford's Pippa Shay and her partner Mark to do the judging of the Fancy Dress and present the prizes to the winners. They will go down in the annals of Bampton as being the first ever presenters to take part in the race as well!

This year saw the innovation of a new class to the Fancy Dress. The Mobility vehicle group; well done to those of you who came along, and I hope that your efforts will encourage more to enter next year. We were extremely impressed by the winners of the Junior Fancy Dress, Alexander and Joshua Rawle, aged 6 and 4 respectively. They ran around the full course and drank their quota of lemonade at each stop! Definitely two to watch in the future.

Once again we are indebted to all those people who live in the houses that were once our pubs, their kindness and generosity enables us to maintain our traditional route that provides the crowds with a spectacle worth watching. Not only do they provide us with the tables and the drink, but they act as a reminder of the Bampton that we once knew. Thank you one and all.

Our profit at the end of the day was £550.00.

Donkey Derby

Our next big event is the Donkey Derby. Once again this will be held in Sandfords field on August Bank Holiday Monday. That is the 25th. As always we are desperate for helpers of every kind, we need people to collect items that we can sell on the different stalls, things like Bottles, Produce. Bric-a-brac. Toys for a second-hand toy stall, we need people to run the stalls and help out with the refreshments, sell raffle tickets and of course if you are under 8 stones in weight to ride the Donkeys. Without riders we will have no races!

Competition

We have a new competition for the youngsters at the Donkey Derby this year. A 'Dressed Scarecrow Competition' You have got plenty of time to build a Scarecrow dress it nicely, well not too nicely, after all it is supposed to scare the Birds, and bring it along on Bank holiday Monday.

If you would like to help please contact me Tel: 851480 or Frank Hudson Tel: 842126.

Outing

The outing this year will be to Weston Super Mare on Wednesday 27 August. Invitations to all the Senior Citizens on our list will be sent out soon. If there are any spare seats after all the replies are back in, they will be available for sale from me at £10.00 per seat, on a first come first serve basis. If you are not on our list contact Alistair Newing Tel: 850809. To qualify - you must have reached the national pension age and lived in Bampton or Lew for a minimum of six months.

Don's Last Bash!

BARN DANCE WITH THE BAMPTON BARN DANCE BAND

WOODGREEN SCHOOL, WITNEY

Saturday 18th October 2003

TICKETS £8.00 includes Supper

Licensed Bar applied for

Tombola - Dancing 7.30pm to 11.30pm

Tickets available from:

Don Rouse Tel: 851480, Bampton Surgery Tel: 850257

C.T.C. Corn Street Witney Tel: 7702034.

Proceeds to purchase an Automatic Defibrillator for Bampton Surgery

THE PITSTOP

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



ALSO HOUSING
OXFORD CARB SERVICES
Weber • Solex • Pierburg etc



01993 850654

Unit 1, Viscount Court, Station Road, Brize Norton

W.I. MARKETS

Masonic Hall, Church
Green
Witney
8am - 10.45am

Come along and buy fresh
Vegetables,
Eggs, Assorted Cakes, Sa-
vouries Pies
Assorted Handmade Cards,
Knitted Articles
Garden Plants, Flowers,
Vegetable Plants
The last Friday in the
Month brings out a Craft
Stall
Everything home-made or
Home-grown

Come along and visit us.
Refreshments on sale.



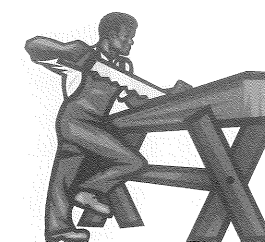
LOGS

Well-seasoned
Cut to any size

Deliveries 7 days a week

Please Ring George

on
01367 253097
or
07970 692292



SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF BAMPTON

The Society aims to stop excessive
developments in the village, such as
large housing estates, and encourage
suitable developments. So far we
have been very successful.

To achieve these aims we need the
largest possible membership. If
you aren't a member

DO JOIN NOW

Send your membership fee of £2
each (£1 for OAPs) for the period
up to December 2006, to
Society for the Protection of
Bampton
Manor House
Bampton, Oxon OX18 2LQ

The Robert & Doris Watts Residential & Nursing Home

30/32 Black Bourton Road
Carterton,
Oxfordshire OX18 3HA
Tel: 01993 844923/843102



18 Single Rooms
2 Double Rooms
All With Modern Facilities
Tastefully Decorated
Nurse Call System

The Robert & Doris Watts Residential & Nursing Home is a family run home offering a
high standard of nursing in a warm and homely atmosphere.

The fees represent excellent value for money.

Life Lease Purchase Also Available

In a new initiative, the concept of purchasing a lease-for-life is now being offered.
Such leases offer major benefits to clients of the home, and their estate.

Call us now for further information.

Or why not call in and see us? We will make you very welcome.

Go for greens

If you're eating out, try somewhere
different - come to greens

Choose from just a starter up to three
courses. Using the finest, local
ingredients, our New World and
European menu will have something
to tempt you.

A basket of bread, unlimited iced
water and coffee with hand-made
chocolates are all included in the price!

Open 12noon - 2.30pm
7.00pm - 9.30pm

(Last Orders)

Closed Sat Lunchtime & Sunday Evening



Enjoy
at Witney Lakes Resort

FOR RESERVATIONS CALL:

Tel: 01993 893000

Downs Road Witney,
Oxfordshire. OX29 0SY

Bampton Environmental Watch Group

By Ralph Norman

Traffic Calming

The speed of traffic through the village is an on-going concern of the executive committee and as a result of negotiations between Oxford County Council and the Parish Council, a little progress can be reported. First, the County Council has reseated drain covers, resulting in some noise reduction; also, the 30mph speed limit has been extended further along the Clanfield Road. Note also the progress being made on the Buildouts in the Parish Council News.

Loss of the Elephant & Castle

BEWG expressed its regret at the closure of yet another village pub, the Elephant and Castle, and its alarm at the overturning of the Planning Inspectorate's decision of a year ago, refusing change of use to the Jubilee. WODC also made strong representations about this, but were advised that there were no grounds on which to challenge the decision. It is to be hoped that the many traditions connected with these two pubs can find good homes elsewhere in the village.

Footpath Map

It is good to report that the BEWG footpath map, which was originally printed in past issues of the Beam and now appears on the new Parish Council noticeboard in the Market Square, is now to be printed in leaflet form and distributed free to every Bampton household, under the auspices of the Bampton Directory, through the good offices of Susan Phillips. Susan is seeking additional funding for this from WODC who have indicated their support to her. Free copies of the map will also be available from local Tourist Information Offices. Copies will also be available from local Tourist Information Offices.

Social Evening

On 31st July 2002, Jean Saunders of Friends of the Earth made a welcome return to speak in the Village Hall on the subject of recycling "Living Without a Dustbin". Jean amazed her audience by producing, in just one plastic bag, a year's waste for four cats and two people! She told us that one million plastic bags are given away by supermarkets and shops each week.

The audience was given many tips as to how to reduce waste, such as taking bags with you to avoid bringing home new ones, removing goods from bags and leaving them in the shops, reusing envelopes, using a deodorant stone, which washes clothes without soap – and many others. We were all greatly inspired by Jean's enthusiasm and left, resolved to try harder to conserve the world's resources.

Future Planning

On the planning front, an important decision has been made by WODC to allow the conversion of a listed barn at Backhouse Farm, off Primrose Lane, to dwellings and also the conversion of existing outbuildings to form four class B industrial units and the demolition of two modern barns. BEWG supported the original application which has conditions attached relating to times of operation, fumes etc.

The Next Meeting

The next open meeting will be on 30th October when the speaker will be Jenny Freeman, of the Historic Chapels Trust in London who will be accompanied by the local representative, Andrew Long. They will speak about Cote Chapel in Aston, which members were fortunate to be able to visit in September, for a guided tour and talk given by Mr Sale of Aston. The meeting will take place in the Village Hall at 8pm and non-members are welcome for a donation of £2.

Forest Fayre

Shipton-Under-Wychwood

If you go down to the woods in late August you're sure of a big surprise. So, get down to the Wychwood Forest Fayre at Shipton-under-Wychwood on Sunday 31st August from noon until 5pm for a truly unforgettable rustic experience.

Among the attractions on offer will be a stunning exhibition by the Wychwood Project/Friends of Wychwood depicting many of the community activities currently taking place in the locality. These same panels were seen in February by HRH The Prince of Wales when he visited the Wychwood Project to plant a tree and unveil a plaque in Hailey's new community wood to mark the Queen's Golden Jubilee. He was so impressed by the enthusiasm and extent of community involvement, plus the interconnection of history, nature, conservation, community & land owners, that he overstayed 30 minutes in his tight schedule!

Ancient rural crafts are expected to play a major part in the Fayre, with plans to develop a new educational programme with the aid of European funding. A range of craftsmen have been invited to demonstrate their respective expertise, whilst gauging the level of local interest in learning these skills. If there is a rural craft that fascinates you, then why not come along and watch them at work, and pick up details of these exciting new developments.

In addition there will be Hatwell's funfair with its new barrel organ, craft stalls demonstrating and selling a range of locally-produced goods, a 'Farmers Market' selling locally grown produce, plant & shrub stalls, conservation groups and a beer tent decorated & sponsored by the Wychwood Brewery, not forgetting tasty cakes and teas. Those attending will also be able to see farm animals from Cogges Manor Farm Museum, watch Morris dancers showing off their traditional style of dance, and an illustrated display by the Wychwood Local History Society depicting local aspects of times past.

The Fayre has continued in subsequent years, arranged by the Friends of Wychwood. The modern Forest Fayre, in contrast to the latter 19th century event, is much more refined, offering visitors a range of activities, and a better understanding of the history and uniqueness of the forest. Each year the Fayre moves to a different location within the forest bounds in a bid to help local people and visitors understand and appreciate the extent of what was once one of the four largest hunting forests in England. In its medieval heyday, when kings chased deer across the land on horseback, Wychwood covered an area extending from Woodstock to the Gloucestershire boundary beyond Burford and from just below Chipping Norton down to the River Thames. For further information, please contact Ken Betteridge, Chairman of the Friends of Wychwood, **Tel: 01993 878615**.

Ragwort

Now is the time to act!

Everyone who cares about our environment and countryside will recognise the plant Common Ragwort (*Senecio Jacobaea*). It is an obvious weed in July and August when it grows up to 3 feet tall with ragged edged leaves and a yellow flower, but it is **now** that we need to act to eradicate this poisonous plant.

Common Ragwort is a listed weed under the 1959 Weeds Act. To allow it to grow, flower and spread contravenes the law.

The poisons in Ragwort are called pyrrolizidine alkaloids (PAs). These are dangerous to humans and animals. Evidence of PAs in eggs, grain, milk and honey has been recorded. If you had Ragwort growing on land last year it needs treating with a MCPA or a 2,4-D herbicide as soon as the young plants appear in April. A non-toxic environmentally friendly spray is also available called Barrier H.

Never allow animals into areas where Ragwort has been sprayed until all the plants have rotted into the ground. The only way to deal with fully-grown Ragwort is to pull it up and burn it.

Always wear gloves and long sleeves to cover your arms when handling Ragwort and remember to wash your hands when you have finished.

Ragwort retains its poisonous properties whether growing, sprayed or dried in food.

Ragwort kills horses, donkeys, cattle and sheep. Oxfordshire is one of the most beautiful counties with a wonderful spread of animal and plant life and we all need to be involved to protect it from the spread of this dangerous weed. If you see any areas of Ragwort growing please report it to either myself or The Oxford County Council Environmental Services department **Tel: 01869 241144** with full details of the location.

For leaflets, further advice on spraying or help identifying Ragwort please contact BHS welfare officer -

Miss D M Harris Tel: 01993 702844 or visit the web site, www.bhs.org.uk/welfare

PELLMANS

Solicitors

1 Abbey Street, Eynsham, Oxon OX29 4TB

- **Business and Employment Law**
- **Divorce - Finances, Children & Cohabitation disputes**
- **Property - Residential and Commercial**
- **Wills, Probate and Trusts**

Tel: 01865 884400

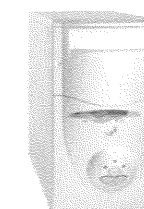
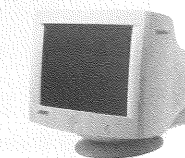
Fax: 01865 884411

Evening surgery at North Leigh by appointment

Systems & Solutions

Your Local Computer Shop

New Computers



Computer Repairs



Computer Components

27 Fettiplace Road, Witney, Oxon, OX28 5AP
Phone: 01993 706161 Fax: 01993 703770
www.systems-and-solutions.co.uk



West Ox Arts

W.O.A. Gallery, Market Square, Bampton, Oxon OX18 2JH

Tel: 01993 850137 E-mail: westoxarts@yahoo.co.uk

Opening Hours: Tues - Sat 10:30am - 12:30pm and 2pm - 4pm; Sun - 2pm - 4pm
Membership fees - Single £15, Family £25, Student £7.50.

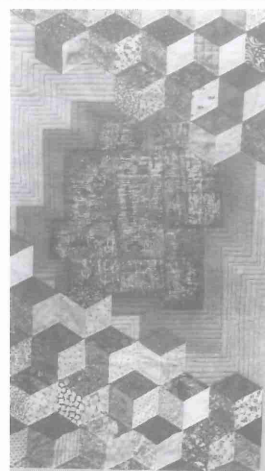
Saturday 2 August

All Stitched Up

A Celebration of 20 years of the Buttercross Quilters

An exhibition of Patchwork and Quilting by the Buttercross Quilters featuring traditional and contemporary quilts, and a unique 'Celebration' group quilt. There will be small items for sale and informal demonstrations at various times throughout the Exhibition.

Monday 25 August



Sunday 7 September

Sunday 21 September

Recollections

Recent Work by Celia Forrest and Ian Simpson

Paintings and pastels drawn from travels home and abroad. The work recollects experiences and observations which have had a particularly vivid impact on the artists. The work is lively, colourful and includes landscapes, still lifes and the human figure



Forthcoming Exhibitions

Sunday 16 November

Sunday 30 November

Precious

Delectable contemporary jewellery, plus stained glass, wall-hung ceramics and paintings.

Sunday 5 October

Sunday 19 October

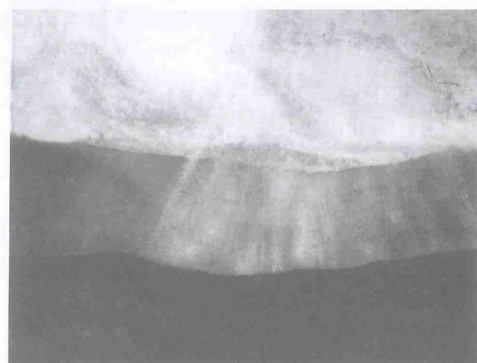
Judith Yarrow & Liz Teall

The landscape reminds us of our relationship to events larger than ourselves and is where we can find our deepest meanings

Judith Yarrow's mixed media paintings capture the changing year and light on the mountains and hills she has known since her childhood, and communicate an intimate relationship with the landscape and its geography.

Liz Teall's ceramics explore the fluid nature of oxide loaded slips under a semi-opaque glaze achieving subtle shades of coppery green and blue.

Her recent work explores the theme of the landscape and the natural world



Welcome to West Ox Arts

What is WOA?

West Ox Arts is a registered charity (no. 266542), part-funded by West Oxfordshire District Council and Bampton Parish Council, and staffed by volunteers, except for its part-time administrator.

West Ox Arts is dedicated to

- Promoting participation in, and appreciation of, the arts and crafts in West Oxfordshire
 - Supporting the area's artists and craftspeople
- West Ox Arts hosts a vibrant and varied programme of over 14 exhibitions per year and provides a valuable exhibition space for its members and the community. A charge is made of 25% on sales for members and 35% for non-

members.

West Ox Arts also supports the Robert Vesey Room at Bampton's Library, a literature group, life classes, theatre performances and outings to galleries and museums.

Who is WOA?

Membership is open to EVERYONE and new members are always welcome:

£15 Single, £25 Family, £7.50 Student. Membership forms are available from the Gallery.

Membership benefits include: discounts at WOA events (eg life classes and workshops), regular mailings of WOA events, including invitations to exhibition previews, discounts at local art suppliers.

If you are interested in the arts and would like to join West Ox Arts, please ring the Gallery on 01993 850137 for a membership form, or call in during opening hours.

Excursions and Lectures

West Oxon Decorative & Fine Arts Society

Saturday 25 October

Visit to Brighton Pavilion

Details from Catherine Malcolm on 01993 843414

Lecture

Monday 27 October, 7pm, Gallery

Many-coloured Mists: Turner in Venice

A lecture by Dr. Jeremy Gray

This illustrated lecture will explore Turner's relationship with this most inspirational of cities, from the artist's first visit in 1819, to his last in 1840.

OUDC & WEA Literature Class

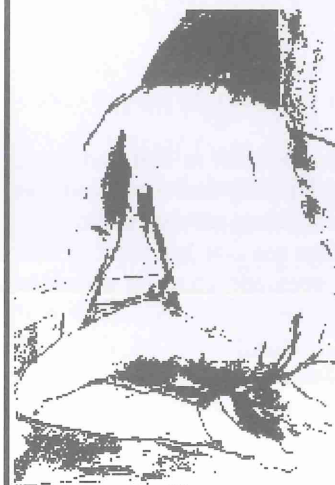
Shakespeare, Ibsen, Chekhov: Five Great Plays

Tutor: Karen Hewitt

Course Starts 29 September

A 20 week course giving participants the opportunity to study the dramatist's art through readings and discussion of 5 wonderful and controversial plays: Three sisters by Chekhov, The Doll's House by Ibsen, and Troilus and Cressida, King Lear, and The Tempest by Shakespeare.

Gallery Life Drawing Classes



Untutored sessions take place on Monday mornings, 10am - 12.30pm, and Wednesday evenings 7.30 - 9.30pm in the Gallery, and are aimed at those without need of guidance. No booking necessary. Pay as you attend.

WOA members £6.
Non-members £7.50.

For more information, please call the Gallery on 01993 850137.

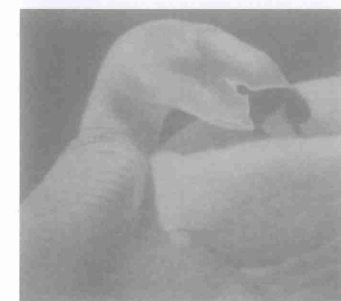
Saturday 25 October

Sunday 9 November

Aspects of Blenheim

By Kerry &
Andrew Forkner

An exhibition of work in Pencil and Paint, textile and Stitch



Robert Vesey Room Exhibitions

July/August

Calligraphy by the Windrush

Mon 1 September Sat 25 October

Bampton Childhood

An exhibition presented by Bampton Museum

Robert Vesey Room Opening Hours

Monday & Thursday 2.30 - 4.30pm.

Wednesday & Saturday 10am - 12noon.

If you would like to book this exhibition space for a month please contact the Administrator on 01993 850137 or Ailsa Matheson on 01993 851004.

The only charge is 20% commission on sales.

Are you sitting comfortably?

It's a great way of seeing the exhibitions and of meeting people - be they Bampton residents or visitors from further afield.

If you could spare a couple of hours a month to support WOA in this way, then please contact the Administrator (for the Gallery) on 01993 950137, or Barbara Daw (Vesey Room) on 01993 851491.

THE COOKERY CORNER

by Emma Deacon

Now that the weather is becoming sunnier and summer is here at last, many of us like to have dinner parties. But don't worry about what to cook because I've put together some new ideas for your summer menus! They are all easy and fun to cook, the ingredients aren't hard to buy and hopefully will impress your guests.

Cheese Garlic and Herb Pate

Serves 4

The good things about this recipe are one its vegetarian so it will suit all guests. It's light and so won't fill you up. Also you can tell you guests that garlic is a truly medicinal plant and that Mohammed recommended it as an antidote to bites of snakes and scorpions!

Melt 1 tbsp of butter in a small frying pan and gently fry 2 cloves of garlic and 3 spring onions together for 3 minutes until softened.

Allow to cool.

Beat 125g full fat soft cheese in a large mixing bowl, then add the garlic and spring onions.

Stir in herbs of your choice, the more the better (basil, marjoram, chives and parsley are ideal for this recipe).

Season with salt and black pepper and mix well.

Add 150g grated cheddar and 50g of parmesan and work together to form a thick paste.

Cover and refrigerate.

Serve with toast or crusty bread, rocket salad (which has a distinctive peppery taste) and cherry tomatoes. If you would like to add some meat to the recipe for those guests that would appreciate it, I found smoked bacon cut into small square and fried until crispy was an interesting accompaniment sprinkled led on top of the salad.

Spinach Pancakes filled with a creamy Prawn Sauce.

Serves 4

This comforting main course is not only very tasty but is also good for you! Spinach is one of the most health-full of vegetables and is full of vitamins C, E, K, and iron so eat up



90g of wholemeal flour and a pinch of salt into a bowl.

Beat together an egg, 1/4 pint of yoghurt 3 tbsp water and 1 tbs of olive oil.

Gradually pour it onto the flour, beating at all times.

Stir in 200g of liquidated spinach (if its frozen defrost) and season with salt pepper and a generous pinch of nutmeg.

For the filling, fry 3 spring onions in a little olive oil until soft. Remove them from the pan and leave on kitchen roll to soak off extra oil.

Mix together 200g ricotta, 50g of another soft full fat cheese such as mascoponi and 4 tbsp of natural yogurt and 90g of grated cheese of your

choice.

Next beat in an egg and mix some chopped parsley and a large hand full of prawns.

Season with cayenne pepper and salt. Then put a little splash of oil in a frying pan and pour 3-4 tablespoons of the pancake mixture in until it covers the whole pan.

Cook for roughly 3 minutes until bubbles start appearing and turn over and cook the other side for a good 2 minutes.

Slide the pancake onto a plate and cover with foil to keep it warm whilst you cook the rest. You should end up with about 10 pancakes.

Spread the filling over each pancake and fold in half and then half again, so they are little triangles.

Put them in a dish single layered and sprinkle a little grated cheese over the top and warm in the oven for 15 minutes on a fairly low heat. Then they should come out piping hot with a melted cheese glaze and taste yummy. Serve with lemon wedges and fresh vegetables.

White chocolate and Passionfruit mousse

Serves 4

Hopefully this light but sweet and exotic dessert will finish off your evening meal with and a smile!

Break 150g of white chocolate into small pieces and melt in the microwave for about 2 mins.

Put the bowl to one side and let it cool a little.

Beat 3 organic egg whites until stiff and then pour into the melted chocolate.

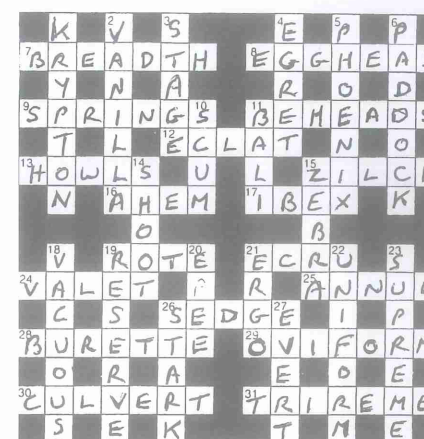
Cut 6 passionfruits in half and scoop out the juice pulp and seeds and fold into the chocolate and egg whites.

Then either use one big bowl or four separate ones and chop up a handful of raspberries or strawberries or both and put in the bottom of the bowl/ bowls. Sprinkle with a little icing sugar if you feel the fruit is too sour but remember the white chocolate will sweeten the dish anyway.

Lastly pour the mousse mixture over the fruit and leave in the fridge for at least a couple of hours.

Solution to April's BEAM CROSSWORD

The £10 winner for April's Crossword is David Tompkinson, of Ampney Orchard, Bampton. Congratulations!



We would also like to donate £10 to Cancer Research, as a thank you to Mr. Bill Govier for producing yet another crossword for us to enjoy.

The Bampton Beam Adverts

Why not give your local business a lift?

Advertise in 'The Beam'

(and get a free advert on the Bampton Website!)

The rates for 'The Beam' are very reasonable. So why not call the Editor now and book your spot for the next edition?

Tel: 01993 851653

Examples

Full Page £100

Half Page £50

1/3rd Page £30

1/6th Page £25

1/12th Page £16

Additional Artwork from £20

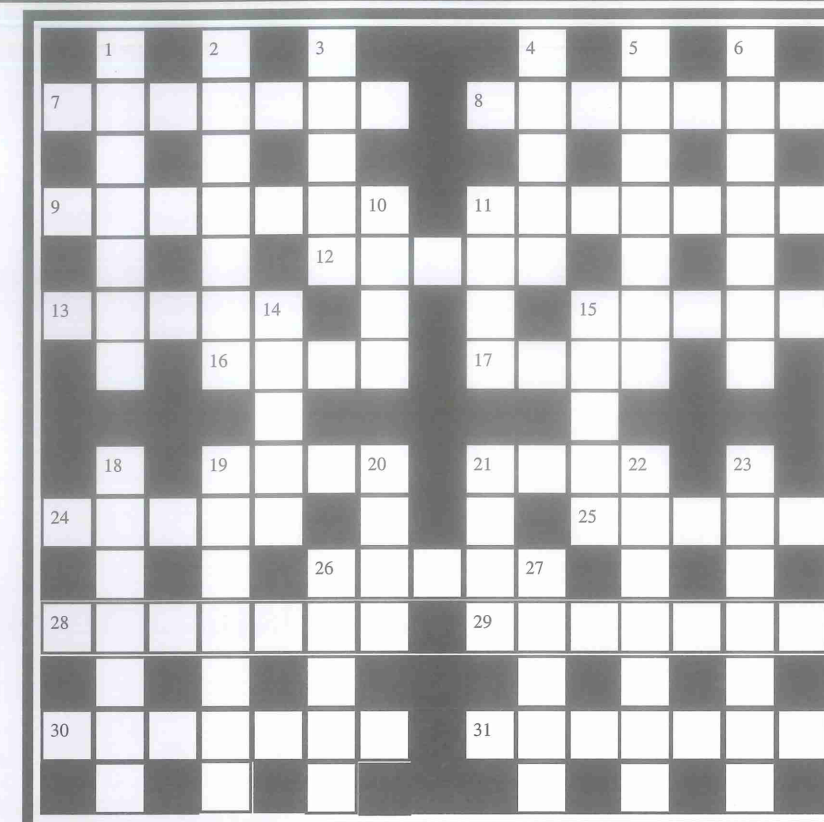
Town Hall Bookings

For Town Hall bookings contact

Mrs B. Sapsford Tel: 850776.

Town Hall keys to be collected from Londis shop.

THE BAMPTON BEAM'S CROSSWORD



CLUES ACROSS

- 7 Heated Dispute
- 8 Presage
- 9 Wearisome, Tedious
- 11 Late
- 12 An Arctic, and Sub-Arctic Marten
- 13 Spherical Objects
- 15 The Whole Range or Extent
- 16 To Give Out
- 17 Egg-Shaped
- 19 Lady's Fingers (Hibiscus Esculentus)
- 21 A Coffee-Bar
- 24 Gift Offered to Influence Conduct
- 25 To Surpass, To Outdo
- 26 Adult State of an Insect
- 28 Used to Confer Immunity to a Disease
- 29 To Give Authority To
- 30 Vehicle Used in Ancient Warfare
- 31 Urban Roads

CLUES DOWN

- 1 Occurring Every Fourth Day
- 2 Frame for a Temporary Table
- 3 Broad Smiles
- 4 Provide the Right Answer To
- 5 Everlasting
- 6 Nightmare
- 10 The Orient
- 11 Medley or Miscellany
- 14 "None Without Fire", They Say
- 15 Embarrassing Mistake
- 18 Wrap or Coil Round
- 19 Without Clear Outline
- 20 Highest Stage, Prime
- 21 The Lift in a Mine
- 22 Open to the Weather or Attack
- 23 The Ordinal of Seven
- 26 Block of Gold, Silver, or Other Metal
- 27 Fails to do

N. J. WOODLEY BUILDING MAINTENANCE

COMPETITIVE RATES

15 CALAIS DENE, BAMPTON, OXON.
Tel: 01993 850753
Mobile: 07799 655385

TEMPLES

MARKET SQUARE, BAMPTON
TEL: 01993 850877

DIY, Ironmongery, Paint, Wood, Cement, Sand,
Gravel, Toys, Gifts, Candles.
Gardening Equipment including Mr. Fothergills
Seeds and a wide range of Compost.

A Range of Car Accessories
Windscreen Wipers, Plugs, Batteries etc.
DRAPER STOCKIST & AGENTS FOR SWAN
DRY CLEANING

COME IN AND LOOK AROUND
WE ALSO DELIVER LOCALLY

Don't go anywhere else until you've been to
Temples!

A. SIMMONDS The Old Fashioned Village Store

Market Square, Bampton
Tel: 01993 850204


Traditionally Baked
Bread and Cakes

...
Groceries
Confectionery

...
Discounted Toiletries
and
Household Cleaners

...
Logs Coal

...
Large Range of
Pet Foods & Requisites
...
Free Local Delivery


ANDREW BOWMAN
MASTER THATCHER
HEDGEFIELDS FARM
BAMPTON
Tel: 01993 850116
Member Oxon, Berks, Bucks
Master Thatchers Association

HAIRDRESSERS
DRESSMAKERS
Have Your Scissors
SHARPENED

P
O
L
I
S
H
E
D



B
A
L
A
N
C
E
D

Tony Hughes
10 St Mary's Court
Weald, Bampton
Oxon. OX18 2HX
Tel: 01993 851458

A Thank You to Christine McLintock

Christine has been the Treasurer of *The Bampton Beam* since 1998, and has done a wonderful job in keeping our finances straight.

She and her husband Ian are leaving Bampton during August for pastures new, since Christine, having recently qualified to become a headmistress, has been appointed to such a position by the Board of a major school near Thame. Ian, having recently left the RAF, has also found himself a new job as the CEO of a charity based in London.

On behalf of all of our readers, and not to mention 'The Beam Team' I would like to say a big thank you to Christine for all the effort, and not to say hard work, in support of the 'Beam'. We wish both of you all the very best for the future - and we are very pleased to note that you have already paid a subscription to have the 'Beam' delivered to you in your new home!

Again, our best wishes, and do come back and see us!

Welcome Grace Wilkins

To replace Christine as our Treasurer, Grace Wilkins has kindly agreed to step into breach. Thanks Grace for offering your services, and we look forward to a long and happy association with you on Bampton's Number 1 News Provider!

Join us for an Afternoon Concert of Organ Music

We are pleased to announce that
Nicholas Martin
the organist with

Turner's Merry-Go-Round
in Northampton

will be in concert in the Windmill Barn in
Clanfield

on

Sunday 21st September

The Concert Starts at 3pm

Don't miss your chance to be entertained by this
wonderful musician, whose repertoire ranges
from classical to modern day material.

Tickets are only £5.00

And can be obtained from Ellen Parker on

01993 843985

WITNEY LADIES RUGBY



AGE FROM 16 YRS : ANY FITNESS AND EXPERIENCE WELCOME.

WINTER TRAINING IS ON SUNDAYS FROM 12.00PM - 1.00PM

SUMMER TRAINING IS ON WEDNESDAYS FROM 7.00PM - 8.30PM

COME ALONG AND GIVE IT A GO.

PHONE WITNEY R.F.C ON: 01993 771043 : OR ANDREA ON : 01993 779900 / 07881 830204

Calendar of Events

August

- 7th - 9th Bampton Fair, Market Square & High Street
 18th - 19th Sports Road Show, Recreation Ground, Buckland Rd
 23rd - 30th Outing, Gardening Club, Scottish Highlands
 25th Donkey Derby, SPAJERS, Sandsford Field 2pm
 27th Outing, SPAJERS, Western-Super-Mare
 30th Coffee Morning, JR Coronary Care Unit, Village Hall, 10-12
 31st Wychwood Forrest Fayre, Shipton-Under-Wychwood

September

- 18th 'The Two Barons of Rocca Azzurra', Bampton Classical Opera, St John's Smith Square London
 19th Harvest Barn Dance, Friends of St. Mary's, St. Mary's Church
 20th Autumn Show, Gardening Club, Youth Centre, 2pm
 20th Coffee Morning, Cancer Research, Village Hall
 28th Outing, Gardening Club, Malvern Show, Market Square, 9am.

October

- 11th Annual Pumpkin Weigh-in, Pumpkin Club, Village Hall, 5.30pm.
 12th Outing, Gardening Club, Wisley, Market Square, 9am.
 18th Don's Last Bash, Woodgreen School 7.30pm -11.30pm
 30th BEWG, Village Hall 8pm

November

- 12th Bingo, Cancer Research, Village Hall
 16th Outing, Gardening Club, Christmas Shopping, Market Square, 9am.
 22nd Pre-School Talent Show, St Mary's Church

December

- 5th Quiz Night, Cancer Research, Village Hall
 12th 'The Nutcracker and the Mouse King', OTTC, Village Hall
 13th Outing, Gardening Club, London Sight Seeing & Carols
 19th Country & Western Dance, Cancer Research, Carterton Social Centre

West Oxfordshire District Council Environmental Services Holiday Refuse and Recycling Collection Timetable

Normal Day	Substitute Day
Monday 25 August	Tuesday 26 August
Tuesday 26 August	Wednesday 27 August
Wednesday 27 August	Thursday 28 August
Thursday 28 August	Friday 29 August
Friday 29 August	Saturday 30 August
Monday 1 September	Back to Normal

THE ANNUAL BAMPTON STREET FAIR

Thursday 7th Friday 8th
 Saturday 9th

*Come and join us for the
fun of the fair!*

Scary rides, rifle range, lottery straws,
 stalls, childrens rides and
 lots lots more.

THE BAMPTON BEAM

The Bampton Beam is published three times a year and distributed free to all households and businesses in Bampton. Extra copies are available from the Post Office, Emmie's, Abbey Properties, Temples and The Library.

Editor

Fenella Gray Tel: 851653

Sub-Editor

Fred Gray Tel: 851653

Artwork

Jo Lewington Tel: 850947

Treasurer

Grace Wilkins

Advertising:

Fred Gray: Tel: 851653/Fax: 851892

E-mail: fredgray@witneyserve.net

Photography

Fred Gray

If you would like to help or join the team in any capacity please contact:

Fenella Gray Tel: 851653

Contributions are always welcome and should be sent to: **The Editor, The Bampton Beam, c/o The Cotton Club, Bridge Street, Bampton, OX18 2HA.**

Next deadline - 31st October 2003

While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of information printed in *The Bampton Beam*, the editor and 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 Beam Team wishes to thank The Cotton Club - quality fabric suppliers - as well as the 'Beam' letter box!

Also thanks to the **Parish Council** and all of our **advertisers** for their financial support each year.

If you wish to have *The Bampton Beam* posted to yourself or a relative or friend on a regular basis, please send your name, address and cheque (made payable to The Bampton Beam) to: The Bampton Beam, Subscriptions, c/o The Cotton Club, Bridge Street, Bampton, Oxon OX18 2HA.

Annual Subscription - £2.50 for UK, £5.00 for overseas.