

THE BAMPTON BEAM

November 2010

Volume 25, No. 3

New Bus Operator

By Richard Wilkins

Bampton Parish Council Parish Transport Representative

The new contract for the Bampton bus services 18 and 19 will start in December. While we have been active in trying to get the services improved – e.g. we have requested evening services and a higher day frequency on the service 19 – the services as provided at present look like they will be maintained ‘as is’ with some minor adjustments.

The following is what we have been advised so far:

Service 18

CHANGE OF OPERATOR (RH TRANSPORT)

Hourly peak/off-peak service continues, but service pattern via Northmoor and Bablockhythe has been revised to broadly two-hourly throughout the day.

New journey at 1505 from Oxford.

Connections with service 19 at Bampton remain to enable travel to/from Witney and Carterton. The intention is that only the 1605 journey from Oxford will require interchange at Aston.

Service 18A (single afternoon round to/from Witney) withdrawn.

Service 19

CHANGE OF OPERATOR (RH TRANSPORT)

NEW morning and afternoon shopping journeys between Brighthampton and Witney.

Hourly peak/off-peak service continues.

0805 journey from Witney to Carterton withdrawn due to very poor usage.

Both services will use low-floor buses.

Further details on actual time-tables are awaited.

Bampton Parish Council Christmas Tree Lights Switch-On

The Official Christmas Tree Lights Switch-On will take place on **Friday 3rd December**, in the **Market Square**, at 6pm.

All are invited to come along to the official switch on of this year's Christmas Tree Lights.

The switch-on will be followed by carol singing, and *The Bampton Beam* will be offering a cup of mulled wine for the over 18s – under 18s will have to do with a soft drink! - and a mince pie.

Please do come along and make it a memorable Village event.

Bampton Post Office

The project to move the Post Office to the main chamber of the Town Hall has progressed to the stage where planning consent has been obtained, a lease agreement is close to being signed as the ‘Beam’ goes to press, and quotes for various modifications which need to be made internally to accommodate the Post Office, have been received. Work is expected to start shortly, with the present plan for the Post Office to be up and running in the Town Hall on 30th December.

It cannot be stressed enough, how close Bampton was to losing its Post Office, and for the future, it is of the utmost importance that we all make good use of it, so that it can continue to serve the Community for years to come.

Use It or Lose It

MERRY CHRISTMAS

and a

HAPPY NEW YEAR

To all our readers

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

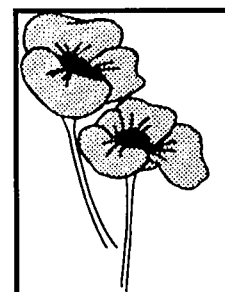
Wear your Poppy with pride

POPPY SERVICE

The War Memorial

Sunday 14th November

10.45am



Followed by

A service at

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11.15am

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General Hire	£8.00 per hour
All day and evening	£65.00
Bar use	£20.00

Town Hall & Youth Centre Bookings

Contact Sarah Radband

Tel: 01993 851870

**Keys for Town Hall to be collected from the
Bampton Coffee House**

Parish Council

Contact

Sarah Radband

Tel: 01993 851870

E-Mail - sarah.radband@bamptonoxon-parishcouncil.gov.uk

The Bampton 250 Club

The Bampton 250 Club is the local monthly lottery which supports the Village Hall and the Youth Centre. If you would like a ticket please put your name on the list at the Post Office or contact **Susan Phillips Tel: 01993 850321**.

June	£100202	Mr J Smith	Rosemary Lane
	£25 071	Josie Buckingham	Weald
	£15 130	Mrs Keyte	Aldersholt
	£15 152	Mark Snow	c/o Bushey Row
July	£15 039	Mr H Thomas	Lew
	£25 107	Mr S Pearce	Pococks Close
	£15 216	Mr & Mrs Wareham	Bridge Street
	£15 049	Mrs R Gerring	Sandfords
August	£15 110	Fenella Grey	Aston Road
	£25 180	Heather Davis	Bridge Street
	£15 091	Pauline Smith	Rosemary Lane
	£15 098	Mr & Mrs Pont	Glebelands
September	£15 173	Mr & Mrs R Smith	Bridge Street
	£100244	Martin Drew	Talbot Fields
	£25 170	Tanya Newland	c/o Chandler Close
	£15 242	Gill Gummer	Mercury Court
	£15 151	M St J Parker	Cheapside
	£15 171	Mr & Mrs Pullman	Millgreen

MOVIES ON THE MOVE

In Bampton Village Hall

The Theatre, Chipping Norton continues to bring up-to-date films to Bampton Village Hall on the 1st Wednesday of every other month.

Wednesday 3rd November 2010 at 7.30pm

Letters to Juliet

Directed by Gary Winick. When a young American travels to the city of Verona, home of the star-crossed lover Juliet Capulet of Romeo and Juliet fame, she joins a group of volunteers who respond to letters to Juliet seeking advice about love. After answering one letter dated 1951, she inspires its author to travel to Italy in search of her long-lost love and sets off a chain of events that will bring a love into both their lives unlike anything they ever imagined. Starring: Amanda Seyfried and Vanessa Redgrave.

Wednesday 5th January 2011 at 7.30pm.

Wild Target

Directed by Jonathan Lynn, Wild Target is an English comedy about up-tight Victor Maynard, a middle-aged, solitary assassin, who lives to please his formidable mother Louisa, despite his own peerless reputation for lethal efficiency. His professional routine is interrupted when he finds himself drawn to one of his intended victims. Starring Bill Nighy, Rupert Everett, Eileen Atkins, Emily Blunt and Rupert Grint.

Wednesday 2nd March 2011 at 7.30pm

Another Year

A British comedy directed by Mike Leigh and starring Jim Broadbent, Lesley Manville and Ruth Sheen. "A brilliant ensemble and a resonant script make Another Year one of Mike Leigh's best films.

Tickets at £4.50 each will be on sale at the Cotton Club from 2 weeks before each performance and at the door. Before each movie there will be a short film from the Bampton Archive. Ice creams are available in between the 2 performances and are 50p each.

We look forward to seeing you at the Movies. Biz Gooddy

BAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

By Cllr. Fred Gray, Bampton Parish Council

Clerk to the Council

Sarah Radband:

Tel: 01993 851870

email:

sarah.radband@bamptonoxon-parishcouncil.gov.uk

The Clerk should be the first point of contact for Council business.

Old School Building and Bush Centre

The planning application has been approved, and the project now awaits listed building consent.

Construction is scheduled to start in January, although could be brought forward if the listed building consent is granted earlier than expected. Completion is scheduled for September 2011.

Buckland Road 7.5T Environmental Weight Limit

The Weight Limit is now active. The Parish Council has sent a letter to the Oxfordshire County Council, quoting the Minutes of Meeting of the OCC's Transport Decisions Committee which stated that: 'Mr Howell confirmed that the Order if introduced would be a permanent measure and *that there could be further dialogue regarding introduction of a permit system.*' (Beam Italics). On this basis, the Parish Council requested opening up a dialogue with OCC with a view to introducing an exemption/permit system for Bampton businesses negatively affected by the Weight Limit.

Town Hall

The project to move the Post Office to the main chamber of the Town Hall has made good progress, with lease negotiations completed, and quotes being obtained for modifications works. Planning consent has also been granted. It is hoped that, all going well, the Post Office could be in its new premises by 30th December. See front page for more information.

Mercury Court Playing Field Project

The project is essentially complete.

Emergency Response Plan (ERP)

Representatives from Bampton Sur-

gery, Cottsway and Rosebank Care Home attended the session along with Parish Councillors and District Councillors. The session was run by Caroline Martland of OCC and bill Oddy of WODC. Good lessons were learned from the exercise which will be used to update the ERP.

Council & Recreation Ground Charity Standing Orders

The Council Standing Orders were updated and approved. New Standing Orders by which the Trustees will oversee the running of the Charity were developed and approved.

Roads & Wish List

The bi-annual 'walk around' was conducted by Cllr R Smith, Cllr Gray and Paul Wilson of OCC, highways, and the 'Wish List' was updated. The road along Bowling Green Close has been repaired, but is reported to be lifting

by the telephone box again.

The Council was advised that, due to changes in OCC, Paul Wilson would no longer be dealing with our area, and that we would shortly be advised who our contact would be in the future – likely a Mr Ian Clarke. Cllr Smith will follow up by inviting Mr Clarke to undertake a walk around of Bampton.

AGGROW Funding

Following a 'straw poll' at the Annual Parish Meeting, the Parish Council agreed to donate £1000 to AGGROW (Gravel Extraction Lobby Group) to help with funding, contingent on the decision of the OCC cabinet at its meeting in October.

Proposed Minor Alteration to Parking – Broad Street

A letter was received from OCC on 1st July 2010. It was in reply to a request by the Council to eliminate the parking restrictions on Broad Street. The proposal will remove the 4-hour parking in the lay-by on the west side of Broad Street, leaving this road without any parking restrictions.

Gravel Extraction

The Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) Working Group looking at gravel extraction has concluded in its report, which will go before the OCC Cabinet on 19th October – i.e. after 'The Beam' has been sent for printing – the following:

'The County Council's preferred spatial strategy for mineral working should be:

- (a) Sand and gravel – based on option 1: concentrate extraction at existing areas of working: Lower Windrush Valley; Eynsham / Cassington / Yarnton; Radley; Sutton Courtenay; and Caversham; this would provide clarity in the short to medium term, but the ability of these areas to provide for the medium to longer term should be assessed in light of the work to determine local need; and flexibility may be needed to consider new areas in the longer term;
- (b) Soft sand – working in three existing areas: south east of Faringdon; Tubney / Marcham / Hinton Waldrist; and Duns Tew;
- (c) Crushed rock – working in three existing areas: north of Bicester to the east of the River Cherwell; south of the A40 near Burford; and south east of Faringdon.'

This means that the options (Options 2 and 3 in the report) where the Bampton/Clanfield areas were included for future gravel extraction will not, at least for some years, be considered.

But in essence there could still be a danger from gravel extraction in this area after this time.

However, our County Councillor, Don Seale, has advised The Parish Council that he is trying to have the Bampton/Clanfield areas totally eliminated from future consideration, because he feels that there are certain fundamentals about the Bampton/Clanfield areas which swayed the Working Group against proposing them in this report, but which, he feels, will be equally valid in the future as they are today; and that the areas should therefore be removed totally from the gravel extraction RADAR! Let us hope he can convince those that need to be convinced! But it is good news for Bampton and Clanfield – at least for now!

Bampton Exhibition Foundation and the Bampton Welfare Trust

By David Pullman

At the Annual Parish Meeting on April 24, and subsequently in the Bampton Beam there were no reports for the Bampton Exhibition Foundation and the Bampton Welfare Trust. On the basis of better late than never, here they are:

Bampton Exhibition Foundation.

The income of the Bampton Exhibition Foundation comes from the rent from OCC for the use of the building to house the library. The Foundation's first responsibility is to maintain the Old Grammar School Building, and secondly to assist those under 25 in the parish with study, educational travel etc. In the last three years we have given bursaries to seven young people, totalling £2765, and have carried out significant work on the building, including:

In 2007, replacing a rotten lintel over the SW window, securing roof members, and making good the upper floor
In 2008, repairing the wall to the garden in two places

In 2008 and 2009, making good the windows to the upper floor

In 2009, replacing the valley gutters with new lead and making good the Stonesfield slates.

In all we have spent nearly £32000, offset by very welcome donations of £5000 from the Bampton Community Shop, over three years. This expenditure has more than halved our reserves.

Bampton Welfare Trust.

In 2009 the Welfare Trust distributed £6230, including £2150 to schools, playgroups and other organisations, assistance with heating costs for 17 parishioners, and a further £3000 help for other families and individuals who had real need.

Susan Phillips retired as Chairman, after fifteen years as a trustee. At a farewell lunch the Trustees thanked her for her wonderful service to the Trust.

Dr Matthew Perry has accepted the position of Chairman.

Bampton Emergency Response Plan 2010 Update

The first Emergency Response Plan (ERP) for Bampton was issued in January 2009. Some minor changes have occurred since then - for instance there are some new Parish Councillors on the Parish Council - and the Plan has therefore been updated to reflect these changes.

It is not intended to re-issue the Plan to all households and businesses, since the changes are minor and do not affect the integrity of the first edition.

However, for residents who have mislaid the first edition, and for new arrivals in Bampton, a copy of this update can be obtained, free of charge, from the Clerk to the Parish Council.

The ERP, which was developed by the Parish Council, is designed to provide a framework to try and ensure an effective and robust approach to managing a major incident that may threaten the safety and welfare of the community.

In an emergency situation the responsibility for emergency response lies with the Emergency Services (ES), Oxfordshire County Council (OCC), West Oxfordshire District Council (WODC).

However, it is recognised that help from these organisations may not be immediately available, and hence the need to develop the Village's own self-help plan to cater for such circumstances.

Emergency Response Plan Telephone Numbers

Emergency Services and Category 1 Responders

Emergency Services	999
WODC	01993 861000 (Office Hours)
WODC	01993 705056 (Out of Office Hours)
Environment Agency	08459 881188
Roads	0845 310111
British Gas	0800 111999
Southern Electric	0845 770 8090
Thames Water	08459 200800

Bampton Parish Council (Emergency Response Team)

Sarah Radband*	01993 851870
Fred Gray	01993 851653
Jacky Allinson	01993 850368
Lee Mackie	01993 852531
Marion Dowding	01993 850167
Dale Turner	01993 852373
Steve Radband	01993 210160
Robert Smith	01993 850318
Ralph Norman	01993 850823
Ann Smith	01993 850318
George Gascoigne	01993 851947
Richard Wilkins	01993 850406
Bampton Town Hall	01993 852957

*First point of contact



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GOOD ,TAKE OUR CLIENTS'!***



THE BAMPTON RECREATION GROUND

Buckland Road, Bampton.

THE PAVILION

The Bampton Recreation Ground is an excellent facility. It has football pitches, a cricket pitch, a multi-sport court, tennis courts, and Skate Park. It also has a Trim-Trail, and is adjacent to the Millenium Wood where you can walk and exercise in the peace and quiet of the countryside.

The Pavilion, has a large hall for social functions, changing rooms, referees' facilities, kitchen and bar and is for hire by members of the public for all varieties of functions such as wedding receptions, birthdays or anniversary parties. It is also an ideal venue for conferences or training courses.

Some General Hire Prices

Pavilion

08:00 - 13:00 : £40

13:00 - 18:00 : £40

18:00 - 23:59 : £80

Whole Day : £160

Football Pitches

Season hire rates for Bampton Soccer Teams:	Senior Pitch	£22.00 per game
	Junior Pitch	£18.00 per game
	Changing Room	£10.00 per game

Season hire rates for Non Bampton Soccer Teams: £33.00 per game

Non Regular Soccer Team Hire Rate: £45.00 per game

Multisport	Bampton Residents:	£10.00
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Non- Residents:	£13.00
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For more information on the facilities, and the charges for hire please contact: Ray Willis Tel: 01993 852483 or Mobile: 07766 264684.

A VERY IMPORTANT NOTICE IF YOU USE THE RECREATION GROUND

While using skate park

Minor accidents continue to occur on the Skatepark because of the lack of protective clothing. The Parish Council ask all parents to insist that their children wear the appropriate clothing.

Insurance Liabilities

Residents using the Recreation Ground to practice golf, fly kites or model aircraft or even hitting cricket balls should note that they are responsible for third party liability should an accident occur.

Whilst the Parish Council has ample insurance should it be at fault - for example if a slate falls off the roof of the pavilion - we expect all users of the excellent facilities to have their own insurance.

Consider including this cover in your home contents policy. Dog walkers should also have insurance.

Easykart UK Senior Lights

+

European Championship Review

By Patrick Lay

A couple of days after winning the 2009 Junior Easykart UK Championship, I put a challenge upon myself – to make 2010 my best season yet. Some may say however that I was a

little too optimistic; it was never going to happen as I was only 15 years old and rubbing shoulders with some very experienced names in kart racing who are almost twice my age. A lot of

Other Sporting Activities Bampton Town Football Club

Chairman: Martyn Holder: Tel: 01993 840206; email: martyn-holder@btinternet.com.

Secretariat: Murray Disbrey; email: murray.disbrey@smurfitkappa.co.uk

Junior Contact: Mark Taylor; email: markm_taylor@hotmail.com

Bampton Tennis Club

Bampton Tennis Club's two clubs nights are on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Benefits to members include being able to pre-book and use the tennis courts throughout the year. A number of tournaments are held throughout the year.

Membership Secretary: Tel: 01993 824670; Email: bamptontennis@hotmail.co.uk.

Bampton in the Bush Cricket Club

If you or your child would like to play cricket with us, please contact either **Richard Pitt (adults)** Tel: 0777 857 8875 or **Martin Landray (juniors)** Tel: 01993 850939 or e-mail martin.landray@cts.ox.ac.uk.

Full details of fixtures, results and playing statistics are available at the club website: www.bampton.play-cricket.com

Bampton Archery Club

Meets weekly at The Recreation Ground. Indoor in winter.

Contact: Gerald Mills: Tel: 01993 850670; or Jeff Dando: Tel: 01993 850643; www.bamptonarchery.co.uk

Bampton Badminton Club

Meets Tuesday mornings in the Village Hall. Contact: Lesley Campbell: Tel: 01993 852846.

pressure, frustration, commitment, success and surprises though, have made me decide that this year has been my best season yet.

My first success happened before I even stepped foot in my kart back in March, as I had been awarded £400 from West Oxfordshire District Council. This had come about as I was se-

lected as a "Higher Achiever for Sport" in the District, with the money being granted to help me progress in the 2010 season.

A huge surprise hit me only a few days later when I arrived back from school, as I had found that a letter addressed from the House of Commons was lying on my door mat. Both slightly confused, excited and if I'm honest – a tiny bit scared, I opened the envelope to find that Mr David Cameron had written to me with his congratulations for winning the UK Junior Championship, going on to explain that it was an inspiring victory and sending his best wishes for the 2010 season. I am most grateful for Mr Cameron spending some of his time in what was a very busy period for him to write to me, but also for Fenella and Fred Gray to publish my article here in the Bampton Beam in the first place.

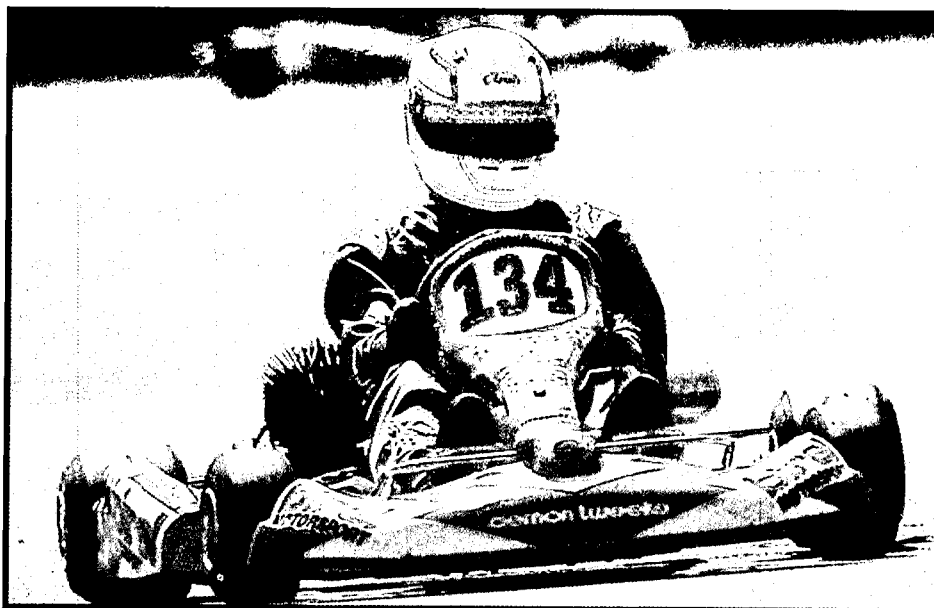
Now, I thought to myself, I really *do* have to make this my best season yet! The opening Round of the Easykart UK Senior Lights Championship was at Ellough Park in Norfolk, back in March. Thirty seven drivers were entered for the Senior Lights class, of which I managed to qualify 4th for the Qualifying Heat. The Qualifying Heat is a ten minute race + 1 lap, from where I would get my first taste of racing against much older drivers. I managed to finish 3rd in this and to the amazement of my dad and mechanic, I went on to win the 15 lap Pre-Final. I was the youngest driver on the grid and one of the least inexperienced. As I sat on pole position on the grid for the Final, I recall feeling a bit nervous, because all I had said to everyone all day was that I had nothing to lose – but surprisingly, I now did. The 20 lap Final commenced and I managed to hold onto the lead at the start. I was

constantly defending in prime overtaking spots and told myself to never look round once as this would just pressurise me. For the last five laps, I was under incredible scrutiny from the chain of four karts behind me and it felt as though as I was a little kid again, running away from my parents, because I had taken one too many cookies. The pressure was released though, as I crossed the line to take the opening round victory and re write

throughout the whole of race day on Sunday. April showers had lived up to their name early on, but the track dried out for Qualifying – where I was left in 14th place for the Qualifying Heat. My luck didn't seem to get any better, as I moved up to 9th in the Heat, but slipped back to 11th in the Pre Final and Final. This result had cost me serious points and luckily I only got demoted to second in the Championship. Round 2 is a weekend

that I want to forget, but a sign that I want to win is that I can't forget it.

Clay Pigeon in Dorset held Round 3 of the Championship, upon which would be my second victory of the season. Qualifying 4th, finishing 5th and then 2nd in the Pre Final enabled me to make a clean sweep of the Final to take my second win of three races in the Champion-



Patrick at Home at the Wheel

the history books for Easykart. Not only was I the first driver from the Junior class to win a UK round in the Senior class, but I was also the youngest ever driver to do so.

After having walked away from Round 1 with the Championship lead, I returned home to find that a few weeks later I had been announced as a "Driver to Watch" in UK Karting. My name had appeared against some of the best kart drivers in International Karting, but even more surprising was that I had been described to be just as good as them. I was in the best position possible to win the Championship, the Prime Minister had written to me and I was now the first ever Easykart driver to be announced as a "Driver to Watch." Things couldn't get better, so instead they got worse. Round two was at Teesside in Middlesbrough, where I was left with handling and performance problems

ship. I had retaken the lead, but Round 4 was to prove tricky. It wasn't that England had lost a match during the weekend that dampened my spirits, but that the freak wet conditions in the Final had meant I lost the lead of the Championship. Starting on the front row of the grid, my decision to go to intermediate tyres was short lived, as the rain bucketed down during the race - resulting in a possible win turning to a devastating eighth place.

The second half of my season was action packed. Four UK Championship rounds remained, with also the European Championship in Poland up for grabs. Whilton Mill near Daventry hosted Round 5, which lead to me maintaining my Championship position despite a terrifying experience. I was starting 6th for the Final, but a huge accident on the opening lap lead to my kart suffering damage and my-

self worried. For the first time in karting I had felt scared. Due to the carnage the race had to be restarted and I went on to finish less than a second behind the leader in 5th, despite visible damage to my kart.

After Round 5 in July, I headed out towards Poland on a 1800 mile round trip to the European Championships near Stary Kisielin. Pretty much every country in Europe was represented with the bulk of the drivers coming from Italy, Czech Republic and Poland. The location was amazing, with the sweeping corners surrounded within a forest. The echoing of karts could be heard miles into the forest and when I cycled deep into the forest one afternoon it felt as though I was a child again, imagining Narnia in my wardrobe. The feelings from the surroundings seemed to help me though, as I was doing well. I managed to qualify 2nd, finish Heat one 2nd and Heat two 3rd. This resulted in me starting the European Grand Final in 2nd place. I held onto second place for the opening laps, until I eventually slipped to 3rd. I finished the 29 lap race in 3rd place, making me 3rd in Europe for 2010.

I would come home with another 3rd place trophy after Round 6 at Rowrah, Cumbria. I had qualified 9th, finished 6th in the Heat and 4th in the Pre Final. Despite battling for 3rd early on in the Final, I was the fastest person on the circuit and quickly caught 2nd place. A mistake however cost me vital time and it wasn't until the end of the race that I had re-caught 2nd place. It was too late and down to my own fault, but at least I had set the fastest lap of the race. Round 7 was also at Rowrah and the conditions remained dry. I qualified 7th and made my way up to 2nd in the Heat. A poor start in the Pre Final however meant I finished 3rd, but unfortunately I struggled in the Final to finish 5th overall. The string of results from Rowrah had meant my Championship position dropped from second to fourth, with only one Round remaining.

The final Round of the Championship was at Forest Edge in Hampshire during September. This race also proved to be my final karting race as I was retiring due to my GCSE's and work the following year. I wanted to go out

the best way I could, by winning the race and salvaging what I could from the Championship.

I seemed to be losing my touch with Qualifying and came in 11th fastest. A few adjustments to the kart though and after finishing 7th in the Heat and 3rd in the Pre Final, I was in the prime position to win the Final – on the inside for the first corner. I used this to my advantage and squeezed through to take 2nd place, slotting into the lead only a couple of corners later. I was back in front leading a race, something which I hadn't done for a few months. I managed to keep it together though and despite frantically waving at the marshals to wake up and warn a back marker I was approaching fast, I crossed the line in my final karting race in 1st place. My efforts had handed me 2nd in the UK Championship and automatic qualification to represent Team UK in the World Championships in Italy. I am however not participating in the World Championships due to school and also the slight problem that I don't have a kart anymore, as we sold it after the race! Competing at the front end of Senior's

hasn't been easy this season, but I have still managed to secure the results I have. I however wouldn't have done so without the help of my dad, who has put a lot of time, effort and passion into this season and also the karting I have done before. I therefore want to thank him for everything he has done regarding my karting, as without him I wouldn't have been able to find what I really enjoy – let alone achieve all the success that we have.

A lot of people have asked what I will be doing in 2011 regarding motorsport and the honest answer is that I'm not very sure. Although I would love to move into car racing, I fear that the limitation of sponsor's won't enable me to do so. I have therefore taken the choice to sit out for 2011 and concentrate on my GCSE's, after which I will review the situation come September next year. Who knows, by going on the surprises I have had this season, maybe I *will* be racing again before too long!

For any more information, results and updates on my racing, please visit my website: www.patrick-lay-racing.com.



CLANFIELD & BAMPTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

In its 50th season, Clanfield Historical Society has enlarged to include its near-neighbour Bampton. To celebrate this, the Rev. David Lloyd has kindly agreed to give the society a talk on the history of St Mary's Church, the oldest surviving building in Bampton, and it will be held in the Church on March 15th 2011 at 7.30pm.

Of course, all are welcome to this talk, as indeed they are to the other talks which will, as usual, be held in the Carter Institute, Clanfield, at 7.30pm. A small charge is made in Clanfield for non-members, but we hope that the distinguished array of speakers, listed below, will encourage those interested in history to join the society.

Membership of the society is £17 for the season (excluding excursion and meal after AGM), which can be paid at the first meeting, on October 19, or by post to Mrs Raena Farley, Brookside Cottage, Main Street, Clanfield, Bampton, OX18 2SP. Visitors pay £3-50 per talk.

November 16 – Paul Booth, of Oxford Archaeology, on 'The Current Research Project at Dorchester-on-Thames'.

February 15 – Muriel Pilkington on 'The Mitfords in the Cotswolds'.

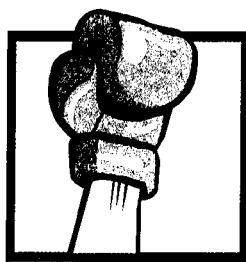
March 15 – Rev. David Lloyd on 'The History of St Mary's Church' – in St Mary's Church.

April 19 – Simon Townley, editor of Victoria County History, Oxfordshire, on 'A Cotswold Wool Town: Burford and its Buildings'.

May 17 – Guided tour of Rousham House, plus gardens.

June 21 – AGM and Annual Dinner (probably at Clanfield Tavern)

Contacts: Alan Smith (chairman) Tel: 01367 810245). Raen Fairley (secretary/treasurer) Tel: 01367 810604



WINDRUSH VALLEY ABC BRINGS

MINI MINOR BOXING AND LADIES FIT TO BOX TO BAMPTON

Monday's @ Bampton Pavilion

6.30-7.30pm Mini minors 8-12 yrs £2.50

7.30-8.45pm Ladies 15yrs & over £3.00

**MINI MINORS CAN LEARN THE SKILLS AND FITNESS OF
NON CONTACT BOXING IN A FUN YET DISCIPLINED
ENVIROMENT.**

**LADIES FIT TO BOX IS SUITABLE FOR ANY SHAPE OR
SIZE. IF YOU WANT FITNESS TO KEEP UP WITH THE KIDS
THIS IS IT, OR IF YOU HAVE ALWAYS HAD ASPIRATIONS TO
BECOME A COMPETATIVE FEMALE BOXER BUT NOT SURE
WHERE TO START, THIS IS IT.**

**FULLY QUALIFIED COACHES TO AMATEUR BOXING
ASSOCIATION OF ENGLAND STANDARDS.**

Contact Katie Setch 07946226327/01993 851156.

Dear Editor

To all Bampton Gardening Club Travellers

This is a letter for you all to thank say a very heartfelt thank you for all the cards and messages we received after word of Keith's death reached 'the north'. Your words of sympathy, although upsetting, were much appreciated and a comfort to us all.

Thank you for the donation collected in Keith's name. We will be giving the money to the Radnor & Farley wards at Salisbury District Hospital who looked after Keith during his stay. We hope to purchase TVs for the two waiting rooms in Radnor ward. Although watching TV is not a priority, it does create a comforting background "noise" and a distraction.

If there are sufficient funds we will also purchase a fan or two for Farley ward as these were also in short supply.

Once again, our very grateful thanks. Dulcie, Tracy, Clare & David.

Dear Editor

I have been a resident of Bampton for about five years and have struggled to find footpaths that link Bampton to Aston and beyond to Witney. I don't drive, so I am in the minority, but even my attempts at cycling the roads haven't been much fun because of the noise and volume of traffic. I have approached council and highways but a possible cycle path or footpath will be low on their list apparently.

I think there is a safety issue for cyclist and walkers, especially where the road bends before Aston.

Are there others in the area who have similar concerns or who would support this being taken up (a possible direct alternative path behind the road perhaps or a cycle path)?

The alternative footpath would be a bit cheaper and easier to sort out but the fields I think have different owners. It seems a shame there isn't such a path that follows this route perhaps all the way to Witney. We are being encouraged to exercise more and the countryside is very nice, it's just the traffic that spoils it and the speed of the drivers, especially along the hills past Aston.

Thanks

Mark Wood

16 Chetwynd Mead, Bampton

**LETTERS AND E-MAILS
TO
THE EDITOR**

Dear Editor

We would like to place on record, via the facilities of The Bampton Beam, our appreciation and sincere thanks to all those kind people who assisted us in shopping and dog walking, during Sally's convalescence from a knee operation.

Mr Rex, our long-haired dachshund, received wonderful attention, being taken extra special walks by a splendid team of enthusiastic dog-lovers.

It is our opinion that this kind of back-up that prevails in Bampton, makes the Town such a pleasant and friendly place to live.

Yours sincerely

Michael and Sally Copper

Sweetbriar Cottage, Bridge Street, Bampton

**Got
Something to
Say?

Be a part
of
Oxfordshire
Voice**

NHS Oxfordshire is calling on people in the county who have something to say about their community to become part of Oxfordshire Voice.

Have you ever commented on a story on a newspaper or radio website?

Do you want the opportunity to regularly comment where it can make a real difference to your area?

If you answered yes to these questions then you might be interested in Oxfordshire Voice.

Oxfordshire Voice is a citizen's panel made up of Oxfordshire residents who have volunteered to give up some of

their time to answer four questionnaires a year created in partnership between NHS Oxfordshire and Oxfordshire County Council.

The panel is carefully recruited to be representative of the population of Oxfordshire but there are some areas where we need to recruit more people these include:

- people, particularly men, aged 16 to 34
- people in full time work
- people who live in the area covered by Cherwell District Council
- people who live in the area covered by Oxford City Council
- people from Black and other minority ethnic groups living in Oxfordshire.

You can have your say on line or by post – whichever you prefer. You could be invited to take part in other activities like online discussion forums or group discussions if this is something you are interested in.

Previous topics the panel have answered questions on include: where people think the council and NHS should save money and what the priorities should be, alcohol and drinking patterns, whether the police and other public services are successfully dealing with crime and anti-social behaviour and people's experiences of local health services and transport issues.

What the panel says is used by the Council and NHS to help develop services and change the way things are done.

For example, one set of results asked for more support for pregnant women as a result NHS Oxfordshire developed a service for new mums just out of hospital with their babies, to provide breastfeeding support.

Feedback about transport issues has been used in the council's transport plan.

So, if you want to be part of Oxfordshire Voice and tell us what you think and make a real difference to your county – all you need to do is complete a short survey you can access it online at: <http://bit.ly/9hxa3c> or you can fill in a paper version.

To request a paper copy please call Annika Howard, at NHS Oxfordshire, on; tel: 01865 334643.

West Ox Arts Gallery
Market Square, Bampton,
Oxon OX18 2JH
Tel: 01993 850137
Email: gALLERY@westoxarts.org
Web: www.westoxarts.org

**West
OX
ARTS**

Welcome to West Ox Arts

West Ox Arts is an association of artists and art enthusiasts, many of whom take part in exhibitions alongside artists invited from the wider region. We hold up to sixteen exhibitions a year showing a varied range of contemporary, high quality art and crafts by local and national artists. Every year three of our exhibitions take place in the Robert Vesey Room located at Bampton Library. We also organise talks, workshops and special events. The gallery has a shop which sells handmade jewellery, ceramics, glassware and cards.

West Ox Arts is situated in a lovely spacious gallery on the first floor of Bampton's Grade II listed Town Hall in the Market Square. It is a charity and is part-funded by West Oxfordshire District Council and Bampton Parish Council, and staffed by a part-time curator and administrator and also volunteers.

Gallery Shop

The gallery shop sells greetings cards of Bampton and Oxfordshire. We also sell flower, landscape, animal and designer greetings cards made by many artists who are local to the area. Also on display is a range of traditional, contemporary and ethnic jewellery selling at reasonable prices. The shop has practical pottery such as mugs, bowls, vases and jugs. There are also stained glass and wooden items for sale.

Hand made jewellery by Sara Withers

Sara Withers beautiful jewellery is made from beads selected from all corners of the world, designed to be eye catching yet easy to wear.

Ceramics by Robin Walden

Robin's work is wheel-based, he works with a variety of clays, especially a dark iron-rich clay from Devon, and a smoother stoneware from France. His simple lines and elemental designs are enhanced by woodash-based glazes, which with their deep colours and varied surfaces add significantly to the life of the object.

Wooden items by Richard Shock

We sell a range of wooden bowls, platters, and candlesticks made by Richard Shock. Richard uses both native British hardwoods and selected imported species from around the world. His quality pieces combine good technical turning techniques

with careful attention to design to enhance the inherent beauty of the figure and grain. His pieces are usually finished with tung oil followed by a buffering stage, ending in a carnauba wax, which is food safe. Richard tries to ensure that all the wood he uses comes from sustainable forestry practice.

Exhibitions in the Gallery

Gallery opening hours

During exhibitions: Tues-Sat 10.30am -12.30pm and 2-4pm. Sun 2-4pm

Echoes of Stone

Paper Paradise

Sat 30 Oct - Sun 21 Nov

Many artists work with just paper - making paper by hand, dying it, cutting it, creating collage, sculpture, handmade books, screens, hangings, jewellery - the list goes on... This large group exhibition is a celebration of paper and what can be done with it. The artists include: Brian Aldiss who is a world famous Science Fiction writer. It is little known that he is also an artist; this exhibition will show his cut and collaged paperwork's which are both serious and comic. Alison Cockcroft's playful sculptures and collages are about nature, wildness and the sense of place. Toni Clarke makes handmade paper pictures, hangings and jewellery from a wide range of recycled materials. Anita Bell is inspired by the frescos of Romanesque churches and makes framed pieces, hangings and vessels. Heather

Hunter creates intricate 3 dimensional books and boxes containing prints and poems.

Christmas Crafts

Sat 27 Nov - Sun 19 Dec

An exhibition of crafts by many WOA members and also invited artists. A fabulous display of Christmas gifts that include glassware, pottery, textiles, wood, jewellery, pictures and prints.

From mid November until Christmas, a range a hand made and printed Christmas cards will be on sale.

Other Events

Thamyse String Quartet

Sunday 3 October at 5pm

Bampton Church

The Thamyse Quartet will be performing an afternoon benefit concert of music for West Ox Arts. The programme is: *Haydn: Opus 33 No.1* *Beethoven Opus 18 No. Elgar: Quartet in E minor Opus 83.*

The Quartet's repertoire centres on the 18th and 19th century masters, but also includes 20th century works. The musicians are Regan Crowley, Frances Barlow, Audrey Hemming (all members of the BBC Symphony Orchestra) and Sara Pacey (past member of Covent Garden Opera House Orchestra). Tickets: £9/£8-WOA members/Student or Unemployed-£7/under 16-free. Tickets will be sold here at the Gallery.

Rotary Club of Oxford North


Sightsavers is one of the annual charities that Oxford North Rotary Club supports. We have now organised on behalf of this charity 33 walks in the grounds of Blenheim Palace, by kind permission of the Duke of Marlborough. Records at Sightsavers headquarters only go back as far as their computer system, and we have been informed that over the past 14 years over £83,000 has been raised by our supporters. It costs just £17 to repair a cataract in India or Pakistan, and all the monies raised by our Rotary club and others in the United Kingdom go direct to providing eye care in third world countries. For more information please contact Peter Astall on peter@astall.com, Tel. 01865 372637.



Neighbourhood Policing

newsletter



Carterton, Bampton & Burford Neighbourhood Team

cartertonneighbourhood@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk





Insp Mark Johns
Sgt Mags Turner
Sgt Nicole James
PC Colin James
PC Rich Barnes
PCSO Angela Alford
PCSO Sara Holmes
PCSO Petra Summers
PCSO Isabel Webb

The Carterton, Bampton and Burford Neighbourhood Police Team would like to update you with how anti social behaviour is being tackled in Bampton.

We received reports of drug issues in Pembroke Place and by liaising with partner agencies we obtained two drugs warrants which produced positive results. In conjunction with Cottsway Housing the main perpetrators were moved from the area.

PCSO Isabel Webb regularly visits the area to engage with residents and has received positive feedback since, with many saying it is a much quieter and more pleasant place to live.

We have also received reports of anti social behaviour, in particular drug use, around and in the public toilets at Market Square. We are currently working with the District Council to tackle this problem.

Regular patrols will continue and if you do experience any issues in your street it is important that you report it to us to prevent further occurrences and so we can speak to those involved. Please try to get a description of any persons involved, or vehicles they are using with the registration number if possible, as this helps us to track them down. You can either ring the non-emergency number on 0845 8 505 505 or if a crime is being committed dial 999. If you wish to remain anonymous then call Crime Stoppers on 0800 555 111.

Please don't hesitate to ring us, you are not wasting our time and no information is too insignificant, it may just be the last piece we need. Community information is vital.

Community messaging

To be kept up to date with what is happening in your neighbourhood, sign up to the Thames Valley Community Messaging System. The service is completely free and you will receive relevant messages for your area, ranging from witness appeals to crime reduction advice and notification of events. You can choose to receive the messages by email or telephone. Sign up online at: www.tvpcommunitymessaging.org, pop into the police station for an application form or telephone the administrator on 01993 861640.

Anyone who wishes to get in touch with the team can email us at cartertonneighbourhood@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk or check out our monthly updates at www.thamesvalley.police.uk. Alternatively, people can phone the non-emergency number on 08458 505 505 and a message will be passed to the team should you wish to leave one.



The Bampton Bush Club Wednesdays 9.45am - 2.00pm 43 weeks of the year.

The Bush Club has now been in operation for over 20 years and we believe that the opportunity it provides for the older people of the area to meet and have a freshly cooked mid-day meal is greatly appreciated, particularly by those who, otherwise, are rarely able to leave their own homes. On most days talks, demonstrations, activities, entertainment or outings are arranged.

We are able to keep the charge to our members at a very low level only because of the Volunteers who give their time free of charge as Helpers, Cooks and Drivers.

Many of the Volunteers have been giving their services since the early days and are, in a number of cases, as old as, or older, than some of the members!

With the passage of time some of the Volunteers have died and others have had to cease their involvement; and

NOTICE BOARD

the club is having difficulty in finding younger people to fill their places.

Are you able to help in any of the following roles please?

General Helpers – normally assist alternate weeks 9.30 am – 2pm

Cooks – approximately once a month 10am – 1pm

Kitchen Assistants - approximately once a month 10am – 1pm

Lunchtime washing up – alternate weeks 12noon – 1pm

Drivers – alternate weeks either mornings or afternoons

If you are willing help please contact:

**Fenella Gray: Tel: 01993 851653 or
Veronica Baker: Tel: 01993 851040.**

Bampton Drop-In

Held at the Methodist Chapel every Monday from 12pm, where all are welcome. Don't suffer those Monday blues. When you've done your washing up don't just put your feet up with a cup of tea.

Dial-a-Ride

The Dial-a-Ride service is a door to door minibus service for those who are unable to use or find it difficult to use public transport, such as elderly or disabled people. Drivers are trained to administer first aid and to assist wheelchair users and people with mobility problems.

The Dial-a-Ride service is available between 9.00am and 5.00pm, Monday to Friday. For more details about the service including cost, what areas are covered and what type of journey the service can be used for, contact **Tel: 01865 876176.**

Instead, why not come and join us at this local facility for a very reasonably priced lunch, where you will be served by a dedicated band of country cooks.

You can enjoy a warming bowl of home-made soup, something on toast or a cheesy baked potato, followed by home-made cake, cheese and biscuits, tea and coffee. So come along and enjoy this friendly informal gathering.

Cancer Research UK

Bampton Branch

Events for the rest of 2010

17th November Pre-Christmas

Bingo, Village Hall, 8pm

3rd December Quiz Night, Village Hall, 7.30pm

17th December Country & Western Dance, Social Centre, Carterton, 8.30pm

For more information contact Doris or Michael Cleaver: **Tel: 01993 850682.**

Bampton Junior Church

The children from Bampton School and the village are welcomed to Bampton Junior Church on a Sunday morning.

We run from 10.45am – 11.25am in the Bush Centre. At 11.25am we march back up to church where we join the congregation for drinks. BJC runs every Sunday except for the third Sunday in the month when it is family service.

Bampton Bridge Club

Do you play bridge? If so why not come along and join the Bampton Bridge Club..

We play on Tuesday evenings from 7-30 to 10pm in Bampton Village Hall. Duplicate is played on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Tuesday of each month with Rub-

Congratulations to David Radband

on being 'Mentioned in Dispatches'

The Citation reads:

During the period from June to September PTE Radband operated with the Welsh Guards. He and his section were at the forefront of nearly every patrol. This was during the height of the Helmand summer, a summer which proved the most lethal to ISAF troops to date. The pressure was relentless, nearly every day he was involved in contacts and IED strikes and was often found leading from the front when clearing compounds and fighting through insurgent positions.

Many times he took the initiative by following up on enemy ambushes with complete disregard for his personal safety. He maintained his resolve despite direct threats of capture, and threats to his life from insurgents. The brutal reality of IED's and the deaths and injuries sustained by his fellow soldiers only strengthened his resolve and he continued to take the battle to the insurgents day after day without falter. On 27th August 2009 Pte Radband and his section were involved in a patrol when they came under heavy contact from a compound which resulted in the death of an officer. Making the decision to assist the friendly forces who had been fixed, Pte Radband and his section pushed forwards to a position where they could engage the enemy. Seeing that momentum needed to be gained, he saw an opportunity to clear through the position. Following a relentless barrage of suppressing fire from his section, he made the decision to fight through, leading his section Pte Radband cleared the enemy position and thus reducing the possibility of further deaths or casualties. His professionalism, stoical attitude and numerous acts of bravery were recognised and highly regarded by CO Welsh Guards.

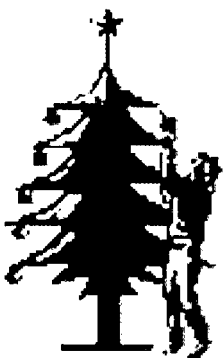
Pte Radband's demeanor was always self-deprecating; there are many separate incidents that could be cited but what should be recognized is his persistent bravery and selfless-commitment for an extended period of time. His actions should be publicly recognized and commended as an example to us all.

ber being played on the 2nd and 4th week of the month.. The annual subscription is £6. Members pay £1 per week table money and visitors pay £2. You will find us a very friendly club. For more information contact Frank Hudson on: **Tel: 01993 842126.**

Bampton Badminton Club

Bampton Badminton Club is recruiting new players for the next season starting 10am Tuesday September 14th in the Village Hall. At just £2 for a 2 hour session including coffee it's a great way to meet new people and get some exercise. All abilities welcome. Contact Lesley Campbell: **Tel: 01993 852846** for more information.

Bampton Methodist Chapel CHRISTMAS TREE WEEKEND 5th & 6th DECEMBER



We will be making mince pies, gifts and crafts from 7 p.m. onwards on November 29th at 'Fairacres' Buckland Road. If you would like to come along and join in the

fun, then please bring a tin of tomato or oxtail soup, some bread or cheese for a Pot Luck supper. If you are un-

NOTICE BOARD

able to come on that evening, then please feel free to make some mince pies and bring them to Chapel on either day. Also, donations of sweets or chocolates for the tombola stall or unwanted gifts for the crafts and gifts stall can also be left at the back of the Chapel. If you would like to help on either of the days, please sign your name on the list at the back of the Chapel. If you are planning to bring a tree, then this can be brought between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. on Friday the 4th December.

We will be selling Christmas Cards and gifts and also running a chocolate tombola stall. If you have any unwanted gifts, bought or home made, that we could sell or chocolates for the tombola stall, then please leave them at the back of the Chapel by December 4th.

Don't Forget, November 6th - Coffee Morning - 10 a.m. - 12 noon - cakes, books, raffle etc. Entrance 50p to include a cup of tea or coffee.

Old Birthday Cards

Lizann still needs your old cards after you have enjoyed them, so that she can recycle them into re-saleable items. Please continue to leave them at 3 Broad Street or The Vesey Room and also the Cotton Club - where they are for sale.

Bampton Village Hall

By the time this edition of the Beam is published, the Village Hall will have a new kitchen. Work started at the end of September when all of the existing equipment and fittings were removed. These had served the community well for at least 25 years and the cooker was second hand when it arrived then!

Apart from the new cooker, units and work surfaces, the kitchen will have two commercial grade microwave ovens, a larder fridge, a plumbed in water boiler and a separate boiler to provide instant hot water (in the cloakrooms and the kitchen) as well as background heating in the kitchen. The work has been carried out by local builder Reg Cooper.

Funds were raised earlier in the year through a local appeal, to which many residents, clubs and societies responded generously, together with grant applications to both local government and charitable organisations. Support was received from Waste Recycling Environmental Ltd., Oxfordshire County Council, the Garfield Weston Foundation, Bampton Parish Council, the Doris Field Charitable Trust, and the Bampton Community Shop.

The Village Hall Management Committee provided £3,000 from its own funds.

We are hopeful that the new kitchen will attract more bookings for events that require these facilities and anyone who is potentially interested should contact the Lettings Officer to arrange a visit.

Sadly Cordula Simmons resigned as Lettings Officer at the end of September in order to move to Germany with her family.

Anyone who has met Cordula will know just how efficiently she has organised the booking system over the last few months.

Her successor is Angy Irvin:

Tel: 01993 850289;

email:

bamptonv.hall@btinternet.com.

Bampton Ladies Group

We are a group of like minded ladies who meet every third Wednesday of the month (excluding August).

We meet in The Village Hall at 8pm.

We arrange various talks on interesting subjects, and we also organise outings to places of interest on a regular basis.

We have our annual 'skittles outing' in February each year, and our Annual Dinner in April.

The first evening you come along is £1.

Should you then join it's £10 for the year.

For further information contact Mrs Joan Farthing on: **Tel: 01993 851206.**



WOVA

(West Oxfordshire Vetka Association)
Supporting communities affected by
the Chernobyl Disaster
Reg. Charity No: 110375

The Oxford Welsh Male Voice Choir
In Concert

Saturday 6th November 2010

7.30 p.m.

At The Methodist Church, High
Street, Witney

Tickets £10.00 or £8.00 Concessions
(Under 16's and over 60's)

Supported by

The Rotary Club of Witney

Tickets available from The Music
Stand, and St. Andrew's Bookshop,
High Street, Witney

NOTICE BOARD**WHODUNNIT?**

"A Trail of Ink" the third in the
chronicles of Hugh de Singleton,
surgeon by Mel Starr is set in 14th
Century Bampton and is being sold
in aid of Bampton Community Ar-
chive.

The books are now available at £8.95
from:

- The Vesey Room at Bampton Library
- The Horseshoe
- and also, on Sundays, from Janet Rouse at St Mary's Church

Heroes

A comedy by French dramatist
Gerald Sibleyros,

Translated and adapted
by Tom Stoppard.

11th, 12th, 13th November

Faringdon Junior School
Gloucesler Street
Faringdon.

Director: Sarah Varnom

"Heroes" is a Parisian boulevard comedy about three men: an idealist, a pragmatist, and a fence sitter.

It is set in August 1959 in a home somewhere in France for retired military men - all veterans of the French army in the First World War.

The audience will be invited to arrive from 7pm to share in a light supper (one drink included) and curtain up will be at 8pm.

Further drinks will be available beforehand so patrons can enjoy a drink during the performance.

There will also be the usual refreshments and raffle during the interval.

Tickets will be £10 (Concessions £8) to include supper, and are available from The Nut Tree, Cornmarket, Faringdon.

Or use our on-line Box office at:

www.faringdondramatic.org.uk

Telephone enquiries to:

Fiona Tel: 01367 242957

A collection will be taken at each performance for Help for Heroes.

Bampton Community Shop Grants

By Fenella Gray

If anyone is looking for financial support for a worthy cause for the Village, please write to me c/o The Bampton Community Shop - address on back page.

In your application, please specify the organisation or cause you are seeking support for, how much money you are looking for, and how the money will be spent. Please note that we need the requests by end January at the latest so that they can be dealt with before the end of the Shop's financial year.

Follow the star**Bampton Village Nativity**

Wednesday, 22nd December

Meet inside St Mary's Church at 7.00 pm.

Follow Mary & Joseph on their journey to find room at the inn.

Follow the star with the shepherds and wise men.

Join in with the carols as, once again, we re-enact the miracle of Jesus' birth in a Bampton Tavern.

Any money collected during the evening will go to

The Friends of Bampton Primary.

Bampton Welfare Trust

Charity No. 202735

The Trustees may make gifts to the needy in Bampton, Aston, and Lew - as far as their funds allow - to relieve sudden distress or sickness, help with travelling expenses to hospitals, provide fuel and food for the sick.

The Trustees also assist the local primary schools, playgroups and clubs for the elderly in that area.

Trustees: The Reverend D Lloyd, Dr M Perry, Mrs R Pelham, Mrs J Haslam, Mrs J Newman, Mr C Rouse, Mr G Wiltshire & Mr G Mills (Aston), Mrs A Grinsell (Lew).

Clerk to the Trustees: Mr D Pullman, Mill Green Cottage, Bampton, Tel:

01993 850589. Welfare Officer: Mrs J Newman, Leofric House, 81 New Road, Bampton., Tel: **01993 850755.** If you would like to apply for a grant for the first time, please contact Dr M Perry: Tel: **01993 850314** for an application form.

Bampton Bush Centre

Hiring Officer

Mr Reece Witchell

Lodge Cottage

Church View

Bampton

Oxon OX18 2NE

Tel: 01993 851248

**Faringdon Dramatic
Society presents
DICK WHITTINGTON**

a pantomime

Directed by Karen Whiffen

Read through - (Adults and Children
– 10 years and over) Monday 1st

November at 7.30pm

United Church, Coxwell Road

Roundabout, Faringdon.

(Limited parking behind the church)

Auditions - Thursday 4th November

7pm Children, 8.30 adults

United Church (as above)

www.faringdondramatic.org.uk

Telephone enquiries – Fiona

Tel: 01367 242967

NOTICE BOARD

**The Bampton
Mummers**

Book now for the Mummers
to visit you on Christmas Eve
and perform their ancient
play!

To book, call Mat Green

Tel: 01993 850760

Mat@greenfiddle.fsnet.co.uk

Winter Recipe

**Autumn sausage stew
with celeriac and kale**

Courtesy Riverford Home Delivery

Ingredients

1 tablespoon olive oil
500g pork sausages
100g bacon, cut into lardons
2 onions, sliced
1/2 celeriac, diced into 2cm pieces
2 garlic cloves, crushed
sprig of thyme and a bay leaf
1 tablespoon tomato purée
100 ml red wine
300 ml chicken/meat stock
dash of Worcester sauce
2 dessert spoons Dijon mustard
400g kale, stripped from stalks and
shredded
200g cooked white beans

Method

Shallow fry the sausages and lardons
in oil for 5 minutes. Remove the sau-
sages.

Add onions and cook for 10 minutes.
Turn up the heat and add the celeriac,
stirring frequently to stop the onions
from burning.

Add the garlic, herbs and purée and
stir well for 2 minutes. Deglaze with
red wine, add stock, Worcester sauce
and mustard.

Bring the contents of the pan to a sim-
mer, return the sausages, cover and
cook for about 20 minutes.

Add the kale to the pan and wilt for
10 minutes before mixing with the
rest of the braise. Add white beans,
season and cook for a further 5 min-
utes.

Growing Old

By Rosa Brabben

It's not funny growing old,
Hair turns white, or you might go bald.
It's harder now to read and write,
So you've reading glasses to aid your sight.
Your teeth fall out 'til you've just a few,
It's dentures in to help you chew.
People mumble so you just can't hear,
And now you've gone digital in your car!

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DRIVER TRAINING**

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Value for Money Prices**

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Mobile: 07930 522759

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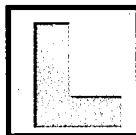
john.townsend22@googlemail.com

**Are you looking to hire
direct home care / PA
within the OX18 area?**

**Whatever your needs
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Bampton Environmental Watch Group

By Ralph Norman, Chairman



In July we had a most successful meeting when Tim Healey gave a talk on 'The History of the Green Man'.

This attracted one of our largest audiences including visitors from outside the village. When you read this report we will have had our final meeting of the year. There are no more meetings after this until our AGM on 3 March, when Martin Way will give a talk on the Cotswold Wool Trade and Shepherding. Open meetings are held in the Village Hall starting at 8:00pm. All are welcome, with attendance free for members, £2 for non-members (or join at the door).

Bampton's 7.5T environmental weight limit is finally in place, but there are still problems associated with obtaining some form of permit system for local businesses. An OCC officer is denying any question of a permit system, in direct contradiction of the minuted decision to allow future discussion.

In July OCC at last submitted their plans for alterations to the old school (youth centre) to allow the incorporation the Bush Club and move the weight lifters to an extension to be built on the front, but with totally inadequate parking for only six cars. At the beginning of October they gave themselves planning permission to go ahead, but at the time of writing they are still awaiting listed building consent.

It appears that the threat of gravel extraction that has been hanging over us is moving away, at least for the time being. OCC have been considering for some time three options for future extraction of sand and gravel. Option 1 involved just existing sites, while options 2 and 3 incorporated new sites, both including a vast tract along the Thames from Radcot, which would have dire consequences for Bampton and other local villages. The Cabinet meeting on 19 October is now likely to confirm the recommendation before it, to adopt Option 1 as its preferred approach in the short/medium

term. This will be subject to further consultation.

The consultation for WODC's Preferred Approach document for their Local Development Framework (LDF) Core Strategy closed in March. The outcome from this is awaited, but will be affected by changes to the planning system that are gradually being announced by our new coalition government. (Go to WODC's website at www.westoxon.gov.uk/planning/CoreStrategy.cfm for details.)

Change of use to Post Office and associated internal and external alterations have been granted for the middle room of the Town Hall.

If you would like to know more about BEWG or would like to join us please contact the Membership Secretary (Ann Norman) on 850823, or email bewg@sagaman.co.uk. You can also see our entry on the Bampton web site at: www.bamptonoxon-parishcouncil.gov.uk

Library DVD Reviews

by Toby Hopkins

ROBIN HOOD

First off, this is nothing like the Errol Flynn version. This time round the 'merry men' are predominantly a bunch of coughing adolescents, and the final battle takes place on a beach. Robin, played by Russell Crowe at one point says, "I don't know where I'm from or where I have been." His accent would seem to suggest he's been all over the place, as it ping-pongs around the British Isles (sometimes within the same sentence) with bewildering dexterity. He even briefly sounds like one of the Beatles. Anyway, the evocation of medieval Britain is terrific, the supporting cast are all fairly decent and the action is certainly not dull. I had trouble getting into some of the narrative subtleties - but was pleased to find the soundtrack hadn't been hijacked by someone like Bryan Adams...

Chick rating: 6

Lads' rating: 6



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SHERLOCK HOLMES

Director Guy Ritchie finally makes a great film not about cockney gangsters... Fans of the iconic black and white Basil Rathbone version of Conan Doyle's famous creation should not be deterred, Robert Downey Jr's portrayal here is excellently fresh and energetic.

A moment or two of the CGI was disappointing (not least of all because it seemed unnecessary), and Ritchie's habit of giving the whole film a kind of metallic brown hue may upset lovers of blue sky, but otherwise this is a superb watch (including probably the best slow-motion explosion shot in cinematic history...)

Chick rating: 8 1/2

Lads' rating: 8 1/2

DAMNED UNITED

If you've ever heard of the football manager Brian Clough and wondered what all the fuss was about - then this is the film for you. The title may not sound too encouraging, referring to his extraordinarily unsuccessful tenure of Leeds United in the early 70's (that lasted just 44 days). However Clough (skilfully played by Michael Sheen) prior to this had been something of a managing sensation, the story of which is also covered here.

As is the role and importance of his assistant, Peter Taylor (Timothy Spall). An excellent homage to a colourful, outspoken character...

Chick rating: 5 1/2

Lads' rating: 8

Also still available and recommended: (for only £1.25!)

WALL-E

Immensely enjoyable animation, rivaling the Toy Story series for entertainment value...

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SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE

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SPAJERS News

By Don Rouse

What a fantastic *Donkey Derby* we had this year. Once again it showed just what can be achieved when the Community joins us in putting on a Village event. From 9.30 in the morning till 6.30 in the evening we were helped by so many volunteers both setting up at the beginning, running stalls and clearing up at the end; to you all we say a very big 'THANK YOU'. With the help of all your efforts we were able to raise over £4,300.00.

The wonderful atmosphere at this event never ceases to amaze me; the hustle and bustle of our daily lives seems to be abandoned for just one day as we take 'time out' to actually talk and have fun with one another.

We welcome Helen Grimwade on to our Committee. For several years now she has helped us run stalls at the Donkey Derby, ably assisted by her husband, so she is well acquainted with the aims of the SPAJERS. Also

we welcome Suzy Macpherson on to our committee, redressing the imbalance of aged male members. Brilliant. For our annual outing this year we went to Weston Super Mare. We had been told that the pier would be restored in time for our visit, but it was not to be. None the less over one hundred of our members had a wonderful day and surprisingly the tide was actually in!

We also ran a short outing to RAF Brize Norton where our members were treated like Royalty. We were limited to thirty members, so it was a case of 'first come first served'. We do realise that a lot of people felt left out or did not know that it was happening.

We are hoping that the RAF will allow us to repeat this a few more times, allowing more of our members to visit the Base. You will be informed as to when we will be going again. We shall be keeping a register

to make sure that everyone has a fair chance to go.

Our next big event will be the Bonfire and Fireworks night that will be held on 6th November at the Sports Field. Plans are progressing well with so much on offer to make it a fantastic family evening. There will be a bonfire; something that other villages do not have; a Pig Roast, Bar, Roundabout for the young ones, and a really local live band called 'Little White Lies'.

Tickets will be available in advance from our outlets - newsagents 'Emmies' and the Coffee House. Prices up to midday on Saturday the 6th will be: Adults £6.00; Children £3.00; Family of two adults and two children £15.00. On the gate these prices will be £8.00, £5.00, and £18.00 respectively.

The SPAJERS have been invited to organise a display in the Vesey Room of what they have achieved in their long history of service to the Senior Citizens of Bampton. We think this is a marvellous idea, but we need your help to collate picture memorabilia. Have you got any pictures from our early promotions, like the old Chariot Races, the Black Tie Balls at Weald Manor, or of Celebs and VIPs judging the Shirt Races?

There is so much that has happened in Bampton as a result of the SPAJERS that we feel a record should be made for posterity. Perhaps we can persuade someone to write a book about it to celebrate sixty years of SPAJERING in 2013.

If you have any material that might be useful to us please contact me on 01993 850297. I would only need it for a matter of minutes just to photocopy and then you can have it straight back.

For those who are new to Bampton, to be a member of the SPAJERS you must have lived in Bampton or Lew for a minimum of six months and the ladies achieved the age of sixty whilst the men have got to go on to sixty five!

Yes, you are right, it is what used to be the national pension age. It takes us longer in Bampton to catch up with what is happening nationally.

The Committee would like to wish all our members a very Happy Christmas and a Healthy New Year.

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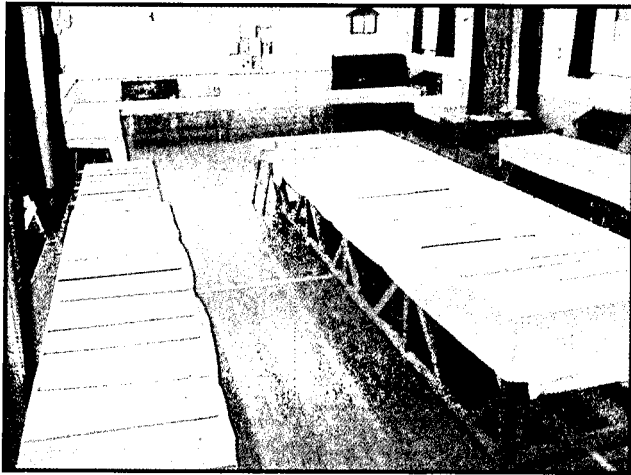


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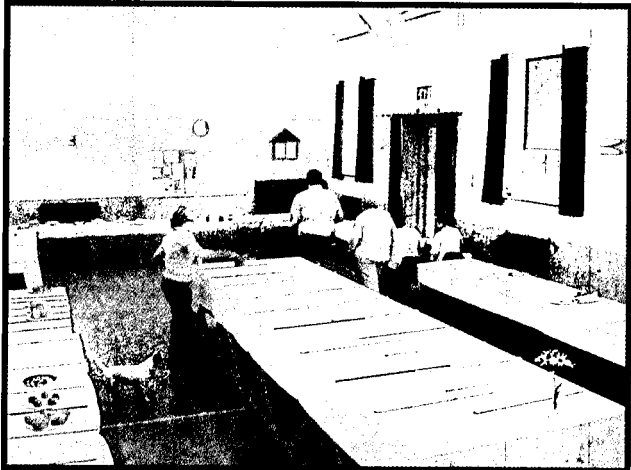
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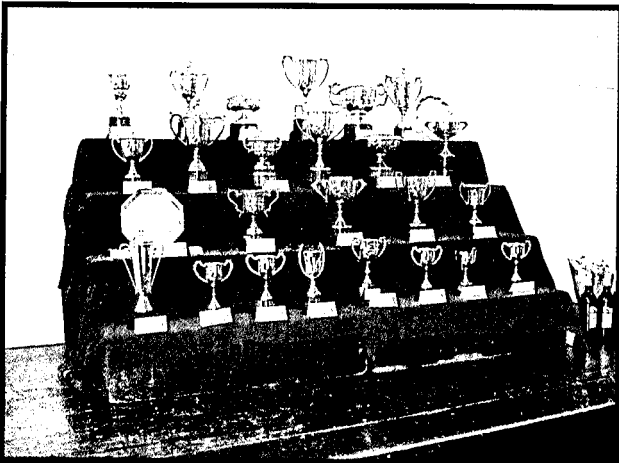
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The Judging



Excellent Array of Entries



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A Winner

HISTORIC ROOF RESTORATION NOW COMPLETE



Photographs by Janet Rouse

Short history of St. Mary The Virgin, Bampton

The church of St. Mary The Virgin is a Grade I listed building and stands proudly and prominently at the heart of the community of Bampton. The present church dates largely from 1153 onwards, though evidence exists of a Saxon minster on the site prior to the Norman Conquest. Originally associated with St. Beornwald, the church was later dedicated to St. Mary and St. John The Baptist, perhaps indicating that there were in fact two adjacent churches on the same site. The church has undergone two major remodellings: the first in 1270 when the soaring spire was added along with the side aisles; the second between 1867 and 1870 when St. Mary's was "restored" and the roof changed to its present stone slate-clad form, involving the removal of the clerestory windows which had been a feature of the Early English church.

Rain had rotted the lath and plaster and started to rot one of the main beams



What was the problem?

Following extensive work in the 1990s including new lighting, power circuits and the installation of a kitchen and WC, the 5-yearly inspection of 2003 revealed that the roofs of both the Nave and Chancel were in a perilous state. For some time stone slates had been slipping, held in place only by their own weight, resulting in water getting into the ceiling of the Nave and encouraging the plaster to disintegrate and fall. Not only did damp cause problems with the plasterwork and timbers, but the slates themselves were gradually deteriorating with seasonal freeze-thaw action particularly affecting the northern sun-starved slopes.

Our architect's reports were subsequently supported by those of

English Heritage architect in 2007 by which time consideration had to be given to whether the roof was safe to allow access around the building and also within. With the church and community unable to raise enough funds in time to replace the whole roof at once, English Heritage supported a two phase approach which deemed the Nave more urgent. By the time work commenced on the Chancel roof in 2010, the condition had significantly worsened, with many more stone slates requiring replacement compared to the Nave, proving what might have been had action not been taken.

Inside the church, patches of plaster had fallen off revealing the lath and plaster

Getting started

Under the guidance of our architect Andrew Townsend of Faringdon, a project team was selected for the work. It was essential to select professionals with experience of historic buildings. Initially investigations were undertaken by stone and slate consultants from Caernarfon in North Wales, structural engineers, general contractors and roofers. An early concern was the presence of bats and since bat species are protected, it had to be determined whether or not they were roosting within the church, with appropriate monitoring remaining in place throughout the whole project. Extra concerns surrounded the Chancel work, since underground drainage had to be improved and this involved an archaeological investigation and the revelation of an old well within the churchyard.

The main contractors for the Nave work were W.G. Carter, whilst Wards were responsible for the Chancel phase, although the actual roofers, Everest, remained for both phases – a skilled job requiring the correct placing of the slates with largest at the bottom of the slopes and the smallest at the top. New slates have been interspersed with the old to stunning effect, and the bats – should they return – now have a new home.



Shows lath and plaster, breathable membrane, diagonal bracing and tile battens being screwed into place

The Nave – Phase 1 – Main problems

The cost of the nave work was approximately £220,000 and involved a significant amount of work inside as well as out. Unlike the boarded ceiling in the chancel, the Nave has a plaster ceiling. Some of the issues included the following:

A large temporary roof structure was erected to protect the workforce and church through cold wet winter months. The scaffolding had to be fixed over the lead covered aisle roofs, which in turn were protected by thick plywood sheets screwed down.

A suspected bat roost within the void under the ridge tiles had to be carefully examined. This required a bat licence and careful monitoring.. No bat roost was found, but the new roof incorporates space for bats to colonise.



Where there had been gaps between the tiles, water had damaged some minor timbers, but had also compromised some areas of the plaster ceiling causing lumps of plaster to fall within the Nave – not a good place to sit at the time! All defective lath and plaster was replaced, and the whole ceiling checked thoroughly and redecorated.

Generally the condition of the Nave structure was found to be in very good order. A membrane has now been placed under the tiles (with stainless steel replacing the original green oak pegs) to help keep the roof watertight.

This Phase started in March 2009 and was completed in about 6 months. There was a slight reduction in the overall cost in the end due to fewer slates needing replacement.

The Chancel – Phase 2 – Main problems



The cost of the Chancel work was approximately £190,000 but unlike the Nave has been mostly restricted to the exterior. Additional work outside the scope of the roof project was in progress at the same time, the most significant of which is the work to masonry within the tower and the restoration of the exterior frieze of the Horde Chapel. Various issues included the following:

Some of the structural timbers within the Chancel roof structure were found to be rotten and were replaced.

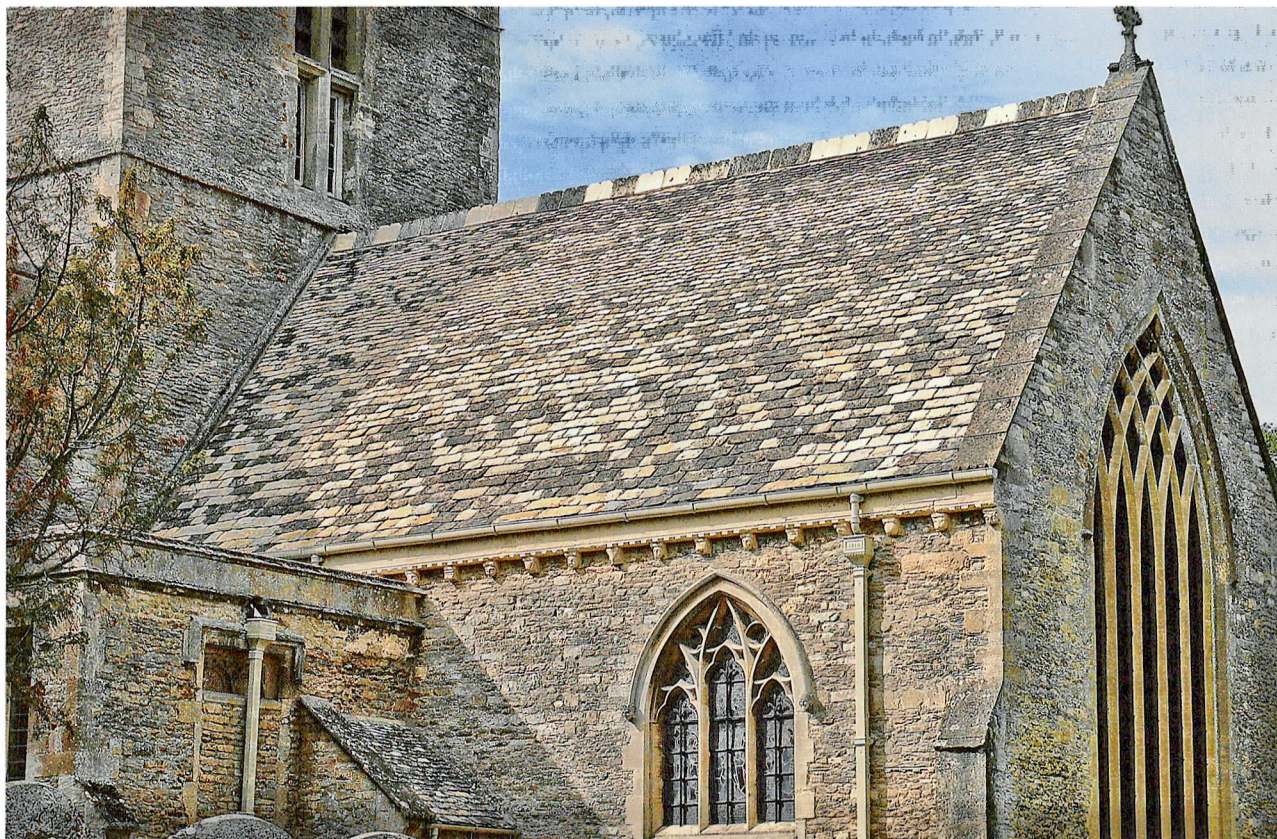
More chancel tiles had to be replaced than experienced on the Nave. Up to 50% could not be re-used and this increased the costs from earlier estimates. Some of the replacements were in short supply and alternative quarries had to be investigated (most came from the Brockhill Quarry at Naunton between Stow and Cheltenham).

The Chancel drainage was also an issue and new soak-aways have been constructed to accommodate rainwater.

Since there are many archaeologically sensitive areas around the Chancel and the building structure had to be protected, designing a suitable scaffolding structure proved very complex and delayed the start of the Phase by a few weeks.

This Phase started in February 2010 and completed in July 2010.

South Chancel roof from the south-east



Funding this huge project

The total cost of the repairs to the Nave and Chancel Roofs was £410,000. In addition to the large number of donations from local people and those further afield, we received some £115,000 from a wide variety of events arranged by the Fund Committee members. These proved to be highly enjoyable for our community and included:

A Raise The Roof Auction of Promises, a Clay Pigeon Shoot, a number of Concerts held in the Church, a talk by a famous local politician, an 'Antiques Road Show' held on a glorious summer's afternoon and a Barn Dance held in Church.

Donations from organisations within Bampton included:

The Friends of Bampton Church
Bampton Parish Council
Bampton Community Shop
Society for The Protection of Bampton
The Junior Church

We also received over £230,000 from external sources including:

English Heritage
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We are most grateful to all our many Donors, without whose support the Roof could not have been repaired

THANK YOU ALL VERY MUCH INDEED

Emergency Response Plan

Volunteers Wanted!

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Nearly all emergencies affecting communities are supposed to be dealt with by an integrated multi-agency response. However, it is recognised that situations could occur (such as extensive flooding, storm damage, deep snow, power outage or a major incident), which could delay the arrival of outside assistance, requiring our community to help itself.

Recognising this, The Parish Council has developed an Emergency Response Plan (ERP) for the Village, with the aim of providing a framework to ensure an effective and robust approach to managing a major incident that may threaten the safety and welfare of the community. The ERP was issued in January 2009, and an updated version is available for those who are new to the Village or have displaced your original copy. Contact Sarah Radband - see below - if you need to get hold of a copy.

As part of the Plan, a list of volunteers has been drawn up who have put their names forward as willing to give their time to help others in an emergency situation. If you would like to do this as well, then please complete the information below, and send it to:

Mrs S Radband
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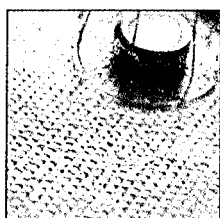
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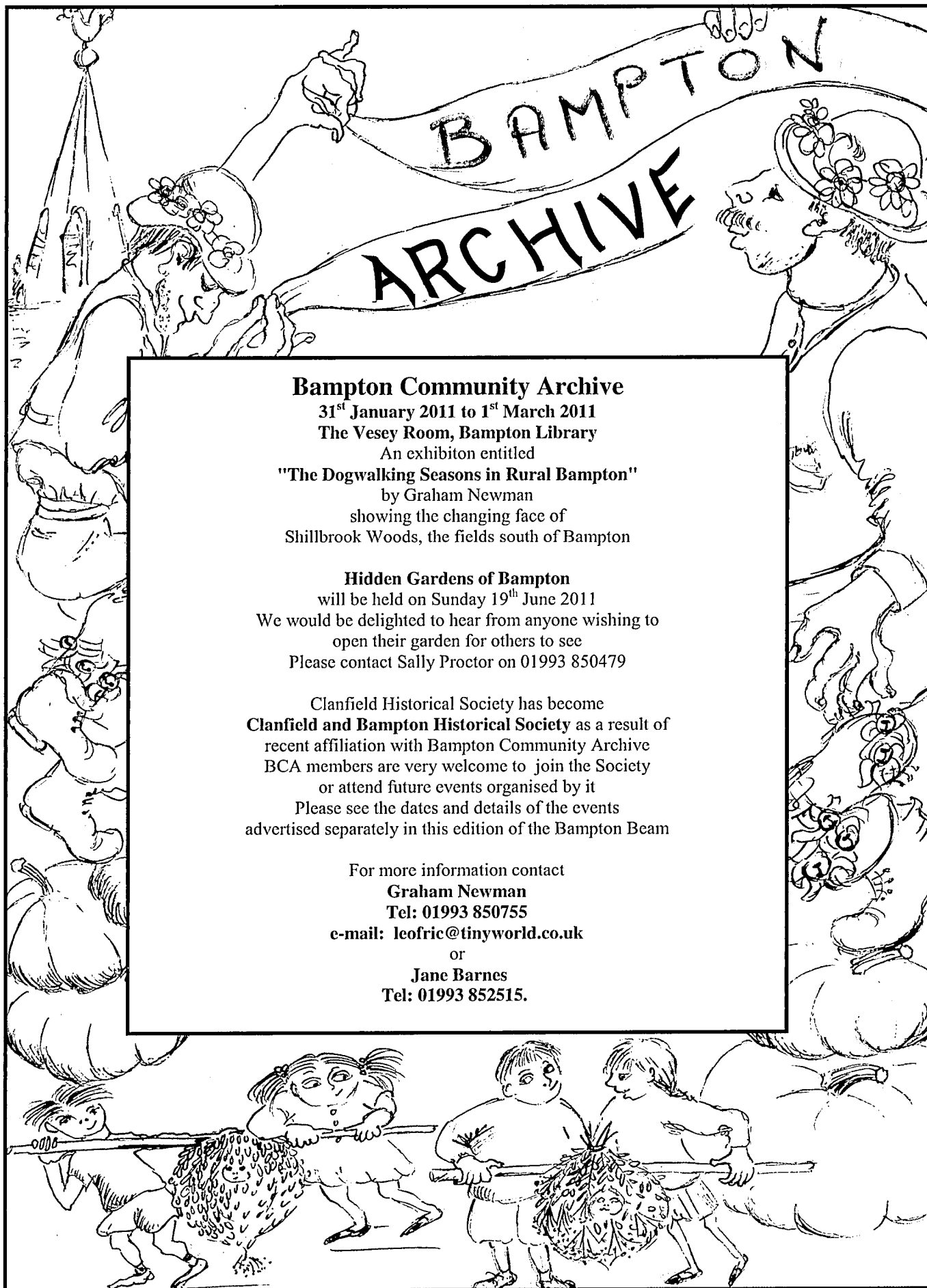
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Please see the dates and details of the events

advertised separately in this edition of the Bampton Beam

For more information contact

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Tel: 01993 850755

e-mail: leofric@tinyworld.co.uk

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Jane Barnes

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If you are a patient at Bampton Medical Practice and are aged over 65, you might have received a letter inviting you to join the OxVALVE study.

What are the purposes of the study?

- **The main purpose of the study is to find patients with unknown heart valve problems in order to study valvular heart disease further and to see how common it is.**
- **The secondary purpose is to monitor the heart valves of adults aged over 65 in the Oxfordshire population, over the long term.**

If you have been invited by your GP to participate in the study and wish to have more information, please do not hesitate to contact us on 01865 228927 or enquiries@oxvalve.nhs.uk

Come and Talk Health

NHS Oxfordshire wants to encourage the public in Oxfordshire to 'Come and Talk Health' and have a say about their local health services - from feedback about local GP surgeries or dentists, to suggestions of how specialist services are delivered in the county.

Talking Health – NHS Oxfordshire's online public involvement service - has been set up to enhance existing engagement activities to provide even more ways for local people to have a say about the specific health services that matter to them.

Individuals can easily register either online on our website, or by posting a completed registration form. Once registered people can tell us exactly what health topics they want to be involved in, and just how they would prefer to be involved – from traditional face-to-face consultation workshops, to online discussion forums, to postal surveys, or purely receiving newsletters about a particular topic.

A newly registered member of Talking Health, said 'I have always believed that the NHS provides excellent treatment at all levels although there have sometimes been issues with access.

As someone who has a lot of experience of using local health services for my own needs, I feel that public consultation is a very important way to develop and improve services. I welcome the opportunity to formally register my interest about topics that are important to me so that I can get involved and help shape decisions. I would encourage anyone who wants to have their say about local health services to register too'.

Effective engagement with local people is essential to ensure that patient experiences, opinions and feedback shape the future of health services in Oxfordshire.

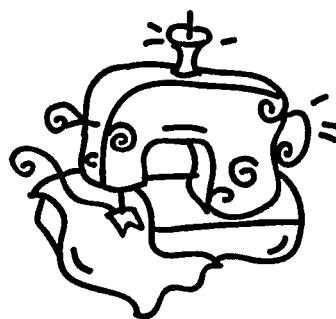
By encouraging the public to 'Come and Talk Health' in a way that suits them, we hope to build richer stakeholder relationships and reach new and wider audiences.

To get involved in a health subject that matters to you, visit the Talking Health website at: <http://www.consult.oxfordshirepct.nhs.uk>.

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Bampton Baby And Toddler Club

By Cerian Cooper

Bampton Baby and Toddler Club is for children aged between 0 and Pre-School age, and their parents or carers.

We have been running for over 10 years, and meet every Thursday between 10:00 and 11:45 in Bampton Village Hall. We have a variety of toys for children to play with during the play session, which is followed by refreshments and singing. Toys range from those suitable for younger babies, to ride-in cars, a play kitchen, and a slide for toddlers.

We have a baby corner for young babies, with bouncers and soft mats. We also have a bouncy castle on the first Thursday of each month, and organise seasonal craft activities. All our toys, including the bouncy castle, are available to hire through our toy library. For a small fee, members can borrow items for a short period. Small size tables and chairs are also available.

At least once a month, we arrange a special activity, such as a recent visit from the Saltbox Music Company and story time with our local librarian. The group is a great way to meet others parents and carers, and we also arrange evenings out.

Upcoming events

4th November

Art and Craft

18th November

Baking

9th December

Christmas Art and Craft

16th December

CHRISTMAS PARTY (extended session with a buffet "Christmas dinner" for children and adults)

We are a friendly group and welcome new members from Bampton and the surrounding area. If you have a child under school age, drop in and join us. Your first visit is free and subsequent visits are £2.50 for non-members, £2 for members. For more information, contact Cerian Cooper on:

Tel: 01993 850861:

Email: cerian@bamptoncastle.co.uk, or just come along!



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Of course you may just prefer to walk in this *green and pleasant land* and at the RSSG we appreciate it all. So if you have an interest in all things English and would like to meet like minded people then please do consider joining us. We are proud of our English history, achievements and traditions.

We are not political or sectarian. Our Patron is Her Majesty The Queen and we have a Royal Charter. In the Oxfordshire branch we like to spread our love of England with social events, trips to local places of interest and helping our young English society to prosper. Being a new branch we have not yet lost the intimacy of a big band of friends. Our social calendar is varied and supports English pursuits, for instance, dinners to celebrate dates that have special English interest like St George's Day.

Englishness means many things to many people but it is our distinctive culture, values and traditions that are the unmistakable marks of English nationhood. Maintaining our English identity is more difficult as the world shrinks, so if you love all things English then why not come and help us keep Englishness alive?

For more information see our website www.royalsocietyofstgeorge.com or contact our membership secretary John Forster on john.forster@netcom.co.uk or Tel: 01993 708749. Our annual membership rates include regular updates and copies of our national magazine:

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OUT OF WORK FARMER - TURNED AGRICULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

By Don Rouse

Sometimes when our Editor tells me that it is 'that time again' meaning that the deadline for publication is fast approaching, I start to panic as to what I am going to write about. No problems with this issue, I have got lots of stories to tell about the things that have been happening with the different 'hats' that I enjoy wearing.

As my 'brief' from the Editor is to write about farming in our Community, I suppose that I had better start off wearing my 'cowman's hat', before rambling off on to other things.

It is with great sadness that I report on the last farm in Bampton producing milk will cease to do so next year. Mr Simon Collins will be selling the dairy section of his farm next spring.

There are so many people in Bampton that have had connections with this herd, so many families that have had relatives involved in its care and upkeep over the last sixty seven years. It was in this herd way back in 1945, aged 8 that I was encouraged by my father; who at the time was the farm manager, to hand-milk my first cow; her name was Perpetual, and I remember that she had to have her legs tied together to stop her kicking.

In those days, before Artificial Insemination, when bulls were used and nature was allowed to take its course, there was still a need for genetic improvement. Great thought went into the choice of bulls to improve the blood lines of the herd, I remember

two extremely good bulls that Mr Collins Snr. bought especially for that purpose. One was called Edgerly Barrecas, and the other Elmwood Epicure, which came from the famous Elmwood herd at Black Bourton. Both were extremely dangerous and both

had on occasions broke loose to cause mayhem around the farm. What fantastically dangerous fun it was watching my father and the farm staff trying to catch a bull who did not want to be kept in captivity away from his ladies; mind you when I became a teenager with very strict parents I could empathise with the bulls! Things got so dangerous for the handlers that a special pen was built, whereby the bull was put in a special cage when his ladies came to visit him and could be controlled from outside without the need for any human being put at risk. I am so glad that my parents did not resort to such measures for me!

I learned so much from my time at Weald Farm, which was where the herd was based at the time. I learnt that Italian prisoners of war were so very lazy and that was probably why they were first to be captured. With the German prisoners of war, I learnt

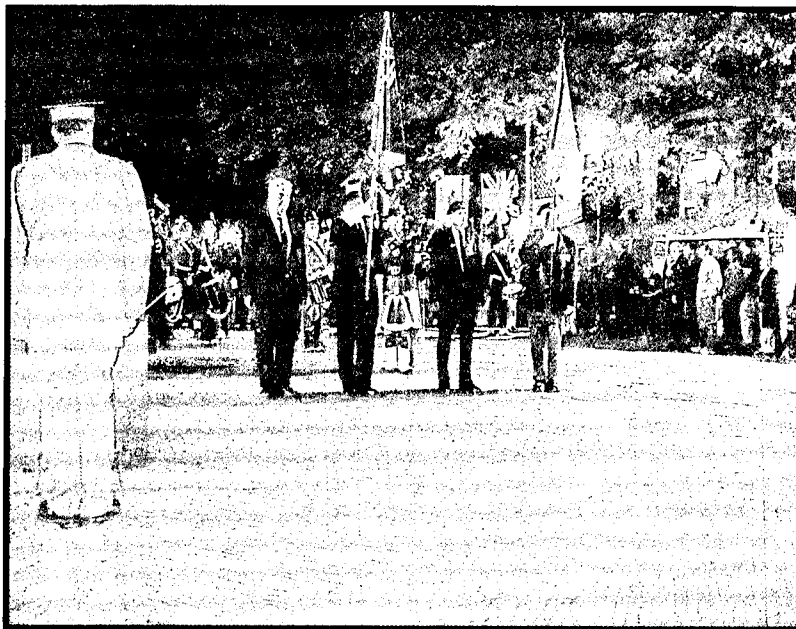
slippers and toys for us. At peak times like harvest there would always be a daily lorry load of German POWs to help out with the increased work load; these were all under armed escort, which was usually one British soldier with a tin hat, armed with a .303 rifle and ten rounds of ammunition to guard twenty POWs. Oh yes there were 'cut backs' even in those days!

After the Germans, came the 'Displaced Persons'. These were mainly people from Czechoslovakia, Poland etc. and were involved in building the first corn drier for Mr Collins. I think my father found these much more difficult to work with. They also came by the 'lorry load' but they were all under strict control and accounted for. The Government of today could learn so much from the Government of those days on the control of immigration!

Like many youngsters from Bampton it was on this farm that I drove my first tractor and had my first paid work, all at the age of eight! My first job was threading the wires back through on the stationary baler. Health and Safety? No we learnt common sense; if I dared to put my hand in the wrong place it would have been chopped off, so I didn't do it! Simple as that. Child Labour? Never, at sixpence an hour for an eight hour day, I was on big money and able to save up to buy the things that I wanted. Even eight year olds had needs in those days. Just a shame that I spent too much of it at Bampton Fair.

Moving on and wearing my 'International Twinning Hat'! As you know, in the past we have been able to have some Dutch marching bands perform here and many groups from Bampton have been to Holland, including

Morris Dancers, Weight Lifters, Barn Dance Bands, Folk Dancers and now the Bampton British Legion's Standard and Bearer have graced the streets of the University City of Leiden. The Oxford - Leiden Twinning Association tried to take a group of



The Bampton Royal British Legion Standard in Leiden

from my father that if you made the effort to learn their language, it was possible to make great friends with them. We had two of them billeted in the tin roofed outhouse that is still standing there today, and they were so kind to me and my siblings, making

the Royal British Legion to honour the Dutch Remembrance Day on 4th May this year, but were beaten by a lack of hosts. This grieved members of the Band that visited Bampton a few years ago, so much so, that they decided to make amends by inviting members of the Oxfordshire RBL to help them celebrate the 65 years of liberation. They paid all the expenses of the group; five in number, to go from Gatwick to Leiden, stay in a good hotel, then take part in a big parade with some of Europe's top marching bands including Amigo who performed for us at the Shirt Race. Members of the group report of having a fantastic but tiring time. The whole thing took just over thirty hours! Oxford – Leiden – Oxford. We were hoping that Gary Gummer, Bampton's official Standard Bearer could have made the trip, but rather than let us down he persuaded John Grout to do the honours for Bampton. So thank you John for parading Bampton's Standard at such an auspicious occasion.

Next is the 'Hat' of NAG – the Neighbourhood Action Group. This is a group of people who care for what is going right and wrong in the community. It is able to put pressure on all local Government Offices. Be it speeding, noise, fly tipping, irresponsible behaviour; you name it they will try to help. Not by jumping on things from a great height, but by finding solutions to the problems. All our local Councils have representatives on the Committee so they are able to share solutions and info. Bampton Council representatives are Dale Turner and Lee Mackie. Got a problem? Have a chat to them.

With my Carterton Lion's hat on, have you got some one living with you, or you know of someone who is on regular medication? Have they/you got a 'Message in a Bottle' in the Fridge? No? Then maybe you should contact our secretary Maddy Radburn on 01993 772241. These Bottles contain all the necessary information of what medication the patient is taking and what they are allergic to. With a green cross warning sticker, stuck on the back of the door; these are supplied with the pack, and the paramedics are trained to go straight to the patient's fridge to check out all the

vital information that is contained in the bottle. This can save time and lives. Maddy would love to hear from you. Throughout the country, there are hundreds of thousands of these bottles being put to good use, so do not miss out.

Talking of health matters, as some of you know, I recently suffered a mild stroke and one thing that has been brought home to me, is the need for everyone to be aware of that advert that is seen on the television so much lately, referring to strokes. It is called F.A.S.T. Please take notice of it, because one day it could be YOU!! F = Face, has it gone lopsided or feels numb? A = Arms. Sitting or standing, can the patient hold both arms out in front of them, then closing their eyes maintain this position? S = Speech, can they talk coherently? T = Telephone. If the patient is struggling with any of the aforementioned problems, then telephone 999 for an Ambulance! Don't mess about with trying to contact the doctor or surgery. Time is of the essence, the paramedics will soon sort out if you need to go to hospital or not. If the hospital can treat you within the first three hours of having a stroke, long term damage can be avoided.

What happened to me? Well as a senior citizen I found the need, as one does, to get out of bed in the night. Straight away I was acting as if I was drunk, so being a teetotaler, I thought 'this can't be right' and flopped back onto the bed fearing that I had suffered a stroke. So I did all the checks. Face – feels no worse than normal. Arms – Lying on the Bed, I twirled my arms around and I must admit that they were very 'wonky'. Of course I should have been sitting up to do the test! Speech – I did not want to worry my wife, so I spoke to the dog who was sharing my bed with me and he seemed to understand what I was saying, so I went back to sleep. How stupid was that? I have been so lucky, I have been left with minor problems down my right side and have a little difficulty with running, but it could have been so much worse.

I have been involved with the new plans for the Old School Building which is going to provide a new home for the Youth, Weightlifting and Bush Clubs, for nearly two years now and

for most of that time have been made aware by the authorities that are controlling the purse strings, that it must be up and running by September 2011 or we do not get the money. But these same authorities have been dragging their feet in getting things moving. I have a dreadful fear that with all the hours that many Bampton Volunteers have put into this project, it will have all been in vain. I hope that I shall be proved wrong.

But back to the farming! There has been a lot written in the press recently about 'Cloned Cattle' in this Country. Whilst accepting the need to genetically enhance the progeny of our herds so that we can produce better quality food from fewer animals, I do feel that this is a step too far and totally unnecessary. From a Health and Safety point of view, the public have nothing to fear. I had to smile at one correspondent in a national newspaper; he referred to the public drinking milk from these calves! Just shows how much he knew about the subject. Calves don't give milk till they become cows and have had a baby calf themselves!

As this is my last ramble before Christmas, I would like to wish all our readers a very Happy Christmas and good health in the New Year.

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WHAT IS THE BAMPTON ZIMBABWE PROJECT?

by Lis Page

In 2003 a group was formed of people who thought that a fortunate place like Bampton might be willing and able to offer help to people on another continent who were not so fortunate. Since that time interest in and support for the Project has grown steadily. However there remain some who have never heard of it, and some who disagree with the concept. A commonly given reason for refusing to support is the fear that financial aid sent to impoverished countries may be high-jacked by unscrupulous governments or individuals. It is for that reason that we would like to explain how we are trying to help the people of Zimbabwe.

The money we raise by our activities is distributed three ways. 1) to SOS Children's Villages to help with their work in caring for orphaned and abandoned children in Bulawayo, offering them an education and training in ways which will help them to become self-sufficient. 2) We also contribute to World Vision, through which we have been sponsoring a boy called Patrick who lives in Hurungwe in the north of the country. Both of these organisations work world-wide, but in addition we send the greater part of the funds we raise to a registered charity called Zane – Zimbabwe A National Emergency. This organisation, founded by Tom Benyon in 2002, was set up to care for pensioners who, having made provision for the future, found their income destroyed by hyper-inflation, leaving them destitute. Many of these people had served with the Allies in World War II or were their widows. Zane works with all the Services charities and the Royal Ex-Services League. Zane also helps a palliative care clinic which cares mainly for widows and orphans and HIV/Aids sufferers, both black and white. This clinic also helps set up projects such as candle-making, the production of clothes and school uniforms, and making and repairing shoes, thus helping people towards self-sufficiency. Zane is a small but tightly run organisation. There is a very small base in this country, and funds are taken to South Africa where

they are converted into dollars to buy supplies and medicines to take into Zimbabwe. There they are handed directly to the doctors and nurses who are engaged in humanitarian work. Zane's proud boast is that in the eight years they have been operating no money has ever been lost through corruption.

We are well acquainted with Tom Benyon and Robert Beckinsale, both of whom live in Oxfordshire. We have also met some of the nurses who work in Zimbabwe and who have visited the UK to describe their activities. We feel quite confident that the funds we raise go to the people who need them most. In 2008 we sent £4,742 to Zimbabwe; in 2009 the figure was £4,224; so far in 2010 we have sent £5,065.

As a final point we would like to draw attention to the fact that we are a registered charity – and also that our stated aims include the fostering of community spirit in Bampton. We are a truly local charity!

Oxfordshire Craft Guild's Christmas Selling Exhibition

Are you looking for unique Christmas gifts? Do you appreciate beautifully crafted objects? Then head out to Woodstock for the Oxfordshire Craft Guild's annual Christmas selling exhibition held in the Oxfordshire Museum from 20 November until 29 December. Work by over thirty of the county's top jewellers, ceramicists, glass and textile artists, and other craft makers will be on sale. The exhibition has been a fixture on the Oxfordshire art calendar for many years and is well worth a visit.

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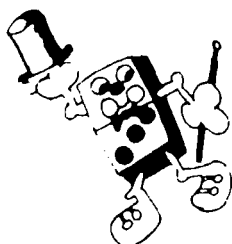
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We would love to hear from you!

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Microchipping is a quick and easy way of ensuring that dogs can be easily identified if they go missing or are involved in an accident.

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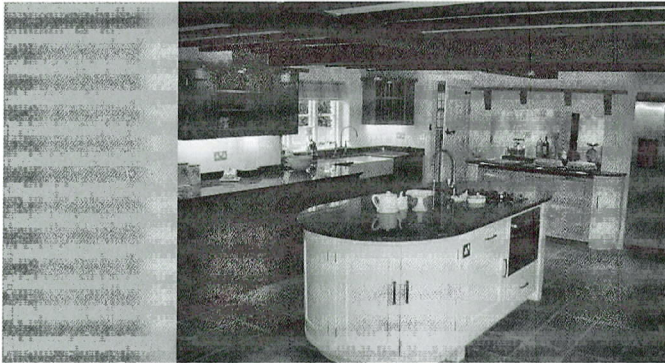
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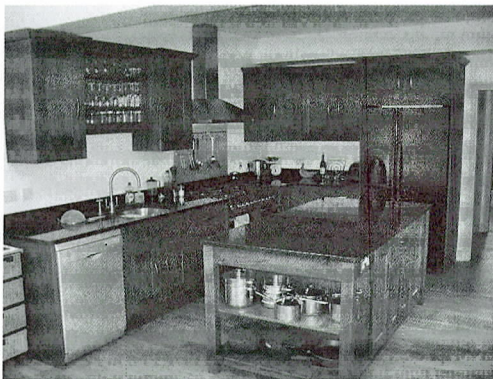


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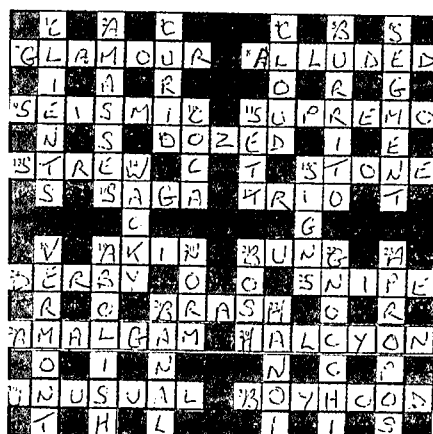
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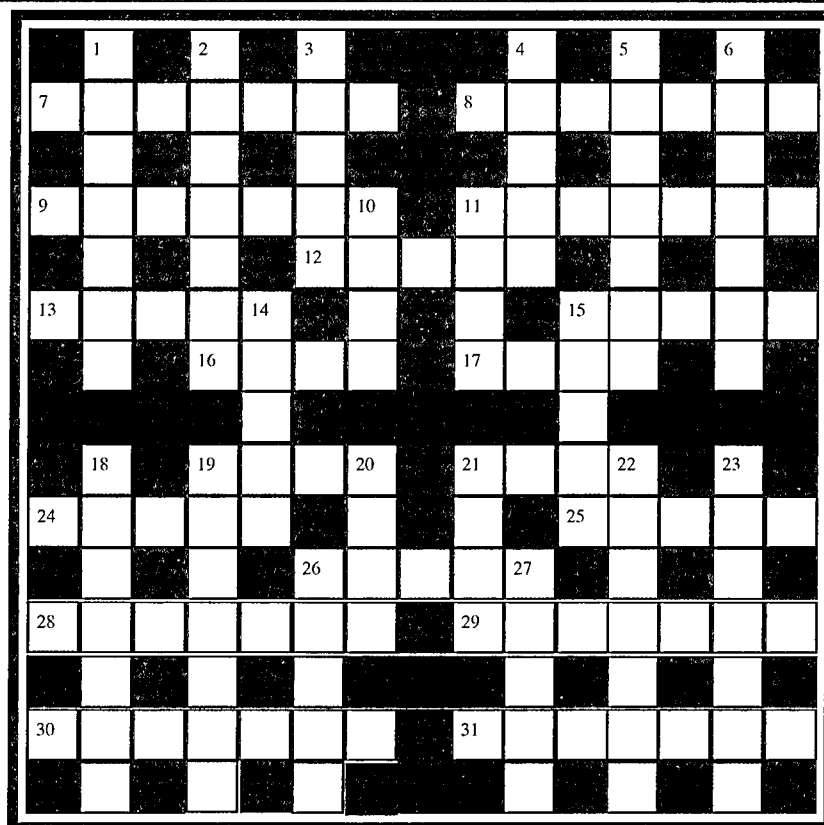
Solution to the July BEAM CROSSWORD



The winner of the July Crossword is Graham Taylor of Oakhurst Estate, Bampton. Congratulations, the £10 is yours. However, Graham is donating his winnings to the 'Friends of St. Mary's', and the cheque will be made out accordingly for Graham to hand on.

A huge thank you to Annette Minto for taking over from Bill Govier and producing the November Crossword. In line with Annette's wishes, 'The Beam' is donating £10 to The Bampton Bush Club.

THE BAMPTON BEAM'S CROSSWORD



CLUES ACROSS

- 7 Not distinctive
- 8 To listen
- 9 Accomplishes
- 11 Introduce, depict
- 12 With regret
- 13 Overeat perhaps
- 15 Understand
- 16 Reflection of sound
- 17 So be it
- 19 German composer
- 21 Percussion instrument
- 24 A belief
- 25 Wall painting
- 26 A philosopher
- 28 Attacks violently
- 29 A Chinese river
- 30 Extreme degree
- 31 Stay on course

CLUES DOWN

- 1 Refer briefly
- 2 How peculiar!
- 3 Mountain lakes
- 4 Fruit
- 5 To make fresh
- 6 The slimmest perhaps
- 10 Used to make pudding
- 11 To request
- 14 Showy display
- 15 A rockery plant
- 18 Rural dweller
- 19 Too late
- 20 Dutch artist
- 21 A tax on goods
- 22 Violent assault
- 23 Woodwind instrument
- 26 Textile having a cut nap or pile
- 27 Kilns

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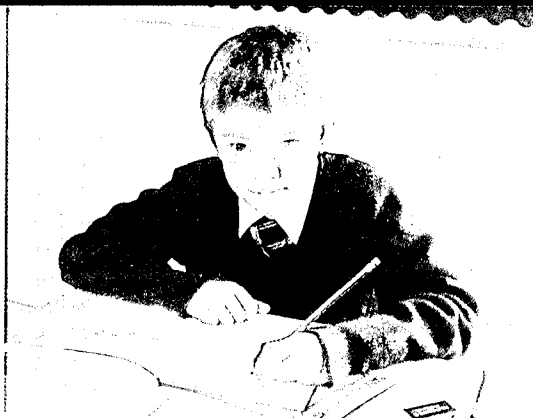
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Calendar of Events

November

- 3rd *Letters to Juliet*, Movies on the Move, Village Hall, 7.30pm
 6th Bonfire Night, SPAJERS, Recreation Ground,
 12th Josie's Draw, SPAJERS, Horse Shoc, 7pm
 13th Coffee Morning, Bampton Gardening Club, Town Hall, 10am – 12noon
 14th Remembrance Service, Royal British Legion, War Memorial, 10.45am
 16th *The Current Research Project at Dorchester-on-Thames*, Clanfield and Bampton Historical Society, Carter Institute, Clanfield, 7.30pm
 17th Pre-Christmas Bingo, Cancer Research UK, Village Hall, 8pm
 23rd AGM & Supper Evening, Royal British Legion, The Horse Shoe Inn, 7.30pm
 24th Pre-Christmas Bingo, Cancer Research UK, Village Hall, 8pm
 26th AGM, Bampton Gardening Club, Village Hall, 7.30pm

December

- 3rd Quiz Night, Cancer Research UK, Village Hall, 7.30pm
 4th Coffee Morning, Bampton Gardening Club, Town Hall, 10am – 12noon
 17th Country & Western Dance, Cancer Research UK, Carterton Social Centre
 24th Mummers, SPAJERS, Village, 7pm onwards

January

- 5th *Wild Target*, Movies on the Move, Village Hall, 7.30pm

February

- 15th *The Mitfords in the Cotswolds*, Clanfield and Bampton Historical Society, Carter Institute, Clanfield, 7.30pm

March

- 2nd *Another Year*, Movies on the Move, Village Hall, 7.30pm
 3rd AGM, BEWG, talk by Martin Way on 'The Cotswold Wool Trade and Shepherding', Village Hall, 8pm
 15th History of St Mary's Church, Clanfield and Bampton Historical Society, St. Mary's, 7.30pm

April

- 13th Bampton Village Hall AGM, Village Hall, 8pm
 19th *A Cotswold Wool Town: Burford and its Buildings*, Clanfield and Bampton Historical Society, Carter Institute, Clanfield, 7.30pm
 28th BEWG Open Meeting, talk by John Letts on 'Thatching', Village Hall, 8pm

May

- 17th Guided tour of *Rousham House*, plus gardens., Clanfield and Bampton Historical Society
 28th The Great Original Shirt Race, SPAJERS, Market Square, 6.45pm
 30th Morris Dancing Day, Village, Early 'til late
 30th Craft Fair and refreshments, Royal British Legion, Village Hall, 09.30am – 5pm
 30th May Garlands, Market Square, 11am

June

- 19th Hidden Gardens of Bampton, Bampton Community Archive
 21st AGM and Annual Dinner, Clanfield and Bampton Historical Society
 28th BEWG Open Meeting, talk by Colin Dawes on 'Foxbury Farm', Village Hall 8pm

August

- 27th Annual Show, Bampton Gardening Club, Village Hall, 3pm
 29th The Donkey Derby, SPAJERS, Sandfords, 2am

October

- 27th BEWG Open Meeting, talk by Dr Max Peterson on 'Fungi', Village Hall, 8pm

THE BAMPTON BEAM

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Editor

Fenella Gray Tel: 01993 851653
 E-mail: fenellagray@btinternet.com

Sub-Editor

Fred Gray Tel: 01993 851653

Artwork

Jo Lewington

Treasurer

Grace Wilkins

Advertising

Fred Gray: Tel: 01993 851653
 E-mail: facgray@btinternet.com

Photography

Richard Wilkins

Fred Gray

Contributions are always welcome and should be sent to:

The Editor

The Bampton Beam
c/o Abbey Properties
Market Square

Bampton, Oxon OX18 2JJ

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