

THE BAMPTON BEAM

March 2005

Volume 20, No. 1

Wake Up Bampton BAMPTON FIRE SERVICE NEEDS YOU!

Your local fire station in Bampton is in dire need of new recruits to boost its numbers, and with the numbers at the station being at an all time low, the town is having to be covered from neighbouring stations for periods of most days.

Retained fire fighters are professionals that

respond to emergency calls and are on call some parts of the week, working mixed hours and covering from home or work, and are alerted via a pager system.

The retained staff make up the backbone of the fire service in Oxfordshire. And the retained crews are made up from a real cross section of our community; trained and paid, they do the same time job as their full-time counterparts.

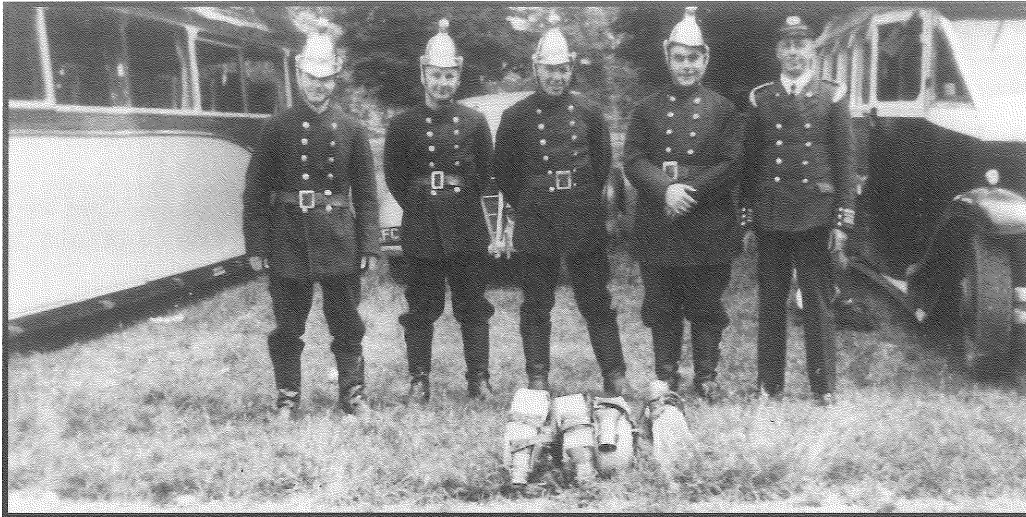
Ordinary people doing an extraordinary job.

Bampton Fire Station receives over 180 calls each year to attend a wide range of incidents, and is actively involved in local community safety issues and national agendas. Retained staff are vital to the success of this, and vital in making Bampton a safer place.

We are looking for anyone who lives or works within 2 miles of the station,

aged between 18 and 55, reasonably

before you finally decide.



*No, this is not the present Fire Service of Bampton.
This picture was taken in 1939.*

Left to Right

Percy Green

John Quick

Son Townsend

Fred Green

Mr Wilkins

fit, and in good health, to help make up the retained team at Bampton. They can be mums who want to go back to work, shift workers, self employed, or just ordinary people with time to give.

Most people are put off by the hours, or feel that they could not deal with the incidents we attend; they could be scared of heights, or feel that they are not fit enough. The truth however, is that working for our family friendly organisation, is the most rewarding job you ever likely to have. Being highly trained and able to deal with pressure is a life skill that will stand you in good stead for the rest of your life! And this combined with the training you will receive will make you an integral part of the community in Bampton and able to deal with what comes your way.

If you have any doubts then please at least apply, and let us talk it through

tween 7 and 9pm.

BAMPTON NEEDS YOU!

MOVIES ON THE MOVE

(previously called Flicks in the Sticks)

Bampton Village Hall is to be one of the venues supporting this initiative by Chipping Norton Theatre to bring feature films to villages. They will be shown on the first Wednesday of alternate months starting in May 2005

The first film which will be shown is *The Aviator* with Leonardo DiCaprio, Kate Beckinsale and Cate Blanchett. In July we have Walt Disney's *Pooh's Heffalump Movie*.

Look out for the posters and do come along. If anyone is willing to take a turn at selling tickets at the door or helping with refreshments, please contact **Susan Phillips Tel: 850321.**

Bampton Village Hall



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

BAMPTON VILLAGE HALL

The Annual General Meeting will take place in the Village Hall at 8pm on Monday 9th May 2005.

All residents of Bampton over the age of 18 are entitled to attend and to vote. The annual accounts will be presented and there will be a report of last year's activities and future plans will be discussed.

The Bampton Village Hall Management Committee is made up of representatives of the various organisations who use the Hall plus five elected members; three other members may be co-opted if needed.

Several members of the Management Committee have served for many years and new faces would be warmly welcomed! Nominations can be sent to the Secretary, Haytor, Lavender Square, Bampton OX18 2LR.

The Hall continues to be well used on a regular basis and the committee works hard to maintain it in good order. The bookings are efficiently dealt with by Martin Barrett at the Post Office and Glyn Silman is a most conscientious caretaker. The Committee would like to thank them both for their reliability and hard work.

Licensing Act 2003

As you may already know, considerable changes are being made to the licensing system and these will affect the Village Hall. The Public Entertainment Licence which it now holds will become a Premises Licence but it will cover the same type of events that are allowed in the Hall.

West Oxfordshire District Council rather than the Magistrates Court will be responsible for the sale of alcohol in the Hall. The Village Hall Management Committee will be responsible for obtaining Temporary Events Notices (TENS) for events at which alcohol is being sold and, under the current legislation, these will be limited to 12 a year. Advice is still being obtained on the best way of managing these changes and for the moment Lettings will continue in the normal way.

BAMPTON '250' CLUB

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

List of Winners

NOVEMBER	£25	066	Mr F Stanger	Queen Street
	£15	175	V East	Bowling Green Close.
	£15	038	Mr K Munro	Ampney Orchard
DECEMBER	£15	012	Mrs R Lewin	New Road
	£100	193	Mrs M Temple	Bushey Row
	£25	182	Mrs V Hopps	The Pieces
JANUARY	£15	180	Mr & Mrs Aucutt	High Street
	£15	062	Mrs L Borrett	Chandler Close
	£15	152	Mark Snow	c/o Bushey Row
	£25	199	Mr R Curtis	Buckland Road
	£15	201	Mrs S Selwood	The Lanes
	£15	233	Mr & Mrs Pierce	Buckland Road
	£15	113	Mrs V Christie	Little Coxwell

The final draw for 2004/2005 – the £250 prize – will take place at the Village Hall AGM on Monday 9th May. The 2005/2006 year starts in April and if you would like a ticket in the popular local lottery, please put your name on the list at the Post Office porch or Tel: 01993 842463.

We say Good Bye to two Special Ladies

We lost a very special lady, Mrs Anne Shergold, recently. Most people knew her as 'Annie' the other half of Francis.

Annie passed away in her sleep in Witney Hospital. She was 96 years old. She arrived in Bampton just before the second world war as Nanny to a foreign princess who came here to protect her family from what was happening in her own country.

Annie then went to work at Weald Manor, where she met Francis who was groom. They married and lived in Primrose Cottage, Weald, for many years.

Annie herself was born in Ireland, and kept in touch with home. Paul her nephew joined them in Weald after being posted to RAF Brize Norton.

Annie helped Francis with the Morris Dancing, where they travelled all over England and even abroad. Morris Dancing in Bampton was Francis and Annie, and no doubt she made a few teas in her time for the dancers. Annie was a lovely lady, who will be greatly missed in the Village. The 'Beam Team', and I'm sure the people of Bampton, send their love and thoughts to Francis at this sad time.

On Thursday 3rd March Mrs Vera Allport died in the JR Hospital.

Vera was another lady who, along with her husband Colin, was very well known in the Village, for all the work she did for the community. Vera ran the Bush Club for many years and was still a very active co-ordinator when she had her accident. Colin, our thoughts are with you at this sad time.

Easter Services

St Mary's Bampton

Easter Sunday
10.30am Family Eucharist

Methodist Chapel

Good Friday
5.45pm Easter Service
Minster Lovell - Refreshments Afterwards
Easter Sunday
11am Family Service Bampton

St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church,
Easter Sunday

Mass 9.00am - St. Mary's Bampton
For all other services, see notice board in church porch or contact Tel: 842463.

BAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

By David Hawkins, Chairman,
Bampton Parish Council

County Highways Why the Delays?

No doubt many Bampton residents feel frustrated that the 4 buildouts at the entrance to Bampton, which should have been started Mid November, are only now getting underway as I write this article. However, once completed, hopefully they will help to cut down the speed of motorists, and act as a deterrent for HGV drivers!

Primrose Lane

The Council has received many complaints about the deteriorating state of Primrose Lane. The land is unadopted which means that nobody is responsible for it's upkeep. In the past, Alan Webb chose to maintain the verges and repair potholes at his own expense so that he could get to his cottage at the end of the Lane. Unfortunately, he died in early autumn. There are no less than 43 dwellings served by the lane and it is much used by service vehicles and pedestrians. The Parish Council has asked Highways if they would kindly repair the potholes on an opportunity basis and to provide details of what state they would wish the Lane to be in before they would adopt it forever.

Broad Street – Parking on the Grass

The Council has had numerous complaints about cars parking on the grass and turning the northern area in particular into an "unsightly, muddy mess". We have placed polite notices on the windscreens of offending cars over the Christmas period asking the owners to park only on the hard standing areas but our requests to 2 owners in particular have been completely ignored. We cannot prosecute these individuals at present but hope to do so in the future if and when we can have the grass areas officially designated "ornamental verges". We are also looking at costing options for improving the number of parking slots along Broad Street.

Puddles Outside the Surgery
After years of seeking help from the

OCC Highways to put drains on the road outside the surgery to prevent pedestrians being soaked from cars splashing standing water, we were pleased to see an army of men and sophisticated machines resurfacing the road and assuring us that that was the end of the saga. They assured us that although they had not actually built any new drains, the water would drain down towards the cemetery.

Surprise, surprise, the first heavy rain shower of 2005 resulted in 3 large stretches of water with nowhere to go! Your Parish Council will keep up the pressure to get this problem fixed properly.

Windmill Corner

The Council has had a number of enquiries about the 3 dwellings at Windmill Corner on Station Road and whether planning permission has been sought. WODC has advised us that there has been no breach of planning regulations so action will be taken.

Benches in the Cemetery

The number of benches in the cemetery has grown rapidly as relatives have donated a bench close to a loved one's grave. Whilst the Council understands the reason for this, 14 benches are causing problems for the company who cuts the grass and are cluttering up the centre of the graveyard. Relatives will be asked if they would kindly move their bench to the edge of the cemetery.

Parallel Lines

The Parish Council was delighted to see a new business set up in the village. A men's hairdressing salon has been missing for several years even though our long standing hairdressers Bojangles have provided an excellent service in the meantime. Hopefully, with nearly 3000 Bampton residents, there will be enough demand to jeep both businesses very busy.

Can We Have our Pavement Back?

This is the question that we are frequently asked regarding the unsightly hoarding in front of the old florist

shop next to Londis. The refurbishment of the shop front is part of a series of planned improvements to the Londis premises and we are assured that work will start in mid February. Hopefully, yet another business venture for Bampton will be set up in the old florist shop. If you are thinking of starting a new business, discuss terms with the Londis manager.

Christmas Tree and Lights

The Council were most grateful to The Bampton Beam for providing the Christmas tree and for the very generous donation of the set of lights by Neville Woodley.

New Plant Tubs in Market Square

The Council are most grateful to Julian Johnston for co-ordinating the purchase and planting out of the new tubs in the Market Square.

We would also like to thank the many small businesses in Bampton who have supported this initiative and we would like to acknowledge their contribution to the scheme.

Andrew Bowman, Temples Bampton Ltd, Outwear of Bampton, The Cotton Club, Mr & Mrs Barrett, J.M. Harrison (Solicitors), Londis Bampton, Mark's Kitchen, The Romany Inn, Lord Donoughmore, Parallel Lines, Emmies, Philippa Rayne, Patrick Strainge Butchers, Abbey Properties, The Garden Trading Company.

Having made such an encouraging start to the project, if anyone else, whether resident or small business, is enthused to participate in 'Brightening Bampton' then please contact **Mr Julian Johnston Tel: 01993 850432.**

We are very fortunate that so many people and businesses already contribute to making 'Bampton Bloom' and thanks are also due to Jo Lewington and her team, who began the work around the Town Hall last year.

If everything works well then, perhaps in a couple of years we could even consider entering Bampton for one of the 'Village in Bloom' competitions.

District Council Report

By District Councillor Mark Booty

I will try and keep this report as non-political as possible, but as I write I am incensed by the way this government is going to introduce compulsory ID cards and even before that is going to make it legal to detain citizens of the UK indefinitely and without trial. This is legislation is open to massive abuse by any future government. The precedents for these measures are Stalainist Russia and Nazi Germany. The question is "are these measures reasonable to protect us from the possible threat of terrorism?" My answer is that if there is no evidence against the citizen which can be brought to court then to detain them is unreasonable. The road to hell is paved with good intentions.

On to District matters

Licensing

This has been in the news recently and the new act. District council is responsible for the new Licenses and some of this will be quite emotive.

The new act has 4 objectives

Prevention of Crime and Disorder
Prevention of public nuisance
Public Safety
Protection of Children from Harm
Everything must be judged with those objectives in mind. While licenses may be applied for from February, The new licenses do not come into effect until November 2005. All members of the public and other bodies are able to make a representation To WODC regarding applications, and be heard at the Licensing panels. The representations should be in relation to the objectives.
Every Public House, Restaurant, Village hall etc will need to get a new license before November.

The Local plan

This enquiry has now been completed and we will get the inspectors report in about June this year. Clearly one of the main concerns is what happens with the New Road proposal for 100 houses. Well we will find out in June. The Local plan will then be adopted by the Council in early 2006.
We are the second lowest District Council tax in the whole country and there will be a small increase this

year. Even then WODC will operate a budget shortfall. Every member and every council officer is working to make sure we are as efficient with your money as we possibly can be.

Low cost homes

We still need more and are always looking at ways of finding suitable sites and funding for these. The recent government initiative to start supporting the right to buy scheme again should be welcomed, But I ask in relation to shared ownership and trying to get people onto the property ladder why don't they remove stamp duty of houses for first time buyers, and have a scheme where first time buyers don't pay Legal fees.

Ambulance response

Ambulance response times came up recently at a meeting of the Economic and Social committee. Here the Ambulance service tried to explain how they now cover the County without any Ambulance stations I will try and explain what I learned.

The Ambulances are stationed at 15 ASAP sites (Ambulance Standby amenity points).

We were told that the target response time of 8 minutes is being met in 75% of the cases. However on my questioning the actual case is not quite as rosy because the target response time is based on only those calls which the call centre decide are urgent and that is only 40% of the calls which are received. So to Summarise for every 100 emergency calls only 40 will be designated as urgent and the response time will only be met in 75% of that figure which is 30.

So for every 100 emergency calls if the response is within 8 minutes to 30 of them then the target is reached. It gets worse because that response does not have to be an Ambulance it could be a Paramedic on a bike. If an Ambulance is required that will be 19 minutes on average. What seemed to be the message was that as long as the governments targets were met then all is well. I can assure you this was not the feeling of any of the members of that committee who will pursue this. need volunteers to help.

Refreshments

Village Hall
Monday 30th May
9.30am - 5.30pm
(Morris Dancing Day)
Tea - Coffee
Bacon Baps
(Morning)
Cakes & Biscuits
(Afternoon)
In aid of the
Royal British Legion
(Bampton Branch)
Also
The Craft Fair
Lots stalls to wander around

Bampton Secret Gardens 2005

Sunday June 12th 2005

'when the roses are at their best'

We're already starting to organise Bampton Secret Gardens for next year - would you like your garden to feature?

It doesn't have to be large (there have been some wonderful small gardens in previous years), it doesn't have to be full of unusual plants - it just has to be in the Village.

In 2005 we hope to involve 10 new never-to-be-opened-before gardens, including two organic gardens and there will be a bumper crop of fairies at Sandford Cottage!

Like most good things in Bampton, the event relies on generosity, desire to show the Village at its best, and having a healthy dose of fun while you're doing it.

If you wanted to take part you'd need to be able to open your garden on Sunday, June 12th 2005 between 2pm and 6pm.

The organisers are already planning the publicity and ticket sales and proceeds will go to the Bampton Museum. If you would like your garden to feature, please get in touch with:

Sally Tel: 850479, or Diana Tel: 952196, alternatively, email Sally at - rayandsally@yahoo.co.uk.

Bampton School News

By Richard Pitt, Parent Governor

As was mentioned in the previous edition of *The Bampton Beam*, during October half term, Mrs Evans travelled to Uganda to visit our partnership school Magwa in Jinja. While there she was made to feel very welcome and the children performed many dances for her. She was able to use the money that our children have been raising to purchase a large quantity of stationery for the Magwa School which will help them greatly with their running costs. We are looking forward to the visit of Magwa's Head Teacher, "Mr David", in March and are sure that he will be made very welcome in Bampton.

The Christmas term ended with a fantastic array of concerts and plays. The choir, recorders and some of our violin players visited the Bush Club and entertained everybody really well; along with the Brownies, the choir and recorders also performed at the Methodist Chapel's Carols by Candlelight service. Key Stage One's "It's a Party" was beautifully performed. The children were marvellous and everyone enjoyed the singing, the costumes and the jokes. The Key Stage Two children gave us a marvellous rendition of "A Christmas Carol" in St.Mary's. Collections held at these two concerts raised £389.96 for Magwa School. This will be used to attach guttering to the school buildings so that when the torrential rain

falls it won't flood the area, as currently happens. Moving in to this term, everybody has returned to school after the Christmas break refreshed and raring to go, and more of our reception children who joined in September are now attending for the whole day as they approach their fifth birthdays. January saw Mrs Newman's class of year 5 and 6 children head off for the annual trip to Oxfordshire's Outward Bound centre in Yenworthy, North Devon. Here they are able to do activities such as walking on a Ropes Course; orienteering; moor walking; climbing; coasteering; going on a night walk; and having organisations such as the Coastguards visit to explain what they get up to.

For some, this is the first time away from family and home; for others it is a chance to build on what they experienced in the previous year; for all it is a fantastic, exciting opportunity to get out and do things and to learn the importance of working together as a team. The children seem to have grown physically as well as mentally when they return from the week away. We are very lucky in these times that our school still organises these events for the children and the Governors are very grateful to the staff and others who give up their time to make it such a memorable trip.

Back at school and we would like to stress the emphasis the school places

on extra curricular activities, underlining the importance of a broad education which focuses on more than the mind. The list of after school clubs continues to grow, so much in fact that we have had to start holding some meetings at lunch time as after school is 'full up'. Recent additions include Young Beginners Football; Cookery; and Athletics. These join already established activities that deserve a full listing here to underline just how much is available: fabric and sewing; hockey; book group, currently reading *Animal Farm*; craft club; art; gardening; keyboard; violin; guitar; orchestra; football; netball; choir; French; Brownies.

Again it must be said how lucky we are that all of this is available for our children and we are very grateful to the staff and many parents who give of their time and energy to make the school such a vibrant and happy place.

BAMPTON YOUTH CLUB

By Jonathan Philips

Due to problems in the County Council Youth Service and the resignation of Dawn Woodcock as Youth Leader, the Bampton Youth Club will close for the time being. Bampton is trying to sort out the problems. We would like some volunteers from the Senior Youth Club and a few parents or young adults to volunteer to help on a Tuesday or Thursday evening in order to keep the Youth Club ticking over. If you have trained as a Youth Leader, please offer your services as we do need a trained leader for each night. Volunteers should contact **Jonathan Phillips Tel: 01993 850321 or Janet Newman Tel: 01993 850775.** Please try to help.

STOP PRESS

The County Council has relented and will allow Shelley Vaisey to recruit Youth Workers to replace the two who have left. The Youth Club will remain closed until these vacancies have been filled. We will still need volunteers to help.

Use them or lose them!

Bampton Welfare Trust

Charity No. 202735

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

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

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

Clerk to the Trustees: Mr D Pullman,

Mill Green Cottage, Bampton, Tel: 01993 850589.

Welfare Officer: Mrs J Newman,

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

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Restaurant

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Bampton Environmental Watch Group

By Ralph Norman, Chairman

Since my last report in the December Beam we have had no further open meetings, although at the time of writing we are about to have our 2005 AGM on 2 March. At this meeting we had hoped to be able see some of Hilda Kent's films of times past in Bampton. Unfortunately Hilda found that her films had deteriorated. Bampton Museum and BEWG are arranging for these to be restored but they will not be ready in time for our AGM. Luckily Ken Betteridge has been able to step in at the last minute to give a talk on the "Wildflowers of Oxfordshire". We are hoping that Hilda's restored films will be shown later in the year as part of the schedule of film-shows that are to be held in the Village Hall (see elsewhere in the Beam).

After our AGM our open meetings for the remainder of 2005 are: 28 April, a talk on canals from Mark Davies; followed on 28 July by a talk about the new Chimney nature reserve by Lisa Lane; and ending on 27 October with a talk from Martin Way, titled The Home Front. The meetings will be in the Village Hall at 8:00 pm. Everyone is welcome, members free, visitors £2. Please note that in 2005, after the AGM, our meetings will move from Wednesdays to Thursdays. On the planning front Bampton has continued to be blessed with no major new proposals, although there are still two issues which have been outstanding for some time. The main one relates to the appeal on the proposal for a major development at Littlemead (at the junction the Aston and Buckland Roads and High Street). The appeal was lodged in August of last year but we do not expect to have a decision until mid-2005. The second issue relates to hoardings around the shop adjacent to Londis, which still continue to mar the look of the Market Square.

In the last Beam I reported that RAF Bampton Castle have moved away and that "The MOD is now in the process of returning this large site to agriculture." I understand that some people took my words to mean that

the MOD was physically clearing the site. This was not my intention. The "process" to which I referred was the planning process of "change of use". Finally I can report that the Inspector formally closed the Public Inquiry into the West Oxfordshire Local Plan 2011 on 6 January 2005. He expects to complete his report in mid-June 2005. There is still uncertainty over the issue of the large site at New Road, which had originally been included as 100 dwellings (50% affordable). At the inquiry WODC recommended that this be removed from the plan but stated a preference for a smaller site of 25-30 dwellings, all affordable. This preference is dependent on possible changes in Central Government planning guidance (document PPG 3), which is still to be published and could affect the Inspector's decision on this site. In the Inspector's closing letter to WODC he says: "As discussed at the Inquiry, a revision to guidance in PPG 3 on affordable housing and good practice guidance on housing needs assessments may well be issued before the completion of my report. It is my duty to consider the objections and to make recommendations in the light of the most up-to-date policy advice at the time of submission of my report. Should I deem it necessary to request the views of objectors and the Council on the implications of the new advice before concluding my report I will notify you accordingly. However, many of the issues [have] been covered adequately at the Inquiry and I will not wish to delay my report." But the publication of the Inspector's report will not be the end. WODC will still need to consider its content and decide if they will accept all the recommendations. So it is likely to be some time after June that we get a final decision on New Road. If you would like to know more about BEWG or would like to join us please contact the Membership Secretary (Ann Norman) on 850823, or email bewg@sagaman.co.uk. You can also see our entry on the Bampton web site www.bamptonoxon.co.uk/bewg.htm

St Mary's Church Centenary Appeal for the Restoration of the Bells and Fittings

By Liz Rose
Appeal Secretary

History

By 1629 Bampton had a ring of six bells, a very early date for a ring of this number. They were probably all cast or recast by Nathaniel Boulter, an itinerant bell-founder. The 5th, 6th, and 8th (tenor) of the present ring are Boulter's original work from 1629 and are listed bells. The two smallest bells, the treble and the 2nd were added in 1906.

In 1904 the old wooden six-bell frame was removed and a new metal frame for eight bells installed. At this time it was usual for bells to be hung on wooden headstocks with plain bearings.

Current Situation

Although the bells have been rung regularly for the last 100 years, no major work has been undertaken during that time, and it is evident that the bells are becoming more difficult to ring. This fact is especially relevant when teaching new recruits. A recent bellhangers report by Whites of Appleton comments that some of the wooden headstocks are twisted, and other fittings are well worn.

Additionally some of the bells retain cast in iron work in their crowns which makes them susceptible to developing cracks. They are also pitted where the clapper strikes the bell, and the four smallest bells are quite out of tune with the four largest bells.

If action is not taken to remedy the current problems then the bells will slowly deteriorate and become progressively more difficult to ring, which will affect our ability to produce 'good' ringing and encourage new recruits.

The Project

The proposal is to fit each bell with a headstock and hang them all on ball bearing with new fittings and renovated wheels. This will require the

bells to be taken out of the tower and would be cost effective to have the front four bells tuned at this time by the Whitechapel Bell Foundry, who recast the 4th bell in 1865.

The Cost

The full cost of the project is estimated to be £40,000 with all the bell-hanging work done by Whites of Appleton. In addition the bellringers will provide labour to prepare the tower for the bellhangers and to clean and paint the bell frame.

The bellringers and other members of the parish are undertaking fund raising initiatives including making applications to various grant making organisations. However, many of these charities require us to have raised a substantial amount of the full cost locally before approaching them. It is a tremendous task to completely fund the work with a reasonable time scale.

You're Help

The costs have been broken down into individual items, details of which are printed in the Appeal Brochure, as is a Gift Aid Form. Brochures are available from church or front the Appeal Treasurer, whose details are given below.

If you are a tax payer and your gift is made by the way of Gift Aid, the bell Appeal will be able to reclaim the tax. As always we welcome anyone who would like to find out more about bell ringing.

For more information please contact the Appeal Treasurer **Liz Rose Tel 01993 850214** or write to Liz Rose, Grey Barn, Queen Street, BAMPTON, Oxon OX18 2LP

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Dear Editor,
Bampton Penny Post 1842

I wonder where Bampton Post Office was in 1842? I have an envelope post marked 'Bampton Jan 25th 1842', which would suggest there was a Post Office here although I had been under the impression that the post came from Faringdon until about 1900.

The Envelope - Bampton Penny Post is in black unboxed. Date stamp is in red. The number 2 on the envelope may mean the sender did not put a stamp on it and there was 2d to pay on delivery!

Can anyone help? Have you any early Bampton postmarked envelopes or know where the Post Office was situated in 1842? The deeds of your house may reveal whether it was a Post Office at that date.

If you have any information, please contact me Tel: 01993 850321.

Yours sincerely,
 Jonathan Phillips

Dear Editor

I should like to congratulate and thank the gallant team of OAPs who have restored the eyesore at the entrance to the Youth Centre to its original purpose.

But what about the members of the Youth Club who complain that there is nothing to do in Bampton? A few hours healthy digging or even occasional weeding would pass the time for them, and earn them gratitude of passers by who find Bampton a charming place.

Yours sincerely
 Kate Wylie.

Editor Madam

A slight error in my letter 'December Beam'. The name should have read Arthur Fox, his sister Lucy was of course well known in the old Bampton for contributing much to various causes.

Looking through some back copies of 'The Beam', I discovered it's over 10 years since that wonderful entry from the late Jimmy Daniels - his memories of his childhood in the village has always been my favourite. He concluded, I quote, "Long may the Bampton Beam flourish" Keep recalling the events my friends, we slipped out of those happy days into what we

LETTERS and E-MAILS TO THE EDITOR

thought were going to be a new and better world; on balance I wonder if things are that much better now?

From time to time RAF Brize Norton gets a mention in 'The Beam', not always complementary I guess. The name is of course known the world over, but how many are aware when the rearmament programme got under way in 1937 the site was chosen and called RAF Carterton.

I would just like to say to the ex GI on the story of Bampton; he was right with reference to the sinking of a warship in 1942 by the Queen Mary. The ship in question was the light AA Cruiser *Curacao*. I feel confident in saying there were no survivors and the wartime compliment was in the region of 450 Officers and men.

John Morton
 Phylcot, Chippenham.

Dear Editor

As an OAP of 72 years I have just started looking at the internet and found the Bampton site.

I did not know anything about my paternal Grandfather, but found he was born along with all his brothers and sisters in Bampton in 1867. His name was Frederick Hughes. Since then I have discovered quite a lot of the Hughes family came from Bampton. It seems he was about the youngest of about 10 children and by the age of 14 was already living in Barnet, Herts, with a much older sister Martha; maybe because his parents died? Frederick's father was a farm worker in Bampton where he also was born.

I would like to know if there are still descendants of the Hughes family still in Bampton who could tell me of my roots?

Frederick married Amelia Filkins on 9th January 1894 at Barnet Herts and died aged 42 in 1909. He had 5 children; Mabel, Frederick, Alexandra, and twins George and Walter. Walter Hughes was my father who died in

1990 aged 84. Amelia died in 1952 aged 87. She didn't know anything about Frederick, only to say he came from "a long way off", which in those days Barnet to Bampton without transport was!

My husband and I intend to visit Bampton when it's more spring like as it would be lovely to know more of my past. Bampton still seems to be quite a lovely place to live.

Thank you for your interesting accounts of life today there which I have managed to print off the internet for myself.

Yours sincerely

Barbara A. Dawson, nee Hughes

If you would like have more information please contact the Ed on Tel: 851653. Mrs Dawson has provided more information in the original letter which I can let anyone who is interested have.

Dear Ed

I have visited the Vesey Room at the Old Grammar School where the latest exhibition was of the Signals Camp.

It is a very good exhibition for what it's about, but I feel there are 30 years of history missing.

The Royal Signals came to Bampton at the outbreak of War in 1939 and became a very close part of the village. When they first came they took over two newly built houses in Fox Close and started the Radio Station there until Weald Camp was up and running. Bampton Signal Camp was a very important 'Top Secret' Camp during the years 1939-45 and later used in the Korean War and others.

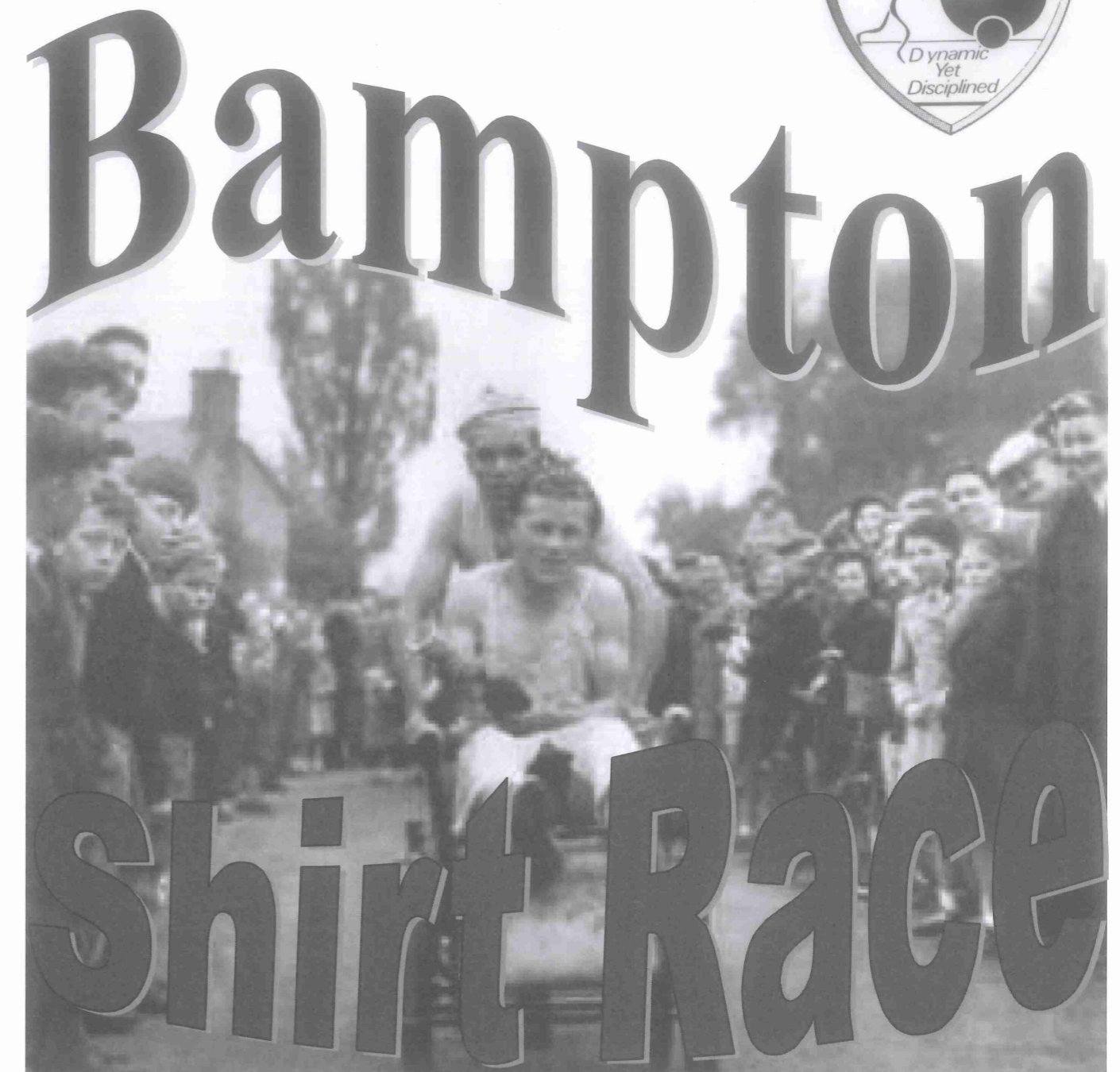
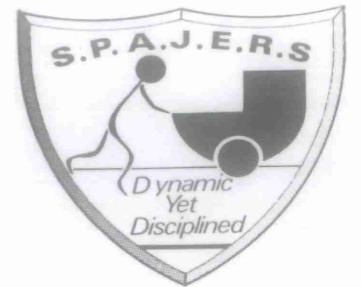
When the Signals left Bampton they presented the Bus Shelter in Broad Street with a plaque reading:

**Presented to the people of Bampton
 by the Officers, non-Commissioned
 Officers and men of the Royal Signals
 in appreciation of thirty years
 happy association
 With this Town
 1939 - 1969**

The plaque was removed by vandals and lost for many years. When it was found it was very badly weather damaged. It now can be seen hanging on the wall in the committee room of the Town Hall.

Yours, Freda Bradley, Bampton.

It's the 53rd



Saturday 28th May

7.00pm Judging of the Best Fancy Dress

7.30pm Junior Race

7.45pm Intermediate Race

8.00pm Senior Race

All times very approximate!

THE WHITE FAMILY OF BAMPTON, OXFORDSHIRE

c. 1820 – 1988

By Christian Steer

It was on reading Peter Hogarth's letter in "The Bampton Beam" of December 2001 that I thought it time to write up my notes from fifteen years research of the White Family History. In his letter Peter Hogarth suggested that the "Beam" have a webpage devoted to the old families of Bampton, an idea encouraged and supported by "The Beam". Through various marriages and families I have been able to trace my Bampton ancestry back to the sixteenth century, one of those families being the White branch. They moved to Bampton circa 1820 and married into the local families, descendants of whom still reside in the parish today. During my research I have discovered much information on them, in the form of memories, postcards and photographs together with the information contained in the parish registers, census returns and birth, marriage and death certificates. The following history has been the result of a lot of time, effort and help from all the family. I owe a great debt of thanks to all of them but in particular I would like to express my deep gratitude to my late grandmother, Joan Steer, who inspired and encouraged me with my interest in genealogy when I began this in 1986. I would also like to thank my aunt, Ethel Welsh, who has throughout provided me with many fascinating and interesting recollections of her childhood, family and life in Bampton in the early part of the twentieth century. *I hope that the following will be of interest to many readers. I would be very grateful for any comments, corrections or suggestions for a future version of the following. My email address is: c.steer@rhul.ac.uk.* The parish registers for Bampton, Oxfordshire, reveal many references to the White families who lived there. Some of these families were related to one another, some were not. One of these families were the branch that migrated from Stockenchurch and settled in Bampton in the early nineteenth century. On the 25 October 1817 William and Amelia White together with their

three children, Robert, James and Catherine were removed from Stockenchurch, where they had been living, to the parish of Bampton where it was deemed the responsibility for their upkeep should be. William White was christened on 17 January 1790 at Stockenchurch son of James and Ann White. His marriage to Amy Randall is recorded in the Stockenchurch parish registers on Christmas Day 1811 and was followed by the christenings of their first three children, Robert (1813), James (1814) and Catherine (1815). For William and his family to be removed from Stockenchurch, where they had been christened and one presumes resident for some time, suggests that they had been absent for the legal year and one day and thus not the responsibility of the parish. For them to have been re-located to Bampton on the other side of the county suggests that William had found work there during this period and it was upon this parish that the financial burden of support now rested. The period 1817 – 22 seems to have been one of some hardship for William and Amy in that curiously there were no children christened in the parish records of Bampton. Several years ago – and over a long summer vacation from University – I searched every single parish christening register in Oxfordshire for this period in the hope of locating further children, yet there were none. The likelihood of hardship is further suggested by the early death of their son John christened at Bampton on 3 June 1822 and buried in the church yard less than two months later on 2 August. Further children followed: another son, also John was christened in 1824, Henry in 1824, Ann in 1827, Catherine in 1828, Elizabeth in 1830 (buried in the churchyard in 1834), Charlotte Margaret in 1831, Susan in 1833 and William in 1836. Sadly the years of bearing twelve children took their toll on Amy and she was buried at Bampton on 3 June 1837 aged 45. The census returns for the years 1841,

1851 and 1861 reveal that William White and those of his children still at home lived at Mile Green Place (1841), West Weald (1851) and Bridge Street (1861). At the time of the 1861 census William lived in the same property as his daughter Ann and her husband William Eeles with their family. At this stage perhaps Ann was caring for her father? William White died on 13 June 1868 at Headington Hill aged 79. He was described as a farm labourer and his cause of death given as 'Decay of Nature'. His daughter Charlotte Margaret Neal, who had been present at the death, registered the death entry. William's death at Headington Hill raises the question: what was he doing there? Furthermore what was his daughter Charlotte doing with him? On her father's death certificate her residence was given as Bampton so the logical assumption is that they were visiting family or friends. This is confirmed through an entry in "Jackson's Oxford Journal" for Saturday 20th June 1868: Bampton – Died – June 13 at Headington Nr Oxford on his way from Stockenchurch, aged 79 William White of this Town Clearly William and his daughter Charlotte had been visiting family and friends in Stockenchurch, William having retained his links to his home parish during the forty years since he had left. After the death of his daughter Ann Eeles in 1863, perhaps it was Charlotte who took a greater roll in caring for her father. As the patriarch of this branch of the White family, William saw his large family marry, have children of their own, with some of them moving away and settling elsewhere. Full details on what became of some of them are still unknown and current research continues. The author would be very grateful for any information that readers may be able to supply.

1. Robert (1813 - ?). The 1881 census suggests that Robert may have moved to the Channel Islands there being a Robert of the right age living there. Unfortunately his exact birthplace was not given and this has yet to be confirmed.
2. James (1814 - ?)
3. Catherine (1815 - ?)

4. John (1822)
5. John (1824 – 1905). See below.
6. Henry (1826 - ?). He married twice, (1) in 1851 to Sabina Lait (d. 1853) and (2) in 1854 to Charlotte Beal by whom he had six children;
 7. James Randall (1855 - ?)
 8. Robert (1857 - ?)
 9. Susan (1860 - ?)
 10. George (1863 - ?)
 11. Joseph (1866 – 68)
 12. Harriet Maria (1869 - ?)

There is no record of either Henry, Charlotte or any of their family in the 1881 census and it is possible that they emigrated abroad.

1. Ann (1827 – 63). She was married in 1845 to William Eeles (1806 – 72) by whom she had eight children. She died on 10 June 1863 at Clanfield aged 35, her cause of death being 'Phthisis Pulmonalis. The death entry was registered by her sister Charlotte Margaret Neal.
2. Catherine (1828 - ?)
3. Elizabeth (1829 – 34)
4. Charlotte Margaret (1831 – 97). She married in 1850 to William, otherwise James, Neal (1823 – 98). They had no children. Her great niece Maggie Beak recalled her as "Aunt Lottie" and that she was invalid, although she was unable to relate how this came about and whether it was a childhood condition.
5. Susan (1833 – 52)
6. William (1836 - ?). He married in 1859 to Eliza Hurcomb. Nothing further is known on them or what became of them. Of William and Amy's twelve children, it was their son John (1824 – 1905) known as "Jackie White" who remained in the parish, married and continued the family presence in the parish. In the parish registers for St Mary, Bampton, he married Ann Bedwell on 22 December 1853, the marriage being witnessed by Susan Prince and William White. It is not clear whether this William White was his brother or father, perhaps more likely to have been his brother acting as best man? The 1861 census is vague on where specifically John and Ann lived but from 1871 they were referred as living at Sandfords which may possibly have been the former home of Ann's father John Bedwell. Evidence from earlier census returns suggests that this was

originally the home of the Bedwell family who had been resident at Bampton since the mid eighteenth century. Ann pre-deceased her husband and was buried in the church yard on 15 February 1892. John White survived her by a further thirteen years and was buried on 14 July 1905, described in the burial register as a "mole catcher". John and Ann White had six children all of whom seem to have been born and brought up at "Sandford Cottage".

1. John (1855 - ?). He married Sarah Witherell on 14 February 1876 at St Mary's, Bampton. Their marriage was witnessed by Walter White and Jane Spurrett. His niece, Ethel Welsh, once recalled visiting an uncle in Surrey when she was a young girl, around 1920. It has yet to be confirmed whether this was the uncle. Recent research has located John and Sarah in the 1901 census for Charlton, Worcestershire, where John was a farm labourer. At this date, they had four children living with them, Edith (aged 18 born at Radcot, Oxon), Walter (aged 13 born at Aston Magna, Worc.), Edith (aged 6 born at Sapper-ton, Glouc.) and Frank (aged 1 born at Charlton). It is clear from the various places of birth for these children that John and his family experienced much travel, presumably searching for work.
2. William (1856 – 1907). He married Mary Ann Akers on 4 May 1884, their marriage being witnessed by Margaritta Baston and Thomas Plaster. There were no children.
3. Catherine Ann (1858 - ?)
4. Walter (1861 – 1943), a gardener by occupation. He married Louisa Rawlins on 18 November 1896 at Hawkchurch, Dorset, the marriages being witnessed by Zenas Rawkins and Sarah A Williams. They had four children,
5. Frank (1897 – 1916). According to the Commonwealth War Graves



John (1824 – 1905) known as "Jackie White"
Courtesy Frank and Penny Warner

Commission, Frank White served in the 15th Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment and was killed in action on the Somme on 3 September 1916. He is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial, the Bampton War Memorials inside St Mary's and also on that located in Market Square.

6. Nora Elizabeth (1901 – 60)
7. Elsie Marianne (1902 - 91) married on 10 August 1929 to Robert Ernest Geoffrey Constable
8. William (1907 – 82) married on 4 August 1934 to Eva Rose Hayward. They had two children, Nora Joan, born in 1938 and John Patrick, born in 1943.
9. James (1863 – 1934), a gardener by occupation. He married (1) Fanny Beechey on 29 October 1892, the marriage being witnessed by Walter White and Ellen Mundy. They had eleven children:
10. John George (1893 – 1949), known as "Jack". He married Lottie Luckett in 1922 by whom he had one son, Sydney (1923 -). He married Joan Phyllis Yeates in 1949 and had two children, Yvonne, born in 1959,

and Mark, born in 1963.
 11. James (1895 - 1959), known as "Jim". He emigrated to Canada and married Gladys Clack by whom he had two children, Edward James (1925 -), known as "Jim" and Pearl Megan (1927 - 81) who married Raymond Fieldhouse in 1950. Jim junior married Jeanine Hammond in 1954 and they had two sons, David Edward (1961 -), who married Charmaine Jefferies in 1982 and had one daughter, Samantha Elizabeth (1983 -) and James Sydney (1963 -), who married (1) Paula Gilmore in 1989 and (2) Kym Stacey in 1999, by who he had Piper Sydney (2000 -).

12. Sydney Charles Bedwell (1896 - 1974), known as "Syd". He also emigrated to Canada and married Emily Martin (1895 - 1952) by whom he had three children, Arthur Charles (1919 - 42), Amy Elizabeth (1920 -), known as "Betty", who married David Ernest Rowe and Grace (1922 -).

13. Nancy Catherine Ceslia (1899 - 1972). She married William Albert Christian Betterton (1901 - 92) in 1926.

Oliver John Hopkins (1892 - 1958) in 1925.

16. Thomas (1903 - 81), known as "Tom". He married Mabel Ena Johnson (1910 - 2001) in 1934. They had three children, Derek John (1935 -) who married Ingrid Emma Sophie Elisabeth Bock in 1965 by whom he had one daughter Stephanie Mary Sigrid (1966 -), Mary Elizabeth (1938 -) and Maureen Joan (1944 - 92) who married Roy Anthony Barbey.

17. Beatrice May (1905 - 49), known as "Betty"

18. Amy (1907 - 91). She married Donald John William Giddins (1911 - 85) in 1935.

A GALLERY OF THE CHILDREN OF JAMES AND FANNY WHITE
 The following photographs is one of the many that survive



The above photograph was taken circa 1912 outside "Sandford Cottage", Bampton.
 Members of the family are, left to right:
 Winifred Grace, James with "Spot", Thomas, Nancy Catherine Ceslia with Marianne Ethel in front of her, Kathleen Mary being held by her mother Fanny, Beatrice May and Amy
 Collection of Keith Welsh

a while but eventually sold "Sandford Cottage" and the adjacent field in order to return to Bicester and care for her parents.

The only remaining "White" was James' brother, Walter White and his only surviving son, Bill. Walter died in 1943 and Bill in 1982. In 1988 I spoke to Bill's son John White who at the time still lived in Bampton but who was in the process of moving to Brighton.

However through the many daughters this family produced, their descendants continue to live in Bampton and the surrounding area. Others members of the family continue the link with the parish, visiting regularly throughout the year.

Bampton Webpage

Our thanks to Christian for giving the 'Beam' an opportunity to print this history. Christian supplied us with many more photos, which we do not have the space to print. We hope The Bampton Museum will profit from Christian's fascinating work.

We have not yet been able to develop a Webpage for such histories, but that may come in the not too distant future especially as the Bampton-Museum's next exhibition is on Bampton Families Bampton



School production of "Cinderella", circa 1920.
 Amy (1907 - 91) third from the right, standing in the middle row
 Marianne Ethel (1910 - ?) second kneeling from the left, front row
 Collection of Ann Evans

14. Rose Jane (1900 - 04). It is believed by the family that Rose died as the result of falling off a swing. According to her death certificate she died of "Convulsions, 2 years". It may have been this which caused her to fall.

15. Winifred Grace (1900 - 64), known as "Grace". She married

one daughter, Doreen (1931) who died aged 2 weeks due to premature birth.

1. Fanny Maria (1868 - ?) By the time of James White's death in 1934, all of his children had moved away from Bampton, two of his sons now being in Canada. His widow, Aunt Lizzie, remained at Bampton for



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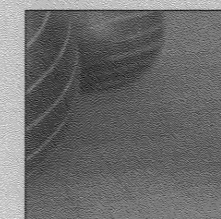
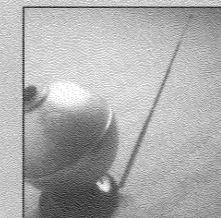
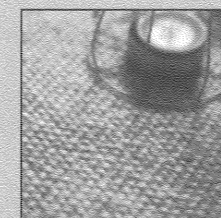
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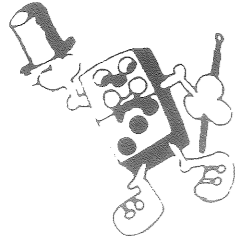
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Cancer Research Uk

Bampton Branch
The AGM. was held on January 26th
2005, and the new committee is as
follows:

Chairman:
Mrs Doris Cleaver
Treasurer:
Mr Micheal Cleaver
Secretary:
Mrs Eileen Dring

Events for 2005
Friday 20th May
Quiz Night - Teams of 4
Village Hall, Bampton
Monday 30th May
Balloon Race, Market Square
Saturday 17th September
Autumn Sale, Village Hall 10am -
12am

Wednesday 16th November
Pre-Christmas Bingo, Village Hall
Friday 2nd December
Quiz Night - Teams of 4
Village Hall, Bampton
Friday 16th December
Country and Western Dance
Social Centre, Carterton.

Anyone wishing to join us contact
The Cleavers Tel: 01993 850682.

West Oxfordshire

Conservative Association

Bampton, Clanfield and Black Bour-
ton Branch

2004 has long gone but we enjoyed a
very successful Christmas Drinks
party on Friday 10th December at Fri-
ars Court Clanfield, thanks to the gen-
erosity of John and Charles Willmer.
The 'Anything Goes' Choristers at-
tended and we were again delighted
that the Bampton Mummings could
come and entertain us.

Over 130 attended and we hope that
our next event the Summer BBQ in
Clanfield on Saturday 25th June will
be equally well supported. Full details
to be announced later.

For more information regarding
W.O.C.A. please contact Graham
Haslam Tel: 01993 851014.

Witney & District National Childbirth Trust

We will be holding our Spring Nearly
New Sale on Saturday 23rd April in
Langdale Hall, Witney from 10.30am
-12.30am. There is a 50p entry
charge.

Don't miss the chance to purchase

NOTICE BOARD

great condition baby, toddler and ma-
ternity clothes, toys and equipment
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Sellers Always wanted!

Make some cash from your nearly
new babies' clothes, toys, equipment
& maternity clothes! You tag it we
sell it 50/50 split.

Contact Lisbet Tel: 01993 778754.

Bampton Drop-In

Held at the Methodist Chapel every
Monday from 12pm, where all are
welcome.

Don't suffer those Monday blues.
When you've done your washing up
don't just put your feet up with a cup
of tea. Instead, why not come and join
us at this local facility for a very rea-
sonably priced lunch, where you will
be served by a dedicated band of
country cooks. You can enjoy a
warming bowl of home-made soup,
something on toast or a cheesy baked
spud, followed by home made cake,
cheese and biscuits, tea and coffee.

So come along and enjoy this friendly
informal gathering where you will
very soon want to make it a regular
date in your diary.

Bampton Exhibition Foundation

The Foundation exists to maintain the
Old Grammar School building (now
the Library), and to provide financial
support to young people residing in
the Ancient Parish of Bampton, As-
ton, Lew and Weald. The financial
help is for young people who would
like to participate in any academic or
sporting course or activity of educa-
tional value which would otherwise
be beyond their means. Anyone who
feels they qualify (or knows of some-
one who may do so) should contact
the Correspondence Secretary,
Marion Dowding, Bay Tree Cot-
tage, Rosemary Lane, Bampton,
OX18 2NF or Tel: 850167.

The Bush Club Needs You!

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

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

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

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

Bampton Ladies Group

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

Bampton Bridge Club

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

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

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

It is hoped that the reprint of this book
will now be published in May 2005.
Sarah Wearne and Annabel Jones are
finalising the drawings and photo-
graphs and obtaining quotes for print-
ing.

Those who have ordered copies of
this history of Bampton at a discount
price prior to publication have not
been forgotten and we thank you for
your patience. Names can still be
added to the lists at Temples and the
Library until 1st April. We hope to
make the discount price around
£12.50.

All profits will go to the Friends of St.
Mary's, Bampton.

Home Start Oxford Carterton/Witney

Calling all Parents and Grandparents
Home-start is a home visiting scheme
in which volunteers offer support,
friendship and practical; help to local
families with young children, where
there may be isolation, stress, illness
or other difficulties. We recognise
how hard being a parent can be, par-

OUT AND ABOUT

Christmas Eve with the Mummers



Oxford family desperate to move to the village of Bampton.
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OUT AND ABOUT

The Gardening Club (Traveller's Section) opened the 2005 Visit Season with a trip to Ashwood Nursery, and the Redhouse Cone Glass Museum



A wet and windy start!



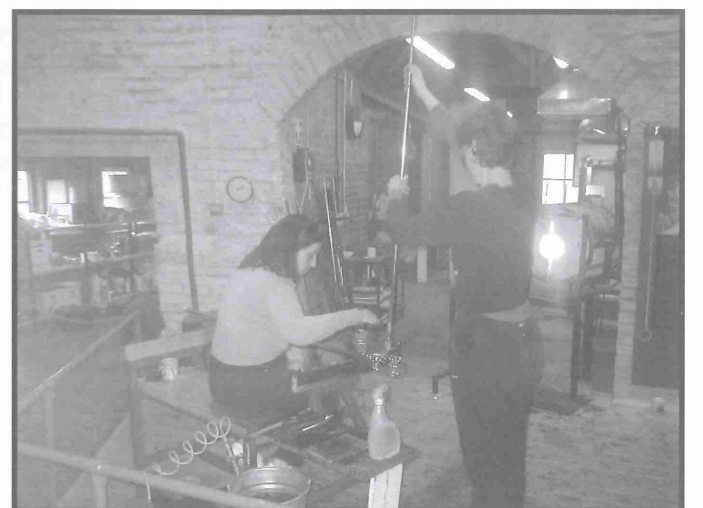
Ashwood Nursery...worth the effort



And the weather improved...a little!



The Redhouse Cone Glass Museum



All profits will go to the Friends of St. Mary's, Bampton.

**Home Start Oxford
Carterton/Witney**

Calling all Parents and Grandparents

Home-start is a home visiting scheme in which volunteers offer support, friendship and practical help to local families with young children, where there may be isolation, stress, illness or other difficulties. We recognise how hard being a parent can be, particularly during the early years. Families now often live a long way from relatives who would be able to offer the extended support network that was once so common.

A new office has recently opened here in the area and we are recruiting volunteers. No special qualifications are required, but volunteers are usually parents or grandparents themselves. Volunteers attend a short Preparation Course and receive ongoing support from the co-ordinator. We ask the volunteers to make a commitment of around 2-3 hours a week supporting a family.

We hope to start our first course very soon. Please consider whether you could help a family in this area. We know that many are already waiting for our support.

For more details please contact Sarah Tel 01993 847009.

Age Concern

Age Concern Oxfordshire is looking for new volunteers and clients for its expanding befriending service. The befriending service reaches out to frail, isolated, house-bound and lonely older people. This is covered in two ways. Firstly through our **Phone Link** service in which volunteers telephone older people on a regular basis between 2-4pm to have a chat. Secondly through **Personal Home Visits** where volunteers provide both practical and emotional support.

If you know of an older person who may benefit from this service or if you are interested in volunteering please contact Laura Rowbottom Tel: 01235 849400 or Email Laurarowbottom@ageconcernoxon.org.uk

NOTICE BOARD

Zimbabwe Project

The members mounted an 'all night vigil' on Friday 10th December in the Market Square. Eight members took turns to man the pitch; they were accompanied for most of the 24 hours by interested well wishers. Cokethorpe School and the Horseshoe Inn donated the necessary firewood to keep the brazier fired up, to maintain the heat to keep everyone nice and warm. The purpose of the vigil was to draw attention to the plight of Zimbabwe, and this seemed to be achieved on a worthwhile scale through the many conversations which took place with passers-by and through the distributions of leaflets. Radio Fox FM, BBC Radio Oxford and Central Television broadcast an interview which generated media publicity. Our Member of Parliament David Cameron, who was holding a surgery in the Town Hall, paid us a visit. He had previously signed an early day motion in Parliament calling on the Government to take more vigorous action in support of those who were being oppressed in Zimbabwe.

Other donations were given by The Methodist Church, St Mary's Church Choir, and Bampton Primary School, who we would like to thank very much. Cokethorpe School has associated itself with the project holding a 'Famine Lunch' during November. Also the audience at the St Beornwald's Day Concert were asked by Dr Jeremy Gray to contribute to what he called 'Bampton's own special charitable cause the Zimbabwe Project' We shall continue to do all we can during 2005 to direct our efforts against the results of this dreadful system of mis-government, using the most effective channels that present themselves to our attention.

For more information contact Mr. M. St John Parker, 851219.

The Bampton Directory 2003

Copies are still available from The Post Office and Abbey Properties

Bampton Footpaths Map

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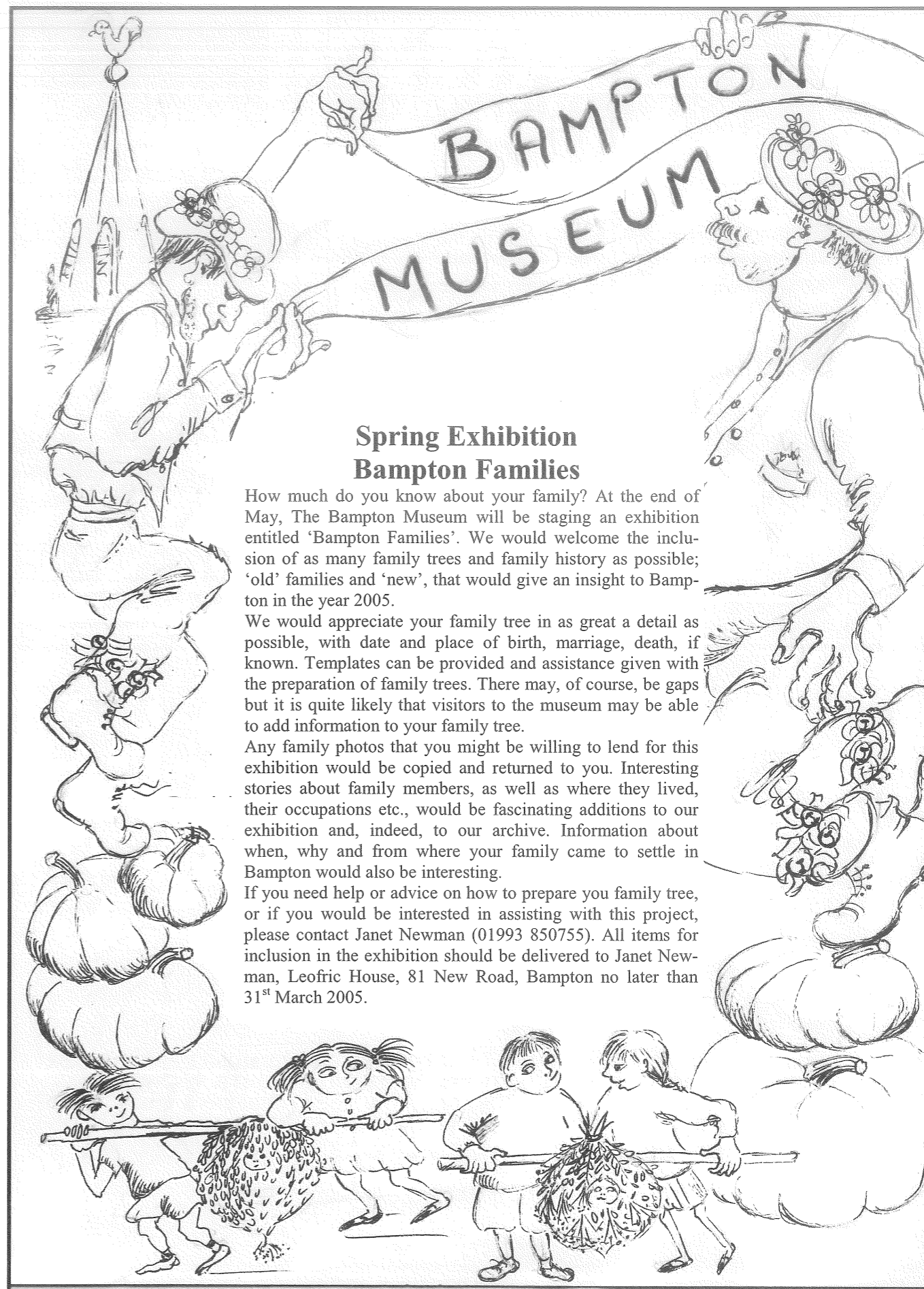
Principal; Rachel Newman - Degree Italia Contis Academy, London, 1988

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Ex Professional Dancer

Fitness professional.

Supporting - Cancer Research UK, British Heart Foundation & The NSPCC.



**Spring Exhibition
Bampton Families**

How much do you know about your family? At the end of May, The Bampton Museum will be staging an exhibition entitled 'Bampton Families'. We would welcome the inclusion of as many family trees and family history as possible; 'old' families and 'new', that would give an insight to Bampton in the year 2005.

We would appreciate your family tree in as great a detail as possible, with date and place of birth, marriage, death, if known. Templates can be provided and assistance given with the preparation of family trees. There may, of course, be gaps but it is quite likely that visitors to the museum may be able to add information to your family tree.

Any family photos that you might be willing to lend for this exhibition would be copied and returned to you. Interesting stories about family members, as well as where they lived, their occupations etc., would be fascinating additions to our exhibition and, indeed, to our archive. Information about when, why and from where your family came to settle in Bampton would also be interesting.

If you need help or advice on how to prepare you family tree, or if you would be interested in assisting with this project, please contact Janet Newman (01993 850755). All items for inclusion in the exhibition should be delivered to Janet Newman, Leofric House, 81 New Road, Bampton no later than 31st March 2005.

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

Let's Get Bampton Fit!

By Calum Taylor

Circuit Training in your own home

Its cold and its dark and you will find every excuse possible not to go to the gym. So why not try training at home. It costs nothing you don't have to travel anywhere and most of all you can do it in front of Eastenders! Circuit training is a fitness session that combines weights (Toning/Strengthening) as well as your cardio-respiratory system (heart and lungs!) It lasts about an hour and has bags of variety. So I hear you ask, how do I design a circuit? Well, Push those sofas back put the coffee table in another room and turn that T.V up loud! Because here is an example of a circuit class you could use:

5-10 minute warm up can be spotty dogs, star jumps, jogging or skipping etc

The purpose of a warm up is to get the blood flowing around your muscles, increase your heart rate and hopefully prevent injuries, by the end of it you should feel a little Warm!

5mins dynamic stretching

You have just spent 5-10 minute getting warmed up so there is no point in standing around holding stretching in a still/static position as you will get cold again and you will have defeated the object of getting warmed up!

The Exercises

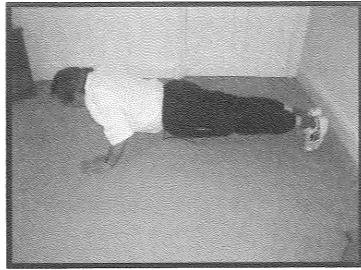
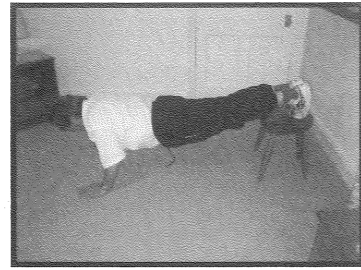
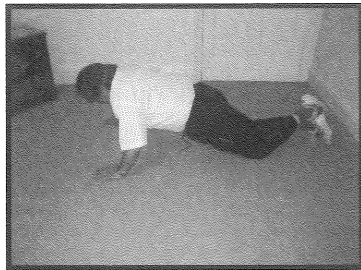
This circuit is a Total Body workout (24mins) (3 circuits at 30seconds per station + 10 seconds between stations) Rest for 3mins between circuits keep yourself well hydrated throughout.

1. Chest and Front Shoulder Muscles

Easy: ¾ press-ups make sure that the contact with the ground is on your front top leg muscles called the quadriceps.

Normal: Full Press up on your toes

Hard: legs on the chair and doing a press up

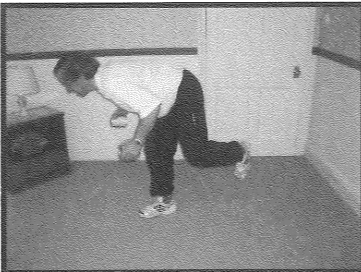
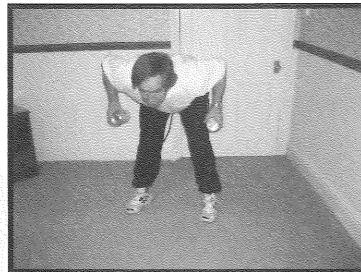
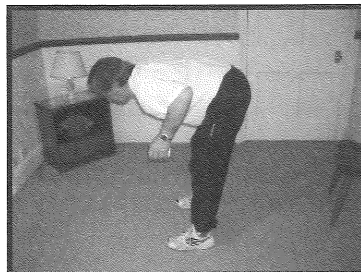


2. Back & Back shoulder Muscles (Middle and upper)(straighten arms then pull back up to picture position and repeat squeeze shoulder blades together)

Easy: Bent over Row 2 cans of baked beans

Normal: Bent over row + Dumbbells/2 x 2litre water bottles

Hard: 1 leg off the ground (challenging balance and co-ordination more) Bent over row + 2x 2 litre bottles of water or dumbbells



3. Star Jumps

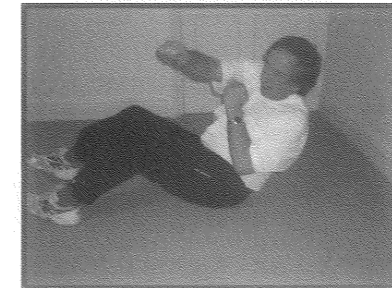
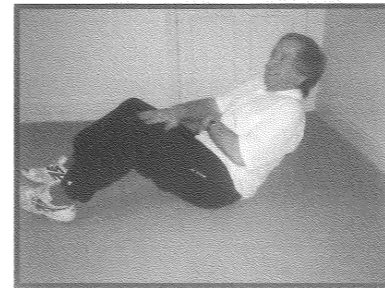


4. Abs + Side Abs (in all three exercises start in a lying position)

Easy: sit ups hands to opposite knees

Normal: Boxing abs 1-10 pyramid (every punch counts as rep up punch once down then up punch twice and so on until 10)

Hard: V-sits opposite hands to opposite legs

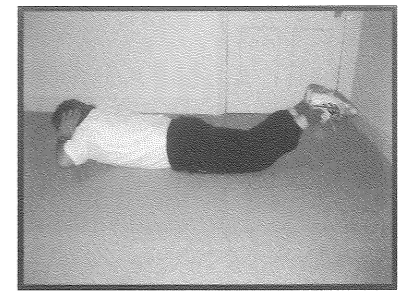
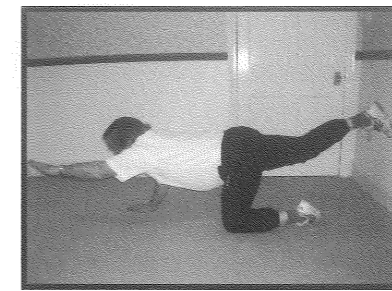
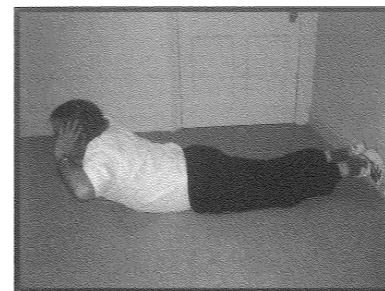


5. Lower Back (These need to be done slowly and controlled)

Easy: Dorsal Raises (start on your front in lying position and then raise your head up)

Normal: Superman opposite arms and legs (start in a box position and change arms and legs during every rep)

Hard: Dorsal raises + leg raises (same as the easy option but try to raise your legs at the back to give you a bigger workout)



6. Lunges/Step Ups (if any of you have any knee concerns then do step ups on your staircase/Chair)

Easy: Step ups (step up to the chair back down and then change legs)

Normal: Lunge straight forward and back and alternate legs

Hard: Lunge Walking (walking doing a lunge)

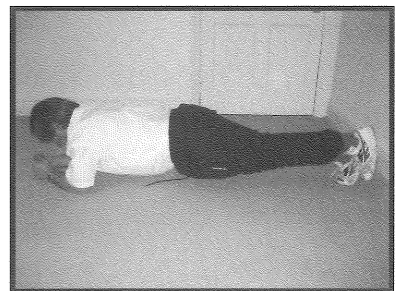
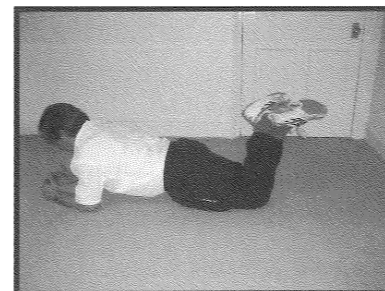


7. Front Plank (Core, T.V.A.) (hold these positions statically for the full minute)

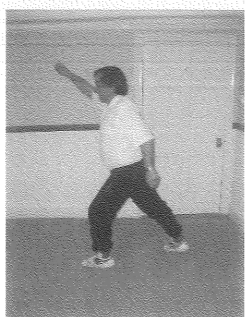
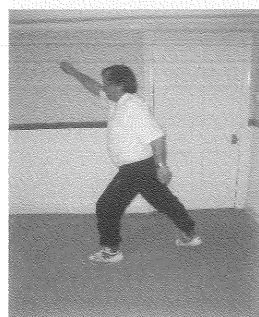
Easy: off your knees

Normal: Front plank off your toes

Hard: Front plank + 1 leg raised off the ground (change legs after 30 secs)



8. Spotty Dogs (Opposite Arms to Opposite Legs and repeat for 30 secs)



9. Back Plank (Core, T.V.A.) (hold these positions for the full minute)

Easy: 1/2 plank

Normal : 1/2 back plank 1 leg raised for 30 secs and change legs for the last 30secs

Hard: Back plank feet raised on the chair/ couch + 1 leg raised up high (change legs after 30 secs)



Stretching all muscles that you have worked. (10mins), For each stretch hold for 15 seconds + the longer the better

If you have chosen all the easy options this time around and you found that you could have worked a little harder then have a bash at the normal or hard options. Make sure that you keep pushing yourself! Try to do it with someone because its great fun on its own but even better when your doing it with someone else! The photos are of my Granddad, Don Rouse, if he can do it so can you! Good Luck!

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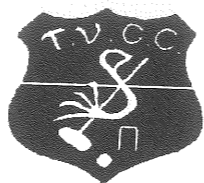
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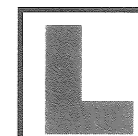
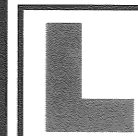
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OUT OF WORK FARMER - TURNED AGRICULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

By Don Rouse

Spring is approaching fast, what you might call a 'dodgy' time for us older men! All those new red corpuscles rushing around our veins, kidding us into thinking that we can do all those things that we used to do twenty years ago as quickly as we did then. Come the next morning we realise that our bodies ain't what they used to be, and that we probably should not have been quite so vigorous and enthusiastic. So fellas, remember it's 'gently does it' or your back will never be the same again.

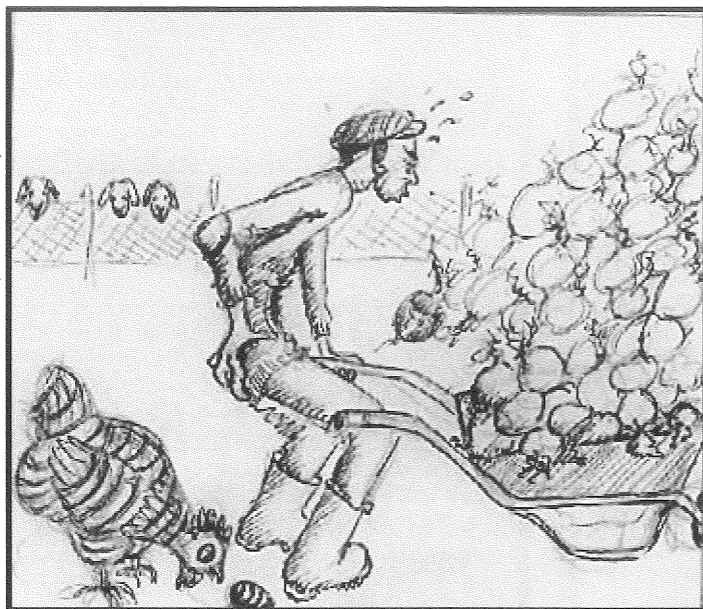
If it is your gardening that is concerning you, remember what an old Bamptonian once told me "seeds are like women, they respond better in a warm bed"! So what is the rush? Trouble is you daren't say things like that these days or you will be accused of being sexist.

When our Ed reminds me that it is time for another Beam article, I go and have a chat to some of my local farming contacts just to keep up with what is happening. I am beginning to dread visiting them, as every time it appears that their plight is getting worse. Readers of my 'ramblings' are aware of my fear that the government is trying to do away with farmers and replace them with Countryside Stewards. As Mr. Blair and his department

known as 'The Department for the Environment, Farming and Rural affairs' - otherwise known as DEFRA - control all the purse strings, it is in a very strong position to dictate to farmers what they can or can't do; or using the old adage that "he who pays the piper calls the tune"! They now dictate what farmers can grow, how much, and where they can plant it. Real 'big brother' stuff. What ever happened to the free market forces whereby if you could not sell it you did not grow it??

To this end DEFRA have brought out TEN, yes TEN, books as part of their diktat. To an old farm hand like me, it

is enough to make me weep; to those in the churchyard they must be turning in their graves. I expect that soon the authorities will be telling farmers what they can and cannot wear! I also wonder if farmers will soon be classed as Civil Servants with all the trimmings that go with such a title - like job security, redundancy pay and a five day week? If so, what do you think their title should be? If you remember some time back, rat catchers became 'Pest Control Officers' when the Council took control of them! Suggestions on a Post Card to the Editor please.



One Farmer that I spoke to said that DEFRA stands for 'The Department for the Elimination of Farmers and Rural Affairs!' You can quite see why! According to my thesaurus 'Eliminate' means to take a life criminally. Brilliantly put in my view! Some of the new rules that have been brought out state that if your field is showing signs of being waterlogged, you are not allowed to go into it at all. So if you are desperately trying to harvest a crop of potatoes in a wet season and the weather deteriorates, you do not fight on as farmers have done for centuries, you just give up. If you don't, the men from the Ministry

will be after you! When I think of all those bad harvests that we've had, where it was necessary to finish the harvesting by hand, or where we had to kick the swedes out from under the water to load them onto trailers, or even plant wheat in the old fashioned way by broadcasting the seed by hand with the rain water coming out of the seat of our pants, I just give up in despair at what things are coming to. I just hope that I shall live long enough to hear the government asking the farmers to feed the nation again, so that we can get everything back into perspective with farmers and growers taking a pride in what they produce.

The new rules also state when, where and how you can go muck spreading, which is the most basic of farming jobs! It is a good job that the gardeners of Bampton who have a load of manure dumped on the pavement outside their house to wheelbarrow around the back do not come under the same rules as the farmers! No wonder that ninety percent of farms coming onto the market are being bought up by non-farming people.

Since the last article on my favourite subject of bio-fuels for cars and lorries, there has been a lot of media interest in the use of re-cycled cooking oil. I remember during the fuel crisis a couple of years ago, a Welshman was doing just that, and the Customs and Excise men were on to him like a ton of bricks! What is wrong with a bit of recycling? As cooking oil is a non-fossil fuel it is completely harmless to us and the environment, what's more it will bring a new dimension to motorway driving. If you find yourself behind a lorry running on re-cycled fish and chip frying oil and you can't stand the smell then you

just chase after another one that has your favourite aroma. Me? I'll head for bacon and eggs!

I am always fascinated by the world of advertising, how they try to control our way of thinking and to make us take notice. I have even used the odd trick myself, like purposely spelling something wrong on a poster. But an advert recently shown on television, is, I am sure, born out of ignorance, rather than making us take notice. It is a frozen food company trying to impress us with its 'fresh food' policy. It involves a brown hen sitting on a conveyor belt laying an egg, when they lift up the brown hen, low and behold there is a white egg! Now all country folk know that brown hens lay brown eggs. This brings me to a question that our father could never answer when asked by us boys. If a black hen lays a white egg why doesn't a white hen lay a black egg? Scheming lot those mar-

keting people, they've even got us discussing their advert in *The Bampton Beam*!

One thing that gets my goat, is people who abuse the countryside. On the back road between Curbridge and Ducklington recently someone had dumped a three piece suite in a gateway! Why? They obviously had to use a vehicle to get it to there, yet only three more miles up the road they would have got to the Council tip! Sheer madness, especially when our local Council will remove such things for you; all it takes is a phone call.

I can't help feeling how lucky we are in Bampton with all our shop, bank and post office assistants. No matter which one you go into they are always happy, helpful and obliging. I always find it such a joy to shop and it is never a chore. I am sure many of our older Bamptonians will remember the old post office when it was in the

Market Square during the 40s and 50s. The proprietor was such a formidable lady, making us children too frightened to talk or make a noise, and if pensioners tried to get their pension on a non-pension day they were soon told that they were not only out of order but out of luck as well! It is so different now, I even go into the post office just to look at the cards!

Yes I do like the way things are now, it is just a shame about the farmers!

NICHOLAS MARTIN

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SPAJER'S NEWS

By Don Rouse

2005 is starting with a whole bundle of new ideas from our young recruits. But first I must say a big thank you to those of you who have sent us cards and letters willing us on to do more of the same in the future; we enjoy doing it as the Bampton SPAJERS is one of those organisations that go on and on! All these new recruits that we have now on the committee will themselves be pensioners one day and they are hoping that there will be some more youngsters in the pipeline to look after them when that time comes along. Whilst in the 'thanking' mood and wearing my Mummers Hat, I would like to thank all those lovely people who invited the Mummers into their homes and gave so generously enabling us to raise the record sum of £888.89. We must not forget the Mummers themselves who always give their time to maintain this wonderful Bampton tradition.

With Christmas came that terrible Tsunami tragedy; and as Bampton people had been so generous with their donations, your committee felt that it was only right for us to pass on some of your good will. So we sent, on your behalf £300.00 to the appeal fund.

And so, to our Calendar for 2005. First is the Quiz night to ascertain the Brainiest team of six people in Bampton. This will be held on Friday 15 April in the Village Hall. To be sure of a place for your team could you please give your entries with money to our secretary Roger Snow, Tel 850113. The cost is £6.00 per person which includes Supper. Last year it was over subscribed, so get in there early to reserve your teams place. Now I am passing over the SPAJERS report to Jackie and Mathew Green to tell you of our new events.

Thanks Don!! Right, straight to it. The next event will be the Bampton SPAJERS Big Spring Cleanout to be held on Sunday May 1st 2005. This will take the form of a village-wide garage sale...how does this work you may ask? How often have you thought about going to a car boot sale with all your old furniture, books, toys, tools, etc, but loading it into the car, out of the car, and back into the car at the end seems too much trouble? Well this way you don't have too! Set up a table in your garden or garage on Sunday May 1st and wait for buyers to turn up. The SPAJERS will advertise it extensively at all the big boot sales and local towns; we will provide a map of the participating houses to potential buyers, and run a competition to attract them to attend each site. All it will cost you is your time for the day and £5.00 for SPAJERS; all other profit is yours.

We visited one of these in Norfolk last year which had been going for several years, getting bigger each time. Everyone we spoke to said what great fun it was and how easy it was to raise a little extra for themselves at the same time.

For further details, guidelines and to book your place in the Big Spring Cleanout telephone Mat or Jackie on 850760.

For a bit of mid-summer fun! Come to the Ceilidh (Barn Dance) in the Langdale Hall, Witney on Friday 22nd July 2005 and dance to the wonderful Woodpecker Band, with one of Britain's top callers, Sheena Masson.

It will be fun for everyone - beginners and experienced alike. Dancing starts at 8.00pm and finishes at 11.45pm with a break to get your breath back! The bar will be open from 7.45pm. Tickets £8.00 available from us (Mat and Jackie), CTC Corn Street, Witney, and Bampton pharmacy or SPAJER committee members.

Phew... back to Don. Thank you both. Now Beam readers can see what I mean about its all happening for the SPAJERS. And, lastly, don't forget The Great Annual Shirt Race. The details are in the advert elsewhere in this edition!

WOA Gallery
Market Square
Bampton
Oxon OX18 2JH

Tel: 01993 850137
 westoxarts@yahoo.co.uk



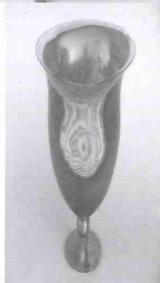
Registered Charity No. 266542

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

6 - 27 March

Wonderful Wood- from toys to tables

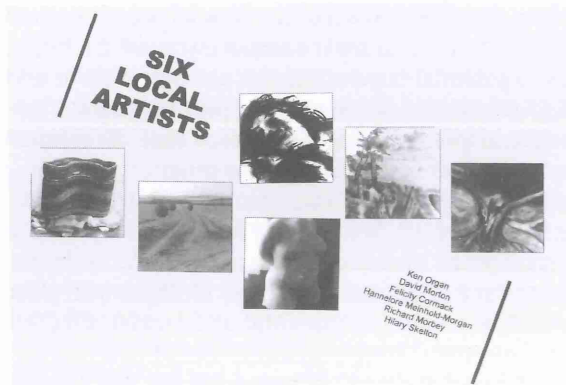
A warm exhibition with a wide range of wooden crafts by five makers. Hand-made toys by Robert Race, stylish furniture by Jay Watson, furniture, frames and mirrors by Jayne and Robert Lewin from Burford Woodcraft, hand painted boxes by Gabriella Blakey and turned bowls by Martin Edwards.



3 - 14 April

Six Local Artists

Ken Organ drawings, sculpture from Richard Morbey, paintings from Felicity Cormack, David Morton with mixed media, ceramics by Hannelore Meinhold-Morgan, and paintings by Hilary Taylor.



1 - 8 May

Anthony Baynes: a Retrospective

A selection of Anthony's painting, prints and sketches from a lifetime devoted to art. Anthony was a founder member of West Ox Arts and a talented and well-loved local artist. Some items will be for sale.



14 May - 5 June

Artweeks with Ron Freeborn

Ron Freeborn has painted all of his life and is a professional artist working mostly in oils. He is influenced by travels abroad and his considerable involvement in the performing arts. Ron is a trustee of the Blewbury Players, he has directed all 6 of the Blewbury Operas, and is Chairman of the Oxford Concerto Orchestra. His painting subjects cover a tremendous variety of experience and he has various styles: Venice, landscape, figure compositions, portraits, abstract, still-life, theatre, opera, indicating an artist enjoying the fullness of his talent. Also open Bank Holiday Monday



Are you sitting comfortably?

WOA always needs volunteer sitters to look after the exhibitions. It's a great way to meet like-minded people and to see each exhibition.

If you could spare a couple of hours a month to support WOA in this way then please contact the Administrator Olivia Thornton for the gallery, on 01993 850137. Or for the Robert Vesey Room, Barbara Daw on 01993 851491.

14 - 28 May

WOA Artweeks Members exhibition

A mixed show of work in different media by the artists of West Ox Arts.

Venue: Robert Vesey Room, Bampton Library, Church Lane

1 April 2005

Sheena Davis: From Swing to Now

Time: 7.30pm Venue: Bampton Village Hall

'A superb artist singing superb songs' is how Radio 2 described Sheena. Formerly the lead singer with the prestigious National Youth Jazz Orchestra, Sheena has gone on to become one of this country's most respected vocalists, winning several awards and appearing regularly at London's Ronnie Scott's. Sheena has a terrific vocal range going from high-octane swing to the sweetest and most gentle of sounds, which alongside her choice of material has brought her many supporters among people new to jazz. With a show including songs such as 'Sentimental Journey', 'Cheek to Cheek' and 'Sway' you can expect an evening of recognisable and well-loved songs. 'a very fine singer' - The Guardian

Tickets: £8 or £6 concessions from the Cotton Club, Bridge Street, Bampton, or call WOA 01993 850137.

7 May 2005

Cool Jazz Dance and Auction for the Great WOA Stair-lift Appeal

Venue: Bampton Village Hall

Time: 7pm with band playing from 8pm

Dance the night away to the masterful melodies of Cool Jazz. Bid for a piece of original art donated by West Ox Arts members or a signed record donated by Our Price Music for our stair-lift appeal. Licensed bar available.

Tickets £20 to include buffet and free glass of wine. Tickets from The Cotton Club, Bridge Street, Bampton or call the administrator, Olivia T: 01993 850137

30 May Bank Holiday Monday

Craft Fair

At: Bampton Village Hall Time: 9.30am-5pm

WOA members will this year be contributing to the ever popular Morris Dancing event in the village by taking part in the craft fair. Complete with tea and coffee, come and be part of this traditional festival.

Workshops

Introducing WOA's new regular art class running in four week blocks aimed at artists with some experience. A professional artist will be leading each block and we hope that this class will be an opportunity for local visual artists to network and be part of the community surrounding the arts association.

Facilitator: **Stephen Empson**

Stephen will facilitate the group to work on Still Life in the drawing medium of their choice (including pastel, pen and ink, charcoal, crayon and pencil). Please bring your own materials.

Dates: Thursdays 10, 17, 24 and 31 March 2005

Time: 7.15-9.15pm

Venue: WOA Gallery

Facilitator: **Judith Yarrow**

Judith will encourage experimentation on the theme of landscape to explore mixed media. Please bring 5mm MDF maximum 18" square and your usual medium e.g. acrylic, oil, watercolour, pastel, and Judith will supply additional materials. Please bring photos or sketches to develop.

Dates: Wednesdays 20 and 27 April, 4 & 11 May 2005

Time: 10.30am-12.30pm

Venue: Bampton Village Hall

Facilitator: **Brien O'Rourke**

Brien will facilitate the group to work in oils on the theme of landscape. Aimed at those with some experience, please bring your own materials and sketches or photos to work from. Including guidance on the encaustic technique.

Dates: Wednesdays 18 & 25 May, 1 & 8 June 2005 Time: 10.30am-12.30pm

Venue: Bampton Village Hall

Welcome to West Ox Arts

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

West Ox Arts is dedicated to

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

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

Benefits include:

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

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

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

Robert Vesey Room at Bampton Library Exhibitions

The Robert Vesey Room Opening Hours are:

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

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



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

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SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF BAMPTON

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

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

DO JOIN NOW

Send your membership fee of £2 each (£1 for OAPs) for the period up to December 2008, to
Society for the Protection of Bampton
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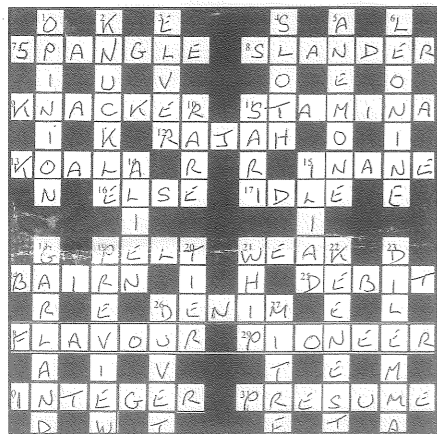
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Solution to the December BEAM CROSSWORD



The winner of the December Crossword is Mr G Pickford of Rosemary Lane, Bampton. Congratulations, the £10 prize is yours!
We would also like to donate £10 to Cancer Research, as a thank you to Bill Govier for producing yet another crossword for 'The Beam'.

The Bampton Directory 2003
Copies are still available from The Post Office and Abbey Properties

Bampton Footpaths Map

Free copies still available from BEWG, Abbey Properties, the Post Office

The Bampton Beam Adverts

Why not give your local business a lift?

Advertise in 'The Beam'

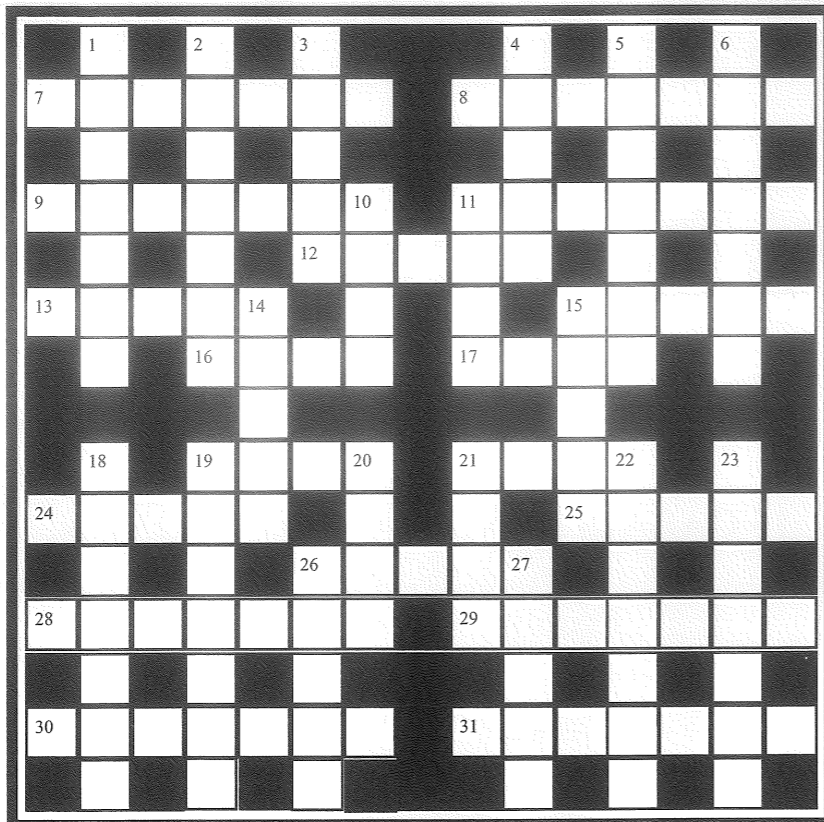
(and get a free advert on the Bampton Website!)

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

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

THE BAMPTON BEAM'S CROSSWORD



CLUES ACROSS

- 7 Act as peacemaker between two parties
- 8 To live together
- 9 Grow smaller
- 11 Female stage player
- 12 An era of history
- 13 Land covered by ericaceous shrubs
- 15 A four-wheeled carriage
- 16 Long ago, in times past
- 17 High in price
- 19 Obligation to pursue some action
- 21 To shut with violence
- 24 Formal mode of dress to ladies
- 25 Portable battery lamp
- 26 Natural aptitude, talent
- 28 Courtesy distinction after a gentleman's name
- 29 A self-contradictory statement, oxymoron
- 30 Pertaining to plant life
- 31 Lewd, indecent

CLUES DOWN

- 1 Marine algae collectively
- 2 Grandeur of mien
- 3 Not fresh
- 4 To mend clumsily
- 5 A skilled fighting man
- 6 To divide and examine
- 10 A fencing foil
- 11 Sharp to the taste
- 14 Bunkum, claptrap
- 15 Standard of purity of gold
- 18 A wooden double reed instrument
- 19 "Angels Trumpets", large flowering plants
- 20 The festival of Christmas
- 21 Pass hastily over
- 22 Supreme hereditary leader
- 23 A record of money matters
- 26 Produce or seed of a plant
- 27 Jewish doctor of the law

Town Hall Bookings

For Town Hall bookings contact Mrs B. Sapsford Tel: 851476.
Town Hall keys to be collected from Londis shop.

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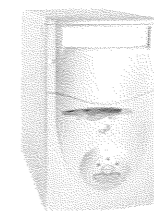
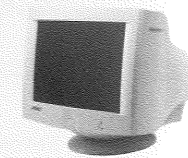
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Calendar of Events

March	
26 th	Coffee Morning, Gardening Club, Town Hall, 10 – 12noon
April	
15 th	Quiz Night, SPAJERS, Village hall, 7.30pm
23 rd	Spring Nearly New Sale, National Childbirth Trust, Langdale Hall, Witney, 1030 -1230
28 th	BEWG Meeting Village Hall 8pm
May	
1 st	Village-wide Boot Sale, SPAJERS
9 th	Village Hall AGM, Village Hall, 8pm
20 th	Quiz Night, Cancer Research UK, Village Hall
21 st	Coffee Morning, Gardening Club, Town Hall, 10 – 12noon
28 th	The Great Annual Shirt Race, SPAJERS, Market Square, 7pm
30 th	Morris Dancing, Village, Early 'til Late!
30 th	Refreshments, Village Hall, RBL, 9.30am – 5.30pm
30 th	Balloon Race, Cancer Research UK, Market Square
30 th	Craft Fair, Village Hall
June	
19 th	Secret Gardens
25 th	Summer BBQ, WOCA, Clanfield Venue TBA
July	
22 nd	Ceilidh, SPAJERS + Woodpecker Band, Langdale Hall, Witney, 8pm
28 th	BEWG Meeting Village Hall 8pm

Bulky Household Waste Collection

A collection service is provided for bulky items of HOUSEHOLD waste for which a charge will be made. As the actual charge will be dependant on the number and type of items to be uplifted a quotation will be given on application.

To book a bulky household waste collection phone the Town Centre Shop on 01993 861020 or email enquiries@westoxon.gov.uk. **Please state your name, address, a day-time telephone number and the items that you would like collected.** Items for collection need to be placed at the front of your property by 6.00 am on your day of collection.

Fly tipping

The Council is responsible for removing fly tipped waste and together with the Environment Agency attempts to prosecute those seen illegally dumping waste.

To report an incident of fly tipping phone Environmental Services on 01993 861020 or email env.services@westoxon.gov.uk. **Please state the location and nature of the waste.**

West Oxfordshire District Council Environmental Services Holiday Refuse and Recycling Collection

Following a Bank Holiday Monday, your waste and recyclables will be collected one day later than normal that week

**For further information access the Website on
www.westoxon.gov.uk/environment**

THE BAMPTON BEAM

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Editor

Fenella Gray Tel: 851653

E-mail: fenellagray@witneyserve.net

Sub-Editor

Fred Gray Tel: 851653

Artwork

Jo Lewington

Treasurer

Grace Wilkins

Advertising

Fred Gray: Tel: 851653/Fax: 851892

E-mail: fredgray@witneyserve.net

Photography

Richard Wilkins

Fred Gray

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

Fenella Gray Tel: 851653

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

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

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

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