

THE BAMPTON BEAM

April 2002

Volume 17, No.1

Parish Council and District Council Elections 2nd May 2002

Elections take place this year for Parish and District Councils.

In Bampton there are 11 members of the Parish Council. You can therefore put an **X** on your ballot paper *against the names of up to 11 candidates* whom you would like to see on the Bampton Parish Council.

For the West Oxfordshire District Council, the Bampton Ward has been expanded to include Clanfield and Black Bourton, and its size is such that we will now have *two* councillors to represent us instead of the one as at present.

Therefore you can put an **X** *against the names of up to 2 candidates* for the District Council.

With having two District Councillors under the new arrangement, and similar to the County Council Elections, after the 2002 election, only one of the Bampton Ward seats will come up at any one time for election. This

means that there will be another election in 2003 for one of the two seats being contested this year.

What will happen is that the successful candidate with the fewer number of votes in this year's election will only serve for one year, with the seat being re-contested in 2003 - the successful candidate here serving until 2007. The successful candidate with the higher number of votes in this year's election will run the full term until 2006.

If you would like a postal vote because you will be away or are infirm or unable to get to the Polling Station, please contact **Jonathan Phillips Tel: 850321** who will give you the appropriate form to send to the District Council by Wednesday 24th April 2002.

If you have children at University who are on the Electoral Roll here make sure they have a postal vote.

This is your chance to vote - the citizens of some other countries are not as lucky as us, in that we do at least have free and fair elections - so please do take the opportunity. And it is important to have the right people to represent *your* interests on the local councils.

YOUR VOTE can make a difference.

A Skateboard Park for Bampton?

By Alan Dunbar

If you have read the minutes of the recent Parish Council meetings, you may have noticed that a team has been formed to look at the feasibility of installing a Skateboard Park somewhere in the Village.

The Parish Council is very keen to install a Skateboard Park, since it would enhance the amenities available to the children, and experience elsewhere shows that such a development produces real positive impact for the community as a whole.

The team which has been set up comprises members of the Parish Council, parents and children, with the police also being represented by PC Steve Patrick.

The initial studies and visits made by the team have concluded that the best location would be in the Recreation Ground, and a preliminary design has been developed on this basis for costing purposes. Obviously funding will be the key issue, but with the availability of grants, fund raising by the children, and support from the Parish Council, there is hope that the project can be seen through to fruition in the not too distant future.

Watch this Space!

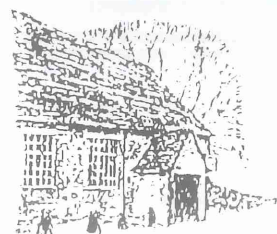
Bampton Riddle

What has 4 arms, 4 legs, 4 wheels,
two white sticks, and 1 eye?
Turn to page 21 to find out!

1932! 2002? We hope not!



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. Modern toilet facilities.

Lettings Officer: Mrs L Higman
14 Glebelands, Bampton.
Tel: 01993 851380

BAMPTON VILLAGE HALL

The Annual General Meeting will take place in the Village Hall at 8pm on Monday, 22nd April 2002.

All residents of Bampton over the age of 18 are entitled to attend and vote.

The 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 necessary.

The Hall is continuing to be used on a regular basis by many organisations in Bampton. In February, Oxfordshire Touring Theatre Company performed 'Arthur - the Sword & the Legend' to a capacity audience who thoroughly enjoyed the evening. Their production of 'The Little Prince' has already been booked by WOA for Friday, 21st February 2003!

It is hoped that the Hearing Loop/Sound System will be installed shortly. The Committee is grateful to Bampton Parish Council for their grant of £500 towards this project. West Oxfordshire District Council has also been approached for a similar grant. An estimate has been obtained for the renewal - sanding and re-sealing - of the wooden floor in the main hall. This will cost £1,800 plus VAT and will be carried out in August when bookings tend to be reduced.

BAMPTON '250' CLUB

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

List of Winners

NOVEMBER	£25	221	Mrs V Collett	Talbot Fields
	£15	023	Mr J Wheeler	Bowling Gr Close
	£15	200	Mr Sapsford	Church Street
	£15	080	Mrs M Chaundy	Pembroke Place
DECEMBER	£100	207	Dr A Gaydon	Broad Street
	£25	235	Miss J Rogers	The Lanes
	£15	087	Mrs N Jenkins	New Road
	£15	122	Mrs J Thomas	Lew
	£15	195	Mr A Grout	Bridge Street
JANUARY	£25	137	Mrs I Layfield	Calais Dene
	£15	248	Mrs P Broughton	Chetwynd Mead
	£15	074	Dean Newland	Minster Lovell
	£15	140	Miss E Tanner	Bowling Gr Close
FEBRUARY	£25	147	Wendy Radband	Colville Close
	£15	004	Mr F Lomas	Bowling Gr Close
	£15	139	Mr M Davis	Calais Dene
	£15	247	Mrs C Hawcutt	Broad Street

The final draw for 2001/2002 - the £250 prize - will take place at the Village Hall AGM on Monday, 22nd April. The 2002/2003 year starts in April and if you would like a ticket in the popular local lottery, please put your name on the list at the Post Office.

BLOOD DONOR SESSION CANCELLED

By Susan Phillips

There have been Blood Donor Sessions in Bampton Village Hall for a number of years which have been very well supported by local people. Recently the number of sessions per year has risen from 2 to 3 and dates are booked well in advance - 8th March, 22nd July and 25th November 2002.

The Lettings Officer received a letter of confirmation for the 8th March and the secretary received the 18 posters to be put up in Bampton, Aston, Clanfield and Black Bourton as normal. A week later a second set of posters was received, this time giving the venue as Aston Village Hall, but with the same date. When the secretary, Susan Phillips, telephoned the Oxford Centre to say there had been a mistake, she was told that there had been a change of venue as Bampton Village Hall was not up to the required standards. There was no consultation with the Management Committee and neither the secretary nor the Lettings Officer had been informed of the change. The letter cancelling the booking was received on the 6th March with no apology or explanation.

Bampton Village Hall is a much more convenient location than Aston Village Hall for volunteers wishing to give blood. If the facilities were not considered up to the standards now required for this purpose, why was the Committee not consulted and given the opportunity to make improvements if possible?

Since this article was written, the Oxford Blood Donor Centre has written to Susan and apologised for their mistake.

GRAND PLANT SALE

Monday June 3rd

Eagle House, Church View, with kind permission of Mr. and Mrs. Page.

Please save a few plants for us and bring them on or before the day. And don't forget that those garden plants that are growing like weeds in your garden may be just what someone else has been looking for, so PLEASE pot them up for us.

Bampton Methodist Chapel

By Linden Burley

Social and Fund-Raising

June 29th: This is the date for the combined Coffee Morning and Garden Party. 2 pm - 4 pm. in the Chapel and gardens. Please make a note on your calendar.

All Age Worship

March 24th will be a very special service. Martin will be dedicating various items in memory of church members who are no longer with us. It is also the Chapel anniversary, so we will be inviting the pupils from Bampton Primary School to come along and help with the service. It is hoped that relatives will join us for this service.

April 28th we will be holding a Seeker Service. This is a completely new concept for us, so please support.

The Drop-In

The Drop-in is experiencing many problems. If anyone can help in anyway PLEASE contact Hazel. The Monday Drop-in is so important, it would tragic if it had to close.

The Methodist Singers

There will be Sing-along evenings in March and April. See below for dates.

The Blessed Bees

Fortunately, this monthly meeting will continue under the guidance of Tessa. Just like the Drop-in, it provides a valuable service. Many parents of young children are unable to worship on Sunday mornings, so this monthly fellowship is most welcome.

Senior Steward

Phil Shaw wishes to relinquish this office. If you would like to take over the position, or take on one or two aspects of the job, then please let Phil know.

FUTURE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

April 10th - House Group Meeting -7.30 p.m. - 18 The Springs, Witney

April 18th - Sing-along -7.30 p.m. - Methodist Church, Bampton

April 24th - Sing-along -7.30 p.m. - Methodist Church, Bampton

April 28th - Seeker Service - 11 a.m. - Methodist Church, Bampton

May 9th - Church Council Meeting -7.30 p.m. - Methodist Church, Bampton

The Burford Singers

Conductor: Brian Kay

Presents

Haydn - Nelson Mass Duruflé - Requiem

Rachel Nicholls (Soprano)

Arlene Rolph (Mezzo)

John Crayford (Tenor)

Richard Burkhard (Bass)

The Cotswold Chamber Orchestra

Good Friday, 29th March 2002

Burford Parish Church

Tickets £15 and £10

(students £7.50, £5)

from the Burford Gallery,

High Street Burford

Tel: 01993 822305

Magpie Lane Concert

Magpie Lane, a highly talented local group of musicians, are making their fourth appearance in Bampton. The concert will be the start of a long weekend of festivities in Bampton to celebrate the Queen's Golden Jubilee.

The Friends of St. Mary's

Presents

MAGPIE LANE

in Concert

Friday 31st May 2002

8.00 p.m. to 10.00 p.m.

in

St. Mary's Church, Bampton

Tickets £8.00 each are available from The Elephant and Castle, Bampton; Temples, Bampton; Church Green Books, 46 Market Square, Witney; or David Rose Tel: 01993 850214

The Secret Gardens of Bampton

By Ian McLintock

Following the success of the Open Gardens in 2000, it has been decided to repeat the event this summer on Sunday 30th June from 2pm to 6pm. We hope to have a representative mix of all of the different types of garden in the Village, ranging from the immaculately tended garden of the 7 day-a-week enthusiasts to the much less well-kept gardens that most of us have. Every garden has something of interest to offer and we're looking for as wide a variety as possible, of all standards, shapes and sizes. The only qualification required is that you are willing to open your garden to help raise money on behalf of the Friends of St Mary's.

The event will centre on the Town Hall, where visitors will be able to buy their tickets, collect a map and, afterwards, have a cup of tea, and perhaps purchase a plant or 2 from the plant stall. To make the event even more interesting, the route has been planned to pass a number of historical landmarks in the Village and the map and notes will point these out and provide further information. Forget watching garden makeovers on the telly, and come and see the real thing, and learn about the history of Bampton at the same time.

If you would like to take part, in what should be great fun, contact either Ian McLintock, 1 Weald Manor Cottages Tel: 850736 or Jonathon Phillips, Haytor, Lavender Square Tel: 850321.

Easter Church Services

St Mary's

Friday 29th March

Good Friday Liturgy 10am.

Family Service 4pm.

Saturday 30th March

Vigil Service 8pm.

Sunday 31st March

Easter Day Service 10.30am.

Methodist Chapel

Easter Day Service 11am.

BAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

By David Hawkins, Chairman, Bampton Parish Council

Village College

Ms Anna Pitt, Outreach Co-ordinator at Abingdon College, has briefed the Council on the very attractive learning packages that can be run in Bampton at very low or even free cost. Basic computer courses are an obvious choice to start the College rolling. Lap-top computers would be provided, the starter course of 3 to 6 hours would be free and all ages over 16 would be welcome. The Council are prepared to provide a room in the Town Hall. Anyone interested in joining the classes or who just wishes to know more about them, please telephone, or call into the library, and speak to Jan who will be co-ordinating the project.

Support for the Post Office

Readers will be aware that the Parish Council fully support all the Bampton shops and services, and the opening of the new gardening shop in the High Street opposite the Morris Clown, plus the new solicitor's office in the Market Square, is a cause for celebration after recent closures. However, the Council feels that we could be doing much more to ensure that long established services, such as the Post Office, don't come under threat. I have obtained a breakdown of how the Post Office obtains its income in the hope that residents will think again about how they pay their bills, buy licences, collect pensions or cash. The Post Office receives the following for each transaction:

Each Pension cashed	13p
TV Licence purchased	27p
Motor Vehicle Licence	55p
Post Order purchased	7p
Payment of bill – phone	15p
Gas	9p
Council Tax	19p
Swipe Cards	11p
Personal Banking	4p to 18p
Foreign Currency order	£1.12
National Savings	29p
Please do use your Post Office for all	

these transactions. If you don't, you know the saying:

'Use them or Lose them'.

Town Hall – Lift for Disabled

Joint attempts by WOA and the Parish Council to get a lift installed in the Town Hall to enable disabled persons to visit the upstairs gallery, have yet again failed to get planning permission. The District council want a lift built from the Ladies WC entrance, whereas we wish to construct it from the small Council Chamber. This could run and run.....

Parking on Pavements

The Council have had several complaints about illegal car parking on the pavements at the entrance to Cheyne Lane, by the butchers, whilst the car owners use the cash point or do their shopping. We have asked OCC Highways Department to install short bollards either side of the lane's entrance to stop this dangerous practice.

Dog Fouling

Several complaints have been received recently about dogs fouling footpaths and pavements with owners risking fines of up to £1000 for not clearing up afterwards. It would appear that a few owners are working on the principle that if nobody is watching, then why bother to pick up the smelly droppings? Why not let other residents walk the mess along the pavement back into their houses! Please keep an eye open for these inconsiderate owners and report them to either myself (851066) or to the Parish Clerk (850776). Try and get a second witness so that we can prosecute.

Golden Jubilee Celebrations

A full programme of events is being planned for Tuesday 4th June: Bell ringing, a church service, unveiling of the new mosaic, plus a full afternoon of sport and races for children of all

ages should get the day going. Private street parties or barbecues will start the evening celebrations and the free barn dance planned to take place in the Market Square in the evening will end an enjoyable day. Remember, that if you want a street party, you must organise the event, including arranging a street closure order (tel: Ms Harrison – 01869 241144 for the necessary forms and allow 6 weeks). The full programme of events is included in this edition. Remember, also, that Bampton's traditional Morris Dancing weekend is 1st to 3rd June.

Council Tax Increases

Whilst your Parish Council has managed to reduce the Parish tax by 3% for 02/03, we have heard that the County Council will be increasing their tax by 9.8%. We look forward to a much improved service from the County.

Skate Board Park: The committee set up by Alan Dunbar to look at providing a skatepark for our children has visited all the West Oxon skateparks to gain valuable information. At this early stage, it looks as if we will need to raise just over £30,000. Since the Parish Council can only contribute a very small amount, we will be looking to our residents for help. Please call Alan Dunbar (850207) or myself (851066) if you would like to pledge a contribution.

OSCA Success

The Parish Council were awarded an Oxfordshire Special Conservation Award + £400 at a ceremony at County Hall in mid November in recognition of the excellent landscaping at the Recreation Ground. With some 10,000 trees and shrubs, plus the trim track, now well established, the many hours of planning the scheme have paid off. The money will be put towards the skate park.

Market Square Improvements

Meetings have been taking place to consider Phase 2 of the improvement programme. Phase 2 aims to have the whole area resurfaced, the walkways paved and parking spaces increased and better marked. Entrances will be

WODC

By Jonathan Phillips District Officer

Farmers' Market Monday 6th May 2002

The Pumpkin Club has agreed to invite the Farmers' Market Stallholders to take part in the traditional Street Fair on the May Day Bank Holiday. Many people come to Bampton for this occasion which should encourage the stall holders to accept. It is proposed to have the Farmers' Market in Lavender Square. If it proves successful, perhaps other dates can be arranged. Watch out for posters.

New Bus Timetables

Although the new No 19 bus route operated by Thames Travel is far from ideal, it was fortunate for Bampton that the County Council was able to

persuade another operator to take up this route when Stagecoach failed to renew its contract. The No 18 bus to Oxford continues to provide a useful service. If you have any problems with the new timetable, please let Jonathan Phillips have your views in writing so that he can take them up with the authorities and hopefully improvements can be made.

Thames Travel has already been asked to make the Town Hall stop in the lay-by between Temples and Wheelgate House away from Londis and the roundabout. As the No 19 bus no longer goes along the Aston Road past Ampney Orchard, Chetwynd Mead, Mercury Close & Court could those residents make their way to Mount Owen Road by the entrance to Talbot Fields and hail the bus there? After all it is a Hail & Ride service. Your views would be appreciated.

A BAMPTON MUSEUM?

By Jo Lewington

A small group has been formed hoping to start a Bampton Museum, or at least an archive where old photographs, written bits of history or even recordings could be stored for future reference. The inspiration for this came from the publication of Freda Bradley's memoirs and John Blair's book on Bampton folklore. They made us think how special Bampton is and how proud we are of belonging to it. It also made us think how important it is that we have somewhere to keep all its bits of social history so that they don't disappear out of the village. The Museum Group hopes to have 3 exhibitions each year of whatever materials they collect either on loan or as gifts. These exhibitions will be held in the Vesey Room at Bampton Library and will be announced in advance in **The Bampton Beam**. We have provisionally decided on the following exhibitions:

June 2002: Bampton Celebrations and The Shirt Race

October 2002: Bampton and Agriculture

February 2003: Bampton Shops and Pubs

June 2003: Morris Dancing.

If anyone has further ideas, or has photographs or anything they would

be happy to have in the exhibitions, please contact either Jan at the library, or Jo Lewington, or the Beam Team. The success of the exhibitions depends on what Bamptonians can come up with!

The first exhibition planned we feel is very appropriate, since the Shirt Race came into existence in 1953 to celebrate the Queen's coronation, and is therefore celebrating its own Jubilee this year. If anyone has photographs they would like to lend or give to the new Bampton archive please contacted Fred or Fenella Gray (telephone number at the back of the 'Beam'), Jo Lewington (850947), or Jan at the library. All donations to the Museum will be logged on the computer so that there should be a thorough record of what we have and who gave or loaned it. In this way, if future historians or friends of Bampton, or people looking up family history want to see anything we have, they will be easily accessed.

These are early days for this project. There are all sorts of ideas for other exhibitions, agricultural life, the railway, childhood etc., etc. If anyone has any ideas for future exhibitions or would be willing to help, please get in touch with any of the 'Beam Team'.

OXFORD
DOUBLE GLAZING
Established 1964

Simple, Straightforward Advice

Buying double-glazing need not be complicated! Let us advise you on windows, doors, conservatories, patio doors, sash windows and secondary glazing - no pressure, no obligation.

Call (01865) 517200

E-mail: info@oxforddoubleglazing.com
www.oxforddoubleglazing.com

Opening hours:

9.30 - 5.30 Monday to Friday
10.00 - 4.00 Saturday

Showroom

3 South Parade, Summertown, Oxford OX2 7JL



GREY GABLES GARAGE

CURBRIDGE, WITNEY, OXON OX18 7PD

Telephone
01993 702609
Fax
01993 774169

NEW SKODA



DEALER

New & Used Cars
of other makes available

MOT and garage repairs

Garden Trading Company

Bushey Row, High Street,
Bampton, OX18 2JU

Tel: 01993 853900
Fax 01993 852606

Contemporary garden accessories and gifts

(as supplied by us to Conran,
Heal's, Harrods, Fortnum & Ma-
son, National Trust, John Lewis
and House of Fraser)

*Beautiful fresh hand-tied
bouquets every weekend*

e-mail
sales@gardentrading.co.uk

www.gardentrading.co.uk

The Morris Clown A True Free House

A better quality insult from your hosts

Over 100 Guest Beers a Year
Tom and Steve
High Street, Bampton,
CAMRA Member Since 1997
(Campaign for Real Ales)
Proud not to do Food!

Darts
Aunt Sally
Bar Billiards
Licensed Integral Function Room

Enjoy the contemporary atmosphere and Moulin Rouge Décor of this old coaching inn, which is to only pub we know to have fully absorbed the principle of the emancipation of the fairer sex, with having the ladies' toilet outside! The gents of course is inside in the warm!

BAMPTON FAX BUREAU

Call in and send a fax message or
ask for details of special schemes
at

Emmie's NEWS AGENTS

Bridge St. Bampton
Tel: 850467
Newspapers delivered anywhere in
Bampton

COTSWOLD ELECTRONICS

TV, Video, Audio
& Microwave Repairs
FREE ESTIMATES
No Call-Out Charge
Also Low-Cost TV Rental

P. Holman
22 Burswin Road, Carterton
Tel: 01993 845776

LONDIS

MARKET SQUARE, BAMPTON

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

UNTIL 10PM

YOUR FRIENDLY COMMUNITY SHOP
AT YOUR SERVICE

ELECTRICAL METER KEYS CHARGED • NATIONAL LOTTERY • TOP UP MOBILE PHONE CARDS
'ET VOILA' FRENCH BREAD BAKED ON THE PREMISES • FRESH FRUIT & VEGETABLES
FRESH MILK & CREAM • FREE RANGE EGGS • WINES, SPIRITS, BEERS & CIDER
COOKED MEATS & BACON • FROZEN FOOD & GROCERIES • POSTAGE STAMPS • VIDEO HIRE

OPEN EVERY SUNDAY UNTIL 10PM
BANK HOLIDAYS UNTIL 10PM

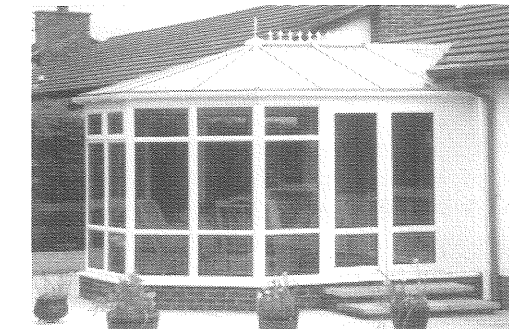
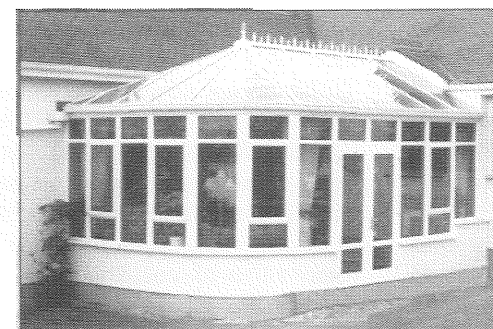
WE DO NOT CLOSE FOR LUNCH

Lynwood Leisure Buildings Ltd.

Suppliers and Installers

of

Conservatories, Windows, Doors
Garden Buildings



Failed Glass doesn't mean new Windows
Replacement Glass supplied and fitted
Call us on 01993 842257

LETTERS and E-MAILS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor

The latest issue of the Beam is good, as usual, but why the decline in topical village matters published in letters? Is this because of declining contributions, or because the letters page is hosting family history issues and web site enquiries? I last submitted two letters but neither was published so I try again!

An important forthcoming event is the Parish Council Election held every four years. Historically, Bampton has often not had enough candidates, hence, no election. An election does not take place with the exact number of candidates as the seats are filled by default. But, by having more than enough candidates, Bampton has another opportunity to take an interest in selecting its Parish Council by a vote and, equally, to support Councillors seeking re-election.

Bampton faces many pressures such as traffic, speculative development and environmental matters of all sorts - including the regeneration and maintenance of the village centre. In addition there are lots of unseen and mundane day-to-day issues.

We are fortunate to have a balanced and hardworking Parish Council that has consistently tackled much of this. Sadly, few, if any, people attend the monthly meetings or the AGM to support the Council, or to see what is going on. I am sure we will all suffer one way or another if we don't support its good work. Please support our Parish Council and our individual Councillors who are unpaid and give freely of their time, effort and expertise.

I trust that one of the first jobs of the new Council will be to press for update and refurbishment of the Traffic Calming scheme. We are reaching the known point where the scheme needs this because of district traffic growth and our pivotal location this side of the Thames. I feel we should waste no time investigating solid chicanes for the Buckland Road, High Street and Aston Road plus stronger calming measures in Clanfield Road and Broad Street. As the ex-

Councillor managing traffic calming, I am convinced this would greatly help protect and improve the commercial and envi-

ronmental needs of Bampton.

Yours faithfully
Roger Howard
2 Fleur De Lys
High Street, Bampton

Dear Sir

I am sure that you and many others, will have read in Issue No103 of the West Oxfordshire Observer Councillor Phillips' recent District Council Report and in particular the item entitled 'Further Support for Rural Business'.

Lest you should think that that running a small rural business is now a bed of roses and subsidised at every turn, I should like to explain in a little more detail how District Council's rate relief policy works.

Last year I received a form inviting me to apply for Mandatory Rural Rate Relief. I completed my form and submitted it, only to receive a very polite letter in return, advising me that my shop did not meet the necessary criteria to qualify. (As I completed the form, it did not occur to me that only one Bampton business could qualify under their criteria and even then I wonder if it would have done!). It also suggested that I might apply for Discretionary Rural Rate Relief and enclosed the appropriate application form. Not unsurprisingly, I read that form and decided to complete it.

I shan't bore your readers with a detailed analysis of this second application form, which I did complete and return to the District Council recently. I am also fairly certain that my shop will fail to meet the criteria necessary for their Discretionary Relief. I will also say that the form itself rankled, as it is entirely means tested and I have never before gone cap in hand to anyone but the Bank Manager, and at least there I have always been treated as businessman rather than beggar!

But never mind: Government and Local Government have done their job (admirably) in offering these Rate Reliefs, their consciences are salved and the general public can rest assured that everything possible has been done to assist those few rural busi-

nesses that still survive. I think I need make no further comment!

Yours faithfully,
Adrian J. Simmonds.

The following is a copy of the answer to a letter published in December's Beam, regarding the new low-cost houses in Pembroke Place.

Dear Mrs Walsgrove

I write further to the letter that you had printed in the December 2001 edition of the Bampton Beam in an attempt to try and provide you with some of the information that you have not received as a result of your approaches to the Council.

You do seem to have been given a number of application forms to complete when in fact there has not been a material change in your circumstances. I am sorry that this has happened, in our defence I can only say that reception staff are advised to err on the side of caution in that if there may be a possibility of a change in circumstances, they do give out an amendment form rather than not because of the risk that otherwise some new vital piece of information may be missed.

The last application form that you completed was in connection with the Do It Yourself shared ownership scheme being operated by Sovereign Housing Association but as you now know, funding for this particular scheme is very limited and priority is given to housing applicants in greater housing need than yourselves.

Under the Council's allocations policy, you are only eligible for two points for having an assured shorthold tenancy and so you are not very highly placed on the general waiting list.

The housing scheme at Pembroke Place is owned by Oxford Citizens Housing Association. They are currently constructing two houses that will be available for sale on a shared ownership basis and four one bedroomed flats to rent. To be considered for these properties, it is necessary to have a local connection with Bampton and so you are eligible. You are registered on the waiting list for these dwellings.

The Council will be nominating persons for consideration by the housing association in due course. If there are

more applicants than there are properties, priority will be given according to the number of points awarded to each application for housing need. We have been advised that they will be ready for allocation in approximately March next year and so around that time, we should be in a better position to tell you what your chances are.

Yours sincerely
L Y SHERRATT
HEAD OF HOUSING SERVICES
WODC, 26 Church Green, Witney

Dear Editor

I am writing to thank everyone who gave us their best wishes and support during the time we were trying to secure one of the new houses in Pembroke Close, and a particularly big Thank You to Mr Darren Spencer of the Housing Association, who gave us such a lot of help.

I am absolutely delighted to be able to tell you that we have been allocated one of the houses, and hope to move in very soon.

Again, a big thank you to all, and we are really just so looking forward to coming back to my home village to live.

Yours sincerely
Jenny Walsgrove

Dear Mr Gray

Thank you for your letter dated 10 November which has unfortunately only just reached me. I would like to stress that HSBC remains committed to supporting the needs of the rural community and Bampton in particular. The proposed change to our opening hours is prompted by some internal needs and should certainly not be interpreted as an intention to reduce further our representation in the area. Indeed we have carefully assessed the impact on our customers and have ensured that the reduced hours will have minimal impact.

We are pleased to be the last remaining financial institution to deliver a service in Bampton and we have reinforced our service this year through the installation of the ATM. Its utilisation indicates that it has been well received.

Please be assured that there is no intention to reduce our opening hours further at this stage although, as you rightly point out, our ability to con-

tinue servicing your community is dependent upon the extent to which the service is used. With this in mind I trust that you and your fellow customers will continue to take full advantage of the branch and the services it offers.

Yours sincerely
Philip Sims
Area Manager
H5BC Bank plc
65 Cornmarket Street, Oxford OX1 3HY

Dear Editor

Your readers may like to know that the SPAJERS plan to make their Donkey Derby and Fete even more exciting than ever before. There will be the traditional activities including the donkey races, amusements for children, and all sorts of stalls offering things to buy, (e.g. books, white elephant, produce) and games to play, (e.g. coconut shy, roll-a-penny, bottle stall, etc.). To make some of these stalls better than ever, we are looking for items to sell. Any help in this will be much appreciated.

We are prepared to collect items from people's homes (ring 850231 or 850297 to arrange a collection time).

As examples we are looking for: Children's toys (must be in reasonable condition).

Ornaments, glass and china.
Jewellery.

Small items of furniture.
Pictures.

Any produce for the produce stall.

Our Fete may even be a help to your readers who are moving house and having a good clearout; or to those whose children have outgrown their toys. Your readers will know that all the proceeds go to making life a little more comfortable or interesting for our pensioners. The Donkey Derby and Fete will be, as usual, on Bank Holiday Monday August 26th at 2p.m. Please ask your readers to help if they can.

Yours sincerely
The Earl of Donoughmore
President of the SPAJERS.
THE MANOR HOUSE, BAMPTON

Dear Mrs Gray,

It is fascinating to read in Freda Bradley's excellent book, Bampton 'How it was' of how the place used to be. At

the same time I cannot help wondering what it will be like in the future. On page 13 of the previous issue of The Beam we are told that Bampton has not been designated for further housing development at least for the time being. Good news for those who do not want Bampton to expand beyond its present boundary. Yet on page 2 of that same issue Jonathan Phillips is calling for 'many more' low cost houses and possibly a business park. Homes and jobs are important but where are they to go? Who will welcome a business park on their doorstep? We need a proper debate about these issues and a good place to start is in the pages of The Beam.

It is an ironic comment on how we organise our lives as a society that the new flats in Market Square, built in the face of local opposition, are not easily attracting buyers and yet had low-cost homes been built there they would immediately have been over-subscribed.

Another subject where I should like to see a debate is that of street lighting. A further street light has recently been installed in Weald Street in a rural location well away from the centre of the village. Street lighting in a rural setting seems unnecessary and inappropriate. Did anyone ask for it and was there any consultation? We need to guard against this creeping urbanisation of Bampton.

To return to Mrs Bradley's book I see that although Bampton is referred to as a village on the cover, Don Rouse in his preface calls it a town, thus highlighting a common confusion. Bampton was certainly once a town and has a Town Hall but it also has a Village Hall and is smaller than Eynsham, which I have only ever heard described as a village. So perhaps we can all agree that Bampton is a village, at least until we get the extra housing, business park and street lighting everywhere when even I might be willing to describe it as a town!

Yours sincerely
Geoff Soames

Dear Editor

I have many fond memories of Bampton, having lived there for 25 years with my husband Ray, who sadly passed away in September. We retired

to Weymouth nearly 7 years ago. We always did a stall in the square, known as Cooks Corner, also one on Morris day. My youngest son, Alistair (known as Fred), is a keen morris dancer and musician. We had a small-holding in Buckland Road and kept geese, ducks, chickens and Bantams, and, as Richard Bryers (the actor) who paid us a visit once said, 'you certainly have a good life down here'! We both had many friends in Bampton who I keep in touch with. I'm sorry to hear of the closure of so many shops, especially the hairdressers. I look forward to receiving the Beam and long may it continue.
Frances Cook
Weymouth

Dear Editor

I have read both Freda Bradley's book, *Bampton The Way it Was*, and John Blair's book *Bampton Folklore*. Both are wonderful accounts of Bampton's history from very different perspectives. It makes me very proud to be part of a village with such a rich heritage. It also led me to thinking that Bampton needs its own museum. Freda Bradley even kept the train tickets for the journey of the final train from Bampton Station, and has gathered and treasured a marvellous photographic social history of Bampton. Many other Bamptonians have photographs and artefacts. Surely the best way to make sure these are not lost to us would be to create a museum with donations properly catalogued and photographs copied and preserved. One possible place, mentioned in Freda Bradley's book, would be the upstairs room of the library, a beautiful spacious room in one of our historic buildings. It would certainly need some architectural imagination to get round access and fire regulations without damaging the integrity of the building, but if those problems could be surmounted then the village would have a priceless asset for present and future generations to enjoy.
Yours sincerely
Jo Lewington

Dear Editor

Many Thanks

I would like to thank everyone who wished me well during my recent

spell in hospital. I received so many get well wishes from everyone, but just in case I missed anyone out, I would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to all, through *The Bampton Beam*.

Mrs Edie Foreshev
Wisteria Cottage, Bampton

A heart felt thank you

I would like to thank the Good Samaritans who helped me so much when I had a nasty fall in Broad Street on the evening of 14th February 2002. John Goldring and his friend Bob heard my cries and took the trouble to investigate. They rang for the ambulance and brought me rugs and coats to keep me warm on the pavement. They were so kind and concerned. Thank you John and Bob.
Miss M Inkster
Broad Street, Bampton

Fred: what surprise and delight it was to find your site, my family lived in Bampton for 10 years and our youngest daughter Rachel (now 15) was born in Bampton we bought Gothurst in church view when Warren Green died. We still have a great affection for Bampton. And when talking about still it calls it back home. We moved to Ireland in 1994 and live in an area of outstanding natural beauty overlooking Sanford Lough.

"But I can here the church bells of Bampton swinging a melodic tune and Morris men dancing in the rain and anyone who's had the privilege of living there that's were their hearts will remain"

Alan Beers

Dear Fred,
I was very interested in the December "Beam" to read of the proposal to develop a webpage devoted to the old families of Bampton. I believe this to be an excellent idea and give it

my full support!! As a descendant of the White family of Bampton I have much information to offer this webpage. How would you like me to send it to you? In a word document or would you prefer it in an alternate format? Would a few photographs be interesting too?

Regards,
Christian Steer

Dear Editor,

Sorting out some old photographs and letters made me think of past times in Bampton. My father was a clown for many years for the Morris Dancers before emigrating to Canada with his family. I attended the Village School where this photo of the school football team was taken. Can anyone help me with the names of the other 'chaps' in the photo? I would love to know what happened to the rest of them. Chris Timms and I went to a Cup Final at Wembley in 1942 so have some fond memories of those times.. After school, aged 14, I worked for Taylor's the Butchers where Mr Gill was my boss, and his daughter Margaret was the cashier. Chris Timms worked next door at the Grocers.

I would love to hear from anyone who remembers those times and will answer all those kind folks who write to me.

Many thanks

Gordon Hall

Unit 18, 59 Pennybrook Crescent,
London N5X3C3, Ontario, Canada.



Back Row L to R
? Spinks Chris Timms
Centre
Gordy Hall ?? ? Smith ? Shergold
Front Row
Ron Temple Edward Spivey Mike Irons Roland Blanford ? Pope

THE BAMPTON RECREATION GROUND

Buckland Road, Bampton.

Bampton in the Bush Cricket Club

Bampton Cricket Club is a friendly club playing mainly friendly games, but still needs more players of all ages and ability to keep the club going. It is hoped our new nets will be completed in the next few weeks and we will be holding practice sessions every Wednesday starting mid-April. 2002 Fixtures

May 5 th	Yarnton	Home
May 12 th	Leafield	Home
May 19 th	Brize Norton	Home
May 22 nd	Carterton	Away
May 26 th	Hera	Home
June 2 nd	Ashbury	Away
June 5 th	Brize Norton	Away
June 9 th	Steeple Aston	Home
June 12 th	Carterton	Home
June 16 th	Faringdon	Home
June 23 rd	Yarnton	Away
June 30 th	Hera	Away
July 3 rd	Brize Norton	Home
July 7 th	Leafield	Away
July 14 th	Nomads	Home
July 21 st	Presidents Cup	Home
July 28 th	Minster Lovell	Home
August 4 th	Sunningwell	Home
August 11 th	Faringdon	Away
August 18 th	Ashbury	Home
August 25 th	London Erratics	Home
August 31 st	Minster Lovell	Away

We are also hoping to get a youth team started this year. For more information please contact **Bill Godfrey Tel: 01993 850014**.

Recreation Ground Sporting Activities

Bampton Youth Football Club:

Sec: Mrs Mandy Bowman, Tel: 850116.

Under 13s Adrian Smith Tel: 212549.

Under 9s Alan Day Tel: 210093

Under 6s Philip Walker Tel: 852361

Meetings at The Talbot Hotel every 1st Wednesday of the month at 8pm.

Bampton Archery Club:

Chairman: John Hill Tel: 850513.

Short Mat Bowls:

Mr G. Taylor Tel: 850566

Don't forget you can hire the 'all weather' court for 5-a-side football, netball, basket etc., etc. Also the football pitches are on offer.

Other Sporting Activities held in Bampton

Bampton Town Football Club

Chairman: Mr J. Shuker Tel: 850830

Sec: Mr S. Paintin Tel: 850871

The Horseshoes Football Club

Chairman: Alan Clarke Tel 850201

Manager: Bill Godfrey Tel: 850014

Sunday League Football

Bampton Gun Club

Sec: Debbie Holifield Tel: 01451

822327 or Trevor Gardner Tel:

850950.

Clay Pigeon Sunday 10-12am

Bampton Weightlifting Club

Chairman: Don Rouse Tel: 851480

Sec: John Davies Tel: 702266.

Bampton Badminton Club

Enquiries: Judy House Tel: 851406

Meets every Tuesday 10 - 12am

Bampton Village Hall.

THE PAVILION

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

Some General Hire Prices

General Hire £ 5 per hour

Commercial Hire £15 per hour

Morning Session

8am - 1pm £20 per session

Afternoon Session

1pm - 6pm £20 per session

Evening Session

6pm - 1am £60 per session

Wedding Receptions

Whole Day

8am - 1am £150 per day/eve

Football Pitch £25 per game

For more information on charges and facilities for hire please contact:

Ray Willis **01993 852483 or 07855 537559**.

Bampton Archery Club

4 Members of Bampton Archery Club competed in Oxford on Saturday 9th March. Rhys Shufflebottom won his junior section also Harry Weaver won a prize. Not bad as 3 of the four had never been in an archery competition before.

The summer season starts in April and runs through until October. We shoot every Wednesday evening from 6pm until 8pm.

Bampton Tennis Club

Membership fees for 2002/03

Adults £25

Juniors £ 5

Family Membership £50

(2 adults + 2 children)

Membership Secretary:

Gill Berry Tel: 850963

Chairperson:

Penny Fowler Tel: 852357

Club Night - Thursday

All welcome

Bampton Cars



Your Reliable and Friendly Service



National and Local

Air and Seaports our Speciality

Competitive Rates

Tel: 01993 851900

Fax 01993 851909

Use us Once - Use us Always

The Horseshoe Inn

Bridge Street, Bampton
01993 850201

Your Hosts are Alan and Kath Clarke

The Horseshoe public house was rebuilt in 1923/24 after the original pub burned down in 1923. This makes the Horseshoe the only purpose-built pub in Bampton!

Relax in our lounge bar in front of open log fire with a pint of real ale or fine wine. Or, if you like pub games, then try our other bar with its a pool table, dart board, music and Sky TV. We also have a walled garden where, in the summer, you will see 'Aunt Sally' been played, and from April to the end of May, on Sunday evenings, we have Morris Dancing.

Come and join us - we know that you will make it a regular habit!

PHILIPPA RAYNE

*Registered Osteopath
Cranial Osteopathy for Babies*

FIONA FARMER

*Chartered Physiotherapist
(Spinal and Sports)
Therapy + Acupuncture*

LESLEY MELLIN

Reflexologist + Aromatherapist

MOONRAKER LANE, BAMPTON
OXON. OX18 2JH
(above the Dental Surgery)

TEL: 01993 851359

DANETREE

Veterinary Surgeons

14 Coxwell Road
Faringdon

Oxon. SN7 7EZ

Tel: 01367 242777

Surgery on
Thursday Mornings
(by appointment only)
at Bampton Library

www.danetreevets.com

Curtain Choice

*Makers of Fine Soft Furnishings
A personal and professional service for
all your*

*CURTAINS, BLINDS, LOOSE COVERS ETC.
To arrange a home visit and a quote
without obligation telephone:*

01993 843103

*E-mail: enquiries@curtain-choice.co.uk
www.curtain-choice.co.uk*



N Nurden Motor Body Repairs

1 Rosemary Lane
Bampton

Oxon OX18 2NF

Tel 07970 255594

Free quotations

Insurance work undertaken

PATRICK STRAINGE (Butchers)

Bridge Street, Bampton, Oxon

Tel: 01993 850350

*Quality Meat Direct From
Our Family Farms*

Hire of Pig Roasts for Parties etc.

SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF BAMPTON

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

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

DO JOIN NOW

Send your membership fee of £2 each (£1 for OAPs) for the period up to December 2000, to
Society for the Protection of Bampton

**Manor House
Bampton, Oxon OX18 2LQ**

N. J. WOODLEY BUILDING MAINTENANCE

COMPETITIVE RATES

15 CALAIS DENE, BAMPTON, OXON.

Tel: 01993 850753

Mobile: 0860 274155

TEMPLES

MARKET SQUARE, BAMPTON

TEL: 01993 850877

COME AND SEE OUR CHRISTMAS STOCK
CARDS, PAPER, GIFTS, DECORATIONS
& MORE

DIY, Ironmongery, Paint, Wood, Cement, Sand, Gravel,
Toys, Gifts, Candles.

Gardening Equipment including Mr. Fothergills
Seeds and a wide range of Compost.

A Range of Car Accessories
Wind Screen Wipers, Plugs, Batteries etc.

NOW DRAPER STOCKIST & AGENTS FOR
SWAN DRY CLEANING

COME IN AND LOOK AROUND : WE ALSO DELIVER LOCALLY

Wishing You a Merry Christmas & Best Wishes for the
New Year

Don't go anywhere else until you've been to Temples!

A. SIMMONDS The Old Fashioned Village Store

Market Square, Bampton
Tel: 01993 850204

Traditionally Baked
Bread and Cakes

Groceries
Confectionery

Discounted Toiletries
and
Household Cleaners

Logs Coal

Large Range of
Pet Foods & Requisites

Free Local Delivery



ANDREW BOWMAN
MASTER THATCHER
HEDGEFIELDS FARM
BAMPTON
Tel: 01993 850116
Member Oxon, Berks, Bucks
Master Thatchers Association

HAIRDRESSERS
DRESSMAKERS
Have Your Scissors
SHARPENED

P		B
O		A
L		L
I		A
S		N
H		C
E		E
D		D
Tony Hughes		
10 St Mary's Court		
Weald, Bampton		
Oxon. OX18 2HX		
Tel: 01993 851458		

PARENT PARTNERSHIP OXFORDSHIRE

More volunteers are needed to support parents whose children have Special Educational Needs!

60 Independent Parental Supporters (IPS) are presently enjoying the opportunity to offer assistance or a listening ear to parents whose children have Special Educational Needs. Would you like to join them?

Many people do not realise that one in five children have Special Educational Needs at sometime during their school career. The Parent Partnership Service of the Oxfordshire LEA run a successful scheme of support for parents whose children are experiencing difficulties. Parents may need someone to explain to them what the official letters mean or need help preparing for a meeting. Having someone who understands the process can make a big difference to an already worrying time.

The Independent Parental Supporters meet together monthly to share experiences and often an interesting speaker talks to the group. All Independent Parental Supporters are offered training in:

- How the assessment system for children with Special Educational Needs operates in Oxfordshire
- What the jargon means
- What the relevant legislation says
- Negotiating and mediating skills
- The extent of the Independent Parental Supporter's (IPS) role

Support, consultation and expenses will be provided for all volunteers. You could make a positive contribution and enjoy it at the same time. If you think you may be interested in becoming an IPS, please contact: Parent Partnership Helpline
Tel: 01865 810516.

COULD YOU BE A CITIZEN ADVOCATE?

West Oxfordshire Citizen Advocacy seeks to recruit volunteer citizen advocates. A citizen advocate is someone who acts independently to represent the views and wishes of another person who, for one reason or another, is unable to speak effectively

for themselves. If you would like to volunteer to become a citizen advocate with this registered charity then please write to us at 33a High Street, Witney OX28 6HP; also contact us on **Tel: 01993 704526; or e-mail us on info@CITAD33a.freeseve.co.uk.** For more information check us out at our Website www.CITAD33a.freeseve.co.uk. Thank you for considering this appeal.

LEARNING GRANT SCHEME

The *Learning Grant Scheme* has been developed as part of the County Council's programme for encouraging the involvement and participation of young people in community and civic life. Interest is welcomed from schools, community organisations and young people. Examples of the projects funded during the previous round of grants can be found on our flyer.

Grants of up to **£1500** are available for imaginative projects that encourage communities, young people and their local schools to work in partnership. An eligible project can have broad aims and objectives, but it *must* focus on young people, and at the end of the project young people should be more aware of decision-making processes and citizenship issues within the community.

For further information please contact: **Jill James** Democratic Services Administrator
Tel: 01865 815291
Fax: 01865 247805.
Email: jill.james@oxfordshire.gov.uk

SOBELL HOUSE HOSPICE CHARITY

Speakers

Sobell House Hospice Charity raises money to support Sir Michael Sobell House Hospice at the Churchill Hospital, Headington, which provides free hospice care for the people of Oxfordshire. The Charity has speakers, who are all volunteers, who are happy to give talks to various organisations to explain the work of the Hospice. If you are a member of a local organisation that would be interested in the services of one of our speakers, we would be pleased if you would con-

tact the Charity Office for further details. Our speakers do not charge a fee, but obviously we need to cover our costs and are always pleased to accept donations or collections.

For further details, please contact:

Lindsay Manifold,
Sobell House Hospice Charity
Swinford Farm, Nr Eynsham
OXFORD, OX29 4BA.
Tel: 01865 883339

VOLUNTEER LINK-UP

Bored? Lonely? Missing Work?

Time on your Hands? Under Used Skills?

Perhaps volunteering is the answer? It could mean a whole new lift to your life in 2002.

There are lots of opportunities to use your time in helping individuals and groups in Witney, Carterton and the surrounding villages.

Contact us on **Tel: 01993 776277** and speak to Anne, Alison or Ruth at Volunteer Link-Up.

The office is open 9am - 1pm, Monday to Friday at the Methodist Church Centre, Wesley Walk, Witney. E-mail westoxonvb@freeuk.com.

AGE Concern

OXFORDSHIRE City & County

Voluntary Work that makes a difference

Our Information & Advice Service is looking for volunteers: To help staff the Telephone Helpline at our office in Oxford and to visit people in their own homes to help with form filling and benefits checks. No particular qualifications required. People of all ages welcome. We offer training, plenty of support and expenses. For more details telephone:

Sandra or Jenny on 01865 247852

Remembrances of My Service in the US Army

Part 1: Panama to Bampton

By Dick Ford, US Army 1941-1945

Dick Ford served in the US Army from 1941 to 1945, and participated in the Normandy landings in 1944. The following is the first part of his memoirs, which start with him based in Panama, and end with his arrival in Bampton in 1942. A further two parts, which take us through his time in Bampton to the Normandy landings, follow in the next two editions of the 'Beam'.

December 7th 1941, a day the USA will never forget. I was already enlisted in the Army, and was with the 1st Separate Chemical Company - I was a Chemical Engineering major in college - at that time. Given the choice of Hawaii or Panama, I chose the latter because it was a lot closer to home. My post was at Corozal on the west of the country, near Panama City. We lived in the old French barracks which they had constructed when they were trying to build the canal.

The barracks were very old and full of bed bugs. We placed the legs of our cots on half filled cans of kerosene oil, but it didn't deter the bugs - nor did the blow-torch burning of the cot springs on a weekly basis. Upon waking up, the sheets would be full of blood spots, from being bitten. We would say, "They had a terrific ball game last night!"

We were a mule outfit, as this was our only method of transporting our equipment and our heavy 4.2 Chemical Mortars. Our ammunition was poisonous gases, smoke and the like. On our trips into the 'interior' - the jungle - when we got tired, we would use the reins to tie our arms to the mule's neck and he would drag us along as we slept. We would wear out a pair of boots in three weeks. We also had to wear mosquito netting, long sleeved shirts and the like to try and provide some protection from the insects. We had to take a course of quinine, which left us with a ringing in our ears. Wonderful Panama!

The Officers rode horses. Many times when the horses were tied up in a covered picket line they would start fighting. They would bite and kick with

their rear legs. We would then be ordered to go in and quiet them down. This meant going in among the flying hooves, untie the horses, take them out and walk them around to quiet them down, and then tie them back up again. This was a no fun job, and certainly not one for the officers!

In the rainy season, you could time the arrival of the rain by watching it come! The earth would be a foot deep in mud. In the dry season the earth would dry out and the fissures became big enough to catch your foot, and it was real easy to sprain an ankle, or worse break a leg. You had to be real careful walking about.

On December 7, 1941, I was in Panama City with some boys from the Company. The horse mounted Pana-

manian Police began chasing us back to the Canal Zone, without us knowing the reason why - we had not yet heard of the Pearl Harbor bombing. They rode their horses right into

the bars and ran us out with drawn sabres. At the zone line, trucks were lined up to drive us back to our posts. Only on arrival did we hear the news about Pearl Harbor.

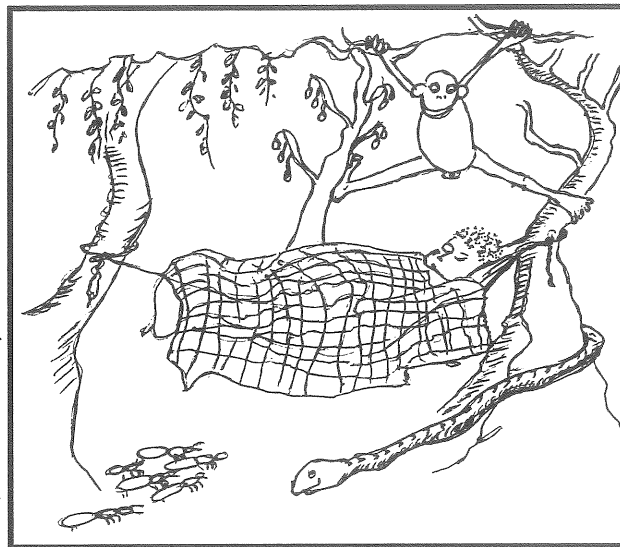
Nobody knew where the Japanese were or how close to the Canal they might be. We immediately packed our gear and moved out to the interior of Panama. We were out there for a week before returning to Corozal. This was tough living. We had to sleep up off the ground because of wild boars, snakes and scorpions. We hung hammocks between trees to accomplish this. Our food rations were put in wire cages and hung from the

trees to protect them from the boars and monkeys. We slept under mosquito netting etc., and the "howler monkeys" bellowed all night.

What a lovely war!

We soon began an operation to block out the canal locks from aerial view. We amassed huge piles of flammable material near the locks. We placed big smoke pots along the locks. The night of the operation we lit the flammable material, then set off the smoke pots as planes flew over to see what the result was. We had a good time that night. The smoke was thick and heavy. The civilians living near the locks were choking and coughing in the smoke. We laughed, as there was a space of about one foot above the ground that was clear and breathable air. We lay there until the smoke had dissipated and listened to the civilians carrying on. At that time the civilians had signs on all the restaurants and

bars in the zone that read. "Dogs and soldiers not allowed". So we gained great pleasure in listening to the civilians choke, cough and complain. We were armed



with the old 45 pistol. This was strictly a defensive weapon. Somebody got the idea that we should have carbines. As a result we were issued 1903 Springfield Rifles. They were covered with 'cosmoline', a rust preventive. This was a fairly hard waxy material, which we washed off with gasoline. That was a real messy job. After we had cleaned up the rifles they were sent to Ordnance for modification; 8 inches were cut off the barrel - making them a shorter carbine type weapon.

We took them out to the range to 'sight them in'. We fired from the prone position, lying on the ground.

The first shot really scared the hell out of you, because of the huge flash from the muzzle, and the recoil was so bad it slid you back 4 - 5 inches on the ground. Of course the cartridge load was too strong for the short barreled rifle. Later on they did develop a carbine which was much smaller and had much smaller cartridge.

Ships were now being sunk in the Gulf of Mexico by the Germans, and our food rations began to show the signs of this. We then had to tap the food that was stored in caves in the mountains of Panama. We got bacon in vacuum-packed cans, like big flat sardine cans, that were opened with a key or pair of pliers. These cans were dated 1917 and 1918! We also got biscuits that were of the same vintage! They were about 4-5 times bigger than a saltine cracker. They were so hard they had to be dipped or soaked, in whatever liquid you were drinking to soften them up so you could bite one without breaking a tooth. Dry, they couldn't even be broken with a hammer!

As I had had a couple of years of college, I was given a chance to go to Officers School at Fort Benning. There were three of us in the Company who were given this opportunity. My total service in Panama was little over a year, and I was not sorry that it was not going to be extended! We seemed to have to wait forever though before we shipped out. Ships were being regularly sunk in the Gulf of Mexico at this time, so it was not exactly a journey we were looking forward to, but then the alternative of staying in Panama didn't appeal too much either! Finally, after a waiting for around two months, we got a boat out - a fellow by the name of Woodbury went with me - but on the second night out we were attacked by a submarine (U-boat) and hit. Panama suddenly didn't look so bad a place! Woodbury and I rushed up on deck, and saw that the sailors were cutting the rafts loose, and letting them slide into the sea. It became very clear, very quickly, that we were in trouble. We both jumped over the side. I thought I'd never reach the water, but when I finally did, I went down so far that I thought I would hit China. My lungs were almost bursting from hold-

ing my breath but I finally started up and broke to the surface, and the fresh air. Luckily there was a raft not too far away, and I managed to swim to it and hung on for the night. In the morning a Navy plane flew over, and a couple hours later we were picked up by a Destroyer. After this escape, I joined the 29th Division at Camp Blanding, Florida. General Gerow told me I could have been the Division Chemical Officer, but just as luck would have it, I got there a day too late. A fellow by the name of Sweet had arrived there ahead of me, and had gotten the assignment. I was then assigned to Company K of the 115th Infantry Regiment. We received all our inoculations ready to travel - eventually my 'shot' card showed I had received 89 inoculations. I always carried this card on my person to avoid being given something I already had been given!

We then went to Camp Kilmer in New Jersey. Here we got some new equipment, clothing etc. While at Kilmer I met an army nurse, she was from Culpepper, Virginia. We went to New York City twice for entertainment and had a good time. The last night we were together, we were treated royally by a couple at the Pennsylvania Hotel where Guy Lombardo's orchestra was playing. I later found out that she was killed in North Africa. Such is war.

I'm not quite sure how long we were at Kilmer, but then we were packing up all of our gear - all our worldly possessions in one kit bag - and boarding trains to take us to the Port of New York. Then we boarded the British liner Queen Elizabeth to take us to England. Except for an advance party that had left on the Queen Mary 4 or 5 days previously, the ship took the entire Division of 15,000 men!

Our crossing was uneventful and took around four nights and days. However our advance party on the Queen Mary experienced a rather unfortunate event. The Queen Mary collided with a British frigate (or it might have been a cruiser) that was escorting it. This occurred one day before reaching port. As far as I know, all hands on the Royal Navy ship perished, as nobody could be picked up since the Queen Mary was under orders not to

stop.

We berthed at Greenock, Scotland. As we were unloading to tenders on one side of the ship, the British were loading 30,000 men on the other side, bound for Egypt. Then we were put on to trains, and after a long but very uneventful journey, ended up in southern England. At one place we stopped and were given a meal. They handed us 'meat pies' through the window, since we were not allowed to get off the train. These pies were like 'pasties' but they tasted like pure suet, and 95% of them ended up flying out the windows! Welcome to England!

I don't remember the station we arrived at, but it must have been Oxford or Witney. Our Company ended up in Bampton, Oxfordshire. To me this was a small, sleepy, country town and very peaceful. In retrospect, compared to the other places I would experience, Bampton was definitely 'my kind of town'. It was close to Brize Norton, an RAF airfield - then a training field for the RAF. I know the Brize Base is still in existence as I saw the Queen on television arriving there for some occasion. But then it was just a 'cow pasture' field. The British were beginning to train glider pilots at the base, and we would go over to the field and ride in the gliders. They were Horsa gliders pulled by an old Whitley bomber, which looked like it drooped at both ends.

At Bampton the men lived in Quonset huts, and the Officers were billeted to families in the town. A Lt. Luther and I lived with a Vicar and his wife (Gregory and Mollie) Bateman. He had been a Chaplain in the British Army, being stationed in India all his military career. The first evening at the Batemans, a gong sounded. We rushed out of our room, which was on the second floor, wondering what the hell was going on - was it an air raid? - and looked down to the first floor where stood the Vicar. He told us that it was 'sundown', and that we were invited for a 'Sundowner' before dinner. Apparently this was a custom dating back to the British Army in India, and we grew very accustomed, very quickly, to this ritual, and really enjoyed this remnant of the British Raj!

Welcome to Bampton! We knew we were going to have a good time!

MAY GARLANDS

By Ruth Wheeler

Whitsun was always a great time for me and many other children of the village. On the Monday morning Gertie Woodley and I would carry the garland, with John (Gertie's brother), carrying the staff and money box, we would go from house to house showing our garland in the hope of receiving a penny or two from the householders. This usually went on until lunchtime, when we would congregate outside the Church Gate, where Mrs Lovatt (the vicar's wife), and Mrs Bliss, would judge who had the best garland. The best bit of the day was counting your collection of pennies, which were shared out. With smiles on our faces we would run off to find the Morris Dancers as we three had brothers dancing in the various teams. A very tiring but exciting day for all of us children.

Last year was a very disappointing one for me, not one garland was to be seen in the Market Square. After organising the Garland competition for so many years, I felt so upset that I went straight home and made a small one and took it around the village for all to see. I am hoping this year, with it being the Jubilee Celebrations, we will have one or two garlands made and brought along to the Market Square to be judged once again.

To make a garland is very easy. All you need is two hoops which you cover with wild flowers. These wild flower's scan be dandelions, buttercups, cow-parsley - in fact anything which is easy to find. Tie into small bunches and attach them to the hoops with string. Fix the two hoops together so they form a 'ball' shape. On top, fix a bunch of flowers - years ago the top posy had to be made up of red peonies. Sit your favourite doll or teddy in the centre, find a long stick or broom handle to hook through, two people to carry it, and you've got yourself a Traditional May Garland. I do hope to see a few of you at the Market Square this year, now that I've given you the 'know how' of what to do!

SPAJERS NEWS

By Don Rouse

We hope you all had a good Christmas and are looking forward to a New Year of Junketing. We have a lot planned for you and hope that you will help us to raise the funds necessary to achieve our ambitions of giving our senior citizens a year to remember.

The Mummers got us off to a good start by raising the massive sum of £700 from their efforts at Christmas. There was such terrific generosity and support for the S.P.A.J.E.R. cause from their patrons.

Our first fund raising event this year will be the Quiz Evening on Friday 12th April; as usual it is a team event, six in a team. Along with a trophy for the winning team goes the title Brains of Bampton 2002! Do come along and join in the fun and help us to raise a pound or two for our senior citizens. Get a team together and let **Al Newing** our secretary know **Tel: 850809** so that we can arrange the catering. Entrance is £6 per head, which includes supper.

This year we are celebrating our 50th Shirt Race and we have set up a sub Committee with the brief to make it very special. Our Vice-Chairman Frank Hudson is Chairing this committee and would be pleased to know of any photographs of previous shirt races, especially the earlier ones that any of you may have and would be willing to let us borrow in order to mount a special display of 'Fifty Years of Shirt Racing'.

The senior race will have one more stop than the races in recent years as we want to re-enact those early races as much as possible. Like those early years the prize is going to be a Barrel of Beer, generously donated by the Hook Brewery. What a prize, free Hooky ale for the winners! We are grateful to George and Pat of the Elephant & Castle for arranging this.

We are always desperate for prams, and it would be very nice to have some models of the 1950s like Silver Cross and Marmets, but any form of conveyance will do. Our vice-chairman once entered with a Four Poster bed, but then he always was

'laid back'! Would be competitors who just cannot get themselves a suitable appliance can always phone **me 01993 851480** to see if I have anything as a result of this appeal.

Also in hand for this great occasion is a band all the way from Leiden, Holland. When they heard about this special event they wanted to be part of it - in 1979 two teams from their city took part. For several years now civic dignitaries from Leiden, who have come over for Oxford City's Remembrance Day, have attended Josey's Draw. The word has got around about SPAJERS and what we do; our caring attitude in Bampton appears to be very popular with them, and they enjoy our way of life and hospitality so I hope that you will come along and make their visit a memorable one. The band is called Werkmans Wilskract and they have offered their services Free! We of course will be offering them supper.

There will be roundabouts for children as well as stalls that will be of interest to everyone. At the moment we are looking for a 'celebrity' to start things off. One thing I am sure about is that the judges for the 'fancy dress' will have their work cut out more than any other year. It never ceases to amaze me the ingenuity of our competitors. In the words of our founder the late John Quick "there is a lot of devices dreamed up".

Plans are in hand for a Summer Party with entertainment on Sunday 14th July. Invitations will be going out to members in June. To be on our list you need to be of national pensionable age and have lived in Bampton or Lew for at least the previous six months. If you are unsure if you are on our list please contact our secretary **Tel: 850809** or any of our committee members.

Minor Injuries Unit

Witney Community Hospital

Welch Way, Witney.

Open 11am - 12 midnight

7 days a week

Tel: 01993 209456

Still too fast

PC Steve Patrick, just back from a 'stint' with the 'radar gun', has asked us to remind drivers that slowing down *once you're inside* the Village is not good enough! You should **slow down on the approach** into the Village, and enter the Village within the 30mph speed limit – and vice versa! Please do try and remember, and help keep our Village safe – and by the way, it's a £60 fine each time you get caught!

Macmillan Cancer Relief Bampton, Faringdon and Carterton

The committee would like to take this opportunity to thank all the people of Bampton who have so generously supported our fund-raising again throughout the past year. Although we do not yet know our final figure, it is likely to be in the region of £20,000 once more, and this is a measure of the generosity (in time and effort as well as in money), of so many of you. Sixteen years ago we were the 'Buckland and Bampton' Committee, and so drew our support from a smaller area than today. Since then we have gone from strength to strength, but Bampton has never faltered. We are so grateful.

Cancer, alas, is still with us, and increasingly so. The need for Macmillan's care of cancer patients and their families is still there too, and we must strive to continue to meet it. And we will continue to ask for your support. We do need help! Can you sew? Can you spare days at the weekends to man lucrative sales stalls. Will you help us at our Coffee Mornings? Are you able to hold collecting boxes outside supermarkets or in the streets? Have you time, good ideas and organisational skills to join our hard-pressed committee? We also need extra storage space from time to time. Please do let us know if you can offer help in any form!

We will be holding our 2002 AGM in the Town Hall in Bampton at 2.30pm on Friday 5th April. We get through our business as swiftly as possible, and look forward to an informal social hour over a good cup of tea and a home-made cake with our guests. We

NOTICE BOARD

warmly invite you to join us. For more information please contact the following:

Doug (Treasurer) & Shirley Faithful Tel: 01993 851860

Beryl Cooper (Secretary) Tel: 01367 242908

Barbara Osbourne (Chairman) Tel: 01367 241694.

The Childrens Society

The annual box collection this year, including boxes held by Londis, raised £345.73. This is in addition to £87.00 raised from the cake stall run by Junior Church for which we are very grateful. This is a record for recent years and I would like to thank all those people who regularly give so generously.

The Society works with 22,000 young people and their families each year, supporting them when they face a range of difficulties and the work could not continue without our help. If you would like to keep a box, so that you can donate on a regular basis, please contact **Pauline Hawkins Tel: 01993 851066** and I would be happy to deliver a box to you.

Bampton Ladies Group

We are a very casual group of ladies who meet in the Village Hall on the third Wednesday of every month at 8pm. We have speakers or go on outings and just have a pleasant evening together. Posters are put up around the village, so if you spot one and would like to come along please do. The membership is £6 yearly but your first visit is free. For further information please contact **Joan Farthing Tel: 851206**.

The Cancer Research Campaign

The Cancer Research Campaign and the Imperial Cancer Research will now be joined together to form a new research organisation called Cancer Research UK.

During 2001 we made £6804.12p. We

would like to thank everyone for their contributions.

Fund raising events for 2002

July 3rd

Pub Quiz Elephant & Castle

September 21st

Coffee Morning

November 13th

Pre-Christmas Bingo, Village Hall

November 27th

Pub Quiz Elephant & Castle

December 20th

Country & Western Dance, Social Centre, Carterton.

Bampton Youth Centre

By Colin Allport

The problems of funding from the County Council are still not resolved, and our only income is now that from the 250 Club and from rental of the premises to third parties. It is becoming clear that, at the level of officials in the county youth service, there is little interest in continuing youth activities in Bampton, and that they are quite prepared for the Youth Centre to close. Needless to say, we are not prepared to accept this without a fight and are now in process of taking our case to the Chief Executive of the County Council and to the county councillors themselves. However, it would be of great help if concerned citizens of Bampton – and especially parents of Youth Club members – could add to the pressure that we are applying by writing directly to their county councillor or to the Chief Executive of the council. Addresses will be found in the Bampton Directory. Despite the worries concerning the future of the Centre, the Youth Club is proving ever more popular with attendances at the junior Tuesday evenings of about 40, and, at the Thursday evening meetings for the older age group, of approximately 35. In terms of the numbers attending, Bampton appears to be more successful than Witney where the county has its own premises and there is no local input.

Anyone able to offer help as an organiser or who is interested in joining as a member should contact either **Gary Gummer Tel: 851913** or **Jo Melling at Carterton Allandale Centre Tel: 842416**. There is, unfortunately, still no news of the Scout Group recom-

NOTICE BOARD

mencing activities. The problem continues to be one of leaders and anyone who can help in this respect should contact **Phil Roberts Tel: 851267**. Particularly in view of our financial problem, we would ask anyone seeking a venue for a meeting or entertainment to consider using the Centre which is available weekends, and whenever the premises are not occupied by the Youth Club. It is, indeed, a splendid place for social functions, with good facilities, an attractive atmosphere and more than adequate parking space. The Centre has always been popular for wedding receptions and family parties but also for children's parties. Our public entertainment licence covers dances, etc., of up to 100 people. Anyone wishing to hire the premises should contact **Jill Ruck Tel: 852010**. For general enquiries, please contact **Colin Allport Tel: 850411**.

The Bush Club

The Club meets every Wednesday in the Scout hut in Church View, and caters for 40 pensioners. We provide tea, coffee and a hot meal. For many this is the only day they have away from their homes during the week. All helpers, cooks and drivers are volunteers – more would be welcome. We encourage our members to play games and take part in activities. We raise funds for outings to places of interest, theatre trips, and to pay for speakers. For more information please contact Joan Granville, Tel. 850407 or Vera Allport, Tel: 850411.

Flower Guild of

St Mary the Virgin Bampton

The Flower Guild of St Mary's will undertake floral arrangements for weddings and funerals. For more information contact **Peggy Aucutt Tel: 850248**; **Tessa Gladders Tel: 840840**; **Maureen Seale Tel: 013657. 253660**.

Bampton Welfare Trust

Trustees: The Rev. David Lloyd, Rosemary Colville, Susan Phillips, Janet Newman, Joan Haslam, Anne Grinsell, George Wiltshire, Gerald Mills, Matthew Perry, Colin Rouse, Clerk: David Pullman.

The object of the Trust "shall be to relieve generally or individually, persons resident in the area of the ancient Parish of Bampton who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress" (Charity Commission) If you need help from the Trust or know of anyone whom you think might be eligible, please contact **Janet Newman Tel: 850755** or one of the Trustees.

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**.

Bampton Bridge Club

The Club meets in the Village Hall every Tuesday, 7:30 pm to 10:00pm. Duplicate Bridge is played on the 1st, 3rd, and any 5th Tuesday of the month; Rubber Bridge on the 3rd and 4th Tuesdays. The annual subscription is £5, with a charge of £1.00 per session. New members are always welcome. For more information contact, **Joan Granville, Tel: 850407**

Community Lunches

Community Lunches enable people to meet informally, to find out what projects are happening in the community, and to meet other workers/volunteer organisers and like-minded people, established and new, who are contributing to those projects.

Community lunches are held in each location every four months. Please bring your own lunch but drinks can be purchased if required.

The next date for Witney is:

Wednesday June 19th 2002

12.30 - 2pm

Methodist Church, High Street.

Bampton Websites

Bampton's official Website can be found at **www.bamptononoxon.co.uk**. It contains a wealth of information on the Village, and is being accessed more and more by Web users all over the world.

There are also excellent 'unofficial' Websites around, for instance **www.ox18.com**, which is a directory of the local villages around the area including Bampton, and **www.angelfire.com/ok4/bamp**, which also contains information on the Village.

Anyone with non profit-making events around the area can advertise on these sites free. For the official Bampton Website contact **fredgray@witneyserve.net** or on **01993 851653**, and for the other two contact David Oakey at **dave@ox18.com**.

Some Useful Telephone Numbers

Police	Witney	01993 703913
	Carterton	01993 893951
	Urgent	01865 266000
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

OUT AND ABOUT

Bridge Street, 9am...
...on a cold February morning.
What's happening?



Yes, it's the intrepid members of the
Bampton Gardening Club, off on
another Outing, to.....



.....see the snowdrops at the Rococo
Gardens, Painswick

Thank You

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

Advertisers

We would also like to say a great big thank you to all of those businesses which advertise with us - both our regular advertisers, and our latest additions. Without the advertising revenue, the 'Beam' could just not exist in its present form, since the income generated from the advertising is the prime source of funds which cover the cost of production. So, Advertisers, again, a big THANK YOU!

A cold but pleasant day



The Trusty Transport



The happy travellers on the way home

OUT AND ABOUT

Shillbrook Wood Extension : Planting Day



The Planting Area



SHILLBROOK WOOD

By Colin Allport

On Sunday 24th February, a band of intrepid volunteers braved the wind and rain to assist in planting trees and shrubs for the extension of Shillbrook Wood - a village millennium project which was created at the end of the year 2000. The first fund raising for the woodland produced more than was needed as Bampton's contribution for land purchase and it was agreed that an additional effort would be made to gather sufficient money to acquire a modest extension. With the help of the District Council, the Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment, and the Forestry Commission it became possible to buy a further one and a half acres.

As before, the overall organisation and management of the operation has been carried out by the Woodland Trust who will also undertake the long term care and maintenance of the woodland.

The planting has now been completed by the Woodland Trust and the benefits of the extension are already clear. An additional 200 metres of public footpath are incorporated into the woodland and a new circular track will link the western side of the area back into the path with bridges spanning the ditches. A small pond is also being created by widening one of

the ditches and this should encourage a wider range of wild life. Already the willow and alder planted in November 2000 are nearing head height, and we shall all be able to enjoy the year by year growth of the trees with ever increasing richness of the plant and bird life that will develop. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who came down on such a miserable morning and helped us with the planting.

Answer to the riddle

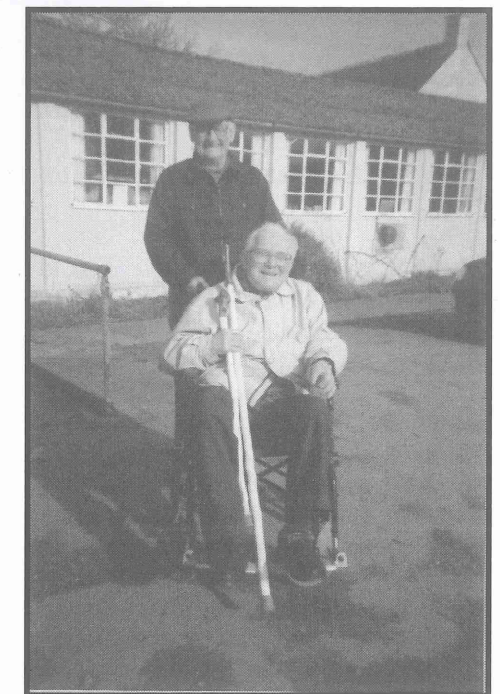
Still young at Heart

Francis Shergold 83

and

Fred Lomas 91

Every week Fred goes to church and as he finds it very difficult to walk, Francis decided to take a wheelchair from the Bush Club and meet Fred and push him back to te Bush Club so that they would be in time for lunch. Both men have very limited vision, in fact one good eye between them, but they are always cheerful and friendly!



Thames Travel Bus Timetables
(Correct at the time of going to press)

Service 19

Witney - Aston - Bampton - Lew - Witney (Circular)

Mondays to Saturdays

WITNEY, Market Place	-----	07.38	08.38	09.38	10.38	11.38	12.38
Ducklington by-pass, Aston Rd	-----	07.43	08.43	09.43	10.43	11.43	12.43
Aston, Red Lion	06.52	07.52	08.52	09.52	10.52	11.52	12.52
Bampton, Bushey Row	06.58	07.58	08.58	09.58	10.58	11.58	12.58
Lew, Church	07.05	08.05	09.05	10.05	11.05	12.05	13.05
WITNEY, Market Place	07.15	08.15	09.15	10.15	11.15	12.15	13.15

WITNEY, Market Place	13.38	14.38	15.38	16.38	17.38	18.20	-----
Ducklington by-pass, Aston Rd	13.43	14.43	15.43	16.43	17.43	18.26\$	-----
Aston, Red Lion	13.52	14.52	15.52	16.52	17.52	18.34	-----
Bampton, Bushey Row	13.58	14.58	15.58	16.58	17.58	18.39	-----
Lew, Church	14.05	15.05	16.05	17.05	18.05	-----	-----
WITNEY, Market Place	14.15	15.15	16.15	17.15	18.15	-----	-----

Route in Bampton: Aston Road, Mount Owen Road, New Road. Bushey Row, High Street, Cheapside, Broad Street, Station Road (A4095).
18.20 bus is service 19D - \$ serves Ducklington Village (S/B) time at Pond.

Service TB 19

Bampton - Clanfield - Black Bourton - Carterton

Mondays to Saturdays

Bampton, Bushey Row	07.02	08.02	09.02	10.02	11.02	12.02	13.02	14.02	15.02
Clanfield, Institute	07.06	08.06	09.06	10.06	11.06	12.06	13.06	14.06	15.06
Black Bourton, Memorial	07.10	08.10	09.10	10.10	11.10	12.10	13.10	14.10	15.10
Alvescot, Memorial	07.13	08.14	09.14	10.14	11.14	12.14	13.14	14.14	15.14
Carterton X Rds, Alvescot Rd	07.18	08.18	09.18	10.18	11.18	12.18	13.18	14.18	15.18

Bampton, Bushey Row	16.02	17.02	18.02	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Clanfield, Institute	16.06	17.56	18.06	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Black Bourton, Memorial	16.10	17.10	18.10	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Alvescot, Memorial	16.13	17.14	18.14	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Carterton X Rds, Alvescot Rd	16.18	17.18	18.18	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Guaranteed connections at Bampton (Bushey Row) between services 19 and TB 19

Carterton X Rds, Alvescot Rd	06.42	07.42	08.42	09.42	10.42	11.42	12.42	13.42	14.42
Alvescot, Memorial	06.46	07.46	08.46	09.46	10.46	11.46	12.46	13.46	14.46
Black Bourton, Memorial	06.49	07.49	08.49	09.49	10.49	11.49	12.49	13.49	14.49
Clanfield, Institute	06.53	07.53	08.53	09.53	10.53	11.53	12.53	13.53	14.53
Bampton, Bushey Row	06.57	07.57	08.57	09.57	10.57	11.57	12.57	13.57	14.57

Carterton X Rds, Alvescot Rd	15.42	16.42	17.42	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Alvescot, Memorial	15.46	16.46	17.46	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Black Bourton, Memorial	15.49	16.45	17.49	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Clanfield, Institute	15.53	16.53	17.53	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Bampton, Busheey Row	15.57	16.57	17.57	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Route in Bampton: Bridge Street, Cheapside, Broad Street, New Road, Bushey Row, High Street, Bridge Street.
TB 19 will generally be operated by a smaller capacity vehicle.

Thames Travel Bus Timetables
(Correct at the time of going to press)

Service 19D

LOCAL SERVICE

Witney - Ducklington - Witney (Circular)

Mondays to Saturdays

	100								
WITNEY, Market Place	-----	07.20	08.20	09.20	10.20	11.20	12.20	13.20	14.20
Ducklington, Pond	07.00	07.26	08.26	09.26	10.26	11.26	12.26	13.26	14.26
WITNEY, Market Place	07.12	07.35	08.35	09.35	10.35	11.35	12.35	13.35	14.35

	100								
WITNEY, Market Place	15.20	16.20	17.20	18.20	18.45	-----	-----	-----	-----
Ducklington, Pond	15.26	16.26	17.26	18.26\$	18.57	-----	-----	-----	-----
WITNEY, Market Place	15.35	16.35	17.35	---B--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Bus 100 is operated by Stagecoach Oxford (Mondays to Fridays ONLY) and runs to or starts from Oxford

Route in Ducklington: All buses operate southbound (from Witney) via by-pass return NORTHBOUND through village via Aston Road and Witney Road except journeys marked \$ which go southbound through village.
B = Continues to Aston and Bampton

Service 18

Additional buses between Clanfield, Bampton, Aston and to/from Oxford

Clanfield - Bampton - Aston direct service.

Mondays to Saturdays

	M-F	SAT						
Clanfield, Carter Institute	07.10	07.15	09.00	11.00	13.04	15.04	-----	
BAMPTON, Bushey Row	07.15	07.20	09.05	11.05	13.09	15.09	17.11	
Aston, Red Lion	07.21	07.25	09.11	11.11	13.15	15.15	17.16	
OXFORD, Westgate Centre	08.15	08.07	10.00	12.00	14.00	16.00	17.52	

	M-F							
OXFORD, Westgate Centre	08.15	10.00	12.00	14.00	16.00	18.00	-----	
Aston, Red Lion	08.46	10.44	12.49	14.49	16.49	18.49	-----	
BAMPTON, Bushey Row	08.51*	10.51	12.55	14.55	16.55	18.55	-----	
Clanfield, Carter Institute	08.55	10.56	13.00	15.00	1700	19.00	-----	

*Time at Horse Shoe, this journey does NOT serve Bushey Row

Although service 18 buses are timed to connect with services 19 and 19D at Bampton (Bushey Row), this connection cannot always be guaranteed to be made, especially on the 16.00 departure from Oxford (M-F).

Sorry, NO SERVICE on these routes on Sundays or Public Holidays

Thames Travel, Wallingford - Telephone 01491 874216

These services are subsidised by



**OXFORDSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL**
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

THE PITSTOP

QUALITY PARTS, COMPONENTS & ACCESSORIES

THE COMPLETE MOTORING SERVICE
ROLLING ROAD ENGINE TUNING
STATE OF THE ART DIAGNOSTICS

CAR REPAIRS
SERVICING
MoT WORK
BREAKDOWNS
DISCOUNT CAR PARTS
FOR ALL MAKES AND
MODELS



ALSO HOUSING
OXFORD CARB SERVICES
Weber • Solex • Pierburg etc



01993 850654

Unit 1, Viscount Court, Station Road, Brize Norton

The Elephant & Castle

Bridge Street, Bampton
01993 850316

17th Century Grade Two listed
country pub

Beer Garden Aunt Sally Darts
Accommodation

Enjoy our

Real Ales

And

Fine wines

and our wide range of

Single Malts

all served in the convivial

atmosphere of our

Beamed Bars with their

Inglenook Fireplaces.

We also have
cottage accommodation

all en-suite

with colour TV

and tea and coffee facilities.

PELLMANS

Solicitors

1 Abbey Street, Eynsham, Oxon OX29 4TB

- **Business and Employment Law**
- **Divorce - Finances, Children & Cohabitation disputes**
- **Property - Residential and Commercial**
- **Wills, Probate and Trusts**

Tel: 01865 884400

Fax: 01865 884411

Evening surgery at North Leigh by appointment

SICK WASHING MACHINE POORLY COOKER?



THE
APPLIANCE DOCTOR
IS
"ON CALL"

TELEPHONE FOR
FREE ESTIMATE OR
ADVICE
WITNEY 705947



Evening and Weekend Calls at NO Extra Cost
Comprehensive Stock of Parts

LITTLE CHICKS CHILDMINDERS

Are you looking for good
quality child-care?

Full or part-time?

Then give us a call

01993 210013

Registered Childminders
First-Aid Trained

The Robert & Doris Watts Residential & Nursing Home

30/32 Black Bourton Road
Carterton,
Oxfordshire OX18 3HA
Tel: 01993 844923/843102



18 Single Rooms
2 Double Rooms
All With Modern Facilities
Tastefully Decorated
Nurse Call System

The Robert & Doris Watts Residential & Nursing Home is a family run home offering a high standard of nursing in a warm and homely atmosphere.

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.

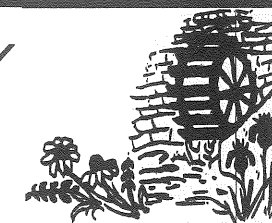
The Flower Mill

Flowers Bouquets Baskets Plants

Original Floral Designs

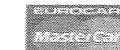
by

Christine Pope



Mill Race Farm
Mill Lane
Black Bourton
Oxfordshire OX18 2PJ
Tel: 01993 850436

Opening Times
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 10am - 2pm
Wednesday: Closed
Saturday: 10am - 12noon



Flowers Direct : Next Day Delivery to UK
Most Credit Cards Welcome

LIVE-IN HOME & PET MINDING SERVICE

Call Jacqueline & Merv

077 333 567 72

for more information

Basic Rate: £10.00 per day

Extra Pets

Dogs - £1 per day extra per dog

Cats - 50p per day extra per cat

Many long-standing clients

References available

Only a few dates left for
2002 and 2003

Quality local produce direct from the field to your fork

Home produced
Lamb & Beef

Local Preserves, Apple
Juice,

Clotted Jersey Cream,
Butter, Cheese

Home-made Cakes and
Pies

Fruit & Vegetables

Free Range Eggs



FOXSBURY FARM SHOP
BURFORD ROAD
BRIZE NORTON

Shop open Thursday, Friday and
Saturday 10am - 6pm
01993 844141

Situated just off the A40
between
Burford & Asthall Barrow
roundabouts

Ready made meals
using Foxbury Farm
Meat

Flour, including
large 16kg bags,
suitable for bread
making Machines

And lots of Farm
animals to see in the
new Foxbury Farm
Friends Barn

Don Rouse Cars Fully Qualified P.C.V. Driver

Local Runs - Day Trips
AIRPORTS & SEAPORTS

Business Trips
COURIER SERVICE

Air Conditioned Luxury
PEOPLE CARRIER
Up to six passengers
NON-SMOKING

Tel: 01993 851480

Mobile: 07770 533764

LETTERS TO: AUNTIE BEAM

Dear Auntie Beam

There have recently been two incidents in Bampton where builders have made a mockery of the planning law. In both these cases the builder has applied for one thing and then, ignoring the planning agreements, has carried out something totally different. He has then asked for retrospective planning permission. The problem seems to be that West Oxfordshire Planning Department either cannot afford, or is unwilling to take, builders to court to demand that they take down the illegal building and carry out the building as agreed in the original planning application. This creates a dangerous situation for our village as unscrupulous builders can do as they like in spite of Bampton being a conservation area and many of its building heritage being listed.

Perhaps we should ask builders who want to build in Bampton to obey the spirit of the law and have some regard for our collective heritage even if this means less profit.

Yours sincerely

A very concerned Bamptonian

Dear Reader

I think we are all concerned about the effectiveness of the planning system, and its impact on our Village. While I don't know the details of the cases you mention, I do know that they are not the only ones in recent months, and it is a worry, particularly when no visible action seems to be taken against those who ignore, or by-pass, the planning system, or the decisions that are made on planning applications

I do know that the Parish Council do their very best to monitor what is happening around the Village, and do take matters up with the West Oxfordshire District Council when the planning system is being ignored, but I suppose it is up to us all to try and help them, by making sure that they know what is going on around our Village, and where necessary we should also write to the WODC Planning Officer when we think that the planning system is being ignored or broken.

Dear Auntie Beam

We have read in the Parish Council minutes that a request has been sent to the West Oxfordshire District Council to install bollards outside of the bank, to stop motorists driving on to the pavement to access the ATM machine without leaving their cars, and also at the opposite side (Weald) of the entrance to Cheyne Lane from Bridge Street, since motorists quite often park their cars on the pavement there. We all think that this proposal from the Parish Council is a good idea, but the WODC seem to be dragging their feet on the issue, which is after all one of safety for the residents of Bampton. With your deep knowledge of Bampton, can you please, Auntie Beam, tell us all when the bollards are going to be installed?

Yours sincerely

Concerned Bamptonian

Dear Reader

I do know that the Parish Council have made a request to the Oxford County Council on the matter, but so far, the OCC has not agreed to install the bollards. Through the grapevine, I do know that the matter is not at an end, and it is being followed up by our Council. Just let's hope the OCC sees the sense of the proposal, and installs the bollards before someone is hurt.

Dear Auntie Beam

After some worry that we were going to lose one of our bus services, it is great news that Thames Travel have taken over the running of the Number 19 service from Stagecoach, and have introduced a new service the TB19 between Bampton and Carterton, via Clanfield and Black Bourton (while also maintaining their excellent service (No 18) to Oxford). They have also introduced a guaranteed connection at Bushey Row between the 19 and TB19 which is also great, but really, Bushey Row is not built for this, and the Market Square would be a much better place for it. The buses do both in fact go up High Street to the Market Square from Bushey Row



If you would like to write to Auntie Beam the address is; Auntie Beam, c/o The Cotton Club, Bridge St, Bampton, Oxon. OX18 2HA. She will do her utmost to answer as many of your queries as space allows. Auntie Beam wishes to say that she cannot give out personal replies.

and therefore there is the possibility to also connect between the buses there, but at the moment they have to double park outside Temples to let the passengers get on and off. This is not very safe. Can I suggest that the Parish Council makes the connection point actually in the Market Square outside of the Town Hall? You would not need to take any of the car parking spaces away, since the buses are only stopped for a minute or two – and drivers could wait if they get blocked in – but it would be a lot safer. However, well done to Thames Travel in keeping our bus services alive. Any chance of running some evening services at the weekends, and a service on Sunday?

Yours sincerely

A Bampton Bus User

Dear Reader

I think this a very good idea, and I have passed it to the Parish Council in the hope that they also think so. I have heard that they were thinking of turning the lay-by just down from Temples into an official bus stop, but we all know that people will ignore that it's a bus stop, and park their cars there anyway (just look at the bus stop outside the Horseshoe).

I do hope the Council give serious thought to your proposal, since it does seem the sensible way to go. But as you say it is great news that Thames Travel have stepped in to keep our bus services running. And wouldn't it be nice to have weekend and evenings as well!

The Gardening Page

By Edie Bindweed

The Garden in April

April showers and the warmth of spring brings the garden back to life with the promise of things to come. The lighter nights mean being able to spend more time in the garden, and less indoors watching the television.

Take the lawn for example, now its growing again, the mower has to be dusted off and sharpened up (don't forget we have our own 'blade and knife' sharpener in the Village, Tony Hughes, just waiting for your call!). In the beginning it is better to do two 'easy mows', than to do one big one; it makes it easier for both you and the mower!

Trimming the edges is another job which goes hand in hand with the mowing. The lawn never looks finished if you have neglected the edges, so try and think of it as one job; mowing and edging together. It certainly will pay off.

Weeding the driveway makes another contribution to the tidiness of the garden. One dose of weed killer will save hours of back aching hoeing and weeding all summer.

It's time also to start thinking of the shrubs, herbaceous borders, and of course your roses. Evergreen shrubs can be transplanted well now, but do remember to keep them moist during the heat of summer. Roses should be fed with rose food or good manure - it's that time once more when you see Roy Shergold's pile of 'cow manure' outside his house. Green fly is once more about on the tasty young shoots, so keep your eyes peeled and spray with insecticide. Herbaceous border plants can still be lifted and divided, but will need immediate re-planting. Add some moist peat to the hole when replanting, since they seem to settle down happier. Lupins, phlox, and delphiniums love having their shoots thinned out in April, and will give a super display all summer. A little bit of 'Growmore' helps as well. Gladioli will soon be showing themselves; they say they are the 'supreme flower of the cut flower world'. Here in

Bampton, we seem to have a shortage, as you never see them in the Garden Show!

Vegetables

Now is the time to start sowing the seeds of your vegetables. Most will go straight into the garden. Potatoes can be planted, and you may even have a early crop coming through. Remember to bank the earth up when you see the shoots and to get the hoe out to keep those endless weeds from strangling the young shoots.

Growbags and tomatoes go together like 'horse and carriage', and also help many other things grow well, such as runner beans, cucumbers, peppers, sweet peas, and French marigold (which keeps the greenfly down). When buying your tomato plants (much easier), look in on Temples first before you go off to a Garden Centre. But no matter where you buy them, look for short stocky well jointed plants with a healthy green colour - no yellow or brown leaves (be suspicious of these) and you shouldn't go wrong.

Tips for April

Hedges will need a 'short back and sides' once more. Privet and Laurel can be taken right down to the ground and, with the help of a generous scattering of 'Growmore', a new hedge will be forthcoming.

Keep a watchful eye out for flowering stems on your rhubarb, and cut them off as soon as you see them. Newly planted crowns should not be pulled from the root in their first year. Let them die down naturally and you'll enjoy the benefit next year.

Get your runner beans, marrows and cucumbers seeds ready to plant outside in late May.

Busy Lizzie cuttings can be taken now ready for the summer planting.

Outside, Chrysanthemums should be dug up and their roots split up, then re-planted. These will make good plants for September (ready for the Show). Many of the late flowering chrysanthemums need the young growing tip pinching out in late June to produce lovely blooms for the Autumn.

Remember that newspaper laid over your plants at night and removed next morning is a good insurance against those frosts that like to stay around with us well into May.

The Gardening Club News

Welcome to yet another year with the Bampton Gardening Club

The new committee was elected at the AGM in November.

The Committee is as follows:

President

George Winfield

Chairman

Ray Taylor

Treasurer

Tony Jenkin

Secretary/Show Secretary

Fenella Gray

Membership/ Social Secretary

Ellen Parker

Trophy Secretary

Christine McLintock

Allotment Co-ordinator

Phil MacFarlane

Advertising

Marjory Cashmore

General Members

Gary Gummer, Gill Gummer

Mollie Jones, Chris Hickman

Social Trips for 2002

Sunday 7th April Bath

Sunday 5th May

Leonardslee -Horsham

Sunday 16th June

Bodenham - Kidderminster

Sunday 28th July

Geoff Hamilton Gardens

Sunday 29th September Malvern Show

Sunday 20th October Wye Valley

Sunday 17th November Cardiff

Sunday 1st December Worcester

Sunday 15th December

Turners 'Merry go Round'

If you have to cancel, could you please let Ellen know at least a week before the trip - unless of course it's an emergency? If you don't, you may have to pay at least half of the cost to cover the ever increasing expenses of arranging and paying for the trips. Giving Ellen a week's notice of cancellation also allows time to consult the waiting list and see if others can be found to fill the gap - it's better to have your name on the waiting list, than not at all!! If you are interested in any of the trips please contact **Ellen Tel: 843985.**

OUT OF WORK FARMER - TURNED AGRICULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

By Don Rouse

It never ceases to amaze me how the weather changes in March affects us in different ways. You get a wet over-cast day and you feel that winter is still here and dragging on, and things are never going to get any better. Yet when the sun is shining you feel full of the joys of spring and immediately there is a host of jobs that want doing straight away and you just can't wait to get out there. Is it the same for you, or am I just being hormonal? I know when I was farming, my favourite day was the day when we let the cows out to grass after being kept in all winter. They would skip and jump into the air like new-born lambs; even the old granny cows would go and have a dance! That's just how I feel today as I write this with the sun shining down and the spring flowers in full bloom - though I'm not too sure as to whether my old joints will allow much dancing!

I have been having a chat with our local farmers (the things that our Editor makes me do!) to see how things are. For me it gets more depressing. I was always brought up to make the most of what I had got - every piece of ground, every pig and cow had to be at its best and giving maximum production. But our farmers seem to accept what is happening, not as a 'fait accompli', but with an enthusiasm that would put us lesser mortals to shame. I have mentioned in previous issues of the 'Beam' about some of our farmers becoming paid park keepers. This appears to be the case for two of them. I am told that they have to put forward a ten-year plan to enter this scheme, and to be accepted you have to win what you and I might call 'Brownie Points'. To get these points they are not allowed to use any fertilisers or sprays in designated areas, especially near any hedges, woodlands or ditches. One year in three they cannot cut the grass until the end of July. Hedges can be cut if it is for the well-

being of the hedge, and coppicing is an essential part of this plan. In other words, when they have been accepted, they must not grow too much; they must not be super efficient like they have been in the past! Big Brother Blair will be watching them for ten years! I wonder just how many Government Officers will be employed to



watch over them? Well I suppose it will help keep the unemployment figures down. When you look back just in our short lifetime, what enormous changes we have seen in Bampton. When I was a lad at least one third of our inhabitants would have been involved in farming and its allied industries like thatching - Fred & Ben Tanner; butchering - Jack Harrison; saddlery - Mr Chandler; cattle hauliers - Central Garage, who were also agricultural engineers selling those little baby 'Fergies'; milkmen and women - Busby's and Robey's; agricultural contractors - Arthur Gerring & Harry Pocock, a very big employer who was doing all the threshing & baling; woodmen - Arnold Buckingham - who was also a saw sharpener and setter; Bert Cosier, whose yard was shared with us at Home Farm and was also the landlord of the Wheat Sheaf. He sold small

bundles of sticks called Pimping Wood! Imagine telling people you were a Pimper! Talking of wood we must not forget Ernie Sheppard, who came around with his horse and cart selling logs; hedgers and ditchers - Jack Buckingham - and quite a few more that I am not sure about. There have also been maggot farms and snail farms, to say nothing of the numerous poachers who would have had mole and rabbit skins to sell to Mr Stallard of Faringdon. I wonder how many people in Bampton can still catch and skin a Rabbit ready for the table? You can't do that on Computer!

I know that I have probably left a lot of tradesmen out, whose jobs were allied to agriculture. I know that I have left a lot of names out, and for this I apologise, but I am sure that our Editor would love to hear your stories, so why not put pen to paper, and drop them into The Cotton Club?

At peak times like the hoeing and potato picking seasons, we used to employ at least a dozen housewives from New Road to help us in the fields. Very happy times they were too creating a bit of pin money for them and keeping one step ahead of the weeds - there was no selective weed killers in those days. I was reminded of these times about two months ago when a lady from New Road accused me of throwing a potato at her Southend when it was pointing skywards about forty years ago. Dear lady, please note I said Southend and not Big End! Anyway it could not have been me, I certainly would not have done that to a lady from *New Road*. It must have been my brother - he was a better shot! Also, at hoeing time, we would have a visit from a troop of gypsies - the 'genuine' type, if you know what I mean. They would encamp in one of our fields and after a bit of bartering they would do the hoeing for us in exchange for somewhere to camp, plus of course spending money for themselves. I used to welcome their arrival, as it meant that the hoeing season was over quicker! That was a job I could not stand; weeks and weeks of being bent over in both scorching hot sunshine and

pouring rain. To ease the backache we would try to entice our father to tell us about his childhood. Once he got going we would have at least a fifteen-minute break. Another ploy was to get the ladies to give us the low-down on the latest gossip. Father couldn't resist that either. Whilst I am talking about people involved in agriculture, I must not forget the Land Army girls - there are still a lot of them around Bampton today, and you would be surprised who they are! I got half way to Weston the other day with a client before she let on that she was a Land Army girl working down Weald in the 1940s. So you see what I mean about the big role that agriculture played in our community. Now when you look around our local farms there are very few employees, and at the moment only a few have diversified by offering livery services. There are no B&Bs, no milk rounds, a little shooting but not much else.

They tell me that a lot of our perishable foods are now being flown into this country; why? Surely for the cost of the fuel and energy used, our growers could have done it a lot cheaper? Whenever supermarkets are questioned about their food policies and the importation of foreign as opposed to using home grown foods, they always blame us the shoppers. So we all know what to do, insist on buying British, because by buying British we will keep control of our countryside and the way our food is produced. Make no mistake about it, a lot of that foreign food that you buy has a very dubious background that you and I have absolutely no control over.

I had need to check my birth certificate the other day - no not to assure myself that I had a mother and father, though that was comforting - but because I am about to qualify for SPAJER membership, i.e., become a pensioner (take note all you men born in 1937 and ladies born in 1942 you can become SPAJERS - see SPAJER news). I noticed how my father described his occupation at the time as 'Cowman on Farm'. Somehow to me it seems as though he did it with great pride. All my working life I was a 'Cowman on Farm', and very proud of it, being able to inseminate the cows, diagnose illnesses and cure 80% of their problems, experience the joy of new baby calves being born, seeing both the quality and quantity of the milk improve, have groups of young school children from our local schools come along to see where milk comes from, and explain what farming is all about. Now when I look around, there are many good ex-cowmen in Bampton but there is now only one herd of milking cows left. Whilst there are many of us oldies who have experienced the joys of a healthy farming community I feel sorry for the young ones as they will never know what they have missed.

I still wonder about the dubious circumstances of last year's foot and mouth outbreak. It will take a lot to convince me that it was not part of a plan to weaken our agriculture wellbeing. The Government has not forgotten the power of the countryside march of a couple of years ago and would appear to want to weaken that power. I hope that we can all stick together to preserve a bit of the way of life that we have enjoyed in Bampton for our siblings to do likewise. A job for BE WG perhaps?

TWO VERY COMMITTED WOMEN OF BAMPTON

By Fenella Gray

Hilda Kent and Margaret Howes are very much part of the fabric of the village, with both having contributed so much over the years. This is the *The Bampton Beam's* way of thanking them. They first met in Witney when both were in the Land Army. Hilda was running The Mount, a hostel for 'milkers', and she managed to persuade Margaret, who has been working privately to join the hostel. Margaret was an experienced milker, both hand and machine, and became Hilda's able assistant. Hilda moved into Bampton well over 50 years ago to look after her father who had been evacuated from the South Coast during the war and was living at Cromwell House. When the Mount Hostel in Witney closed, owing to the end of the Land Army, Hilda, having taught land army girls to drive as part of her duties, saw the need for a Driving Instructor in this district, and started the Witney School of Motoring. Margaret then came to stay with Hilda and her father until she decided what to do next, and after doing various jobs, set up on her own as a private hire taxi service. She retired from this in 1988. They have both been involved with the Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund and are still firm supporters. Until last year Margaret held an annual sale for the Fund outside Cromwell House on Morris Dancing day. During sale day Hilda describes herself as gofer, back-up bod, and food fixer for the hard working helpers. In the first 3 years of their involvement they, and all the helpers, made it financially possible to train two nurses in the areas of pain control and counselling. For many years Margaret was a very prominent member on the Bampton Parish Council. We have a lot to thank her for, especially for her time on the 'local planning committee', where she helped maintain the Bampton we all like to live in; in the process, no doubt, she probably made a few 'backs go up' with her stance on various planning issues.

Margaret was also a committee member of the Bampton Horticultural Society (now Bampton Gardening Club). She used to have impressive displays of flowers both front and back of Cromwell House, and also a flourishing vegetable garden. Regrettably she is unable to do the gardening now. Hilda's job in the garden she describes as 'modest' - dead heading. Both Hilda and Margaret have been active with BEWG. They strongly support conservation, and still take a great deal of interest in local planning applications, both caring very deeply about what happens to our Village. Both have retired from committee works but keep busy in other ways. Hilda has her artwork and runs classes - 'Art for the Disabled' in Witney. This involves twice-a-year exhibitions of the students' work. She is also a keen supporter of West Oxfordshire Arts Council, and is very thrilled by the quality art displayed at the Bampton Gallery. Did you know that the photographs on local view postcards sold in Bampton over the years are Hilda's work? The artistic displays in the Bush Club entrance every week are also created by her, and no doubt when passing Cromwell House you have noticed the many different window displays she makes.

The 'Beam Team' would like to wish Hilda and Margaret all the best for the future, and long may they carry on their good works.

Bampton Golden Jubilee Celebrations

The following events have been organised to mark the 50th anniversary of the Queen's Accession to the Throne.

4th June 2002

- 09.30am The Bells of St Mary's Church will ring out the news!
- 10.30am An ecumenical service will be held for all at St Mary's.
- 12.00am The unveiling of the Bampton Millennium Mosaic, Market Square.
- 12am until late Throughout the afternoon and evening, the public houses within Bampton will serve refreshments and food.
- 2pm to 5pm Children and parents and young adult's sporting event, organised at the Bampton Pavilion and Sports Field.
- 5pm Children of Bampton (age up to 11) will be presented with a Golden Jubilee Mug.
- 7.30 to 11pm Barn Dance (weather permitting), Market Square, Bampton.

Notice

Individuals and groups within Bampton who would like to organise their own events should obtain further information from: **The Queen's Golden Jubilee, Celebration tool kit. Tel: 0845 000 2002. The Summer Party Booklet. Tel: 01725 516456**

YOUR MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

DAVID CAMERON MP

IS HOLDING ADVICE CENTRES ACROSS WEST OXFORDSHIRE

- Friday 5th April **CARTERTON** Town Hall
- Friday 3rd May **CHARLBURY** Corner House
- Friday 24th May **BURFORD** Warwick Hall
- Friday 21st June **CHIPPING NORTON** Town Hall
- Friday 19th July **WITNEY** The Gallery Room

All 5pm to 7pm

To make an appointment please contact: West Oxfordshire Conservative Association Office, 10 Bridge Street, Witney, Oxon OX28 1HY Tel: 01993 702302; Fax: 01993 776639; Email: tory@witney10.fsnet.co.uk

David Cameron is always available to help constituents on urgent matters. You can also write to: **David Cameron MP, The House of Commons, London, SW1A. 0AA.**

From your local Postwatch Representative

In 1979, I was appointed to serve on the Post Office Advisory Committee (part of the Post Office Users National Council - POUNC) from West Oxfordshire District Council - this I continued to serve on until March 2001.

From April 2001 I was appointed to the new **POSTWATCH** Consumer Council for the Midlands, being one of the 9 chosen out of over 200 applicants.

What is POSTWATCH?

Postwatch acts as the 'voice of the consumer' in all postal matters. We help customers get the best possible service at the keenest prices from Royal Mail, Post Offices and Parcelforce Worldwide. Postwatch is a completely independent body, not attached to the Post Office or part of the government.

Postwatch works closely with the industry regulator, Postcomm, when setting new targets and standard of service that the Post Office must in future achieve.

For further information of these standards, please visit the Postwatch website at www.postwatch.co.uk or call on **08456 013265**.

If you have a complaint against the Post Office first complain direct to the following:

Royal Mail customer services

Tel: 0845 774 0740

Post Office Ltd (formerly Post Office Counters Ltd) **Tel: 0845 722 3344**

Parcelforce Worldwide general enquiries **Tel: 0800 22 44 66**

If the matter cannot be resolved by contacting the above then ring Postwatch Midlands on **01785 229543** or Fax **01785 226183** or contact myself, your local OX postcode Midland Postwatch member.

Derrick E Millard - Postwatch Midlands Representative

Tel: 01993 891484

Fax: 01993 891458

Email:

derrickemillard@hotmail.com

Bampton S.P.A.J.E.R.S.

Golden Jubilee

50th Shirt Race

The Coronation inspired the first race, why don't you be part of the 50th one ?



We need Prams, can you help provide some "wheels" ?
We need more entrants for the Junior and Senior Races, want to know more ?

Can you provide some old photos ?
Would you like to help sponsor the event ?

Other attractions include,
 Tombola
 Traction Engine
 Band
 Burgers
 Rides for the Children

Ring
Frank on 01993 842126
or

Don on 01993 850938

All profits from the event will as always go to the older folk in Bampton.

A Decade of Bampton Classical Opera

by Gilly French and Jeremy Gray

It was a fairly crazy thing to attempt, that's clear! Back in 1993, aided and abetted by West Oxfordshire Arts Association (as it then was), who wanted to branch out a little from the visual arts to put on some music, we came up with the idea of doing something rather extravagant – namely opera, just about the most complex (and expensive) art-form of all. It was all Gilly's fault, really, as she especially wanted to sing the glorious part of the nymph Galatea in Handel's mini-opera, *Acis and Galatea*. Reckoning that no-one else was going to ask her, she decided the only way was to organise it ourselves. And so Bampton Summer Opera was born, performing for the first time in the really beautiful – and acoustically remarkable – setting of the Deanery Garden, on 17 July 1993.

We persuaded some skilled amateur singers to perform, managed to get an orchestra, wondered how to provide seating – and decided that the audience would have to bring their own – and we even managed to obtain vital donations from several local businesses and a number of generous individuals. What was more important, we got an audience, and despite the fact that the performance was musically patchy (although we did have some rather spectacular fireworks), it appeared that they enjoyed themselves. To put on one opera was rash, but then to plan another the following year was sheer lunacy. The sale of the Deanery by its owners, Mr and Mrs Dudley, could have put a spanner in the works, but the new purchasers, Linda and Peter Ferstendik, were by amazing coincidence parents of a girl in Jeremy's sixth-form History of Art class at a London school. 1994 saw us achieving some small publicity for giving the first performance of a new completion of an unfinished Mozart opera, *The Cairo Goose*, setting us in hunt of ever-rarified obscurities of eighteenth century repertoire. And so Bampton Summer Opera was established, because then people were

always assuming there would be another. Our name with its connotations of warmth and sun proved puzzling when we started celebrating Bampton's patron Saint Beornwald with a concert in St Mary's on his feast-day, the shortest day of the year, 21st December, and eventually in 1998 we became Bampton Classical Opera, reinforcing our commitment to the classical period of music, namely the late eighteenth century.

A sequence of fascinating and rare operas, a beautiful venue, a relaxed ethos quite unlike any other opera company, and increasingly fine musical standards have gradually established us on the British musical map. We now have a thick file of glowing reviews from both local and national press, and our activities draw an audience from a very wide area. Although our singers and players these days are entirely professional, we maintain vital roots in the local community, with so much done for us on a voluntary basis – scenery, costumes, bar, publicity, front-of-house, backstage, and many other tasks, and we continue to be immensely grateful to all those who give their time and expertise in many ways. Equally we are grateful to those who generously donate – especially to our growing scheme of Friends and Benefactors: opera is always expensive, and if we were to cover our costs from the box-office we would have to triple our prices. So each year there is the arduous task of fundraising, so that we can maintain ticket prices at a reasonable level, a key part of our policy.

For the past two years we have performed also at Westonbirt in Gloucestershire; we were invited to perform in the beautiful Theatre Royal, Bath, in the 2001 Bath Shakespeare Festival, we have had enquiries from festivals in Cyprus and South America, and in September 2002 we will make our London debut at one of the capital's leading venues, St John's, Smith Square. Bampton Classical Opera is clearly going places!

"Intelligent directorial style, informed by a wry sense of humour" (*The Independent*); "the champagne-flavoured chutzpah of a very funny, pacy show...singing expertise, all young but all extremely watertight" (*The Oxford Times*); "you can pay more for

less in more pretentious and far less pretty places" (*The Times*); "Bampton Classical Opera's production put scarcely a foot wrong" (*Opera magazine*); "meticulous musical standards with truly idyllic surroundings" (*The Daily Telegraph*); "highly agreeable opera on the lawn" (*Opera Now*); "Once again Bampton has shown how imaginative repertoire can be combined with audience-friendliness and fun" (*Opera magazine*); "an amazing achievement" (*The Oxford Times*); "wit and style" (*The Times*).... Might you be missing out on something?

This summer's performances - :

Cimarosa, *The Two Barons of Rocca Azzurra* (1783): the Deanery Garden, Bampton, 8pm Friday 19th July and 7.30pm Saturday 20th July.

Mozart, *The Impresario*, *The Cairo Goose*, *The Deluded Bridegroom*: Westonbirt School 24th August; St John's, Smith Square, London 12th September.

Tickets available mid-May from Abbey Properties or Tel 07789 345392. Full information on www.bamptonopera.org

The Bike Path Project

An Update

by Jo Lewington

The Bike Path Project is at a bit of an impasse while we wait to see the possibility of pursuing another shorter route to the Thames at Tadpole Bridge. Meanwhile we are trying to keep Bampton cycling needs in the eye of the Oxfordshire County Council's Department of Sustainable Transport which is responsible for planning cycle paths in Oxfordshire. The route from Bampton to Carterton, and the route from Bampton to Witney are both to be assessed. But don't hold your breath, this is apparently a long slow process.

There are a number of possible cycle paths on the list and the Bampton ones won't even come up for assessment for about another 5 years. At this rate those of us waiting for the freedom to cycle in safety, will be in wheel chairs before there are any safe cycling paths out of Bampton! Don't worry. Cycle paths are for wheelchair users too!

THE COOKERY CORNER

By Gilly French

Entertaining on a Budget

Giving a dinner party is one of the most enjoyably convivial activities I can think of, and it needn't break the bank. When I first thought about writing along these lines I had in mind something along the lines of 'how to hold a dinner party for six for under £10' but as I have spent most of my so-called free time this year engaged in translations of various Cimarosa and Mozart rarities for our summer opera season I can't pretend to have done any extensive research at Lonsis or any of the Witney supermarkets. And of course what one person considers an essential store cupboard ingredient another person will have to buy. However, the prevailing factor in choosing all these recipes (none of which is my own) has been the cost of the ingredients. Here are two first courses and two main course suggestions – puddings have never been my speciality!



Lentil and bacon salad

8 oz puy lentils
6 rashers smoked streaky bacon
1 small onion
1-2 cloves garlic
fresh rosemary
salad leaves of your choice
1 lemon
wine or stock
olive oil
wine vinegar

Chop the bacon and fry in a casserole to release the fat. Cook the onion and garlic in it until soft. Add the lentils and chopped rosemary, and cook in stock or red wine for about half an hour until done, adding more liquid if necessary. Season to taste, adding the juice of the lemon.

Make a bed of salad leaves (my favourite is lambs lettuce, but that would not pass the frugality requirement), pile the lettuce leaves on top and drizzle with a dressing made from 3 parts oil to one part vinegar. If frugality isn't a requirement, grilled scallops would go very nicely!

Chicken with forty cloves of garlic

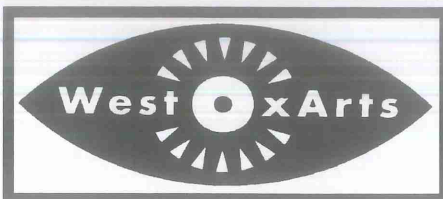
I promise you this is wonderful. The garlic roasts and steams, and ends up mellow flavoured, whilst the chicken is gorgeously tender.

1 chicken
3 teaspoons mixed dried herbs
salt and pepper
1 lemon, quartered
3 heads garlic, cloves separated but not peeled,
300ml chicken stock
250 ml dry white wine
olive oil

Rub the chicken with oil, cover with the herbs and place the lemon in the cavity. Put in a casserole dish in the fridge for a couple of hours. Preheat the oven to 190°C. Add the garlic, stock and wine to the casserole, bring to the boil and cook in the oven for 25 minutes. Remove the chicken and keep warm. Reduce the juices a little, adding a little flour and some of the peeled, crushed garlic. Cut the chicken into serving pieces and serve with the sauce. Mashed potato makes a comforting accompaniment.

Cheese fondue

1 clove garlic
1 large loaf country bread
half a bottle of dry white wine
1lb gruyere cheese
1 tablespoon cornflour
2 tablespoons kirsch
salt, pepper and nutmeg
Rub the interior of a stainless steel or enamel saucepan with the cut clove of garlic. Discard. Bring the wine to a simmer, and add the grated cheese and nutmeg. Heat until the cheese melts (it will not yet be blended). In a small bowl mix together the cornflour and kirsch (if you don't have kirsch, use more wine instead) stir into the cheese mixture until smooth. Season with salt and pepper. If the fondue appears too thick, add more wine.



West Ox Arts

W.O.A. Gallery, Market Square, Bampton, Oxon OX18 2JH

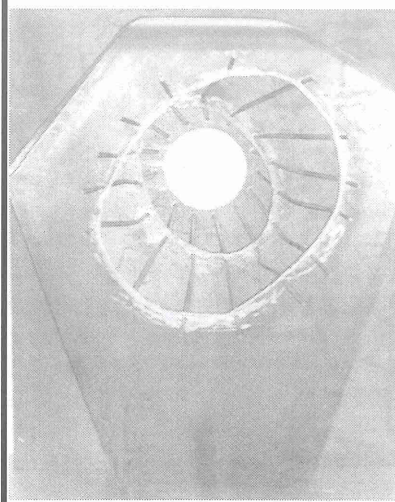
Tel: 01993 850137 E-mail: westoxarts@yahoo.co.uk

Opening Hours: Tues - Sat 10:30am - 12:30pm and 2pm - 4pm; Sun - 2pm - 4pm

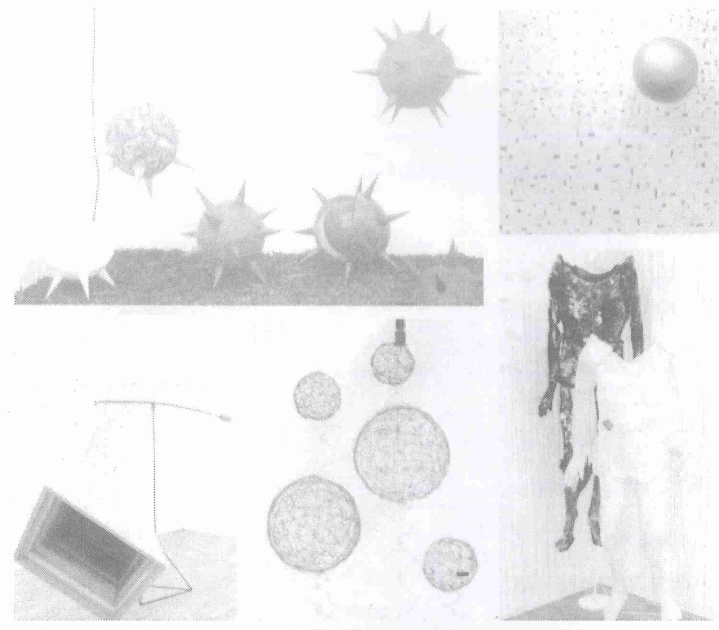
Membership fees - Single £15, Family £25, Student £7.50.

Thinking Aloud : All in a Ring

Does studying for a Fine Art degree change your approach to art?



All in a ring are mature Fine Art students at the North Oxfordshire College, Banbury. Their exhibition is a presentation of their ongoing work in contemporary painting, printmaking, and sculpture



Sat 24 March
Sun 14 April

A note from Sally...

As some of you already know, in October last year I indicated to WOA's Chairman that I would like to hand on the role of Administrator to someone else in the new year. It is nearly six years since took over from Sarah, and I felt that both WOA and myself would benefit from a change.

We advertised in the local press and received 13 applications.

We made a shortlist of 5 people to interview, and as a result, on Wednesday 9 January 2002, we were very pleased to appoint Abigail Ballinger to be the new WOA Administrator.

Medieval in Mind

Alison Merry and Friends

An exhibition featuring the works of five artists who in their different ways draw inspiration from materials, skills and visions of their medieval forbears.

A painter, and furniture maker, a calligrapher and a needle-woman



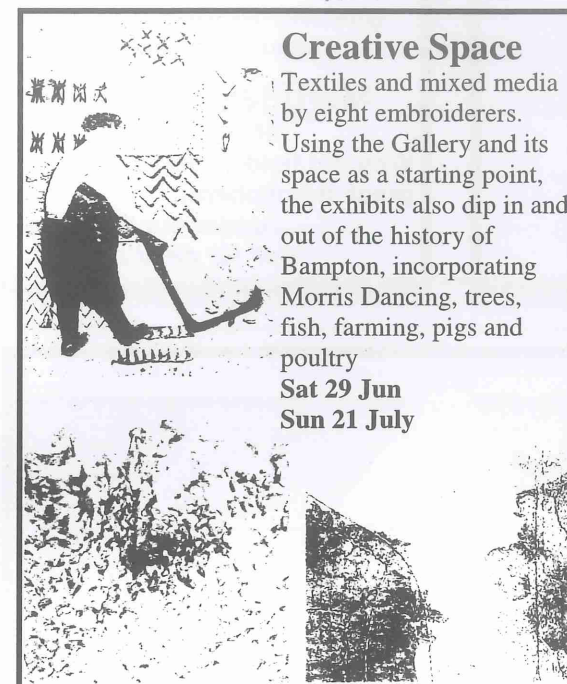
Sun 21 April Sunday 5 May

For me, it has been a wonderful experience and a real privilege to work with so many talented artists and makers. Thank you all for your help and support over the past six years, and I'm hoping to actually put something in for the Members' Exhibition this year!

And a note from Abigail... BALLINGER

I hope to meet as many Bampton residents as possible over the next few months but, in the meantime, you might like to know a bit about me! I am an art history graduate with commercial gallery experience and have written widely on the visual arts, including a guidebook to London's museums and galleries. I am delighted to have been appointed Sally's successor and am looking forward to continuing the high standards set by her and to maintaining a varied and exciting exhibition programme at WOA.

ADMINISTRATOR
WEST OX ARTS



Creative Space

Textiles and mixed media by eight embroiderers. Using the Gallery and its space as a starting point, the exhibits also dip in and out of the history of Bampton, incorporating Morris Dancing, trees, fish, farming, pigs and poultry

Sat 29 Jun
Sun 21 July

EXHIBITIONS IN THE ROBERT VESEY ROOM BAMPTON LIBRARY

APRIL Amanda Thompson: Paintings

MAY Art in Bampton: An end of course exhibition of work by local students

OPENING HOURS: Mon & Thu 2.30 to 4.30pm; Wed & Sat 10am to 12pm. If you would like to book this exhibition space for a month during the second half of 2002, please contact the Administrator on 01993 850137 or Ailsa Matheson on 01993 851004. The only charge is 20% commission on sales.

SITTERS: We are always glad of new additions to the regular team of Gallery or Vesey Room sitters. If you could spare a couple of hours once a month to support WOA in this way, please contact the Administrator on 01993 850137 or Barbara Daw for the Vesey Room on 01993 851491.

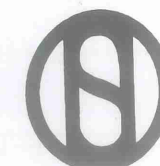
WOA MEMBER'S EXHIBITION

Works in a variety of media and styles from the members of West Ox Arts as part of ARTWEEKS

Sat 11 May Mon 3 June



An Eye on the East



Hugh Sowden

Oils and watercolours from Cairo based artist Hugh Sowden.

Vivid colours and powerful brushwork evoking the people, places and landscapes of the East.

Sun 9 June
Sun 23 Jun



Gallery Life Drawing Classes



UNTUTORED LIFE DRAWING SESSIONS

Take place on Monday mornings, from 10am to 12.30pm, and Wednesday evenings from 7.30 to 9.30pm in the Gallery, and are aimed at those without the need of guidance.

No booking necessary.

Pay as you attend.

WOA members £6.00.

Non-members £7.50

TUTORED LIFE DRAWING CLASSES

ALSO AVAILABLE—EVENINGS £40 for 4 sessions.

For more information about all life drawing classes, please contact

RICHARD MORBEY

01993 851004

Oxfordshire Art Weeks

OPEN STUDIO

Stenton Cottage, Bridge Street, Bampton
An Exhibition and Demonstration of Ceramic Sculpture, Resist Dyed Textiles and Domestic and Garden Pottery.

by

Anna Lever OAS, RBA

Isabella Whitworth

Lesley Williams WOA

All Welcome. Please come and have a look
Open 11th, 12th May, 18th - 26th May, 1st - 4th June
12noon - 6pm

ABBEY PROPERTIES ESTATE AGENTS

*Specialising in the sale of property in
Bampton and surrounding villages*

OUR UNRIVALLED KNOWLEDGE OF THE LOCAL
AREA COMBINED WITH OUR PROFESSIONALISM
AND WILL TO ACHIEVE THE BEST POSSIBLE
PRICE AT ALL TIMES MAKES
ABBEY PROPERTIES
THE OBVIOUS CHOICE TO
SELL YOUR HOME

*For marketing advice and a free valuation entirely without obligation,
contact YOUR local agent.*

MARKET SQUARE, BAMPTON, OXON.
Tel: 01993 851881 or Fax: 01993 850953

See also our Website www.abbey-properties.tv

The Romany Inn

Bridge Street, Bampton
01993 850237

A Fine Old Hostelry Bar

Relax in convivial surroundings in
our L-shaped bar, with its oak
beams, and its basket log fire.

Accommodation

We have an excellent range of ac-
commodation. There are 11 single
and double rooms - all ensuite. All
have tea and coffee making facili-
ties, and come equipped with a
remote control colour TV.

Restaurant

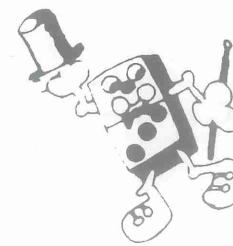
Enjoy a meal in our softly-lit dining
room, with its open brickwork and
gleaming brasses and copper
canopied fireplace.

Marquee Available May - June

Why not hold your party in a
great atmosphere....

.....under our Marquee?
Call for details

DOMINO



Quality Menswear
44 Corn St. Witney
Tel: 01993 771413

**FORMAL HIREWEAR
SPECIALIST**

**EVERYTHING FOR THAT
SPECIAL OCCASION**

IMMEDIATE HIRE OF

AGENTS FOR

Dinner Suits
Morning Suits

Highland Wear
Page Boy Suits
Lounge Suits

THE STANDLAKE GARAGE

Proprietor: Peter Saxel
153 Abingdon Rd, Standlake, Oxon OX8 7RR
Tel: 01865 300203

**REPAIR AND
SERVICING TO ALL
MAKES OF CAR**
(Collection and Delivery Service)

M.O.T. TESTING STATION - PETROL
DIESEL - ACCESSORY AND
CONFECTIONERY SHOP - TYRES,
BATTERIES & EXHAUST SYSTEMS
ALL AT COMPETITIVE PRICES
(Fitting free of charge when supplied)
WHEEL BALANCING
CRYPTON TUNING
COAL, PARAFFIN, BARBECUE FUEL

**DON'T HESITATE TO
CALL US
ALWAYS HAPPY TO
ASSIST**



Electric Vehicles Ltd

Moonraker Lane, Market Square, Bampton, Oxon OX18 2JH

THE ELECTRIC VEHICLE SPECIALISTS

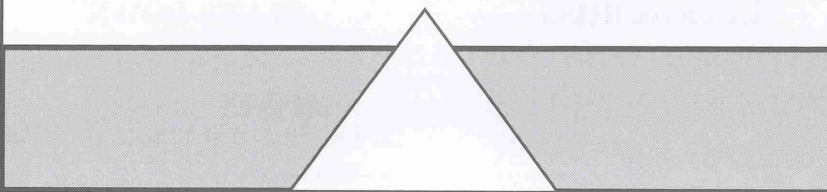
- * Regular routine maintenance
- * 24-hour emergency breakdown service
- * Spare parts for most makes of vehicle from stock
- * Service exchange units (diffs, motors, steering boxes)
- * Replacement batteries and chargers
- * Body repairs and rebuilding facility
- * New and used vehicle sales department
- * Charger and battery service facility
- * Electronic control specialists

ALL AT COMPETITIVE PRICES

For Details Telephone WITNEY (01993) 850714/850025



(1418)



R. Cooper

BUILDERS - PAINTERS - DECORATORS

CARPENTRY - JOINERY - GENERAL HELPERS

SPECIALISTS IN DRY STONE WALLING

The Old Gasworks, Aston Road, Bampton
Oxon OX18 2AL
Phone/Fax 01993 851851

BOJANGLES

Rosemary Lane, Bampton
01993 850850

All aspects of hairdressing
Woven Highlights + Perms
Gents & Children
Senior Citizen's Days

Tues, Wed, Thur 8.45am - 5pm
Fri 8.45am - 5.30pm
Sat 9am - 2pm

**Appointments not
always necessary**

Do you suffer muscle aches
or pain caused by injury,
occupation or lifestyle?
A course of Remedial/Sports
massage could help!

Contact
Dawn Puckey
MGCP IIHHT ITEC
'Bodytalk'
Bampton
Tel: 01235 524309

Solution to December's BEAM CROSSWORD



The £5 winner for April's crossword is Mr Kevin Farrell, 17 Mercury Close, Bampton. Congratulations! We would also like to donate £5 to Cancer Research, as a thank you to Mr. Bill Govier for producing yet another crossword for us to enjoy.

The Bampton Beam Adverts

Why not give your local business a lift?

Advertise in 'The Beam'

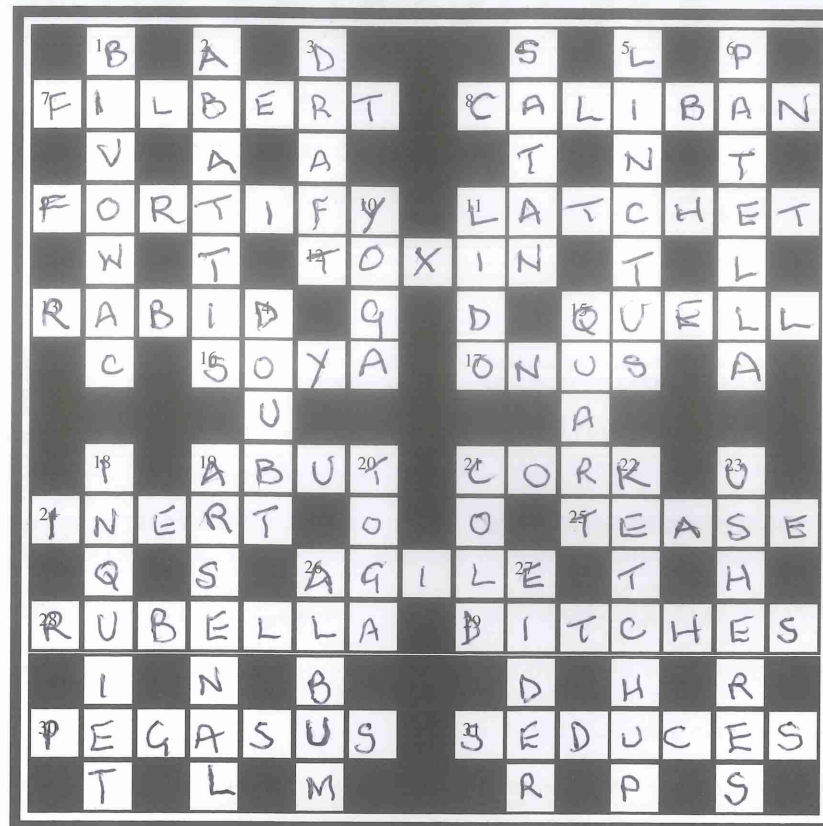
**(and get a free advert on the
Bampton Website!)**

The rates for 'The Beam' are very reasonable. So why not call the Editor now and book your spot for the next edition?

Tel: 01993 851653

Examples
Full Page £100
Half Page £50
1/3rd Page £30
1/6th Page £25
1/12th Page £16
Additional Artwork
from £20

THE BAMPTON BEAM'S CROSSWORD



CLUES ACROSS

7. Nut of cultivated hazel
8. Monster (Shakespeare's Tempest)
9. To make Stronger
11. A leather shoelace
12. An organic poisonous substance
13. Fanatically vehement
15. To calm, to allay
16. Bean of the Glycine Soja
17. Burden, responsibility
19. To border upon
21. Stopper for a bottle
24. Displaying no activity
25. To incite or entice
26. Nimble, active
28. German measles
29. Open drains
30. Winged horse (Greek myth)
31. Charm, divert

CLUES DOWN

1. Camp overnight with little equipment
2. Defensive structure of felled trees
3. Rough first copy
4. Heathen
5. Soothing throat medicine
6. Kneecap
10. Meditative Hindu philosophy
11. Outdoor bathing pool
14. Uncertainty
15. Two pints
18. Restless, uneasy
19. A store for arms
20. A Roman garment
21. Low temperature
22. Tomato sauce
23. Refers to higher court
26. Book for autographs
27. Artic sea-duck

Town Hall Bookings

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

THIS YEAR BLENHEIM PALACE IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE
THE ARRIVAL OF THEIR NEW SEASON TICKET

For those who have discovered that with so much to see at Blenheim, one visit is just not enough, a Season Ticket provides the perfect excuse to return again and again..

PALACE, PARK AND GARDENS

The fully comprehensive ticket enables you to see and do everything at Blenheim

Set in 'Capability Brown's' magnificent parkland, Blenheim Palace was built for the first Duke of Marlborough in recognition of his great victory over the French at the Battle of Blenheim in 1704. The Palace was designed by Sir John Vanbrugh and is one of the finest examples of English baroque. It contains a unique collection of tapestries, paintings, porcelain and furniture set in gilded State Rooms. An exhibition of Churchilliana is housed around the room where Sir Winston Churchill was born.

PARK AND GARDENS

The Park and Gardens ticket allows you to go everywhere except the Palace

Blenheim's gardens range from the formal Water Terraces, Italian Garden and Rose Garden to the more natural arboretum and spectacular cascades. Blenheim Lake, spanned by Vanbrugh's Grand Bridge, is the focal point of over 2,000 acres of glorious landscaped parkland. The Pleasure Gardens include a large adventure playground, the Herb Garden, the Butterfly House, the Marlborough Maze, putting greens and giant chess and draughts. There is also a cafeteria and a well-stocked shop. The old dairy now houses the main Gift Shop and the Country Kitchen selling jams, chutneys, sandwiches, drinks and ice creams. The Water Terrace restaurant serves full lunches and teas, whilst the buffet offers a wide selection of hot and cold food.

The season ticket scheme allows unlimited visits over a twelve month period giving exceptional value for money. Some people may wish to re-visit the Palace, the Park and the Gardens. Others may prefer to have a ticket which gains access to the Park and Gardens only. Show your preference by ticking the appropriate box and filling in the details below.

Please return the form to:

**THE SEASON TICKET OFFICE
BLENHEIM PALACE
WOODSTOCK
OXFORDSHIRE OX20 1PX**

For further details visit our website or ring the Season Ticket Office on **01993 811091**
www.blenheimpalace.com

<u>Palace, Park and Gardens including Adventure Play Area</u>			<u>Park and Gardens including Adventure Play Area</u>		
<u>Area</u>					
Single	£35	<input type="checkbox"/>	Single	£25	<input type="checkbox"/>
Couple	£60	<input type="checkbox"/>	Couple	£35	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family (2 adults and up to 3 children)	£75	<input type="checkbox"/>	Family (2 adults and up to 3 children)	£50	<input type="checkbox"/>
Additional Children	+£10	<input type="checkbox"/>	Additional children	+£10	<input type="checkbox"/>
Name (s)			Cheque enclosed, made out to <i>Blenheim Visitors Account</i> <input type="checkbox"/>		
2).....			Visa/Mastercard/Switch (delete as appropriate) <input type="checkbox"/>		
3).....			Name:		
4).....			Number:		
Address			Expiry Date :		
.....					
.....					

Calendar of Events

April

- 5th AGM, Macmillan Cancer Relief, Town Hall, 2.30pm
 7th Outing to Bath, Gardening Club, Market Square, 9am
 10th Parish Assembly Meeting, Town Hall, 7pm - 8pm
 12th Quiz Evening, SPAJERS, Village Hall
 20th Coffee Morning, Gardening Club, Town Hall, 10-12noon
 22nd Village Hall AGM, 8pm

May

- 5th Outing to Leonardslee, Gardening Club, Market Square, 9am
 6th Street Fair, Pumpkin Club
 6th Farmers Market, TBA
 31st Magpie Lane Concert, St Mary's, 8pm -10pm

June

- 1st The 50th Great Annual Shirt Race, SPAJERS, Village, 7pm
 3rd Morris Dancers, Village, early until late
 3rd Grand Plant Sale, Bikepath Project, Eagle House
 4th Golden Jubilee Celebrations
 16th Outing to Bodenham, Gardening Club, Market Square, 9am
 19th Community Lunch, Witney Methodist Church, 12.30 - 2pm
 30th Secret Gardens, Friends of St Mary's, Village, 2pm - 6pm

July

- 3rd Pub Quiz, Cancer Research, Elephant & Castle
 14th Summer Party, SPAJERS
 19th/20th *The Two Barons of Rocca Azzurra*, Bampton Classical Opera
 20th Garden Party, WOCA
 28th Outing to Geoff Hamilton Gardens, Gardening Club, 9am

WODC Environmental Services Holiday Refuse Collection Timetable EASTER BANK HOLIDAY

Friday 29 March	Tuesday 2 April
Monday 1 April	Wednesday 3 April
Tuesday 2 April	Thursday 4 April
Wednesday 3 April	Friday 5 April
Thursday 4 April	Saturday 6 April
Friday 5 April	Monday 8 April
Monday 8 April	Tuesday 9 April
Tuesday 9 April	Wednesday 10 April
Wednesday 10 April	Thursday 11 April
Thursday 11 April	Friday 12 April
Friday 12 April	Saturday 13 April
Monday 15 April - Back to Normal	
MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY	
Monday 6 May	Tuesday 7 May
Tuesday 7 May	Wednesday 8 May
Wednesday 8 May	Thursday 9 May
Thursday 9 May	Friday 10 May
Friday 10 May	Saturday 11 May
Monday 13 May - Back to Normal	
SPRING BANK HOLIDAY	
Monday 3 June	Wednesday 5 June
Tuesday 4 June	Thursday 6 June
Wednesday 5 June	Friday 7 June
Thursday 6 June	Saturday 8 June
Friday 7 June	Monday 10 June
Monday 10 June	Tuesday 11 June
Tuesday 11 June	Wednesday 12 June
Wednesday 12 June	Thursday 13 June
Thursday 13 June	Friday 14 June
Friday 14 June	Saturday 15 June
Monday 17 June - Back to Normal	

THE BAMPTON BEAM

The Bampton Beam is published three times a year and distributed free to all residents in Bampton. Extra copies are available from the Post Office, Emmie's, Abbey Properties, Temples and The Library.

Editor

Fenella Gray Tel: 851653

Sub-Editor

Fred Gray Tel: 851653

Artwork

Jo Lewington Tel: 850947

Treasurer

Christine McLintock: Tel: 850736

Advertising:

Fred Gray Tel: 851653

Fax: 851892

E-mail: fredgray@witneyserve.net

Chief Photographer

Ian McLintock

Cub Photographer

Fred Gray

Distribution

Vacant

If you would like help or join the team in any capacity please contact:

Fenella Gray Tel: 851653

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

Next deadline - 30th June 2002

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

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

The Beam Team wishes to thank The Cotton Club - quality fabric suppliers - as well as the 'Beam' letter box! Also thanks to Abbey Properties and to the Parish Council for their financial support each year.

If you wish to have *The Bampton Beam* posted to yourself or a relative or friend on a regular basis, please send your name, address and cheque (made payable to The Bampton Beam) to: The Bampton Beam, Subscriptions: c/o The Cotton Club, Bridge Street, Bampton, Oxon OX18 2HA. Annual Subscription - £2.50