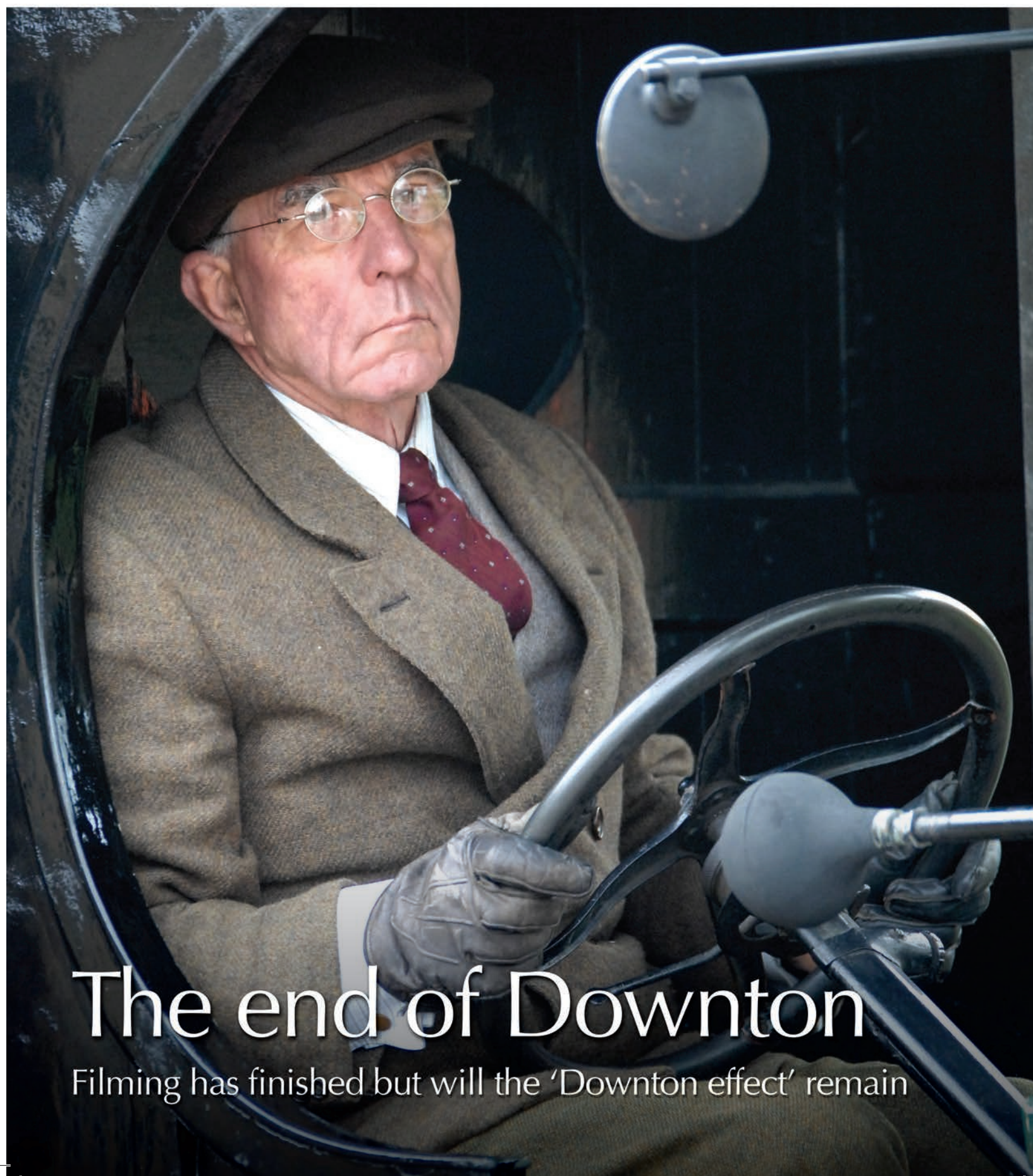


Now covering the villages of Aston, Alvescot, Black Bourton and Clanfield

Bampton Beam

www.bamptonbeam.co.uk

Volume 30, Issue 3, September 2015



The end of Downton

Filming has finished but will the 'Downton effect' remain



J Wright Plumbing & Heating

All areas of plumbing and heating covered

- Bathroom installations
- Central heating installation and repairs
- Boiler breakdowns
- Powerflushing
- Tiling
- Fully Insured and Free Quotations

Tel: 01993 851279

Mobile: 07584 250 099

Bampton, Oxfordshire



City & Guilds
Qualified

P**RESTIGE** *Buildings* *Ltd*

- All aspects of building work undertaken
- New build, refurbishment and conversion work
 - Design service from start to finish
 - Local references available

Established friendly local business with an excellent reputation

Tel: 01993 210017 Mob: 07768 695 605

8 Ampney Orchard, Bampton, Oxfordshire OX18 2AD

Contents



48 Shirt race



26 Goodbye Downton



30 Flower festival

September



Contents

4	Letter from the Editor	35	Wine with Robin Shuckburgh
5	News	36	Review - The Horse Shoe
9	SPAJERS	39	Recipies from the Biztro
10	District Council	40	Library
12	Parish Council	42	Bampton Sports Clubs - Cricket
14	Local information	44	Bampton archive
15	Letters	45	Funbeams
18	Don Rouse's Ramblings	47	Friends of Bampton School
19	Coffee & Co	48	Social - Shirt race
21	Interiors with Nicola Priestly	55	Social - Morris day
22	Gardening with Allie Maybrey	55	Social - Flower festival
24	Historical Society	55	Social - Hidden gardens
26	Downton Party	55	Social - Music festival
28	Oxford's museams	56	Crossword
30	An everyday sort of classics	58	Classified advertising
		61	Useful numbers
		62	Diary

From the editor

Bampton Beam

Despite all the worldwide speculation, series six of Downton Abbey will be the last and there has been a lot of filming taking place in Bampton during the past few months, most of it behind large white screens surrounding the church and with plenty of security. Downton tourism is still very popular and even though the show is coming to an end, tourism experts expect the 'Downton effect' to last for at least another six years. Still on the subject, an end of filming party which was supposed to be a 'thank you' for the whole village, and which the Beam was asked to promote last year, but subsequently never happened, finally took place in July. By sheer chance (another good excuse to visit the pub), I found out about it just before it happened and was able to attend with my camera (see pages 26 and 27). It was a great evening and a real shame more local people didn't get the chance to attend.

Our feature this issue is the first in a series on classic car ownership, something I have discovered is hugely popular in our villages. I can hear the shouts now – elitist Beam – only for the rich! but it's not just about



owning an expensive exotic car but much more about owning and restoring a vehicle you love, a car or motorbike, whatever your budget. Mark McArthur-Christie talks about his passion for his Volvo Amazon and is looking forward to discovering many more hidden classics in the coming months.

Talking about cars, when I heard that there had been a car crash in Bampton I thought it would be something small. I did not expect to see pictures of an overturned car having its roof cut off by the fire brigade in the middle of Bridge Street. Nobody was injured except the driver (this time) but the pictures clearly show it could have been much worse.

Finally, whilst reading the finished and much anticipated Community Led Plan (well done team), I was delighted to see that the Beam and its website are how the majority of residents get their local news and information. Thank you all for your support and I hope you continue to use both the magazine, website and social media to promote and advertise your events and business.

All the best – James



James Wildman Editor



Fiona Richmond Deputy Editor



Cover: Downton driver by James Wildman

**Deadline for all submissions
in the next issue is
November 1 2015**

Beam Information

Editor

James Wildman
editor@bamptonbeam.co.uk

Deputy Editor

Fiona Richmond
fiona@bamptonbeam.co.uk

Contributors – September 2015

Allie Maybrey, Don Rouse, Anna Pitt, Nick Thorpe, Martin Barrett, Mark McArthur-Christie, Nicola Priestly, and Robin Shuckburgh

Advertising

James Wildman
editor@bamptonbeam.co.uk

Designed by

Wildman Design
www.wildmandesign.co.uk

Printed by

The Manson Group

Contact details

Bampton Beam
Dairy Farm House, Buckland Road,
Bampton, Oxfordshire OX18 2AA
Email: editor@bamptonbeam.co.uk

www.bamptonbeam.co.uk

The Bampton Beam is published quarterly and is delivered free to all households and businesses in Bampton and surrounding villages. Contributions are always welcome, please email editor@bamptonbeam.co.uk. No responsibility is accepted for any errors and the views expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the editorial team.

©Bampton Beam 2015

Bampton Beam is published by Wildman Design Ltd and holds the copyright to all information it publishes and on the Bampton Beam website. No content may be reproduced or distributed without the consent of the Editor.

The 'Downton' Mile campaign

As part of the fundraising campaign towards the cost of repairing the roof and restoring the upstairs room of the Old Grammar School building in Bampton, the 'Downton' mile appeal has started.

The Bampton Archive will be launching a website in September to appeal to all UK Downton Abbey fans when the new and final series starts on ITV, hoping they might donate £1.00 to the cause.

The building has become famous after it appeared in the series as Downton Cottage Hospital. The Archive will also be producing a large portable map board to use locally to promote the appeal. You may have seen the map on display at the Donkey Derby and it will be used at all village events and to other local venues.

The Archive is hoping to secure



some good national publicity for the campaign and some of the Downton cast and crew have already donated their £1.00's.

They aim to collect one mile of £1.00 coins which, if laid flat around the Downton Abbey location tour in Bampton, would raise an astonishing £71,527 towards our target. So far our fundraising efforts are going well and if we can achieve our 'mile' then this will help us to secure historic and heritage building grants and donations.

The villagers of Bampton have already been very generous in supporting us but if you would like to join in your £1.00 donation will be very much appreciated!

Look out for the website so you can keep tabs on the progress!

www.downtonmile.co.uk

Bampton Youth Club is recruiting now!

Due to sessions becoming increasingly more popular the Youth Club is looking to recruit flexible volunteers to join them! You can volunteer as much or as little as you wish, as volunteering is done on a rota basis. This is a very rewarding position for people who enjoy working

with young people and have some spare time on Wednesday evenings between the hours of 6.00pm and 8.00pm. If this sounds like something suited to you then please contact us. Contact Isobel for more information: 07789 533870 or email: bampton_youth_club_1@hotmail.co.uk



"Classical Gas"

The talented classical guitarist Raymond Burley is giving a concert in aid of Bampton Community Archive on the evening of Saturday 19 September. Raymond will perform some of his well known pieces but has also invited along fifteen other guitarists to perform, which will make the evening a real 'classical gas'! It should be quite an extraordinary evening. The concert will take place at Aston Pottery at 7.30pm. Tickets are £20 each available from Aston Pottery, Westbrook Framers, and The Vesey room at Bampton Library or call 01993 850918 for more information.

Community Plan

The Bampton Community Led Plan (CLP) residents' survey is complete and has been circulated to the Bampton Parish Council for reference and is on the BPC website with a copy similarly sent to the Editor of the Bampton Beam.

Public access arrangements to the plan are posted on the Parish Council's notice board in the Market Square.

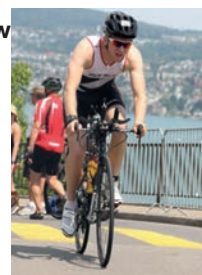
Our CLP committee would like to thank all the residents who took the time and trouble to participate in the survey, your cooperation was much valued.

Douglas J Clare
Chairman – Bampton
Community Led Plan

Paul Dew completes Ironman Zurich

Oxfordshire's Paul Dew smashed the 11- hour barrier with a fine showing at Ironman Zurich, Switzerland.

The Ironman triathlon is considered one of the world's toughest races and had over 2,000 participants competing in this year's event. Paul who recently graduated from Nottingham University with a 1st in Civil Engineering, decided to take on this ultimate triathlon event in the summer of last year.



"Having competed in numerous triathlons competitions over the past few years I really wanted to see just how far I could push myself both physically and mentally"

With temperatures in excess of 30°C, the Bampton-based athlete finished 4th and top British competitor in the 18-24 year-old men's category, in a combined time of 10 hours 45mins 57Sec. Dew clocked an impressive 1.05.29 for his 1.2-mile lake swim, 5.44.53 for the 112-mile bike, and 3.47.47 for the 26.2-mile run.

...in brief

Bampton Barn Dance

It's been a few years since the last one but it's back - a Bampton Barn Dance. The venue is St Mary's Church and it's taking place on Friday, 2nd October. The pews will be removed to allow dancing in the nave. It has always been a fantastic village event and great fun in the past, and the organisers hope it will be again, especially as the Woodpecker band is reforming especially to play for the dancing with Mat Green calling. The money raised will go towards the organ appeal. Tickets are £15.00 for adults and £12.00 for under 14s. The price includes a hog roast supper. Tickets are available from Bampton Coffee Shop or call 01993 850342.

Bampton "9 & Under" Tennis Team

Aegon under-9 mixed team of Joshua Sharff, Ben Akroyd, Ollie Baldry, Lucy Makin, Ollie Hunt and Ben Hall had stunning victories over Woodstock and Virgin Active to win division 2. This is a great achievement as Bampton was by far the smallest club entered into the league this year.

Harvest floral display

The Windrush Flower Club of Witney is hosting a floral display at Cote Chapel, to celebrate the Historic Chapel's Trust Heritage Weekend. The event is taking place on Saturday & Sunday 12-13 September between 11.00am - 4.00pm. Entry is free but donations are welcome. Light refreshments will be available.

Age UK Information

Age UK Oxfordshire is organising an Information Fair in Carterton on Thursday 1 October from 10.00am until 2.00pm. It will be held in the Town Hall. Come and chat to all sorts of different people from local organisations who are there to help you. There will be information on how to keep well, how to keep warm and how to stay safe. There will be a chance to sit down and have a chat over a cup of tea or coffee. For more information contact Stephen Mott on 07827 235450.

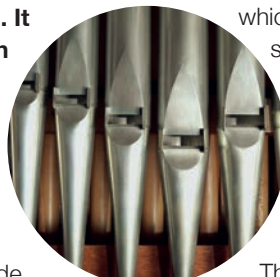
News

St Mary's Organ Appeal

The appeal to raise £150,000 to rebuild and improve our 200 year old pipe organ continues. The fund stands at £65,000.

The organ is at the centre of the church's music making. It provides the glue which holds the fabric of our music and worship together.

Work was originally scheduled to start in June but has been delayed for reasons outside our control and is now likely to start early in the new year and take six months to complete. Further details about the project can be found on the church website www.bamptonchurch.org.uk/organ. Although all the pipes will be reused and added to, the rest of the workings of the organ require a complete overhaul and in many cases complete replacement. Added to this, the sound from the organ tends to be trapped in the south transept and is almost completely lost at the rear of



the nave, even with "full organ", when the church is relatively full. The proposed works will aim to solve these problems whilst providing an instrument for the 21st Century which, apart from routine maintenance, should not need significant further work for many decades.

The next fund-raising concert entitled Music For You is on Saturday 12th September at 7:30pm at St. Mary's Church Bampton. This is an evening of musical all-sorts featuring The Brian Kay Chorale conducted and presented by broadcaster and former King's Singer Brian Kay. The programme includes madrigals, part songs, Elgar's Songs from the Bavarian Highlands, and excerpts from the operas of Gilbert and Sullivan.

Tickets are available from Bampton Physiotherapy (weekday mornings only) and Bampton Coffee shop. Tickets may also be purchased online (subject to a small admin charge) at www.bamptonchurch.org.uk/organ/orgevents.html. All tickets are unreserved and priced at £10.00.

Riverford veg box named Ethical Product of the Decade by the Observer

A local business is celebrating after winning a hugely prestigious title. In a national awards ceremony that honoured the peace-making campaigning of Yoko Ono, and grass roots communities working to produce green energy, veg box company Riverford was named the Ethical Product of the Decade. The award, which was decided by public vote, is designed to honour the retailer, designer, brand or shop that makes it easier for people to live more ethically.

Nigel and Sophie who deliver Riverford veg boxes to families in Bampton said, "We've always known that our veg boxes are very special. We've a real community of customers in this area - they come to us as they want real food that has been produced with respect. It's fantastic to have Riverford's work recognised with such a prestigious award."

Riverford founder Guy Watson collected the award from Editor of The Observer, John Mulholland, and journalist and BBC presenter, Lucy Siegle, at a ceremony at the V&A Museum in London.

"We are all beyond thrilled to have been given this title; we were up against some truly deserving competition such as Fairtrade



banana and Divine chocolate, whom we support and respect and who would have been very worthy winners.

For almost 30 years, I have aimed to use the business to make the world a slightly better place, one veg box at a time. Put simply we want to give people good, fresh, flavoursome, ethically-produced food that they can trust, produced and delivered in a way that gives a fair deal to farmers, animals, customers, staff and the environment.

As far as we are concerned, the best things in life are shared, and food, good food, is the greatest example of this, and we want it to be available to everyone. It is very rewarding to have had this accolade from the Observer."

“We found a jewel of a care home in Rosebank”

Lynn Carter

Call us on
01993 850308
to arrange a visit

Rosebank is a friendly, happy and homely environment for our residents. We pride ourselves on our commitment to continuously improve, and to provide a level of care to be proud of.

We provide residential care, specialist dementia care and welcome enquiries for day care and respite stays. We have a wide range of social events and activities going on, as well as a beautiful garden for our residents to enjoy whenever they choose.

Family and friends are very welcome to visit at any time they wish.



To find out more about Rosebank or to arrange an informal visit please contact us on **01993 850308**

Alternatively, you can email us **enquiries@rosebankcarehome.co.uk**

or visit **www.rosebankcarehome.co.uk** for more information

“Finding the right Care Home for a relative is very hard, but on visiting Rosebank, two closely related facts immediately helped me decide this was where I would like Ruth to stay – the level of interest shown by all the staff towards the residents, and a higher than average ratio of staff to residents than I had seen anywhere.”

Dr John Mumford



Rosebank Care Home

Individual care for Individual people

High Street, Bampton, Oxfordshire OX18 2JR • Tel: 01993 850308 • Fax: 01993 852411
enquiries@rosebankcarehome.co.uk • www.rosebankcarehome.co.uk

The Shop in Bampton

Artist Michael Lowe captures a scene from Bampton – Adrian Simmonds with his dog Albi



To commemorate Mr Adrian Simmonds' beautiful annual flower displays which always gave both Adrian and the village such pleasure, artist Michael Lowe has captured one sunny day. There will be a limited edition of prints and post cards available in the West Ox Arts gallery and a proportion of the profits will be donated to the appeal to restore the Old Shool House/Library.

Bampton Zimbabwe project

We are a group of volunteers, resident in Bampton, who raise funds for the relief of distress in Zimbabwe. We take pains to ensure that all our contributions reach the point of need without losing value to administrative charges or any form of corruption. We do not discriminate on grounds of race or creed. We channel donations through carefully selected charities which currently include ZANE (Zimbabwe A National Emergency), and

Medicins Sans Frontières. We are also looking at projects that supply renewable energy and clean water in rural areas in Zimbabwe. We are organising two more activities later in 2015 which we hope that you will support, with the usual Bamptonian generosity (see the Beam diary). Thank you for all the support you have given in the past. Would you be interested in joining us? Any enquiries to Mrs Page, via lis@lisandtonypage.com – THANK YOU!

Bampton Classical Opera

The July performances at the Deanery Garden proved an enormous success for Bampton Classical Opera. Once again musical history was made with the first-ever UK performances of Salieri's once popular magical opera, Trofonio's Cave, written in Vienna in 1785. The general consensus was that the production was magical too, "the best ever" was the commonly-heard remark.

Amongst the several glowing press reviews which have appeared, we particularly like

The Spectator's comments, including the summing-up as "giddily exciting, propelled by wit, charm and bags of joy". As always the high artistic achievement of Bampton is only possible through the support and help of so many of our Bampton friends – those who

sell tickets, run the bar, construct scenery, work backstage, host reception parties, and run front-of-house, and especially of course



Linda and Peter who allow the Deanery to become one of the most beautiful and appreciated opera venues in England. Our warmest thanks to all! Jeremy Gray and Gilly French

Going Green

By Anna Pitt

September is always a good time for fresh starts and new habits. It is also the time for Zero Waste Week, which this year has a theme of reuse. Zero Waste Week 2015 is asking people to 'stop wasting money by saving resources'.

To do your bit for reuse you can:

- make use of the Community Shop either giving or buying or even both
- remember your re-usable bags when you visit the Co-op and the butcher's
- take a refillable water bottle to school/work every day and
- take in your own lunch in a reusable Tupperware pot rather than buying packaged and processed foods for the week

In trying to cut out single-use plastic this year I've had to do all this on a daily basis. I've been buying more raw ingredients in my reusable bags and tubs and making things from scratch. I've always loved making cakes, but in my crazy attempt at plastic free living I've had to experiment with home-made versions of a few other things. Home-made bread is quick, easy and delicious with a bread maker. Home-made crisps are basically a faff but potato-peel crisps are delicious when we can be bothered! A pleasant surprise is that oatcakes are really cheap and easy to make and they keep for several months in an airtight tin. There are lots of easy recipes online and I've put a simple one on my blog. (rosiesecoblog.blogspot.com)

Another Zero Waste discovery is that the SESI food cooperative in Oxford where I buy my dry goods in bulk, have designed and made their own washing up and laundry liquids with an easy to use refill station. They are looking for more outlets for their neighbourhood refill scheme so I am hoping to help set one up in the villages round here. If anyone is interested in helping out or using the service please email me: anna@dustbindiet.com.

On a parting note, remember that from next month all large retailers will, by law, be charging us for any single-use plastic bags. So it's a good idea to get into the Zero Waste Week habit of taking your reusable bags everywhere you go from now on. You can sign up to Zero Waste Week 2015 at www.zerowasteweek.co.uk

Another busy summer for the SPAJERS



Visitors to the village are often amazed to hear of all that goes on here. Quite what a special place Bampton is was brought home to me when two of my oldest friends finally made it for what I still think of as "The Whitsun weekend". The Shirt Race was a revelation to them. And this year we were blessed with good weather and astonishing fancy dress, particularly in the "Chariots" class. They loved "The Young Ones/ Scumbag College" chariot and could not believe that the disguises are all secret until the parade before the race. Fortunately they were old enough to be able to explain the TV series to the youngsters they met while out shaking tins in the Market Square. Visitors staying in Bampton soon realise that you help out with whatever is going on or you don't get fed! Talking about it later we decided that we had found the show funny because it took us back to our student days we realised that things have probably not changed so much since our day.

We had walked the route beforehand while my friends questioned me on the history of the Shirt Race, but they were amazed at how quickly the competitors completed a lap when the race was on. Except some of the Chariots, of course, who are always willing to stop and pose for

a photo opportunity. The route works very well, as does the diversion which does not stop traffic any longer, so that looks set to continue for the future.

Autumn Events

Strange to think that when this issue of the Beam comes out it will be nearly the autumn, but there are still a couple of summer treats being planned by the SPAJERS. The first is The Donkey Derby on Bank Holiday Monday 31 August, when Sandford's Field will be full of colour and life. There will be stalls and amusements for all ages, including crockery smashing, archery, tombola and bottle stalls, teas and home made cakes (The Great Bampton Bake Off?) and of course the donkey rides, which not many folk get to see or take part in nowadays. Full coverage of the event will feature in the December issue.

A couple of days later two coach loads of folk will be on their way to Weston-super-Mare for a day beside the seaside, and no doubt we will say hello to "our Donkeys" again, and if the sea is within a mile of the prom we might even have a paddle.

Josie's Draw

In November Josie's Draw will take place, with an astonishing variety of prizes, on Friday 13 November. Could be lucky for some, despite the date. Tickets will be on sale from a couple of weeks beforehand in the pubs and other community centres.

Membership

Our membership is open to anyone who has been resident in the village, including Lew and Weald, for at least six months, for women over 60, for men over 65. Get in touch with our membership secretary Jeff Dando on 850643, and remember to ask them before putting forward someone else's name. If you prefer email then send your details to spajers@googlemail.com. Your personal data will only be used in accordance with the 1998 Data Protection Act and your details will not be shared.

Marquee Hire

Remember if you are planning an event, we have two marquees, which can be used separately or together. We will be happy to erect them and take them down again for you, in return for a donation to the funds. Phone Mat on 850760 for more information. ☺

Local elections - new faces

By Martin Barrett

What a fantastic month May turned out to be, and who could have predicted such overwhelming political swings across the country!

The outcome is that, locally, WODC still has a Conservative majority; the overall result being 40 Conservatives, four Labour, four Liberal Democrats and one vacancy in the Witney North Ward.

I thought it may be a good idea to use this month's article to update you on the post-election changes affecting our ward and to explain who is involved with the many area of activity and, briefly, who is doing what in the reshuffled Cabinet.

We now have two changes for our ward: Ted Fenton as our new District Councillor and James Mills who is our County Council member for Witney West and Bampton. James has also been appointed as a Cabinet member for West Oxfordshire District Council, where he has been a Councillor for many years.

New Councillor - Ted Fenton

Ted was elected as Councillor in May.

Ted moved to West Oxfordshire in 1985 when he accepted a job at Cokethorpe School and lived there as a resident master for 13 years.



Although he still works at Cokethorpe he moved to Aston in 1998 when he married Hilary and has lived at Westfield House ever since.

Ted said the following to express his thanks to all those who supported his election campaign:

"I was delighted to be approached by WOCA in March and asked if I would be interested in standing to represent Bampton and Clanfield in the May elections.

"Since I was a child, and long before it was fashionable I have been interested in sustainable energy and I am particularly

concerned about the unnecessary destruction wrought on the environment. Aware of the increasing need for housing I am very conscious of the difficult balance that planners have to find between providing it and putting too great a strain on the community as we know it."

Ted is a member of WODC Audit and General Purposes Committee and the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

New Cabinet Members

Councillor James Mills

James has been a District Councillor of about 14 years and has now taken up a Cabinet position for Leisure and Health. James' wide portfolio at WODC includes: Tourism; Visitor Information Centres; Sports and Leisure Facilities and Strategy; Arts and Sports Development/ Grants; Village Hall Grants; Playground Grants; Lifelong Learning; Young Persons Champion; Community and Public Health; Oxfordshire Health Improvement Board; Elderly Persons Champion.

In May James was successfully elected as our County Councillor for Witney West and Bampton.



Councillor Colin Dingwall

Colin has been a WODC councillor for many years and has now been appointed to the Cabinet. His portfolio is "Innovation and Shared Services"



which includes: 2020 Vision; Member of the 2020 Programme Board and Joint Committee; Shared Services; Efficiency Agenda; Corporate Improvement Plan; Councillor Development; Performance Management.

Councillor Robert Courts

Newly elected to the council, Robert's Cabinet portfolio is

"Communities and Housing", which covers Parish/Town Council Liaison; Support to the voluntary sector; Community Safety Partnerships; Crime and Disorder; Neighbourhood Policing; Scrutiny of Police and Crime Commissioner; Housing Allocations; Homelessness; Sheltered Housing Accommodation; Supporting People; Safeguarding.



Continuing Cabinet Members

Councillor Barry Norton

Leader of the Council: Policy Framework; Corporate Plan; Co-ordination of Executive functions; Public Relations; Emergency Planning; Oxfordshire Partnership Board; Oxfordshire Growth Board; Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership; Oxfordshire Leaders; Representation on Regional and National Bodies, including the Local Government Association and South East England Councils.



Councillor Richard Langridge

Responsible for resources: Finance and Management; Human Resources; Equalities and Diversity; Customer Services; Information Technology and services; Asset Management; Project Management; Procurement Champion; Broadband Champion; Council tax and Benefits.



policies and guidance; Conservation and Design; Design and Historic Environment Champion for the District; Landscape/ Biodiversity; Strategic Housing; Provision of Affordable Housing; Building Control; Economic Development; Rural Development; Business Liaison; Inward Investment.

Councillor David Harvey

Environment: Waste Collection and Recycling; Street Scene (Cleansing Litter and Grounds Maintenance); Flood Alleviation; Environmental Enforcement; Environmental Health; Environment and Waste Partnership; Health and Safety; Climate Change and Energy Advice; Green Deal Together; Licensing; Car Parking and Transport.



And finally, a reminder of my role on the District Council: I am a member of the Lowlands Planning Sub-Committee, Licensing, Audit and General Purposes, Development Control, Economic and Social Overview and Scrutiny, Environment Overview and Scrutiny and member of the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (at Oxfordshire County Council). ➕

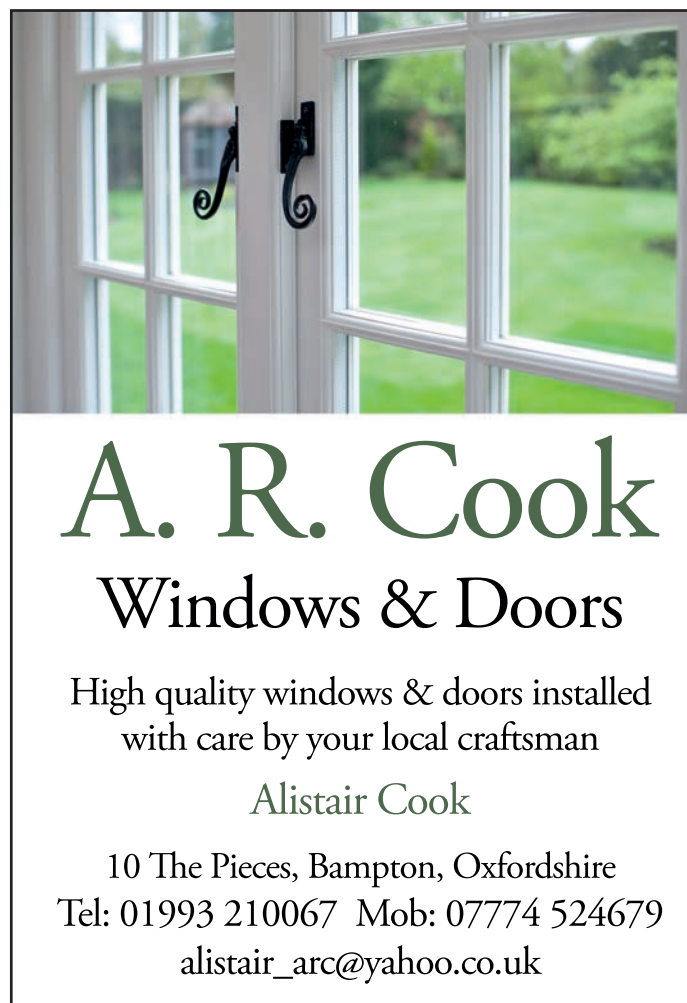


Councillor Warwick Robinson

Responsible for Strategic Planning and Economy: Regional Spatial Strategy; Local Plan; Government planning



Bampton Coffee House
Come and enjoy a range of hot and cold drinks...
Cappuccino - Espresso - Latte - Mocha
Milkshakes and various flavours of teas
... Or stay a little longer
All day english breakfast, freshly made sandwiches, baguettes and paninis, jacket potatoes, salads.
Market Square, Bampton
Tel: 01993 850929



A. R. Cook
Windows & Doors
High quality windows & doors installed with care by your local craftsman
Alistair Cook
10 The Pieces, Bampton, Oxfordshire
Tel: 01993 210067 Mob: 07774 524679
alistair_arc@yahoo.co.uk

Parish Council

Update by Councillor Nick Thorpe

Parish Councillors take it in turns to write the article for the Bampton Beam. For this edition my name came out of the hat! This was particularly lucky as I have only been a councillor for a few months. The good news is that my name no longer goes into the hat until every other councillor has had a turn.

Many of you will know me as the picture framer but Jenny and I have lived in Bampton for over 20 years.

Allotments

The Parish Council has some allotments about to become vacant, so if you would like to grow your own fruit and vegetables then please contact the clerk to be added to the waiting list – please see the feedback and contact details below. The cost of an allotment varies according to the size of the plot but will only cost between £5.00 and £20.00 per year.

If you fancy the idea of freshly dug new potatoes or the unbeatable flavour of your own raspberries but don't know where to start try The National Allotment Society for advice. They have a great website which has everything that you need to know about setting out your allotment and details on growing everything from aubergines to turnips and angelica to thyme. If you don't have access to a computer you can use one at the Bampton Library. The librarian will even help you if you are unsure of what to do.

Cemetery

The Parish Council is considering employing a part-time gardener to weed individual graves in the newer section of the cemetery, as a number are no longer maintained and are overgrown. Any plants marking graves would be respectfully tended to and only weeds and errant saplings would be removed. Please continue to maintain family graves as you have been doing as this is only intended for those graves that appear neglected. We would welcome feedback about this suggestion, please see the feedback and contact details below.

Play Parks

You may have seen on the Bampton Beam Facebook page that, sadly, we have had to remove the roundabout at Pembroke Place play park. This is as a result of continued vandalism. The roundabout has been



repaired many times over its twenty three year life but this time the damage was too great and the repair costs were too high. When funds are available the roundabout will be replaced.

There have been several complaints regarding ball games being played by older children in the Mercury Court play park with footballs and cricket balls ending up in gardens. It's great to see children out playing ball games and not glued to a screen somewhere but would parents please try to ensure their children are being reasonable. This play park is intended for smaller children who can be a bit intimidated by larger children. If children are boisterous then there is space at the Recreation Ground, which is a great facility, and only 10 minutes' walk from anywhere in Bampton.

Defibrillator

At the July Parish Council meeting it was reported that vandals had attempted to pull the defibrillator off the Town Hall wall. The Parish Council would like to thank Gareth Pursey and Mark Southam (of Southam Electricals) for their help in fixing it securely back onto the wall at short notice. The machine has been checked by Dick Tracey from NHS Oxfordshire and is working fine.

Fire Brigade

There was a serious road traffic accident outside 'Emmies' on Friday 10 July. I was witness to some of the after effects of the accident. The road was closed for about an hour and a half. The two Bampton fire appliances were the first to arrive some five minutes after a call to the emergency services. This was followed some 10



minutes later by another appliance and some five minutes after that an ambulance. The Air Ambulance was in attendance as well.

What impressed me was the speed with which the Bampton fire fighters arrived and the teamwork and professionalism they showed in releasing the driver from his damaged car. Everyone knew their role and operated well as a team. After the completion of their duties, including sweeping up the broken glass, they had a performance review at the roadside whilst everything was fresh in their minds. No doubt further training needs or amendments to procedures would have been identified at this point.

The driver was taken to hospital by air ambulance and my thoughts go to the young man's family. I understand that he is now back at home.

We are so fortunate to have a fire station in Bampton and this was re-affirmed by the fire fighters' actions on that day.

Feedback...

Please send any comments about this article, or any other questions or comments for the parish council to 01993 851870 or email - clerk@bamptonoxon-parishcouncil.go.uk. 📧

FURNITURE & DESIGN of Oxford



BESPOKE KITCHENS & Furniture for Every Room

www.furnitureanddesign.co.uk 01865 370222 * 07779 272811



Your Period Property Deserves the Best



Our Conservation Rooflight® has the longest track record of obtaining planning approval because it's a faithful re-design of the Victorian cast-iron rooflight.

On the inside you have great thermal performance, easy opening and a range of beautiful blinds.

The Rooflight Company have been based in Oxfordshire for over twenty years. To find out more visit www.therooflightcompany.co.uk


the Rooflight Company

Local Notices

BAMPTON 250 CLUB

The Bampton 250 Club was set up some years ago to raise funds for the Village Hall and the young of Bampton. In the last 12 months we have given £700 each to the hall and the library fund (it would have been more if we were fully subscribed). In addition there are monthly draws for a £25.00 and three £15.00 prizes plus quarterly draws for £100 and an annual draw for £250. Membership costs £12.00 per year (or £1.00 per month) and, as the name suggests, is limited to 250 people. There are currently a six spare places available; anyone interested should contact Anthony Hall on 851142.

Winners: 2015

(Incorrect details for February and March were submitted for the last edition of the Beam, correct details are shown below)

February

£25 76 Joseph Perry
£15 82 John Murray-Clarke
£15 85 Mrs Atkinson
£15 81 Angie Bell

April

£250 50 Ray Proctor
£25 196 Mr & Mrs Faithfull
£15 72 Marie Belshaw
£15 209 Mrs R. Lewis
£15 112 Sue & Kevin Smith

June

£100 73 Nik Stanbridge
£25 76 Joseph Perry
£15 67 Desmond Allinson
£15 125 Mrs S. Smart
£15 87 Mrs N. Jenkins

March

£100 29 M. McArthur Christie
£100 181 Mrs Govier
£25 76 Joseph Perry
£15 17 R. Baird
£15 28 Marlene Snow
£15 167 Mrs D. O'Brien

May

£25 76 Joseph Perry
£15 22 Carol Kew
£15 62 Lynne Borrett
£15 46 Renée Woodward

July

£25 131 Lynne Pointer
£15 112 Sue Smith
£15 204 J. Constable
£15 169 Anne Flute

Bampton Community Shop

Final reminder for applications for funding

Once again your Community Shop will be granting funds to clubs, societies, charities and other community organizations. If you are interested in raising funds then please note, all applications must be registered before the last day of December 2015.

Whilst we will consider each application according to its own merit, priority will be given to those applicants who have not received funding before.

All applicants will need to provide a detailed list of items for which funding is required.

If your organization received funding last year then any new application must be accompanied with receipts of spending for which last year's application was made.

All applicants must provide the organization's

bank account details (including current balance). If the organization does not have a bank account please state this in your application – you will still be eligible for funding but the process will be slightly different.

Successful applicants will be required to use the funds allocated within 12 months and we will require receipts for all expenditure covered by the grant. If the total spend was less than the grant allocated, the Board will determine whether the surplus must be returned or retrospectively granted if it has been used for some other (approved) activity.

Applications should be addressed to Martin Barrett, Wychwoods, Church View, Bampton, Oxfordshire OX18 2NE.

Pump Hunt for sewage station owners

Thames Water is appealing to customers to help identify privately owned sewage pumping stations.

The utility, which serves 15 million customers across London and the Thames Valley, will take responsibility for around 4,000 pumping stations in October 2016, but needs to track down 1,800 stations currently off its radar. New legislation means sewage pumping stations, which power wastewater away from properties and out into the public sewer pipe network, which are currently owned and maintained by customers will become legally owned and operated by the local water company.

The pumping stations are found in all shapes and sizes, and can be in places where there are a number of properties needing to connect to the public sewer network. Customers will know they have one as they'll be paying to maintain and power them.

Jerry White, of Thames Water, said: "This is really good news for customers. We'd urge anyone who thinks they may have one to get in touch so we can check they are eligible for the transfer of ownership".

Anyone with a private pumping station can make Thames Water aware at thameswater.co.uk/pumphunt

Concert to raise funds for Lew Church

Balalaika Quartet

known as Karavai

Friday 18 September.

Time 7.30pm start

Venue: St Mary's Church Bampton

Bar opens 7.00pm.

Performance starts 7.30pm.

Tickets are £10.00. Under 16 £5.00.

Available from Don Rouse on 01993

850297 or 07904 276589.

There will be a bar and a raffle to make the evening even more enjoyable

Holy Trinity Church in the small village of Lew near Bampton is a delightful little Church built in 1841. It was designed by William Wilkinson who among other famous buildings also designed the Randolph Hotel in Oxford. Holy Trinity was one of his first designs when he was only 22. The fact that we are appealing for funds to maintain this beautiful building is not a reflection on his tender years or competence

Lew, like all small villages, with only a few houses and a population that is not likely to expand, finds it very difficult to raise enough money to keep the church functioning in spite of several members of the congregation participating in monthly donations through Gift Aid.

The difference between profit and loss annually is dependent on Christenings, Weddings or Funerals. We don't want too many of the latter and the others are hard to come by considering the size and age of the population.

What can we do about it? Through my contacts with the Oxford International Links I have been able to secure the services of the great internationally renowned, Balalaika Quartet known as Karavai. They have visited Oxfordshire on several occasions playing at prestigious venues like Dorchester Abbey and Phyllis Court, Henley. In 2010 they played at my home and with the help of Carterton Lions, who are also supporting this event, over £600 for local charities was raised.

It is said 'Charity begins at home' so this time I am appealing to all my friends and acquaintances to help me save our lovely little Church.

The venue is our beautiful mother church St Mary's Bampton. As you know this wonderfully acoustic church is also the venue for many of the happenings in the famous TV drama, Downton Abbey. So I am inviting you to purchase tickets for this unique event which I know you will enjoy. Please help the villagers of Lew to keep their church open.

Don Rouse. Treasurer Holy Trinity

PS. A SECRET! There was another wedding at St Mary's for Downton Abbey the other day, so make sure you watch the next series.

Dear Editor

I thank Cllr J Allison for her and the Parish council's view on our charter fair. The fair is, like it or not a very important part of Bampton's history. The early 1960s was my first Bampton fair and I can remember going down to Bushey Row and into Cheapside.

The then Norwich-based amusement caterers of John Thurston and son were lessees with Charlie Thurston in charge. This lasted until 1987 when Charles Thurston retired from travelling. The lesseeship was passed with Showmens Guild permission to the Hebborn family and remained with them until just a few years ago when they never turned up.

So as the fair was not to be lost, a member of the then Parish Council contacted me and enquired what should be done. Now you can't just pick the phone up and ring a showman and ask them to provide a fair. Certain Showmens Guild rules must be adhered to. I gave said Cllr the telephone number of the showmen's Guild section office at Staines and also the number of the then section Chairman. It was agreed that Bampton could have a fair that year but on an earlier or later date.

The present lessees of George Scarrott & Sons took the fair on, but because the fair could not be held on its present site within six weeks of its true date, that is one reason the fair was held early that year. After that first visit the fair could revert back to its true date.

It's to do with Showmen's Guild section "Time and distance" rules and please don't ask me to explain because I could fill the Beam up with the answers!

The following year when the fair came on the correct date, Mr George Scarrott had passed away. The firm is in good hand's with George's widow Briget and sons, George and Ben at the helm. The running of the firm is a credit to all the family, and to the firm's trustee employee "Gaffer" He's been with the firm for more years that I can remember and I still don't know his real name.

I think Don mentioned that during the war years there was a fair held in a field in Buckland Road. That would have been a possibility because all the charter fairs were suspended at that time. In place of those fairs the citys itsand towns had "blackout fairs" and also the smaller towns and villages had blackout "holiday at home"

fairs - that's what Don could have seen.

I have checked with our Chairman of the Fairground Association who has links to the national Fairground Archive at Sheffield University but there is no record of any fairs in Bampton then. I would be interested to know if any of our senior residents can remember.

Bampton is by no means the only place to have a street fair. Some places like Stratford, Warwick, Malborough, Oxford and Thame have two charter street fairs. Most are larger than Bampton, but go to Shipton on Stour or Alcester and we win!

As for no rent being paid to the council, the lessees pay a donation through the Council for them to pass on. They do not come here for nothing. I hope this clears up a few points.

Alan Pullin - Bampton

A member of Fairground Society & Fairground Association. An honary member of the Showmen's Guild of Great Britain

Dear Editor

Bampton Parish Council wishes to make clear that Bampton has no official street wardens and street wardens are not endorsed by any local civil authority. Persons purporting to be 'Street Wardens' are committing fraud by falsely representing themselves as an authority and are subject to the Fraud Act 2006. They must be reported to the local police for them to take the necessary action.

Bampton Parish Council

Dear Editor

Don Rouse, in the June Beam, asked what we made of the road works fiasco outside the Co-op at Easter. Loved every minute of it! My contemporaries and I could actually cross the road, without the usual danger of taking our lives in our hands! I'm sure that young mothers with prams and toddlers, people walking their dogs, and shoppers with their loads, will have felt the same! It was splendid; more traffic lights, please, as it also slowed the traffic down in a most satisfactory way, and one could cross even in Broad Street if one took note of the red and green lights, situated before Market Square. This is not sour grapes as I am a driver, too, but a considerate one, I hope, and therefore do not use Bampton roads as a race track.

Ann Flute

Dear Editor

As you are probably aware over the past six months or so we've been raising funds for a bench in memory of our parents Roy and Mary Shergold.

The idea was actually kicked off at Dad's wake! by a family friend, Brian Woodward (Woody) who lives in Brighton.

Woody very kindly made the first donation and it escalated from there. We received donations and funds were also raised at the raffle and auction fundraising evening held at the Romany Inn last Christmas Eve. By the end of March 2015 we had raised a staggering £1100 sufficient funds to place an order for the bench.

Having got permission from Bampton Parish Council to place the bench in Sandfords Field, raised the funds and ordered the bench, there was one other hurdle to cross: we needed to get a concrete plinth in place ready for the bench to be installed. But with my sister Bridget & her family living in Ireland and my family who can fix anything with an engine, but frankly have little knowledge about building, I seriously had to put my thinking cap on.

I contacted Mark Constable (Crummy) from Absolute Thatch and asked if he would either be able to help or suggest a man who could. I was relieved when he didn't hesitate and said "Yes of course I'll help". Mark contacted AK Timms & Son for the necessary building materials to do the job. They were only too pleased to be of assistance and very kindly donated them FOC. Mark and his friend Roger donated their time to lay the concrete plinth in Sandfords field early on Saturday morning 23 May 2015.

On the 1 June 2015 Graham from Oxford Memorial Benches Ltd in Freeland, Oxfordshire installed the beautiful bench. We hope you will visit and use the bench as much as possible.

Please feel free to "Rest a While" perhaps whilst remembering and cherishing moments spent with Roy and Mary during their lifetime in Weald, Bampton.

We greatly appreciate all the effort and everyone's valued contribution to make this happen and would like to say thank you to all involved.

With sincere thanks

Penny Jackson & Family

Bridget Banham & Family (IRELAND)

On your door step ...the lovely gardens of Aston Pottery

If you have not visited Aston Pottery in a while then in addition to the gift shop and the café, you are in for a lovely surprise as they now have some wonderful gardens for you to enjoy.

Visit this September to see their brand new for 2015, "Annuals Border" which will be at its best in the early Autumn containing an amazing 5,500 plants. You can delight in different types of Sunflowers, Nicotiana, Zinnia's, Cosmo Daisies, Antirrhinums, Clarkia, Sapiglossis, Saliva's, Cleome, scented Stocks, Lemon Tangents, French and African Marigolds to name but a few.

Café

After exploring the gardens visit their country café to enjoy an array of homemade food including, fabulous quiches, melt in the mouth cakes and lovely scones with jam and clotted cream. Look out for their Cake of the month which is always delicious and unusual.

Gift shop

Finish your visit by popping into the gift shop which has a huge display of gifts for every occasion. The unique and original fine pottery, of which there are 140 designs, have been created, hand decorated and made on-site using 300 year old mould making and slip casting techniques.

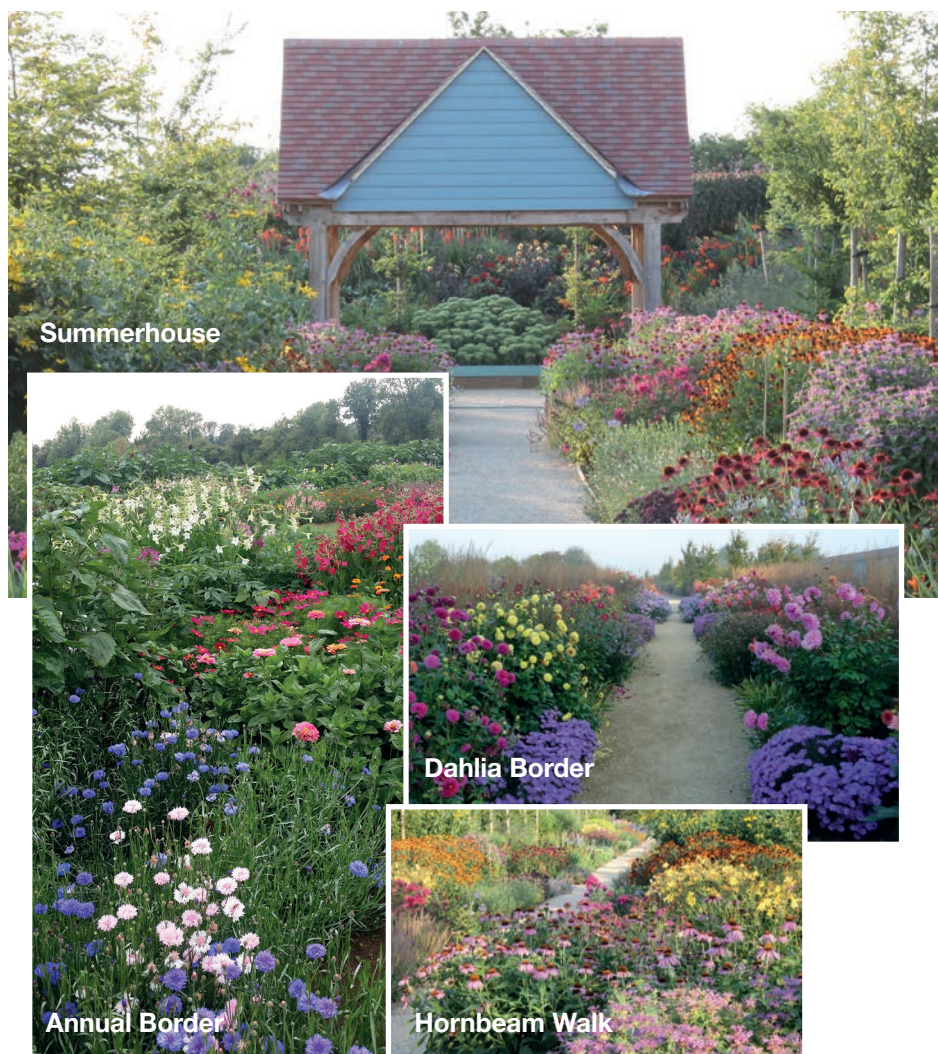
In addition to the Pottery, their spacious showroom has a gift for everyone from unusual jewellery, scarves, bags, children's toys, men's gifts, lovely soaps and hand creams to books, greetings cards and so much more.

From late October the gift shop is transformed into a winter wonderland with magnificent Christmas trees from floor to ceiling, adorned with fabulous decorations and presents for everyone.

Christmas shopping evenings

These are the dates for their Christmas Shopping evenings.

- Wednesday November 25 until late
- Thursday December 3 until late
- Thursday December 10 until late



Competition Terms and conditions available in the Gift shop

So come along this September and enjoy strolling round the magnificently planted gardens and take part in their competition to win a £100.00 voucher to spend in the gift shop with 10 runners up winning a terracotta pot and a plant from their gardens.

Pick up your entry form from the front till in the Gift shop, and place your answers in the special competition box. (One entry per family) Draw to take place on Monday 19th October. *Answers available from viewing the gardens*

1. What is the name of the tallest plant in our new Annual Border?
2. In the Hornbeam Walk name three plants which are the colour purple?
3. In the Dahlia border how many different types of Dahlias have white in the flower?
4. What is the name of the traditional English wood that the summerhouse is made of?



Experience Aston Pottery & Gardens



SHOP



EAT



EXPERIENCE



EXPLORE

Experience the beautiful gardens at Aston Pottery for yourself. Five years of hard work and thousands of plants have combined to create four distinctive and memorable gardens to compliment the pottery we design and manufacture on site.

The year starts in May when over 6000 Tulips and Alliums burst into life in the newly designed 'seasons' garden. In mid-June this garden changes from Tulips to more than 600 Dahlias and Agapanthus in 140 varieties – lasting through to the first frosts of November.

The second garden to erupt into flower is the 72 metre double-bordered Hornbeam Walk. This starts life in early June with blocks of Fritillaria Imperialis, Foxtail Lilies,

Delphiniums, Geraniums and Salvias. This display ends in October with Asters, Alstroemeria, Sedums and Helianthus.

The third garden is the Hot Bank. Nearly 50 metres long, 5 metres deep and covered in Phlox, Kniphofia, Hemerocallis, Crocosmia, Penstemon, Echinacea, Lobelia, Canna Lilies and Nerines creating large sweeps of colour and scent attracting thousands of insects and butterflies.

Finally the Great Perennial Border is everything a border should be, emerging from the ground in early March and flowering from June until November. This border offers Monarda, Eupatorium, Veronicastrum, Rudbeckia, Heleniums and many more.

In all, over 250 different perennials and bulbs can be seen across the four gardens from May until November.

You can take a break from our garden extravaganza and enjoy our spacious Country Café where we bake 25 different cakes daily along with a range of hot lunches for your pleasure.

You can follow our Gardens throughout the year on our website.

7 days a week, Monday to Saturday 9am-5pm, Sundays and Bank Holidays 10.30am-5pm.

www.astonpottery.co.uk or call 01993 852031



Aston Pottery, Kingsway Farm, Aston,
Oxfordshire OX18 2BT
Aston is a 5 minute drive from Witney on the
B4449 between Standlake and Bampton.

Join us on Facebook
facebook.com/AstonPottery





Comment

Don Rouse

How nice it is to relax with a wonderful feeling of déjà vu as life goes by in an uncomplicated fashion and enjoyable and we find ourselves locked into a contented form of security. Then suddenly as quick as you can snap your fingers, your whole world is turned upside down by an unfortunate mishap. This is what happened to Mary and me in June. Mary took a walk into the garden to get some mint for the potatoes, something that she did most days, but on returning to the kitchen she tripped on the door step, slipped onto the kitchen floor and smashed her leg into several pieces. An emergency trip to the JR was followed by a three-week stay in the Nuffield Orthopaedic Hospital which completely turned our whole world upside down. It was a life-changing experience for us both and gave us a new insight into the world of the disabled. The patient cannot be left alone, they really do need constant attention. Their whole life is in disarray. Mind you, a sense of humour can help to lighten things a little. but it is rather difficult when a lot of pain

“When you have to use a wheelchair, it brings home to you just how inadequate the local facilities are for the disabled”

is involved. What's more at 78 years of age I have had to have emergency training on how to cook, something that I've never done before in my life. Well that is not completely true, I can boil an egg, make toast and serve a nice cup of tea or coffee! However the whole experience certainly brings you both a lot closer together as a whole different kind of friendship and intimacy takes over. Life together will never be the same again. The patience of you both is tested to the extreme but in the end there is a new depth to your relationship. We are lucky in as much all being well within twelve weeks we should be back to some sort of normality, but what about those whose accident damage is more permanent? My heart goes out to them as they have to acclimatise and come to terms with their new limited life style.

When you have to use a wheelchair, it brings home to you just how inadequate the local facilities are for the disabled. Take Bampton. There are two disabled bays in the Town Hall car park which are now monitored for correct use. There is a nice ramp to get the wheelchair onto the town hall Surround, but then where do you go? The only 'dropped pavement' is where the fire engine used to be stored, then you find yourself in the middle of the road dodging traffic, which in itself is quite hair raising as you make your way to the other 'dropped kerb' which is either down by the Talbot Hotel or in the lane by the café! I am fortunate enough to still have the strength to be able to lift my wife in the wheelchair up onto the pavement but if the roles were reversed it would be impossible. This morning I witnessed a lady in a wheelchair, having to get out of her chair and use her crutches so that she could assist her carer to cross the road.

I promised to give a big mention in the Beam to the councillor

who proposes that they will make it easier and safer for the disabled to access the shops in Bampton from what is a well designed and controlled Town Hall car park. I would suggest in either creating a 'dropped kerb' opposite the one into the toilets or better still a pelican crossing and then you could even get a knighthood! If nothing is done, then soon I can see a nasty accident happening at this spot.

Did you like my weather forecast in the last edition of the Beam? The oak was in leaf before the ash. Low and behold we've only had a splash!

For the coming winter? Well our holly has more berries on it than ever I've seen before, so I am going for a hard winter ahead. I remember several years ago as I was taking my cows across the road one morning when a motorist stopped me and asked, "Tell me farmer, with your experience what is the weather going to be today?" So I told him in great detail and he was extremely impressed. "How do you know all that?" he enquired. "From the television last night I replied." His appreciation of farmers and folklore diminished instantly, so please do not take me too seriously.

The 'year end' for the international charity group known as Lions Clubs International, happens to be 30 June, so that is the time when we look back at what we have been able to achieve in the last twelve months. Carterton Lions whose area covers most of the Bampton Beam area as well as Carterton and Burford, raised over £16,700 which was distributed over a range of good local causes. We feel that it is local people who help us to raise the money, therefore it should be local people who benefit it. The Lions also donate occasionally when there has been an international disaster but, unlike the government with their foreign aid programme, Carterton Lions make sure that your money actually goes where it is needed. The Haiti disaster was a typical example: millions of pounds were sent to the area by all sorts of governments and charities and it disappeared. Carterton Lions played it differently; they contacted an Oxford doctor who they knew was regularly going out to Haiti to help with the injured. She was asked what medicines and materials were needed to help her with her work out there. She drew up a list and Carterton Lions obliged to the best of their ability. We now have a wonderful rapport with her and are still supporting her work with the quadriplegics that she works with.

Incidentally the international Lions movement is the largest service club organisation in the world and this area is covered by clubs in Carterton and Witney so if you know of someone in great need, or you would like to become a member yourself then contact Maddy Radburn 01993 7772241 for Carterton or Peter Claxton 07790 814749 for the Witney club, if they can't help you, they will probably know someone who can. 🍀

Out of adversity...

"Coffee & Co" developed as a result of the flooding in Bampton in 2007. Many of us could not live in our homes for six months or more and were scattered around the surrounding area in various forms of rented accommodation. Each day most of us visited our flooded homes to check on the progress (or lack of it) of the building repairs to our homes.

After these worrying visits it became the custom to make for the recently opened Bampton Coffee House, where we invariably met up with friends and neighbours in the same position as ourselves, had a coffee, compared our experiences and, invariably, we all felt much better for the experience. On three separate occasions three of our friends said, "We should do this more often". Why not? It just so happened that these three friends were all worshippers at St Mary's Church. A telephone call was made to Vicar David, the idea briefly discussed



and he agreed that we could call ourselves St Mary's Coffee & Co. The coffee house team were approached and willingly agreed. This is nearly eight years ago now. "Coffee & Co" has grown and developed beyond all expectations; many friendships have been formed, new-comers have been welcomed to the area, every Monday there



is a gathering of between 12 and 20, many of whom live alone and look forward to friendly company. On occasion a small group of our friends from Rosebank also join us. These photographs show some of us enjoying our annual "Tea & Cake Garden Party" on a lovely summer's day in Bampton. ☀



Don't spend another Christmas alone...

A SPACE AT OUR TABLE

Is a Christmas lunch event organised by local Bampton people for the elderly in our community who are on their own to enjoy good food and company. There will be a visit from the Bampton school choir, bingo, carols and presents for everyone

on 25 December 2015 at Bampton Village Hall

The best part..... its free!

To book your space, write to Mandy Wileman
7 St Mary's Court, Bampton OX18 2HX
Or phone Mandy 07805 734469



Helping Hands
The Home Care Specialists
Est. 1989

Do you need a Helping Hand?

Our **Bampton** care team has been providing award winning quality homecare since 1989.

A family run company we offer you a one-to-one 24 hour live in care service that enables you or your loved one to remain at home with compassion and dignity by assisting with: personal care, companionship, errands and housekeeping.

So if you are looking for an **alternative to residential care** or as a **short term answer** whilst recovering from illness or operation - then we're here to help.

To find out how we can help you, call: 0808 180 1016 or visit: www.helpinghands.co.uk



a welcome feeling



beneath your feet

Genuine pricing . Experienced staff . Free estimates

CARPET OPTIONS

www.carpetoptions.co.uk

For a huge choice of carpets,
vinyls & rugs,
visit our showroom
opposite Sainsburys
and see for yourself



Avenue 4, Station Lane, Witney
01993 703833

Hate Housework? We LOVE It!

50% OFF
YOUR FOURTH REGULAR CLEAN
QUOTE: HOUSEWORK OFFER



At **myhome** we specialise only in residential cleaning which means you have your home cleaned by a highly trained, professional team who will use our exclusive tri-color process to ensure excellent results with terrific value!

- SPRING CLEANING
- REGULAR CLEANING
- CARPET & FABRIC CARE
- LAUNDRY SERVICES
- FULLY TRAINED STAFF
- FULLY GUARANTEED

OUR QUALITY GUARANTEE

We guarantee that if you are not completely satisfied, we'll rectify the job FREE of charge

Your number one choice for Residential Cleaning

myhome 
residential cleaning

FOR A FREE ESTIMATE - CALL TODAY ON
01235 227 238
oxford@myhome.co.uk • www.myhome.co.uk

NOW COVERING ALL OF OXFORDSHIRE

NOW ALSO
OFFERING:
myhome



carpet &
fabric care



laundry
service



Stuff and Nonsense

Space for architectural features, decoration and furnishings

If you have young children then you'll know television's cbeebies. Dinopaws has long been a favourite in our house, an animation about three young dinosaurs exploring their unusual world.

In a recent episode – not shying away from life's big questions – one Dinopaw is shocked by the other's lack of 'stuff' and explains the importance of stuff: you take it with you, and you look at it, and you show it to others. Quite.

Just what do you do with stuff? Do you strive for more time, space and peace, yet over fill your home and have inadequate storage?

Bampton's garage Sale – part of Blestfest on Sunday 21 June – saw many keen sellers set out their stalls and bargain hunters went early in search of treasure. Books, ornaments, crockery and toys found new homes. But what about the stuff we all have that misses the grade for a garage sale – old magazines, holiday mementos, clothes, shoes, coats, CDs, videos, old chargers and power adapters, pots of paint, unwanted gifts and paperwork.



The cost of our stuff?

The idea of a declutter is attractive at first, but quickly loses its appeal when you weigh up the size of the task; a cupboard, an office, loft or possibly a whole house needing your attention.

Our habit of acquiring costs us the space taken to store items, the financial outlay to purchase them and our energy as we try to ignore a lurking awareness of the stack of boxes, bursting drawers or spilling cupboards. Then there is the cost of disposal, as stuff needs to be organised, individually considered and decisions made.

The value of a declutter though can outweigh the cost of the task. Architectural features are revealed, decorations and furnishings have space to shine and we are no longer robbed of the space to create harmony and relaxation.

A clean sweep

Whilst compulsive hoarding is a serious condition associated with depression and anxiety, the NHS publish 'beliefs' associated with hoarding that may ring true for many of us:

- I may need this some day
- If I throw this away, I won't be able to cope with the feelings of loss
- If I buy this it will make me happy.

A quick check against these beliefs can help us to let go.

Make your own criteria for what to keep, throw and donate and then face the task. Consider whether you will

still hold an emotional attachment. Do clothes still fit and have you worn them recently? Your many kitchen gadgets, that haven't you used for 24 months. Do all your ornaments still add something to their setting or would less be more? It's a well-used quote, from our Kelmscott neighbour William Morris, 'Have nothing in your house that you do not know to be useful, or believe to be beautiful'.

The stuff you're keeping

Now, how best to store the items that you've decided to keep...

- Bespoke storage made to measure to fit the alcoves and nooks of your home can be a great investment.
- A classic trunk gives lots of flexible volume for storage. Habitat has a classic and simple oak trunk, Radius for £395.
- A quirky cupboard can add character to a space. Mothercare's Carnaby Tallboy is good enough for grown ups (£250, pictured far left).
- Hide away items using under-bed storage with casters for easy access and lids to prevent dust.
- Vintage trunks and cases are popular. Dunelm have 'Salvage Retro Storage Trunks' from £14.99 (pictured left).

On his third birthday my son instantly transferred his affection from Dinopaws to Postman Pat – I await Pat's reflections and input with anticipation! 🍷



Nicola Priestly
Identity Interior Design Ltd
www.identityinteriordesign.co.uk



I hope you all had an amazing summer, successfully dodging the summer showers and keeping everything watered and beautiful during the dry spell. Now it's time to think ahead.

September already!

My own garden has been beautiful (even if I do say so myself!) and the paved area which used to be home to my greenhouse was transformed very simply by some well placed pots, a pair of armchairs and a table. The re-design simply became a re-think! I am however still considering the construction of a pergola in the autumn...

The rose that was threatened with removal if it didn't flower this year has obliged and flowered beautifully! 'Mr. Lincoln' is a hybrid tea rose which grows to 1.2m (about 4ft) and has scented deep red flowers (deep pink when fully open). This is the first year that it has repeatedly flowered in my garden. Together with the alcea rosea 'Nigra' which has self seeded and grown up through the rose, I am being treated to a stunning display. The alcea stems get up to 8-10ft tall so staking them is essential, otherwise a decent gust of wind will flatten them! Those who know me, know how much I love chocolate (too much!), so it's not unusual that I have the 'Hot Chocolate' rose in both my front and back gardens. Not edible, not chocolate scented but a beautiful floribunda rose that, throughout the summer and through to the first frosts (as late as November), it continuously has masses of dusty-red, lightly scented flowers. Both these roses have glossy green leaves and seem to be disease resistant (in my garden anyway).

Now that the summer holidays are over and the children are back at school, it's time to start thinking about Christmas! Honest! If you want to give a beautiful bowl of flowering hyacinths for Christmas then you need to think about planting them now. You need to buy bulbs specially prepared for Christmas flowering and plant them into compost so that their tips are just above the surface. Gently water and place into a cool dark place. Don't let the compost dry out. When the shoots are 4-5cm bring out into some light but keep away from direct heat. They are a beautiful gift to give and receive.

Spring flowering bulbs can now be planted outside. You will have already removed the bulbs that didn't flower last spring (won't you?) so it's time to fill those gaps in your borders, lawns



and under trees. The garden centres will now be stocked with a wealth of choice, go and take a look and get some inspiration. You don't need to rush to plant tulips and outdoor hyacinths – these can wait for at least another month so concentrate on daffodils, crocus, snowdrops, and dwarf iris. If you are naturalizing bulbs in your lawn or under trees, drop a handful onto the ground and plant them where they fall; don't be too fussy about spacing them out evenly.

This autumn I will be looking to change a corner of my garden where there is room for improvement. My iris 'Caliente' has not flowered at all this year and needs to be divided. The dicentra spec. 'Alba' was nowhere near as spectacular as usual so it has to go. And the euonymus 'Emerald and Gold' and the crocosmia 'Lucifer' have never been happy where I planted them – they have to compete with a sambucus 'Black Lace', a taxus baccata 'Fastigiata' and an osmanthus burkwoodii; all of which are much stronger plants. It's the perfect time for looking at areas to improve in the garden. Over the next couple of months you can lift and move shrubs; making sure you water them in well and perhaps put a handful of bonemeal in the bottom of the new planting hole.

If your lawn has resembled straw rather than grass due to lack of rain, fear not! The autumn rain – if we get any will soon restore it. It will benefit from being scarified either with a rake if you have a small lawn and don't mind the workout, or with an electric scarifier. These can be hired if you don't want to buy one. They do the same job as a rake by removing the thatch (a build up dead grass in the lawn) and moss; but without the workout! You'll be amazed how much you will get out of your lawn. It may look a little patchy for a while but will eventually come back to life. You can use an autumn feed in your lawn if you feel the need but I don't tend to do anything after scarifying and the last cut; I just let the lawn rest for the winter after working hard all summer. A bit like me! 🍷



BAMPTON

GARDEN PLANTS

MASSIVE OFFERS THIS PLANTING SEASON



SPECIMEN STOCK, BULBS AND HOME GROWN AUTUMN BEDDING



OUR CAFÉ IS OPEN EVERYDAY SERVING HOT LUNCH, DRINKS AND CAKES.



Tel: 01993 852233

BAMPTON GARDEN PLANTS, BUCKLAND ROAD, BAMPTON, OXFORDSHIRE OX18 2AA

Sales@bamptongardenplants.co.uk . www.bamptongardenplants.co.uk

Clanfield and Bampton Historical Society

Everyone likes a Cinderella story, and when that story is both true and involves all manner of familiar locations, including St Mary's Church in Bampton and Blenheim Palace, it seemed a perfect subject for a talk to our society, and so it proved.

When Julie Ann Godson moved home from Kent to Northmoor, just a few miles from Oxford University where she studied modern history, five years ago, she heard the myth of a local fisherman's daughter who married into nobility, and decided to investigate it for herself. It was, she said, a story that fell into her lap, and the results of her research produced a book, 'The Water Gypsy, how a Thames fishergirl became a viscountess', and a highly entertaining talk to end our 2014-15 season.

Betty Ridge's father, Thomas, was a fisherman, ferryman, weir-keeper and licensed victualler in Northmoor. The latter was especially profitable, for many thirsty travellers passed by on the river. Barges, in those days, were pulled by teams of men, not horses, who could work up a prodigious thirst, and young gentlemen from the nearby university would spend a day fishing, and also call in at Ridge's establishment.

Thus it was that in 1763 William Flower, 2nd Viscount Ashbrook, was served by the then 17-year old Betty Ridge – whose older sister Anne had been married in St Mary's two years earlier – and fell in love.

William had inherited his title when just eight years old, his father having died at just 32. His guardians refused him permission to marry, and hoped that his infatuation with Betty would dissipate in time, but three years later, when he was 21 and did not need their permission, he and Betty married. And in the meantime, Betty had

been schooled in the ways of the society in which she would now be mixing; exactly by whom is not known, though Julie Ann had a convincing supposition.

William, whose home was at Castle Durrow in County Kilkenny (though now in Co Laois), and Betty married in the parish church of St Denys, a rather different ceremony to that of his father, in St Paul's Cathedral. But if Betty was being raised in social status, she and her family brought a strength and resilience that added much to the family she married into.

With Lord Ashbrook showing little inclination to spend time at Castle Durrow, Betty's brother, William Ridge went in his stead, and over the years rose to such eminence that he was eventually appointed High Sheriff, the King's representative, of County Kilkenny.

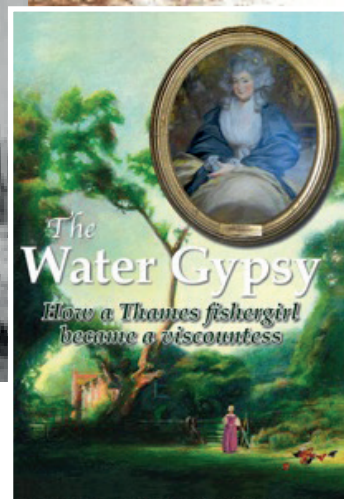
Sadly William Flower, like his father, died young, at 34, and Betty was left to look after their two sons, William and Henry Jeffrey and four daughters, not to mention her late

husband's two sisters, who lived with them.

It is a measure of how successful she was in integrating into the society that she had now made her own that Henry Jeffrey's daughter Charlotte Augusta became the chatelaine of Blenheim Palace when she married the sixth Duke of Marlborough.

To condense three years research into a 45-minute talk was clearly impossible – and for me to reduce that even further into this short review equally so – but for those who want the whole, fascinating story, Julie Ann's book is as well written as it was researched. 🍷

Alan Smith – Chairman
Tel. 01367 810245
Email: smithequi@aol.com



Diary

The society's programme of talks for the season 2015-16, which are listed below, will, I hope, provide something for everyone with an interest in history, travel, the county's social life – or drinking. We have kept the membership fee for the season at £20.00, with visitors welcome to individual talks at £4.00 a time: both include a glass of wine or soft drink at our usual get-together at the end of each meeting. All meetings start at 7.30pm, and will be in the Carter Institute, Clanfield, except for those on 16 March and 18 May, both Wednesdays, which will be in the Bampton Village Hall. Whether you are a regular, or merely want to look in and see if this is for you, I shall be delighted to see you.

**20 October – Muriel Pilkington:
'The Lost Railways of Oxfordshire'**

Muriel Pilkington, who has entertained the society with talks on subjects as diverse as the Mitford sisters and the Burford Mutiny, will talk about 'how the railways came to Oxfordshire, and the gradual development of the branchline network across the county. We look at the heydays of the system and then the reasons for its gradual demise. However, the story has not ended and railways may still have a future.

**17 November – Andrew Sargent:
'The Observer Observed: the photography of John Gay'.**

Andrew Sargent, who wrote a book on John Gay for English Heritage, says: 'John Gay (1909–1999) was one of a generation of German émigrés who made an immense contribution to British culture and academic life and at the height of his career he was one of the most respected photographers in the country. His stimulating perspective was to see England through the eyes of a foreigner, an observer on the outside looking in. Many of his photographs can be read as attempts to capture the essence of Englishness'.

**16 February – Martin Way:
'The Golden Age of Coaching'**

Martin Way, a local historian whose popular talks range from the Romans to the early days of RAF Brize Norton, and are just as wide in context, says: 'The height of the coaching era is generally reckoned to be from 1784, when the first Royal Mail coaches ran, to 1823, and the opening of the Stockton and Darlington Railway. My talk, which will extend beyond those dates, will make special reference to the Oxford–Gloucester road, highwaymen and turnpikes.

**16 March – Christine Gadsby:
'The Ladies of Blenheim'**

Christine Gadsby, a long-serving lecturer and guide at Blenheim Palace, notes that: 'The ladies of Blenheim have always played a large part in the history of this great house, which was the prize to John Churchill for his great victory over Louis XIV at Blenheim in 1704. The fascinating and engaging stories of the ladies of Blenheim, of royal favourites, artists and writers, dedicated wives and mothers and society hosts throw a new light on the times in which they lived'.

Bampton Window Cleaning

Domestic and commercial
Weekly, Fortnightly, Monthly
or Bi-Monthly bookings

A reliable & friendly service
Competitive rates

Tel: 01993 822405

Mobile: 07731 552250

Email: steve.rix@hotmail.co.uk

FREE QUOTES



Ben Williams Carpentry Joinery and Cabinet Making

Loft conversions, extensions,
fencing, decking, cabinets and
wardrobes and much more...

Tel: 07825 870 184

22 Ampney Orchard, Bampton, Oxford OX18 2AD

E-mail: b.williamscarpentry@outlook.com

www.williamscarpentry.org.uk

Downton

So it has come to an end... after six series Downton Abbey is moving out of Bampton, leaving only the tourists behind. However before they left the cast and crew hosted an end of filming party to thank the village for all their support. Hugh Bonneville, Laura Carmichael, Samantha Bond, Allen Leech, Penelope Wilton and Kevin Doyle served drinks from behind the bar and posed for a lot of pictures!

Abbey



From the editor. Overall, opinions are divided as to whether or not Downton has had a positive effect on Bampton. Some loved it, some hated it, most are not bothered either way. However the end of filming party has brought a lot of criticism from a number of residents. So for clarity... a letter (invitation) was sent out to residents who live near the church and therefore were directly affected by the filming. The Beam had no prior notice that the party was happening and no instructions to inform the village it was taking place. For those lucky enough to be there, it was a really lovely summer evening, it's a shame that more local people did not have the chance to attend. I did give the production company the opportunity to publish a 'thank you' to the village via the Beam but they declined.



Out and about ...Oxford's museums

In the second of our Out and About series, Fiona Richmond delves deeper into Oxford's wide array of magnificent museums

Here's hoping you had some fabulous days out over the summer. Now the days are becoming shorter, crisper and more autumnal, we thought we'd pull together a list of indoor activities. Whilst any of our suggestions from June's issue would work equally well in the autumn on those bright, clear days, if it's wet and you need to get the kids out of the house and you want to head into Oxford, we've done some of the legwork for you.

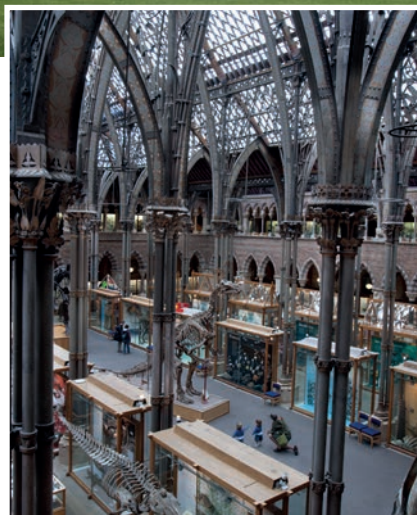
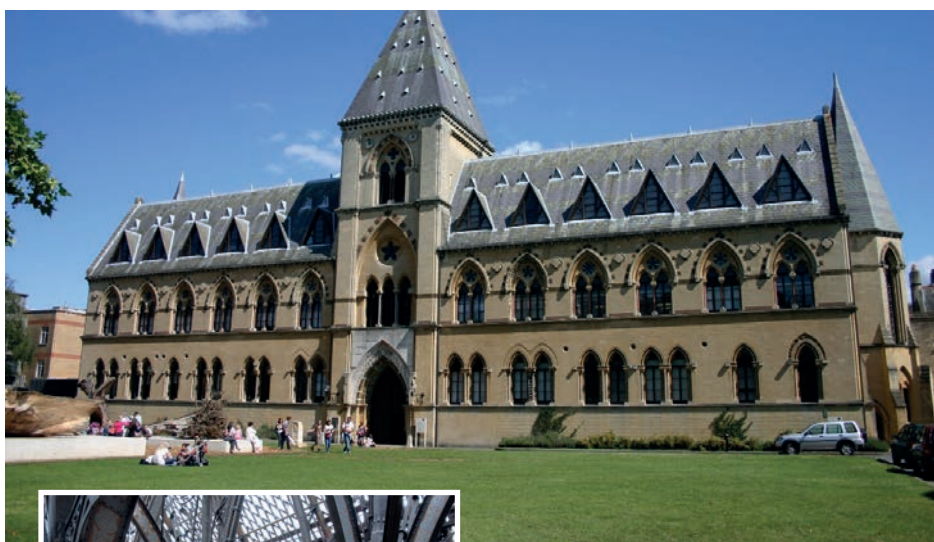
Oxford is lucky to have many wonderful museums and I hope this list reminds you of some old favourites and gives you the chance to find something new to inspire the kids. Most of the museums below are free to enter or donation only.

Parking at the moment (and for the foreseeable future) in Oxford is difficult. Westgate Centre parking has now gone until 2018 and parking is best at the Ice Rink in a newly constructed car park or if you fancy extending the adventure park at the Botley or Redbridge Park and Rides and catch the bus into Oxford – children under 15 go free.

Oxford University Museum of Natural History

Chosen as one of the finalists for the ArtFund Museum of the Year 2015, the Oxford University Museum of Natural History is a treasure trove of delights, housed in a magnificent gothic-style building. If you've not been since the £2million project to refurbish the roof, then make sure you go. Light floods in and you can see the true beauty of the whole building, with Gothic arches launching skywards. The exhibits have also been reorganised and many have been restored, having been damaged by the previously leaky roof.

Another change since the reopening is the addition of a (much-needed) café on the upper gallery, with child-friendly choices available. The cakes are delicious, if



Above and left: The Oxford Museum of Natural History

pricey. The museum is also happy for you to picnic on the large lawn outside.

The museum is very family friendly, with trails you can download from the website before you arrive, as well as activities for when you get home. Alternatively you can pick up trails for the kids when you arrive from the trolley just by the Welcome desk. It has paper and pencils for the artists among us. You are invited to touch a number of the displays, allowing children (and adults) the chance to feel a meteorite or even touch a real dinosaur egg. The displays are well laid out, and there are lots of interactive exhibits, as well as a fully functioning bee hive, which was buzzing

with life during our visit. All in all, a great way to spend some time with the kids.

Oxford University Museum of Natural History, Parks Road, Oxford, OX1 3PW
www.oum.ox.ac.uk

Pitt Rivers Museum

Situated behind the Natural History Museum and accessed by walking past the dinosaurs to the very back is the quirky Pitt Rivers Museum. According to the website, it holds one of the world's finest collections of anthropology and archaeology, from around the world and throughout human history. This museum came about through the obsession of one man, Augustus Pitt Rivers. A rough translation for children would include the words "shrunk heads" and "a whole floor of swords, spears, bows, arrows, guns and more". Perfect.

The slightly gloomy lighting makes borrowing one of the museum's wind up torches a good idea, and gives the children the feeling that they are discovering things for themselves. The packed cabinets and diverse mix of exhibits add to the feeling. Everything is grouped by how they were



Above: Pitt Rivers Museum.
Right: The Ashmolean Museum

made or used, rather than by age, allowing you to take the museum in bite-sized chunks, which is particularly good for younger children. Also younger children (although older ones will still be intrigued) there are trails to find hidden objects which could be on top, under or within any exhibit and when completed a sticker is your prize.

Every Saturday, from 10.30am – 12.30pm, there are free family friendly object handling sessions, allowing you to discover more about some of the objects from the museum's collections. And on Sundays, from 2.00pm-4.00pm you'll find activity backpacks, sorting boxes, trails, colouring sheets, story corner and craft activities. For the first Sunday of every month, including school holidays, there are Pitt Stops to help children discover more about the collections and make something to take home. Overall this museum is small, quirky and perfectly formed for a family trip.

Pitt Rivers Museum, South Parks Road, Oxford, OX1 3PP

www.prm.ox.ac.uk

The Ashmolean Museum of Art and Archaeology

Always worth a visit is Oxford University's museum of archaeology and art, which offers a huge range of exhibits to explore and has a fantastic child-friendly café in the basement (there is also a very nice restaurant on the roof for perhaps a special family lunch). Since its refurbishment in 2009, the galleries have been interlinked by one big theme, Crossing Cultures, Crossing Time. The museum believes this "encourages visitors to make new connections between the collections" and it certainly gives it a modern feel. The beauty



of this museum is the ability to visit just a few rooms at a time stopping children getting bored.

The museum feels more suited to slightly older children, although there are some interactive displays and a range of trails, including ones covering Anglo-Saxons and Ancient Egypt, as well as the a Dog Detective trail, a Rabbit Hunt, an Elephant Trail and a Top Ten trail. The museum also has a programme of family activities throughout the year.

Ashmolean Museum, Beaumont Street, Oxford, OX1 2PH

www.ashmolean.org

Museum of the History of Science

A new discovery for me, this small museum is located next to the Bodleian library. Set in the world's oldest surviving purpose-built museum building, it houses a range of scientific instruments, from sundials to microscopes and radio equipment. With a slightly stuffy atmosphere, this is again probably one for older children, who may appreciate the explanations of what the

instruments are and how they were made.

If science is your kids' thing, it's definitely worth popping into.

Museum of the History of Science, Broad Street, Oxford, OX1 3AZ

www.mhs.ox.ac.uk

The Story Museum

We only discovered the Story Museum earlier this year, and are already planning return visits. Set off a side street in a delightfully quirky building, this museum works to highlight the importance of stories and storytelling for children and aims to share 1001 enjoyable ways of learning through story. Pembroke Street is off the main St Aldates next to the Church, if you get to George & Danvers ice cream shop then you have gone too far... but if you have children perhaps not.

There are plenty of activities, including regular under-threes story sessions, which explore a different story each week and under-fives storytelling with yoga. There are also storytelling workshops and this September sees a Roald Dahl day and the Big Draw. With a tiny, yet well-stocked shop and cafe, this is certainly worth a visit for all the story lovers among us.

Entry £7.50 for adults, £5.00 for children and under 2 go free.

The Story Museum, Rochester House, 42 Pembroke Street, Oxford OX1 1BP

www.storymuseum.org

Don't want to head into Oxford?

Then you'll find many other museums throughout the area, including:

- Cogges Manor Farm, Witney
- Didcot Railway Centre, Didcot
- The Oxfordshire Museum, Woodstock
- Oxford Bus Museum and Morris Motors Museum, Long Hanborough
- River and Rowing Museum, Henley-on-Thames
- Tom Brown's School Museum, Uffington

And don't forget our very own Bampton Community Archive. 📍

If you have suggestions or a review of a favourite place you'd like to share, do let us know and we will feature it in a forthcoming issue.

Just email editor@bamptonbeam.co.uk

Bampton has more classic cars than any other village in Oxfordshire. Probably. We're lucky enough to have MGs, Aston Martins, Porsches, fast Fords, classic Minis, 1940s BMWs and even a Honda NSX. Mark McArthur-Christie brings us the first of a series of articles about Bampton's fleet of classics.

An everyday sort of classic

I blame my pal Damon. I'd always coveted his Amazon 131, slowly converted a part at a time for classic rallying. Every so often, he'd send me pictures of it going sideways with him grinning like a loon behind the wheel. The pictures would usually be accompanied by the line "Bought one yet?" His Amazon is a staple of our biennial Le Mans Classic convoy, so in 2014 I was determined I'd be rolling off the ferry behind the wheel of my own Amazon.

I got to work. I toured the UK looking at 121s, 131s and 123GTs variously described as 'perfect', 'immaculate' and 'superb'. 'Sheds', 'heaps' and 'wheeled chicken coops' would have been more accurate. This was a little more challenging than I thought it would be.

But, on the way to a meeting, I spotted a beauty of a 121 parked less than ten minutes drive from Bampton. There was only one problem. It wasn't for sale.

I wasn't about to be put off by a little thing like that. Lifting the sprung chrome windscreen wiper arm (they

"Oil consumption overtaking petrol consumption was the first major warning that I might not have bought a pristine car."

made 'em properly in 1966), I left a note with my email address. Three months passed with no news. Clearly, the 121's owner had decided to hold on to his car. I poked at more rust-infected skips, kicked the rotten tyres of 'recent restorations' and peered earnestly at eBay pictures. Then, on Christmas Eve 2013, I got an email.

"Hello Mark – Funny enough while I have been over in Afghanistan I was feeling guilty about leaving the Volvo out in the elements and I made my mind up to find it a good home on my return. I put your note on the radiator to dry out so I hope I have the correct email?"

I headed to see the car again in the pouring rain, took the old girl for a turn round the lanes to make sure everything worked and handed over the cash. I'd done it. I had an

Amazon. A 1966, powder blue, single carb 121. It was in the same condition as it left Göteborg and as well-built as a Bramah lock.

Dynamo. None of yer fancy modern alternators. Sealed unit, single candlepower headlights. Fear assisted, non-servo brakes. The two front static webbing seatbelts clamped onto a central hook that had presumably seen duty as a storm lashing on the Tirpitz' gun deck.

The Amazon and I rapidly became inseparable, if not actually rapid. For the first five weekends of ownership I drove, tweaked, adjusted and improved. I knew the engine would have to come out because she marked her territory by leaking emphatically from the rear crank oil seal but all was well. We visited family, clients, moved my partner Pip into her new clinic in Witney. We filled the huge, walk-in boot, rather appropriately, at Ikea after queuing for an hour of hot traffic hell.

Driving to the office each day I fell easily into the torquey, 'stick it in fourth and leave it' Amazon driving style. Even forty odd years after it rolled off the line, I could see why these daftly capable cars were so popular.

Oil consumption overtaking petrol consumption was the first major warning that I might not have bought a pristine car. That and the oily smokescreen that forced even the worst of the photocopier reps in their Audi A6s to keep back on the motorway. She needed rings, clearly. Possibly even valve seals. So I did a quick compression test to be sure. Then, because I didn't believe the numbers, I did another one. How does an engine manage to run on 20% of its original compression, get up to 70mph and still do 29mpg?

Despite this, the call from the engine builder wasn't encouraging. "The block's OK, but everything in it's scrap." The fuel pump leaked. The single, ancient Zenith carb was shot. The rear crank seal didn't. The door seals were older and leakier than a politician's promise. The car's internals were a mess. But the bodywork was sound. So the choice was between selling her as the shell for a classic rally car or immolating my wallet on the altar of a full engine and running gear rebuild.







I took the coward's way and offered the old girl for sale. I wrote the listing. I felt mean. Grubby. Faithless. I felt even worse when there were two buyers bidding and keen to trailer her away. The indignity. This was a car that had won rallies and been advertised with Amil Gargano's brilliant slogan "drive it like you hate it".

I was at the point of agreeing and waving her goodbye when another pal, Doug, called. As the owner and restorer of a 1930s Roche Talbot, he knows all about the ups and downs of classic car ownership. He took me to lunch and talked some sense into me. No, I didn't want to sell her and buy a Mercedes 190 Cosworth or an E28 M5, he said. The Amazon suited me, he said. She was lovely, he said. I should keep her, rebuild the engine and restore her, he said. By the time we'd agreed to split the second bottle of red, I was thoroughly talked round and nipped out of the pub to make the call to the engine builder before I sobered up enough to think straight.

In the meantime, I went carb hunting. I knew the original Zenith wasn't fit for service as a doorstop, so research began into the options. Initial ideas of a Weber twin-choke were dampened by asking a few Amazon aficionados. The view was that if twin SUs were good enough for the rallygoing 123GT, they were good enough for me. The initial pair I liberated from eBay had been carefully stored for the last six years in chicken guano. No amount of cleaning was going to work. The second pair just needed

some advice on needles from Burlen in Salisbury, a rebuild kit and a bit of love.

I wanted the car to look as close to 'factory' as it could, but be properly uprated to survive lane three jousting with those Audi-borne copier reps. So the engine builder (who used to build racing Aston Martin engines and is not a million miles from Bampton) rebuilt the engine from the block up. It's now running a K cam, lightened flywheel

"I wanted the car to look as close to 'factory' as it could, but be properly uprated to survive lane 3 jousting with those Audiborne copier reps."

and lifters, a gas-flowed head and a few other trick bits and tweaks. About the only original component is, as he predicted, the block. That all means it goes rather well enough even if the driver doesn't.

The brilliant Rob and Emma at Amazon Cars in Suffolk put everything back together, fitted overdrive, a new gearbox and the twin SUs. They also added 123 electronic ignition and an alternator.

Yes, I know I should have checked compression – and a whole billful of other things – before I bought her – but I'd argue that buying a classic with your head means you have no heart. If you're not smitten, look for something else.

After that initially shaky start the story, nearly eighteen



months later, has a happy ending. The Amazon is back, parked outside the cottage, and does duty as daily transport. I don't get as far as clients' reception areas anymore – they spot the car in the car park and come out to see it. When I stop, people talk and tell me about the Amazons they've owned. Yesterday, at Wellesbourne Airfield, an ex-Amazonian told me about the 123GT and string of Göteborg's finest he'd run. It seems they're cars held fondly in a lot of memories.

It seems they're quite an attraction for the Downtoneeries too. There always seems to be someone taking a snap or two. That's lovely – I'm just delighted people like the old thing. But sometimes they take one too many liberties along with their snaps. The Blue Badge guide from Oxford who thought it was acceptable to use the bonnet as a map table won't do it again.

There's not a Classic 24 race this year at Le Mans. Instead, the Amazon and I rolled off the ferry at Zeebrugge on our way to the Classic at Spa Francorchamps. And before you ask, yes, we made it back to Bampton too. 🇬🇧

All classics have a story, so if you'd like your car (or bike) to feature with pictures and a write-up, drop James (james@wildmandesign.co.uk) or Mark (markmcarthurbchristie@gmail.com) an email and we'll take some pics and have a chat over a drink with you to find out its history.

GARAGE WANTED TO RENT

I'm looking for a garage or barn in Bampton to store my classic car and (if there's space) a solo motorcycle. If you've got space, please get in touch! Mark McArthur-Christie markmcarthurbchristie@gmail.com

My classic MG's

Pre children and in fact pre husband it was me and my cars. With no meals to prepare, washing to do, and school uniform to sort I would spend hours blissfully unaware of the time slipping by, just me and my MG's. Opening a bonnet of a car manufactured in 1966 revealed an engine visible to any untrained eye, a fuel and combustion system you could follow and easily check, and electrics with no computer chip in site. With a Haynes manual as a guide and a bit of grit and determination car parts could be easily replaced, tuned or mended. This all contributed to a satisfying drive once back on the road.

Just the act of climbing into the car is a joy. The great weight of the driver's door as it



is pulled open to then slide past the large steering wheel and fall into its leather seat.

The slightly insignificant

looking key slots loosely into the ignition positioned in the middle of the veneered dashboard. I pull the black knob with 'CHOKE' engraved in white and turn the little key. A few rattles of the three bearing crankshaft and my car is ready to go. More a fine weather car, since it gets put to the test in the wet and cold with wipers that don't really wipe and heaters that don't really heat. It's all part of the attraction of driving an old car.

You really do drive these cars. There is no little finger on the bottom of a small leathered powered steering wheel and no soft suspension. You steer every bend and drive over every bump, as you watch the flickering needles jump about in the circular chrome rimmed dials. With a flick of a chrome switch I cruise into overdrive and wait for the familiar wave or flash from another MG owner, who may just know what I am talking about!

One of the many wonders of now having children (and even perhaps a husband) is that I can now share this experience and pass on my enthusiasm to our next generation.

Karen Easterbrook



2015 - The AAA Guide of excellence

Mark's Kitchen

SPECIALISE IN PEKING & CANTONESE CUISINE
CHINESE TAKE AWAY



2015 - Member of
Award winning
Takeaways

Restaurants
(Gold Standard
for Elite Eats)

01993 851691
TELEPHONE ORDERS WELCOME

OLD BAKERY, MARKET SQUARE,
BAMPTON, OXON OX18 2JJ



GREY GABLES GARAGE

Largest independant Skoda dealer in the South of England

We have a huge range of used Skoda's and other makes of vehicles for sale and offer part exchange and finance. Our workshop offers MOT's, servicing and repairs by fully trained technicians.

Tel: 01993 702609

Curbridge, Witney, Oxon OX29 7PD



ŠKODA

THE PITSTOP

QUALITY SERVICING, TUNING & REPAIRS

The Complete Motoring Service

The Pitstop are a well established local company who have a reputation for excellent service and quality, and offer some of the most competitive prices in the area.

From our workshop to service centre (with vehicle diagnostic equipment), we offer an excellent service at unbeatable prices. Our prices are very competitive compared to those of the local main dealers. So, are you paying more than you need to?

Tel: 01993 850 654

Units 1-2 Viscount Court, Station Road,
Brize Norton OX18 3QQ



the Good Garage Scheme



For some reason the wines of Gascony get a bit of a bud rap these days. Sitting in the beautiful vineyards of the Fontan family, just outside the village of Noulens, in the centre of Bas Armagnac, it's really difficult to see why – Robin Shuckburgh.

Côtes de Gascogne

Brother and sister, Sylvain and Nadège Fontan, (pictured) run this vineyard of about 40 hectares, along with another, roughly the same size, in the nearby village of Vic Fezensac, where they make a selection of red, white and rosé wines, as well as a wonderful Armagnac.

Brought to the family as a dowry on the marriage of their grandparents, Esilda and Maximen, it was a mixed arable and livestock farm until the 1980s, when their parents, Aline and Jean Claude Fontan, decided to make the whole place over to vines. Aline and Jean Claude still live on the farm but they have handed over the running of the place to the next generation. Sylvain is in charge of making the wines and Nadège handles all the marketing and sales and deals with inquisitive people like me.

Their red wines, like many in the area, are made predominantly from the Tannat grape, with a little Merlot to soften them. The Tannat is a notoriously austere and tannic grape and to make their lovely soft version they use a system called micro-oxygenation, details of which I will leave you, dear reader, to look up on t'interweb.

The Tannat is also used in their rosé which is fruity and refreshing with a touch of residual sugar, as the glass on the table next to me is demonstrating.

To try their white wine you don't



need to travel quite so far. They have had a long-standing relationship with the Oxford Wine Company and their Domaine de Maubet can be found on the shelves in Standlake. This blend of Ugni Blanc, Colombard, Gros Manseng and Sauvignon Blanc is a crisp ultra clean white that has mouthwatering flavours of apple, citrus and even a hint of gooseberry. At £7.75 it's extremely good value and perfect for summer quaffing.

Just a few miles down the road from Noulens is one of the most successful wine producers in France. Château du Tariquet is owned by the Grassa family, and there any similarity with the Fontan operation stops. This is not to say that the

quality of wines is in any way inferior, just that Tariquet is an enormous set up by comparison and clearly demonstrates the extraordinary variation in farming styles you will find in France. Highly automated, this winery produces huge volumes which are sent all around the world. There is no denying their quality and it's no accident that they are so successful.

Tomorrow I shall be amongst the vineyards of Bordeaux, from whence I shall report in the next issue.

If you have any wine-related questions, please email robinsbuck@btinternet.com and I will do my best to answer them.

The wines available from the Oxford Wine Company are as follows:

Domaine du Tariquet Classic Ugni Blanc- Colombard, Côtes de Gascogne

This blend is crisp and fresh with lots of lovely citrus and apple plus the merest hint of boiled sweets. It has a touch of balancing sweetness to flesh it out. **£7.99**



Domaine du Tariquet Sauvignon, Côtes de Gascogne

A textbook Sauvignon which is bursting with bright citrus and gooseberry fruit. It has bags of tingling acidity rounded off with a touch of sweetness to create a deliciously light and versatile wine. This is the wine I chose for my daughter's wedding. **£8.75**



Domaine du Tariquet, Les Premières Grives, Côtes de Gascogne

Harvested in autumn, mature grapes packed with sweetness produce an elegant wine with good typicity. Medium bodied with delicious tropical flavours sustained by freshness. Balanced sweetness leads to a grapey finish – a wine with character. **£11.99**



The Horse Shoe, Bampton

Can't be bothered to wash up, but fancy Sunday Lunch? Fiona Richmond and Susan Allen take you to the Horse Shoe to discover a Sunday roast like no other

Sunday lunch. It's a bit like thinking about summers when you were young, always warm and long (that'll not be 2015's summer then)... Sunday Lunch makes us think of family get togethers, Mum looking vexed and hot with oven gloves permanently attached to her arms for a few hours, Dad falling asleep in the chair in the afternoon and us as children having to do the washing up (who EVER forgets the horrid greasy meat pan). My family, and perhaps yours too, never bother to do a Sunday roast unless you have friends over – what's the point just for the three of us... but I do love a Sunday roast.

It's not often we go out for Sunday lunch. In fact, it's not often we even have Sunday lunch. So being offered the opportunity to go out and review the Horse Shoe was the perfect chance to catch up with friends over a laid back lunch, be waited on and of course, not have to do the washing up.

“The Horse Shoe is friendly, with a cosy dining area and great atmosphere – perfect for lunch ”

When you enter the Horse Shoe you will always feel welcomed by Fiona and Trevor. The dining area is relatively small, so it feels cosy and the atmosphere was great. We had a very warm welcome, and the service throughout was attentive, given we had three children between us.

The menu on Sundays offers the traditional Sunday lunch. There are three portion sizes to choose from, kids, junior and adult, and all are keenly priced, with plenty of options for even the fussiest eater (again talking about the kids). So we had two junior portions of chicken, one with stuffing, one without, one kids' portion of pork, one adult portion of beef and one veg only.

We didn't have to wait long until the food arrived, always a bonus when there are kids in tow. And it certainly did the traditional



Sunday lunch proud. Huge plates of food, plenty of roast potatoes, enormous Yorkshire puddings (a meal in themselves) plus two sets of vegetables, including lots of old favourites such as cauliflower cheese, baby carrots, cabbage and broccoli.

The table fell quiet as the kids tucked in, other than the odd murmur of appreciation. The food is well cooked, with plenty of flavour, and the cauliflower cheese was particularly good.

In spite of the enormous amount of food they'd already consumed, the kids still had room for pudding, and this

was certainly the highlight of the meal. They chose strawberry cheesecake (the decision-making process surrounding this was painful, but it was a very good

“My favourite was the Yorkshire Pudding, I ate mine and half of Mummy's” - Pippa, age 7



choice), sticky toffee pudding (always a dead cert for one certain lunch guest) and ice cream with sprinkles and sauce (what's not to like?). The clearly homemade cheesecake was absolutely delicious, a wonderfully creamy mix with proper strawberries, and the sticky toffee pudding was described as “epic” more than once.

“The Horse Shoe is a very friendly pub for a good Sunday lunch. The food is very nice, the pudding was very much enjoyed, I really liked it. It was epic sticky toffee pudding”. - Joel, age 9


The adults stuck to coffee rather than pudding, which was definitely a good move, as we all rolled home. Although the walk home was a blessing to feel that we had done some ‘exercise’. In summary, an excellent Sunday lunch: a good atmosphere, very welcoming towards children, fantastic value for money. 🍷

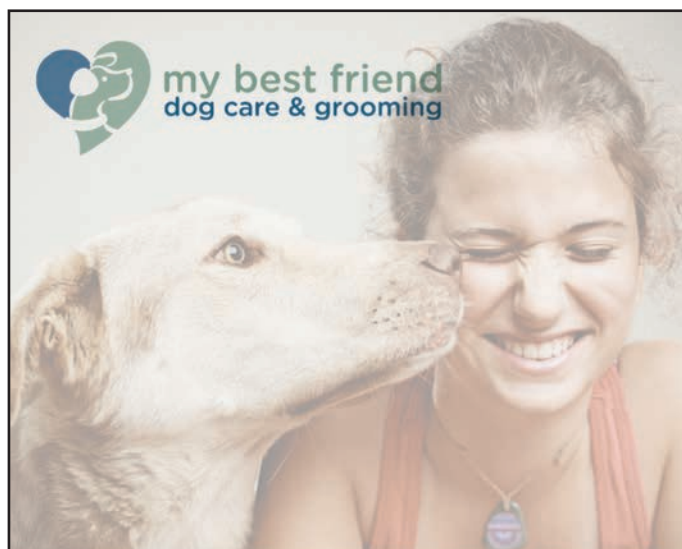
adherent or f
dicere, to adjud
ad·dic·tion (ə
addicted, esp. to
d·dic·tive

ADDICTION COUNSELLING
Help is now available locally if you
suffer with any form of addiction.

Drugs • Alcohol • Gambling
Strictly confidential - Call Guy Lennon
Tel: 07980 922 518
Email: grdlennon@outlook.com
www.guylennoncounselling.co.uk



 **my best friend**
dog care & grooming



Dog Grooming
Dog Walking
Doggy Day Care
Home Boarding
Pet Sitting
Pet Transport

Collection service
is available
Tel: 01367 860 052
Mob: 07702 041 230

www.mybestfrienddogcare.co.uk
info@mybestfrienddogcare.co.uk
Lechlade Road
Langford GL7 3LA

 **The**
BamptonClinic

Philippa Rayne, *Osteopath*
Miles Holloway, *Osteopath*
Amy Norman, *Osteopath*
Laurence Lemoine, *Acupuncture*
Catherine Wilson, *Homeopathy*
June Brewer, *Massage Therapy*
Amanda Brockman, *Humanistic Counsellor*
Tom Jennings, *Acupuncture*

Moonraker Lane
Bampton
Tel: 01993 851359
Email: clinic@bamptonclinic.co.uk

www.bamptonclinic.co.uk



Patrick Strainge Butchers

Quality Meat Direct from local Family Farms

- Pig roast specialist
- Extensive range of cheeses
- Cooked meats



Bridge Street, Bampton

Tel: 01993 850350

www.patrickstrainge-butchers.co.uk



abbeyproperties
private letting agents



ATTENTION ALL LANDLORDS

Following Abbey Properties' recent restructuring, we now have the capacity to take on and manage a limited number of privately owned letting properties. If you would like to experience a truly professional service with extremely competitive rates then call us to discuss how you can make even more money from your investment/rental property. (Limited Availability)

FULLY MANAGED FEES FROM ONLY 7.5%

NO SET UP OR MARKETING FEES

NO RENEWAL OR CONTRACT FEES

NO VAT – SAVING YOURSELF 20% STRAIGHT AWAY

Call Robin, Nikki, Leanne or David on 01993 700009

Email – robin@abbeyproperties.tv Website – www.letting.it



Recipes from the chefs at Biztro, Bampton

www.biztro.co.uk Open Tuesday – Saturday 6.00pm – 11.00pm

Spicy for September

Vegetarian chilli served with guacamole, soured cream and tortilla chips

INGREDIENTS

- 2 sweet potatoes
- 1 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 1 heaped teaspoon ground cumin
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- Sea salt
- Freshly ground black pepper
- About 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 onion
- 1 red pepper
- 1 yellow pepper
- 2 cloves garlic
- 2 fresh red chillies
- A bunch of fresh coriander
- 1 400g tin kidney beans
- 1 400g tin cannellini beans
- 2 400g tins chopped tomatoes
- 1 small pot sour cream
- Guacamole - see recipe

Serves 4 - 6 depending on portion size



METHOD

1. Preheat the oven to 200°C. Gas mark 6.
2. Peel the sweet potatoes, cut into 2-3 cm chunks, coat with olive oil and roast in oven for about 30 minutes until soft and beginning to brown.
3. Peel and roughly chop the onion, deseed and roughly chop the peppers, peel and finely chop the garlic.
4. Remove the leaves from the coriander, set aside. Chop the coriander stalks, deseed and finely chop the chillies.
5. Cook the onions, peppers and garlic in some olive oil for about 5 minutes or until beginning to soften, add the coriander stalks, chilli and spices and cook for another 5 – 10 minutes, stirring frequently.
6. Drain the beans, add them to the pan. Add the chopped tomatoes. Bring to the boil, stirring frequently. Reduce the heat and simmer for about 30 – 40 minutes.
7. Stir the roasted sweet potato into the chilli. Add half the roughly chopped coriander leaves.
8. Season with salt and pepper.
9. Transfer to a serving dish, top with the remaining coriander leaves.

Serve with soured cream, guacamole and tortilla chips or Doritos corn chips.

Guacamole

INGREDIENTS

- ½ red onion, finely chopped
- 1 small red chilli deseeded and finely chopped
- 1 teaspoon Maldon sea salt
- 3 ripe avocados
- Juice of 1 – 2 limes
- 1 ripe tomato, peeled, deseeded and finely chopped
- A handful of finely chopped coriander
- Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper

METHOD

1. Put the onion, chilli and salt in a pestle and mortar and mash to a rough paste.
2. Halve the avocados, remove the stones and scoop out the flesh. Put the flesh into a bowl and mash with a fork, adding the lime juice. Stir in the onion and chilli mixture, tomato and the coriander.
3. Season with plenty of black pepper and more salt if necessary.





BlestFest 2015

Stalls, Stories, Author Sessions, Concert, Book Sale, Quizzes, Garage Sale and Hidden Gardens – it was all packed into one weekend that was ‘BlestFest’!

The author sessions at the Library and the Old School Community Centre gave younger readers the opportunity to not only hear from, but also talk to, real authors.

Ruth Galloway with “An Undersea Adventure” certainly made an impression. Cecilia said, “I liked the crab lady moving his eyes and mouth when reading the story”.

“Chloe the Dragon Whisperer” delighted both the youngsters and their parents with her story of dragons, magic and adventures. Dressed in suitable attire for an agent dealing with such matters, and with a smallish dragon tucked under her arm, she had her audience hanging on her every word. Elias said, “It was excellent because it made the dragons become real”. Chloe later continued with a “walkabout” in Sandford’s Field. Maybe the first time

a dragon has visited there? Fortunately no donkeys around on the day to get frightened.

Bampton author Anna Pitt, led a workshop for making “Waste Free Party Bags”. Busy fingers soon produced attractive and useful bags that were taken home. And of course, as an added bonus, there was nothing to tidy away afterwards!

Katy Krump, kept the children enthralled with stories about Aliens, and Julie Fulton entertained all when she introduced some of the crazy characters from her popular “Ever So” series of books.

Oxford-based Nick Cook gave an inspirational multi-media presentation with words, music and pictures. His books feature events in Tornado Alley in America and the “Cloud Rider” who “rides” the Twisters that occur there. And Padraig

agreed as he said it was, “Inspirational and it got me reading,” so it seemed we met our goal for these sessions!

All our authors gave their services for expenses only and were generous with donations from book sales so we thank them, along with all our stallholders, for their support.

The Community Concert on Saturday evening certainly continued the inspirational theme as the audience enjoyed the talent on display. Alejandro, first with his uncle and later his sister Ana, Patrick Powell, Richard Rednall, Emma Rednall, Chad and Sally, Adrian Jones, Robin Martin-Oliver, Clear Haze, The Bampton Jongleurs and The Bampton Singers all entertained along with St Mary’s Church Choir who in their own venue showed us that it is not only hymns that they can sing so beautifully.



Opposite clockwise: Clear Haze, Richard Rednall, Adrian Jones. The ticket team. Above clockwise: Hidden gardens, Chloe the Dragon Wisperer, Alejandro and Ana, Chad and Sally and Bampton Singers led by Robin Martin Oliver

And all were introduced with great panache by the Revd. David Lloyd.

The whole audience being led by Richard Rednall in a rendition of "Mud, Mud, Glorious Mud" from the Flander's and Swan's Hippopotamus Song was worth the fiver entrance alone – not surprisingly we have already had requests for the concert to become a regular annual event. Many thanks to Bampton Coffee House for being our Box Office.

The next day all those crossed fingers paid off as the weather was kind for the village Garage Sale. There were over 40 stalls around the village and from the many weird and wonderful articles being carried back to cars, people had obviously found some bargains.

Hidden Gardens of Bampton followed and although it was a Bampton Community Archive event, it was placed under the BlestFest publicity and box-office umbrella. So we were delighted that they raised over a thousand pounds – their best result ever.

Many thanks to Bampton Garden Plants for sponsoring the maps for the Garage Sale and Hidden Gardens and to Patrick Strainge for the donation.

The end of the weekend saw us all tired but the Library Support Fund richer by £682.00, the St Mary's Church Organ Appeal by £269.00 and Friends of Bampton School, who provided the most wonderful cakes for their refreshment stall, by £60.00.

Well done to all those who had a try at our junior and senior book quizzes, compiled by Lily Chaundy and Lynne Pointer. The result was very tight but Jessica Evans just pipped Fiona Farmer for the adult prize and Jake Tempest won the junior prize.

The Grand Prize Draw added more funds with £726.00 being shared equally between the Library Fund and Bampton Archive. All 23 prizewinners have been notified and the complete list can be seen at the Library. The three cash prize winners were Williams, Robinson and Gray all from Bampton.

Other Library News

Library '100 Club' Draw Results

The lucky people from the July draw were: £15.00 Marlene Snow and Jenny Webb; £10.00 Daniel Irvin and Molly Kavanagh.

Contact Lynne Pointer on 851930 or pick up a slip from the library if you would like to join.

Library Walking Club

The Library Walkers take a break until Friday 18 September. Join us then, by the tree in the Market Square, at 10.00am if you fancy about an hour's walk around the byways of Bampton – with or without your dog. For more details ring 851377 or give your name to Loraine in the library.

Library Service Cutbacks

Due to the reorganisation caused by recent funding cutbacks we have to say goodbye to our Bampton Library Area Manager, Simon Lay. This is a loss as he has given us such valuable support, but we wish him well in his new area of responsibility, and we welcome Karen Bachelor to the role and will look forward to meeting her at our next Partnership meeting.

More than just books ...

Loraine's regular 'Rhymetime' sessions for Mums and pre-school children on Tuesdays at 10.30am starts again in September! Why not join in the fun?



Bampton-in-the-Bush Cricket Club

A cricket club on the up!

By the time you read this, the cricket club will know whether they have achieved their 4th promotion in five years league cricket.

At the time of writing (2 August), and on the back of five successive thumping victories, we lie 2nd in Division 6 of the OCA, but after a none-too-convincing first half of the season, it is all very tight at the top with five games to play.

There are a number of reasons for this inconsistent form. Long-term injuries to two key players, Adrian Harris (back), followed by Gerald Holford (ankle) have strained our thin resources, and for various other reasons we had to play a number of league games with teams containing players who might never have

expected to see themselves turn out in a league side; not least our gallant scorer, Rachel Day.

So to be in the position we are now at the start of August represents something of a turnaround. Undoubtedly the main catalyst for this has been the return to playing regularly of Ted Landray, who has scored 342 runs in his last five league innings, including 125 at Faringdon, where he shared in an extraordinary, record-smashing 253 run opening partnership with Grant Print, who hit 140 not out.

All the bowlers have put in the hard yards, and we have also now introduced young Ben Brown into the team to bowl his tempting left arm spinners, a temptation which has already seen the

downfall of several opposition batters.

It has been a peculiar season in many ways, and not just for us. Many clubs are struggling to find players, and on Sundays we have either had about 15 to pick from... or five! That obviously impacts on the number of Sunday friendly games we have been able to play, especially with other teams in the same boat, but when we have played, the matches have been good fun and have even resulted in a couple of wins.

Not everything in the garden is rosy, but in general the club continues to be on the up! ☀

End of Season Cricket Curry Dinner and Awards Saturday 17 October

7.00 for 7.30pm - at the Sports Pavillion, Recreation Ground

Tickets £20.00 (£15.00 concession students)

Includes complimentary pre-dinner drink

For tickets and further information please contact Karen Easterbrook 850772 or jkeasterbrook@hotmail.com





Images are from the 6 a side tournament played in July. Steve Sheppard (above right) took a ball in the face, but following a visit to the hospital turned out to not be as serious as it looked.



Do you know the Bampton Archive

What does the Bampton Archive do? In brief The Archive does four things: they collect anything relevant to Bampton's social history, the story of ordinary Bamptonians; they put on three exhibitions a year on subjects relevant to the village; they produce catalogues for each exhibition and other publications; they raise money for the Old Grammar School building (the library), to restore the upstairs and to fix the roof.

The Archive has now been in existence for 13 years. At three exhibitions per year, that is 39 exhibitions. For 10 of these years they have produced very professional looking catalogues, on subjects as diverse as *'The Coins dug up in Bampton'*, *'The Restoration of Tim Tomlin's steam Engine'*, *'The Poor Law in Bampton'*, *'Morris Dancing'*, and lots of others. For a full list see their website - (www.bamptonarchive.org). Many of these are for sale in the Vesey Room of the Library, others you will find for sale on their website. They have also recorded nearly 100 memories of Bamptonians and Bampton life. These include Roy and Francis Shergold, Major Robert Coleville and the infant teacher, Miss Farmer, but there are lots of others. For the full list look on the website where you can also buy copies. There are dozens of DVDs of Bampton life also to be found on their website.

They sell all these books and recordings to make money for running the Archive but most goes into the fund for the restoration of The old Grammar School, a 17th century listed building. The upstairs of which was made inaccessible by the removal of the stairs in the 1960s. Our chief form of income for this restoration comes from the sale of Downton Abbey memorabilia. As you may have noticed, they now have 100s of tourists coming to see the sites relevant to the TV series. Luckily for their funds they buy their two books on the filming of Downton in Bampton as well as the tote bags, the cards and the prints that they sell. They also buy some of their catalogues.

Because the building is 'A' listed, the cost of restoration is huge – £250,000. They have a concert on 19 September with Ray Burley and 15 other guitarists, they are collecting a Downton mile of £1 coins and they are applying for various grants for the

restoration of historic buildings.

There next exhibition, opening 8 September, is *'The History of Bampton Castle'* done by its present owner, Matthew Rice. In the spring the Bush Club is putting on an exhibition to celebrate 30 years of its good work. Miriam James is working on an exhibition of 'Schools in Bampton' to be shown next summer, and Nik Stanbridge is working on an exhibition of photographs entitled 'Snapshots of Bampton' to be shown autumn 2016.

They are all volunteers, from those who research a topic and collect enough material for an exhibition and a book, to those who sit in the Vesey Room. They have computer experts, those who make films, those who run the shop and organise the tours. All of them put in a lot of hours for free. If you would like to help in any way, look on their website for contact details.

www.bamptonarchive.org

Photo of a Di Bray border courtesy of Marie O'Hara Photography



07920 714937
Bampton
dibraygardens@me.com



Bampton Beam Children's Writing Competition

Write us a story and win £20.00 in Waterstone's vouchers

This issue, we are delighted to announce our first children's writing competition. Write a story in 500 words or less about whatever you like. It can be funny, it can be true, it can be wild, or wonderful. Whatever the story that inspires you, write it down and send it in to us.

The winners will be judged by a panel, including local writers as well as the Editor. We will announce our winners in the March issue of the magazine and we will print the stories in that issue too, so everyone can enjoy them. Each winner gets a £20.00 Waterstone's voucher to spend on books of their choice. We have 3 age categories, 5-7 – 8-11 and 12-14

Send them in by email to: editor@bamptonbeam.co.uk

Please put **Children's Writing Competition** in the subject line

Or post to Children's Writing Competition, Bampton Beam, Parlour Studios, Dairy Farm House, Buckland Road, Bampton, Oxfordshire OX18 2AA

The final day to get your stories to us is 31 October 2015. Good writing and good luck!

Can you spot the difference - ten to find...





New affordable luxury day care & holiday boarding, set on 3 acres of land
Looking after your dog is second nature to us at The Four Paws Pet Hotel



THE FOUR PAWS
PET HOTEL

01993 850671

bark@thefourpawspethotel.co.uk

www.thefourpawspethotel.co.uk

Buckland Road, Bampton Oxfordshire OX18 2AA

Bampton Physiotherapy & Associates

We offer: Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy, Neurological Rehabilitation and Chest Physiotherapy.

Other services include:

- Acupuncture
- Reflexology
- Counselling
- Sports Massage
- Nutritional Therapy
- Hypnotherapy

We also offer classes in Pilates, Gymball & Yoga

For more information please visit our website

www.bamptonphysiotherapy.co.uk

or call: 01993 851753 - or email us on:
bamptonphysio@btconnect.com



abbeyproperties
independent estate agents

www.abbeyproperties.tv

Damian and Rebecca at Abbey Properties are experiencing a high demand for Properties. If you're thinking of selling, or looking for your new home then don't hesitate to pay us a visit or contact us via phone or email.

Call us to discuss you're free, no obligation valuation.

Market Square
Bampton, OX18 2JH
01993 851881

bampton@abbeyproperties.tv



FOBS - A fresh perspective

When you think of your primary school what is your first thought (apart from the summers were always hotter and longer than now)? At the very heart of school is learning but it's also about having fun and enjoying being part of in the community you live in.

Friends of Bampton School (FOBS) has been in existence for more than 20 years, and your Parent Teachers Association (PTA). Our role is to create a positive link between the parents and teachers within the school with the common aim of creating the best possible environment for our children. With class representatives to be created in September, FOBS can facilitate close communication with parents, especially those who can't be at the school gate every day. And with a new committee in place and Bampton Primary School moving to Academy status we have the opportunity to build on the 'good' status from OFSTED to 'outstanding' – an accolade that is driven not just by educational performance but by all aspects of school life including FOBS. An outstanding FOBS will mean an outstanding school.

From September we are looking to make some positive changes which we hope will benefit our children and the school. We are in the process of setting up a network of PTAs across West Oxfordshire to share ideas, give and receive support and widen our perspectives. We will also be creating class representatives within each class who can be the communication channel between the class and the committee and can work with the teacher and class for events as required.

Following the Annual General Meeting on 15 July 2015 FOBS has a fresh core Committee working with newly elected chair, Karen Easterbrook, with renewed determination to do the

very best for Bampton's youngsters. The wider committee will continue to include representation from school in the form of Carol Phillips (Headteacher) and Paul Atkins (Deputy Head) as well as representation from the governors. Building a parent body that is truly at the heart of what the school believes and achieves, giving you opportunity to have your say, and for us to let you know what



The FOBS duck race 2015 at Mill Green

is going on.

All parents of children at Bampton Primary School are automatically members of FOBS. We are fully inclusive and we want to welcome you to a new and dynamic way of working. Our aim is to enable the children of Bampton School to have the best experience they can at school whether that's in learning or just having fun.

A big thank you

Whilst looking to the future we must also say a great big thank you to all of you who helped with and participated in the 2014-15 fundraising events. Your efforts raise an impressive sum every school year in excess of £3,000 which directly



benefits the school children of Bampton. Because of your support we have enabled the school to buy and maintain equipment and run educational events such as this year's maths workshops and much more.

What's on in 2015

Proposed school and village-wide events for the coming school year are (dates to be confirmed):

2015

September – After School Family Bingo
October – Fancy Dress Halloween Disco
November – Adults' Bingo Evening
December – Christmas Bazaar

- Remember that FOBS events are run for everyone in the village not just those with a connection to the school so come along and enjoy the fun!
- Like and follow the FOBS Facebook page (search Facebook for "Friends of Bampton School") where you will get the most up to date news and information of up-coming events.
- Not a Facebooker? Keep your eyes peeled for posters in Patrick Strainge Butchers and flyers in Bampton Coffee House. Alternatively please call Karen Easterbrook on 01993 850772 to register your interest and FOBS will ensure you are kept up-to-date. ☺



SPAJERS

Shirt Race

All images of the Shirt Race are available to purchase:
www.jameswildman.co.uk

Results

Snr Race: 1st – James Barber, Jamie Hall
 2nd – Dave Church, Ashley Roles

Inter Race: 1st – Jacob Money, Ewan Lloyd
 2nd – Matthew Waite, Ben Wannel

Jnr Race: 1st – Joe Warwick,
 Padraig Easterbrook
 2nd – Ben Hooper, Thomas Passey

Oldest Pair

John Buckingham, Dot Kibble

Fancy Dress

Snr Pair - “Rocky”

Jnr Pair - “Mulan”

Snr Chariot – “Scumbag University Challenge”

Jnr Chariot – “Starwars Fighter Plane”

Raffle

1st (£50) – Hazel Disbury

2nd (£25) – Jessie Pearce

3rd (Wine) – Nick Read

4th (Wine) – I A Sissons





Morris Dancing

Magnificent Morris

The weather held fine - just, for this year's Bank Holiday event and the morris dancers and crowds were out in force.





STUDIO & LOCATION PORTRAITURE
COMMERCIAL, SOCIAL & SPORTS EVENTS
RE-TOUCHING & FRAMING SERVICE

James Wildman Photography

www.jameswildman.co.uk

PARLOUR STUDIOS
BUCKLAND ROAD
BAMPTON
OXFORDSHIRE

TEL: 01993 850705
MOB: 07818 023 211

Flower Festival



Bloomin' Downton!

Did you visit St Mary's Church over the Spring Bank Holiday for the Annual Flower Festival? If so, you will have seen the church transformed - from the porch with 'Gardens Past' to the pillars adorned with a glorious variety of Field Games. Witness a riot of flowers, greenery and props: all personal interpretations from members of Bampton Flower Guild on

the theme of 'Downton Abbey': the Helter Skelter to Mary's Wedding; a Victorian dressing table to Preparing for Dinner and The Kitchen; Children's Games, Nursery Rhymes, the Nursery, the Parlour Maid, Victoriana - such imagination with so many beautiful arrangements.

Not forgetting the excellent home-made refreshments on sale all day, whose

revenue helps contribute to the upkeep of the church, and provide flowers throughout the year.

Inspired to join us? Whatever your experience, if you love flowers and enjoy seeing our beautiful church decorated contact Gaynor on 07772 253727.

BLEST Fest - Hidden Gardens

A real success! Thanks to all the Hidden Garden owners and the weather, the afternoon passed by with inspiration and admiration, raising a massive £1000.

We had 20 very different gardens, large, small and very small. The new gardens were absolutely stunning, even the smallest had individual features to thrill all aspiring horticulturalists and livestock enthusiasts. There were chickens, cats, cakes, bees, elusive fairies, frogs,

musicians, and reviving cups of tea and a lot of chatter.

It would be just amazing to have even more gardens to open in 2017, perhaps gardening friends and neighbours who could help each other to create pockets of different areas to open for our widespread

visitors. So even the most far flung residents, get your spades out and get digging! We are waiting to hear from you. Please help us make the next Hidden Gardens even better.

- Jo Lewington and Angie Bell



English Country Music weekend

A weekend of folk music in Bampton

On the weekend of the 26 June you might have noticed a large gathering taking place on the recreation ground in Bampton and lots of musical instruments being carried about the village. This was the first English Country Music weekend, three days of live music, morris dancing, talks and presentations. The pubs were busy and there was live folk and country music being played in all. If you missed it they will be back next year...



The Horse Shoe Sunday Roast

Advanced booking is advised

Sky Sports - Live Music - Monthly Quiz
Bonus Ball - Real ales - Beer Garden - WiFi
Real Fire - Tea and Coffee served



Bridge Street Bampton 01993 209052

biztro

the home of great food



Restaurant with Rooms

Restaurant open Tuesday - Saturday 6 - 11pm
Steak nights: Wednesday & Thursday 2 for £20!
www.biztro.co.uk • www.wheelgatehouse.co.uk

Biztro is a modern British Restaurant serving delicious, freshly cooked, seasonal food and fine wines in an attractive, informal setting.

Biztro • Wheelgate House • Market Square • Bampton
OX18 2JH • 01993851151 • info@biztro.co.uk

The Morris Clown A True Free House



**A better quality insult
from your host**

CAMRA MEMBER SINCE 1997
(CAMPAIGN FOR REAL ALES)

Over 100 Guest Beers a year

Proud not to do food!

Darts - Aunt Sally - Bar Billiards

Licensed Function Room

Large variety of Belgium Beers



High Street, Bampton
Tel: 01993 850217



Riverford
organic farms

now delivering
to Bampton
and surrounds
on Monday

**vegboxes, meat &
more to your door**
boxes from £10.85

try a box today

call us 01962 763927
or visit www.riverford.co.uk



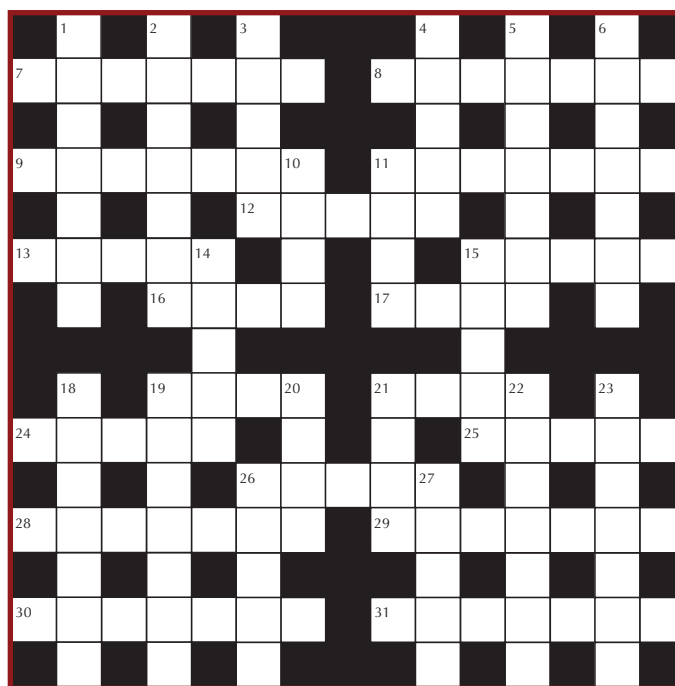
September Crossword - compiled by Annette Minto

Clues – Across

- 7 Witchcraft
- 8 Location of WWII battle
- 9 A shellfish
- 11 Unfavourable
- 12 Group of wild animals
- 13 Path taken by satellite
- 15 Tasty with cream!
- 16 To mutilate
- 17 Engrave
- 19 A citrus fruit
- 21 Damp and chilly
- 24 Many men use these
- 25 Ferocious feline
- 26 A reward
- 28 Take by surprise
- 29 Obvious
- 30 Declares to be true
- 31 Found in cinemas

Clues – Down

- 1 Musical occasion
- 2 Enthusiastic approval
- 3 Large military group
- 4 Avoided by cunning
- 5 Charge or accuse (political)
- 6 Rejection or belief
- 10 Precise or formal
- 11 A woodworking tool
- 14 South American mammal
- 15 Barely sufficient
- 18 Found in milk
- 19 Place of pilgrimage
- 20 Irish republic
- 21 To stun
- 22 Related by blood or marriage
- 23 Type of flag
- 26 A minor planet
- 27 Expel from property



The answers from the June issue

Answers – Across

- 7 Fetlock
- 8 Eynsham
- 9 Amazing
- 11 Invents
- 12 Tring
- 13 Snore
- 15 Adorn
- 16 Slum
- 17 Haws
- 19 Edge
- 21 Sash
- 24 Serve
- 25 Hurry
- 26 Cadet
- 28 Pronoun
- 29 Ringing
- 30 Stunted
- 31 Hearing

Answers – Down

- 1 Desmond
- 2 Blazers
- 3 Scant
- 4 Lying
- 5 Ascends
- 6 Battery
- 10 Grim
- 11 Inch
- 14 Elude
- 15 Awash
- 18 Ferrets
- 19 Evening
- 20 Elan
- 21 Seer
- 22 Hungary
- 23 Pruning
- 26 Cured
- 27 Tiber

The winning entry for June was

Hazel Carter - Black Bourton

To enter the crossword either email your completed crossword to editor@bamptonbeam.co.uk or send it to Bampton Beam Crossword, Dairy Farm House, Buckland Road, Bampton, Oxfordshire OX18 2AA

'WE ARE MORE THAN JUST BOOKS!'

*'Lorraine and Clare 'your friendly library staff' - welcome you to the Old Grammar School
- the home of the Community Library for Bampton and surrounding villages.*

Books of all kinds - reference, novels, non fiction, children's, young adult, large print, talking books & reserved and specially requested books too! But much, much more...

- Newspapers
- Photocopier
- Audio books
- eBooks and eAudio
- DVDs
- Computers and Internet
- Regular FREE "Rhymetime" sessions for toddlers
- Regular FREE computer tuition/help - for all ages
- Occasional evening talks
- Children's holiday activity sessions
- Reference services on line
- Local studies collection
- Home of "Bampton Community Archive"
- Changing programme of FREE art and community exhibitions

OPEN Monday 2.00 to 5.00 & 5.30 to 7.00
Wednesday 10.00 - 12.30
Thursday 2.00 - 5.00
Saturday 10.00 - 12.30
Why not renew books by phone or email?

Find Us Old Grammar School, Church View,
Bampton, OX18 2NE
Tel: 01993 850076
24-hours renewals hotline: 0845 1202811
Email: bampton.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk



Sandalwoods
Skin Clinic

Bespoke Facials Blemish & Wart Removal
Permanent Hair Removal
Take Ten - the worlds only 10 minute facelift!
Waxing/Massage/Body Detox
See online for more treatments

01993 851551
www.sandalwoods.co.uk
located in Aston, ample free parking



mobile tyre specialists
for all your tyre needs

07774 23 22 23

- Cars, motorcycles and light commercial
- Wheel balancing
- Puncture repairs
- 24 hour emergency cover
- Classic and vintage cars a speciality
- 25 years experience

01993 852 866
www.mobiletyrespecialists.com




Aston Childcare

OFSTED REGISTERED CHILDMINDER

HIGH QUALITY CHILDCARE IN A NURTURING HOME-FROM-HOME ENVIRONMENT IN ASTON - 5 MINUTES FROM WITNEY, BAMPTON, STANDLAKE, DUCKLINGTON

WORKING TO THE GOVERNMENTS EYFS STATUTORY FRAMEWORK, FULLY INSURED, CRB CHECKED, PAEDIATRIC FIRST AID TRAINED

7 AM - 7 PM MONDAY - FRIDAY - OPEN ALL YEAR ROUND
SPACES AVAILABLE NOW
SHORT TERM • LONGTERM • AD-HOC

PLEASE CALL: 07966 540190 EMAIL: astonchildcare@gmail.com

To see our full range of toys, visit
www.woodandwonder.co.uk

- Balance Bikes • Puzzles • Skittles • Role Play
- Outdoor Games • First Toys • Cars & Trains • and much more



WOOD AND WONDER
toys for inquisitive minds

HARTWELL
Electrical

Your fully qualified local Electrician

- Domestic/ Commercial/ Industrial
- Electrical installation condition reports
- Rewires, Alterations, and Additions.
- Fuse board upgrades
- Energy Efficient Lighting
- Outdoor and security lighting.
- Emergency call outs.

01993 851890 / 07834 905156
Email - info@hartwell-electrical.com




柔術 Self-Defence Ju-Jitsu

Bradwell Village Hall, Burford, Oxfordshire, OX18 4XF



THURSDAYS

Modern and Traditional effective street self-defence classes for men, women and teenagers aged 14 and over. Ju-Jitsu involves sparring, grappling, pad work and conditioning, utilising throws, strikes, kicks, holds, locks, strangles alongside traditional and modern weapons.

Our system is practical, no-nonsense self-defence.

For further information contact:
Dave Hussell (Nidan 2nd Dan Black Belt) on 07938 633539

£5 per session
Or £12 for 3 sessions payable in advance

Leigh Harris MMus
Guitar Tuition

Beginners to Advanced
Pop/Rock/Jazz/Electric/Acoustic

Masters Degree in Music
Grade 8 Accredited
Lessons at a Time and Place to Suit You

07792568716
www.leighharris.co.uk
leigh_harris@live.co.uk




Mobile car body repairs

Scratched your car? Need a bumper scuff repaired? I'll come to you...

SMART repairs keep the repair area to an minimum, thereby keeping costs as low as possible.

Call Dave on
Tel: 07818 493853

101 Brize Norton Road,
Minster Lovell, Witney,
Oxfordshire OX29 0SQ
www.dcautorefinishing.co.uk



DC Auto Refinishing

Approved PA offering quality home care & support within your own home.



Two week home trial
Approved PA by OCC
CRB police checked
Fully insured
Checkable references
Other services available on website

www.facebook.com/supportinbampton
0787 663 4587

Helping hands support service

Computer Clinic

Maximum Support @ Minimum Cost

Graham Newman
I.T. Engineer

Tel: 01993 850755
Mob: 07974 912544

leofric81@hotmail.co.uk

81 New Road
Bampton OX18 2NP



Shaun Guard TV Aerial Services

- **Poor reception solved**
For Analogue and Digital
- **TV and Radio aerials**
Repair and Installation
- **Extra TV points**
For Aerial and Sky
- **SKY TV**
Also foreign language satellite

Call Witney
01993 608 118
www.oxfordaerials.co.uk



OXFORD AERIALS

Martin Drew

Chiropodist/Podiatrist

Tel: 0800 027 7937
Email: jmnd@btinternet.com

Home visits available for professional foot treatment

The wide range of foot problems I treat includes:

- Athletes foot treatment
- Bunion treatment
- Calluses treatment
- Corn treatment
- Foot massage
- Foot pain treatment
- Hard skin removal
- Heel pain treatment
- Ingrown toenail treatment
- Insole fitting
- Mouldable orthotics
- Septic condition treatment
- Toenail cutting
- Verruca treatment
- Biomechanics Assessment
- Diabetic Assessment
- Arthritic Assessment
- HCPC reg. CH19287



Paul Farr

Painter and Decorator



- ▷ Interior and Exterior Decorating
- ▷ High Class References Available
- ▷ Special Paint Effects
- ▷ Painted Kitchens
- ▷ Project Design
- ▷ Private Residential Commercial and New Build Work Undertaken



07976 608755 01993 776238 pfarr3@sky.com

Chimney Sweep

Bertie the Sweep



- Open Fires • Wood burners • Flue Sweeping
- Nests Removal • Bird Guards • Cowl Fitted
- Chimney Pots Supplied and Fitted • Fully Insured
- ICS Member 411 - Certificates Issued

Tel: 01993 899143 or 07954180371
Email: bertiethersweep@ntlworld.com



LAWN MOWER & GARDEN MACHINERY

SERVICE/REPAIRS

OBR MAINTENANCE

From sheers to ride on mowers, fully qualified and insured
Local & reliable

Tel: 07502376582
obrmaintenance@gmail.com
www.obrmaintenance.co.uk





Mayday Maintenance

- Home Repairs • Kitchen Fitting
- Qualified Carpenter • Tiling • Painting

Fully Insured - Free Quotes

Telephone: 01993 851 448
Mobile: 07969 862 654



Graham Collett
Roofing Contractor

General repairs and
 complete restoration

Tel: 07876 083198

Bampton Tutor

Experienced teacher available for tutoring in:

- 11+ COMMON ENTRANCE EXAMS**
- SENIOR SCHOOL ENTRANCE EXAMS**
- KS2 SATS and English, Maths and Science**

Call/text 07712 673 101 or email bamptontutor@gmail.com
 Available afternoons, evenings, weekends and holidays
 Homework and assignments marked and feedback given

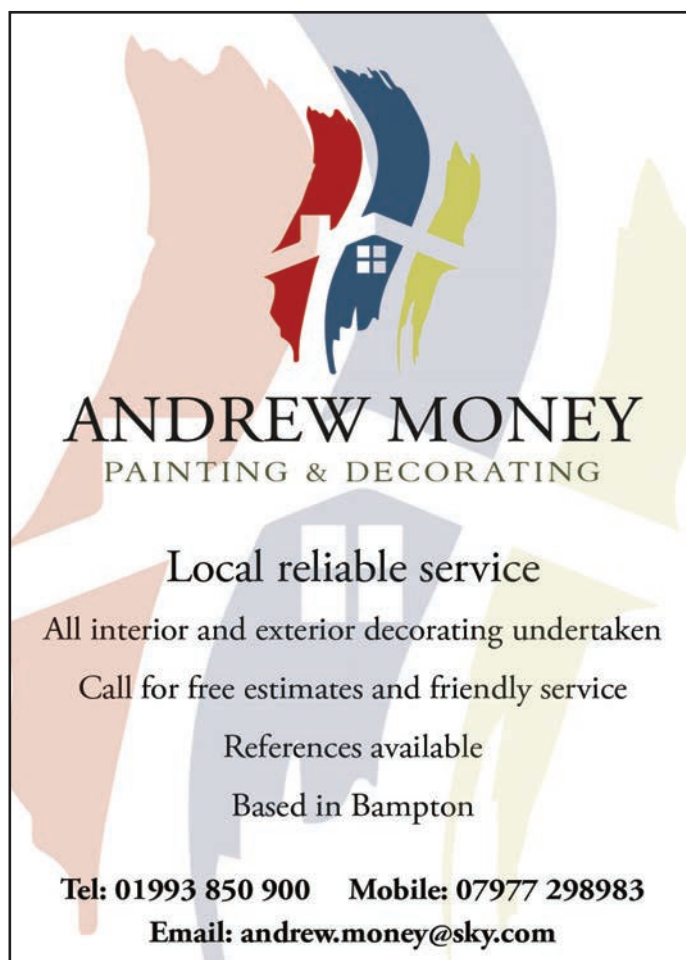


MATT SHAW
**PAINTER/DECORATOR
 & TILER**

FRIENDLY, RELIABLE AND CONSCIENTIOUS
 LOCAL SERVICE AT AFFORDABLE RATES.

Matt.shaw71@hotmail.co.uk
 07583933736

BASED IN CARTERTON



ANDREW MONEY
 PAINTING & DECORATING

Local reliable service

All interior and exterior decorating undertaken

Call for free estimates and friendly service

References available

Based in Bampton

Tel: 01993 850 900 Mobile: 07977 298983
Email: andrew.money@sky.com

**HOME
 FOOT CARE**

Experience today the relief and comfort
 from simple gentle foot care, in the
 comfort of your own home.

Angie Ward SAC DIP,FHPT,FHPP

Nail Cutting • Corns & Callus • Ingrown Toenails and more...

tel: 07796 20881157 angiefootcare@gmail.com



C.R. HOOPER
 DECORATING & PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

ALL JOBS CONSIDERED

INSURED • FREE QUOTATIONS

TEL: 01993 850 853
MOB: 07776 340590

BAMPTON, OXFORDSHIRE

A.C. Smart Tiling

Specialist floor and wall tiling

- Reliable, friendly and professional service
- 26 years experience
- Competitive Prices
- Traditional to Contemporary
- No Obligation Quotes
- All Work Guaranteed

Telephone 01993 851694 Mobile 07850 064863

1 Primrose Cottage, Weald, Bampton

Email: acsmart@aol.com www.acsmarttiling.co.uk

WESTBROOK FRAMERS

Bespoke Picture Framing

Bampton, Oxfordshire

www.westbrookframers.co.uk

Tel: 07768 035458 Email: westbrookframers@btinternet.com



Little Westbrook

Luxury self-catering cottage for two in Bampton

www.littlewestbrook.co.uk Telephone: +44(0) 1993 850918

Bampton Village Hall

An excellent venue for meetings, classes, parties, performances and fund-raising events

Main Hall with extendable stage and piano

Projection and sound system including induction loop

Well equipped kitchen and separate locked bar

Badminton court and equipment - Disabled toilet facilities

Conveniently situated in the Market Place

Hire Charges - Commercial hire £18.00 per hour

General Hire £10.00 per hour - Bar use £20.00

(by arrangement with the Designated Premises Supervisor)

Lettings Officer: Angy Irvin Telephone : 01993 850289

email: bamptonv.hall@btinternet.com



BAMPTON PAPERS

Zara Lawlor & Paul Ramsay
Zara: 07770 422039
Paul: 07855 497040
bamptonpapers@gmail.com

Newspapers and Magazines - Sold and Delivered

Yoga Classes in Bampton

Tuesday 7.30pm-8.30pm

Thursday 9.30am-10.30am

All abilities welcome—£8 per class

www.caring-therapy.co.uk

Or call Amanda 07530 668876

SOUTHAM ELECTRICAL BROS LTD



All Electrical Work Undertaken

Industrial / Commercial / Domestic

2391 City & Guilds Qualified

Part P Compliant & Fully Insured

01993 842142 / 07920 043082

enquiries@southamelectricalbrosLtd.co.uk
www.southamelectricalbrosLtd.co.uk

• Dent or Scratch Removal

• Crash Repairs

• Full and Partial Resprays

• Restorations

• Motorcycles



Nick Nurden - Motor Body Repairs

Free Quotations - Insurance work undertaken

Fax: 01993 851 683 - Mobile: 07910 032046

nicknurden7@btinternet.com www.nicknurden.co.uk

Useful Information

St Mary's Church

Rev'd David Lloyd Tel: 01993 851222
www.bamptonchurch.org.uk

The Methodist Church

Bridge Street Bampton
Services 11.00am Sundays
Minister Rev. Ian Duffy
Tel: 01367 240227

Catholic congregation

St Joseph's Church, Carterton
Sunday Mass 9.00am at St Mary's Church,
Bampton. Parish Priest: Father Andrew
Foster Tel: 01993 842463

Bampton Library

Old Grammar School, Church View
Tel: 01993 850076
Renewals hotline: Tel: 0845 1202811
Email: bampton.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Opening Hours

Monday	2.00pm – 5.00pm 5.30pm – 7.00pm
Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday	10.00am – 12.30pm
Thursday	2.00pm – 5.00pm
Friday	Closed
Saturday	10.00am – 12.30pm
Sunday	Closed

Bampton School

Headteacher – Miss Carol Phillips
Telephone 01993 850371
Headteacher.3131@bampton.oxon.sch.uk
Office.3131@bampton.oxon.sch.uk

The Willow Tree Children's Centre

Tel: 01993 851799

Post Office

Bampton Town Hall, Market Square,
Tel: 01993 851968

Carterton Police Station

Monday: Closed
Tuesday: 10.00am – 2.00pm
Wednesday: 10.00am – 2.00pm
Thursday: 10.00am – 2.00pm
Friday: Closed
Saturday: Closed
Sunday: Closed
Police non essential call 101

Bampton Medical Practice

Tel: 01993 850257
Out of hours call: 0845 345 8995
The surgery is open at the following times
Monday: 8.15 am to 6.30 pm
Tuesday: 8.15 am to 6.30 pm
Wednesday: 8.15 am to 6.30 pm
Thursday: 8.15 am to 6.30 pm
Friday: 8.15 am to 6.30 pm
Weekend: Closed
Reception is open from 8.30 am
until 6.30 pm

Bampton Pharmacy

Opening times:
Monday to Friday: 09.00am to 1.00pm and
2.00pm to 6.00pm
Saturday: 9.00am to 12.00pm

Carterton Health Centre

Tel: 01993 841718

Witney Hospital

Tel: 01993 209458
Open 10.00am – 10.30pm daily
Last patient seen at 10.00pm

Local hospitals

• John Radcliffe Hospital

Tel: 01865 741166
Headley Way, Headington, Oxford

• Churchill Hospital:

Tel: 01865 741841
Old Road, Headington, Oxford OX3 7LE

• Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre:

Tel: 01865 741155
Windmill Road, Headington,
Oxford OX3 7HE

• Horton General Hospital:

Tel: 01295 275500
Oxford Road, Banbury,
Oxfordshire OX16 9AL

Environment Agency

Floodline Tel: 0845 988118
Emergency Tel: 0800 807060

Thames Water Tel: 08459 200800

Citizens advice Tel: 08444 111444

Email: bureau@wocab.org.uk

West Oxfordshire District Council

General enquiries Tel: 01993 861000
Out of hours Tel: 01993 705056

Recycling centre

Dix Pit, Lynch Hill, Stanton Harcourt
Open 7 days a week 8.00am – 5.00pm
Thursday late night
(1 April – 30 September) until 8.00pm

Oxford County Council

General enquiries Tel: 01865 815573
Highways Tel: 08453 101111
Faulty street lights Tel: 0800 317802

Dial a ride service

For information Tel: 0845 3101111
Email oxdar@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Member of Parliament

Rt. Hon. David Cameron
Tel: 01993 702302

Local councillors

M Barrett Tel: 01993 202561
T Fenton Tel: 01993 852082

Bampton Parish Council

Tel: 01993 851870
clerk@bamptonoxon-parishcouncil.gov.uk

Sports Clubs

Bampton Archery Club

www.bamptonarchery.co.uk

Bampton Badminton Club

Marlene Snow Tel: 01993 850113

Windrush Amateur Boxing Club

Tel: 07887 403401 / 01993 851156

Bampton Cricket Club

Seniors Tel: 07778 578875
Juniors Tel: 01993 850939

Bampton Town Football Club

Tel: 01993 850437

Bampton Social Netball

Tel: 07780 761822

Bampton Tennis Club

bamptontennis@hotmail.co.uk

Bampton Weightlifting Club

Tel: 07855 146949

Societies

Bampton Community Archive

Tel: 01993 851041

Bell Ringers Tel: 01993 850214

Environmental Watch Group

Tel: 07920 714937

Bampton Library Events Support Team

Tel: 01993 850076

Bampton Historical Society

Tel: 01367 810245

Slow Living Society

Tel: 01993 850479

Society for the Protection of Bampton

Tel: 01993 850293

Clubs

Bampton Baby and Toddler Club

Tel: 01993 852438

Bampton Bridge Club

Tel: 01993 842126

Bampton Bush Club

Tel: 01993 850479 / 01993 851837

Bampton Gardening Club

Tel: 01993 843985

Bampton Ladies Group

Tel: 01993 850801

Bampton Theatre Club

Tel: 01993 851123

Bampton Youth Club

Tel: 01993 851156

Scottish Country Dancing

Tel: 01993 845043

Charities

Bampton Community Shop

gm.haslam@btinternet.com

Cancer Research

m.cleaver606@hotmail.co.uk

Friends of Bampton School (FOBS)

Tel: 01993 850772

Royal British Legion

Tel: 01993 210160

SPAJERS Tel: 01993 850760

The Bampton Exhibition Foundation

Tel: 01993 850167

The Bampton Welfare Trust

Tel: 01993 850314 / 01993 850589

Bampton Zimbabwe Project

lis@lisandtonypage.com

West Ox Arts Gallery

Tel: 01993 850137 www.westoxarts.com

Amenities

Bampton Recreation Ground and

Pavilion Tel: 01993 852483

The Old School Community Centre

clerk@bamptonoxon-parishcouncil.gov.uk

The Town Hall Tel: 01993 851870

Village Hall Tel: 01993 850289

Diary



Date	Event
7 September – 31 Oct	The Restoration of Ham Court by Matthew Rice – Bampton Community Archive
12 September	Brian Kay Chorale at St Mary's Bampton A concert entitled "Music for You" conducted and presented by broadcaster and former King's Singer Brian Kay. Tickets £10 from Bampton Coffee Shop or Bampton Physiotherapy and also online via www.bamptonchurch.org.uk Enquiries phone 07901 658737
12-13 September	'Harvest' – a floral display presented by The Windrush Flower Club of Witney In the historic setting of Cote Chapel (built 1701). Cote Chapel, Shifford Road, Cote, Nr Bampton, Oxon., OX18 2EG
13 September	A Historic Chapels Trust property. - Faringdon Heritage Open Day 10am to 4pm. Tours and Trails, Open Buildings, Exhibitions and Demonstrations, Local History displays, and much more!
18 September	Balalaika Quartet. Time 7.30pm start Venue. St Mary's Church Bampton. Bar opens 7.00pm. Performance starts 7.30pm. Tickets are £10.00. Under 16 £5.00. Available from Don Rouse on 01993 850297 or 07904 276589
19 September	Cancer Research UK – Autumn Sale Village Hall, Bampton. 9.30am until 12.00pm. admission is free, everybody welcome. Further information: Doris Cleaver 01993 850682
19 September	RAYMOND BURLEY CONCERT - "Classical Gas" An evening with Raymond Burley and 15 guest guitarists at Aston Pottery. Tickets £20 each. Bar available. For tickets call 01993 850918. In aid of Bampton Community Archive
25 September	McMillan coffee morning The Talbot Bampton at 11 a.m. 100% of money raised will go to the charity. All walks of life and ages welcome. Cakes will be available to purchase and a raffle will be drawn on the morning of the event. Tickets available from the talbot.
2 October	Barn Dance in St Mary's Bampton with the Woodpecker Band At last – the long-awaited return of the Village Barn Dance to be held in St Mary's at 7.30pm. For further information and tickets contact Suzy Macpherson 07811 676078. Tickets (includes hog roast and pud!): Adults £15.00, Under 14s £12.00
3rd October	The Bampton Zimbabwe Project Fair - Between 10.00am and noon
24th November	The Bampton Zimbabwe Traditional Tea Party - 2.45p.m
20 November	Cancer Research UK - Quiz Night Teams of FOUR £16.00 per team (must be pre-entered) commence 7.30pm, entry forms and further information from: Doris Cleaver 01993 850682
25 November	Aston Pottery Christmas Shopping Evenings
3 December	Aston Pottery Christmas Shopping Evenings
10 December	Aston Pottery Christmas Shopping Evenings
14 November	Bampton Classical Opera - Young Singers' Competition 2015 The Final - Holywell Music Room, Oxford Tickets £15 from bamptonopera.org or 01993 851142
21 December	Bampton Classical Opera St Beornwald's day concert, St Mary's church, Bampton Tickets £15 from Bampton Physiotherapy (from 1 December) or 01993 851142

To have your event included in the Beam diary email editor@bamptonbeam.co.uk

Oxford Woodscapes

LANDSCAPE TIMBER DESIGNS

employing a variety of hard, red and white woods, such as French Oak, Canadian Cedar, Larch and Pine, the goal is to take your garden design ideas and deliver a build, which is both functional and aesthetic ...

" Nick ... even if we aren't skilled enough to know every super-clever thing you have done, it's very clear that it's been beautifully made with real care, skill, love and respect for your materials and ingenuity in design.

I'm sure we'll appreciate it more and more over the years - Thank you "

S.H., Oxford ~ Cedar Cabin c/w Shingle Roof

- ✦ Radial Pergolas ✦ Tree-Seats ✦ Mortice & Tenon Gates
- ✦ Adzed & Oiled Fireplace Lintels ✦ Oak Door Portals
- ✦ Unique Fencing Designs ✦ Cedar Garden Cabins
- ✦ Shingle-Roofed Loggias ✦ Glass & Timber Balustrades

A good idea, a collaborative eye and a smattering of skill can produce a remarkable result !



Nick Woodward
Bampton - 01993 850590
oxfordwoodscapes@me.com





Bampton Garage

The team to trust for quality servicing

Local friendly and professional service. All makes and models of cars, vans, - petrol or diesel.

Call George...

Tel: 01993 851 947

Mobile: 07768 912 821

www.bamptongarage.co.uk



Over 30 years experience and members of
The Retail Motor Industry Federation.

- Servicing
- General repairs
- Clutches
- Brakes
- Welding
- Air Con
- Tyres
- Exhausts
- Engine Diagnostics
- MOT Preparation
- Glass repairs