

THE BAMPTON BEAM

December 1996

Volume 12. No. 3.



MARKET SQUARE - AS YOU WERE

Plans to introduce a one-way system in the Market Square have been scrapped after a stormy public meeting in the Village Hall.

Upwards of 150 people came to the meeting to discuss a plan put forward jointly by the County, District and Parish Councils. Parish Chairman, Councillor Jim Taylor, opened the meeting by describing the scheme and the reasons behind it. (See last edition, August 1996.) The Parish Council had discussed the Market Square seventeen times in the previous two years. Those discussions were minuted in the usual way - the minutes has always been available to anyone interested at the library.

Until this meeting was called by District Councillor, Jonathan Phillips, and five other residents, there had been little suggestion of public disquiet.

The meeting was long, and heated at times, with repeated calls for the proposals to be withdrawn, and support expressed for the objections of the owners of the garage.

Several speakers wanted the money for the plan used instead for traffic calming measures within the village. It was also suggested that the best way to improve the Market Square would be to find a way of reducing vandalism and discouraging young people from congregating around the War Memorial.

Three votes were put to the meeting.

The first asked if any changes at all should be made to the Market Square. This was overwhelmingly rejected.

The second asked if the tabled plan should be carried out and that was overwhelmingly rejected too.

The third was on the suggestion of David Hedges, the garage proprietor, that the square be tidied up, the kerb stones replaced and the parking bays marked out. A majority supported this view.

WHAT NOW?

Although the public meeting carried no official weight, Councillor Taylor promised to explain its feelings to the Parish Council. At a meeting in September councillors decided to withdraw their support from the plan, which has now been scrapped.

What has happened is that the bottle banks (controlled by the District Council) have been moved from the Market Square to Cowleaze Corner on the Clanfield road. County Councillor Geoffrey Fowler agreed to arrange this for a trial period after some complaints were voiced about their impact where they were. Fears were raised that moving them away from the centre of the village would stop residents taking paper and bottles on foot. It was pointed out that making a special journey by car caused more pollution and defeated the object of the exercise.

What do you think about the location of

the bottle banks? Is Cowleaze Corner an improvement? Do you want them back in the Market Square, another location or banished completely? Write to The Beam and tell us.

And what about the Market Square? Now one plan has been scrapped, are there changes which need making? We want to hear from YOU.

"OWZAT" FOR A PAVILION PLAN

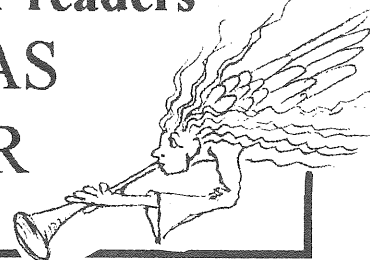
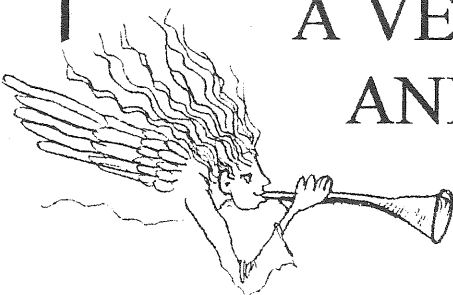
The Trustees of the Recreation Ground Charity are going to ask all residents for their views on the plans now being prepared by an architect for a pavilion on the Buckland Road sports ground.

The Trustees are proposing a building costing around £175,000 and extensive landscaping to a value of around £25,000. Funding of 65% of the costs will come from the National Lottery, and 25% from the West Oxfordshire District Council. The remaining 10% would come from charity funds.

Facilities may include men's and women's changing rooms, toilets, official referees room, kitchen, servery, indoor archery and bowls area.

Early next year a letter will go out to every household and an information meeting held to explain the proposals more fully. If approval is obtained from residents and the funding sources it is hoped that construction could start in late 1997 for sports use in 1998.

The Beam Team would like to wish all their readers
A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR



BAMPTON VILLAGE HALL

The Management Committee was extremely sorry to lose Andrew Daw who had been an excellent Hon. Treasurer for a number of years. His expertise and efficiency will be greatly missed. We are happy to welcome Michael Wooloff who has volunteered to take on the task - a great relief! Two new members of the Committee, Lynne Borrett for the Bampton Ladies Group and John Huck for the Bampton Gardening Club are also warmly welcomed. It is essential that all users of the hall have an opportunity to learn about the costs of running this facility and to put forward their ideas for change or improvement. All groups and clubs in Bampton are entitled to have a representative on the Committee.

The cost of managing and maintaining the hall in good repair increases every year. Income from lettings in no way covers the overheads. The proceeds from the Bampton

"250" Club, which are shared with the Bampton Youth Centre, are a significant contribution towards routine running costs but more help is needed for major improvements. In 1997 it will be necessary to carry out the repainting of the main hall. The Committee would also like to improve the rear entrance by levelling the ground and enclosing the area between the double fire doors and the back kitchen door. This would be a great help to anyone catering for parties and would remove the problem of vandalism.

As there is no possibility of any local authority grants the Committee will hold a **Table Top Sale on Saturday 8th February** to raise money to fund this project. Anyone interested in booking a table (£6 per table or £5 if paid before 1st January 1997) please contact **Susan Phillips Tel: 850321**. There will be refreshments, raffle and tombola. Please give it **your** support - it is for **your** Village Hall.



FRIENDS OF ST. MARY'S, BAMPTON

The total amount promised for the Renovation Appeal has now reached £49,144 thanks to some generous donations from those living in Calais Dene. If you would like to support this appeal and would like more details of how to become a Benefactor or Friend, please contact **Jonathan Phillips Tel: 850321**.

Applications to the Heritage Lottery Fund and to the Historic Churches Preservation Trust have now been submitted requesting help with the cost of the outstanding work on St. Mary's Church. We await the outcome of these applications with bated breath!

The 1996 Christmas card depicting the Bampton Mummers is now on sale at Londis - £1.25 for a pack of five. The whole profit of approximately 15p per card will go to The Friends of St. Mary's - not just 1 or 2p as with many other charity cards. We would particularly like to thank Tony Scott for allowing the sale of cards in his shop with no mark-up for him. The Bampton Mummers Play performed on Christmas Eve in Bampton almost certainly goes back 300 years. The photograph, in full colour, depicting the current cast will appeal to many Bamptonians - a festive card with a local flavour.

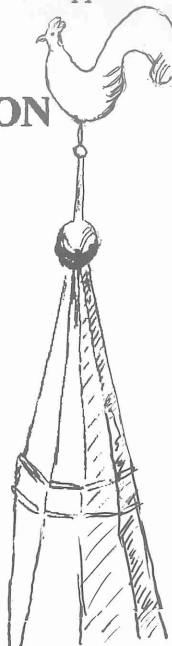
For details about the Bampton Christmas Quiz to raise money for The Friends of St. Mary's, contact **Sarah Wearne Tel: 850295**.

Images of Bampton

At long last the book of old photographs of Bampton is available from the printers. It has been produced to celebrate the centenary of the Parish Council in 1994. Those who ordered copies at the pre-publication price can now collect their books from Abbey Properties. The books are now on sale at £7.95 per copy at Emmies in Bridge Street and at WOAA's "Gorgeous Gifts Galore" Christmas Craft Fair at the Gallery, Town Hall, Bampton - 1st to 15th December. This is a limited edition so make sure of your copy before they sell out.

Celebrating the Millennium

How will Bampton celebrate this important event? What ideas do you have to mark the year 2000?



"BINS AND BANKS"

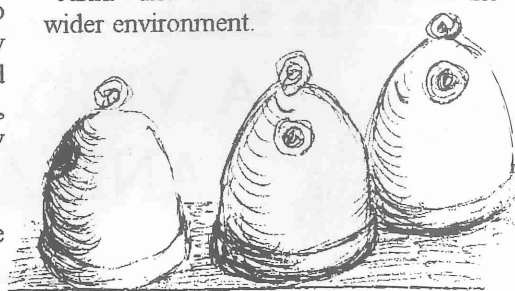
Recycling in the not too distant future
by Susan Phillips

At the public meeting in the Village Hall in September there was unanimous agreement that the bottle and paper banks did nothing to improve the appearance of the centre of Bampton. The parish council had tried to find other sites for them but there were objections to all the suggestions. As a temporary measure it was agreed to place them in the lay-by on the Clanfield road - probably out of sight, out of mind despite a general desire to recycle - please make good use of them.

Brenda Smith, District Councillor for Aston wrote in December 1992, "Ultimately, if we are to recycle useful materials from every household, we have to have a doorstep collection... The long term plan is to provide each household, where possible, with wheeled bins. Initially there will be one bin, and eventually two. By using one bin for selected items, and the other for the rest of the rubbish, householders can help by partially separating recyclable waste for collection. This way everyone can do their bit to help with recycling without going any further than their own bin.

If things go according to plan, in a couple of years, the answer to 'Where's yer bin?' will be 'On wheels mate - and sorted!' More than a couple of years have elapsed but all is not lost - WODC has announced a pilot scheme, involving 5000 households, to be introduced next year to provide a kerbside collection for items like waste paper, drink cans, textiles and aluminium foil. WODC is also investigating the viability of a collection and treatment service for compostable waste in urban areas.

How about writing to your District Councillor to make sure that Bampton is considered as a suitable place for this scheme to take place? Then there will be no need for the return of the unsightly "banks" and we can all do our bit for the wider environment.



At the end of 1896 the newspapers were celebrating, of all things, the 300th anniversary of the introduction of the potato to these shores. There was even a high-powered international potato conference being held in London and Sir Walter Raleigh's Irish estates were being restored. A delegation went to complain to President Kruger about the excesses of Cecil Rhodes mourning continued for Queen Victoria's consort, Prince Albert members of the Union of Ladies Tailors and Mantle Makers were on strike; and in Bampton... traffic, the Market Square and the Parish Council were hitting the headlines.

Tolls, traffic and the Market Square

At a Parish Council meeting on Monday 14th December 1896, the agenda included a motion - "to petition County Council to make bye-laws of the tolls etc for booths and the like standing in the town and to authorise the Parish Council to manage them".

A letter was read from Mr Lindup, The Grange, Bampton, complaining of "traffic such as wild beast shows, etc standing in the Market Place", and thought it ought to be stopped. The Council, after some discussion, agreed unanimously that they were in favour of "shows standing in the Market Place".

Obsession with the gory and the gruesome in road accidents is not new, 6th February 1897:

"On Tuesday evening last as Mr Morse the fishmonger was returning home, with horse and trap, after going his rounds, the horse took fright near Aston Church, and threw the occupant of the trap out and onto some iron railings one of the spikes of which went through his cheek and into his mouth, leaving a wound two inches long. The unfortunate man managed to extricate himself from his painful position and got as far as the Lion Inn, in an exhausted condition, where a conveyance was obtained and he was taken home".

Festive Fun

Our forebears may not have been faced with starting Christmas shopping in October a 100 years ago, but it seems more was done as a community during the festive season.

"On Christmas Day special services were held in the Parish Church, which was tastefully decorated for the occasion. Turner's Te Deum was sung for the first

THE NEWS FROM BAMPTON - 100 YEARS AGO



- extracts from The Faringdon Advertiser selected by Simon Garrett -



time and excellently rendered by the choir.

The band paraded the town on Boxing Day. On Monday the juvenile portion of the choir sang carols at many of the homes of the parishioners, and were well received. In the evening a monster Christmas tree was provided for the benefit of the Sunday School children by the vicar and other friends.



The annual Children's Party and Adults' Ball, took place as usual on New Year's Eve. The rooms were tastefully decorated for the occasion, Dr J.P. Oates acted as MC and the Witney Quadrille Band was in attendance. Dancing was kept up until 4am. And for the most respected members of village society...

"A Social New Year's Party was given in the Town Hall on Tuesday 14th January. The Hall was most tastefully decorated by Misses A. and K. Wallis, Miss A. Brooks, Miss Hill, Mrs Eustace and co. The party (which is the first held in this town) was got up by the young ladies of Mr Pembrey's establishment... The amusements consisted of new American games under the direction of Miss Brooks; dancing, Mr Wallis acting as MC, singing etc. The proceedings commenced with the National Anthem... followed by a most laughable and amusing game called the "Roving and singing chairs", which kept the whole company in roars of laughter. Then followed the "Pocket handkerchief dance", singing and other games. About fifty ladies and gentlemen were present. Owing to the great success of the party, the committee have been requested to arrange for another of a similar character, and this will take place on 24th February. The party is strictly private and only those

who receive invitations are expected to be present".

Fire and Skulduggery!

Lastly a tale of rivalry and a mysterious arson attack, 9th January 1897.

"**Alarming Fire** - A fire broke out in Church Street, Bampton, on Tuesday morning last at about 1am. The inhabitants were awakened from their slumber by the ringing of the alarm bell at the Fire Engine Station. An old thatched house formerly occupied by the late Mr Edington, baker and co, was burnt to the ground. The Parish Fire Brigade, under Captain Williams, was on the spot about ten minutes after the alarm, but found it impossible to save the cottage, and therefore turned their attention to the adjoining property. The neighbours in the vicinity of the fire were greatly alarmed, the whole Market Place being lit up by the flames. The property is in dispute between Mr N.R.H. Bullen and PC Stevens, and is insured by the former in the Sun Fire, and by the latter in the London and Globe fire offices. The origin is at present unknown, but is supposed to be the act of an incendiary."



A GOLD FOR FRANCIS

On Saturday 9th November, Francis Shergold was awarded a Gold Badge from the Folk Dancing and Song Society, for his dedication to Morris dancing over sixty years.

A coach left the Market Square, Bampton full of dancers and friends to help Francis celebrate this presentation in London.

This special celebration was arranged by Nibs Mathews, an old dear friend of Francis

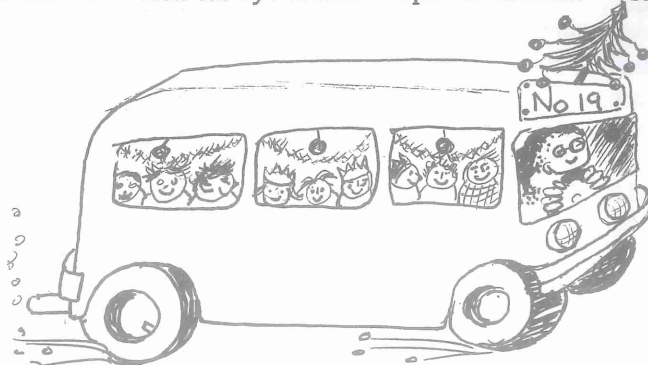
A very good night with plenty of dancing and singing was enjoyed by all who attended.

"RAY, THE BUS"

If the Duchess of York's brainchild "Budgie the Helicopter" continues to flop and fails to bring in the millions she so obviously needs, we could invite her to travel on our No. 19 bus. I'm sure that would inspire a best-seller "Ray and the Jolly Bampton Bus".

Any of us lucky enough to use this bus regularly knows Ray, the driver, who has been driving the bus for the past seven and a half years. He has lived in Bampton for eleven years and in the Carterton area since he came from Newcastle twenty-five years ago as part of the RAF. Ray has always been the driver of the No. 19. He knows most of the passengers by name. He knows where they live, stops the bus as near their front door as possible, helps with bags, parcels, children, pushchairs even with anyone needing a heave up the

knows who is due to get on what bus and at which stop; if they are not there he casts his eye around to spot the latecom-



ers. He is addressed by name by almost everyone who gets on the bus. I have never known him to be anything but cheerful, funny and helpful. The No. 19 connects with the very frequent 100 bus (for Oxford) in Witney. It can take you shopping in Witney for an hour and then carry your bundles home again. It can

can take you to Carterton market on Thursdays. The full timetable is at the bus stop outside the Horseshoe.

It is not very frequent but it is possible to leave your car and parking problems at home, pollute the environment less, and join Ray on the No. 19.

By the way: Ray decorates the bus around Christmas time. It is festooned with tinsel and Christmas bits and pieces and Ray dons a Father Christmas hat. So if you are going on the bus between now and Christmas, leave a Christmas decoration for Ray, make the jolly bus even jollier and then we'll see about inviting the jolly old Duchess of York along for a ride



MILLENNIUM CELEBRATIONS

'Monuments or Springbroads?'

How would you like Bampton to celebrate the end of the 20th Century? Would you opt to commemorate people or events from the last 999 years or would you plump for an expression of hope for the future?

Jonathan Phillips, our District Councillor, would like to hear your views and so would we. Please complete the cut-out slip and post it in the 'Beam Millennium' box in Abbey properties.

Age group(s) - Please tick relevant circle(es)

4 - 12yrs ☐ 13 - 18yrs ☐ 19 - 25yrs ☐ 26 - 40yrs ☐ 40 - 65yrs ☐ 65 - 100yrs ☐
Joint family choice ☐

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Dear Mrs Gray,

I read with interest your August edition of the Bampton Beam and was impressed with the number and variety of articles. However, there is one entry which did cause me some concern and I felt it appropriate that I should respond. The article in question was on page 9 under the heading of Bampton Parish Council News. It was a report of the Thames Valley Police Consultative Meeting, which was held in Bampton on 3rd June. It was mainly the last sentence that caused me concern and I quote, "However, last year's recorded crime detection rate of nearly 30% for the Witney Police Area leaves considerable room for improvement."

My concern is that your readers will be left with a negative impression of the policing success of the Witney area and in particular your local area at Bampton. I would therefore like the opportunity to put the matter into perspective.

It should be emphasised that the Witney police area, which extends all the way from Faringdon and Carterton to Witney, Abingdon, Didcot and Wallingford and is fortunate enough to be a low crime area and is in fact one of the lowest in the force. Reported crime in the area had been steadily decreasing for the last four years. In addition to this our detection rates for crime have been steadily increasing. Our detection rate is one of the highest in the force. We are, however, not complacent and are constantly striving to ensure that our crime rates decrease further and we still continue to improve our detection rates.

The parish of Bampton suffered a total of 113 offences between April 1995 and March 1996, the majority of which were theft of and from motor vehicles and criminal damage. This equates to 1.1% of the total crime of the whole of the Witney police area.

The crime detection rate you quoted was for all crime across the whole of the police area. Detection rates equate to those crimes for which an individual has been charged. As I am sure you appreciate because of the complexities of the law and the fact that we, quite rightly, should have primary evidence that an individual has committed an offence, charging people with criminal offences is not always an easy matter.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The detection rate for the Carterton sector, under which Bampton falls, in relation to violent crime is 84.6%.

The detection rate for burglary of people's homes is 72%.

The detection rates for burglary of non-dwellings and theft from motor vehicles are unfortunately not very good although the rate for theft of vehicles lies at 27%.

In order to further improve our performance we do need the assistance and co-operation of the communities we serve. As PC Oddy stated in the same edition of The Beam, every little bit of information that you can give to us is helpful and you should never hesitate to contact us however small you think the matter might be. I am confident that by working together and improving communication between us we can improve the quality of life for all your community, as well as the quality of service that we provide you.

I would appreciate your printing my letter in full in order that your readers can get the issue of crime and detection rates into perspective. You live in a lovely part of Oxfordshire, and PC Oddy and his colleagues are committed to endeavouring to keep it that way.

Davina Logan,
Superintendent Police Area Commander.
Witney Police Station.

The Editor would like to apologise to Liz Chambers for not publishing her "Witney Area Policing Plan 1996/7", due to shortage of space. We trust most points have now been covered in Ms Logan's letter.

Dear Madam,

Re: The cottage in Bridge Street

I was born in this cottage which was then two cottages. We lived in the one nearest the Post Office. We left there when I was three years old and moved to Aston Road for a larger house.

My mother told me I learnt to walk holding onto the railings where Mrs Pickard now lives.

As far as I know this cottage or cottages had no name. I am sure it was Mr and

Mrs Simmons who lived there around twenty years ago and planted a pear tree on the side wall, hence the name now, Pear Tree Cottage.

Yours

Mrs E. Foreshow,
"Wisteria", Church View, Bampton.

Dear Editor,

We would like to thank everyone for their kindness and support after the sudden and tragic death of our son Tim in July. Thanks to all for the letters, cards and flowers we received in sympathy; they are some comfort at this time.

Donations including the church collection and the Morris Clown collection came to over £1000.

This has been gratefully accepted by Cystic Fibrosis Research, and Radcliffe Infirmary Stroke Research.

Thanks again to all who contributed.

Yours sincerely,
Mollie and Alan Dunbar and Family.
"Chestnuts", 3 Bushy Row, Bampton.

Dear Mrs Gray,

Re: The Market Square

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who attended the Public Meeting held on 5th September 1996 in the Village Hall.

The proposed changes to the Market Square would have affected many people but it is fair to say that they would have had a disastrous affect on the Market Square Garage.

We were overwhelmed by the support we were given.

The meeting was well attended and highly charged. It was fantastic to see so many residents proving to the Parish Council and the County Council that we do care what happens in our community.

David Hedges and Anne Willans
Market Square Garage, Bampton.

Dear Editor,

It was with great relief that we waved goodbye to the bottle banks on Wednesday 9th October. We were awakened at 7am some mornings by the clink clink of these bottles only to hear this on-and-off all day, especially during our afternoon rest period, as well as invasions of wasps and flies.

We would like to hear from any person,
(continued on next page).

including our Parish Councillors, who think these "banks" should be in the Market Square. Would they be prepared to have them on their front doorstep? I rather think not!

We feel that they should not be in a residential area at all. The argument that they will not be economic in the Cowleaze lay-by has yet to be proved. It would be helpful to see what figures are being talked about and what cost is involved when these bins are moved back and forth for May Day, Whitsun, the August Fair, Remembrance Day Parade and when Douglas Hurd visits?

The Chairman of the Parish Council remarked he had received comments that the Market Square was an "eyesore"! He does not seem to know that the Market Square sign is at the end of the public car park, therefore we are also in the Market Square. We do our best to make this square attractive and have won awards for our hanging baskets and window boxes every year, but these were virtually obliterated by the bottles and paper banks. Frank and Eve Godwin, The Jubilee, Market Square, Bampton.

Dear Fenella,

I write to comment on the new one-way system and our garage.

I have lived in Bampton for almost thirty-nine years, and my husband all his life. When I first came to Bampton there were two garages both selling petrol. It would appear there is a minority group who for their own reasons, would like to close David and Anne down. One would assume this minority to be people who, have moved to Bampton purchasing older type houses in the full knowledge of parking difficulties. I hasten to add these have existed for many years due mainly to more people owning cars.

I would appeal to these people to live and let live a bit. David and Anne are trying to make a living and provide a worthy service to Bampton people as well as many from further afield bringing people in.

Speaking personally, I will be forever grateful to David and Anne for many kindnesses to myself and my family. I would also like to add that when I first came to Bampton the part of the garage on Broad Street was a fish and chip shop. How, I wonder, would this minority have

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

dealt with this?

Come on folks we have already lost so much in Bampton lets not lose another of our assets because a few people's "bloody mindedness".

Mrs P. Daniels,
"Herewith", Fox Close, Bampton.

Dear Editor,

Re: recycling Bins

Having been a regular depositor of bottles and paper until the bins were moved out of the Market Square, I now have to make a special car journey in order to indulge - which is obviously completely counter-productive in terms of environmental damage.

I sympathise with those people who felt that they made the Market Square untidy and noisy - so could they be placed on the ground either between the doctors' surgery and the telephone exchange or on the land to the rear? It is a reasonable distance from anyone's home, walking distance from most of the village, very close to the main route to Witney, Brize Norton and Carterton, and the surgery is regularly visited by a large number of villagers anyway.

Yours sincerely,
JG, Bampton.

Dear Editor

I am writing in reply to Jonathan Phillip's piece, "Buses to Witney and Carterton". (The Beam, August 96).

I am not surprised that insufficient interest has been shown in individual times for buses. The fact is that the bus must be able to complete with the car, - and to do that, it has to be fast, reliable, convenient, and frequent. It must be able to transport those without access to cars, and wean some car owners/drivers away from private transport.

Our own family is, I think, typical of many. We average a minimum of three return trips per day to Witney alone, for work, school and social purposes. Estimating that a further fifty Bampton families have a similar pattern, we find that an incredible 550,000 miles per year are travelled in private cars.

Just think of the damage this does to the environment; to our health through lack of exercise; and to your bank balances in maintaining and fuelling all those individual cars. Psychologically, the family becomes increasingly dependent on the drivers(s), and our children lose mobility, motivation and independence.

This excessive use of the private car has such environmental and social significance that the issue should not be left to the bus companies.

Public transport is an issue which I should like to see actively addressed by local government, and a lead given by politicians in offering the public a realistic and viable alternative to the car.

Mrs Linda Mills,
"Shillbrook", Beam Paddock, Bampton.

Dear Editor

My short piece in The Beam (August 96) was at the request of two young people who said a number of them wanted a bus service on weekend evenings to go to Witney and Carterton to socialise. A bus would relieve parents from having to act as a taxi service, reduce the number of cars on the road and give the young more independence and freedom. Bus companies today need some assurance that the service would pay its way before giving it a try. The County Council no longer offers subsidies to bus services in rural areas.

The number 19 bus does go to Witney and Carterton six times a day, Monday to Saturday inclusive, and it is convenient, fast and reliable. Ray, the bus driver, is not allowed to drive more hours a week than this. The first bus to Witney at 8am is suitable for most people working in Witney but unfortunately is too late to connect with suitable buses to Oxford for those working there. The last bus from Witney at 5.40pm is only suitable for those working close to the Market Square in Witney to get home. There are no later evening buses to enable people to go to Witney or Carterton for social events in the evening or to get home after work.

Ideally an hourly service to and from Witney from 7am to 10.30pm would suit most people and possibly achieve the savings in car journeys that Linda Mills so rightly wants to see. Unfortunately there is no rate/taxpayers money available to

(Continued on next page)

subsidise this sort of service. Bus companies, as already stated need, assurance that the service would pay its way before giving it a try and there are no subsidies available.

For twenty years West Oxfordshire District Council has been pressing the County to make the A40 to Oxford a dual-carriageway but to no avail. A dual-carriageway with a strictly enforced bus lane and a park and ride scheme in Witney would help. As your District Councillor I would welcome any views on these ideas which would give weight to my arguments for a better bus service. I agree with Linda Mills that if we can make the bus more convenient than the car it would greatly improve our environment. If it is to be used, any bus service must be convenient, regular, reliable, reasonably priced and quick. Let's have your views! Most people in Bampton commute to work; your response is needed if the lack of public transport is to be addressed.

Yours sincerely,

J. Phillips, Haytor, Bampton. Oxon



VOLUNTEER READING HELP

Could you help a child to read?

All education stems from literacy so any child struggling with the basics, inevitably faces multiple hardships. Not only are they disadvantaged in reading and writing but their progress in other areas is jeopardised.

Not all children with reading difficulties fall into the "Special Educational Needs" category, they simply require some help to get them up to speed with their peers. In West Oxfordshire a group of dedicated individuals, part of a nationwide Volunteer Reading Help organisation, are helping youngsters fulfil their potential. Volunteers work with 6-11 year olds on a one-to-one basis giving half an hour each to the same three children twice a week. All volunteers are interviewed and attend a short training course before going into schools.

The next training session will be held in Witney in September, so if you have a few hours to spare and would like to work in a local primary school, please contact Helen Webb, Tel (01993) 771294 or write to the following address:

Volunteer Reading Help
Behind the Old Police Station

A DUTCH BAND IN WITNEY

A project initiated in spring came to fruition when, thanks to the energy and dedication of their former Chairman, Rab Peattie, the Witney and District Twinning Association hosted the Jeugd fanfare from Maasbracht. They had been invited by Mr Pat Churchill, a former Commando whose unit had liberated Maasbracht in 1945 and they came to play for the Commandos and the people of Witney.

Their bus, called Die Zigeuner, arrived at Wood Green School to be greeted by Witney Town Band and the twenty-seven Witney families who were their hosts. The start of a very packed programme was a lively barn dance with a fish and chip supper.

Next day they had a guided tour of Witney by Charles Gott and Jack Bridgewater, before a formal welcome from the Mayor, Ted Cooper.

Due to the weather, a quick tour of Blenheim Palace was arranged, instead of the plans for the band to play. They then went on to the White House in Bladon to play for the Commandos. Their evening concert in the Langdale Hall started with Piper Bill Millen, who led the troops ashore in Normandy on D-Day, piping in the standards of the Commandos and the British Legion. Witney Town Band gave a rousing performance followed by the Massbracht Jeugd fanfare, some thirty-five players of brass instruments, saxophones and percussion, under the conductor Jean-Pierre Cnoops. They were given an enthusiastic reception, culminating in the whole audience joining in the singing of "We'll meet again".

After a day shopping and sightseeing in Oxford, the two bands gave a farewell concert at Wood Green School. At the end the Deputy Mayor of Maasbracht made presentations to Rab Peattie in appreciation of his work in organising the visit, Mr and Mrs Churchill for inviting them, and the Conductor of Witney Town Band. Each host family received a wooden shield of the Maasbracht Jeugd fanfare. Several others received small mementoes from the Maasbracht region.

The visitors left after a weekend enjoyed by the Dutch people as well as their hosts, Commandos and the rest of their audiences.

A FAREWELL

We are sad to have to report the loss of Bill Carr. He died peacefully at his home on Wednesday 27th November. We would like to express our sympathy to his family and all his friends in the village. We shall miss his enthusiastic commitment to The Beam, and the good wine and good cheer he always provided for editorial meetings at his home. He will be sadly missed.

A TRIBUTE TO REG PRATLEY

by Ruth Wheeler

As a tribute to Mr Reg Pratley I would like to include this letter from members of Swindon Folk Singers Club.

"Dear friends, we were saddened to hear of the passing of Reg Pratley. A number of us in our 'discovery' of Bampton and its traditions, met him when he was the publican of the Jubilee and enjoyed his songs and memories of the area. It was always a pleasure to be in his company. Our last memory of him, recorded on video, is of Reg singing and chatting in the bar of the Eagle, last Whitsun. He will be sadly missed by us all".

My tribute is that Reg for many years had a great interest in the garlands and provided the prizes and sweets for the children who attended. I hope the children of Bampton will do their utmost to keep this tradition alive, as I know Reg would not like it to discontinue. He was a character in the village, who will be missed.

**SYLVIA NEATHAM
(nee Hughes)
wishes to announce the Wedding
of her daughter Terina
to
Yakup Sancar
There will be a Marriage Blessing
at
St. Mary's Church, Bampton
at 1pm on 4th January 1997.
Friends welcome at the Church.**

If you would like a birth, marriage or death commemorated in The Beam - we would be happy to include it. Write to The Editor, c/o The Cotton Club, Bridge Street, Bampton, Oxon. OX18 2HA.



BAMPTON TRADERS' ASSOCIATION

After the Parish Council's efforts to change the Market Square the Bampton traders decided to form their own traders' association.

A meeting was organised by Helen Rainy and Eve Godwin (the landladies of the Elephant and Castle and the Jubilee) for 30th September. Twenty interested local business people supported this meeting.

Proposals were suggested such as video surveillance cameras and better street lighting especially around the Market Square and War Memorial; also a suggestion box be placed somewhere central for the public to offer suggestions and comments on the services provided by these local businesses.

It was also proposed that a representative from this association be present at council meetings.

A Committee was elected; Chairman Helen Rainy; Secretary Annie Williams; Committee members: Lyn Finley, Eve Godwin, Adrian Simmonds and Tom Parnworth.

The next meeting will be an open meeting held on Monday 13th January 1997 in the Town Hall at 8pm **Helen Tel: 850316 or Annie Tel: 850366.**

BAMPTON BRIDGE CLUB

The club meets in the Village Hall every Tuesday 7.30-10.30pm. The annual subscription is £5 with a charge of 75p per session. Duplicate bridge is played on the first, third and any fifth Tuesdays of the month; rubber bridge on the second and fourth Tuesdays.

New members are always welcome. For more information please contact: **Mrs Joan Granville Tel: 850407.**

THE BRITISH RED CROSS Oxfordshire branch

At long last the Red Cross Medical Loan Scheme has found a new home at The Bush Centre, Bampton.

This Red Cross scheme enables people to hire wheelchairs, commodes, crutches, etc, etc. In fact nearly everything needed to make life easier for the elderly and young. The hire cost is a donation to the Red Cross. It's ideal if you have any elderly relatives staying.

We are in need of a Treasurer so if there is anyone with a few hours to spare, please

NOTICE BOARD

let us know.

If you would like to make any enquiries contact **Mrs Mavis Newing, Sherbourne House, Bridge Street, Bampton. Tel: 850809.**

BAMPTON WELFARE TRUST

The object of the Trust "shall be to relieve generally or individually, persons resident in the area of the ancient Parish of Bampton who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress" (Charity Commission).

If you need help from the Bampton Welfare Trust, please contact: **Janet Newman Tel: 850755** or any of the Trustees: Major R. Colville, Miss K. Wylie, Mrs I. Humphries, Mrs J. Haslam, Mrs S. Phillips, Mrs H. Radclyffe (Lew), Mr G. Wiltshire (Aston), Mr G. Milner (Aston).

BAMPTON PRE-SCHOOL PLAYGROUP

Bampton Pre-school Playgroup is situated in the building behind Bampton Primary School.

It is open Monday to Friday 9am to 11.30am and Monday afternoons from 12.45pm to 3.15pm. Each session costs £2.50.

We have vacancies for 3-5 year olds at our well-equipped and friendly playgroup. Creative play with good grounding in basic learning skills, DPP qualified staff with first-aid training.

Enquiries Tel: (01993) 851573.

Mother and Toddler Group also use the playgroup building, Wednesday afternoons from 2pm to 4pm (during term time only). Each session costs 50p.

Enquiries Tel: (01993) 851638.

CHURCH AND CHAPEL SERVICES AT CHRISTMAS

St. Mary's, Bampton

Sunday 8th December,

10.30am Family Christingle Service
Christmas Eve,

11.30pm Midnight Mass

Christmas Day,

10.30am Holy Communion
Holy Communion will be celebrated on 26th, 27th and 28th December at 10.30am.

The Methodist Chapel
Sunday 15th December
6pm Candlelit Carol Service
Christmas Day
10.30am Family Service.

BAMPTON SUMMER OPERA (A Plea)

Now in its fifth year, Bampton Summer Opera is established as an enjoyable and successful part of the local cultural life. It has also helped to raise over £900 for local charities through its fund raising winter performances.

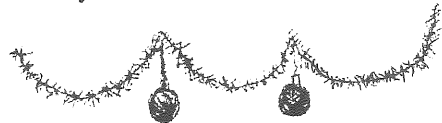
However, in order to continue to provide quality entertainment the organisers need **more help**. If you can offer any of the following please telephone **(01993) 851876.**

(1) **A barn or large garage** - in Bampton - in which we could store and make scenery

(2) **Assistance** with: make-up, catering, technical and stage, scenery construction, props, publicity and fundraising (detailed guidance given in each case; in some instances a small honorarium may be payable);

(3) **Financial support** - If you enjoy opera you might consider becoming a patron. For a minimum (currently) £45 we offer reserved good seating, publicity and interval hospitality. Alternatively your company might like to consider sponsoring our productions.

Support from sponsorship and patronage is essential if we are to keep our ticket prices low. At present ticket sales account for only a third of our income.

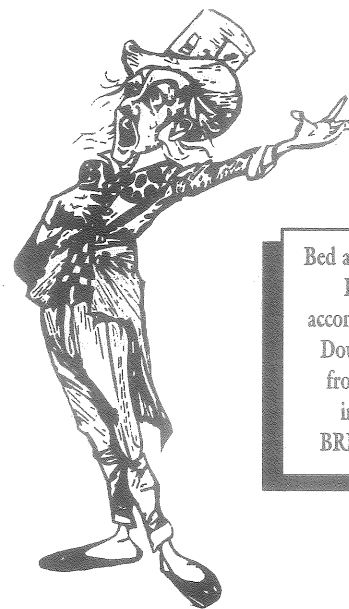


HANDEL'S MESSIAH

The singers and soloists of Bampton Summer Opera present Handel's Messiah, with the Oxford Symphony Orchestra, at St. Mary's Church, Bampton on **Sunday 21st December 1996** (St Beornwald's Day). The church will be specially heated for the occasion thanks to the generous sponsorship of WOAA and Andrew Heat for Hire.

Tickets £7 (£4 restricted view) available from Abbey Properties, or by post from The Old Bakehouse, Skinners lane, Faringdon, Oxon. All enquiries **Tel: (01993) 851876.**

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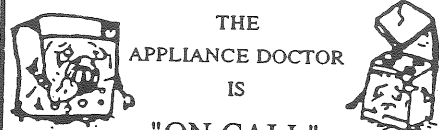
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WEST OXFORDSHIRE ARTS ASSOCIATION

The Gallery, Town Hall, Bampton, OX18 2JH. Tel: (01993) 850137

Opening hours during exhibitions are: Tuesday to Saturday 10.30am to 12.30pm
and 2pm to 4pm; Sunday 2pm to 4pm

The Administrator is usually in the Gallery every Tuesday and Friday morning.

DECEMBER



Gifts Galore

SUNDAY 1st - SUNDAY 15th DECEMBER

A chance to do your Christmas present shopping in the peaceful atmosphere of the
Gallery!

Artists from Oxfordshire present a variety of handmade crafts covering a wide range
of prices, from stocking fillers to really unusual presents.

JANUARY

It is hoped to redecorate the Gallery during early January, so we will be closed until
the work is completed and re-open for our first exhibition of the new year:

SUNDAY 19th JANUARY - SUNDAY 2nd FEBRUARY
HOME AND ABROAD

An exhibition of paintings by four artists from the Faringdon area.

FEBRUARY

SUNDAY 9th - SUNDAY 23rd FEBRUARY

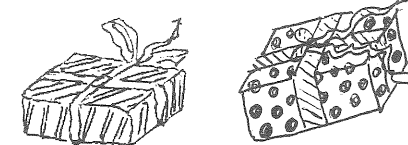
An exhibition of life drawings by members of the two classes held at the Gallery,
together with stained glass by Di Gold and metal sculptures by Bernado Bianchini.



MARCH

SATURDAY 1st & SUNDAY 2nd MARCH

A weekend of craft demonstrations and workshops,
centred around William Morris and the Arts and Crafts Movement, and an illustrated talk by Mary Greensted
on Sunday 2nd March in Bampton Village Hall at 7pm on the History of Arts and Crafts in the Cotswolds.
More details nearer the time from the Gallery.



SUNDAY 16th - SUNDAY 30th MARCH

PAT ELMORE and STUDENTS

An exhibition of sculptures from the studio of Pat Elmore.

WOAA are also arranging workshops on the two weekends leading up to the crafts weekend at the beginning of March.
Sunday 16th February will feature Pauline Payne and her very popular silversmith class.

on Sunday 23 February Matt Count is holding woodwork workshops in Bampton Village Hall for young people
between the ages of 7 and 13.

Mums and dads, to book your children in, contact Sally Proctor at the Gallery.

WOAA are pleased to announce

THE BURFORD GARDEN COMPANY SPRING PAINTING COMPETITION

This is the first event of its kind to be presented by WOAA

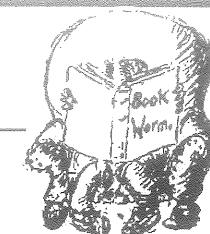
The winning artist will receive a prize of £500, donated by the Burford Garden Company, and WOAA will donate four media
prizes of £50 each.

Judging will take place in early April and the exhibition will run from

SUNDAY 13th APRIL-SUNDAY 4th MAY

with the winners being announced at the Prize-giving on Sunday 20th April.

For an entry form, please write to the Gallery enclosing a s.a.e.



BOOKWORMS

The date and subject for the December
meeting has changed. It will be held in
the Gallery on Monday 16th December
from 2pm to 4pm when the group will
be looking at the work of the poet
Ezra Pound.

In the new year, meetings will be held
on the fourth Monday of the month,
from 2pm to 4pm in the Gallery.

Christine Finn of Queen's College,
Oxford will be giving a lecture with
slides entitled Words from kept bodies:
Seamus Heaney and the Archaeology
of the Bog on Monday 3rd February at
2pm in Bampton Village Hall.

This meeting is open to all: WOAA
members - FREE; non members - £1.

For more details of all Bookworms
meetings, please contact

Margaret Bishop on (01993) 850412.



WOAA WORKSHOP IN THE GALLERY SATURDAY 26th OCTOBER

ROCKETS, SPARKLERS AND BANGERS

Twelve young people between the ages of 6 and 10 spent a creative morning in the Gallery, writing and making masks on the theme of Rockets, Sparklers and Bangers - assisted by Margaret Bishop and her husband Martin, Clair Hughes-Jones and Sally Proctor. The theme was expanded to include space rockets - very popular with some of the boys! At the end of a most enjoyable and successful morning, some of the work was read aloud - here is a selection.

On November 5th it was Firework Day.

My Daddy built a bonfire.

On top we put a guy.

We had some rockets
and some sparklers.

We lit the fire and the
rockets went whizzing and bang.

The guy was burnt.

We ate some sausages
and drank some coke.

by Antonia Gladders, aged 7.

SPACEMAN

As Neil Armstrong hit the moon
he said "One small step for Man,
one big giant leap for Mankind".

I thought it would be like stepping
on a ball of cheese.

The reason I thought it would be like that
is most probably because I've been
watching too much
Wallace and Grommit.

by Jordy Rowlings, aged 9.

Fizzing around

In the sky

Roaring, noisy, bangs and booms

Engrossed in the lovely colours in the
black sky.

Whizz and Wooshing

Over the fields and homes

Rockets roaring up in the atmosphere
Kissing the sky

Sounds so noisy you have to cover
your ears.

by Craig Hawcutt, aged 10.

SPACE

Up up up we go

Up to space we go.

Soaring through the wonderful sky

Floating to and fro.

Looking down from the space ship,

What a wonderful view,

As our space rocket flew.

At last we were on the moon,

It seemed extremely soon.

As we jumped as high as we could,

The earth seemed so small from here.

by Sam Laister, aged 9.



Adam aged 6, with helmet,
reading what he has written.



At the end of the morning!



Some of the group with masks on!



The group hard at work!



A RIGHT ROYAL DAY FOR CARERS IN WITNEY

by April Marshall

The Princess Royal, Princess Anne, made a very special visit to meet local carers at West Oxfordshire College, Witney on the 18th September. The event was organised by The Carers Centre (North and West Oxfordshire) and was entitled "Time out for carers". Around fifty carers from around the area were invited to take part in workshops which ranged from introduction to computers and garden design to reflexology and art and crafts. Several of the carers had already completed courses which they had undertaken with help and support from the Carers Centre. There were many carers present from the villages in and around West Oxfordshire who are in contact with April Marshall the local Carers Support Worker and attend local support groups such as the one held at the Bush Club in Bampton. All were introduced individually to the Princess who is President of the Princess Royal Trust Fund for Carers. Her Royal Highness was smiling and friendly and took a great interest in everyone, gathering information on their individual situations: some people were caring for their disabled or ill children, others for elderly parents and some for their partners.

Everyone enjoyed the day and there were many comments about how they had enjoyed taking "time out" for themselves. A great range of course information was available at the event along with advice on help with funding. A bonus is that many of the carers have decided to take up some of the courses on offer. It is possible to take time for yourself if you are caring for someone and it can often help to raise your self-confidence and self-esteem. As one put it: "I feel much better now that I am doing something for myself and it helps improve the atmosphere at home too".

If you would like to know more about the help and support that is available please contact the Carers Centre on 0345 125546

POWER OF ATTORNEY

by Trevor Milne-Day

What is power of attorney?

A power of attorney is simply an authority from one person (the donor), who gives to another (the attorney(s)) the power to do certain acts on behalf of the donor. The terms of this arrangement will vary from person to person and are detailed in the document giving the power of attorney. Since 1986 it has been possible for donors to give "enduring" power of attorney which will survive the donor becoming mentally incapable. Many solicitors now almost routinely advise their clients of a certain age, when making wills, also to execute an enduring power of attorney.

If the donor does become mentally incapable at any point there is a duty upon the attorney to register this fact with the Public Trust Office. The Public Trust Office is the administrative arm of the Court of Protection, which is the branch of the High Court that deals with the affairs of those mentally unable to handle their own affairs.

Why would anyone give a power of attorney?

Should you become ill, or otherwise incapacitated, there would be someone able to access money on your behalf and pay your bills, etc according to the terms you have specified in the power of attorney.

Limitations of powers of attorney

Firstly, all powers of attorney cease to have any validity whatsoever as soon as the donor has died.

Secondly, the donor may revoke a power of attorney at any time except in the case of enduring power after it has been registered with the Public Trust Office.

Thirdly, an attorney can only do what the power allows him/her to do. **The person having the power of attorney does not acquire any power of decision-making over the donor.** Under an enduring power, the attorney must act reasonably and cannot do what he/she likes with the donor's assets. **Attorneys cannot, for example, direct where the donor should live.** They cannot make a will for the donor and can only make gifts on his/her behalf to a limited extent.

Trustees

Generally powers of attorney are not effective to delegate the powers a donor may have as a Trustee of a Trust. You may need a special power or an enduring power for that purpose. Many people would be surprised to know that they are Trustees of a Trust: the law regards as Trustees joint owners of a home.

Finally

If you think an enduring power of attorney would be useful for you or someone you know it is advisable to seek professional advice.

The author lives in Bampton and is a practising solicitor with Halsey Lightly of Banbury Road, Oxford, as well as a member of the Society of Trust and State Practitioners (STEP).



At this time of year our footpaths can be particularly vulnerable to the plough. Changes may be quite innocent but it would be helpful if walkers who notice anything amiss or different with any footpaths would report it either to **Parish Councillor, Alan Dunbar Tel: 850207** or **Anne Norman at BEWG Tel: 850823**.

To provide a systematic surveillance of footpaths, BEWG is hoping to compile a list of regular walkers who would undertake to monitor a particular path by walking it twice a year. We would appreciate volunteers for this not too arduous responsibility.

BEWG hosted a very successful open meeting on 30th October when Brian Durham of Oxford Archaeological Unit gave an illuminating lecture on the origins and excavations of Witney Palace. The next lecture will be given after the AGM on 29th January when Jenny Steel of the Wildlife Gardening Centre will talk about wildflowers as herbs. This meeting is restricted to BEWG members but potential joiners are reminded that a subscription taken out now lasts until the end of December 1997. **Contact Anne Norman Tel: (01993) 850523.**

Latecomers can join at the door on the night - 8pm at the Village Hall.



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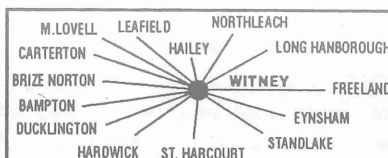
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REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

"On Sunday November 10th about one hundred people stood in silence at Bampton's war memorial to commemorate the dead. On Remembrance Day itself, November 11th, all over the country for the first time in decades thousands stopped what they were doing in shared reflection."

Fenella Gray provides a personal account of the things which enter her mind when flags are dipped and heads are bowed.

November for me is a time to think about what many people take for granted these days. Both my parents were in the services during the War, and have since served in several positions in the Royal British Legion in Bampton. Remembrance was a very important time for them, and still is for my mother, and no doubt for many more people in Bampton.

This made me think about a holiday my own family had in Labuan, one of the islands off the west coast of Sabah, Borneo. Once part of the Sultanate of Brunei, whose sultans ruled the whole of North Borneo until the mid-1800s the island was ceded to the British in 1846, following the discovery of coal deposits. Labuan remained a British possession for the next 115 years, with the exception of the three years under Japanese war-time rule. It now belongs to the Federal Government of Malaysia, is a free port, and is being developed into an offshore financial centre.

The climate is tropical, and there are many things to see and do especially if you are watersport-minded. Surrounding islands have coral reefs in abundance for enthusiastic scuba divers.

One of the places we stopped at while touring the island was the War Memorial. The Memorial Cemetery is the last resting place of over 3908 allied servicemen who were killed in the battles for North Borneo from 1942 to 1945. It is maintained by the Australian Government and kept in beau-

tiful condition and is a credit to the islanders.

Over half the graves hold the remains of unidentified servicemen, including Australians, Britons, Indians and Malay. The memorial itself lists the names of 4000 Australians who went missing in action or whose bodies were never identified. Walking round the cemetery, you come

upon graves of servicemen killed in the very last days of the war with Japan in early August 1945. Further on, however, you come

across graves of servicemen killed after the Japanese surrendered: even right through to the end of September 1945. It must have been terrible for the families of servicemen who died days before the end of the hostilities, yet must have been even more devastating for families who received telegrams of servicemen who died after the surrender.

Recently the Japanese have built Peace Park on the land where the allies landed in Labuan in 1945, and where the Japanese surrender took place. This park is dedicated to all the fallen soldiers of World War II, and has been a place of pilgrimage for many visitors of many nationalities. Being born after war rationing, it is hard for my generation, and even harder for generations born since, to feel the tragedy of the War years. But, listening to my parents, and seeing what I have seen, not only in Labuan, but in Singapore, Europe and the Channel Islands, made me think that we should **never forget** what these and many more soldiers sacrificed for all of us.



Mrs Edna Amos and Mr Fred Loxton carrying the British Legion Standards at the Remembrance Parade in Bampton.

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

We are lucky here in Bampton as we have branches of the British Legion for both men and women.

The men's branch held its AGM in November and the new Committee is as follows:

Branch President - Brigadier R. Crowdy
Branch Vice-president - Col. M. Roberts
Chairman - Mr W. Carr
Treasurer - Mr W. Carr
Service Member - Rt Rev. P. Burrough
Secretary - Mr A. Newing
Committee members:
Mr G. Fowler, Mr F. Loxton and Mr E. Kingman.

The women's branch also had its AGM in November and the new Committee is as follows:

Branch President - Mrs E. Foreshow
Branch Vice-president - Mrs L. Smith
Chairwoman - Mrs E. Quick
Treasurer - Mrs B. Collett
Secretary - Mrs R. Wheeler
This small band of women meet every fourth Wednesday in the month, except August and December.

If you are interested in joining either of the branches please contact **Mrs E. Quick Tel: 850273 (women's branch)** or **Mr A. Newing Tel: 850809 (men's branch)**.

The local organiser for the **poppy collection** in this area is **Mrs Y. Brown Tel: (01993) 841434**.



War graves in the Memorial Cemetery, Labuan

A ROUND-UP OF SOCIAL EVENTS DURING AUGUST, SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 1996



The SPAJERS Annual Donkey Derby Bank Holiday Monday

The weather stayed dry for this annual event held in Sandford's Field. The large marquee with the refreshments inside could have been very useful if the skies had decided to open.



There was no shortage of eager young riders for the donkeys when the races began. Mr Don Rouse in his usual capacity acted as announcer and commentator. There was a wide variety of stalls and competitions to try your luck on.

BAMPTON GARDENING CLUB

The Annual Show was a great success. Even though we suffered another dry summer there were still plenty of varieties of all sorts of vegetables and flowers exhibited.

The 1996 Results from the Show:

Overall points

Lady Anne Montagu Cup - Mrs E. Chambers

Runner-up 2nd

Jack Horne Memorial Cup - J. Brooks

Runner-Up 3rd

B.G.C. member only - K. Durham

Ladies Only section 4, 5

Liz Chambers Silver Plate - E. Chambers

Craft Classes Section 4

W.E. D. Godwin Cup - V. Elward

Dolly Stroud Cup - J. Garrison

Ken Adams Cup - J. Garrison

IlleanneHammond Rose Bowl - J. Brooks

Raymond Taylor Cup - J. Brooks

Sydney Constable Cup - J. Brooks

Andrew Pierce Cup - E. Chambers

Henry Bone Cup - B.B. Davis

Percy Bowerman Cup - K. Durham

Win Woodley Cup - A. Constable

Albert Tanner Cup - J. Brooks

Nellie Temple Cup - J. Brooks

John Smith Cup - R. Shergold

Reg Pratley Cup - K. Durham

Gold Medal - K. Durham



Willie Lane Cup - C. Brawn
Frank Collett Cup - V. Elward
Chennelle Cup - Jubilee Inn
John Taylor Cup - M. Howse
Allan & Kathy Clarke Cup - Midland Bank
Peggy Aucutt Cup - S. Smith
Stan Hawkins Silver Plate - K. Pace
Lady Lathbury Cup - M. Howse
Vice-presidents Cup - A. Howse
Mrs P. Smith Cup - J. Morris
Grace Wiltshire Deserving Effort - R. Borret

Children's Section

Betty Adams Cup - H. Clarke
Peter Rainbow Cup - S. Wiseman
Win Woodley Cup - E. Constable
Mrs L. Rogers Memorial Cup - M. Constance.

A coach trip to see the trees and shrubs in their autumn colours at Westonbirt Arboretum was organised for members in October. Unfortunately this was not so spectacular this year due to autumn being rather late, and disappointed many of the members.

On Friday 15th November the AGM was held in the Village Hall. Despite the fact that there were two other social events in the village, the evening was well attended. The Chairwoman reported that the club membership was still increasing and that in general the year had been a most successful one. Tony Jenkin, the Treasurer, produced a very healthy looking balance sheet to carry forward into next year, even though over £400 was donated to local causes.

It was decided that next year would proceed along similar lines to this, in that the monthly coffee mornings - so popular with the "regulars" - would still take place, as would the coach outings. The committee asked the audience whether they would like to see the reintroduction of evening events during the year, and this was unanimously agreed. The evening talks and demonstrations were discontinued this year due to lack of support in the evening. It can be most embarrassing for a speaker to stand up and address only a handful of people.

Lady Donoughmore kindly agreed to remain as Club President. The new committee is as follows: Lin Edgar, Chairwoman; Raymond Taylor, Vice-chairman; Jan Webb, Webb; Secretary; Yvonne Taylor, Show Secretary; Betty Collett, Membership Secretary; Liz Chambers, Trophy Secretary; and Tony Jenkin as Treasurer. As next year will be the 25th Annual Show to be staged, the committee hope to do something rather special. The details will be announced at a later date. The next event to be held will be the Christmas Bazaar which will take place Saturday 7th December in the Village Hall. We hope to see you all there. The committee would like to thank all our members and friends for the continuing support and with your help the club will go from strength to strength.



BAMPTON PUMPKIN CLUB 12TH OCTOBER

This year the weather was not so favourable to the pumpkin grower, but it was still a very tight competition.

The trophy winner this year was Mr Tom Gerring with a pumpkin weighing 184 lb. Runner up was Mr John Minto's pumpkin 147.5 lb, third place went to Mr Roger Clyde with his pumpkin weighing 139 lb. Very well done gentlemen.

In the junior section first prize went to Emily Glyde's pumpkin weighing 138.75 lb. Runner up was Gareth Baland's pumpkin weighing 136.5 lb, third place to Kaylen and Aklam Dowley's pumpkin weighing 134.75 lb. Certainly a very close competition amongst the younger pumpkin growers. Watch out adults!!!

We must not forget the marrows. Not too many of these, but the winner weighing in at 61.25 lb. was Mrs Annette Minto. Runner up was Mr Bob Stock's marrow weighing 47.75 lb, third place to Mr Keith Sykes at 19 lb.

The joint weighmasters were the local radio gardening experts Ron Bateman and John Simpson.

The proceeds of the auction which was held after the weigh-in, go towards the annual distribution of gifts given to the old age pensioners of the village at Christmas.

BAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

By Jim Taylor, Chairman, Bampton Parish Council



The Market Square

The Parish Council has acted on the resolutions taken at the Public Meeting on 5th September 1996. The Council has withdrawn from The County Council's proposals for the Market Square and has arranged the removal of the bottle and paper banks.

For residents information, the County Council - who own the square - considered their existing traffic order applicable to their layout proposals.

The County would have provided 70% of the funds required.

West Oxfordshire District Council helped in developing the layout of the square and would have provided 20% of the funds.

Bampton Parish Councillors unanimously agreed to the County Council's layout and to provide 10% of funds required. The Thames Valley Police agreed the proposals in February 1996.

It is regretted that the agreement on the layout of the square reached between Parish Councillors and the proprietors of the Market Square Garage was not maintained. At that time, the garage proprietors were planning to demolish the garage and had applied for planning permission to build a block of flats on their site.

An earlier parish council agreed to the bottle banks in the Market Square for the convenience of residents. The present council tried to move them elsewhere in the village in 1995 in order to meet the wishes of residents near the square, but other residents protested. The County Council had previously refused to locate them permanently at the Cowleaze lay-by but have now allowed them there for an extended trial period.

The Broad Street lime trees

The long debate about pollarding the lime trees in Broad Street has been resolved.

West Oxfordshire District Council, in September 1995, prevented this long-established practice being carried out.

The Oxfordshire County Council - who own the trees - agreed with the Parish Council's request for pollarding.

The County Council's appeal against West Oxfordshire District Council was granted by the Secretary of State for the Environment in July 1996.

Pollarding will commence this winter on alternate trees.

Planning Inspectorate report into objections to the West Oxfordshire Plan.

In this report, the building developments proposed in New Road, Aston Road and the Weald were rejected by the Inspector. However, a proposed development in Station Road, backing on to the Pembroke Place playground was approved. Both the Parish Council and West Oxfordshire District Council are against this proposal, particularly because it requires access from Station Road.

Bampton Recreation Ground Charity
The Buckland Road sports ground is part of the charity and Parish Councillors are the Trustees of the Charity.

The report of the Pavilion Study Group has been accepted by the Trustees, and further evaluations with an architect agreed.

The estimated development cost at Buckland Road could be £175,000 for the pavilion and about £25,000 for the proposed landscaping. Funding for this development will be sought from the National Lottery and the District Council.

Provision of the pavilion and other developments on the sports ground affects residents as the charity is supported by a Parish Council precept included in the council tax.

Early in 1997, when details and costs of the pavilion are available, the charity will distribute a letter to all households asking for their views. An information meeting will also be held.

The charity considers that a village referendum is required to obtain the opinions of all residents.



The Children's Society

THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY
The annual box collection this year made £286.96. Many thanks to all those people who gave so generously. A special thank-you to Londis, where a box is displayed all year round and provides us with a very valuable contribution.

If anyone would like to keep a box please contact **Pauline Hawkins Tel: (01993) 851066.**

"Once . . . In a Faraway land" a magical new production

The Village Hall,
Saturday 11th January 1997 at 2pm
Tickets: £4.50 (concessions £3)
from The Cotton Club

Drawing on a long tradition of fantastic festive shows.

Oxfordshire Touring Theatre Company this year proudly presents stories from around the globe to take your breath away.

Expect only the unexpected!

The show is suitable for all the family (recommended for ages 4-9 years and over).

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. It recently paid the whole cost of buying Sandford's Field for the village.

To achieve these aims we need
the largest possible membership.

If you aren't already a member,

DO JOIN NOW

Send your membership fee of £2 each (£1 for OAPs) for the period up to 31st December 1998, to:

Society for the Protection of Bampton
Manor House,
Bampton, Oxon OX18 2LQ

A CHALLENGE AT CHRISTMAS

The Friends of St. Mary's are planning to challenge your little grey cells over the Christmas season with a Prize Quiz.

Copies of the quiz will be available from the beginning of December, entries are £1 each.

The final date for entries will be
TWELFTH NIGHT

Make sure you pick up a copy
Enquiries: **Sarah Wearne**
Tel: (01993) 850295



Christmas is nearly here, so what about a winter warming drink? The following two offerings were found by one of my husband's friends in

the Bodleian Library when he should have been doing something more productive for his D.Phil. research... They are from an 1835 publication, **Oxford Night-caps!**

The Bishop (mulled port)

One of the "oldest winter beverages known", it is quite delicious.

"Make several incisions in the rind of a lemon, stick cloves in the incisions, and roast the lemon by a slow fire. Put small but equal quantities of cinnamon, cloves, mace and allspice, and a race of ginger, into a saucepan with half a pint of water; let it boil until it is reduced one half. Boil a bottle of port wine; burn a portion of spirit out of it by applying a lighted paper to the saucepan. Put the roasted lemon and spice into the wine; stir well and let it stand near the fire ten minutes. Rub a few knobs of sugar on the rind of a lemon, put the sugar into a bowl or jug with the juice of half a lemon (not roasted), sweeten it to your taste and serve it up with the lemon and spice floating on it."

Those feeling rich, or mad enough could make **The Pope** - where champagne is substituted for the port.



"Sling"



A traditional Jesus College drink, consumed on St David's Day out of an enormous 18th-century silver punch bowl. Apparently it's disgusting. Nevertheless the manuscript claims it to be "a great favourite throughout the University".

Put half pound of sugar in a bowl and add 1pt warm beer, some grated nutmeg and chopped ginger. Add 4 glasses of sherry and 5 more pints of beer. Sweeten to taste. Leave to stand 2-3 hours. Add 3 or 4 slices of thin toasted bread. A few slices of lemon may be added. "Bottle this mixture", says the recipe, "and in a few days it may be drunk in a state of effervescence!" My husband strongly recommends not bothering.

THE FOOD PAGE

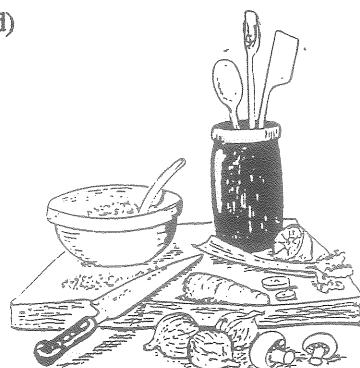
by Gilly French

Sitting in my study on a rather dingy day, I thought that a few ideas to cheer ourselves up during the coming winter might be a good subject about which to write. The first recipe is a luxurious soup adapted from a recipe in the American magazine *Bon Appetit*, whilst the others are homelier fare.

Roasted garlic and brie soup

(serves 6)

2 heads of garlic, separated into cloves (unpeeled)
6 tablespoons olive oil
1 medium onion, chopped
2 celery stalks, chopped
1 carrot, chopped
1 tablespoon plain flour
2.5 pints stock
1 teaspoon fresh oregano
0.5 teaspoon fresh thyme
7oz brie, rind removed, cut into pieces
seasoning



Preheat the oven to 350F/180C/gas 4. Put the garlic in an ovenproof dish, drizzle with 2 tablespoons oil and bake until the garlic is tender (about 30 minutes).

Heat the rest of the oil in a pan and saute the vegetables for 15 minutes. Add flour and stir for 1 minute. Gradually stir in stock. Bring to the boil and simmer for 15 minutes. Leave to cool a little and puree in a blender with the garlic.

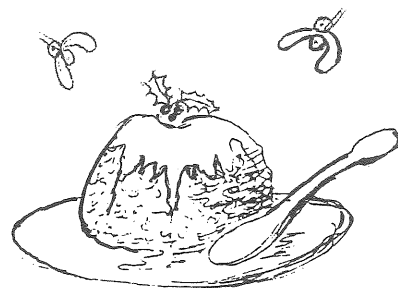
Add herbs and reheat. Gradually add brie, stirring until melted after each addition. Season to taste. Serve immediately.

Vegetable and pasta bake

(serves 4)

A mixture of your favourite/seasonal vegetables (e.g. courgettes and mushrooms)
1 onion
garlic
olive oil
2 or 3 tomatoes, skinned and chopped
wholewheat pasta shapes
Cheddar cheese, grated (about 4oz)
1 tablespoon flour
2 fl. oz milk
seasoning

Chop onion and garlic and fry in olive oil for 5 minutes. Meanwhile, cook the pasta. Add the other vegetables to the onions and garlic and cook for another 10 minutes or until done. Add tomatoes and cooked pasta, season to taste. Add a little cheese and a sprinkling of flour. Add the milk and stir until thickened. Put the mixture into a baking dish, cover with the rest of the cheese and cook in a medium oven for 30 minutes.



Variations on gratin dauphinois

This delicious classic is made by finely slicing potatoes and layering them in a dish. They are then baked in a sauce of single cream flavoured with garlic, salt, pepper and nutmeg, for about 90 minutes at 300F/150C/gas2.

The potatoes could also be layered with sliced, cooked mushrooms and Gruyere cheese; or with a mixture of blue stilton and cream. Thinly sliced swede or celeriac could also be used. Whatever way you choose, it is good comfort food!



If you would like to write to Auntie Beam the address is Auntie Beam, c/o The Cotton Chub, Bridge Street, Bampton, Oxon. OX18 2HA. She will do her utmost to answer as many of your queries as space allows. Auntie Beam wishes to say that she cannot give out personal replies.

Dear Auntie Beam,

Can anything be done about dog messes in Bampton.

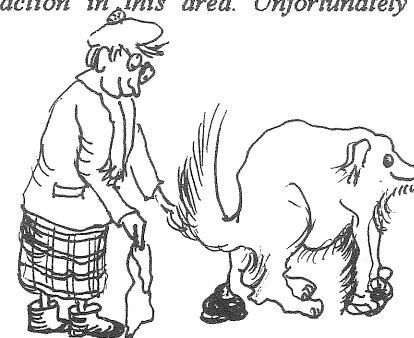
I am not so much talking about the pavements, although, to the shame of some dog owners, this is sometimes a problem. But every open space and footpath is littered with "dog pooh", spoiling walks and making it hazardous to take small children to play in places like Sandford's Field, which should be a haven for them. Can The Bampton Beam help?

Yours hopefully, A responsible dog owner.

Dear Responsible Dog Owner,

There is hope for those among us who are disgusted by the amount of dog mess along Bampton's recreational areas. The environment office of the District Council tells me that an Act of parliament has recently been passed enabling the Parish Council to take some action in this area. Unfortunately

details of how to implement the act are not yet forthcoming from central government. However, our District Councillor has given our Parish Council notice that something will have to be done in the near future. Meanwhile our dog owners should practice being good citizens when out walking their dogs, and always carry a plastic bag on their person. I heard of one good Bampton citizen, noticing that a neighbour's dog constantly fouled the pavement outside her house. She gathered up the mess in a plastic bag and returned it to the owner. The dog since seems to have cleared up its act.



Auntie Beam would like to wish all her readers a very Merry Christmas and an Exciting New Year.

LETTERS TO:

AUNTIE BEAM



Dear Auntie Beam,

I have, for many years now, wondered when visiting Bampton Cemetery why it is that the water pressure in the taps is so pitifully low.

Nowadays with age creeping upon me, I find it really annoying that it takes so long to fill the watering can. If you have a bad back, having to hold the can so close to the tap, you can go home feeling a little bit sore. I see recently they have modified the tap slightly by adding a piece of tubing, which means you don't have to bend over quite so much, but they still haven't done anything about the water pressure.

Is there some "special" reason for this problem, or is every cemetery tap all over Oxfordshire kept at this water pressure. A special cost rate perhaps? I know it cannot be through a fault along the water main, as this problem has been going on for quite a few years now, and I'm sure the relevant council would have put that to rights by now. If you can give me an answer I would be very grateful, and no doubt a few more people would be as well!

Yours, Mrs Gibson

Dear Mrs Gibson,

I am so sorry to hear about your back, I hope it is alot better by now. Regarding the tap at Bampton Cemetery, the water comes from a privately owned well along Station Road, and is piped to the cemetery free of charge. The reason why the pressure is so low is, that the water level in the well is dependent on the weather. With all the sunshine we have been experiencing the last few summers, the water has got very low, hence the water flow is poor. I suggest you visit the cemetery after we have had a good downpour of rain, when the pressure should be higher, and your watering can full before you know it.

Dear Auntie Beam,

Please, please, please can you tell me why the horrible stain is left on the floor in the doctors' surgery. Every time I visit there I feel like getting on my hands and knees and giving it a good scrub. Is this some form of experimental psychological therapy? Yours, On the verge of a nervous breakdown.

Dear On the verge of a nervous breakdown,

I asked the Practice Manager of Bampton Surgery about the stain on the surgery floor. She did point out that if anyone has a query about the surgery or anything connected with the Bampton Practice they should contact her, Mrs Renee Barnard or Dr Perry, directly at the surgery and not bother asking such questions of Auntie Beam. Mrs Barnard said that things happen at a doctor's surgery which are not the sort of things that would happen on the carpet of your own front room. Consequently there are different problems of carpet upkeep. I would have thought that was more of a reason to scrub the carpet, and enjoy a cup of tea afterwards, thinking what a good job I'd done!!

This letter was supposed to have been published in the August edition of The Beam. Unfortunately, the Practice Manager was not available at the time Auntie Beam went to print.



Auntie Beam has received several letters in answer to Simon Garrett's letter asking why "Folly View" is so called? I hope these are of help to you Simon!

Dear Auntie Beam,
In reply to Simon Garrett's letter about Folly View I would remind him that "view" is a fairly elastic suffix, e.g. boarding houses called "Sea View". However I am sure that the folly referred to is Lord Berner's Tower east of Faringdon which was a notable landmark until the trees grew up around it.

In the years I've lived in Bampton the views from my houses have been obliterated by building or by the growth of trees. The handsome conker tree in my present house was planted by a child only fifty years ago and it seems possible that the magnificent chestnuts in the grounds of Folly House would have been quite small when Folly View was built ninety years ago. The stone front of Folly House is in fact the original building used by the owners of The Grange as their coach house and general out-house. When Major and Mrs Scott wished to move to something smaller they had the wooden structure built on to the stone building built. Perhaps they saw this as a folly, but I'm sure the view referred to the tower which could have been seen from the top of Folly View.

Yours etc, Old Bore



Dear Auntie Beam,
If Mr Simon Garrett had looked up at the Folly View houses he would have noted that they were built in 1906, Faringdon Folly was not built until 1936.

Then there is Folly House, which to my recollection was not built until after the War. The occupants of The Grange had the wooden part added to the original stone building, which was the old coach house. They called it Folly House and lived there, probably from the 1950s.

I rather think that the folly in question is our "dear old Town Hall": it had to be somebody's folly to build that! (Don't you think).

Yours, Bamptonian (Born and Bred)

Dear Auntie Beam,

I may have an answer to the query of why "Folly View" houses are so named.

Many years ago my father used to collect

"things". He often told us tales of how he had to get help (from the local people I presume) to push the cart up Folly Hill on the way home, the load being too heavy for the steep rise.

This high mound was first built in 1144 as a "Castle of Wood". Troops were sited there to guard Faringdon House and surrounds. Unfortunately, this did not last and the house was destroyed after only one year.

A new Faringdon House was built in 1780. Folly Hill was again reinforced with very many trees planted at the summit. A circular path with seats was also provided by Henry James Pye. (Later to become Poet Laureate). During the excavations many skeletons were found dating back to the Civil War.

The tower now called The Folly was only built in 1935 - purely as a "fun-house". Therefore Bampton's "Folly View" houses built in 1906 had a perfect view of "Folly Hill"!!

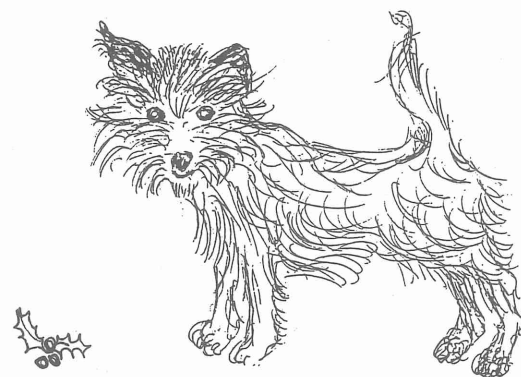
Yours, Concerned Bamptonian



THE BEAM'S PET CHOICE

"Now you can keep a dog again", said our friends when we moved to quiet Cheyne Lane from Bridge Street. "But it would have to be Pansy", we replied with one voice. No other dog would do. Pansy is a scruffy cairn-terrier-looking dog. The only one of a normal litter of Jack Russells and a well-known figure in Bampton, trailing behind her owner, Jo Lewington, savouring every smell on the way or sitting pathetically outside Londis. But don't be deceived - she is enormous fun! Show her a rabbit or play a game with her and she is as keen as a terrier can be and an excellent house dog.

She is never on the lead for she would never cross the road without word or gesture of command, nor does she ever stray when on a visit to our house. She has the most amazing understanding of what is going on. Jo declares she doesn't know how she trained her, but I think it comes from



the close one-to-one relationship they enjoyed when she was a puppy. When I commented on this Jo laughed and admitted that she did talk to Pansy all the time and even found herself explaining things to her. The result is that Pansy listens to all that is being said and seems to know what is being planned. Not just the key words such as "walk" and "car", which most dogs understand, but **when** something is going to take place. She often spends the day with us, which we all enjoy, but at the time that Jo is expected she will go and sit by the front door, even when the expected time varies by several hours. Should the bus be late she is very upset. I believe this is a known phenomenon in the dog world.

Needless to say her house and table manners are impeccable. I wish there were more dogs like Pansy!

CHENNELLS

Market Square, Bampton.

As you read in your last Bampton Beam the premises at Health Matters became vacant. We are pleased to inform all those who have not appreciated it that Chennells which has been trading in Bampton for eleven years has filled the gap.

Catering now for a wide range of services provided by Brenda, Claire, Sue and Denise. This includes ladies, gents and children's hairstyling.

A new beauty section is provided by Claire including facials, leg waxing, manicuring etc.

Also like Health Matters we offer a wide range of environmentally friendly hair and beauty products.

On producing this write up at our salon in the month of January 1997 you will receive 10% off a perm, highlights or facial.

B.J. Chennells & C.L. Chennells.
Telephone No. (01993) 850334.

Solution to BEAM PRIZE CROSSWORD August 1996

B	E	T	E	T	C	H	S	K	I	N
A	P	E	S	H	O	O	H	I	R	E
T	I	E	S	E	N	T	A	L	O	E
S	N	E	E	R	S	B	L	O	N	D
H	O	A	R	S	E	D	R	E	S	S
E	D	G	E	F	L	I	E	S		
W	E	E	W	O	U	N	D	E	A	R
			V	I	R	G	O	I	D	E
A	W	H	I	L	E	S	T	R	I	C
R	O	O	S	T	G	A	I	E	T	Y
O	M	I	T	B	O	U	T	I	C	Y
M	E	S	A	E	A	R	L	O	L	E
A	N	T	S	E	L	S	E	N	E	W

Thank you to all those who took part in the crossword competition. Unfortunately there can only be one winner, and the lucky person for the August edition of The Beam is Mrs Susan Faber, of The Old Rectory, Stanton St Bernard, Marlborough, Wilts. Well done, your prize will be forwarded on to you.



WESTERN CORNER LINK FAMILY SCHEME

Western Corner in Witney is looking to increase the amount of care that it can offer through its **Link Family Scheme**.

What is Western Corner?

It is a small project which offers residential and community services to children with learning disabilities and their families. The **Link Family Scheme** recruits carers to look after these children in the carers' homes, for one weekend a month, daycare or overnight mid-week breaks.

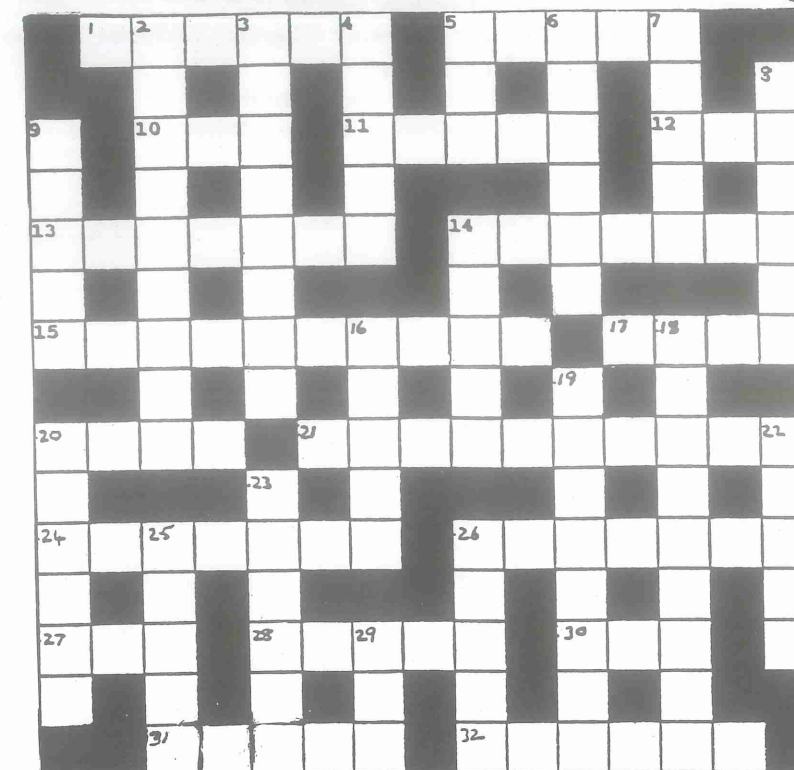
Not only does this provide a break for the child's family, but it also allows the child to build up new relationships.

No previous experience is necessary as continual support is always on hand and thorough training is given. All expenses are paid and any special equipment is provided. **Rachael, Janet and Robert welcome any enquiries**

Tel: 01993 772973



THE BAMPTON BEAM'S CROSSWORD



Across

1. Dark crystalline rock
5. Tibetan snow leopard
10. Electrically charged atom
11. Burst of applause
12. Wildebeest
13. Crossbar
14. Agents
15. A genus of the lily (growing wild at Ducklington)
17. Rabbits tail
20. Dads sister
21. Brotherhood
24. Reverberate
26. Mechanical harvester
27. Equality of value
28. Vindictiveness
30. Wreath
31. Clemency
32. Stout club

Down

2. Imparting vitality
3. One unsure of his belief in god
4. Unit of heating value
5. Nocturnal bird of prey
6. Idea
7. A bore
8. Sundown
9. A theme or subject
14. Peakless cap
16. Glaringly
18. Find fault with
19. Disintegrated
20. Brusque
22. Surrender
23. To quake and tremble
25. Thrum a stringed instrument
26. Laughter provoking
29. A vote against

The Beam team would like to donate £5 to the Pumpkin Club as thanks to Mr Bill Govier for the crossword puzzle in this edition of The Beam. The solution will be published in the April edition; if you can't wait until then, send a s.a.e. with your entry to The Editor, The Bampton Beam, c/o The Cotton Club, Bampton.

Cash prize of £5 for the first correct puzzle opened on 28th February 1997.

Diary of Forthcoming Events**DECEMBER**

- 1st - 15th **Christmas Craft Sale** The Gallery, Town Hall
 8th St. Mary's Church **Family Christingle Service** 10.30am
 8th The Burford Singers with The Cotswold Chamber Orchestra. **Presenting Purcell's Hear my Prayer** Burford Church 7.30pm
 15th **Candlelit Service** Methodist Chapel, Bridge Street 6pm
 20th Cancer Research Campaign **Country & Western Dance** Carterton
 21st St Mary's, Church **Handel's Messiah** 7pm
 24th St Mary's Church **Midnight Mass** 11.30pm
 25th St Mary's Church **Holy Communion** 10.30am
 25th Methodist Chapel **Family Service** 10.30am

JANUARY

- 11th **Once ... In a Faraway Land** The Village Hall, 2pm
 13th Bampton Traders Association **Meeting** The Village Hall, 8pm
 19th - 2nd Feb **Home and Abroad** The Gallery, Town Hall
 29th BEWG AGM The Village Hall 8pm

FEBRUARY

- 8th **Table Top Sale** The Village Hall
 9th - 23rd Feb Exhibition **Life Drawings** The Gallery, Town Hall

MARCH

- 1st - 2nd **Craft Demonstrations** The Gallery, Town Hall
 8th **The Burford Singers** Burford Church, 7.30pm
 16th - 30th Exhibition **Sculptures** The Gallery, Town Hall.
Please let us have your Notice Board (£1.50) and Diary (free) entries before the next deadline - 31st January 1997.

BAMPTON DIRECTORY 1997

The updated Bampton Directory was delivered to all households and businesses in Bampton at the end of September.

Extra copies are available from the Post Office and Abbey Properties.

Corrections and Additions - November 1996:

page 13

BAMPTON PRE-SCHOOL PLAYGROUP

- insert* Vice-Chairperson: Mrs Nikki Duffy, 2 Broad Street Tel 850302
amend Secretary: Mrs Lynn Higman, 14 Glebelands Tel: 851330
insert Enrolment Secretary: Mrs Claire Box, 2 Chewynd Mead Tel 851573
 Fees Secretary: Mrs Nanette Yates, 12 The Pieces Tel 850791
 Rota Secretary: Mrs Lesley Paintin, 14 Mercury Close Tel 851732

MOTHER & TODDLER GROUP

- amend* Contact: Mrs Fiona Godwin, 20 Chetwynd Mead Tel: 851633
 page 16

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION - BAMPTON BRANCH

- insert* Poppy Area Organiser: Mrs Y. Brown 1 Davis Close, Carterton Tel 841434
 page 27

BAMPTON RECREATION GROUND TRUST

- add* Bookings for **Multisport Court** contact: Philip McFarlane Tel 850433
 page 31

HOUSE & GARDEN

- Mr Mowerman Services & Repair Garden Machinery Gary Pitts Tel: 850927.

Other corrections and additions should be sent to The Editor, The Bampton Directory, Haytor, Lavender Square, Bampton OX18 2LR.

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is published three times a year and distributed free to all residents in Bampton. Extra copies available from the Post Office and The Cotton Club.

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Contributions are always welcome at any time and should be sent to: **The Editor, The Bampton Beam, c/o The Cotton Club, Bridge St, Bampton.**

Deadline - 31st January 1997

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

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If you would like to volunteer a pet to be mentioned in the next edition of The Beam please send to the usual address.

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