

# THE BAMPTON BEAM

March 2006

Volume 21, No. 1

## Parish Council and District Council Elections

4<sup>th</sup> May 2006

Elections take place this year for Parish and District Councils. In Bampton there are 11 members of the Parish Council. You can therefore put an X on your ballot paper *against the names of up to 11 candidates* whom you would like to see on the Bampton Parish Council. At the moment, the Parish Council is one councillor short, due to a recent resignation, and with several of the existing Councillors deciding not to stand this year, it could be that we will not have enough candidates to fill all of the positions on the Council!

So, now is your chance to do something for the Village. Why not consider standing for the Parish Council? It is an important part of the democratic system in this country, and the Council does have a voice in local affairs.

Candidates guide and nomination papers will be available in March from The Clerk to the Parish Council, Tel: 01993 851476 or from the West Oxfordshire District Council. Nomination papers must be submitted by 12 noon on 3<sup>rd</sup> April.

For this year's District Council elections, we will have the opportunity to elect one new Councillor, since Jonathan Phillips has decided not to stand for re-election. The 'Beam' would like to take this opportunity to thank Jonathan for all of the hard work he has done on our behalf over the many years he has served on the District Council. Have a good retirement Jonathan - much deserved - although we don't think Jonathan understands the meaning of the word, and will still be doing his bit for the Community!

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

## BAMPTON POST OFFICE

### Yet Another Threat to its Existence

By Martin Barrett

Once again we have to report an undesirable proposed change to the Post Office Card Account. Having undergone the trauma brought about by the move from pension and allowance books to the chip and pin plastic card, the Department of Work and Pensions have now decreed, in their wisdom, or lack of it, that by the year 2010 the Card Account will no longer exist. Whilst 2010 may seem a long time away, they are starting to take action now in selected areas to move people away from card account to one of three proposed new methods of paying pensions and allowances. These three different "pilot" schemes are as follows:

- For NEW pensioners and jobseekers there will be NO choice but to have allowances paid directly into their bank account. This will probably also affect Child Benefits.
- Those beneficiaries who are already using the Post Office Card Account *but also have a bank account* will be approached by DWP who will ask for their bank details so that allowances can be diverted straight into that account.
- Those people who have a Post Office Card Account *and* who also receive any other allowances into their bank account will be advised that *all* their benefits will be paid into the bank. They will be given guidance on how *they* can close their card account. *They will not have the right to refuse.*

Clearly this is another case of this Government ignoring the needs of rural communities - or is it incompetence? - and we believe every effort must be made to resist this change. To this end, we urge you to write to your M.P. and also to sign the petition at the Post Office in Bridge Street. This petition will be forwarded to Mr. David Cameron, M.P. in the hope that he can bring some influence and common sense to bear upon the appropriate decision makers.

As ever, Carole and I must thank all those who have supported us through difficult changes at the Post Office, especially those who have suffered the stressful process of obtaining a Post Office Card Account in the first place. We are determined to do everything in our power to oppose thoughtless changes and make the powers-that-be realise our customers are the life-blood of the Post Office and not an inconvenience!

If you have any questions or thoughts on this change, just let us know and we will do what we can to help.

## Girl Guides Re-established in Bampton

For details see inside!

**Bampton Village Hall**

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

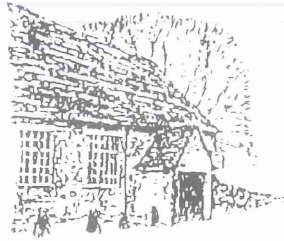
Main hall with stage, curtains, lights & piano.

Well equipped kitchen and servery with separate locked bar.

Badminton court marked and equipment available.

Disabled toilet facilities.

Lettings Officer: Martin Barrett,  
The Post Office, Bridge Street, Bampton  
Telephone: 01993 850304

**BAMPTON '250' CLUB**

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

OCTOBER	£25	123	Mr M Green	Mercury Court
	£15	072	Mrs C Main	Bowling Gr Close
	£15	122	Mrs J Thomas	Lew
	£15	182	Mrs V Hopps	The Pieces
NOVEMBER	£25	139	Mr & Mrs Davis	Calais Dene
	£15	030	Mrs D McFarlane	Pococks Close
	£15	225	Martin Barrett	Bridge Street
	£15	024	Miss D Mansfield	New Road
DECEMBER	£100	189	Mrs Howe	Chandler Close
	£25	008	Mrs Kari Rossie	Cheyne Lane
	£15	179	Alan Dunbar	Bushey Row
	£15	239	Claire Allen	Bushey Row
	£15	043	Mr D Foresheaw	c/o Church View
JANUARY	£25	241	Mrs Clare Edwards	Buckland Road
	£15	048	Mrs Barney	Calais Dene Row
	£15	185	Mr & Mrs Easterbrook	Cheyne Lane
	£15	122	Mrs J Thomas	Lew

The final draw for 2005/2006 – the £250 prize – will take place at the Village Hall AGM on Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> May.

The 2006/2007 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 or telephone Susan Phillips Tel: 859321.

**BAMPTON VILLAGE HALL**

The Annual General Meeting will take place in the Village Hall at 8.00pm on Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> May 2006.

All residents of Bampton over the age of 18 are entitled to attend and to vote. 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. New members of the Committee would be very welcome. Nominations can be sent to the Secretary, Haytor, Lavender Square, Bampton OX18 2LR.

Under the new licensing arrangements, the Village Hall has a Premises Licence which includes the retail sale of alcohol for consumption on the premises. Alan Clarke of The Horseshoes is the Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) and anyone wishing to have a bar in the Hall must inform him first and get his signature on the Hiring Agreement.

There have been several performances in the Hall in the past months for both adults and children. OTTC's performance of 'Beauty and the Beast' and the film 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' in December were rather poorly attended but the puppet show and following workshop of 'Pinocchio' at the end of January was very popular. Bampton was the second venue for a new company touring

Oxfordshire – Abingdon Touring Theatre Company (ATTC) put on 2 performances of Alan Bennett's 'Talking Heads' on 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> February. The actors are all gap year students who are hoping to make a career in the theatre and the standard of acting was very high. Watch out for their next visit to Bampton.

The Oxfordshire Touring Theatre Company (OTTC) will be performing Dylan Thomas's 'Under Milkwood' in Bampton Village Hall on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March at 7.00pm.

Tickets are on sale at the Cotton Club, Bridge Street or from WestOx Arts at The Gallery, Town Hall.

**Easter Services****St Mary's Bampton**

**Palm Sunday April 9<sup>th</sup>**  
10.30am Holy Communion and Palm Procession

**Maundy Thursday April 13<sup>th</sup>**  
7.30pm Parish Eucharist of the Last Supper and Passion Watch

**Good Friday April 14<sup>th</sup>**  
10am Good Friday Service  
2.30pm Children's Workshop ending with short Family Service at 4pm

**Easter Eve Saturday April 15<sup>th</sup>**  
8.00pm Service of Readings and Light  
**Easter Day Sunday April 16<sup>th</sup>**  
10.30am Family Eucharist

**Methodist Chapel**

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March**  
Mothering Day Service 11am

**Easter Sunday**  
11am Family Service

**St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church**

**Easter Sunday**  
Mass 9.00am - St. Mary's Bampton

**Easter Holiday Activities for 2 - 15 years**

New this year is Archery, an All Day Sports Camp, Gymnastics and Talent Team Mountain Biking, plus many of the old favourites.

See [www.westoxon.gov.uk](http://www.westoxon.gov.uk) for further details

**How to Book**

Call in to or telephone one of the Leisure Centres in the District (see below) and get booked directly on to any of the activities.

Carterton LC 01993 861981  
Chipping Norton LC 01993 861951  
Windrush LC 01993 202020

**BAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWS**

By David Hawkins, Deputy Chairman

**Highways Wish List for 2006**

Although Bampton did reasonably well for improvements to our road system in 2005, there still remain a number of projects that we hope will be tackled in 2006.

The wish list includes:

- Completion of the 2 ramps in New Road to slow down the traffic (funded for Spring 2006)
- To find a solution to the drainage along Landells and improve the road surface.
- To reconstruct the badly worn pavement on the left hand side of Broad Street going north (funded for mid September 2006)
- Resurfacing Rosemary Lane

**Licensed Halls**

Although Bampton is lucky to have several venues for private parties, they are all being affected by the new licensing laws that came into force last November. The pavilion, for example, can only have 12 events per year where alcohol is sold as it has, at present, that number of Temporary Event Notices (TENS) available. The application form is also complicated and has to be submitted well in advance. The alternative is to pay £190/year and have a variation of licence for the premises and then train an individual to become a designated premises supervisor. This would allow us to have more events. Do villages need all this extra bureaucracy?

**Poachers Rest Restaurant**

Extended Opening - After the closure of some of Bampton's pubs in recent years, the Parish Council was pleased to hear that the 'Poachers' is actually extending its opening hours. We understand that it is open on Saturday lunchtime for snacks and meals and on Sundays for lunch between noon and 6pm. And now Wednesday to Saturday in the evenings. Please use all of Bampton's great facilities.

**Uganda Choir's Visit**

Those who were fortunate to hear the

Watoto children's choir in St Mary's Church in early January, will never forget the enthusiasm and joy of their singing. Each of the 20 children had lost one or both parents to AIDs or war and are part of the present 880,000 children in the same situation in Uganda. The WATOTO mission aims to care for 10,000 children and the choirs tour the world to spread the message. The choir spent time at our Primary School and soon made many friends. If you would like to get more information visit [www.watoto.com](http://www.watoto.com).

**Wedding Anniversary or Reception?**

Who said you couldn't afford an impressive reception? Our daily rates are very low at the *Pavilion*. Please call Ray Willis Tel: 01993 852483 or 07766 264684.

**District Council News**

By Jonathan Philips

**Green Light for Green Waste!**

The District Council's green waste collection trial has been labelled a success and will now be extended to 4,000 householders across the district. The green waste trial ran from July to November 2005 and 781 householders took part. The trial took place in Long Hanborough, West Witney, Freeland, North Leigh, Stonesfield, Combe, Woodstock, Eynsham, Finstock and Charlbury.

Residents can now apply to have their green waste collected from outside their homes fortnightly.

Rob Creeber, who lives in Combe, took part in the trial and says he will definitely be signing up again. "I think it is a marvellous scheme. It takes away all the effort and cost of taking green waste to the tip. It is such a sensible and logical way to recycle and help the environment."

The new year-long collection service starts in April 2006 and costs £30. It includes the hire of a 240 litre size wheeled bin alongside the fortnightly collections.

CLr David Harvey, Cabinet Member

**BAMPTON LIBRARY IS NOT JUST A LIBRARY**

There are Books (fiction and non-fiction) Best Sellers (soon after publication) Talking Books, Videos Free use of Computer Children's Section Books on Wheels also

The Robert Vesey Room for exhibitions of local artists and exhibitions of photographs and oral history from the Bampton museum.

**Library Opening Times**

Monday	2.00pm – 5.00pm
	5.30pm – 7.00pm
Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday	10.00am – 12.30pm
Thursday	2.00pm – 5.00pm
Friday	Closed
Saturday	10.00am – 12.30pm

Tel: 01993 850076  
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for Environment said, "Participation in the trial was high and 157 tonnes of green waste have been diverted from landfill sites. Instead the waste has been converted to compost, a useful product that benefits the environment. I am confident there will be a good response to the new scheme as there is a huge commitment and enthusiasm from residents to recycle."

Once green waste has been collected it is taken to Agrivert at Showell Farm, Radford to be turned into compost. The compost made helps to replace the use of peat-based compost, thus helping to conserve UK peat bogs and their endangered species. It will also divert as much waste as possible from landfill sites. As green waste decomposes in landfill sites, methane gas is produced as a by-product, which contributes to global

warming.

Anyone interested in applying to join the scheme can do so online at [www.westoxon.gov.uk](http://www.westoxon.gov.uk) or by email [green.waste@westoxon.gov.uk](mailto:green.waste@westoxon.gov.uk); or telephone 01993 861020.

### 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 contact the Town Centre Shop Tel: 01993 861020 or email [enquiries@westoxon.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@westoxon.gov.uk).

### Pension Credit Advice West Oxfordshire Only

**Have you claimed pension credit??  
Over 60 are you getting all the money that you are entitled to?**

Pension Credit is a tax-free weekly payment, which could mean extra money for you each week. Some people have received as much as £1000 in backdated payments.

"As the CAB service is free and confidential I'm glad that I took advantage. It made applying for Pension Credits so much easier. In less than half an hour I was £5000 a year better off. All it took was a quick benefits check in the comfort of my own home."

We can offer the following:

- ✓ A full benefits check
- ✓ Help with completing forms
- ✓ Friendly help and advice

If you live in the West Oxfordshire area and would like further information or to make an appointment please contact Liz Oakley Tel: 01993 708492 or email [outreach@wocab.cabnet.org.uk](mailto:outreach@wocab.cabnet.org.uk)  
Citizens Advice Bureau, 33a High Street, Witney, Oxon OX28

### Community Safety Surgeries

To provide an even better service to the community, the numbers of the popular *Community Safety Surgeries* launched earlier in the year have been

increased from twelve meetings per year to twenty for 2006. In effect there will be two meetings in the same day, one in the afternoon, the other in the evening, in neighbouring areas. The change is to allow greater access to the meetings by those at home and at work.

As now, along side the Neighbourhood Watch officer, the surgeries are regularly attended by the area Crime Reduction Advisor, a representative of the Oxfordshire County Council Trading Standards dept and a member of the Oxfordshire Fire & Rescue service. All of whom are there to offer advice on how to stay safe in the home and how to keep our community as safe as possible.

Along with good advice, practical help is also available. Both the Police and the Fire & Rescue service offer free fitting of fire alarms and door

chains for eligible elderly residents.

Chief Inspector Dennis Evernden, Local Police Area Commander said "The idea of these multi-agency meetings is to give the residents of West Oxfordshire the opportunity to meet local community officers and get accurate and straight talking advice about how to protect themselves from crime as well as to keep safe in the home"

Bob Swanton, the local Fire & Rescue service area commander said. "Traditionally, Fire & Police work within our communities from differing perspectives but Fire safety and crime reduction are conjoined elements that affect all our lives. This is an excellent example of how West Oxfordshire Community Safety Partnership agencies can work together on a productive level and give our 'customers' real value for money".

### New West Oxfordshire District Council Website

WODC's recently launched revamped website – [www.westoxon.gov.uk](http://www.westoxon.gov.uk) – is intended to make it much easier for people to access local information and interact with the Council at any time of the day.

Web pages have been re-written and it is now much easier to find information. There are now more efficient ways of reporting things like fly tipping, and missed refuse collections and for making requests such as advice and help on pest control. It is also possible to make payments online.

"My West Oxfordshire" is a special feature of the new website. In this section you simply enter your postcode, street name or house name and find out:

- Who your local Councillor is
- Your refuse collection day
- Whether your property is affected by any Planning Constraints
- Planning applications registered against your property
- Your Council Tax band
- The rateable value of a commercial property
- Local recycling facilities
- A map and an aerial photograph of your house

The site has been made more accessible for those with disabilities such as sight impairment. For example it can be viewed in different text sizes and with or without images.

### Well done WODC

Your sub-Ed had occasion to call the WODC offices when his wheely bin was not emptied a few weeks back. – I didn't at that time know of the online contact possibilities! I got through first time – no computerised voices! – and a very nice lady answered the call; and when I asked for the Environmental Services Department, she asked me firstly if she could help. I told her about the problem, and she advised that she would take the details – it seemed that she had access to a computer system – and then told me that I could expect the wheely bin to be emptied within 24 hours; and it was! It was nice to be able to talk to someone, and not to a computer, and even better when that person had such a nice manner. So, notwithstanding the initial hiccup – the first time I can remember not having my wheely bin emptied! – well done to WODC for providing an excellent service of recovery!

## News from Bampton C of E Primary School

By Richard Pitt, Parent Governor

Term began in early September and it was lovely to see everybody looking so smart at the important first assembly of the new school year, indeed first assembly at school for our newest pupils.

Over the summer two new buildings were installed on the school site, one to replace the Reception classroom and one to replace the Pre-School Playgroup building. This was a welcome coincidence as the two schools have decided to set up a very close working relationship under the title of a Partnership Foundation Stage Unit. A steering committee made up of staff and governors from the two entities will meet regularly to ensure a common curriculum is followed. It will also look at aspects such as presentation of the classrooms and the outside learning areas so that they too have a similar look and feel to them. For example, plans are currently in hand to landscape the outside areas to provide the most stimulating learning environment. By having this very close relationship we hope to provide a seamless transition for the young children when they move from Pre-School to "big" school.

Last term finished with an array of events. Mid July saw The Open Day and Art Exhibition which was a chance to visit the school and be taken on a guided tour to see what the children had made using a variety of media and in a range of styles. The work was framed and exhibited in the school art gallery. It was an impressive display.

In the final week there was the Sports Day, where it is always heart warming to see how all of the children come together to help each other out in their mixed age group teams. This was followed by a magnificent rendition of The Owl & the Pussycat in St.Mary's Church.

Moving into this term and the range of activities and clubs that the children can take part in continues to grow. There are the sports clubs – football, netball, cross-country, rounders and hockey; the music clubs – keyboard, violins, orchestra, percussion, guitar and recorders; then there's the book, gardening and art clubs. Our international links continue to be strong. Our Comenius Project, where we work with partner schools from Germany, Spain and Holland, has been approved at European level. The next stage in the process will be for members of our school to visit Holland. Then next summer representatives from our partners will visit us.

### EASTER BONNET PARADE

on  
Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> April  
in  
THE TALBOT  
at  
2pm  
in aid of  
The Helen House Hospice  
For more information contact  
Ruth Wheeler  
Tel: 850808

## May Garlands

By Ruth Wheeler

It will soon be Spring Bank Holiday and it would be lovely to see a few garlands to be judged at 11am that day (Monday). A garland doesn't have to be elaborate; a simple one is just as welcome. So please, children, and Mums and Dads help to keep this old tradition going!

### To make a garland

Pick as many wild flowers as you can find. Bunch them into small bunches and tie on to a frame - which is made of two circles of willow wood placed inside one another, tied top to bottom. A small doll is placed inside. The garland can then be carried on a stick. The top of the garland can be made up of any kind of flower, but wild ones must be up the sides.

After judging the garlands can be taken to the church. Please will you remember it is your responsibility to remove them the next day as they make quite a mess on the church floor when the petals drop. Thank you.

For more information contact **Ruth Wheeler, Tel: 850808.**

## Piggott's School of Dance

### Invitation to Dance !

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### New Term Classes

Key stage 1 and 2 Tap / Disco Keystage 3 Hip hop.

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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  
Manor House  
Bampton, Oxon OX18 2LQ

## N. J. WOODLEY BUILDING MAINTENANCE

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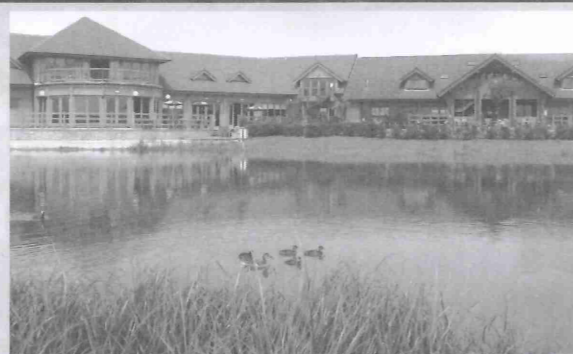
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10 St Mary's Court  
Weald, Bampton  
Oxon. OX18 2HX  
Tel: 01993 851458



## West Oxfordshire Homeless Prevention Project

West Oxfordshire Homeless Prevention Project Sets up scheme to help homeless Young People from the local area get secure and safe accommodation.

Homelessness amongst Young People in West Oxfordshire is a real problem. The lack of emergency, temporary and supported accommodation in the district means many vulnerable Young People who become homeless have no alternative but to live in emergency bed and breakfast accommodation in Oxford.

Roz Denson from West Oxfordshire Homeless Prevention Project aka WOHP says "The majority of Young People we support are terrified at even the prospect of going to Oxford and living in emergency accommodation. For most of these Young People it is the first time they have lived away from their home environment and ventured outside of the local area. Suddenly they are faced with having nowhere to live and often no money. They are then expected to live in unfamiliar surroundings with limited access to support, in accommodation that is occupied by people who are of varying ages and come from a mix of backgrounds. The majority of these Young People are understandably completely 'out of their depth' and whilst they are in Oxford we see their problems multiply and their needs increase as they try to cope.

As an organisation we find that one of our biggest challenges is getting people to realise that homelessness exists in this area. People automatically associate homelessness with people sleeping rough on the street and if they don't see that in their area they assume that it doesn't exist. Homelessness is a much more complex issue and the ones sleeping rough reflect only a small number of actual homeless people. It is also a problem which affects many Young People particularly in an area such as West Oxfordshire due to the high cost of buying and renting accommodation. Few can afford it and if they can't remain at home, their opportunities

for finding accommodation are virtually non-existent. Young People are then caught in the homelessness and poverty trap and struggle to get out of it".

In response to this problem the Supported Lodgings Scheme has been set up in order to reduce the numbers of Young People going into emergency accommodation. The scheme known as SPODGE provides family-style accommodation for homeless 16-25 year olds.

Families known as hosts are recruited from the local community, they are people who have a spare room and the motivation to support a Young Person. Hosts are provided with training and on-going support through WOHP and receive a weekly payment for the services provided to the scheme i.e. rent of the room, laundry facilities; cooking facilities etc. Hosts also play a part in supporting the Young Person to gain the life skills

necessary for independent living.

The Young Person whose stay is agreed on a 28 day renewable licence basis also receives ongoing support from WOHP. The West Oxfordshire scheme which was set up earlier in the year is modelled on the successful SPODGE scheme in Banbury which is run by BYHP (Supporting Young People in Housing Need), and has already successfully placed and supported one young person who is now housed and living independently.

WOHP's aim is to increase the number of placements available to homeless Young People through recruiting more hosts. If you have a spare room and are interested in becoming a SPODGE host or would like more information please contact Gillian Grainger Project Co-ordinator at WOHP, 14 Church Green, Witney, OX28 4AW.

Tel: 01993 775718.

Mobile: 07812 036794.

## Dor Thomson – Governor Emeritus, Bampton School

By Graham Newman - On behalf of Bampton School Governors

When I was a very young School Governor nearly 30 years ago, Dor Thomson was Chair. Dor Thomson was always Chair. It was inconceivable that anyone else could ever measure up to the regard, respect and affection that surrounded her.

Every year, she felt she should stand down, and every year she was re-elected. It was because we all recognised a natural "earthy" sensibility and wisdom rarely found, but instinctively knew was the product of vast experience of the more extreme demands of life.

Her ability to get to the essentials, make fair, balanced and effective decisions, handled with a wonderful sense of humour, all achieved with respect for sensitivities of other's feelings was an example I still find very hard to follow.

She had an amazing way of dealing with the pomposity of bureaucracy that could instantly deflate it without upsetting anyone, and ultimately achieving her objectives to happy agreement.

Her commitment to, and respect for, young people gave her that wonderful "agelessness" that we all envy. It was reflected in her expressed love of my very fast and racy Italian Motorcycle!

When ultimately Dor emphatically refused to accept the Chairmanship of the School Governors, we decided to create the position of Governor Emeritus, especially for her.

It is very difficult to imagine that anyone at anytime in the future could ever fill that title again.



## Bampton Environmental Watch Group

By Ralph Norman, Chairman



In October 2005 our open meeting saw the welcome return of Martin Way, a local historian, who gave a talk entitled "The Home Front". The rather poor turnout belied the excellent informative talk, which Martin illustrated with a wide selection of artefacts. Memories were jogged for those of us old enough to remember life during the Second World and a better understanding of this time was provided to everyone there. Our next meeting will be our AGM on 2<sup>nd</sup> March, which will include Margaret Grant from the Stanford in the Vale churchyard project, who will give a talk titled "Churchyard Wildlife – A Guide to God's Acre". This will be a good opportunity to compare what is happening with our churchyard with what can be achieved over a longer period. Future open meetings arranged are: 27<sup>th</sup> April when Alison Hopewell of the Wychwood Project will give a talk on the Lower Windrush; 27<sup>th</sup> July when we will have a talk and demonstration from Bob Field, a pole lathe turner; 26 October when Martin Way will be back, this time to give a talk on "Coaching" (the horse and carriage variety, that is).

The ongoing saga of applications at Fair Acres continues. In February 2004 permission was given to build six industrial units. Since then a new developer has submitted three applications for seven industrial units (replacing the original granted application for six). The first two were withdrawn before they were formally reviewed by WODC. The third is still outstanding. In parallel with the third application, the developer also submitted a separate application for outline permission for residential development (instead of the industrial units). The residential application has been refused by WODC, but at the time of writing the third industrial application remains outstanding. The construction of 10 dwellings on the Littlemead site (Aston and Buckland Roads junction) is now well underway - the site has been cleared and foundations are in.

A new proposal related to the Aylesbury Mushroom Farm site at Black Bourton was lodged with the County Council in January. The proposal is for a green waste collection and processing unit. This will involve the collection of waste woody material (hedge clippings, logs and the like) from an area within a 20 mile radius of the site, chipping this, and then selling the wood chips on to energy companies, to be burnt in the production of electricity. The PC and BEWG have raised concerns over the possibility of increased goods traffic through Bampton particularly if the proposed operation expands.

At the end of last year WODC published what should be the last revisions to their Local Plan 2011 (including the removal of the 100 dwelling New Road site). The date for comments has now passed and we should soon see the publication of the adopted version of the plan. (For further information see <http://www.westoxon.gov.uk/planning/localplan2011.cfm> on the WODC website. If you would like to know more about BEWG or would like to join us please contact the Membership Secretary (Ann Norman) Tel: 850823, or email [bewg@sagaman.co.uk](mailto:bewg@sagaman.co.uk). You can also see our entry on the Bampton web site at [www.bamptonoxon.co.uk/bewg.htm](http://www.bamptonoxon.co.uk/bewg.htm).

## Green Award for Bampton Company

CUS Busting Ltd, a small family-run company based in Bampton, have been awarded a gold *Green Apple Environment Award* for their eco-friendly aromatherapy product – the Aroma Stress Buster – designed to help relieve stress at work. The Aroma Stress Buster uses the warmth generated by a computer to vaporise stress-relieving essential oils, releasing their wonderful uplifting aromas into the atmosphere, and provides a totally natural approach to instantaneous aromatherapy stress relief at work.

The Green Apple Award is an international campaign to find the greenest companies, councils, communities and countries, and is run by the Green Organisation, an independent, non-political, non-activist, non-profit environment group dedicated to recognising, rewarding and promoting environmental best practice around the world.

The Green Apple Awards are in their eleventh successful year, and are well established as the biggest and most extensive scheme of its kind in the country – and probably in the world. They are supported by the Environment Agency, the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health, the Chartered Institute of Wastes Management, Municipal Journal and various other professional bodies and organisations.

Gary Gummer, Managing Director of CUS Busting Ltd, collected the award from the cricketer Alan Lamb, at the House of Commons in London on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2005. It was a prestigious occasion, with winners flying in from all over the world. He commented that "It is a tremendous achievement, even to get on the shortlist for this award. To be chosen as a gold prize winner is a wonderful recognition of our eco-friendly product – the Aroma Stress Buster, which has been specifically designed to help relieve stress at work".

For additional information on the Aroma Stress Buster, visit <http://www.aromatherapy-stress-relief.com> or contact Gary on 01993 851913; [gary@aromatherapy-stress-relief.com](mailto:gary@aromatherapy-stress-relief.com). CUS Busting Ltd specialises in the development of eco-friendly aromatherapy gifts that use pure natural essential oils to promote stress relief at work.



Gary at the award ceremony with Alan Lamb who presented the awards

## Girl Guiding

1<sup>st</sup> Bampton Guide Unit Guides (Ages 10 - 14)

By Liz Thorton

Get together with girls who share your love of fun and adventure!

At Guides you get to take part in a wide range of activities with girls your own age. You can choose and plan what you do in small groups of friends.

With no lads around to cramp your style, you're free to find out what really makes you tick.

You can have a laugh with new friends, and try all kinds of activities that you won't find in school or at home.

You choose, but activities include stuff like teamwork, campfire cooking, flights of fancy (art/craft with loads of imagination), ice skating and community action.

If you are interested contact Liz Tel: 07733 320113 and come along to a Guide night in Bampton to find out more.

www.girlguiding.org.uk

www.girlguiding.org.uk/new/guides/



## The Homoeopathy Corner

### PROTECT YOURSELF FROM FLU WITH HOMOEOPATHY

The annual concern about flu epidemics is with us again in the popular media and amongst the public. Homoeopaths are often asked how they can help to prevent and treat flu.

### BOOST YOUR NATURAL IMMUNITY:

The best possible prevention against flu is a strong immune system. Homoeopaths aim to boost your natural immunity and can do this in a number of ways. They can offer anti-flu remedies if you are susceptible to respiratory illnesses in the winter and they may give helpful advice on supplementing your diet at this time of year, for example with Vitamin C and Echinacea extract.

They will prescribe constitutional remedies to maintain you in the best possible health and also for the acute symptoms of flu in the event of an attack. For all of these there is some proof of effectiveness and it is generally accepted that the current weight of evidence indicates that homoeopathic care is successful in the treatment of influenza.

### FLU REMEDIES:

The following homoeopathic remedies can form a flu first aid kit in the home and can be purchased over the counter from pharmacies and health-shops, or ordered from homoeopathic pharmacies. Match your symptoms as closely as possible and use only one remedy at a time.

Arsen-Alb 30c Influenza & gastro-enteritis, vomiting and diarrhea, high fever, hot body yet feels very chilled, better warmth, worse 1 am-2am very restless, anxious & fearful.

Bryonia-Alb 30c Slow onset, very thirsty (but can be too much effort to drink), must lie absolutely still, pains much worse for slight motion; irritable, wants to be alone, quiet. Worse 9 pm, severe headache, worse pressure.

Gelsemium 30c Slow onset, flu with weakness, heaviness, chills up and down the spine, lethargy, muscular aches, eyelids droop. Occipital headache radiates to forehead.

Nux Vomica 30c Flu with great sensitivity to noise, touch; worse slightest uncovering, irritability, feels like a hangover.

Rhus Tox 30c Flu with aching and restlessness, better movement, worse on continued exertion, worse cold and damp, better beat, wrapping up.

For further information or appointment contact your village homoeopath, Margaret Chanter Tel: 01993 851675.

## Walk For Wildlife

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May

Calling all walkers! It's time to sign up for a great day out with friends and family.

The Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust sponsored walk is taking place in Oxfordshire in 2006, and for the first time this year it will be held in partnership with the Friends of Wychwood Forest. Funds raised will go towards the important local conservation work carried out by both charities. The date for your diary is Sunday 14 May.

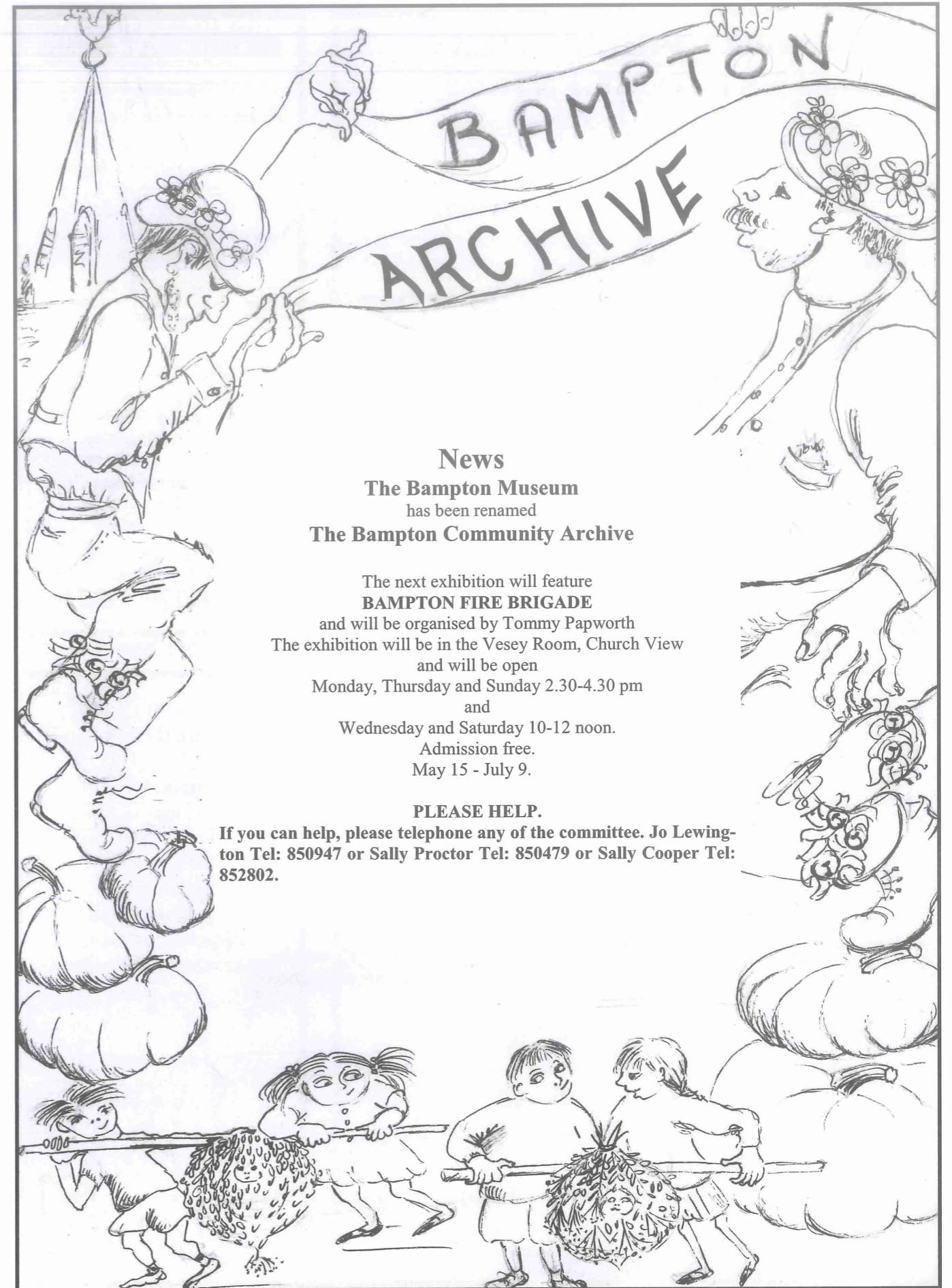
The start and finish point for the walk will be the stately Blenheim Palace near Woodstock. A variety of routes have been planned to suit all abilities, starting with a short three-mile amble suitable for pushchairs and wheelchairs and going up to a major 37-mile hike along the entire Wychwood Way. In between there are routes of around five, eight and 17 miles. So whatever your level there is a walk for you.

All of the routes take in at least some of the grounds of the palace and there is plenty to see along the way. Pretty villages, meadows and woodland are dotted along the route and walkers should be able to enjoy all the sights, smells and signs of spring. To help children and the young at heart get more from their walk there will be special quizzes and activities. It's a great way to get out and about and enjoy the countryside, and you will be raising money for local charities at the same time.

Contact the Wildlife Trust Tel: 01865 775476 for a registration pack. As an additional bonus, everyone who raises £50 or more in sponsorship monies will receive a free copy of the national 'Wildlife Walks' book, worth £12.99.

### God's Acre

We would like to thank *The Burford Garden Centre* for generously giving a donation to create a notice board in the churchyard. This will make it possible to show all the wonderful things that are growing in the churchyard, now that it is a wildlife sanctuary.



## News

### The Bampton Museum

has been renamed

### The Bampton Community Archive

The next exhibition will feature

### BAMPTON FIRE BRIGADE

and will be organised by Tommy Papworth

The exhibition will be in the Vesey Room, Church View

and will be open

Monday, Thursday and Sunday 2.30-4.30 pm

and

Wednesday and Saturday 10-12 noon.

Admission free.

May 15 - July 9.

### PLEASE HELP.

If you can help, please telephone any of the committee. Jo Lewington Tel: 850947 or Sally Proctor Tel: 850479 or Sally Cooper Tel: 852802.

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BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy, MSc/MACP  
ALSO!  
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**FITNESS CLASSES:**  
*Tues 7 - 8pm*  
*Weds 6 - 7pm*  
*Thurs 1 - 2pm*  
Tel/Fax: 01993 851753  
Mobile: 07785 340999  
Email: [fionapem@aol.com](mailto:fionapem@aol.com)

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Dip.CFHP MPSPract(FHP) MVR  
\*Nail Trimming \*Ingrown Toenails  
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and appointments.

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**(01367) 710 365**



(1418)

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E-mail: [poshmargaret@btopenworld.com](mailto:poshmargaret@btopenworld.com)  
or [Encompass5@aol.com](mailto:Encompass5@aol.com)

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60's weekend 16<sup>th</sup> June 2006  
70's weekend 15<sup>th</sup> September 2006  
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(1418)

Dear Editor

I very much want to thank all the kind friends who contributed so generously to my parting present which I was given last autumn. Three lovely trees, each one with special significance to my life, to plant in Julie's garden which is my new home in Stroud; 1) an Indian Bean; 2) a Wisteria; 3) an Irish Yew; and with enough cash left over to help put up a pergola for the wisteria. The garden is quite small and I didn't think it could accommodate such a handsome gift, but the trees have all found the exact spot where they will look their best and constantly remind me of you all and my happy years in Bampton. I have no means of knowing who contributed so this is the only way I can say thank you. Bless you all and may Bampton continue to be the friendly and happy place I found it to be  
Kate Wylie  
Pilgrim Cottage  
Middle Street  
Uplands  
Stroud GL5 1TG

Dear Editor

#### **My Bampton Roots**

With very little information to hand a year or two ago I started to research my father's side of the family tree. I knew virtually nothing about my grandparents who had died years before I was born and I knew that my father had no living siblings. My mother, brother and I were his only family and we had all been born and brought up in London. From my father's birth certificate I knew that my grandfather's name was Frederick Dixey and his wife was called Gertrude. I managed to find their mar-

## LETTERS and E-MAILS TO THE EDITOR

riage certificate which gave me Frederick's father's name of John Dixey but I had no idea where John Dixey came from until I found him on the 1901 Census and I discovered that both John and Frederick had been born in Bampton.

My research went from strength to strength after that and with a lot of work and dedication I eventually built a fairly comprehensive family tree going back many years in Bampton which, in addition to Dixey, included names like Brooks, Carter, Beckingsale, and Townsend.

Then I discovered that Bampton had its own website which gave me lots of interesting information and also a couple of contacts. By now I was determined to see Bampton for myself and my first visit was to the famous Day of Dance last year which I thoroughly enjoyed. I had been having a very useful exchange of emails with Jan Newman, one of my contacts, and it was from her that I learned that in 2005 there was to be an exhibition dedicated to old Bampton families, so I was delighted to be able to take part and put my family tree into it. I also learned that there were Dixeys still living in Bampton and during a second visit a few weeks later with my brother we met up with four brothers, two of whom still reside in Bampton and the others in nearby Witney.

They made us feel so welcome and we are all now firm friends as well as distant cousins. Through the kindness of one of them I also now have a copy of the book "The Bampton we have lost". Further contacts have been established with other descendants of the Bampton Dixeys and a lot of family background information and old photographs have been exchanged. I intend to make visits to Bampton whenever I can and to learn as much as I can about the lives of my ancestors. Everyone I have spoken to has been very kind and helpful and it has been lovely to know that the people of Bampton do not mind having their lives intruded into by the odd "townie" like me who is looking for their roots!

If anyone has any comments they would like to make they can email me on [patriciaann@onetel.com](mailto:patriciaann@onetel.com).  
Pat Hackett (nee Dixey)  
9 Chalk Field  
Letchworth Garden City  
Herts SG6 2BA

Dear Editor

#### **Market Square Tubs**

I hope that most people will have noticed the five tubs that were planted up last year with petunias and other flowers, a further tub was obtained last November and placed under the notice board by the Mosaic. The money for their capital and last year's planting was provided by a grant from the Parish Council as well as most generous donations by individuals and shopkeepers in Bampton. The tubs were planted up last autumn with red Hollanda Tulips and Persian Carpet Wallflowers, which will shortly be in flower. They will be followed by petunias that flower over the summer months.

As a result of an appeal distributed to those in Bampton who kindly gave money last year, the following have done so again in 2006 for which I am very grateful:

Bampton Environmental Watch Group  
Londis Bampton  
Patrick Strainge Butchers  
The Garden Trading Company Bampton  
Andrew Bowman Thatchers  
Mark's Chinese Kitchen

Temples of Bampton

A Simmonds  
The Post Office  
The Earl of Donoughmore  
J. M. Harrison (Solicitors)  
Abbey Properties  
Mr N.A. Brampton  
The Bampton Parish Council  
The Cotton Club

Should anyone else like to contribute to their maintenance, please contact me, Julian Johnston, 10 The High Street, Bampton OX18 2JW or Tel: 850432

Dear Editor

#### **The Bampton We Have Lost**

I would be grateful if you can draw the attention of your readers to a wonderful new edition of 'The Bampton we have Lost' by J.L. Hughes-Owen. This book was originally published about 30 years ago and had been out of print for many years. It has been re-edited in a new format and contains lots of new photographs, which I found really fascinating.

The author, Hughes-Owen, and his wife came to Bampton in 1944 to take up his appointment as Headmaster of Bampton School. Lloyd Hughes-Owen was an historian with a First Class Honours Degree from the University of Exeter. At Exeter he as a contemporary of W.G. Hoskins, who's 'The Making of the English Language' was a pioneer work in the study of Local History. Hughes-Owen was a great admirer of all Hoskin's work

I have lived in Bampton for 23 years. Many people have been here far longer. But, even they may find that there are historical facts about our village, which they didn't know. I enjoyed every page and can recommend it to every reader.

Copies are available, price £15 from Emmie's, Newsagents, Bridge Street and Temples in the Market Square. All profits from the book go to The Friends of St Mary's Bampton.

Yours sincerely  
The Earl of Donoughmore

Dear Editor

As a pedestrian who often wanders down Cheyne Lane and Fishers Bridge I am appalled to see the amount of DOG FAECES left lying

around. I often wander across the fields towards the river and I have noticed several pink plastic bags contain DOG FAECES just left. I wonder if these are left for other people to collect and take home, as the owners are TOO IDLE to take it themselves. A Walker, Weald.

Dear Mrs Gray

My wife and I were delighted to receive the latest copy of the Bampton Beam. Thank you very much and we hope that you will convey our best wishes to the excellent Mrs Kitty Jackson.

We were amazed that so many of the famous Bampton families are mentioned; of course we remember John Quick and family, as well as other

names which include: Rouse, Radband, Bird, Gerring, Bovington, Govier, Walker and Daniels.

As a family, we spent seven happy years in the village, which was in most respects like an extended family. People took care of each other.

We were greatly saddened to learn of the death of Dor Thomson, who was a very good friend. She worked instinctively for the good of others. Please let me know if I can help you in any way.

With kind thoughts and all good wishes

Yours sincerely  
Robert and Cynthia Smith  
18 Grayfriars Walk, Cirencester

## CRIME REDUCTION

*By Bill Butcher, Crime Reduction Advisor  
West Oxfordshire Local Police Area, Thames Valley Police*

SATELLITE navigation is one of the latest novelties for drivers, selling for £2,000 and more at the top of the range, so they may be the most expensive item on show inside a car. However, some systems are held in place by insubstantial mountings and are a great attraction to thieves, particularly because they are easy to offload to unscrupulous dealers.

Along with a West Oxon council car par patrol, I spent a half-day peering through the windows of cars parked in west Oxfordshire car parks. Our mission was to see the interiors through the eyes of criminals, and insecure navigation systems rank high on the hit-list

But we also spotted a range of other items attractive to thieves. One crime report for the Witney area this autumn, points to a £2,000 Sony laptop stolen from a footwell. The owner had popped into a shop for a sandwich. Laptops disappear regularly, both from the interior and from the boot. Other stolen goods included a couple of designer leather jackets worth £1,200 draped across a rear seat, a mobile phone left invitingly on the end of its in-car charger, expensive suitcases, a dozen CDs on display beneath the player and house keys left in the dashboard along with a bill which obligingly gave the home address. Tax discs are also a target and it is possible to buy tamper-proof holders.

Our trawl around west Oxfordshire revealed forty-five cars with valuable property in full view. And, on a lesser scale, the same thing is happening outside supermarkets, schools, workplaces, village halls, hotels and pubs throughout the district.

When I spoke to a couple of returning drivers both said they thought broad daylight and people milling around was protection enough. They were wrong, but there are still many who imagine these crimes only happen under cover of darkness in secluded spots. In fact, late morning to late afternoon is prime time.

The bottom line is that nothing of any value should be left on display when a car is parked. And that includes newly-purchased Christmas presents in their carrier bags. In-car equipment, such as satellite navigation and stereos, should be marked with the vehicle registration number and an alarm is a strong deterrent.

Drivers we did not talk to personally will get crime prevention advice from the DVLA accompanied by a friendly letter explaining their vehicles were seen in a vulnerable state. If the advice is followed ... there will be forty five fewer targets for thieves. West Oxfordshire is a low crime area and if we work together and don't provide easy pickings we can keep it that way.

## BOTLEY FOOTCARE

**Rebecca Warner BSc (Hons) (pod)**

**SRCh MChS HPC Reg**

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## THE BAMPTON RECREATION GROUND

Buckland Road, Bampton.

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

By Pauline Smith

Although England's team has been hit with injuries, here in Bampton we are looking forward to the new cricket season..

Our juniors have entered three competitions and as I write I see the fixtures for the Under 11 and Under 13 teams sitting on my desk. All we need now are the dates for the Kwik Cricket Tournaments we have entered.

So what else do we need?

Well we start the season with a Cricket Force weekend in April when we need to get the nets up and running so that we can prepare the juniors for their first fixture in May.

You can help too as we need players (of all ages), coaches, team managers, drivers, tea makers, organisers and gofers of all kinds.

Please take the time to help Bampton make its name in the world of cricket. For further details call Pauline: Tel: 01993 210140.

Then, who knows in a few years time perhaps we could be watching the papers to see how one of our players is getting on in the big league!

### Other Sporting Activities

#### Bampton Archery Club

Chairman: John Hill Tel: 01993 850513.

#### Bampton Weightlifting Club

Chairman: Don Rouse: Tel: 01993 850938.

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

#### Bampton Badminton Club

Enquiries: Lesley Campbell Tel: 852846.

Meets every Tuesday 10 - 12am Bampton Village Hall.

#### Bampton Town Football Club

Chairman: Mr J P Walker: Tel: 01993 852361

Secretary: Mr P Tanner: Tel: 01993 210009

#### Bampton Football Teams

From Under 8s upwards:

Secretary: Andrew Squires: Tel: 01993 852278.

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

#### The Horseshoes Football Club

##### Sunday League Football

Chairman: Alan Clarke: Tel: 01993 850201.

Secretary: Bill Godfrey: Tel: 01993 850014.

#### Bampton Archery Club

Contact: John Hill: Tel: 01993 850513.

#### Bampton Tennis Club

Contact: Karen Easterbrook: Tel: 01993 850772.

Email:

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

### Carterton Health Walks

We walk from the Town Hall, Alvescot Road Carterton at 10 am on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

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

Further details available from:

Margaret Tinner: Tel: 01993 842156.

#### Witney Bees Netball Club

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

### The Bampton Directory

Copies can be obtained from Temples Emmie's and A. Simmonds Old Fashioned Village Store, at a cost of £1.

### THE PAVILION

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

#### Some General Hire Prices

##### Pavilion

08:00 - 13:00 : £40

13:00 - 18:00 : £40

18:00 - 23:59 : £80

Whole Day : £160

Football Pitch : £25 per game

Changing Facilities : £10

Multisport Bampton Residents

£10.00

Non-Residents

£12.50

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

Ray Willis Tel: 01993 852483 or

Mobile: 07766 264684

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

#### While using skate park

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

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

#### Insurance Liabilities

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

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

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



### From Skydiving to greyhound ownership.....

Yes of course it can only be our very own Hilda Kent! Hilda in her 89<sup>th</sup> year has chalked up another first for herself.

She has a new constant companion - 'Teddy' a retired ex-racing greyhound.

I am sure most of the villagers will now have been introduced to Teddy, a beautiful black and white greyhound rehomed to Hilda through Westarth Greyhound Rehoming Kennels. Teddy can be seen being chauffeured by Hilda on every outing from art classes in Witney to lunch at the Bush Club where he has proved to be a very popular young man! Hilda and Teddy can also be seen frequently doing a spot of gardening and enjoying the sun together.

As Hilda will tell you greyhounds do make wonderful companions and with a need for 10,000 homes a year there

is always a desperate need. We welcome any enquiries on greyhound sponsorship and ownership. If you are not quite sure have a word with Hilda ... you will be convinced... ..

## The Bush Club Celebrates its 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary With a Special Lunch



The Stalwart 'Backroom Staff' make sure the day goes according to Plan!

Photographs Courtesy Roger Kerswill

On Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2005 the Bush Club celebrated its 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Over 100 people shared the day with us, all of whom had something to do with the Bush Club, now or in the past. We were very lucky to have the Spotlight Club of RAF Brize Norton, McLeans Bus Company, and the RAF Parachute Regiment, attend. They have all done so much for us over the years and still continue to provide us with so much support.

Everyone enjoyed a glass of wine or soft drink to toast the 20 years and a celebration cake was cut.

Mrs Rosemary Colville gave a short talk on the history of the Bush Club and thanked all those involved for keeping its wheels turning so smoothly.

The members and visitors then went into dinner in the newly decorated dining room - courtesy of the RAF Parachute Regiment - and enjoyed fish, chips and peas cooked by the Chef from The Romany. The array of sweets were made by the Bush Club cooks. The day was a great success enjoyed by all.

# THE SPAJERS

are pleased to announce

The Second Village-wide

## Garage Sale

Sunday April 30<sup>th</sup> 2006

11am to 3pm

Bampton will be opening its garage doors in a massed sale.

On the day the Village Hall will have a map of garages taking part, costing £1.00, also available at participating sites.

These maps will include entry into a competition for a cash prize, details on map.

There will be tabletops and refreshments at the Village Hall.

For further information Tel 01993 850760

Kajie@greenfiddle.fsnet.co.uk

# Bampton Garage

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Mobile 07768 912821

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Brakes

Welding

Air Con

Tyres

Exhausts

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

# The Romany Inn

A fresh new approach to a great old inn

Charles & Siobhan would like to welcome you to The Romany

Our seasonal menu consists of local produce & fresh Cornish fish

We have a daily specials board

We have a range of fine ales & wines

Our tap selection currently is:

Brakspear, Hobgoblin, Deuchars, IPA, Hooky Bitter

We will be introducing live music this spring

The Romany has 9 en-suite rooms available throughout the year

Food served daily 12 - 2pm, 6.30 - 9pm

Traditional Sunday lunch served daily 12 - 5.30pm

For Bookings: 01993 850237



## Do you need childcare in your community?

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

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

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

For school aged children (primary and secondary) it is any childcare that happens outside of school hours. This could be a breakfast club, after school club or holiday play scheme. For 3 and 4 years olds it is childcare that wraps around an educational pre-school session, either before or after the session or a holiday play scheme. If you would like to talk about setting up and out of school childcare project in your community, contact the Childcare Development Team. Tel: 01235 549331

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

### Cancer Research UK

The Cancer Research Bampton Branch held its AGM on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January. The committee for 2006 are:

**Chairman** - Mrs Doris Cleaver

**Treasurer** - Mr Michel Cleaver

**Secretary** - Mrs Eileen Dring

During 2006 we made a record amount of £19,784 91p. Many thanks to everyone especially our loyal supporters. We start with our Easter sale, with lots of bargains including the new 'yellow table', admission is free. Dates for the Diary

**Easter Sale** - Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> April, Village Hall, Bampton 10am

**Quiz Night** - Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May, Village Hall, Bampton

**Autumn Sale** - Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September, Village Hall, Bampton

**Pre-Christmas Bingo** - Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November, Village hall

**Christmas Quiz** - Friday 1<sup>st</sup> Decem-

## NOTICE BOARD

ber, Village Hall, Bampton

**Country and Western Dance** - Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December, Carterton Social Centre.

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

### Movies on the Move

#### Bampton Village Hall

Thanks to funding from the West Oxfordshire Network Leader + 2000 – 2006 Programme, The Theatre, Chipping Norton is able to bring up to date films to Village Halls. Bampton Village Hall is taking part in this project and films are currently being shown on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of every other month.

The programme for the next few months is:

Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> May 7.30pm 'The Narnia Chronicles'

Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> July 7.30pm 'Mrs Henderson Presents'

Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> September 7.30pm 'The Constant Gardener'

Tickets £3.00 are on sale at Temple's for 2 weeks in advance and at the door.

### The Children's Society

The annual box collection this year raised £452.93, so welcome at Christmas when we are thinking of children less fortunate than our own. Special thanks to Junior Church we received money both from their cake stall and from Sunday collections, and to Londis and the Surgery where boxes are kept for us. I am always grateful to the Post Office where our monies are kindly banked free of charge.

Last year, because our total had fallen I appealed for new box holders to come forward and I am delighted that people responded in such a positive way. I know there are so many demands on your giving but again if anyone feels able to take a box and collect at home I would be very pleased to deliver a box to you. (Those irritating 5p pieces could be rescued from pockets and purses and they certainly mount up!).

Thank you again to all those who made donations, the Society helps over 50,000 children and their families every year and it is only through your generosity that there work can continue. Pauline Hawkins - Tel 851066.

### Bampton Youth Club

We are delighted to announce that a new Youth Leader, Emma Phillips, has now been recruited to run both the Senior and Junior Clubs. The Junior Club for 10 – 14 year olds with Val Rogers as the assistant will open on Tuesday 21 February. The Senior Club for 13 – 19 year olds will open on Thursday evenings as soon as the Police checks are completed for the assistant.

Oxfordshire County Council pays for the Senior Club workers but the Junior Club workers have to be paid from local funding. Thanks to the Parish Council, the Bampton Welfare Trust, St Mary's PCC and other charities in Bampton the cost for the first year has been covered. We now have to find grants to cope with future years.

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

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

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

### Bampton Exhibition Foundation

The Foundation exists to maintain the Old Grammar School building (now the Library), and to provide financial support to young people residing in the Ancient Parish of Bampton, Aston, Lew and Weald. The financial help is for young people who would like to participate in any academic or sporting course or activity of educa-

tional value which would otherwise be beyond their means. Anyone who feels they qualify (or knows of someone who may do so) should contact the Correspondence Secretary, Marion Dowding, Bay Tree Cottage, Rosemary Lane, Bampton, OX18 2NF or Tel: 850167.

### The Bush Club Needs You!

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

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

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

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

### Bampton Baby Toddler Group

We meet in the Village Hall every Thursday between 10am - 11.45am. We provide toys, slide, singing and drinks and biscuits for children 0 to Pre-school. For more information contact **Angela Irvin, Tel: 01993 210096** or

**E-mail [angy.Irvin@tesco.net](mailto:angy.Irvin@tesco.net)**

### Bampton Drop-In

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

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

### Bampton Bridge Club

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

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



### Welcome to West Ox Arts

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

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

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

Benefits include:

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

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

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

### Robert Vesey Room at Bampton Library : Exhibitions

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

### Are you sitting comfortably?

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

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

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

days. The annual subscription is £5 with a charge of £1.00 per session. New members are always welcome. For more information contact, **Joan Granville, Tel: 850407**.

### Old Birthday Cards

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

### Bampton Ladies Group

We are a group of Ladies who meet in

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

### Recycling your old Mobile

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

It's the 54<sup>th</sup> .....



# Bampton

# Shirt Race

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May

- 6.45pm Judging of the Best Fancy Dress
  - 7.15pm Junior & Intermediate Races
  - 7.30pm Senior Race
  - 8.00pm Prizes Presentation
- All times very approximate!

### On horseback to the gym

Taken from an article in  
*The Witney Gazette*  
Courtesy of Debbie Waite and  
*The Witney Gazette*

Calum Taylor and Leah Griggs are each well known in the world of sport – she as a talented horsewoman, and he as a county cricketer. But they are adding even more strings to their sporting bow, by opening the country's first horse/gym.

Calea, a combination of the young couple's names, is based at Westfield Farm, Shilton, and aims to use Calum's talents as a personal trainer and Leah's equine skills, to help Britain's chances in the 2012 Olympics.

"As far as we know, this is the only place of its sort outside the United States" said Mr Taylor, 22. "We're amazed no one has thought of doing it before. Riders can come here and improve the fitness and performance of their horses, whilst also embarking on their own fitness programme in the gym. It's the whole package – personal training for the horse and the ride"

Miss Griggs, 21, who is herself in training for the Olympic qualifiers, added: "We already have a number of young Olympic hopefuls from Oxfordshire on our books, including

Kitty Boggis, who did exceptionally well at Blenheim last year. People may find it a bit unusual at first – to have a fitness programme for both them and their horse – but when they come to us, realise the whole other range of benefits. I can look at them and their horse, and pinpoint problems with their balance, strength, and technique, both in rider and horse, while Calum can look at their fitness needs.



Leah and Calum  
The 'Beam' wishes them every success

People mistakenly think that horse-riding itself is enough to get you fit, but it's as much about your own personal fitness and techniques as the horse's skills. People are amazed by how concentrating on both really helps their overall performance" Partners in their lives, as well as in

business, Mr Taylor and Miss Griggs met six years ago, while both still at school, and live and work together at Westfield Farm.

"We lived across the road from each other when we were younger, became a couple, and have been together ever since," said Miss Griggs.

"The couple realised the potential of their new venture after the success they enjoyed 'practising' on each

other. "Over the years, I have helped Calum to perfect his riding skills, and in turn, he has identified problems, particularly with my back, that have been helped by the right exercise programme and massage," said Miss Griggs. "Like most 'horsey' people, I used to think that only important thing was my horse, but exercise gives you more stamina, and also helps you to breathe properly, which is very important in equine sports. Watching Calum in action is amazing. He is not a professional rider, but he can stand and watch a horse- man or woman and identify if they are not using their

heels properly or if they have weak tendons, and help them to solve that with exercise. I have seen some of my most capable young riders make massive improvements with his help, both in their performance and their confidence. New Calea clients undergo assessments from both Mr Taylor and Miss Griggs, including a fitness test.

"As well as gym work, like rowing, which gives strength to pull the reins, we also use boxing and swimming," said Mr Taylor. "We also look at nutrition and ask people to keep a food diary."

Miss Griggs added: "It's a really exciting time, and we're not fazed by the challenge. We've done a lot of careful planning, and we're confident the business will grow as more people find out about it. Ultimately, we'd love to set up a riding and sports academy, and also have offices across the world. As for the next few years, we'd love to be involved in boosting Oxfordshire and Britain's hopes in the Olympics. We believe we can help them get to a higher level."

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**Book In Now To Avoid Disappointment**

**All levels & Abilities welcome**

## The Bampton Gardening Club 2006 News

### BAMPTON GARDENING CLUB DAY TRIPS 2006

The following are the planned activities for the coming year. Please note that you do not have to be a member of the Gardening Club to join us on the trips.

#### Sunday April 9<sup>th</sup>

A mystery tour, with perhaps the chance to wine and dine with old friends.

#### Sunday May 14<sup>th</sup>

Another return visit as we join the throng at the Malvern Spring Show, always popular at this time of the year.

#### Sunday June 18<sup>th</sup>

Further afield this time but another return visit as we head off to Geoff Hamilton's gardens at Barnsdale.

#### July 9<sup>th</sup>

This month your choice of occupation is wide ranging. A new location takes us to Poole with its potteries, boat trips, museum and of course shops.

#### August

It's our trip to the seaside this month, date and location still to be confirmed.

#### September

This month is holiday month, details in separate publication.

#### Sunday October 22<sup>nd</sup>

A tour to view the wonderful colours of autumn finishing with lunch or afternoon tea, at Hatton Country World.

#### Sunday November 5<sup>th</sup>

It's the annual outing for the trained retail therapists in the club as we head to Bath. Of course there is more to the city than shops so don't think you have spend, spend, spend.

#### Saturday November 25<sup>th</sup>

We are trying to arrange something different again. Not only will you get time in Windsor and a guided tour of the lights, you will also get a night flight on the London Eye. (This trip will be quite expensive and payment for the flight will be required at time of booking). This is still being organised so more later in the year.

#### Short Breaks and the Annual Holiday

#### April 15<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> Norfolk

A three day two night break based at the Lenwade House Hotel situated 10 miles from Norwich. The break in-

cludes entrance to Sandringham Estate & Gardens and the Thursford Collection. Price £165 per person.

#### August 19<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> Eastbourne

Another three day two night break at the Cavendish Hotel which is situated on the Seafront of Eastbourne's Grand Parade. A bonus for this week end is the free Airshow. Price £157 per person.

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

The main holiday is a visit to Yorkshire. We will be staying at the Moat Hotel in the centre of Harrogate. Included in the package is a guided full day tour of the Dales and entrance to the Autumn Flower Show. Price £439 per person.

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

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

We hope that in amongst the above outings, something will appeal to all of you, over the year. In addition to these we hope to arrange three short breaks and of course the holiday. Unfortunately, due to rising costs we are having to increase the price of the day trips to £13.50 for the coach.

If you are interested in travelling on any of the trips please Contact **Ellen Parker Tel: 01993 843985** - as soon as possible. It is easier for you to cancel than to join at the last moment.

#### Annual 2006 Show

The schedule for the 2006 show will be coming out in April. Hopefully, just in time for you to organise your vegetable and flower seed buying. The date as usual is Bank Holiday Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> August, entries will be taken the morning of the show.

#### Coffee Mornings

The dates for the Coffee Mornings are as follows, unless of course something happens and we have to change the date. It pays to watch out for the posters advertising these dates just in case!!

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July

They will be held in the Town Hall, between 10am and 12noon. We hope to have the usual things cakes, raffle, plants and of course the tea & coffee.

## What happens to recyclable materials in West Oxfordshire

By Fay Walters

Waste Promotions Officer,

West Oxfordshire District Council

The safe disposal of 'rubbish' is a major task for any local authority. It can also make a significant impact on the landscape. Recent changes to statutory requirements have significantly increased the need to separate out a range of materials for recycling and thereby reduce quantities going into landfill sites.

West Oxfordshire currently separates and recycles nearly 21% (8777 tonnes) of its rubbish. Collections from black boxes by kerbside sort lorries are now a familiar sight in the area. Their contents are then taken to the Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) in Enstone, where they are mechanically separated out before being sold on to be recycled, but to what?

**GLASS** - 70% of glass is separated out, sold to the UK glass industry and recycled for bottle making and fibre glass manufacture. A small amount of this is also used in road aggregate.

The glass collected from households in West Oxfordshire is taken to a glass recycling company in West Yorkshire. The remaining 30% goes into the European glass market, mainly to Italy, France, Spain, and Portugal. Here it is used for making bottles that tend to be a darker green having been made from a variety of different colours of glass.

**CANS** - Our food and drinks cans are taken to Carmarthenshire, Wales. Steel is recovered and sold globally

### Mushroom

### Compost

(Spent)

50lb bags

£2/bag delivered

Bulk loose also available

**01386 442882**

whilst aluminium is sold within the UK and made into new drinks cans. It can take as little as six weeks to recycle a used drink can to make a new one for the supermarket shelf.

**GARDEN WASTE** - The green waste collected via our kerbside Bulky Household Waste collection is taken to the County-run civic amenity sites. From Dean Pit, the green waste is taken to be composted in Chipping Norton and used to fertilise the land of local farms. From Dix Pit the compost is used in the same way around Hinton Waldrist.

**PAPER** - Our paper is taken to Aylesford Kent, where it is made into newsprint. Higher grade office paper collected at the WODC offices is sold on to be made into tissue paper products.

**PLASTICS** - A company in Lancashire processes our plastics. Mixed plastics are recycled to make a wide range of products, including drainpipes, insulation materials, flower pots, watering cans and fleece materials.

For further information please contact Tel: 861020 or E-mail [envservices@westoxon.uk](mailto:envservices@westoxon.uk).

## The Annual GRAND PLANT SALE

will take place on  
Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May 10-4pm  
at

Eagle House,  
Church View, Bampton

We sell big plants for small money - bedding and perennials, herbs and vegetables, shrubs and trees and, of course, a special line in pelargoniums and geraniums.

The frosts will be over (we hope) so come and stock your garden with colour for the summer.

Any contributions of plants, shrubs, tree, vegetables, etc. would be gratefully received by Jo Lewington, Sandford Cottage, Bridge Street or the Pages, Eagle House either before or on the day.

All proceeds to the  
Bampton Community Archive  
and  
Bampton Zimbabwe Project.



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## THE HORSESHOE INN

Bridge Street, Bampton  
01993 850201

Your Hosts are Alan and Kath Clarke

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

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

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



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# SPAJERS News

By Don Rouse

Our new year has got off to a tremendous start with the Mumpers raising a record £926.00. So thank you all for being so kind and generous. Perhaps next year we can achieve the One Thousand Pound mark. Special thanks must go to all those people who invited the Mumpers into their homes, not only for their generosity but also in helping them maintain such a wonderful Bampton tradition. Whilst three of the Mumpers are indeed SPAJER committee members, I would like give special thanks to the other three namely Toby Perry, Bruce Piercy and Calum Taylor who so willingly give their time and energy to our very worthy cause.

We have a very interesting programme for Bampton folk and their friends to participate in Junketing.

Our next event is the Quiz night which will be held on the 7<sup>th</sup> April in the Village Hall. It is teams of six vying for the Title and Trophy of the 'Brains of Bampton'. This is becoming a very popular event and we already have three teams entered, so make sure that you get your entries in quickly with the entrance fee of £6.00 per person (this includes supper) to our secretary Roger Snow Tel: 850113 by the 24<sup>th</sup> March. The last thing we want to do is to disappoint people through lack of space.

This always brings me to my favourite moan. When can Bampton have a hall large enough to seat more than 120 people? The SPAJERS have needed one for the past thirty years! Certainly before the beautiful but inadequately sized sports pavilion was built - Sorry Ed this was not meant to be political. I just get carried away sometimes.

I had better hand over to one of our younger ones to take the heat out and tell you what else is happening.

So it is over to Jackie Green  
Thanks Don.

Here we are again. Winter is on its way out and spring is around the corner. Soon be time to start spring cleaning !!But what to do with all the things you find at the back of the

shed. Once again the SPAJERS have the answer. Following last year's huge success we will be holding the 2<sup>nd</sup> BIG SPRING CLEAN-OUT on SUNDAY 30<sup>th</sup> APRIL. Last year became one of those magic days that happens in Bampton when almost all the village turned out and took part in the party atmosphere. Thanks to all the advertising we did with leaflet drops at Gloucester, Oxford and Witney car boots sales on the 4 weekends leading up to the event, and with posters around a ten mile radius of the village, helped of course by our "fifteen minutes of fame" on Radio Oxford, we had visitors from as far away as Hereford as well as our surrounding towns and villages.

Many of these commented on what a wonderful idea it was, and thoroughly enjoyed the carnival spirit the village took on, and said they would see us in 2006. So come on good people of Bampton let's do it again; sort out your cupboards, dung out your garage, and ferret in the loft!! To book your place call Mat or Jackie Tel: 01993 850760.

Thanks Jackie, I needed the break!

On Saturday the 27<sup>th</sup> May, our Shirt Race will return to the pre-Prince Charles time of 6.45pm for the Fancy Dress judging. This will be followed by the Junior and Intermediate races being run together, then of course the Senior Race. We are hoping that a VVIP will do the judging and present

the prizes, but his name is a very well kept secret at this moment in time - partly because we haven't asked him yet!

Those of you who are new to Bampton probably wonder what the SPAJERS is all about. Well very briefly it was formed in 1953 by our Editor's Father and a few friends, to promote Junketing (feast making, merry making) in Bampton whilst raising funds to assist our senior citizens to do likewise. We always manage to give them a trip to the seaside or similar in the summer and a nice cash Christmas present in December. Wherever possible we do other things for them as well. So if you would like to be included in our Junketing just let us know. The membership criteria are that you must be of the national pensionable age and have lived in Bampton for at least six months. If you would like to be a member please let our 'keeper of the list' Jeff Dando know Tel: 850643. Also those of you who have now attained the required age or you know of someone who has but is too shy to ask, please tell us, but ask their permission first! It is the only way we can get this information, so we are relying on you the Bamptonians to keep us informed.

Learn more about the origins of The SPAJERS, and other Bampton Societies, on the Bampton Website - [www.bamptonoxon.co.uk](http://www.bamptonoxon.co.uk) - Sub-Ed.

### Don Rouse MBE-On Video

'Beam' Agricultural Correspondent, Don Rouse, has given his services free of charge for the production of two videos recording his humour-filled talks to local groups to raise funds for the SPAJERS for the benefit of Bampton's senior citizens.

The videos will entertain and captivate anyone with an interest in local life. Obtainable on DVD or VHS direct from the producer for £15 each inclusive of p&p, make sure you add these amusing titles to your collection.

The SPAJERS will receive £3 from every sale.

The video titles are:

'Don Rouse MBE Recalls: Growing up in Bampton', and

'Don Rouse MBE Recalls: 'A bit on the side'

Please send cheque (payable to Abiding Image) specifying title(s) and format required together with delivery address to:

K H Barney, 3 Argentan Close, ABINGDON, OX14 5WQ

*The videos contain some adult oriented material.*

## The Don Rouse Videos Questions and Answers!

Don Rouse on Video - Your Questions answered

This issue we are carrying an advertisement for vide's featuring our agricultural correspondent Don Rouse. We were curious as to the reasons these videss were made and have asked a series of questions to both Don and the producer, locally born Keith Barney, on your behalf. Here are the answers we were given.

**Don, what was the background to these videos?**

Well some months ago Keith Barney approached me with the idea that some of my stories from past Beam articles should be committed to video for the possible benefit of a wider audience. He saw this both as a business opportunity for himself and as a way of raising funds for the SPAJERS. As you know I will do anything (within reason) for this worthy cause and was glad to co-operate. Over the course of time however, the idea developed into a different approach where a couple of my talks to local groups were recorded and those are what the finished videos now feature.

**Are you satisfied the SPAJERS are receiving a fair share of the proceeds?**

Yes. There are some quite high costs involved in producing small runs of videos like this and what with distribution costs I understand that around 5% of the profit is going to SPAJERS. That's £3 per copy sold. I would also add that if Keith hadn't come forward with the idea the videos wouldn't have been made at all and no funds would have been raised, so I saw it very much as a win-win situation. Incidentally can I point out that I am not receiving a single penny from this!

*And now for the questions we asked Keith Barney*

**Isn't it true that you're simply exploiting Don's fame for your own profit?**

To an extent yes. However, we are not talking big numbers here and I need to sell a minimum of 110 copies before I will make any money whatsoever from this initiative. So far only about half that target has been reached and I have also undertaken that whilst the SPAJERS. will always receive no less than £3 per copy sold I should sell more than 150 copes any extra profits will be shared equally between myself and the SPAJERS.

**Can we be sure the SPAJERS. will receive all the money they are due?**

Well I hope that anyone locally who knows me will know that I can be trusted, after all my mother lives in the village so I am hardly likely to do anything to sully the family name and reputation! I would also be happy to produce a set of accounts covering these video's for you to publish in a future Bampton Beam. Finally I have already paid over to the SPAJERS. The first instalment covering all sales up to Christmas 2005 despite the fact that I have yet to realise any profit.

Ed. We felt very satisfied with the answers we obtained and hope that anyone who has yet to buy a copy of either video/DVD will do so both for their own pleasure, as a record of local characters and stories of interest, and to help bolster the funds of the SPAJERS

## Paul McGrath

By Don Rouse

February has been a very sad month for us with the untimely death of our PUBLIC Relations Officer Paul McGrath. No, the word PUBLIC has not been typed wrongly. You see it was Paul's responsibility to keep all the Pubs informed as to what we were doing, thereby keeping a large portion of the Bampton public aware. He often threatened to apply for out-of-pocket expenses but in true SPAJER tradition he never did. He was a fantastic raconteur who brought happiness to many. His knowledge of Bampton people and their needs was second to none. He will be terribly missed by us as well as the people he helped so tirelessly.

His funeral in St Mary's Bampton said it all. It was standing room only. Paul, a practicing Catholic, had us all, no matter what denomination, joined together in saying thanks to God for giving us such a wonderful person. He will be sadly missed.

*The 'Beam Team' would also like to say how sadly we will miss him, because he was in fact one of 'The Beam Team'. Paul was one of our stalwart 'Beam Walkers' who deliver the 'Beam' to your door - and not always in pleasant weather. If one of our other 'Beam Walkers' couldn't make an edition delivery, then you could always rely on Paul to fill in. Mind you, based on what Don has said above, he might have combined the two jobs! Rest in peace Paul.*

## David Tomkinson

The 'Beam Team' would also like to express its sympathy to the family and friends of David Tomkinson, who also died recently. David, for many years, until his health began to fail, was also one of our stalwart 'Beam Walkers'. He will also be sadly missed.

## New to Cruising?

Then why not come along and join us at a 'Cheese and Wine Cruise Evening' and learn more about cruising with a short talk and video on *The Fred Olsen Cruise Lines*.

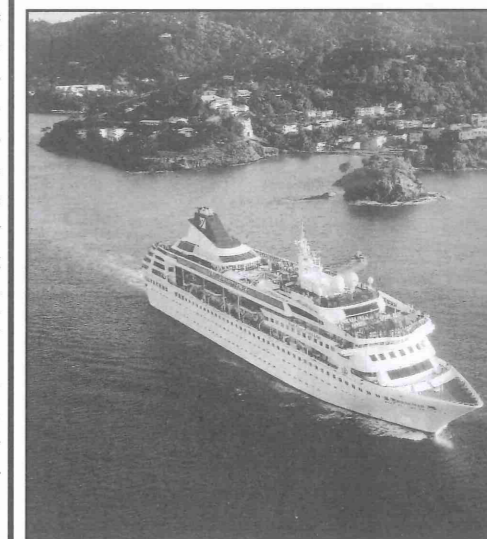
Date: Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April

Time: 7.30pm

Location: Bampton Village Hall

The evening will be hosted by Lucy Thurston and Dennis Pizzey from Fred Olsen Cruise Lines.

You can turn up on the night, but since space is a little bit limited, it would be safer if you obtain a ticket, which you can do by calling either Dennis Pizzey Tel: 01993 868688, or Fenella Gray Tel: 01993 851653.



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## OUT OF WORK FARMER - TURNED AGRICULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

By Don Rouse

To start with, I have a few comments that come from last autumn's edition of the Beam. I noticed that our sub editor disagreed with me calling our town Bampton in the Bush. I know and accept that many historians much more knowledgeable than I agree with him. But that does not stop me from wanting to be different and wanting our Bampton to be something special. You've got Bampton in Devon, Bampton in Cumbria. So what is wrong with Bampton in the Bush? I think it adds romance and mystery to our title.

Like. What do the people of Bampton get up to in the Bush? I have just been looking at a map of the area produced in 1767 and that refers to us as Bampton in the Bush. So maybe our sub-Ed can get a message through to them and tell them they got it wrong as well!

At the end of the article entitled 'Gods Acre' our editor invited us to comment as to how we felt about the state of the Churchyard. Well I think it is a terrible mess and shameful. The Churchyard, for the majority of years that I have known it, has been our pride and joy. In the early 1950s the Revd Kelway formed a youth club called the Guild of St Mary's which encouraged the teenagers of the day to give a few hours each week keeping the churchyard clean and tidy; we even had our own little flower garden. (See I haven't always been macho). It certainly made us have great pride in our Churchyard. Lets face it, many Best Kept Village prizes are won and lost by the state of the Churchyard. Me thinks it is going to take a miracle for us to get into the reckoning as things are at the moment. Now it seems to resemble the Flower Power age of the 1960s and we all know what that led to. Sowing wild oats all week and then praying for a crop failure on Sundays.

I see in the appropriately named book, certainly in this instance, 'The Bampton We Have Lost' by J.L.Hughes-Owen, there is mention that in 1741 the Churchyard was, and I quote

'Overrun with noxious weeds lying in a very slovenly indecent posture'. When there was no response after two years the Church Wardens were ordered to take immediate action.

The quicker today's Church Wardens get their orders the better. Still that is just my personal views and has nothing to do with the 'Beam's' policy of impartiality!

The Government is talking about valuation officers visiting everyone's abode to assess whether the householders enjoy decent views and if they do they will tax them accordingly. I am hoping when they visit me, that the person doing the assessment will have an aversion to Bampton and give me a rebate! But if like me they enjoy the views, then I shall have to hope that a VC10 will fly over and shatter their indulgence. Why oh why do we have to put up with these terrible 'ear blasters'? British Airways made them extinct twenty years ago. They are no longer allowed on civilian airfields because they emit more decibels of sound than is permitted; so why should we have to put up with them? I have no trouble with the C17s or the Tristars, and don't forget I live closer to them than most Bampton people, so I can talk with some authority. We have had such an enjoyable and peaceful winter, what a shame it has to end.

Do you remember a few *Beams* ago, I mentioned what lovely people we have serving in our shops and Post Office? Well there is something that I have to take back! No, we still have those same people who make it a joy to shop in Bampton, but if you remember, I criticised the old battle axe that used to serve, or should I say frighten, us many years ago in the Post Office. Well I now take it all back, she could not have been so bad, because when Mary and I were sorting out a few boxes recently - yes we are still unpacking - we came across a Greetings Telegram that she sent us on our Wedding Day, wishing us all the very best for our future together. As that was nearly forty seven years

ago, her wishes must still be working! So she could not have been so bad.

I always have trouble remembering whether I am a Naturalist or a Naturalist! I know that I take off all my clothes to have a bath. But what an abundance of Nature doing what comes naturally we have in the area around here. There is a group of five fallow deer who enjoy the freedom of the area between Lew and Bampton. If I inadvertently frighten them they can be in the area of New Road in two seconds flat; they seem to take a delight in kicking their heels high into the air as they go, as if to taunt me 'catch us if you can'.

I came across a badger set the other day, their network of tunnels was absolutely fascinating, literally tons of earth had been moved to enable them to set up home. A bit like us humans I suppose. After waxing in the beauty of it all I then began to look at it all as a farmer and humanitarian. The holes were so big that a horse or similar sized animal could break a leg, and a tractor driver, unaware of the holes, would certainly be seriously injured as the holes would turn a tractor over. To say nothing of the badgers connection with TB.

Last year I experienced a lot of trouble with rabbits getting into my garden; they even ate the tops off the onions. Perhaps they have got a bit of French rabbit in their blood! So this winter I have been very busy putting up a 'rabbit proof' fence around my vegetable patch, digging the wire netting three inches into the ground, but what did I see yesterday? They had dug a tunnel from about three hundred yards away and surfaced right in the middle of the garden! You cannot but help to admire their navigational skills. I am considering resorting to the farmers traditional way of dealing with such pests, but as my wife was born in the year of the rabbit I could be faced with a bit of trouble from 'her indoors'!

Talking of the wonderful joys of nature, a local farmer was telling me how, as part of the Countryside Stew-

ardship programme that he has been compelled to join if he wants to stay in business, he has to leave six metres of land around the outsides of his fields as grass land. The outer three metres he cannot touch at all and this has to be left to encourage all the wildlife to spawn and grow (so Churchwardens don't worry there is a huge area in and around Bampton to do the job that most people don't want you to do). This all sounds very nice, and the farmer, in showing his 'flower power' tendency, is very proud of what he has achieved. He tells me however that he has a slight problem, and that is, when Jo Public is out walking his dogs and notices a lovely patch of green grass around the outside of the field, he cannot resist it and, accompanied by his dogs, proceeds to walk on this designated wildlife territory, frightening the hell out of all and sundry. Ah well, all the intentions were honourable.

One of my farming informants was regaling me with some of the stories of the bureaucracy involved in farming. Years ago you learnt how to operate sprayers by studying all the latest information available on the subject. If there was even the slightest chance of an error of judgement, then you made sure that you erred on the side of caution. Certainly in all the years that we were farming we never had an accident. Nowadays farmers have to rely on contractors for such work and the farmer is responsible for all the accompanying paper work. It reads like this: name, address and certificate number of the person who advised him of what chemical to use; name of the contractor with his certificate number; the chemical used; the speed and direction of the wind; the date and the temperature; the driving operator's name and certificate number; and would you believe it the, MOT number of the spraying vehicle! If I had to fill in such forms I would not be able to resist telling the authorities that I also use St Izal toilet paper!

Another job that the authorities asked him to do was to inform them of every tree on his property that was more than ten inches thick at chest height! If the next government was to decide to do away with all unnecessary paperwork, I wonder just how many people would be out of work? I would

# Morris Dancing Day Refreshments

Village Hall

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May

9.30am - 5.00pm

Tea - Coffee  
Bacon Baps & Filled Rolls  
(Morning)  
Cakes & Biscuits  
(Afternoon)

In aid of the  
Royal British Legion  
(Bampton Branch)

think thousands in the printing trade alone to say nothing of the civil servants! The quicker this country can get back to doing what it does best, producing top quality food and goods, and not mountains of paper, the better. It is at times like this that I am so glad I got out of farming when I did.

In conclusion I would like to apologise to all those people who bought

my SPAJER videos with the Title 'A bit on the side', thinking that it was going to be 'The confessions of an out of work farmer'. I am sorry if you were misled and disappointed. That one will have to wait a bit as I am still doing things that I do not want to confess to. Well not yet!

## Bampton Welfare Trust

Charity No. 202735

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

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

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

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

Mill Green Cottage, Bampton, Tel: 01993 850589.

**Welfare Officer:** Mrs J Newman,  
Leofric House, 81 New Road, Bampton, Tel: 01993 850755

### PLEASE NOTE

*The next meeting at which applications will be considered is on Monday 30th January 2006.*

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



## Bampton Charity Shop

By Fenella Gray, Chairman

The Charity Shop has been going now for over 18 months, and has been excellently supported by the people of Bampton, and others from the surrounding parishes - both bringing in items, and buying them!



The Bampton Charity Shop.....soon to be renamed...  
....The Bampton Community Shop!

However, you will see a change in name over the shop shortly, as we have had a problem setting up the shop as a charity.

The original aim of setting up the shop was to support good causes in the Village, and that is still the aim. However, since this means that we could be supporting other charities in the Village, this gave us a problem with the Charities Commission; in that a charity cannot support another charity - at least not financially.

Hence, we had to look to see if there was some other arrangement we could adopt, while still benefiting from the 'charity' status.

This has taken some time to sort out, and we have had to take legal advice while investigating the possibilities, but we have now found a way of doing it - by becoming a non-profit making company, which will be called 'The Bampton Community Shop'. The shop will still do the same things it has been doing, and it's only the name that will be changed; otherwise it will be 'business as usual'!

And the good news is that we will soon be in a position to give donations to worthy causes in the Village!

Once we have completed all of the legal requirements, which we expect will be by end March, the 'Disbursement Committee', which

will comprise members of the shop board and two members of the Bampton Parish Council, will consider requests for donations.

So, if anyone is looking for financial support for a worthy cause for the Village, please write to me c/o The Cotton Club - see back page for the full address - and it will be considered very soon after the final legal arrangements are in place. When making a request you should specify the organisation or cause you are seeking support for, how much money you are looking for, and how the money will be spent.

Finally, all of the ladies of 'The Shop' would like to thank everyone who has supported them since the Shop opened in May 2004, and hope that they will continue to receive the same - or even higher! - level of support in the future.

### The Committee on Inclusive Transport (CIT)

Having difficulty travelling on public transport or moving around your local area?

The Committee on Inclusive Transport (and Infrastructure), often referred to as CIT, is a small, friendly, independent 'user group' supported in its work by Oxfordshire County Council. The forum represents anyone who has difficulty in using the highways, the pavements, public transport and the related built environment.

Participants include elderly people, parents, people with disabilities, and people who carry shopping or luggage on many forms of public transport - in fact almost everyone.

CIT look into and advise locally on any difficulties faced specifically by people using public transport and highways. The group offers this information to County, District and Parish Councillors, as well as other col-

leagues, to help make changes. The independent Committee on Inclusive Transport is looking for more organisations and individuals to join them. If you would like to contribute in this way or receive the minutes from the

meetings, please contact: Gwyn Huish, Chairman of CIT, on 01865-251946, or Deborah Whelan, Disability Equality Advisor, on 01865-815591 or e-mail gwynhuish@ocva.org.uk

### Burns Night

The Bampton *Slow Living Society* held its first *Burns' Night* in the Village Hall on 21<sup>st</sup> January. The traditional Scottish Fare included Cullen Skink (fish soup), Haggis, and Cranachan (raspberry dessert).

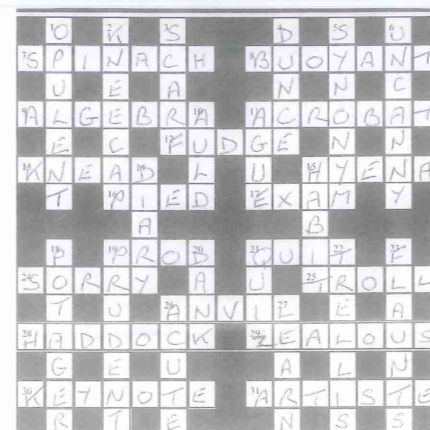
There was also a whisky tasting 'exercise' where various types of whisky were offered to the guests to whet their appetites before the dinner was served.

The event was very well attended with around 60 enjoying a great night out. For more information on *The Slow Living Society* contact: Ray Proctor: Tel: 01993 850479.



The Haggis is Piped In

### Solution to the November BEAM CROSSWORD



The winner of the November Crossword is C J Clarke of The Lanes, 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'.

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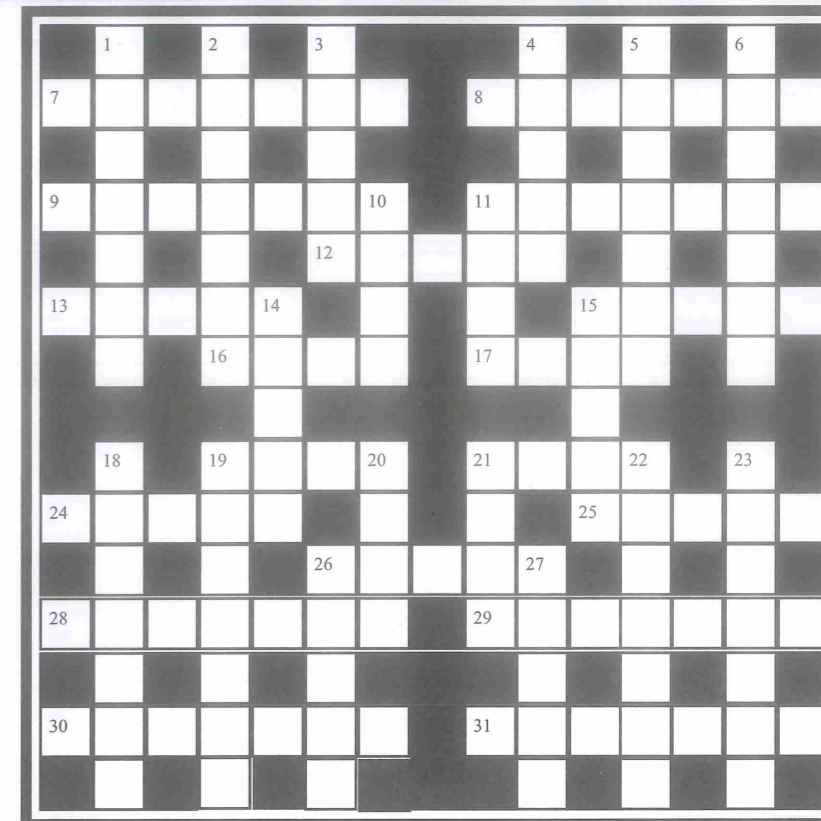
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- 1/3rd Page £30
- 1/6th Page £25
- 1/12th Page £16

Additional Artwork from £20

## THE BAMPTON BEAM'S CROSSWORD



#### CLUES ACROSS

- 7 Member of a nomadic Arab tribe
- 8 Capital of Cyprus
- 9 Payment as salary to a clergyman
- 11 Spear for hunting whales
- 12 Spirit of evil
- 13 To be frugal or miserly
- 15 Work into a dough
- 16 Sodium chloride
- 17 Active and brisk
- 19 Points with a weapon
- 21 Another name for tunny
- 24 A simple song or melody
- 25 Relating to birds
- 26 Confusion, chaos
- 28 Harmonious, melodious
- 29 Despotism
- 30 A pickle of Indian origin
- 31 Intoxicant

#### CLUES DOWN

- 1 Having left a valid will
- 2 Vouchers
- 3 Evil spirit, demon
- 4 Ultimate
- 5 A business enterprise
- 6 A lens permitting near and distant vision
- 10 Money owing
- 11 Fruits of the rose
- 14 Implied or inferred
- 15 Monetary unit of Sweden
- 18 Application of mental attention
- 19 State of uneasiness or tension
- 20 To render watertight
- 21 Short blast on a horn
- 22 Pilot
- 23 Arch of colours
- 26 A place of safety
- 27 Recurring series of changes

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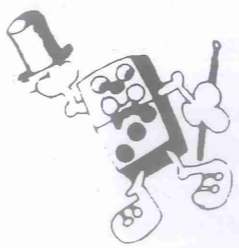
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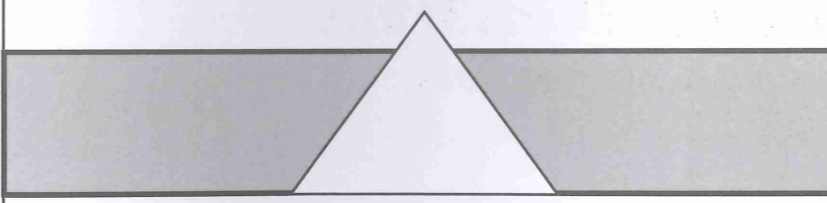
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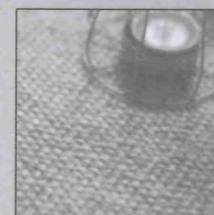
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### Calendar of Events

#### March

- 17<sup>th</sup> Dylan Thomas's 'Under Milkwood', OTTC, Village Hall, 7.00pm  
 18<sup>th</sup> Craft Fair in aid of ARC, WI Hall, Brize Norton, 2pm – 5pm  
 22<sup>nd</sup> Community Safety Surgery, Community Safety Partnership, Town Hall, 3pm  
 25<sup>th</sup> Coffee Morning, Methodist Chapel, 10am – 12noon

#### April

- 1<sup>st</sup> Coffee Morning, Gardening Club, Town Hall, 10am – 12 noon  
 7<sup>th</sup> Quiz Night, SPAJERS, Village Hall, 8.00pm  
 8<sup>th</sup> Easter Sale, Cancer Research UK, Village Hall, 10am  
 9<sup>th</sup> Outing, Mystery Tour, Gardening Club, Market Square, 9am  
 15<sup>th</sup> Easter Bonnet Parade & Raffle, Helen House Hospice, The Talbot, 2pm  
 15<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> Short Holiday Break to Norfolk, Gardening Club  
 27<sup>th</sup> BEWG Meeting, Talk on the Lower Windrush, Village Hall, 8pm  
 28<sup>th</sup> Talk and Video on Cruising, Fred Olsen Cruise Lines, Village Hall, 7.30pm  
 30<sup>th</sup> Village Garage Sale, SPAJERS, 11am

#### May

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Movies on the Move - *The Narnia Chronicles*, Village Hall, 7.30pm  
 6<sup>th</sup> Coffee Morning, Gardening Club, Town Hall, 10am – 12 noon  
 8<sup>th</sup> Village Hall AGM, Village Hall, 8pm  
 14<sup>th</sup> Outing to Malvern Spring Show, Gardening Club, Market Square, 9am  
 14<sup>th</sup> Walk for the Wildlife, BBOWT, Blenheim Palace  
 15<sup>th</sup>-July 9<sup>th</sup> Exhibition, *Bampton Fire Brigade*, Bampton Community Archive, Vesey Room  
 19<sup>th</sup> Quiz Night, Cancer Research UK, Village Hall, Bampton  
 27<sup>th</sup> The Great Annual Shirt Race, SPAJERS, Market Square, 6.45pm  
 27<sup>th</sup> Spring Fair, Methodist Chapel, 10am - 12noon  
 29<sup>th</sup> May Garlands, Market Square, 11am  
 29<sup>th</sup> Morris Dancers, Village, Early 'til Late  
 29<sup>th</sup> Refreshments, Royal British Legion, Village Hall, 9.30am – 5.00pm  
 29<sup>th</sup> Grand Annual Plant Sale, Bampton Archive & Zimbabwe Project, Eagle House, 10am – 4pm

#### June

- 10<sup>th</sup> Coffee Morning, Gardening Club, Town Hall, 10am – 12 noon  
 10<sup>th</sup> Craft Fair in aid of ARC, WI Hall, Brize Norton, 2pm – 5pm  
 18<sup>th</sup> Outing to Geoff Hamilton Gardens, Barnsdale, Gardening Club, Market Square, 9am

#### July

- 1<sup>st</sup> Coffee Morning, Gardening Club, Town Hall, 10am – 12 noon  
 5<sup>th</sup> Movies on the Move - *Mrs Hendersen Presents*, Village Hall, 7.30pm  
 9<sup>th</sup> Outing to Poole, Gardening Club, Market Square, 9am  
 15<sup>th</sup> Barn Dance with the Woodpecker Band, SPAJERS, Langdale Hall Witney, 8pm  
 22<sup>nd</sup> Garden Party, Methodist Chapel, 2pm  
 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> *La capricciosa corretta*, Bampton Classical Opera, Deanery Garden  
 27<sup>th</sup> BEWG Meeting, Talk by Bob Field – a Pole Lathe Turner, Village Hall, 8pm  
 29<sup>th</sup> *La capricciosa corretta*, Bampton Classical Opera, The Theatre, Headington

### THE BAMPTON BEAM

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