

# THE BAMPTON BEAM

December 2004

Volume 19, No. 3

## Village Traffic Issues

We had hoped to show you a picture of the construction of the first of the four 'Buildouts' – otherwise known as 'Chicanes' – but, for reasons as yet not known, the start date for the work, which should have been 15<sup>th</sup> November, has been pushed back to - well no-one seems to know at the moment! The Chicanes are to be installed on each of the four main routes into the Village, and it is hoped will help to reduce the speed of traffic on our roads.

On a related issue, the Parish Council has made representation to the Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) concerning the continued, and indeed increased, use of the Buckland Road by HGVs. In this sense, they have asked to meet with OCC officers, with a view to stressing the Parish Council's concern over the HGV load on the village, in the hope that the OCC can be convinced to ban HGVs from Buckland Road – unless for access purposes only.

The matter is made even more urgent with the closing of the the A415 at Standlake for the next 6 months. This will almost certainly increase the traffic load on the Village, and particularly the number of HGVs passing through.

Included in this edition, is the result of the survey we carried out along with the Parish Council and RATs (Residents Action on Traffic).

You will note that the main concern of the Villagers is the HGV issue, and the Parish Council will be using the results of the survey in the discussions with the OCC.

## Strange Activities at Strainge's Butcher Shop

Always on the look-out for a story, one of the members of the 'Beam

the Friday evening - the eve of the re-opening - to see how things were going, and it must be admitted, that there were some around who were rather pessimistic that it would re-open the following morning!

However unlike a lot of projects run by Government departments these days, the shop duly re-opened on schedule, although probably not without the usual last minute attacks of panic!

The photographs show the 'before' and 'after' views.

Well done Patrick for



The Old Layout

Team' noticed some strange goings on at the butcher's shop late October.

On further investigation, it was discovered that the shop was going through what we now know as - from the various TV shows such as 'Changing Rooms' - a 'Makeover'. In short, Patrick had decided to upgrade the shop's interior!

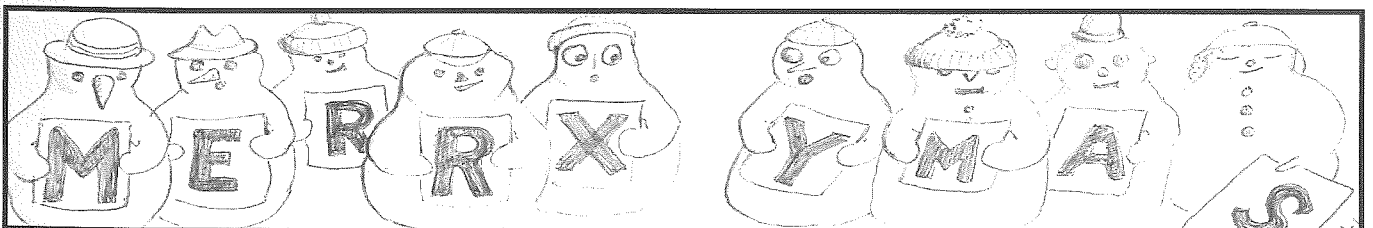
The project had a very tight timeline, in that all of the work had to be completed within 7 days

to allow the shop to open for the last Saturday in October. Vigilant as usual, the 'Beam Team' were there on



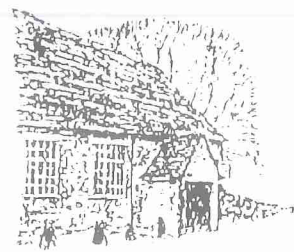
The New Look

continuing to provide the Village with a first class shop.





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**Tel: 850304**

**BAMPTON VILLAGE HALL  
HIRE CHARGES for use of furniture**

As there has been an increase in the number of people and organisations wanting to make use of the furniture for functions at other venues, it has been decided by the Committee that instead of asking for a donation the following set charges will be made.

Folding Metal frame tables £2.00 each (£20 for 12 tables)  
Stacking chairs £5.00 per 20 chairs (£20 for all of them)

1. This furniture is available when not required by hirers of the Hall.
2. Payment should be made before items are collected.
3. Crockery and cutlery are NOT available for hire.
4. The old wooden table tops with trestles may be borrowed free of charge.

Please contact: Martin Barrett, The Post Office, Bridge Street, Bampton OX18 2HA Tel: 850304 or Susan Phillips Haytor, Lavender Square, Bampton OX18 2LR Tel: 850321.

**BAMPTON '250' CLUB**

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

List of Winners

JULY	£25	178	Mrs M Barrett	c/o Cheyne Lane
	£15	177	Mr E Lee	Oathurst Est
	£15	047	Mrs Penny Fowler	Broad Street
AUGUST	£15	249	Mr Dennis Bambury	Church Street
	£25	001	Mr & Mrs Battersby	Buckland Road
	£15	163	Mrs D Landray	Church View
SEPTEMBER	£15	044	Mrs Alice Puttock	Church View
	£15	058	Mr & Mrs Stentiford	Ampney Orchard
	£100	100	Mrs C Kent	New Road
	£25	128	Mrs D Green	Buckland Road
	£15	246	Mrs Rae	Cheyne Lane.
OCTOBER	£15	132	Mr Drew	Ampney Orchard
	£15	167	Mrs D O'Brien	Chetwynd Mead
	£25	006	Mr M Wooloff	Chandler Close
	£15	226	Mr & Mrs Lewis	Chandler Close.
	£15	050	Mr & Mrs Proctor	Bridge Street
	£15	159	Mrs Snook	New Road

**The Bampton Beam**  
*Contributors please note!*

As advised in the August edition of the 'Beam', the issue dates from 2005 will be March, July and November, to be better able to advertise the events which are put on for children during the school holidays.

This also means that the *deadlines* for contributors will change, and for the March edition, the deadline will be 31<sup>st</sup> January!

Thank you to all our contributors, the 'Beam' would not be the same without you all!

**PERFORMANCES**

West Ox Arts will promote the following events in the Hall:-

**OTTC 'Noah's Ark'** at 7.00pm on Wednesday 15 December 2004

**Trading Faces Mask Workshop** for families in Village Hall from 10.00 to 12.00 on Saturday 30 January 2005.

**'The Snow Queen'** at 2.00pm on Saturday 25 February 2005 followed by mask making workshop in Village Hall.

**FLICKS IN THE STICKS**

There is a possibility that funding will be obtained by The Theatre Chipping Norton to enable them to start a programme of showing feature films by-monthly in Village Halls. The Committee has expressed an interest in this scheme and should learn early in the New Year whether or not it will go ahead.

If anyone would be interested in helping to run these events or has ideas for the type of films that would be most popular. Please contact Susan Phillips Tel:01993 850321.

**FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S  
CABARET EVENING**

Bampton Classical Opera entertained a packed church on 30<sup>th</sup> October. Amanda Pitt soprano, Mark Saberton baritone and Steven Grahl piano gave us songs by Roger Quilter, Rogers & Hammerstein, Gilbert & Sullivan, Porter, Kern and Gershwin which delighted the audience. A delicious supper was provided by Sarah Wearne and a gallant team of helpers who also served wine and shifted the furniture before and after the event.

The concert raised £2,833 - including £422 from the excellent raffle - for the Friends of St Mary's Endowment Fund.

**BAMPTON CLASSICAL OPERA**

The annual St Beonwald Day candle lit concert in St Mary's Church at 7.00pm on Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> December will feature Murray Hipkin, Jeremy Gray and Gilly French with the orchestra of Bampton Classical Opera. Do come and enjoy Mozart's concerto for two pianos and his concerto for three pianos as well as music by Richard Strauss and a concert aria sung by Amanda Pitt.

Tickets: £10 available at Abbey Properties. Book early to avoid disappointment.

**BAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWS**

*By David Hawkins, Chairman, Bampton Parish Council*

**Pools of Water Outside Surgery**

We have been trying for years to get OCC Highways to build drains outside the surgery to remove the very large pools of water that occur after any heavy shower. Patients to the surgery are soaked by passing cars. At long last, OCC have informed us that they will be building drains to solve the problem and work will take place before winter. Hooray!!

**Support for**

**Bampton's Fire Station**

For many years, Carterton Town Council has fought for its own fire station. At a recent WODC Social and Economic Committee meeting, Carterton again stated its case but was told that the town already gets an excellent service from the Bampton and Burford Brigades, and that a new fire station, costing some £800,000, was unaffordable. Our Parish Council have always fully supported our Fire Brigade and very much hope that their recent recruiting attempts will yield sufficient manpower to sustain a very long future in the village.

**Travellers on the**

**Black Bourton Junction**

Many of our residents have asked why travellers were allowed to park for 6 months or so on the Clanfield Road. The Parish Council were told that, although it is illegal to live on the highway, no arrests were being made. Moreover, the OCC Travellers' Liaison Officer unlocked the gate into the old lay-by, that had been shut for years, and they were allowed to live there. As we were about to launch a protest, the travellers set off for pastures new - we know not where!

**Allotment Plots - Rent Increase**

The very low annual rent of £7.50 for a full plot will be increased in September 2005 to £10. The half plot rate of £5.00 will remain unchanged. Anyone who would like a plot should call Marion Dowding Tel: 850167. The excellent value for money is possible because the Parish Council makes no profit from the site on Station Road.

Londis Shop - The Council have re-

ceived several complaints about the unsightly boarding up of the old flower shop owned by the Londis landlord. We understand that planning permission is being sought for a much improved frontage to the shop. Residents can't wait to get their pavement back! The Council hopes that this shop can be let soon and that Bampton can get yet another 'service' added to its present long list.

**Cricket Wicket Saga**

Readers will be aware that the cricket wicket suffered burn marks on 5<sup>th</sup> November last year and that Bampton Cricket Club have chosen to play their home fixtures elsewhere in 2004. To clarify finally whether the artificial wicket is safe or not to play on and, therefore, to determine whether the Club can get the necessary insurance cover, the Parish Council have asked David Bates to do an inspection and to give us a written report. David Bates was a former Yorkshire player, Master Groundsman at Trent Bridge and former Test & County Board pitch Supremo. We have had several other inspections this year which have concluded that, whilst the blemishes are regrettable, the wicket can be played on, and is probably better than any village grass wicket in Oxfordshire provided appropriate protective clothing is worn.

**Bampton Charity Shop**

The new Charity Shop has gotten off to a super start, thanks to the excellent support of the Villagers - and also from 'non-Villagers'. Remember, all the profits will go only to Bampton Charities. Remember also, that the Shop cannot accept electrical goods, childrens' car seats, nor cycle helmets. Most other items will be gratefully received.

**Joy Riding on the Recreation Ground**

We have had several cases of youngsters driving their cars all over the soccer and cricket pitches. A reward will be given to anyone who can give us the registration and name of the driver leading to a successful prosecution.

tion. Tel: 851066.

**Use of the Pavilion**

If you wish to use the excellent facilities at the Pavilion please contact Ray Willis Tel: 852483.

**Computer Classes**

Following Abingdon & Witney Colleges' withdrawal from this project, it has been taken over by Carterton College. Anyone who would like to take part and learn how to use a computer and also the internet please let the Clerk know. "Taster" classes will be run in the New Year. To join or for further information please contact Tel: 850776.

**Bampton's Play Parks**

*By Anna Pitt,*

*Bampton Parish Council*

I have been in contact with several companies which design and build play equipment and received quotations for replacement of the safety surfaces. However, the most urgent task at the moment is to deal with the roundabout in Pembroke Place Park. This roundabout has a section missing. I have twice arranged for it to be chained down so that it cannot cause an accident. However, each time this has been damaged. I am now concerned that this is adding to the danger. However, I would like to point out that the roundabout is dangerous and should not be used.

It has been suggested that the roundabout can be repaired. However, this is a time-consuming and costly exercise and a member of the Parish Council is currently trying to ensure that the repairs are carried out as soon as possible. It would cost in the region of £2000 to remove it.

A second problem is that the fence to the school playing field has been damaged. Children are not allowed in the school grounds out of school hours. If you or your children were responsible for the damage to the fence I hope you will contact the Parish Council and offer to arrange and pay for the repairs!



### Bampton Environmental Watch Group

(BEWG)  
By Ralph Norman, Chairman

In July we had a very interesting talk by Dr Ian Gourlay, a dendrologist, on Tree ring dating and King Arthur's Round Table. This was followed by our last meeting of the year on 27<sup>th</sup> October, when Grant Audley-Miller (Head of Environmental Planning and Conservation with the Vale of the White Horse) took the brave step of crossing to the northern side of the Thames to give us an enjoyable talk on conservation. This took us around and into buildings, to milestones and along causeways. It ended with a preview of controversial plans that have just been approved for the new Co-op in Abingdon—modern curves and stainless steel cladding, no less! The next meeting will be our AGM on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2005 which will include the chance to see more of Hilda Kent's photographs and films of Bampton, collected during her lifetime here. Future open meetings that we have scheduled for 2005 are: 28<sup>th</sup>

April, a talk on canals from Mark Davies; followed on 28<sup>th</sup> July when we have a talk about the new Chimney nature reserve by Lisa Lane; and ending on 27<sup>th</sup> October with a talk from Martin Way, titled The Home Front. The meetings will be in the Village Hall at 8:00 pm. Everyone is welcome, members free, visitors £2. Please note that in 2005 our meetings will move from Wednesdays to Thursdays. On the planning front Bampton has been fairly quiet since BEWG's last Beam report, with new proposals restricted to small, localised plans, mainly for extensions to existing dwellings although two issues are still outstanding. The main issue relates to the ongoing saga at Littlemead, which sits between the Aston and Buckland Roads at their junction with High Street. Two proposals for redeveloping this site have been submitted over the past two

years. Each resulted in more than 200 objections from Bampton including BEWG, the Parish Council and SPB. Both have been refused by WODC. The last proposal, which was revised at the last minute from 7 houses and 7 flats to 10 houses, has gone to appeal. All the objections stand and have been passed to the appeal inspector along with some additional comments that have been made, but because of a large backlog in reviewing appeals we will not get a decision until summer 2005.

The second issue relates to hoardings around the shop adjacent to Londis, which continue to mar the look of the Market Square. The owner of Londis (who also owns this shop) has recently submitted a revised proposal for the frontages to both this shop and Londis itself. We hope that this will result in the removal of the hoardings in the near future. (NB These will remain separate shops; a proposal to combine them into single premises for Londis was abandoned some time ago.)

A major change in land usage is happening at Weald. Everyone will now be aware that RAF Bampton Castle have uprooted their aerials and moved away. The MOD is now in the process of returning this large site to agriculture.

Finally, the formal part of the Public Inquiry into the West Oxfordshire Local Plan 2011 should be over (closing date is scheduled for 7<sup>th</sup> December 2004). The section dealing with sites in Bampton, particularly New Road, were discussed at the end of July, when David Hawkins, Ralph Norman and the Earl of Donoughmore spoke on behalf of the Parish Council, BEWG and the SPB respectively.

We must now wait until some time in 2005 for the inquiry inspector's report. This will then be considered by WODC before they finalise and adopt the local plan, so it will still be a while before we have the final report. If you would like to know more about BEWG or would like to join us please contact the Membership Secretary **Ann Norman Tel: 850823**, or email [bewg@sagaman.co.uk](mailto:bewg@sagaman.co.uk). You can also see our entry on the Bampton web site at [www.bamptonoxon.co.uk/bewg.htm](http://www.bamptonoxon.co.uk/bewg.htm).

### The Royal British Legion Bampton Branch Needs You!

The Royal British Legion is a charity whose aims are to safeguard the welfare, interests and memory of those who have served in the Armed Forces.

A very worthwhile cause. To many, however, it may appear that you can only become a member if you are presently serving in, or have served in, the Armed Forces, but this is not the case! In fact, anyone - including the ladies - over the age of 18 can join, and there is even an opening for the young amongst us, since anyone who 'accepts and support the objects' of the Legion, and who is between the ages of 14 and 18 can become a Youth Associate Member,

For those of us over the age of 18, there are basically two classes of membership. Those who are presently serving, or have served in the Armed Forces can become an 'Ordinary' member; those who have not served in the Armed Forces, can become 'Associate' members. Both pay the same subscriptions annually, and enjoy essentially the same membership benefits, excepting that some of the higher offices can only be held by Ordinary members.

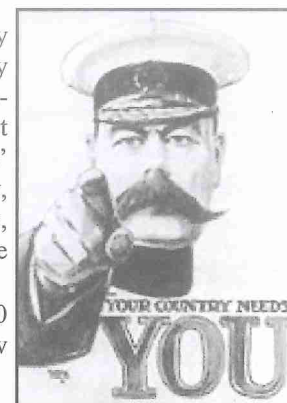
The Bampton Branch of the Legion has just under 50 members, but we could do with seeing some new faces around, and hence this 'advert'!

And what do we do in the Bampton Branch?

Well, we hold regular meetings (roughly quarterly) where we get hold of guest speakers to give a talk for 10 or 20 minutes on a topic of interest (not always military), followed by a light supper and 'refreshments'! Additionally, we are looking at livening up our events schedule, by possibly arranging some trips - taking a leaf out of the Bampton Gardening Club's Book - to places of military and non-military interest. There are also many events run by other Legion branches and groups up and down the country, which are advertised via our newsletter, and there are also 'special offers' for such things as insurance, etc., where members of the Legion can obtain discounts on various goods and services.

So why not consider joining us? We're not a bad bunch really! Just fill in the slip below, and drop it into the 'beam' letter box—The Cotton Club in Bridge Street, and Fred Gray (Branch Secretary), will be pleased to supply you with an application form, and relieve you of the £10 annual fee - which by the way can now also be paid by Direct Debit.

Don't hesitate, act!



#### To Fred Gray, RBL Secretary, via The Cotton Club

Please send ..... application form(s) for the Royal British Legion, Bampton Branch, to:

Name.....

Address.....

Telephone.....

### Did you serve in the Armed Forces in the Canal Zone Egypt Between 1949 & 1954?

If so you may be entitled to the General Service Medal approved for this campaign. Further information may be obtained from: Percy Miles, Area Representative of The Suez Veterans Association.

Tel: 01793 851038

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## 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 2007, to  
**Society for the Protection of Bampton**  
Manor House  
Bampton, Oxon OX18 2LQ

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meet • escape • relax • enjoy

# enjoy

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## Bampton School News

By Richard Pitt Parent Governor

The summer term finished off with the Ancient Greeks Open Day and the two summer concerts that were mentioned in the previous article. Despite the presence of the mighty Zeus at the Greek Open Day he wasn't able to stop the rain from pouring and causing the abandonment of the outdoor Olympic events. The rain couldn't stop the magnificent Greek banquet from happening in the hall however and we were treated to a feast while some of the children put on a dancing spectacle. I am sure all those of you who were able to attend had a great time and our thanks go out to the staff and pupils for inviting us in to see them in action.

Key Stage 2 performed Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat in St Mary's. As you can imagine this was a very bright, colourful performance with some well choreographed songs and dances. And the Key Stage 1 show, Tadpole Rag and Caterpillar Boogie, used an innovative technique whereby the pupils moved around a central stage so that all interested onlookers had the opportunity to see their child acting.

Moving in to this term and, along with other schools in Oxfordshire, we have moved to a six term year. What this means in practice is that the autumn half term is a couple of days longer and the spring break falls on the same two weeks every year, rather than

being determined by when Easter is. We have also had our youngest intake with all Children who will be five during this academic year starting in September, albeit some on a part time basis. All credit to the reception class team who are doing a fantastic job of integrating all of the youngsters despite the wide age range.

The list of extra curricular activities that the children are able to take part in continues to grow with the addition this term of an orchestra club, bringing together our violin, keyboard, recorder and percussion musicians. Watch out for concerts from this ensemble, no doubt accompanied by our fine choir. You may remember from April's edition of the 'Beam' that the School Council had applied for and won an award of £2,000 from BT, having submitted a project entitled 'Better Talk for Better Times'. September saw the grand opening of the trim trail which was built with this money and to help them celebrate, this year's council invited last year's leavers to come and play.

A big emphasis at the school at the moment is on international links. Again you may remember that we held an international week in January when teachers from Spain, Germany and Holland visited, and a project plan was submitted to the British Council. This plan has now been formally approved and for the next three

years there will be very close ties between the four schools. The next step in this process was for three members of staff and a governor to visit the partner school in Erfurt in Germany, and three members of staff will be visiting the school in Spain in the summer. These visits offer us all the chance to benefit from the different ways that we do things and to exchange ideas on best practice in education.

And this week, Mrs. Evans has traveled to Uganda to visit our partnership school in Magwa. To reinforce the involvement of the whole school in this project the children were encouraged to dress in the national colours of Uganda, red, black and yellow, on their latest 'wear what you like day'. Mrs. Evans has also taken out a collection of football shirts that the children donated along with some footballs and pumps. We look forward to hearing all about the trip in time for the next edition of *The Bampton Beam*.

Finally, with Christmas fast approaching, look out for the concerts, bazaars and carol singing events that will be taking place.

### West Oxfordshire District Council Awards for Culture

The following people in Bampton have been granted an award to help with their training.

#### MUSIC

Emily O'Keefe, a talented singer and musician who plays both the clarinet and piano has gained a place in Oxfordshire Senior Schools Orchestra.

#### SPORT

William O'Brien, who plays hockey, has been a major player with West Witney men's 3XI as well as Witney Warriors under 16 Team. He is also part of the under 15 Oxfordshire County Squad.

Congratulations to both of them. West Oxfordshire District Council is pleased to help talented young performers achieve their potential.

### 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: The Reverend D Lloyd, Dr M Perry, Mrs R Colvile, Mrs J Haslam, Mrs J Newman, Mr C Rouse, Mrs S Phillips, Mr G Wiltshire & 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

**The next meeting of Trustees to allocate funds will take place on Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> January 2005. If you would like to apply for a grant for the first time, please contact Susan Phillips Tel: 10993 850321 for an application form.**

## New Barbers in Bampton

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November saw the opening of a new Barbers – or should we call it 'Gents Salon! - 'Parallel Lines', in Bridge Street – next to the Horse Shoe.

Concentrating on the male side of the Village population, Emma, the Shop's proprietress told the 'Beam' that business had been brisk since the opening, and that she had been made very welcome in the Village by the Villagers – Emma hails from Black Bourton.

So Bampton now has two hairdressing salons, 'Bojangels' in Rosemary Lane, concentrating mainly on the ladies, and now 'Parallel Lines' concentrating on the gents.

A good mix, and one the 'Beam Team' believes is sustainable, given the size of the population in Bampton and the surrounding villages. So, Welcome to Bampton Emma, and every success with your business.

And Bamptonians, remember:

**Use Them or Lose Them!**



*The New Barbers  
Very handy for the clientele of the Horse Shoe!*



*Emma at work on one of her younger clients*

## A Thank You from the Coronary Care Unit

### The John Radcliffe

On Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> September, Alan and Daphne Pullen held a Coffee Morning in aid of the JR Coronary Care Unit. Jan Nolan, the Ward Clerk, sent this letter in thanking them both.



'On behalf of the Coronary Care Unit, I would like to express our sincere thanks for all the hard work and effort made in raising funds for our unit. With your support we are able to purchase items that allow the patients stay to be as pleasant as possible and ensure the team of nurses are kept up-to-date with current cardiac knowledge and skills.

This donation will be paid into the Coronary Care education fund (0050), which is used to allow the nurses to further their education and enhance patient care.

Alan and Daphne would like to say a big thank you to everyone who helped support the Coffee Morning and a special thank you to their family.

## Fostering Now

The world of fostering is continuing to undergo significant change. It has moved on from a time when foster carers were unpaid, untrained, volunteers who cared for orphaned children. Foster carers are gradually coming to be seen as professional childcare specialists who care for children with a wide range of needs. There are a number of reasons for these changes.

On the childcare front, efforts to enable more children to live in a family setting rather than in children's homes have proved so successful that a greater proportion of "looked after children" now live with foster carers than ever before.

Increasing awareness that some foster children require carers with high level parenting skills means that foster carers now receive a higher level of support, training and financial reward. Although foster carers are still primarily motivated by a desire to help children in need, these extra inputs now help to ensure that their efforts are more properly valued, recognised and supported.

The range of children needing help is now much more diverse and some foster carers now develop specialist interests. For example, caring for a sick baby, helping a young person who has sought asylum, supporting young mums and babies or caring for a disabled child. If you are interested in fostering and would like more information, please telephone Andy Clipson on 01993 201514 or email [info@familyplacement.com](mailto:info@familyplacement.com)

### Wanted

A small house to rent or buy in the Bampton area. If you can help, then could you send me the information via The Editor, The Bampton Beam, The Cotton Club, Bridge Street, Bampton, Oxon OX18 2HA, and it will be passed on to me. Thank you, from (hopefully) a future resident of Bampton.

Has anybody an unused garage or garage space that could be earning them a small income?

Reasonable rent offered for garaging for one car (used only twice weekly and only in the daytime).

Telephone 01993 850454



Dear Editor

I used to live in Bampton, and was attending the School Annex at the time of the moon landing in 1969, and I often wonder if people who attended School then with me still live in the area?

Some of the names I remember are:

Tony Reed, David Reed, Susan Miles, Susan Temple, Simon Temple.

If the above, or anyone else who remembers me, would like to get in touch, that would be great. My email address is: iandl@austarnet.com.au  
Ian Lines

1 Duice Court, Gaven Qld 4211, Australia

Dear Editor

On Saturdays 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> October a group of residents set about clearing the patch of ground on the corner of Church View and Shrewsbury Place which had become very overgrown. We hope that the Parish Council will agree to be responsible for its future upkeep. We were very grateful to Mr and Mrs Buchan for their provision of tea and coffee but despite invitations not one other resident of Shrewsbury Pace bothered to turn out.

Where is the community spirit?

Yours sincerely,

Church View Resident

Address supplied

Editor Madam

Reading the letters from Jonathan Phillips and David Hawkins in the August Edition of the Beam I really thought my eyesight was failing me: another instance of this mad crazy world.

Unfortunately, litigation appears to be part of every day life in this money motivated society, but when a village Cricket Club is involved, and above all in Bampton, this must be the end of road.

Some of us have very happy memories of cricket in the village through the 1930s to 1960s. We had a lovely ground in a beautiful setting where players and spectators spent happy hours. There were many young players given an opportunity from the age of 15 – 16 years in our Wednesday matches. We were called the 'early closers', as many of us worked in the local shops and formed the bulk of the

## LETTERS and E-MAILS TO THE EDITOR

team.

The 1<sup>st</sup> team contained some fine individual players in their own right. Roy Stroud, a splendid left arm fast bowler, Bill Lock with his off breaks and googlies, Fred Cannon with his exceptional leg breaks - he certainly confused the batsman; and last Charlie Whiting who always opened the innings in the 'Boycott mode'.

On the all-day matches against a University XI, on Whit Monday and August Bank Holiday, Charlie could always be relied on to reach a staggering 25 - 30 runs before lunch. There must be still some around that played at 'Pusey House' in 1939. I can recall the names, all 16 and 17 years olds. John Reynolds, Leslie Green, Teddy and Chris Timms, Teddy Baker, Arthur Beckley, Arthur Cox, Edward Govier, Philip Horne (still in his grey school shorts) and myself, and one I cannot recall.

We all cycled there and my brother-in-law Harold Waite transported the kit on the old Norton Combination. Tea in the tack room, plus a ten shilling note to any batsman who could break a window in the house.

Such wonderful days.

John Morton

Phylcot, Chippenham

*It's always a great pleasure to hear from you John and read about your wonderful memories. Thank you - Ed.*

Dear Editor

My family has lived happily in Bampton for over 200 years but I was recently saddened when my elderly brother who lives in our family home came home to find the house ransacked and items stolen. This was a very traumatic experience for a pensioner. I would like through your paper to thank Tony and Jenny Jenkins for their support at this time and the Bampton Welfare Trust for their very kind gesture.

Laurie Dixey, Witney.

Dear Editor

**Re: A grave injustice on Donkey Derby Day!**

I had a very good time at the Donkey Derby this year, as usual, and even had some luck at the 'Peg off the Line'. I learnt a week later that I had indeed won this competition, but had received no phone call or first prize bottle of wine as promised. Why? Because at the close of the Donkey Derby a mystery man, having asked who had won, assured the official that he knew me very well and would deliver the bottle of wine himself. I have received no call from this mystery man, nor expect to, and I was hoping that you would post this message in the next 'Bampton Beam'.

A message from the Donkey Derby Peg Champion (22 pegs):

To the unidentified charlatan who, on the 30<sup>th</sup> August, took my first prize bottle of wine at the close of the 'Peg off the Liner' competition, claiming to know me and assuring its delivery ... I am writing in more or less good humour about all this, of course, since a missed bottle of wine is hardly important; it's just the low down cheek of it that gets me!

Yours sincerely

Toby Hopkins, Weald.

*Since writing Toby has received his bottle of wine via the committee, and would like to say thank you to this anonymous person.*

Dear Editor

I live along Primrose Lane, Weald. I am writing this letter to see if I can get some response from the council about the condition of Primrose Lane. I'm not sure whether it's a private Lane or if the Parish council maintain it? Last winter it was bad enough, but this winter the puddles seem to have got deeper and deeper.

I like to push my wife out in her wheel chair but this is impossible now.

Going into Bampton along Mill Green is also a nightmare as the hedges need to be trimmed back, and if your not careful you get a good soaking if its been raining.

Bampton and Weald are lovely places to live, but seem to get forgotten when not used by everyone.

Please, please can we have some ac-

tion in Weald.

Many thanks, Name supplied.

Name supplied

*We have passed your request to the Parish Council, and hopefully they will be able to take some action to help - Ed.*

Dear Editor

Please would you put in the next copy of the Bampton Beam for me.

Brenda Hornbuckle passed away on the 12<sup>th</sup> September. She was a very good friend to so many people, who will no doubt miss her so very much.

Thanking you,

Sharron Foresheew, Bampton

Dear Editor,

I have to confess that I have never sent anything in for the Beam before and completely understand if you do not consider the enclosed suitable for the next publication.

It was my father who suggested I should submit the enclosed poem about Alan Webb because he felt it would strike a cord with many of the local people who thought, as we did what a wonderful person Alan was.

Yours faithfully

Emma House, Bampton

**Alan Webb**

*Written by Emma house*

I remember Alan

With his shock of hair so white,  
His friendly way to wind you up  
With eyes that twinkled bright.

I will always think of Alan

Who was never in a hurry,  
He always had the time to give  
To ease a general worry.

I remember Alan

As he'd sit and sup away,  
With Adrian and Mac the dog,  
To pass the time of day.

I will always think of Alan

As he watched the children play,  
He always had the time to spare  
To listen to what they'd say.

I remember Alan

With Adrian and Sam,  
Jess and Oscar in the field,  
He was their biggest fan.

## LETTERS and E-MAILS TO THE EDITOR

I will always think of Alan

On returning from a walk,  
We'd stop to have a little chat,  
To cut a long story short!

I remember Alan

In his truck of brightest red,  
A friendly wave as he went past  
Plus smile and nod of head.

I will always think of Alan

In his perfect Bampton Corner  
The chickens scratching happily,  
He liked it better warmer!

I remember Alan

And how he loved dear Tom,  
They knew each other perfectly,  
It's how they got along.

I will always think of Alan

As he hitched Tom to the cart,  
Off they'd go along the road  
A real racing start!

I remember Alan

With something good to say,  
Open minded, always fair,  
Live and let live his way.

I will always think of Alan

Great memories to keep  
I remember Alan with a smile  
He'd hate us all to weep.

### Obituary to Alan Webb Who died 9<sup>th</sup> October 2004

Alan Webb, from Primrose Cottages, who died in October, will be very much missed in Bampton. Many of you will have bought his eggs from the Village Store.

Alan was always busy; driving around in his little red truck or tractor, helping friends, and, at his own expense, looking after the verges and potholes in Primrose Lane

His field at the end of the lane was a joy to the children and grandchildren of Bampton people, with different breeds of hens happily scratching

among the trees - the imperious cock-erel, the ducks, geese and sometimes larger animals, goats, sheep and horses. The lucky ones were taken by Alan to collect the still-warm eggs or see the baby chicks. The willow hedge was a recent addition, and we admired the effortless way the willow branches took root.

Alan enjoyed driving out with his horse pulling a variety of buggies and trailers, and the Gypsy caravan, which Alan himself made, was the last in a long line of these. It is a wonderful creation, and a fitting reminder of a friendly, tireless man. Men like Alan are few and far between and his going leaves us all the poorer.

### Bampton, Clanfield and Black Bourton Branch WOCA

In March we held a very successful Jazz Night with the 'Cool Jazz' swing group in the Pavilion. 80 revellers attended and enjoyed a great evening of Jazz with the added singing of Miss Amelia Crisp.

The Annual Summer Barbecue was generously hosted by Maggie & Rod Harris at Churchgate House. Our MP David Cameron called in despite having three other engagements that evening.

2004 is just flying by and Christmas is fast approaching, - Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December at Friairs Court, Clanfield courtesy of John & Charles Willmer. The 'Anything Goes' Choristers will be performing carols and popular music and we hope to be confounded once again by the 'Bampton Mummies'.

Please contact **Graham Haslam Tel: 01993 851014** for tickets which are priced at £10.

### Thank you

The 'Beam Team' would like to take this opportunity to thank our wonderful *Beam Walkers* for the sterling work they do of delivering the 'Beam' throughout the Village.

It would just not be possible to deliver the 'Beam' without our *Beam Walkers*, as the cost of delivering by post is prohibitive.

So a big Thank You once again!



# N. J. WOODLEY

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#### 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.

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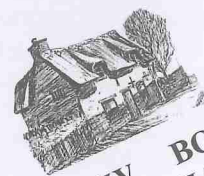
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(1418)



## Road and Traffic Issues

By Fred Gray  
Bampton Parish Council

Below are the results of the survey conducted in the April edition of the 'Beam', and jointly sponsored by the Parish Council and Residents Action on Traffic (RATs).

No detailed analysis is given, but clearly the main concerns of the Villagers are the use of the Village by HGVs, and speeding. Both if these are being addressed by the Parish Council and supported by RATs. It is also interesting to note that those who responded were supportive of traffic calming measures at the extremities of the Village, but not so supportive of measures such as humps within the Village.

### Traffic Survey Report 2004

#### Q1 - Concerns and worry about Bampton traffic – total returns 159

	%	Rank
HGV	23.9	1
Speeding	23.9	1
Rat-running	17.0	2
Parking on roadsides/verges	13.8	3
Disrespectful driving	11.3	4
Lack of marked/controlled marked parking spaces	8.8	5
Other...		
Enforce or remove 4 hour limit in Broad Street	0.6	6
Bad parking at junctions	0.6	6

#### Q2 - Dangerous locations – total returns 64

	%	Rank
Buckland Road - speed	15.6	1
Entrance to Cheapside from New Road/Landells – speed	12.5	2
Clanfield Road - speed	10.9	3
Broad Street - speed	10.9	3
Aston Rd/Buckland Rd Junction – speed	10.9	3
Market square - speed	7.8	4
Outside Londis and parking - abuse of yellow lines etc.	6.3	5
Market Square roundabout and High Street – blind bend	4.7	6
High Street – speed	4.7	6
Opening from/onto Castlefields - blind & speed	3.1	7
New Road – speed	3.1	7
Station Road exit - speed	3.1	7
Near bank and butchers - parking	1.6	8
Church view - rat running	1.6	8
Church street - speed	1.6	8
Mount Owen Road	1.6	8

#### Q3 - Preference of locations for next calming action – total returns 36

	%	Rank
Buckland Road	19.4	1
Entrance to Cheapside from New Road/Landells	16.7	2
Outside Londis	13.9	3
Aston Rd and Aston Rd/Buckland Rd Junction	13.9	3
Broad Street	11.1	4
Clanfield Road	8.3	5
Opening onto Castlefields	5.6	6
High Street	5.6	6
New Road	2.8	7
Church Street/View	2.8	7

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#### Q4 Positive - Most popularly supported methods of calming – total returns 230

	%	Rank
Build-outs at entrances to village	17.1	1
Speed indicator devices	13.6	2
Traffic lights	11.8	3
Lower speed limits (such as 20mph through the centre)	11.8	3
Speed cameras	11.0	4
Pedestrian crossings	10.1	5
Increased number of 30mph repeater signs	8.3	6
Calming measures painted on the road surface	7.5	7
Build-outs, or similar, within the village	4.4	8
Humps	1.3	9
One-way system	1.3	9
Other...		
STOP large vehicles coming through here	0.4	10
Slow down reflector signs	0.4	10
Painting schemes to narrow roads	0.4	10
Narrow all roads in Bampton	0.4	10
HGV Restriction Buckland Road	0.4	10
One way around by surgery	0.4	10

Thank you to all who responded. The results will be used by the Parish Council in its ongoing dialogue with the Oxfordshire County Council on the HGV issue. And it is hoped that the installation of the four Chicanes will help reduce the average speed within the Village - where of course all those Villagers who drive, can help the situation by keeping to the speed limit!

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### Church Services in December

#### St. Mary's Church

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> December,

Carol Service 6pm. Followed by  
mulled wine and mince pies.

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> December

Family Service 3pm - 'Welcome to  
Christmas'

Midnight Mass 11.30pm

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> December

Family Eucharist 10.30am

For other services, please see notice  
board in Church porch or Tel:  
842463

#### St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Carterton

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> December

Mass 9.00am

#### The Methodist Chapel

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> December

Christmas Day Service 11am

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## Let's Get Bampton Fit!

By Calum Taylor

### The Benefits of having a Personal Trainer

Joining a gym is easy, but to carry on with the same enthusiasm can be hard, not least because when you join a gym, after the initial induction procedure, you are generally left alone for a 12-week or more period until your next fitness test is due.

Your programme may stay the same for up to a year, long before then you would have hit a plateau in which improvement is hard to make as your body becomes used to the stresses that the workout places upon it.

As Personal Trainer's we make sure that a varied but effective workout is used; one that will never become repetitive.

Depending on what you want to train for, depends on what intensity, frequency of sessions and how many repetitions of an exercise you need to do. For example if you're training for strength; 8-10 sets of reps of 4-6 are needed for large muscles, and 2-5 sets of 4-6 reps for small muscle groups; and for endurance, 2-5 sets of large muscle groups and 1-3 for the small muscle groups of 15-20 reps.

If you're training for a sport then try to think about what actions your sport uses. For instance, rugby; if you're a forward and are involved in scrums, mauls and rucks your legs are one of the most important parts of your body to train. Exercises that are good for this include Squats and Lunges.

Try not to use machines too much unless instructed to do so by your doctor, physiotherapist etc. Machines tend to only work one muscle group whereas using free weights which include dumbbells and barbells you tend to use several muscle groups as the line of movement is controlled by your muscles rather than the machines. Using free weights you will see far more results far more quickly, if you use them properly.

The information that I have given shows what a complex topic training for your own personal needs can be. Therefore, to take the guesswork out of you're training, why not try a Per-

sonal Trainer?

They are exactly what the term implies: 'personal' Fitness instructors in gyms may not be as they might seem to be. They may have other duties than just fitness instructing, such as cleaning, writing fitness programmes, conducting inductions, as well as selling memberships; and they may therefore not always be available to attend to personal needs.

They have to look at a much broader scale and think of the gym as a whole for the benefit of the owners, whereas a Personal Trainer will give you that daily guidance, and will know your body inside out, which will give you that quality of a one-to-one that is so effective.

Because we, as Personal Trainers are generally working for ourselves, we live on our reputation, so if our programme doesn't work for you the word of mouth isn't positive. So we

have to attend to everyone's personal needs so that results will come quickly and the results will last.

As part of a Personal Trainer's armoury we include: Nutrition, so that a well balanced diet is found; one that will suit you and one that you will be able to maintain. Most Personal Trainers are qualified in Sports Massage and are therefore able to sort out injuries and problems, and keep your workout trouble free, by ensuring that a good warm up and cool down is done correctly - something that tends to be skipped when training alone. Your Personal Trainer will ensure that at the end of a workout the "feel good" factor is achieved.

The extra motivation of having someone next to you pushing you that little bit further is one of the key aspects of having a Personal Trainer.

If you are left to your own devices then you will be likely to cancel that gym membership, but if you have an appointment then you are more likely not to let someone else down and carry on training to your benefit.

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### The Laura Knight Appeal

By Richard Cooper

I would like to say a big Thank You to those of you who gave up time to help and support the Appeal. Also, thank you to Black Bourton Village Association for their generous donation.

Just over £8000 has been raised, and, with the help of Sir Richard Branson and Virgin, Laura's dream holiday to Florida is now possible - and will take place early next year.

Thank you all once again.

### Bampton Drop-In

Held at the Methodist Chapel every Monday from 12pm, where all are welcome.

Don't suffer those Monday blues. When you've done your washing up don't just put your feet up with a cup of tea. Instead, why not come and join us at this local facility for a very reasonably priced lunch, where you will be served by a dedicated band of country cooks. You can enjoy a warming bowl of home-made soup, something on toast or a cheesy baked spud, followed by home made cake, cheese and biscuits, tea and coffee. So come along and enjoy this friendly informal gathering where you will very soon want to make it a regular date in your diary.

### Bampton Pre-school Play-group

Bampton pre-school committee has an urgent need for a Treasurer to overlook and manage their day to day finances and accounts. This is a voluntary position, which would suit a person with book keeping experience. If you have a few hours a month to spare and think you could help, please contact the Pre-school Tel: 852828 or Rachel Deegan Tel: 201068 for more information.

### Bampton Youth Club

By Colin Allport

The important project for renewal of the heating system in the Main Hall of the Centre is still on hold with a continued delay from the County Council with regard to the extension of the lease on the premises. Although our lease still has four years to run, this

## NOTICE BOARD

does also raise worries with regard to the Council's attitude to the future of the of the site and we would repeat our request for anyone who is sympathetic to the long term continuation of youth activities in Bampton to contact our County Councillor to express concern.

As reported in a footnote to the last Notice Board entry, there has been brighter news with the Junior Youth Club being able to resume meetings in September. This was the result of a fund raising initiative taken by Bampton Church council followed by strong support from the Exhibition Foundation and Bampton Welfare Trust. Together with a modest contribution from our own reserves, we were able to raise the £1,000 required to match the original generous offer from our Parish Council to guarantee the required amount to cover the cost of a second youth worker for the Junior Club. It is worth noting that Bampton is now meeting half the cost of youth workers for the Youth Club while the income from renting out the Youth Centre plus the welcome contribution from the 250 Club meets the running costs which ensure that accommodation can continue to be provide for the important youth activities of the young people of the village.

The Youth Clubs continue to be seeking voluntary help for supervision of the club meetings and anyone able to help or anyone wishing to join in the weekly club meetings should contact **Shelley Vaisey Tel: 842416**.

As mentioned above, renting out the Centre for meetings, dances or parties is essential to the continuation of the organisation. The Centre is available at anytime when the youth clubs are not meeting and we provide a pleasant and atmospheric venue for such occasions. Anyone interested should contact **Jill Ruck Tel: 852010**. The secretary, **Colin Allport Tel: 850411** should be contacted on any general matter.

### You May be Entitled to a New Passport – FREE!

If you are a British national born on or before 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1929, you

can apply for a free ten-year passport from the UK Passport Service.

If you have applied for a passport since 19<sup>th</sup> May 2004 and you are eligible for the above scheme, then to you can apply for a refund of the standard passport fee.

For further information call **Passport Adviceline Tel: 0870 5210410**.

### 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**.

### Footpaths

Bampton enjoys a quite varied network of footpaths radiating from the village in most directions. Generally these paths are in good condition, thanks in part to the regular walkers who use them for personal pleasure/exercise or dog walking. However, minor problems do sometimes occur; a stile may be impeded by an over zealous farmer using too much barbed wire, or trees decay and fall across the path. These matters can be dealt with; we have good rapport with the Oxfordshire County Council Countryside Service, but we need to know of the problem first. To this end, we would ask any walker who finds difficulties in using a particular path to contact **John Battersby (BEWG Footpaths), Tel: 01993 850182**, in order that the matter may be put to the County authority for attention. Good walking.

### The Bush Club Needs You!

**Drivers:** Once a fortnight for ½ an hour in the morning at 9.45am, or ½ an hour in the afternoon at 1.45pm.



# OUT AND ABOUT

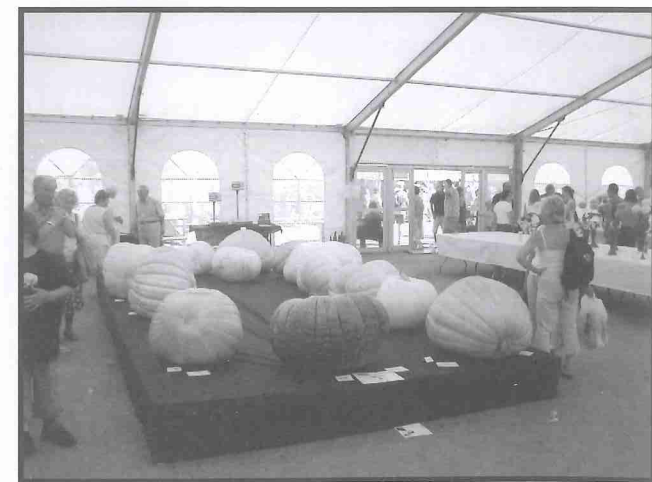
## *The Gardening Club's Autumn Show*



*Many Exhibits, and Well Attended as Usual*



*The Donkey Derby: A Great Afternoon Out*



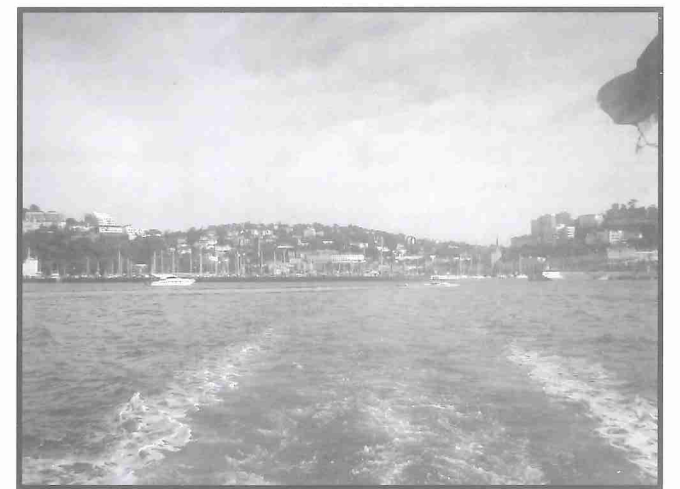
*The Gardening Club Visits Shepton Mallet*

# OUT AND ABOUT

## **The Annual SODEM Run to Lechlade with a Refreshment Stop in Bampton (Society of Drivers and Enginemen)**



## *The Gardening Club's Weekend Away in Torquay*



## *The Gardening Club Visits the Bridgewater Carnival*





**Cooks:** Approximately once every 5 weeks from 9.45 to 1pm

**General Helpers:** From 9am – 1.45pm on alternate weeks. Times to suit individuals.

Anybody willing to help, or join the Club as a new member please contact **Barbara Daw Tel: 01993 851491.**

### The Children's Society

The annual box collection this year raised £435.72, so welcome at Christmas when we are thinking of children who are less fortunate than our own. Special thanks to Junior Church; we received money both from their cake stall and from Sunday collections; and to Londis and the Surgery where boxes are kept for us. The family of Bishop Burroughs, who sadly died last year, passed on his box to me, for which we thank them. I am always grateful to the Post Office where our monies are kindly banked free of charge.

Most people gave even more generously than last year and yet our total was still down because collectors had moved away. I am anxious therefore to attract new box holders and would urge anyone interested to get in touch with me, Pauline Hawkins, Tel: 851066, and I will be very happy to bring a box to you. Thank you again to all who made donations. The Society helps over 50,000 children and their families every year and it is only through your generosity that their work can continue.

### Aston Children's Dance Session may have to close.

For over 5 years there has been a unique creative dance session for children under 4 years old run in Aston at the Village Hall on Tuesday mornings. Over the last few terms, despite widely publicising in neighbouring villages, the numbers have sadly dwindled.

Unless we get more support from parents and carers in the area we will have to stop providing this exciting and, moreover, local dance opportunity.

On a positive note there has been interest shown in starting a group for older children (aged between 5 and 9 years). If you are interested in keeping the existing sessions going or have children of any who would like to join

## NOTICE BOARD

a new class in Aston, please contact Sarah Bishop from Biserk Dance Company **Tel: 851378** or Email [biserk46@hotmail.com](mailto:biserk46@hotmail.com).

### Recycle Your Unwanted Mobile

Recycling old mobile phones and chargers creates £5 for BTCV (British Trust for Conservation Volunteers) with their recycling programme 'Office Green'. Visit their site [www.officegreen.co.uk](http://www.officegreen.co.uk) for terms and conditions or **Freephone 0800 833 480.**

### 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**

### Bampton Bridge Club

The Club meets in the Village Hall every Tuesday, 7:30 pm to 10pm. Duplicate Bridge is played on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month.. Rubber bridge on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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.**

### Cancer Research UK

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December**

Quiz Night The Village Hall (Teams of 4)

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December**

Country & Western Dance - Social Centre, Carterton

Anyone wishing to join us contact **The Cleavers Tel: 850682.**

### 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 re-saleable items which then make money for worthy causes. **Daphne Gaydon, 3 Broad Street.**



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## The Pumpkin Club – Then and Now

by Carolyn Main

The Pumpkin Club was formed in March 1969. Three friends, Arnold Woodley, Jack Horn, and the pub landlord, Reg Absolom, were enjoying a drink at the bar of the old Eagle Inn when the topic of their conversation turned to the most successful method of growing giant cucurbitaceae.

After a friendly, but inconclusive argument, it was decided to hold a competition to see who could grow the largest pumpkin, marrow, or gourd. The first "Great Weigh-in" took place in the grounds of the 'Eagle' in October of that year and was supervised by a representative of Suttons Seeds. Joe Buckingham became the first ever winner of the Pumpkin Club Cup, with a gourd weighing 51.5lbs. After the weigh-in, the pumpkins, along with flowers, fruit and vegetables brought along by visitors were auctioned, raising the grand sum of £28 and 15 shillings. The committee and members (at this point totalling 78) decided to donate the profit from the first Weigh-in to the S.P.A.J.E.R.S.

At first the organisation was known as the Eagle Pumpkin Club but was renamed 'The Bampton Pumpkin Club' in 1970. Along with the change of name came the decision to donate monies raised each year directly to local pensioners, and at Christmas of that year the Club gave every single pensioner £1; married couples received £1.10 shillings! When the Eagle Inn closed, the Pumpkin Club changed its headquarters to the Romany Inn where committee meetings now take place.

As time went by the now familiar "door to door" collection of items for the auction was introduced. All donations, however small, are welcome. Larger items and bric-a-brac are auctioned individually, and smaller items such as tins and jars are made into hampers which are also auctioned. The Grand Pumpkin Weigh and Auction is, as far as is known, the only event of its kind in Oxfordshire - the 'Bear and Ragged Staff' at Cumnor hosts a pumpkin weigh-in and raffle at

the beginning of November each year, but it is not on the same scale as Bampton.

In order to boost the Christmas fund the Club began to organise other fundraising events such as an exhibition of Bampton Souvenirs, Tramps Suppers, Bingo, Mini-fetes, Discos, Jumble Sales, Easter Bonnet Competitions, Clay Pigeon Shooting, Aunt Sally, Race Nights, Bar Billiards, Doll Exhibitions, Dances and Variety Shows. Other strange happenings such as Dwile Flunking, Moustache Growing Competitions and Catapult Contests also took place.

The increased income from these events enabled the Club to give a Christmas Gift of £5 to every Bampton pensioner. In recent years, this figure has increased to £10.00 per person.

*Currently there are 397 pensioners on the Christmas Gift address list.*

With the introduction of a new "May Day" bank holiday in 1979 the Club set about the task of organising the first Annual Bampton Street Fair and Dog Show! In those days, the Street Fair at Bampton was the only local event to take place on "May Day". People would come from the surrounding area, to enjoy the attractions and take advantage of our "all day" licensed bar - in the days before pubs had all day licensing hours, this would have been quite out of the ordinary!

Local clubs, traders and other organisations joined in by taking one of the table-top stalls, enabling them to promote or raise funds for their own organisations, while at the same time supporting the Pumpkin Club.

Other attractions included produce stalls, a Grand Draw, displays, children's rides, Craft Fair, and the Dog Show. Throughout the day, musicians and bands performed live - for little or no charge! These people were only too happy to get an opportunity to perform in public, as they often received other offers of work from visitors to the Street Fair, who had seen them on stage.

Sadly in recent years the Club's situa-

tion has changed dramatically.

Many of the other villages in the area now hold similar events on May Day and the Street Fair no longer draws the crowds it once did. Changing lifestyles have also influenced the situation: Many families these days take advantage of the Bank Holiday weekend to go away, affecting not only the number of people visiting the Street Fair, but also those available to help set up and run it.

The Club also has difficulty attracting new members. At the last AGM, only 7 people were willing to serve on the Committee, and the roles of President, Vice President, and Secretary and Vice Chairman are *currently vacant*. The Club was forced to cancel the Street Fair in May, as it would have been impossible to organise and run the event with such a small committee and so few helpers.

Sadly, the future of this once thriving organisation has become uncertain. Unless the Club can attract new members and helpers, there may soon become a time when giant pumpkins will no longer be seen in Bampton, and the Street Fair and Pumpkin Weigh-In will go the way of many other traditions which have been lost to the village forever. Although small, the present committee remains committed to the Pumpkin Club, and hopes that new volunteers will come forward so that the future of the Club can be assured.

The Grand Weigh-in and Auction take place early October each year, and the collection starts September time - so watch out for posters and leaflets - and of course the 'Beam's 'Calendar of events'!

*Would like to have a go at pumpkin growing?*

*Do you have a little time to spare and would be interested in joining the committee?*

*If the answer to either of these questions is "yes" please contact me Tel: 01993 210014; alternatively, you can leave your name and phone number with Trevor at the Romany Inn - we would love to hear from you.*





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Saturday: 9.00 - 2.00  
Sunday: Closed

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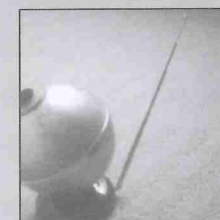
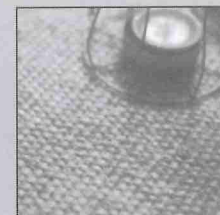
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**HOMOEOPATHY IN ASTON**

*By Margaret Chanter*

**Who Am I?**

My name is Margaret Chanter and I am a classical homoeopath. I moved to Aston from Witney a year ago with my husband and two children. I trained at the oldest and highly respected School of Homoeopathy in north Devon for four years and am a fully registered and insured member of the Society of Homoeopaths. I have been involved with homoeopathy for the past 12 years.

**What Is Homoeopathy?**

Homoeopathy has been in existence in its current form for over 200 years. It means treating like with like. For example, the remedy *Alium Cepa* (made from the onion) is used in the treatment of hay-fever and colds with the classic signs of much watering of the eyes and burning fluid from the nose, together with violent sneezing and sensitivity to flowers. Homoeopathy works with the natural tendency of the body to heal itself. It helps by gently strengthening the immune system and improving energy. When a person is unwell their body attempts to restore a healthy balance and, in the process, symptoms are displayed on the physical, emotional and mental level. Such symptoms can be said to be the external effects of the internal fight to get well. Homoeopaths use these symptoms to find the most beneficial remedy for the patient.

**How Does It Differ From Orthodox Medicine?**

Homoeopathy treats people rather than diseases. Essentially orthodox medicine treats a patient who has a liver complaint, skin complaint and a heart complaint with (at least) three different kinds of medication. Classical homoeopathy treats the individual with one remedy chosen specifically to cover all the symptoms of that person. That remedy may well change as the patient's symptoms change, but only one remedy is prescribed at a time. Homoeopathic remedies are made from minute doses of plant, animal and mineral sources. They have no side effects and can safely be used alongside any medicines you are currently taking. Homoeopaths are also trained to recognise when a pa-

tient needs to be referred to their own GP for any tests or physical diagnosis, but any persistent and serious symptoms should always be checked by your doctor.

**The Homoeopathic Consultation**

First consultations can take up to two hours. This allows the homoeopath time to take a detailed medical, family and personal history in a calm, unhurried atmosphere. Homoeopathic treatment is by nature often ongoing and supportive. Follow up appointments are usually half an hour to an hour. Homoeopath and patient work together to achieve the best possible level of health and renewed energies.

**How Can It Help You?**

The benefits of homoeopathy are wide-ranging. It can be taken on a first-aid, self-treatment basis, or you can consult a professional homoeopath for truly individualised treatment. It can offer relief for both short-term illness and ongoing supportive treatment for long term chronic illness. It can be used by young and old alike, and is a gentle treatment for use by pregnant mums, children and babies. A few examples of how it can help you are: Asthma, eczema and hay-fever. Exam nerves. Anaemia. Failure to thrive. Behavioural difficulties. General tiredness and low energy. Bumps, bruises and accidents. Influenza. Childhood diseases. Late development learning difficulties. Colic and digestive problems. Recurrent coughs, colds and sore throats. Complaints of pregnancy. Teething problems. Depression and stress. Thrush cystitis. Ear infections and glue ear. Warts Verrucas. Emotional trauma family upset. Women's 'problems' menopause. Epilepsy. For those wishing to find out more about homoeopathy and how to use remedies I shall be running an introductory course in Aston starting January 2005 on useful homoeopathic remedies to have in the home for everyday ailments. To register an interest or find out more information please contact **Margaret Chanter Tel: 01993 851675 (Registered Member of The Society of Homoeopaths).**

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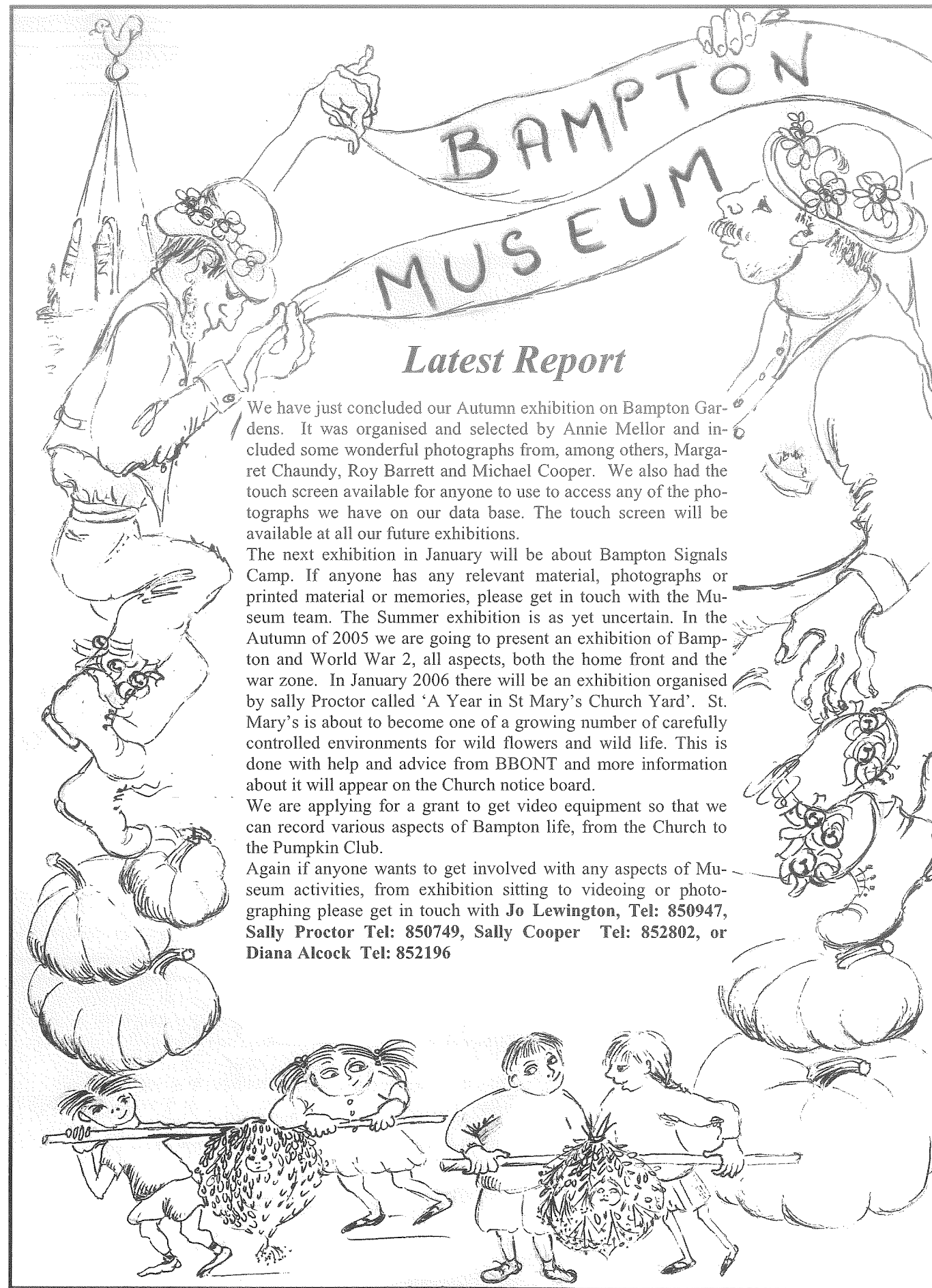
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Registered Homoeopath  
01993 851675**



*Latest Report*

We have just concluded our Autumn exhibition on Bampton Gardens. It was organised and selected by Annie Mellor and included some wonderful photographs from, among others, Margaret Chaundy, Roy Barrett and Michael Cooper. We also had the touch screen available for anyone to use to access any of the photographs we have on our data base. The touch screen will be available at all our future exhibitions.

The next exhibition in January will be about Bampton Signals Camp. If anyone has any relevant material, photographs or printed material or memories, please get in touch with the Museum team. The Summer exhibition is as yet uncertain. In the Autumn of 2005 we are going to present an exhibition of Bampton and World War 2, all aspects, both the home front and the war zone. In January 2006 there will be an exhibition organised by Sally Proctor called 'A Year in St Mary's Church Yard'. St. Mary's is about to become one of a growing number of carefully controlled environments for wild flowers and wild life. This is done with help and advice from BBONT and more information about it will appear on the Church notice board.

We are applying for a grant to get video equipment so that we can record various aspects of Bampton life, from the Church to the Pumpkin Club.

Again if anyone wants to get involved with any aspects of Museum activities, from exhibition sitting to videoing or photographing please get in touch with **Jo Lewington, Tel: 850947, Sally Proctor Tel: 850749, Sally Cooper Tel: 852802, or Diana Alcock Tel: 852196**



## The Bampton Gardening Club

Another New Year has started for us with the AGM on the 20<sup>th</sup> November. The 'new' committee - which is mainly the same as last year! - is as follows:

Chairman - Tony Jenkin  
 Treasurer - Ellen Parker  
 Secretary/Show Secretary - Fenella Gray  
 Membership Secretary - Gill Gummer  
 Social Secretary - Ellen Parker  
 General Members - Gary Gummer, Richard Wilkins, Diana Laycock, Marjory Cashmore  
 Unfortunately, we two of our committee members decided not to carry on. We would like to take this opportunity to thank them for all their hard work they contributed to the club. A big thank you to Mollie Jones and Phil Macfarlane.

I know you are all waiting impatiently for the new programme for 2005 to be delivered. Hopefully after Christmas the final contributions will be finished and you'll received it along with the yearly newsletter.

May we take this opportunity also to thank our many members and non-members for supporting us through another year, and wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

### Bampton Gardening Club

Invites you all to a

Christmas Coffee Morning

On

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> December

in the

Village Hall 10 am - Noon

Come and join us for a Christmas drink and mince pies.

Westonbirt Arboretum

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December



Sale Starts  
 Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> January

Patchwork  
 Classes Start  
 5<sup>th</sup> January

## THE HORSESHOE INN

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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' being 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



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## The Cookery Corner

By Emma Deacon

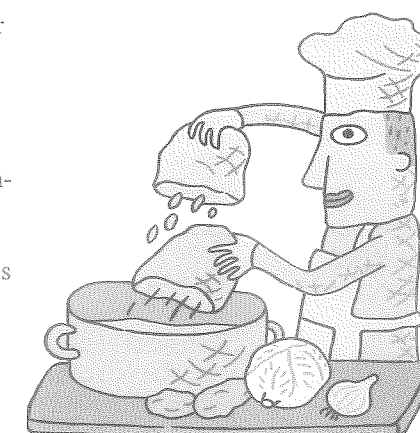
### Winter Warmer Soup

This nutritious and wholesome root vegetable soup is bursting with vitamins and also fills you up! The parsnips in this soup are a traditional favourite and have been since the Roman times, because of their sweetness and unusual flavour. The soup is also packed with carrots, which really do make you see in the dark because of their high content of vitamin A, which helps to form the retina, and a lack of which brings on night blindness! So go on get cooking and treat your body to those vitamins it craves.

#### Ingredients

- 3 carrots
- 1 large potato
- 1 large parsnip
- 1 large turnip
- 1 onion

- 2 tbsp of sunflower oil
- 2 tbsp butter
- 2 ½ pints of water
- salt and pepper
- 1 piece of fresh ginger, grated
- 1 ½ pints of milk
- 3 tbsp fromage frais
- 3 tbsp fresh dill chopped
- fresh lemon juice
- 1 vegetable stock cube



Fry the chopped onion in the sunflower oil and butter. Then add the finely chopped carrots after a couple of minutes. Fry gently until soft then add the water and stock cube. Chop the rest of the vegetables very finely and add. Also add the grated ginger and leave to simmer for about sixteen minutes. Make sure all the vegetables

are soft. Season with salt pepper and lemon juice and add the milk. Continue to simmer on a very low heat. When it looks the right consistency, let it cool aside then blend in a food processor. To serve dollop the fromage frais into each bowl and let it dissolve, then garnish with the dill finely chopped. Yummy!

#### A Thought for Christmas

By Ruth Wheeler

Many, many years ago  
 In a stable mean and low  
 Our Saviour Jesus Christ was born  
 So now we celebrate this Christmas morn

Thinking of loved ones here and there  
 Singing carols, saying a prayer  
 Greeting friends old and new  
 But! What does Christmas mean to you?

Is it food? Presents? Trees of Yew?  
 With pretty lights all bright and new  
 Crackers pulled with longing eyes  
 To see inside a little surprise?  
 When all this happens it would be right

To spare a thought for other's plight  
 For so many little girls and boys  
 Have little food, no mention of toys  
 In refugee camps they have to swarm  
 Huddling together to themselves warm

Nowhere to go, even if it's thick with snow

Wondering what each day will bring  
 Will joyful bells ever ring?

For them each day is like another  
 Some have no mother, father, sister, brother

Nothing to look forward to, like me and you

So say a prayer for people afar, and please

Just think how lucky and blessed we are

Thanks be to God. Amen.

## BAMPTON MUMMERS



The Bampton Mummies will be maintaining their Christmas tradition performing on Christmas Eve around the town. Should you wish them to perform at your party please contact **Don Rouse** Tel: 01993 850938, who will do his best to accommodate you at this very busy time. The important thing is to give your name in early so as to

assist your time preference being considered. All those families with little children want the Mummies at the same time! With all the wonderful hospitality that the Mummies receive they often run late, so you can see it is a very difficult task to get it right!

The Mummies start performing at 5pm with the last performance at 11.30pm in one of the local Pubs.

The price of a performance is a Donation to the SPAJERS put into the MUMMERS BOX, which will be passed around. All the Mummies need from you is 'A room to rhyme this Merry Christmas time', and, of course, room enough for a Knight in shining armour to die. Don't panic, there will be a good Quack Doctor on hand to raise him up again.

Last year the Mummies raised nearly £800.00 for the SPAJERS.

Don't forget the number to call -Tel: 01992 850039



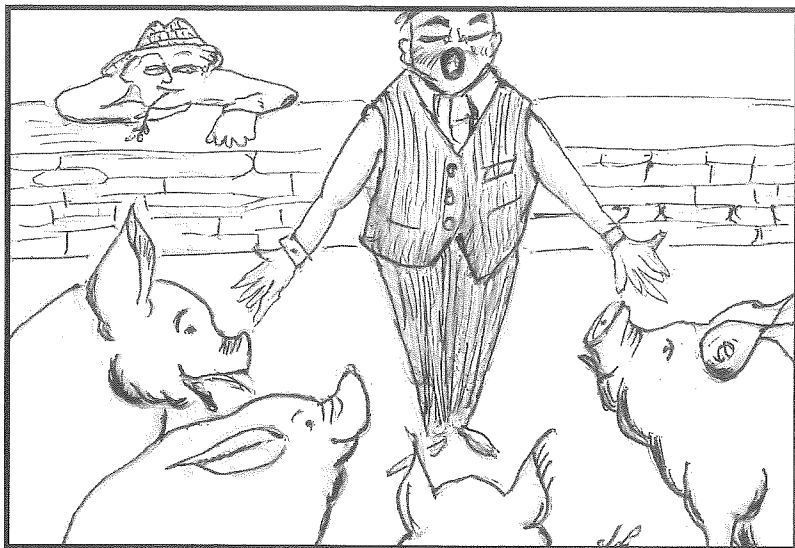
## OUT OF WORK FARMER - TURNED AGRICULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

By Don Rouse

Dare we think that Tony Blair reads *The Bampton Beam*??

No sooner had my article on farmers producing an alternative to fossil fuels had been printed, when he makes statements to the fact that the government is going to do something about it! We are probably kidding ourselves to think that he would listen to the voices of those living in the 'sticks'. But nonetheless he is beginning to talk positively: about time too. The Germans evidently already have six stations handling bio-fuel closely followed by Spain. As yet we have none. At the moment there are several producers of biomass fuel, i.e. willow coppicing, in this country, who are struggling to find a market for their produce: we have one on our doorstep at Clansfield! In my book if there were several buyers to create a competitive field, there would be a lot more growers. It is rumoured that Didcot power station could be converted to take this alternative fuel. What a boost that could be for this area. Imagine all that area between Buckland Road and Marsh Lane could be full of willow trees, absorbing all the pollutants in the air around here and making it an even nicer place to live. It would create more jobs locally saving the need for us to get into our cars for going to work. I've got my 'Billhook' sharpened ready. If we were to take this fantasy of mine one step further, we could have oil seed rape growing up Station Road and a wind farm on Mount Owen. We could probably then invite the 'Green' Party to rent the Town Hall for their Headquarters!

I was waxing lyrically the other day to a friend, about the subject of bio-fuels and pollution, when he stopped me in my tracks by reminding me, that when



a cow secretes air from behind, it releases an enormous amount of methane gas (I bet that has surprised you that I could be so refined!) As I used to milk 120 cows and occasionally made my own contribution I suppose I am as guilty as the pilots of those VC10s for polluting the atmosphere around here.

This reminds me of a true story that I read in the Daily Mail many years ago. There was a scientist who was studying cows and had the theory that the gas released from a cow was in fact methane. So he got a lighted taper, stood behind the cow and awaited her performance patiently. She did not disappoint, with a bit of pressure from

at the same time! It must be very frustrating for both farmer and contractor. I was enthralled by the programme on Channel Five called 'The Farm'. It was more the animals that I found entertaining rather than the celebrities that were supposed to be the stars of the show. My information is that they had more trouble getting the wide variety of animals for the show, than getting the stars, having to get some of the animals from other farms as sadly the old fashioned mixed farm like we had in the 1940s do not exist.

The pigs were fantastic, proving that they are not filthy. I used to get great satisfaction out of watching our pigs;

when you cleaned a pig's sty out, then throw in a bundle of straw, it was always fun to watch the pig prepare its nest. It would be so particular on where and how it would place the straw to leave an area where it could do its business without getting the straw dirty. When we had pigs at Home Farm, that is now where Lavender Place is situated, a gentleman who was an opera singer used to come and practice his singing, to the pigs! It was quite fascinating as the pig would put its feet upon the wall and stay there listening until the singer went home! Sometimes it would join in! We had what you might call 'cultured' pigs.

Full praise also to the cow that tolerated so many different people learning to milk her by hand, I know that my cows would not have been so tolerant. It reminded me so much of my father; he claimed that the sign of a good hand milker was the amount of froth on the top of the milk as you milked. If you were good there would be at least three inches of froth, but if you weren't there would be none. I was amazed to see them using an ordinary

her stomach a four-foot flame shot out from behind setting fire to the stable and all of the scientists equipment! That taught him not to play with fire again.

What a terrible harvest it has been for farming this year. It has got to have been one of the worst ones on record. The farmers that I feel very sorry for are those who have given up their independence of owning their own combine, due to the high cost of machinery maintenance and are totally reliant on contractors. The trouble is that when the sun comes out for a couple of hours, everyone wants the combine

open bucket to milk the cows into. So unhygienic! What if the cow put its foot into the bucket or done something worse, it is no good thinking that the filter would take it out. We always used a 'Domed' bucket whose value was twofold. The bucket had a dome on it with the hole on the side at the top. For normal milking you squirted the milk into the hole with the bucket standing upright, this way it would be almost impossible for anything other than milk to get into the bucket. Then if you had a cow with the equivalent proportions of the TV star called 'Jordan' it would be impossible to get a normal bucket under her, but with a domed bucket, you would lay it on its side and it would squeeze under her with the hole uppermost for access! Weren't our fore-fathers innovative? You know how these youngsters go around with their baseball caps on

back to front looking a cool dude with the peak at the back. Well my father was doing that seventy years ago! Only with him it was his 'Flat Cap'. He had a reason for it you see, as when he was hand milking he had to keep the peak of his cap to the rear for two reasons. First it enabled him to be in closer contact with the cow; by having his forehead tightly against the cow's flank, he was able to sense the cow's mood, thereby being prepared for any eventuality such as her trying to kick the bucket as it were; secondly, if the cow did a 'whoopsie' it would not go down his shirt collar!

Talking of 'Flat Caps' I see there is going to be a little relenting on the ban of hunting with dogs. Evidently the hunting of Foxes and Hares is still going to be banned as it is supposed to be a pursuit of the well-to-do who wear top hats, bowlers and the like.

But the hunting of Rabbits and Rats is deemed to be the pursuit of the working classes who wear flat caps. This will be allowed! Now I wonder, what did I do with Dad's old cap?

In my criticism of this act many Beams ago I raised the issue of killing rats with dogs as being the most effective way. Do you think Tony Blair read that issue as well? It seems that I have finished exactly where I started. So just in case he does read this 'Happy Christmas Tony' and please try better next year to make our life in the 'Sticks' more sustainable.

To all our readers who put up with my Ramblings. Thank you.

I wish you all a very happy Christmas and maybe next year we can all enjoy the prosperity that we all so rightly deserve!

## SPAJER'S NEWS

By Don Rouse

First of all I would like to thank all of you who contributed to making our Donkey Derby the most successful yet, whether it was by helping on the day, donating prizes or attending and participating in what was a fantastic 'fun' day. Over £3300.00 was raised, a record. It meant a lot of hard work was done by your committee and their friends for which we are extremely grateful.

As is customary the annual outing was on the Wednesday after the Donkey Derby. This time we chose somewhere new! Poole. What a success that was. The weather was beautiful, the coaches very 'comfy' and we brought back exactly the same number as we took - which makes a change! Most were a different colour when they got home, by that I mean sun tanned, not green from the bus ride!

By the time that you read this we will have had 'Josie's Draw', a great 'little earner' this one. All done by one girl, her family and friends. Well done Josie.

As a result of our successful fund raising, which of course depends entirely on your generosity, we are this year able, as a 'one off', to increase the monetary Christmas gift to our senior citizens to £15.00. Who knows, with your continued help, support and generosity at our events, we may continue to provide a high standard of Junketing for our members.

To become a member of the SPAJERS, you have to have lived in Bampton for a minimum of six months and attained the national pensionable age. If you are not already on our list then contact Jeff Dando on 850643.

Next year's first fundraising event is the Quiz Night which is on Friday 15 April. Teams of six to find the team that can call themselves 'The Best Brains of Bampton'.

Our new influx of young committee members has really set the place on fire with new ideas. Also in the pipeline is a village Garage Sale and a Barn Dance. More details will be in our next Beam update in the Spring.

Stu Pierce who has given us many years of service and loyal support has decided to step down and take a back seat. He has become what you might call a 'backbencher' by offering to still be there if needed. Thank you Stuart for all that you have done for us, not forgetting the other half of your team who has always been so supportive. That's Jessie of course!

For any information on the SPAJERS please contact our secretary Roger Snow Tel: 850113 or give me Don, Tel: 850938.

## Bampton Secret Gardens 2005

Sunday June 12<sup>th</sup> 2005

*'when the roses are at their best'*

We're already starting to organise Bampton Secret Gardens for next year - would you like your garden to feature? It doesn't have to be large (there have been some wonderful small gardens in previous years), it doesn't have to be full of unusual plants - it just has to be in the Village.

In 2005 we hope to involve 10 new never-to-be-opened-before gardens, including two organic gardens and there will be a bumper crop of fairies at Sandford Cottage!

Like most good things in Bampton, the event relies on generosity, desire to show the Village at its best, and having a healthy dose of fun while you're doing it. If you wanted to take part you'd need to be able to open your garden on Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup> 2005 between 2pm and 6pm.

The organisers are already planning the publicity and ticket sales and proceeds will go to the Bampton Museum.

If you would like your garden to feature, please get in touch with Sally Tel: 850479, or Diana Tel: 952196, alternatively, email Sally at - rayandsally@yahoo.co.uk.



**WOA Gallery**  
**Market Square**  
**Bampton**  
**Oxon OX18 2JH**

Tel: 01993 850137  
 westoxarts@yahoo.co.uk



Registered Charity No. 266542

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

1 - 24 December

### Alphabets at Work

Calligraphy by Oxford Scribes and hand-printed books and posters by the Oxford Guild of Printers. Skilled craftspeople at work, with an affordable show of beautifully designed calligraphic pieces, hand-written and hand-made books. Stocking fillers, plus a rare opportunity to see some major art works by internationally known calligraphers. Demonstrations each Saturday afternoon.



Saturday 4 December

### Windrush Choral Society Concert

**J.S. Bach Christmas Oratorio**

Time: 7pm

Venue: St Mary's Church, Bampton

Cost: £8, or £3 children/students

Please call 01865 300226 to book

### Are you sitting comfortably?

WOA always needs volunteer sitters to look after the exhibitions. It's a great way to meet like-minded people and to see each exhibition.

If you could spare a couple of hours a month to support WOA in this way then please contact the Administrator Olivia Thornton for the gallery, on 01993 850137.

Or for the Robert Vesey Room, Barbara Daw on 01993 851491.

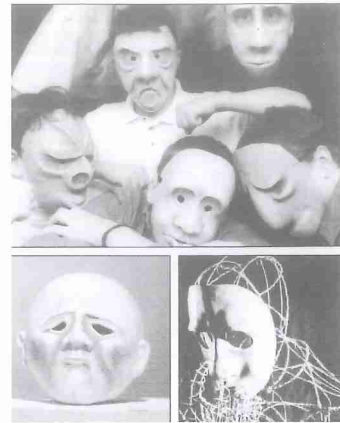
### Future exhibitions include:

Wonderful Wood – from toys to tables in **March**  
 Mixed contemporary art show in **April**

8 - 30 January

### Trading Faces Masks Exhibition

The mask theatre specialists have created a touring exhibition that explores masks in performance. The exhibition includes masks from Trading Faces' extensive collection which have been created for performances and workshops over the last 17 years. The exhibits cover a wide range of styles and materials and include masked sculptures. The range of masks include character, caricature, naïve, neutral, commedia, animal, children's cardboard masks and displays of methods and materials for making masks.



Sunday 30 January

### Trading Faces Mask Theatre Workshop for adults

Time: 2 - 6pm: Venue: Bampton Village Hall (to meet at the gallery). Cost: £5.50 or £3.50 conc.

Start the afternoon with a guided tour of the exhibition. This will be followed by a workshop exploring mask techniques, body language and methods to approaching mask theatre. End the afternoon by wearing caricature masks and discovering how to bring them to life. Whether you're an interested beginner or a seasoned performer, this is a chance to have some fun and find out how masks work in performance. To be run by Trading Faces' Artistic Director. Wear soft clothes and shoes suitable for sport and movement.

For: Adults and over 14s.

Places are limited so book now on 01993 850137

Supported by West Oxfordshire District Council

### The Great WOA Stair Lift Appeal Fund

Many thanks to all those who attended the Quiz on 25 November. We are planning an art auction in March splitting proceeds 50% with artists, so do contact us if you have an item to offer to enable disabled access to your gallery.

### Welcome to West Ox Arts

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

**WOA Membership** is open to everyone and new members are always welcome.

Benefits include:

- discounts on WOA lectures, life classes and workshops
- invitations to private views
- regular mailings of the WOA events guide
- discounts at local art suppliers
- reduced commission rate for exhibitors

Membership fees Single £15, Family £25, Student £7.50

Administrator Olivia Thornton is usually in the gallery Tues-Thurs 10am -4pm.

### A New President for West Ox Arts

We are delighted to announce that Alec Peever has very kindly taken over as West Ox Arts Association's new Chairman. Alec is a nationally and internationally recognised stone carver and letterer whose work may be seen locally in Bampton as the plaque next to our millennium mosaic in the market square, and in the Oxfordshire Museum at Woodstock

### Life Drawing Classes

There are no life classes during August, back again in September.

Untutored sessions take place in the Gallery

**Monday 10am-12.30pm and Wednesday 7.30-9.30pm**

They are aimed at those who wish to draw without the need for guidance.

These are drop-in sessions, pay as you attend.

Cost: WOA members £6, non-members £7.50

We are planning a **one-day tutored life class in March 2005**, so look out for booking details nearer the time.



**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**

### Kids at WOA

**Oxfordshire Touring Theatre Company present:**  
**Noah's Ark**

Wednesday 15 December 2004

Venue: Bampton Village Hall Time: 7pm

Tickets: £6 and £5 concessions (children, WOA members students and unemployed).

What with Noah and his wife, and their daughter Rainbow, and her friend Ali, and his Gran, and Nelson the budgie, you might think there'd hardly be room for any animals. And you'd be right! But where to house the hippo is the least of the worried in this sparkling new version of this old family favourite.

### Roar! Family Mask Making Workshop

Sunday 30 January Time: 10am-12pm

Venue: Bampton Village Hall

Come along as a family and make masks together with Trading Faces. Make a larger than life lion with your dad, or a terrific tiger with your mom, or choose from a selection of leopards and pussy cat masks. Open to families with children age 3 and up. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Places are limited and must be reserved. Everyone gets to take their mask home at the end of the workshop. Come back at 2pm after the workshop for a guided tour of the Trading Faces exhibition at WOA.

Cost: £2.50 per child, adults are free!

**Cornelius and Jones Original Productions present**  
**The Snow Queen**

Saturday 26 February 2004

Venue: Bampton Village Hall Time: 2-3pm

Adapted from the Hans Anderson tale, this musical play uses imaginative puppets and masks for a particularly fantastical adventure. When little Kay gets a speck of dust from a magic mirror in his eye it changes the way he looks at things – anything good he sees as bad, and anything beautiful he sees as ugly. Kay is snatched from playing in the snow, and his friends Gerda sets out on a perilous journey through the seasons in search of him, to what seems the very end of the world.

Aimed at age group 5-11 years, though the show is vividly accessible to all ages

Cost: £4.50

### Children's Puppet and Mask Making workshop

Saturday 26 February 2004 Time: 3-4pm

Venue: Bampton Village Hall

To accompany The Snow Queen, there will be a workshop run by the theatre company after the show. Please book separately for this, and parents are very welcome to stay for this if they wish.

Cost: £2.50

### Robert Vesey Room at Bampton Library Exhibitions

The Robert Vesey Room Opening Hours are:

Monday & Thursday 2.30-4.30pm and Wednesday & Saturday 10am-12pm

If you would like to book this exhibition space for a month please contact Ailsa Matheson on 01993 851004. The only charge is 20% commission on sales.



**Heather Duignan**

BSc (Hons), M.A.R.

Reflexology and  
Thermo-Auricular Therapy

**What is reflexology?**

Reflexology is a complementary therapy, which works on the feet or hands to induce deep relaxation. Reflexology encourages the body to restore and maintain its natural equilibrium, providing optimum conditions to fight illness and facilitate healing.

**What are the benefits of reflexology?**

Reflexology reduces stress, improves circulation, cleanses the body of impurities and toxins and revitalises energy. It is also preventative health-care.

**Who can benefit from reflexology?**

Reflexology can be beneficial for those suffering from stress-related disorders, including back pain, digestive disorders, headaches, sleep disorders and high blood pressure. Benefits have also been reported in the treatment of chronic and acute conditions affecting the body, mind and emotions. Reflexology is a "holistic" therapy, treating the person as a whole. The benefits that reflexology brings will be different for everyone.

**Thermo-Auricular Therapy.**

Once lit "Hopi Earcandles" create a light suction action, which combines with the movement of the flame to generate an almost massage-like effect on the eardrum. Earcandling is used to soothe earache, headache, ear noise and stress. A feeling of warmth and a balance of pressure in the ears, forehead and sinuses is produced. The treatment includes a relaxing face and neck massage to facilitate drainage of the sinuses and lymphatic system and produce an overall feeling of calm and well-being. (The earcandles used are certified medical products according to EC guidelines 93/42).

Should you require more details, or wish to make an appointment please contact Heather Duignan on:

07974 837585

or email: [solesolution@hotmail.com](mailto:solesolution@hotmail.com)

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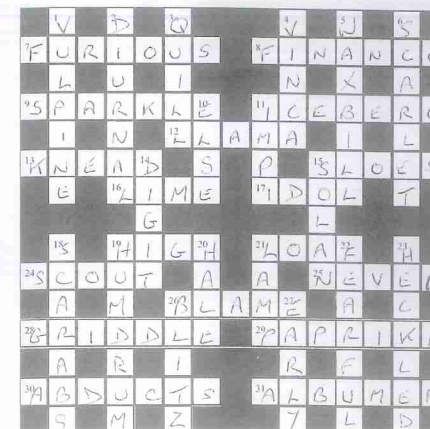
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**Solution to the August  
BEAM CROSSWORD**



The editor would like to apologise for a small error contained in the August crossword. We still received several correct entries, so well done!

The winner of the August Crossword is Mr David Tompkinson, of Ampney Orchard. Congratulations, the £10 prize is yours!

We would also like to donate £10 to Cancer Research, as a thank you to Bill Govier for producing yet another crossword for 'The Beam'.

**The Bampton Beam  
Adverts**

Why not give your local business a lift?

Advertise in  
**'The Beam'**

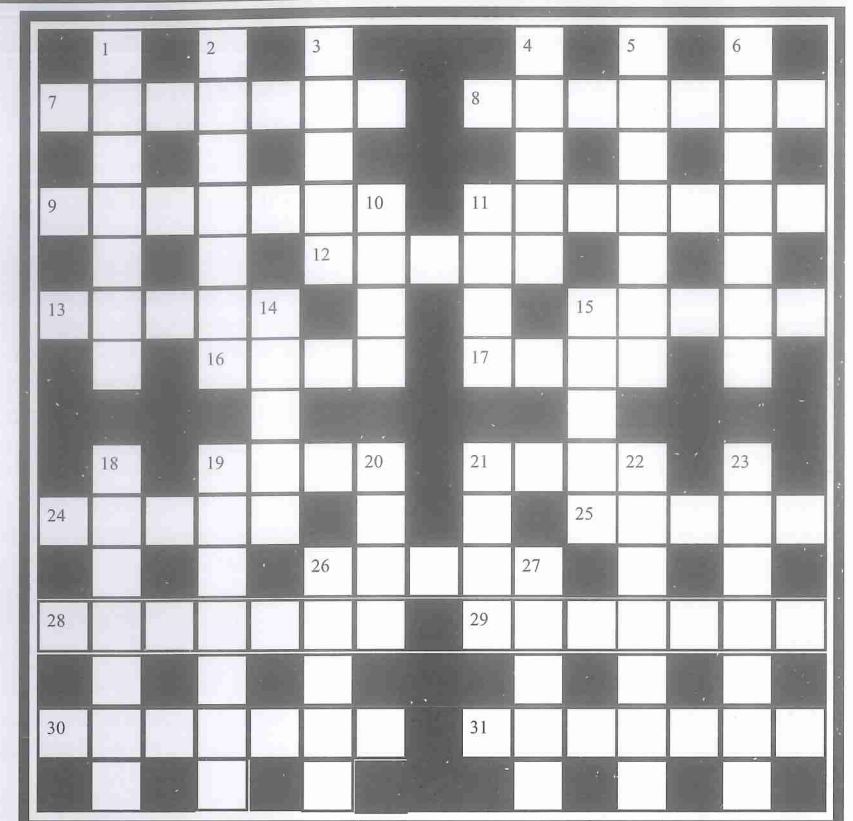
(and get a free advert on the  
Bampton Website!)

The rates for 'The Beam' are very reasonable. So why not call the Sub-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

**THE BAMPTON BEAM'S CROSSWORD**



**CLUES ACROSS**

- 7 Small disc of glittering metal
- 8 Defamation, calumny
- 9 A dealer in worn-out horses
- 11 Power of endurance
- 12 An Indian king or tribal chief
- 13 Australian marsupial
- 15 Vacant, silly
- 16 Otherwise
- 17 Inactive, not in use
- 19 The skin of an animal
- 21 Feeble, easily exhausted
- 24 Infant (northern dialect)
- 25 Left-hand side of a ledger
- 26 A coarse cotton drill
- 28 Taste
- 29 Settler, colonist
- 30 A whole number, complete
- 31 To take for granted

**CLUES DOWN**

- 1 A point of view
- 2 Finger joint
- 3 A young eel
- 4 Indolence, idleness
- 5 The wind-flower
- 6 Lion-like, majestic
- 10 Underdone
- 11 A Hindu woman's garment
- 14 Outsider, stranger
- 15 An epic poem, usually ascribed to Homer
- 18 A festoon of flowers, leaves, etc
- 19 Advance showing of a film
- 20 A layer
- 21 To flog
- 22 Sharpest
- 23 Quandary
- 26 A bed-cover
- 27 Head-dress of a bishop

**Town Hall Bookings**

For Town Hall bookings contact Mrs B. Sapsford Tel: 850776.  
Town Hall keys to be collected from Londis shop.



### West Oxfordshire Citizen Advocacy (CITAD)

Since 1996 West Oxfordshire Citizen Advocacy (CITAD) has found volunteers as advocates to become voices for disadvantaged individuals who cannot speak up effectively for themselves. Among those we help are youngsters with learning difficulties, and some with severe physical handicaps. Each year something like 30 people are partnered by individual volunteers for this kind of support. Our work is likely to have to close down in the next few weeks for lack of funding.

Currently we need about £40,000 a year to keep going. This supports part-time staff involved in training, supervision and support of volunteers, and makes a contribution to volunteers' expenses.

Hitherto CITAD has been supported by the Community Fund of the National Lottery, but that support was always for a limited period, and has now ceased. We have been unable to find alternative financial support to enable us to keep going.

If we cease our work, some of the most vulnerable individuals in Cherwell and West Oxfordshire, will be left without the safeguard and support of independent voices on their behalf.

I write firstly to draw this situation to the attention of your readers, but also as an appeal to anyone who could direct us to the kind of financial support which would avert closure. We can be contacted by telephone **Tel: 01993 704826**

or E-mail  
info@CITAD33a.freerve.co.uk.

Or write to  
Dr Rosemary Williams,  
Chairman CITAD  
33 High Street, Witney  
**Registered Charity Number:  
1053209.**

### Volunteer Link-Up

Most elderly people want to remain living independently in their own homes but often need assistance to do this. Can you help them by paying regular visits, doing some shopping or tidying their gardens? Some are housebound but love to be pushed out in their wheelchairs on sunny days.

To find out more, contact Anne, Ruth and Paula at Volunteer Link-up, Tel: 01993 776277. Office in the Methodist Church Centre, Witney.

### The Citizens 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 2003 the West Oxfordshire CAB, (with bureaux in Witney and Chipping Norton) responded to over 17,500 requests for advice from the local Community, which represents over 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 their 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 problem 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 individual's life within just a few minutes".*

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

If you would like to find out more, please contact Liz Tel: **01993 708492**, or drop in for a chat at 33a High Street, Witney.

E-mail  
bureau@westoxfordshirecab.cabnet.org.uk.

### Volunteer Reading Help Could You Help a Child Like Jack? Volunteer Reading Help

Jack is ten and used to hate reading and writing. He was quite often ill and away from school, which meant that he had fallen behind. Now, he has started saving up his pocket money to buy books, and has even been seen using his precious break-time to practise writing sentences

This dramatic change is, says his headteacher, "all down to Sue". Sue is Jack's Volunteer Reading Helper. She comes into school twice a week and sees Jack for half an hour each time. She uses a box full of books and games, as the basis for relaxed and lively sessions with lots of conversation, encouragement and fun.

Sue was trained by Volunteer Reading Help, a national voluntary organisation, which also supplies her with books and games and provides opportunities for further training and support.

Sue works with two other children in the school and they, as well as Jack, benefit enormously from the one-to-one attention of a patient adult with an enthusiasm for books and reading **Volunteer Reading Help** will give you:

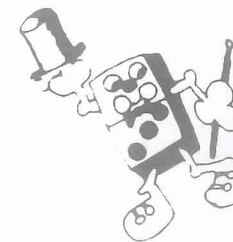
- ♦ Initial training
- ♦ Continuing training and support
- ♦ Travel expenses

The satisfaction of making a difference to children's lives

If you feel you would like to help make a difference for children like Jack, do please contact Hilary Burr **Tel: 0845 4500329;**

oxfordshire@vrh.org.uk, or VRH, Oxford Community School, Glanville Road, Oxford OX4 2AU.

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### Calendar of Events

#### December

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Quiz Night, Cancer Research, Village Hall  
 5<sup>th</sup> Carol Singalong, Methodist Chapel, Romany Inn, 8pm  
 12<sup>th</sup> Outing, Gardening Club, Christmas Market, Bath, Market Square, 9am  
 15<sup>th</sup> 'Noah's Ark', OTTC, Village Hall, 7.00pm  
 17<sup>th</sup> Country & Western Dance, Cancer Research, Social Centre, Carterton  
 18<sup>th</sup> Coffee Morning, Gardening Club, Toan Hall, 10am – 12noon  
 19<sup>th</sup> Outing, Westonbirt Aboretum, gardening Club  
 21<sup>st</sup> St. Beornwald Day candle lit concert, St Mary's Church, 7pm  
 24<sup>th</sup> Mummings around and about

#### January

- 30<sup>th</sup> Trading Faces Mask Workshop, Village Hall, 10.00 to 12.00

#### February

- 25<sup>th</sup> 'The Snow Queen', Village Hall, 2.00pm, followed by mask making workshop

#### March

- 3<sup>rd</sup> BEWG AGM Village Hall 8pm

## Wychwood Project Autumn Events

Cotswold Wardens Wychwood Working Days  
 Weekdays and Weekends  
 October 2004 to February 2005

Take part in practical conservation work in the Wychwood area in association with the Cotswold Wardens.

The Wardens have a wide-ranging work programme that includes tree and hedge planting, footpath works, coppicing, and vegetation management.

**Contact Tony Graeme**

**Tel: 01608 810729**

**Email: [tony@agraeme.freeseve.co.uk](mailto:tony@agraeme.freeseve.co.uk)**

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

Following a Bank Holiday Monday, your waste and recyclables will be collected one day later than normal that week

For further information access the Website on  
[www.westoxon.gov.uk/environment](http://www.westoxon.gov.uk/environment)

## 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.

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