

# THE BAMPTON BEAM

March 2012

Volume 27, No. 1

## Welcome to Spring; new season, new leaves, new editorial team

*By Louise Timmins-Gray, Editor, The Bampton Beam*

Welcome to the first edition of the Beam for the new team. Not all of us are new and I am grateful to the experienced team members for giving us 'newbies' advice and help. I know the hard task of the Beam Walkers, doing it many a time when I was younger, and I appreciate their kind and continued support.

You will not notice too many changes in this edition as we get to grips with all of the Beams many information streams. Over the course of the year, we will proudly be launching a facebook site which will keep every one of its followers up to date through the months where we do not have a hard copy issue. My main additions to the new team are Pip Timmins-Gray and Mel Quarterman who are my trusty right hands and will be sub-editors. The website will be updated soon and the Beam may even break into colour in the future.

To help promote Bampton, I am keen to meet all the businesses (not only from an advertising point of view) about how we can promote Bampton even more. Please feel free to get in touch with us if you haven't already heard from me.

A special thanks to my parents, Fred and Fenella for their tenure of the Bampton Beam and I am sure many of you will have met them and wish them luck in their new adventure on the Isle of Man.

My last thought is to the readers of the Beam. My team and I want to hear from you about events, exciting things you are doing (including any lucky 'extras' from Downton Abbey) and what you want to read about as a community. We can include almost anything and would greatly appreciate any articles or photos you might want added to the Beam especially from all the sports/activities groups in Bampton with photos please. I have already met some locals with ideas so I expect to hear from you soon!

I look forward to hearing your thoughts and opinions over the coming years.

Many thanks,

Louise

Tel: 01993 851653 / Email: [beam@bamptonoxon-parishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:beam@bamptonoxon-parishcouncil.gov.uk)

## What's in the Beam:

Update on the Library

An Aussie Adventure

Charity events

Fly-tippers—not getting away with it

Art Competition

The Infamous Rouse's Ramblings

The return of Aunty Beam

And more...

### *Jubilee Celebrations*

As you will probably already know this year is the Queen's Diamond Jubilee marking her 60 years of reign.

Most people are likely to be looking forward to the additional Bank Holiday from the 2nd of June through to the 5th and Bampton will be no different celebrating in style. Look out for more informa-

### *Olympics*

The Olympics comes to London this year and I hope everyone is looking forward to some British success.

If you are lucky enough to have some tickets we at the Beam would love to hear about your days out and if possible have some photos.

Good luck to all our athletes!

# Bampton Library

**The glass is half full –  
and filling!**



The good news is Bampton Library will not close! This time last year the future looked bleak as Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) planned to withdraw all funding from it along with 20 others. But with the support of 'Save Oxfordshire Libraries', Bampton Parish Council and hundreds of local people it is a happier story.

However, OCC has designated Bampton Library, and nearly all its other small rural libraries, as 'Community Libraries'. This means they will not be funding them to the same extent as before. They will continue to pay the rent, and all associated building costs such as heating and lighting, and they will continue to provide and restock the books and DVD's and also maintain the computer equipment, but within 3 years they will only pay half the staffing costs.

Unfortunately OCC believe (although they have undertaken no trials to test this) that volunteers will be able (and willing) to cover 50% of our Library Manager's job, and also provide the necessary administration to make the system work.

We do not believe that such a volunteer scheme can work, especially as the job description that applicants would need to fulfil includes having good computer skills and being police checked. Although we know how much volunteering goes on in Bampton, there is a limit and it appears from the requests in the Beam that we are almost at, or even beyond, that limit.

But apart from the difficulty of finding people we did not think it would be a good move to downgrade our professional library in this way. How could a changing band of volunteers provide the continuity and level of professional service that Loraine Hall and her relief assistant, Claire Rednal provide?

If we lost this level of professionalism those library users able to vote with their petrol would quickly go to Carterton or Witney, leaving Bampton Library in a very risky position for those that do not have this choice – and we certainly do not want the risk of immediate closure to be replaced by slow decline.

At present Bampton Library is very healthy. Since Loraine became Library Manager the figures just keep rising. Official OCC figures for the quarter from last June to September show a 60% rise for Children's loans and nearly 30% rise for Adult loans. And these figures were rising well before we began our campaign. And they are even more remarkable as they buck the County trend - across Oxfordshire library usage declined in all areas by at least 2% last year.

So where does this leave us? Given the importance of the library for the village it seems the only answer is to raise the funds to pay for the missing staffing and associated costs. And we are pleased that many, including the Parish Council agree with this proposed strategy.

The way the cuts are to be introduced will help. They will come in over three financial years. In April, when the scheme will be introduced, we will need to raise £2,904 for this financial year. For 2013-2014 the cost will increase to £5,808, before reaching the full annual cost of £8,713 in 2014-2015. This figure will then need to be found each year.

**This is a significant undertaking but we have already had offers of help from the Parish Council, and 'The Community Shop'.**

# Bampton Library

## The glass is half full – and filling!

There could be no charge for book loans but we are hoping that some individuals will be prepared to commit to providing a certain amount of money each year for this very good cause – and we should not forget how Bampton got the library building in the first place – Robert Vaizey left it in his will for the village 375 years ago!

Times are hard and we realise OCC had to save money but we are sad that they were not prepared to cut their very excessive central library costs rather than cutting the front-line services. We still do not understand, and have never received any explanation, why such costs amount to £1.58 in Staffordshire and £8.65 in Oxfordshire. But now our energy must go from the fight to the library itself. We need to show OCC that they have chosen the wrong village if they think they are going to close our library by stealth. We believe there is an opportunity to build on the support that this campaign has produced to really make a true 'Village' library in the very best sense. But help is needed! We are not asking people to volunteer to replace our library staff but Loraine and Claire hope you will join with them to provide an even more interesting library service tailored to the needs of the village. Given help, they are planning to hold an open event about once a month starting on National Libraries Day in February. We felt this was a very good time to start something new considering it is the anniversary of our highly successful 'Read In', when Bampton really said 'no' to closure. So watch out for posters around the village for other future events.

### How can you help?

Use the library, and encourage others to join and then use the library, especially those new to the village. Join a team of people to help with occasional activities or events at the library. We are christening this team the 'Bampton Library Events Special Team' or BLEST! We promise you will not have to do library duty or grapple with the library computer system, but maybe get involved with things, like 'sticking and pasting', making a cake or serving a cup of tea. All good fun!

So this is the official goodbye to 'BLAG' (Bampton Library Action Group) with many thanks to all those who joined with us in the fight - we could not have done it without you - and it is welcome to a 'BLEST' future!

Bampton Library Action Group (Lesley Campbell, Lynne Pointer, Robin Shuckburgh and Jane Wallis)



PS. Remember even if you don't use your library at present you may need it in the future - libraries are like sensible shoes (or underwear) -we grow out of them but end up back in them again!

If you can help please contact:

Bampton Library  
Tel: 01993 850076

or write to  
'Blest',  
Bampton Library,  
Church View,  
Bampton

or email  
[jane.wallis@phonecoop.coop](mailto:jane.wallis@phonecoop.coop).

Dear Library Supporter

### Parliament involved at last

The good news is the announcement by the Government DCMS (Department for Culture, Media and Sport) Select Committee to hold (at last) an enquiry into library closures. This is a cross-party committee chaired by Conservative MP John Whittingdale, who will have the power to call ministers Jeremy Hunt and Ed Vaizey to give evidence as well as local authorities and library campaigners.

The terms are wide ranging as the committee is inviting written submissions and requesting views on the following areas:

- what constitutes a comprehensive and efficient library service for the 21st century
- the extent to which planned library closures are compatible with the Public Libraries & Museums Act 1964
- the impact library closures will have on local communities

the effectiveness of the secretary of state's powers of intervention under the 1964 Act.

(for further information on Select Committees and how you can send a submission see the parliamentary website).

### Commons Library Report

'Save Oxfordshire Libraries' (SOL) have discovered a 2011 House of Commons Library Report. (link below) This examines the background to Library closures and draws together reports, articles and questions on the subject. For example, it was good to see that Ed Vaizey replied to a fellow MP in Parliament by saying:

"The Government are committed champions of public libraries and their value, not just in encouraging reading, but as the hub of local communities. They are the places which can be used by anyone in order to learn, read, access information or get online.

The Government continue to drive the improvement and development of public library services through the Future Libraries Programme..... will support over 30 authorities participating in the programme to explore options that will help them to deliver the front line services communities want and need more efficiently"

The Minister's emphasis on the importance of libraries as community hubs is encouraging, however, you will remember that it was with this 'Future Libraries' programme that this whole saga started almost a year ago, as:

*Oxfordshire with Kent: a project to develop a new long term model for library services provided in rural counties"*

Unfortunately, from OCC's proposals we now know what this 'new long term model' is, and it certainly does not fit with Ed Vaizey's wider aim to 'deliver front line services communities want and need more efficiently'.

OCC's aim has been to support their massive central library costs (over 50 officers) and force people in rural communities to work unpaid if they want to retain their library - that is if they can meet the skills criteria laid down by OCC in the job description.

So not only is 'Future Libraries - OCC style' selling us down the river, but it is being done under Councillor Judith Heathcoat, who is the OCC Cabinet member for 'Safer and Stronger Communities'. Is there is a 'Yes Minister' script just waiting to be written?

OCC argue they are proposing to cut both back-office and front-line services, but they are only reducing their (already huge) central library costs by 16% whilst cutting front-line staffing in rural areas by either 33% or 66% - indeed they are even taking on another back-room officer to oversee the cuts.

You may be wondering what is happening to the libraries in Kent, OCC's partner in Future Libraries? Well, Kent CC have withdrawn from the whole Future Libraries programme and gone back to talking to their constituents.

If they can do it why not OCC?

## SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF BAMPTON

The Society was formed to improve the quality of life of those living here. It has successfully fought large-scale housing developments. It also contributes in other ways, for instance by securing Sandfords Field in perpetuity for the village.

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

## DO JOIN NOW

Send your membership fee of £2 (£1 for OAPs) to:

Society for the  
Protection of Bampton  
Deanery Farmhouse  
Broad Street  
Bampton, Oxon OX18 2LY  
01993 850293

An independent day school  
for boys & girls aged 2½ to 11

# Ferndale

1952-2012  
Diamond Jubilee

## Open Morning

Sat 24th March 2012 9.30am - 12 Noon.



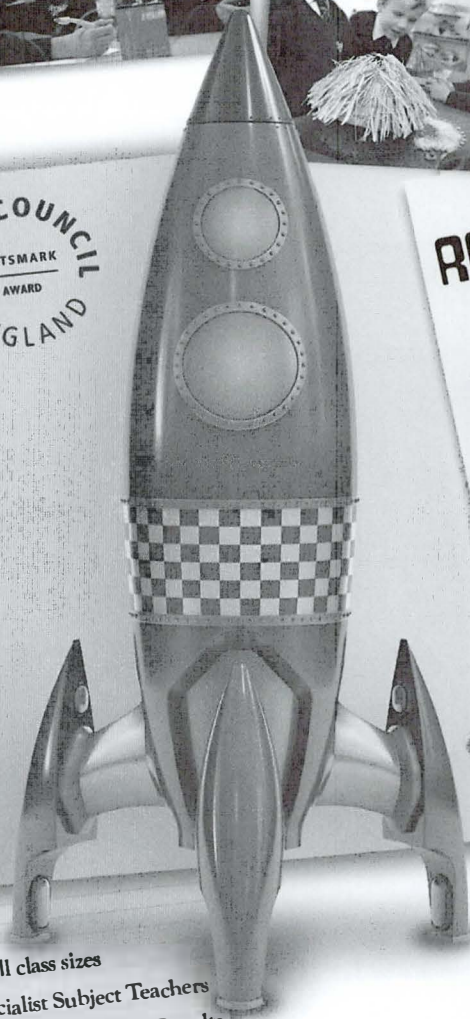
CONTACT US TO REGISTER YOUR  
CHILD FOR ONE OR MORE OF OUR  
FREE 45 MINUTE WORKSHOPS  
WHILE YOU TOUR THE SCHOOL.  
INFO@FERNDALESCHOOL.CO.UK  
TELEPHONE 01367 240618



REACH FOR THE SKIES  
ROCKET MAKING AND LAUNCHING

MUSIC MEDLEY  
MUSIC WORKSHOP

A SPLASH OF ART  
ART WORKSHOP



- Small class sizes
- Specialist Subject Teachers
- Excellent Academic Results
- Armed Forces Discount
- Affordable Private Education



COGNITA  
TEACHING EXCELLENCE

Ferndale Preparatory School. 5-7 Bromsgrove, Faringdon, Oxon, SN7 7JF  
Email: info@ferndaleschool.co.uk Tel: 01367 240618 www.ferndaleschool.co.uk

# Picturing life in West Oxfordshire

Budding photographers are being urged to take a snapshot of life in West Oxfordshire as part of a photography competition. The competition, run by the District Council's Tourism team, is hoping to attract portraits that capture life in West Oxfordshire.

This could cover a variety of themes, from wildlife to market towns, the panoramic views in the Cotswolds to a snapshot of the bustling Witney town centre.

The winning contestant will receive a beautiful canvas print of the successful image mounted onto a 30 x 20 inch art canvas (created by Blueprint Imaging Limited) and could be used in West Oxfordshire District Council's tourism publications promoting the District to tourists and visitors worldwide.

Cllr Richard Langridge, Cabinet Member for Communities, said: "Tourists who visit the area not only enjoy the stunning views and backdrop but also comment on the welcome they get from the locals.

"We are interested in what aspects of local life residents see as captivating, as it can only be beneficial in encouraging tourists to visit.

Last year the competition attracted over 117 entries and the winning entry was from Peter Young of Long Hanborough.

His picture of the lake and grand bridge at Blenheim featured in the 2012 Oxfordshire Cotswolds Visitor Guide.

Peter said: "I was unusually drawn to visit Blenheim on this particular day. I was taken by the brilliance of the light, and the clarity and perfection of the autumn colours.

"Walking around the lake the picture literally framed itself. I only use a simple point-and-shoot camera, and as anyone in the family will tell you, most pictures are taken on family holidays. So as you can imagine, this was rather special."

Last year's winning entry



West Oxfordshire residents, including amateurs, club members or professional photographers, are invited to take part in the competition.

Closing date for entries is Friday 27th April.

Further information and a competition entry form are available from the Oxfordshire Cotswolds website [www.oxfordshirecotswolds.org/photos](http://www.oxfordshirecotswolds.org/photos) or by calling 01993 861553.

Media enquiries: t: 01993 861616/861615 m: 07771 965360; [communications@westoxon.gov.uk](mailto:communications@westoxon.gov.uk)

## Rouse's Ramblings. Spring 2012 (1)

A happy New Year to you all. My philosophy in life is to start the day with a smile and get it over with! So I've done that and now I can get on with being a 'grumpy old man' and have a good moan about our local Council and their informers; usually local Councillors.

Many years ago when my wife decided to try her hand in the Bed & Breakfast industry, she decided to get a smart little sign made to advertise the fact that she was in business. Within less than a week she was threatened with the wroth of the Council for not applying for Planning Permission first. Later she decided that to make a success of the business she needed to make the frontage of the buildings look attractive and appealing to the public, so with spade, fork and other tools she transformed the frontage along the roadside into a beautiful floral display. What happened? Yes you've guessed it! Another visit from the 'never' understanding Council. "You can't do that" they said "that is Council property" claiming that it was against the law to plant flowers on Council property and that she should take it all away and return it to the rough grassed area. However, after we involved the local press we managed to get them to 'back off' and leave us alone.

About six years ago I noticed that people were 'fly tipping' in the old Nissan Hut at Lew.

After discussion with our local Policeman and acting on his advice, I got all the rubbish out of the Hut and put it on the side of the road on the understanding that if I then telephoned the Council they would come and remove it. How wrong could I be? After inspection they decided that it was on private land (not mine) and after being hassled by one of our local Councillors they gave me just 24 hours to shift it under the threat of a £1000.00 fine. OK, so it serves me right for trying to make the countryside a better place.

What I am trying to get at is, if the Council and its representatives are so hot on noticing what individuals are doing and persecute them, why do they take so long to notice the things that need doing to make the countryside a safer and better place for the people who voted for them? For 6 weeks there was a pothole right outside Bampton Town Hall that was terribly dangerous for both pedestrians and motorists alike, why did it take so long to be reported? Likewise, on what is known locally as 'Hoppy's corner,' or the 'Woodyard Corner' on



### **BAMPTON FAX BUREAU**

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

### **Emmie's NEWSAGENTS**

Bridge St. Bampton  
Tel: 850467

*Newspapers delivered anywhere in Bampton*

## Rouse's Ramblings. Spring 2012 (2)

the Brize Norton road after heavy rain the water had started to gather there again and had difficulty getting away, the result being that just over a week ago a car had hit the water and 'hydroplaned' straight through the hedge and ditch. If you remember a couple of years ago I wrote about this problem in the Beam, did our ever observant Councillors deal with this hazard? No of course they didn't as it was not going to result in the persecution of an individual.

Perhaps they will come after me as I have taken the law into my own hands and dug out the offending Gully myself. What beats me, and I made this observation the last time I wrote about this particular hazard, is that on the road from the A40 down to Brize Norton the Council annually clear out the Gullies, even those that are on the top of the hills; hasn't anyone told them that water runs downhill and it is the gullies at the bottom that need the most attention? I do hope that this article will get the same response as it did the last time, though I doubt it as my sub-editor has changed and the new one has nothing at all to do with the Council. Last time between me submitting my article and it being printed, all the gullies on the A4095 were cleared out! But that doesn't stop me having my dreams...

For reference, if you as an individual want to report any problems with the Highways then telephone 0845 310 11 11 or email [highwayenquiries@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:highwayenquiries@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

If you feel that you would like to help in making the area around here a better and safer place, why not join the Bampton & Carterton Neighbourhood Action Group.

# Trevor Gardner

## General Carpentry

## Fitted Kitchens & Bedrooms

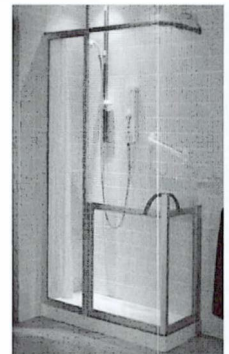
## Door Fitting : New Locks

## Painting & Decorating

## Tel: 01993 850536

## Mobile: 07860 251895

### Oxfordshire Wet Rooms and Showers



Having problems bathing and showering?

**Contact a local company with years of experience in making this easier and safer.**

Using only skilled installers and quality British products we can transform your bathroom into an area where you can enjoy having a shower or bath again with ease and comfort.

We are accredited by the local Council due to our high quality workmanship and value for money.

**Contact John on 07770 435105 or 01993 891739**

for a FREE assessment of your needs and an affordable solution to help you enjoy the benefits of your bathroom comfortably and safely once again.



## Rouse's Ramblings. Spring 2012 (3)

It carries out surveys in the area to assess what troubles people the most and then proceeds to do something about it. The group consists of delegated Councillors from all the local Parish Councils, ( Bampton's being Dale Turner and Lee Mackie) representatives of the Youth Groups, Police and Fire Services, with West Oxfordshire Council and Safety Officers advising and assisting when necessary.

At the moment it appears that the three main concerns of the populace are Speeding Vehicles and its associated behaviour, Lighting and 'Perceived gangs of youths'. What has been done about it? Well with pressure from your local NAG group the police have been carrying out speed checks in the area and reporting back to the councils on what percentage of motorists are exceeding the limits. The offenders have been reported to the authorities. The Fire Service has been involving the local schools in being aware of the dangers on the roads. Regarding lighting the NAG group has been prodding the Council to sort it.

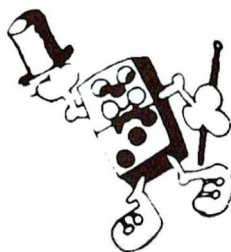
As for the Youth problems, it seems that Carterton Council are getting their problem sorted with the help of the RAF at Brize Norton, as many of the youngsters are from military families. With regard to Bampton's youth facilities, they are still non-existent and at the moment there is little hope for them. What services are available would put over £5000.00 on to the rates. Theoretical solutions being banded about are; providing transport to either the Witney or Carterton facilities. Unless youngster's attitudes have altered since my days, there is no way on earth that this will work. There was always a 'territorial' situation where any intruders (unless they were good at football or similar) were unwelcome!

I feel that the youngsters who can organise themselves to go to other outlying clubs do not need as much help as those who lack the confidence to be so adventurous, whereas, given local facilities they could just 'drift' in and gradually it would start to give them a purpose in life. I am aware that our local council are still considering what they can do, as they have an area reserved for a Youth Club facility within the Boxing Club area at the Old School Community Centre. What is needed is a group of young parents who are enthusiastic about the youth of Bampton to come along and give them the proverbial 'kick up the backside' to get things moving. Then together I am sure that something could be achieved. It is no good everybody sitting back waiting for something to happen. You have to make it happen.

As you know Carterton Lions incorporate Bampton in their area of care and they were very sad when their local representative, Nurse Alison Williams, moved away. Working in the Bampton area she was able to offer help whenever and wherever it was needed. So I am now the local link and have been asked to let the Lions know if anyone in Bampton is in need of help. Already the Lions have helped many people locally with the purchasing of medical aids and supporting local causes etc. If the Lions cannot help directly then through their 'networking' they will find a way around the problem. Rest assured you can contact me in strictest confidence if you or someone that you know needs help. We are very lucky in Bampton with so many organisations that offer help for those who really need it.

The Lions monthly Car Boot Sales that are held on the last Saturday of the month on the old Market site in Carterton will begin again on the 31<sup>st</sup> March.

# DOMINO



## Quality Menswear

44 Corn St. Witney  
Tel: 01993 771413

**FORMAL HIREWEAR  
SPECIALIST**

**EVERYTHING FOR THAT  
SPECIAL OCCASION**

**IMMEDIATE HIRE OF**

**Dinner Suits  
Morning Suits**

**AGENTS FOR**

**Highland Wear  
Page Boy Suits  
Lounge Suits**

## Rouse's Ramblings. Spring 2012 (4)

At the last Repatriation, the Lions had rather an unexpected problem. As you know they are in charge of the Car Parks at these sad occasions. The WODC has been very supportive in helping the Lions to operate the parking smoothly. We felt that most of the travellers when they arrived needed toilet facilities, so a request was made to the council and they immediately presented us with a 'Port-a- loo'. What we didn't realise was how apt the name was till the high winds of that last Thursday presented us with quite a problem. How do you secure a Port-a-loo in high winds? Ours kept careering down the road. We did consider keeping someone inside as a form of ballast then doing a quick change-over when it was needed, but we couldn't find a volunteer heavy enough to do this. Then I realised that a Farmers Truck, even a retired Farmers' is like a woman's hand bag, full of mysteries and little treasures, searching under my seats I found a length of old rope and we were then able to tie the 'wayward loo' to a lamp post. Problem solved!

Spring is now upon us and the Farmers are busy applying fertiliser to give the crops a 'kick start' after what appears to have been a fairly mild winter, it is a time when all those Gardeners start putting their backs to the ultimate test, an ideal time for digging in the Manure, the trouble is where do you find such a valuable commodity? With so very few animals about now it is certainly hard to find. When I think of all the thousands of tons that I have spread on the fields in my lifetime, mostly by hand, what wouldn't I give for a couple of tons now! The shock to my system is almost as great as when I was selling 500 gallons of Milk a day, sold the Herd then had to go down to Budgen's to buy a pint!

It's a very small world isn't it? Wearing my Barn Dancing hat, we did a Barn Dance out by Wantage for a wedding of a young couple who said they had local connections. It transpired that she was the granddaughter of Joe Shortland who quite a few years ago was the Farm Manager for Count Munster at Weald Farm. Bampton. Joe was an amazing man, he was very keen on physical fitness so we shared a lot of experiences on the subject. What impressed me most with him was his ability to Rear a Sheep. Shear a Sheep. Spin the Yarn and Weave the Cloth. Which enabled him to cloth his family. Incredible.

I am looking forward to seeing you all at the Great Shirt Race on 2<sup>nd</sup> June and hope that all those that are in training for it, make sure that they combine the Drinking with the Running as neither on its own is much help.

### **GARETH PURSEY** **CARPENTER & CABINET MAKER** *City & Guilds qualified since 1986*

All aspects of Carpentry undertaken  
*including*

Built in Wardrobes and Cabinets  
Kitchens fitted

Window replacement/repair  
Door hanging, flooring

Friendly and reliable service

**Mobile 07990 576167**

**Email: gandgpursey@aol.com**

### **LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT**

- Landscapes
- Garden Design
- Planting
- Patos/Decks
- Water Features
- Extensions

**David Chanter**  
DipArch (Oxf) MA MLI  
**07765 882448**

Email: david.chanter@hotmail.co.uk



# Electric Vehicles Ltd

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

## THE ELECTRIC VEHICLE SPECIALISTS

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

*ALL AT COMPETITIVE PRICES*

**For Details Telephone WITNEY (01993) 850714/850025**



(1418)

**You  
could be our  
next  
weight loss  
success**



**Gym Membership plus WEIGHT LOSS  
programme  
Only £49.99 per month**

**PERSONAL TRAINING  
EXPERTISE AT GYM PRICES**

[www.thegymatcarswell.co.uk](http://www.thegymatcarswell.co.uk) 01367 870837



**“Definitely the best weight loss  
programme I have ever done”**

One of our latest successes, Tony said :

“Since joining Carswell Gym I feel like a new person. I arrived overweight, inflexible and suffering from severe shoulder pain. My fitness levels improved and with the healthy diet plan **I have lost 37lbs and 10% body fat.**

I feel more flexible and no longer have shoulder pain. The gym has now become part of my everyday life and as a result I feel transformed both physically and mentally. I feel more confident, more energised and have a real zest for life. The gym is a great place to train. The trainers are supportive and they make keeping fit fun.

A big thank you all round.”



You can find out more about how he achieved his results by contacting the team on

**01367 870837**



hair & beauty  
**woods**

Is excited to welcome to our team:

**SAM POOLE**

We would like to offer you

**15% OFF your first visit**  
**10% OFF your second visit**



Sam Poole

New clients ONLY.  
Offer available Tues-Sat, remember to mention this offer when booking an appointment. Please bring this with you.

Only one offer may be used in any one appointment.

Valid until 29<sup>th</sup> February 2012  
Carswell Golf and Country club  
Faringdon SN7 8PU - off the A420

**01367 870990**

Check out our website for monthly Declor Beauty Offers  
[www.woodshair.co.uk](http://www.woodshair.co.uk)

Going away and need someone special to care for your pets?

*Let Paw Pals become your pet's best friend whilst you're away.*



- 🐾 Dog walking - am/pm, lunchtimes
- 🐾 Pet home visits for feeding, cleaning and cuddles
- 🐾 Dog home boarding
- 🐾 Small animal boarding for bunnies, guinea pigs etc.
- 🐾 Qualified in pet first aid
- 🐾 Insured & police checked



For more information, please call Paw Pals on 01993 869051/07917 703468  
Or visit: [www.paw-pals.co.uk/westoxon](http://www.paw-pals.co.uk/westoxon)

**Systems & Solutions**

**FREE PC HEALTH CHECK**

- & FREE Computer health check on all makes of computers and laptops
- & EASY parking and quick shop service
- & Phone and book as demand is high

**FREE PC health check to all Bampton Beam readers when showing this advert!**

27 Fettiplace Road, Witney, Oxfordshire, OX28 5AP  
Call us on 01993 706161 today!

[www.systems-and-solutions.co.uk](http://www.systems-and-solutions.co.uk)



"We really are so pleased with the photographs you have taken - Tonia said they were the best wedding photos she had seen"

**Informal, professional Wedding Photography**

"You did a great job and the photos are magnificent — Everyone looked great and really natural"



Call David Burton on 07799 471499 or email [123drb@gmail.com](mailto:123drb@gmail.com)

For samples see: <http://davidburton.zenfolio.com/weddings>

**AC SMART TILING**

Reliable and professional service from 18 years experience.

For the fixing of ceramic, porcelain, mosaic, terracotta, slate, marble, natural stone and glass tiles

All work guaranteed

Free quotes, tile quantity calculations and advice available with no obligation

**01993 851694**

Adrian Smart  
1 Primrose Cottage, Weald, Bampton



## **BAMPTON PRE-SCHOOL PLAYGROUP**

*offers children a vibrant, safe, fun place to play, laugh, explore, learn and develop. The Pre-School is committed to giving children an excellent start to their education through fun activities and play.*

**We are NOW offering FULL DAY care (9-3)**

Children can attend mornings (9-12), mornings plus lunch club (9-12.30), afternoons (12.30-3), lunch club plus afternoons (12-3), or full days (9-3) on any day or days to suit you. (subject to availability of places)

- Well equipped premises & recently refurbished garden.
- Children welcome from age 2 1/2 to school age.
- Places currently available for next term.
- Ranked as "OUTSTANDING" in latest OFSTED report (March 2010)
- Excellent child:staff ratios & NVQ/EYFS trained staff
- Partnership with Bampton Primary School
- Government funding (15 hrs per week) is available for children over 3.



Bampton Pre-School Playgroup,  
Bowling Green Close, Bampton,  
OX18 2NJ.  
Tel. 01993 852828  
Email. [bamptonpreschool@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bamptonpreschool@yahoo.co.uk)  
[www.bamptonpreschool.co.uk](http://www.bamptonpreschool.co.uk)  
Registered Charity Number: 1059218



# Bampton Pre-School News

## by Karen Easterbrook, Chairperson

### Christmas

Unfortunately chicken pox took over Pre-School in the run up to Christmas. At one point Debbie thought she would be spending the Pre-School Christmas Party with her staff alone. Fortunately a good number had recovered enough to join in with the end of term Christmas festivities. The children received presents from a special visitor and later give a fine performance for families at our Christmas Concert.

### Staff News

The committee and staff were sorry to say goodbye to Jenny Walsgrove at the end of the December term who in her short time at the Pre School contributed very positively to the continuing development of the Pre-School and we now wish her the very best in her future endeavours.

We are delighted to welcome Maggie Barrett, our new Assistant Supervisor, and Samm Price our new Pre-School Assistant. They both start work this term and we hope they settle quickly and enjoy the friendly environment the Pre-School has to offer.

Staff training continues on the job, Clair Green, Pre-School Assistant, has started her NVQ level 2 which she will hopefully complete by November. Staff have specialised training days throughout the year on subjects such as safe guarding, observation and planning, first aid, and positive behaviour.

Mark Warner continues to work as a volunteer which is greatly appreciated and has now been given the occasional opportunity to step up as Pre-School Assistant which we hope will benefit his college work towards his qualifications in Children, Young Peoples Workforce Diploma Level 2, which he hopes to complete in June.

### Curriculum

The children continue to enjoy the relaxed atmosphere at Pre-school. In line with OFsted advice, we place great emphasis on "Learning through play". The staff are all well qualified to help all the children meet their developmental requirements without the children even realising they are learning. It gives me great joy when I hear a child excitedly say that they built lego and played cars all day unaware of the huge developments they are making in social and fine motor skills and the excellent preparation for primary school this entails.

Last term's themes were the Gruffalo, Gruffalo's Child, and The Stick Man by Julia Donaldson, this term we are concentrating on Elmer the Elephant by David McKee. The children are taking home associated craft work of Elmer in all sorts of guises.

After the February half term our theme is the Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle. We are planning to set up a live butterfly garden at the Pre School. The children can watch five caterpillars eat, grow and form their chrysalis and begin their transformation into butterflies.

If you have any further knowledge or ideas to continue these themes we would be most interested, and also if you have any ideas for future themes that you can share some expertise or experience we would love to hear from you. In the first instance please contact Angy Irvin on 01993 852828.

### Upcoming Events

The staff are now looking ahead to Spring and Summer. The Easter bonnet parade is always a wonderful event as the children (and parents) always make such a fantastic effort with their bonnets and we are sure this year will be no different.

In line with 2012 events we are holding our Bampton Pre School Olympics. Against Olympic tradition we will be running fancy dress races and of course the parents race.

We are also holding our Open Day on Saturday May 19th from 10am to 2pm. We look forward to welcoming everyone.

There will be activities for the children, light refreshments and staff on hand to answer any questions.

The annual Duck Race will be taking place on Bank Holiday Monday – please bet on a duck, they have been training hard. We would like to thank David Hawkins for his kind permission to allow this event to take place on his premises.

We would also like to thank Steve Mace and the customers of the Morris Clown for their continued fund-raising support.



Bampton Pre-School Playgroup is a thriving Pre-School situated in the grounds of Bampton Primary School for children aged between 2 ½ and school age.

# OPEN DAY

At **Bampton Pre-School Playgroup**

**19<sup>th</sup> May 2012**

**10am-2pm**

**Meet the Staff    Explore the Garden**

**Fun Activities    Refreshments**

**PLACES AVAILABLE FOR SEPTEMBER 2012**

**For more information, visit our web- site,**

**[www.bamptonpreschool.co.uk](http://www.bamptonpreschool.co.uk) or call 01993 852828**

OFSted Number: 134448. Registered Charity Number: 1059218.

**THE**

# PITSTOP

**QUALITY PARTS, COMPONENTS &**

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

CAR REPAIRS  
SERVICING  
MoT WORK  
BREAKDOWNS  
DISCOUNT CAR PARTS



ALSO HOUSING  
OXFORD CARB SERVICES  
Weber ! Solex ! Pierburg etc



**01993 850654**

Unit 1, Viscount Court, Station Road, Brize Norton

## COUNTRY MARKETS

Masonic Hall,  
Church Green, Witney  
Fridays 08.30 - 10.30  
Come along and buy fresh  
Vegetables  
Eggs, Assorted Cakes  
Savouries Pies  
Assorted Handmade Cards,  
Knitted Articles  
Garden Plants, Flower  
Vegetable Plants  
The last Friday in the  
month brings out a  
Craft Stall with Special  
Christmas Gifts for sale  
Everything home-made or  
Home-grown

*Come along and visit us.  
Refreshments on sale.*

# *Prestige Buildings*

Local Friendly and Professional Builder

8 Ampney Orchard, Bampton, OX18 2AD

**Tel: 01993 210017 Mobile: 07768695605**

**Email: [chris.baker4@ntlworld.com](mailto:chris.baker4@ntlworld.com)**

**For all your general building requirements**

**Design service from start to finish**

**Local references available**



# West Ox Arts

## Welcome to West Ox Arts

West Ox Arts is an association of artists and art enthusiasts, many of whom take part in exhibitions alongside artists invited from the wider region. We hold up to fifteen exhibitions a year showing a varied range of contemporary, high quality art and crafts by local and national artists. West Ox Arts is situated in a lovely spacious gallery on the first floor of Bampton's Grade II listed Town Hall in the Market Square. Every year three of our exhibitions take place in the Robert Vesey Room located at Bampton Library.

The gallery has a shop which sells reasonably priced jewellery, ceramics, glassware and cards all handmade by our members. We also organise demonstrations, talks, workshops and special events. West Ox Arts is a charity and is part-funded by West Oxfordshire District Council and Bampton Parish Council although we are soon to lose our funding from WODC due to government cuts. It is staffed by a part-time curator and administrator and also volunteers.

### Gallery Stewards

WOA always needs volunteer stewards 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 each month to support WOA in this way then please contact the gallery administrator Rosie Tomlinson: 01993 850137 or for the Robert Vesey Room, Richard Wilkinson: 01993 850406.

### WOA Membership

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 and newsletter.

- Discounts for local arts suppliers and framing.
- Reduced commission rate for exhibitors.

Membership fees: Single £22, Family: £38.50, Student £11

The Administrator is usually in the gallery Tues-Thurs 10.30am – 4pm

Membership forms and details on exhibitions are in the Gallery.



**West Ox Arts Gallery, Market Square, Bampton, Oxon OX18 2JH**  
**Tel: 01993 850137, Email: [gallery@westoxarts.org](mailto:gallery@westoxarts.org) Web: [www.westoxarts.org](http://www.westoxarts.org)**  
**Gallery opening hours**

**During exhibitions: Tues-Sat 10.30am-4.30pm. Sun 2-4pm**

# West Ox Arts



## Exhibitions in the Gallery

### Capturing the Moment

11<sup>th</sup> March – 1<sup>st</sup> April 2012

The well known Bampton artists Ann Manly and Dennis Harrison are exhibiting a large collection of their recent work. Many of you will remember the extremely successful shows they mounted in the 80s and 90s at West Ox Arts gallery. The exhibition will consist mainly of watercolours depicting the areas they love, namely, the Lake District, Venice, the Cotswolds, South-West France and Greece.

They have exhibited in London with the Royal Watercolour Society and their work is represented in many private collections throughout the world.

### Losing the Thread

7<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> April 2012

Exhibitors include Penny Burnfield, Margaret Charlton, Mair Edwards, Sue Fenwick, Sarah Foulkes, Lilian Harris, Maggie Harris, Alison Hird, Pat Mummery and Jane O'Brien.

All have studied embroidery, art or textiles. Their work, including collage, sculpture, ceramics, embroideries, painting and print can explore colour, texture, pattern, structure, materiality and concept.

Free varying demonstrations by the artists every Saturday throughout the exhibition. 11.00am-12.30 & 2.00-3.30pm

### Oxford Art Society

5<sup>th</sup> May – 27<sup>th</sup> May 2012

We are pleased to be hosting Oxford Art Society for Artweeks this year. There will be a variety of media on show in both traditional and modern styles. OAS artists have a huge range of interests and experience and this is always reflected in their popular exhibitions.

### Exhibition for the Jubilee

2<sup>nd</sup> June – 10<sup>th</sup> June 2012

#### Life Drawing Sessions

These enjoyable, ongoing life drawing sessions cost £8 for members and £9 for non-members. They take place in the gallery on Monday mornings 10am-12.30pm and Wednesday evenings 7.30-9.30pm. These sessions are drop in and untutored, so just come along during term times. Bring your own materials such as sketchbook, pencils or pastels.

#### Workshops

A Gift or Keepsake Box with separate lid.

Mon 26<sup>th</sup> March, 1.30-5.00pm

With Sue Bovington

Price £20 per person

Flower Corsage Workshop

Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 6.30-9.30pm

With Vikki Lafford

Price £20 per person

Both Sue and Vikki always have examples of their work for sale in the gallery.

Mark making and mixed media 16<sup>th</sup> April, 1.30-7.30pm

With Amanda Hislop

Price £75

## Home and Away

### Home-minding services

Top home-minding service secures you a successful worry-free break...

- > Holiday/Home-Minding
- > Pet-Minding
- > Key Holding/Security
- > Additional Services: Dog-Walking, Horse Care, Homecoming: Gardening, Shop, Cleaning, Meal, Emergency Maintenance

Excellent references/Insured/CRB checked

Adrienne Clark

T: 01993 852123

M: 07990 907106

E: [homeandawayac@aol.com](mailto:homeandawayac@aol.com)

[www.homeandawayhome-minding.co.uk](http://www.homeandawayhome-minding.co.uk)



# West Ox Arts

WEST  
OX  
ARTS

Ann Manly and Dennis Harrison

Ann Manly and Dennis Harrison will be exhibiting at West Ox Arts Gallery in March. This well known Bampton couple held several very successful exhibitions here in the 1980s and 90s and they are now looking forward to this new show of their most recent work, especially as the gallery now has a lift installed to make life easier for everyone. Ann was delighted to be able to cut the ribbon to mark its opening and now that the ramp is also installed, has been able to visit the gallery for the first time for many years.

Ann came to live in Bampton in the late 1960s and by the early 1970s had become a founder member of the Bampton Arts Association, a group of volunteers dedicated to the promotion of the arts; drama, literature, music, photography and fine art (drawing, painting, sculpture) in and around West Oxfordshire. It was the forerunner of what is now West Ox Arts.

Ann helped to organise many events, including painting courses, held in the upstairs room of the Town Hall, now the WOA gallery. It was on a weeklong course in 1980 that Ann met Dennis. They married and have been painting together ever since.



They are both proficient watercolourists. Wherever possible they spend their holidays painting *en plein air*, (that is painting outside on location). Their watercolours depict the places they love, namely the Lake District, the Cotswolds, Venice, Greece and the Lot and Dordogne valleys in France where they travelled last year. Ann and Dennis spend every morning working together in their studio at home in Bampton, completing the paintings begun on holiday. They are devoted to each other. Ann and Dennis, although both OAPs (Dennis is only 94!), are still very active and producing a great deal of work, as you will see at the exhibition. They have exhibited in shows in London including exhibitions at the Royal Watercolour Society, the Mall Galleries and the "Venice in Peril" Exhibition. Their work is represented in many private collections throughout the world. Esther Hepworth January 2012

## Spajers News

All on the SPAJERS committee hope that you had a happy time over the Xmas and New Year festivities. We were very pleased that because of the continuing support of all in the village we were able to give our members a substantial Christmas Box once again.

So far this winter the weather has been mild, but if it does become cold please remember that older folk may find it difficult to get about and would welcome basics like bread and milk or prescriptions being fetched for them.

The Bonfire and Fireworks Night was a huge success, thanks to the weather being once again on our side, and a lot of hard work in preparation on the two days before and clearing up on the day after. The word has spread as we had a lot of folk coming in from other villages so we must be getting it right! Local band Vinyl Daze proved great to dance to and provided us with a party atmosphere. Everyone must have eaten and drunk their fill as there was hardly a crumb left at the end. Many thanks to our partners The Bampton Firemen and all the helpers. We shared the profits with the Fireman's Benevolent Fund and it set the seal on our being able to keep up the Christmas Box amount.

This was followed closely by Josie's Draw and she managed to cajole prizes from her family and friends and ticket sales from everyone she could. A profit of over £600 means she must have raised thousands over the years. Next Year is her 30<sup>th</sup> Draw and she has some special plans in mind.

## GREY GABLES GARAGE

CURBRIDGE, WITNEY, OXON OX18 7PD

Telephone  
**01993 702609**  
Fax  
**01993 774169**

## NEW SKODA



## DEALER

**New & Used Cars  
of other makes available**

**MOT and garage repairs**

### Curtain Choice

**Makers of Fine Soft Furnishings**  
*A personal and professional service for  
all your*  
CURTAINS, BLINDS, LOOSE COVERS ETC.  
*To arrange a home visit and a quote  
without obligation telephone:*  
**01993 843103**  
*E-mail: enquiries@curtain-choice.co.uk*  
*www.curtain-choice.co.uk*



### N Nurden Motor Body Repairs

**Tel 07910 032046**

Free quotations

Insurance work undertaken

## R.COOPER

### BUILDING CONTRACTORS

**Builders – Carpentry – Joinery  
Painters – Decorators  
General Helpers**

**Drawings, and Planning and Building  
Regulations Applications prepared on request**

**TEL & FAX: (01993) 851851**

**MOBILE: 07850 393304**

**The Old Gasworks, Aston Road, Bampton, Oxon. OX18 2AL**

**email: reg@bamptoncastle.co.uk**

# Spajers News

Once again the Mummers went round on Christmas Eve to the delight of everyone except Father Christmas (who seems to have been watching "Grumpy Old Men" since last year) and people were very generous. Over £1000 went into our funds. A Gloucestershire friend tells me that their group has rewritten their play so that it makes sense – neither she nor I could see the point of that!

## Quiz night

This is happening on Friday April 13<sup>th</sup> this year in the Village Hall, with a new question master. If you have come along with a team in the past then Roger Snow will be getting in touch with you, but we always like to welcome newcomers so contact Roger Snow on 850113 or [rogmarlsnow@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rogmarlsnow@yahoo.co.uk) for details. Nibbles are provided and there will be a paying bar.

## Summer Outing

You can also contact Roger if you are a member and wish to be placed on our list of those who prefer a shorter local outing to our traditional all-day trip to the seaside in the summer. This will help us plan for the summer to come.

Remember our very successful exhibition in the Vesey Room of the Library building back in last September? Well don't forget that the **book of the exhibition** with many of the iconic, memory provoking photos used is still available from the Bampton Archive. They have produced many interesting books on everything from our street names to what we dig up in our gardens. Any of them can be purchased when the Vesey Room is open; Saturday morning is a good time to catch them.

## Membership

If you would like to become a member and benefit from our fund-raising activities then you must be 60, if a woman, 65 if a man, and have lived in Bampton or Lew for at least 6 months. Sign on with our membership secretary, Jeff Dando

tel:01993 850643. Before putting forward someone else's name, please check with them first. And don't forget to let us know if you move house, or change your name.

If you would like us to keep in touch by email then please send your name and email to us at [noreply@spajers.org](mailto:noreply@spajers.org) All personal data will be used in accordance with the 1998 Data Protection Act and your details will not be shared with any other organisations. 822209.

Please mention Ian Morris when booking you tickets.

All moneys raised from ticket sales and from the evening will be going to Burford School Australasia Sports Tour in 2013.

Thank you

# PAUL FARR

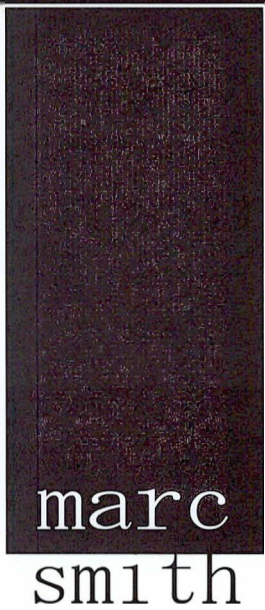
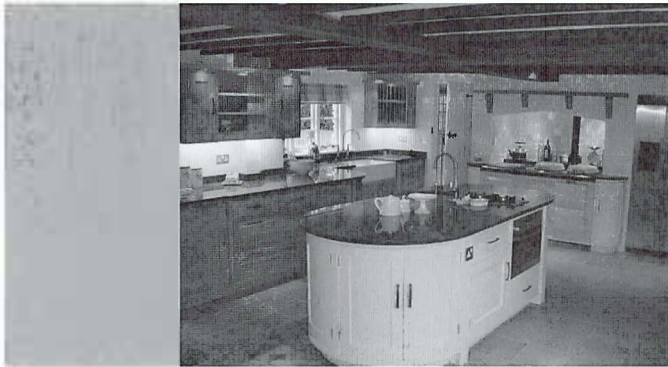
PAINTER & DECORATOR

- High quality references available
- Traditional City & Guilds skills and methods of decorating for the perfect finish
- Expert paper hanging
- Specialist finishes
- Painted kitchens

25 YEARS EXPERIENCE

Mobile 07976 608755  
or Tel: 01993 776238  
Email: [pfarr3@sky.com](mailto:pfarr3@sky.com)

# number one kitchen designers in oxfordshire



Unit S3 Kingston Business Park,  
Kingston Bagpuize, Abingdon,  
Oxon OX13 5FE  
T: 01865 820920  
E: [enquiries@marcsmithkitchens.com](mailto:enquiries@marcsmithkitchens.com)  
W: [www.marcsmithkitchens.com](http://www.marcsmithkitchens.com)



kitchens  
bathrooms

bedrooms  
furniture

- Established in 1993 and with over 14 years of proven experience - you're assured of total peace of mind
- Proven technical design team - to help you to deliver the vision that you have to transform your home
- In-house manufacturing and installation capability - which guarantees that you receive the highest quality installation every time
- Computer assisted design - to bring your dreams to life
- 100s of satisfied clients - which means you can purchase with confidence
- Call now for a free information pack 01865 820920

**Please visit our new showroom at Kingston Business Park**

# Bampton Archery Club

The Bampton Archery club has now been in existence for over 16 years; it was one of the better kept secrets for a while but the club has been busy raising its profile. You may have seen some of us at the Donkey Derby, where we were invited by the Spajers to run a "Have a Go" session. We now have 30 senior members and thriving junior membership, currently 16 between the ages of 10 and 18.



Like most of the sports clubs of the village, Bampton Archery Club has been very fortunate in having had a grant from the Charity Shop. We used this to update our beginners' equipment, buying much needed new bows, sights, arrows and associated items. I will take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all who work tirelessly for the village in the Charity Shop; an amazing establishment!

2011 was an eventful year. Sadly, in July, we lost one of our senior members to illness. Ted Cambray was one of the stalwarts of the club, giving freely of his time and considerable skill in all aspects of archery (and most anything else, come to think of it!). He was, very simply, a truly lovely man and is still sorely missed by those of us lucky enough to have known him.

On a happier note, 2011 saw a very special award for our chairman, Gerald Mills. He was awarded the Grand National Archery Society 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary President's Medal.

This medal is one of only 150 awarded by the President of The Grand National Archery Society as part of the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations and is presented to the Club member who has made the greatest contribution to his Club by volunteering his time to help other archers

This is a fantastic achievement, especially when you consider that there were over 850 nominations for this award and only 150 medals. It is well deserved, Gerald was a founder member of the club and his passion and skill is an inspiration to us all. He continues to organise the sessions and heads the coaching staff. His patience with beginners, especially juniors is legendary.

All the members of the club wish to congratulate him on this medal, with which he was presented at the annual dinner and awards evening last October. Poor Gerald was so surprised; the length of the Chairman's speech afterwards is the shortest on record!

As I said, an eventful year!

We shoot every Wednesday evening at the Recreation Ground, indoors in winter months and outdoors in the summer. If you want to try the sport, you can contact us either via the website [www.bamptonarchery.co.uk](http://www.bamptonarchery.co.uk) or contact Gerald Mills (Chairman) 850670 or Jeff Dando. (Secretary) 850643. 822209.



## Fly-tipper and illegal waste carrier prosecuted

A man has been sentenced and ordered to pay **£2,190** for carrying waste away without a licence and for fly-tipping it in a West Oxfordshire bridleway.

Tomasz Medrek, age 36 of Tudor Walk, Swindon, pleaded guilty at Banbury Magistrates Court on Friday 25 November to dumping a large quantity of rubbish in a bridleway off the A361, between Burford and Filkins. He had also been paid as a waste carrier to remove the rubbish, but was not licensed to carry out this work.

The rubbish, dumped in June 2011, included a large quantity of builders' waste from a house renovation in the village of Windrush, Gloucestershire.

Environmental Enforcement Officers working for West Oxfordshire District Council traced the rubbish back to the address in Windrush village and enquiries showed that Mr Medrek had removed all the rubbish from the site.

When interviewed, Mr Medrek admitted to both dumping the rubbish in the bridleway and not being registered with the Environment Agency as an authorised Waste Carrier.

Banbury Magistrates Court fined Mr Medrek **£800** for fly tipping and a further **£800** for the unauthorised carrying of waste. He was also ordered to pay **£575** costs and a **£15** victim's surcharge, making a total of **£2190**.

Cllr David Harvey, Cabinet Member for Environment, said: "This case is a reminder that only registered waste carriers can remove waste and anyone doing this illegally will be fined. Fly-tipping is also illegal, irresponsible and costly to the council. It is something we take very seriously in West Oxfordshire and we have successfully tracked down and prosecuted a number of offenders."

Every reported case of fly-tipping is investigated and this includes the use of covert surveillance at fly-tipping 'hot spots' in the district, as well as close working with Thames Valley Police, Trading Standards and the Environment Agency.

Since 2006/7 fly-tipping has reduced by more than 22%.

Anyone caught fly-tipping faces prosecution and could receive a fine up to **£50,000** or maximum imprisonment of five years.

Anyone using a waste removal company should always check that they have a waste carrier licence number and this can be done by contacting the Environment Agency on 08708 506 506.

Last year alone, the Council cleared up **573** fly-tips in West Oxfordshire at a cost of **£27,000**.

Fly-tipping can be reported online at [www.westoxon.gov.uk/reportit](http://www.westoxon.gov.uk/reportit) or by calling 01993 861060.





**Library DVD reviews**

by Toby Hopkins

**THE GREY**

An oil drilling team in Alaska take a flight home which then, dramatically, crash-lands in the frozen, windswept back-of-beyond. Could it get any worse for the eight survivors? I'm afraid it does - since a pack of local wolves are soon keen to reduce that number to zero. On the upside, an experienced wolf hunter (Liam Neeson), is among the survivors and he takes it upon himself to lead them a safe distance from the wolves' den, (but does he know where it is....?) This is not quite 'Horror', but intense, authentic, very human and at times harrowing - an Action Drama that had me gripped from start to finish. To counter the often torrid action, an ultimately moving back-story underpins Neeson's character, involving a wife that left him - and a poem. Beyond that, I would simply urge all but the faint-hearted to go and rent it. A fabulous, powerful film...

Lads' rating 9 1/2

Chick rating 8 1/2

**STOP PRESS!**

**Office Room to rent** in Bampton town centre. For further details contact Joanne Paterson 01993 201195 or email [info@springhairboutique.co.uk](mailto:info@springhairboutique.co.uk)

**Senior Stylist WANTED** - let your talents explode; your personality shine and feel a joy in your work again. If you know you're 'special' and feel a new challenge would be exciting, I'm interested so call me, Joanne on 01993 201195. VIP salary with clientele following!  
[www.springhairboutique.co.uk](http://www.springhairboutique.co.uk)

**Grazing land required** cash buyer interested  
Please contact Lou on 07802 447574

# JOHN TOWNSEND DRIVER TRAINING

**Quality Instruction at  
Value for Money Prices**

**Telephone: 01993 851754**

**Mobile: 07930 522759**

**Email:**

**[john.townsend22@googlemail.com](mailto:john.townsend22@googlemail.com)**



# Riverford



*award winning*

*organic vegetable boxes  
delivered to your door in  
Bampton each Friday*

order **0845 6002311** local call  
today! [www.riverford.co.uk](http://www.riverford.co.uk)

# news release



WEST OXFORDSHIRE  
DISTRICT COUNCIL

For immediate use

Date: 12 December 2011

## Useful advice for Jubilee party celebrations

West Oxfordshire groups looking to hold celebration events for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee can get advice from the District Council on how to plan them.

The council has issued a guide on its website with tips and advice that provides information about organising an event.

It includes downloadable forms for applying for road closures, event licensing as well as a practical guide.

Cllr Richard Langridge, Cabinet Member for Communities, said: "Street parties play a big part in this country's history and we want to support groups looking to plan get-togethers.

"We want to minimise bureaucracy and provide as much support as possible for groups planning events, so they can get on with enjoying the festivities during this special year."

The council is anticipating a host of community-based events with the Queen's Diamond Jubilee weekend (2-5 June) falling on the same weekend as the annual Big Lunch and Beacon lighting.

As well as offering safety advice and information on licensing, the council is also providing litter picking equipment to encourage communities to keep their areas clean and tidy.

For more information visit: [www.westoxon.gov.uk/jubilee](http://www.westoxon.gov.uk/jubilee)

**Media enquiries:** t: 01993 861616/861615 m: 07771 965360; [communications@westoxon.gov.uk](mailto:communications@westoxon.gov.uk)

# news release



**For immediate use**

**Date: 14 March 2012**

## **Mums on the ball with football lessons**

Mums in West Oxfordshire can take advantage of free childcare while enjoying a kick-about thanks to a new initiative supported by one of the county's top female coaches.

FA coach Vicky Bonham is leading the football classes that encourage mums to take their first steps back into exercise after an absence through various reasons including family commitments.

Cllr Richard Langridge, Cabinet Member for Communities, said: "This is an excellent opportunity for mothers with young children to get back into physical exercise with others in a similar situation and with the support of professionals."

"West Oxfordshire District Council is dedicated to providing activities for all sectors of the community and identified this particular group as one that often gets overlooked. We understand that childcare can be an issue for some mums so by offering free childcare, we hope to solve that dilemma."

Vicky Bonham said: "The Active Women project is a fantastic way to get more women involved in sport and with the London 2012 Olympics just round the corner what better way to take part in physical activity."

"Football sessions in Witney will provide women of all ages and abilities the opportunity to learn new skills, increase fitness in a fun environment with the added bonus of a crèche facility. This initiative is also a great way to build women's confidence and offer an alternative to competitive football."

The project is funded by Oxfordshire Sports partnership and being delivered by Nexus Community Team, in partnership with West Oxfordshire District Council.

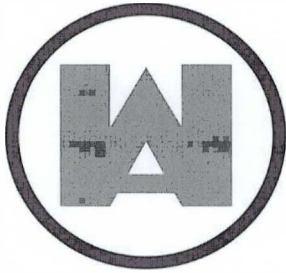
**They are also launching a series of other exercise activities including badminton, tennis and netball.**

Football classes run from Wednesday 21 March at the Windrush Leisure Centre from 1-2pm and cost £3 per session.

For further information or to book a place on the course please visit: [www.westoxon.gov.uk](http://www.westoxon.gov.uk) or contact Sean Christie on 01993 861564 email [sean.christie@westoxon.gov.uk](mailto:sean.christie@westoxon.gov.uk)

|

**Media enquiries: t: 01993 861616/861615 m: 07771 965360; [communications@westoxon.gov.uk](mailto:communications@westoxon.gov.uk)**



# abbeyproperties residential sales & lettings

## Your truly local estate and letting agent

Another reasonable couple of months for our three offices with a number of good sales agreed and some well priced new property instructions.

### MARKET NEWS

**RIGHTMOVE** - Have reported that 70% of its advertised properties have been on their website for in excess of 12 months.

**ANDREWS ESTATE AGENT** – Their chief executive Michael Robson ‘admits that the initial asking prices may have been too high’ (\*Andrews Website)

### CONCLUSION

The bulk of the residential housing market is flat lining because some agents are over valuing properties in order to win their business and a majority of vendors are still holding out for too much money and unable to admit that their property value have fallen.

For an honest appraisal of your properties true value, call Abbey Properties.

**Witney**  
01993 771077

**Eynsham**  
01865 880697

**Bampton**  
01993 851881

[www.abbeyproperties.tv](http://www.abbeyproperties.tv)



## *Chrissie's Creations* hairdressing

### Creative Hairdressing For You At Home

I am a fully qualified hairdresser with more than 6 years experience offering you the luxury and convenience of salon services in the comfort of your own home.

My services include unisex cuts, colours, perms and hair-up designs with wedding and prom hair design a speciality.

Wedding Packages are available on request

If you require other services, I would be happy to provide you with a quote.

For more details or to book an appointment please contact me on 07930 598540 or 01993 779054

*The Salon experience brought to you!*

# biztro

the home of great food

Open for lunch and evening meals  
 Tuesday - Saturday (Closed Sundays and Mondays)  
 12 - 2.30 pm and 7 - 10.30 pm

biztro • Wheelgate House • Market Square • Bampton • OX18 2JH  
 01993 851151 www.biztro.co.uk info@biztro.co.uk

## LOOKING FOR A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION?

Your local Air Ambulance needs new volunteers to help us with our busy events calendar. If you like meeting new people, trying new things and joining a fantastic social network – why not volunteer a few hours per week for the Air Ambulance? We do not receive any Central Government or National Lottery funding so without volunteers we would not be able to continue saving lives in your community, 365 days of the year.



TVACAA needs YOUR help to ensure the Air Ambulance can continue to provide a life saving emergency service in Oxfordshire. Can you help us make a difference?

Eleanor Green  
 Oxfordshire Fundraising Manager  
 eleanor@tvacaa.org or 0300 999 0135



## Has Bampton Got Talent?

The Archive is organising a “Has Bampton got Talent?” show during the Jubilee celebrations, to be held on Sunday June 3rd at 7.30 in the Village Hall.

We want anything – singing, dancing, playing, performing dogs, talking parrots- which will add fun and variety to the evening and make it a grand village concert with people of all ages joining in.

Are there any talented families or individuals out there? If you are prepared to have a bash- we're not expecting perfection!- please contact Jo Lewington on 850947 or [jilewington@gmail.com](mailto:jilewington@gmail.com)  
 Let's make this an evening to remember!

## Bampton Book Makes American Hitlist!

Mel Starr's book “The Unquiet Bones”, a murder novel set in medieval Bampton, was selected by Amazon as its Deal of the Day in the U.S. It became Kindle's best selling book for the day, outselling sales of even John Grisham's new book, “The Litigators”.

“The Unquiet Bones” is the first in the series of Starr's four novels, all set in fourteenth century Bampton and Oxford. All four books are on sale at the West Oxon Art Gallery, the Horseshoes and the Vesey Room at £8.99 each. By kind permission of the author, £4.50 of the proceeds of sale from each book goes towards the Bampton Community Archive.

**W and W  
Property Maintenance**

Alex and Graham

DECKING, FENCING, SHEDS  
PATIOS, TILING, FLOORING,  
PAINTING & DECORATING,  
AND GARDENING  
NO JOB TOO SMALL, ASTON BASED  
FREE ESIMATES

**Tel: 01993 852814  
MOBILE: 07796 454244**

**Ashtree Farm  
Accommodation**

Ashtree Farm, Buckland,  
Faringdon, Oxon, SN7 8PX

The Stables

Luxury 5\* Gold Award Self-Catering  
Cottage  
(Sleeps 4)

Also

Ashtree Farmhouse  
Excellent Bed & Breakfast  
Accommodation

Contact Patricia Elliott  
01367 870540  
07971 207188

Email: [info@ashtree-farm.co.uk](mailto:info@ashtree-farm.co.uk)  
Web: [www.ashtree-farm.co.uk](http://www.ashtree-farm.co.uk)

Member Tourism South East



**Mobile Grooming & Care Services  
for your Dogs and Horses**

Available 7 days a week  
Evening & Weekend Appointments

**Dogs**

- Full Grooming Service - including Bathing, Hand Stripping, Clipping - carried out at your home or place of work
- Dog Walking & Feeding - if you're out at work, unexpectedly called away or can't walk your dog due to illness we'll do it for you.
- Pet Sitting & House Sitting - if you would rather your dog stay at home whilst you're away, Wags & Nags will exercise and feed your dogs keeping them happy and relaxed and look after your home allowing you relax on holiday.

**Horses**

- Cover for holidays, illness and work commitments etc
- Clipping - at clips offered
- Provide full groom service - field and stable kept horses
- Exercising and Schooling

For more information, prices or to arrange a "no commitment" meeting:

Call Laura: 07876 745 354

Or visit our website: [www.wagsandnagsgrooming.co.uk](http://www.wagsandnagsgrooming.co.uk)  
Or email: [laura@wagsandnagsgrooming.co.uk](mailto:laura@wagsandnagsgrooming.co.uk)

References available on request

**Bampton Community Archive  
celebrates its anniversary with a  
special offer**

Bampton Community Archive celebrates its tenth anniversary this year. To mark the occasion, and for this year only, it is offering a free DVD to all those who either renew their membership or take out membership for the first time. DVDs can be chosen from a list of over 20, all produced by Bampton Archive, on a range of topics related to Bampton or Bamptonians. Topics covered include "Old shops and businesses of Bampton", "Growing up Under the British Raj in India" and "A Bampton Childhood".

Annual subscription costs £5 for an individual, or £8 for joint membership by a couple. Members enjoy a range of benefits. Anyone interested in taking up the offer should contact Mike Wareham, Membership Secretary, on Bampton 851963 at the time of renewal (around April 1st)

**Return of the  
annual plant sale**

The annual plant sale returns this year and is back to its usual venue at Eagle House. The sale takes place between 10a.m. and 4pm on Monday June 4th.

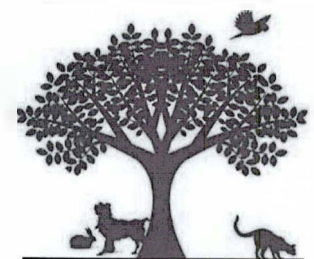
**A date for your  
diary**

Bampton Community Archive will be holding its AGM at 7.30 on Wednesday April 11th in the Village Hall. In addition to our usual agenda, there will be a demonstration by Mike Wareham of our new website, and a chance to look at, (and buy!) our new range of DVDs, books, notelets, teatowels and prints, featuring life in Bampton, past and present. Find out about our plans for the Archive, and share your ideas with us. All current and prospective new members are welcome.

**French Tuition**

From beginner to A-level  
All ages welcome  
Mrs Cerian Cooper  
(BA Hons)

**Tel: 07843 655001**



**DANETREE**  
VETERINARY SURGEONS

*Lifelong care, for lifelong friends*

**01367 242777**  
14 Coxwell Road  
FARINGDON  
Oxon SN7 7EZ

**01235 770227**  
Elms Farmhouse  
Grove Rd, Grove  
Wantage OX12 7PD

[www.danetreevets.co.uk](http://www.danetreevets.co.uk)

## Cotswold Bed & Breakfast

\*\*\*\*\*

**Comfortable and well appointed accommodation in a quiet backwater of Bampton, Oxfordshire (on the edge of the Cotswolds 8 miles from Burford)**  
**Ample off road parking**  
**For information and booking**  
**Tel: 01993 851126**  
**E-mail: [poshmargaret@btopenworld.com](mailto:poshmargaret@btopenworld.com)**

**GRAHAM HUNT**  
 Plumbing & Heating Engineer  
 All Plumbing  
 Boiler Replacement  
 Bathroom Installation etc  
 Over 20 Years Experience  
 Aston Based

**Tel:**  
**01993**  
**850788**



### The Bampton 250 Club

The Bampton 250 Club is the local monthly lottery which supports the Village Hall and the Exhibition Trust. There are a few places available so if you would like a ticket please contact **Anthony Hall: Tel: 01993 851142**

#### October (Drawn at the Morris Clown)

- £25 Mrs Shuker, The Pieces
- £15 Mr & Mrs Rose, Queen Street
- £15 Mrs C. Edwards, Buckland Road
- £15 Mr A. Grout, Bridge Street

#### November (Drawn at the Horseshoe)

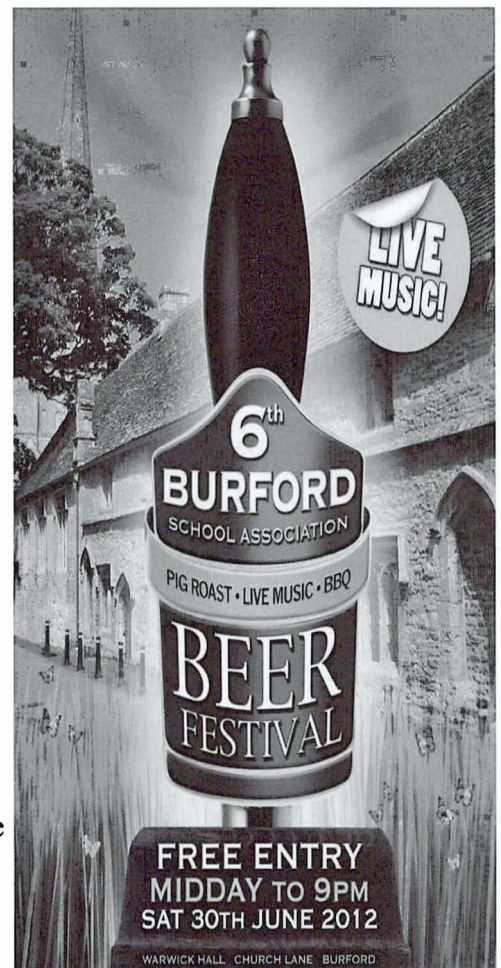
- £25 Mr Govier, Colville Close
- £15 Miss D. Mansfield, New Road
- £15 Mrs E. Page, Church View
- £15 Mr & Mrs D. Street, Church Street

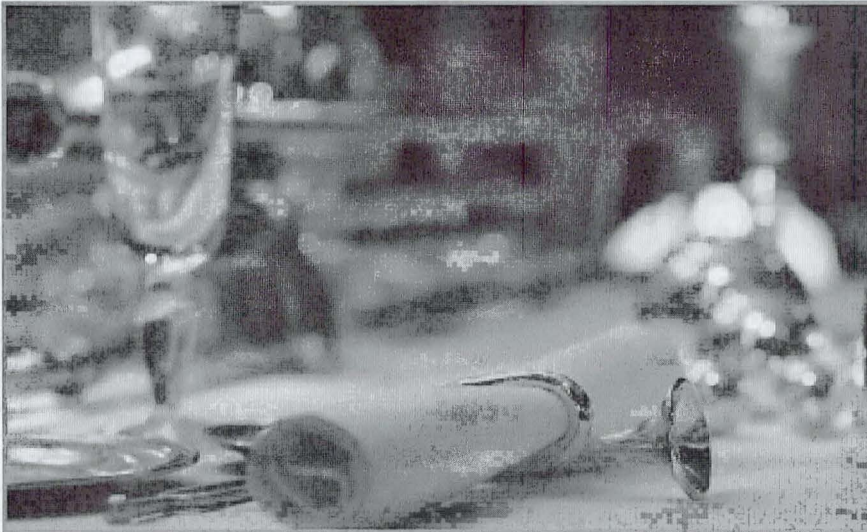
#### December (Drawn at the Bush Club)

- £100 Wendy Radband, Colville Close
- £25 Biz Goddy, Market Place
- £15 Miss D. Mansfield, New Road
- £15 R. Baird, Bridge Street
- £15 J. Dando, The Pieces

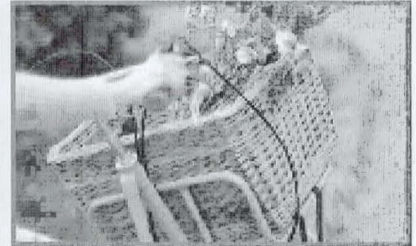
#### January (Drawn at Village Hall Committee Meeting)

- £25 Mrs S. Brooks, New Road
- £15 Pamela Bridgeman, Chandler Close
- £15 J. Wheeler, Bowling Green Close
- £15 Doris Cleaver, Broad Street





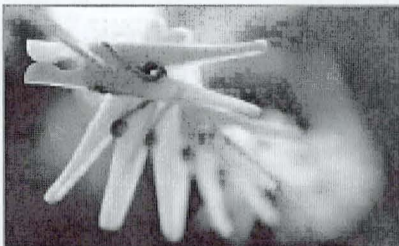
**EVENT PLANNING**



**ERRANDS**



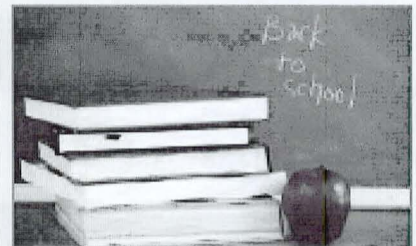
**TRADE STANDS**



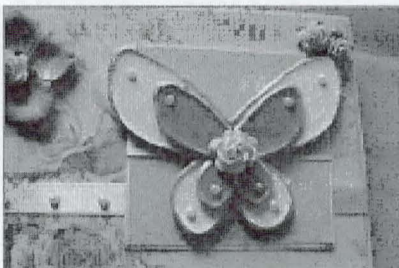
**HOUSEHOLD CHORES**



**HOME ORGANISATION**



**SCHOOL RUN**



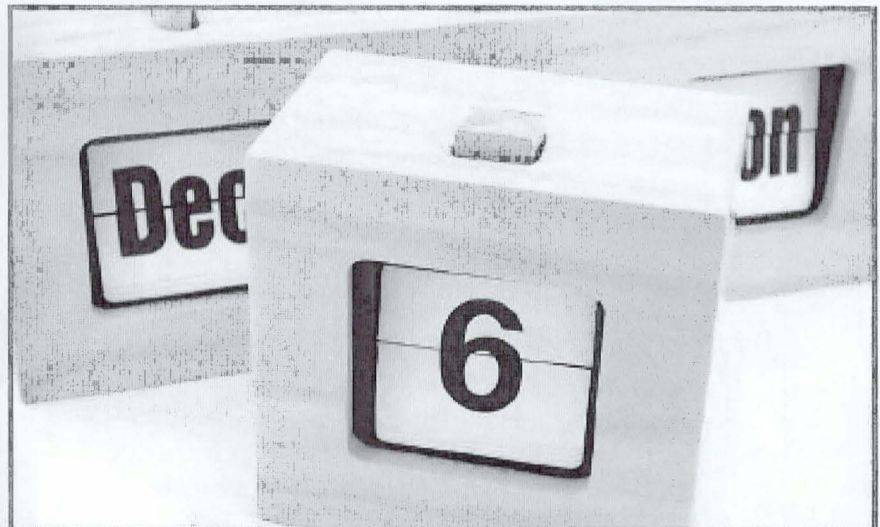
**ARTS & CRAFTS**



**ANIMALS**



**OFFICE**



**PERSONAL ASSISTANT**



**CAKES & BAKING**



# Country Living

*Simplify Your Life*

*Are you too busy?*

*Is your life hectic?*

*Too much to do?*

*Rushed off your feet?*

*Hard pressed for time?*

## *You need a freelance PA*

*Having spent most of my life within the farming community I appreciate country matters. I have an excellent knowledge of business & customer service gained in a very competitive market which has given me the attributes to provide a wide selection of services for busy people.*

*I can tailor a service to suit your needs no matter how large or small.*

*Let me take the stress out of your life*

**Fiona Hook - Farming**

*Liz is resourceful, reliable and imaginative with boundless energy, easily adapting to any situation.*

**Nick Talbot - Local Businessman**

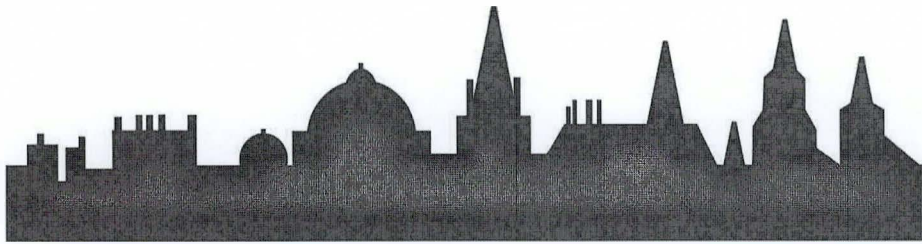
*I know very few people more organised than Liz. She confidently finds solutions to problems with a minimum of fuss and effort and embarks on every task with total enthusiasm.*

**Elizabeth Strainge**

**Fishermans Cottage, 1 Church End, Standlake, Oxfordshire, OX29 7SG**

**Telephone:- 07855 414699**

**Email:- [estrainge@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:estrainge@hotmail.co.uk)**



## Oxfordshire Care Summary



### The way we manage your health records is changing

The NHS in England is introducing the NHS Care Records Service to improve the safety and quality of patient care. These secure electronic records will give healthcare professionals faster, easier access to reliable information about you to help with your care - particularly in an emergency, or if you see a doctor out-of-hours when your GP practice is closed.

Your care records will be made up of two parts;

**The national Summary Care Record** – this record is held nationally and will be available across England to support emergency care and will contain three things: your allergies; your medications; and any adverse reactions to medicines that you have.

**The local Oxfordshire Care Summary** – this is 'view only' and will contain more detailed information than the national Summary Care Record. It will only be available to local healthcare professionals involved in your treatment in Oxfordshire.

### **BAMPTON VILLAGE WINDOW CLEANING SERVICES**

**Telephone 01993 822405**

**Mobile 07731 552250**

**Email [steve.rix@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:steve.rix@hotmail.co.uk)**

*Domestic and Commercial Work Undertaken*

*Weekly, Fortnightly, Monthly or Bi-Monthly*

***A Reliable, Friendly Service***

***Competitive Rates***

**CONTACT US FOR A FREE QUOTE**

Every individual in Oxfordshire aged 16 years old and over\* will receive a patient letter at the beginning of April 2012, asking them to choose whether they want these care records. If you are a parent or guardian, you will need to make this choice on behalf of your child, or support them in making their own decision if you feel they are mature enough to do so.

(\*or who will be 16 by the end of June 2012)

For more information visit [www.oxfordshirepct.nhs.uk/healthrecords](http://www.oxfordshirepct.nhs.uk/healthrecords) or contact the information lines at:

Summary Care Records  
telephone 0300 123 3020  
Oxfordshire Care Summary  
telephone 01865 428886

**Better access to reliable patient information means safer, quicker decisions to support your care**

## BAMPTON ZIMBABWE PROJECT

A big thank you to all who came to listen to Tom Benyon of Zane at St Mary's Church on December 4<sup>th</sup>. As predicted he was enthusiastic, erudite and very amusing, as well as extremely graphic about the appalling situation in Zimbabwe for both black and white communities. He is deeply grateful for all the help that comes from Bampton, and understood the cynicism that people have regarding the loss of carefully collected money going to line the wrong pockets, through corruption, but was at great pains to underline the fact that this has never happened with Zane. The money is transferred electronically from Britain to their Harare money changers who convert it into American dollars. Zane then distribute the money where needed in brown envelopes, as the banks are corrupt, and to date this has been £9,000,000 worth! Cathy Buckle, niece of the B.Z.P.s' treasurer, lives there and sends weekly newsletters to us, highlighting the horror that living in Zimbabwe is. Tom told a story from Cathy about an ex school teacher, whose pension has disappeared because of inflation, widow of a war veteran, whom she was visiting. The lady was very morose, and monosyllabic and clearly ill. Cathy eventually gave her 20\$ to help, and the lady finally admitted that her worry was that she had no underwear in which to visit the doctor. There is no aid for whites in Zimbabwe, and those left there are aged, poverty stricken, and malnourished. They are exceptionally proud and never complain, but they have lost everything. How would they live without Zane's aid?

He was full of admiration for the 34 Zane staff, mostly women who work in black and white areas and with the old, and pointed out that where others are beaten, it does not happen to Zane staff. In the Harare slums there is huge deprivation and destitution. The Zane workers help with hygiene, education, clean water and micro-finance. There is also a club foot programme; Chris Hardy, a surgeon, goes to teach how to correct club foot, which can change a child's life. Tom pointed out that Mugabe is 86, and has prostate cancer, and that even when he goes, there is no reason to believe that anything will change. Clearly our help will be needed in the future, and the legendary generosity of the people of Bampton will continue to be essential.

### GRAND DIAMOND JUBILEE FAIR.

### IN AID OF THE BAMPTON ZIMBABWE PROJECT.

SATURDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2012 IN THE VILLAGE HALL

FROM 10AM -12 NOON

Registered Charity 1116587.

Entrance and Refreshments free.

STALLS INCLUDE:- Cakes, Bric-a-Brac, Cards, Books, Provisions, Plants, Bottle Tombola, Raffle, and the "Goodness Knows".

We support ZANE ( Zimbabwe A National Emergency) who transfer the money we collect, electronically from Britain to their Harare money changers, where it is changed without loss of value. Zane distributes the money in envelopes, to make certain that not a penny lines the wrong pockets through corruption!

The legendary generosity of the people of Bampton continues to be essential!

**On Friday 7<sup>th</sup> September, 2012 there will be another HOG ROAST.  
Put the date in your diary.**

## WINTER WIPEOUT—THE WELSH WAY

By Amy Atkinson

How many of you have sat at home laughing at the contestants on BBC's Total Wipeout, thinking I could do that! I have, countless times. Never did I think that one day I would be there waiting for my turn on the big red balls.

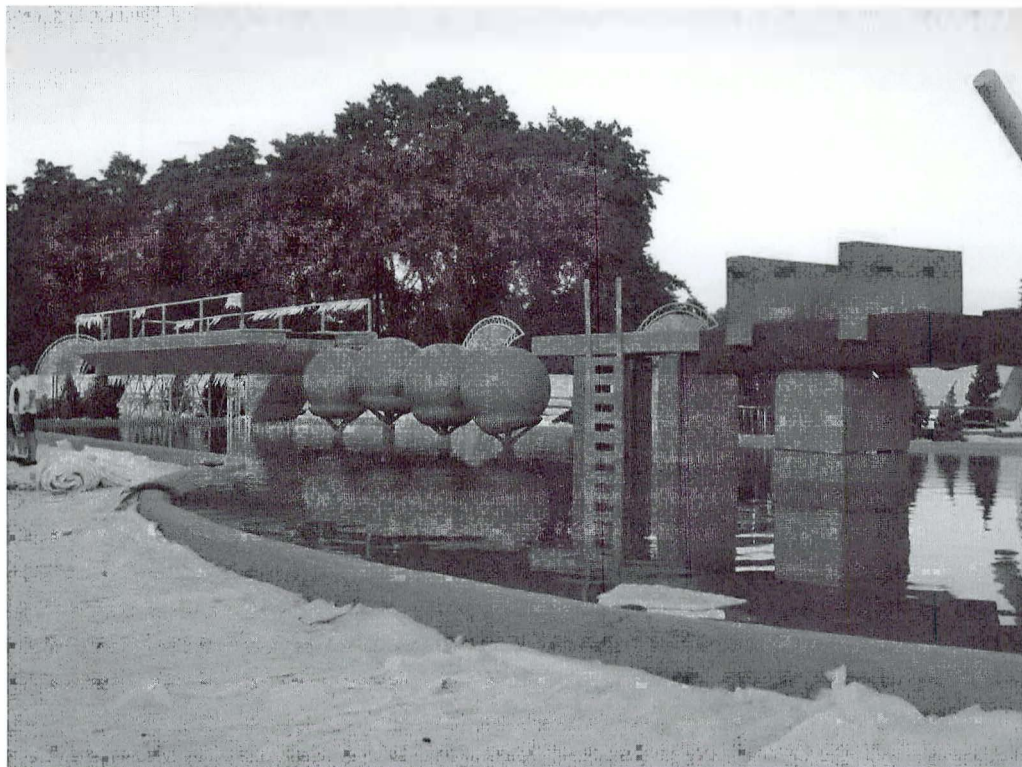
Early in 2010 I sent in an application form to be on the next series of Total Wipeout. It was a spur of the moment thing and I didn't really expect anything to come of it. For 8 months I heard nothing and then one very bizarre day I was waiting in the queue for a rollercoaster when I got a phone call inviting me for an audition. At first I was stunned – I'd actually forgotten that I'd applied!

A few weeks later I attended that audition. We'd been told that each auditionee would have one minute to 'sell themselves' to a member of the production team. There were hundreds of people at my audition dressed in a range of weird and wonderful costumes. I had on Welsh Rugby Kit and looked relatively normal compared to some.

My minute came and went and I was told to go to a door in the far corner of the room. We weren't told which door was positive and which was negative but thankfully I was through to the next round. We next had to complete a mini assault course but the aim wasn't speed it was 'interesting-ness!' For those of you who know me or have seen the show you may know I have a lucky egg. I did this part of the course with that lucky egg balanced on a spoon.

To my amazement I made it until the end of the day and a few weeks later I was told I was going to Argentina to be on the show. I was over the moon. There was only one problem; I am terrified of flying.

Armed with a wacky costume, my lucky egg and a lot of valium I went to Heathrow to finally film Total Wipeout. This series was Winter Themed so it was called Winter Wipeout by the time it made it to TV but that didn't matter to me and the other amazing 19 contestants I met on the way – we were going to tackle the big red balls!



After a long journey we finally made it to the course and to say everyone was excited was an understatement. We spent the first morning filming interviews and 'stupid stuff'. If the production team told you to do it no matter how stupid it made you look. In my case, I cracked an egg on my forehead which later made it to national TV. After a long and very hot morning of filming we got to the part we were all waiting for; the qualifier.

## WINTER WIPEOUT—THE WELSH WAY

We were given a safety briefing but we weren't allowed a trial run. What you see on TV is the one and only run we do. There's no practicing! We aren't even allowed to watch each other. A random order is assigned and you are held in a tent until it is your turn. After your turn you wait in a different tent until everyone has been and you are told the result.

I went 13<sup>th</sup> (unlucky for some!) and was so nervous by the time I got to the start. They told us to just run at everything hard and we'd get through. They were right. After face-planting a lot of the obstacles I made it to the end in a time of 2minutes 30 which was 8<sup>th</sup> overall (this episode had the quickest times of all the episodes!) but that was good enough, I was in the next round.

Round two was the ski lift – a tall rotating podium which you have to hang on to until big red beams and fake snow make you fall off. The boys were all quietly confident they were going to beat the girls which I guess is fair enough given it involved a lot of upper body strength.

It was pretty high up and I really didn't like it. The podiums wobbled and I didn't feel particularly safe despite the helmet and body protector. I did not want to fall. People since have asked me how I stayed on and all I can say is pure determination, I didn't want to fall off because I was scared.

Miraculously, I made it into the top five. By now I had gained a lot of respect from the crew, the rest of the contestants and anyone else to see it. Nobody had expected me to get anywhere near as far as the third round given the crying blithering wreck I was at the thought of the plane. But in the third round I was and this was my round. They spun you round and you have to do the course as quickly as possible as the last person to the end is knocked out of the competition. The first time we did this I didn't even get wet and was so proud of myself. Then we had to go again. I suddenly felt the pressure to do well being the only girl left in the competition so when I crossed the line and got the biggest cheer from the crowd it was a wonderful feeling. I was going to be the only girl in the final.

Except then they showed me the final. The first obstacle was the flingy-majig – a large chair that flings the contestant into the air and they then land in the water. I was so scared I was crying (again!) but again sheer determination got me through. After all there was still £10,000 on offer to me.

Unfortunately, after a lot of effort, tears, adrenaline and excitement I came third but it was an experience I would never ever give up and I would repeat in an instant. I have never had such an enjoyable time and I have met a fantastic group of friends. Since filming the show I have kept in close contact with so many of the other contestants and have made friends for life.

Coming third was a fantastic achievement for anyone but I am more proud of getting on a plane for the first time in years (albeit with the aid of pills) but for anyone scared of flying, if I can do it, so can you. This was an experience of a life time even if watching it back on TV was very surreal. If anyone gets the opportunity to take part in such a fantastic show I would tell you to do it instantly. But more importantly, if you are scared of something, face it. I did many times in the short 6 days we were away and it has made me a stronger, more positive person and in return for facing my fears I have some amazing new friends.

My episode is available on youtube at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NBWGycvpVfs>



# BEWG Report

Ralph Norman, Chairman, BEWG, 29 January 2012.

In October we held our last open meeting of 2011 with a talk from Dr Max Peterson on Fungi.

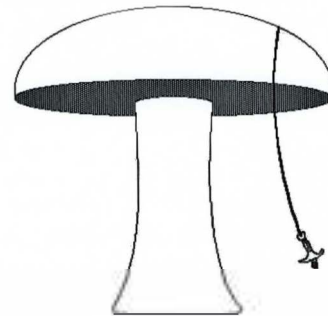
Our next scheduled talk will be at our AGM on Friday 2 March 2012 when the appropriately named Dr Larkman's subject will be "birds". Meetings are held in the Village Hall starting at 8:00pm. All are welcome, with attendance free for members, £2 for non-members (or join at the door).

WODC's Core Strategy for the Local Development Framework is being finalised and is expected to be published for public consultation in the first half of 2012. (Go to WODC's website at [www.westoxon.gov.uk/planning/LDF.cfm](http://www.westoxon.gov.uk/planning/LDF.cfm) for details.) We submitted consultation comments to OCC in October supporting the final published draft Core Strategy for Mineral Extraction and Waste Management.

This plan precludes the four sites in the Clanfield/Bampton area, previously put forward by land owners and gravel extraction companies. OCC aim to report on this to the Council's Cabinet on 13 March.

If you would like to know more about BEWG or would like to join us please contact the Membership Secretary (Ann Norman) on 850823, or email [bewg@sagaman.co.uk](mailto:bewg@sagaman.co.uk).

You can also see our entry on the Bampton web site at [www.bamptonoxon-parishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.bamptonoxon-parishcouncil.gov.uk)



Fungi Jumping

AW



A specialist caterer offering afternoon teas with a simple but sophisticated, retro feel.

Using charming mismatched vintage and 'shabby chic' china and good, traditional fare, we can turn your teatime into a special occasion.

We offer a friendly but professional service, providing delicious homemade fresh food with a country kitchen feel and using high-quality ingredients, sourced locally where possible.

We can cater for two to two hundred!

We offer you three different types of service:

- ☛ Afternoon tea delivered to your door ☛
- ☛ Afternoon tea at your personal or corporate event ☛
- ☛ China hire ☛

[www.rubyrueteas.co.uk](http://www.rubyrueteas.co.uk) or (01993) 898797



## Body Talk

Hair and Beauty Salons

11 High Street, Eynsham. Tel: 01865 880820  
Harvest View, Buckland Marsh. Tel: 01367 870444

[bodytalkhairandbeauty.co.uk](http://bodytalkhairandbeauty.co.uk)

Body Talk is an established business since May 2000. We pride ourselves with our excellent customer service and commitment to our clients

At 'Body Talk', we promise that our treatments are the best available locally. At either one of our salons, the friendly and professional staff *guarantee you will receive a calm, restful, soothing and relaxing treatment.*

Apart from our expansive treatment menu, to include all general beauty and hairdressing, we always have special offers available on selected treatments and our famous pamper days which take place at the end of each month.

Call us now for more information about our fantastic offers or to book an appointment. Our experienced and welcoming staff will be pleased to help you.

(Offers not available with any other promotion or discount vouchers)

- ☛ Decolor, OPI and Tigi stockists
- ☛ Gift Vouchers available

Body Talk, for all your hair and beauty needs

## Shaun Guard TV AERIAL SERVICES

- ☛ Poor Reception Solved - For Analogue and Digital TV
- ☛ TV and Radio Aerials - Repair and Installation
- ☛ Extra TV Points - For Aerial and Sky
- ☛ Sky TV - Also Foreign Language Satellite

Call Witney 01993 608118

...now a part of  OXFORD AERIALS

## An Aussie Adventure - Bampton

**Melbourne, Australia - Panyu, China – Sydney, Australia – Fenggang, China - Bampton, United Kingdom - Dubai, United Arab Emirates.**

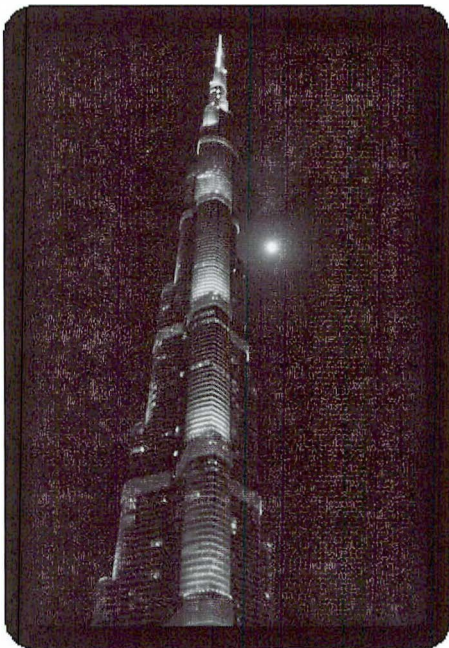
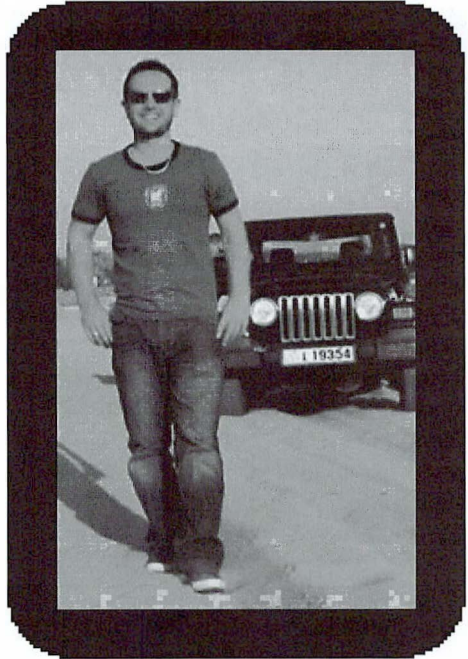
Explaining to anyone that has not been as lucky as I to be in some small way, if only for a brief amount of time a part of the community in Bampton why I choose to spend my free time in this part of the world is not easily done, the question I constantly had to answer was “Why would you leave Australia to come here?” I never could give a definitive answer, I just told people I was on a world tour. After spending nearly 3 years dragging my suitcase around the planet with no direction or real plan as to what I was doing with life, I managed to find myself in West Oxfordshire – no friends, nowhere to live; no idea why I came here, all that was important to me was crammed into a suitcase weighing exactly 32Kgs. I had a job in Standlake and a hope that England was a far better place than how the country was portrayed back in Australia. After moving from Guangzhou, a place I called home for the best part of 2.5 years with a population in excess of 15 million people into a town with a population of not very many raises a few problems for someone who has never lived in a small community before: The biggest being losing any anonymity that I previously had, and making the adjustment to my life that embraced my new found inability to blend in with the crowd. Being an overly excited and loud Australian could potentially be one as well.

I am of the firm belief that the people make the place, and this is the basis of my love affair with Bampton. Having been an expat in numerous countries and cities since leaving Australia in March 2008, I know all too well that establishing yourself with a good network of friends that can help you to become involved in the community in which you live is the number one priority. The people I met in Bampton gave me exactly what I wanted in a place I could easily call home; being able to walk down the street and greet people using their name, the friendly wave you give and receive from people as you drive or walk the roads surrounding

town. These are two examples of the many simple things that may seem insignificant and just part of everyday life to locals is a welcome change to a foreigner such as myself that comes from a concrete jungle with no warmth to it.

Life in Dubai couldn't be any more different, people live their lives as if they are the only person here, just a few days back I met my neighbour after 4 months of living here, and even then she wasn't interested in talking to me. I tried to engage her, make small talk; she was having none of it. The most I will get out of my neighbours is muffled thanks for holding the elevator door open for them, and then the elevator trip is spent with them staring at the floor in their best attempt to not make eye contact with any of the other passengers on the elevator – Very strange. The security guard for the building I live in talks to me, but I struggle to understand his accent, and I am pretty sure he struggles with mine, so the conversations we have usually involve him talking about cricket, and me talking about the weather.

Dubai is a city that has no soul, and unfortunately most of the people I have met so far are the same! Unlike the people I met living in West Oxfordshire, people here will not engage you unless they really have to and if they must, they are more than likely to resent you for invading their personal space.



## An Aussie Adventure - Bampton



People don't come here to build communities and integrate with others; they are here to make money. It seems cynical that I sit here in Dubai and write that, but I came here because I did not feel secure in my job, and not having a support network around me to help out in the UK should I become unemployed, I jumped ship and fled to where job security is better. If I could be guaranteed my job security back in West Oxfordshire I would be much like you sitting in front of an open fire reading this very paper; but instead I am here working in a place where the people judge you on what you drive and the contents of your wallet, not your ability to function like a normal human being.

Not everyone here is awful, but the ratio of good/bad people leans too far towards the bad, and I don't like that. Looking beyond that, Dubai is a good place; the weather is nice, we don't pay tax, you can get everything you need here and it's relatively safe – Well except for Iran being 40 miles away, and the ongoing tough talk between them and the west.

Given an opportunity to have something stable in the Bampton area would have me back on a plane in a heartbeat, but until the job situation for someone in my line of work improves I will stay here. For 2012, all my holiday time is planned for Bampton, a plan that hasn't gone down too well with family and friends in Australia. I can't wait to get my hands dirty down at Colt House building chook sheds, building fences using only a shovel and brute strength, having my work bench eaten by horses as I try to cut wood, winning the cow milking competition at the Bampton Donkey Derby, sunny afternoons drinking cider in garden and Thursday night playing Aunt Sally – Even though I am so rubbish no one will let me play.

**SPRING**  
HAIR BOUTIQUE

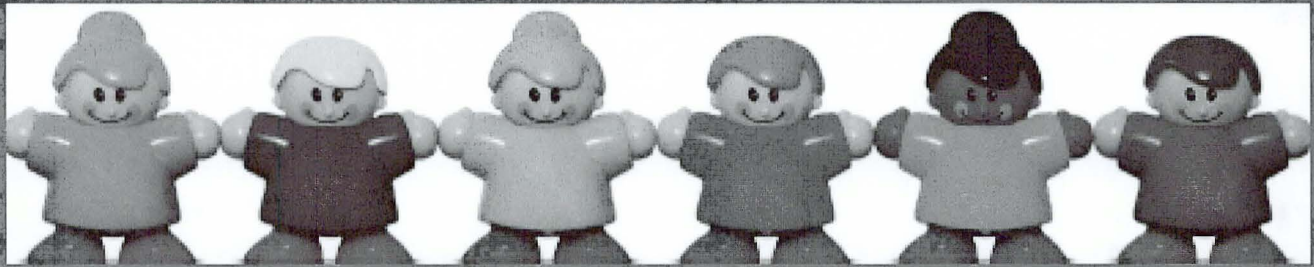


A salon dedicated to ensuring you look amazing and feel refreshed and revitalized.

I love the community spirit that Bampton has; it is something I had never experienced before, and something I long to be part of again sometime soon. In 28 years of living in Melbourne I never got the same sense of community that I had here, even though it was always drummed into us from as far back as I can remember but just never seemed to work.  
*Michael Gallagher, Dubai, United Arab Emirates. February 2012.*



# Want to learn how to change things in your community?



There's a free\* Introduction to Community Action course to help you:

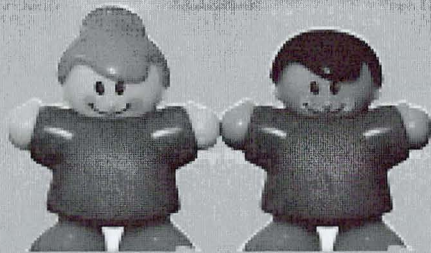
- understand how you can affect decisions about where you live
- boost your confidence
- make a change in your neighbourhood
- earn an NVQ Level 1 qualification

\*a £10 deposit is required, refundable at the end of the course



Image: www.orcc.hu





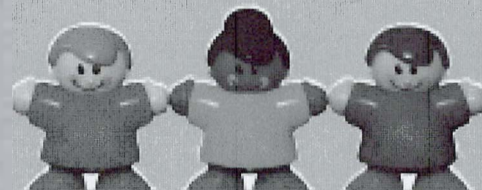
**Introduction to Community Action**  
is a free course to help you get  
your point across and support your  
community to raise important issues.

**You don't need to have any previous  
qualifications or experience to do the course.**

**You could even gain a qualification  
to help you get a job.**

**The course covers:**

- **Understanding your community**
- **Different groups and needs**
- **Who makes the decisions**
- **Taking part in meetings**
- **Communicating with others**
- **Where to get help**
- **Support to work on your own ideas for community action**



**Free fun taster session in  
West Oxford on Monday 30  
April 2012 between  
12pm-2.30pm (lunch  
provided). Contact Catrina  
or Beth for details.**

The course will be held in Oxford starting in May 2012  
and you will need to commit to one session of three hours  
per week for seven weeks and a tutorial.

**We'll pay your travel expenses to get to the course venue  
and any child or other care costs while you are there.**

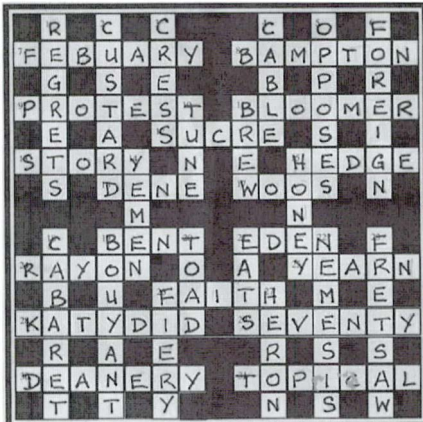
**Contact us for a chat to see if this is the right course for you:**

**If you live in Oxford, Banbury or Bicester contact Catrina Pickering on  
email [catrina.pickering@ocva.org.uk](mailto:catrina.pickering@ocva.org.uk)  
or telephone 01865 251946 or 07540 703366.**

**For the rest of Oxfordshire contact Beth Weston on  
email [beth.weston@oxonrcc.org.uk](mailto:beth.weston@oxonrcc.org.uk) or telephone 01865 883488.**

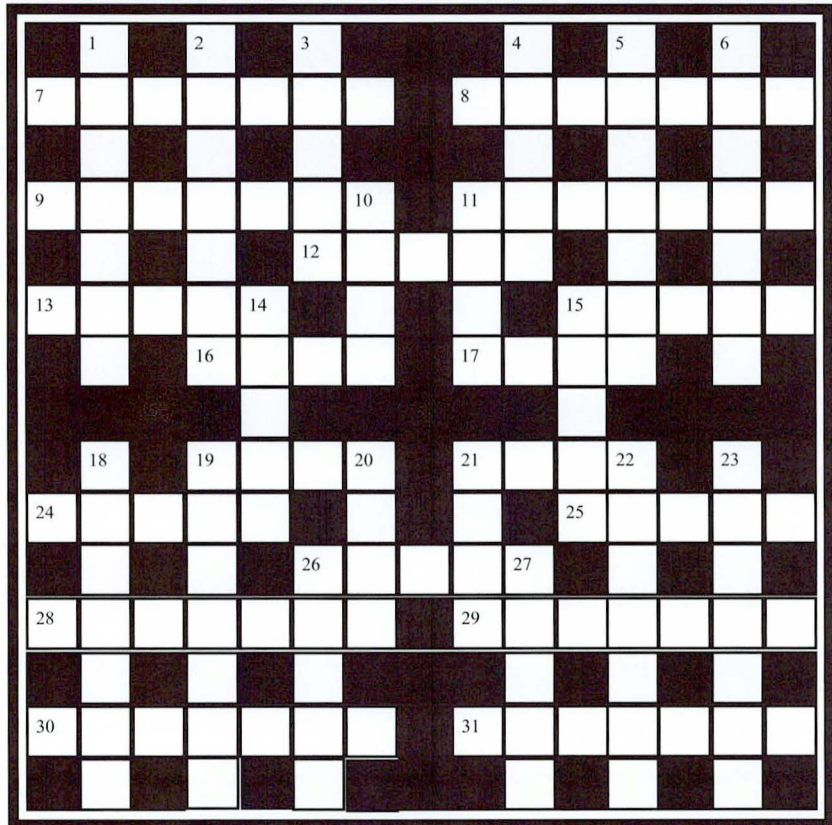
**Visit [www.ocva.org.uk/community-action](http://www.ocva.org.uk/community-action) for more information.**

**Solution to the November  
BEAM CROSSWORD**



The winner of the November crossword are Kevin Farrell of Mercury Close, Bampton. Congratulations, and your prize is £10!  
As a thank you to Annette Minto for producing the March Crossword, and in line with her wishes, 'The Beam' is donating £10 to The Bampton Bush Club.

**THE BAMPTON BEAM'S CROSSWORD**



**CLUES ACROSS**

**CLUES DOWN**

- |                                      |                                   |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 7 Shooting Stars                     | 1 Cut off                         |
| 8 Inflatable rubber toy              | 2 A salad vegetable               |
| 9 Impatient                          | 3 To establish the truth          |
| 11 Removed outer cover               | 4 Famous freshwater mammal        |
| 12 Low growing pink flowered shrub   | 5 Thought about in advance        |
| 13 Found in the park or in the court | 6 A virtue or a garden plant!     |
| 15 Molars perhaps                    | 10 A Greek god                    |
| 16 Long periods of time              | 11 Blemish from wound             |
| 17 See this along river's edge       | 14 Domestic animal                |
| 19 A sparkling wine                  | 15 Can be past, present or future |
| 21 Container for flowers             | 18 Altogether                     |
| 24 Blacksmith's workplace            | 19 Nimbleness                     |
| 25 The fastest milkman               | 20 Type of wading bird            |
| 26 This emits a loud warning         | 21 Change direction               |
| 28 Units of volume                   | 22 Province of Ethiopia           |
| 29 Stage or platform                 | 23 Reports of meeting             |
| 30 Squash                            | 26 Scornful look                  |
| 31 Quantity measured                 | 27 Celebrated, famous             |

**The Bampton Beam  
Adverts**

Why not give your local business a lift?

**Advertise in  
'The Beam'**

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

The rates for 'The Beam' are very reasonable.

So why not call the Sub-Editor now and book your spot for the next edition?

**Tel: 01993 851653**

**E: beam@bamptonoxon-parishcouncil.gov.uk**

**Typical Prices per Edition**

- Full Page £100
- Half Page £50
- 1/3rd Page £30
- 1/6th Page £25

**Entrants! Please include your postal address with your entry, so that, if you win, we can send you your cheque!**

# **bampton cars**

- private hire • 24-7 airport transfers
- local & long distance • business contracts welcome
- 4 - 8 seats available

**tel:** 01993 851900

**email:** [bamptoncars@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:bamptoncars@hotmail.co.uk)

# **Bampton Garage**

Local Friendly and Professional Service

Phone George on 01993 851947

Mobile 07768 912821

Servicing

Repairs

Clutches

Brakes

Welding

Air Con

Tyres

Exhausts

Engine Diagnostics

MOTs Prepared &

Arranged

Glass Repairs

All makes and models of cars, vans, campers and motor homes  
Petrol and Diesel

## Twenty seasons of Bampton Classical Opera

Bampton Classical Opera was founded in 1993 and so 2012 will, remarkably, be the company's twentieth season. Consequently we look forward to 20<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations in 2013.

Bampton Classical Opera is rather like an iceberg as far as many Bampton residents are concerned as only a small proportion of activities (the July performances in the Deanery garden and the St. Beornwald's Day Concert in the church) are immediately apparent. Everything else goes on "below the surface" throughout the year including performances at other venues, notably the prestigious Buxton Festival and London's world-famous Wigmore Hall.

Staging performances of opera to the highest standard requires an enormous effort encompassing translation, auditions, scheduling rehearsals, assembling orchestras, designing and building scenery, organising press relations and publicity, day to day administration and, above all, fundraising.

Sadly it is in the nature of opera that ticket income can never match expenses but we nevertheless maintain a policy of affordable prices.

Staging opera, even on a relatively modest scale, is still an expensive business – just one evening's performance at the Deanery costs well above £15,000 and consequently we rely heavily on the support of our Friends' organisation and on donations from charitable trusts. We also have a loyal band of local volunteers, helping in all sorts of essential tasks, many of whom have been with us since the beginning.

Over the years there have many memorable and amusing incidents - some not always intentional. In 1997 when the village was marooned by flood-water, the performance of *Romeo and Juliet* went on more-or-less as scheduled – and electricity was restored to the power-cut church just as Romeo was scripted to say "Oh, God!"

One opera featured a shiny vintage 1930s Rolls Royce, and another a real dancing Dalek (helpfully provided by a n Oxfordshire undertaker).

### Aston Repair Depot The Square, Aston.

- ❖ All Makes of Vehicles Serviced & Repaired.
- ❖ Competitive Rates.
- ❖ M.o.Ts Arranged.
- ❖ Free Winter or Summer Checks.
- ❖ Free Collection & Delivery Service.
- ❖ Servicing to Manufacturers Warranty On All Makes.

Call Andy on  
(01993) 850305

## Need Computer Training?



**We come to you:  
learn in the comfort of  
your own home!**

**One-to-One training:  
learn faster with our  
tutors!**

**Problems, fixes &  
installation too!**

**Learn new skills and  
keep in touch with  
friends & family!**



# SILVERTRAINING

**Call now on 0845 862 0495**

## Twenty seasons of Bampton Classical Opera

There was once an unscripted and deafening flyover of the Red Arrows - but the subsequent return flight was immediately diverted following our complaint to Brize. We are so grateful to Linda and Peter Ferstendik for their forbearance in what we have inflicted on their lovely garden over the years – it has variously been transformed into a Roman villa, a hippy commune, a mental sanatorium, a holiday caravan site, a French revolutionary prison and a seedy hotel at Trafalgar Square.

The fame of Bampton Classical Opera is such that we have attracted visitors from Europe, America and even New Zealand. The recently published *Rough Guide to the Cotswolds* includes enticing mentions about the opera; and last summer the formidable powers of Downton Abbey were forced to reschedule their planned filming when they discovered that it clashed with our rehearsals.

What do people enjoy about Bampton Classical Opera? Its excellent value and very relaxed atmosphere, certainly; the opportunity of hearing wonderful music which has sometimes remained unperformed for 200 years; the witty English translations with their tongue-tripping rhymes; the amazing chance to hear the finest young professional singers, some of whom appearing at Bampton in the past now perform at Covent Garden and have international careers. Over and over again, audience members fill in their performance questionnaire with the simple judgment: “excellent”.

In 2012 we will be performing a double-bill of melodious French comic operas at the Deanery on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> July; you’ll be able to hear and enjoy every word of the zippy English translation. The delightful comic romance, *The Jealous Lover* by Grétry will be coupled with *Blaise the cobbler* by Philidor, a composer better known for his chess-playing prowess. We return to the Buxton Festival with a revival of our 2010 production of *The Marriage of Figaro*. More details of all these will be available soon. In recognition of the support gratefully received from Bampton Parish Council we offer 10 free tickets for 20<sup>th</sup> July on a first-come-first-served basis to Bampton residents who have not attended one of our performances before.

More information is available at [www.bamptonopera.org](http://www.bamptonopera.org) or from our Administrator, Anthony Hall ([anthony@bamptonopera.org](mailto:anthony@bamptonopera.org)) who is also responsible for the allocation of free tickets.

# PELLMANS

Solicitors

1 Abbey Street, Eynsham, Oxon OX29 4TB

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

Tel: 01865 884400

Fax: 01865 884411

Email: [mail@pellmans.co.uk](mailto:mail@pellmans.co.uk)

Evening surgery at North Leigh by appointment



**ANDREW BOWMAN**  
**MASTER THATCHER**  
 HEDGEFIELDS FARM  
 BAMPTON  
 Tel: 01993 850116

Member Oxon, Berks, Bucks  
 Master Thatchers Association

**E. TAYLOR & SON**

*Established 1885*

**FUNERAL DIRECTORS**

A caring personal service from a family business

**Funeral Directors**

**BRIAN TAYLOR & PETER SMITH**

**Tel: 01993 842421**

**(24 hr Personal Service)**

Home Arrangements - Private Chapel of Rest  
 SET IN LANDSCAPE GARDENS  
 Golden Charter Funeral Prepayment Plan

## Bampton Village Hall

Around two years ago the village hall committee began a programme of refurbishment in order to improve the existing facilities. The new kitchen was completed in November 2010 and this was shortly followed by the purchase of 80 new chairs. In 2011 a new night storage central heating system was installed and, now that we understand how this works, it appears to be performing well.

Plans for the immediate future (subject to the availability of sufficient funds) include interior re-decoration and possibly a new sound system (including an induction loop) which will be useful for large meetings.

A variety of societies and clubs are regular users quite apart from at least three different keep fit classes. Sadly Movies on the Move appears to be in jeopardy but we already arrange other forms of entertainment on an occasional basis and these have recently been very popular. In spite of all of this activity we still have the capacity to take on more and future potential users will find that our rates are competitive.

On the downside the hall and local residents have suffered from anti-social behaviour, vandalism and criminal damage around the Bell Lane side of the building (to put this problem into perspective, the cost of replacing broken tiles on the roof has cost over £700 in the last 18 months). It is a great shame that there are not more organised facilities for the young people of Bampton and hopefully this situation will improve in the future. In the meantime we have taken steps to make this area a much less attractive assembly point for young people and we have contingency plans for further action including closer liaison with the police if this is necessary. It is probably too much to hope that the young people concerned will read this but hopefully some of their parents will.

The village hall is conveniently situated in the centre of the village with reasonable parking immediately nearby and we intend to continue to make its facilities as attractive as possible to the community.

Anthony Hall

## Bampton Village Hall

An excellent venue for meetings, classes, parties, performances & fund-raising events

Main hall with stage & piano

Fully equipped kitchen

Separate locked bar

Badminton court and equipment

Disabled toilet facilities

Conveniently situated in the Market Place

### Hire Charges

General Hire £8.00 per hour

All day & evening £65.00

Bar use £20.00

**Lettings Officer: Angy Irvin**

**Telephone: 01993 850289**

**Email: [bamptonv.hall@btinternet.com](mailto:bamptonv.hall@btinternet.com)**

# Bampton Physiotherapy

As well as Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy we offer Stroke and Neurological Rehabilitation and Chest Physiotherapy,

We run Pilates & Gymball classes

Gymball Classes at Elderbank Hall Brize Norton

on Wednesdays 7.15pm - 8.00pm.

Pilates Classes at Bush Centre Bampton

on Thursdays 7 - 8 & 8 - 9

All abilities and ages welcome.

We also have other Therapists at our clinic.

**Fiona Farmer** Physiotherapist **Patricia knight** Physiotherapist

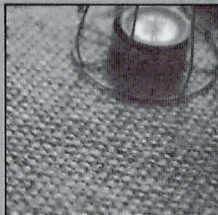
**Mary Hopper** Counsellor **Pippa Shay** Hypnotherapist

**Amanda Edlin** Sports Massage **Michelle Smith** Reflexologist

**Belinda Billinge** Foot Health Care **David Passey** Alexander Technique Teacher

Contact us on 01993 851753 [bamptonphysio@btconnect.com](mailto:bamptonphysio@btconnect.com)

[www.bampton-physiotherapy.co.uk](http://www.bampton-physiotherapy.co.uk)

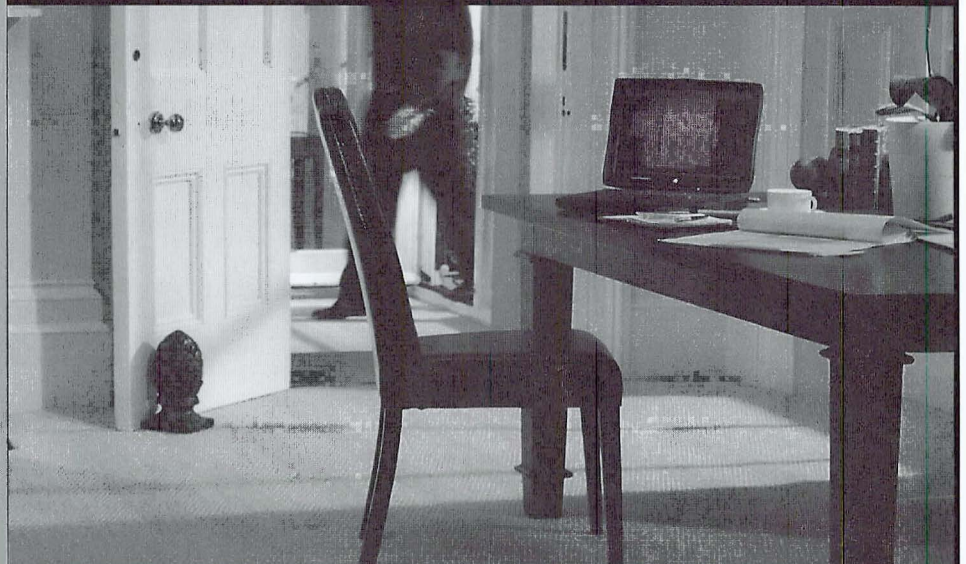


Visit our showroom  
-opposite Sainsburys

**Open** Mon - Sat  
9am - 5.30pm. Free parking

## Enduring quality

Simple, beautiful and strong.



**CARPET  
OPTIONS**

Avenue 4, Station Lane, Witney  
**Tel: 01993 703833**  
[www.carpetoptions.co.uk](http://www.carpetoptions.co.uk)



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## FLY TIPPING IN MARSH LANE

Can you help by either publishing this as a letter - or - better still use the opportunity for some really useful local editorial...!!

I am sure that you are aware of the regular fly tipping that has been taking place down Marsh lane....!!

Normally there is little clue as to who did it or where it came from, but this time we have an excellent opportunity to catch the sleaze bag who did this. The material contains items from a swimming pool that seems to be renovated. There are pool chemicals and old filters plus some very very distinctive tiles

Surely somebody knows of someone locally who is either a) working renovating a pool or b) having their pool renovated?

The local council are aware and have probably already cleared away the mess, but if you have any information that may help why not report it to the Council at 01993 861020 or the local police on 0845 850 5505 ? Hopefully we can stop this happening yet again!

## CALL FOR JANET WESTMAN From Roz Capps

I am trying to contact Janet Westman, who published a beautiful hand drawn map of Fairford. I am trying to find a colour copy of the map in order to reproduce it as a gift for our town criers competition. Please get in touch with me at [clerks@fairford-tc.co.uk](mailto:clerks@fairford-tc.co.uk)

Best wishes

Roz Capps (Assistant Clerk)

## Bampton Coffee House

Market Square, Bampton

**Tel: 01993 850929**

**Come in and enjoy a range of hot and cold drinks.....**

**Cappuccino - Espresso - Latte - Mocha**

**Various Flavours of Teas**

**Hot Chocolate and Milkshakes**

**Cold Drinks**

**Or stay a bit longer and try out our freshly made offerings....**

**All Day English Breakfast - Freshly Made Sandwiches**

**Baguettes and Paninis - Jacket Potatoes - Crispy Salads**

**Meaty Burgers - Homemade Soups - Omelettes**

**also**

**Afternoon Teas - Cakes and Pastries**

**Also available to take away**

**All of our sandwiches are freshly made to order using only the best ingredients and served with salad**

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## THANK YOU

From Bernadette Goves, Mrs. Pat Curtis & Family

Following our recent loss of Bob, we would like to thank everyone for all their kind words and support during this sad time.

To all the staff at Bampton Surgery, and in his last few weeks the carers that were a tremendous help not only to Bob but to the whole family.

We would like to say a special thank you to Steve Radband for your on-going support, and for the help you have given us.

We were overwhelmed by the number of cards received, and the attendance at the funeral – it's comforting to know that Bob meant so much to so many people.

The kind words and support we are still receiving are continuing to be a great help at what is a very sad time. There are too many people to thank individually, so please accept this as a personal thank you from the family.

## SEEKS VINTAGE TRACTOR ORGANISATION

From Susan Poxon

Please can you tell me if there is a club /organisation locally that involves vintage tractors?

Please can you email the Beam with any information.

## CALL FOR MOLLY ROSE


From Brencan Lynch

Haynes Publishing is about to release a paperback edition of my book; YESTERDAY WE WERE IN AMERICA, (Foreword; Len Deighton) about Alcock and Brown's first Atlantic flight in 1919.

I still have a few hardcovers here and I would like to send one to Molly Rose, an ex-Spitfire pilot from Bampton. Would you have an address for her - or could you relay my message.

**Molly please get in touch with us here at the BEAM for details.**

*Children      Weddings      Social Events      Sports      Portraits*



*James Wildman Photography*

*Parlour Studios, Buckland Road, Bampton, Oxfordshire OX18 2AA*  
*Telephone: 01993 850 705    Mobile: 0781 802 3211    www.jameswildman.co.uk*

## The Romany Inn

**Bridge Street, Bampton**  
**Tel: 01993 850237 / 01993 852546**  
[www.theromanyinnbampton.co.uk](http://www.theromanyinnbampton.co.uk)  
 Email: [enquiries@theromanyinnbampton.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@theromanyinnbampton.co.uk)

Mike and Glynis Drysdale would like to invite you to a friendly local pub with a homely atmosphere, offering:

- Traditional Home Cooked Pub Grub served  
Tuesdays - Saturdays, 12 - 2pm and 6 - 9pm
- Sunday lunch served 12 - 3pm - booking is advisable!

Please ask about our special offers

Good quality Beers & Lagers and Real Ales all reasonably priced.

Homely Bed & Breakfast Accommodation all en-suite,  
with TV, tea/coffee facilities & free internet access.

The Romany is centrally located in Bampton, is only 5 minutes from RAF Brize Norton, 10 minutes from Witney, and 40 minutes from Oxford and Swindon.

Totally enclosed Beer Garden with children's play area.  
Big Screen TV with full SKY, ESPN, etc package.

***Great Live Music Venue***

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**IT'S GOING TO BE FUN!  
WILL YOU JOIN IN?**

### NEW SCOUTS NETWORK!

**Join now**

From Fiona Richmond

There's a new Beaver colony coming to Bampton!

If you are looking for:

Fun

Adventure

Challenge

And you are between 6 and 8 or an adult who'd like to help, contact Fiona Richmond

[bampton.beavers@gmail.com](mailto:bampton.beavers@gmail.com)

or call 01993 850439

[www.witnescouts.org](http://www.witnescouts.org)

### THEMED COACH RIDES—YOUR THOUGHTS?

From Kevin Miller

Glenton holidays are planning Downton Abbey themed coach holidays which will involve bringing groups to Bampton. The Beam would like to know your thoughts on this; please email or write to us!



Take a fresh look  
[www.crispimages.co.uk](http://www.crispimages.co.uk)  
 weddings  
 portraits  
 restorations  
**Crisp Images**  
 01367 810452

### HELP REQUIRED!!!

### VITAL TO OUR COMMUNITY

From Mavis Newing

A day centre for the elderly held every Wednesday has been providing a meal and company for the last twenty-six years. We are now in difficulties, needing to replace long serving co-ordinators who have retired.

It would be sad if the future of the Bush Centre was endangered through lack of helpers.

Could you spare time on a Wednesday to keep this very necessary and well loved club continuing to help our elderly residents.

If so please contact:

Mavis Newing (01993 850809) or

Mike Wareham (01993 851 963).



*Vicky &*  
*icky*  
 CHILD CARE  
 Ofsted Approved Child Care Diplomas  
 Paediatric First Aid EYFS Curriculum  
 a home from home  
 environment  
**Vicky Hickman 01993 851 883**  
**Nicky Hall 01993 851 300**



## AUNTY BEAM—THE RETURN

Aunty Beam has been missing from the Beam for quite a few years now but we managed to drag her out of retirement to answer your questions. Please don't be shy; pop Aunty Beam a message in regards to any problems you may have and we mean any problems and she will get them answered for you.



I think my husband is cheating on me—how can I prove it? Letter in from 'Jenny'

*Well there are many investigative services available to you for finding out this information but before jumping the gun perhaps you could just sit him down with a cup of tea and a biscuit and ask him out straight 'Are you cheating on me with another person?' If he says 'yes' you know and if he says 'No' perhaps hire the private eyes. Love Aunty Beam.*

Hello I'm a 11 year old boy, I am a sucker for redheads and a redheaded girl has joined our class..How can I win her heart? Email from Declan

*It is all about confidence Declan! Just start talking to her and ask her lots of questions about herself—she will admire your confidence. Tell her you like her necklace or hairband (if she is wearing one) and try to make her laugh. But do not be surprised if she is too shy. She is young too, after all. When I was that age, I found it very hard to talk to the boy I liked. Try and find something you have in common—a favourite TV programme or film, perhaps—and start talking about that. Good luck! AB.*

I met this guy online a few months ago. We talk almost everyday about random stuff, sometimes I feel like he is flirting with me. I dunno if he is or he is just trying to be funny LOL. Problem is, I've got a crush on him. We also happen to live in different continents, so I will probably never meet him. Plus he has got 5 girls in real life who have a crush on him, so why would he give a thought to me? It hurts knowing he may find someone else but I don't want to stop talking to him. Shall I walk away or keep talking to him? Cool down and forget him?

Email from Anonymous

*Well this is a dilemma. I suggest if you want to talk to him do as there is no harm in being friends but if it becomes too much then perhaps tell him the truth and decide what you want to do. I would also suggest a video conversation to make sure it is him as the risks are all too well known about Internet fraudsters. Be careful and take care!*

Love Aunty Beam

*Thank you for writing in to me and sharing your problems. I look forward to receiving more dilemmas and questions for the next edition and hope all my advice can help others out there. Its good to be back!*

**Best wishes for Spring! AB x**

## The Morris Clown

**A True Free House**

*A better quality insult from your hosts*

**Tom and Steve**

High Street, Bampton,

**CAMRA Member Since 1997**

(Campaign for Real Ales)

**01993 850217**

**Over 100 Guest Beers  
a Year**

**Proud not to do  
Food!**

**Darts**

**Aunt Sally**

**Bar Billiards**

**Licensed Integral Function Room**

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

## IN THE GARDEN

### What to do in the garden from April to August:

Well it was a strange winter which I know for a fact made gardening a bit haphazard. With lots of rain, followed by ice and frost, the ground was too waterlogged and then too frozen to do much early on. Still the veg plots are now clear and everything is ready for the upcoming growing season. Here are a few tips on what we should be aiming to do each month this summer (British weather permitting of course).

#### April

Give tulip bulbs a good water when the buds start to appear to encourage larger blooms and taller stems  
 Start watering your patio pots little and often as they can easily dry out if we have a dry spring  
 Shape your hedges and give them a good mulch  
 Plant your sweet pea seedlings out  
 Plant up your hanging baskets  
 This is the last chance to plant summer flowering bulbs  
 Now is a good time to plant your zinnias, cosmos and snapdragons for cut flowers later on

Sow out Beetroot, Broad beans, Brussels, Summer cabbage, carrots, lettuce, radish and spinach  
 Sow your courgettes under cover  
 Start to harvest Rhubarb if you forced it earlier in the year  
 Earth up new potatoes  
 Thin out tomato seedlings

#### May

Clear away your spring bedding plants ready for your summer display  
 Take cuttings of your favourite Clematis  
 Thin out your gooseberries for a longer cropping period and larger fruits  
 Harden off your greenhouse grown tender bedding plants  
 Sow out Broccoli, courgette, carrots, French bean, lettuce, spinach swede and sweetcorn

#### June

Sow biennials such as sweet Williams and wallflowers so they will flower next summer  
 Harvest new potatoes, start to harvest peas, lettuce and keep everything watered



### One Property Network

## House and Garden Maintenance

**Painting, decorating and general repairs  
 Gardening, patio, paving and much more**

- Do you have any rooms that need a facelift?
- Are there areas in your home or garden you would like to neaten up?
- Would you like a wooden laminate floor laying?
- Do you need your windows cleaning?
- Would you like someone to regularly maintain your garden?
- Is your garden patio, paving and stonework looking dirty and gets slippery in the wet?
- Do you want your garden furniture cleaned and preserved ready for the next time you use it?

**Professional, friendly service with integrity.**

**3 Oathurst Estate, Bampton, Oxfordshire, OX18 2JS**

**Call Graham Ellis on 01993 850183 or 07770 784490**

**[grahamellis@onepropertynetwork.com](mailto:grahamellis@onepropertynetwork.com)**

## IN THE GARDEN

### July

Prune your wisteria to restrain growth and encourage flowering  
Shade greenhouse plants to stop them getting scorched. Open the vents or put up shade nets  
Keep pots watered

Watch your clematis for wilt. Remove infected material immediately and dispose of  
Deadhead, water and feed bedding plants to keep them vibrant

Cut grass weekly

Water hanging baskets daily and feed weekly

Take cuttings of herbs when actively growing

Harvest your peas, courgettes and lettuce

Get your specimens ready for the Bampton Gardening show in August!



## Little Westbrook Bampton

LUXURY  
SELF-CATERING  
COTTAGE FOR TWO

[www.littlewestbrook.co.uk](http://www.littlewestbrook.co.uk) +44 (0) 1993 850918

## Bampton Gardening Club 2012 Dates

**Coffee Mornings** – Coffee mornings in 2012 will be held on 24<sup>th</sup> March, 21<sup>st</sup> April, 19<sup>th</sup> May, 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 20<sup>th</sup> October, 17<sup>th</sup> November and 15<sup>th</sup> December. They are held on Saturday mornings in the Village Hall, Bampton, at 10 am. We normally have plants (flowers and vegetables) and produce (cakes, pies, chutneys and fresh vegetables) for sale, as well as various useful gadgets for the garden and, of course, our odds and ends stall – something for all. If you would like to have a table at the coffee morning to sell your own produce, etc., these are available for a small fee – please contact a member of the committee for details. We also will try to answer any gardening problems (if the committee cannot answer the questions, there's usually someone who can).

### Membership

If you haven't paid your membership fees for 2012 yet, then these can be paid at the Coffee Mornings or sent to Gill Gummer, 18 Mercury Court, Bampton, Oxon OX18 2AJ, Tel: 851913. Membership fees are: OAPs £3, others £5. These fees still represent excellent value! Membership is available not only to gardeners but to those who join us for the social trips and the holidays we provide.

**Trips and Holidays** – Unfortunately, Ellen has had to cancel quite a few trips recently. Please do support us – as we have often said – 'Use it or lose it'

For more information pop along to the next coffee morning on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March and have a chat with Ellen or Tel: 01993 843985.

Keep Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> August free as its Show Day. More information regarding the show in July's issue of the Bampton Beam.

## THE BAMPTON CLINIC

Moonraker Lane, Bampton

Tel: 01993 851359

PHILIPPA RAYNE  
*Osteopath*

KATIE MEDIC  
*Massage Therapist*

STEPHEN HAYNES  
*Osteopath*

FIONA SHIRES  
*Reflexology*

LAURA WATTS  
*Osteopath*

LAURENCE LEMOINE  
*Acupuncturist*

SALLYANNE BLISS  
*PUREbliss Organic Beauty Treatments*

*Email: [clinic@bamptonclinic.co.uk](mailto:clinic@bamptonclinic.co.uk)*

## The Society for the Protection of Bampton

The Society was founded in 1993 by Lord Donoughmore. At that time Bampton was the fastest growing village in West Oxfordshire and there was a concern that if Bampton was to continue to grow at that rate many of the aspects we all associate with and love about Bampton would be lost.

Accordingly the Society has fought against planning applications involving large scale developments, including twice successfully against the development of the remaining open land to the north of New Road. That proposal will undoubtedly come back as at the recent public meeting in Witney attended by all the District Councillors to discuss the District Strategy Plan on which planning decisions will be based over the next 10+ years three people attended to talk about Bampton and two of them were the owner of those fields and his agent. The third was me.

Because of the action taken by the Society in respect of these planning matters it has been characterised as anti-development. This is too simplistic.

The principal object of the Society in its Constitution is "to maintain or improve the quality of life of those living in Bampton".

The Society is anti development that it believes is of a type or scale that is unlikely to improve the quality of life here.

The subscription is £2 per adult to cover 3 years or £1 for pensioners.

The Society has always done more than just be concerned with planning



*Computer Clinic*  
*Maximum support @ Minimum Cost*

*Graham Newman*  
*I.T. Engineer*

*Leofric House*  
*81 New Road.*  
*BAMPTON OX18 2NP*  
*01993 850755*  
*Mobile 07974 912544*  
*graham@computerclinic.wanadoo.co.uk*

**Maximum Support @ Minimum Cost for Home and Small Business**  
Computers-Operating Systems-Broadband-Networks-Installation

## - ROOM 4 HEALING -

**Homeopathy - Reiki - Reflexology**

**Elizabeth Chanter**  
RsHom DsHom MAR  
- 01993 866597 -

[www.room4healing.co.uk](http://www.room4healing.co.uk)

[info@room4healing.co.uk](mailto:info@room4healing.co.uk)

## PARALLEL LINES

*Barbers & Ladies Salon*

Bridge Street, Bampton

*Gents Haircut: £11.00 (Walk in Service)*

### Opening Times

**Monday: 10.00 - 5.30pm**

**Tuesday: 10.00 - 7.00pm**

**Wednesday: 10.00 - 5.30pm**

**Thursday: 9.00 - 7.00pm**

**Friday: 10.00 - 5.30pm**

**Saturday: 9.00 - 2.00pm**

**Introducing Amber to our Team**

**Ladies Dry Cuts £10 on first visit**  
(normal price £15)

**To avoid disappointment call us today for an appointment! Tel: 01993 852001**

**Early Bird & Late Night Appointments Available**

For more info

[www.parallel-lines.net](http://www.parallel-lines.net)

Last year the Society gave grants to SPAJERS, the Bampton Classical Opera and the Community Trust. It supported AGGROW to fight the proposal to extract gravel on both sides down the Buckland Road to the Thames and either side of the road to Clanfield.

It has also sponsored a questionnaire on house insurance to those flooded in 2007, who will shortly face the end of the Government initiative requiring existing insurers to continue to insure flooded properties up to 2013.

The biggest donation made by the Society was to buy for the Village Sandford's Field ( site of the Annual Donkey Derby ) to be used by the village in perpetuity as an open recreational space.

If you feel these matters are important and want to join the 500 or so Bamptonians who are already members of the Society then please send or drop details of your name and address including email with your subscription to me:

Trevor Milne-Day, Deanery Farmhouse, Broad Street, Bampton, OX18 2LY  
 Email : [trevormilneday@gmail.com](mailto:trevormilneday@gmail.com)

Or better still come to our AGM in the Village Hall on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm.  
 All are most welcome.

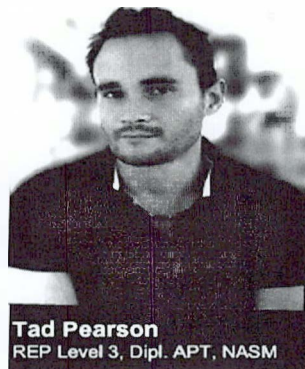
premier  
TRAINING INTERNATIONAL

XXX  
 REPs

NASM



Total Athletic Development



Tad Pearson  
 REP Level 3, Dipl. APT, NASM

[Tadtraining.co.uk](http://Tadtraining.co.uk)

**Advanced  
 Personal  
 Trainer**

Call 01993  
 201189  
 or  
 075787  
 16780

**Call for your FREE consultation**

Need help with...

**losing weight**

**Motivation**

**Back Pain**

Learn...

- why skipping meals makes you fat
- when gym machines can be bad
- how to keep the weight off

**THE STANDLAKE  
 GARAGE**

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

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

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

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

***Alexander Technique Lessons***

*"You translate everything, whether physical or mental or spiritual into muscular tension" FM Alexander 1869 - 1955*

**For further information please contact David Passey  
[dpassey10@gmail.com](mailto:dpassey10@gmail.com) or Tel: 01993 85 22 24**

**And for general information about the Alexander Technique  
[www.stat.org.uk](http://www.stat.org.uk)**

**Lessons are held at  
 Bampton Physiotherapy and Associates, Bushey Row,  
 Bampton, OX18 2JU**



## Liz Bamber and Bampton Tennis Club

Liz Bamber has been coaching tennis for over 26 years and has taken pupils up to National level. She now coaches as well as referees and is captain of the Oxfordshire Under 12 girls' team and coaches the girls Under 14 team. As well as keeping busy with her school coaching at St. Hugh's, she also coaches at Bampton Tennis Club.

Liz started a coaching programme at Bampton Tennis Club last summer and there are sessions for all ages and abilities, which are proving more and more popular. There are regular weekly squads as well as camps held over several days during the holidays.

Liz still competes regularly both at home and abroad and was successful in winning Grade 3 tournaments in St. Malo and Marbella last year and was runner up in Cognac. She attained number 26 in the world for her age and hopes to do well in the Grade 2 tournament in Normandy this April, which will put her ranking still higher. Good luck Liz!



Bampton Tennis Club is an affiliated LTA registered club. Club nights are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6.30pm onwards, all standards are welcome. Friendly matches are arranged throughout the season against other local tennis clubs. Social events are also planned throughout the summer including a 'roaming tournament' played on private courts around Bampton. Coaching is available to members covering both adults and juniors.

Membership fees: Family membership (2 adults and 2 children up to 18 years or over if in full-time education) £70.00 Additional children: £5.00 per child Adult membership (over 18) £30.00 Full-time student (over 18) £20.00 Junior membership (under 18) £10.00

To become a member of Bampton Tennis Club please email: [deborahlandray@btinternet.com](mailto:deborahlandray@btinternet.com)

Photo Credit: Liz Bamber was awarded the trophy of the Oxfordshire Lawn Tennis Association AGM in December. She was selected above all Senior players in Oxfordshire, both men and women over the age of 18!



### The Coach House Bampton

Clanfield Road, Weald  
Bampton Oxfordshire  
OX18 2HG

**Four Star \*\*\*\* Silver Award**



**“The best B&B I have found so far”**  
Ellen I. Somerset. Trip Advisor.com



Egyptian cotton: En-Suite Bathrooms:  
Courtyard and Gardens: Flat Screen TV:  
Sherry Decanter: Brilliant Breakfast:  
Great Hospitality: Parking:




### Sabrage

Rooms from £70 per night

Tel: 01993 851041 : Mob: 07910 671892  
Email: [info@thecoachhousebampton.co.uk](mailto:info@thecoachhousebampton.co.uk)  
Website: [www.thecoachhousebampton.co.uk](http://www.thecoachhousebampton.co.uk)





# Still the same Great Service just a change of address!



**R**elocated to Station Lane for all your Ford, Rover and MG servicing, repairs and MOT.

At the new Kernahan Service state-of-the-art Ford approved workshops in Witney, we offer a premier service to vehicle owners across Witney, Carterton, Burford and surrounding areas.

## Ford Warranty

As authorised repairers for Ford Motor Company we can carry out any warranty repairs on your Ford car or van in line with the manufacturer's specifications.

We have the latest Ford IDS diagnostic kit, all the relevant service tools, and our technicians are trained to the highest standards at the Ford Academy in Daventry.



Offering over 140 years of combined experience.

Regular updates to the system and ongoing training ensures your car or van receives the best quality workmanship - you wouldn't want anything less!

**Collection Service & Courtesy Car**  
We operate a Collect & Delivery service within a 20 mile radius, or Free Courtesy Car, subject to availability, terms & conditions apply.

- **Same Experienced Technicians**
- **Ford Authorised Service Centre for warranty**
- **Repairs & MOTs**
- **Any Make or Model Servicing**
- **MG Rover Specialists**
- **Transit & Commercial Vehicle Repairs**



## MG Rover Service & Repair

Kernahans sold literally hundreds of new Rovers and MGs before the factory closed in 2005, so we are used to servicing and repairing these famous marques. Most of our technicians were factory trained and we still have all the specialist tools and service manuals to help keep your MG/Rover in top condition.



We have a good local supplier for all MG/Rover parts so can give you peace of mind when it comes to looking after your car.

We carry out a free Visual Health Check on all service, repairs and MOTs so if there is something your car needs we can advise accordingly.

Our computer-based booking system means we can remind you in a few months time if a job is not urgent on the day.

## MOT Testing (All makes)

When your car or van reaches 3 years of age it must have an MOT Test carried out, and annually thereafter.

An MOT Test includes a full vehicle check - including operation of all lights, brakes, suspension, headlamp adjustment and exhaust gas analysis. As an approved MOT Testing Station, we hold state-of-the-art equipment that enables us to carry out these tests.

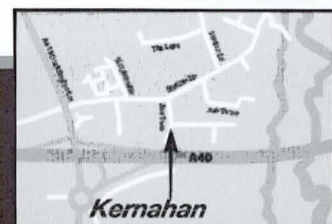


You can watch the MOT Test in progress from our viewing area, and we can carry out the test up to 28 days before the due date - this gives you plenty of time in case any repair work is needed, and we will list and estimate the costs of this work for you.

**We have strived to make our MOT the cheapest in Witney, and at £39 we don't think we will be beaten!**



With a firmly established reputation and an experienced team you can trust, we look forward to taking care of your car or van maintenance



**Kernahan**  
Trade Parts Hotline: 01993 705910

**Kernahan Service**  
Avenue Two • Station Lane • Witney  
01993 703924  
www.kernahanservice.co.uk

# 6<sup>th</sup> Burford School Beer Festival 2012

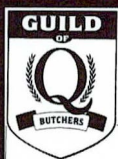
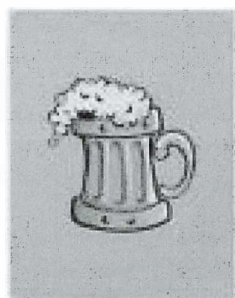
Our very popular biennial event is being held on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June, from midday until 9pm at Warwick Hall, Church Lane, Burford OX18 4RY (right next to the main entrance to Burford's historic Church.)

Free admission. A selection of real ales, bar, pig roast and BBQ available.

Fantastic live music performing throughout the duration of the Festival.

A great day out for the family! This is one of Burford School's major fundraising events and all profits go towards items that are of help for the students, either by way of equipment, other facilities not usually available, computers and anything that would not normally be funded by the State. Your support of this event makes a huge difference!!!

For more information contact  
01993 851844



**PATRICK STRAINGE**  
(Butchers)

Bridge Street, Bampton, Oxon

Tel: 01993 850350

*Quality Meat Direct From Our Family Farms*

Hire of Pig Roasts for Parties etc.

Extensive Range of Cheeses Now Stocked

[www.patrickstrainge-butchers.co.uk](http://www.patrickstrainge-butchers.co.uk)



**WHEELGATE HOUSE**  
**BED AND BREAKFAST**  
[www.wheelgatehouse.co.uk](http://www.wheelgatehouse.co.uk)

A delightful B & B in the centre of the picturesque village of Bampton on the edge of the Cotswolds. Friendly and welcoming, good food, excellent rooms and service.

Elizabeth Gooddy, Wheelgate House, Market Sq, Bampton, Oxfordshire, OX18 2JH Tel: 01993 851151 / 07747 466151  
email: [enquiries@wheelgatehouse.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@wheelgatehouse.co.uk)



**— S. J. COOPER —**  
**General Builders**

**Telephone: 01993 210103**

**Mobile: 07747 612826**

**52 Chetwynd Mead, Bampton, OX18 2BL**

**All Building Aspects Covered**

*Including*

**Design and Build**

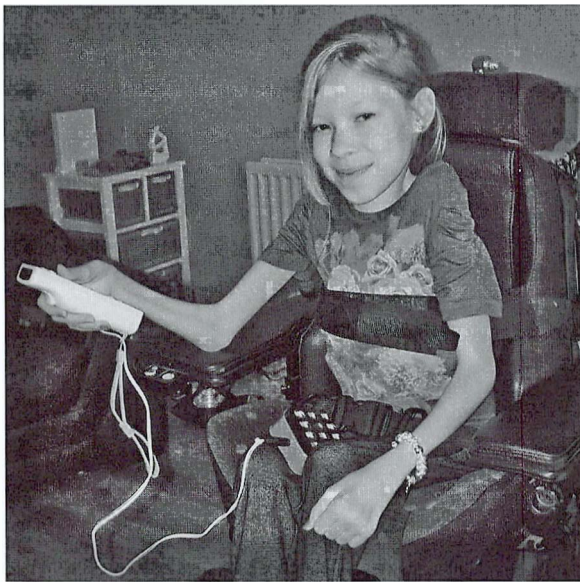
**FREE ESTIMATES**



# SpecialEffect

## Getting disabled people back in the game

Sometimes it's the small things in life that make all the difference. For Ellie, a bright young girl with spinal muscular atrophy who's eager to enjoy life, it was playing with her friends on the Nintendo Wii. She knew it was one of the few activities that she could enjoy on equal terms with her able-bodied pals, an equality that made her feel included and gave her self-confidence.



But as her disability made her progressively weaker, even the weight of the controller left her tired after just a few minutes. Her parents contacted us, and we were able to create an adapted light-weight Wii controller that she can lift easily and get herself back in the game.

Ellie is just one of the hundreds of lives that SpecialEffect has touched in its short four-year history. This dynamic Oxfordshire charity do whatever it takes to enhance the quality of life of people with disabilities by using technology, and they're making a name for themselves as *the* organisation that can help everyone play and enjoy computer games. They're changing the lives of people from all walks of life, including stroke and road traffic accident patients, individuals with life-limiting conditions and injured soldiers returning from overseas.

But they're not just doing it for the sake of fun. By giving disabled people the means to participate, they're kick-starting rehabilitation, inclusion, self-esteem and, most importantly, quality of life.

Some of the technology they're using has benefits that go way beyond gaming. Joe, a very intelligent young man whose muscular dystrophy has left him unable to speak or move his body, has had his life transformed through SpecialEffect visits and support, plus the loan of a special computer that can be controlled simply through eye movement. All he needs to do is move his eyes to be able to activate an artificial voice that can enable him to speak. Because the technology is based around a normal computer, he can also write emails, surf the web and – of course – play a huge range of computer games.



The charity's Patron is Matt Hampson, an England Under 21 rugby player who was paralysed in training. The charity helped Matt with his own technology needs and he has been an inspiring force for the charity. This includes an event called Walk4Matt that will see a team from West Oxfordshire walk with various Rugby legends the 110 miles along the Grand Union canal from Rugby to Twickenham in May in time for the Premiership Final.

SpecialEffect welcome anybody with disabilities to their Charlbury-based GamesLab, the UK's first specialist computer games room, which is packed with adapted games controllers and accessible games. If the people who need help are unable to travel, they have a small team of therapists and technologists who journey the length and breadth of the UK (and sometimes beyond) to visit people who could benefit from their support.

Amazingly, all of this help is provided without charge. It's one of the core principles that Founder and Director Mick Donegan insists upon in order that SpecialEffect's services are available to anyone who needs them.

"We've seen so many times how our support paves the way for therapy, friendship and, above all, fun," he says. "The whole idea is to put people with disabilities on a level playing field with everyone else, and we'll do whatever it takes to achieve that."

Inevitably the cost of keeping their loan library, the GamesLab and the support service stocked with equipment is high. And that's before adding in the costs of running the charity itself. Although just £50 will enable them to modify and loan a lightweight games controller for young people like Ellie, an eye-controlled computer can cost up to £20,000 when support is taken into account.

SpecialEffect need £750,000 each year to keep helping people like Ellie and Joe. They're always looking for more supporters, including individuals who might want to give a few pounds a month or businesses who would be interested in corporate involvement.

They run a busy schedule of fundraising events ranging from firewalks to marathons, and they welcome anyone interested in helping them make a truly remarkable – and fun – difference, to contact them.

## JANETTE CARDY FITNESS

FITNESS CLASSES & PERSONAL TRAINING FOR ALL LOCAL PEOPLE.

Mondays 6.30-7.30 pm SWEAT N TONE.  
£4 per class

**Bampton Village Hall**

Suitable for ALL levels as options are given.  
PERSONAL TRAINING ~ individuals or as small groups.  
Get your body beach ready!

For further information, contact Janette on 07831 255532 or  
Janette@janettecardyfitness.co.uk  
www.janettecardyfitness.co.uk

## Ferndale Preparatory School

- Boys and girls aged 3 to 11
- Nursery School on-site
- Only 15 minutes from Bampton
- Before and after-school care available



Now enrolling for the next two academic years  
[www.ferndaleschool.co.uk](http://www.ferndaleschool.co.uk)  
Phone 01367 240618

5 - 7 Bromsgrove, Faringdon, Oxfordshire. SN7 7JF  
[info@ferndaleschool.co.uk](mailto:info@ferndaleschool.co.uk)  
Interim Headmaster: Mr. Philip Hawkes

And it really does make a difference. Just ask Joe, who contacted SpecialEffect after their support: "Thanks to you," he wrote, "I am able to do anything I want to."

Find out how we get people playing again, and how you can be part of it. Visit our website now.

Nick Streeter  
 Fundraiser  
 SpecialEffect  
 The Old Bakery, Sheep Street,  
 Charlbury,  
 Oxfordshire. OX7 3RR  
 01608 810055  
[info@specialeffect.org.uk](mailto:info@specialeffect.org.uk)  
[www.specialeffect.org.uk](http://www.specialeffect.org.uk)  
 Registered Charity No. 1121004  
[www.specialeffect.org.uk](http://www.specialeffect.org.uk)



## MARTIN DREW

F S S Ch, DipPodMed, M B Ch A  
**PODIATRIST/CHIROPODIST**  
*Established 1991*

*Treatment for: Ingrown nails, Fungal Conditions, Verruca, Foot Odour, Callus Corns, Bunions, Walking Disorders. Also Orthotics & Insoles for Arch Problems.*

PHONE FOR APPOINTMENTS  
 0800 0277937 Or 01993 851130

HEALTH PROFESSIONS COUNCIL REGISTERED NO: CH 19287

Your Local Practitioner

**EDITORS COMMENT:**

As a big sports fan I am a big supporter of this charity and it is close to my heart. I was privileged enough to try the software and technology that SpecialEffect provide at an open evening even held at a shop in Witney; and it blew me away. As per usual I tend to get roped into Charity events (a marathon, race nights & Casino nights in Bampton, throwing myself out of a perfectly good plane for the Bampton WI) and this one is no exception to the rule. I will be participating in the walk and below is a list of all the charity events the SpecialEffect team will be doing over the course of the next few months; please feel free to join in. Also my JustGiving site details are below if you wish to support the charity or please feel free to send a donation to the Beam address.

If you fancy doing the Walk yourself please let write into us at the Beam and we will happily send you the details.

31st March - 80's Disco at Witney RFC, £5.00 per ticket, fancy dress optional. During the evening a raffle is likely

20th April - Quiz at Witney RFC - Team of 5 £10.00 per team

11th May - Quiz at Witney RFC - team of 5 £10.00 per team

Also an e-auction will be held for the following prizes: 30 minute Helicopter ride worth £250, a signed Jonny Wilkinson shirt and lots more goodies.

<http://www.justgiving.com/Louise-Timmins-Gray>

jt

**PROUD OF YOUR COMPANY IMAGE?**

Let us embroider or print your logo onto (almost !) anything

We have a wide range of clothing and accessories to choose from, so..

Give us a call..... You might be surprised what we can do!

If you don't want it embroidered or printed we supply plain clothing too!

Unit 12 Worcester Rd Industrial Estate,  
 Chipping Norton, OX7 5XW  
 Ph: 01608 645569; email: sales@jt embroidery.co.uk

## UPHAM HOUSE BED & BREAKFAST

Upham House, The Lanes  
 Bampton, Oxfordshire OX18 2JG

AA Four Star Rated

Recommended for the AA Britain's Best Bed & Breakfast Guide

Stylishly comfortable and welcoming accommodation in a quiet off-road Conservation Area of Bampton. Local produce whenever possible, fresh flowers, quality bed linen and towels

Internet connection, parking for 3 cars, guests' sitting room

For more information, photos and tariff visit [www.uphamhouse.co.uk](http://www.uphamhouse.co.uk) or contact Pat Smith on 01993 852703/07946 625563 or email [pat@uphamhouse.co.uk](mailto:pat@uphamhouse.co.uk)

## Bampton Community Shop

### Disbursements for 2012

This year the community shop has been very prosperous and achieved through everyone's help £12000 to give away. The awards went to 18 different clubs which are listed below:

- WEST OXFORDSHIRE ARTS - 20 Folding chairs £300**
- BAMPTON BUSH CLUB - Cost to cover coach hire £500**
- BAMPTON LIBRARY - Start up costs for the library £1000**
- BAMPTON VILLAGE HALL - To help with the cost of an audio system £500**
- BAMPTON ARCHERY CLUB - Purchase of new equipment £700**
- BAMPTON CRICKET CLUB - To help with the purchase of a scoreboard £600**
- BAMPTON TOWN F. C. -- Purchase of football strips £500**
- WINDRUSH & BAMPTON BOXING CLUB - To help with purchase of equipment £500**
- BAMPTON LADIES NETBALL - Purchase of Bibs/Netballs £120**
- BAMPTON METHODIST CHURCH -To help with the buying of audio equipment £250**
- BAMPTON COMMUNITY ARCHIVE - Purchase of new computer and printer £1000**
- BAMPTON TENNIS CLUB - Junior Coaching/Primary School £500**
- BAMPTON CLASSICAL OPERA - St.Beornwald's Concert £500**
- BAMPTON PRIMARY SCHOOL - Play area surfacing £500**
- BAMPTON SPAJERS - Trailer for equipment £1200**
- BAMPTON QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS - £1000**
- BAMPTON VILLAGE HALL - Purchase of Movie Projector £1500**
- BAMPTON RECREATION GROUND - New Cooker £1000**

We hope that you all will feel as we did while making the awards that everyone in the village should benefit somehow from this distribution, whether you are young or elderly or the ones in between.

We would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all who have supported us throughout 2011 Year, either supplying saleable goods or purchasing them.

I would also like to thank all the volunteers who give their time to work in the shop and especially Patrick without him we would not have the shop we have, (the amount he can squeeze into the shop amazes us all). Lastly my thanks go to our treasurer Annie who keeps a tight rein on the books!


**BritishRedCross**

Small change makes a big difference



Will you look after me?

A collection box like me will collect around £10 a month in your local shop.

We are actively seeking volunteers to place and manage boxes in your area. It doesn't take long to empty your tin and bank the money, but it all adds up.

**Help us to be there for people in Oxfordshire.**

Thank you

Contact Chris ♦ 01235 552680 ♦ [cwheatcroft@redcross.org.uk](mailto:cwheatcroft@redcross.org.uk)

## Oxfordshire Warm Homes Healthy People

### FREE MEMBERSHIP OF COUNTY OIL SCHEME

If you use oil to heat your home you will be acutely aware of how much it is costing for two reasons. Firstly, you buy it by the tank load and then watch your tank level gradually drop, and secondly oil is an expensive heating fuel. You buy oil then use it as opposed to the other way round for most other fuels. Many thousands of properties in Oxfordshire rely on oil as a heating fuel and many of those households struggle to afford the cost of oil.

To save local residents money the Oxfordshire Rural Community Council (ORCC) set up an oil bulk buying scheme, where oil is procured centrally at a discounted price and this discount is passed onto scheme members. With support from the Department of Health's Warm Homes Healthy People fund ORCC is able to offer free membership to their oil bulk buying scheme to 250 households who struggle to afford heating their homes with oil. If this is you or you know someone who could benefit from this scheme call ORCC on 01865 883 488.

The free membership package is part of a range of assistance available from Oxfordshire Warm Homes Healthy People. There is more help available:

- \* Unsure whether you are entitled to benefits? Use our Benefits Entitlement Check service run by CAB and AGE UK.
- \* Is your house draughty? Do you have any heating controls? Contact your local Home Improvement Agency Handyperson scheme.
- \* Are you in fuel debt or struggling to pay your energy bills? Call 0844 887 0005 and ask about the Surviving Winter Fuel Voucher scheme.
- \* Have you had to choose to heat and not eat? Call 0844 887 0005 and ask about our Food Box Scheme.
- \* Do you want to help others? CAB Oxfordshire is running energy advice training sessions.

For more information on Oxfordshire Warm Homes Healthy People or advice on staying warm and well please contact 0844 887 0005.



Bourton Road, Clanfield, Oxon, OX18 2RB

#### BAR

Why not try our informal bar.  
Comfortable seats by the fire. Local beers.  
Relax with friends and colleagues.  
Bar menu available

#### BREAKFASTS

Ideal for business breakfasts from 8.00 am

#### MORNING COFFEE

Why not come in for coffee and biscuits after dropping off the children or just to relax and have a chat

#### LUNCH

From light lunch to three course lunch  
Choosing off our bar or a la carte menu 7 days a week

#### SUNDAY LUNCH

A traditional Sunday lunch available – served from 12-3 pm

Why not pre book your friends and family Sunday Roast – Beef, Lamb or Pork and have it carved at your table in a private dining room  
Minimum 10 people

#### AFTERNOON TEA

Try our Traditional English Tea.  
Traditional served on cake stands, with crumpets, teacakes, cream cakes, by the warm open fires

#### DINNER

From light suppers to fine dining  
Private dining available

[www.theploughclanfield.co.uk](http://www.theploughclanfield.co.uk)

**01367 810 222**



# ORCC Trading Ltd

An ethical social enterprise



**Want to save money on the  
cost of your heating oil?  
*So do we!***

**Join our new community-based  
countywide oil buying syndicate**



All profits from ORCC Trading Ltd will go directly to supporting Oxfordshire Rural Community Council who work to enable rural communities to be more

## BAMPTON BABY AND TODDLER GROUP MOVE...

Bampton Baby and Toddler Group has moved to the Willow Tree Children's Centre (next to Bampton Primary School).

We would like to thank the Children's Centre for allowing us to use their premises for our group.

Bampton Baby and Toddler Club is for children aged between 0 and pre-school age, and their parents or carers. We have been running for over 10 years, and meet every Thursday during term-time between 09:15 and 11:15 at the Willow Tree Children's Centre. There are a variety of toys for children of all ages to play with during the play session, which is followed by refreshments and singing. There is also a baby corner for young babies, with bouncers and soft mats.

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

For more details please contact Louise Cloke- 852438

**SICK WASHING MACHINE  
POORLY COOKER?**



THE  
APPLIANCE DOCTOR  
IS  
"ON CALL"



TELEPHONE FOR  
FREE ESTIMATE OR  
ADVICE  
WITNEY 705947

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

# Andrew Money

## Painting & Decorating

12 Chetwynd Mead, Bampton, OX18 2BL

Tel : 01993 850900 Mobile : 07977 298983

Email : [andrew.money@sky.com](mailto:andrew.money@sky.com)

Local reliable service

All interior and exterior decorating undertaken

Call for free estimates and friendly advice

References available



## Simple, Straightforward Advice

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

Timber, Aluminium, PVCU.

### Call 01865 324920

E-mail: [info@oxforddoubleglazing.com](mailto:info@oxforddoubleglazing.com)  
[www.oxforddoubleglazing.com](http://www.oxforddoubleglazing.com)

**ATTENTION FENSA**

Showroom:

38 Old Marston Road, Marston, Oxford OX3 0JP



# Bampton Garden Plants

A wide range of gardening goods & services.

Bedding, shrubs & trees all grown on site.

Our Knowledgeable & friendly staff are always happy to help.

Opening Hours:

Mon-Fri: 9am-5pm

Sat-Sun: 10am-5pm

Tel: 01993 852233

[www.bamptongardenplants.co.uk](http://www.bamptongardenplants.co.uk)



## Are You a New or Established Property Landlord?

OXlets.com Ltd delivers a 1<sup>st</sup> Class, Lettings & Property Management Service to Landlords whilst reducing initial & ongoing fees.

We are not like the corporate, high street agents in that we are a family run, internet based business (located in Witney serving West Oxfordshire) and offer a truly personal and individual service to our clients.

We also don't have the corporate overheads, so we always deliver value for money rates.  
(We don't charge VAT either!!)

**So if you would you like to receive a 1<sup>st</sup> Class, Personal Service at Value For Money rates, we'd love to hear from you.**

To discuss your specific requirements call us on  
**01993 775472 / 07538 680033**

***"Higher Standards - Personal Service - Lower Fees"***

email: [info@oxlets.com](mailto:info@oxlets.com)

web: [www.oxlets.com](http://www.oxlets.com)

## PC Servicing



Problems sorted  
Spyware eliminated  
Upgrades & Advice  
Networking (Cat5)  
Wi-Fi

**Tel: 01993 852220**

**Mob: 07909 856148**

### Calendar of Events

#### March

- 2<sup>nd</sup> AGM, BEWG, Talk on Birds, Village Hall, 8pm  
 23<sup>rd</sup> Open Meeting, BEWG, A Gardeners Tale, Burford School  
 23<sup>rd</sup> Quiz night in aid of Walk4Matt, Witney RFC  
 24<sup>th</sup> Gardening Club coffee morning  
 31<sup>st</sup> Easter Sale, Cancer Research UK, Village Hall, 10am – 12 noon  
 31<sup>st</sup> 80's disco in aid of Walk4Matt, Witney RFC

#### April

- 11<sup>th</sup> Bampton Community Archive AGM, Village Hall, 7.30pm  
 13<sup>th</sup> SPAJERS quiz night  
 20<sup>th</sup> Quiz night in aid of Walk4Matt, Witney RFC  
 21<sup>st</sup> Gardening Club coffee morning  
 23<sup>rd</sup> Village Hall AGM, 8pm  
 26<sup>th</sup> Open Meeting, BEWG, Talk on Farming, Village Hall, 8pm  
 28<sup>th</sup> Grand Jubilee Fair in Aid of Bampton Zimbabwe project

#### May

- 11<sup>th</sup> Quiz in aid of Walk4Matt, Witney RFC  
 18<sup>th</sup> Quiz Night, Cancer Research UK, Village Hall, 7.30pm  
 19<sup>th</sup> Gardening Club coffee morning  
 19<sup>th</sup> Bampton Pre-School Open Day, 10-2pm

#### June

- 2<sup>nd</sup> The Great Original Shirt Race, SPAJERS, Market Square, 6.30pm  
 4<sup>th</sup> Annual plant sale, 10am, Eagle House  
 4<sup>th</sup> Morris Dancing Day, Village, Early 'til Late  
 4<sup>th</sup> May Garlands, Market Square, 11am  
 4<sup>th</sup> Craft Fair & Refreshments, Royal British Legion, Village Hall, 9am – 5pm  
 23<sup>rd</sup> Gardening Club coffee morning

#### July

- 20-21<sup>st</sup> Bampton Classical opera, Deanery Garden

- 26<sup>th</sup> Open Meeting, BEWG, Talk on Landscapes of Oxfordshire, Village Hall, 8pm

#### August

- 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Show, Bampton Gardening Club, Village Hall, 2.30pm  
 27<sup>th</sup> Donkey Derby, SPAJERS, Sandfords, 2pm

#### September

- 7<sup>th</sup> Hog roast in aid of Bampton Zimbabwe project  
 22<sup>nd</sup> Autumn Sale, Cancer Research UK, Village Hall, 7.30pm

## THE BAMPTON BEAM

*The Bampton Beam* is published, under the auspices of Bampton Parish Council, in March, July and November each year, and is distributed free to all households and businesses in Bampton. Extra copies are available from the Post Office, Emmie's, Patrick Strange Butchers, and The Library.

#### Editor

Louise Timmins-Gray

#### Sub-Editor

Phillipa Timmins-Gray

#### Sub-Editor

Melissa Quarterman

#### Artwork

Jo Lewington

#### Treasurer

Grace Wilkins

#### Photography

Richard Wilkins

Contributions are always welcome with the preferred method being email - see below for details.

Contributions by post should be sent to:

**The Bampton Beam**  
 c/o Abbey Properties  
 Market Square  
 Bampton  
 Oxon OX18 2JJ

**Next Deadline: 30th May 2012**

While every effort is made to ensure that the information contained in this publication is accurate, neither the Bampton Parish Council, the Editorial Team, nor anyone supplying information or articles for inclusion in the magazine, can accept any responsibility for the consequences of any errors. The views expressed in *The Bampton Beam* are not necessarily those of the Editorial Team or The Parish Council. Personal views are the responsibility of the author in each case. *The Beam Team* wishes to thank *Abbey Properties* - our 'postbox' - and all of our *advertisers* for their continued support. If you wish to have *The Bampton Beam* posted to yourself, or a relative or friend, please send the name and address to which '*The Beam*' is to be sent to, plus a cheque (made payable to *The Bampton Beam*) to '*Bampton Beam Subscriptions*' at the address above:

#### Annual Subscriptions

£4.00 for UK

£10.00 for overseas

## The Bampton Beam

**Tel: 01993 851653**

**Email: [beam@bamptonoxon-parishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:beam@bamptonoxon-parishcouncil.gov.uk)**