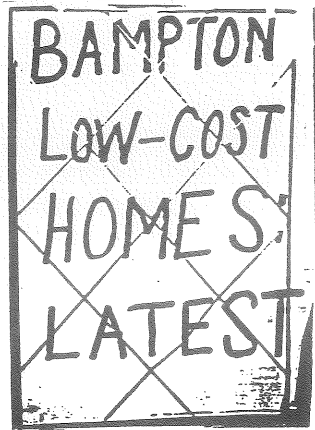


The Bampton Beam

DECEMBER 1992

VOL. 7, NO. 3



A HOME for some -

The issue of homelessness caused by the high price of newly built properties is now receiving national attention but this was not the case when The Bampton Beam first mentioned the subject in August 1988. The response we had to that article triggered off the provision of a Low-Cost Housing Project in Bampton. Progress has not been fast and it has not solved the whole problem but a few families now have homes of their own that they can afford. Everyone connected with the project is well aware of the shattering disappointment of those who did not get accommodation. It is essential that efforts continue to provide more affordable housing in Bampton.

Perry Taylor, Housing Manager from Oxford Citizens Housing Association, which has been responsible for developing and managing the scheme, describes the extremely difficult task of allocation which was completed recently.

"The allocation process for Bampton has been lengthy: with over 90 applications to deal with, each requiring a home visit. To award points has taken approximately 200 staff hours. As you might be aware, points are awarded to reflect differing degrees of housing need. Aspects such as existing housing conditions, homelessness, inability to purchase or obtain suitable housing in Bampton are "pointed" to produce an objective as possible assessment of housing need. To ensure impartiality, the pointing of applications is always carried out by two,

usually three, members of staff.

Only people from Bampton and the associated parishes of Clanfield, Black Bourton, Grafton and Lew could apply for these houses. For those with special Bampton links, by residence and family connections, an award of additional cumulative points was agreed by both Parish and District Councils as well as the Association. 23 of the 24 properties for rent have gone to people with at least 4 'Bampton' points and 11 of these have the maximum 6 points."

The task of dealing with the 92 applications for the 24 rented units was bound to leave many disappointed people and this was voiced with passion at a meeting in Bampton on 20th November. Despite our appeals to David Waters, the District Council Housing Officer for a longer residential qualification than 12 months in Bampton, this was overruled. The Parish Council fought hard for 'Bampton' points to be taken into consideration at all by WODC!

The Association is currently looking at how to proceed with the shared ownership units which have not as yet been taken up. We must all work together for the next development as a matter of urgency.



at last !

Mrs Tracey Kane (nee Daniels) with David, pictured in their new home in Pembroke Place. We wish them and all the other residents of Pembroke Place a happy Christmas and security for the future.

Pembroke Place takes its name from Bampton's connection with William de Valence, half-brother to King Henry III, by whom he was given a vast number of estates including the rich manor of Bampton. He made an exceptionally profitable marriage with the heiress of the mighty Earl of Pembroke and appropriated the title when it became vacant.

BAMPTON'S SCHOOLS PAST AND PRESENT

The Old Grammar School, Bampton by Dr Simon Townley

In 1635 Robert Veysey of Chimney made his will. A local man whose father lay buried in Shifford chapel, he had (according to the rector of Ducklington) succeeded in 'raising himself up to a very great estate' through 'usury and crafty bargaining', and about 1619 he became a joint lessee of Exeter cathedral's manor of Bampton Deanery, which included Chimney. There, in the early 1620's, he built himself a manor house, where he and his descendants lived for over a century and which was only demolished in the early 19th century. His will included the usual small bequests to the poor of neighbouring hamlets, and small sums to Shifford chapel, but by far his most significant bequest was £300 towards establishing a free school at Bampton: £100 for erecting a building 'with ashlar work', and £200 for an endowment. The fruits of that bequest remain for all to see: the Old Grammar School (now the library) in Church View.

Veysey's bequest was not acted on immediately. Fifteen years after his death one of his executors, a local landowner called John Palmer, left a further £100 providing that Veysey's will was performed, and this may have prompted the remaining executors to act: by 1653 the school had been built and a master appointed. Possibly the delay resulted not so much from apathy or self interest as from difficulty in obtaining a suitable site. That eventually chosen seems to have been acquired from the parish by purchase of (more likely) by gift, and in the early 17th century had evidently been occupied by a small parish cottage: a lease of 1635 (one of several involving parish houses) mentions a 'messenger or tenement ... adjoining unto the vicarage walls' (i.e. south of Churchgate House), and on the back is written, 'Joseph Castle, counterpart of this lease of a cottage now supposed to be the school house'.

Once established, the school attracted new gifts throughout the 17th and 18th centuries; land near Calais Farm was bought in 1695, and in 1738 a cottage (later demolished) west of the schoolhouse was bought for an incoming master. Some idea of the life of the school is given by a new set of statutes issued in 1732. All boys (the school did not take girls) from Bampton, Weald, Lew, Haddon, Aston, Cote, Chimney, Shifford, Brighthampton and Yelford who were 'fit to be taught Latin' were admitted for a 2/6 entrance fee and for 1/- a quarter - in other words the school was no longer (if it ever had been) strictly a 'free school', though in the early 19th century 10

boys were still taught free and the rest 'on the master's terms'. The master was to be able to teach Greek, though classics were evidently less predominant than in many similar foundations. English (if the master saw fit) was to be taught for 5/- entrance and 5/- a quarter, and although classics continued, at least two bequests to the school stipulated the teaching of English, reading, and arithmetic; in 1738 subjects included modern languages and 'merchant's accounts'. The master was to be 'orthodox for religion and of a godly conversation', and was to bring pupils to church on Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saints' days, besides holding morning and evening prayers in school.

The school enjoyed mixed fortunes in its masters. The first, William Jackson, came from Charlbury school and was a 'noted grammarian'; Leonard Fell, master in the late 17th century, was a poor undergraduate of Queen's College, Oxford. Thomas Middleton (master from 1731) was very much a mixed blessing. Although vicar of Clanfield he lived in Bampton where he owned land and acted as curate, managing over a long career to fall out with several Bampton vicars. In 1750 he was accused of treating the school as a sinecure, and in 1756 the Trustees were driven to seek legal advice after Middleton, who had been ejected, tried to retain the school's land as his own. Possibly he recovered his post, since in the 19th century he was said to have been master for over 50 years, though there were no pupils in 1769 or 1771 and in 1774 the master taught in his own house.

The school's 19th century history is generally one of decline, and it was frequently closed for long periods. By then there were rival institutions better suited to Bampton's needs - notably the Church-run National School opened in 1812 in a building at the top of Bridge Street - and increased fees of 21/- entrance and 21/- a quarter from 1819 did not help. In 1865 (and perhaps on earlier occasions) the school took boarders, of whom 11 (mostly farmers' sons) occupied 8 beds squeezed into two dormitories in the schoolhouse - though only brothers were expected to share a bed! For this, those over 9 paid £25 a year. There were occasional successes - some pupils were entered for public schools, and at least one boy succeeded in getting to Westminster - but funding remained problematic, and the school finally closed its doors in the early 1920's. That the building itself has found a congenial function as a public library is a happy conclusion, and one which, 350 years on, Robert Veysey might well have approved.

AN ADDRESS TO PARENTS

BRINGING THEIR CHILDREN FOR ADMISSION INTO THE

BAMPTON

New National Schools.

You have brought your Child to be placed under our protection in this School: we shall receive it gladly; and you may rest assured that the greatest diligence will be used "to train it up in the way it should go." But you must remember that you have not done all that is required by merely gaining admission for your Child into our School: do not suppose that its education is to be left entirely to the care of the Master or Mistress, and that you are to do nothing: unless you labour together with them for your Child's welfare, disappointment to all parties will be the result.

Much of the impertinence, bad language, and ill behaviour which so disgrace and degrade the youth of our town, and of which continual complaint is made, is, in too many cases, to be traced to the want of due care in setting a good example, and enforcing it at home; and not as is often falsely and wickedly attributed to the fault of the School. To what purpose are Children instructed against evil speaking, lying, and swearing,—and taught to live in the fear of God,—to be good and dutiful to their Parents,—honest and truthful in all their actions, unless the Parents do their part in carrying out, at home, the good instruction given at School?

THE LIBRARY

By the early 1960's the income of the Grammar School Trustees had become insufficient to maintain the building, let alone provide any scholarships. Fortunately at that time the Oxfordshire Library Service wished to expand their Library then housed in Rosemary House and the Trustees decided to divide the school internally to provide for the library in one half leaving a small meeting room at the other end, and with other improvements. The new Library was opened in June 1964.

With the development of other meeting rooms in Bampton usage of the Grammar School was much reduced and the Trustees allowed the County Council the use of the whole building, establishing the present library in 1984.



and THE LIBRARIANS - A Local Profile Interview by Matt Count

Libraries for me have always been slightly special places; always quiet, unhurried and almost holy. Bampton library is a perfect example. It is staffed by two women: Jan Fretten and Kari Rossie. Jan works full time and Kari provides holiday and sickness relief. Like most librarians, neither have formal qualifications, but with over 22 years experience between them, this hardly seems necessary.

Jan has worked in the library for 18 years, and has played a part in the many changes to the building. The 18th Century Grammar School building had, when she started work there, only a tiny library room in what is now a store, and the rest of the building was

a Community Hall. Nowadays, the building is managed by a trust, and work is underway to renovate the first floor.

When speaking to her, it is obvious that Jan loves her work. She says that a small library such as in Bampton is particularly rewarding to work in. The town is small enough to get to know most people, and it is easier to predict what is needed. She describes herself as a 'war baby', and helps to keep running costs to a minimum by frugal use of resources. The buying in of books is largely done by head office in Witney, but when major alterations were carried out a few years ago, Jan spent a blissful couple of hours in Blackwells choosing 200 titles for new stock.



Surprisingly, Jan isn't a great reader, and manages to switch off completely when away from her job, so there is no need to worry about being browbeaten in the streets about late books; and although she knows most of the thousands of books in stock, Jan doesn't always match a face to the person's reading habits. She tells the story of a man who took home a specially ordered book only to bring it back, re-faced, a few days later saying: "What ever must you think of me?" The book was obviously very 'spicy', causing much unnecessary embarrassment on his part.

Kari is a native of Bergen, on the coast of Norway, and having spent longer here than in Norway, retains just the slightest hint of an accent. She provides cover for not only Bampton, but for several other libraries in the area, including the mobile libraries. A service that maybe not many people know about is the "Books on Wheels", organised by the W.R.V.S., which involves taking books to around a dozen people in Bampton who are unable get out. Bampton library also acts as an unofficial tourist information centre, with Jan and Kari being asked local history questions by visitors.

Jan explains wistfully that due to space restrictions, the library is mainly a leisure library, but they do keep a full range of smaller reference material such as DHSS leaflets, railway and bus timetables and holiday brochures that sit almost untouched. There is even a photo copier to make a copy of anything that interests you!

So, next time you need to know something, try asking Jan or Kari; I'm sure that they would be only too pleased to help.

HALL v MARQUEE

Dear Editor,
I am relieved to learn that the Horticultural Society is having second thoughts about trying to raise money to buy a marquee for their shows? It appeared to be a scheme guaranteed to give the hard working members of the committee even more toil and trouble.

At great expense and effort from all in Bampton two excellent halls have been renovated and improved for the use of the local community. If they are not used for events such as the Flower Shows, the struggle to keep them going will be fruitless. If they close through lack of use, Bamptonians will lose another amenity.

It is unlikely that the Horticultural Show, held on Sandfords Field, would attract more people and entries. It is no Donkey Derby or Fete.

Let's use the Halls we have, even if a bit cramped, and not burden the village with yet more fundraising at a time when money is scarce enough anyway.

Yours sincerely, Jonathan Phillips
Haytor, Lavender Square, Bampton

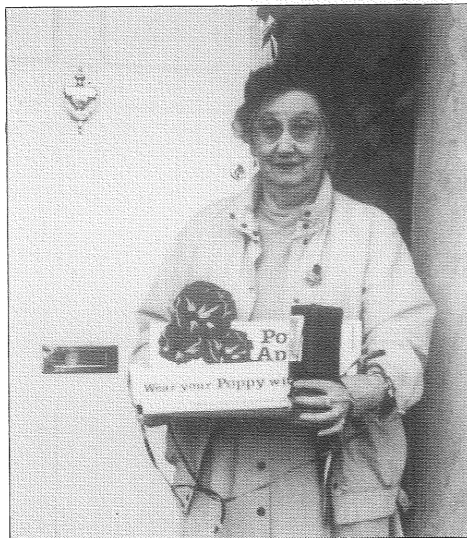
BAMPTON PLACE NAMES

Dear Editor,

We are writing in the hope that readers of the Bampton Beam may be able to provide us with some information about the name of the lane that we live in. We have been living in what we believed to be "Backhouse Lane" for about three years now so you can imagine our surprise when we found a name plate with "Primrose Lane" standing at the end of our lane. The lane in question connects the footbridge at the end of Cheyne Lane to Weald Street at Backhouse Farm. We have asked several people about the name of the lane and it seems that it has never had an official name but was known locally as either "Backhouse Lane" (presumably from the name of the farm) or "Ash Lane" from the habit of disposing of fire ash on the lane. The use of the name "Primrose Lane" appears to be a very recent phenomenon. We would be interested to hear from anybody who knows any more about the name of the lane.

Yours sincerely, Mr & Mrs C.J. Brawn
3 Primrose Cottages, ??? Lane, Bampton
(Over the years names do seem to change for one reason or another; Lavender Square used to be Queen's Square; Moonraker Lane was Market Square Lane; Mount Owen Road was Coalpit Lane. New residents of Cheapside prefer it to be called Market Square! Perhaps it is to do with the modern concept of 'a good image'?)!
Comments welcomed. Ed.

Wear a Flanders Poppy - 1992



Did you recognise Freda Bradley in the August issue? £1339 was collected in Bampton & Lew this year - grateful thanks to those who collected and contributed.

Dr. John Reynolds, MB BS MRCP
Fiona Williams, MCSP
Philippa Rayne, DO MRO
Andrew Fisher, DPofM SRCh
Lesley Mellin Dip. Arom. A.H.N.

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IN SUPPORT OF A BRILLIANT IDEA

Dear Mrs Phillips,
I have just finished reading the article in the Beam about solutions to the traffic problems - namely speeding traffic entering and leaving the village. I think the solution put forward by Denis Lawlor sounds very good being both feasible and affordable and also wouldn't require digging up all the roads to achieve its aims. I think it is a brilliant idea.
Yours sincerely, Lesley Wootton
'Down Home', Aston Road, Bampton

Mr Webb also wrote in favour of the idea but unfortunately it was too long to print and no address was given. Ed.

See also page 10

THE TORCHBEARERS - continued

Dear Madam,
Mrs Elward's letter in the August 1992 edition of the Bampton Beam jogged my own memory of my days as a Torchbearer. I was a member during the late 1930's, when we met at the Old Vicarage. The Reverend Bateman, our Vicar at the time, took charge of the Boys and Mrs Bateman looked after the Girls. Most Boys did "chip-carving" which meant carving patterns on old cigar boxes using scalpel like knives similar to today's lino knife. When I joined there were insufficient knives to go round so I had to be a "french knitter" until I was found a vacant slot amongst the chip-carvers.

French knitting was not on the simple cotton reel and four nails arrangement but an elaborately shaped piece of wood about ten inches long, about one inch wide, with a slot down the middle. There were something like eighty nails in total, ranged in straight lines down each side of the slot, with a few forming the curve at each end. I believe this apparatus had been designed by Mr Eden or Mr Venner, both of whom had been woodwork teachers at Bampton School.

On this kit we knitted scarves, usually using bright red and black wool to create bold stripes. I believe the products we made went to a Missionary in Nigeria but nobody ever explained why little Nigerian children should want woollen scarves. For many years I kept a letter, hand-written in a foreign language, supposedly thanking me for a scarf which was being put to good use by a Nigerian child.

If my memory is not playing tricks, the Torchbearers movement in Bampton ground to a halt early in the Second World War as a result of the Blackout, and its associated restrictions.

Yours faithfully, Graham Taylor,
1 Oathurst Estate, High Street, Bampton

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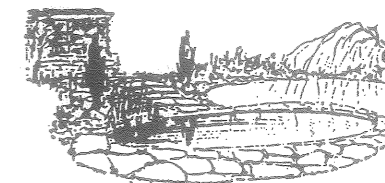
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BAMPTON'S SCHOOLS PAST & PRESENT - continued from page 2

The Vital Role of the Village School Today

Extract from an ORCC response paper submitted to the Oxfordshire County Council at the end of 1991 for their review of primary schools

- Small schools can provide a stimulating and desirable learning environment and can successfully deliver the national curriculum.
- Clusters of primary schools are important ways of supporting small schools and should be developed and adequately resourced.
- The village school is a traditional focal point for the community and brings life to a village
- Schools should be as near as possible to children and parents.
- Higher unit costs in smaller schools are justified and are in any case not significant.
- Costs should not come first - quality and value should.
- There is little evidence that school closures bring significant savings but there is a great long-term loss to the community.

Bampton's Primary School cannot be classed as small and is in no danger of closing. The difficulty facing the Governors is the one of an increase in numbers without the provision of suitable permanent accommodation. The Governors backed by the Parish Council want all Bampton children to be educated at Bampton Primary School. What they do not want is inadequate temporary accommodation to provide for the increasing numbers of children nor do they want these children taken to other schools in the area.

Extract from Parish Council Minutes dated 22.07.92

Following the recent letter from the Oxfordshire County Council giving notice of its intention to apply to the Secretary of State for Education & Science for an Order to reduce the Standard Number of pupils who are to be admitted to the Bampton Primary School from September 1992, and having in mind the implications it was agreed that formal Notice of objection should be served on the County Council, and signed by ten registered members of the Bampton electorate.

The reasons for the objections are as set out below-

- 1) The yearly intake of children over the past year or so has been around 133 and continues to rise, therefore there can be no justification for reducing this figure.
- 2) Bampton is designated in the Structure Plan as a large village with continuing growth.
- 3) Very considerable housing development has taken place in the village over the past five years, from which, children will now be approaching school age.
- 4) Thirty one low cost, and twelve family homes are now nearing completion in the village, and from which further children must be anticipated.

It is felt, therefore, that in the light of the foregoing, the County Council should make provision for all Bampton Children to be able to attend their own Primary School.

from C. W. Ryde - Head Teacher
Bampton C.E. Primary School

I have been invited to use this column to explain why the governors of our school requested the Secretary of State for Education to reduce our standard number from 30 to 21.

First of all what is a standard number? It is the number of children in any one age group worked out by dividing the total capacity of the school by the number of age groups. Our total capacity, previously worked out by the DFE using a standard formula, assesses our accommodation as 148. As there are now 7 age groups (not classes) in the school our standard number becomes $148:7 = 21.14$. Even in this age of modern science 0.14 of a child is still an impossibility, so our standard number becomes 21. If it had remained at 30 the school could have grown to 210 pupils which far exceeds our accommodation.

The school roll has grown considerably over the last three years and will continue to do so for the next two years. This prediction is based on the numbers enrolled in playgroup and registered with the surgery. No one yet knows how many more will be living in the latest housing development. The local authority has accepted our figures and is considering ways and means of providing the required accommodation.

Our present school roll is 134 and we are expecting 9 children after Christmas and 9 after Easter. These intakes will take us over our total capacity and presents us with an organisational problem as, after Easter, there will be 69 children under 7 years of age (Key Stage 1). The governors have made provision for an extra full time welfare assistant after Christmas but need to await details of our 1993-1994 budget before arrangements for Easter 1993 can be made. Oxford County Council are expecting to make cuts of over £7 million in their 93/94 Education budget. Final budgets will be even later than June because of the change to the new Council Tax. Also more of the functions previously carried out by the County Council will be devolved to schools.

The governors of Bampton C.E. Primary School will keep parents well informed of developments and any other interested parties wishing information are always welcome to contact me at school.

umpton, Oxford-

adies was run by my father's aunts, the Misses Pembrey, in, I believe, the mid or late 1800's. Photographs of The Elms show it to be a large, handsome, stone building. The present owners of the building can furnish no clues as to its history and inquiries on my behalf to the local vicar and a search of the local church records has produced no trace of the Misses Pembrey. However, I know that my father and his brother as youngsters loathed visiting the place - "All those girls!"

This prospectus with its mention of guineas, laundress, serviettes, ivory-handled knives, etc., appears very quaint to American eyes and information as to the history of the school would be received with great interest by descendants of the Pembreys in New York, California, Texas and Australia.

We would like to know, if possible, when the house was built and during which period it was used as a school. Can any of your readers help?

Evelyn C. Feig (nee Pembrey-Bowl)
75 Henry Street, Box 83, Brooklyn Heights
N.Y. 11201 U.S.A.

*The Misses Pembrey's Establishment,
for Young Ladies,
The Elms, Bampton, Oxon.*



from *THE BAMPTON WE HAVE LOST* by J. L. Hughes-Owens -

"... Many of the larger residences housed a school at one time or another. The Elms, Ampney Lodge and Prospect House, to mention only a few.

Years ago I met a very elderly lady who had been a pupil at one of the Bampton boarding schools in the eighteen nineties, one kept by the Pemby (sic) sisters. Academic studies counted for little in the school's curriculum, but much time was spent at music and needlework, especially embroidery. But above all, what counted for most was instruction in deportment and the social graces, even to the extent of being taught the correct way to hold a teacup. Discipline was of the strictest, and punishments were harsh - caning was by no means rare."



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BAMPTON BADMINTON CLUB

Badminton is now played regularly in the Village Hall on **WEDNESDAY** mornings from 10.00am to 12noon.

New members (including beginners) very welcome.

For further details, please contact:

Marian Goldring Tel: 850324

THE BAMPTON DRAMA GROUP

Photo: Susan Butler

CANCER RELIEF MACMILLAN FUND -**Bampton & Faringdon Committee**

An Oxfordshire Appeal is to be launched in the New Year. This is to raise money to fund extra Macmillan Nurses in the County. We feel sure that this will attract a great deal of support from individuals and organisations locally.

Barbara Osborne would like to say a very warm and heartfelt 'thank you' to all the many kind, good and generous people who have helped in 1992. Special thanks to David & Margo for providing the premises in Faringdon for a most successful Charity Shop which sadly will now have to close.

At a Coffee Morning in the Village Hall, Bampton on 24th October a magnificent £430 was raised.

MOTHERS' UNION**Bampton with Clanfield**

Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month in the Village Hall, Bampton at 2.15pm.

Enrolling Member: Mrs E. Dring,

14 The Lanes Tel: 850333

Pictured here are Alan Butler, Rosemary Colville, David Mills, Trevor Milne-Day and Dave Heady in their autumn production of 'Alphabetical Order' by Michael Frayn.

An excellent choice of play produced and directed by Ailsa Matheson and Alan Butler which showed off the talented cast to their best advantage.

The Drama Group Pantomime/Revue will be greatly missed in 1993.

THE MS SOCIETY**West Oxfordshire Branch**

The Branch held a most successful indoor BBQ at The Bush Centre in July. 53 members and friends ate heartily of the beefburgers, sausages and ice cream. It was such a help to have both rooms so that members moved into the Dining Room when the meal was ready and then returned to the Sitting Room. We are most grateful to the Bush Centre for the loan of their china and equipment and to the Bampton Scouts who cooked the food to perfection. It is certainly an event that we should hope to repeat next year.

**LONDIS**

"As your local community store we've been here for many years providing everything you need. We have now decided to join the Londis Local Grocery Store Group so that we can offer you even better value for money and the exclusive range of Londis Products. Many things like the shop front may look different after the change, but don't worry we'll still be here to help in any way we can".

Tony Scott

Mr. A. S. SCOTT
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CHRISTMAS POST**Aston, Bampton, Clanfield & Cote ONLY**

A Christmas post service is to be operated by the local Scout Group in the above villages. Posters will be distributed nearer the time giving details of the post box locations.



Collection Date 12th December

Delivery Date 13th December

Correct addresses on the envelopes please.

1st Bampton Scout Group

New Leaders are also required Tel: Les Harrison (0993) 773916



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CAROL SERVICE

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Sunday 20th December
3.00pm at St.Mary's Church
CHRISTINGLE SERVICE
(Collection for the Children's Society)



Christmas Eve
11.30pm at St Mary's Church
MIDNIGHT COMMUNION
11.45pm at St.Joseph's, Carterton
CAROLS & MIDNIGHT MASS

Christmas Day
9.00am at St.Mary's Church
(Roman Catholic) **DAWN MASS**
10.30am at St.Mary's Church
PARISH COMMUNION
11.00am at St.Joseph's, Carterton
THIRD CHRISTMAS MASS

THE PUMPKIN CLUB

The members of the Pumpkin Club would like to thank everyone who contributed to the Auction of Produce at the Annual Weigh-In of Pumpkins & Marrows on 3rd October 1992. The evening was a great success and raised nearly £800 for Bampton Pensioners.

Forthcoming events:

on Saturday 12th December 1992

CHRISTMAS DRAW

at The Romany Inn

Donations for the draw will be gratefully received at The Romany Inn.

on Monday 14th December 1992

CHRISTMAS BINGO

at The Bush Centre

S.P.A.J.E.R'S.

Josie's Christmas Raffle at The Talbot Hotel on 30th October raised £535; special thanks are due to Josephine Buckingham and her family.

NATIONAL BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE

The Regional Blood Transfusion Centre based at the John Radcliffe Hospital holds a Blood Donor Clinic in the Bampton Village Hall twice a year.

Please give it your support
on Thursday, 21st January 1993

It is a simple, painless procedure - and who knows, your life might depend on it!

For a report on the last Open Meeting held in October please see the recycling article on page14.

BEWG's next meeting is the AGM
on Wednesday, January 27th 1993
at 8.00pm in the Village Hall.

BEWG is keen to expand its membership (currently around 100) particularly to newcomers to Bampton. By joining now prospective members' subscriptions will carry on to 1993. Further information is available from Ann Norman Tel: 850523.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION**Bampton Branch**

JUST WHEN YOU THOUGHT IT WAS SAFE TO RELAX - LEGION 2!

(New Blood Wanted) - by Fred Loxton 'While listening to one of the residents where I work recounting the 'bloody' story of a Dracula film he had watched on TV, my mind wandered back to the committee meeting of the Legion I'd not long attended. Hadn't the chairman used those very words, "what we want is some new blood." Yes, like Dracula, the Bampton Branch of the Royal British Legion is looking for new blood to enable it to carry on for another 50 years and more. We welcome anybody over the age of 18 whether Ex-Forces or not (unlike Dracula we won't be making great demands on your person). The fees are £4 per year and this will bring you affiliation to every Legion Club in Great Britain and the World.' If you would like to know more, please contact: Alistair Newing

Sherbourne House, Bridge St. Tel: 850809

BAMPTON BOYS FOOTBALL CLUB

The Club was formed in July 1992, sponsored by SPAR (LONDIS) and has gone from strength to strength. The Under 10's side was runners-up at Clanfield Fete and the Ramsden Fun Day and were winners at the Ducklington Show in August.

The under 10's and under 9's play regularly each Saturday, and there is a possibility of a side for the under 8's being formed. Training takes place on Monday evenings at the Buckland Road Football Ground from 6pm until 7pm.

Three of the under 10's side, Gareth Preston, Perry Senior and Robert Whalley have been picked to play for the Witney & District League Team.

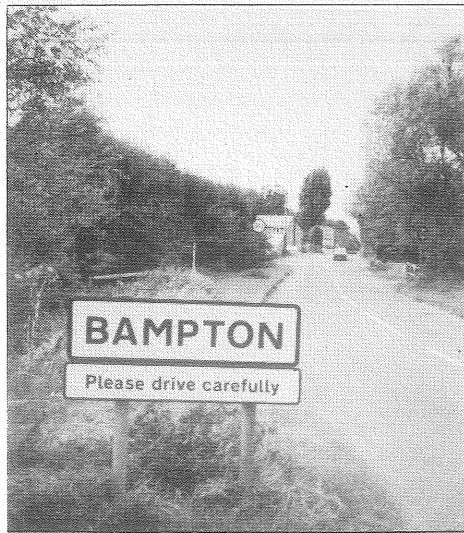
Anyone wishing further information should contact Mike Whalley Tel: 850048 or Ian Tupman Tel: 036781 277.

**A Bampton Football Team from the 1920's?**

Photo: Arthur Hill

Traffic Speed in Bampt

David Hook, County Engineer for Oxfordshire C C was asked to comment on D



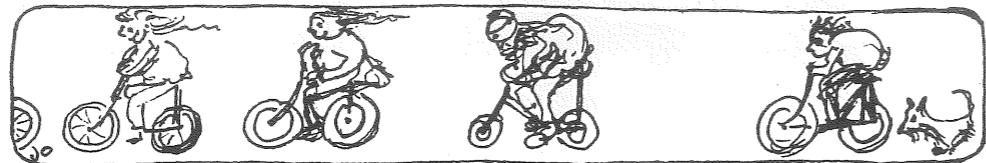
"Measures such as those mentioned by Denis Lawlor might well help to reduce traffic speeds . . . the County Council is currently experimenting with a variety of traffic calming and other means of reducing traffic speed. However, great care is needed to ensure that features such as road narrows do not themselves create a hazard. . . there are now examples in this County of road narrowings that have been introduced within urban areas where traffic speeds are already relatively low. . . The Traffic Calming Act 1992 has helped and I am waiting for new Regulations to clarify exactly what new features are permitted on the public highway. . ." Bampton's requests will be re-assessed, together with more than 300 others, in 1993.



A TIMELY MESSAGE from Police Constable Steve Patrick our Community Policeman -

Now that the evenings are well and truly drawn in and the clocks have gone back, I'd like to take this opportunity to mention a few things about road safety. The first is a plea to parents, if your child has a bike and rides it after dark, please make sure he or she has lights and uses them. I have already visited the school to drum this into them, and for the need to wear reflective clothing and helmets. Remember your children are your responsibility and if anything happens to them, it is you I'll have to come to see.

The second is speeding in the Village, which I know some of you aired your views in the last couple of issues of the Beam. I agree Bampton has a problem as have many other villages and towns in the County. Perhaps Bampton is unfortunate to be on the through route to two crossings of the Thames resulting in more traffic. I don't know.



However, as far as the Police are concerned, with our limited resources, Bampton has its fair share of visits from the speed enforcement officers, which I gather a few of you now personally know to your cost! When the Police receive complaints of speeding in a certain area, a device is used to measure the speed of every vehicle on a particular stretch of road, for a period of about one week. This information is analysed by a computer, the results show when the majority of vehicles are speeding on that road. This is usually between 7 and 8am on weekday mornings and surprise! surprise! those speeding vehicles tend to be driven by locals on their way to work, usually late. As long as motor vehicles are capable of exceeding the speed limit, they will. Whether the answer is better education or traffic calming measures, we'll have to wait and see, but perhaps in the

meantime we can make a start ourselves by thinking before we depress that old accelerator pedal quite so hard. Remember, this is our Village, our families live here and it might be one of us that gets hurt.

Think about this, research shows that when children are hit by a car:

At 20mph - one child in 20 is killed

At 30mph - half are killed

At 40mph - most are killed

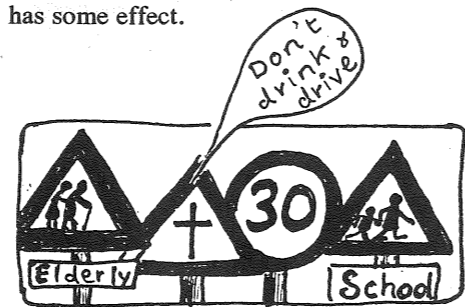
SLOW DOWN

One last thing which only involves a minority of parents who drive their children to and from Bampton Primary School, please

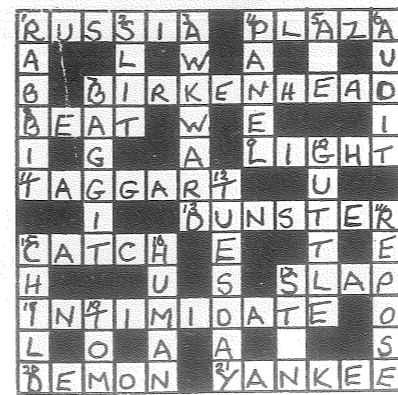
think before you abandon your

safety aspect, your child might not need to cross the road by the school, but others do. There are plenty of safe places to park nearby with only a few extra yards to walk.

Thank you for reading this and I hope it has some effect.



Solution to BEAM PRIZE CROSSWORD August 1992



Correct solutions received from:-
Mr R.J. Terry, Bampton
Hazel Goldman, Brize Norton
Mr D.J. Tompkinson, Bampton
Mrs A. Marsh, Bampton
Dr A. Gaydon, Bampton
Trish Pickford, Bampton
The £5 prize has been won by Trish Pickford. Congratulations.

THANKS TO 'THE BEAM TEAM'

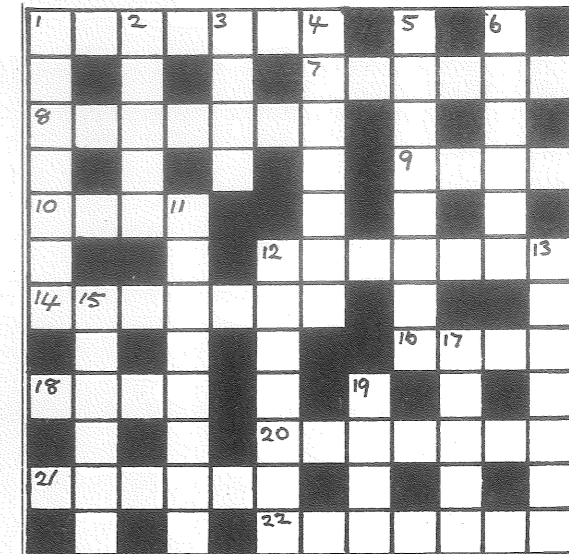


The Editor would like to thank the stalwart band of people who have delivered not only 3 issues of The Bampton Beam this year but also The Bampton Directory to every house and business in Bampton.

Pictured above are the youngest members of the team - Craig & Stacey Hawcutt who deliver 100 or more with their grandmother, Doris Cleaver.

The Bampton Beam's Own Prize Crossword

£5 Donation to Cancer Relief MacMillan Fund in memory of Les Caddy
£5 Cash Prize for the first Correct puzzle opened on 15th January 1993



CLUES ACROSS

- 1 Irsome
- 7 Act of endearment
- 8 To promote growth
- 9 A gang
- 10 Cupid
- 12 To avenge
- 14 Cover
- 16 Direction
- 18 Tangle
- 20 Sorrow
- 21 Goes out in the mid-day sun
- 22 Extract from distillation

CLUES DOWN

- 1 Ships
- 2 Portuguese river
- 3 Leave out
- 4 Plotter
- 5 Printed sheets
- 6 Agree
- 11 Seclusion
- 12 Rise again
- 13 Immoderate
- 15 Covered space at airfield
- 17 Protective garment
- 19 Electrical term

The solution will be published in the next issue; if you can't wait until then, send a sae with your entry to The Editor, The Bampton Beam c/o The Cotton Club, Bampton

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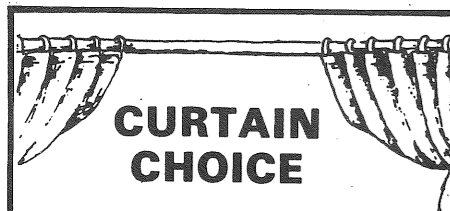
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How to use up windfalls or NOT boring stewed apple again.

Apples just stewed with a little sugar are boring - but are simply delicious if you add a little of this and that.

So - sweeten them with brown sugar and/or honey; use the juice of an orange instead of water; add a knob of butter; add cinnamon, nutmeg or cloves; add zest of an orange, or vanilla; add nuts or sunflower seeds after cooking.

A favourite apple desert is:

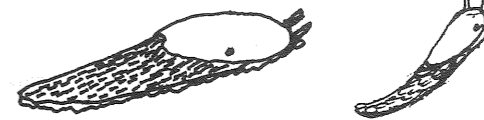
Danish Apple Crunch

Stew the apple a favourite flavourful way. Puree and divide into separate desert dishes. Make the 'crunch' by stirring brown bread crumbs and brown sugar into melted butter in a frying pan until crunchy.

Put on top of the apple. Top with whipped cream and a little grated dark chocolate. Naughty but delicious!!

Spiced Apple Cake

Melt 4 oz butter with 4 oz honey and 4 oz brown sugar. Pour this into a mixture of 4 oz wholemeal flour, 4 oz self-raising flour, 1/2 tsp cinnamon, 1/2 tsp ground nutmeg. Stir in 8 oz grated apple. Bake in greased, lined tin at 170C 325F or Gas No3 for 1 hour & 20 minutes.



All the fun of the chase!!



I gather that slugs have a great sex life. Not only are they hermaphrodite - can choose to be male or female according to their mood, or the weather or who is around - but, prior to copulation, they have a prolonged romp on a sort of home-made slimy water-bed. No wonder there are so many of them - eating my lilies, lettuces and lobelia and even the dog's dinner.

I have now declared war. I have put out dishes of beer. This produces very dead marinated slugs but its an expensive solution. I won't use slug pellets. If they dissolve slugs and snails, what will they do to beneficial beasts or even hedgehogs?

I watched a hedgehog munch its way through a 4 inch slug. Both of us found the experience satisfying. I would encourage more hedgehogs, but my terrier thinks otherwise and molests them. I have a friend who cuts slugs in half with scissors, but I'm too

squeamish. Dor Thomson's father went slug hunting at night with a torch. My sister goes out at twilight with a stick, flipping the monsters into a bucket which she (being overly kind-hearted) empties in the woods when she walks her dog. I think they just return, having enjoyed the ride. Do we know if slugs have a homing instinct?

I am getting considerable satisfaction visiting certain favourite but nibbled plants, scooping the culprits into a jar and returning them to the food chain via the brook. Next door's chickens won't eat slugs but maybe they'll add variety to the diet of a coot or moorhen.

I believe there is now a contraceptive pill for slugs; but if there is and if it works, I think I'd miss the fun of the hunt.



BEWG OPEN MEETING - 24.10.92

The last Open Meeting of 1992 featured Keith Hammerton, Cleansing Officer of Milton Keynes Borough Council who gave an interesting talk on the innovative recycling scheme which he had been closely involved with from its start. He emphasised the crucial importance of cooperation from individual householders in sorting recyclable material from general household rubbish, to promote which the Council provided two differently coloured boxes for a variety of different materials. The result has been a 75% takeup by the public and the reduction of household rubbish to a fortnightly collection. A very good turnout on a cold damp night testified to people's concern with this vital aspect of environmental protection, and some envy was felt at the effectiveness of this relatively simple scheme.

In Bampton we can all make use of the Bottle Banks in the Market Square and also take clean foil and silver paper to the Library where it is collected for Guide Dogs for the Blind.



THE MAGPIE PROJECT is constantly on the look out for clean, safe scrap materials - they never turn anything down! Contact them at 13 Church Green, Witney on Monday evenings in term time 6.00 to 8.30pm or Tel: 0993 779017.

The Parish Council is currently in the process of making a Bye Law to prohibit dogs from the new playground behind the Fire Station. If you have any comments about the making of the Bye Law, please send them, as soon as possible, to the Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council:

Mrs Pauline Smith, Randwick House, Market Square, Bampton Tel: 851503.

A Subject of Great Concern: Land Adjoining the Bampton Youth Centre

Despite the following assurance, the people of Bampton would be well advised to keep a vigilant watch on developments in this area. It cannot be repeated often enough that the only reason for developing this land must be a SOCIAL need such as sheltered housing for the elderly or low-cost housing for rent.

Residential Development on Land Adjoining the Bampton Youth Centre

The County Council is seeking planning permission for a residential development on approximately half an acre of vacant land alongside the Bampton Youth Centre, behind the former Eagle Public House.

This application was previously submitted earlier this month as a detailed scheme at the request of the West Oxfordshire District Council, due to the sites' location within the

The West Oxfordshire OBSERVER

The following article by West Oxfordshire District Councillor, **Brenda Smith**, is reprinted with permission from the inaugural issue of **The West Oxfordshire Observer**, a free monthly paper distributed in Standlake and surrounding villages.

It is published by **E-Type Publishing, Forge Cottage, Abingdon Road, Standlake, Witney OX8 7QH Tel: 0865 3001622**

"Where's yer bin?"

In the days of Music Hall this question would prompt a comic answer - probably unrepeatable here!

The contents of dustbins have historically been regarded as either a joke of unmentionable, but these days are rapidly coming to a close.

Nowadays we are told that we must regard refuse as a valuable resource and not merely something with which to fill up disused gravel pits. The government has set us targets. We must try to reduce the amount of refuse we produce and we aim to recycle at least 25% of this by the year 2000.

Already a great deal of recycling is going on. We have Bottle banks, mini-recycling centres for paper, cans, and textiles, and two superb disposal sites at Dix Pit, Stanton Harcourt and Dean Pit, Chadlington. The first time I visited Dix Pit I was so impressed that I promptly included it on my guided tour of the locality for visitors! (I had to be restrained, by my family, from packing a picnic and going there for the day). But not everyone has a car, and for some even a walk or bike ride to the nearest bottle bank is quite a challenge. Ultimately, if we are to recycle useful materials from every household, we

have to have a doorstep collection.

The District Council in West Oxfordshire has recently produced a draft Waste Management Plan looking at this problem. Recycling is not a money-saving option, although certain items such as glass do pay their way at present. Nevertheless, we cannot allow the amount of refuse we produce to go up and up whilst our store of natural resources dwindles. We do not have a choice in this. We must recycle more!

The long term plan is to provide each household, where possible, with wheeled bins. Initially there will be one bin, and eventually two. By using one bin for selected items, and the other for the rest of the rubbish, householders can help by partially separating recyclable waste before collection. This way everyone can do their bit to help with recycling without going any further than their own bin.

If things go according to plan, in a couple of years, the answer to "Where's yer bin" will be "On wheels mate - and sorted!"



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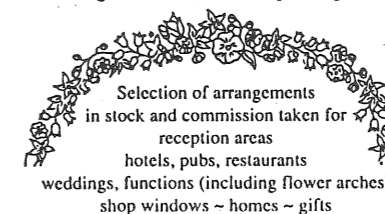
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Diary of Events in Bampton

Dates are taken from Notice Board entries & the Year Planner at the Post Office

DECEMBER 1992

- 12th Pumpkin Club Christmas Draw The Romany Inn
 14th Pumpkin Club Christmas Bingo The Bush Centre
 20th Christingle Service St. Mary's Church 3.00pm
 20th United Candlelit Carol Service The Methodist Church 6.00pm

Details of Christmas Services at St Mary's Church, Bampton and St Joseph's Church, Carterton are on the centre pages 'Notice Board'.

JANUARY 1993

- 21st Blood Donor Clinic Village Hall
 27th BEWG Annual General Meeting The Village Hall 8.00pm

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Kari Rossie Tel: 850764

Contributions are welcome at any time and should be sent to:-

The Editor, c/o The Cotton Club,
 Rosemary Lane, Bampton OX18 2JJ

DEADLINE DATES FOR COPY

5th March, July & November 1993

While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of information printed in The Bampton Beam, the editor & publishers cannot accept any responsibility for the consequences of any error that may occur. The views expressed in The Bampton Beam are not necessarily those of the Editor. Personal views are the responsibility of the author in each case.

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THE BAMPTON BEAM

is printed on
 Recycled Paper



BAMPTON DIRECTORY 1993

Corrections & Additions

Inside front cover:

SPAR is now LONDIS

page 4: PARISH COUNCILLORS

**Mrs P. Smith, Randwick House,
 Market Square (NOT Broad St.)**

page 8: DOCTORS

Dr. R. Landray has retired and

Dr N. Ward has joined the practice.

page 27: HOUSE & GARDEN

'Poppy's' Flower Shop

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**Angela John Antiques is still trading
 across the Square at the Bric-a-Brac.**

THE GREY RABBIT RAFFLE

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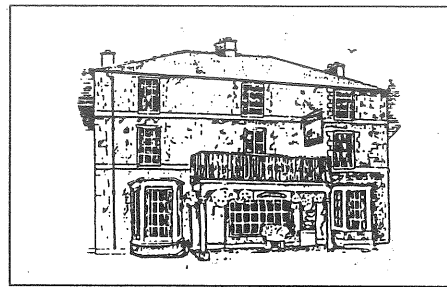
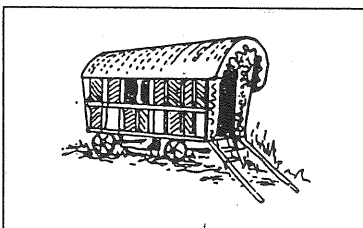
Florida Cocktail or Pate Maison
 or Whitebait or Mushrooms & Cheese

Sirloin Steak 6oz or Plaice 6/7oz
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or Pears & Cream or Cheese & Biscuits



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