

THE BAMPTON BEAM

December 1999

Volume 14. NO. 3

MILLENNIUM BIKE PATH PROJECT

By Jo Lewington

Saturday October 3rd saw the successful launch of the Bike Path Project. Led by Bishop Burrough and actress Judith Geake, over 100 cyclists ranging in age from 4 to 86 years cycled to Tadpole Bridge. This is the route of our proposed first bike path, which will not only give Bamptonian cyclists, walkers and wheelchair users access to Tadpole Bridge and Rushy Lock but will actually give cyclists from Aston and Cote a safe route to and from Bampton via the very quiet Chimney road.

The route from Tadpole Bridge to Buckland has already been surveyed in preparation for the second bike path.

Early in the New Year we will hear if our two major grant applications have been successful. Donations for the Bike Path project continue to come in. Thanks to all Beam Readers who have made contributions. We are grateful not only for the money but for the moral support it represents. Our 'Masked Dance' held in the Sports Pavilion on Saturday 6th November raised a wonderful £1550. A big thank you to all who came, to those who

cooked the wonderful dinner and helped with the organisation, and to J.R's Roadshow of Bampton who provided the music. Another big thanks to those who

December 11th - first prize in the raffle is a bicycle worth £200. Also watch out for our 50/50 auction in April next year.

Please continue to support us. This project is so very important, not only for now, but also increasingly for the future as traffic levels increase. It is important for all of us, from children to grandparents, who long for the freedom to walk or cycle our country roads in safety.

Cheques can be made out to 'The Bike Path Project'; any amount is very welcome. For those of you making large donations we are now a charity and larger donations will be enhanced by The Inland Revenue Gift Aid scheme.

The address to write to is -
The Millennium Bike Path Project, c/o Sandford Cottage, Bridge Street, Bampton. OX18 2HA. Tel: 01993 850947. Charity Number: 1077377.

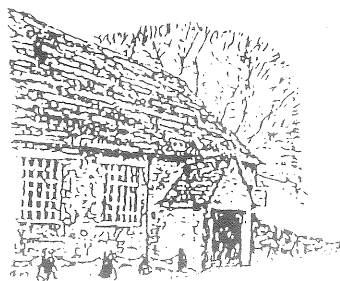
helped with donations, to Patrick Straingre who provided the cooks with meat, to Christine Pope of the Flower Mill who donated the prize for the best mask. Also thanks to The Poachers Rest, Richard's Hair (Witney) and others who generously supplied raffle prizes. The 'Masked Dance' was in fact such a success that we are considering another similar event. Future fund-raising events will include a stall selling raffle tickets and home made mince pies in the Market Square on

The Editor would like to add that, as The Bampton Beam went to the press, Jo was cycling around Mexico on behalf of the work she does for MacMillan Nurses. As a consequence, she has been unable to provide us with the usual submission from her artist's pen.



As we peddle our bikes we sing this song:
"We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year"



Bampton Village Hall

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Friends of St Mary's

By Jonathan Phillips

The Friends of St. Mary's has completed its Millennium project; the repair and conservation of the West Door and Norman Door of the church. Do go and see them if you have not done so already. It is particularly pleasing to see the restoration of the carved inner pillars of the Norman doorway, which correspond now to the Pevenser drawing, which was found in the Ashmolean Museum.

Christmas and New Year Quiz

The popular and challenging 'Friends of St Mary's Christmas & New Year Quiz' will be compiled again by the Wearne family and will be on sale (£1 per copy) in all the Pubs, the Library, and the Post Office, from the beginning of December. Please add several copies to your Christmas shopping list for yourself, family and friends.

Open Gardens

Next summer it is hoped to repeat the very successful 1998 'Secret Gardens' fund-raising event. Many small and hidden gardens were open and provided most interesting and varied examples of Bampton horticulture. We will be liaising with the Gardening Club to make it a historical walk around Bampton via the 'open gardens' If you would be interested in opening your garden on a Sunday afternoon in June 2000, please contact **Jonathan Phillips Tel: 850321.**

'History of the County of Oxford'

The three Historical Lectures which took place in October in the Village Hall were very well attended and raised £572 for the restoration funds. We are extremely

grateful to Dr Simon Townley and Dr John Blair for giving their valuable time free of charge and entertaining us with such fascinating and informative talks. We also thank John Blair for allowing us to sell his previous papers on Bampton and the latest on the Bronze Age Barrows and the Churchyard. The Friends are fortunate to have such an interested and generous Patron.

Friends and Benefactors

Friends and Benefactors are still being sought in order to achieve the original target of £250,000. We have succeeded in raising £60,000 but we failed to get the Lottery grant for which we had applied. It was felt that we could raise this money ourselves! We still have a very long way to go. The purpose of the charity is to raise money for a capital fund, which can be used to carry out major restoration and repairs to the fabric of the building, which would be beyond the means of the regular congregations. The £20,000 that has just been spent on the Doorway project needs now to be replaced. If you would be prepared to make a donation under the Covenant or Gift Aid Scheme, its value will be greatly increased by the Inland Revenue at no extra cost to you. Please do what you can to help and contact any of the Trustees below for further information.

David Rose- Tel: 850214, Jill Rogers - Tel: 850766, Molly Rose - Tel: 850135, Jonathan Phillips - Tel: 850321 and The Earl Of Donoughmore - Tel: 850231.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY OF CHRISTMAS SERVICES**St Mary's**

December 5th

Advent Carol Service

December 21st Bampton Classical Opera Concert - 'In Dulci Jubilo' 7.30pm

December 24th

Welcome to Christmas - 3pm

Midnight Mass - 11.30pm

December 25th

Holy Communion - 10.30am

December 26th

Holy Communion - 10.30am

The Methodist Chapel

December 12th

Carols by Candlelight - 6pm

December 25th

Morning Service - 10.30am. (40 mins)

Roman Catholic Services

December 24th

St Joseph's Church, Carterton

Midnight Mass - 8pm

December 25th

St Mary's Church, Bampton

Dawn Mass - 9am

St Joseph's Church, Carterton

Third Mass - 11am.

December 31st

St Joseph's Church, Carterton

Mass (Mary Mother of God) - 8pm

January 1st

St Joseph's Church, Carterton

Mass - 11am.

Holy Trinity Church, Lew

December 22nd

Carol Service 7.30pm

St Stephen's Church, Clanfield

December 26th

Carol Service - 6pm

What's instore in the centre pages of the Beam.

This edition of the 'Beam' contains the third installment of a series of five maps showing the public footpaths around Bampton. We would like to thank members of BEWG who have been busy once again in preparing this map for us all to enjoy. The centre pages show the public footpaths to the South of Bampton.

NEWS FROM THE BAMPTON MILLENIUM COMMITTEE**MILLENNIUM - PUBS**

The four local hostelrys in Bampton, The Morris Clown, The Talbot, The Horseshoe and The Elephant and Castle have organised themselves for New Year's Eve.

Entry to these four pubs will be by ticket (pass) only. Tickets can only be obtained through your local landlord. One ticket per couple, and on the actual night. If you haven't got a ticket - only at the Landlords discretion. Tickets will be issued the week before Christmas. Opening hours will be to 4am, unless otherwise stated in each pub.

The idea for the ticket system is to keep Bampton safe, as well as allowing the local people who use the pubs here to have a good night out without the pubs being overcrowded by outsiders. **There will be no charge for the tickets.**

Millennium Mugs

The committee are hoping to make a year long video recording Bampton's Millennium Events. If anyone would be interested please would you contact **Gary Gummer Tel: 851913** or **Fenella Gray Tel: 851653**. We are hoping to have a Photography competition during the year for the 'Best Photograph taken during a Millennium event'.

Below is a preview of the Millennium Mug, which will be given out to all Bampton children 0 -16 years on New Years Day. The winner of the design the Millennium Mug competition was Todd Bebb. Todd lives here in Broad Street and is 11 years old. he still attends Bampton Primary School where he has made a name for himself with his drawings. Unfortunately we cannot show you the mug in colour, but it represents most of what happens here in Bampton throughout the year and even the Millennium Wheel.

We would like to thank Londis, Poachers Rest, HSBC, Youth Club, FOBS, Playgroup, Mother/Toddler Group, and Bampton Firemen for there kind donations. The Parish Council and RAF Bampton Castle for their offers of help.

**BAMPTON MILLENNIUM COMMITTEE**

We would very much appreciate it if you would fill in this form, cut it out, and place it in The Beam Box in Abbey Properties. This is to help the Committee to find out how many children between the ages of 0 - 16, will be entitled to receive a free Bampton Millennium Mug. The plan is to have the mugs available for presentation on January 1st, 2000.

Name of child/children 1. Age

2. Age

3. Age

Address of Family

Name of person/s who would like to purchase a Millennium Mug

Address of Applicant/s

If there is not enough space on this form, please attach another piece of paper to it with the necessary details. Many thanks for your time. Don't forget to place it in the box at Abbey Properties.

BAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Aircraft Noise

Following a strong letter of complaint from the Parish Council to the Station Commander at RAF Brize Norton about excessive noise over the village during late summer. We received a very helpful reply saying that in future, aircraft taking off on the easterly runway will no longer turn back over Bampton. It was VC10s climbing on what sounded like full power that we objected to. We were pleased to be able to point out to the Station Commander that the Brize aircraft doing normal circuits seem to be staying well south of the village, as agreed several years ago.

Garage Site

Bampton residents are becoming increasingly impatient with Western Counties, as the site remained untouched throughout 1999. The Managing Director assured the council in early October that they are keen to start work on the 10 new flats, but have had to decontaminate the soil before commencing. He was confident that a start is imminent.

Dogs on Recreation Ground

Some irresponsible owners have allowed their dogs to foul the football pitches. **PLEASE** exercise your dogs only at the edge of the recreation ground. We do not want to ban dogs but may have to do so.

Golfers

Although we are one of the few Parish Councils to allow golfers to practice on the recreation ground we would ask golfers **NOT** to tee off from the football or cricket pitches.

Trim Trail

The six station trim trail has now been erected at the Recreation Ground and can be used by all at any time. The trail is about half a mile in length and the exercise stations are positioned 100 yards apart. We hope that the facility will be well used.

The need for more jobs in Bampton

The Parish Council has been made well aware from recent reports that the best way to increase employment opportuni-

ties is the setting up of new businesses. This not only brings more people to the village but also allows locals employed there to have more disposable cash without the need for daily travel. The council consulted SPB, BEWG and many Bampton residents in recent weeks to sound out ideas for new jobs. It also took into account the views expressed in the 1998 Village Appraisal before this subject was debated at our November meeting.

There was very little support for a business park or industrial site to be built on the edge of Bampton, not least because of the increased traffic flow at peak times, the danger of infilling with houses around the site, and the existing surplus of vacant units at local industrial parks. After the debate the council concluded that a more acceptable solution would be for several farmers to convert barns and out buildings to office units which could prove very attractive to professions such as lawyers, accountants, architects or IT consultants. Parking would not be a problem and residents would hopefully get a reasonable share of the jobs. WODC has offered to provide advice to any farmer interested in such a venture and the Parish Council would look favorably at any planning application along these lines.

Thames Valley Police

Carterton Police Station is open to the public as follows:

Mon to Thurs 8.30-12am and 1-5pm

Friday 8.30-12am and 3-6pm

The office is closed Weekends and all Bank Holidays. **Tel: 01993 893951** (out of hours or if the SDO is busy, this is an answerphone so is only suitable for leaving messages if there is no urgency).

If you need to see a Police Officer urgently **Tel: 01865 266000** and ask for the Control Room at Oxford or in an **Emergency Tel: 999**

Police Liason Meeting

A most successful meeting took place in the Town Hall in early November. No less than 5 policemen turned up plus 2 liaison personnel and over 25 Bampton residents were there to pose questions on a whole range of issues. Inspector Arthur Saville

led the visitors and he was assisted by Sgt. Stunt, PC Patrick, PC Oddy, MC Mallon (Traffic Liaison) plus Ms Ann Burn (Gypsy Liaison) and Mrs. Janet Mott (Neighbourhood Watch).

Inspector Saville opened the meeting by saying that incidents of reported crime in Bampton remained extremely low with only 37 incidents since 1st April last (Carterton has had 213 in the same period). The conclusion, therefore, is that Bampton is an extremely safe place to live and work. PC Patrick spoke on several issues and reassured the audience that there was very little evidence of a drug problem in the village, nor of any serious misbehaviour by our teenagers. He is well aware of the fly tipping problem around our village and asks all residents to note details of persons and vehicles seen leaving waste.

As expected, much interest was shown on traffic issues. PC. Mellon recognised that the volume of traffic using Bampton roads had increased in recent years but said that most Oxfordshire villages were experiencing similar problems. He congratulated the Parish Council on their efforts to calm the traffic and promised to complete a survey on all 4 approaches to Bampton to give us factual information on speeding traffic. He added that unfortunately, the police could not restrict the use of our roads by large lorries particularly if they met weight restrictions over the Thames. PC Patrick took note of our concerns about the frequent parking of cars on double yellow lines outside the paper shop in Cheapside, about cars being parked for long periods in the Market Square, and often without tax discs being displayed.

This was a most interesting and useful meeting, which will do much to continue the close relations between the Parish and our police force.

Neighbourhood Watch

I would like to introduce myself as the new Watch co-ordinator for the West Oxfordshire area. My name is Janet Mott and have recently taken over the post from my predecessor Nicola Oddy. I am employed by West Oxfordshire

District Council; and have an office at Witney Police Station. I work in close liaison with Thames Valley Police, The District Council, and local Crime Prevention Panels. My work involves the organising of existing watches and the creating of new ones.

It is with this in mind that I wish to raise your awareness of Neighbourhood Watch and how it can help to reduce the fear of crime in your area. By neighbours working together with each other and the local Police the community in which you live can become a safer environment for all. People become more security minded and more observant of what is happening and when it is happening.

If you would like to know more about Neighbourhood Watch or are interested in setting up a scheme in your street please feel free to contact me at my office. Mrs. Janet Mott, Watch Co-ordinator, Thames Valley Police, Welch Way, Witney, Oxon. OX18 7HN.

Tel: 893811. Mon-Fri 9.30am - 11.30am (except Tues 11.30am - 1.30pm).

Crime Stoppers

The Crimestoppers Trust is a charity that has been set up to work in partnership with the Police to enable members of the public to report information about crimes in a way that does not involve visits from the police, does not involve interviews and is completely free and confidential. **The FREEPHONE Tel: 0800 555111.**

This of course in no way replaces the 999 number or contact with the police directly. Many people feel intimidated about reporting important information to the police and it is hoped this service may overcome this.

Oxfordshire County Council Road Safety Report 99-00

This report published by the County Council details their road safety plan going into the year 2000. They support the view that 'soft option traffic calming' such as we have in Bampton is still the best way to cut traffic speed in rural areas. Statistics show that this can produce a 35% reduction in speed. Speed cameras in rural settings have been shown to only produce a 15% reduction in speed. The County Council has indicated that more money is to be spent on traffic calming measures than the installation of speed cameras.

A Woodland for Bampton

By Colin Allport.

At the time of writing, the Woodland Appeal has reached a total of approximately £28,000. This includes a very welcome grant of £5000 from the West Oxfordshire District Council. A little over £1000 is still required to meet the amount of £29,500 that Bampton needs to raise as its contribution towards the £63,000 budget for the project. There were some delays in launching the fund raising operation and it has been decided to leave the appeal open for the time being. We are confident that the target will be realised and even have hopes of a reasonable surplus, which will open up the possibilities of either purchasing additional land or of incorporating extra features into the woodland. We would, therefore, urge anyone who has not yet pledged to complete a form as soon as possible in order that we can create bigger and better woodland.

The Woodland Trust, who are our partners in this endeavour have already taken steps to finalise the process of land purchase and exchange of contracts is expected shortly. As soon as this is complete the Trust will be contacting those who have completed pledge forms with requests to forward cheques. Thereafter, we shall be calling a village meeting at which the layout of the woodland the programme of action and various other matters can be discussed. We hope that as many people, as possible will attend this meeting - irrespective of whether or not they pledged contributions to the appeal. The Woodland will be an important amenity for Bampton and the surrounding area for the enjoyment of all. We hope that everyone will feel that it belongs to them for use by their friends and families and indeed, for generations yet to come.

Finally, may I express my sincerest thanks to all who have pledged contributions towards the appeal or, in other ways, helped make this fund raising appeal a success. It must be mentioned in this respect that we have enjoyed significant support from people outside the village and even from one benefactor

from as far away as Lincolnshire. It is not possible to mention everyone but my special thanks are due to my fellow fund raisers, John Battersby and Graham Haslam, together with David Hawkins, Chairman of the Parish Council and our District Councillor Jonathan Phillips for their unfailing interest and encouragement. Also the support of Abbey Properties and Richard Cooper (Temples Shop), who both have greatly contributed towards our efforts.

It is hoped to report further on Bampton's Woodland in future issues of the Beam.

Ed's note: While I was reading the newspaper I came across this interesting article, worth mentioning, especially after we have made it possible for the go ahead on the Woodland Project.

Don't become barking mad with stress, look at a tree.

By Kirsty Walker

Scientists have discovered a new way to combat stress, especially stress caused by everyday life - simply look at a tree.

Apparently people who can see trees from their office windows or drive past tree-lined roads on their way to work are likely to be much more relaxed than people who haven't the opportunity.

Professor Roger Ulrich, of the University of Texas, claims that trees have a soothing effect on people who suffer from blood pressure - five minutes of looking at trees and your blood pressure level goes down. Studies made in hospitals also show that people who can see trees from their beds recover more quickly and go home sooner, and patients after operations had fewer post-operative complications. British doctors are also convinced about the benefits of trees for patient recovery. Guy's Hospital in London once imported trees from Florida at a cost of £200,000 in order to create a relaxing atmosphere.

Food for thought! Keep healthy - look at a tree for 5 minutes a day!

I'm looking forward to my first experience of walking in the new Bampton Woodland and feeling relaxed and stress free. It will certainly help me recover from the editing sessions of the 'Beam' Ed.

THE BAMPTON RECREATION GROUND

Buckland Road, Bampton.

Bampton Boys Junior Soccer School

Bampton Boys will be running a junior soccer school for boys who are seven and eight years of age throughout the season. The sessions are run on Saturday mornings and consist of skills training and match skills.

Philip Walker will take the sessions and further information can be obtained by contacting him Tel: 852361.

Bowling

Bowling starts at the Recreation Ground. English Short Mat Bowling Facilities are now available at the Sports Pavilion Buckland Road.

Are you interested in taking up this Sport?

We are hoping to get together a group of people who wish to take part in this sport and meet at the Sports Pavilion on a Thursday afternoon.

The only equipment you require is a pair of shoes. Why not contact:

Gerald Taylor on Tel: 850566 for more details.

Bampton Archery Club

This year brings the added luxury of the new pavilion, which looks very smart and may even improve the accuracy of our aim! Despite the non-existent summer of '99 most Wednesday evenings saw a good turnout of members for a relaxing evening's shooting. There were a couple of competitions - one between ourselves to whip up a bit of competitive spirit - and the other with The Cherwell Archers in which we came second but only by 25 points. Membership has grown since we first started and at the End of Season Annual Dinner around 20 members sat down to a hearty dinner in Witney. Prizes were awarded for excellence, speeches made (of the short and not too frequent variety I'm glad to say), and a reasonable amount of beer downed. A rather good evening all told.

This winter we plan to try out the pavilion for indoor shooting. Competitions will be run within the club for both adults and juniors. We already have two friendly competitions organised for the new season, one against Brize Norton and the return match to Cherwell Archers, which we hope this time to win.

We hope to have separate club evenings for the adults and juniors in the New Year, and beginning in November indoor shooting inside the pavilion.

Winter Season November - March 7pm - 9pm.

Summer Season April - October 6pm - 8pm

If you are interested in trying out the sport please contact John Hill Tel: 850513. We shoot every Wednesday evening, at the Recreation Ground.

Exercises at Stations around the Trim Trail

Station 1 - Pull up bars - 3 different heights

Station 2 - A' frame - step ups

Station 3 - Hurdles

Station 4 - Bench curls

Station 5 - Parallel bars

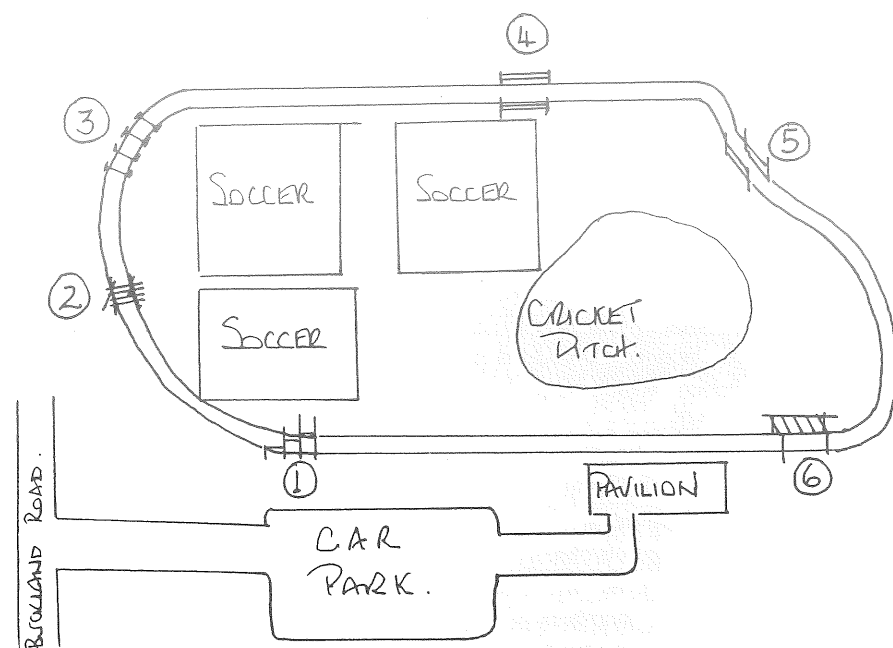
Station 6 - High bars for pull ups or end to end hand to hand.

It will be nice to see the trees planted and people using this facility.

Bampton Tennis Club

If you are interested in joining the tennis club please contact John Williams Tel: 850680, for a membership form or further information.

THE MAP OF THE TRIM TRAIL



Bampton-in-the-Bush Cricket Club

This year Bampton-in-the-Bush Cricket club went from strength to strength. Our membership rose to a strong and enthusiastic squad of players of all ages who turned out every Sunday and mid-week to play. The opening of the new sports pavilion on the Buckland Road proved a great success for our team and left a very lasting impression on visiting teams that Bampton Cricket Club was going places. The visiting teams were so impressed with the facilities that they have already arranged to come back and play us next season. Bampton Cricket Club would like to say thank you to the Parish Council and the Trustees for providing this wonderful pavilion.

At the recent Bampton-in-the-Bush Cricket Club Annual Dinner the following awards were made,

Best Bowling Average - Andy Green

Best Batting Average - Les Burham

Most Outstanding Player - Tim Hook

THE PAVILION

The Pavilion with its large social area, changing rooms, referees facilities, kitchen and bar is for hire by members of the public for all variety of functions such as wedding receptions, birthday or anniversary parties. The Multisport court can also be hired for games or practice sessions for floodlit tennis, basketball, netball. Particularly useful when other ground are waterlogged!

Some General Hire Prices

General	£5 per hour
Commercial Hire	£15 per hour
Morning Session	
8am - 1pm	£20
Afternoon Session	
1pm - 6pm	£20
Evening Session	
6pm - 1am	£60
Wedding Receptions	
Whole Day	
8am - 1am	£150

For more information on charges and facilities for hire please contact:

Derek Moscrop Tel: 07974 0354453 or Home Tel: 851354

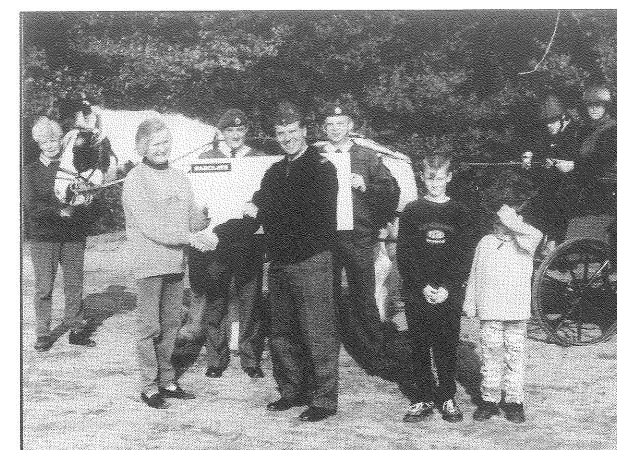
Royal Air Force - Press Release

By Flight Lieutenant Dave Rowe, Public Affairs Office

Communications Staff raise funds

Servicemen from a RAF communications unit based at RAF Bampton Castle, Bampton have been running a series of events to raise cash for the 'Riding for the Disabled' (RDA) centre at Abingdon. A 24 hour Darthathon, a Casino Night, together with donations and collections raised £500 for the centre. The cash will be put towards the centre's Millennium Project, which plans to build an extension to the stables to house a classroom. In addition to the cash donation, volunteers from the unit have worked over 2 weekends to carry out some of the work at the stables. Their efforts have saved the centre an estimated £2000 in labour costs.

The RAF unit at Bampton plays an important role in managing the RAF's operational communications. As well as providing the High Frequency communication links to aircraft, it also manages satellite and meteorological communications channels.



Corporal Bob Kiddie and Chief Technician Shaun Cook holding the cheque, Squadron Leader Vince Elliot with Esther Lewis and children at the RDA Abingdon.

BOOK REVIEW

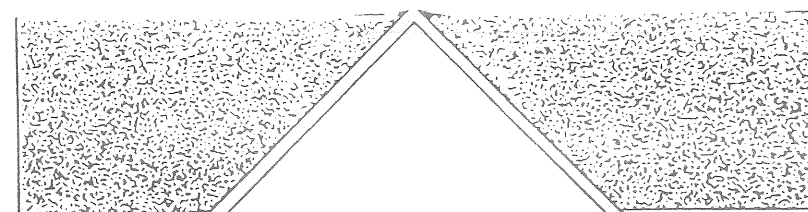
AIRMEN AND THEIR CRAFT

By Archie Jackson, Published by Cirrus Associates, Price £9.95

This is the seventh book published by the author who has lived in Bampton since 1986. He joined the RAF early in 1941 and thereafter flew successively for L.A.N Chile, British South American Airways, BOAC and British Airways. On his retirement in 1976 he had logged about 22000 hours. He then entered Oxford University and took an honours degree in modern history.

This century witnessed the advent of aviation, with many of the pioneers being British. Designers such as Handley Page taught themselves to fly, and in 1914 Winston Churchill urged him and Geoffrey de Havilland to build bombers, whilst Sidney Cotton realised the tremendous potential of aerial photography. Churchill himself was a great proponent of aerial warfare. With the return of peace, the stimulus to aviation was provided by the Schreider Trophy races, whilst the prizes on offer to record breakers spurred adventurous spirits such as Amy Johnson and Jim Mollison to compete over ever longer distances.

As airlines grew in size and capacity, operators demanded technical innovations to avoid expensive delays and diversions due to bad weather at airports. Pilots had to be trained to land safely in meteorological conditions presenting major challenges to their skills - the chapter 'Descending into Danger' reveals the outcome. Other chapters record the demise of the flying boats, the advent of the pure jet, and the careers of some lesser-known airmen in both peace and war.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I was pleased to see some measures being put in place to try to slow down the speeding traffic through the village, though I have to question how effective they have been. I have certainly not seen a difference in the speed that vehicles travel down Broad Street.

I realise that funding will always be an issue but could we not consider some additional measures? How about speed bumps or road narrowing? What would be the implications of making Broad Street a 'B' road to enable measures similar to those in Brize Norton to be introduced?

People from Carterton already pass through the village as a short cut to the A420. What sort of increase in traffic can we expect when the new houses currently being built opposite the RAF Station are complete?

Surely this is a matter that Bampton needs to consider further as we approach the new Millennium.

Yours sincerely,
A concerned resident of Broad St.

Dear Editor

I enjoyed reading the article written by Donald Rouse, reminiscing of times gone by.

There is just one query however, about him taking sandwiches and a bottle of tea with him. I had always understood it was two of his sisters who cycled along the roads, lanes and across the fields to provide the men with freshly prepared sandwiches and bottles of tea!

Does he have an explanation?

Yours sincerely, Cycling Tess.

Ed's note: We asked the 'Beam's' Agricultural Correspondent about this query and below is what he had to say.

Dear Cycling Tess,

The time I was referring to goes back well before two of my sisters were born, back when we only had one bike in the family. I remember riding this bike which was much too big for me by putting my leg

under the crossbar and reaching the pedal through that hole! Later on when we became more affluent and living up New Road the girls were able to borrow bikes from friendly neighbours. Trouble was one of our sisters was a compulsive chatterbox, by the time we got our tea it was stone cold. Thank god for thermos flasks. When we were able to afford one she could start off the day before!

Dear Beam,

I am a teenager who has lived in Bampton for all of my life. I had always assumed that the 'Authorities' would always do the best for the village, but I feel this is no longer the case. I first noticed this when the playing field on New Road was built on. I remembered as a young child going there every day after school. My main concern now is the construction of the flats in the Market Square. This makes me very angry, as it will ruin the centre of our village. How could adults let this happen? Did people who have never been to Bampton make this decision?

There are still playing fields around the village and the excellent Recreation Ground for children to use, but there is only one Market Square. This, I assume, like everything else in this day and age must be down to profit.
Concerned Youth.

Dear Editor,

Flower Festival in St Mary's

Very belatedly, I would like to express my appreciation of the flower arrangements in the church at Whitsun. The 'Garden Shed' was in my book the best with the 'robin in the pocket'. Then the 'Wild Garden' complete with spider web. They were all very good and gave my sister Joyce and I a lot of pleasure going round them all.

The people who arranged them must have worked very hard to reach such a high standard. Also not forgetting the people who did the organising, it could not have been done without them!

Would it be possible next year to have a small leaflet giving information on each exhibit? A big thank you to you all from myself and my sister Joyce Harrison.

Yours sincerely, Jane Lusted. 67 Chester-ton Road, Spondon, Derby. DE21 7EP.

Ed's note: The exhibits were very spec-

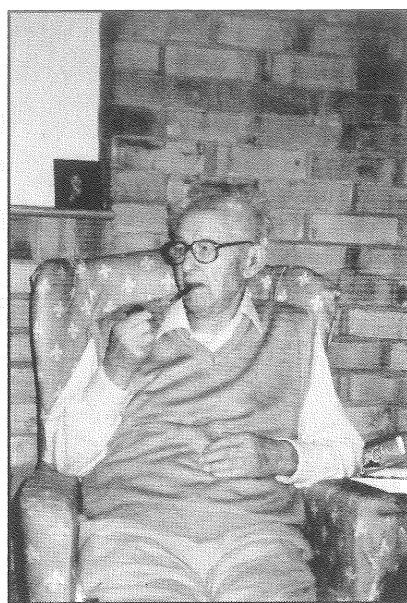
tacular, and it would have been very difficult for anyone to choose a winner.

Dear Editor,

I enclose a recent photograph of Mr. Reg Rouse - 94 not out! I was delighted to visit him at his home in Hertfordshire where he lives with his daughter, Helen. I am sure his many friends at Lavender Place and elsewhere in Bampton will be pleased to know that he is fit and well and still enjoys his gardening. He also enjoys reading 'The Bampton Beam' from cover to cover and congratulates the Editor on the excellent job she is doing.

Yours sincerely

Susan Phillips, Haytor, Bampton.



Reg Rouse at 94

Dear Editor,

Cycle Path

As a pensioner of almost 73 I would like to say how much I enjoyed the 'Mass Bike Ride' to Tadpole Bridge on Saturday October 3rd. It was a terrific turnout, with people of all ages.

I do hope that Bampton gets its cycle path and that I shall be able to ride along it well into my eighties!

Good Luck, keep pedaling.

Yours A Bamptonian.

Dear Editor

Regarding the never-ending subject of dog's mess, I have a suggestion.

I am sure nearly everyone has seen a dog

THE SPAJERS

'What's Been Happening and What's going to Happen'?

By Don Rouse

Now is the time for the SPAJERS to update their list - with Christmas just around the corner we do not want anybody left out. If you know of anyone who has been a resident of Bampton for at least six months and is of pensionable age please contact **Don Rouse Tel: 851480**. We all had a wonderful day out at Bournemouth in September, the poem below which was sent to me by one of our members sums it all up - Fantastic.

SPAJERS' Day out at Bournemouth

Here we are at the sea again
What a beautiful, glorious sight
The golden sands, the seagulls too
With everything perfect - and right.

Lazy waves drift slowly past
The tide, my dears is in . . .
And in the distance, travelling fast
Are speedboats - out for a spin.

The sun, very hot, is blazing down
Finding each shady spot
Catching the reckless ones unawares
Not caring a single jot.

SPAJERS, our friends, who brought us
down

Through heavenly countryside
Don, and Co., and driver too
Are you - like us - getting fried?

What a lovely, lovely crowd you are
Without you we'd be starved
Of all the things which matter most,
So - Thank you Chums . . . not 'arf!

Written by M.C.

Next year we are not going to hold a party in February. Most elderly people find it rather daunting to go out in the dark, so we are going to move it to July and have a big Garden Tea Party to celebrate the Millennium. More information will be in the next issue of the 'Beam'. Don't forget contact **Don Rouse Tel: 851480** if you know any pensioner who is not on the SPAJERS current list.

Bampton Mummers

Keep Looking over your shoulder
on Christmas Eve, you never know
where they might be!!

It's 'Mummer' time again and hopefully we can get our team together to maintain Bampton's other famous tradition.

Anyone who would like them to perform at their party please get in touch with **Don Rouse Tel: 851480**, who will try to fit them into what is becoming a very tight schedule. All it will cost you is a donation to the SPAJERS. Last year the Mummers raised well over £600 for this very worthy cause.

BAMPTON LIBRARY and ROBERT VESEY ROOM

Old Grammer School,
Church View, Bampton,
Oxon. OX8 2NE
Tel: 01993 850076

THE NEW OPENING HOURS

Monday	2.30pm - 5pm 6pm - 8pm
Tuesday	CLOSED
Wednesday	9.30am - 12.30pm
Thursday	2.30pm - 5.00pm
Friday	CLOSED
Saturday	9.30am - 12.30pm

The Robert Vesey Room is always open during Library opening hours. You can enjoy a cup of tea/coffee while browsing along the books, surfing the net or taking in the many exhibitions of paintings, sculptures etc, on display. The Robert Vesey Room is run by W.O.A.A. on a voluntary basis, if you are interested in meeting people and having a break from the house, please contact **Barbara Daw Tel: 851149**.

Two Bampton women have received special Awards for the outstanding work they have achieved for this service. Between them they have accumulated 50 years of voluntary work.

Susan Philips was chosen as an outstanding example of the volunteering spirit after being nominated by Jean Howell. A panel of judges including members from various parts of the WRVS service and an independent judge from the voluntary sector made the selection. Susan was honored with the WRVS Diamond Volunteer Award for Oxfordshire and Berkshire. Judging criteria required that the volunteer should "add sparkle to peoples lives. Make a difference to their community. Show flair and enthusiasm. Always be willing to help and - put others before themselves". Susan certainly meets all these.

Joining the WRVS in 1976, she has been delivering 'Meals on Wheels' ever since, even cooking them during school holidays. She is now on the cooks' rota for the Bush Club and the driving rota. Besides Susan's voluntary work she is heavily involved in village life as well. She is Secretary of The Bampton Village Hall committee, committee member of

W.R.V.S
Women's Royal Voluntary Service

ORCC Village Halls Advisory Group, and Trustee of Bampton Welfare Charity.

She also produces the Bampton Directory and the newsletter for the local Catholic Church.

After being presented with this award Susan said, "Being a volunteer has given me the opportunity to meet so many nice people and make good friends". Penny Feathers WRVS Thames Area Manager said, "She is a shining example of the many wonderful volunteers who are very modest about their work, and this award is a way to draw attention to the exceptional commitment and service which they give". Penny Feathers also presented Mrs. Jean Howell with a Long Service Clasp for 27 years continued voluntary service for the WRVS. Jean organises the Meals on Wheels distribution and also the Books on Wheels for the Bampton Area. Jean joined the WRVS in 1972 and took over Meals on Wheels here in 1976. Later came the Books on Wheels. Jean was also involved in the Emergency Team who went to RAF Brize Norton to help with the Cyprus Crisis. Jean is always looking for more volunteers here in Bampton. If you would like to help in anyway please contact Mrs. Jean Howell Tel: 850684



Susan Philips receivibg her Diamond Award from the WRVS Thames Area Manager Penny Feathers

Lavender Place Flats

By Resident Joan Smith

This little corner of Bampton is a fun place to be and a hive of activity. There are 19 residents living here, whose total years add up to 1488. The menfolk here are six of the best, who join in everything and appreciate all that is going on around them. Being the youngest OAP here, I can only stand back and admire just what these 'seniors' get up to. Our sales this year have been a great success. Once again many thanks to all the residents and friends of Lavender Place for their help, donations and participation in everything we do. We have some very enjoyable get togethers and even more enjoyable weekly trips out and about. Special thanks to the lovely people who run the Aston Parish Bus. As well as our planned celebrations for Christmas and New Year we have 4 people celebrating birthdays in December - which means more food, fun and frolics. As I said this is a fun place to be. We would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy Christmas, Good Luck, Health and Happiness as we wait the dawning of the Year 2000.

Bampton Classical Opera

Bampton's own (but very obscure!) patron saint will once again be celebrated in music. The annual St Beornwald's Day candlelit concert takes place on Tuesday 21st December at 7.30pm in St Mary's Church, Bampton and will provide an impressive musical introduction to the festive season. The concert of joyful baroque music is entitled 'In dulci jubilo' and is centred around the well known Christmas carol of that name, by the great composers Micheal Praetorius and Samuel Scheidt. The largest piece will be the spectacular 'Missa Alleluia' by Heinrich Biber. Bampton Classical Opera will be conducted by Oxfordshire-based Janet Lince. The Daily Telegraph highly recommended Bampton Classical Opera earlier in the year. Tickets are £7.50, from Abbey Properties Tel: 851876.

A Week End Bus to and from Oxford

Thank you to the few people who put in their response slip to this much needed service in Bampton. I passed them on to our District Officer Jonathan Phillips and this is his reply.

'There were only 14 responses to the article in the August Beam on the need for this bus service. The replies split into two groups - the young who wish to go 'clubbing' and the 'young at heart' who wish to go to the theatre or cinema or eat out in Oxford without having to drive themselves. Obviously this response does not justify a bus service but might justify a scheduled taxi service to and from Brize Norton to connect with the No. 100 bus to Witney and Oxford.

I am sure there are other young people in Bampton who could benefit from this service so please would householders draw this to the attention of the younger members and get them to fill in the slip below. We need to have a more accurate picture of the demand and usage of this transport be it bus or taxi.' I'm sure Bampton would appreciate this service. The next step will be to get Aston and Ducklington to join in the campaign for the Bus, which I'm sure they will be interested in.

Come on all you young people, fill in the response slip so that we 'oldies' can do something for you to enjoy your week-ends, instead of having to stay close to home. Believe it or not as Jonathan says 'young at heart's' need a airing every now and again too!

Extra forms will be at Temples Shop. When you have filled out the slip please either leave them at Temples or place in the Beam Box in Abbey Properties.

If you have already filled in the slip, you do not have to fill in another, unless of course you want too! Many thanks.

A Week End Bus to and from Oxford via Witney

I would be very interested in the new bus service to Oxford via Witney on Friday/Saturday/ Sunday evenings (please delete those not required).

What time would you like to leave Bampton?

What time would you like to get back to Bampton?.....

How many times a month would you use it?.....

Name

Address.....

.....

Telephone No.

Please put into box in Abbey Properties or drop it in at the Cotton Club or Temples.
Many Thanks

Bampton Welfare Trust

The object of the Trust "shall be to relieve generally or individually, persons resident in the area of the ancient Parish of Bampton who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress" (Charity Commission).

If you need help from the Bampton Welfare Trust, please contact **Janet Newman Tel: 850755**.

Bampton Bridge Club

The club meets in the Village Hall every Tuesday 7.30pm - 10.30pm. Duplicate bridge is played on the 1st, 3rd, and any 5th Tuesday of the month; Rubber bridge on the 3rd and 4th Tuesdays.

The annual subscription is £5, with a charge of £1 per session.

New members are always welcome. For more information contact, **Mrs. Joan Granville, Tel: 850407**.

Youth Centre

The problems of funding for the Youth Centre have still not been resolved although the management committee is still in contact with the County Council in the hope that some support will be forthcoming. In the meantime, the committee is endeavouring to continue in operation and wish to express thanks to the Village's 250 Club for its continued support. There was also further help from Liz Banham and Vi Hopps who, with other friends, ran a stall at the village fete and raised a total of £75 which was kindly donated to the Centre.

Apart from the financial assistance mentioned above, the Centre is now very much dependent on income from hire of the premises. On evenings when the youth groups are not using the Centre, and at weekends, the premises are available for rental to outside organisations or individuals. For larger meetings, wedding receptions and parties of all sorts, the facilities are probably the best in Bampton, with a large central hall, a pleasant atmosphere and abundance of parking space. **Jill Ruck Tel: 852010** will be happy to receive enquiries.

The Youth Club meets in the evenings on Tuesdays - for juniors and Thursdays - for older members. They also runs discos. Anyone interested in helping, or any young person wishing to join should

NOTICE BOARD

contact the youth leader **Gary Gummer Tel: 851913** or **Carol Jones Tel: 852720**.

Cubs meet on Wednesday evenings. They continue to flourish with excellent support from parents, but the Beavers and Scouts still await leaders. Anyone willing to help should contact the Group Chairman **Phil Roberts Tel: 851267**. Training is available for those not already experienced.

For any general matters, please contact **Colin Allport Tel: 850411**.

Bampton Pre-School Playgroup

Notification of change of Committee

Chair - Anna Pitt

Vice Chair - Claire Box

Treasurer - Nikki Payne

Secretary - Cathy Shuttleworth

Enrolment Sec - Debbie Landray

Rota Sec - Lesley Paintin

Catering Officer - Rita Lewis

Fees Sec - Fiona Godwin

Events and Fundraising Co-ordinator - Sonya Paige

Other Members

Tina Claridge

Sue Pike

Claire James

Joanne Goves

Supervisors

Supervisor - Tracey Prior

Asst. Supervisor - Monica Owen

Asst. Supervisor - Sarah Radband

Play Helper - Karen Williams

British Red Cross

Would any readers of the 'Bampton Beam' have a garden that they are proud of and would like to open to the public next year in order to raise funds for the British Red Cross?

Gardens are opened for the Red Cross throughout the country and generate immense pleasure as well as much needed funds for our work in caring for people in crisis. If anyone could help us in this way, please contact **Toby Benn Tel: 01235 538811** at their earliest convenience.

If you know of a suitable garden locally, and the owner may not have read this appeal, I would be much obliged if you

could pass on the information. Thank you very much for helping us.

Bampton Methodist Chapel

Although our membership has grown over the past year, we are anxious to improve our profile in Bampton and draw more people of all ages to our weekly services. The 'Drop-in' held every Monday 12am - 2pm, serves light lunches and is very popular with local people. We also provide support for St Mary's Sunday morning crèche in the Robert Vesey Room situated at the Library.

We have started a Development Fund, to cover proposed extensions to the premises and a recent Book Sale and Coffee Morning raised £127 for this fund.

Our Harvest Festival services led by our old friend Derek Bumfrey from Standlake and our own minister Rev. Martin Whiffin were well attended. The Chapel was as usual most beautifully decorated and the abundance of produce was auctioned at the Harvest Supper. The auction raised £140 for the Romanian Appeal and Development Fund.

For more information contact **Robert Jones Tel: 851663**.

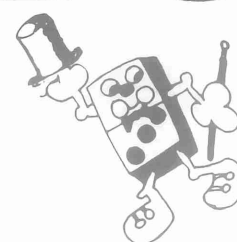
Bampton C.E. Primary School**Bulbs, Bears and Boxes**

A riot will be taking place in the school grounds in Spring 2000 as hundreds of bulbs planted by the children burst into bloom to herald the first spring of the New Millennium. *But see page 11 - Ed.* The children's gifts of produce collected at this year's Harvest Festival will be transported to Romania, together with shoe boxes filled with Christmas gifts.

Coming soon to a school near you, the Bampton Bears! A team of 8 teddies who hope to accompany intrepid travellers from Bampton around the globe, sending back news and photographs to the children. Watch this space for the launch.

The pupils are already benefiting from a new 5pc computer suite installed through the efforts of the teachers and governors. This facility enhances the IT equipment already widely used in each of the 5 classrooms.

The friends of Bampton School (FOBS) have had another busy year raising funds which will provide new outside early years play equipment.

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

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Examples

Full Page £100

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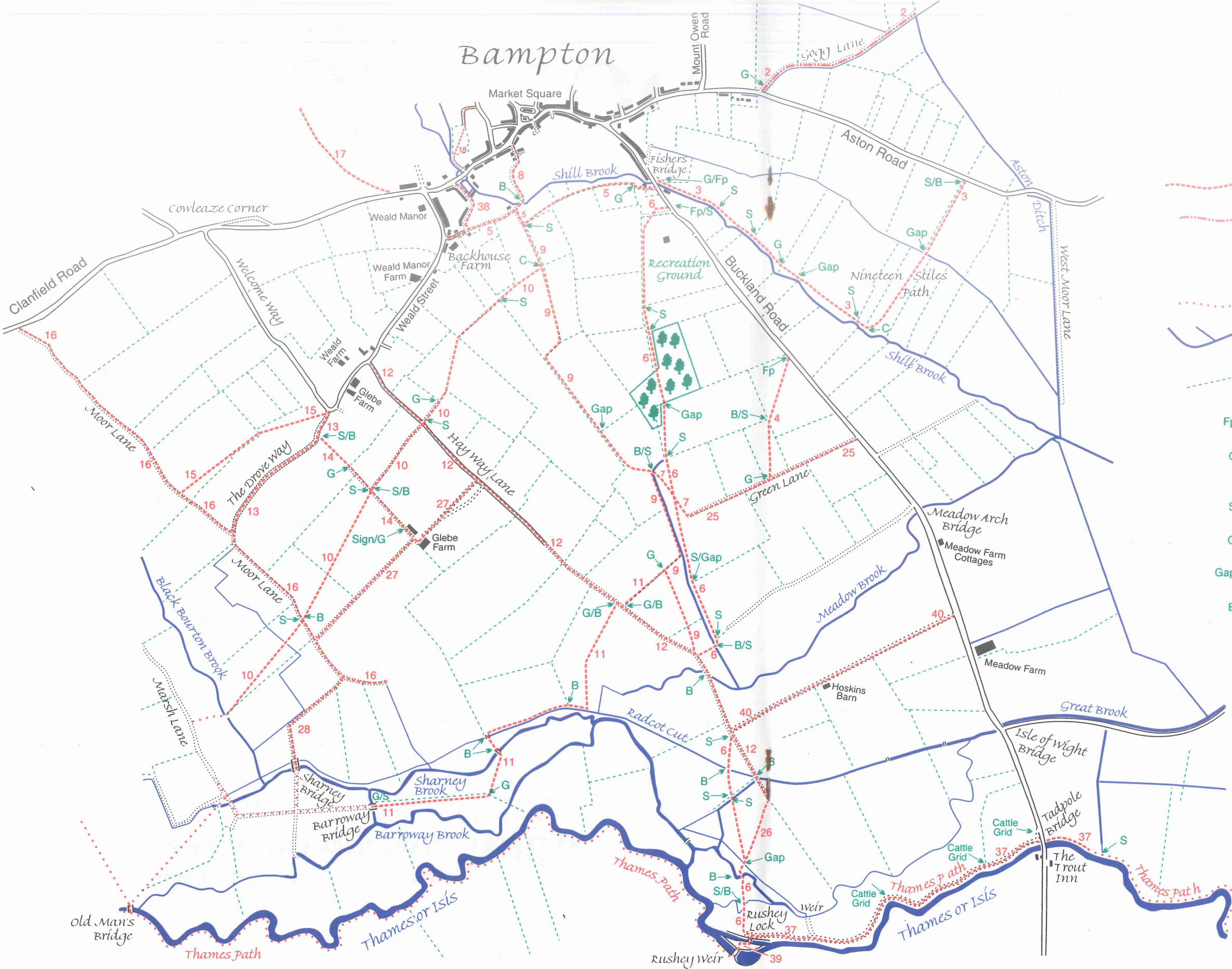
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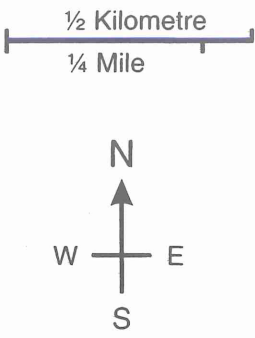
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Bampton

Footpaths in Southern Bampton



- Footpaths (Bampton Parish)
- Bridle Paths (Bampton Parish)
- 27 Definitive Map Footpath numbers (Bampton Parish)
- Footpaths (outside Bampton Parish)
- Streams, Rivers & Drains
- Field Boundaries (no longer all still marked by hedges)
- Fp → Finger Post
- C → Small Cairn of stones (please add to this as you pass)
- S → Stile
- G → Gate
- Gap → Hedge Gap
- B → Bridge
- Millennium Wood site



Bampton Footpath Map No. 3 – November 1999
Third of a series produced by members of BEWG
(Bampton Environmental Watch Group – 01993-850823)

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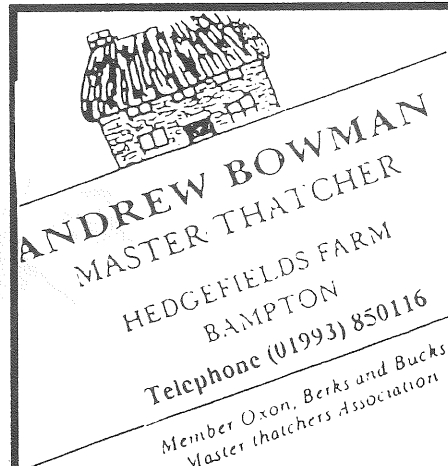
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Our forthcoming events are -
Christmas Bazaar Friday 3rd December
1999 3pm Primary School.
Barn Dance Friday 28th January 2000
7.30pm Primary School.
Fashion Show Thursday 2nd March 2000
7.30pm Primary School.
Easter Bazaar Friday 7th April 2000
3pm Primary School.
The former Deputy Head Mrs. Julie Evan
has taken over as Head Teacher for 1
year, and we welcome Miss Ros Soper as
the new year 3/4 class teacher.

Bampton Exhibition Foundation

The foundation exists to maintain the Old
Grammar School building (now the Li-
brary), and to provide financial support to
young people residing in the Ancient
Parish of Bampton, Aston Lew and
Weald.

The financial help for young people who
would like to participate in any academic
or sporting course or activity of educa-
tional 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 **Roger Snow**, Tel:
850113.

Address list of all the Trustees

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Southlands, Aston, Bampton, OX18
2DA. Tel: 851323

Treasurer: Michael Wooloff, 14 Chan-
dlers Close, Bampton, OX18 2NW. Tel:
210043

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Snow, 40 Bushy Row, Bampton, OX18
2JU. Tel: 850113

Vicar: Rev. David Lloyd, 5 Deanery
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OX18 2AZ. Tel: 850404

David Hawkins, Mill Green Cottage,
OX18 2HF. Tel: 851066

Gillian Ball, 2 Vicarage Close, Aston,
OX18 2BZ. Tel: 850131

County Council rep:

Marion Dowding, Baytree Cottage, Rose-
mary Lane, OX18 2NF. Tel: 850167

NOTICE BOARD

Old Grammar School: (CC Library),
Church View, Bampton. Tel: 850076.

Bampton Badminton Club

Bampton Badminton Club has started up
again in the Village Hall. We are playing
every Tuesday morning 10am - 12am. We
will be very pleased to see any players,
beginners to experts. Please come along
or contact **Judy House** Tel: 851406.

The Burford Singers

"The Burford Singers" and the Cotswold
Chamber Orchestra's Winter Concert of
Handel's 'The King shall rejoice': 'Con-
certo Grosso No 9' and 'L' Allegro e il
Penseroso' will be held on Sunday 5th
December 1999 in Burford Parish Church
at 7.30pm.

The soloists will be Mary Nelson (so-
prano): Deborah Miles-Johnson (mezzo-
soprano): Martyn Hill (tenor): John Cray-
ford (tenor) and Stephen Varcoe (bari-
tone).

The conductor will be Brian Etheridge.
Reserved tickets price at £12 and £10
(students £6 and £5) and any further
information can be obtained from **Brian
Etheridge** at the Burford Gallery Tel:
822305.

Forthcoming Concerts for 2000.

Monday 10th April - 7.30pm at the
Sheldonian

Bach's 'St John Passion' (in the round).
Good Friday 21st April - 7.30pm at
Burford Parish Church Verde's 'Requiem'.

Thursday 29th April, Friday 30th June
and Saturday 1st July -At Little Bar-
rington - 3 performances of 'Princess Ida'.

WOCA

**West Oxfordshire Conservative
Association**
Bampton Branch

The Bampton Branch of the West Ox-
fordshire Conservative Association is
back in business. With a brand new
committee; President - Mrs. M. Smith,
Chairlady - Mrs. R. Colville, Treasurer -
Canon Meridith, Secretary - Mrs. F.
Gray, General Members - Mr. R. Cham-
bers, Mr. F. Stokes and Mr. F. Gray.

On Friday 3rd December a 'Millennium
Christmas Drinks Evening' is being held
at The Studio, Weald Manor by kind
permission of Major R. Colville. We hope
that all who come along will have a very
enjoyable time.

On Friday 18th February 2000 we are
holding a Quiz and Fish & Chips Night at
the Sports Pavilion, Buckland Road,
Bampton. If you are interested in partici-
pating in the Quiz Night, please contact
Fenella Gray Tel: 851653. The maxi-
mum is six people per team.

We would like to take this opportunity to
say 'A Very Merry Christmas' and a 'Very
Prosperous and Happy New Year' to all
our Members.

Bush Centre

The club meets every Wednesday in the
Scout Hut in Church View, and caters for
40 pensioners. We provide tea, coffee,
and a hot meal. For many this is the only
day they have away from their homes
during the week. All helpers, cooks and
drivers are volunteers.

We encourage our members to play
games and take part in activities.

We raise our own funds for outings to
places of interest, theatre trips and to pay
for speakers. For more information please
contact **Joan Granville**, Tel: 859407 or
Vera Allport, Tel: 850411.

The Pumpkin Club Christmas Bingo

The Pumpkin Club has its special Christ-
mas Bingo Evening on Monday 13th
December in the Bush Centre at 8pm.
Everyone welcome. For more information
contact **Mrs E. Foreshow** or **Sharron**,
Tel: 850922.

Cancer Research Campaign

Don't forget our last function for 1999 is
the annual Country and Western Dance.
This will be held in Carterton Social
Centre on Saturday December 17th. For
more information contact **Mrs Cleaver**,
Tel: 850682.

Recycling

Your old Birthday cards could help lots of
people not so happy as ourselves. Thank
you for your support dropping cards
through my letter box or at the Library.
D. Gaydon, 3 Broad Street.

BAMPTON ENVIRONMENTAL WATCH GROUP

By Mrs Margaret Bruce-Mitford

Bampton Bike Paths

During the past four months, BEWG's most active pre-occupation has been finally establishing the Millennium Bike Path Project which has been in the pipeline (and previous issues of the 'Beam') since April 1998. It finally got off to a magnificent official launch on October 3rd. Around 100 cycling buffs assembled to watch Bishop Paul Burrough (an erstwhile sponsored bicycle enthusiast), supported by the actress Judith Geake, cut the tape and lead the party to Tadpole Bridge and back.

This was a very heartening start, not least because support came from a wide diversity of Bamptonians, irrespective of age, gender, social standing or wealth. The other interesting cycle event is that Jo Lewington who has been the guiding hand of this ambitious venture is reaffirming her commitment to this form of travel by undertaking a sponsored ride of 600 kilometres from coast to coast in Southern Mexico. It takes 8 days and she is doing it on behalf of the Macmillan Cancer Relief, for which she had raised the stipulated sum of £2500.

BWEG's ever watchful eye!

Moving from this example of disciplined mobility we come to buildings and development - at the moment the Market Square Project and the Paddocks. The former is still undergoing decontamination of the former garage site and when this is completed the building work is expected to start. The Paddocks between Church View and Sandford Field began work some weeks ago. The archaeological survey carried out by Dr John Blair (which was a condition of granting planning permission) disclosed a Bronze Age pot thought to be used for cremation, two ditches of the Saxon period and the stone foundation of a twelfth century barn. This discovery adds another jot of data to the volumes Dr Blair has already written on Bampton. It is heartening to know that even unwelcome developments can produce an invaluable side asset.

Bampton's Footpaths

On a different front, the 'Adopt a Footpath' Group has continued its vigilant monitoring of Bampton's footpaths and has had some success in discovering irregularities serious enough to require some action. An example is the footpath between Weald and the river, which was found to be littered with two separate lots of broken down cars. This was reported to the Field Officer of the Oxfordshire County Council and the information passed to the West Oxfordshire District Council who are responsible for dealing with litter and rubbish.

Open Meetings

The last one held on October 27th was a fascinating account of owls by Susan Dewar, formerly of the Hawk and Owl Trust.

Her talk, with excellent slide illustrations, described the different species of owls in Great Britain and various other countries, their hunting habits, and the kind of habitats needed to provide the small mammals which are the bird's staple food. She also brought along four owls, which she had bred herself.

The next talk will follow the AGM, which is to be held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 26th January 2000. Gilbert Marsh who is BEWG's architectural consultant, will talk about reclamation of building materials and furniture (i.e. skip raiding) and how they can be used with great effect in renovating or remodeling a range of buildings.

This meeting is limited to members but others interested are welcome to join at the door or attend for a donation of £1 after the business has been concluded at 8.30pm.

If you would like more information contact Ann Norman, Tel: 850823.

A Special Award

On a more modern note the Sports Pavilion has won an award for its design, the roof gaining special mention.

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OUT OF WORK FARMER - TURNED AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

By Don Rouse

My how quickly the time comes around when the Editor of the 'Beam' tells me it is time for another article; it seems like only yesterday that I did the last one! They say time flies when you are enjoying yourself, but that part of my life I shall keep to myself.

Whilst it is now nearly three years since I gave up farming, I still like to keep in touch with what is going on in the Agriculture scene, not just because I want to keep my job as your farming correspondent, but also to keep an eye on what is happening. As I have said before, a country that has a good strong agricultural policy will never go hungry. Just like in the '39-'45 War, the farmers, with a lot of help from others, especially the women folk, fed the nation.

'Ban the French'

I have studied my terms of employment with the 'Bampton Beam', and it seems I am allowed to express my feelings freely. Their let-out is the bit that says "The views expressed in The Bampton Beam are not necessarily those of the editor". Which is a bit like in my house: "The views expressed in this house are not necessarily those of the management". It's signed Mary! So it seems that I can have a good political and patriotic moan about the French and their reluctance to lift the ban on our beef.

I think that our Agriculture Minister Nick Brown has got things just about right, when he says that we do not want the Government to start a 'tit for tat' war. But he as an individual will not be buying anything French until they accept our beef! Good one! We, as the people of this great Nation, can be a lot stronger than our Government, and if we all were to follow his lead we would find ourselves as powerful and patriotic as the French. After all, if things don't go their way they, just stop the lot. So come on, let's do the same as our minister. I know it can be slightly difficult at times, but you just have to persevere.

I had an unbelievable experience recently; Mary and I went out for a Pub Lunch in a village about five miles from here. Mary

always likes a glass of wine as a pre-lunch aperitif, but since the French farmers killed and burnt our lambs that time, she has always refused to drink French wine. So, imagine our surprise when, there we were in the middle of a small West Oxfordshire village, with a farm right on the opposite side of the road, we were told "I'm sorry Sir, but we only serve French wine by the glass". As I was remonstrating with barmaid, I saw the farmworker leave his cottage to start work again after lunch, and this just hardened my resolve to 'beat the system'. What I eventually did was to buy a whole bottle of 'Oxford Landing' and what wasn't drunk, I took home. Come to think of it the Landlord is probably doing this on purpose; by the glass he would have sold two glasses; as it was he sold a whole bottle! Still they were left in no doubt as to my feelings. We've even got our own Winery in Bampton, Very good so I am told. Being a teetotaler I would not know the difference between good wine and vinegar!

(Ed's note - At the Bampton Castle Vineyard, they can arrange a great wine tasting session, I can tell you there's no vinegar up there!)

So come on everyone let us beat the French at their own game. English Apples, Beef, Pork, Lamb and Somerset Brie are the best, so let us get out there and buy British because British is Best! Mind you, I hope that the whole thing is sorted out before it comes time for me to change my 'Jolly Green Giant' Taxi. There is no such thing as a British made MPV.

There are two things that I would like to tell the Minister. Firstly, why don't you back British Beef by lifting the stupid ban on 'Beef on the Bone'? Secondly, the majority of us voted to join the European Common Market, to trade with it - not to be ruled by it. All the Supermarkets are saying that they are going to 'Back the British Farmer' and stock mainly British produce. I will believe it when I see it!

'Mystic' Don

What I do know is that my foreboding expressed here in the 'Beam' in previous

issues seems to be coming true. In last autumn's article I made a reference to the calf trade during the recession of the 1970s. Well it's happening again now - a farmer I know has just bartered with his local butcher and exchanged a baby calf for a bag of sausages! If only a way could be found to get the price of Friesian bull calves back up to what they were when I retired, it would go along way towards saving the Dairy Industry. Calves then were fetching £200 plus, now someone comes around and takes them away for you, to save you shooting them and destroying the carcass. I see in the same article I mentioned that the price of milk had dropped to 19.2pence per litre, now it is down to 17.5pence, (that is 9.94p per pint), a drop of 9% in the year. Have you noticed a drop in the price of dairy products by that amount?

Bampton Market Square's future perhaps?

I see a lot is being made about a return to Farmers Markets - which I am all in favour of - where farmers sell their produce directly to the public, cutting out the profiteers in the middle and guaranteeing the public fresh farm food. Carterton has been mentioned as a possible venue for such a market. Why not Bampton? I see our Town Hall has had a face-lift. Is our Council going to lead the way? Will our Market Square be just that again? My fertile mind in fantasy mode continues with thoughts of Arthur Gering operating an egg stall; Michael Barlow-Vaughan selling dairy products; brother Colin with a load of beef sausages; Simon Collins with a bacon slicer; and Roy Henley fermenting beer from his own barley!

Mind you it could pave the way for me to make a 'come back'. Lew has its own Butter Cross and not a lot of people know that!

Well, folks I do hope you all will have a happy Christmas and that your New Year resolution will be to back the British Farmer and buy British.

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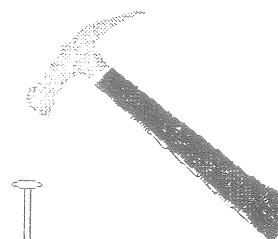
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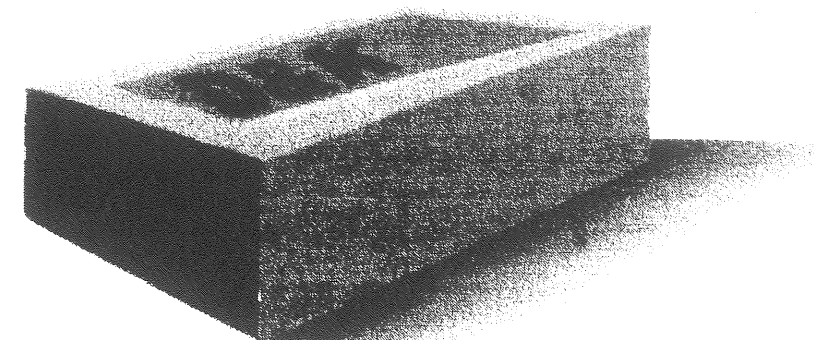
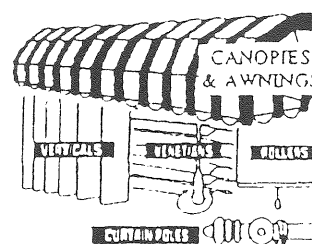
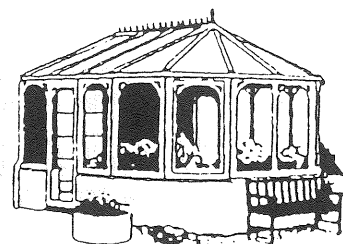
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LETTERS TO: AUNTIE BEAM

Dear Auntie Beam

Now that I cycle more, I see lots more of wildlife on the roadsides and the Hedge-rows - birds, foxes, foxcubs, weasels etc. But I'm also noticing an increasing number of household articles just dumped in ditches. Between Bampton and Yelford for example, there's a bathtub, mowing machine, television and a washing machine. It's sad to see such things littering a country road and it is totally unnecessary.

If anyone has large objects to dispose of you simply ring the District County Council Tel: 770222 and the Refuse Collection Department will tell you when they can collect it. Much easier than having to carry it to your car/van and dumping it, and better for our countryside too.

Yours, Jo Lewington

Dear Jo,

What can I say? If it's not people picking up their dog's poo its people putting out their discarded and unwanted appliances etc., along the side of the roads. As Jo says, it's so easy and free of charge (except for a few items). All you have to do is Tel: 770222 and the article will be picked up - almost always very early in the morning so have the 'article' which needs collecting outside the night before.

Don't forget, it is a fineable offence if you are caught dumping illegally, and you never know who might be looking!

Please keep our countryside clean.

Yours Auntie Beam.

Dear Auntie Beam,

I expect you have noticed more and more horses and ponies on our roads over the past few years. Every field you look in around the village has been divided up with these animals in their own little sections. Isn't it a shame the ban on British Beef came along and the beef cows have all gone and horses seem to have taken over?

What I have to say concerns these four-legged animals on road sense. I have always had ponies and grew up being told

the Highway Code, single file etc. Well, as I drive around here, often horse and ponies are in double file, with the riders busy in conversation. This is not too serious when the road is straight, but along windy country roads and in village's, it's right dangerous. I'm sure there must be road regulations concerning taking your horse or pony out on the roads.

Many thanks
A worried road user.

Dear Worried Road User,

There does seem to be rather a lot of horses and ponies around at the moment, probably the fad of the time. As you say we do miss the cows and bully beef in the fields around, looking over the field gates.

Concerning the Highway Code for Riders. You will find in the back of the 'The Highway Code' booklet a section on how to behave while horse riding on the roads. What would be a good idea is that the owners of the 'Livery Stables' provide everyone who applies for a livery with a copy of the booklet, perhaps stressing the need to follow the rules of the road while out riding.

It is nice to see the young people on their ponies though. When I was young - a long time ago - we had lots of fun going to local gymkhanas and the like, but of course there just wasn't the amount of traffic on the roads in those days, which made it all so much easier.

Yours, Auntie Beam.



If you would like to write to Auntie Beam the, address is Auntie Beam, c/o The Cotton Club, Bridge Street, Bampton, Oxon. OX18 2HA. She will do her utmost to answer as many of your queries as space allows. Auntie Beam wishes to say that she cannot give out personal replies.

Edie Bindweed and myself are venturing out on New Year's Eve to the gathering in the Market Square. I hear the old fire siren is going to be working once again, that should bring back memories to a few! I'm keeping my fingers crossed that I shall be asked to press the button for the fireworks at 12pm. Is Edie hoping the same thing? We don't really talk together about this very much!

The Church is going to be floodlit Christmas week as well, so will have to take the dog (poo bag as well) for a walk around Church View and have a look. It's all happening this Christmas, lots of things to do and see.

It is a shame that the Small Business Association haven't got their Late Night Opening Evening anymore, but if you remember the rain poured down at the last one and only a few people braved the weather. The first evening they arranged, what a night that was, singing around the Christmas tree, Father Christmas here in Bampton. I could go on but better stop now or you will be turning the page over. I would like to take this opportunity to wish all my readers a very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

I look forward to receiving your letters in the New Year, so please keep them coming.

The Gardening Page

By Edie Bindweed

Christmas Decorations

Nowadays people tend to buy artificial greenery, flowers and berries as there is no need to look after them. But there's nothing quite as good as the real thing, and it's surprising how much of it can be obtained free of charge from our own gardens and hedgerows.

Holly

One of the traditional items at Christmas is the holly wreath. You can make lovely wreaths out of the plain holly by just adding some of the variegated varieties. The colours yellow and gold put together with the dark green and red holly berries make a wonderful display. Good home-made holly wreaths are also made at Fairacres Nursery, for those of you not able, or not inclined, to make their own.

Conifers

Conifers are another obvious choice for Christmas arrangements. You have the dark yew branches to the golden shades of some of cypresses and juniper evergreens. Their cones are also invaluable both for fixing on displays of greenery or for table centre-pieces.

Berries

These have their own special place in Christmas decorations, and if you've no holly berries you can use cotoneaster or pyracantha berries, just as good (all good winter bird feed). Pieces of bark or old fire logs can also be used to make attractive bases for table displays.

Christmas Arrangement

One lovely fresh decoration I make every year is very easy to put together. Firstly you need some moss (found in the garden or bought); or you can use a piece of Oasis. Whichever you choose, place it inside a plastic bag, and then wrap wire-netting around it. You can make it into any shape you like; I normally shape it into a ball. The greenery can then be arranged by sticking the stems through the wire netting into the moist centre. Keep going round until it is all covered. You can then add your berries, cones, variegated hollies and small Christmas tokens - whatever you wish. If the stems of the berries and cones are too short, try attaching them first to a piece of wire, which is pushed or wound, round the

berry or cone. This makes it easier to push into the middle section of the arrangement.

You can then hang up the arrangement or use it for a table decoration. Every year Auntie Beam and I spend an afternoon making our Christmas arrangement. While we're busy sitting we have a cup of tea and a mince pie. It's all part of our tradition for Christmas. Go on, try making one, it's great fun.

Things to do in the garden - now

It's time, as George Winfield would say, to make a few plans for the growing of your vegetables. Giving it a little thought and careful planning will enable you to make maximum use of the space you have.

One of the first rules for gardeners is not to grow the same vegetable in the same place year after year. Crop rotation is the answer. Ideally you should make sure that the vegetables are grown on a piece of garden only once every three years. Now for us with small gardens it can be difficult, so the best idea is to split your garden into three. Each plot requires different fertilisers, composts and manures.

Plot A - dig manure or compost into it, and, just before planting, add a small amount of fertiliser. This ground will then be perfect for peas, beans potatoes, celery onions and lettuce.

Plot B - no manure or compost is required, except if you are in an area with very poor soil. Just before planting, spread lime over the plot, followed by fertiliser just before planting. This ground is ideal for cabbages, sprouts, cauliflowers - all the greens in fact.

Plot C - this does not need anything done to it at all at present. Just before planting, spread some fertiliser over it. This ground is waiting for carrots, parsnip, beetroot, turnips and Swede. You can sprinkle a little lime over the rows where you have Swede and turnip growing.

After Plot A has produced around September and October time you can then plant out leeks, winter spinach and spring cabbages. The following year vegetables planted in Plot A are planted in Plot B, and Plot B vegetables are planted in Plot C, and so on and so on.

BAMPTON GARDENING CLUB NEWS

The AGM was held on Friday 19th November. Much to everyone's relief, most of the committee stayed on for another year.

The 'new' Committee is:

President: George Winfield

Vice President: Vacant

Chairman: Ray Taylor

Treasurer: Tony Jenkin

Secretary & Membership Secretary: Carol Jones

Show Secretary: Fenella Gray

Social Secretary: Ellen Parker

Trophy secretary: Christine McLintock

Members:

Christopher Hickman

Mollie Jones

Gary Gummer

Christine Hughes

Future Trips

Sunday 12th December

Turners Music Hall

Saturday 18th December

Westonburt by Candle Light

All trips depart from the Market Square at 9.30am returning 5.30pm. These trips welcome non Garden Club members who would like to come along - seats permitting. They get booked up very early, so if you want to go, contact **Ellen Parker Tel: 843985 now!**

We would like to thank all those who continue to support Coffee Mornings, Garden Show, and the Trips which are organised throughout the year. Without you we would not be able to carry on. With it being the end of the Millennium next year, let's make next year's Garden Show one to be remembered. So come on all of you, get going with the hoes, forks, spades, dig in the manure and get growing!

From the Gardening Club Committee

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those that came along to the AGM and to wish all our members a very **Happy Christmas and New Year.**

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THE COOKERY PAGE

By Gilly French

Whilst doing some work on our front garden a few weeks back, I got chatting to my neighbour who was off to buy some lamb to experiment for a dinner party he was holding later that week. It is not a meat that I cook often and the conversation inspired me to do some research for this article. I realised that my probable reluctance was because I seem to associate it with casseroles, which I wouldn't normally make unless we were having the entire Bampton Classical Opera cast to lunch; and that I needed to find more interesting ways of cooking it. Here is the result of a pleasant afternoon's read. None of the recipes, needless to say, are my own.

Kofta

(an American meatball dish)

1 lb potatoes, boiled and mashed
 1.5 lb lean minced lamb
 1 beaten egg
 2 oz pine nuts
 1 oz seedless raisins
 salt and pepper
 butter
 flour
 oil for deep frying
 Mix together potatoes and meat in a bowl. Add egg and season to taste, knead until smooth. Fry pine nuts in butter for a minute or two, knead them into the meat and potato mixture with the raisins. Shape into small balls. Roll in flour and deep fry until crisp and brown on the outside and well done on the inside.

Greek lamb and aubergine salad

1 large aubergine
 olive oil
 ¼ lb fresh spinach, stems removed
 ½ roast leg of lamb, cooked or use left overs
 ¼ lb black olives
 2-3 tbsps toasted pine nuts
 lemon garlic mayonnaise (see recipe)
 Cube the aubergine, layer in a colander with a generous amount salt. Leave to stand 30mins. Rinse, dry with paper towels and arrange in a single layer in a baking dish. Bake for 20-30 minutes at 200C/400F/Gas 6. Season to taste. Arrange the spinach leaves around the edge of a serving plate. Combine aubergine and lamb; mound together in the centre of the plate. Sprinkle with olives and pine nuts. Serve at room temperature with the mayonnaise.

Lemon-garlic mayonnaise

I always make my own mayonnaise, as the real stuff is vastly better than anything one can buy ready made, largely because the former is free of preservatives (but therefore lasts only a few days). Add lemon and garlic to the bought stuff if you must, or try this way - for machine processing, using the whole egg avoids the sauce breaking up, and gives it a lighter texture.
 1 whole egg
 2 egg yolks
 2 fl oz lemon juice
 seasoning
 6-8 large garlic cloves
 16 fl oz good olive oil (not extra virgin as this gives it a bitter flavour).
 Combine the egg, yolk and half the lemon juice in a food processor (or whisk by hand), season to taste. Add garlic, followed by oil. The oil must be added slowly at first but later can be added in a steady stream. Taste and correct seasoning. It may need more lemon juice.

Roast lamb with peppercorn crust

3 tbsps dried crushed peppercorns an equal mix of white, black and green
 1 tbspn fresh rosemary
 2 or 3 sprigs fresh mint
 5 garlic cloves, crushed
 4 fl oz raspberry vinegar
 2 fl oz soy sauce
 4 fl oz red wine
 1 leg of lamb, boned but untied, about 5 lb in weight after boning
 2 tbsps Dijon mustard
 Combine 1 tbspn of the crushed peppercorns, the herbs, garlic, vinegar, soy

sauce and red wine in a shallow bowl. Marinate the lamb for eight hours, turning occasionally. Remove from marinade and drain, reserving marinade. Roll the roast and tie it with kitchen string. Spread mustard over meat; pat the remaining peppercorns into it. Put into shallow roasting pan and surround (not cover) with reserved marinade. Bake at 180C/350F for 18 minutes to the pound, basting occasionally. This gives a medium rare roast - another 10-15 minutes will produce it well done. Let it stand for 20 minutes before carving. Serve with the pan juices.

The Jubilee Inn

What is happening to the Jub?

The pub was sold - as a pub - last October to Mr & Mrs Cooper. There is now a notice on the pub that it will be closed 'until further notice'! But we can't find out what it is all about - why all the secrecy? The Jubilee is one of Bampton's great pubs, and has been patronised over the years by many people in the Village, and by such ubiquitous groups as the SPA-JERS and the Morris Dance Teams. It also hosts mens and ladies darts matches, Quizes, and boasts other facilities such as Aunt Sally, and Bar Billiards. It is right in the Centre of the Village, where major activities, such as the Street Fair, August Fair, Morris Dancing, and the like take place. In short, the Jubilee is a major social asset for the Village.

There are rumours to the effect that it is to be turned into a private house, but surely not. We can't let this happen to such a wonderful establishment. Come on Mr & Mrs Cooper, tell the people of Bampton what you intend doing with our pub! Hopefully it will be to re-open it forthwith. You will all get our support!

Stop Press - Action Now

A planning application is now in for change of use of the Jubilee to a private residence. If you want to object, write now to **Director of Planning, WODC, Woodgreen, Witney. OX8 6NB.**

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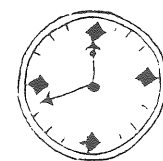
IS YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION TO BE MORE INVOLVED?

WEST OX ARTS (WOA) is looking for volunteer sitters for upcoming exhibits through 2000. If you're interested please contact: Ailsa at 01993 851004 or the WOA Gallery (01993 850137). Now is the perfect time to keep that resolution!

Membership

WOA Members enjoy discounts to WOA sponsored workshops and selected activities. Annual Membership is £12 single, £20 family and £5 for students. Membership forms are available at the Gallery or ring 01993 850137 for more information.

WOA Wishes you a Happy and Safe Holiday time and a Prosperous New Millenium!

**W.O.A. Highlights**

July, August, September, October

By Margaret Bruce Mitford.

The past four months have seen an interesting range of works exhibited, starting with an imaginative presentation by Fine Arts students of Oxford Brooks University. This utilized a variety of media, including a set of around fifty photographs of Bampton showing the ordinary day-to-day life of the village and its residents

In September the Members Exhibition consisted of 52 exhibitors presenting over 100 works in different media and of exceptional high quality. This was preceded by a collection of paintings and ceramics, which saw a very rewarding sale of exhibits.

A different and less usual feature was a 2-day exhibition devoted to rainforests. Illustrations were produced by children at Aston and Cote Primary School who took part in the WOA workshop.

Our smaller Gallery - the Robert Vesey Room in the Bampton Library - its recent exhibitions have included paintings by Hilda Kent, Janice George Allen and paper mache bowls by Sally Proctor.

On the literary front the next group discussion conducted by Karen Hewitt under the auspices of WEA and Rewley House is entitled 'Lost Edens: Milton and Golding', in which comparisons and common features between the two very different writers are explored. Further information contact Margaret Bishop Tel: 850412.

News of Members

On 4th November, Jill Tweed and Philip Hicks set off for Ware in Hertfordshire for the unveiling of a sculpture she had been commissioned to do for the Millennium by commemorating the Town's time honored malting industry. The sculpture is a 7ft high man in the working clothes of his trade, complete with string round the knees of his trousers to prevent rats from shinning up his legs, and beside him a cat which betokens this pestiferous adjunct to the malting trade. It is a very prestigious commission and the most recent of the competitions that Jill has won during her professional life. In a different medium, one of Philip Hicks' sheep paintings formed the back page of a recent issue of the Readers Digest.

Very sadly we have to report the recent

death of Sheila Donoughmore after a long illness borne with great fortitude. During her sixteen years in the village she was active on many fronts and early on joined the W.O.A.A where she regularly exhibited her paintings. She also became a member of the Association's central committee, serving on its Arts Panel and eventually becoming its Chairman. Antiques were another major interest and on two occasions she organised an Antiques Road Show in the Manor House Gardens, conducted by Phillips of London. This was a fund-raising project in aid of Doctor Clark's research into kidney disease, a cause to which she devoted a great deal of time and energy. Our sympathy goes out to Lord Donoughmore and their four sons in their loss.

Bampton's New Mosaic Artist

Mosaic artist and sculptor, Rosalind Wates, has accepted a commission to work with our community on a Millennium project to create a pavement mosaic for the village.

Rosalind, who was born in Wiltshire and grew up in Cumbria, trained in Carlisle and London. In her professional life she has done both private and public installations for people such as Michael Caine and Jeremy Irons, and in places as far apart as the Outer Hebrides and Tavistock. Now living in the Chiltons, she describes this new commission as a local one for her.

Photographs of her work reveal that it is both accomplished and powerful, often incorporating materials and themes characteristic of its geographical location. It is hoped that she may be able to stage an exhibition of some of her sculpture in the WOA Gallery next year. We feel very fortunate that Rosalind will be spending some time here with us in Bampton helping to enrich our local environment. Her previous experience of community projects should ensure that Bamptonians will enjoy working with her.

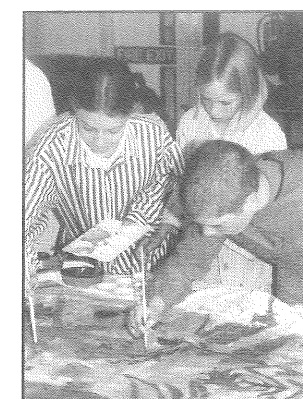
Funded initially by a WODC grant, Rosalind will begin next Spring by running a series of free workshops. If you are interested in finding out more about mosaic and having a chance to work with a practising artist, contact WOA Administrator, Sally Proctor Tel: 850137.

Bampton in the Twentieth Century

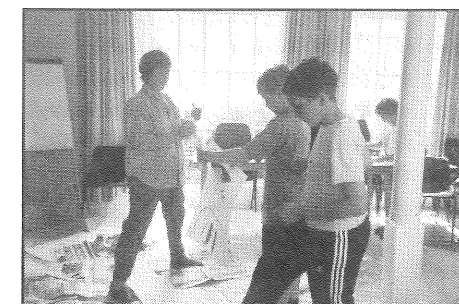
WOA, in conjunction with Jan Fretten at the Library, are proposing to mount a

small exhibition in the Robert Vesey Room in January 2000, displaying photographs and other memorabilia, recording people, places and events in the village during the twentieth century.

Anyone who has such material and is willing to offer it on loan for the month of January can be assured that the greatest care will be taken with it; the organisers would be most grateful for their support. If you can help in any way or know of any good sources of such material please see Jan in the Library. It is hoped to open the exhibition on Wednesday 5th January 2000.

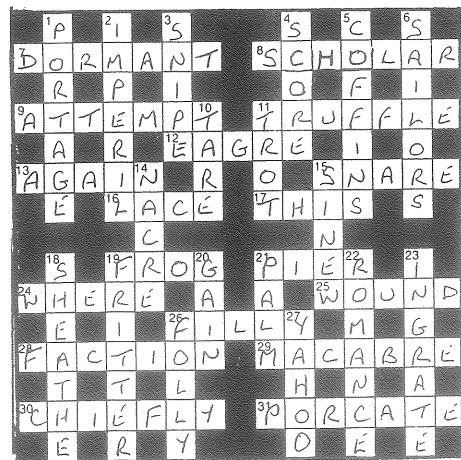
**Rainforest Workshop
June**

*Artist Jo Dixon
Aston Primary School.*

**Exploration Workshop
July**

*A Gallery week event led by Students
from Oxford Brookes University*

Solution to August's BEAM CROSSWORD



The Beam Team would like to donate £5 to Cancer Research as thanks to Mr. Bill Govier for the crossword in this edition of The Beam.

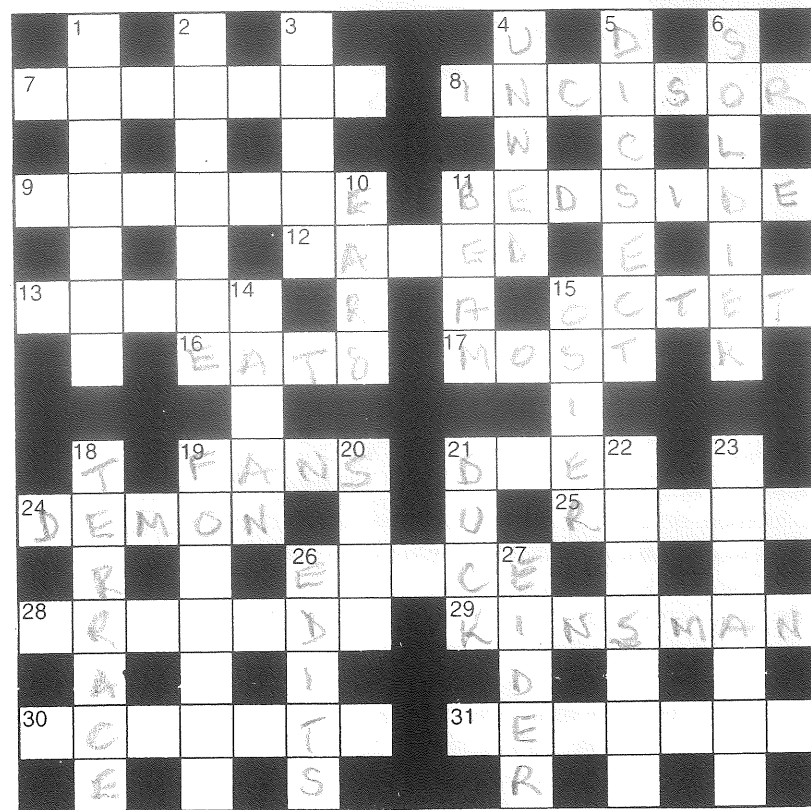
The £5 winner for August's crossword is Mrs E. Foreshow, Wisteria, Church View. Thank you to all those who took part, and good luck for the next one!

A Diamond Wedding Anniversary

Congratulations Ken and Joan from all the family and friends in Bampton and everywhere on your Diamond Wedding Anniversary 23rd December 1999.

Ken and Joan Keyte lived from 1948 to 1973 in Weald, Bampton. Ken was in the Bampton Fire Service for many years and played cricket for the village. Joan worked hard for the Royal British Legion Women's Section where she was Chair-lady for many years. She also belonged to many other Bampton organisations. They had two daughters whilst they were here, Janette and Josephine who attended the local primary and secondary schools. They spent 26 happy years in Weald, and have many faithful friends who they try and keep in touch with. They now live at 'Green Gables', Aldershot, Dorset. SP6 3AZ and still enjoy life to the full. Bampton though will always be missed in their hearts.

THE BAMPTON BEAM'S CROSSWORD



Clues Across

7. Cautious, circumspect
8. A cutting tooth
9. Triangle with three unequal sides
11. Doctors manner
12. Relieved
13. Chatter sententiously
15. A group of eight
16. Consumes
17. Greatest in quantity
19. A body of followers
21. To consider, judge
24. Any evil spirit
25. Classified according to grade
26. To draw out, elicit
28. Calamitous event
29. Relationship by blood
30. Receives
31. Widows

Clues Down

1. A delicate pattern of lines
2. To fawn upon, flatter
3. Vacant, silly
4. Not married
5. To systematically cut into pieces
6. Member of an army
10. Organs of hearing
11. A ray of light
14. Blackboard support
15. Willow used in basketwork
18. A connected row of houses
19. Vest
20. Orderly
21. A broad-beaked water fowl
22. Tipsily tearful
23. Imperfections
26. Prepares for publication
27. A northern Sea Duck

Diary of Forthcoming Events

December

- 5th - 19th The Gallery Gifts for the Millennium
- 11th Bike Path Project Market Square Stalls 10am
- 12th Bampton Garden Club Turners Music Hall 9am
- 13th Pumpkin Club Christmas Bingo 8pm
- 17th Cancer Research Carterton Country & Western Dance
- 18th Bampton Garden Club Westonburt by Candle light
- 21st Bampton Classical Opera Concert St Mary's 7.30pm
- 24th SPAJERS Mummers
- 31st Millennium Committee Fireworks Market Square

January

- 1st Millennium Committee Millennium Celebrations 12am
- 26th BEWG AGM Village Hall 8pm
- 28th FOBS Barn Dance Bampton Primary School 7.30pm

February

- 18th WOCA Quiz and Fish & Chips The Pavilion 7.30pm

March

- 2nd FOBS Fashion Show Bampton Primary School 7.30pm

April

- 7th FOBS Easter Bazaar Bampton Primary School 3pm
- 21st The Burford Singers Concert Burford Parish Church 7.30pm
- 29th The Burford Singers Concert Little Barrington 7.30pm

For Christmas Service Timetable for
St Mary's, Methodist Chapel, Roman Catholic,
Holy Trinity Lew and St Stephens Clanfield
please look on page 2

THE BAMPTON BEAM:

is published three times a year and distributed free to all residents in Bampton. Extra copies are available from the Post Office, Abbey Properties, The Cotton Club and Emmies.

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Next Deadline - 28th February 2000.

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

The team wishes to thank The Cotton Club - quality fabric suppliers - as well as the 'Beam' letter box! Also many thanks to Abbey Properties and Bradford & Bingley, and to the Parish Council for their financial support each year.

If you wish to have The Bampton Beam posted to yourself or to a relative or friend on a regular basis, please send your name, address and cheque (made payable to The Bampton Beam) to: The Bampton Beam, Subscriptions: c/o The Cotton Club, Bridge Street, Bampton, Oxon. Annual Subscription - £2.50

THE CARERS CENTRE

There are now many useful websites, with lots of information and news. Here are a few to browse to see if they are of any help to you.

<http://www.prtc.org.uk>

Princess Royal Trust for Carers

<http://www.carersuk.demon.co.uk>

Carers National Association

<http://www.ace.org.uk>

Age Concern

<http://www.alzheimers.org.uk>

Alzheimer's Disease Society

<http://www.helptheaged.org.uk>

Help the Aged

<http://www.nacab.org.uk>

National Association of Citizens

Advice Bureau

<http://www.incontact.demon.co.uk>

National Action on Incontinence

<http://www.mind.org.uk>

MIND

ATTENTION BAMPTON BABY CLINIC

As from 6th January 2000 the Baby Clinic held at Bampton Surgery will change to **THURSDAYS 2 - 4pm.**

For more information

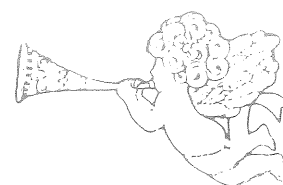
contact

Health Visitors Kate Phillips or
Nicky Taylor. Tel: 850934.

Minor Injuries Unit
Witney Community Hospital,
Welch Way, Witney.
Open 11am - 12 midnight
7 days a week.
Tel: 01993 602966 or 602968
Fax: 01993 602965

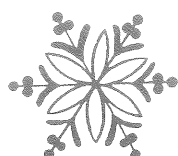


A DIARY OF EVENTS IN DECEMBER AND DURING CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR WEEK



Sunday 12th December

St Mary's Church will be giving a candle and a special gospel to every house in the parish



Tuesday 21st December

Bampton Classical Opera

will be giving a concert 'In Dulci Jubilo' 7.30pm in St Mary's



Friday 31st December



11.50pm The Old Fire Siren will sound, calling everyone to the Market Square

11.55pm Rev. David Lloyd will speak in the Market Square

12.00am St Mary's Bells will ring in the New Year

12.05am Fireworks will be released into sky



During the Evening the Pubs will be open on a Ticket only basis

Saturday 1st January 2000

St Mary's Bells will ring from 12 noon until 12.30pm

There will be a short service in St Mary's followed by refreshments

Millennium Mugs

From 1.30pm - 3.30pm The Village Hall will be open

There will be a presentation and the distribution of the mugs



The Millennium Committee would like to thank Londis, Poachers Rest, HSBC, Bampton Firemen, Youth Club, FOBS, Playgroup and Mother, Toddler Group for their donations. The Parish Council and RAF Bampton Castle for their offers of help.