

THE BAMPTON BEAM

August 2000

Volume 15, No.2

BAMPTON'S SERVICES SEE EXPANSION

Weekend Social Bus to Oxford

At a meeting on 14th July between WODC, ORCC and the District Councillor for Bampton, Jonathan Phillips, it was decided to press on, for a trial period, with providing a 15-seater minibus on Friday and Saturday evenings for social activities in Oxford.

The bus will depart Bampton at 6.00pm and 7.30pm on Fridays and Saturdays, and depart Oxford at 11.30pm and 1.00am on Fridays and Saturdays / Sundays.

It is hoped to start running the bus in the autumn - look out for posters nearer the time.

This should help the 125 people who expressed an interest in this service. It will cater for those who wish to go into Oxford to the cinema, theatre, or for a meal, and those who wish to go 'clubbing'.

The Editor of *The Bampton Beam* would like to thank all those people who

signed the petition in Temples Shop and the parishioners who wrote letters to the District Councillor concerning this matter.

It shows that working together can make things happen here in the

Village.

Also see inside for a four-page supplement on 'Bampton and the Public Transport System' from BEWG. The supplement gives a range of information on bus fares, timetables, and an intriguing table where you can calculate the cost of running a car! Thank you BEWG for this very worthwhile effort.

HSBC Enhances its Services

HSBC has applied for planning

congratulated on this latest initiative. With the installation of the ATM - planning consent permitting, and surely that should not be a problem - we will have a range of services on offer at our bank not too short of those on offer at the Witney banks. So let's make sure that HSBC's initiative is well received, and that we continue to use our local bank for our banking transactions; and if you don't already bank there, or are thinking about opening another bank account, why not give our local branch the business? It's convenient, provides excellent service - and the staff are wonderful!

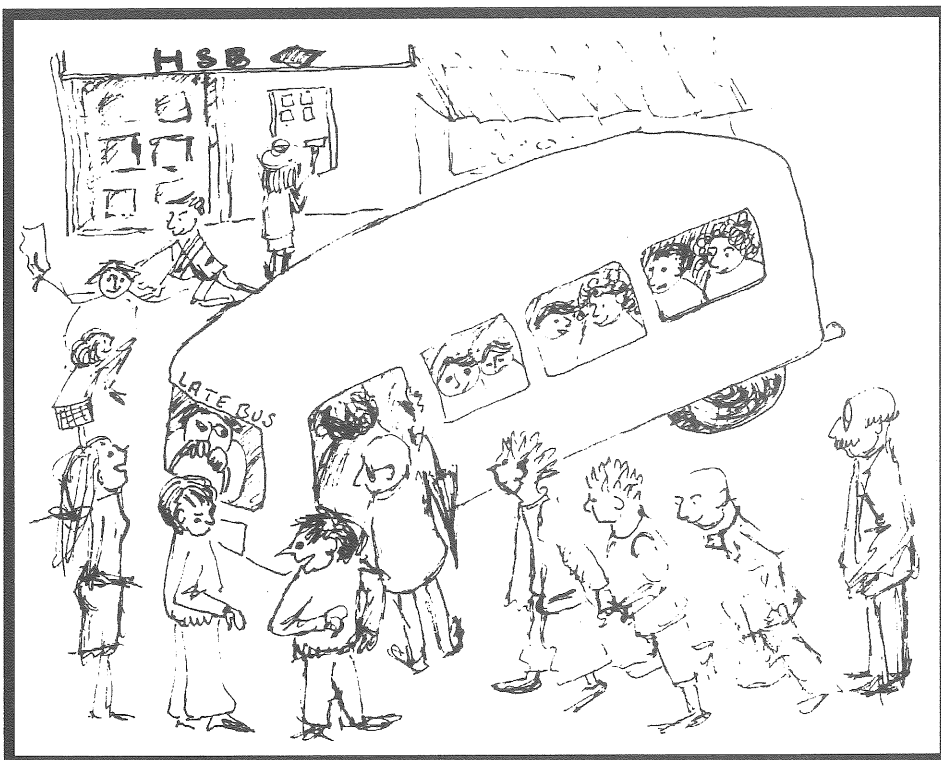
And let's not forget all of our other service providers and retailers in the Village. With the range of services and retail outlets we have, Bampton is the envy of many a community in the area. So let's not get complacent. Keep using our local facilities!

**Use them or
lose them!**

Stop Press

The 'Beam' has just learned that Mr Simmonds is going the sell his

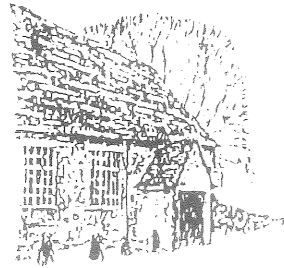
shop in Market Square. Let's hope it will remain a going concern, since it is one of those outlets which has served Bampton so well in the past, and the Village would be much the worse off without it.



consent to install an ATM at our local branch. This shows that HSBC, in contrast with some of the other major banks, is committed to continuing to provide proper services to rural communities, and should be

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BAMPTON 250 CLUB

A monthly lottery which raises money for The Bampton Village Hall and The Bampton Youth Centre. The annual 'jackpot' prize of £250 which was drawn at the Village Hall AGM on 3rd May 2000 was won by Mrs Jackie Allinson.

List of Winners 2000/2001

| April | | | |
|-------|-----|---------------|---------------------|
| £25 | 066 | Mr F Stanger | Queen Street |
| £15 | 208 | Mrs V Allport | Market Square |
| £15 | 116 | Dr J Gray | Market Square |
| £15 | 189 | Mrs Howe | Chandlers Close |
| May | | | |
| £25 | 214 | Mr A Jackson | Broad Street |
| £15 | 100 | Mrs C Kent | New Road |
| £15 | 155 | Mr R Snow | Bushey Row |
| £15 | 023 | Mr J Wheeler | Bowling Green Close |
| June | | | |
| £100 | 099 | Mr F Shergold | Weald |
| £25 | 221 | Mrs V Collett | Talbot Fields |
| £15 | 207 | Dr A Gaydon | Broad Street |
| £15 | 119 | Mrs P Clarke | Bridge Street |
| £15 | 067 | Mrs C Forrest | Lavender Square |

Bampton Methodist Chapel

The last 3 months has seen a continued increase in the activities taking place at our Church. The first Toddler's Service (The Blessed Bees) was held on 12 April, and services were also held in May and June. Further services will be held on the second Wednesday in the month until further notice. Easter was celebrated with Holy Communion on Maundy Thursday (based on The Upper Room) and Easter Day, when 2 services were held. Both services were well attended. Family services have taken place during this quarter, with the Recorder Group featuring prominently with musical items. We were also joined by the children from St. Mary's, so it was literally standing room only. Our Minister, Rev. Martin Whiffen, and Mr. David Sarbutts of Witney took these services, and they managed to make them most interesting for young and old alike.

The Annual Coffee Morning took place on the Bank Holiday Saturday, and despite inclement weather and the absence of some of our usual helpers, a total of £181 was raised. Well over 60 people passed through the doors, so we were generally pleased with the outcome.

Future Events

24 September - Harvest Festival, with morning and evening services and Harvest Supper during the week.

28 October-Book Stall at the Church. Second-hand books are required, Linden Burley, Tel. 850793 will collect if anyone has books surplus to requirements.

St Mary's Junior Church

Mrs Battersby, who has been running St Mary's Junior Church for 3 years, has decided that, whilst she will still participate in its activities, it is time to hand over the reins. I am sure that you would wish to join with us in thanking her for all that she has brought to the children during her leadership. She will be a hard act to follow!

Forthcoming Events

During the summer holidays we are organising two events for children.

- Swimming at Buckland Pool on 2nd August 2-4pm. Bring along swimming suit and picnic. An adult must accompany every child, and a consent form must be returned prior to this event.
- Outing to Fairford Church on 23rd August at 2pm. Travel will be by private cars. Children who need a lift can travel with other parents with space available in their vehicles. The children should bring a picnic.

For more information, contact Margaret: Tel. 850182.

Summer Arrangements for Children

During the summer break, members of the Junior Church team will be on call in the children's corner in St Mary's during the 10.30 Sunday services. They will be armed with activities for children attending these services, so don't stay away, bring your children along to church over the summer, they will be very welcome! Junior Church will resume on Sunday 10th September at 10.15am in the Bush Centre.

Family Services

From September onwards, family services will be held on the third Sunday of every month. We very much hope that families will come along and enjoy these special children's services and continue to support St Mary's Junior Church through regular Sunday attendance, family services and our popular special events.

Contacts

Wendy Eldret: Tel. 851031 (rota and forward planning) : Rosie Johnson : Tel. 852096 (publicity) : Annabel Salmons: Tel. 851740 (events coordinator).

BAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

By David Hawkins, Chairman of Bampton Parish Council

Market Square Development:

Parish council officials met with the Chief Executive of Watermead, the developer which will be building the ten flats in the Market Square to discuss the building programme. We were told that the start date is the 1st July and that the last flat should be complete by the end of this year. Flats will then be sold in the spring of 2001. We hope that we can work with Watermead to improve the overall appearance of the Market Square and that we can both share some of the funding for these improvements. No doubt there will be quite a lot of inconvenience over the next six months but we hope that we can work with Watermead to minimise this.

Farmers' Markets: The Parish Council was asked to give its approval for a Farmers' Market in Bampton. Although the council is keen to help local farmers sell their produce, we are anxious that our local retailers do not suffer as a consequence. We have therefore given permission for one trial market which will hopefully give us an idea of how retailers' trade will be affected. Full details on this market, which will take place on the 26th August between 10am and 3pm, can be found elsewhere in this edition of the 'Beam'.

New houses to be built behind the Fire Station: Oxford County Council has decided that they wish to sell a piece of land at the rear of the fire station to a housing association with the view to building a number of low-cost units which will be used as social housing for Bampton people. Negotiations between our Parish Council, Oxfordshire County Council and West Oxfordshire District Council have led to the sale to Oxford Citizens Housing Association. Planning permission has been requested for four one-bedroom flats and two two-bedroom houses on

this site. Fortunately, access to these houses from Pembroke place is controlled by our Parish Council and they have stipulated that access will be only to these houses and not to the field beyond which is adjacent to Station Road.

New parish councillor required: Following the resignation of Carol Jones from the Parish Council because of business commitments, we hope to co-opt a new councillor in the near future. We are most grateful for all the hard work that she has put into her duties during the last four years and hope that she may rejoin the council at a later stage.

Pollution of Stream: Several Bampton residents have complained about the possible pollution of the stream that runs down the west side of Mill Green. Whereas in recent years there have been thousands of minnows and plenty of plant growth in the stream, hardly any wildlife can now be seen. Letters to Thames Water and to Environmental Services have been sent and we hope that they will investigate this problem.

Tenant Steering Group

by Theresa Mallett

Normally I ignore mail such as newsletters, and consign them straight to the bin. But recently one caught my eye, because the headline read 'Would you like to discuss the proposed Council Housing Transfer details?'

What proposed transfer?

After a brief panic attack, I read on. It's *Your Home, Your Future, Your Choice*, the newsletter proclaimed! Fine, but how do I find out what it's all about? Ah, there are free help lines **0800 169 7186 (WODC)** or **DOMÉ** - the independent tenant's friend - **0800 919 994**.

The spark was lit! Finally, after years

of thinking about doing *something*, I decided that this was the moment, especially as it looked like it was going to affect my home!

And the outcome is that here I am at the *Tenant Steering Group*, a group formed to look at the Council's proposals in detail! We meet once or twice a week in the evenings at Witney. We discuss issues such as the rent guarantee, repair priorities and tenant involvement and consultation. There are about 30 of us that regularly attend, of all ages and backgrounds, and we come from throughout the district - **DOMÉ** can cover reasonable travel expenses.

As a group, we have learned a lot about the Council's proposals and have put forward suggestions on how the offer can be improved. We are really being listened to, because many of these suggestions are being used to shape the transfer proposals. But beware, you do have to have a fair level of commitment, as there is a lot to study and think about. But, it is *your* home and *your* future under discussion, so if you want to know what the Council's proposals are, come to the meetings (or use the free-phones), and make sure you *vote*. You can make a difference if you try!

Secret Gardens of Bampton

By Jonathan Phillips

More than 100 people enjoyed the afternoon of Sunday 11th June walking round Bampton and visiting the seventeen magnificent gardens, large and small which were open to the public. £206 was raised for The Friends of St. Mary's and the committee would like to thank Ian McLintock for organising the event and the keen gardeners who kindly allowed us to see the fruits of their labour. We are also grateful to The Burford Garden Company who sponsored the event by donating garden vouchers. Those who opened their gardens were eligible for the draw which was won by Judy & Peter House of Pippins Croft, Brian & Carol Kew of Brook Cottage, Tom & Caroline Taylor of Knapps Farmhouse.

THE BAMPTON RECREATION GROUND

Buckland Road, Bampton.

BAMPTON BOYS F.C.

"The Bees"

by Linden Burley

Boys F C held their eighth Annual Trophy Night at the new Pavilion on May 20th. The Pavilion was packed with over 50 excited boys aged 8 to 16 plus parents and friends, who were equally as excited! After a superb buffet supper, the Awards Ceremony began. This year the under 10s received medals, the older members a named trophy. There were also four special awards per team.

The winners were as follows:

Under 12s
 Manager's Player - Oliver Burnham
 Parents' Player - Ben Edgington
 Players' Player - Ben Edgington
 Most Improved Player - Sam Johnson.

Under 14s
 Manager's Players - Thomas Clarke & David Lismer
 Parents' Player - Robert Campbell
 Players' Player - Chris Hickin
 Most Improved Player - Luke Paintin.

Under 16s
 Manager's Player - Chris Marshall
 Parents' Player - Craig Wighton
 Players' Player - Craig Wighton
 Most Improved Player - Danny King

The Club is very grateful to the Bampton Parish Council and to the following businesses and individuals who sponsor Trophy Night and the Club throughout the year: Abbey Properties, Bampton Boarding Kennels, Andrew Bowman, Burford Garden Centre, C B L Electric Vehicles, Chennells, Emmie's, The Flower Mill, Grey Gables Garage, Londis, Pitstop, and Temples. The highlight of the season was the winning of the Supplementary Cup by the under 16s who beat Summertown Stars. A tremendous achievement for the boys, their manager and coaches. The Club is very pleased and proud that, at long last, this team has won a major trophy. Well done!

Name Change

The annual general meeting was held at the beginning of June and it was decided that the name "Bampton Boys Football Club" was too restrictive and it was proposed and passed unanimously that the name should be changed to "Bampton Youth Football Club". The Club continues to flourish and is well managed by its committee members and managers. Next season we will be forming Under 10s and Under 9s teams and hopefully an under 17s team. The Club is always looking for sponsors, helpers, and committee members. If you would be interested in helping in any way towards the continued success of the Club, please do not hesitate to contact **Mandy Bowman 850016 or Linden Burley 850793.**

ENGLISH SHORT MAT BOWLING

This facility is now available at the Sports Pavilion, Buckland Road. Are you interested taking up this sport? We are hoping to get together a group of people, who wish to play one afternoon a week, to form a Bowling Club. The only equipment required is a pair of shoes. Why go to Carterton, when you can play here in Bampton? For more information contact, **Gerald Taylor Tel: 850566.**

THE PAVILION

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

Some General Hire Prices

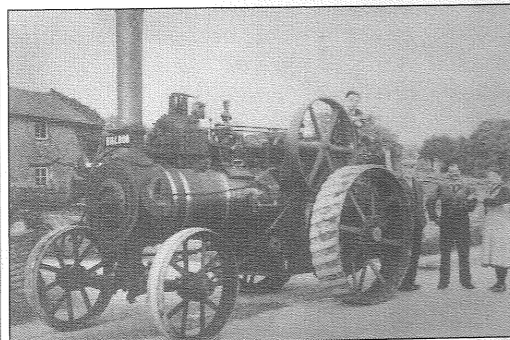
General Hire £ 5 per hour
 Commercial Hire £15 per hour
 Morning Session 8am - 1pm £20 per session
 Afternoon Session 1pm - 6pm £20 per session
 Evening Session 6pm - 1am £60 per session
 Wedding Receptions Whole Day 8am - 1am £150 per day/eve

For more information on charges and facilities for hire please contact: **Derek Moscrop - Home Tel: 851354 or Mobile Tel: 07974 035453.**

BAMPTON-IN-THE-BUSH CRICKET CLUB

We still need new players, female or male of any age to keep the club going. If you would like to come along contact **Alan Clarke Tel: 850201 or Bill Godfrey Tel: 850014.**

NOSTALGIA CORNER

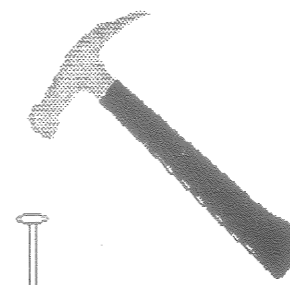


this photo Pandora is on her way home from the 1952 Appleford Rally at the Swan, with Mrs Sollis giving pints to John Q, David Hunt (driver), and John Bond.

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SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF BAMPTON

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

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

DO JOIN NOW

Send your membership fee of £2 each (£1 for OAPs) for the period up to December 2000, to **Society for the Protection of Bampton Manor House Bampton, Oxon OX18 2LQ**

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A Woodland for Bampton A Progress Report and the Design

By Colin Allport

A 7.5 acre field has been purchased recently by The Woodland Trust as part of its 'Woods on your Doorstep' project - set up to create 200 woods around towns and villages in England and Wales, by the Millennium.

The purchase was made possible by generous donations from local people, a grant from West Oxfordshire District Council, and sponsorship from the Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment, supported by funds from Hanson Environment. The design has been drawn up following a public consultation exercise and hopefully it therefore reflects the wishes of local people.

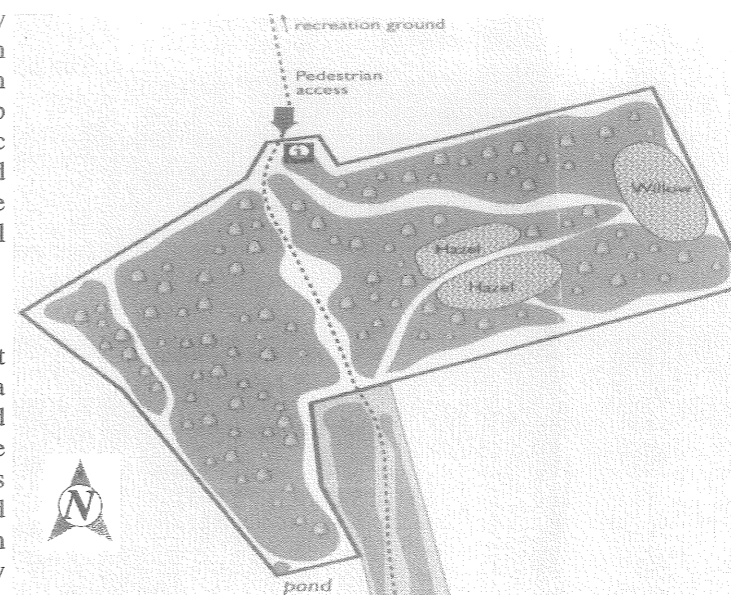
Access

A Public Footpath that runs from the village via the recreation ground crosses the site. There are two old stiles along this path (not on Woodland Trust land) and the Parish Council is currently investigating who is responsible for these with a view to having them replaced with gates which would be suitable for the less able. No barriers will be put up at the two pedestrian entrances to the wood. Taking many suggestions into account we have tried to create circular walks within the site which include glades, wide shrub-edged rides and narrower winding paths. Where possible views of both Bampton and Aston church spires will be retained. The network will be maintained as a firm grassy surface and kept mown during the summer months. An information board explaining the background to the project and pointing out features of interest, wildlife etc., will be erected at the entrance.

Tree species

One of the purposes of the project is to increase new native woodland

around towns and villages in England and Wales. The majority of the 5,000 trees that are to be planted will therefore be broad-leaved species that are already growing well in the area. Prior to drainage in the nineteenth century the land around Bampton was water meadow and scrubland, hence the name 'Bampton in the Bush'. The species to be planted reflect this wet nature - the main



groups being ash, willow and alder. Field maple, silver birch and goat willow will also be planted along with a few oak, walnut, which historically is believed to have been a notable tree locally, native black poplar, which is becoming increasingly rare, and yew, which should still be alive into the next Millennium!

Shrubs to be planted along the path edges include hazel, spindle, hawthorn, blackthorn, wayfaring tree and guelder rose. All of these can be found in nearby hedgerows. All the saplings will be 30 - 45cm tall, protected from rabbits with guards and planted in species groups of 20 - 30 in parallel curved lines to give a random appearance.

Special features

Two areas of willow and hazel will

be planted and managed as coppice, hopefully by volunteers who can then use the produce locally. The existing pond in the south-western corner will be opened up and extended if possible. This will create a marshy wetland area reminiscent of the habitat found prior to the drainage of the area.

Name of the wood

A number of good suggestions were made and as a result it has been decided to name the wood 'Shillbrook Wood' after the stream that runs through Bampton.

Planting day

A public planting event will be held on Saturday 18th November 2000 - please come along with a spade and lots of friends and relatives! We also hope to organise a day when local schoolchildren can be involved in the planting to follow up the work that has already been done with them.

Stop Press

At the very large meeting on 30th March there was general agreement that we should consider a further appeal to add to the £5,000 surplus from the original fund raising in order to enable an extension of the woodland.

This proposal would enable a further 200 metres of public footpath to be enclosed with an appreciable increase in the overall attraction of the wood. We are happy to report that a combination of local donations plus appreciable help from the District Council and the Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment has produced sufficient funds to enable the Woodland Trust to approach the landowner with a view to purchasing the additional 1.5 acres required. It is hoped that negotiations will be successfully completed in time for the extra land to be included in the November planting.

If you have any queries relating to the design of the woodland, please contact Janet Watt, Woodland Adviser on **01223 513243**. For all other queries please contact Colin Allport : **850411**.

'e's a good ole boy! A profile of Don Rouse.

By some Lew neighbours

There are those people in life who make time for things that interest them, and also make time for good causes, even though they have a very full life. Don Rouse is one of those people. Don is perhaps one of the best known characters around Bampton and Lew, and this article was started originally to mention the work he has done over the years for the Oxford-Leiden Link. However, Don has been involved in many other things, so this article has been broadened to lift the lid on some of his life, and perhaps, there is an element of some of us "paying him back" for the good humoured way he personalises local news and stories in Lew particularly.

Don's life has been centred around farming, and from an early age, he worked on a farm with his dad, brothers and sisters in Bampton. In his early 20s, two major events happened; he married the lovely Mary, who has obviously brought the good looks and charm into his life, and they moved into University Farm in Lew. University Farm was developed by Don and Mary over the years to become not only a very successful farm, but they built a strong reputation for the Country Farm Hotel business that ran alongside the farm. In fact the restaurant, until it closed six years ago, was one of the best in the area, drew its custom from all around the district, and dare I say it was probably better known than Don!

They brought up their two children, Wesley and Julia on the farm, and they have their children and grandchildren still living close by. Don has always been a very strong supporter of British Farmers and an example of this happened a few years ago when a number of us from Lew had a table at the St. George's Day Dinner & Dance arranged by Carterton Town. The caterers let us know they would not be serving traditional British beef as the BSE

scare had started. We objected, and Don as our spokesman involved the press, and threatened a ceremonial entrance with a joint of beef for our table. Needless to say, the town finally relented, and the "Lew" table was given British beef. Don continues his support of farming to this day, not least by being a regular columnist in *The Bampton Beam* with "agricultural" stories where you can enjoy his ramblings.



The real McCoy - Don Rouse

Don and Mary have now been at the farm 41 years and perhaps the biggest change in Don's life was 3 years ago when he decided to retire from farming. A major wrench for Don, as anyone will testify who saw him as he accompanied each of his dairy cattle into the auction ring on the day of the stock sale.

In retirement, Don knew he would not be able to sit around the farm doing nothing, and Mary knew there was no point in trying to get him to do a decent DIY job around the house. So,

Don started up, and is still working all hours with his car hire/taxi business; a job where he meets many people and which he enjoys immensely.

As mentioned previously Don has always made time for other things in his life and it is perhaps these things that many people know him for.

He started weight-lifting in 1955 with an iron bar and two buckets of water. After convincing his father that he was serious, he was given a barbell set for Christmas. He formed the Bampton Weight-lifting Club in 1956, which moved to his farm's barn at Lew in 1959, and soon after the old village schoolroom at Lew was converted to form what is still the HQ of Bampton W.L.C.

The Club has prospered over the years and has been visited by that well known national weight-lifter Precious Mackenzie, and Dave Prowse who was Darth Vader in the Star Wars film. It was also featured by the ATV Today program in 1963. The Club was popular at Fetes/carnivals in the 60s when it demonstrated fitness and strength, including Don's speciality of breaking a six inch nail in 20 seconds! Today the Club is still going strong, but is more into weight training than competitive lifting.

Don was Secretary and Coach to the Club from 1956 to 1985, took over from his father as Chairman in 1970, and still holds that role.

From 1961 to 1985 Don was also employed by various Education authorities to teach weight-lifting and helped during that time to develop seven age group British Champions, including one who went on to represent Britain at two Olympics.

It was as a weight-lifter that he first visited Leiden in 1963, as part of their Twinning arrangement with Oxford. He joined up with the Oxford-Leiden Link in the late 60s and carried out many duties on the Committee over the years including fund raising, visits, social events. He took over as Chairman of the Oxford-Leiden Link in 1992 and has provided excellent leadership in this role, and in his complimentary role of Chairman of the Friends of Leiden. He was honoured earlier this year when, at the

annual dinner of the Link, he was awarded the coveted Gold Pin of Leiden, after the councillors of Leiden reported on his excellent service to the Link over many years. The Gold Pin is the highest honour Leiden can give to a non-citizen, and it is only the fourth time such an award has been made in the 54 year history of the Link. Don retired from his Chairman role earlier this year as he wanted to make way for younger blood to come into some committee positions who would have more "fire in their bellies", to take the Link forward. Very noble Don, but we know you still have that fire!

From his position on the Oxford-Leiden Link committee, Don suggested that Oxford should do more to encourage business in the Open Market. So in the early 90s, the City Council agreed to the suggestion and set up the "Oxford into Europe Committee", and, you've guessed it, Don worked for some years on that committee to encourage business into Europe.

In 1974, Don formed a barn dance band, to raise funds for the Oxford-Leiden Link. This very quickly became popular as "The Folk Band" with no "folk" tendencies, giving lots of twists to traditional dances. Popularity zoomed in the late 70s as the band took on more and more engagements - they once did 7 "gigs" in 9 days in this period, and were part of a celebration in Bampton Market Square to mark the Silver Jubilee in 1977 when 5 local bands performed.

Don has continued with this "band" over the years, he still has a long list of future bookings, and you know you'll have a good evening at one of his events, with his knowledge of so many locals sometimes leading to some "personalised" calling.

Another activity that has "fired" Don over the years is the "Bampton Mumpers". This is a traditional hotchpotch of fun, in the form of a 20 minutes or so short sketch, all mixed up in rhyming verse, with the players dressing and making-up for the parts such as St. George, a Turkish Knight, Robin Hood, a doctor, a soldier etc. The tradition goes back hundreds of years. He joined them as an 11-year old, when,

as a group, they would go to all the "Posh" houses in Bampton on Christmas Eve and give their performance, and do all the eleven pubs in Bampton (where are they now?) on Boxing Day. Any collections after these performances were shared by the performers, but over the years that has changed with all collections now going to the SPAJERS Fund. The Mumpers is now more highly organised with a waiting list of bookings and performances even including private house parties. Don will this coming Christmas, celebrate 52 years in the Bampton Mumpers.

Don's voluntary work was increased when he joined the SPAJERS in the mid 70s and perhaps because he is a good "front man", later took on a sort of "rent a gob" role (his words). He has regularly done the MC role at the annual Shirt Race, the Donkey Derby, the Fete, and some other local charity events. He has been Chairman of SPAJERS since 1988 and does a lot for the charity, but perhaps his greatest claim to fame is when a couple of years ago on a trip with pensioners to Bournemouth, he got the coach to start the return journey, and left two of the people behind.

As if the above work is not enough, Don still gives talks to local pensioners and other clubs on subjects such as "My life and times in Bampton", which he really enjoys. His problem is if he is invited back, as he then has to remember what he said the first time. He also writes some articles for the SPAJERS newsletter.

Don supports the local church at Lew, and he is also the Lew correspondent for Contact, the local Church magazine. Lew people are never sure who will be "picked on" next by Don in his articles as he scrapes around for some news, so you can bet they'll all be loving this exposure!

There are probably many other stories of Don Rouse, some that no doubt he wouldn't want raised in these pages! He is a very active, friendly and public-spirited person who has made a difference to many people's lives.

Long may Don, still a relatively young man, keep up the good work.

The Cubs

We regret to have to report that, after many years as a flourishing activity, the Cubs have been forced to suspend operations. The number of young boys interested in taking part in this organisation has dwindled, as those

reaching the age limit of 11 years have not been replaced by new entrants. Unfortunately, the senior groups closed some years ago due to shortages of leaders so that Bampton is now without any Scouting body. Attempts will be made to breath



new life into the group and anyone interested either in helping with cubs or scouts or in joining this worthwhile activity should contact the Group Chairman, **Phil Roberts Tel: 851267** or **Phil Carr Tel: 210025**. It will be a great pity if this important part of the life of Bampton disappears forever.

Youth Club


The situation with the Youth Club is rather more healthy. The juniors continue to meet on Tuesdays and older members on Thursdays, There are also occasional discos. Anyone interested in helping, or any young people wishing to join should contact the youth leader, **Gary Gummer Tel: 851913**. Efforts are being made to raise funds to provide for a variety of badly needed items to enhance the facilities in the Centre. Our cashflow depends to a great extent on rental of the Centre to third parties, At weekends and, apart from youth activity evenings, 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. For any general matters, please contact **Colin Allport Tel: 850411**.

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Launch of new 37 mile walk through Wychwood

On Sunday 3rd September a new circular walk will be launched in West Oxfordshire by the Wychwood Project, all within the boundaries of the ancient Royal Forest of Wychwood. The route has been designed to highlight the history and the beauty of this very special part of Oxfordshire and to link some of the many remnants of the forest landscape. A guide is being produced which describes the route and interprets the history and wildlife significance of the area.

The project has been funded by the Heritage Lottery Millennium Festival Fund, Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment and West Oxfordshire District Council. The route follows existing rights-of-way, but a group of hard working volunteers has been working vigourously to improve the standard of the route, replacing stiles and other climbable structures where possible with kissing gates to make the route easier to access, updating signage etc.

The Way and the guidebook will be launched in September with a sponsored walk and Forest Fayre on Combe recreation ground. There will be two walks - a ten-mile route and a family walk of around 4 miles - both starting and finishing at Combe. Wychwood Forest used to host an annual Forest Fayre. This year marks not only the Millennium but the anniversary of the Forest Perambulation (Survey) carried out in 1300.

Our event will feature country and other crafts and demonstrations, local products, competitions and stalls, Morris Dancers, a brass band, pig roast and other refreshments. All proceeds from the sponsored walk and Fayre will go towards ensuring the long-term management of the route. We do hope that you will all attend. If you don't take part in the walk, then come along to the Fayre, which will start at 12 noon. It should be a great day out for all involved.

For a sponsor form, or if you would like to help on the day, contact : Wychwood Project office on **01865 810217** or email: wychwood@oxoncc.freerve.co.uk

Bampton Millennium Motorcycle Club

Well, after a slow start, excuse the pun, and atrocious weather, the club rode out to Devizes to view the impressive flight of restored locks. Several canal boats were kind enough to give us a demonstration of lock navigation. The return trip stopped off at the Red Lion at Avebury, situated amongst the many stone circles in this area. Seven riders turned out for the event. The *mystery* ride was a *real* mystery as it was made up as we went along. The final route was Burford, Banbury and Kidlington with a quick stop for refreshments along the way. A nice warm day ensured sticky tyres for what was a reasonably fast run. Four riders turned out for the afternoon.

Jack Hills for breakfast! Conjure up all those images of the 50s and 60s greasy spoon cafe and you'd be right. An 8am start on a Sunday morning does stretch the imagination a little, but eggs, bacon, sausages, beans and a slice with a cup of tea after 50 miles is certainly worth going for. I think the 6 riders and their pillions enjoyed the experience. The Wednesday evening run to Avebury was the only wet event of the calendar. Wet outside that is, again another 6 riders.

Sammy Miller's Museum on the south coast is well worth the visit. Thanks for the company there JP, and the company back JP and Dave. It is a living museum and attracts bikers from all over the country for organised theme days. Exhibits are regularly ridden around the courtyard for all to wallow in nostalgia.

Next outings are:

- 3 September 09:00 Brecon. Lunch by a canal.
- 17 September 07:30 Mallory Park. British Superbikes.
- 1 October National Motorcycle Museum, Birmingham.

So where does that leave us? A slow start but lots of potential. Many thanks to: Jeff, Dave, James, Frank, Chris from Aston, Steve, Jacko and son, Tim, one other whose name I have forgotten - sorry - and a special mention for the 3 lady pillion passengers.

Contact Richard Turpin Tel: **01993 851398** for any further information.

Winners of the May Flower Garlands

Held in the Market Square on Monday 29th May

The winners of the Corinna Marie Newland Memorial Prize this year went to Gregory and Ian Davis.



Gregory and Ian Davis

Highly Commended Certificates

- Haley Curtis & Zoe Amos
- Katie Knight & Isobel Goves
- Antonia Count & Megan Day
- David Kane & Thomas Boot
- Maddie Ford, Hannah Pickard-Brown & Lucy Davidson



The children waiting for the judging of the May Garlands to begin.

THE CARERS CENTRE

Need some Information?

We may not know all the answers – but we will find out for you. We have our own information files, books and leaflets; we also receive regular updates for our computer database from the NHS Healthpoint, and about all the organisations who deal with health problems.

Remember . . .

A bit of information now can save a lot of hassle later ring us on Tel: 0345 125546.

Don't forget – Bampton Carers meet the last Wednesday in the month at The Methodist Church Centre, High St., Witney, from 1pm – 3pm.

RAISING THE ROOF FOR SOBELL

Sobell House Hospice, located at the Churchill Hospital in Oxford, provides all the support that is needed for people with life limiting illnesses. The provision of dignity, security and calm is of special importance.

"Our aim is to offer psychological, social and spiritual care to those facing illness, death and bereavement. In partnership with all those involved, we focus on quality of life, respecting the uniqueness of each person who comes to the Hospice. We seek to contribute to the development of palliative care through education and research".

The hospice is not just a place, it is a whole concept in care within which patients can be looked after in the Day Centre, the ward or at home. The services provided by Sobell House are completely free to those in our community who may need it, regardless of their beliefs, race or age.

Built in the 1970s, the existing hospice has become outdated both by time and advances in technology and services. Patients should have private rooms to allow the privacy and dignity that is so essential in the closing stages of their lives; the ability for relatives and partners to stay with their loved one; the need

for a "family unit" where patients have young children.

They need a place where they can relax in private and learn to face the difficult times ahead; sharing and enjoying these last precious moments. Oxfordshire needs a modern hospice, a hospice of which we can all be proud.

Sobell House Hospice Charity has so far raised £2 million for the rebuild but that is not enough. We need at least another £1million.

Please show us your support, no matter how little you may think it seems. There are many ways in which you may help, possibly organise an event for the village.

Telephone **01865 883339** with your credit/debit card details, or send in the flyer enclosed with this edition. Or for the full story, visit our website: www.sobellhospice.org.

COULD YOU HELP A CHILD TO READ?

Volunteer Reading Help, the charity that helps children to read, is growing and needs your help.

VRH has been established in West Oxfordshire since 1973 and works in primary schools with children aged 6-11 who are struggling to read. We have many schools on our waiting list for new volunteers. Volunteers receive training before going into school twice a week to work individually with 3 children, sharing books and friendship, and helping to develop their confidence in reading. If you can spare 4 hours a week during term-time for up to a year and are between 18 and 78 and would like to know more. Please contact us, your involvement could make a real difference to a child's life.

Contact: **Virginia Carter** or **Alison Souster** Volunteer Reading Help
Tel: **01993 771294**

LOCAL OLDER PEOPLE'S PANELS

A chance for older people to advise and influence.

Feel nobody listens? Now people over 50 have a chance to be heard through five Local People's Panels

around the County. The new scheme aims to feed their opinions into policies as organisations seek their views on services. It's a chance to turn ideas into suggestions by getting a word in edgeways before big decisions are taken. The independent local panels are being set up by Age Concern Oxfordshire City & County with support from the Oxfordshire Better Government for Older People (BGOP) project.

They will advise local authorities, health services and voluntary services. Gill Martin of Age Concern Oxfordshire City & County said, "This is definitely not to be missed. The idea has been taken up enthusiastically and those providing public services are waiting to hear what older people say is needed. We are hoping it will appeal to people of all interests and backgrounds, who just feel like having their say. I'm sure they will enjoy it and make a useful contribution too".

Barbara Jordan who supports BGOP from Oxfordshire County Council's Social Services said, "We know we need better communication. There's an important job to be done to make sure that in planning and developing services we take account of the views of those they are intended for. We need a genuine dialogue and partnership in reshaping local services. That's the way to a better balance of care provision, easy access and good information and advice".

Already the Local Panels have started to meet. More people are needed and those that do volunteer their time will be offered appropriate training where needed to help them feel at ease in the process. All out of pocket expenses will be paid.

To find out more about joining a Local Panel in your area please contact **Gill Martin** at Age Concern, The Lodge, Rivermead Centre, Abingdon Road, Oxford OX1 4XD : Tel: **01865 240619**; or **Barbara Jordan** of Oxfordshire County Council's Social Services at P0 Box 118, Thame DO, Oxfordshire OX9 3FT : Tel: **01844 217904**.

Local Bobbies Conquer the 3 Peaks

By PC Steve Patrick

My colleagues and I have now fully recovered after our 24-hour mountain marathon on the 1st and 2nd of July this year. We were particularly blessed with good weather during the event and completed the challenge in 23 hours and 17 minutes, making us one of the very few teams who not only completed it, but also



within the 24 hours. We all agreed the hardest part was getting out of the van at 3.30am on the Sunday morning in North Wales, knowing we had to climb Snowdon and having already climbed Ben Nevis in Scotland and Scafell in the Lake District the day before. However, once on the move again, it wasn't that bad and we eventually finished at 7.37am, swearing we'd never do it again! I gave a



short interview for Fox FM and BBC Radio Oxford at the finish, before an extremely well earned cup of tea and a cooked breakfast.

As a team we raised over £2000 for the Hugh ELLIS Paediatric Assessment Centre in Oxford, and I would like to thank everyone who supported us on this event. I would particularly like to thank Mr. Tony Scott from Londis, Mr. Peter Cook and Mr. Kevin Moore from Giles Sports and Toys for their contributions.

Bampton's Roads are Safe : Official

by PC Steve Patrick

On three consecutive days at the beginning of June this year, the Thames Valley Police Traffic Department conducted 'Marksman' Speed Monitor checks in the Village. This device monitors the speeds of every vehicle over 24-hour periods. The device was placed in Broad Street and the results are as follows.

An average of 6,065 vehicles used Broad Street per day and the 85 percentile, which is a realistic speed for vehicles using this road, was between 31 and 34 mph. It showed only 1.16% of these vehicles were over the acceptable limit. Records show there are no reported injury accidents, which are classed as speed related, on this road, and to my knowledge we have not had a speed related injury accident on any road in Bampton for many years. These results indicate that Bampton's roads are some of the safest in Oxfordshire.

We accept that a number of vehicles do exceed the speed limit to an unacceptable degree, but there is no discernible pattern. Public perception is that we should enforce all speed limits regardless. This is clearly impossible, unless the road has a serious speeding problem resulting in injury accidents; we do not have the resources to stop and report all offenders on our roads. However, I will be carrying out periodic speed checks in the Village, so please don't let me have to stop any *Bampton residents!* It is your Village, so let's keep the roads safe

Extract taken from The Daily Star Newspaper

Craig Hawcutt has been awarded a **David Beckham Crystal Power Bracelet** given out by The Daily Star newspaper. There are only 20 of these special awards and to earn one you have to do something special.

To gain his award, David sat in a bath of Cold Baked Beans at the May Day Street Fair. He raised £1060 for Cancer Research.

Well done David - what will it be next year 'spaghetti'?

Dear Editor,
I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Jean Howell who kindly put my name forward to the WRVS for the Diamond Volunteer of the Year Award. I was extremely surprised and delighted to be the winner for the Thames Area. As a lot of people in Bampton will know, Jean herself does a great deal of voluntary work, not only for WRVS, and there would be no Meals-on-Wheels service in Bampton if Jean had not run it most efficiently for more than 25 years.

A great many things happen and an enormous amount of fundraising takes place in Bampton because of devoted volunteers - The Bush Club, SPAJERS, Pumpkin Club, The Village Hall Committee, Meals-on-Wheels, Cancer Research Campaign, Macmillan Cancer Relief, BEWG, West Ox Arts, The Youth Centre Committee and many more including *The Bampton Beam*. Therefore I considered it a very great privilege to have been chosen as one of the WRVS representatives to go to the Reception given by the Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh in February to 'mark the contribution of those working in the community and the voluntary sector throughout the United Kingdom'.

It was an unforgettable experience and I was fortunate to go with a very good friend who had been chosen because of her work for SSAFA. We met several members of the Royal family including the Queen and enjoyed the very generous hospitality in magnificent surroundings. There were people of all ages, cultures and backgrounds representing an amazing number of different voluntary organisations. The atmosphere was friendly and relaxing with no apparent protocol or security - a thoroughly nice party! My only regret was that many more deserving people from Bampton couldn't have been there too.

Yours sincerely,
Susan Phillips

Dear Editor
I am writing to you to raise a concern about the state of the cemetery. I recently visited the cemetery to tend to my parents and relatives graves

Letters to the Editor

and found that the grave and headstone were covered in grass cuttings, which, because it had rained recently, had become stuck to the headstone and it had to be scrubbed for some time so that you could read the inscription on it. Can someone tell the people who cut the grass to try to take a little more care, as things like plastic edging fences and vases with flowers in get damaged and are just left where they fall, and are not replaced to their original place?

Yours sincerely
A very concerned cemetery visitor

Dear Editor

The Parish Council was concerned to learn of the recent problems in the cemetery, outlined in the letter from a "cemetery visitor". We do try to ensure that the graves and the surrounding areas are treated with due respect and over the past two years the Parish Council has endeavoured to improve the pathways and the general appearance of the cemetery.

Unfortunately, due to the very restricted nature of the areas between the plots, it is only possible to maintain the grounds with the use of a trimmer, and so it is difficult for the contractor to collect the grass cuttings. In the recent rainy conditions, this has compounded the problems highlighted by the letter.

The points raised have all been noted and we will make sure that the contractor is made aware of the comments to prevent any re-occurrence.

Yours sincerely
Graham Haslam
Bampton Parish Council

Dear Editor.

As an "outsider", I have two reasons for writing to you. The first is, as Royal National Institute for the Blind (RNIB) Area Fundraising Manager for Oxfordshire and Wiltshire, to make public my gratitude and admiration for a small band of people who run the RNIB Charity Shop in

Bridge Street. The shop took occupation of its present premises in March 1994 and has raised money continuously for RNIB ever since. It is run entirely by volunteers who sort, hang and sell good second hand clothes and who also deal with the second hand books and household items, all of which are donated. It is not always the pleasant job that it may seem but the group has a great sense of commitment.

The second reason for writing is to ask the people of Bampton whether any could spare a few hours a week to help in the shop either on a regular basis or for occasional holiday/sickness cover. All the proceeds of the shop go to support over sixty services for blind and partially sighted adults and children. If just one or two people were able to spare the time to help, they would be supporting both RNIB and the present volunteers.

Yours sincerely
Mrs Kath Morris
Area Fundraising Manager Oxon/
Wilts/W.Berks.

Dear Editor

Committee members of the local branch of 'The Cancer Research Campaign' were deeply saddened by the recent passing of their secretary and friend Margaret Smith. Margaret had been a serving member of the local branch for some 20 years and Secretary for the past 10 years. Some years ago she received her badge of recognition for her services to 'The Campaign'. Margaret worked ceaselessly for the cause both from her home and through involvement in the many fund raising activities of the branch, and although she herself fought cancer for the past seven years her enthusiasm never wavered. She will be missed not only for her involvement with 'The Campaign' but as a dear friend who despite her own problems was always there with a friendly ear when needed. Our sympathy goes out to Margaret's husband Pete and her son and daughter Robert and Katy. Margaret was a lovely person and we were privileged to have known her.

Doris Cleaver (Chairman)
Local Branch

Dear Editor
Being a 'Lavender' myself, I feel at liberty to list a few thoughts in verse form - principally for my own amusement and that of my fellows. Here is an example of life as I see it.
Yours sincerely, H R Hallam

The Lavendonians

Between New Road and Queen Street,
And a little off the beat,
Lie a group of flats
Forming a very quiet retreat.

Most of the residents
Are long past their youth,
Shall we say grudgingly
"Getting a bit long in the tooth".

But it is an absolute fact
And on this you can bet,
We are not down hearted
With plenty of life in the old dog yet.

I will add one more point
If I may be so bold,
They made our generation
Then broke the mould.

We are able to go to bed
And sleep safely at night,
Getting a visit next morning
To see if we are alright.

Saturday mornings are different
As we still get a call,
But the enquiry is made
From a box on the wall.

As for possible entertainment
Each one chooses their own brand,
If indeed help is needed
There is always someone on hand.

We have the pleasure most weeks
Of a trip out in a community van,
Driven by a volunteer driver
Who is a kind and considerate man.

It may be to somewhere historic
Or to some distant shops,
The journey is calculated beforehand
To include some convenient stops.

All birthdays are celebrated
In a common room meet,
Where the ladies work hard
To put on a buffet treat.

There is always a birthday drink
At the end of a birthday year,
So with sherry or wine
We wish our friend good cheer.

Wednesday is "Bush Club Day"
Again the ladies do everything.
There is a regular raffle
Of goodies people bring.

The visitors may form game groups
Or two or three just chat,
It may be something important
Or alternatively just this and that.

The dining tables are laid out
Each place with knife fork and spoon,
A two course meal is prepared
And served to us at noon.

All the helpers are volunteers
Each one playing their part,
We offer them thanks
From the bottom of our hearts.

On Mondays the Methodist Church
Provides a light meal,
You are invited to 'drop in'
If the idea does appeal.

There is a choice of homemade soup
Followed by home made cake,
Both of which the kindly helpers
In their own time do make.

Or roast potato and salad
Followed by biscuits and cheese,
The menus are always accompanied
By a choice of coffee or tea.

We have visits from the chiropodist
To check on our bunions and corns,
It is better to walk on velvet
Than it is on bunches of thorns.

There are coffee and bingo times
With refreshments, biscuits, cakes
and tea
Prepared to give enjoyment
To visitors and residents like me.

Father Time moves relentlessly on
Where have all those years gone?
We truly wish we had the knack
Of how to move his fingers back.

At one time girls pulling a cracker
Meant playing with a Christmas toy

Now it is something quite different
They have grabbed themselves a boy.

Now we have reached the time
When we have no need to race
We can choose our own path
And jog along at our own pace.

Priorities have now changed
It is mainly ourselves
What is in the pantry?
And what is on the shelves?

At this point I will end
Making this the last verse
As there is always the chance
The rhyming could get worse!
Ed's note - I hope everyone enjoyed this as much we did.

Dear Bampton Beam,

I would like to say a big thank you to Gary Gummer, Ian McLintock, Janet Newman, Ailsa Metheson, Marion Evans and Vicky Curtis who together with me formed the Millennium Committee for the Village.

With the help of The Parish Council, donations and grants, and the selling of the mugs, which I think have all gone now - except for a few still in Emmies and Temples - we have managed to pay our last remaining bills. This to me is a great achievement as, and the Committee knows this only too well, we started with zero funds, yet managed to make the celebrations something to remember.

I thought that the fireworks were brilliant on New Year's Eve, and with the old fire siren working once again, well that certainly bought back memories to a lot of Villagers.

We were also able to provide Millennium Mugs to every child under 16 years living in our Village, and, as an added bonus, also to each of the Senior Citizens who attend the Bush Centre. If you have not received your Millennium mug for your child/children, please contact **Mrs Janet Newman Tel: 850755.**

Once again I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped us to make the celebrations a success.

Yours sincerely, Fenella Gray,
Chairman of The Millennium Committee.

The Children's Society

Thank you to all those people who generously gave up some time to help with our annual house-to-house collection this Easter. We raised £264.82 for which we are very grateful. My special thanks to those new collectors who volunteered for the first time. I am always anxious to find extra recruits because some roads are still not covered - Aston Road, Buckland Road, New Road and Weald. If anyone could spare an hour or two next year, I would be very grateful. The Society does a very worthwhile job helping young people and their families and deserves our support. I have also banked money raised in Londis, which continues to be a valuable source of income - thank you. Please contact me soon if you feel able to help, **Pauline Hawkins, Tel: 851066.**

Bampton Bridge Club

The Club meets in the Village Hall every Tuesday, 7:30 pm to 10:00pm. 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 £5.00, with a charge of £1.00 per session. New members are always welcome. For more information contact **Mrs Joan Granville, Tel: 850407.**

The 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 - more would be welcome. We encourage our members to play games and take part in activities. We raise our funds for outings to places of interest, theatre trips, and to pay for speakers. For more information please contact **Joan Granville, Tel: 850407** or **Vera Allport, Tel: 850411.**

Recycling

Your old Birthday cards could help lots of people not so happy as

NOTICE BOARD

ourselves. Thank you for your support dropping cards through my letterbox or at the Library. **D. Gaydon, 3 Broad Street, Bampton.**

Around The World In 80 Days

... an outdoor spectacular Every second counts when Phileas Fogg and his faithful valet Passepartout touch down in their great race around the globe. Join them at 1.30pm at Carterton Community College or at 6.30pm at Church Green in Witney, on Friday 18th August and hear them recount their adventures and tales of travel.

Oxfordshire Touring Theatre Company in association with Snap Theatre Company is bringing this *free family show* to West Oxfordshire thanks to the financial support of the District Council.

Fun for the whole family in this 50 minute extravaganza. Further details from **Heather McCulloch**, Arts Development Officer, West Oxfordshire District Council, Woodgreen, Witney. Oxon. OX8 6NB : **Tel: 770384; Fax 770388.**

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 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 Pumpkin Club Bingo and Whist Drive

Eyes down every Monday evening at 7.30pm in the Bush Centre. The whist Drives take place every third Wednesday of the month at the Bush Centre, 7:30pm. For more information please contact **Mrs E. Foresheew or Sharron Tel: 850922.**

The Pumpkin Club Weigh-In

Our Annual Weigh-in and Grand Auction Night will be held on the 14th October in the Village Hall, so bring along those massive pumpkins that you have in your allotment. Raffle, bar, all the usual fun. Packers needed during the day. Anyone interested in helping raise money for the Pumpkin Club please contact **Nick Thorpe 850918** or **Carolyn Main 210014.**

Canasta

Lady canasta enthusiasts are very welcome to come along and join in a new daytime group in the centre of Bampton. If you are interested, please contact **Tel: 850576.**

SPAJERS

The annual Donkey Derby takes place on Monday 28th August. There will, as usual, be plenty to do and enjoy, so please come along and join in the fun.

Old crockery wanted for the crockery stall, so that we can have a smashing time. So if you have any, please drop it into **Alan Gaydon, 3 Broad Street, or Al Newing, Sherbourne House, High Street** or drop it into the stall on the day.

West Oxfordshire Conservative Association

Following the very successful Garden Party in June, WOCA, Bampton Branch is holding a Curry Lunch, on Sunday 3rd September, at the Bush Centre. Non-members are very welcome - this is a social event, not a political one! For more information and tickets contact **Fenella Gray: Tel 851653.**

The Problem - Resolved?

The biggest problem with buses at the moment is that there is nothing for the evenings BUT Jonathan Phillips has just resolved this with WODC and ORCC. Starting in the autumn a 15-seater minibus will provide a late night service between Bampton and Oxford on Friday and Saturday nights. On both these nights, the bus will leave Bampton at 6:00 pm and 7:30 pm. For the journey back to Bampton the bus will leave Oxford at 11:30 pm and 1:00 am.

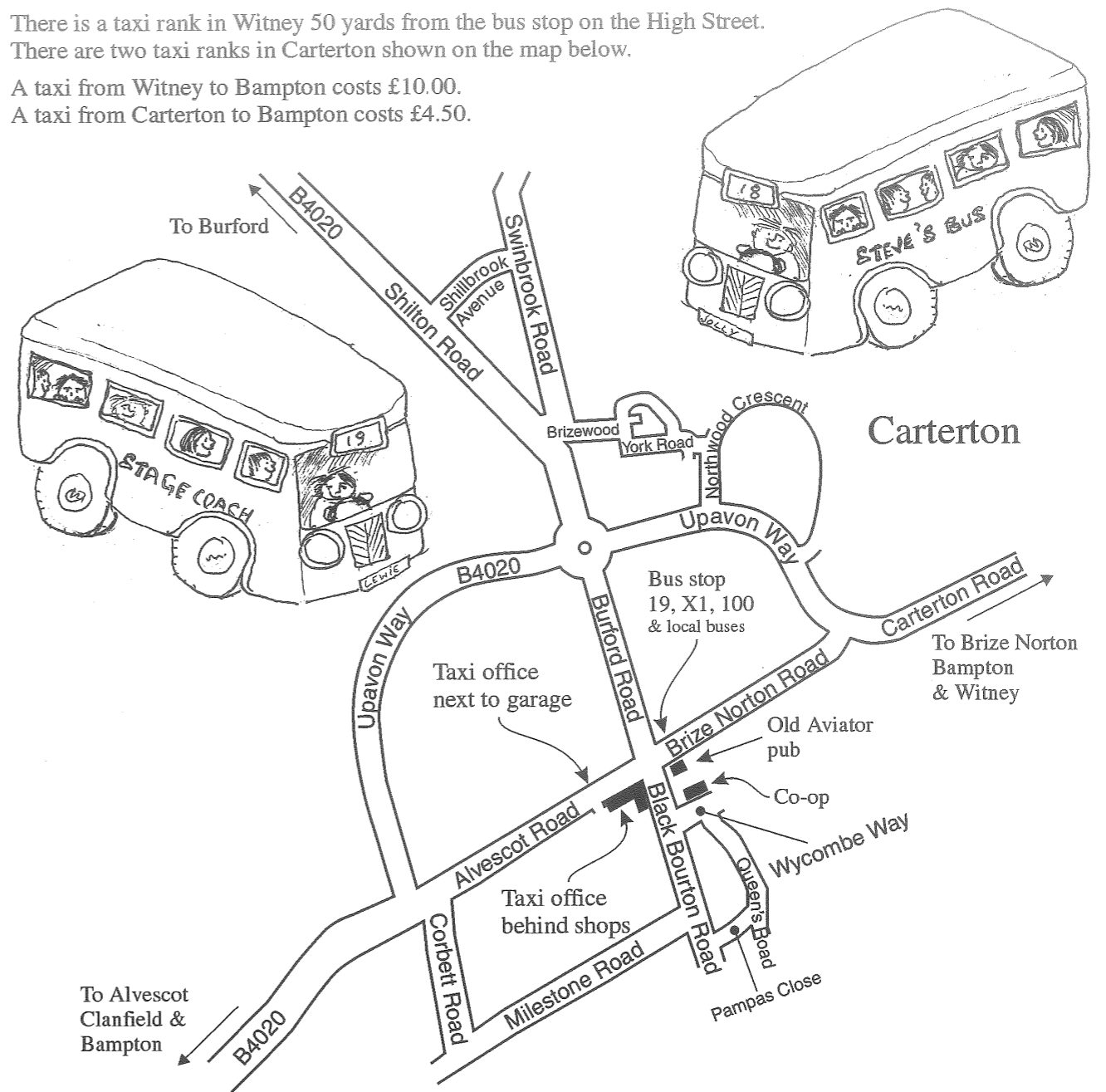
This service will run for a trial period only, so it is important that it is fully utilised to ensure that at the end of the trial period the service is made permanent.

Of course, you can take your car (if you have one) into Oxford in the evenings though parking is difficult, but you can use the Park and Ride, where buses run in and out of Oxford City until 11:28 pm.

The last buses from Oxford to Witney and Carterton leave at 12:40 am on weekdays and 3:10 am on a Friday and Saturday. There are no Bampton buses connecting with these at anything like these times but there are taxis.

There is a taxi rank in Witney 50 yards from the bus stop on the High Street. There are two taxi ranks in Carterton shown on the map below.

A taxi from Witney to Bampton costs £10.00.
A taxi from Carterton to Bampton costs £4.50.



The Cost of Your Car

The content of this form was created by "2000 Smart Moves Limited", and was supplied to us by Sustrans.
 Fill it in if you dare - one of our members did and found his
 2 year old Citroën Xantia costs him £83.42 per week to drive 20,000 miles a year!

1 Purchase Costs

- A My car, excluding interest, cost A £.....
- B My initial payment was (eg in cash and/or part exchange) B £.....
- C I could sell my car for (phone a car dealer, or look in your local paper's car ads section) C £.....
- D I have owned my car for (months) D

borrowing costs

Complete E to K if you borrowed money to pay for your car

- E I borrowed E £.....
- F My loan was for (months) F
- G My monthly repayment G £.....
- H Total loan cost including interest F x G H £.....

option 1:

I bought my car without borrowing any money

- L Each month my car is worth less (A - C) ÷ D L £.....
- M My annual purchase cost (L x 12) **1M** £.....

option 2:

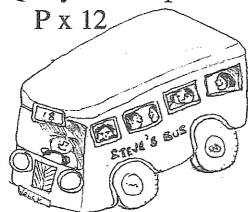
I am still making loan repayments

- L Each month my car is worth less (A - C) ÷ D L £.....
- N My annual purchase costs (K + L) x 12 **1N** £.....

option 3:

I bought my car with a loan which is now repaid

- P Each month my car is worth less (A + J - C) ÷ D P £.....
- Q My annual purchase costs P x 12 **1Q** £.....



5 Total Annual Costs

- A Total annual cost of my car (**3J** + **4C**) = A £.....
- B Total weekly cost or my car (A ÷ 52.18 =) B £.....

2 Fixed Costs

I pay these every year no matter how little I drive

- A Car tax (February 2000: standard rate = £155) A £.....
- B Breakdown membership (eg RAC, Green Flag, AA) B £.....
- C Car Insurance C £.....
- D MOT test fee (excluding repairs needed to pass) D £.....
- E Garage cost (eg rent and council tax) E £.....
- F Parking permit costs (home and/or workplace) F £.....
- G Total fixed costs A+B+C+D+E+F = **2G** £.....

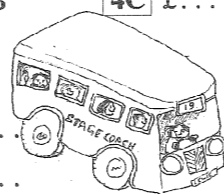
3 Running Costs

Every time I drive I spend more

- A Miles per year the car is driven A £.....
- B Miles per litre of fuel on average (miles/gallon ÷ 4.546 = miles/litre) B £.....
- C I buy A ÷ B litres of fuel a year C £.....
- D Fuel cost per litre (in pence) D £.....
- E Total cost of my fuel is (C x D) ÷ 100 E £.....
- F 12 months' parts, servicing costs, repairs and oil F £.....
- G 12 months' parking, tolls and car washes G £.....
- H Driving fines (parking, speeding, etc) H £.....
- J Total variable running costs E + F + G + H = **3J** £.....

4 Before I use my car it costs me

- A Total purchase costs: either **1M** or **1N** or **1Q** A £.....
- B Total Fixed costs: **2G** B £.....
- C Total ownership costs A + B **4C** £.....



NEWS FROM BAMPTON SCHOOL Children Win National Award!

Over the last year, the school has been involved in a wonderful Millennium project, to design and make a lasting impression of Bampton in the year 2000. The work produced was fantastic, and included drawings, collages, paintings, 'Epstein' clay models, 'Giacometti' wire structures, silk painting, paper mosaics, and glass painting. The children finally worked with the international artist Rosalind Wates to produce a beautiful mosaic which shows the War Memorial, a tree to represent the new wood, the Church, and the Morris Dancers. All of the work was submitted for the National Primary Centre Award for Celebrating Children's Creativity. We are proud to tell you that the children's work has won an award, and together



with work produced during an art day with Arthur Penn, was displayed at Blenheim Palace in July. The children have been active in various religious celebrations, with the choir and recorder groups contributing at the Mothers day service at St. Mary's, and a pet service at the Methodist Church. Many children made banners during an after-school club, which were paraded with the silver band at the Pentecost 2000 outdoor service at Aston. The children enjoyed the musical service led by Rev. David Lloyd - and the lunch!
 It's not only in the Arts that the children have been busy. Various activities have been undertaken which focus on health. The newly formed football club has been practising hard

preparing for matches to come. We are fortunate in having our own swimming pool in the school grounds, and this is again being used by all year groups as part of P.E. Thanks go to a dedicated team of volunteers who

Galley, who worked with a group of older children to demonstrate various techniques. These newly enlightened children then put on an excellent display for the whole school. The staff also attended a session on skipping and health. As well as being great fun, the workshop raised awareness of fitness, and as the special ropes were on sale, the playground has literally been jumping with boys and girls enjoying this traditional and healthy activity.

The skipping workshop was funded by FOBS, as was the newly planted Millennium Garden. The Brooks family kindly cleared the site of weeds and tree stumps, Rupert Goody donated some lovely plants, and a group of children undertook the planting. So, after a collective effort, we now have a special sensory Millennium Garden, which is sited near the existing pond. The major expense for FOBS this year is the provision of a new 'Early Years' outdoor play area. Work is due to start during the summer holidays, so it should be ready for use during the following

term. Forthcoming events organised by FOBS are a fashion show on 13th October, and a quiz night on the 17th November. We said farewell at the end of the summer term to Wally Ryde, who has been the Head of the school for the past 9 years. He is leaving to take up a new position at Bayswater middle school in Oxford, where he has been on secondment for the past year. Wally will be sadly missed. A day to honour his achievements at the school took place during July, with events organised by the children throughout the day, and ending with an evening BBQ organised by FOBS. Julia Evans will continue to act as Head pending a permanent appointment being made in January 2001.

What better way to combine music and fitness than a singing walk along the Thames? This is just what Year-6 children did in June, when they joined the 'Very Moving Festival Company' in its special Millennium event of walking the Thames from Kemble to the Thames Barrier, singing along the route. I hasten to add that our pupils walked only the stretch from Radcot to Tadpole Bridge! Still on the subject of health, a skipping workshop was run by Harold

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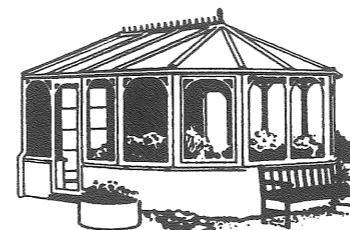
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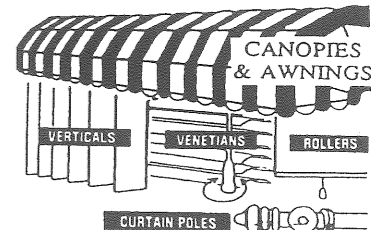
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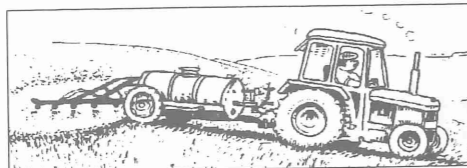
OUT OF WORK FARMER - TURNED AGRICULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

By Don Rouse

"The Bampton Beam gets Government approval" should read the headline! Not that I would dare to tell the editors how to do their job, but this came about through me having as a client of *Don Rouse Cars* none other than a former Minister of Agriculture. I must point out though, that whilst my clients are encouraged to read *The Bampton Beam*, it is not compulsory! But at all times, they and their comments will be guaranteed total anonymity. The former Minister was impressed by the 'Beam' and its contents, complimenting on the service it was providing for the local community. He was in total agreement with my comments about contract ploughmen not understanding individual field conditions, a trend that was happening in his native Scotland. One comment that pleased me was that his father farmed with David Brown tractors! So what do you 'Fergie' people make of that? It was enough to make me want to vote Labour next time! I must admit that when I saw him reading the 'Beam', I started to panic. What did I say about the Government in that issue? Was I rude about civil servants? As soon as he had alighted I grabbed the 'Beam' to reassure myself. Phew! Just as well the editors had cut out the real serious stuff!

What a terrible summer we are having this year for traditional farming. My heart goes out to all those who are trying to make hay. As I write this there are several fields that have been cut for hay in our locality, and in a normal year these fields would have been cut, turned, tedded and baled all within a week. This year, the farmers got it all nice and dry ready for baling, when down comes the rain. With the hay being so dry it acts like a sponge, soaking up the rain and the whole operation is put back days, with the whole process of drying having to begin again. Meanwhile the feed value of the crop is deteriorating. If this is

repeated too many times, the farmer is left with a product that is only fit for burning, yet he still has to get it off the field so that it does not kill the grass that is underneath. Oh a farmer's lot is not a happy one! In my last winter's article, I made reference to the possibility of there being a Farmers' Market in Bampton. It was more of a tongue in cheek comment, so you can imagine my surprise and pleasure to see that we are going to have just that in the Market Square in August. I dare say that there will be many new ideas and innovations on the theme of *diversification* for the farmers. I would also expect the subject of *organic foods* to be at the fore. So I do hope you will all make the effort to go along and see what farming and real good fresh food is all about. They say that there is nothing like hardship and trauma to unite people and get them working together. Well



I have just been told how three of Bampton's farmers have pooled resources to do their silaging. The three of them are working like a Coop. One has a big powerful tractor and forage harvester; another has a rough terrain fork lift; and the other a big mower. The cost of these machines brand new would be around £120,000, well out of reach for any of them individually. But by working together as a team, they can still maintain independence and not have to involve expensive contractors. I think to make it work requires a lot of trust and respect for each other's equipment. I wish them well, and hope that it all works out ok.

Now I know that my next subject is going to get a few people going, but as Mrs Merton of TV fame would

say, "let's have a heated debate". My subject is: "are we getting mambly pamby in respect of killing things, and in the end will it be the death of us?". I was also going to ask, "is it all an extension of vegetarianism?". But that might be too controversial! What has prompted my concern, is that during an up-market barn dance that I was doing recently - you know the sort I mean, silver cutlery, not plastic, china plates, not paper, and real home cooked puddings, not frozen gateaux - a rat, yes a four-legged one, was seen running towards the band - that I think, has got to be a compliment to the Musicians! Screams and cries of "get rid of it" were heard from the gathered crowd. So the farmer, being a red blooded sort of an individual, got a stick, killed it, and carried it out, to cries of "oh you shouldn't have killed the poor thing." In relating this story to a Bamptonian who owns a Jack Russell terrier, I said that it was a pity he was not there with his dog, as I am sure that the public would have accepted the rat being killed by a dog, and that the dog would probably have become the hero! "No", he said, "if the rat were to jump out in front of my dog, the dog would run a mile"! It seems as though we have now got vegetarian dogs! It is a pity that the late Ben Tanner is not still around with his dog. I've seen that dog at threshing time kill rats at the rate of three a minute. The way that the environmentalists are telling us that there is now a "super rat", immune to modern poisons, I can see a future for 'one man, his dog and a stick'. Though if this Government has its way and introduces the ban on hunting with dogs, it might become just 'one man and his stick'! Thank goodness that there are still a few people about with that killer instinct to protect us. I understand that the sales of Domestos are still holding good, and as we know it 'kills all known germs. Dead'. Let's hope that the weather picks up so that you can all have a good holiday, and that the farmers can have a good harvest with no costly drying expenses. It is so much better when the 'Good Lord' does it for us! What is more it keeps Bampton smiling!

An Environmental Disaster is Happening in Oxfordshire

By Miss M D Harris, County Welfare Officer

Ragwort is the most common cause of poisoning in livestock in Britain. Animal lovers will be horrified to hear that ragwort is deadly poisonous both when it is growing and also when dry in hay. A pony dies after eating as little as 2lbs. The toxins affect the liver and the pony dies a horribly painful death. There is no cure. Not only is the plant spreading at an alarming rate across our common and open spaces, it is smothering and killing rare wild flowers such as the green winged orchid and the delicate harebell. Once we lose these wild flowers they will never return.

As ragwort is such an injurious weed, it is specified under the 1959 Weeds Act. The Ministry of Agriculture, Foods and Fisheries has powers to serve clearance notices on landowners that allow the plant to grow. Ragwort is easy to recognise. In the spring it produces a rosette of dark green leaves with irregular and ragged edges; it then grows into an upright plant as tall as 3 feet with a woody stem slightly red at the base. In July the plant produces a large head of flowers with daisy-like petals in bright yellow. This prolific plant produces up to 150,000 seeds a year of which 70% will germinate.

The best method of clearing ragwort is to spray the area during late April/early May with a herbicide, but this is environmentally unacceptable in most places. However, the plant does pull up very easily once the flower head appears and this proves an equally effective method of clearing it. Clearance must be done before it has a chance to seed. All plants pulled up must be put into bags and ideally incinerated to prevent the seeds germinating again. Always remember to wear gloves when doing this.

What we need is for everyone to work together in the County to clear this toxic weed. Private land, open spaces, nature reserves, roadside verges and gardens all need to be checked thoroughly this summer and cleared of ragwort. This is a project that anyone can help with, whether it is advising us of areas you have found or simply pulling up the plants as you find them while out walking. To do that all you will need is a bag to put the plant into, it's as simple as that!

The British Horse Society is organising a major ragwort clearance programme across Oxfordshire this summer. We welcome everyone who has read this article to join us. If you want to safeguard the environment for future generations and care about the welfare of animals please join our campaign and become involved in this project.

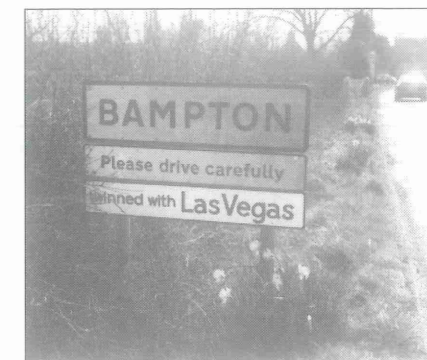
For advice, leaflets, or to offer help please contact the BHS welfare officer **Miss M D Harris on 01993 702844.**

**Can you tell a fox scat from an owl pellet?
(A fox's gut has enzymes that digest bone; an owl's doesn't!)**

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*Did anyone else see it?
Thanks for sending it in.*

SPAJERS NEWS

by Don Rouse

According to the fan mail that the committee has received from SPAJER members, it certainly appears that everyone enjoyed themselves at the Millennium Tea Party held at Bampton Manor. It was a shame about the weather, but it was rather cosy having everyone together in the marquee. How lucky we are to have Lord Donoughmore as our President. Not only did he provide the facilities, but he worked alongside the Committee during both the organisation and 'site preparation' stages. On behalf of all SPAJERS Lord Donoughmore, thank you! A big "thank you" must also go to all those who helped on the day, and most of all to Lynne Shuker and Sheila Tanner who with their band of helpers provided us with such a wonderful spread of food.

Our next money raising event is the Donkey Derby on August Bank Holiday Monday - that is 28th August. For this we need all the help that we can get! We need people to organise and run stalls; we need help to do the teas, help to sell raffle tickets, young riders for the Donkeys, and of course a lot of people to turn up on the day to support our biggest fund raising event of the year. If you can help in any way please phone me on **851480**. There are still a few people not on our list, and remember the only way you can get on our list is if somebody tells us! The criteria for membership are, you must have lived in Bampton for a minimum of six months, and of course be of pensionable age.

BIKE PATH UPDATE

By Jo Lewington

The Bike Path Project had a very successful Grand Plant Sale on Whit Monday. We made £700 on the sale of shrubs, bedding plants, herbaceous plants, and fruit and vegetable plants. Many thanks to all of you who contributed and especially to Tony and Lis Page who let us use the space behind the Eagle House (the old Eagle pub) and provided teas. The Midsummer Dance was also a success, though the weather was not conducive to throwing open the doors of the Recreation Field Pavilion and dancing round the field! The next event will be a rally/picnic on bicycles on Saturday, September 2nd, the last Saturday of the school holidays. We will be going off on our bikes and meeting up at Friars Court, Clanfield at 1.00 o'clock for a picnic. We have maps showing three suggested routes: a short one for beginners; a longer one for the more energetic; and a longer one still for those with stamina to spare. Or you can devise your own route. If you want Friars Court's delicious scones with jam and cream, the charge is £3.99 together with a £2.00 entrance fee if you want to look around the farm, the nature trail, and the exhibition spaces there. Entrance is free if you just want to eat your scones and go. For those bringing their own picnics, the entrance fee is just £2.00. If the weather is nasty, we can all eat our picnics inside.

This is an ideal opportunity to get your bike out of the garage, dust it down, fix the puncture, and give it an airing. After our last rally to launch the Bike Path Project so many people said how much they had enjoyed getting their bike out of retirement and remembered how good it is to get out in the fresh air. It should be a lovely event. Another date for your diary is New Year's Eve, when we are planning a Ceilidh (pronounced 'caley') to be held in the Recreation Ground Pavilion. This should give the New Year a good start with lots of wild Scottish dancing organised by Fred Gray, who has been organising Scottish dancing in Sarawak for the last few years. If he can get them reeling out there, we reckon he can have us all in a whirl in Bampton! There will be food and a bar as well as the dancing, and perhaps a few songs! Tickets can be obtained from Jo Lewington or Marion Cooper **851481** from September onwards. Numbers will be limited, so don't hang about!

Fund raising is very important at this time. We have raised about 10% of what we need. If we raise another 10% (another £12,000), we will be eligible for one of the larger national grants. With this issue of 'The Beam' you will have received an appeal for you to pledge a contribution towards the cost of the first bike path. The pledge means that you are not called upon to give the money unless we have raised sufficient funds for the project to go ahead.

It may seem like a lot of money to raise, but it will give our Village access to the River Thames where we used to walk and cycle before the roads became so dominated by heavy traffic, and to the picnic spot by Rushey Lock. By connecting with the quiet roads to Shifford, Cote, and the Yelford Road, there would be a good, long, safe, circular cycle route returning to Bampton down the Mount Owen Road.

Please be generous.

For further information contact Jo Lewington : 01993 850947

THE BUSH CENTRE

Church View, Bampton

By Fenella Gray

One Wednesday morning I went along to see for myself what goes on at the Bush Centre, and I must admit that I was really amazed at the amount of work that goes into making a happy and enjoyable day out for the elderly citizens of Bampton.



My first port of call was the kitchen where I saw Ruth Wheeler and several others busy with the lunch. All had their various jobs to do, but suddenly a commotion was heard, ears pricked up, and along came



Terry Rouse carrying a rather large bowl of fruit salad – need I say more! On the menu that day was boiled ham and white sauce, potatoes with three types of vegetables, and of course fruit salad to follow. A lovely lunch I must say.

On I went into the main room with everyone sitting down either talking to their neighbour or, to my

surprise, having a little flutter playing whist or dominoes. Ilene Faithful was there ready with the teapot for re-fills. Daphne Pullin with her tray of raffle prizes busy selling tickets. A hive of activity.

I stopped to talk to them all;

Mrs Mansfield and Dawn, Miss Farmer (she taught me at school as well as my mother), Mrs Ellis, cards in hand, Mrs Hichman, Mrs Snooks, Anne and Francis Shergold, and lots more. Real Bamptonians. The Bush Centre is run by an Executive Management

Committee, which delegates

to another committee to co-ordinate the running of the Centre. Each section has its own team of workers who take it in turns to do the

cooking, organise the outings etc. It is surprising how many volunteers

are needed for just one day. The Bush Centre is self-funding and has been running for 13 years, starting in the old school dining room and then progressing to the old scout hut when the scouts moved into the Youth Centre. The Committee organises speakers to give talks on

various subjects of interest, and those which directly affect pensioners, such as when there are changes in the state pension etc. The Health Visitor and Physiotherapist also visit to see how everyone is. They also inform the committee if they feel someone who isn't on the



Bush Centre list would benefit from coming along.

Trips are also organised to places of interest, the most recent ones taking in Milletts Farm, Weald Manor (for a Strawberry Tea), a Garden Party laid on by Horris Hollifield, and a Christmas Pantomime. The summer break starts end July, but volunteers



are desperately needed, especially drivers. If you feel you would like to join this happy but busy group of people, or could help out, please contact Mrs Joan Granville Tel: **850407** or Mrs Vera Allport Tel: **850411**.



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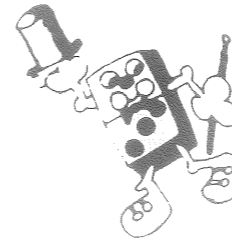
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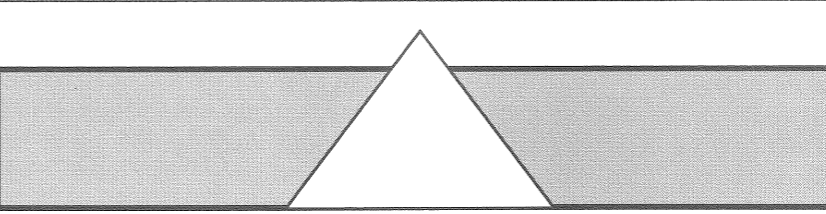
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AUNTIE BEAM

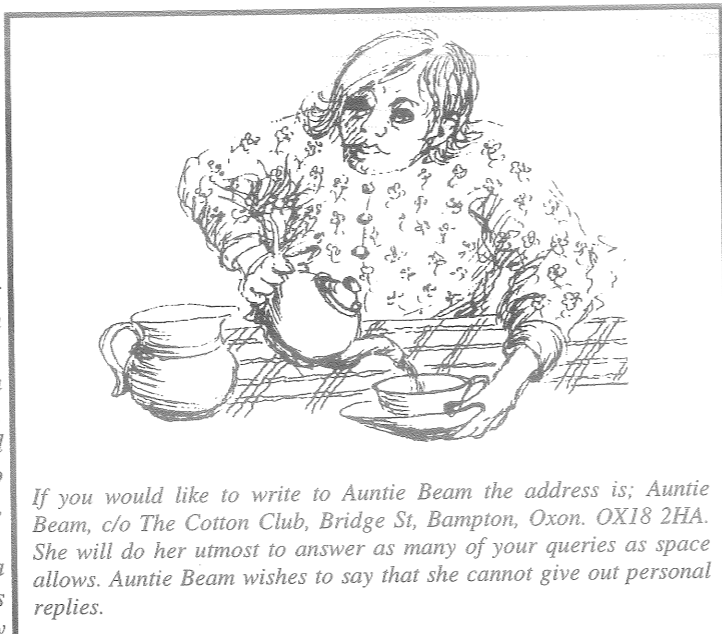
It's holiday time once again. My postbag's rather light, so thought I would have a quick jaunt to see the sea for a few days. Of course I shall have been to the SPAJER'S Tea Party before I go. Most kind of Earl Donoughmore to open his gardens to us old ones.

I have left a few words and passed them on to the editor as I don't like to think of my page being empty - as you never know do you!!

The other day I was having a chatter over the garden fence to one of the horsey people who live in the village, and we got to talking about that awful weed called 'Ragwort'. Even in our small piece of land we have two patches where it pops up. Even though I pull it up, without fail it returns the following year.

With so many horses and ponies in the village, it is a great worry. Unfortunately, it can kill animals whether its dead or alive. You can feed it to your horse or pony unknowingly in their hay, just because it wasn't pulled up before the field was mown. It's daunting isn't it! So the minute you see it, uproot it and throw it onto the bonfire or put it in a bag for disposal where it can't sow its deadly seed.

An example of how out of hand it can get is along the side of the dual carriageway at Kingston Bagpuize. I know the council are trying hard, but to keep up with the pace of it growing and spreading is a major hurdle. The warm weather (when was that you might ask) has not helped as it's meant it's flowered



If you would like to write to Auntie Beam the address is; Auntie Beam, c/o The Cotton Club, Bridge St, 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.

very early this year causing the seeds to fly and along comes the rain and hey bingo!

'Root Out Ragwort Week' starts on July 29th and runs until August 6th.

Bampton Environmental Watch Group

By Margaret Bruce-Mitford

Planning

The past three months have seen no new major planning issues affecting Bampton but the contentious application for *change of use* of the Jubilee Inn to a private residence, which was refused by WODC, has gone to appeal. It will probably come up for a decision in the next few months. The teasing rumour of the construction of two houses on Mill Green has proved unfounded and Bampton residents who were concerned that one of the Village's most conspicuous beauty spots could be obliterated can now sleep soundly.

Economic enterprise

The bric-a-brac and bookstall mounted at the May Day Market made £140.74. BEWG also supported WODC in establishing a Farmers' Market in the Village, with a *trial run* arranged for 26th August. It is hoped to have 15 stalls, mainly meat and vegetables but possibly 2 of arts and crafts.

Bike Path Project

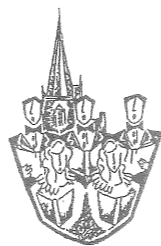
This worthy cause amassed £700 at its Plant Sale on Whit Monday and £600 from the June Midsummer dance, and a grant of £500 has been given by the Maurice Fry Trust.

Millennium Bus Stop

The OCC has agreed to pay 50% of the cost. Unfortunately the builder selected could not fulfil his contract, but a new builder has been appointed and work should start soon.

BEWG now has corporate membership of the Council for the Protection of Rural England and Farmers and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG). Together with the Civic Trust, which represents a wide span of conservation interest, these alliances illustrate the broad sweep of BEWG's interests and concerns. If any 'Beam' readers are interested we should be glad to increase our membership. Please contact **Ann Norman Tel: 850823.**

THE BURFORD SINGERS



'The Burford Singers' and the Cotswold Chamber Orchestra's first concert of the new

season is **Handel's Messiah**, and will be held at Burford Parish Church on Saturday 14th October at 7.30 p.m. The soloists are Patrizia Kwella (soprano), William Missin (alto), Ian Partridge (tenor), Robert Rice (baritone). The conductor is Brian Etheridge. This is a 'Hospice' Messiah. All proceeds will go to Helen House Hospice in Oxford.

The second concert is **Weber's Mass in Eb Symphony No.1** and **Beethoven's Symphony No.7** to be held at Burford Parish Church on Sunday 15th October at 7.30 p.m. Tickets at £12 and £10 for one concert, £20 and £15 for both concerts, and any further information are available from **Brian Etheridge at the Burford Gallery Tel: 01993-822305.**

The Gardening Page

By Edie Bindweed

I was thinking about what I would be putting in the forthcoming Gardening Club Show the other day, when my mind went back to when it was all restarted back in 1971.

Arnold Woodley and friends were reminiscing old times in the George and Dragon (sadly another pub not around anymore). Many keen gardeners, as well as the proprietors of the George and Dragon, Mr & Mrs Fred Hammond, were in this group when the idea of a revival of the late Flower Show came up. The original Flower Show was always held at Weald Manor, but due to the war and turmoil afterwards it seemed to have been forgotten, until a few beers brought the memories back. Interest in the Village then grew in the revival, and very soon the newly named Bampton Horticultural Society was back in business with 56 members.

The first two shows were held in August and October 1972. The August show was the Summer Flower Show, and was held in a marquee in Sandfords Field. The October show was the autumn Dahlia and Chrysanthemum Show and was held in the Village Hall. Nowadays there's only one show, which the Committee tries to time right with the weather and neighbouring shows, sometimes getting it right, and sometimes not!

Back in the old days, there was so much more competition between the villagers and outsiders than what

there is today. One reason, sadly, is the loss of the old gardeners who have gone to 'the great greenhouse in the sky'. George Winfield and Stan Hawkins are still going strong though, both still doing gardening, but not so much competing these days.

Later the Society was renamed 'The Bampton Gardening Club' in the hope it would attract a broader membership including families, although this does not appear to have been a raging success - yet. Actually I think the name was changed because no one could spell horticultural!

This year the venue for the annual show has had to be changed, due to the Village Hall being booked solid in September, coupled with the availability of the Judges. The show will therefore be held in The Youth Centre. So do come along and enjoy an afternoon out - or even better get entering some exhibits! The details are:

- Bampton Gardening Show 2000**
- Saturday 16th September**
- Bampton Youth Centre**
- Opening Times for the Show**
- Staging 9am -11pm**
- Disabled 2pm Public 2.30pm**
- Entrance Fee - 50p**
- Presentation of Cups 3.30pm**
- Registration Night**
- Town Hall**
- Wednesday 13th September**
- 7-9pm**

Outings

Unfortunately some outings have had to be cancelled due to poor support.

However, the recent outing to the Royal Show at Stoneleigh - cancelled once, but through Miss Cashmore's determination reinstated - was a great success, with around 30 people going along. I went along, and I must say the day was rounded off well with Ellen providing afternoon tea on the bus coming home. Quite made Auntie Beam jealous. No doubt she will be attending the next one! Below is a tear-off slip for forthcoming outings. If you would like to participate, please tick which outing (s) you are interested in.

Results of the Bampton Only Competition

- Best Commercial Box or Tub**
- 1st The Horseshoe
- 2nd Elephant & Castle
- 3rd The Morris Clown
- Best Private Window or Tub**
- 1st Mrs E. Jackson
- 2nd Mrs M. Battersby
- 3rd Mr S. Smith
- Best Commercial Hanging Basket**
- 1st The Horseshoe
- 2nd HSBC Bank
- 3rd Simmonds Shop
- Best Private Hanging Basket**
- 1st Mrs C. Kew
- 2nd Mr S. Smith
- 3rd Mrs J. Cottrell
- Best Kept Private Vegetable Garden**
- Joint 1st Mr R. Shergold and Mrs F. Gray
- 2nd Mr I. McLintock
- Best Kept Private Small Front or Back Garden**
- 1st Mrs J. Lewington
- 2nd Mrs M. Battersby
- 3rd Mrs G. Eeles

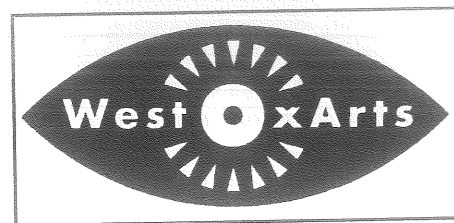
BAMPTON GARDENING CLUB OUTINGS

I/We would like to attend:

- Sunday 24th September - Malvern Show**
- Sunday 5th November - Stephill Craft and Gardens, Ferdown**
- Sunday 26th November - Merry Hill Shopping**
- Sunday 17th December - Turners, Northampton**

Name and Telephone No.

Return to: Mrs Ellen Parker, 90 Sycamore Drive, Carterton, Oxon OX18 3AU or Tel: 843985



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 Bampton,
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Tel: 01993 850137 e-mail westoxarts@yahoo.co.uk

Opening Hours Tues - Sat 10.30am - 12.30pm and 2pm - 4pm,
 Sun 2pm - 4pm

IN THE GALLERY

AUGUST

August 1st - 30th

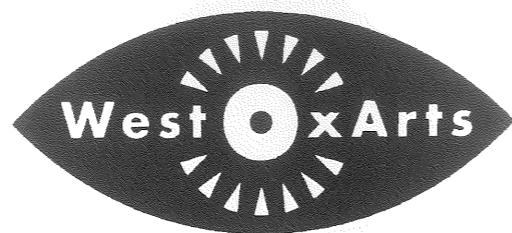
Oxford Scribes
 Summer Season



Modern calligraphy from Shakespeare to contemporary poetry, with a special feature of 'Autumn', a poem by Richard Gaskell, with other work from his 'Four Seasons'.

SEPTEMBER

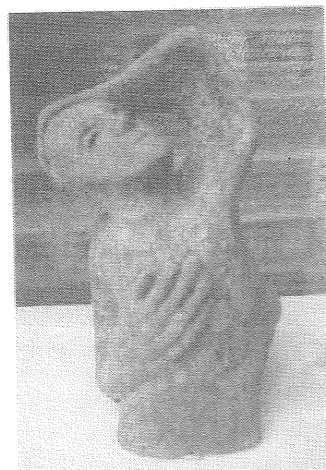
September 9th - 24th
 Preview, Friday 8th 7pm to 8.30pm



A wide variety of artistic mediums and styles expressing the wide range of talent and experiences of WOA's members. Something for everyone to enjoy.

OCTOBER

October 8th to 22nd



The latest stone sculptures from Pat Elmore and students including Hilary Godfrey, Vital Peeters, Pat Bannister, Sabrina Strich, Sue Bains, Mary Golding, and more.

Come and try your hand and see if you're a budding Michaelangelo!

Look out for dates of Demonstrations, which will be on Posters outside the Gallery

NOVEMBER

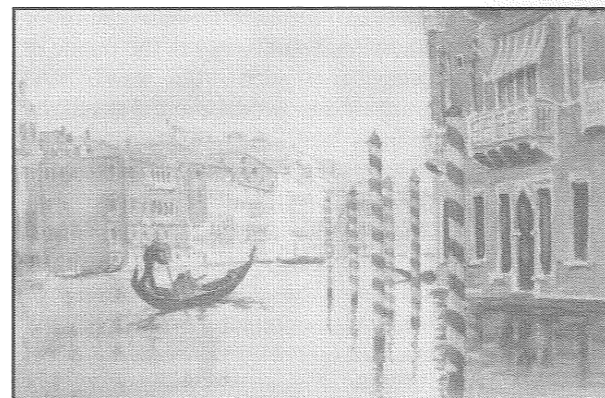
Anne + Dennis 2000

Ann Manley and Dennis Harrison

At least 90 new watercolours from these popular artists, who have been to France, Venice, Greece, East Anglia, the Lake District and the Cotswolds in search of subjects. Also some flower paintings by Ann Manly. Don't miss this eagerly awaited exhibition!



Dordogne Vineyard France
 Ann Manly



Grand Canal Venice
 Dennis Harrison

ROBERT VESEY ROOM

The Robert Vesey Room at Bampton Library regularly houses month long exhibitions. This is an excellent area to exhibit smaller individual collections. If you have a collection of work for display such as paintings, sculpture, photograph, drawings, ceramics, textiles, or crafts, please contact: **Ailsa Matheson Tel: 01993 851004** to discuss the possibility of booking a space.

Opening Hours

Monday and Thursday 2.30pm - 4pm.
 Wednesday and Saturdays 10am - 12am.

Robert Vesey Room Exhibition Schedule

August - Shirley Davies, September Gary Woodley,
 October - Annette Firth

W.O.A. Highlights

March - June 2000

By Margaret Bruce-Mitford

March opened with an exhibition by Celia Forrest and Ian Simpson of pastel and oil paintings illustrating scenes from Italy and Africa and still life and interiors.

April produced a very different show of contemporary textiles hand-made felt and paper with stitch - some of which had quite striking resemblance to pictures done in the more traditional medium of oil paint. The artists were Bailey Curtis, Priscilla Pursell-Young and Sarah Foulkes.

During the Art Weeks from May 13th - 4th June five WOA members exhibited their work in the Gallery. This ranged from oil paintings of children, ceramics, sculptures and contemporary stitch. The artists were Hazel Martindale, Brien Rourke, Inge Pevsner and Seija Wentworth. This was a particularly successful show, because of the variety of media used and the way each complemented the others.

The Robert Vesey Room

The Robert Vesey Room in Bampton Library hosted two exhibitions: 'Art in Bampton' by residents in April; and Eynsham Arts Group in June.

Millennium Project

The launch of WOA's Millennium Project - a mosaic round the 'Notice Board Tree' - mentioned in the April issue went off very successfully. The artist Rosalind Wates, who has been commissioned to design WOA's Millennium Mosaic, conducted several workshops at the school and in the Village for enthusiastic Bamptonians. She will be back on 29th September to unveil the completed design for the mosaic, and with an exhibition of the work produced at her workshops.

WORKSHOPS

Mixed Media Workshops with Jo Dixon

Paint, print, stitch and collage on different fabrics. Tuesday 8th August, 10am-4pm. WOA Members £20, Non-Members £25. Details and booking contact **Liz Bryant Tel 01993 704345**.

WEA Literature Course

The new WEA Literature Course is titled 'Shakespeare and his Age'. Readings and discussion will be centred on 3 plays some sonnets, and other literature of the period. The course will also include *Dr Faustus* by Christopher Marlowe, a talk on productions of Elizabethan plays and selections of Elizabethan prose and poetry.

Meetings will be held at Bampton's WOA Gallery, 2.15pm - 4.15pm beginning October 2nd.

Please contact **Tel: 01993 850412** for details.
 Course fee will be £84.

THE COOKERY CORNER

By Gilly French

Peaches and Nectarines

Essential summer fruit, even if, as I write, it's late June and not a patch of blue sky in sight...

Peach or Nectarine Sauce

This is from Jane Grigson's Fruit Book.

Soften a large chopped onion in a generous tablespoon of butter. Deglaze with 2 tbsps wine vinegar. When it has almost bubbled away, pour in ¼ pt chicken stock.

While the mixture is simmering add 3 peaches or nectarines, peeled and sliced. When they are tender remove a few of the

best pieces for a final garnish. Taste – it should be on the strong side, if not reduce slightly by boiling down. When it is right, liquify the whole thing. Return to the pan, add seasoning, cayenne and sugar if required, along with 4-5tbsps of whipping cream or a large knob of unsalted butter. Serve with chicken.

Piemontese Peaches

(serves 6)

I have a number of versions of this recipe which I believe originated from Elizabeth David. It is excellent!

- 6 large peaches (or nectarines)
- 5 oz macaroon crumbs
- 1 large egg yolk
- 2 tbsps caster sugar

Halve and stone the peaches. Enlarge

the cavities and mash the removed peach flesh. Mix with the other ingredients and pile back into the cavities. Set the peach halves in a lightly buttered dish and bake at gas 3/160°C/325°F for 45-50 minutes.

Grilled Peaches

(serves 4)

- 4 Peaches or nectarines
- Peach liqueur/rum/brandy
- Marscapone
- Brown Sugar

Halve and stone the peaches. Sprinkle the cavities with a little of your chosen liqueur and fill with a spoonful of marscapone. Sprinkle with brown sugar and grill for a couple of minutes, until the sugar has cooked.

White Sangria

This is an old favourite drink for the summer garden, which I have adapted from something I read in the *Independent* ages ago.

- 1 Bottle sparkling wine (any cheap stuff is fine!)
- Peach Liqueur
- 1-2 Peaches or nectarines
- Sugar to taste

Slice the fruit and put in the bottom of a jug. Add a generous slurp of liqueur and the bottle of fizz. I don't normally add sugar but if you make this with still wine, you might find it preferable. Serve – remembering that it's far more alcoholic than you might think!

Farmers' Market Comes to Bampton

By Louise Taylor
Environmental Project Officer
WODC

Come and savour the fresh local produce at the Farmers' Market in Bampton Market Square on Saturday August 26th from 10am to 3pm. Its also a chance to get back to your roots and buy directly from the producer.

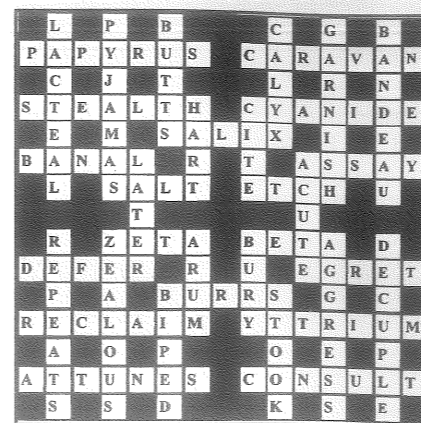
The first Farmers' Market was set up in Bath in 1997. Since then the numbers have risen dramatically, and there are now over 200 Farmers' Markets in Britain. In Oxfordshire, the first Farmers' Market was set up in Thame last year. This was seen to be a great success and since then other towns in the region have followed suit with West Oxfordshire towns next to discover the delights of farmers' markets.

For those who are unsure what a Farmers' Market actually is, it is a market in which local producers, in this case within a 20-mile radius of Bampton, sell directly to the public at competitive prices. The goods sold are their own produce and if asked the farmers will be able to explain exactly how the foods have been produced.

The benefits are far reaching. It is a chance to help local farmers and their struggling businesses. A chance to bring the community together and encourage visitors to savour in the delights of not only the market, but also other aspects of the town. It is also a chance for the consumers to buy safe in the knowledge of how and where the produce has come from. There will be over ten stalls in the Market Square selling a wide variety of produce including; organic produce, local fresh meat, fruit, vegetables, plants, cakes, breads, preserves and so on.

Bampton will be holding its market alongside a local Beer Day, where the Bampton publicans will be joining in the spirit and selling the most local of real ales and beers. So once you have come to the market, bought some local produce, and tasted the local pig roast, you can wash it all down with some good local beers.

Solution to April's BEAM CROSSWORD



The £5 winner for April's crossword is Annette Minto, 25 St. Mary's Court, Weald. Well done!. Thank you to all those who took part, and good luck for the one opposite!

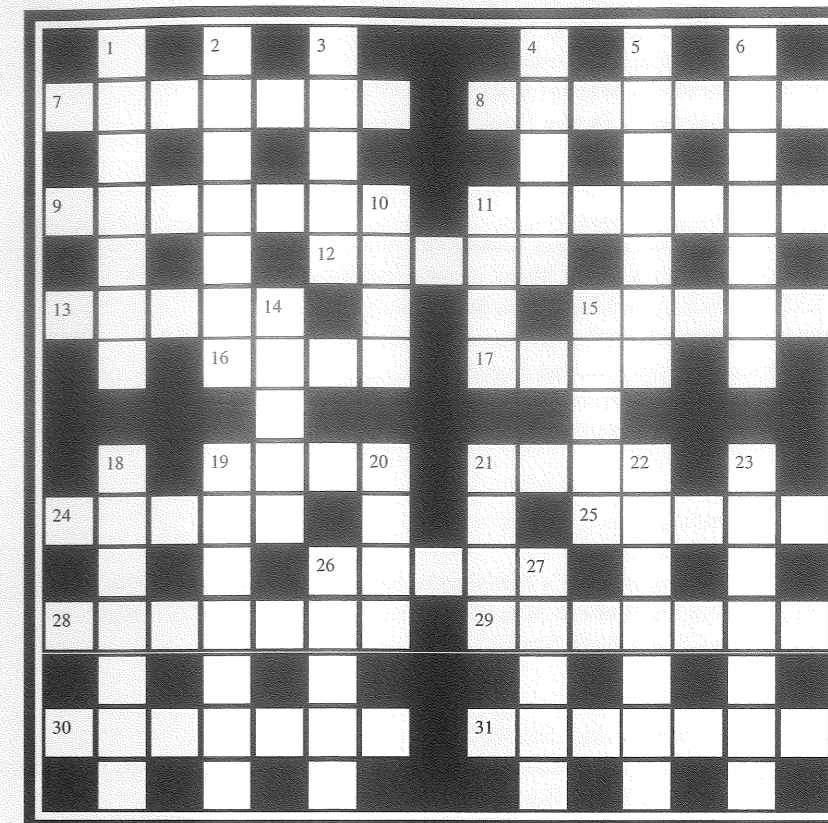
WEB Page for Bampton

Dear Editor,
We have constructed and connected to other towns and villages in the area a WEB page for Bampton. The address of it is www.geocities.com/bampton_uk. We will be inserting anything of interest concerning Bampton which is obtainable. The other villages and towns in the group are: Alvescot, Black Bourton, Burford, Carterton, Clanfield, Faringdon, Lechlade, Shilton, Standlake, and Witney.
Yours truly,
David Oakey Trading
Pathfields, Alvescot.
This is very exciting - we may get the 'Beam' on the Web yet!

ATTENTION Re-cycling Banks

At the end of July the existing 'bell-shaped' recycling banks will be replaced by wheeled bins. This will make savings by reducing the number of different vehicles required to empty re-cycling bins. There will also be a collection bank for cans - both steel and aluminium; all will be sited at Cowleaze Corner.

THE BAMPTON BEAM'S CROSSWORD



CLUES ACROSS

7. Least amount
8. Currency of Venezuela
9. Lead forward
11. A defensive structure of felled trees
12. Monster, part woman, part bird
13. To be suitable
15. Strong, intrepid, corpulent
16. Converse lightly
17. The sea eagle
19. To send forth
21. Pleated linen collar
24. Jostle roughly
25. Cash resources
26. Tinder-box lighter
28. Strange
29. Underground passages
30. Belonging to rivers
31. Drinking vessels

CLUES DOWN

1. Violinist
2. Huge
3. Home for the animals
4. Species of gannet. Dunce
5. Play the despot command
6. Regular attender
10. The Orient
11. Arched recess in a church
14. A fragrant garden herb
15. Charred part of a wick
18. Coarse gravel
19. Difficult to grasp
20. Tax for using a bridge
21. Animal stunted in growth
22. Peculiar as it may seem
23. To give extreme praise
26. A unit of electrical capacity
27. In the style of 16th century England

Town Hall Bookings

For Town Hall bookings contact Mrs B. Sapsworth Tel: 850776.

Diary of Forthcoming Events

August

- 18th OTTC **Around the world in 80 days** Carterton Community College 1:30pm
 18th OTTC **Around the world in 80 days** Church Green Witney 6:30pm
 23rd St. Mary's **Children's Outing** Fairford Church 2pm
 26th Village **Farmer's Market** Market Square 10am - 3pm
 28th SPAJERS **Donkey Derby** Sandfords Field 2pm

September

- 3rd BMCC **Outing** Brecon 9am
 3rd Wychwood Project **Project Launch** Combe 12noon
 16th Gardening Club **Annual Show** Youth Centre 2:30pm
 17th BMCC **Outing: British Superbikes** Mallory Park 7:30am
 23rd Cancer Research **Coffee Morning** Village Hall
 24th Methodist Chapel **Harvest Festival**
 24th Gardening Club **Outing Malvern Show** Market Square 9am
 29th WOA **Mosaic Unveiling** WOA Gallery 8pm

October

- 1st BMCC **Outing** National Motorcycle Museum
 13th FOBS **Fashion Show**
 14th Burford Singers **Handel's Messiah** Burford Parish Church 7:30pm
 15th Burford Singers **Webers Mass in Eb** Burford Parish Church 7:30pm
 28th Methodist Chapel **Book Stall**

November

- 5th Gardening Club **Outing: Stephill Craft** Market Square 9am
 12th Royal British Legion **Remembrance Day Service** Market Square 10:45am
 15th Cancer Research **Xmas Bingo** Bush Centre
 17th FOBS **Quiz Night** Bampton Primary School
 18th Woodland Project **Planting Day** Shillbrook Wood
 26th Gardening Club **Outing: Merry Hill** Market Square 9am

December

- 15th Cancer Research **C&W Dance** Civic Centre, Carterton.
 17th Gardening Club **Outing: Turners** Market Square 9am
 31st Bike Path Project **Ceilidh** The Pavilion 8pm

THE BAMPTON BEAM

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Next deadline - 27th October 2000

While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of information printed in *The Bampton Beam*, the editor and publishers cannot accept any responsibility for the consequences of any error that may occur.

The views expressed in *The Bampton Beam* are not necessarily those of the Editor. Personal views are the responsibility of the author in each case.

The Beam Team wishes to thank:

The Cotton Club - quality fabric suppliers - as well as the 'Beam' letter box! Also 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 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

Thank You

The 'Beam Team' would like to thank our stalwart 'Beam Walkers' for the wonderful job they do every year. Without them it would be impossible for everyone to receive their copy of The Bampton Beam delivered straight to their homes.

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