

# THE BAMPTON BEAM

July 2006

Volume 21, No. 2

## The New Parish Council

The Parish Council election to be held on 4<sup>th</sup> May, was, unfortunately, a non-election, since only 10 candidates submitted nomination papers for the 11 posts available.

At the first meeting of the new Council it was agreed to advertise for a candidate to fill the 11<sup>th</sup> position, and one brave Parishioner put his name forward and was duly co-opted on to the Council at its June meeting.

The full line-up of Councillors is:

Mrs J E Allinson - Chairman

Mrs M Dowding

Mr A D Dunbar

Mr F A C Gray

Mr D G Hawkins - Vice Chairman

Mr R Landray

Mr I Millar

Mr R W Norman

Mrs A Pitt

Mr S Radband

Mr R Smith

Clerk to the Parish Council:

Mrs B A Sapsford

The membership of various Standing and Statutory Committees are as follows:

### Finance and General Purpose Committee

Mrs Allinson, Mr Hawkins, Mr Gray, Mr Millar

### Public Grounds and Footpaths

Mrs Allinson, Mr Hawkins, Mr Dunbar, Mr B Norman, Mr Smith, Ms W Rainer (Village Member), Mr M Green (Village member)

### Youth Centre Management Committee

Mrs Dowding

### Allotments

Mrs Dowding

### Village Hall Committee

Mr Dunbar

### Transport Representative

Mr Gray

### Bampton Exhibition Foundation

Mr Hawkins, Mrs Sapsford

### Planning Advisory & Conservation Committee

Mrs Allinson, Mr Hawkins, Mr Nor-

man, Mr Landray, Mr Millar

### Sports Complex Steering Committee

Mr Dunbar, Mr Hawkins, Mr Smith, Mr Gray

### Bush Club Representative

Mrs Dowding

### Councillor without Portfolio - Pro-tem

S Radband

Four of the previous Parish Council members decided not to stand again this year; they are:

Lord Donoughmore, Dr G Haslam, Mrs J Leeming, Mrs J Newman.

The 'Beam' would like to thank them on behalf of the Village for serving us so well for many years.

Being a Parish Councillor is not the 'doddle' that some may think, and all of the Parish Councillors take their role very seriously; they serve because they want to do their best for the Village and the Villagers in terms of quality of life.

And while many in the Village no doubt feel that the Council has a very limited say in matters, it does have a voice that is listened to by authorities such as the West Oxfordshire District Council and the Oxfordshire County Council. And it does get things done - not always as quickly as it would like, but it does succeed on many occasions. Examples are the various improvements made to the roads and lanes in the Village over the last few years - courtesy the efforts particularly of David Hawkins - and the efforts to block unwelcome housing developments - although it lost out on Littlemead, when even the WODC objected to the development!

So, it may not always win the debates, but it does frequently, and we should be grateful to our Councillors for trying to ensure that we maintain, and improve, the quality of life in the Village.

### District Council

The 'Beam' would also like to con-

gratulate Martin Barrett on his election to The West Oxfordshire District Council. Martin joins Mark Booty as Councillor for the Bampton and Clanfield ward.

### Extra day heralds

### Shopmobility success

Witney Shopmobility's opening hours are being extended from two to three days a week. West Oxfordshire District Council agreed to trial an extra day following a report outlining the scheme's success since it first started two year ago. The new opening times start in April 2006 and will run for a one year trial period initially.

The additional Shopmobility opening day is Wednesday and opening times the same as for Mondays and Thursdays, which is 9.30 am - 4 pm. It is based in the Langdale Gate building, which is close to the car park in Witney Town Centre. Dedicated parking bays, for those with disabilities, are adjacent to the building and there is bus stop for the Dial-a-Ride service.

Manual and powered wheelchairs and powered scooters can be hired free of charge. It can be used by anyone with a mobility difficulty as a result of age, accident or illness and is open to all ages. **For further information contact: Carys Davies / Olga Joven Tel: 01993 861615.**

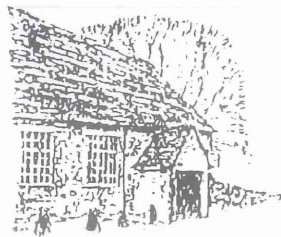
### Annual Village Fair

The Annual Village Fair will take place in The Market Square and High Street from 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> August inclusive.

However, the Fair vehicles will be arriving from around 12 noon on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> August to set up the rides and amusements, and will therefore need access to The Market Square and the High Street from then.

The organisers would very much appreciate it if all drivers and owners of vehicles, motor cycles etc., would leave the Market Square and the High Street clear of vehicles as from noon on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> August.

**Bampton Village Hall**



An excellent venue for meetings, classes, parties, performances & fund-raising events.  
Main hall with stage, curtains, lights & piano.  
Well equipped kitchen and servery with separate locked bar.  
Badminton court marked and equipment available.  
Disabled toilet facilities.  
**Lettings Officer: Martin Barrett,**  
**The Post Office, Bridge Street, Bampton**  
**Telephone: 01993 850304**

**BAMPTON VILLAGE HALL**

The Annual General Meeting took place in the Village Hall on Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> May 2006. The Management Committee remains largely the same as in previous years but new representatives of the following organisations were welcomed. Mike Wareham for WestOxArts; Penny Fowler & Cordula Simmons for Bampton Baby & Toddler Group; Fenella Gray for Bampton Gardening Club and Bush Centre. Retiring members Phil McFarlane and Margaret Bishop were thanked for their support and help in the past years.

The Chairman and Treasurer presented their reports of activities and finances in 2005 and it was agreed that the Hall provides a well used and well managed facility for the local community. The main expenditure for 2006 will be an updating of the electrical installations and emergency lighting following the 3-yearly check which was carried out by Southern Electric.

As there were no other nominations, the officers were re-elected for another year:

Chairman Alan Dunbar  
Vice-chairman Jean Howell  
Secretary Susan Phillips  
Treasurer Michael Wooloff

**BAMPTON '250' CLUB**

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

JANUARY	£25	241	Mrs Clare Edwards	Buckland Road
	£15	048	Mrs Barney	Calais Dene Row
	£15	185	Mr & Mrs Easterbrook	Cheyne Lane
	£15	122	Mrs J Thomas	Lew
FEBRUARY	£25	242	Mrs Ward	Broad Street
	£15	152	Mark Snow	c/o Bushey Row
	£15	120	Mrs P James	Lavender Place
	£15	108	Tony Scott	c/o Market Square
MARCH	£100	079	A. Knight	Chandler Close
	£25	131	Mrs G Jordan	Bowling Gr Close
	£15	011	Mrs Davies	The Pieces
	£15	074	Dean Newland	Minster Lovell
APRIL	£15	066	F. Stanger	Queen Street
	£25	056	Mrs D Gaydon	Broad Street
	£15	222	Mrs P Hawkins	Millgreen
	£15	017	Mrs J Howell	Bushey Row
	£15	187	Miss L Davies	c/o Church View

The final draw for 2005/2006 – the £250 prize – took place at the Village Hall AGM on Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> May and was won by Mr & Mrs Marsh, No 213.

**THE SPAJERS**

**Annual DONKEY DERBY**  
**MONDAY 30<sup>th</sup> AUGUST**

Sandfords Field, Church View

**3 Entrances to Field Sandford Lane**  
**Back of Youth Centre (Parking)**  
**Path by Elephant and Castle**

**First Race 2pm**

*Jockeys always needed - no experience required*

*Come and have a great day out!*

**Movies on the Move Bampton Village Hall**

Thanks to funding from the West Oxfordshire Network Leader + 2000 – 2006 Programme The Theatre, Chipping Norton, is able to bring up to date films to Village Halls. Bampton Village Hall is taking part in this project and films are currently being shown on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of every other month. The cost of putting these films on has increased as the start-up subsidy has been withdrawn and an audience of about 40 is needed if the films are to continue. Please put the dates in your diary NOW and bring your friends – the quality of the films is excellent and it is on your doorstep!

The dates for the next two films are:  
**Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> July 7.30pm** 'Mrs Henderson Presents'

**Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> September 7.30pm** 'The Constant Gardener'  
Tickets £3.00 on sale at Temples for 2 weeks in advance and at the door.

**Two more dates for your diary**  
**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October** - Oxford Welsh Male Voice Choir concert in aid of the Bell Restoration Appeal, 7.30pm in St Mary's Church.

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December** - Magpie Lane Concert in aid of the Bell Restoration Appeal 8pm in St Mary's Church.

**BAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWS**

*By David Hawkins, Vice Chairman*

**Annual Parish Meeting:** The Annual Parish Meeting took place in late April, but, yet again, was poorly supported by Bampton residents. With updates from the Parish Council, the District Council, PC Patrick and representatives from the Exhibition Trust, the Welfare Trust and the Primary School Governors, there was a most comprehensive coverage of most aspects of Bampton life. With so much effort having been put into the various presentations, we have asked the Beam Editor to consider including the minutes of the meeting in this edition.

**Review of Station Road Buildout:** Oxfordshire County Council (OCC), Highways Department has informed us that they are reviewing the build out in Station Road with a view to making changes if necessary. This build out is certainly slowing traffic in both directions but the number of 'near misses' has caused concern to many drivers. The Parish Council will keep up the pressure on the OCC to get the review completed as soon as possible.

**Highways Wish List for 2006/7/8:** A meeting has been held 'on-site' in the Village with a representative of the OCC Highways Department to discuss our 'wish list' for the coming years. We have done well in Bampton in getting the OCC to improve our roads lately, although OCC always under budget constraints. On-site meetings do appear to help secure funding however.

Feedback on our requests was verbally very positive by the OCC Representative, and we await formal advice as to what we can expect to be carried out in the coming year or two. Notably he was sympathetic to the HGV problem on the Buckland Road, although it is not an easy one to solve; however, we feel that progress is being made, and that some sort of solution may be forthcoming in the medium term. The general state of the roads – potholes etc. – was noted and he indicated that while some temporary repairs may be carried out in 2006 – with a new, very successful

technology - he would see if he could make funds available

for some re-surfacing work in 2007 – for instance in New Road..

**Industrial Units in Buckland Road:** We understand that the planning permission has been granted for the 7 industrial units at Fairacres in Buckland Road to be built. Various planning applications have been submitted in recent years so it remains to be seen how quickly the 7 units will be up and running. Whilst there have been a number of objections to these applications, it is to be hoped that they will offer employment opportunities to Bampton residents.

**Library Usage:** We have been briefed that, whilst our library is very well run, it is one of the least used in Oxfordshire. We strongly suggest that all Bampton residents should make a big effort to use the facility rather than risk losing it.

**Renovation of Tennis Courts:** The Council hopes to have the courts pressure washed, sealed and then painted in late June. The Tennis Club has kept their membership prices extremely low and is always looking for new members. For more information contact **Karen Easterbrook, Tel: 850722.**

**Bampton Facilities and Services:** Rather than going to Witney or elsewhere for your big weekly shop, consider parking in Market Square and loading your boot with goods from our local shops. There's not a lot that you cannot buy in Bampton, so why waste petrol going elsewhere.

**Young People can apply for £600,000!**

Do you know a group of young people that have an idea but no money to make it a reality?

Are you aged 13 to 19 and want to do something fun with your mates in your village but have no idea where you can get the money?

Well today is your lucky day!

The Government has given Oxfordshire Youth Service £600,000 to spend in grants this year to make sure that there are more "places to go and things to do, in your neighbourhood" for young people.

Best of all you have to be aged 13 to 19 to apply (that means no applications from adults are allowed) and all the people who decide if you get the money are aged between 13 and 19 too!

You can get an application form from [www.spired.com](http://www.spired.com) or just phone the youth service **Tel: 01865 815166** and ask for the Youth Opportunities Fund application form.

**Hurry as the deadline is 30<sup>th</sup> August!**

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**Best Sellers (soon after publication)**

**Talking Books, Videos**

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**Children's Section**

**Books on Wheels**

**also**

**The Robert Vesey Room for**

**exhibitions of local**

**artists and exhibitions of pho-**

**tographs and oral**

**history from the**

**Bampton museum.**

**Library Opening Times**

**Monday 2.00pm – 5.00pm**

**5.30pm – 7.00pm**

**Tuesday Closed**

**Wednesday 10.00am – 12.30pm**

**Thursday 2.00pm – 5.00pm**

**Friday Closed**

**Saturday 10.00am – 12.30pm**

**Tel: 01993 850076**

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**Use of Pavilion:** Please call Ray Willis **Tel: 01993 852483** or **07766 264684.**

**ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**  
**26<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2006 AT 7.30PM**  
**GALLERY ROOM OF THE TOWN HALL**

*Present: Mrs J E Allinson (In the Chair), Mrs BA Sapsford (Clerk to the Council)*

*Apologies: Dr GM Haslam*

*General Public: 22*

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mrs Allinson commenced by welcoming all those present. She commenced by saying that she had taken over the Chair of the Parish Council in May 2005 and thanked Mr David Hawkins for his excellent work that he had put in over the 8 years that he had been Chairman. This is the end of the four year term of office for all Councillors and three had decided not to stand again, these being Mrs Janet Newman, The Earl of Donoughmore and Dr Graham Haslam. She thanked them all for the work that they had done over the years that they had been on the Council. The Earl of Donoughmore for his invaluable help when the pavilion was planned for the Recreation Ground and also being Chairman of the Affordable Housing Committee. His contributions will be greatly missed. Dr Haslam for overseeing the Town Hall and being liaison officer with WODC when the Market Square was refurbished. He was also the Chairman of the Steering Committee for the Recreation Ground. Mrs Newman for the work she does for the youngsters of all ages within the village. In the summer of 2005 Mrs June Leeming stepped down due to ill health and in December last Mrs Jane Walker also left having started full time employment.

The past year has been one of the quietest for several years for planning but busy for highways matters. The Littlemead development was taken to appeal and won and the work has been started. The traffic calming build outs were finally finished after months of wrangling. These were designed by OCC Highways and are still causing concern particularly Station Road. This is being monitored by OCC and although there have been complaints as to their effectiveness, they are slowing the traffic some with more success than others. Other projects for this year are the humps in New Road,

which have just been completed, resurfacing Primrose Lane, bollards in Broad Street, these were also done sooner than expected, and Broad Street pavement and Landells drainage. OCC are being pressed for a weight limit on Tadpole Bridge to stop the heavy traffic on the Buckland Road.

In June a meeting was held to promote the Neighbourhood Action Group set up by the police. This has been successful and regular meetings are now held. The Bush Club, Youth Centre site has been the subject of several meetings with interested parties on the future of the site at the end of the current lease. Possibility of extension to the existing building and houses to the rear. No firm decision has been taken yet by OCC that we have been notified about. The Affordable Housing Committee was led by the Earl of Donoughmore. A meeting with WODC was held on four possible small sites to satisfy needs for the future. Some were more liked by WODC but they are all still in negotiation. 8 new properties were built for affordable housing in New Road. Though no local connection tie was included in the development, a good number of local people were allocated houses including two key workers. In October we had a visit from Mr Mike Smythe of the Fire Service. He gave the results of a survey done which showed that Bampton and Burford stations were giving adequate cover for Carterton and therefore there were no plans to build a new station there. He did stress that the pressure would still continue from Carterton and that it was essential that both stations keep up manning levels. More recruits are always needed.

The Charity Shop is now established as a limited company and funds will be distributed shortly. Council representatives on the committee for this are Mr David Hawkins and Dr Gra-

ham Haslam. Mrs Brenda Sapsford (Clerk) is one of the Directors.

### RECREATION GROUND CHARITY

This owns and maintains the recreation ground, Pembroke Place and Sandford Field. Money is invested and a grant from the Parish Council is granted each year. The Recreation Ground itself is going from strength to strength. The Pavilion Manager is works very hard and successfully at keeping all in order and seeing that the fees are received from the organisations that use the facilities. Alan Dunbar has special responsibility for overseeing the grounds. The car park has just been resurfaced and the tennis courts relined. Most of the money spent by the Trustees is for repairs needed as a result of the mindless which takes place. For instance damage to the clock cost £1600 pounds. The Recreation Ground is a facility to be proud of for a village of this size. New government licensing caused disquiet due to possible limits on licensed events. However it is hoped that we have overcome the problem and are currently monitoring the situation.

### REPORT FROM THE POLICE

PC Steve Patrick commenced by saying that the past year has been a good one for Bampton. In 2003 there were 162 crimes but this past year that figure is down to 80. The British Crime Survey shows that the level for this area is 4.9% and there has been a 28.1% increase in detections. Domestic violence makes up 83.2% of all offences. The neighbourhood policy has been set up and covers Bampton, Burford and Carterton. Officers and representatives of residents meet every 5/6 weeks to discuss problems in the area. It has been shown that

6% of the public know the name of their policeman in this area; the force average is 8%! 86% of people feel safe living in this area. Comparing West Oxfordshire with other parts of the country, due to its low crime rate, it is top by far.

### REPORT FROM THE BAMPTON EXHIBITION FOUNDATION

The BEF continues to be responsible for the upkeep of the Old Grammar School building which is rented out to the County Council for use as a Public Library and to grant educational nurseries to locals of under 25 years of age who need them. The Foundation currently holds a balance of £37,000. Bursaries (totalling £400), ranging from £50 to £150, have been awarded to youngsters for help with paying for schemes such as primary school field trips to Yenworthy, secondary school projects abroad and an educational group to visit the Houses of Parliament. Our most recent, unavoidable expense, has been to ask Cyril Smith to rebuild a section of the garden wall in Sandfords Lane, having decided that his quote was most reasonable. The cost of dealing with the repairs to the main building, which are becoming increasingly urgent, has been estimated at about £50,000. Means of funding this are under discussion. The cost of making the repairs and necessary alterations to provide an upstairs "Archive and Study Centre" has been estimated at £250,000. Mrs Sally Cooper has been working hard to obtain grants but with very limited success to date.

### REPORT FROM THE BAMPTON WELFARE TRUST

The Trust as we know it today came into being on 6<sup>th</sup> November 1972. Trustees were appointed to administer and manage the eleven charities formerly known as the Bampton Consolidated Charities. The investments which now provide The Welfare Trust with an income were a result of bequests made during the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries, for the purpose of helping the poor of Bampton, Aston and Lew. There are 10 Trustees. Funds are invested in the COIF Charities Investment Fund, and as at 31.12.05 was

£193,071.46 showing an increase on the year of 16%. Income has increased slightly by 0.6%. The Trustees meet twice a year to distribute the interest which amounts to approximately £6000. The main distribution takes place in January/February and again in June/July to make any additional payments required. Main beneficiaries in 2005 were, Aston & Cote Primary School, Bampton Primary School, Volunteer Reading Help, Aston & Cote Playgroup, Bampton Pre-School Playgroup, Aston Wednesday Club, Aston Minibus, Bampton Bush Centre, Bampton Bush Club and First Bampton Brownies. There is money set aside for Bampton Youth Club which can be applied for as and when it is needed for a specific purpose. In the last financial year £2294 was spent by the Welfare Officer on individual cases of need. Of this £1050 was for winter fuel payments to the elderly and chronically sick. Other items included help for a mother of 4 in difficult circumstances, £130 for a tumble dryer for a man looking after his chronically sick wife, £150 to a previous beneficiary who lost an allowance due to an error by the DSS, also food hampers for two pensioners who had been burgled. In addition to this food vouchers were provided for two families who found themselves in extreme difficulties because of ill-health. The Trustees would like to thank Janet Newman for the caring and efficient way in which she carries out her duties as Welfare Officer and David Pullman for the time and trouble he takes over the financial matters and accounts.

### REPORT FROM BAMPTON SCHOOL GOVERNOR

Two changes took place in the last school year, Alan Clarke retired from the governing body after many years of service and Ros Soper one of our teachers joined the governors' team. Key improvements to the school were ready for the September 2005 term. These included a new beautifully appointed, Foundation Stage classroom set up with an additional workroom to be used by various groups in school, a Partnership Foundation Stage Unit set up with the Pre-School Playgroup who also have a new building and

interactive white boards in 4 classrooms, supported by a contribution from the Welfare Trust. The school continues to be popular and successful, pupil numbers were around 140 throughout last year. Results for the 2004/5 academic year were good for Key Stage 1 and average for Key Stage 2. Results do vary from year to year but Governors and staff are not complacent on this issue and constantly seek opportunities for improvement.

Options for extra support including booster sessions and holiday sessions have been considered. Two highlights of the past year have been a visit from the headteacher of Magwa school in Uganda who helped to bring his school's activities to life in a way the children will remember for a long time. As part of book week a visit by Dick King Smith, a children's author, allowed pupils to meet and listen to him reading his own stories in a most entertaining way. An art open day and exhibition was also held. Friends of Bampton School contributed £4068.56 to funds.

The Headteacher, Julia Evans, will be retiring at the end of this school year. She has been in post since 2000 and will be greatly missed by all. The school continues to thrive and is doing a good job in educating our children.

### Beam comment:

*It is disappointing that only 22 'members of the public' attended the Annual Parish Meeting. Indeed, the 22 were made up of members of The Parish Council - past and new members - and those others there to give a report to the meeting. In fact, there were no 'members of the public' present in the strict interpretation of the phrase! Does this show that the Parishioners are fully content with what is happening around the Village? Or is it just apathy?*

*This is a meeting where Parishioners can have their say, get over their point of view, and ask questions of those giving reports. So come on Bampton, let's have more of you attend next year's meeting and let the Parish Council, Police, and the others, understand your views and concerns. It is a chance for you to speak up and be heard!*

## District Council Report

By Martin Barrett, West Oxfordshire District Council

Firstly may I thank all of you who supported me at the recent District Council election and for placing your trust in me. Having been elected as your Independent District Councillor I am now finding out just how much work this involves! On this point, I would like to thank Jonathan Philips on behalf of us all for the hard work he put into this role during the last twelve years.

### On District Matters,

having stated that I am readily available at the Post Office for anyone wishing to contact me if they have an issue they would like to discuss, I am pleased to say that many of you have come forward with various requests, complaints and concerns. Many of these issues were really the business of the Parish Council and I have accordingly fielded these to the Parish Council for their consideration, but I will keep the individuals up to date when I have a result or at least further news.

As far as the District is concerned, there appear to be three pressing issues. Firstly the matter of spillage of some dubious liquid from the WODC waste and green-waste collection service vehicles.

There have been significant spillages in Beam Paddock, The Lanes, Church View, New Road and Calais Dene that I know of; there may be many more – (please let me know.) I have spoken to WODC about this and they are investigating the problem. I await their reply.

The second issue is, naturally enough, the concern over the potential closure of many Rural Post Offices due to the demise of the Post Office Card Account. I am pleased to say that WODC overwhelmingly supported a motion tabled by Mrs. A. Neale and Miss. V. Hunt "to call on the government to reverse its announcement that it will end support for the Post Office Card Account in 2010 thereby threatening the viability of thousands of post offices . . ." I do believe that this sort of pressure will eventually force the government to devise a more acceptable solution for the provision of pensions

and allowances.

The final topic in this section is that of traffic. As usual there have been many complaints about speed, HGVs and the existing traffic calming measures. The Parish Council is working hard on this whole topic, and I am involved with a local group (R.A.T.S.). The solution to these various problems will, I believe, only come about by applying pressure on the County Council.

Please be assured that a lot of effort has gone into this and a lot more will be done to bring about a satisfactory solution.

### Now to non-council matters.

Thanks once again for the many signatures (800 plus) on the petition we started at the Post Office This was sent to the Prime Minister along with copies to David Cameron and Jim Fitzpatrick (Minister for Employment Relations and Postal Services). I have now received replies from each and if anyone would like to read these they are available at the Post Office. They all express the common theme that the Card Account was only designed to run until 2010 and that a suitable solution is being sought by all parties. Everyone stressed the importance of post offices in the community. The National Federation of Subpostmasters are running a national petition and hope this will attract in excess of three million signatures – they are well on the way to this figure with over one million being collected in the first three weeks! We are battling on but anticipate further disagreement

with the government on the "reinvention" of the Rural Post Office Network in 2008 when subsidies will disappear. To this end, I am attending a debate with Postcomm in July on the future of Post Offices where I will have the opportunity to meet and talk with Alan Cook (Managing Director of Post Office Ltd.), Colin Baker (General Secretary of NFSP), Denise Bragge (Director of Post Office Network, Postcomm) among others. I look forward to letting you know the outcome and any information regarding your Post Offices future.

So what of the immediate future? You may well have heard by now that the way in which Royal Mail charges us to post a letter or package is about to change. On August 21<sup>st</sup> the cost to post anything will depend not just on its weight but also upon its shape! This change is regarded by Royal Mail as a *logical* step that reflects their costs more accurately (I wonder?). The idea is that in general we will pay the same, or even less, for small items and more for the larger items. To facilitate this you will find there is now a template on the counter in the Post Office that outlines the maximum size and thickness for letters, large letters and packets. This may help with some sort of standardisation for Royal Mail but it will do nothing to reduce queuing times if we all have to check the length, width and thickness of each piece of mail we want to send! (Note the timing for major change coincides pretty well with the time we all start to get our overseas parcels and packages ready to send to far-flung places. Oh dear, Royal Mail, you are at it again!) I will keep you up to date on these various matters.

### NEW MUSIC FESTIVAL IN AID OF CHARITY

Ascott Music Festival is a new 2 day music festival which is due to take place on 21/22 July 2006 at Crown Farm, Ascott-Under-Wychwood, Nr Witney. All profits from the event will benefit Oxfordshire Mind - mental health charity. The festival will be a family friendly event providing an eclectic mix of music including Rock, Blues, Folk and Jazz. Local bands and artists will feature, along with international acts such as **Paul Jones and the Blues Band, Richard Thompson, Nine Below Zero, Rachael Warwick, Dave Kelly & Christine Collister and The Travelling Gentlemen**, and Aston's **Judy Eames and The Kaminsky Connection**. Other activities will include a jive workshop, children's activities, craft demonstrations and a music workshop. If you would like more information please visit our website: [www.amf.uk.net](http://www.amf.uk.net) or phone Martin Smith, Tel: 01993 852758. Tickets are now on sale via the website. Registered Charity Number 261476.

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## The Robert & Doris Watts Residential & Nursing Home



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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.

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## News from Bampton C of E Primary School

*By Richard Pitt, Parent Governor*

After almost two decades teaching at Bampton School, including the last seven years as Head Teacher Mrs Evans announced in April that she will be retiring at the end of August. During her time as Head Teacher Mrs Evans has led the school with energy, vision, drive and ambition. She has overseen the development of our children into well rounded individuals, through a combination of a vibrant curriculum and a wealth of sporting and other cultural extra curricular activities. We wish her a very long and happy retirement and thank her for all that she has given us.

Looking forward, the Governors are delighted to announce that Mrs Mary Dodge has been appointed to succeed Mrs Evans and will become Head Teacher on September 1<sup>st</sup>. We all look forward to working with her and welcoming her into our school.

Over the last few months many things have been going on at the school. At the beginning of March we held a special book week. This included a visit by Peter Hearn, an author, storyteller, poet, teacher, musician and folklorist. He worked with each class using stories, songs and poems to really bring reading to life. The Thursday was World Book Day when children and staff dressed up as their favourite book characters – there was a wide range of costumes from nursery rhymes, fairy tales, and children's novels. It was very colourful and the imagination was wonderful. There was also a Queen of Hearts Assembly where the Queen of Hearts' tarts were stolen by a naughty knave who was marched off by Bampton's very own PC Patrick. The week ended with a very special visit from Susie Dent of Channel 4's Countdown programme. She played some word games, including the conundrum quizzes, along with some of the Carol Vorderman numbers challenges with all of Key Stage 2. And the day finished off with the Prize Assembly where the children who had won prizes in each of the 3 categories per class - of best male author, best female author and best illustrator – were rewarded for

their very good efforts.

Other events in March were the School Council sale of furniture, toys and cakes - there were lots of little chairs for sale which had been sanded and made to look beautiful; Miss Copping's class visited Sulgrave Manor, near Brackley, to gain a hands on feel for Tudor Times which they were studying; and the term finished off with a visit by our Comenius partner schools from Holland, Germany and Spain. We all exchanged work for our project books and the children really enjoyed asking lots of questions so we could compare life in different schools. It was interesting to find out that our partner schools don't have school councils or after school clubs.

We do have a School Council which is made up of all of the children in the oldest class. We do it this way to ensure that all children are involved in taking on school responsibilities at some stage in their school life; the council has its own written constitution which includes representing the children's views in school; they run their own weekly meetings with their own elected chair, treasurer and secretary and sometimes invited guests; they raise their own budget through sales competitions and donations; and the council assists the Head Teacher and staff to promote positive and enjoyable aspects of school life for all the children. Through its fundraising efforts - £93.78 raised at the sale in March - the School Council is able to buy new equipment and is currently ordering play equipment for playtime and creating new play areas.

We also have after school clubs and our football and netball teams have recently been involved in matches with other local clubs. Congratulations to both teams who continue to perform so well. This term we have also had a music assembly with performances from the guitar club, recorder group, violins, the choir, keyboards, percussion and then all of them playing together with a fantastic rendition of the theme from Doctor Who.

The Queen's Birthday was a great

celebration for the children who dressed up in red white and blue for the day and were joined by children from Playgroup for assembly. Commemorative medals provided by FOBs were distributed to all of the children.

More excursions are planned for the summer term with Mrs Newman's class taking the opportunity to visit Sulgrave Manor to find out about Tudor Times, the Key Stage 1 children visiting Cogges Manor Farm Museum, and all of the Key Stage 2 children taking a trip to Foxcombe Woods near Oxford to experience 'outdoor life', building shelters and cooking their lunch on camp fires.

Finally many thanks to all of you who collected the Active Kids and Computers for Schools vouchers - we will be putting them to good use.

## Introducing the ORCC – can we help?

Oxfordshire Rural Community Council aims to improve the quality of life for those who live or work in rural Oxfordshire. We help people living in rural areas to identify and tackle local needs – and – we raise awareness of rural issues among policy-makers and the public.

ORCC's team of fieldworkers provide support to village communities on a range of issues:

- Parish plans
- Village Halls advice
- Village shops and community shops
- Rural transport
- Affordable housing
- Village newsletters
- Community groups and projects
- Funding for youth projects

We also run the Oxfordshire Villages of the Year Competition.

Please contact us for details.

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(1418)

Dear All,  
I am writing to say a very big thank you to all who contributed to my retirement gift. I was overwhelmed to receive such a large cheque, together with many personal gifts, cards, thoughts and good wishes. I will treasure the book in which many of you have written – I was truly humbled to read some of the comments. My home was flooded with colour and scent from the beautiful flowers and plants for well over a week after my departure, and I have been trying to follow the advice I gave when it comes to chocolates and wine (everything in moderation, but also a little of what you fancy!). The sixteen years of my employment saw various changes to Bampton and to the Surgery, but many of you have been “regulars” and have become friends not just patients. I feel privileged to have been able to care for you, to the best of my ability, and of course I will miss you all a great deal. I have many very happy memories, but as one would expect also some sad. I have really enjoyed working at the surgery and intend to keep in touch; indeed I have bumped into many of you whilst shopping already! I am beginning to plan my leisure, and have started to learn Italian. Only hope I can put it to the test later in the year when we intend to visit Italy. Thank you again for the much appreciated gifts and very kind words. Love and best wishes  
Diana Birkett

Dear Editor  
A Big Thank You to everyone who attended Robert's funeral on 20<sup>th</sup> April and for your kind donations and

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

many cards. Robert was a very kind and special brother, he will be sadly missed; another part of Bampton gone. I do appreciate all your kindness.

A big thank you to Horace Holifield and Cyril & Margaret Smith, also my husband Brian and daughter Alison and her family who were there for me over the final months. Without them I wouldn't have kept going. Also a special thank you to Dr Uden and the district nurses at Bampton Surgery. Thank you so much  
Annie Carter

**A Fond Farewell To  
Lily Gerring**

The lovely service at the Methodist Chapel said everything there is to say about Lily Gerring. Even the hymns she chose herself were sung with real feeling.

Lily was a remarkable woman. Saturday and Monday mornings she worked at the Community Shop. Wednesdays you would find her washing up the morning coffee cups at the Bush Centre.

Lily had so much energy you would not think she was in her 90s. We will all miss her, and trying to replace her will be very hard. The Beam Team and the Community Shop Ladies send their love and support to the family. *Rest in peace Lily.*

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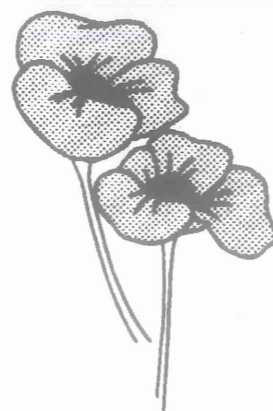
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**Remembrance**

**Sunday**

**November 12<sup>th</sup> 2006**

**10.45am War Memorial**

**11am St Mary's**

**6pm Methodist Chapel**

**BRITISH LEGION  
POPPY APPEAL**

**2006**

*By Lynn Shuker*

November may seem a long time away but already I am thinking about putting in my order for wreaths and poppies for this year's appeal. If there is any organisation or individual who would like to order a wreath or cross please let me know and I will do my best to fulfil your requirements.

This will be my 3<sup>rd</sup> year as Poppy Organiser and I am finding that each year there are a few people who are unable to carry on collecting for a variety of reasons. I am so grateful for all the work they have done in the past - so many volunteers have numerous years of service it is quite remarkable. If anyone would like to help with this year's appeal I would be so grateful. There are a few roads in Bampton that I do not have collectors for, and I also have some spaces to fill for the collections outside Londis (Budgens) on the Friday and Saturday before Remem-

brance Sunday.

The more volunteers we have the more money we can raise and the need for these funds is growing. Each year over 200,000 calls for help come to the Legion from both young and old and this number will increase. The work of the Legion is vast and it offers those who need:

- Access to seven residential homes
- The chance to stay in one of its three convalescent homes
- Support and visits to the hospitalised
- Holidays and respite for the
- Advice and help for the unemployed
- Relevant retraining for those leaving the services

- Support for small business ventures, visits to war grave sites for the families if those who have lost their life for their country
- Finally - friendship, help, comfort and practical support when people are in need.

So if you have a couple of spare hours in late October early November please give me a call: **Lynn Shuker: Tel: 01993 210015 or 07818 220456.**

For more information regarding joining the Bampton British Legion please contact the Secretary, **Fred Gray Tel: 01993 851653**, or the Chairman, **Dixie Deane Tel: 01993 850756.**



Dear Editor

I think this is a photo of a parade on a Remembrance Sunday, probably in the 1950s or 60s, when there was a march from the old Grammar School to the War Memorial. I think that there were others marching such as the air cadets and service personnel. The picture shows the old Lamb Inn which is no more, Note the road has no markings!

Can any of your readers give more information on this picture, such the names of the persons, or actual date?

I would like to add the information to the Bampton Online Photo Album which I have created - <http://ox18.net/bamptonphotos.htm>. I have quite a few other old photographs which I also need information on, so if anyone would like to help me find the information, please email me at [d@akey.me.uk](mailto:d@akey.me.uk); or call me on the number below.

Likewise, if anyone has any old photographs they would not mind being added to this collection, I would appreciate it I could borrow them. I can then copy them for the Album and send them straight back.

Thank you  
David Oakey  
Pathfields  
Alvescot  
Oxford OX18 2PS  
Tel: 01993 842236

**BAMPTON  
GARDENING CLUB**

*Forthcoming trips*

**August** - A day trip to Portsmouth  
**Sunday October 22<sup>nd</sup>** - A tour to view the wonderful colours of autumn finishing with lunch or afternoon tea, at Hatton Country World.

**Sunday November 5<sup>th</sup>** - It's the annual outing for the retail therapists as we head to Bath.

**Saturday November 25<sup>th</sup>** - Not only will you get time in Windsor and a guided tour of the lights, you will also get a night flight on the London Eye (payment for the 'flight' will be required at time of booking).

**Short Breaks  
and the**

**Annual Holiday**

**August 19<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> Eastbourne** - This trip has had to be cancelled due to lack of numbers.

**September 10<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> Harrogate**

The main holiday is a visit to Yorkshire. We will be staying at the Moat Hotel in the centre of Harrogate. Included in the package is a guided full day tour of the Dales and entrance to the Autumn Flower Show.

**December 27<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> Isle of Wight**

This is known as a 'Twixmas Break' and includes entertainment each an evening a tour of the island. Price £169.

If you are interested in any of the above please contact **Ellen Parker Tel: 01993 843985.**

**BAMPTON  
GARDENING CLUB**

**ANNUAL SHOW**

**26<sup>th</sup> August 2006**

**Village Hall**

**Staging 9.30am - 11am**

**Afternoon Opening 3pm**

**Prize Giving 3.30pm**

**Entrance 50p**

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## THE BAMPTON RECREATION GROUND

Buckland Road, Bampton.

### Cricket

#### Bampton-in-the-Bush Cricket Club

By Pauline Smith

Did you hear that noise?

In the wettest May since I don't know when, the Recreation Ground sounded to the *thunk* of willow upon leather and mutters of *well held* and *good shot* as the Under 13s played Oxford – in the rain. It may not have been an idyllic summer morning, but nevertheless a breakthrough for cricket in Bampton. We didn't come first and everybody was frozen and very damp, but the team played well together and the opposition commented on the standard of our fielding. Nor does it stop there. At Kennington, in glorious sunshine, the U11s played on a 22-yard wicket (it should be 20) hammering down and bowling skilfully enough to get two wickets, one catch and several fours. They weren't quite enough to take the game, but with more practice, who knows what we can achieve? Practice night is Wednesday from 6.15 to about 7.30 at the Recreation Ground. If we have a match do please feel free to come along and watch, our home fixtures are:

Under 11s Friendly – 8 a side (6pm start)

4<sup>th</sup> July Faringdon

12<sup>th</sup> July Blewbury

Under 13s Cup – 8 a side (10am start)

18<sup>th</sup> June Goring

29<sup>th</sup> June Faringdon

If you are interested in cricket in any capacity please contact **Pauline Smith Tel: 01993 210140.**

### Football

#### Witney & District Youth Football League (WDYFL)

With the World Cup over and a new season about to begin, now is the time to consider giving your child a new outlet for all that energy and love of football. Bampton Town runs a very active Youth Football Club with 8 teams of different age groups from Under 8s up to Under 16s, operating in the Witney & District Youth Football League (WDYFL). But, we are always looking for new team members, at all age groups.

Kits are provided and all are welcome. There is training once a week and matches on either Saturday morning (U8, U9, U10 and U11s) or Sunday afternoon (U16, U15, U13 and U12s). The fixture list produced by the WDYFL takes into account the school holidays. The Club is run by volunteers and aims at trying to make the football fun and friendly, look to improve individual skills, whilst of course doing our best to win.

If you think your child could benefit from playing regular football in his local club then please contact **Mark Taylor Tel: 01993 852903** or **Andrew Squires Tel: 01993 852278.**

### Multi Sports Court

Don't forget in the holidays the multi sports court is open from 9am for the you to use. Please do respect it and leave it how you found it - take your litter home with you or put it in one of the waste bins located in the area.

### Witney Bees Netball Club

We are a friendly ladies netball club and new members of all abilities are always welcome. We train on Tuesday evenings - outdoors at Bampton Recreation Ground in the summer and indoors at Carterton Community College in the winter. For more information contact **Alison Tel: 07790 368031**

### 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

##### Pavilion

08:00 - 13:00 : £40

13:00 - 18:00 : £40

18:00 - 23:59 : £80

Whole Day : £160

Football Pitch : £25 per game

Changing Facilities : £10

Multisport Bampton Residents  
£10.00  
Non-Residents  
£12.50

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

**Ray Willis Tel: 01993 852483** or  
**Mobile: 07766 264684**

### A VERY IMPORTANT NOTICE IF YOU USE THE RECREATION GROUND

#### While using skate park

Minor accidents continue to occur on the Skatepark because of the lack of protective clothing.

The Parish Council ask all parents to insist that their children wear the appropriate clothing.

#### Insurance Liabilities

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

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

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

### Other Sporting Activities

#### Bampton Archery Club

Chairman: John Hill Tel: 01993 850513.

#### Bampton Weightlifting Club

Chairman: Don Rouse: Tel: 01993 850938.

Secretary: Ray Fielding: Tel: 01993 852185. Mobile: 07855 146949.

#### Bampton Badminton Club

Enquiries: Lesley Campbell Tel: 852846.

Meets every Tuesday 10 - 12am Bampton Village Hall.

#### Bampton Town Football Club

Chairman: Mr J P Walker: Tel: 01993 852361

Secretary: Mr P Tanner: Tel: 01993 210009

#### Bampton Football Teams

From Under 8s upwards:

Secretary: Andrew Squires: Tel: 01993 852278.

Email [andrew.squires@huntleigh-healthcare.com](mailto:andrew.squires@huntleigh-healthcare.com)

#### The Horseshoes Football Club

##### Sunday League Football

Chairman: Alan Clarke: Tel: 01993 850201.

Secretary: Bill Godfrey: Tel: 01993 850014.

#### Bampton Archery Club

Contact: John Hill: Tel: 01993 850513.

#### Bampton Tennis Club

Contact: Karen Easterbrook: Tel: 01993 850772.

Email: [membership@bamptontennis.org.uk](mailto:membership@bamptontennis.org.uk)

### Carterton Health Walks

We walk from the Town Hall, Alvescot Road Carterton at 10 am on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays. There are two trained volunteer walk leaders at every walk. The walks follow risk assessed pavement routes, which last about 30-40 minutes. On Mondays refreshments are available at the town hall and Thursdays we go to the W.I. Hall for coffee.

Further details available from:  
**Margaret Tinner**  
Tel: 01993 842156.



### Patchwork Exhibition

#### The Gallery

#### Town Hall

25<sup>th</sup> July - 28<sup>th</sup> August

#### Sale Starts

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> August

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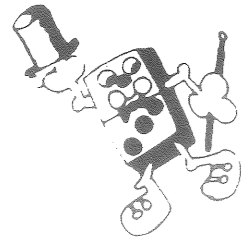
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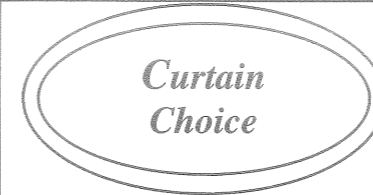
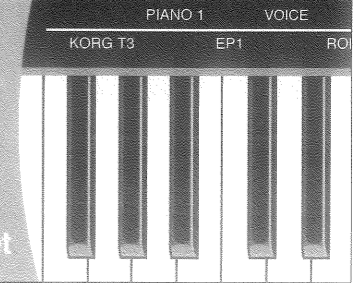
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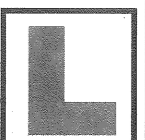
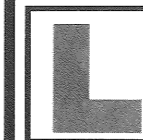
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## Bampton Transport Needs Survey

By Fred Gray, Bampton Parish Council

The Parish Council would like to thank everyone who filled in and submitted a 'Transport Needs Survey' form. A total of 155 households responded (out of 1063 in total in the Parish) – giving transport information of 286 of the 2500 residents (a return rate of 14.6% of households). Now, while many of you might think that this is a poor return, in fact the numbers are impressive, in that for this sort of survey, response rates of less than 1% are the norm! Bampton's response was also way better than any of the other parishes which were polled.

The ORCC has produced a very detailed analysis of the results to pass to the OCC to aid in their review of local bus services. It is hoped that the results will clearly show the OCC that our bus services are vital to Bampton and the surrounding communities, and that they must be retained, and indeed enhanced.

A summary of the analysis is as follows:

- The survey produced a good sample size in terms of the percentage of people in the parish although there is low representation of the 17-24 age range and high representation of those aged over 61. This could be an indication of the demographic of the parish, or of the limitations of a survey such as this to reach the younger generations, perhaps for whom, public transport is not such an issue.
- 21.6% of respondents (62) experience mobility problems. This is much higher than the average number of people living in West Oxfordshire with a "limiting long term illness", which is 13.65% (Census 2001).
- 66.4% (190) of respondents can drive and 27.3% (78) are unable to drive. Of those who cannot drive many are under 16, and there are fewer in the 25-45 and 46-60 age ranges stating that they cannot drive. However, there is a substantial minority of 48 people out of the 159 aged over 61 (i.e. 30.2% of this age group) who cannot drive.
- 36.7% of respondents use the S18 to Oxford. 22% use the S19 to Witney with 3.1% stating that they use the S19 to Carterton. The other services cited include the X1/2 from Carterton to Oxford, the 100 and S11 (both from Witney to Oxford) and the S18 is used to get into Bampton.
- Of those who use the S18 to Oxford, 71 can drive and 28 cannot drive. Similarly of those who use the S19 to Witney, 31 can drive and 30 cannot drive. Many of the users of the S18 and 19 have also stated that they have mobility difficulties (23 of 105 users of the S18 and 16 of the 63 users of the S19). Of note also is that 2 people are using the S18 to get to the centre of Bampton – it is being used as an alternative to walking.
- 27.3% of respondents use the bus occasionally and 26.9% say that they never use services. There are also a significant number (29%) who use the bus daily, weekly or fortnightly, and many of these users cannot drive (non-drivers are more likely to use the services on a daily or weekly basis than car drivers).
- The S18, 19 and X1/2 are used by many respondents on a daily and weekly basis indicating use for key services. Of note also is that there are regular (daily weekly and fortnightly) users of bus services scattered across the age groups.
- 39.2% (112) of all respondents don't use local buses at all or more often because the car is seen as being more convenient. 8% (23) responded that they do not use services more because there are no weekend or evening buses and a further 8% have stated that it is because they are at the wrong times.
- 49.3% of respondents think that services are well publicised indicating a good level of publicity within the Parish. However there are still 36.4% of respondents who either do not know about publicity of services, or who think that services are not well publicised.
- Work destinations are dispersed around the county with Oxford as the most common (for 7.3% / 21). Most respondents drive to work (24.8%) with only 5.9% taking a bus to work. Walking is the next most common form of transport (for 3.1% (9)). Of the 21 who work in Oxford 16 drive and 4 take a bus and of the 16 who work in Witney, 10 drive and 7 take the bus. Of the 7 who work in Carterton 6 drive and only 1 takes the bus.
- Of the few school children who responded 8 go to school in Burford, 4 in Bampton, 3 in Witney and Aston and 2 in Oxford. Most of these children take a school bus to school, however, several get a lift to school and they are being taken to schools in Aston, Bampton and Witney.
- The overwhelming majority of respondents visit the GPs in Bampton (82.9% / 237). The majority of people walk, although many drive (21.3% / 61) and cycle (7.7% / 22). Those who get a lift are in the youngest and the oldest age ranges, and several have mobility difficulties.
- Witney the most popular destination for shopping (59.4%). Carterton attracts 11.2% of respondents and Oxford 6.4%. Driving is the most popular form of transport for this purpose of trip (57%) although a high proportion use the bus (31.5%). Once again, many bus users for this purpose of trip have mobility difficulties.
- Oxford is the most popular destination for social and leisure trips (for 21.7%). Respondents also cite other destinations such as Bampton, Swindon and Carterton. Driving is the most common form of transport for this purpose of trip (40.6%) with 21% taking and bus and 12.9% getting a lift.

The Parish Council has also sent a letter to the OCC on the 18 and 19 bus services, seeking various enhancements to the services, including the provision of low floor – easy access buses, and the provision of evening services. It is also hoped to arrange a meeting with the OCC to discuss the issues further before any decisions are made on the new services, which are being tendered for award by year-end. The survey – and again a big thank you to all who took part – will no doubt provide the Parish Council with the ammunition needed to protect what we have, and possibly obtain improvements in the new contracts.

### Directory of Community Transport

The 2006 edition of the ORCC Directory of Community Transport Schemes in Oxfordshire is now available. The new edition includes a more comprehensive guide on schemes available on a Parish-by-Parish basis and provides useful information on the alternatives to public transport which might be available to rural communities.

For your free copy contact Alix Michaelis Tel: 01865 883488 or email [alix.michaelis@oxonrcc.org.uk](mailto:alix.michaelis@oxonrcc.org.uk)

### Youth "Chill Out" Fund

Do you have a youth project or youth club in your village that could use some one-off match funding for either revenue or capital costs?

The New County Council "Chill Out" fund has been set up to help with your own match funding of youth provision in your village.

For more information contact Monica Hanaway, Tel: 01865 810511 or download an application form from [www.spired.com](http://www.spired.com)

### Warburtons Walks 24 circular walks in and around South Oxfordshire

Paul Warburton was a well known local farmer, conservationist, naturalist writer and churchman. He died tragically in a farming accident in 2004. This book of walks, many devised by Paul himself, has been produced in his memory and is being sold in aid of the Thames Valley and Chilterns Air Ambulance Trust.

All the walks are about 6 miles long, and many begin and end near or at a pub!! Happy walking!

Contact Tim Huins and Brian Harding. Kissing Gate 2006  
ISBN 0 9552247-0-5 £5.95

### Extra day heralds Shopmobility success

Witney Shopmobility's opening hours are being extended from two to three days a week. West Oxfordshire District Council agreed to trial an extra day following a report outlining the scheme's success since it first started two year ago. The new opening times start in April 2006 and will run for a

## NOTICE BOARD

one year trial period initially.

The additional Shopmobility opening day is Wednesday and opening times the same as for Mondays and Thursdays, which is 9.30 am – 4 pm. It is based in the Langdale Gate building, which is close to the car park in Witney Town Centre. Dedicated parking bays, for those with disabilities, are adjacent to the building and there is bus stop for the Dial-a-Ride service.

Manual and powered wheelchairs and powered scooters can be hired free of charge. It can be used by anyone with a mobility difficulty as a result of age, accident or illness and is open to all ages.

#### For further information contact:

Carys Davies / Olga Joven  
Tel: 01993 861615 Mob: 07771 965360

### Do you need childcare in your community?

#### Are you interested in starting up a childcare project?

New out of school childcare projects have been opened in Oxfordshire by voluntary groups, school governors and individuals who have seen the need for quality childcare in their community and have decided to do something about it – and they haven't done it alone! There are childcare development officers working across the county providing advice and support and there is funding available too. Grant applications are welcomed to support the start up of new childcare projects, or the further development of existing childcare groups.

#### What is 'Out of School' childcare?

For school aged children (primary and secondary) it is any childcare that happens outside of school hours. This could be a breakfast club, after school club or holiday play scheme. For 3 and 4 years olds it is childcare that wraps around an educational pre-school session, either before or after the session or a holiday play scheme. If you would like to talk about setting up and out of school childcare project in your community, contact the Child-

care Development Team. Email: [childcaredevelopment-team@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:childcaredevelopment-team@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

### Baby and Child Fayre

Witney's first 'Baby and Child Fayre' takes place on 30<sup>th</sup> September at Langdale Hall. Entry is free to the public along with free attractions such as balloon modelling, face painting, photographs and a busy schedule of shows throughout the day.

The best of Oxfordshire trading in child and baby products and services will be participating ensuring you have all the information to make the most important decisions for your family. You can speak to the experts in person, start Christmas shopping and participate in what is planned to be one of the most successful events in Oxfordshire. There is a charity prize draw giving you the chance to win some superb prizes whilst at the same time raising money for charity. Refreshments are available throughout the day.

This is a fun family day out not to be missed!

For further information, please contact, Maxine Pridsam, Tel: 01993 703627.

### New Online Directory for Children, Young People and Families

[www.oxfordshireservicesdirectory.org.uk](http://www.oxfordshireservicesdirectory.org.uk) is an online directory of services for children young people and families in Oxfordshire. The new, easy to use, directory provides up to date details of organisations and their services. Information can be found on parenting and family support, counselling, schools, health centres, local advice and voluntary sector organisations, help lines and much more.

For more information or help using the directory contact Oxfordshire Children's Information Service Tel: 08452 262636; [enquiries@oxoncis.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@oxoncis.org.uk).

### Cancer Research UK

Dates for the Diary  
**Autumn Sale** - Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September, Village Hall, Bampton  
**Pre- Christmas Bingo** - Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November, Village Hall

**Christmas Quiz** - Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December, Village Hall, Bampton  
**Country and Western Dance** - Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December, Carterton Social Centre.

For more information contact Mrs Doris Cleaver - Tel: 850682.

### Abingdon Touring Theatre Company

Following the success of our "Talking Heads" tour, the *Abingdon Touring Theatre Company* is delighted to be returning to Bampton Village Hall on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> August with our next production, "Canterbury Tales". This modern, distinctly non-academic adaptation will appeal to Chaucer experts and novices alike and will be a lively and entertaining evening. Tickets cost £7.50/£6.50, and are available from The Oxford Playhouse, Tel: 01865 305305, or the Bampton Post Office.

The performance will begin at 8pm (doors open at 7.15pm). Please note that this production is unsuitable for young children or the easily offended.

### The Children's Society

Our house-to-house collection this year raised £244.20 and we are enormously grateful to our collectors for kindly giving up their time on our behalf.

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

You will realise how few collectors I have when I tell you that this total includes £21.83 from Budgens, which is proving to be a very valuable source of income (our thanks to all those kind people, many of them children and teenagers, who regularly give us their change), and from the Cake Stall run by Junior Church which raised a magnificent £130.25. Very many thanks to them and all their supporters who brought and bought cakes.

Please do consider whether or not you can collect next year for us. The Society does much-needed work with

## NOTICE BOARD

young people, whom it supports in four main areas - those who feel they must run away from home for a variety of reasons, those in trouble with the law, mentally and physically handicapped children, and children of refugees. This work is vital to the well being of many young people and deserves our help.  
 Contact Pauline Hawkins, Tel: 01993 851066. I look forward to hearing from you.

### The Bampton We Have Lost by J.L Hughes-Owen

The book has been on sale at Emmie's and Temples since before Christmas and has been very well received. It is a fascinating history of Bampton and much improved with the new type and extra photographs. Most of the copies ordered at the pre-publication price have now been collected from the Library and Temples but there are a few left. If these have not been collected by the end of March it will be assumed they are no longer required and will be sold at the current price £15.

All profits will go to The Friends of St Mary's.

### Bampton Baby Toddler Group

We meet in the Village Hall every Thursday between 10am - 11.45am. We provide toys, slide, singing and drinks and biscuits for children 0 to Pre-school. For more information contact **Angela Irvin, Tel: 01993 210096** or  
**E-mail [angy.Irvin@tesco.net](mailto:angy.Irvin@tesco.net)**

### Old Birthday Cards

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

### Bampton Exhibition Foundation

The Trustees are required to keep the building of the Old Grammar School in good repair and, after payment of expenses, to promote the education (including social and physical training) of young persons of the parish. The Trustees for the period 2006/7 are:

#### Chairman:

Mr Gerald A Mills

#### Treasurer:

Mr Michael Wooloff

#### Bursaries Administrator:

Mrs Marion Dowding

#### Building Adviser:

Mr David Pullman

#### Vicar: Rev David Lloyd

#### Parish Council Representatives

**Bampton:** Mr David Hawkins, Mrs Brenda Sapsford, Mr Edward Baughan

**Aston:** Mr Gerald A Mills

**Lew:** Mrs Janet Van den Berge

**Fund Adviser (Co-opted non-Trustee):** Mrs Sally Cooper

Anyone who feels they qualify (or knows of someone who may do so) should contact the Correspondence Secretary, **Marion Dowding, Bay Tree Cottage, Rosemary Lane, Bampton, OX18 2NF or Tel: 850167.**

### The Bush Club Needs You!

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

**Cooks:** Approximately once every 5 weeks from 9.45 to 1pm

**General Helpers:** From 9am - 1.45pm on alternate weeks. Times to suit individuals.

Anybody willing to help, or join the Club as a new member please contact **Fenella Gray Tel: 01993 851653** or **Veronica Baker Tel: 01993 851040.**

### Bampton Drop-In

Held at the Methodist Chapel every Monday from 12pm, where all are welcome. Don't suffer those Monday blues. When you've done your washing up don't just put your feet up with a cup of tea. Instead, why not come and join us at this local facility for a very reasonably priced lunch, where you will be served by a dedicated band of country cooks. You can enjoy a warming bowl of home-made soup,

something on toast or a cheesy baked potato, followed by home-made cake, cheese and biscuits, tea and coffee. So come along and enjoy this friendly informal gathering where you will very soon want to make it a regular date in your diary.

### Bampton Bridge Club

The Club meets in the Village Hall every Tuesday, 7:30 pm to 10pm. Duplicate Bridge is played on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month. Rubber bridge on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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.**

### Bampton Ladies Group

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

### Recycling your old Mobile

Recycling old mobile phones and chargers creates £5 for BTCV (British Trust for Conservation Volunteers) with their recycling programme 'Office Green'. Visit their site [www.officegreen.co.uk](http://www.officegreen.co.uk) for terms and conditions or **Freephone 0800 833 480.**

### Thomley Activity Centre

Thomley Activity Centre is a unique recreational and educational facility for children (aged 0-16) with disabilities, their families, friends and schools. The facilities are situated in beautiful countryside. Children can freely explore the playrooms, music room, soft play and sensory room. They can also discover the 5 acre field, soft-tarmac playground and sensory garden or enjoy bikes and outdoor equipment. The spacious art and craft room offers various safe and supervised activities. Information is also available to parents and carers in the resource room and in discussion groups. The site is fully accessible and securely enclosed and is the only centre of its kind within a 35 mile radius. The centre is open from 10am-3.30pm

**WOA Gallery**  
**Market Square, Bampton**  
**Oxon OX18 2JH**  
**Tel: 01993 850137**  
**[westoxarts@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:westoxarts@yahoo.co.uk)**  
**Registered Charity No. 266542**



### Welcome to West Ox Arts

West Ox Arts is part-funded by West Oxfordshire District Council and Bampton Parish Council, and staffed by volunteers, except for its part-time administrator. West Ox Arts is dedicated to:

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

**WOA Membership** is open to everyone and new members are always welcome. Benefits include:

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

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

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

### Robert Vesey Room at Bampton Library : Exhibitions

The Robert Vesey Room Opening Hours are: Monday & Thursday 2.30-4.30pm and Wednesday & Saturday 10am-12pm. If you would like to book this exhibition space for a month please contact Ailsa Matheson on 01993 851004. The only charge is 20% commission on sales.

### Are you sitting comfortably?

WOA always needs volunteer sitters to look after the exhibitions. It's a great way to meet like-minded people and to see each exhibition. If you could spare a couple of hours a month to support WOA in this way then please contact the Administrator Olivia Thornton for the gallery, on 01993 850137. Or for the Robert Vesey Room, Barbara Daw on 01993 851491.

**If you are interested in the arts and would like to join West Ox Arts please ring the Gallery Tel: 01993 850137 for a membership form or call in during opening hours For details of exhibitions, leaflets are available at The Gallery, and details are published on the Bampton Website.**

including Saturdays. Once monthly, Thomley holds "Toddler days" and "Community days" for children with and without disabilities. Bookings must be made in advance.

Facilities include:

- Art and Craft room
- Soft play room with ball pool
- Sensory room with light and dark area
- Music room
- Parent resource room
- Soft tarmac area and bikes
- Playing field with accessible swings and roundabout

### ● Play rooms

Thomley Activity Centre offers a safe and supportive environment that promotes a child's freedom to explore and make personal choices. For further information contact: Thomley Activity Centre, Menmarsh Road, Worminghall, Bucks, HP18 9JZ, Tel/fax: 01844 338380. Web: [www.thomleyhall.org](http://www.thomleyhall.org); Email: [enquiries@thomleyhall.org](mailto:enquiries@thomleyhall.org) Registered in England and Wales No. 4297671, Registered Charity No. 1089224.

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## Bampton Environmental Watch Group

By Ralph Norman, Chairman



In March this year BEWG held its AGM when the whole committee was subject to re election. Four officers and nine other members were elected. The four officers are Ralph Norman (chairman), Helene Grygar (vice-chairman), Martyn Bishop (hon. treasurer) and Sally Proctor (hon. secretary). John Battersby, who for a number of years has done us great service as our footpaths coordinator, decided to stand down from re-election and his role has now been taken over by Wendy Rayner. Please direct any problems found with our footpaths to her on 850414, so that she may follow them up with the County Footpaths Officer. Our speaker at the AGM was Margaret Grant from the Stanford in the Vale churchyard project. Margaret's talk, entitled "Churchyard Wildlife—A Guide to God's Acre" gave much food for thought for members of Bampton's own churchyard project, particularly the way in which the local school is involved in Stanford.

BEWG's open meeting in April heard a talk from Alison Hopewell of the Wychwood Project. Alison's illustrated talk was on the Lower Windrush, the area for which she is the project officer. We saw how careful *prior* planning and subsequent management, could ensure that both the countryside and the wildlife could benefit when gravel extraction is completed. Further open meetings scheduled for the rest of the year are: on 27 July a talk and demonstration from Bob Field, a pole lathe turner, and on 26 October we have the welcome return of Martin Way, a local historian, to give a talk on "Coaching" (the horse and carriage variety, that is). Open meetings are held in the village hall starting at 8:00pm. All are welcome, with attendance free for members £2 for non-members (or join at the door).

The planning applications saga at Fair Acres nursery has at last been concluded with permission given to redevelop the site with seven light industrial units—but then we thought it was concluded in February 2004 when permission was given for six units. At the time of writing, building has still to commence.

Building on the Littlemead site is now up to the second floor with some roofing timbers in place on the lower dwellings. The predicted parking problems are being demonstrated by site vehicles along the Aston Road. It is understood that the police have said that they do not regard these vehicles as a problem (I wonder when they drove along there?), but in anticipation that parking *problems* will persist when the dwellings are occupied, the parish council have approached the County with a request for yellow no parking lines.

The proposal related to the Aylesbury Mushroom Farm site at Black Bourton, for a green waste collection and processing unit, has been withdrawn pending the provision of revised traffic movement figures. A large proportion of the traffic generated by this site would almost certainly come through Bampton, so the pros and cons of any re-submission of the proposal will need careful consideration by Bamptonians.

At a meeting of the full council of WODC on 26 April 2006, the final version of the West Oxfordshire Local Plan 2011 was approved, with confirmation that the 100 dwelling site in New Road is definitely excluded from the plan. Formal adoption and publication of the plan is scheduled for mid June. This is the last "Local Plan" that WODC will produce. Changes to the planning process have been put in place by central government. These will see the replacement of the Oxfordshire County Structure Plan with a regional plan produced by the South East England Regional Assembly (SEERA) covering a roughly triangular group of counties from Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire in the north, down to the Isle of Wight in the south and across to Kent in the east and the WODC Local Plan with a portfolio of documents - the Local Development Framework.

If you would like to know more about BEWG or would like to join us please contact Ann Norman on 850823, or email [bewg@sagaman.co.uk](mailto:bewg@sagaman.co.uk). You can also see our entry on the Bampton web site.

## Folly Flowers

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Saturday  
9am - 1pm

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Cut Flowers for all Occasions

Specialising in wedding arrangements especially for your day

Consultations in our studio by appointment  
Full range of sympathy flowers  
Contract work undertaken

# OUT AND ABOUT

*The Great Annual Shirt Race*



*A Wonderful Evening Out*



*Enjoyed by All*



*And the Weather Stayed Fine*

# OUT AND ABOUT

*The Morris Dancers*



*Another Great Event in the Village*



*The May Garlands*



**May Flower Garlands Results**  
 Corinna Marie Newland  
 Memorial Prize for the Best May Flower Garland  
 to  
 Hannah & Owen Jones and Lucy & Bethan McGregor  
**Highly Commended Certificates**  
 2<sup>nd</sup>  
 Jacob Goves & Dylan Neatham  
 Joint 3<sup>rd</sup>  
 Sarah Ader & Jessie Grimwade and Zoe & Peter Lawton

Alice & Isobel Landray  
 Chloe & Olivia Reynolds  
 Jade & Georgia Harris

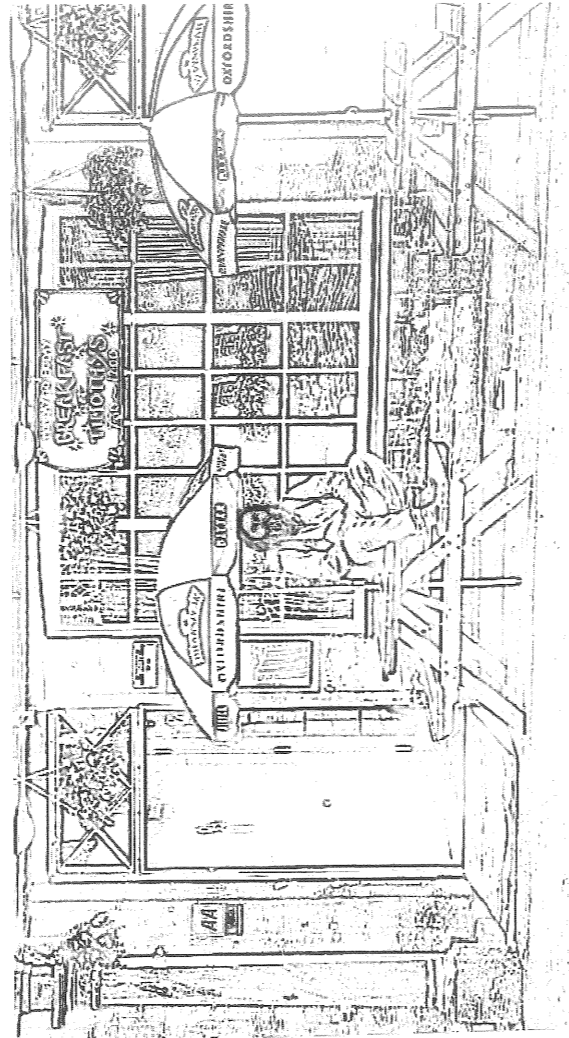
*Yet Another Great Weekend in Bampton*

# The Romany Inn

Good morning to one and all, from Richard and Company at the Romany  
We'll be open from 8am for breakfast and shut much later - every day!  
During our opening hours there will be times when you can come in and  
eat, drink and be merry.

Parties will be organised and some music will be played.  
And we aim to have a joyous summer and autumn to set us up for the  
winter months - when we will have some more eating, drinking and  
parties for the merriment of all.

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Live Music  
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(ensuite rooms)  
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850237  
and ask for  
Richard

*Richard  
sees  
you*

## BAMPTON CLASSICAL OPERA

By Gilly French

**Bampton Classical Opera 2006 season Vicente Martín y Soler – *La capricciosa coretta* (The Taming of the Shrew).** All is not well in the villa of Pompeian merchant Bonario. Not only does Vesuvius look decidedly smoky but his new and headstrong wife Ciprigna is wreaking havoc with her capricious ways. His children and servants are threatening to leave. How will Bonario assert his authority and hold together his household? This glorious comic opera was commissioned by Europe's leading librettist, Lorenzo da Ponte, from the immensely talented Spanish composer Vicente Martín y Soler, Mozart's operatic rival in Vienna. Subtitled *School for Spouses* and with the action occurring, like *The Marriage of Figaro*, in one mad day, *La capricciosa coretta* was premiered at the King's Theatre, London, in 1795. Bampton's new production will be the first in this country in modern times, and marks the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the composer's death.

Performances take place in the Deanery Garden, Bampton, Oxfordshire, on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> and Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> July, and at The Theatre at Headington, Oxford on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> July 2006, conducted by Paul Hoskins and directed by Jeremy Gray.

**W.A. Mozart – *The Jewel Box*.** A comic opera begins... and ends. The music stops, the characters disintegrate. How will Colombina, Pantalone, Pedrolino and the Dottore survive without roles to give them life? What hope can the Composer provide? And who does he really love – Colombina, or the mysterious Singer? Bampton Classical Opera and the London Mozart Players celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Mozart's birth with the only performances worldwide of Paul Griffith's intriguing compilation. First performed by Opera North in 1991, the aptly named *Jewel Box*, gathers together into a new story Mozart's rarest and most ravishing operatic music – extraordinary arias and ensembles composed for the greatest singers of this day but which never found a place in his regular stage-works. Matthew Coorey of the RLPO makes his conducting debut with us and Jeremy Gray directs. Performances are at Westonbirt School, Gloucestershire on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> and Monday 28<sup>th</sup> August, and at St John's Smith Square in London on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2006.

**Convivial Companion scheme.** If you are attending alone or in a small group and would like to meet up with others to share a picnic or for some company, let us know in good time and we will endeavour to help you. Similarly if you are attending in a group and feel sociable enough to incorporate others we would be glad to hear from you. Mention it when buying tickets or call us on 020 7222 1173.

**Bampton Classical Opera – can you help us?** Do you have an unused garage, small barn or even farm building that is easily accessible that we can use to house our ever-increasing collection of scenery, props etc? We have rapidly outgrown our own storage areas and are urgently looking for somewhere else in the locality. We would be glad to pay a small rent. Contact Jeremy Gray on 01993 851876 or mail@bamptonopera.org

### Opera Bus

Every fancy going to the theatre but are put off by the drive into Oxford and the hassle of finding a parking space? Oxford Operatic Society run a 'Coach and Ticket' package to all their shows – the coach pick's you up, drops you off outside the theatre, and takes you home again afterwards.

Perfect if you live in Rural Oxfordshire!

The package is designed for groups of people – so if you are a member of a club, WI or just have lots of friends it will be perfect for you!

If you are interested in finding out more, please Tel: 01865 512485 for more information.

### West Oxfordshire Nightsafe Issue 10,000 'Spikeys'

Pubs and clubs in the West Oxfordshire Nightsafe scheme have been issued with new anti-drink spiking devices called 'Spikey' to help protect customers. The special device, a brightly coloured plastic stopper, goes inside the neck of drinks bottles. It glows in UV light so everyone can see that the drink is protected.

The West Oxfordshire Community Safety Partnership has issued over 10,000 Spikeys following the launch of Nightsafe in Witney in November.

Inspector Andy Higgs, who has responsibility for Neighbourhoods and Licensing in West Oxfordshire, said "The aim of this initiative is to protect those who want to enjoy a drink without being affected by the risk of drugs. We also want people to drink sensibly while out in West Oxfordshire; have a great time but be careful and look after your mates."

Sean Hartless, the owner of Izis Café Bar in Witney, who is supporting the initiative, said "Licensees in Witney fully support Nightsafe and providing 'Spikeys' will make people think about their safety when they are enjoying a night out."

The Community Safety Partnership is made up of West Oxfordshire District Council, Thames Valley Police, Oxfordshire County Council, Thames Valley Partnership, Thames Valley Magistrates Court Service, Thames Valley Probation Service, Oxfordshire Youth Offending Service, South West Oxfordshire Primary Care Trust, Cherwell Valley Primary Care Trust, North East Oxfordshire Primary Care Trust, Oxfordshire Race Equality Council, Oxfordshire Drug & Alcohol Action Team, Cottsway Housing Ltd. Nightsafe premises have agreed a charter which includes: membership of the local Pubwatch scheme, displaying high visibility posters about responsible drinking and ensuring that bar staff are trained on managing alcohol misuse.

**For further information contact:**

Carys Davies

Tel: 01993 861615

Mob: 07771 965360

carys.davies@westoxon.gov.uk

## Witness Service

### Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire

Do you want to make a difference...??

If so we are currently recruiting for Volunteers to work in courts across the county, providing witnesses and victims of crime with support, guidance and reassurance.

- No experience required as full training provided.
- The next training programme begins in September

Potentially one of the most crucial ways in which you may become involved with the court system is as a witness. If you see or hear a crime happening then you could be called upon to give evidence in court about it.

Many people feel frightened by the thought of this. Often people find the courtroom a bewildering and intimidating place, and feel terrified at the thought of taking the stand and facing cross-examination.

However, the Witness Service exists to smooth the process and make it less of an ordeal. Trained volunteers provide information about the court procedure, offer emotional support to the witness and even accompany them into the courtroom. All these services are free. We do not, however, discuss the evidence or give legal advice.

The Witness Service is there not just to help and reassure witnesses of crime, but also to offer support to victims of crime and their friends and family who are attending court. The Witness Service supports all prosecution and defense witnesses, but not defendants in their particular case.

The Witness Service is currently looking for more volunteers to develop and strengthen the service in courts across the county. Volunteers can be young or old and from all backgrounds. You don't need any prior experience of the criminal justice system as this will be covered in the comprehensive training that all volunteers must undertake. The next training programme begins in September.

If you are interested please contact:  
Muriel Greenhalgh  
Tel: 01865 751511  
E-mail: Murielgreenhalgh@victimsupportoxon.org.uk  
Registered Charity NO: 1070075

## Green light for new community radio station

A new community radio station, called Just Oxfordshire, will soon be transmitting on 87.9 FM. It will serve the wider community during the day covering a variety of music and reporting on local news and local items of interest. Evenings are dedicated to young people aged 11-25. Coverage will include most of West Oxfordshire.

A grant totalling £51,000 from the West Oxfordshire Network (WON) has given the radio station the green light for a pilot of 6 months. This includes money from Europe and the South East of England Development Agency.

Meryl Smith who chairs the WON Steering Group said, "I believe 'Just Oxfordshire' is the first ever community radio station in West Oxfordshire and I am sure it will be a great boost to better communications within our rural area.

The Steering Group members are also particularly enthusiastic about the opportunities 'Just Oxfordshire' will provide for young people in the area." The project is the brainchild of Andy MacLarty from Witney who has worked in local and national radio.

He said, "We are now one step closer to making local history and providing a much needed community facility

that will not only serve the younger people – but the community as a whole. We are committed to giving airtime to promote the work of the various initiatives and projects. Our local news and information will ensure that we make our local listeners feel like that Just Oxfordshire is their community radio station – because in reality it is."

'Just Oxfordshire's first broadcast is on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July and this is an initial one-week pilot transmission. For the pilot the District Council has loaned some office space at their depot on Station Lane, which has been set up as a studio.

The pilot is part of the application process to OFCOM for a full community radio licence. There will be a second broadcast pilot later in the year, with the expectation of gaining the licence at the beginning of 2007. In between these times, the station is broadcasting on the internet at [www.justoxfordshire.co.uk](http://www.justoxfordshire.co.uk).

The station will be run by volunteers and will train those keen to learn broadcasting skills. They are currently encouraging young people and anyone who would like to be involved to get in touch.

**Contact can be through:**  
[www.justoxfordshire.co.uk](http://www.justoxfordshire.co.uk).

## Bampton Welfare Trust

Charity No. 202735

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

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

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

**Clerk to the Trustees:** Mr D Pullman,

Mill Green Cottage, Bampton, Tel: 01993 850589.

**Welfare Officer:** Mrs J Newman,

Leofric House, 81 New Road, Bampton, Tel: 01993 850755

*If you would like to apply for a grant for the first time, please contact Susan Phillips Tel: 01993 850321 for an application form..*

## The Bampton Clinic

By Philippa Rayne

The Bampton Clinic is having a birthday in July. This highly successful Osteopathic Clinic will celebrate its 10<sup>th</sup> year in business. Under the guidance of proprietor and senior practitioner Philippa Rayne, the Clinic has treated more than 2,000 patients in the area. Now due to increased demand the Bampton Clinic is expanding to include more therapies.

Today there are three types of massage:

### Shiatsu Massage

Which is a traditional, hands on Japanese healing therapy. It can treat specific injuries or simply helping to improve poor health. The Clinic's highly experienced therapist Liz Mogridge is an expert in Shiatsu massage - as well as sailing tall ships in the Mediterranean and being an ex rat catcher!!

### Sports Massage

Can help relieve pain from injury with deep muscle releases. Therapist Gus De La Querra is a specialist in this field and also practices Bowen Technique to help ease and balance muscles and joints. He is also an accomplished musician and can be seen performing often in the local area.

### Aromatherapy Massage

Is a whole body treatment using essential oils.

*This technique is wonderful in relieving stress.*

The Bampton Clinic's trained massage therapist Dee Szymura is also skilled in massaging women safely during pregnancy, and has been a member of the National Childbirth Trust for some years, and draws on her three experience as an anti natal teacher. Busy mother of two who enjoys the occasional salsa evening with wine!!

*Plus, new to the Clinic, but not this area....*

.....is Dietitian and Nutritionist Lucinda Carter, who is a member a local farming family and works within the NHS in Swindon. Lucinda can

help with all aspects of diet, including weight loss, diabetes, heart disease, pain control and can help clarify all those food myths. She is also a keen snow boarder!

### Osteopathy

For children has always been an important part of the Bampton Clinic over the years; hundreds of babies and children have been treated. Symptoms such as colic, feeding problems, sleep disturbances, and general behavioural issues have all been helped through gentle treatments by highly trained practioners.

### All Under One Roof

The Bampton Clinic promotes the maintenance of health and well-being amongst its patients and its beautiful building is integral to its success. Formerly a Slaughter House, this 18<sup>th</sup> Century building has been lovingly

restored to create a calm, nurturing environment for its patients, with a disabled access loo, baby changing facilities, and plenty of room to manoeuvre both wheel and push chairs.

We are hoping to provide a serene peaceful haven where patients have the opportunity to relax, unwind learn a little to help them feel better and leave feeling good and out of pain.

With 3 treatment rooms on two floors, providing ample space for families, a children's area and comfortable seating, the Bampton Clinic offers a welcoming space for all ages.

Parking for the Clinic is easy: simply park in the Market Square and the Bampton Clinic can be found opposite in Moonraker Lane, next to Temple's the hard wear shop.

## THE BAMPTON CLINIC

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Osteopath

DE SZYMURA

Massage Therapist

GUS DE LA QUERRA

Sports Massage Bowen Technique

LIZ MOGRIDGE

Shiatsu Massage & Reflexology

KAREN COWAN

Psychotherapist

LUCINDA CARTER

Dietitian & Nutritionist

## Public safety is a matter for the police, isn't it?

By Bill Oddy

Head of Community Safety and Licensing, West Oxfordshire District Council

Thames Valley Police performs many vital functions but, as in all walks of life, resources are limited. If you consider the population of your community and what percentage of that number are police officers, you will understand that community safety and crime is not just a police issue. Local Councils, schools, and residents all have a part to play.

During the middle of last year a number of public meetings were held in Bampton, Burford and Carterton to gather information and the people who attended these events were asked "What are your biggest concerns". Over 200 people attended these meetings and some were not entirely convinced that this new approach to policing could prove to be effective.

From the information obtained, the top 3 concerns were:

- Young people hanging around
- Anti-social behaviour
- Traffic issues

These three concerns have been priorities for the police in this area and the Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG).

### What has been achieved already?

During the last year the Neighbourhood Action Group in the area has achieved the following:

- Increased police patrols, and now these patrols are targeted at key times and locations across the area
- Introduction of membership schemes and staff training for local under 18s discos
- Under-age drinking poster campaign to highlight the dangers of excessive alcohol consumption to the young people
- Poster campaign to highlight that selling alcohol to under 18s is illegal
- Test purchasing of licensed premises and supermarkets
- Improved youth engagement
- Flexible mobile traffic speed analysis
- Purchase of speed indicator device (SID) at a cost of £2,500
- Introduction of a website - [www.whosmybobby.co.uk](http://www.whosmybobby.co.uk)

### What is a NAG?

**A Neighbourhood Action Group or NAG as it is known is a problem-solving group, not a just talking shop!**

The NAG's purpose is to recognise the main concerns of the neighbourhood, to problem solve those issues and to suggest and implement short and long term solutions through 'work in partnership' with organisations like the police, schools, youth groups and local councils.

### What the NAG still has to achieve:

- Consider how effective CCTV would be
- Continual monitoring of Police Operations to tackle your priorities
- Ongoing support of young peoples discos.
- Increased youth involvement in decision-making

Ady Coomber, Chairman on the Neighbourhood Action Group said, "Our NAG has been operating since July 2005. Members are from the Bampton, Carterton & Burford communities as well as the Police Neighbourhood Manager, RAF Brize Norton representative and Community Safety Partnership."

### What next?

In a low crime area such as ours, the main concerns are quality of life issues, so although we have seen reductions in recorded crime there are other methods to measure success. To establish how successful this is proving to be, the Police and members of the NAG will engage with the members of our communities to ask questions such as;

- Do you feel safe to walk around during the day and at night?
- What makes you feel safe?
- What makes you feel unsafe?
- What would make you feel safer?
- Do you know the name of your local police officer or PCSO?
- What issues do you think need to be tackled as a matter of priority where you live?

Email your thoughts to: [cartertonneighbourhood@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk](mailto:cartertonneighbourhood@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk). Or you could attend one of the Neighbourhood Public Meetings which will be held on the following dates: 12<sup>th</sup> July Bampton Village Hall at 7.30pm; 19<sup>th</sup> July Carterton Community College at 7.30pm; 20<sup>th</sup> July Warwick Hall, Burford at 7.30pm.

The police station in Burford Road, Carterton will be open between 1pm and 4pm on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July. Come and meet your Neighbourhood Police.

## Reported crime in Bampton has dropped for the third year running Official

By PC Steve Patrick

I appreciate that one can re-arrange statistics to appear perhaps better than they really are, however, no matter which set of figures you may have read recently, they all tell the same story. Crime is down, and substantially so. Although this down turn in crime is a national trend, since I reported the Bampton crime figures to the Parish Council in 2004, accurate at the time of printing, reported crime has dropped by over 30%. A trend I am sure we all hope will continue.

In past issues of the 'Beam' I have written about the Bampton youth and complaints of anti-social behaviour. I am pleased to say that I have noticed the number of complaints, and received reports from local residents, that such behaviour has reduced over the last couple of years. Without doubt this improvement in behaviour has helped with this reduction in crime, and I am all for recognition where it is due.

However, I also realise that as each generation moves on, they are replaced by the next, and I hope this next generation follow in the steps of their predecessors.

Unfortunately, at the time of writing we are experiencing a slight increase in problems, particularly in and around the play parks, and I would firstly like to take this opportunity to thank the older teenagers of Bampton for not following the trend in what appears to be a national 'yobbish' culture and helping to keep Bampton a nice place to live and visit. Secondly, just a reminder that the play parks in Pembroke Place and Mercury Close are Children's play areas, and not late night meeting places. By all means meet up at the skate park on the Buckland Road Recreation Ground, but please be considerate towards those living near-by, and the Recreation Ground's facilities, i.e., clearing up after yourselves, and those with vehicles, no handbrake turns or motorcycling on the field or car park; not only is it dangerous but it also causes damage. Enjoy it while you're young, but also leave it how you would like to find it, for the next generation.

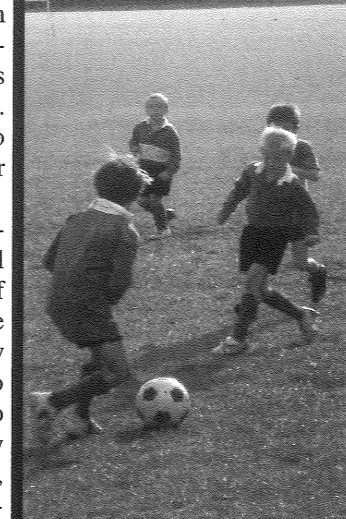
Lastly, whilst on the subject of the generations, over the last 12 months several of our senior citizens were the victims of some rather upsetting burglaries. We are a close community and we all know where our elderly live. Unfortunately so do the burglars. All I ask is that we keep an eye on them, and if you feel unhappy about challenging any suspicious callers, then call the Police non-emergency number. Tel: **0845 8 505 505**.

The sooner you report such incidents the sooner we can attend, and hopefully reduce the number of instances where our elderly residents are subjected to this type of despicable crime.

**Police non-emergency number  
Tel: 0845 8 505 505**

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**The next exhibition will feature**

“The Church in the Community - the work of St Mary’s in Bampton”

September 11<sup>th</sup> to October 28<sup>th</sup>

As usual, the exhibition will take place in the Vesey Room, Church View, which will be open Mondays, Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays 2.30-4.30pm, and Wednesdays and Saturdays 10-12 noon.

**Were you married in St Mary's Bampton? If so, read on.....**

St Mary’s Church has been asked to put together an exhibition of church life for the Bampton Archive and we would like to include information and photos of Bampton weddings and baptisms over the years.

If you were married in St Mary’s and/or your children were baptised there, we would love to have any photographs you have, to include in the displays. Please either drop them into the church and leave them on the table by the door, or hand them in at The Cotton Club, together with your name, address and telephone number, and some brief details of the date of the service, names of those involved and any other information which might be of interest. We will return all the photographs afterwards so it is important to let us have your contact details. If you would like more information please telephone Suzy Robinson Tel: 01993 850342.

**PLEASE HELP.**

If you would like to help with The Bampton Archive, please telephone:

- Jo Lewington 01993 850947
- Sally Proctor 01993 850479
- Sally Cooper 01993 852802.

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# SPAJERS News

By Don Rouse

Who would have thought that the Village Garage sale would take off like it did. Last year fifty houses took part, this year over ninety participated. It was a brilliant day, the weather was kind and people came from all over the globe. A rough estimate of the money changing hands in Bampton that day is about fifteen thousand pounds! Well done everyone, the SPAJERS for their efforts are nearly one thousand pounds better off, proving once again what the SPAJERS is all about; having fun, whilst making money so that our senior citizens can have fun! Next year's date is already booked so mark it in your diaries. It is *Sunday 6 May 2007!*

We had a few changes at our AGM in May. Mathew Green is our new Chairman, Mark Booty the new Vice Chairman. Chris Collett has taken on the role of PUB relations. All other Officers are the same.

The Great Shirt Race this year also had a few changes. To avoid the bottleneck that used to happen towards the finish, we decided to call in to the Talbot on the way through. This appeared to be quite a success judging by the comments from the spectators and the competitors alike. We would also welcome comments from our readers and supporters to let us know what you think. After all it is for you the Bampton people that we organise it. We know that even after fifty-three years we can still improve on it, and would like to with your help. One thing that does cause us some concern is the increasing use of water bombs. Water fights can be fun, but they can also get out of hand. What people tend to forget is that in a crowded situation like the Shirt Race there are young children as well as the old and infirm who are frightened and intimidated by such behaviour. We do hope that this irresponsible behaviour will stop before it stops us running the Shirt Race. The standard of fancy dress never ceases to amaze me, it just gets better and better every year. The amount of work and effort that goes into it is

fantastic making the job of the fancy dress judge more difficult every year. This year's judge and presenter of the awards was none other than our own 'Village Bobby' Steve Patrick. We are certainly very lucky to have such a caring yet firm policeman who is respected by all. For twenty years now he has been looking after us, we in the SPAJERS are indebted to him for all his assistance in keeping our tradition going, in spite of all the jurisdiction that is thrown against us. He always attends our May meeting to advise us on the latest rules and how we can overcome them without breaking the law. On several occasions the Shirt Race has been on his 'day off,' yet he is always there with his colleagues to ensure a smooth and safe evening for us all. Many thanks Steve.


This year's winners were Juniors: Ben Jacob & Josh Bardsly. Intermediate: Thomas Boot & Lloyd Hancock Senior: Steve Godfrey & John Shuker. Oldest pair (who also came in third which is pretty good for a combined age of 110 years) were Lynne and Martin Barber.

That is enough of what has happened. Now what is in store for the future? Well the next big event is the Donkey Derby. Here we need your help in letting us have Produce, Bottles, Cakes and bric-a-brac for the various stalls, we need you to buy Raffle tickets, sponsor Donkeys. But most of all we need you there supporting us on the day - August Bank Holiday Monday which this year is the 28<sup>th</sup>.

Maintaining our tradition the outing will be on the Wednesday following the Donkey Derby which of course will be the 30<sup>th</sup> August. The venue chosen this time is Bournemouth. Those who qualify will be notified during August. To qualify you must have lived in Bampton for the last six months and have achieved the national pension age. Jeff Dando is the keeper of the list of members, he can be contacted on 01993 850643. If you are phoning on some one else's behalf, make sure you get their permission first.

We have lost another stalwart supporter of the SPAJERS, Robert Radband, better known as Raddy; he died last April. He was one of those lovely people who, whenever we needed help was always one of the first there, be it taking the old folks home from our parties, putting up marquees or setting up the Donkey Derby course. He did not want to be on the committee, but he always wanted to help. We shall miss him.

Your committee have come to the conclusion that there is probably a few more "Raddy's" out there who want to help yet not necessarily be on the committee, so we are setting up a 'Friends of the SPAJERS' group who we can call upon when we need help. If you are one of those people please give Jackie Green a call on 01993 850760. We certainly need your help on Donkey Derby day, running stalls, setting up and clearing up after the show!



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## OUT OF WORK FARMER - TURNED AGRICULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

By Don Rouse

Bampton people never cease to amaze me. Their tolerance and patience is definitely second to none. It was just over a year ago that I first complained about the 'build out' in Station Road. In my last Beam article I refused to say any more about the subject, but since then other people have started to complain in the local press and on radio, at long last people have started to put pen to paper, it was good to hear people who live right outside the site, as well as travellers who come through on a regular basis speak of their experiences. This time of the year with all the hedgerows in full bloom, the warning signs cannot be seen until the last moment, by which time you are too busy taking evasive action as there is a twenty-ton truck

coming through with no respect for priorities. If the council are still insistent that these 'build outs' are a success then surely they can make them safer. To start with, the Station Road one wants to be fifty yards further out of Bampton. The priority signs at least fifty yards away from the build out, then perhaps the motorist would have a chance to assess who goes first and what is about to appear from behind Manor Cottage's garden wall!

Apart from two Bampton councillors, I have yet to come across any one who thinks that these build outs are a success. I know that our sub-editor is one of them, but please everyone, let us know your views, the 'Beam' is your news paper so go on put pen to paper. My offer of free use of my JCB for the council to push it all out of the way and install a 'SID' (Speed indicator display) still stands. Complete with driver of course. The DVLC refer to my JCB as a historic vehicle.

Wouldn't it be nice if she did something historical for Bampton like restoring some kind of sanity to Station Road?

When we first came to Bampton back in 1943, we were warned not to speak to anyone in a derogatory manner about Bampton people because invariably they would be related. Well in a relaxed moment I started to peruse all the people who purely through marriage that I was related to. It turned out to be something like ten percent of Bampton! So there is incentive for me to behave myself and not bring shame on the family! Maybe now that I have retired I have got too much time on my hands. Is that sad or what?



The members of the Weightlifting Club who raised £1300 for the Oxfordshire Air Ambulance. Congratulations - a wonderful achievement

**The Bampton Weight Lifting Club**  
The Bampton Weight Lifting Club celebrates its Golden Jubilee this year. Yes it is fifty years since its humble beginning in a Chicken House at Backhouse Farm down Weald. Since then it has been to the giddy heights of being one of the leading clubs in the country, taking on clubs from Bristol, Birmingham and London, with an array of top line lifters and celebrities visiting Bampton. The most famous of these is Dave Prowse

who was the Green Cross Code man as well as Darth Vader in Star Wars. Club members Alan Winterbourne, his brother Colin, along with Garry Langford, Philip Brunt, Nigel Chivers and Gordon Gough all became national champions and represented their country in International Matches. Alan Winterbourne actually represented Great Britain in the Montreal and Moscow Olympic Games. The Club now operates in a much different way; the emphasis now is on fitness and strength training as opposed to competitive lifting. The quality and quantity of the members remain the same. Their objectives are the same to improve the health and strength of their members, at the same time offering the people of Bampton a facility where they can train with weights at a time to suit themselves; what is more is that it is right in the middle of Bampton. The secretary is Ray Fielding and you can contact him Tel: 01993 852185.

We don't often hear much about their achievements as they operate on a much lower profile. But what they have just recently achieved needs shouting from the highest rooftops. They recently lost one of their most

stalwart members, Neil Thacker, in that terrible motor cycling accident on Lew corner. In Neil's honour they held a sponsored lift to raise money for the Oxfordshire Air Ambulance. Their ambition was to lift one thousand tonnes of iron in a day. Those of you who visited them in the Club as they set about their task, were, I am sure, very impressed by their determination, strength and endurance. It was nice to see members of the fairer sex doing their share of 'Pumping Iron'.

In all they raised the grand sum of £1300.00! Needless to say that when you get a gang of youngsters working together like that, there is always going to be competition; the lifter who pumped the most iron was Steve Chivers who amassed a total of 127 Tonnes! Well done Steve. Well done the Bampton Weight Lifting Club.

### 'Rumblings of a Grumpy Old Man'

The thing that bothers me is that something as valuable as the Air Ambulance Service is reliant on the *support and generosity of the general public!* This is ridiculous, it is not some frivolous perk for the public, it is an absolute necessity! Until Oxfordshire County Council can sort out the traffic problems of the A40, and I have heard stories recently of it taking nearly two hours to get to the John Radcliffe from here, then the Air Ambulance Service is a necessity not a luxury. As it usually takes ten years from planning stage to reach completion, and that is not taking into account all those objections and inquiries that will be held to protect some species of insect that you and I have never heard of, I cannot see the A40 problems being resolved during my lifetime.

What did you make of that recent police debacle in Gloucester? Where the young car thief escaped from his police pursuers, climbed on to a roof where he was wined on the largest bottle of Coke, dined on chicken nuggets and given a packet of cigarettes. The Police stated that they had to consider his personal human rights! Well in these days of idiotic litigation, if I was the young lad, I would sue the Police for supplying me with a drink that was harmful to my teeth, food that was bad for my cholesterol, and cigarettes that say on the packet could kill me! What a load of nonsense! I remember a couple of years ago when a protester climbed on to a roof down by Oxford railway station, he (well the police) brought the whole of Oxford to a standstill.

Why can't the police treat them like my mother used to treat me when I played up? Just ignore them, take no notice of them, they will soon get bored when they see that their actions are having no effect. I remember running away from home once thinking

that it would frighten my parents, after being away for a few hours and nobody coming to get me, I thought I would creep back just to see what effect it was having on them. Do you know what? They hadn't even noticed that I had gone!

I know I probably sound like a 'Grumpy Old Man' but I do feel that the police should get back to the old way of policing where a bit of common sense would achieve a lot more than this new 'text-book' style. I would have had a fire hose to blast the young offender off the roof, in case my theory of ignoring him did not work. But I would no doubt find myself in trouble with the authorities on that because of a Hose Pipe Ban!! The trouble with the police is, in my per-

sonal view, that there are too many academics fresh out of University with no real experience of life. They should spend more time on the beat with the likes of our village Bobby then they would see the large difference between Theory and Practice. As it is, the urban police seem to drift from one 'cock-up' to the next.

I was admiring our Church yard the other day as it was being mown; it was beginning to look very nice. But then after a few days I noticed that the mowing had stopped, leaving the middle uncut. It reminded me of one of our young weightlifters many years ago, in fact it was the father of the aforementioned Steve Chivers. He decided to have his hair done in the Mohican style. Like the Churchyard,

### The Chicanes - The Facts, and Another View

By Fred Gray, Bampton Parish Council

The installation of the chicanes was the outcome of a traffic survey conducted by 'The Beam' for the Parish Council in conjunction with RATs (Residents Action on Traffic) in 2005. The outcome of this survey, was that there were two main concerns of Villagers on traffic - HGVs and *speeding*. Additionally, on traffic calming, the Villagers clearly expressed their desire *not* to have traffic calming measures - humps etc. - within the Village itself, but showed support to have them at the Village *extremities*. These results were fed to the Oxfordshire County Council Highways Department, with a request to look at what could be done to address the problems.

After studying the technical options, the OCC recommended to The Parish Council to install chicanes on the four main access roads into the Village - and that they would need to be positioned at the 30mph signs. Additional lighting would also be necessary at each location. This recommendation was accepted by The Parish Council, and the OCC subsequently designed and installed the chicanes. And, contrary to Don's view the Council *as a whole* agree that they do work; they do slow the traffic; and that's what they were designed to do! Surveys clearly show this, the traffic is slower in the Village now than prior to the installation of the chicanes - just ask anyone trying to cross Broad Street to get to the surgery; it is now definitely easier than before the chicanes were installed. So who doesn't like the chicanes? The answer is, of course, some drivers - including Don! At Station Road especially, it has been noticed - some of the Parish Councillors regularly go along to watch the performance of drivers exiting and entering the Village at Station Road - that some - but not all - drivers *speed up* into the chicane going out of the Village, and clearly exceed the speed limit; and they meet other drivers speeding into the Village from the Brize Norton direction - notwithstanding the 40mph 'advisory' sign for the bend.

If drivers drove with due care and attention, obeyed the regulatory and advisory speed limits, and displayed courtesy to other road users, then problems should not arise. This is not to say that the OCC is not looking at making improvements at Station Road - see the article of David Hawkins; they are looking to see if improvements can be made, difficult though they may be, in order to address the concerns that have been passed to them by The Parish Council on the basis of feedback by some drivers. But note that it is understood that the Station Road chicane cannot be moved 'a further 50 yards out of Bampton' as Don would like, since it would be too close to the bend.

Perhaps one of Don's problems is that he learned to drive in a tractor - Beam July 2005 - and it is well known that he doesn't like bends and corners. Patience Don. Slow down and relax - especially at the chicanes!

shaven on the outside, long in the middle. It looked quite smart, until he got bored with it, then he decided to shave off the middle bit. Well as you can imagine, the outside of his skull was a nice sun-burnt shiny brown, the stripe in the middle was brilliant white! He looked more like a Wessex Saddle Back. I await with interest the next moves of the Churchyard styl-ists!

**Back to basics**

Getting back to my basics as the Beam's Agriculture Correspondent. Farmers have had a difficult time with silage making this year. First it was so cold and wet that the grass did not grow, and then suddenly over the course of a few days the weather changed completely, grass was in abundance, but in a very mature state to be as succulent as one would have liked - although I am sure that with a few additives it can be made quite palatable for the animals. Before any-one gets on their high horse about chemical additives, I am referring to nothing more harmful than salt and pepper!

What a great relief that after ten years the ban on British Beef and animal exports has been lifted. There is a big demand for British genetics; we were one of the world's leaders, but after the efforts of those so called experts, with their scaremongering about the number of deaths this country would be experiencing about now, it decimated the whole industry. It takes about five years to proof a bull on his genetics and as there is nothing like the number of breeding cows that there were ten years ago, it is going to take a long time for a recovery to take place.

If there is one thing that appals me it is good food going to waste. Ever since the BSE scare, any animal over thirty months old had to be destroyed and the meat burnt. Now at long last this rule has been lifted.

We should now see a lot more mature tasty beef coming in to the shops at a more reasonable price.

If we don't, then I would suggest that we all sit in the Butchers and have a good moan, as I said at the beginning of this article, Bampton people are too tolerant, so let us unite and change the world!



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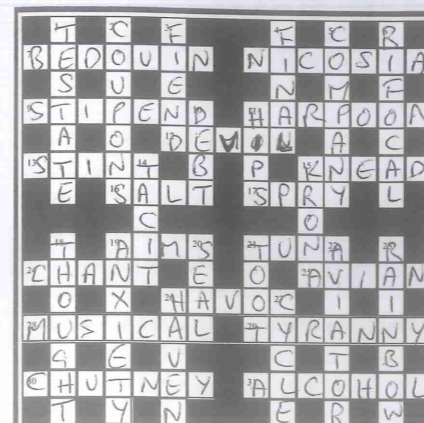
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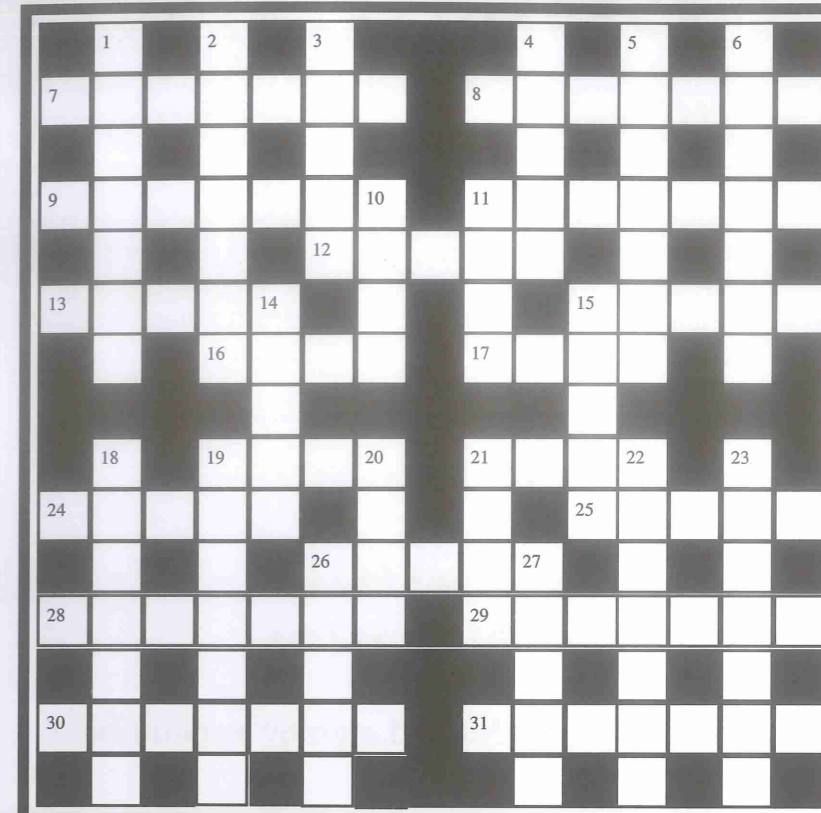
**Solution to the March BEAM CROSSWORD**



The winner of the March Crossword is Annete Minto, of St. Mary's Court. Congratulations, the £10 prize is yours!

We would also like to donate £10 to Cancer Research, as a thank you to Bill Govier for producing yet another crossword for 'The Beam'.

**THE BAMPTON BEAM'S CROSSWORD**



**CLUES ACROSS**

- 7 Evil, hateful
- 8 Able to meet financial obligations
- 9 Pacify by acceding to demands
- 11 Feverish
- 12 Blue glass, coloured by using cobalt
- 13 A large sea
- 15 A sudden fright
- 16 An agreement or compact
- 17 A contest of skill, strength or chance
- 19 The husks of cereal grain
- 21 To a great extent
- 24 Meeting place
- 25 Acclaim, glory
- 26 Item of discussion
- 28 Underground prison cell
- 29 Ship's record
- 30 A butcher's axe
- 31 Storehouse for threshed corn

**CLUES DOWN**

- 1 To nag
- 2 Patella
- 3 Form an uncertain estimate
- 4 Crave for another's property
- 5 Extreme greed for riches
- 6 Fishermen
- 10 To send forth, issue
- 11 To decline in strength or vigour
- 14 Mother-of-pearl
- 15 Strike with the open hand
- 18 Spirit distilled in Mexico
- 19 Housebreaker
- 20 Middle of the day
- 21 Type of flexible armour
- 22 Woman's partner in marriage
- 23 To stay or reside temporarily
- 26 Coupon, voucher
- 27 Venomous hooded snake

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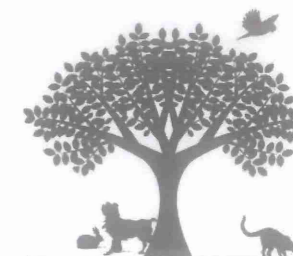
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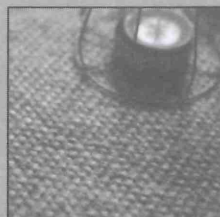
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**Calendar of Events**

**July**

- 5<sup>th</sup> Movies on the Move - *Mrs Henderson Presents*, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 9<sup>th</sup> Outing to Poole, Gardening Club, Market Square, 9am
- 15<sup>th</sup> Barn Dance with the Woodpecker Band, SPAJERS, Langdale Hall Witney, 8pm
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Garden Party, Methodist Chapel, 2pm
- 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> *La capricciosa corretta*, Bampton Classical Opera, Deanery Garden
- 27<sup>th</sup> BEWG Meeting, Talk by Bob Field – a Pole Lathe Turner, Village Hall, 8pm
- 29<sup>th</sup> *La capricciosa corretta*, Bampton Classical Opera, The Theatre, Headington

**August**

- 4<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> *Canterbury Tales*, Abingdon Touring Theatre Company, Village Hall, 8pm
- 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Village Fair, Market Square and High Street
- 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Show, Gardening Club, Village Hall, 3pm
- 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> *The Jewel Box*, Mozart 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert, Bampton Classical Opera, Westonbirt School, Gloucestershire
- 28<sup>th</sup> Donkey Derby, SPAJERS, Sandfords, 2pm
- 30<sup>th</sup> SPAJERS Annual Outing, Bournemouth

**September**

- 6<sup>th</sup> Movies on the Move - *The Constant Gardener*, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 10<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday, Harrogate, Gardening Club
- 11<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> “The Church in the Community - the work of St Mary’s in Bampton”, Bampton Oct Archive, Vesey Room
- 21<sup>st</sup> *The Jewel Box*, Mozart 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert, Bampton Classical Opera, St John’s Smith Square
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Autumn Sale, Cancer Research UK, Village Hall
- 29<sup>th</sup> Murder Mystery Evening, Church Roof Appeal, Village Hall
- 30<sup>th</sup> Murder Mystery Evening, Church Roof Appeal, Village Hall
- 30<sup>th</sup> ‘Baby and Child Fayre’, Langdale Hall

**October**

- 7<sup>th</sup> Coffee Morning, Gardening Club, Town Hall, 10am – 12noon
- 7<sup>th</sup> Oxford Welsh Male Voice Choir, Bell Restoration Appeal, St. Mary’s, 7.30pm
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Outing to Hatton Country World, Gardening Club, Market Square, 9am
- 25<sup>th</sup> Community Safety Surgery, Community Safety Partnership, Town Hall, 6pm
- 26<sup>th</sup> BEWG Meeting, Talk by Martin Way – “Coaching”, Village Hall, 8pm

**November**

- 4<sup>th</sup> Coffee Morning, Gardening Club, Town Hall, 10am – 12noon
- 5<sup>th</sup> Outing to Bath for Xmas Shopping, Gardening Club, Market Square, 9am
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Pre-Christmas Bingo, Cancer Research UK, Village Hall
- 25<sup>th</sup> Outing to The London Eye, Gardening Club, Market Square

**December**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Christmas Quiz, Cancer Research UK, Village Hall
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Coffee Morning, Gardening Club, Town Hall, 10am – 12noon
- 8<sup>th</sup> Magpie Lane Concert, Bell Restoration Appeal, St. Mary’s, 8pm
- 15<sup>th</sup> Country and Western Dance, Cancer Research UK, Carterton Social Centre
- 21<sup>st</sup> Annual St. Beornwald’s Day Concert, Bampton Classical Opera, St. Mary’s Church
- 27<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> Short Holiday Break to Isle of Wight, Gardening Club

**THE BAMPTON BEAM**

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**Editor**

Fenella Gray Tel: 851653

E-mail: fenellagray@witneyserve.net

**Sub-Editor**

Fred Gray Tel: 851653

**Artwork**

Jo Lewington

**Treasurer**

Grace Wilkins

**Advertising**

Fred Gray: Tel: 851653/Fax: 851892

E-mail: fredgray@witneyserve.net

**Photography**

Richard Wilkins

Fred Gray

Contributions are always welcome and should be sent to:

**The Editor**

**The Bampton Beam**

**c/o The Cotton Club**

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**Bampton,**

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