

THE BAMPTON BEAM

August 2004

Volume 19, No2

Charities of Bampton The New Bampton Charity Shop

After the unfortunate demise of the RNIB shop next to the Horse Shoe, the volunteer ladies who ran the RNIB

doors on the 29th May, the opening ceremony being officiated by David Hawkins.



David Hawkins Officially Opens the New Charity Shop

Shop, got together to see what could be done to re-open a charity shop in the Village. With strong support from the Chairman of the Parish Council, David Hawkins, the 'Ladies' formed a Shop Committee, drew up a Business Plan, and submitted it to the Parish Council, seeking its support in helping to get things going. The result is that the 'Charities of Bampton' Charity Shop opened its

Also, many thanks to Richard Cooper at Temples, for providing temporary



Open for Business

storage while the Shop was being fit-

ted out.

The shop is run via a roster of volunteer ladies – around 15 at present. The shop is open 6 days per week, morning and afternoon (except Wednesday afternoon). All sorts of goods can be handed in to be sold, but due to insurance reasons, the Shop cannot sell anything electrical.

The main groups in the Village which the Charity Shop has been set up to support are: The Pre-school Group, The Youth Club, The Bush Club, and the Bampton Museum. The logic for this is basically to support the very young, followed by the growing-up group; the grown-ups can then look after themselves, but support will be given to the old folks, and finally to maintaining the heritage of the Village.

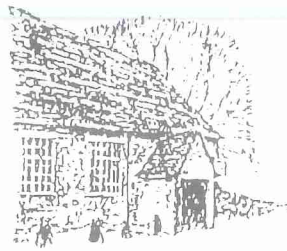
The proposal to the Charities Commission has requested that other groups in Bampton, other than the four main groups, may benefit financially from the Charity, and, assuming that this is agreed, the Governing Board – made up of a mix of the Shop Committee and Parish Councillors – at its end-of-year meeting, will make decisions as to what financial support can be given to such groups as well as to the main groups.

Further details as to the procedure to request funding from the Charity will appear in the December edition of the 'Beam'.

Finally, the 'Ladies' would like to thank the Villagers for their support, which has been overwhelming since the Shop opened. Please do hand in things you no longer need; the Shop will then sell the items, and the proceeds will then be fed back into helping worthy causes in the Village.

And if you would like to volunteer to help in the Shop, the address to write to is: Chairman of the Shop Committee, Bampton Charity Shop, Rosemary Lane, OX18 2NF.

Bampton Village Hall



An excellent venue for meetings, classes, parties, performances & fund-raising events.
Main hall with stage, curtains, lights & piano.
Well equipped kitchen and servery with separate locked bar.
Badminton court marked and equipment available.
Disabled toilet facilities.
Lettings Officer: Martin Barrett,
The Post Office, Bridge Street, Bampton
Tel: 850304

The Bampton Village Hall

The Annual General Meeting took place in the Village Hall on Thursday, 24th April 2004.

All residents of Bampton over the age of 18 are entitled to attend and to vote. The Bampton Village Hall Management Committee is made up of representatives of the various organisations who use the Hall plus five elected members; three other members may be co-opted if needed.

The Committee for 2004/2005 is as follows:

Mr Alan Dunbar	Parish Council & SPAJERS
Mrs Jean Howell	Elected
Mrs Susan Phillips	Elected
Mrs Carolyn Main	Pumpkin Club
Mrs Vera Allport	Bridge Club & Bush Centre
Mrs Margaret Bishop	BEWG & West OxArts
Mrs Pauline Smith	Bampton Drama Group & Bampton Classical Opera
Mrs Lynne Borrett	Bampton Ladies Group
Mr Michael Wooloff	Elected
Mr Dennis Bambury	St. Mary's CCC
Mr Philip McFarlane	Bampton Gardening Club
Mrs Judy House	Badminton Club
Mrs Sian Hughes	Bampton Baby & Toddler Group
Mrs Sarah Hughes	Bampton Pre-School Playgroup

Chairman's Report on 2003 activities

The Hall continues to be used on a regular basis by many groups and individuals in Bampton. Lettings income has fallen this year mainly due to the absence of the Winter League Aunt Sally. However, the hiring charges cover most of the annual running costs of the Hall. The only regular source of extra funding is the £750 from the Bampton 250 Club.

The Committee would like to thank Martin Barrett (Lettings Officer) and Glyn Silman (Caretaker) who both do an excellent job.

Sadly there has been a certain amount of anti-social behaviour and vandalism by a small group of young people who use the steps at the back of the Hall. Broken drain pipes, windows and a drain cover have cost the Hall £135. The police have been informed but can do little to control this behaviour. They did act however when drugs were involved.

Hirers are reminded that there is a **Loop/PA System** available for meetings etc. If you are uncertain how to use it please contact Alan Dunbar well in advance of the event.

In response to Government instructions, a **Risk Assessment** is being carried out by the Committee. They would be pleased to hear from any organisation or individual who has come across a problem in the Hall and feels that something should be done to improve matters. Please contact **Pauline Smith Tel: 210140** or **Susan Phillips Tel: 850321**.

Hirers are reminded that all the play equipment in the Hall belongs to the Bampton Baby & Toddler Group which meets in the hall every Thursday morning from 10am to 12. This equipment must NOT be used by other hirers.

The badminton equipment belongs to the Badminton Club and may only be used with permission from the Club, please contact **Lesley Campbell Tel: 852846**

The Bampton We Have Lost

by J.L Hughes-Owen

This book has long been out of print and copies are much sought after. The family of the late Mr Hughes-Owen, who was headmaster of Bampton Primary School for 20 years until the mid 60s, has kindly given permission for the book to be republished. It is a fascinating history of Bampton and profits from the sales will be donated to The Friends of St. Mary's.

The price of the book will be in the region of £10 and there will be a pre-publication discount for all those who order books by the 10th October 2004.

Please put your name on the list at Temples as soon as possible.

Fundraising for The Friends of St. Mary's, Bampton

We would like to thank those of you who responded to the leaflet in the last issue of 'The Beam'. This has increased our funds by at least £3,000. We still need to raise a further £7,000 and would welcome any help you can give.

If you are able to make a donation either as a lump sum or by monthly standing order, please contact **Jonathan Phillips Tel: 850321** or any of the other Trustees - Rosemary Colvile, Sarah Wearne, Molly Rose, Christopher Ruck, David Rose or Mick Donoughmore.

Bampton Classical Opera CABARET EVENING Bampton Village Hall Saturday, 30th October 2004

Come and enjoy an evening of light entertainment by the professional singers and musicians of Bampton Classical Opera seated at candle lit tables with wine (*from the bar*) and simple food.

Tickets: £12 each available from The Cotton Club from beginning of September.

'250 Club'

For the 250 Club results, please see 'Notice Board'.

The Bampton Beam Contributors

Please see 'Notice Board' on the revised issue dates from 2005 onwards.

BAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

By David Hawkins, Chairman, Bampton Parish Council

Planning Overrides by WODC

Although the Parish Council objected to 2 recent planning applications, they were surprisingly both passed by the Area Planning sub-committee at West Oxfordshire District Council. They were:

Poachers Rest to become a Dwelling

The premises have been in commercial use for over 100 years but the present owner feels that he can no longer operate the restaurant to realise sufficient profits. He has advertised the premises for a commercial sale but has attracted little interest. The Parish Council was concerned that after losing the Eagle, the Jubilee and the Elephant and Castle pubs in recent years, we should make every effort to retain this excellent facility. We hope that Bampton residents will markedly increase their use of the Poachers so that the owner does not need to close the business.

USE IT OR LOSE IT

8 Dwellings, Back Gardens New Road

This proposal for 8 dwellings plus parking and turning area in the back gardens of the houses on the south side of New Road has certain attractions. The houses would be affordable homes but, as it is not an exception site, they may not be allocated to Bampton people on the waiting list. The Council were also aware of 18 letters objecting to the proposal mainly from residents in Pockocks Close who were concerned with the loss of privacy, overlooking, more noise and disturbance and general overcrowding of the site. The Parish Council objected that the 2½ storey building would not be in keeping with the surrounding properties. They also stressed that the proposed access would appear to be too narrow. The WODC planning committee concluded 'that in spite of the 18 letters objecting to this proposal, the application does not give rise to an unacceptable loss of residential amenity and provides substantial planning benefits through the provision of much needed affordable housing in the District'.

We have no idea when work might start.

Public Meeting

Nearly 100 residents turned out for the Annual Parish Meeting which was held in the Village Hall in late April. The presentation by the Brize Norton Station Commander on aircraft movements was well received and he had many challenging questions to answer. He outlined that although the number of aircraft at RAF Brize Norton could double in 10 years if Lyneham closes, the newer aircraft are much quieter and the aircrew will do most of their training in simulators. He also reassured the audience that aircrew are encouraged not to overfly local villages when they are doing their visual circuits at 1500 feet. There will be some overflight of Bampton when aircraft are doing instrument patterns, but as these overflights are at 2500 feet, the noise should be tolerable. The second part of the meeting concerned the parking of cars on the grass verges in Broad Street and opposite Mill Green on Bridge Street. Opinion was divided between those who struggle to find a parking place each evening and those who wish to preserve the grass areas in a good condition without muddy tyre marks along the edges. The Parish Council has been considering supporting the proposal for the build of 4 lay-bys in Broad Street so that cars would not need to park on the grass, which would have bollards along the edges. The Parish Council took note of the many points made by residents. Certainly at the moment, there are no funds available for a costly project.

Junior Youth Club Funding Problems

The Parish Council had agreed to match fund raising by the Junior Youth Club members and their parents on a £1 for £1 basis up to £1000 towards the pay of an assistant Youth Leader. The Parish already pays £1200 a year towards the leader's pay for this 11 - 13 age group. However, since this was agreed, the leader has left on maternity leave and the club is

closed for the time being. We believe that it is very important to keep the junior club going but feel that they should not rely on the Parish for future funding.

Adult Education Course in Danger

We have been informed by the Abingdon & Witney College that they are no longer running courses in the Town Hall in Bampton. The computer courses in recent years have been popular with residents and we have approached Carterton Education Centre who have agreed to take over.

Bampton Town Soccer Closure

The Council were informed that both our men's teams have had to withdraw from their respective leagues because of a severe lack of players. We trust that they can recruit a new batch of members for the 2004/05 season so that their excellent facilities can be fully used. With a population of over 2600 residents, Bampton should be able to support a men's team.

New Lighting Approved

The Council has approved funding for two new lights. One will be positioned near the south entrance to the Church graveyard and the other on the corner of New Road and Station Road (now installed).

Dog Litter

Whilst many dog owners are meticulous in picking up their dog's droppings, several owners are completely irresponsible and the results are obvious to all. Please report any such owners to either myself, 851066 or the Parish Clerk, 850776 and we will pass their names to the appropriate WODC authorities for fixed penalty action. We are also taking legal advice on whether we can run a naming and shaming campaign.

Vandalism on Mercury Close Playing Field

The fencing has been cut with wire cutters and several armchairs burnt in the playing field by a number of 13 and 14 year old youths. Fortunately, we have a number of witnesses and the youngsters names have been passed to the police. Parents will be

asked to pay for the repairs.

Kebab Van Annoyance

Council members continue to get complaints from residents living near the Market Square about the presence of the kebab van on six nights every week. Complaints about smell, litter and noise late at night have all been passed to Neil Sheppard at Environmental Services at WODC (861374). All previous attempts to minimise annoyance to residents have been unsuccessful. However, if enough residents keep up the pressure on WODC, we might get some success.

Tennis Court Repairs

The Council have repaired 20 or so small 2-inch gouges that were caused by skateboarders last year on the tennis courts. However, the more serious area of subsidence will require urgent repairs. The subsidence was caused by a large hole that was dug some 10 years ago in search of water needed for the concrete mixing for the garage foundations! Unfortunately, the builder chose an area that was subsequently needed for the second tennis court.

Post Office Additional Services

Residents should note that as well as opening for longer hours, the Post Office has a new photocopier. Please support our Post Office and, indeed, all Bampton services at every opportunity.

USE THEM OR LOSE THEM!

Use of Pavilion

If you are looking for a most suitable venue for a Wedding Reception or Family Celebration Party in 2004, look no further than the Recreation Ground Pavilion. You can hire the facility for less than £200 for the whole day. For further information telephone Ray Willis on 01993 852483 or 07766 264684.

Funding for children and young people Great idea for a children's project?

Oxfordshire's Local Network Fund is offering grants of between £250 and £7,000 for community projects to widen opportunities for children or young people (any age from 0-19). So far grants have helped to:

* set up a new pre-school in Stadhampton

* set up a junior age youth club in Woodstock

* involve children in producing a community mosaic in Standlake.

For more information and an application form contact **Wally Cox Tel: 01865 798666**. For help setting up a new project contact **David Fisher at ORCC Tel: 01865 883488**.

District Council News

By Mark Booty, District Councillor

As I am sure you are aware, the recent District Council elections produced the same balance of politics in WODC as existed before. Our ward (Bampton, Clanfield and Black Bourton) had no elections. At the same time we had the elections of European Members which while it produced few surprises here it did see a national rise of the UKIP.

On Local issues the introduction of the waste recycling containers seems to have been a great success despite the question over how many lids you should have for your 2 containers, the whole council is committed to more recycling in our waste management and soon we will see collection of green waste also introduced.

As I write the public enquiry into the local plan is going on. This effects Bampton chiefly because of the New Road proposals regarding Low Cost houses. There has been some further guidance regarding how homes are allocated and it now seems more likely that in all cases when low cost homes are built the local people now have a greater chance of getting them than was previously the case, so this is a victory for common sense.

In order to protect our area we need sustainable development in employment, housing and all of the infrastructure to support that. I do feel that the guidance we get from central government is often not suited to a rural environment such as ours and has already produced some quite ridiculous over developments where too many houses are squeezed onto small plots with no apparent concern about

the realities of parking, overlooking, loss of street scene etc., etc.

This is very difficult to halt as the planning guidelines from the deputy Prime Minister insist on high density housing yet allow limited parking. Consequently even if we at District planning refuse an application we have to be very careful because if it goes to appeal the central government guidelines will normally prevail.

This brings me on to another creeping erosion of our local democracy where the Labour party is considering compulsory unitary local government as part of its modernisation plan. What this could mean is the abolition of District and County Councils and potentially the power will be in Guildford as part of the South East. There will be little or no accountability at a local level. This is very much a model the European Union encourages as it means the bureaucrats get more power and the electorate less.

The next phase is that the regions will be more controlled by Europe and we can sell the Houses of Parliament for a hotel because we won't need them anymore! I am not arguing politically that either structure is right or wrong but it would be nice to have an honest debate about what is going on.

Traffic is a constant issue throughout the land.

In Bampton we certainly need some controls which the Parish council are working with the County to deliver. However as a rural area we will always need the car and indeed the goods vehicles, so I encourage a reasonable approach to these controls. Also as a rural area, and an area with many horse yards, I would like all the horse riders to be respectful to car drivers who slow down and are courteous and thank them.

Equally I urge all car drivers to recognise that the horse has a right to be on the highway, and when horses are two abreast there is normally a valid reason, so please be patient and respectful to the horse and rider.

The roads are dangerous enough without any of us making them any worse!

Bampton Playgrounds

By Councillor Anna Pitt,
Bampton Parish Council

I can't believe I've already been "looking after" the playgrounds in Bampton for three months. I think I have spent most time picking up litter and dealing with vandalism, leaving little time and budget to deal with anything more interesting. I'm trying not to get too disheartened.

Thank you to the kids and parents who have talked to me about ideas. I will shortly be looking at putting in some replacement equipment into Mercury Court. These are likely to be "rotators" which are fun for the younger children and I hope not prone to vandalism.

However, at the moment the budget that we have needs to be spent on repairing the fences and replacing the surfaces with more durable surfaces such as that under the swings in Pembroke Place. Also, much of the equipment needs rubbing down and repainting.

Two recurring comments I've received from parents and kids about how they would like to see the play areas developed are the following: Play equipment at Pembroke Place is very spread out and that makes supervising young children difficult. I will be looking into providing a fenced off area for under fives.

Children would like to be able to play a proper game of football, so a second goal would be nice. The layout of the park currently makes this difficult but I will look into how best to fit this in. Of course, these changes will come more quickly if I don't have to keep spending time and money to combat vandalism and litter.

The Parish Council are currently seeking legal advice about how best to pass on costs to the people responsible for vandalism.

Be warned!

Soon we hope that it won't be a matter of spreading the cost of repairs across the whole village. The bill will be coming directly to you if you have caused the damage!

*Are you a good listener?
Can you see both sides of an argument?
Do you like a good discussion?
Do you like to see fair play?*

Then you could dispense justice in your community!

Why not be a magistrate?

Magistrates try to reflect the community they live in. That means we need a mix of people from all walks of life and ethnic groups, with different backgrounds and skills. The role is a fascinating one. It opens up many new avenues of interest and gives an insight into how we live and behave in the 21st century. Most of all you will be using your skills as a service to your community - 'justice to the people by the people'.

Few of us have any legal background, and training is provided and continuous. All you need is good character, common sense and the personal skills listed above. A typical day in court might include motoring offences, theft, supply of drugs, affray, assault, drink-driving and burglary. Sentences for these offences vary from conditional discharge or a fine to 6 months in prison. Try arranging them in order of seriousness!

Interested? Contact your local Advisory Committee for an information pack and details on how to apply:

The Advisory Committee for Justices of the Peace in Oxfordshire:

Malcolm Leeding, Committee Secretary - 01865 815327.

Do it Today!

BUSY SUMMER FOR SPORTS ROADSHOW

This summer promises to be busy for the District's Sports Roadshow as the number of venues has doubled. More youngsters will get the chance to take part in a range of sporting activities on their doorstep. The 8 new venues brings the total number of locations visited to 16. The Roadshow will be travelling during August, bringing sporting activities and games closer to homes as part of the Summer Events Programme for 2004. The range of sporting activities includes soccer, rounders, kwik cricket, parachute games, relays and much more, all suitable for children aged 7 - 14.

The 8 new venues are at Combe, Eynsham, Middle Barton, Langford, Wychwood, Kingham, Great Rollright and Hailey. The existing venues are at Stanton Harcourt, Standlake, Woodstock, Enstone, Bampton, Brize Norton, Charlbury and Burford.

To reserve a place on a particular Roadshow, contact the Chipping Norton Leisure Centre **Tel: 01608 643698**, or just turn up on the day. There is a small fee for each session of £3.00. For more information on the venues of the Roadshow, or to request a copy of the Summer Events Programme 2004, contact the Sports Development Team **Tel: 01993 861080** or email cultural.services@westoxon.gov.uk.

OXFORDSHIRE CHILDREN'S INFORMATION SERVICE COMES OF AGE

Your local Children's Information Service (OCIS) is based in Long Hanborough and has come a long way since it first started taking calls about childcare and activities for children in 1996. The Service receives over 900 enquiries per month from families wanting information on services for children and this is set to rise since OCIS took on responsibility for promoting careers in the early years sector earlier this year. To cope with demand and to make the service as accessible as possible to all corners of the county, OCIS have installed a new telephone system and introduced a local rate call number:

Tel: 08452 26 26 36.

OCIS is a registered charity and is contracted by Oxfordshire County Council to provide information to the people of Oxfordshire on all types of services for children. Give OCIS a call and challenge them with a tricky query (perhaps information on a holiday club for your 10 year old this summer or a sports or leisure activity for your school aged child), they're pretty confident they'll be able to help!

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The Romany Inn boasts an excellent range of accommodation. There are 11 single and double rooms - all ensuite. All have tea and coffee making facilities, and come equipped with a remote control colour TV.

Restaurant

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

Some General Hire Prices

Pavilion:

08:00 - 13:00 : £40

13:00 - 18:00 : £40

18:00 - 23:59 : £80

Whole Day : £160

Football Pitch: £25 per game

Changing Facilities: £10

Multisport:

£10.00 for Bampton Residents

£12.50 for Non-Residents

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Mobile: 07766 264684

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(1418)

Bampton School News

By Richard Pitt Parent Governor

Summer term is fast approaching its conclusion and the summer holidays are beckoning. Everybody is looking forward to a well-earned rest after a typically busy school year since the last issue of *The Bampton Beam*.

I've just returned (shivering) from the school sports day where the children had a great time working in teams across all age ranges, from reception to year six. It's always impressive to see how our older children look after the younger ones and everybody having so much fun. It caps off a sport filled few months with our football and netball teams enjoying some good strong matches against Gateway School, Carterton, and our cross country runners performing magnificently in the searing heat at Cokethorpe School.

Getting out and about has been a continuing theme for the school with all of the children making visits to local areas of interest. Key stage one has been to Cogges Farm where they have learnt what farming was like 100 years ago. All of the key stage 2 children have visited Foxcombe Woods for a challenging day where they learnt to build shelters, light fires and cook their own lunches (on the fires). David Cameron, our local MP, visited

the school on MPs Back To School Day. He spoke to the children during assembly to explain his role and answered lots of searching questions. He mentioned that he thought the school was lovely and particularly noticed the excellent artwork.

By the time this is published you may well have taken part in or watched many of the exciting events that are scheduled before the end of term in July. The bookfair held between June 23rd and 25th in the clubroom. The "Wild Waste Show", between 5th and 8th July, which was an opportunity to complete all of the activities started during Grounds Week last year. The School Plays, Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat by key stage 2 on July 14th and Tadpole Rag and Caterpillar Boogie by key stage 1 on July 15th. Then the Ancient Greeks Open Morning on July 16th. Many thanks as ever to all of the staff and volunteers who give so much of their time to make these events so successful and enjoyable.

And now, as we look forward to the new term in September, we wish all of our leavers success in their new schools and anticipate the arrival of our new intake who will be starting their school careers with us.

Bampton Pre-School

Bampton Pre-School Playgroup provides care and education to 43 pre-school children in the Bampton area. We have been running for almost 40 years, from a variety of premises, so have seen many generations of Bampton children pass through our doors. Although there have been many changes over the years, the Pre-School has always maintained its ability to provide a happy and worthwhile experience for the many children it provides for, and we hope to continue for many years to come.

For the past 27 years the venue for Pre-School has been, very conveniently, within the primary school grounds. As some of you may remember this was thanks to the hard work of the parents and committee of that time, who raised all of the cash needed to buy their own building, and put in the hard work to ensure it happened. This has proven to be the most suitable venue for the Pre-School, for the convenience of parents and the familiarity gained by the children before they reach school age. Sadly, the Pre-School building has come to the end of its life and needs to be replaced by next summer 2005. It will no longer be safe to use as a Pre-School, so we are faced with raising enough funds to replace it.

Plans have already been drawn up for a new building, which will provide a larger space than we have now, and will have sleeping and cooking areas, as well as disabled access and facilities. It will be much more child friendly, and will enable us to provide many more play opportunities. So although it is a necessity to replace the current building for health and safety reasons, we are also going to improve the service provided by doing so.

We are doing everything we can to raise the funds needed to ensure that the Pre-School can continue past next year, but we still have a fair way to go! At the moment we still need around £100,000, although we are hoping this figure will soon reduce as we are waiting to hear from the many

grant making trusts we are applying to (including the National Lottery, Nationwide, Co-op, Lloyds TSB, Local Network Fund, and many more!). The Pre-school committee, staff and parents are also constantly organising fundraising events (recently including a Balloon Race, a Teddy Bears Picnic, and a Treasure Hunt), and we will be organising many more events over the coming months, which will be advertised around the village - and we would value your support! We are extremely grateful for the support already shown to us by the community of Bampton, particularly the Bampton Charity Shop who have chosen us to be one of their four beneficiaries. It is wonderful to be chosen to be supported by them in this way and is very much appreciated. We have also received support from other Bampton residents who held a garage sale and kindly donated part of the proceeds to us.

Bampton Pre-School Playgroup is a vital part of our community, and we need to ensure that it will continue. We welcome children from the age of 2½ years until they begin school, and are open five days a week, offering a total of 8 sessions. Sessions are structured and planned specifically to meet the needs of the individual child, but above all are fun as well as educational. We have special sessions to prepare the older children for school (including visits to the Reception class) and a lunch club twice a week. The transition from Pre-School to school is made so much easier by the fact that the building is within the school grounds, and the two establishments work very closely together. Pre-school offers good quality childcare and education, which is also affordable to parents. We are hoping to begin offering extended day care from September, which would enable parents to take up employment opportunities. The Pre-School is regularly inspected by OFSTED and Social Services, and their reports have included many positive findings regarding the quality of childcare and education. This was reflected in us being awarded the Quality Assurance Award last year.

It is essential for the under 5s of Bampton to have a local playgroup to

attend which is affordable to the parents and provides good quality childcare and education. We are going to be working really hard over the coming months to raise the funds needed to replace our building, so we would be delighted to hear from anyone who may be able to help us in any way, whether it be donations, fundraising ideas or support - and, above all, we hope to see you at our next fundraising event!

If you think you can help in any way, please contact **Rachel Deegan Committee Member Tel: 201068** or **Sarah Radband Supervisor at Pre-School Tel: 852828**.

ATTENTION ATTENTION ATTENTION All You Skateboard Fans Next Stop For Mobile Skate Park Chipping Norton

Don't miss this opportunity

The mobile Skate Park will be visiting Chipping Norton this summer as part of the Summer Events Programme 2004. Skaters of all abilities will have a chance to learn new tricks, practice existing ones or just have fun! The park will include ¼ pipes, fly-offs, launch ramps and boxes for grinding tricks, and give many skaters a chance to skate on a park for the first time. Experienced skaters will be on hand to provide help and guidance to anyone who needs it.

Cllr Tony Walker, Cabinet Member for Cultural Services said, "I am pleased that we are now able to offer the mobile Skate Park to other areas of the District. The Skate Park in Woodstock at Easter was a great success and I hope when it visits Chipping Norton it will be just as popular." The Skate Park will be at the Multi-Use Games Area behind Chipping Norton Leisure Centre on 28 August,

11am - 4pm. The first session, 11am - 1.30pm is for beginners only and the second session, 1.30 - 4pm is for all abilities. To book a place at the Skate Park contact the Chipping Norton Leisure Centre on 01608 643698, or just turn up on the day to the chosen session. All those taking part in the day will have the chance to fill in a questionnaire, with entry for a prize draw to win a skateboard, donated by Board 180. For more information, or to request a copy of the Summer Events Programme 2004, contact the **Sports Development Team on 01993 861080**, or email cultural.services@westoxon.gov.uk.

Young people get a chance to 'Cool Down' this summer

Sailing, canoeing and kayaking are all on the menu of West Oxfordshire's 2004 Summer Events Programme for young people.

Chris Johnson, Sports Development Officer said, "The water sports on offer this year present a brilliant opportunity for young people in West Oxfordshire. Kayaking has been introduced to give them a chance to try something new and exciting. They can spend the whole week on one activity, or give all three a try - the choice is theirs."

The summer programme also gives young people the chance to take part in a range of activities including fencing, basketball, hockey, rugby, cycling, tennis and golf as well as many others. Other highlights include a mobile skate park that will visit Chipping Norton on 28th August, giving youngsters the chance to learn new tricks, with experienced skaters on hand to provide help and guidance.

All courses will take place between 19th July and 28th August. It is advised to book early to avoid disappointment, as there are only a limited number of places for each activity.

For further details, or to book an activity, contact the **Sports Development Team Tel: 01993 861080** or email cultural.services@westoxon.gov.uk.

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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 Colvile, Mrs J Haslam, Mrs J Newman, Mr C Rouse, Mrs S Phillips, 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

Dear Editor,

I do hope that you will find room to print my letter as I would like to thank many friends and family in Bampton.

To cut a long story short my family and I had a huge shock after being slightly unwell for a few months it was found that I had a large mass in my cervix which turned out to be cancer, but after having a radical hysterectomy and my pelvic lymph glands removed we have been told that I will need no more treatment and the outcome is that I had cancer and am now well on the road to recovery.

I would like to thank all of my family and friends and everybody in the village for their cards, kind words, and offers of support with my children and any chores it means a lot to know that in a time of need you are in so many peoples thoughts and there is always help at hand.

I would also like to thank the Bampton Welfare Trust for the kind donation towards petrol costs with three children and running to the hospital everyday money has been incredibly tight and it went a long way. Thank you so very much.

Both Bampton Primary and Burford Secondary Schools have also been very kind and supportive of David and Sophie; it was tough on them and the staff at both schools made sure they were well looked after and I would like to thank them too.

I would also like to thank Dr.Perry and Dr.Uden who came out to the house when I was unwell at home and everybody else at the surgery; we have a great team there.

Lastly I want to thank my husband. I would never have got through this without him; he has been a total rock and never gave anything a second thought. He was just there with me all the way and made sure the children were well looked after. He means so much to me and after going through this it has brought us closer together than we were before, and I love him dearly. Thank You Dean you are my star.

Thank You once again to everybody
Tracey Prior
46 Pembroke Place

Dear Sir,
We are writing in relation to the item

LETTERS and E-MAILS TO THE EDITOR

on the agenda of the Parish Council meeting due on 21 April concerning car parking which has also been the subject of Jo Lewington's letter to the Editor of the Beam.

Unfortunately we will be abroad on 21 April and so cannot attend the meeting.

We live on Mill Green and do park our car on the verge opposite the footpath; we can assure Jo that we have not parked on the daffodils (nor would we - one of the pleasures of Mill Green is the variety of the flowers and foliage).

We do park here with some regret but consider that we have no sensible alternative. Let us however run through the options and see where we go:

1. We do not wish to sell our car and for business reasons it would be impracticable for us to do so (although we have sold one of the two cars that we did once own and are pleased to be a single car partnership).

We do agree that the village should cater properly for the interests of those who both do and do not drive - one of us both drives and cycles.

2. We do not consider that it would be correct to park in Mill Green Close as the residents there should be allowed "first choice" to use any available space there may be.

3. We do not believe that it would be sensible to park on "our part" of Bridge Street itself. To do so would:

(a) increase the risk of damage to cars from passing traffic especially given the left hand bend into the village and the speed of traffic entering the village from the west;

(b) any such damage would increase the burden on the police;

© it would also adversely affect our insurance premium and premiums generally;

(d) it would also appear to be contrary to the desire of the highway authority which has painted chevrons in the middle of the road - presumably in-

tending to keep traffic apart on the bend and thus encourage traffic to use the full width of the road, to park on the road would defeat this; and

(e) which indicates to us that the highway authority are aware of the speed at which traffic enters the village from the west and wishes to manage it in some way.

4. As an alternative to providing parking bays in the verges, if we and our fellow Mill Green residents were to park on the road, it would seem to us (given our points 3(b) and (c) above) be sensible to place some physical barrier to narrow the vehicular access to the village, say by the turn-off to Weald.

This would operate to (i) slow down the traffic entering the village from the west by prioritising traffic over the bridges (in a manner similar to that in Brize Norton and many other residential areas) and (ii) protect vehicles parked on the road.

In this way the haphazard slowing of traffic through cars which may, or may not, be parked on Bridge Street, and which may or may not be parked on the same side of the road, is made into a regular slowing of traffic through a permanent physical barrier. An alternative is of course speed bumps (which we believe they have in Eynsham?) which we tend to oppose as they indiscriminately slow all traffic and therefore also slow emergency vehicles.

5. If cars were physically prevented from parking on the verges, they would still have to be parked somewhere else. Those of us who are uncomfortable about parking on Bridge Street for the reasons given would have to find somewhere else where public parking is permitted, which may not be desirable for as yet unforeseen reasons.

6. We might also consider whether generally a 20mph speed limit should be in force though the village.

Yours faithfully,
Christine Lightbown and Nigel Madeley
Beech Cottage, Mill Green

Dear Sirs,
Over the last few weeks a problem has arisen along the path that stretches from Bushey Row to Mount Owen

Road. Children of all ages are racing along this path on their bicycles, with scant regard for the pedestrians that are using it.

Twice, over a period of a few days my wife has been nearly run down, and despite telling the children that cycling is not allowed along this footpath, they continue to do as they please. Once, one boy, of about 11 or 12, actually told us that the signs, that are at almost every junction, permitted cycling.

Surely it is time that parents and teachers told their charges what the sign means.

I think it is also time that some form of barrier was erected at intervals along the length of the path.

I recently wrote a letter to the head teachers of Bampton Primary, Carterton Comprehensive and Burford schools detailing the problem. After three weeks, only Carterton school replied. Does this mean that the schools do not care? Or just can't be bothered

It is only a matter of time before an elderly person will not be able to get out of the way and will be seriously injured.

Sincerely,
Mr R.M. Gibson
28 Calais Dene

Dear Editor

Do any buses still stop at the Horse-shoe? If not, shouldn't the bus timetable and the bus shelter be removed? (It would be a good idea if the shelter could be used elsewhere given that it was provided with Millennium money.)

Yours sincerely
Heleene Grygar
Falcon Cottage, Church View
Here is the reply from the transport representative of the Parish Council.

'The bus services we have are all 'hail and ride', which means that the buses can be stopped anywhere along their routes through the Village - including outside of the Horse Shoe. The bus shelter outside of the Horse Shoe is actually still well used by people 'hailing' the buses, and therefore the Parish Council is happy to leave it at its present location.

Added to this is the fact that this bus shelter had to be designed purely for

LETTERS and E-MAILS TO THE EDITOR

that spot - it is a non-standard design - and it would be unlikely that it could be moved to some other location within the Village without major modification, the cost of which would not be justified.

A further item to note is that there are occasions when the buses cannot use the Market Square - such was when the Fair is in the Village - and the buses then revert to stopping outside of the Romany and Horse Shoe' Ed.

Dear Editor,
For all those who are interested in cricket in Bampton

People have been asking why there is no cricket being played in Bampton this year. The reason is that during the Fireworks display organised by the Fire Brigade last November the cricket wicket suffered some small burn holes. Unfortunately, the Trustees who are also Parish Councillors did not have insurance cover for the wicket.

The burns may not appear that significant but if there were an accident claim due to these burns, it would most likely be seen as negligence and no insurance company would pay out. This would apply to any insurance cover in force whether taken out by the Trustees, the Cricket Club or its individual members. The Trustees could then be held liable as the owners of this facility.

Having taken professional advice about of this unfortunate incident and in order to protect the Trustees and members of the Cricket Club, it has been decided by the Cricket Club not to play on the wicket until it is replaced.

The inability to play cricket on our home ground is a great pity as there are about 30 youngsters who are keen for cricket coaching each week. It is hoped to arrange some away matches during the season until something can be done about a new wicket.

Yours sincerely,
Jonathan Phillips

We thought it only right to ask for a reply to the letter above; here it is!

Dear Editor

Mr Phillips is correct to say that the Trustees did not have insurance for the wicket. However, adequate insurance was in place for all buildings at the Recreation ground, and for all third party liability.

We had insisted that the organisers of the firework display should provide adequate insurance for the event. We now understand that their insurance had £3000 excess, and a new wicket surface would cost £3500. The organisers confirmed that the wicket was covered by a tarpaulin, and they are emphatic that the damage could not have been caused by their fireworks. It may, therefore, have been damaged by someone letting off fireworks later that evening.

The burn marks consist of a number of scorch marks in the middle of the wicket plus one critical mark (the size of a 2p piece) where the ball might land. Subsequently, the trustees have invited 2 experts to inspect the wicket, Slatters, who constructed the wicket, and Mr Richard Sula, ECS cricket pitch adviser. Each have said that, while the damage is regrettable, *the wicket is still better than most grass wickets in Oxfordshire villages!* Both have commented that the wicket could last for another 5 to 10 years. They have, however, pointed out that it is the Trustee's duty of care to point out the burn marks to teams who are going to use the wicket, so that appropriate protective clothing can be worn.

Whilst other teams have hired the pitch, and continue to do so, our own Club has decided to play only 'Away' games. The Trustees are very keen that Bampton Cricket Club resumes its home fixtures as soon as possible, therefore if anyone has £3500 that they would like to donate, we will be pleased to replace the surface of the wicket.

Yours sincerely
David Hawkins
Chairman
Recreation Ground Trustees

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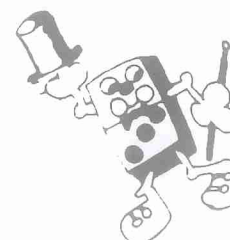


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Bampton Environmental Watch Group

(BEWG)

By Ralph Norman, Chairman

We held our AGM on 5 March when Martyn Bishop was elected as our new honorary treasurer following Ray Proctor's retirement after many years service. The other officers re-elected were: Ralph Norman, chairman; Helene Grygar, vice-chairman; Sally Proctor, honorary secretary. Six other committee members were also elected.

Following the formal business of the AGM we had a most interesting talk from Mark McArthur-Christy entitled "Road Rage: road traffic in the 21st century". Mark gave us much food for thought with some alternative ways of looking at traffic problems, showing that environmentally friendly effective solutions could be achieved in rural areas without resorting to road humps and obtrusive-and-garish road signs and markings. This generated much positive discussion.

At our April open meeting we had a fascinating talk on "The History of Carterton and Brize Norton" from Martin Way. I think many of us were surprised to learn that Carterton had much of interest to offer in the past before sliding into, what appears to some, to be the much more urban and less attractive form that we know today. Martin's talk was so successful that we have booked him again for October 2005 when he will give a talk entitled "The Home Front".

At the end of July we will have moved away from the built environment when we will have a talk by Ian Gourlay, a dendrologist, on the age of trees. (At the time of writing this talk is still to come.) Our next open meeting scheduled after publication of this issue of the Beam will be on 27th October, when Grant Audley-Miller (Conservation Officer with the Vale of White Horse) will give a talk on conservation.

The meeting will be in the Village Hall at 8:00 pm. Everyone is welcome, members free, visitors £2.

We are now able to give the results for planning proposals on three sites in Bampton, which have been exercis-

ing BEWG and many others within Bampton. First the long running saga of the planning proposals at Church View, on the meadow adjacent to Deanery Cottage. You may remember that the Church Commissioners submitted plans to build first two cottages and then for one cottage.

Both applications were refused by WODC. The Church Commissioners then went to appeal on both applications. We are pleased to be able to tell you that the planning inspector who reviewed the appeals has upheld the WODC decisions and both appeals have been rejected.

Second we have another saga at Littlemead, which sits between the Aston and Buckland Roads at their junction with High Street. Nearly two years ago there was an application to demolish the bungalow and replace it with two terraces totalling 7 houses plus a block of 6 flats. This attracted more than 200 objections and was refused by WODC. Now we have had a subsequent application to build a single terrace of 7 houses and a block of 7 flats. This proposal, not surprisingly, again attracted more than 200 objection letters. At the WODC planning meeting a revised proposal for 10 houses but no flats was presented.

The planning officer reporting on the proposal recommended that this be granted, even though this had not been published for public consultation, but we are pleased to report that the WODC planning committee rejected it as still inappropriate for this site. We now wait to see if an appeal will be lodged or perhaps yet another new proposal.

The third planning application was for 8 affordable houses between New Road and Pocock's Close on a site made up from part of adjoining back gardens of some New Road houses (Note this is unrelated to the large farmland site in New Road, which WODC had inserted in their draft local plan.). We and a number of nearby residents thought that the proposed three-storey dwellings were too

high, but this time we were unable to prevail upon the WODC planners and the proposal has been given permission without any reduction in ridge height.

Moving on to the West Oxfordshire Local Plan 2011, at the time of writing the situation is basically unchanged from the BEWG report in the previous Beam. Everything hangs on the public inquiry that is currently scheduled to run from 6 July until 10 December 2004. The current position for Bampton is that WODC are recommending that the proposal, for 100 dwellings at New Road, should be deleted. But they have confused the situation by adding a rider to their recommendation based on yet-to-be-decided changes to planning guidance. New planning guidance is due to be published by central government some time during the life of the local inquiry. It is possible that this guidance will permit local plans to include designated sites of 100% affordable dwellings. If this is the case, WODC wish to extend their recommendation for the deletion of the site for 100 dwellings by adding that they would have a preference for a smaller development of 25-30 dwellings, all affordable. We will have to wait until some time in 2005 for the result of the inquiry and the final version of the Local Plan.

Finally let us talk a little about footpaths. Several years back BEWG, in the form of John Battersby, organised an "adopt a path" scheme, whereby individual walkers agreed to adopt one or more paths that they walked on a regular basis. The aim was to ensure that the state of all Bampton's footpaths was reported to John so that he could raise any problems with the County Footpaths Officer. Time and walkers have now moved on, so we thought that at the end of the summer we should have a simple drop-in meeting to make sure that we have no orphans.

Watch out for posters nearer the time and please come along to help make sure that all our paths are covered—you don't have to be a member of BEWG, just a someone who gets pleasure from walking Bampton's many rights of way. Could I also remind you, particularly if you are new

to Bampton, that free copies of the BEWG footpath map are available from the Bampton post office and the Witney Tourist Information Centre. If you would like to know more about BEWG or would like to join us please contact the **Membership Secretary Ann Norman Tel: 850823**, or **Email bewg@sagaman.co.uk**. You can also see our entry on the Bampton web site at www.bamptonoxon.co.uk/bewg.htm

Informal Consultations in the Community

By Jane Barker

I am currently working on a project to help rural communities use informal, interesting and inclusive ways of gauging people's views on local issues and was wondering if your community has a particular issue or project which would benefit from such a consultation. Perhaps you are concerned about the uses of the village hall, or the need for a children's playground, facilities for young people or the elderly, an environmental or transport issue, or just feel that something needs to be done but you are not sure what.

The consultation methods are quick and easy to use, are informal, sociable and fun and can be carried out almost anywhere!

So if you would like to know more about rapid consultation in the community, please call me **Jane Barker, Community Development Worker Tel: 01865 883488**

or email jane.barker@oxonrcc.org.uk.

RURAL CRAFTS GIVEN A BOOST

By Nicola Williamson

Rural Crafts in West Oxfordshire have been given a boost with the help of funding from the West Oxfordshire Network Leader + fund, Defra and Seeda.

The Rural Crafts Network of West Oxfordshire is a partnership of education and conservation groups and local rural crafts people who have come together to address the perceived loss in skills associated with the countryside and the rural way of life. Funding has been obtained to employ a project worker who is conducting a 12-month research project.

This project aims to promote and preserve rural crafts through creating opportunities for people to learn and share these skills.

Over the next 12 months, the Project Worker hopes to meet with many rural craft workers and those interested in learning these skills, to determine from them their needs and get their thoughts on how the Rural Craft Network can help to promote rural crafts. In addition to all this talking, training courses and demonstration events are being planned.

What's on:

Green woodworking taster on Saturday 3rd July at Cogges Manor Farm 1.30-4.30 P.M.

Felt making and Spinning taster morning on 10th July at Witney Methodist Church 10-1 PM.

Schools taster day 13th July in Witney.

Family Learning weekend on Sunday 1st August to include: build your own

woodland shelter and watch a blacksmith at work. Rural Craft Family Fun week Tuesday 3rd to Saturday 7th August, both at Cogges Manor Farm, Blacksmithing Taster evening 4th August.

Wychwood Forest Fair, featuring many craft demonstrations, at Lower Farm, Ramsden, 5th September from noon.

Learn to grow your own furniture: talk by Christopher Cattle. 14th September 7.30 P.M. Hailey Village Hall. Dry stone walling: date to be advised. Woodland working days at Tar wood, South Leigh. A day of woodland crafts in a woodland setting. 3rd October and repeated on 14th November.

Family Learning woodland afternoon 17th October 2-4 P.M. at Foxholes, Bruern.

Living Willow workshop at Oxfordshire Museum, Woodstock on 4th December.

How can you get involved?

Let us know if you would like to learn or share a skill

Demonstrate at rural craft events. Provide venues for dry stone walling or hedge laying training days.

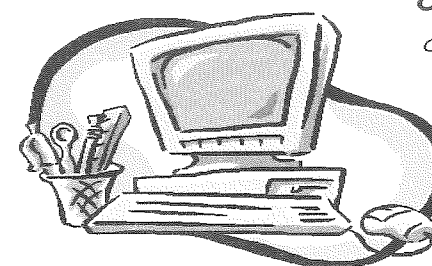
Do you have a wall that needs repairing or a hedge that needs laying? Offering it up for a training venue could reduce costs.

Simply gives us your views and ideas. Please contact:

**Nicola Williamson
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or email: nwilliamson@cftb-hq.org.uk.

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Let's Get Bampton Fit!

By Calum Taylor — Dip.PT, REP's MRNT, IIHHT

To introduce myself, I was born and brought up in the Bampton area and am a level 3 R.E.P.S and Premier Qualified Fitness Trainer, Cricket Coach, Nutritional Adviser and Sports Massage Therapist.

I have been invited to do a regular article on the need for proper exercise and nutrition

There has been a lot of talk recently about children and obesity in this article I have discussed possible reasons for this and possible solutions to the problem.

Many children these days suffer from a poor diet and a lack of exercise. There are many different reasons that obesity in children has risen but primarily eating too much of the wrong foods and too little exercise has to be the main cause of this problem. Children would much rather sit in front of the T.V. and play computer games than go outside play cricket in the summer and football in the winter! We can help with this, as parents we tend to just leave our children to it and let them get on with what they enjoy as it means a lot less hassle! Unfortunately doing that will in the end be the downfall of our children, from obesity children can develop diabetes or even cancer. The nasty "C" word is used more and more these days with poor diet being a contributing factor. So what should I feed my children I hear you ask!

A basic rule to follow is "if it wasn't on the earth 5,000 years ago it probably isn't very good for you!"; by this I mean the more natural the food the better. For example meat from the butchers and fresh vegetables rather than processed microwave meals like shepherd's pie ready in minutes!

I follow the Glycaemic index as a nutritional guide. The Glycaemic index is a classification of foods ranking on how they affect the blood glucose levels in our blood. The higher the Glycaemic rating of the food the more likely you are to have peaks and troughs. What I mean by a peak and trough is for, e.g. chocolate, will make you feel really good and full up for a little while but because the sugar level

in chocolate is high it will make you feel tired and hungry within a short period of time after.

Metabolism, which is the body's system in which it breaks down food is quickest in the morning and slowest in the evening so make sure you have a king's breakfast (large), a Prince's lunch (moderate) and a pauper's size evening meal. Its good to try and eat at least 2 hours before you go to bed in order that your food is digested properly because any food that hasn't been digested properly will be stored as fat. Also your energy levels are a lot less in the evening so you don't have the chance to burn the calories that you have eaten.

Exercise, if you are looking to lose weight then remember its fat you want to lose and not total weight. So try and make sure that you test your children in ways other than just weighing them on the scales, as it doesn't paint a true picture. Instead, use a tape measure to measure them around the hips, belly button, middle of thighs and arms. Do this every month and note down the difference. Muscle weighs 3 x more than fat so if you found that they had actually put on weight doing regular exercise then this may be the cause.

Exercise for children is definitely something that is a great relationship builder as it means that you are spending time together. Try taking your children down to the park to play football or just get them running around making games up as you go along. The recommended allotted time of activity is 1/2 an hour a day. Make sure you treat them with things other than chocolate and crisps; treat them with trips to the ice skating rink or laser quest something that they will enjoy which also means that they will be active. Try and get them to ride around to their friend's house on a bike or skateboard something that they enjoy using. Get the whole family to go bike riding together on the weekends. The children will remember things like this when they get older.

If I have a client that wishes to lose some weight then I suggest to them that they follow this simple rule. The recommendation to lose weight is

about 500 calories a day: 250 calories through exercise and 250 calories through nutrition this means that you will lose 1lb a week.

Remember exercise doesn't have to be individual, making an equal goal with your family and helping each other through it can be so rewarding so give it a go!

If there are any questions that you have then please write to me at: Taylor Made Training, Casio Cottage, Shilton, OX18 4AW.

FLU VACCINATIONS

We will be starting our flu vaccination campaign in October and this year we will be offering a series of clinics at different times during the week also on Saturday mornings. We will be sending out invitation letters to all patients who are eligible, under Department of Health Guidelines, to receive a flu vaccine on the NHS.

These are

All people aged 65 and over

People who have:

Chronic Heart disease (e.g. angina, past heart attack, heart failure), Diabetes, Chronic Lung Disease (including asthma that requires regular steroid/brown inhalers), Kidney Disease or Immunocompromised

If you have not received an invitation by the end of September but feel you should have one under the Department of Health Guidelines please contact the surgery. The receptionist will take your details and consult one of the doctors on your behalf to confirm whether you should have the vaccine. Receptionists will only automatically book patients in who have been sent an invitation letter.

If you do not fit any of the criteria for a NHS vaccine the doctors will be happy to provide you with a private prescription for one. This can be arranged by telephone. You will then be able to take this to a pharmacy and purchase a vaccine which our nurses will be happy to administer for you free of charge.

Bampton Health Care Pharmacy will have a supply of vaccines available for purchase on a private prescription.

Bampton Classical Opera

CABARET EVENING

Bampton Village Hall

Saturday, 30th October 2004

Come and enjoy an evening of light entertainment by the professional singers and musicians of Bampton Classical Opera seated at candle lit tables with wine (*from the bar*) and simple food. Tickets: £12 each available from The Cotton Club from beginning of September.

Book early as tickets will be limited.

Recycle Your Unwanted Mobile

Recycling old mobile phones and chargers creates £5 for BTCV (British Trust for Conservation Volunteers) with their recycling programme 'Office Green'. Visit their site

www.officegreen.co.uk for terms and conditions or

Freephone 0800 833 480.

By registering online you could also win an extra £500 for BTCV.

Cancer Research UK

Bampton Branch

Balloon Race

Cancer Research UK held a Balloon Race on the May Bank Holiday Monday, resulting in a profit of £200 for funds. The winning ticket was bought by a lady from Ashbury and her balloon was returned from Tackley. The winner received a £50 prize and the gentleman who returned the balloon received £10. Thanks to all who bought balloons and supported us. And thanks also to Richard Cooper for his help.

Ann Radband

Cancer Research UK

Future Dates

Saturday 18th September

Autumn Sale, The Village Hall 10-12

Wednesday 17th November

Pre Christmas Bingo - The Village Hall

Friday 3rd December

Quiz Night The Village Hall

(Teams of 4)

Friday 17th December

Country & Western Dance - Social

Centre, Carterton

Anyone wishing to join us contact **The Cleavers Tel: 850682.**

The Children's Society

Our house-to-house collection this year

NOTICE BOARD

raised £156.45, and we are enormously grateful to our collectors for kindly giving up their time on our behalf.

Our numbers have sadly dwindled over the years and I would be very happy to hear from anyone who could give up an hour or two of their time to help next year. The collection always takes place over the Easter period when the weather should be improving - always a great help when collecting!

You will realise how few collectors I have when I tell you that this total includes £105.90 from Londis, which is proving to be a very valuable source of income. Our thanks to all those kind people, many of them children and teenagers who regularly give us their change.

Please do consider whether or not you can collect next year. The Society does much-needed work with young people and their families and deserves our help. Contact **Pauline Hawkins Tel: 01993 851066.** I look forward to hearing from you.

Bampton Exhibition Foundation

The Foundation exists to maintain the Old Grammar School building (now the Library), and to provide financial support to young people residing in the Ancient Parish of Bampton, Aston, Lew and Weald. The financial help is for young people who would like to participate in any academic or sporting course or activity of educational value which would otherwise be beyond their means. We try to offer a bursary of 50% of the amount required. Anyone who feels they qualify (or knows of someone who may do so) should contact the Correspondence Secretary, **Roger Snow, 40 Bushy Row, Bampton, OX18 2JU or Tel: 850113.**

The Bush Club

The Bush Club Needs YOU

Drivers

Once a fortnight for ½ an hour in the morning at 9.45am, or ½ an hour in the afternoon at 1.45pm.

Cooks and Kitchen Helpers

Approximately once every 5 weeks from 9.45 - 1pm

General Helpers

From 9am - 1.45pm on alternate weeks. Times to suit individuals.

For more information please contact **Barbara Daw Tel: 01993 851491**

Bampton Bridge Club

The Club meets in the Village Hall every Tuesday, 7:30 pm to 10pm. Duplicate Bridge is played on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Tuesday of the month.. Rubber bridge on the 3rd and 4th Tuesdays. The annual subscription is £5 with a charge of £1.00 per session. New members are always welcome. For more information contact, **Joan Granville, Tel: 850407.**

Old Birthday Cards

Please continue to let me your Birthday Cards, after you have enjoyed them, so that I can continue to recycle them into resaleable items which then make money for worthy causes. **Daphne Gaydon, 3 Broad Street.**

Bampton Ladies Group

We are a group of Ladies who meet in the Village Hall on the third Wednesday of each month at 8pm. Our aim is to have a variety of light-hearted talks, demonstrations and outings. If you would like to come along, the first visit is free. Further information from **Joan Farthing Tel: 851206.**

Christian Aid Week

Very many thanks to everyone who helped Bampton to give another record amount to Christian Aid this year. The Coffee morning raised £546.83, and the House-to-House Collection raised £1812.43. And those who signed Gift Aid forms will have increased this amount by another £300 or so, which can be claimed from the Inland Revenue, increasing our total to nearly £2,700. Well done!!

Poppy People Wanted

The Royal British Legion is well known for its efforts in fundraising for the poppy Appeal during the period around Remembrance Sunday. This campaign generates over £21

May Garlands

The traditional judging of the May Garlands took place in the Market Square on the May Bank Holiday Monday. It was great to see so many entries again this year, and the standard was so high it made the judging very difficult. Well done to all those children who made the effort to make a Garland, and help keep one of the old traditions of the Village alive.

Winners of the May Flower Garlands

Corinna Marie Newland Memorial Prize for the best May Flower Garland presented by Emma Newland to:

Florence & Joseph Jenkins

Highly Commended Certificates 2nd

Jessie Hindley & Josie Christie

3rd

Rebecca Jenks & Claudia Kemsley

Elizabeth Wybrants, Haley Schwartz

Alex Wybrants, Amy Tanner

Faye Tanner, Neoma Fisher

Zoe Lawton, Danielle Godwin

Laura Godwin, Alice Landray

Sarah Ader, Jessie Grimwade

Jordan Day, George Seacole

Well done to all who took part in this old tradition of Bampton. Also many thanks to Mrs Ruth Wheeler who every year makes sure this tradition goes on. It's a lot of hard work, but on the day when the children come into the Market Square it shows that it was worth all the effort!

Thanks also go to Mr & Mrs Jonathan Phillips for continuing to sponsor the competition.



The Proud Children with their Garlands and one of the Morris Dance Teams



The Winners with their Winning Garland



The Pre-School Balloon Race

The children of the pre-school get their fund raising balloon race underway. The Pre-School is very busy raising funds for their new building, so look out for the various fund raising activities taking place throughout the year.

Coffee Morning

In aid of

JR Coronary Care Unit

September 4th

Village Hall

10 - 12noon

OUT AND ABOUT

The Gardening Club Visits the Shuttleworth Aircraft Collection and Swiss Cottage Gardens



Hawker Hurricane



'Those Magnificent Men in Their Flying Machines'



The Picturesque Swiss Cottage Gardens



The Gardening Club's Summer Show : Well Attended as Usual

The Great Annual Shirt Race



The Little and the Large



The Juniors are Off!



The Others get Ready



The Race



The Finish

The Great Annual Shirt Race



Our MP David Cameron Judging the Fancy Dress and Greeting Surprise Visitors!



The Presentation of Prizes

Traditional Music and Dances From the Children of the Village : Organised by Felicity McCormack



OUT AND ABOUT

The Morris Dancers Day



In the Gardens



And in the Streets



A great day had by all!

NOTICE BOARD

Did you serve in the Armed Forces in the Canal Zone Egypt between 1949 & 1954?

If so you may be entitled to the General Service Medal approved for this campaign.

Further information may be obtained from: Percy Miles
Area Representative of
The Suez Veterans Association.

BAMPTON '250' CLUB

A monthly lottery which raises money for The Bampton Village Hall and The Bampton Youth Centre

LIST OF WINNERS 2004/2005

MARCH	£100	109	Mrs V Handley	Queen Street
	£25	219	Mrs I Hjul	Bridge Street
	£15	107	Miss K Wylie	Lavender Place
	£15	102	Miss Molyneux	Lavender Place
	£15	239	Carly Thomas	Lew
APRIL	£250	183	Mrs S Jaques	Talbot Fields
	£25	227	PC G Hardy	Talbot Fields
	£15	042	Mrs S Broughton	Pembroke Place
	£15	207	Dr A Gaydon	Broad Street
	£15	133	Mrs Pat Smith	The Lanes
MAY	£25	224	Miss K Buckingham	Bowling Gr Close
	£15	055	Mrs Little	Calais Dene
	£15	031	Mrs J Carr	c/o Chetwynd Mead
JUNE	£15	125	Mrs S Smart	Primrose Lane
	£100	013	Martin Adams	St. Mary's Court
	£25	048	Mrs S Barney	Calais Dene
	£15	155	Mr R Snow	Bushey Row
	£15	199	Mr R Curtis	Buckland Road
	£15	250	Mrs J Hardy	Talbot Close

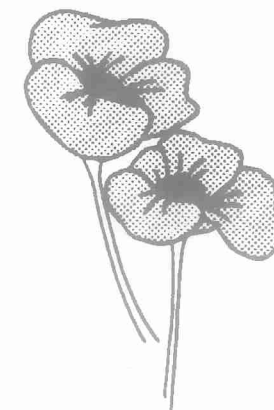
The Bampton Beam

You will have noticed in this edition of the 'Beam', that there are a great number of activities being organised by the WODC for the children during the holiday period. This is excellent, but the 'Beam' is issued too late to be able to publicise the dates well enough in advance of the activities beginning, to allow the children to plan their holiday activities, and book the activities early enough to ensure getting a place.

It has therefore been decided by 'The Beam Team' to advance the issue dates, as of 2005, to March, July, and November - in place of April, August, and December - in order to align better with the holiday seasons.

Contributors please note!!

We wear them with pride



"We will remember them"

Remembrance

Sunday

November 14th 2004

10.45am War Memorial

11am St Mary's

6pm Methodist Chapel

I Vow to thee, my country

Cecil Spring-Rice 1859-1918

I vow to thee my country,
all earthy things above,
Entire and whole and perfect,
the service of my love;
The love that asks no questions,
the love that stands the test,
That lays upon the altar the dearest
and the best;

The love that never falters,
the love that pays the price,
The love that makes undaunted the
final sacrifice.

And there's another country,
I've heard of long ago
Most dear to them that love her,
most great to them that know;
We may not count her armies,
we may not see her king;
Her fortress is a faithful heart,
her pride is suffering;
And soul by soul and silently her
shining bounds increase,
And her ways are ways of gentleness
and all her paths are peace.

BAMPTON YOUTH CENTRE

By Colin Allport

Our plans to raise money to fund the replacement of old and inefficient heating system in the Main Hall of the Centre, which started so well with donations from the Parish Council and from the Welfare Trust, have run into problems due to the unwillingness of the County Council to give assurances regarding the longer term future of the lease on the Youth Centre premises. Potential donors are, not unnaturally, requiring a reasonable indication that we shall be able to continue in operation, at least beyond the end of the current lease period in 2009. We are making efforts to obtain a satisfactory form of wording from the County Council but there will, inevitably, be several months of delay. It would help in this respect if sympathetic people in the village could make representations to our County Councillor.

The worries with regard to the future of the Junior Youth Club have not yet been resolved but the Parish Council has taken the initiative in offering to pay a further £1,000 towards the required second youth worker, provided that matching funding can be raised. It will be recalled that the Parish Council already pays the full cost of £2,000 for one youth worker for the Club. We have been making approaches within

the village to gather together the matching funding and hope that the Junior Club will be able to restart as planned in September. The need for volunteer helpers also remains and anyone interested should contact Shelley Vaisey Tel: 842416. Shelley will also be able to answer any general questions about the youth clubs. It will be well known that the Centre is available for rental at times when the youth clubs are not in operation and the main hall of this attractive old building offers a pleasant atmospheric venue for dances and social gatherings of all types at very reasonable rental prices. Jill Ruck (852010) will always be happy to provide information and to take bookings. The Centre's annual general meeting took place on Tuesday 27th April with Roger Snow being elected to fill the one existing vacancy on the committee. The secretary, Colin Allport Tel: 850411, can be contacted for answers on any general matters.

'Stop Press'

We are delighted to be able to announce that St Mary's Church, various charities and other bodies in Bampton have rallied round to guarantee the £1,000 required as matching funding for the Junior Youth Club. And we can now confidently expect that the Club will reopen in September. A fuller report will be included in the next issue of 'The Beam'.

IMPORTANT CHANGES TO YOUR GP SERVICES

Since April 1st 2004 all GPs have been working under a new Government Contract. As part of this new contract there will shortly be a change to the GP's responsibility for the care of their patients. Previously they were responsible 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, however, under the new contract they will have responsibility from 8am to 6.30pm Monday to Friday only. Outside of these times The Primary Care Trust (PCT) will have responsibility for providing an out of hours services. The Primary Care Trust which has responsibility for this area is South West Oxfordshire PCT and it is based in Abingdon. They intend to have their new out of hours service operational by 1st September 2004. Their new service will be based at 3 primary care centres in the south of Oxfordshire: Witney, Abingdon and Henley. It will be provided by multi-disciplinary teams of Doctors, Paramedics and Nurses. Some local GP's may choose to work for this new service in addition to their daytime commitments. All calls will be handled by a special team within the Oxfordshire Ambulance Trust in Abingdon and then directed to the appropriate centre/health professional. One of the most noticeable effects of this change will involve Saturday morning surgeries.

From 1st September 2004 we will be ending Saturday Morning surgeries for both Doctors and nurses

We have always provided a Saturday morning surgery, although we have not been obliged to do so. As the GPs had responsibility for their patients care on Saturday mornings they found it helpful to operate a surgery until the local co-op took over at 12pm. However weekends will now be covered by the new out of hours service from 1st September 2004.

Bampton Health Care Pharmacy which is situated within Bampton Surgery will continue to open on Saturday mornings from 9am until 12noon.

A leaflet giving further information on these changes can be found in Bampton Surgery, Carterton Health Centre, The Library, Post Office and Cotton Club.

Bampton Post Office

Do you know that in addition to our traditional services, the Post Office are now offering the following:

- **CAR INSURANCE** Great deals on your car insurance with a national average saving of £120 – ask Martin for details – you could even win a Ford Ka if you enquire before 31st October!
- **PERSONAL LOANS** – New car? Holiday? Home Improvements? Or any other purpose – You could have your money *next day!* Very competitive rates – if you are over 21 just ask for details.
- **SAVING STAMPS** – Bills are as inevitable as the next rainy day but with the new Post Office £5 Saving Stamp this is an easy way to save for household expenses.
- **BANKING SERVICES** – If you bank with one our partner banks (Lloyds TSB, Barclays, Co-Op, Alliance and Leicester) then you can take money out on your debit card or on a cheque. You can also make cash and cheque deposits.
- **TRAVEL INSURANCE** – “Children go free” is just one of the attractions for this competitive service which includes medical cover, hospital inconvenience benefits, emergency repatriation, cancellation, personal belongings, loss of money or passport plus many, many more benefits.
- **SPECIALIST TRAVEL INSURANCE** – covering such things as Special Golf Cover, Hazardous Activity Cover and even provides cover if you are emigrating.
- **FOREIGN CURRENCY** – At 0% commission and top exchange rates, the Post Office represents a good deal. We also offer commission free buy-back.
- **HOLIDAY PHONE CARDS** – Reduce the costs of calling home with one of these cards.
- **MONEYGRAM** – an easy and safe way to send money abroad.

We can also help you with:

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FAXES

DRY CLEANING

DOMESTIC LAUNDRY

BOOKS

STATIONERY

Martin & Carole would like to thank you all for your continued support

Afternoon Concert

of
Organ Music

○○○○○○○○

Nicklas Martin

From Turner's Merry-Go-Round

will be in concert at the

Windmill Barn Clanfield

Sunday 12th September 2:30pm for 3pm

Come along and be entertained by this wonderful musician, whose repertoire ranges from classical to modern day material.

Tickets are only £6.00 from: Sue Morris Tel: 01993 841294

Ellen Parker Tel: 01993 843985

Bampton Exhibition Foundation

The Bampton Exhibition Foundation were sad to bid farewell to Janet Glanvill, who retired at the end of March. Janet, formerly headmistress of Aston Primary School, has been a hard-working trustee for 30 years, of which she had spent the last 13 as our dedicated and very efficient Chairman. Her fellow trustees will miss her wise counsel and wish her well for the future.

Roger Snow has taken over as Chairman. Bursary requests should be made to the Bursary Secretary, Marion Dowding Tel: 850167, address Baytree Cottage, Rosemary Lane, Bampton, OX18 2NF.



Janet Glanvill handing over the reins to Roger Snow

Patient Advice & Liaison Services (PALS)

PALS is a confidential service focussing on improving local NHS health services.

Interested in hearing more about the changes from September to 'GP Out of Hours Services' in your area? Then come along to our 'drop in' sessions which are held every 3rd Wednesday of each month at the West Oxon District Council Town Centre Shop on Welch Way, Witney.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 18th August 9.30am - 2pm

Drop in and see us if you need:

- Advice or support.
- Some help with a concern or problem.
- Information on health services e.g Community Services, GPs, Dentists.

For more information or to book an appointment Tel: 01993 861090 .

Some Useful Telephone Numbers

Police	0845 8 505 505
Witney Hospital	01993 602900
Minor Injuries Unit	01993 602966
Power Cuts	0345 708090
Gas Emergency	0800 111999
Water & Sewerage	0645 200800
BT General Enquiries	0800 309409
BT Line Fault	151
Env. Services	01993 770222
Abandoned Vehicles	01993 770308
Bulky Waste	
Collection	01993 770222
Witney Town Council	01993 704379
Tourist Information	01993 775802
Citizens Advice	01993 705691
Train Information	08457 484950
Trading Standards	01865 815000
Bampton Surgery	01993 850257
- out of hours	01993 851616
Witney Health Centre	01993 703641
Stagecoach Witney	01993 702197
WODC	01993 702941
Lost & Found	01608 659029
Clerk Parish Council	01993 850776

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Fax: 01865 884411

Evening surgery at North Leigh by appointment

SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF BAMPTON

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

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

DO JOIN NOW

Send your membership fee of £2 each (£1 for OAPs) for the period up to December 2007, to
Society for the Protection of Bampton
 Manor House
 Bampton, Oxon OX18 2LQ

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 Home-grown

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enjoy

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 Oxfordshire OX18 3HA
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 The fees represent excellent value for money.

Life Lease Purchase Also Available

In a new initiative, the concept of purchasing a lease-for-life is now being offered. Such leases offer major benefits to clients of the home, and their estate.

Call us now for further information.

Or why not call in and see us? We will make you very welcome.

The Dementia Information Service For Carers

(Disc)

It is estimated that there are over 8,000 people over the age of 65 with dementia living in Oxfordshire. The majority of these people are being cared for by their spouse, family, friends or relatives. Many carers struggle on alone without the help and support that could make their lives easier and their caring role more tolerable.

DISC, The Dementia Information Service for Carers is a new project due to commence on 21st of June 2004 which will provide an information service to carers of older people with dementia. The service has been developed by The Guideposts Trust and the Institute of Public Care and is supported by the Community Fund. The Oxfordshire project is a prototype which will eventually be broadened to cover the majority of the south east of England.

DISC will provide a professional, personal, friendly and easily accessible information service to carers. It offers basic information about dementia, legal rights, what care services are available and how to get help. It signposts carers to agencies that can support them particularly during times of difficulty such as before and after the person they care for has moved into a care home.

If people wish to have help in contacting health or care organisations then DISC can provide this. Advice and information is available by telephone, e-mail, letter or through the DISC website.

DISC will also offer help to carers via two indirect means. It will provide an information service to care homes that wish to improve their contact and support to relatives of people with dementia. It will also offer a consultancy service to health and social care organisations to help those organisations find out what carers think of the services they receive.

Contact DISC by phoning 0845 1204048, writing to DISC, Oxford Dementia Centre, Institute of Public Care, Roosevelt Drive, Oxford, OX3 7XR, or sending an e-mail to info@disc.org.uk. We also have a website at www.disc.org.uk

Carterton Health Walks

By Melanie Bryant
Volunteer Health Walks Co-coordinator

The Carterton Health Walks Scheme has come on in leaps and bounds, or should I say steps and strides since I last wrote for the magazine!

The walk Leaders attended a First Aid Training run by the Heartstart charity. This was led by a consultant from the John Radcliffe Hospital who made it an informative and enjoyable evening and we were pleased to be able to make a donation to their funds. Thanks must also go to Carterton Health Centre for letting us use their facilities for the evening.

Then at the start of the year we joined in a Countywide initiative called "walk off your Christmas Pudding".

This consisted of a walk attended by nearly 40 people on January 3rd. You may remember it as it was the only day we had snow in Carterton this winter. You may also remember it if you saw the Christmas Pudding that accompanied the walkers and got a mention in the Witney Gazette! The walk was beautifully rounded off by a coffee morning in the WI hall with refreshments and cakes, delicious as usual, supplied by the Carterton WI.

Since then the numbers of people attending our Health Walks regularly has continued to increase and this is mainly due to the efforts of a very willing band of volunteer walk leaders who give up their time to ensure the walks are run safely.

We have applied for a Co-op community grant and if successful will be able to produce some information leaflets to better publicise the aims and objectives of the Health Walk Scheme as well as practical informa-

tion on days and times etc.

The main aim of the scheme is to encourage people of all ages and abilities to take regular exercise, and all are welcome to join us and reap the Health and Social benefits associated with walking in a group.

We are very pleased that some residents and staff of our local care home led by Linda Eastman continue to join us on a regular basis, enjoying the fresh air and change from routine.

In January a display in the library gave the following information to try and dispel some myths (and excuses!) about walking.

1. You don't need special equipment or to be superfit; Just interested in improving your health (Sensible shoes and appropriate coat recommended we walk in all weathers!)
2. You don't need hours and hours of spare time. Just 30-40 mins.(10 mins more if you want a cup of Tea)
3. You don't need money; its FREE (Thursdays Tea 50p at WI coffee Morning optional)
4. You don't need a map or a compass; Just a friendly walk-leader. We supply these in pairs, one leads and the other is happy to walk at whatever pace necessary.

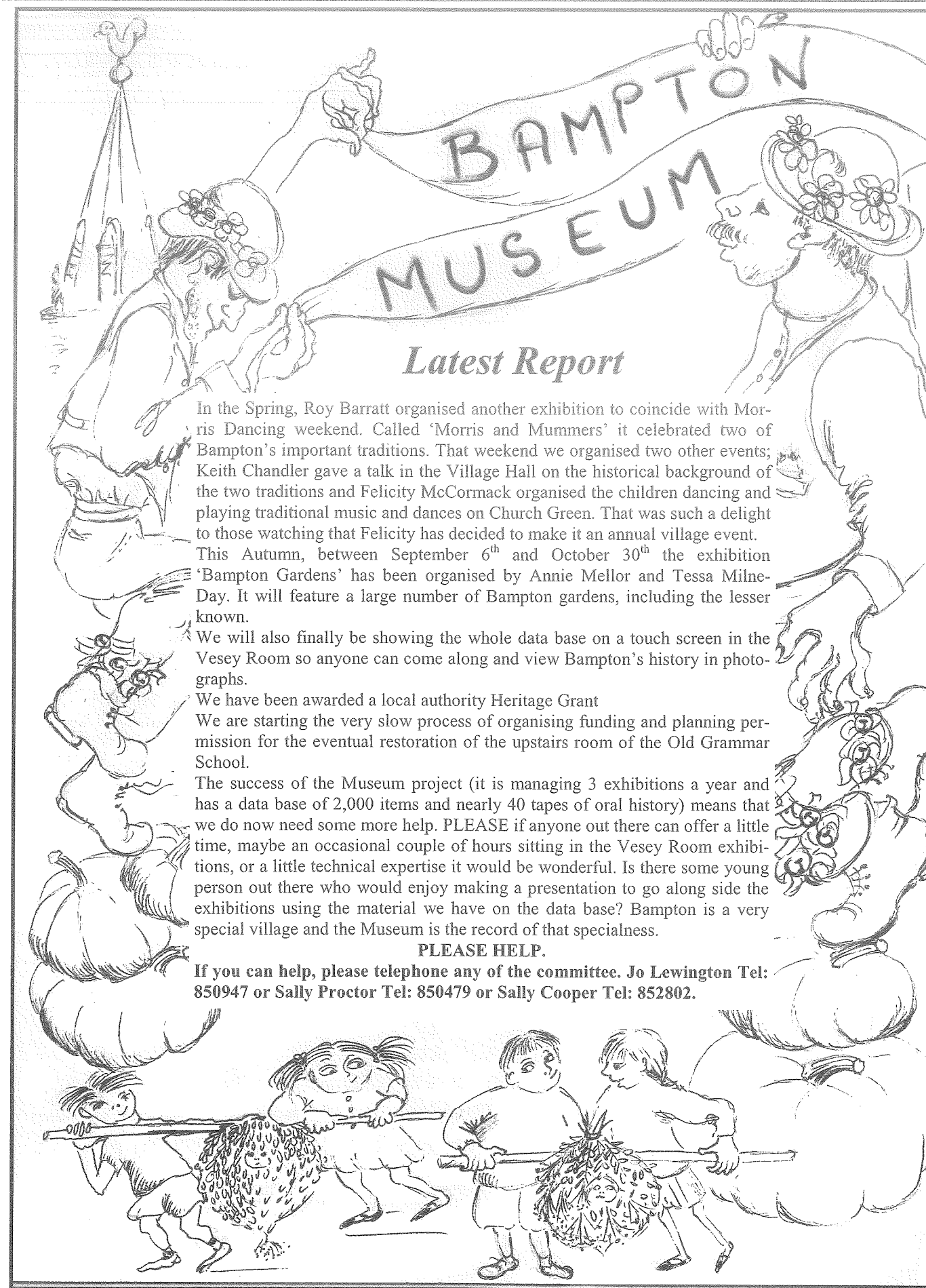
Join us on;
Mondays 10am Refreshments at Town Hall optional
Thursdays 10am Refreshments at WI hall optional
Saturdays 10am Refreshments venue to be confirmed.
 Hope to see you all out walking soon.

Age Concern Oxfordshire are searching for sociable people looking for **interesting, varied and rewarding** ways of helping older people. Our **Information & Advice Team** needs volunteers to help and advise older people across Oxfordshire in a variety of locations. People of all ages welcomed. **We offer flexibility - team spirit full training and support expenses**



For more details call:
01235 849 400
 Ask for "Information & Advice"

Registered charity No. 1091529



Latest Report

In the Spring, Roy Barratt organised another exhibition to coincide with Morris Dancing weekend. Called 'Morris and Mummers' it celebrated two of Bampton's important traditions. That weekend we organised two other events; Keith Chandler gave a talk in the Village Hall on the historical background of the two traditions and Felicity McCormack organised the children dancing and playing traditional music and dances on Church Green. That was such a delight to those watching that Felicity has decided to make it an annual village event. This Autumn, between September 6th and October 30th the exhibition 'Bampton Gardens' has been organised by Annie Mellor and Tessa Milne-Day. It will feature a large number of Bampton gardens, including the lesser known.

We will also finally be showing the whole data base on a touch screen in the Vesey Room so anyone can come along and view Bampton's history in photographs.

We have been awarded a local authority Heritage Grant. We are starting the very slow process of organising funding and planning permission for the eventual restoration of the upstairs room of the Old Grammar School.

The success of the Museum project (it is managing 3 exhibitions a year and has a data base of 2,000 items and nearly 40 tapes of oral history) means that we do now need some more help. PLEASE if anyone out there can offer a little time, maybe an occasional couple of hours sitting in the Vesey Room exhibitions, or a little technical expertise it would be wonderful. Is there some young person out there who would enjoy making a presentation to go along side the exhibitions using the material we have on the data base? Bampton is a very special village and the Museum is the record of that specialness.

PLEASE HELP.

If you can help, please telephone any of the committee. Jo Lewington Tel: 850947 or Sally Proctor Tel: 850479 or Sally Cooper Tel: 852802.

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OUT OF WORK FARMER - TURNED AGRICULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

By Don Rouse

This 'out of work farmer' is now falling on even harder times. For the last two years I have been a Wox Doc Driver. What on earth is that I can hear you say? Well it is a driver who drives our local Doctors around for the 'Out of Surgery hours' service that we have been enjoying in West Oxfordshire. This was a superb service organised by all the local doctors, but sadly it all comes to an end on 31 August. At the moment of writing this article I am not sure exactly what is going to happen. The information that I have is that if you are taken ill during the night,

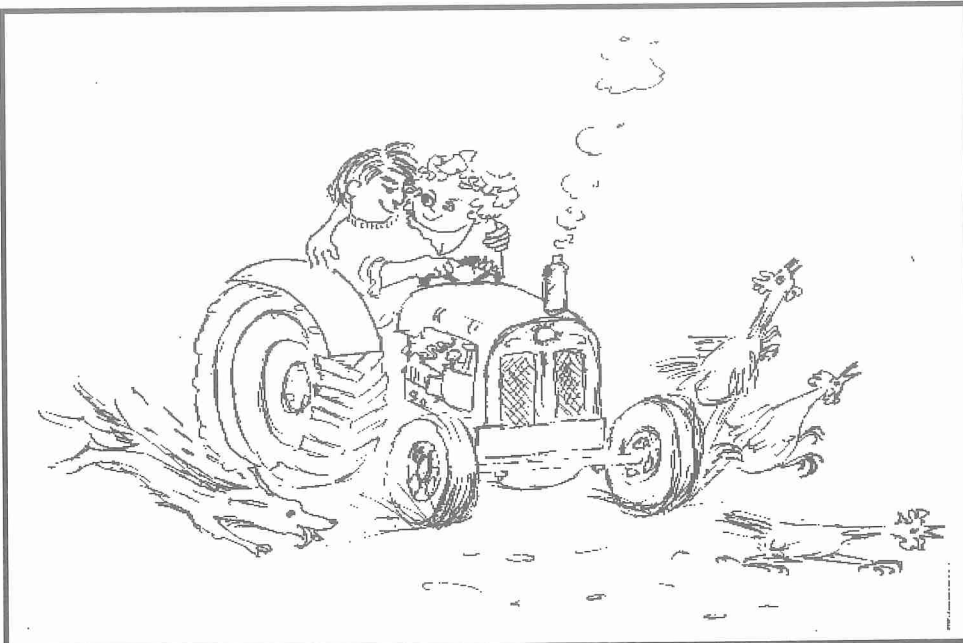
there will be a specific number for you to ring. You will then be given advice as to whether to travel into Abingdon Hospital or take an aspirin! If you really need a visit it could be a paramedic that will visit you, who I am told will be better equipped than our local doctors. I have also been told that our local district nurses are going to be

trained to paramedic standards. Now as some paramedics go around on motorbikes, the fantasy that I am building up in my ever fruitful mind, is that of me being taken ill during the night and one of our beautiful nurses turning up on a Harley Davidson with a spare helmet and whisking me away into the night! What a lovely dream. But I must get back to reality.

I know that it is not part of my remit to go all political, but I hope that our Editor will allow me the occasional bite as sometimes I feel quite strongly about what is happening. Wasn't it nice to be able to vote for our mem-

bers of the EU Parliament recently? We could even register a protest vote if we so required. Seeing as the people who actually run the thing do not have to answer to the electorate at all, I thought that was a pretty good thing. Let us hope that the proposed referendum will take place soon. I know that the last time we had a referendum back in the 1970s. I voted for doing trade with Europe not to be governed by them.

We all enjoy the freedom that living in a rural setting like Bampton gives us, but when you have all the red tape



that the European bureaucracy imposes upon us, along with the political correctness insisted on by this government, then there is no wonder that we feel that we are being stifled to death. What did you make of all this nonsense in Derby, where the teachers of a school were too frightened to take the children on a school trip in case they got sunburnt? Then there was the situation whereby the children could not take cakes to school because the mothers would not have had certificates in food, health and hygiene; add to all that this new problem of child chastisement and you have the recipe

for turning us all into a 'nanny' state. There was none of this when I went to school. Miss Hobbs caned me fifty-three times in three years and I certainly would not have dreamed of going home and telling my parents, as I would have got even more chastisement. Looking around at those people who endured similar altercations with 'Crusty' Owens the rather formidable headmaster of Bampton School, they haven't turned out so bad have they?

I see there is new legislation out to stop farmers polluting the waterways. The practice of allowing cattle and

sheep access to natural water courses; a practice that has been going on since the stone age, must now cease as it is deemed to be polluting the water. What is the problem? Before there were municipal swimming facilities in the area, the people of Bampton and her suburbs like Aston, Clanfield

and Buckland, all went to either Tadpole or Highbridge to bathe. One of Bampton's swimming instructors would even take a bar of soap with her to have a good wash at the same time! Yet sharing the water with us was often a herd of cows; it never did us any harm, and the woman in question lived to a ripe old age. Mind you I am not too sure how long the cows lived for!

It is now law for horses to have passports the same as cattle, with all the same jurisdiction and paperwork to accompany it. I understand that it will stop horses that have been on medica-

tion getting into the food chain as well as thwarting horse thieves. Bring back the medieval deterrent for horse theft say I. They never repeated it! Now the government has details of all the horses, sheep and cattle in the country, their colour, date and place of birth and where they are at any given time, yet they can't seem to keep 'tabs' on the immigrants.

A question that I would like to ask the boffins who are controlling all the farmers and their paperwork is, just how many civil servants does it take to run a 200-acre farm, with 150 cattle, 100 sheep, 2 horses and a pet pig? I would hazard a guess that their annual wage bill would buy the farm three times over. Figures just released quote that civil servants have more time off from work for feigned sickness than any other working groups. The poor farmer they control has no option; no matter how ill he is, he still has to go out and feed his animals because there is nobody else to do it. I know that this government is hell-bent on getting rid of farming as it is costing too much, but it is not the subsidies that are causing the expense; it is the civil servants that are running it. It's a funny Old World.

Wearing my fund raising hat, aren't we lucky to still have some caring farmers in our community, those that we can turn to when ever we need bales of straw, wooden posts or tractor and trailers to help us run our events. It is not just Bampton, no matter where you go in the rural communities you will always find farmers helping out. Long may it carry on.

One of my pet subjects is the utilisation of land for growing oil seed rape for the production of Biodiesel. As such, this fuel is totally a non-pollutant; it costs more to produce than fossil fuel but it does not harm the environment or us. It is widely used on the continent as their governments subsidise the production costs. All it would take to make it viable in this country is for the Government to give back some of the fuel tax. This coming year 10,000 acres will be devoted to fuel production in this country. That is enough fuel for one hundred thousand cars for a year and there is a lot more acres out there.

Have I left you with what might be described as 'Fuel for thought'?

SPAJER'S NEWS

By Don Rouse

SPAJERS' news is all good news this time. At our AGM it was time for lots of changes. The new Officers of the Committee are.

President - Lord Donoughmore.
Chairman - Mark Booty
Vice Chairman - Frank Hudson
Secretary - Roger Snow
Treasurer - Jeff Dando
Pub Relations - Paul McGrath
Publicity - Dave Gardner

Committee members: Josie Buckingham, Dixie Dean, Alan Dunbar, Mathew Green, Stuart Pierce, Steve Radband, Don Rouse, Sheila Tanner, Louise Williams, and two new members, Chris Collett and Jackie Midgeley.

So now you know who to contact if you want any information!

Our Vice-Chairman, Frank Hudson is now into his 17th year of Vice-Chair, after having done 10 years as Chairman. It is our intention to train one of our youngsters for this role next year. Our average age is now younger than ever before and I am full of confidence that the future of the SPAJERS is very secure. The enthusiasm with which they have new ideas is an inspiration to us all.

Our Quiz night was once again a great success with a new team winning the 'Brains of Bampton' trophy. Could the regular success of this event one day make it another of Bampton's great traditions?

The shirt race was definitely the best yet; the weather was good with the turn out the largest yet. We now feel that there is a need to run next year's race as three separate races: juniors, intermediates, seniors.

The standard of fancy dress never ceases to amaze us; it makes the judging very difficult but provides a lot of fun for the crowd. Congratulations to all who took part in making the shirt race such a grand occasion. This year we were honoured to have our MP David Cameron doing the fancy dress judging and presenting the prizes. David thanked everyone who helped, especially the role played by the Police to make our event run so smoothly. The SPAJERS would like to say a big thank you to PC Steve Patrick in particular; the help that Steve gives is not only what you see on the night, but also behind the scenes as well. He attends our meetings, giving his thoughts and advice to make it all run fluently and safely with the minimum disruption to the public. We are so lucky to have such a publicly spirited policeman as our 'Bobby on the Beat'.

Our next fund raising event is the Donkey Derby on Monday 30th August. Needless to say we need your help. We need to produce including cakes, tombola prizes, bric-a-brac, help to run the stalls and man the gates. We need youngsters to ride the donkeys and of course donkey sponsors, but what we need most of all is you to come along and support us on the day.

The Wednesday following the Donkey Derby - that's the 1st September - we are having our annual outing. It is our intention at this stage to take two coach loads of our senior citizens to Poole. If there are any spare seats available after the closing date for our members, we will be selling them for £10 each on a first come first serve basis; just phone me on 850938 for availability.

On a personal note I would like to say thank you to the SPAJERS' committee for the lovely surprise they gave me at the Shirt Race. It was a model of the David Brown Cropmaster tractor that Mary and I did our courting on. It was the only genuine two-seater tractor ever made, and it shows what a canny man my father was! It enabled him to get the maximum working hours from his sons without imposing too much on their private lives. I must admit it was one of those rare occasions when mixing business and pleasure worked well for Mary and I!!

To qualify as a member of the SPAJERS, you need to have reached the national pension age and have lived in Bampton for a minimum of six months. Jeff Dando is the keeper of the list and he can be contacted on 850643. We rely on you to inform us of new members wishing to qualify and also those who have left us for one reason or another.

'Forest Fair 2004'

The highly popular 'Wychwood Forest Fair' will this year be in the delightful setting of Lower Farm, Ramsden, and will run from 12 noon till 5:00pm on Sunday 5th September. It is again being organised by The Friends of Wychwood in support of the Wychwood Project. The Project aims to encourage local people to understand, conserve and restore the rich mosaic of local landscapes and wildlife habitats of the former Royal hunting Forest of Wychwood. Building on last year's success with their highly popular demonstrations, the Rural Crafts Network in West Oxfordshire will be demonstrating and offering visitors the opportunity to 'have a go' at many of these ancient skills. Members of the prestigious Oxfordshire Food Group will be offering their products direct to visitors. These producers provide one of the shortest and environmentally friendly routes to your food table. Craftwork from many local craftspeople will also be on display and for sale. The old historic barn on site will be the venue for the informative Wychwood Project exhibition together with a display of local school children's pictures of 'Veteran Trees'. Terry Wigley, a local professional photographer, will be offering some of his framed prints for sale (all proceeds to the Project).

A story-teller, located within the

greened-over old quarry amongst the ancient walnut trees, will tell stories

of forests and the countryside, sing songs and relate poems of animals and dwellers of forests and other fascinating places.

Hatwell's local funfair, a highly popular attraction, will also be there. Hatwell family connections go back to the days of the great Forest Fairs in Wychwood Forest in the 1850s.

Visit the fundraising stalls of the Friends of Wychwood & associated conservation groups and local history displays, or quench your thirst at the beer stall sponsored by the local Wychwood Brewery, complete with their lovingly restored veteran delivery lorry. Morris dancing teams will entertain with their special traditional style of dancing, and farm animals from Cogges Manor Farm Museum and locally bred cart horses are sure to delight young and old. For a spot of retail therapy, check out the variety of rural and other craft products, and find plants and shrubs for your garden. Scrumptious teas, cakes and other tasty refreshments will help keep your energy levels up during the afternoon in this attractive rural landscape just three miles north of Witney.

Entrance will be £2 for adults and 50 pence for children. Parking will be free.

For more information contact Ken Betteridge, Chairman of the Friends of Wychwood, Tel: 01993 878615.

The Cotton Club Quilters Exhibition

The Gallery, Bampton Town Hall

3rd - 30th August

Tuesdays - Saturdays 10.30-12.30 & 2.00-4.00

Sundays 2.00-4.00

Open Bank Holiday Monday

The Cotton Club Student Quilters are pleased to present their first exhibition of Patchwork & Quilting.

The Cotton Club started 10 week Patchwork courses in October 2003 due to the growing interest in Patchwork & Quilting generated by the shop which is now stocked with an increasing array of colourful 100% cotton fabrics. Linda Kerswill who owns the shop starts the Beginners with a Sampler Quilt learning 9 different techniques of Patchwork by hand. These students have then moved on to one of the Intermediate Classes where they have been constructing a Wall Hanging learning a further 9 techniques.

Students have also attended a number of one day workshops for individual projects i.e. Trip Around the World, Dodecahedron, Snuggly Throw and Log Cabin quilts to name a few. One group of students have been with Linda for three years and have made the Beginners Sampler Quilt, Galaxy of Stars Quilt and a Wall Hanging.

Examples of the above work will be on display at the exhibition. Several items will be work in progress from the newer students.

Gardening Club News

Trophy winners from The Summer Show

Adults

Lady Anne Montague Cup

Overall Points in Show

Mrs Roy Henley

Jack Horne Memorial Cup

Runner up

Mrs Diana Alcock

Irene Hammond Rose Bowl

Roses x 4

Mrs Roy Henley

Raymond Taylor Cup

Single Rose

Mrs Selby

Sydney Constable Cup

Sweet Peas

Diana Alcock

Win Woodley Cup

Busy Lizzie

Annette Minto

Henry Bone Cup

Begonia

Mrs Roy Henley

John Smith Cup

Cucumbers

Mrs E. Quick

Frank Collett Cup

4" Flower Arrangement

Mrs Pat Robson

W.E.D Godwin Cup

Section 4 Overall points

Mr David Saxon

Grace Wiltshire Cup

Section 5 Overall points

Mrs Ellen Parker

Peter Smith Cup

Most Deserving Effort in the show not to have won a prize

Edward Landray

Presidents Cup

Best in Show - Red Roses

Mrs Roy Henley

Children

Peter Rainbow Cup - Under 5 yrs

Isobel Landray

Betty Adams Cup - 6 - 8 years

Alice Landray

Win Woodley Cup - 9 - 13 years

Jonathan Jenkins

Well done to all competitors who took part on the day. Lots of hard work goes into making the show a success. Unfortunately, we have to rely on the weather being kind to us to help our plants and vegetables be ready on

time for the big day, and the weather has not been at its kindest this year so far!

Thanks again to everyone who entered. The next Show is on 11th September, at the Village Hall.

Trips and Holidays

Trips

Sunday 8th August - David Austin Rose Garden, Wolverhampton.

Sunday 5th September - The Garden Show, Shepton Mallet.

Sunday 24th October - Botanical Gardens, London.

Friday 5th November - Bridgewater Carnival Time to be arranged for pick up.

Sunday 21st November - Bull Ring Shopping Centre, Birmingham.

Sunday 12th December - Christmas Market at Bath.

Date to be fixed for Westonbirt Illuminations

Holidays

Friday 29th October to Saturday 30th October
A visit to France - shopping for Christmas...and booze cruise!

Friday 7th January - Monday 10th January
Early New Year Break, Palace Hotel, Paignton. You know the drill by now, get your name on the lists even if you cannot make it nearer the time. Many have suffered disappointments in the past because they did not have their name down early enough.

For further information on the above please contact **Mrs Ellen Parker, 90 Sycamore Drive, Carterton, OX18 3AU or Tel: 01993 843985.**

The Autumn Gardening Club Show

Saturday 11th September

in the

Village Hall

Market Square, Bampton

Registration

Collecting Boxes in Temples and Patrick Strainge's Butcher Shop from 30th August - 8th September

Staging and late entries 9am - 11am

Afternoon Opening 3pm

Prize Giving 3.30pm

Entrance 50p

For extra copies of the Schedule please contact **Fenella Gray Tel: 851653**

The Cookery Corner

By

Emma Deacon

The recipe I have for you is great for summer dinner parties as it is fairly light, zesty and fragrant. It is a lovely tasty treat and is best served in small portions with a crispy green salad and iced water to wash it down.

Ingredients for Pesto

100g shredded fresh basil
125ml extra virgin olive oil

3 tbsp pine kernals

3 garlic cloves crushed

55g freshly grated parmesan

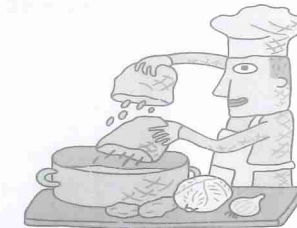
2 tbsp grated cheese e.g. pecorino

2 tbsp cream cheese

salt and pepper

for the rest of the recipe

4 boneless, skinless chicken breasts
350g dried fettucine (pasta)



sprig of basil to garnish

Put all the pesto ingredients into a food processor and blend until chopped finely.

Mean while fry the chicken in a little butter for about ten minutes until cooked inside. Check by cutting into small pieces to check that it is not pink inside.

Cook the pasta in salted water for the appropriate time until 'al dente', Italian for crisp to bite, then drain and mix the pesto and chicken into the fettucine and garnish with wedges of lime to freshen up the pallet.

For dessert....Avocado and citrus ice cream

This may seem quite an unusual combination of ingredients, but when I was experimenting with ice cream recipes I found that this one was beautiful....the avocados were creamy and nutty, great for ice cream, and the citrus fruits added sharpness and freshened it up. A perfect combination. This is my favourite treat for a summer afternoon!

Ingredients

4 egg yolks

115g granulated sugar

grated rind of 1 lime

grated rind of 1 orange

2 egg whites

1½ pints whipping cream

2 ripe avocados

juice of 1 lime

juice of ½ orange

(save the other half of orange to garnish the finished ice cream)

Firstly beat the egg yolks in a heat proof bowl. Then in a saucepan heat the cream and sugar, stirring it until it dissolves. As the cream rises to the top of the pan. remove from the heat. Gently pour the eggs yolks into the cream adding them in small amounts from a height above the saucepan. Allow mixture to cool, stirring occasionally, then chill.

Peel and mash the avocados until smooth. Beat them into the cream and add the rind and juice of the limes and oranges. Then check for sweetness as you may need to add more sugar at this stage, as during freezing it loses sweetness. Pour mixture into a shallow container and freeze until it's slushy. Beat it well as it freezes to stop large ice crystals forming. Whisk the egg whites until softly stiff and fold into the ice cream. Return to the freezer and freeze until firm.

Garnish with segmented oranges, and there you have the perfect refreshment for the warm weather.

Use within four weeks.

WOA Gallery
Market Square
Bampton
Oxon OX18 2JH

Tel: 01993 850137
 westoxarts@yahoo.co.uk



Registered Charity No. 266542

Opening Hours: Tues - Sat 10:30am - 12:30pm and 2pm - 4pm; Sun - 2pm - 4pm
 Membership fees - Single £15, Family £25, Student £7.50.

3 - 30 August

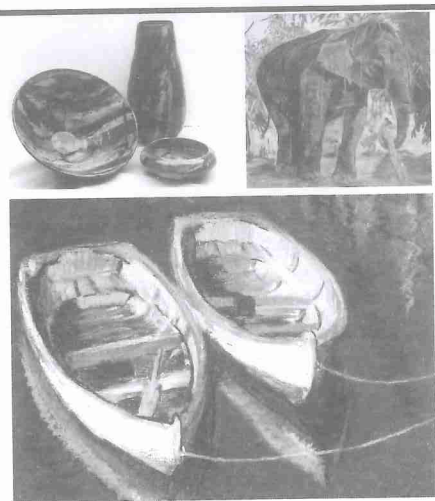
The Cotton Club Quilters

The Cotton Club Quilters present their first exhibition of student's work. See elsewhere in the 'Beam'

5 - 19 September

Reflections

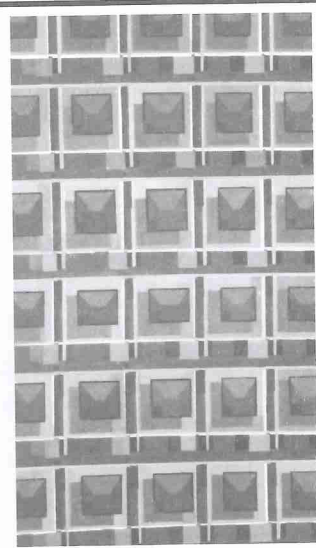
An exhibition of paintings, mixed media, and pottery. Reflecting three artists experience of travel and the natural elements. Featuring Lyn Anderson, Ben Drew, Lesley Williams and Ariana Windle



26 September - 10 October

Ruth Hawkins

Ruth Hawkins exhibits powerful abstract geometric painting and printmaking. She experiments with opposites: order and chaos; rationality and spontaneity. Ruth uses a grid system and creates work using layering and stencilling techniques. This experienced artist, experiments with depth, perspective, movement and colour.



17 - 31 October

Stephen Empson

Steve Empson has travelled extensively, particularly to India, to paint and draw. His work in pastel and paint reflects the tropical light and colours, mainly of the rural south. He sees the gentle way of life that is counter to the hectic struggle, that is almost exclusively portrayed as the Indian way of life. Born in Hartlepool Co. Durham, Stephen Empson developed a strong sense of place from living by the sea and amongst heavy industry. He worked as a landscape architect before becoming a professional artist in 1986.



The Great WOA Stair Lift Appeal Fund

Still a few seats left for this event, and watch this space for our next fund-raising event.

Sunday 1 August

River Cruise Stair-Lift Fundraiser

You are invited along for a gentle summer afternoon River Cruise on the Adventuress, to help raise money for our stair-lift. See the beautiful wildlife and countryside of the Cotswold Thames from the open water.

The roofed boat will depart from the Swan Hotel in Radcot at 3.30-5.30pm and cream teas will be available on board to be included in your donation. Many thanks to our host Alan Mitchell for making this possible. Minimum suggested donation £10 per person.

Then why not round off a perfect afternoon with a glass of Pimms and a Sunday dinner in the lovely pub gardens?

To book please contact Olivia Thornton Tel: 01993 850137 or visit the gallery Tues-Thurs when she will be in to take your booking.

We currently have about £1,500 of our £17,500 target

Welcome to West Ox Arts

West Ox Arts is a registered charity (no. 266542), part-funded by West Oxfordshire District Council and Bampton Parish Council, and staffed by volunteers, except for its part-time administrator.

West Ox Arts is dedicated to

- Promoting participation in and appreciation of the arts and crafts in West Oxfordshire
- Supporting the area's artists and craftspeople

WOA Membership is open to everyone and new members are always welcome.

Benefits include:

- discounts on WOA lectures, life classes and workshops
- invitations to private views
- regular mailings of the WOA events guide
- discounts at local art suppliers
- reduced commission rate for exhibitors

Membership fees Single £15, Family £25, Student £7.50

Administrator Olivia Thornton is usually in the gallery Tues-Thurs 10am -4pm.

Literature Class

WOA runs a literature class with WEA and OUDCE and we bookings are now open for next term

Course title: **The Wounds of Yesteryear**

Term dates: **4 October-13 December**

Time: **Mondays 2.15-4.15pm**

Venue: **Bampton Village Hall** Tutor: **Karen Hewitt**

To book contact: Margaret Bishop T:01993 850412 or for more details.

We will explore how the past influences and informs the future in life and literature through the poetry of Seamus Heaney and novels such as Pat Barkers 'Regeneration' and Graham Swift's 'Last Orders'.

Robert Vesey Room at Bampton Library Exhibitions

9 August to 4 September

Calligraphers

6 September to 30 October

Bampton Museum

The Robert Vesey Room Opening Hours are:

Monday & Thursday 2.30-4.30pm and Wednesday & Saturday 10am-12pm

If you would like to book this exhibition space for a month please contact Ailsa Matheson on 01993 851004. The only charge is 20% commission on sales.

Are you sitting comfortably?

WOA always needs volunteer sitters to look after the exhibitions.

It's a great way to meet like-minded people and to see each exhibition.

If you could spare a couple of hours a month to support WOA in this way then please contact the Administrator Olivia Thornton for the gallery, on 01993 850137.

Or for the Robert Vesey Room, Barbara Daw on 01993 851491.

Workshops

Pastel Workshop with Ariana Windle

Saturday 11 September

Experience the pleasure of working in pastel. For those who have used pastels before. Still life will be provided or bring your own subject.

Venue: Standlake Village Hall

Cost: £25, £20 WOA members

Sunday 3 October

'Roped together like mountaineers' : Picasso, Braque and the 'new expression' of Cubism with Dr Jeremy Gray

An illustrated class to study the origins of one of the foundation styles of 20th century art, from 1907 to 1912.

Venue: In the gallery Time: 6.30pm-8pm. Tickets: £6, £5 WOA members to include a glass of wine.

To book: Contact the administrator 01993 850137 or she is in the gallery Tuesdays - Thursdays

The Big Draw at Cogges Farm Manor Museum and West Ox Arts Gallery

Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 October

Paul Batten hosts a lively drawing workshop for children ages 8+ which will feature the topical theme of animals. The workshop will be followed the next day by a mini-exhibition at West Ox Arts, where the children will have the opportunity to see their work on display in a professional gallery.

Times: 1-3pm Cost: £1.95 for a local child's entry to the farm, workshop and exhibition are free

Life Drawing Classes

There are no life classes during August, back again in September.

Untutored sessions take place in the Gallery

Monday 10am-12.30pm and

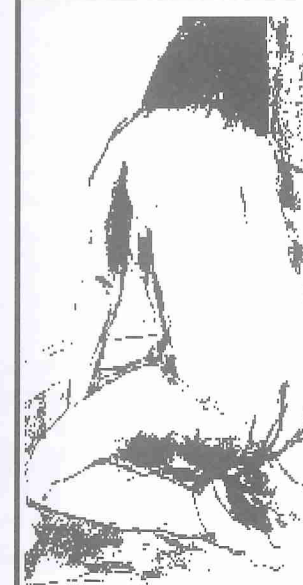
Wednesday 7.30-9.30pm

They are aimed at those who wish to draw without the need for guidance.

These are drop-in sessions, pay as you attend.

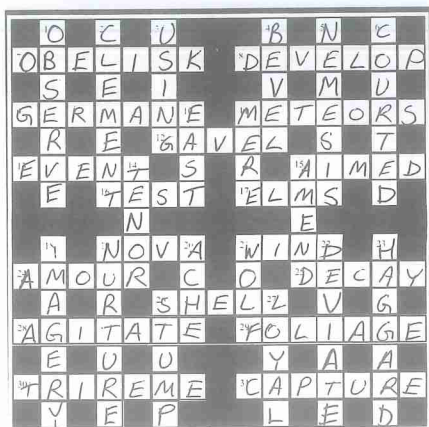
Cost: WOA members £6, non-members £7.50

We are planning a one-day tutored life class in February 2005, so look out for booking details nearer the time.



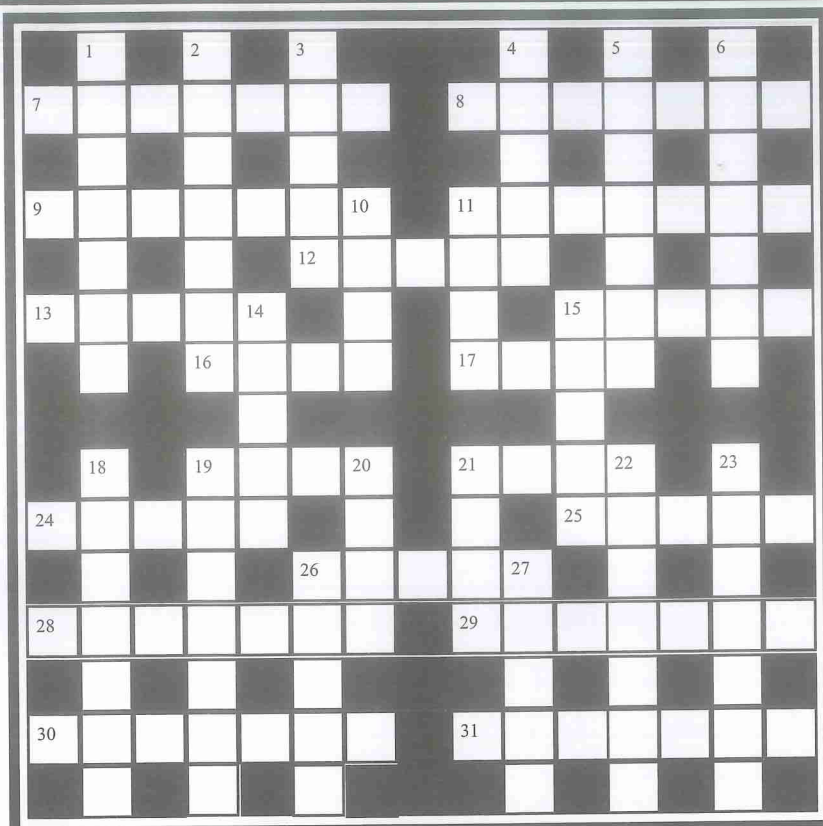
 **If you are interested in the arts and would like to join West Ox Arts please ring the Gallery on 01993 850137 for a membership form or call in during opening hours**

**Solution to the April
BEAM CROSSWORD**



The winner of the April Crossword is: V Watson, 5 Talbot Fields, Bampton, OX18 2AB. Congratulations, the £20 prize is yours!
We would also like to donate £10 to Cancer Research, as a thank you to Bill Govier for producing yet another crossword for 'The Beam'.
For this edition's entry, the prize will revert to £10 - still worth winning!

THE BAMPTON BEAM'S CROSSWORD



CLUES ACROSS

- 7 Mad with rage
- 8 To furnish with money
- 9 To glisten, twinkle
- 11 Large floating mass of frozen water
- 12 Peruvian wool-bearing animal
- 13 Work into a dough
- 15 Fruits of the blackthorn
- 16 A green citrus fruit
- 17 A person or object devoutly admired
- 19 Lofty
- 21 To lounge about
- 24 Male servant at Oxford University
- 25 Not under any condition
- 26 To hold responsible
- 28 Iron baking plate
- 29 Hungarian red pepper
- 30 Kidnaps
- 31 White of an egg

CLUES DOWN

- 1 Characteristic
- 2 Belonging to the day
- 3 Pen made from a feather
- 4 The periwinkle genus
- 5 A weaver bird of the genus estrela
- 6 Bright red colour
- 10 Otherwise
- 11 A body of Zulu warriors
- 14 A finger or toe
- 15 The *****-goose, gannet
- 18 Sacred beetles of the ancient Egyptians
- 19 Monotonous, commonplace
- 20 Healthy, robust
- 21 A source of artificial light
- 22 Timid, anxious
- 23 Harassed a speaker
- 26 Violent and sudden attack (esp. from the air)
- 27 Before the usual time

Town Hall Bookings

For Town Hall bookings contact Mrs B. Sapsford Tel: 850776.
Town Hall keys to be collected from Londis shop.

**The Bampton Beam
Adverts**

Why not give your local business a lift?

**Advertise in
'The Beam'**

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**Sale Starts
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**Patchwork Exhibition
Town Hall
3rd - 30th August**

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Calendar of Events

August

- 3rd – 30th Patchwork Exhibition, Cotton Club, Town Hall
 8th Outing, Gardening Club, David Austin Rose Gardens, Market Square, 9am
 19th – 21st Bampton Fair, Market Square and High Street
 28th Don Giovanni's Gazzaniga, Bampton Classical Opera, The Orangery Terrace, Westonbirt School, Gloucestershire
 30th Donkey Derby, SPAJERS, Sandfords, 2pm

September

- 1st Annual Outing, SPAJERS, Poole
 4th Coffee Morning, In aid of JR Coronary Care Unit, Village Hall, 10 – 12noon
 5th Outing, Gardening Club, Garden Show, Shepton Mallet, Market Square, 9am
 5th Wychwood Forest Fair, Lower Farm, Ramsden
 11th Autumn Show, Gardening Club, Village Hall
 11th – 12th West Oxfordshire Weekend, Various Locations
 12th Nicklas Martin Concert, Windmill Barn, Clanfield, 2.30pm
 16th Don Giovanni's Gazzaniga, Bampton Classical Opera, St John's Smith Square, London
 18th Autumn Sale, Cancer Research, The Village Hall 10am – 12noon

October

- 24th Outing, Gardening Club, Botanical Gardens at Kew, Market Square, 9am
 30th Cabaret Evening, Bampton Classical Opera, Village Hall

November

- 5th Outing, Gardening Club, Evening Trip Bridgewater Carnival
 17th Pre-Christmas Bingo, Cancer Research, Village Hall
 21st Outing, Gardening Club, Bullring Shopping Centre, Market Square, 9am

December

- 3rd Quiz Night, Cancer Research, Village Hall
 5th Carol Singalong, Methodist Chapel, Romany Inn, 8pm
 12th Outing, Gardening Club, Christmas Market, Bath, Market Square, 9am
 17th Country & Western Dance, Cancer Research, Social Centre, Carterton

THE BAMPTON BEAM

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Contributions are always welcome and should be sent to: **The Editor, The Bampton Beam, c/o The Cotton Club, Bridge Street, Bampton, OX18 2HA.**

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

The Beam Team wishes to thank

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

Also thanks to the **Parish Council** and all of our **advertisers** for their financial support each year. If you wish to have *The Bampton Beam* posted to yourself or a relative or friend on a regular basis, please send your name, address and cheque (made payable to The Bampton Beam) to: The Bampton Beam, Subscriptions, c/o The Cotton Club, Bridge Street, Bampton, Oxon OX18 2HA.

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