

# THE BAMPTON BEAM

December 1997

Volume 12, No. 3



school's original benefactor, this delightful room will open before Christmas, subject to finding enough volunteer helpers to set up and run it. Once complete, it will open during library opening times:-

**Mon**  
2-5pm & 6-7pm  
**Wed**  
10am-12 noon & 2-5pm  
**Fri**  
2-5pm and 6-7pm

## VISION OF THE FUTURE

The District Council recently turned down an application to build 15 large houses on Station Road Bampton but there are now further housing plans for the villages in this area to which we must respond before any firm decisions are taken.

Oxfordshire is beginning to make some moves towards meeting the housing needs of the twenty - first century. In a "vision document" the County Council has proposed an increase of 4,050 in its rural housing stock by the year 2011. Even if a good proportion of this increase is borne by Witney and Carterton, as has been suggested, it is bound to have serious implications for villages such as Bampton, where services are already stretched: the Primary School full, the Health Centre at capacity and the sewage system almost over-burdened.

Of course additional housing is needed here, in particular, bungalows for retired folk looking to "downsize" and some further subsidised housing (but as this often comes as part of a larger package it could be problematic). The target for Bampton, as part of Oxfordshire's structure plan, may lie somewhere between 51 and 85 new houses by 2011. Alternatively, if the negotiations at District Council level are not sensitively and fairly handled, larger villages like this one may have to accept several times this number. How many of us would welcome another large estate on the outskirts?

Although no specific site for any such new development has yet been identified and no firm plans have been drawn up, this issue will certainly not go away. Once more details emerge as to how Oxfordshire intends to fulfil its "vision", residents of Bampton will have to ensure that their views are not ignored.

## THE LIBRARY Needs Your Help!

Use it or lose it forever . . .

Bampton is one of 30 libraries on a possible closure list put forward by the County Council. Only we can ensure Bampton is one of those saved.

Consultation questionnaires are now available in the library to give users and potential users of the service a chance to express their views. These documents have to be returned to the Museums Arts Libraries and Leisure Committee of the Council by 24th December. The results will then be collated and reported to their meeting on 27th January 1998.

### Robert Vesey Room

The library costs £16,538 per year to run. To help foot this bill, the library and WOAA will be opening a new Arts Exhibition and Tea Room in the Old Grammar School. Named Robert Vesey after the

### Next Steps

We can all help to protect our library in several ways:

1. Fill in a consultation form and get it in before 24th December. Don't worry if you don't use the library much at the moment. You or your family may well want to in the future!
2. Could you help run the Robert Vesey Room? Or just visit and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee in exchange for a small donation!
3. Go along to the library, talk to Jan (Fretton), our knowledgeable, patient and child-friendly librarian! The more you use the service, the less likely it is to be closed.

The library is a rich source of information designed to help us. While you're there why not take out a weekly-hire video from only £1 or run off a few photocopies for just 10p a sheet. All monies help to keep the library service in the village.

**BAMPTON VILLAGE HALL**

by Susan Phillips

Regular bookings in the Village Hall have increased in the past few weeks which is good news for those who enjoy energetic activities and the extra income is very welcome.



- MONDAY - Aerobics** 7.15pm and 8.15pm
- TUESDAY - Mothers Union** (2.30pm 1st of month) **Bridge Club** 7.30pm
- WEDNESDAY - WI** (2-4pm 1st of month)
- Children's Modern Dance Classes** - 3.30pm (5 to 7yrs) 4.30pm (7yr plus)
- Ladies Group** (7.30pm 3rd of month)
- THURSDAY - Childrens Tap Dance Classes** - 3.30pm (5 to 7yrs) 4.30pm (7yr plus) (Adult classes coming soon!)
- American Line Dancing** 7.30pm

Unfortunately the Badminton Club which used to meet on Tuesday mornings has folded due to lack of support. According to the Village Appraisal results many people in Bampton expressed a wish to play. Who are they and why have they not joined the Badminton Club? If you are keen to play, please contact **Judy House, Pippins Croft, Queen Street. Tel: 851406.** The Village Hall is marked out for Badminton and the net and other equipment is available for anyone who wishes to play when the Hall is not otherwise in use. Contact the Hirings Officer, **Christine Greaves, 38 Bushy Row. Tel: 850675.**

Earlier this year the Village Hall hiring charges were revised and it was decided to simplify some of them by making a set charge for sales and parties, they are as follows:-

**General Hire**

Morning Sessions 9am - 1pm	£4.50 per hour - meetings, classes etc.
Afternoon sessions 1pm - 6pm	£15.00 - meetings, sales, workshops, parties etc.
Weddings} 6pm - 1am	£15.00 - meetings, sales, workshops, parties etc.
Dances } (midnight on Saturday)	£50.00 (all inclusive)
Parties }	

Preparation time (up to 2hrs immediately preceding a function)

**Extras** £1.00 per hour

Musical events	
Licensed Bar	£4.50 per let
Use of Piano - by arrangement	£15.00 per let
Commercial Hire	
Badminton - by arrangement	£8.00 per hr or by arrangement
Hire of furniture - by arrangement	£2.00 per hour



**The Bampton Village Hall Committee reserves the right to alter the above charges giving 28 days notice.**

The special deposit required against damage, extra cleaning, lighting heating costs where appliances are not turned off etc. is to be raised from £50 to £100 at the Committee's discretion.

The Hiring Fees, even in a good year, do not cover the costs of running the Hall and carrying out necessary improvements. The Bampton 250 Club provides £750 annually but from time to time some extra fundraising has to be undertaken.

**A Table Top Sale in the hall is planned for Saturday, 7th February 1998.**

Anyone wishing to book a table (£6.00) should contact **Susan Phillips Tel: 850321.**

**St Mary's Junior Church.**

We meet every Sunday at 10.15am in the Bush Centre, except the 2nd Sunday in the month when we all attend the Family Service at St. Mary's.

The 1998 programme begins with a tea party on Saturday 17th January in the Bush Centre 4 - 6pm, tickets 50p. Further information **Margaret Battersby Tel: 850182.**

**TREASURE ISLAND**

Village Hall - 3pm

on Saturday, 10th January 1998

Tickets: £4.50 (concessions £3)

from The Cotton Club

Oxfordshire Touring Theatre

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presents a new adaption of

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Recommended for ages 6 and over.

For further information about the performance and a Childrens Workshop on the same day

contact **Susan Phillips Tel: 850321**

**FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S**

**THE CHRISTMAS**

**QUIZ**

in aid of Friends of St Mary's

Last year the Quiz contributed £155 to the fund-raising effort and a 1997 edition has been compiled for your enjoyment again. Copies of the Christmas Quiz (£1 each) will be available from 10th December from all the pubs, the Library, The Cotton Club and Abbey Properties. Do buy one and encourage your friends to do likewise. Answers must be in by Twelfth Night and the winner will receive a bottle of whisky.

**CHURCH SERVICES AT CHRISTMAS**

**St Mary's, Bampton**

**Christingle Service** - Sunday 14th December 10.30am.

**Advent Carol Service** (Bampton Summer Opera) - Sunday 21st December 4pm.

**Family Service** - Sunday 24th December 3pm.

**Midnight Mass** - Sunday 24th December 11.30pm.

**Family Service** - Sunday 25th December 10.30am.

**Methodist Church, Bampton**

**Candlelit Carol Service** - Sunday 14th December 6pm.

**Family Service** - Sunday 25th December 10.30am

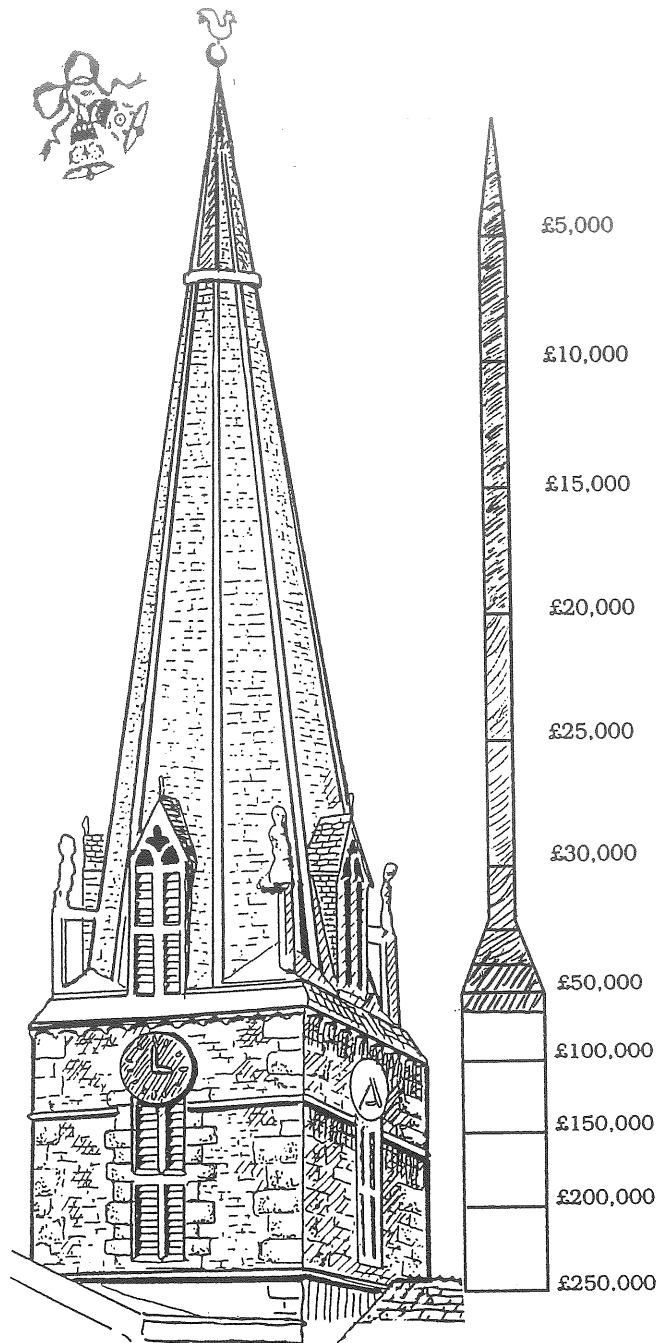
**St Joseph's Roman Catholic Church**

**Christmas Day** - Mass in St. Mary's Church 9am. (for other sevicees, please see notice board in porch).

**FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S BAMPTON**

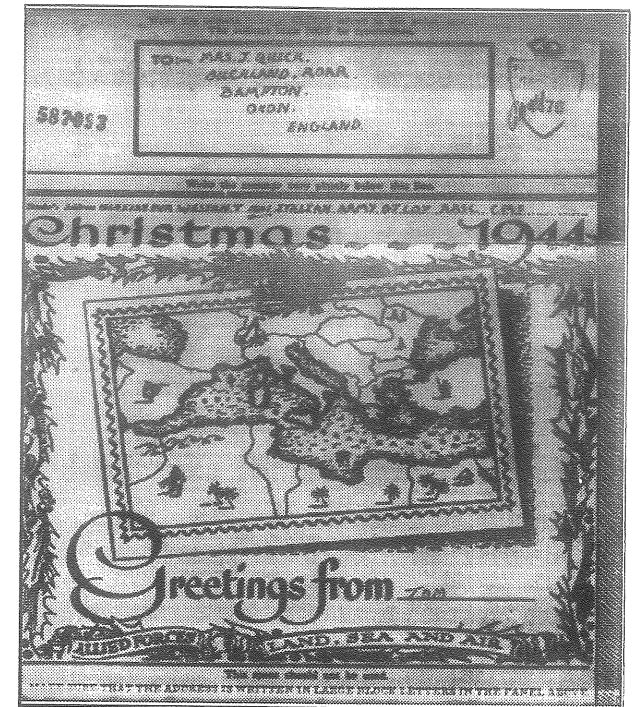
**Update**

The Friends of St. Mary's was set up in 1994 to help preserve the fabric of the church for future generations. It is a Grade 1 listed building and dates back to the 11th century. It is a very important part of Bampton's history and architecture. Having carried out major repairs to the spire in 1995 with the invaluable help of the PCC there is now approximately £45,000 in the account including a recently approved £3,000 grant from West Oxfordshire District Council towards the urgent repairs to the West and Norman doorways. We should hear before the end of the year whether we have been successful in our Lottery bid from the Heritage Fund. If we do get a grant, we can claim further support from Lambeth Palace and The Historic Churches Preservation Trust.



We have tried to raise £250,000 in four years. We still have a long way to go and only a year left to make our target. Are you someone who has not yet made a contribution? If so, please do so now and contact **Jonathan Phillips Tel: 850321.**

**CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM 1944.**



Christmas greetings like these were one way soldiers were able to let people at home know they were being remembered by the men at the Front in the Second World War.

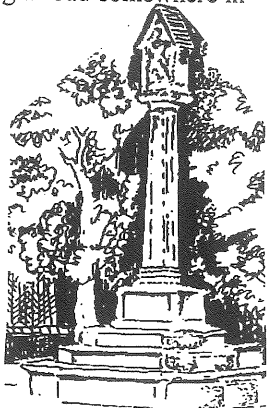
This card was sent to Mrs Edie Quick from her sister Mrs Louie Weston's husband Tom, who was in the Army in Italy.

There is rather a nice story concerning Tom Weston and Arthur Beckley, (who I'm sure Bampton people will know). Tom was on his way to some secret destination when his ship was torpedoed, and went down. A ship arrived to rescue the survivors. Once aboard, the tea and Woodbines being brought round, there was Arthur (who was in the Navy) handing Tom a cup. What a surprise for both of them.

In another coincidence, I know my father, John Quick, resting up with his regiment met up with Francis Shergold who was marching along a road somewhere in Germany.

**REMEMBRANCE IN BAMPTON**

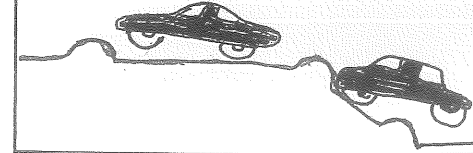
On Tuesday 11th November a small group of British Legion Women's Section Ladies met at the Memorial to take the two minute silence. Several other village people came over and joined them. Hopefully next year a few more will come.





# BAMPTON'S TRAFFIC CALMING SCHEME OVERWHELMINGLY APPROVED BY RESIDENTS

written by Roger Howard, Parish Councillor



The Parish Council's major investigation into traffic was displayed for public view in September. In addition to reports and technical data, a series of drawings showed a proposed traffic calming scheme.

The aims of the exhibition were to highlight the traffic problem, to present a detailed investigation going back twelve months and to publicise the opportunities for a scheme. Visitors overwhelmingly praised and supported both the consultative process and the scheme itself.

Following this, public comments were reviewed by a traffic committee. Minor adjustments were made and consideration was given to a small number of suggestions which may require expensive funding.

Details in Parish Council minutes in the Library and Post Office.

### Some background

For many years residents have asked what can be done about traffic in this area. Roads are the responsibility of the County Council, so there is little that Parish Councils can do. Bampton does not qualify for any help because we do not meet the criteria for accidents, traffic, or level of urgency.

Bampton sits between two (of three) nearby routes over the River Thames and suffers especially from traffic growth and expansion of nearby towns and villages. The A4095 passes through us and we are used as a short cut for the A420 and the A40. We have already had road improvements, which have undermined its character and raised speeds.

As this was only a 'self-help' investigation, we approached local Parishes, emergency services and others for their advice and support. Apparently there is no ready answer on how to investigate traffic calming. We therefore decided on an independent survey in stages.

In February P.C. Leathe, an experienced traffic policeman came to take the first survey. He covered everything from driver behaviour to various calming measures which might be applicable. Our thanks go to PC Leather for his excellent help and guidance.

In April the County Highway Authority took their survey. The Area Road Engineer broadly agreed with the Police survey and offered further suggestions and explained County Councils options: no funding, but free help and advice.

### The Scheme

Following this advice and County Highwayways procedure we appointed Messrs. PCS Associates to look at lowering speeds along the affected routes, which, in turn would create a traffic management plan.

PCS survey the area and found our roads presented a unique challenge. They designed an affordable scheme consisting of the very latest measures but carefully minimizing adverse effects on village appearance. All these schemes can be amended easily and inexpensively if the need arises.

**The Future**  
Our scheme has been submitted to the County Highway Department with detailed additions for Weald ap-

proach and several adjustments elsewhere. We still have the problem of heavy lorries and others rat-running through the village and we need to investigate the traffic scheme in New Road again (hopefully in 1998). A separate traffic survey is planned with wide terms of reference with the aim of providing much needed independent views of ALL the issues of traffic, but this will be in the hands of the new incoming Parish Council next Spring.

Our thanks go to Bampton residents and others for attending the exhibition, for supporting the proposals and giving suggestions for future developments. Thanks also to the Police - who are operating speed radar on certain roads - to County Highwayways personnel for their guidance and Messrs. PCS Associates. Finally, thank you for driving slowly and carefully through Bampton and remember -

**Slow down and you will also slow the vehicles behind you.**

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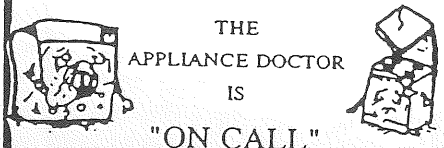
**BAMPTON FAX BUREAU**

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**BAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWS**



**RETIREMENT FOR JIM**  
 It is with much regret that we announce the resignation of Mr Jim Gascoigne for health reasons. Jim served on the Council for 14 years and his words of wisdom will be sorely missed. The Parish Council greatly appreciate his contribution over the years.

complain about the noise please ring the **RAF Brize Norton Community Relations Officer direct on Tel: 896219.**



**DOG FOULING**  
 The district council agrees to supply dog fouling bins in Sandfords Field and elsewhere and to be responsible for emptying them. **The Parish Council urges dog owners to please act responsibly and use these bins to help keep the village clean and tidy.**

**COUNTY COUNCIL CUTS**  
 The rate cap on the county budget threatens the Library and the Youth Club although we are being assured the Fire Station is safe for the present. The Parish Council will do all it can to keep these facilities and will advise of any planned action.

**BRIDGE STREET**  
 After pressure on the county council the railings are repaired. The Parish is also pressing for the pavements to be improved throughout the village.

**PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT - Station Road.**  
 Despite Council's numerous objections this is being taken to appeal. We will continue to object to the plans and keep the public informed.

**POLICE LIAISON**  
 Inspector Paul Hayles from Thames Valley Police told the meeting on October 2nd crime in the Bampton area has fallen significantly in the last two years. He emphasised the importance of all crime being reported for a true picture to emerge. There is currently a drive to recruit Special Constables. The Regional Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator, Maddy Tarplee also attended. See page 9 for details.



**RECREATION GROUND PAVILION**  
 Planning permission is granted and Fire and Building regulations satisfied. The working group has also consulted the police on security. Steady progress is being made towards getting funding. The main application is for a Lottery grant of £200,000 which is essential for building to start in Spring. We also hope for help from the district council, the Forestry Commission and the Football Association.

**REFUSE SKIPS**  
 The refuse skips provided by the council outside the Town Hall and elsewhere on a rota are for "Bulky Household Waste" ONLY, and not for commercial use. Please be considerate as the skips soon fill up - especially due to the thoughtlessness of those putting in things like empty cardboard boxes which could at least be flattened first. Better still put them in recycling bins elsewhere.

**AIRCRAFT NOISE FROM BRIZE NORTON**  
 The Parish Council wrote to the station commander following numerous complaints. A reply stated the RAF position that noise has not increased but if anything has dropped in recent years. The main cause of this noise pollution is the anti-quieted VC10 which will remain in service for some years. Could the Ministry of Defence consider early replacement with the quieter 757 or 767? If you wish to

**SUMMER FLOWERING**  
 Thanks and congratulations to all the pubs and businesses which took the trouble to help make the village so attractive with so many beautiful hanging baskets and tubs.

**SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF BAMPTON**

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

To achieve these aims we need the largest possible membership.

If you aren't already a member,

**DO JOIN NOW**

Send your membership fee of £2 each (£1 for OAPs) for the period up to December 31st 2000, to:

Society for the Protection of Bampton  
 Manor House,  
 Bampton, Oxon OX18 2LQ

**BAMPTON SMALL BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**

**LATE NIGHT SHOPPING & CRAFT FAIR**

**THE VILLAGE HALL**

**18TH DECEMBER**

Father Christmas, Carols,  
 The Bampton Mummies  
 and lots lots more.

Please come and join us

**KEEP JOBS IN BAMPTON 'USE THEM OR LOSE THEM'**





### WITNEY AND DISTRICT CARERS

A Carer can be a relative, friend or neighbour who looks after someone of any age who, because of illness or disability, cannot manage without help.

We are looking for volunteers in your area willing to give a few hours a month to be 'Carers Contacts'.

'Carer Contacts' are the local point of contact for Carers and let them know about support the Carers Centre can offer by publicising the service. We will train and support you so that you can do the work with confidence and we offer out of pocket expenses. Some relief care costs can be met for Carers wishing to volunteer.

For more details or an informal chat about the voluntary work contact, volunteer co-ordinator, **Jenny Magee, Tel: 0345 125546**

### BAMPTON CARERS GROUP

The group has a new venue and meeting time, Bampton Town Hall on the 1st Wednesday of the month 2-4pm. There will be refreshments, bring-and-by stall, information and support, so do drop in and see us.

### MINI BUS

A local company with care staff in the Witney area will shortly have available a mini bus with tail-lift and wheel chair facilities for that special outing, short break or just shopping trip.

Contact **Lyn or Shaun Tel: 778702**.

### CARERS WEEK

As we went out and about in the Witney and Carterton area, new and existing carers came to chat. Our stands were also visited by other members of the community interested in our service. It was also very helpful for me as Carer Support Worker to meet people and gain a better understanding of carer needs.

Thank you to everyone, from Helen de Salis.

### CARERS CHRISTMAS PARTY

Tuesday 16th December 12am - 3pm  
This includes Christmas lunch and fun.



### HEALTH HELPLINE TARGETS PEOPLE LIVING IN RURAL AREAS

Oxfordshire Health Authority provides a free and confidential Information Service which can be reached by calling **freephone 0880 665544**. The service which is run by the Health Trust is available to everyone and is open from Monday to Friday between 9am-5pm. The Health Information Service can provide details of local and national self-help support groups, local NHS services, information on medical conditions and treatments to complement medical advice, Patient's Charter Information, local hospital waiting times and healthy lifestyle information. Information can be given over the telephone or sent out by first class post. Also available to callers is a free postal book/video loan service.

It is a simple, confidential and direct way of getting up-to-date information to help make informed decisions about health.

For further information contact:

Tracy Dighton, Communications Manager, Oxfordshire Health Authority, Richards Building, Old Road, Headington, Oxford. OX3 7LG  
**Tel: 01865 227026.**

### DIALABILITY AND THE DISABLED LIVING CENTRE

Dialability is a registered charity mostly staffed by volunteers who have personal experience of disability. We provide a wide range of information for people with disabilities, their families, friends and carers.

Dialability runs a helpline which is available Monday-Wednesday-Friday from 10am-4pm, and on Thursday 1-4pm. Helpline operators have information on where to get an Orange badge, benefits advice, hire of equipment such as wheelchairs, beds etc, local support organisations, vehicle adaptations and assessment centres and lots more.

Dialability also has a **Disabled Living Centre** with a wide range of equipment for independent living on display. Our independent Living Advisor, Ruth Clevely, can give advice and information on bathing aids, easy recliner chairs, walking aids, back care products, as well as kitchen equipment like tap turners, kettle tippers,

jar openers and much more. All equipment is available to try although we cannot sell or loan items. We have details of local suppliers as well as national organisations, and companies that will hire out their products. Dialability also has a mobile unit, called **DILI** (Dialability Independent Living Information). It is a 20' long wheelchair accessible trailer that holds information specific to disability support groups, benefits and lots more. DILI also holds some small pieces of equipment for people to try out.

The mobile unit will be visiting Witney, Market Square on Wednesday 4th March between 10am and 3pm.

To find out how Dialability can help you, or to book an appointment to see our Independent Advisor **Tel: 01865 791818**.

### WEST OXON CITIZEN ADVOCACY

'Voices required!'

Independent volunteer voices are required to speak up for people living in West Oxfordshire who cannot speak up for themselves. Could you make a one-to-one mid to long-term relationship with someone who cannot speak up effectively for themselves? One or two hours a fortnight could make a major difference to the quality of life of someone else. No qualifications required - just **you** as you are. Contact **Anthony Richards Tel: 704826**. **It's good to talk . . .**

For more information write to:  
Rural Action, FREEPOST GL 485  
Cirencester, Glous. GL7 1BR  
Tel: 01285 659599. Fax: 01285 654537

### OXFORDSHIRE CHILDREN NEEDING YOUR HELP.

Children in this area need local people to offer them a home.

Oxfordshire County Council's Family Placement Teas are looking for ordinary people of all ages and from all walks of life to become foster carers.

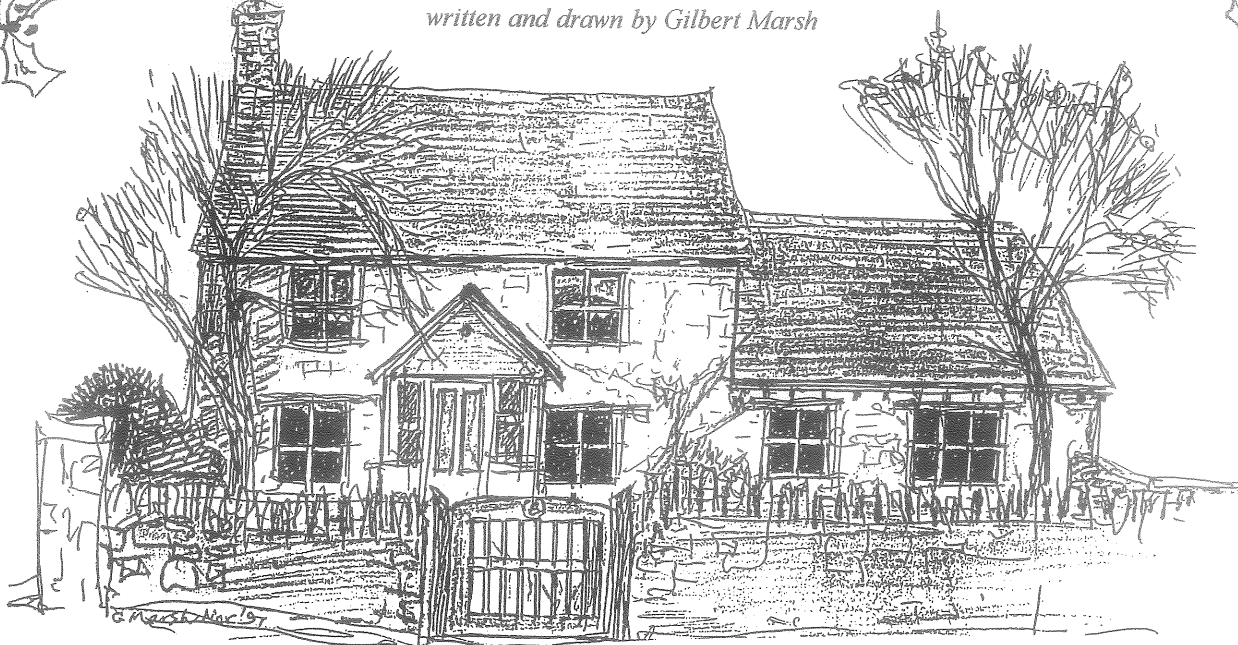
Fostering allowances in Oxfordshire are generous, non-taxable, and do not effect your entitlement to State benefits. We give fostering applicants training and support after approval.

Find out whether fostering is right for you by calling your local Social Services Office, and asking for the Children's Family Placement Team. **Tel: 01295 252421**.



## ARCHITECTURE AROUND BAMPTON

written and drawn by Gilbert Marsh



This cottage on the Buckland Road near the bridge was recently extended on the right hand side at ground floor level. The harmonious result shows that there is such a thing as a successful addition, even in these days. As the new materials weather, the old and new work will blend together even better than they do now. The scale of the extension flatters the original cottage, and the related window proportions create unity. The oak front gate of unusual design, is embellished by a carved mouse on the top rail.

## DO YOU WANT A CRIME-FREE VILLAGE?

A village wide scheme to cut crime is being started involving police, individuals and community groups. "Village Watch" is Neighbourhood Watch for the whole of Bampton and will pay special attention to elderly and other vulnerable people, especially those living alone.

Area watch co-ordinators representing every twenty or thirty houses will pass information to and from an overall Village Watch Scheme Co-ordinator. That person will be trained to manage the scheme and make sure everyone in the network, including police, knows what is going on.

### WILL YOU HELP?

An open meeting will be called in the Village Hall to appoint Area Co-ordinators. There will be plenty of other jobs to do including special care, administration and circulating information, so volunteers will be needed.

Graham Newman is prepared to take on the job of Village Scheme Co-ordinator. If you can help him or want to know more please fill in the slip below and put it in the Beam Box in Abbey Properties. Or phone Graham **Tel: 850755/851028**

## BAMPTON VILLAGE WATCH SCHEME

I would very much like to support Bampton in the new Bampton Village Watch Scheme

I would also be very interested in helping set up this new Bampton Village Watch Scheme

Name .....

Address .....

Telephone No. ....



**BAMPTON GARDENING CLUB**

**25th Anniversary Flower Show**

On 9th August the sun was shining down on Bampton Youth Centre and the Bush Centre for this special 25th Flower Show, which was officially opened by Mr Richard Briars.

The flowers and vegetables were judged by Mr and Mrs Wooldridge and Mr and Mrs Jannoway judged the hanging baskets, window boxes and tubs. The winners were presented with their trophies by the President Lady Donoughmore.

**Overall Points**

**Lady Anne Montague Cup:** Ray Taylor.  
**Jack Horne Cup:** J. Brooks.  
**BHS Member only:** Mrs V. Elwood.

**Roses**

**Ileane Hammond Rose Bowl and Raymond Taylor Cup:** Mr J. Brooks.

**Sweet Peas**

**Sidney Constable Cup:** Mr J. Harrison.

**Carnations**

**Andrew Pierce Cup:** Ray Taylor.

**Begonia**

**Henry Bone Cup:** J. Garrison.

**Busy Lizzie**

**Win Woodley Cup:** Mrs V. Elwood.

**Cucumbers**

**John Smith Cup:** J. Garrison

**Vegetable Collection**

**Beam Cup:** J. Brooks.

**Cottager's Collection**

**Reg Pratley Cup:** J. Brooks

**Flower Arranging**

**Frank Collett Cup:** Mrs Y. Taylor.

**Window Boxes - Commercial**

**John Taylor Cup:** Mrs D. Pullen.

**Tub, Window Box - Private**

G Knight

**Hanging Basket - Commercial**

**Alan and Kathy Clarke Cup:** Jubilee Inn.

**Hanging Basket - Private**

**Peggy Alcutt Cup:** G. Knight

**Bampton Allotment**

**Stan Hawkins Silver Plate:** Ray Borrett

**Best Small Garden**

**Lady Lathbury Cup:** Mrs S. Smith

**Ladies Only**

**Liz Chambers Silver Plate:** Mrs V. Elwood.

**Deserving Effort**

**Vice President's Cup:** Mrs Liz Chambers.

**Own Choice Exhibition**

**Mrs P. Smith Cup:** Mary Bowman.

**Childrens Section**

**Betty Adams Cup 5-7:** Alexandra Clarke.

**Betty Adams Cup 8-10:** Harrie Clarke

**Peter Rainbow Cup: 11-13:** Emily Constance.

**Win Woodley Cup:** Adam Bowman



*Les King's Winning Dahlia's*

**Autumn Show 20th Sept.**

The Autumn Flower Show was held in conjunction with a Coffee Morning and Stalls which were organised by different societies of Bampton.

The flowers were judged by Mr Woolridge and the results were as follows:

**Dahlia**

**Cactus or Semi:**

L. King, J. Garrison, J. Brooks.

**Semi Medium:** Mrs B. Collett.

**Decorative:** J. Garrison.

**Decorative Med Blooms:** Mrs B Collett.

**Gladioli**

**3 Spikes:** K. Durham

**1 spike:** K. Durham, J. Brooks.

**Chrysanthemums**

**Incurved:** J. Garrison, J. Brooks

**3 Blooms:** J. Brooks, J. Garrison.

**1 Bloom:** J. Brooks, J. Garrison.

**Spray:** J. Brooks, Mrs L. Chambers, J. Garrison.

**Sunflower Head:** Mathew Sissons.

**Tallest Sunflower:** C. J. Brawn.

**Tallest Hollyhock:** A. Minto.

**THE SPAJERS**

**Annual Donkey Derby**

Our traditional Donkey Derby was a great success. This was due in no small part to all those people who helped run the races and stalls and the indispensable Don Rouse on the vocal chords!

Thanks to those who gave their time or spent their money two coaches filled with local pensioners had an outing to Weston-Super-Mare in September. Great fun - and one couple even went on the Ghost Train! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all, especially those who've supported us so kindly through the year.

**BAMPTON PUMPKIN CLUB**

A record number of entries brought a tense weigh in. The results declared by weighmasters Ron Bateman and John Simpson are:

**The pumpkin:**

Adults:

1. Mr Roger Glyde 167.5lb

2. Mr John Buckingham 153lb

3. Mr Staurt Lenlard 97.5lb

Juniors:

1. Carly, Aaron and Nathan Smea 117.5lb

2. G. Palmer 97.75lb

3. E. Glyde 86.5lb

**Marrows:**

1. Mr P. Hartly 22.5lb

2. Mrs Kath Tanner 21.25lb

3. Roger Glyde 16.75lb

The auction followed conducted by Graham Taylor and Keith Sykes. All the monies contributed from the evening provide a Christmas gift to the pensioners.



**DISTRICT COUNCIL NEWS**

*from Jonathan Phillips District Councillor*



**NORTH EAST CARTERTON DEVELOPMENT**

This has been discussed again by Planning Committee and outline planning consent granted subject to conditions. The County Highways Department was present to try to allay fears over the link road to the A40 south of Minster Lovell. Several councillors, myself included, are still not happy with this particularly as it will not be built before development starts and none of the previous objections have been resolved. I envisage considerable traffic congestion in Aston, Bampton and particularly Minster Lovell and Brize Norton while the development takes place and for Minster Lovell and Brize Norton thereafter. In any development if you don't get the roads right you are asking for trouble.

**NORTH EAST WITNEY DEVELOPMENT**

The good news is the Cogges Link road funding appears to be in place although it will not be built before the development commences. No provision has been confirmed as yet for the extra pupils who will go to Wood Green School and the developers contribution to Low Cost Housing was considered inadequate. It was suggested that Sainsburys be asked to provide a bridging loan to enable the Cogges Link to be put in before the house building begins. Once these matters have been

resolved the development will be considered again.

**OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL STRUCTURE PLAN 1996 - 2011**

The bad news, announced last month, is that Witney has been asked to have an additional 1000 houses during this period making a new total of 2,700. In the rural areas of West Oxfordshire the number remains at 4,050 new houses and has not been reduced as we had requested. All this despite the fact that there is no money to improve the A40 to Oxford where most people work. No additional houses were proposed for Oxford City! The County is continuing to concentrate on houses in Bicester, Banbury, Didcot and Witney. All except Witney have rail communications! Witney cannot grow much more without destroying its character.

**PLANNING APPEALS**

West Oxfordshire District Council has refused planning permission for further developments in North Leigh, Bampton and Minster Lovell as it wishes to concentrate development at the moment in Carterton and Witney in order to spare the rural villages. The developers in North Leigh and Bampton have lodged appeals against this decision and dates have been set for the hearings. No doubt the Minster

Lovell developer will also appeal. If you feel strongly on these developments please make your views known through your Parish Council who can give you the correct address to which to write.

**DISTRICT COUNCIL BUDGETS 98/99**

Next month the Council will begin to plan its budget for next year. With the demand for extra leisure and sporting facilities, a growing interest in better recycling, and the fact that both WODC and Parishes are having to take on so many of the services previously provided by the County Council it is likely that our Council Tax will rise again next year.

**YOUTH CLUB UNDER THREAT**

In the Budget for 1998/99 the County Council is proposing to cut the Youth Service. This will either mean the loss of 21 Youth Workers or the closure of all County owned Youth Centres including Bampton. This is a disgraceful proposal. The grants for maintaining and running Youth Centres have been slashed by over half in the past few years. Youth Centres are not only used by Youth Clubs but also by Scouts, Guides and Brownies and the closure of these would be a devastating blow for all who work with the young. The Parish Council through the Parish Rate already funds one of the Club's two weekly evening sessions. Please contact your County Councillor, Steve Haywood, 64 Corn Street, Witney, Oxon Tel: 703385 to let him know your objections to these proposals.

**BAMPTON BILL**

*by Andy!*



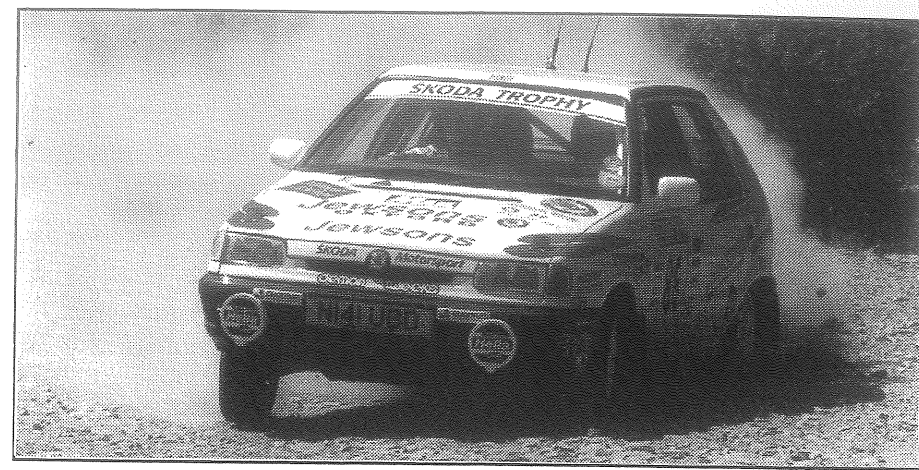


# LOCAL BAMPTON MAN TIM GREEN IN THREE DAY RAC RALLY

Bampton Rally Driver Tim Green with the assistance of The Pitstop of Brize Norton competed in this years Network Q RAC

lower power class means that we are no direct competition to the front runners but the vicious battle for class honours will-

Rally. Tim drives for the Jewson Skoda Rally team a private team that has competed in this years Skoda Trophy rally Championship, a one make series for identical Group N Showroom Class 1300 Skoda Felicia's. The team were pleased to have finished in 3rd place after a rather mixed but fiercely competitive season. Tim Green explained that they wanted to use the RAC Rally which is a hugely popular event as an opportunity to raise funds for the Children's Critical Care Unit at the John Radcliffe Hospital. They expected strong local support with the route passing through our region for the first time for many years.



Tim Green and Co-driver Rob Smith in their Skoda Felicia.

Tim Green & co-driver Rob Smith, a motor technician from Swindon were the only privateer Skoda team to successfully qualify for this years Network Q RAC Rally. The entry was reduced to 160 starters and will be even more competitive than previous years. "The new more compact three day route means that we have to go flat out from the start. It is still arguably the most gruelling event in the world and with attracting the best drivers in the world there is no time to back off" Tim told us. "Running in a much



Tim Green and the Skoda crew

pressed with the Felicia this year which has produced some astonishing results". The 53rd Network Q RAC Rally took place at the end of November. Spectator stages were organised at Blenheim Palace

have produced some great viewing for spectators. As a driver I have had the option of running much more powerful machinery but I have been extremely im-

pressed with the Felicia this year which has produced some astonishing results". The 53rd Network Q RAC Rally took place at the end of November. Spectator stages were organised at Blenheim Palace

Silverstone circuit complex, Woburn, Millbrook and Donnington Park Race Circuit. Cheltenham Race Course also hosted a large spectator stage with facilities for 70,000 spectators.

There were 26 special stages and the rally covered 1,148 miles in total before returning to the Race Course at Cheltenham. The treacherously slippery forest section ran over the Forestry commission roads throughout Wales. The rally itself is the U.K.'s largest single spectator event with 21/2million 'live' spectators and television pictures in 71 countries around the world.

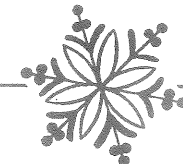
The Jewson Felicia rally car has appeared in various displays prior to the rally in an effort to raise further funds for the Children's Critical Care Unit. Anyone wishing to make a donation contact Tim Green.

Entering a private team in a rally of this size required a substantial budget and the Jewson Skoda Team are extremely grateful to the Ixion Motor Group, the Pitstop rolling road at Brize Norton, Green & Co Estate Agents, John Mant Solicitors, Race Car

Paints Faringdon, Milagro Design and Castrol (U.K.) Ltd., for their support.

For further information - Tim Green  
Tel: 01235 763562 (days) 851544 (eves).

# BAMPTON RECREATION GROUND



## BAMPTON BOYS F.C.

### "The Bees"

by Mrs Lindon Burley,  
Manager Under 14's.

Bampton Boys F.C. continues to go from strength to strength, fielding 4 teams each week with two of these currently top of the league.



The under 10's have 24 players signed on (enough for two teams) and have played three games and won all three. The under 12's, who seem to be invincible, also have a full squad and are currently top of their league having scored many goals and conceded a few.

The under 14's have struggled to find their form, but are improving as the season continues.

The under 15's, who have a full squad, are also in fine form scoring numerous goals and conceding only a handful.

The under 12's and 15's are progressing well in their cup competitions.

The under 10's play on Saturday mornings and the three older teams play on Sunday afternoons.

Anyone wishing to come and watch would be more than welcome. There is usually one team playing at home on a Sunday, so if you would like to see some real, live entertainment, then please come along. The teams would be grateful for your support.

If you would like to help in any way towards the continued success of the Club, please do not hesitate to contact Mike Whalley Tel: 850048 or Linden Burley Tel: 850793.

## BAMPTON TENNIS CLUB

by Di. O'Brien, Chairman.

Another successful tournament was held this year at the beginning of August. Once again we were lucky with the weather. The Junior section was won by Zelma Whitear and Tim Burley and the Senior section by Doreen Barnes and John Parks.

Coaching sessions have been held on Saturday mornings and during school holidays for junior members led by Simon Bamber.

Membership is still rising but there is room for more. If interested please contact the Membership Secretary - John Williams Tel: 850860.

## BAMPTON-IN-THE-BUSH CRICKET CLUB

Starting from scratch this season, we have achieved so much. Many games were played, some we lost, some we won.

The good news is we now have a sponsor, so next season the team will be dressed in their new whites.

Also, during the summer the all weather batting pitch was laid. Next season their should be no holding back Bampton-in-the-Bush cricket team.

Anyone of any age or ability interested in playing cricket please contact Alan Clarke Tel: 850201, The Horseshoe, Bampton

## BAMPTON RECREATION GROUND BASKETBALL

Calling all basketball players. Many people expressed an interest in the Village Appraisal in playing basketball. There is a purpose built court at the Recreation Ground and I know some of you would love to start a Basketball Club. Now is your chance! Please contact Hannah Shuker, 17 The Pieces Tel: 850830 or Tessa Gladders, 3 Castle View Tel: 851072. Tessa has agreed to help Hannah to get this going and might assist with coaching.

## BAMPTON CUBS AND SCOUTS CAN YOU SPARE AN HOUR A WEEK?

The 1st Bampton Cub and Scout Group is one of the oldest in the West Oxfordshire District of the Scouting Movement. The group has enjoyed mixed fortunes over the years, but at its peak a Beaver Colony, Cub Pack and Scout Troop were all well attended.

The group enjoys the luxury of excellent facilities at the rear of Bampton Youth Centre where the Cub Pack meets on Wednesday evenings 7.30 to 8.30pm. The Cub Pack has 28 boys on the books and an adequate number of adult helpers. There is currently a full waiting list for Beavers. Cubs normally go on to one of the other Scout Troops in the District.

Over the last year the boys have enjoyed a wide range of activities including a district camp, swimming competitions, camping at Youlbury Scout Camp, a visit to Oxford United FC and participation in various badge work.



Be Prepared

However, what the group really needs is a Beaver Colony and a Scout Group - what we do not have are adult staff to run these 2 sections. Support is available from the Executive Committee and training is available from the District Organisation. Have you ever been involved in the Scouting Movement? Would you like to do something to help the youth of today? Can you spare an hour a week? Do you think you could help - if you do then please contact Phil Roberts Tel: 851267.



**BAMPTON BRIDGE CLUB**

The Club meets in the Village Hall every Tuesday 7.30pm - 10.30pm. Duplicate bridge is played on the 1st, 3rd, and any 5th Tuesday of the month; Rubber bridge on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday.

The Annual subscription is £5.00 with a charge of 75p per session.

New members are always welcome.

For more information please contact Mrs Joan Granville, Tel: 850407.

**THE BAMPTON BUSH CENTRE**

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

We encourage our members to play games, and take part in activities. We raise our own funds for outings to places of interest, theatre trips and to pay for speakers.

We would welcome new helpers. For more information please contact joint coordinators, Joan Granville Tel: 850407, Vera Allport Tel: 850411.

**AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL**

The dates for the next two meetings of our local branch will be Monday 1st September and Monday 1st December. Both meetings start at 8pm.

We meet at the Tolkien Room, Abbey Lane, Eynsham and always welcome visitors. Further information from Kim Simkin Tel: 883937.

**BAMPTON EXHIBITION FOUNDATION**

The foundation exists to maintain the Old Grammer School building (now the Library) and to provide financial support to young people residing in the Ancient Parish of Bampton, Aston, Lew and Weald. The financial help is for young people who would like to participate in any academic or sporting course or activity of educational value which would otherwise be beyond their means.

We try to offer a bursary of 50% of the

**NOTICE BOARD**

amount required. Anyone who feels they qualify (or knows of someone who may do so) should contact Roger Snow Tel: 850113.

**WHIST DRIVE**

The Bampton Fire Service is holding a Christmas Whist Drive on Tuesday 16th December in the Firestation at 7.30pm. Tickets are £1.50p each. For further information Tel: 850815.

**DANCE CLASSES**

Wednesday

Modern - 5 - 7yrs 3.30pm in Bampton Youth Centre.

Thursday

Tap - 5 - 7yrs 3.30pm & 7yrs 4.30pm in The Village Hall.

For more information contact Rachel Tel: 850755.

**BAMPTON GARDENING CLUB**

The Bampton gardening Club held its AGM in The village Hall on Friday 21st November. The new committee is as follows:-

President: The Countess of Donoughmore  
Chairman: Vacant

Vice Chairman: Mr Ray Taylor

Treasurer: Mr Tony Jenkin

Secretary: Christine McLintock

Trophy Secretary: Christopher Brawn

Membership Secretary: Carol Jones

Social Secretary: Jan Webb

Show Secretary: Vacant

General Members: Mollie Jones, Fenella Gray, Gary Gummer, Christine Hughes, Christopher Hickman and Liz Chambers.

Ray Taylor thanked the out going committee for all their hard work during the year. He also thanked Lin Edgar the outing Chairlady for the past three years and presented her with a lovely bouquet of flowers.

Afterwards everyone enjoyed a glass of wine and refreshments organised by the out going committee.

The position of Chairman and Show Secretary are still vacant, so anyone willing to take these positions on please contact Carol Jones Tel: 850456.

**THE BAMPTON APPRAISAL**

The long-awaited appraisal could offer some insight into the views of Bamptonians about future housing developments but where is it? The latest news is that it will be with us by next month. Let's hope the organisers don't find themselves having to deliver at least another 85 copies; they might do if they leave it too long!

**GUESS WHO IN BAMPTON HAS HAD A DRIVING LICENCE FOR 70 YEARS THIS DECEMBER?**

ANSWER IN APRIL'S ISSUE OF THE BEAM

**THE BURFORD SINGERS**

The Burford Singers next concert with the Cotswold

Chamber Orchestra, will be a performance of Brahms Requiem and Verdi Te Deum on Sunday 7th December at 7.30pm, in Burford Parish Church. It will be conducted by Brian Etheridge.

The Soloists will be Julie Kennard (soprano) and Michael George (baritone). Reserved tickets and further information, from Brian Etheridge at Burford Gallery Tel: 822305. Tickets £10 and £8 (students £5 and £4).

**CLANFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Meetings at the Carter Institute, Clanfield at 7.30pm are followed by coffee and biscuits.

The following are dates for your diary:

20th January - Dorothy Wise

William Taylor - Footman & Diarist 1837

17th February - Barry Pain

The British Crown Jewels

17th March - Molly Stafford

Waddesdon Manor and its collections

21st April - Tim Porter

King Alfred - Fact and Fantasy

19th May - Annual General Meeting

Peter Creswell - Clanfield 'Road Show'.

Membership £4.50 or £8 per couple. Visitors welcome £1. For further enquiries

contact Angie Bell Tel: 810688.

**BAMPTON PRE-SCHOOL PLAYGROUP**

The A.G.M. was held on 23rd September, the new committee as follows:

President: Mrs Janet Newman.

Chairperson: Mrs Lynn Higman  
14 Glebelands, Tel: 851380.

Treasurer: Mrs Sonya Paige  
8 Pembroke Place, Tel: 851948

Secretary: Mrs Anna Pitt

The Granary, Mount Owen, Tel: 850226

Head Supervisor: Mrs Elaine Townsend  
Tel: 850168

Assistant Supervisor: Mrs Tracy Prior  
Tel: 851826

Waiting List Administrator: Carol Box  
Tel: 851573.

On December 8th we are holding the Playgroup Christmas Concert.

**NOTICE BOARD****BAMPTON SMALL BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**

On Thursday 18th December Bampton Small Business Association will be holding a late night shopping evening together with a Craft Fair in the village hall. Other events will include - Father Christmas, carols around the Christmas tree with Swanny Lane and the Bampton Playgroup, The Bampton Mummers, Bampton Fire Engine, a crime prevention exhibition, tea and coffee in the village hall, hot snacks in the Market Square, charity stalls. The shops and the Bank will be open late to coincide with this event.

Come and enjoy a traditional festive atmosphere and do your Christmas shopping whilst supporting all of your local shops, others traders and charities.

A few stalls are still available in the Village Hall so if your business or charity would like one then please contact Tony Hughs Tel: 851458.

**BAMPTON YOUTH CENTRE**

The Centre occupies the old Primary School in Church View. The building was saved from demolition and renovated in 1984, mainly as a result of the efforts of and money raised by the people of Bampton. The County Council contributes towards running costs but there is also invaluable help from the village's own '250 Club'. The Centre is run by a committee of volunteers with the objectives of encouraging and providing accommodation for youth activities. The main organisations for young people currently operating are the Youth Club - meeting on Tuesday and Thursday evenings - and the Cubs, who meet on Wednesday evenings. Leaders for the Youth Club are partly funded by the County Council and partly by Bampton Parish Council.

**BAMPTON WELFARE TRUST**

The object of the Trust "shall be to relieve generally or individually, persons resident in the area of the ancient Parish of Bampton who are in conditions of need,

hardships or distress" (Charity Commission).

If you need help from Bampton Welfare Trust, contact: Janet Newman Tel: 850755 or any of the Trustees: The Rev. D.J. Lloyd, Major R. Colville, Mrs S. Phillips, Mrs I. Humphries, Mrs J. Haslam, Mrs T. Piercy, Mrs H. Radclyffe (Lew), Mr G. Wiltshire (Aston), Mr G. Milner (Aston).

The trust has offered to contribute to Volunteer Reading Help if a candidate can be found to work in Bampton and Aston Primary Schools. Volunteer Reading Help works on a simple and effective formula - selecting and training volunteers from the local community to go twice a week into primary schools to give individual help to children experiencing difficulty with their reading.

If you think you could help contact Susan Phillips Tel: 850321.

**Macmillan**  
Bampton, Faringdon and Carterton  
cancer relief

We will be holding a Christmas Bazaar in Bampton Village Hall on Saturday 6th December, 10am - 2pm. Lots of stalls and plenty of Christmas presents to buy. Look forward to seeing you there.

**THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY**

The annual box collection this year raised £316.68 a record for recent years! Many thanks to all those people who gave so generously. A special thank you to Londis and the Surgery, where boxes are displayed all year round and provide us with a very valuable contribution. If anyone new would like to keep a box please contact Pauline Hawkins Tel: 851066.

**HELP!**

Copy of 'Images of Bampton' for studying. Does anyone know where I can obtain a copy?

Please contact  
Gaynor Cooper, Tel: 851153



# THE MUMMERS ARE ABOUT ONCE MORE AT CHRISTMAS - BEWARE

by Don Rouse

Robin Hood and his Merry Men, otherwise known as the Bampton Mummings will be maintaining one of Bampton's famous traditions again this year by performing around the houses and Pubs this Christmas Eve.

The Robin Hood of yesteryear supposedly robbed the rich to feed the poor, but Bampton's warrior is different he and his men entertain the young to raise money to entertain the not so young! i.e. S.P.A.J.E.R.ing! Back in the 1940's the Mummings would pocket the money raised like many of the young carol singers of the day, but from the late 60's they made donations to local charities, then in the 70's the decision was made to put it all into the S.P.A.J.E.R.S. fund and needless to say this very worthwhile cause has benefited from their efforts.

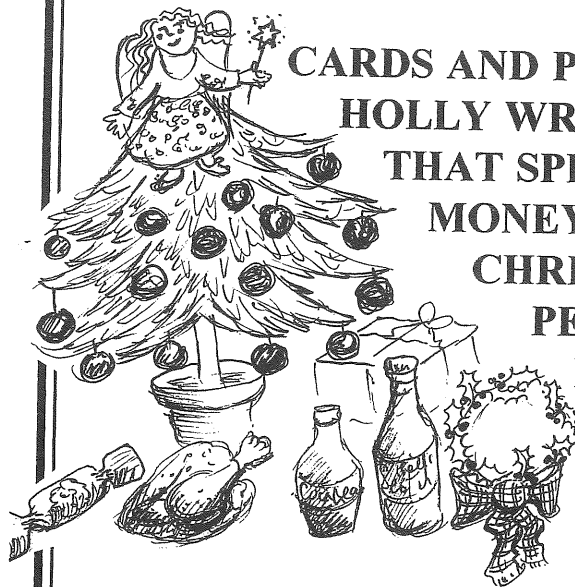
Many Bamptonians have not seen the Mummings because they only perform for private parties and some of the Pubs, but this year everybody will be able to see them as they are going to perform in the Bampton Market Square as part of the Bampton Shopkeepers "Late Night Shopping" celebrations on the 18th December.

If you want the Mummings to perform for your private party, contact **Don Rouse Tel: 01993 850297** and he will fit you in to their very tight schedule, which can be as many as sixteen performances in six hours! All it will cost you is a very generous donation to the afore mentioned fund "THE MUMMERS" collecting box.



## WHAT DO YOU WANT FOR CHRISTMAS?

- CARDS AND POSTAGE STAMPS
- HOLLY WREATHS AND CHRISTMAS TREES
- THAT SPECIAL HAIRDO
- MONEY FROM THE BANK
- CHRISTMAS CHEER
- PETROL, SERVICE THE CAR,
- FABRICS, POULTRY, FOOD, CRACKERS
- PET FOOD, WILD BIRD FOOD
- FIRM'S EVENING OUT



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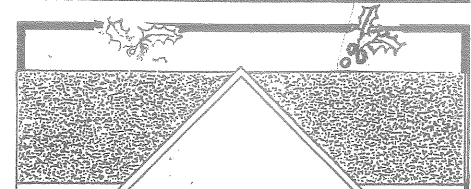
Appointment not always necessary  
Late night Fri. - Early start Sat.

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## THEATRE EXPRESS

\* SPRING TERM \*

STARTING: 10TH JANUARY 1998

Theatre Express, Performing Arts Schools & Theatre Company, has a few openings for new students at its performing arts school based in Burford. Our spring term starts on January 10th 1998, and runs weekly, on Saturdays, from 10am to 1pm.

Theatre Express training is fun! It is also beneficial in helping to develop: Self-Confidence; Self-Esteem; Articulation; Imaginative Thought; Co-ordination; Expression; and other life skills.

Theatre Express training is designed for 5 to 16 year olds, who come together in three age groups.

Each group is restricted to 15 students, as this is the optimum number of our group work. Each group works for one hour with an experienced tutor in each discipline; Acting; Singing; and Dance.

If you would like your child to benefit from this exciting weekend hobby, that also gives them the opportunity to mix with a like-minded group of friends, and develop skills that will aid through life, then:

Contact Theatre Express to arrange a visit to see us in action (!) and/or for a Prospectus.

Tel/Fax: 01608 676024 or, write to:

Theatre Express, P.O. Box 94, Chipping Norton D. O. OX7 3YL

E-mail: [express1@globalnet.co.uk](mailto:express1@globalnet.co.uk)



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VETERINARY SURGEONS

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for Further Information  
Please Telephone  
01367 242777

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**"POSH SPICE"  
THE FOOD PAGE**

by Gilly French

More seasonal fare - one meat and one fish - that would be excellent for Boxing Day or a New Year Celebration. They involve a 'preserving' element, which means need to be started in advance; but are deliciously spicy and, as they are eaten cold, provide a refreshing alternative to the traditional christmas fayre.

**SPICED BEEF**

There are a number of versions of this recipe doing the rounds at this time of year; this came from "The Spectator" a number of years ago. The marinating process takes at least eleven days, but do not let this put you off - we have been known to do the rounds of seasonal family visiting accompanied by a joint of beef sitting in the boot of the car. You will also need saltpetre, which you can get from the chemist, but you might get some raised eyebrows as it is also an ingredient in some explosive mixtures. It is, however, excellent and well worth the extra effort. Ingredients are given for a large joint, but they can be scaled down (or indeed up) if you wish.

- 5-6lb joint silverside, in a long shape, without fat
- 3oz light brown sugar
- 1/2oz saltpetre
- 4oz sea/rock salt
- 1/2oz allspice berries
- 1oz black peppercorns
- 1oz juniper berries



Rub beef with sugar and leave for two days in a glazed stoneware bowl. Crush together the spices, saltpetre and salt; rub the beef with this mixture thoroughly each day for at least 9 days. Gradually the beef produces its own aromatic liquid. Keep it covered in a cool place. Before cooking wipe off any spices adhering to the beef and put into a snugly fitting casserole dish. Pour in 1/2 pint water, cover with two or three layers of foil and its lid to prevent juices evaporating. Bake at Gas 1/290 F/145 C (not on the stove top) for five hours. Remove from the oven and leave to cool, pouring off any excess fat before it sets. Wrap in foil and leave under a weight until the next day. Eat at room temperature.

**GRAVAD LAX**

This is a delicious alternative to smoked salmon. Slice thinly and serve with brown bread and mustard sauce.

- 1 salmon, filleted and de-boned, skin on
- 3 tbspsn sugar
- 1 - 1/2 tbspsn salt
- 1 bunch fresh dill
- brandy, olive oil, pepper



Smear the sides of the salmon with olive oil. Put one of them skin-side down on a board. Mix the sugar and salt and pack the mixture in a layer on the flesh side of the fillet. Sprinkle with a little brandy and cover with chopped dill. Follow this with a generous grinding of salt. Put the second side of salmon on top of the first, skin side up (so that you have a salmon 'sandwich' with a sugar and dill filling). Wrap tightly in foil, put it in a large tray (with a lip to catch any liquid) and leave under a weight for four hours. Turn over, re-weight and leave a further four hours. Refrigerate. It will be ready after 12hrs marinating.

**"BABY SPICE"  
CHRISTMAS RECIPES  
CHILDREN CAN MAKE**

**Peppermint Creams**

- 1 small egg white
- 200-300g (1/2-3/4lb) icing sugar
- A few drops of oil of peppermint or peppermint essence
- Food colours - pink, green
- Sweet cutters

Place the egg white in a mixing bowl, whisk until frothy, and add a few drops of peppermint flavouring.

Work in icing sugar to make a stiff mixture.

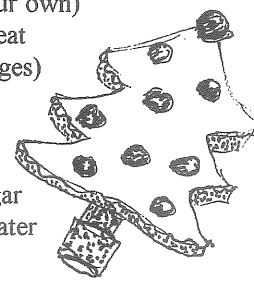
Add a few drops of food colouring (be very careful to how much you use). A pale pink and green is ideal.

Using clean hands knead to a smooth dough, working in more icing sugar if required.

Roll out, cut into shapes with the sweet cutters. Alternatively, shape into little balls and press out with a fork. Place on sheet of waxed paper, and leave in warm dry place for 24 hours. Store in a airtight tin.

**Christmas Tree**

- 300g (12oz) ready-made shortcrust pastry (or you can make your own)
- 300g (12oz) mincemeat
- Water (to seal the edges)
- Flour for rolling
- Egg for glazing
- Icing:
- 100g (4oz) icing sugar
- 4 x 5ml tspns cold water
- Glacé cherries



Roll out the pastry into two oblongs. Place one on a flat baking sheet, spread the mincemeat over pastry in the shape of a triangle. Brush around the edges with water. Place second piece of pastry over the top. Cut around in the shape of a christmas tree.

From remaining pastry cut small shapes to decorate the tree, also cut a stem and flower pot. Glaze with beaten egg. Bake 30-35 minutes on Gas 6/400 /200 C. When it pastry is cold the tree can be further decorated with glacé icing and glaze cherries.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

As a Trustee of the controlling Charity I would like to comment on recent coverage concerning development of Buckland Road Recreation ground.

Readers are perhaps unaware that the pavilion/landscaping project will now cost £304,000. Building costs have risen by a surprise £60,000. This imposes an unexpected further drain of several thousand pounds from charity assets allocating all reserves on call. The 'public consultation' found only 155 village votes in support of this scheme, even before the true costs were known, so why does it go ahead.

A further twist is the intention to use it as a West Oxfordshire sports facility; something confirmed only recently. The organisers already encourage users to come from outside Bampton because the Charity 'needs' this income to pay its way. Now WODC is refusing sports grants elsewhere on the basis that West Oxfordshire residents must use Buckland Road.

Almost certainly, all these things could have unhappy consequences for Bampton and the Charity Trustees are even being asked to guarantee some borrowings personally because the project is so large.

While recognising the excellent efforts of hard working Bampton sports clubs, some Trustees believe it would be more appropriate to create something smaller. Does Bampton want or need a large serviced sports facility, such as those already open for business in Witney, Faringdon and others nearby?

Yours faithfully,  
Roger Howard,  
Parish Councillor.

*We would very much like to hear your feelings on this subject, do we or don't we need such a large pavilion? Write c/o The Cotton Club, Bridge St. Bampton.*

Dear Editor,

On Sunday 8th November, Remembrance Day, I went to the Memorial Service and followed on to St. Mary's for the service there.

The church was full to overflowing which

was really nice to see, and the service was very apt for the day, even emotional for some of the old soldiers.

I was rather disappointed when later on I went to the Methodist Chapel for their Remembrance Service to find only a handful of people there, especially as the 'standards' are presented once again.

I know the nights are drawing in now, and not very nice to have to walk home in the dark. But, I would have thought going to the evening service should be all part of the day's remembrance.

Talk about amalgamated 'Family Services'!  
Yours,

Concerned Bampton parishioner.

## GREAT RESPONSE TO FIRE ALARM

Three new fire fighters have qualified for duty at Bampton Fire Station following last edition's Beam article outlining fears the service could be lost.

But five more are still needed to bring the total up to establishment.

The situation had become so bad, with only five crew available, that only one of them could be allowed to go for a night out at a time. Now the total has risen to eight there is a little more leeway but the pressure is still very much on.

Sub Officer Brian Kew says, "we'd especially like to hear from self-employed people who work from home. They might not realise it, but in these days when most people travel away from the village to work, they are often our best hope for recruitment."

If you think you could become a part time fire fighter for the village please call **Brian Tel: 850815**, or **Andy Monant Tel: 01865 842999**

## BAMPTON AUTHOR'S NEW BOOK

"CAN ANYONE SEE BERMUDA"  
by A.S. Jackson

Will be published by Cirrus Association in December.

The author was stationed at RAF Brize Norton in 1941 when he was seconded to B.O.A.C. to fly Empire flying boats to Africa. Returning to the RAF in 1943 he flew Dakotas across the 'Hump' to China. In 1946 he was flying for the national airline of Chile when he was recruited by British South American Airways to fly converted Lancasters bombers. The unexplained loss of two new airliners in the Bermuda area doomed the airline and the author joined BOAC, now known as British Airways.

He was flying VC10s when he retired at the end of 1976. This is his fifth book to be published. He also contributes to aviation magazines.

## VOLUNTEER LINK-UP

### VOLUNTEER LINK UP

We are in desperate need of more volunteer drivers to transport elderly and disabled people to clinics, day centres, to the shops, hospital appointments or just to get out of the house.

We want to encourage anyone who has their own time to spare. 30p per mile expenses are paid.

If there's something missing volunteering might be the answer. It can provide the opportunity to fill empty hours, give self-satisfaction in helping others, meet new people, make new friends and make a difference to the community.

Contact Volunteer Link Up Tel: 776277 and its office is on the first floor of the Methodist Church premises, 10 Wesley Walk, off High Street, Witney. (There is a lift for those who have difficulties using the stairs). The office is open Monday to Friday 9am - 1pm with an answerphone at other times.

## LETTERS TO : AUNTIE BEAM

Dear Auntie Beam

In an earlier edition of The Beam you enquired from the Doctors' Surgery as to why the carpet stains were 'resident' in such an otherwise pleasant building.

The reply was rather hard to understand, although we all know that 'tasks and time' are limited!

Now, I feel I must tell you that on a recent visit there, I was so pleased to note 'a sparkling waiting room', - amongst other daily jobs the offending marks have disappeared. Thus giving the whole room a much more caring feel. I know I felt less nervous!

On behalf of my family, plus many others, will you please thank the persons responsible for this extra work, and may I suggest that the patients now use the adequate sized doormat before entering.

Yours, An Alert Patron.

Dear Alert Patron,

*It is nice to hear of something turning out for the best. I hope everyone takes note and gives their shoes an extra rub on the mat before entering the surgery. Next the tea/coffee machine will be coming out!!!!*

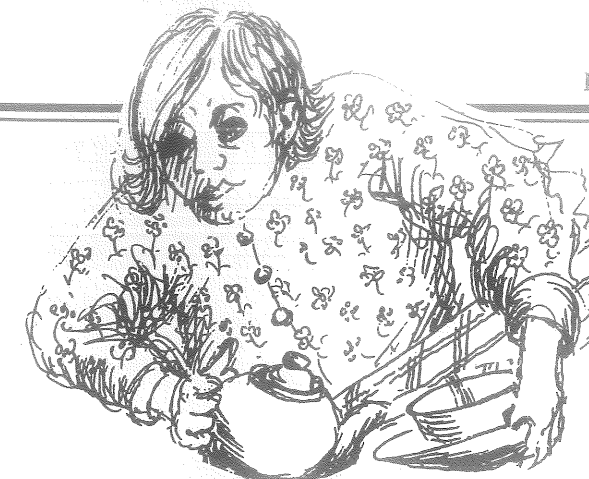
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*If you would like to write to Auntie Beam the address is Auntie Beam, c/o The Cotton Club, Bridge Street, Bampton, Oxon. OX18 2HA. She will do her utmost to answer as many of your queries as space allows.*

*Auntie Beam wishes to say that she cannot give out personal replies.*

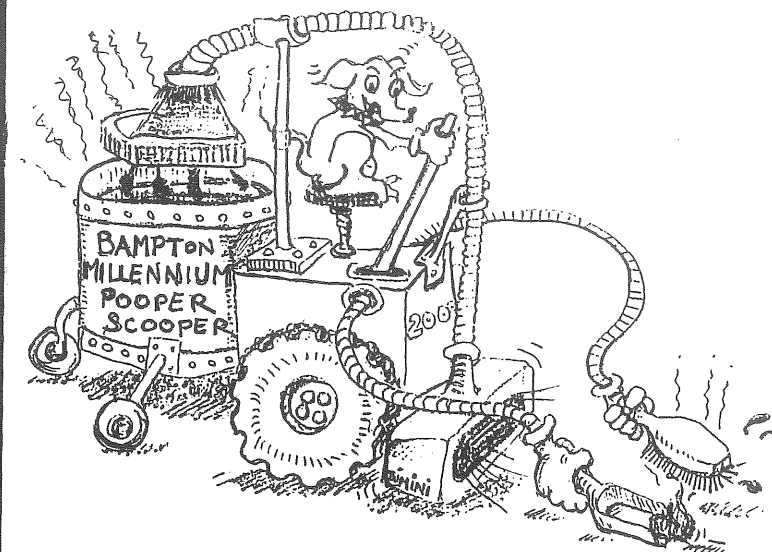
Dear Auntie Beam,

I was glad to read in August's edition that the "polite notices" at each end of Sandford's Field asking owners to clean up after their animals had made an enormous difference. However, having to walk up and down Cheyne Lane twice a day I can't help but notice (by sight and smell) that it does seem to be a favourite dog poohing spot. I wondered if those dog owners could spare a thought for all who use the Lane regularly including children walking to enjoy the stream.

yours, A Weald Pooh Dodger.

Dear A Weald Pooh Dodger,

*Yes. I do agree that Cheyne Lane has been a disgrace due to the irresponsibility of dog owners, though I have noticed a number of owners who do carry a plastic bag with them when they walk that way and maybe things will now improve with the advent of the 'dog pooh bins'. However ..... a kind reader had designed a solution for us (see below). Now all we need is someone to build the prototype.*



## GARDENING LIFE

by Edie Bindweed



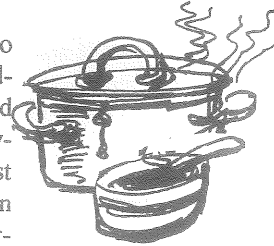
## BAMPTON METHODIST CHAPEL

If you're feeling fed up, Monday morning blues, or just want a friendly chat why not pop down to the Methodist Chapel.

Every Monday lunch time soup is served in the Chapel. Having a chat or getting advice or just being with other folks makes a brighter start to the week.

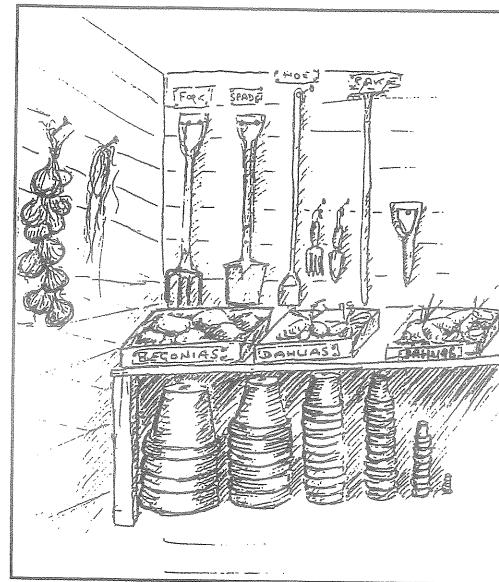
They would love to see mums and toddlers, Grans and Grandads infact anyone. If you've just moved to Bampton this is a great opportunity to come along and meet people.

The Methodist Chapel, is on Bridge Street right next to the Post Office, opposite 'Emmies' the Newsagent's.



### DON'T FORGET THE PUMPKIN CLUB BINGO

Eyes down every Monday evening in the Bush Club 8pm. Everyone welcome. Contact Mrs E. Foresheew or Sharron Tel: 850922



Edie's nice tidy shed for winter.

Ah me ..... what is there to do in the garden in December? Once you have tidied the garden shed, creosoted the outside, scrubbed the garden tools and oiled the blades, rubbed linseed oil on the shafts; once you've washed the plant pots, stacked them according to size tidily under the potting shed table, and you have raked up all the leaves, put them on the new compost heap having of course spread the well-rotted one all over the vegetable patch; once you have sorted the seeds ready for next year (you did of course order them in plenty of time) into two piles, one for the green house, one for outside and each pile in turn, in order of planting, and stored them tidily away in the 'fridge'; once you have rubbed the earth off your begonia corms and dahlia tubers and set them in

dry peat in a frost free place to withstand winter, checked that your fuchsia and pelargonium cuttings are frost free and comfortable ..... then there is little left to do but contemplate the past year and look forward to the next.

Last year I had poor apples but wonderful compost; poor onions but good potatoes; no aubergines and strange tomatoes; brilliant sweet peas but the flea beetle ate the nasturtiums; good cauliflowers but poor cabbages.

If gardening teaches you nothing else it teaches you to be philosophical. Next year I am going to train myself to get into the lotus position and put myself in a yogic meditative state in the garden and see if it makes any difference to how things grow.

## A FAREWELL TO MR TEMPLE

John Temple closed his Hardware Store in the Market Place on 21st November 1997 and has retired to a well earned rest in Ampney Orchard.



There can be few people in Bampton who at one time or another have not patronised his shop, more often than not obtaining what they wanted from a wide diversity of goods. He advertised his shop saying "if Temple's hasn't got it you can probably do without it".

It is hoped that a retirement cheque can be given to John in appreciation of his kindness, help and good humour over the seventeen years he has been in Bampton, and the following have been kind enough to accept donations in collecting boxes placed in their establishments:

**Emmies Paper Shop, The Post Office, Patrick Strainge Butchers, The Cotton Club, Chennells, The Paper Shop, The Elephant and Castle, The Morris Clown, The Talbot Hotel, The Jubilee Inn, and The Romany Inn.**

Additionally Abbey Properties have opened an account for those who wish to pay by cheque. Cheques should be made payable to BBBS and paid into them. They have also kindly agreed to be the fund holders.

The fund will close on Friday 19th December and a cheque for the amount raised will be given to him in time for Christmas.



For further information Julian Johnston, 10 The High Street, Tel: 850432

## OUT OF WORK FARMER - TURNED AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

by Don Rouse

### HIGH TECH FARMING!

As winter approaches it is reflection time for Farmers. The harvest is now over. So was the new breed of seed that was portrayed by the experts as being the ultimate type for profitability, worth trying or was it all salesman hype? Did it prove to be as immune from all diseases as they made out or was it just as vulnerable as last years seed? Nowadays, farming, like all businesses has become very high tech, gone are the days when it was all down to the skill of the man preparing the seed bed and a bit of good luck with the weather. It is now a case of consultation with experts as to what kind of spray one must use to protect the specific seed from the different diseases that it is prone to. You then find that because you have

used a certain spray you have killed off a certain bug that would have protected the seed from, some other adversary! So you have to spray again! Mad isn't it! Why could it not be like the old days when the adage was that you should treat the seed like you would your wife "put into a warm clean bed, cover lightly and give a gentle roll but steady on the harrowing".

### CODDLING COWS

On the cattle side farmers are very pleased with the dry autumn. There is still a fair amount of grass available - the gardeners amongst you know as you are still having to mow lawns! November grass though is not very nutritious and needs supplementing with special rations. But it does eke

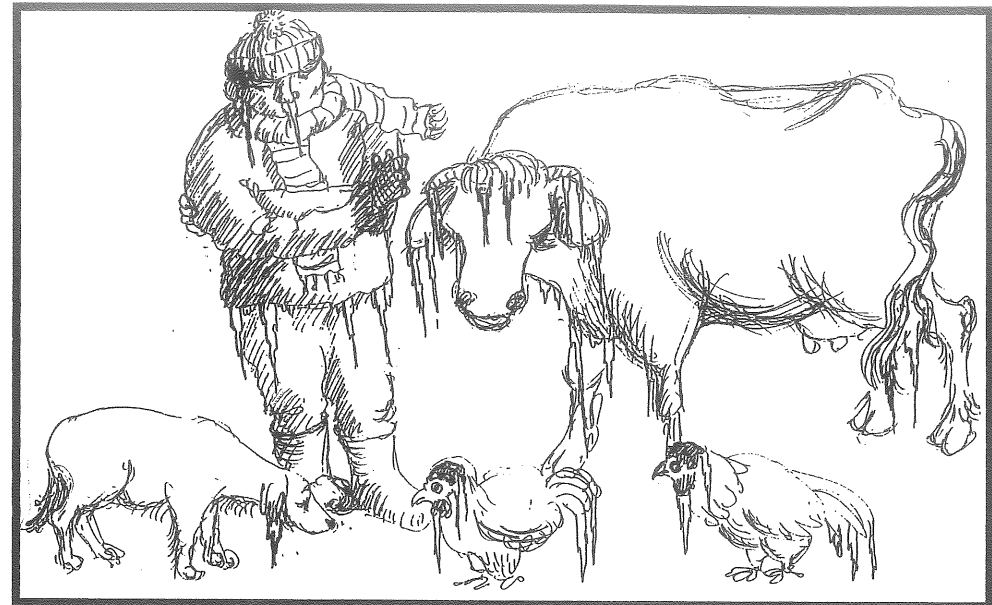
the food for what could be a long winter and with the cows still out in the fields it reduces the work load considerably. But when the fields start to get soft and muddy then it is time to bring the cows in and the work really begins. Constant attention is what they need, you have to put the food in one end and clean out from the other, give them nice dry beds to lie on. Come to think of it farmers have to know a lot

hold 10 gallons there was a lot of water to carry next morning, so sometimes one took stupid risks!

### CHRISTMAS AND FARMING

With Christmas approaching at great speed spare a thought for Dairy Farmers. Remember cows do not celebrate pastoral festivities so they have to be fed, watered and milked no matter what day it is, in

good weather, no problem, but in cold, WOW! Here is a list of some of the things that have happened to me; Snow outside the door - could not get out. Power cables down (1963) - no electric. Milk lorry stuck - had to take milk in churns to Faringdon on open tractor. Water pipes frozen - (regular one this one) - no water for cows to



about beds don't they? Then of course there is the job of milking them, twice a day every day, though on some of the more intensive farms it is three times a day and that is quite a killer though most farms get in extra help for the third milking.

### ANTI-FREEZE - WHAT'S THAT?

I hope you have all had your cars checked for Anti-Freeze because these sudden frosts in October and November can wreck havoc on unprotected engines. Years ago more tractors were written off through sudden frosts splitting the cylinder block than any other reason. Mind you there wasn't Anti Freeze available then so one had to drain all the water out each night and as the little Fordsons used to

drink or to wash the utensils. Milk freezing in pipeline - not my idea of an ice cream.

All cow-pats frozen - impossible to clean out, very difficult to walk over.

Milking pulsators frozen - plenty of suck but no squeeze, very frustrating for the cow.

Diesel fuel freezes in the tractor - many tons of food to be manoeuvred by hand.

Go home for a quick cup of nice hot tea - no water, no electric, wife still in bed! (*its that word again*) Sod it, I'll join her!

A Happy Christmas to you all.







## WEST OXFORDSHIRE ARTS ASSOCIATION NEWS AND EVENTS

The Gallery, Town Hall, OX18 2JH. Tel: 850137

Opening hours during exhibitions are: Tuesday to Saturday 10.30am to 12.30pm and 2pm to 4pm; Sunday 2pm to 4pm

The Administrator is usually in the Gallery every Tuesday and Friday morning.

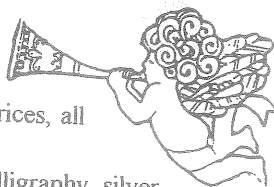
Membership fees - Single £12, Family £20, Student £5.



### 30th NOVEMBER - 14TH DECEMBER GIFTS IN THE GALLERY

Christmas shopping in the peace of the Gallery. Special quality gifts at excellent prices, all handmade in this area by local artists. Something just a little different.

Plus - on **SUNDAY 7TH DECEMBER** there will be all-day demonstrations of calligraphy, silver jewellery making and silk painting by Isabelle Spencer, Pauline Payne and Fanny Harrison-Banfield.



### 11th - 25th JANUARY FOUR PAINTERS ARGUE IT OUT

Four painters, same course, four different arguments. **Keith Allen, Felicity Cormack, Jonathan Gooders and Sue Powell** present some of their conclusions in paint, having completed the Fine Art Degree at Cheltenham College of Art in 1997, 1995, 1996 and 1997 respectively. Promises to be an interesting exhibition!

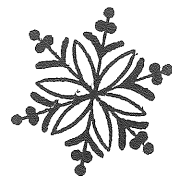
### 8th - 28th FEBRUARY

# RICH AND RARE

Thirty craftsmen from all over the south of England will be exhibiting mirrors, tapestries, gold lustre porcelain, goblets, clocks, bowls in lapis lazuli . . . . . and much more. This is the tenth Rich and Rare exhibition, and definitely not one to miss.

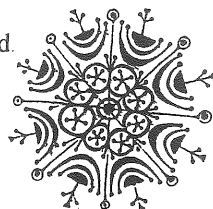
### 8th - 22nd MARCH

An exhibition of paintings and stained glass by Brien O'Rourke, Tony Eyre and Di Gold.



### FEBRUARY WORKSHOPS

**Metal embossing** with Judy Bebb, for primary school age children - 8th February.  
**Paper making** from plant material with Polly Minett - for adults - 15th February.



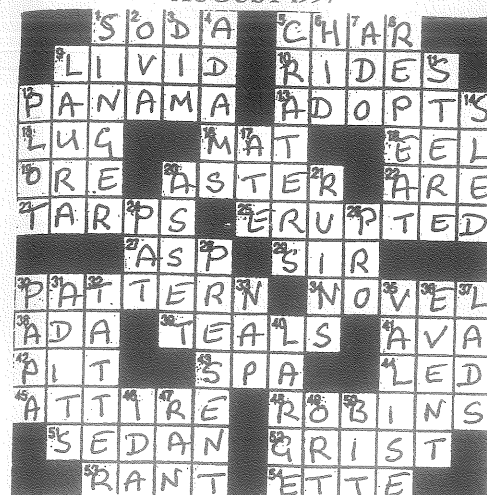
### PAST HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE WOAA CALENDAR

W.O.A.A. Members Exhibition 12th - 26th October. With over 140 entries, the Gallery was filled to near capacity with a varied display of Members' work, from landscapes and portraits, to touchable male torsos, embroidery and experimental pieces of ply splitting. The exhibition highlighted the wide range of WOAA members, and their diverse interests. We had a pleasing number of visitors over the two weeks, and some enthusiastic comments.

### Come and join us! . . . .

on Mondays, from 2.15-4.15pm in the Gallery. We are a small, friendly group, who meet to discuss books and poetry, under the excellent guidance of our tutor, Karen Hewitt, from the WEA and Rewley House. You don't need a knowledge of literature or a degree, and the homework is only reading. It's informative and fun, and we plan to continue after Christmas.

### Solution to BEAM PRIZE CROSSWORD AUGUST 1997



Thank you to all those who took part in August's crossword competition. The lucky £5 winner is Mr R. Terry from Chetwynd Mead, Bampton. ( Thank you very much for your contributing comments. We would dearly love to enlist your help in the production of future crosswords. You know the address!)

The solution of December's crossword will be published in April's edition. The prize will go to the first correct entry opened on 28th February 1998.



### SNOW

by Louise Gray

Snow is soft,  
Snow is powdery,  
Snow is white.  
Soft, powdery, white flakes  
falling all around.



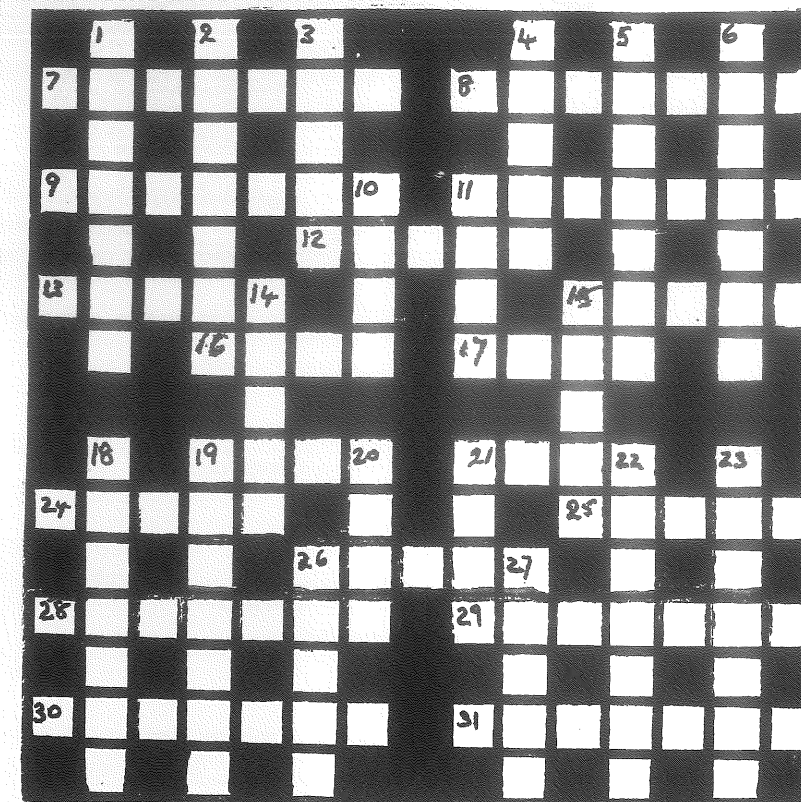
I feel cold,  
I feel cheerful,  
I feel excited.  
Making snowballs for a  
snowball fight.



Snow makes footprints,  
Snow makes bikeprints,  
Snow makes wheel prints.  
Footprints, bikeprints and  
wheel tracks,  
Printed in the snow.

If you would like something printed in The Beam please send to usual address, c/o The Cotton Club. We are always pleased to receive work written or drawn by children who would like to have their work published.

## THE BAMPTON BEAM'S CROSSWORD



### Across

7. Reproachful language, calumny
8. Love story
9. Distance travelled
11. To hoot or screech
12. A song of mourning
13. Charlatan
15. Small ornamented napkin.
16. The season of Christmas
17. Spun thread
19. Exude
21. Among
24. Rubbish, refuse
25. Not quite, almost
26. Lamb
28. Perform a certain function
29. Prohibition of trade
30. Bonfire signals
31. Advertising catch phrases

### Down

1. Aslant
2. Convincing power
3. A billowing heave
4. Costly impractical structure
5. Inflated ball
6. Vessel for holding coal
10. Otherwise
11. Hideous to behold
14. Fame, credit, glory
15. Exhaustive expenditure
18. Holiday excursionist
19. Large flightless bird
20. A rim, the brink
21. A type of recurring malarial fever
22. To put out of order
23. Bandit or freebooter
26. Debility, weakness
27. Glass coloured with cobalt oxide

### VOLUNTEER READING HELP

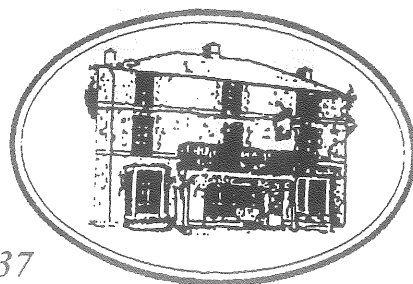
#### Can you help a child to read?

Volunteer Reading Help - the Charity that helps a child to read, recruits and trains people from the local community to go into primary schools to help children aged 6-11 years on a one-to-one basis. Volunteers come from all walks of life and are all ages. No qualifications, except an interest in children and reading are needed. If you feel that you could spare two hours twice a week, then please contact us. We would particularly like to hear from men who may be interested. Contact Helen Webb Tel: 771294.

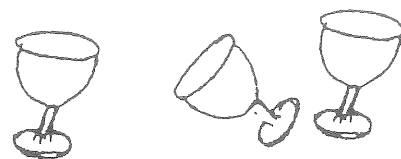
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### Diary of Forthcoming Events

#### DECEMBER

- 6th Macmillan Cancer Relief Christmas Bazaar Village Hall 10 - 2pm
- 7th The Burford Singers & Cotswold Chamber Orchestra  
Burford Parish Church 7.30pm
- 8th Bampton Pre-School Playgroup Christmas Concert
- 8th Pumpkin Club Christmas Bingo Bush Centre 8pm
- 10th W.I. Members Christmas Dinner
- 10th Christmas Quiz available from The Public Houses, Library,  
The Cotton Club, and Abbey Properties.
- 16th Fire Station Whist Drive Fire Station 7.30pm.
- 18th Bampton Small Business Association -  
Late Night Shopping and Craft Fair Village Hall

#### JANUARY

- 7th W.I. Members Day 2.30pm
- 10th OTTC Treasure Island The Village Hall 3pm

#### FEBRUARY

- 4th W.I. Meeting Speaker Rob Heath Photography 2.30pm
- 7th Table Top Sale The Village Hall 10 - 12mid day

#### MARCH

- 4th W.I. Annual General Meeting 2.30pm

Please let us have your Notice Board and Diary (free) entries  
before the next deadline - 14th February, 1998

### THE BAMPTON BEAM -

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Deadline - 14th February, 1998.

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### BAMPTON DIRECTORY 1997

Copies of The Bampton Directory are available from the Post Office and Abbey properties.

#### Corrections - November 1997:

page 3 BAMPTON PRE-SCHOOL PLAYGROUP  
amend -

Chairperson: Mrs Lynn Higman, 24 Glebelands Tel: 851380

Treasurer: Mrs Sonya Paige, 9 Pembroke Place Tel: 851948

Secretary: Mrs Anna Pitt, The Granary, Mount Owen Tel: 850226

Assistant Supervisor: Mrs Tracy Prior Tel: 851826

Waiting List Administrator: Mrs Claire Box Tel: 851573

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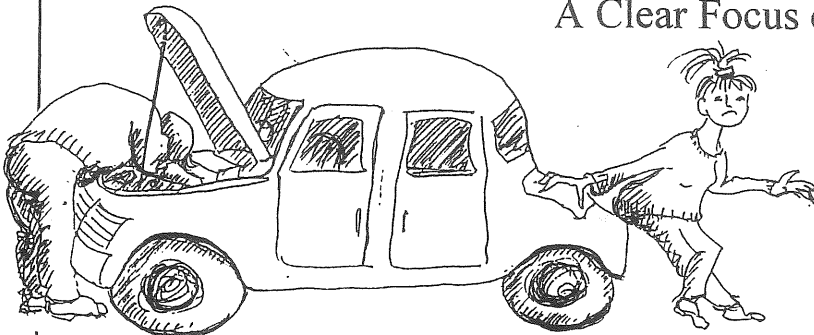
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