

# THE BAMPTON BEAM

August 2002

Volume 17, No.2

## Bampton's Own Special Celebrations For The Queen's Golden Jubilee *Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June, 2002*

### Sports Day

*By Graham Haslam*

Tuesday dawned to a fine, warm but cloudy morning, and so it continued throughout the day. Preparations for the Sports Afternoon had been underway for several months and the format aimed at enabling the various sports sections to organise events of interest to encourage children and adults alike to make use of the sports opportunities offered at the Recreation Ground. We received great support from numerous people - Tom Rose with his roundabouts, bouncy castle, and candy floss stall, Mr. Bennett - the ice-cream man, Mr. Hassan - the kebab man, and the Romany and the Horse-shoe for refreshments, as well as the many volunteers, who helped with the

fully, the appearance of the Fire Brigade will stimulate the people of Bampton to sign up to become either a retained or a part-time Fire Fighter. Tel: 01865 842999 for further information.

The afternoon ended around 5.15pm and by 5.45pm the Recreation Ground was absolutely clear, and you couldn't have guessed that over 700 people had enjoyed a simply splendid, family afternoon - with lots of FUN!! Congratulations Bampton on being able to build this superb Recreation and Sports facility, not forgetting that just beyond the cricket field is the new Shillbrook Wood, which Bampton children and adults planted with the help of the Woodland Trust - over 6000 trees on 9 acres, and a real legacy for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.



organisation. In particular, a special mention to our fantastic MC for the afternoon - Don Rouse - who clearly has a great affection for Bamptonians, and likewise, we for him - well done Don!!

We were delighted that the Bampton Fire Brigade were able to join us with their Fire Tender and this was much enjoyed by both young and old. Hope-

### The Barn Dance

This was a brilliant evening for both young and old. The Jubilee Band was at its best, the weather held good, and a great time was had by all.

This was another marvelous example of what Bamptonians can organise when they want to, and such occasions certainly help to keep the spirit of the Village very much alive and kicking!

## Parish Council And District Council Elections

The following were the results of the elections held on 2<sup>nd</sup> May:

### West Oxfordshire District Council

Jonathan Phillips and Fred Gray

### Bampton Parish Council

David Hawkins: Chairman  
851066

Jackie Allinson: Vice-Chairman  
850368

Lord Donoughmore: New Projects  
850231

Marion Dowding: Allotments  
850167

Alan Dunbar: Recreation Ground  
850207

Barrie Gray: Playing Fields  
210061

Fred Gray: Highways and Traffic  
851653

Graham Haslam: Town Hall & Market Square  
851014

June Leeming: Cemetery  
851096

Janet Newman: Welfare and Youth  
850755

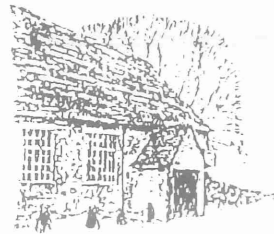
Ralph Norman: Planning  
850823

### A Day at the Races?

The Bampton Gardening Club is organising a 'Day at the Races' to the Cheltenham Festival, on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2003. The cost is £25 per person, which covers the cost of the coach, and entry to the 'Courage Best' enclosure. You don't have to be a Gardening Club member to go along!

Places will be like gold dust, so if you are interested, contact Fred Gray (851653) without delay!

## 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. Modern toilet facilities.

**Lettings Officer: Mrs. Susan Walker**  
**Lamplight Cottage, Bridge Street**  
**Tel: 01993 852361**

## BAMPTON VILLAGE HALL

The Annual General Meeting took place in the Village Hall on Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2002.

Most members of the Management Committee were prepared to serve for another year and the officers remain the same. Hilary Bevan has resigned as she will be leaving Bampton in June. She has been a long serving and very useful member of the Committee and she was warmly thanked for her contribution and work as Minutes Secretary. She will be very much missed. Lynn Higman, Lettings Officer since 1999, has also resigned because of plans to move from Bampton. Again she was thanked for the excellent work she has done during her term of office. The Committee is pleased to announce that her position is to be taken on by Mrs Susan Walker.

Since then the Committee has been very sad to learn of the death of George Howell. He has given a great deal of help and support to the Village Hall over the years and his careful examination of the annual accounts was much appreciated. The Committee sent condolences to Jean, who has been WI representative on the Committee and Vice-Chairman since it took over the running of the Hall. George will be greatly missed by many in Bampton.

The Hearing Loop/Sound System was in place for the meeting and has been used a couple of times since then. The Committee is grateful to Bampton Parish Council and West Oxfordshire District Council for their grants of £500 & £491 towards this project. Any organisation wanting to use the system should contact the Lettings Officer who will provide instructions and key for cupboard where microphones are kept.

The hall will be closed for a week in August for the sanding and re-sealing of the wooden floor in the main hall. The old wood/metal chairs have now been replaced with plastic/metal chairs similar to ones already in the hall.

## BAMPTON '250' CLUB

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

Mrs L. Shirley was the winner in The Annual Draw for the Bampton '250' Club and won the major prize of £250.

### BAMPTON 250 CLUB - LIST OF WINNERS 2002/2003

APRIL	£25	204	Mr A Edwards	Buckland Road
	£15	204	Mr S Garrett	Black Bourton
	£15	120	Mrs P James	Lavender Place
MAY	£15	125	Mrs S Smart	Primrose Lane
	£25	093	Dr & Mrs Perry	Queen Street
	£15	169	Miss Faithful	Bridge Street
	£15	205	Mrs Tester	The Lanes
JUNE	£15	246	Mrs J Rae	Cheyne Lane
	£100	221	Mrs Val Collett	Talbot Fields
	£25	197	Mr B Radband	Chandler Close
	£15	118	Miss D Thomson	Cheyne Lane
	£15	002	Mrs E Banham	Church Street
	£15	101	Mrs G French	Market Square

## Do You Know What Bampton Youth are Up To?

At St. Mary's Church, there is an active and thriving Junior Church (known as the BJC) which meets every Sunday morning in term time and organises activities and socials during the holidays. This coming year (inspired by the Jubilee celebrations) we are planning our own entry in the Great Shirt Race (oh yes!!). We'll be sweating our way round as many churches as we can on the Historic Churches Bike Ride, taking part in a massive treasure hunt around our village. Children from age 3 are provided for and meet for games, crafts and activities in the Bush Club while the Sunday service takes place at St. Mary's. We all meet up in church at 10.30am. Older children can join either the Trailblazers (8 -11 yrs) or the Youth Group (11+). The Youth Group meet on a Sunday evening and we go to the cinema together, organise fund-raising events (we had a sleep over in the Church which was ... well, a bit chilly!) and generally enjoy each others' company. Trailblazers usually meet on Sunday morning with the rest of BJC, but once or twice a term we go bowling/ swimming or skating. All the older children offer their expertise in helping at the big events like the Light Party (St. Mary's answer to Halloween!) and the Christmas shows, as well as being invited to help out in Church during services. You might have seen us singing, dancing and playing our way down the aisles during a Family Service, which are held on the third Sunday of every month! If you would be interested in joining us, just come along any Sunday morning to St. Mary's at 10.30, or telephone Tess, Tel: 850468 for more information. We'd love to see you there!

### Dates for you diary:

**8th September**  
 BJC Welcome Party  
**15th September**  
 Harvest  
**31st October**  
 Light Party  
**2nd November**  
 Bazaar  
**November 10th**  
 Temperance Sunday

## BAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

By David Hawkins,  
 Chairman, Bampton Parish Council

### Golden Jubilee Celebrations

A full programme of celebrations over 5 days left Bampton residents tired out but with big smiles on their faces. A concert by Magpie Lane in the Church started the proceedings and was followed by the 50<sup>th</sup> SPAJER'S Great Shirt Race which had a record number of participants. The juniors race was won by Jordan Day and William Money, the intermediate by David Radband and Andrew Fowler and the adults by Michael Beckett and Andy Bridgeman. Other celebrations included a full day of Morris Dancing on the Monday, special church services, a peel of bells, Jubilee decoration competitions, the Flower Festival which raised record takings, a magnificent sports afternoon attended by over 500 people and a free Barn Dance in the Market Square as the grand finale. The dance had a band of 10 volunteers under the directorship of Matthew Green and was attended by over 300 residents of all ages. Bampton at its very best – well done and many thanks to the Jubilee Committee.

### Skate Park

As we go to print, funding for the new skatepark in the Recreation Ground is very encouraging and we are just £3,000 short of the estimated £35,000 required. The village children are having fund raising events such as discos and sponsored bike rides. Please phone Alan Dunbar, 850207, or myself 851066 if you can pledge a contribution. The children have met recently to decide on the skatepark's obstacles arrangement and the Parish Council hopes to give the go ahead for the build in early autumn. Please give generously.

### Cycle Path

The Cycle Path Committee have been unable to obtain sufficient funding for a safe route to the Thames and have, therefore, passed the money collected so far over to the Parish Council to be

used towards a similar project. It is understood that there could be funding available for a route from Bampton to Carterton and if any resident would care to head a committee to look into this and other possibilities, please contact me or Jo Lewington. She and other members of her committee would be willing to give any help and advice.

### Coronation Celebrations

The Parish Council wish to congratulate all the staff and children of Bampton Primary School on the very successful reproduction of the 1953 Coronation that took place on July 2<sup>nd</sup>. The procession was most impressive with the Parish Council, the British Legion, Fire Brigade and Police all represented. Central TV made sure that the Church Service was well covered. Well done to all

### Bookings

#### Pavilion & Multisport

The Pavilion at the Recreation Ground continues to receive well deserved plaudits when being used for wedding receptions or birthday parties. Please book well in advance on  
**Tel: 01993 852483 or**  
**Mobile: 07766 264684**

## WODC News

By Fred Gray  
 District Councillor

### WODC Booklet

Enclosed with this edition of the 'Beam' is a very useful booklet issued recently by the West Oxfordshire District Council. The 'Guide to Services' provides information on all of the services provided by the WODC, and includes the telephone numbers of the various contact points. I hope you find it useful.

### Bus Services

After discussions with the Oxfordshire County Council (OCC), I can advise that the new contracts for the two Bampton bus services - 18 and 19 - are being tendered on the following basis.

The tender for the 18 will be based on the existing routing and timetable, but the OCC is also requesting cost information on an increased frequency to approximately once per hour, as opposed to the existing frequency of approximately once per two hours. The decision as to whether the increased frequency will be adopted will be decided initially on cost grounds, and thereafter, if it is adopted, on public utilisation.

On the service 19, the OCC has agreed to tender on the basis of the

## 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: Vicar of Bampton with Clanfield, The Reverend D Lloyd,  
 Mrs R Colville, Mrs J Haslam, Mrs J Newman, Dr M Perry,  
 Mrs S Phillips, Mr C Rouse, Mr G Wiltshire and 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

original routing of Witney, Ducklington, Aston, Bampton, Clanfield, Black Bourton, and Carterton, and then return. They are aware (as is Thames Travel) that the present system of the 19 and TB 19 is not popular, and hence their action to tender on the original routing (and timetable) basis. However the OCC has advised that it should be noted that the Thames Travel 19 and TB19 services were presented to OCC as a much cheaper option than the 'original' two-bus 19 service when Stagecoach withdraw this as a commercial operation.

The future of the service 19 therefore depends on the tenders which are submitted and unfortunately it cannot be assumed that it will revert to its original pattern of operation, although this is what we all hope for.

Once the decision about contracts has been made, OCC has also advised that it would be willing to discuss with the selected operator(s) the routes to be used in Bampton. From discussions with many villagers, the consensus would appear to be that the preferred routing for both the 18 and 19 services in Bampton should revert to the original routing of (from Witney and Aston direction): Aston Road, High Street, Bushey Row, New Road, Broad Street, Market Square, Bridge Street and onwards to Clanfield - and of course in reverse on the way back. If any of you have different ideas, please do not hesitate to contact me (01993 851653) and state your case!

The new contracts come into effect on 27 October.

The one caveat on both new contracts is that bus operators can also offer alternatives to the preferred service, in the sense that they can offer different routes and timetables, and the OCC is obliged to consider these in the analysis of the tenders.

Therefore, it is possible that we could once again end up with services which are not ideal, but we can but hope that we do get services which match the aspirations of the Villagers.

I have also discussed the subject of evening bus services with OCC, and have agreed that, once the new contracts are in place for the 18 and 19 services, we will have another meeting to discuss ideas on that issue.

## "Befriending: A Two-way Process"

Befriending creates an opportunity for two people to develop a close and trustworthy friendship in which both pain and joy may arise and be shared. Through such a relationship we know that we are alive; we are not alone; we belong to the human race. By sharing whatever is going on in our hearts and our minds, we are more able to experience life as it is, in the present moment, here and now.

When we rush through life barely making contact with each other (or with ourselves), we may just about be aware enough to realise that life itself is somehow passing us by and crave something/anything, which (however fleetingly) will give us a sense of being in contact with, of being inside our lives.

Consciously living with dying can do much to focus our attention on just how precious life itself is and just how precious our own particular lives with our own particular loved ones are to us. The awareness of our mortality may make us aware of just how much more there is to living and just how much of our effort so far has gone into avoidance, of creating a comfortably numb existence, of living as if we are more dead than alive already.

Three hours a week is a long time to fill together if two people are not going to make contact with themselves or each other and there are few, if any, specific jobs to be done, which could provide a distraction from intimacy. The befriender and their befriending partner could be stuck with each other all afternoon, watching the clock and ticking off the minutes as the time crawls by. The determination and mutual sensitivity of both people explores the use of this time, this opportunity, in the way which most suits both of them. Comments such as "I don't want it (the relationship) to get too 'heavy'" or "I'm fed up with people making small talk" gives some idea of the need to find a balance.

Which ever way the friendship develops, the truth remains that one person cannot 'make it happen' without the

other. Befriending is a two-way process.

As the befriending relationship develops in trust then another form of two-some arises. Like two children in the playground or a good marriage, a "we can take on the world together" feeling may emerge. This is the bedrock of confidence. The person who is too ill to do some things for herself may feel able to say to her befriender "Would you speak up for me at the Care Planning meeting?" or "It really gets to me when they treat me as if I'm stupid. Such a relief to let off steam to you and to know that it won't go any further".

Befrienders are sometimes the only (unpaid) person at a funeral, the only (unpaid) visitor to home or hospital, the only intermediary in family or inter-agency disputes, the only relief for a carer who needs a break, the only person willing to discuss the experience of illness fully, the only familiar face when dying occurs, the only support to keep in touch with far flung friends or relatives, the only person to notice when abuse has occurred or there is a risk of abuse recurring, the only person to insist that the views of the ill person are heard by the family and by health and social care professionals.

Befrienders also help to build bridges. There may be others who wish to be involved and do not know just what is going on. There may be family members and agency workers who are fully capable of sorting out disputes for themselves with just a little encouragement or guidance to assist them. There are other resources in the community to provide the carer with a break or to meet specific needs including protection and planning, which the befriender may assist her befriending partner to draw upon.

There may be a range of self-help options to access if required. In helping his befriending partner to review her options in life and to access support, the befriender may learn much about how to do this for himself. The befriender may experience the weekly visit or outing as 'an oasis' in a busy schedule or find that some of his own problems or difficulties seem to be 'not such a big deal' after all. The befriender may find himself to be under taking a journey with his befriending

partner which is deeply spiritual in nature. The befriender and his befriending partner work out how to be alongside each other without asking too much or too little from their journey together.

### Do you want to be a volunteer?

We train, match and support volunteer Befrienders who visit people with life threatening illness in Oxfordshire. Befriending can be demanding but also immensely rewarding. For more information or an application form, please telephone **Catherine Grundy** or **Linda Ridgway** on 01865 316200.

### Is Your Home Behaving Badly?

Could you be needlessly burning money because your home is not energy efficient? To find out, contact Thames Valley Energy Centre (part of West Oxfordshire District Council) and ask for a *free* home energy check. You will be sent a self completion questionnaire about your home which will enable the fuel busting experts at the Centre to tell you how your home behaves and identify if there are any ways that you can save energy. The Centre can also advise you about any grants or special offers available on energy saving products and services whether its loft or cavity wall insulation or whether you fancy some high-tech solar panels on your roof. You can start saving energy and money straight way as each household that completes a survey will also be eligible for a **FREE LOW ENERGY LIGHT BULB** that uses a fifth of the energy as a normal light bulb and lasts for up to 12 years! Simply Tel: 0800 512 012 and ask for your Home Energy Check.

### Thinking of a new Boiler or Central Heating system?

The Big Green Boiler Scheme makes high efficiency 'A-Rated' condensing boilers available to everyone at a discounted price. Condensing boilers recycle the heat which is normally lost through the flue and make use of it to heat your home and hot water. This can cut your heating bills by up to 30% as well as help reduce harmful emissions of greenhouse gases. What's more saving the environment

need not cost the earth - the boilers cost from as little as £420 ex VAT and there is even a £70 cashback to you after you have had the boiler installed. Any **CORGI** registered installer can fit the boiler for you. The scheme is run nationally by Thames Valley Energy Centre (part of West Oxfordshire District Council) and already nearly 4,000 boilers have been fitted under the scheme. For more information simply Tel: 0800 028 2855 or visit the website [www.green-boilers.co.uk](http://www.green-boilers.co.uk).

## BAMPTON FAX BUREAU

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

## Emmie's NEWS AGENTS

Bridge St. Bampton

Tel: 850467

Newspapers delivered anywhere in Bampton

## The Morris Clown A True Free House

A better quality insult from your hosts

Tom and Steve

Over 100 Guest  
Beers a Year

High Street, Bampton,  
CAMRA Member Since 1997  
(Campaign for Real Ales)

Proud not to do  
Food!

Darts

Aunt Sally

Bar Billiards

Licensed Integral Function Room

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

## Systems & Solutions

Your Local Computer Shop

New Computers

Computer Repairs



Computer Components

27 Fettiplace Road, Witney, Oxon, OX28 5AP  
Phone: 01993 706161 Fax: 01993 703770  
[www.systems-and-solutions.co.uk](http://www.systems-and-solutions.co.uk)

## ABBEY PROPERTIES ESTATE AGENTS

*Specialising in the sale of property in  
Bampton and surrounding villages*

OUR UNRIVALLED KNOWLEDGE OF THE LOCAL  
AREA COMBINED WITH OUR PROFESSIONALISM  
AND WILL TO ACHIEVE THE BEST POSSIBLE  
PRICE AT ALL TIMES MAKES  
**ABBEY PROPERTIES**  
THE OBVIOUS CHOICE TO  
SELL YOUR HOME

*For marketing advice and a free valuation entirely without obligation,  
contact YOUR local agent.*

**MARKET SQUARE, BAMPTON, OXON.**

**Tel: 01993 851881 or Fax: 01993 850953**

See also our Website [www.abbey-properties.tv](http://www.abbey-properties.tv)

## The Romany Inn

Bridge Street, Bampton  
01993 850237

Your Host: Trevor Johnson

**A Fine Old Hostelry**

### Bar

Relax over a drink in our convivial surroundings in our L-shaped bar, with its oak beams, and its basket log fire set into a pillared alcove.

### Accommodation

The Romany Inn boasts an excellent range of accommodation. There are 11 single and double rooms - all ensuite. All have tea and coffee making facilities, and come equipped with a remote control colour TV.

### Restaurant

Enjoy a meal in our softly-lit dining room, with its open brickwork and gleaming brasses and copper canopied fireplace. Wide choice of menus, including vegetarian. Or you can eat in our comfy bar-restaurant with its open log fire.

## Bampton Cars



Your Reliable and Friendly Service



**National and Local  
Air and Seaports our Speciality**

Competitive Rates

**Tel: 01993 851900**

**Fax 01993 851909**

*Use us Once - Use us Always*

## 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 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' been played, and from April to the end of May, on



## N Nurden Motor Body Repairs

1 Rosemary Lane  
Bampton

Oxon OX18 2NF

**Tel 07970 255594**

Free quotations  
Insurance work undertaken

## PATRICK STRAINGE (Butchers)

Bridge Street, Bampton, Oxon

**Tel: 01993 850350**

*Quality Meat Direct From  
Our Family Farms*

Hire of Pig Roasts for Parties etc.



## Electric Vehicles Ltd

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

### THE ELECTRIC VEHICLE SPECIALISTS

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

*ALL AT COMPETITIVE PRICES*

For Details Telephone WITNEY (01993) 850714/850025



(1418)

**PHILIPPA RAYNE**  
Registered Osteopath  
Cranial Osteopathy for Babies

**FIONA FARMER**  
Chartered Physiotherapist  
(Spinal and Sports)  
Therapy + Acupuncture

**LESLEY MELLIN**  
Reflexologist + Aromatherapist

MOONRAKER LANE, BAMPTON  
OXON. OX18 2JH  
(above the Dental Surgery)

**TEL: 01993 851359**

**E. TAYLOR & SON**  
Established 1885

**FUNERAL DIRECTORS**

A caring personal service from a  
family business

**Funeral Directors**

**BRIAN TAYLOR & PETER SMITH**

Tel: Carterton 842421

(24 hr Personal Service)

Witney 702123 9am - 5pm

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

## DANETREE Veterinary Surgeons

14 Coxwell Road  
Faringdon

Oxon. SN7 7EZ

**Tel: 01367 242777**

Surgery on  
Thursday Mornings  
(by appointment only)  
at Bampton Library

[www.danetreevets.com](http://www.danetreevets.com)

## Curtain Choice

**Makers of Fine Soft Furnishings**  
A personal and professional service for  
all your

CURTAINS, BLINDS, LOOSE COVERS ETC.  
To arrange a home visit and a quote  
without obligation telephone:

**01993 843103**

E-mail: [enquiries@curtain-choice.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@curtain-choice.co.uk)  
[www.curtain-choice.co.uk](http://www.curtain-choice.co.uk)

## 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 2000, to  
**Society for the Protection of  
Bampton**  
Manor House  
Bampton, Oxon OX18 2LQ

## THE BAMPTON RECREATION GROUND

Buckland Road, Bampton.

### Bampton in the Bush Cricket Club

Bampton Cricket Club is a friendly club playing mainly friendly games, but still needs more players of all ages and ability to keep the club going

Fixtures		
August 4 <sup>th</sup>	Sunningwell	Home
August 11 <sup>th</sup>	Faringdon	Away
August 18 <sup>th</sup>	Ashbury	Home
August 25 <sup>th</sup>	London Erratics	Home
August 31 <sup>st</sup>	Minster Lovell	Away

We are also hoping to get a youth team started this year. For more information please contact **Bill Godfrey Tel: 01993 850014**.

### Recreation Ground Sporting Activities

#### Bampton Youth Football Club

Sec: Mrs Mandy Bowman, Tel: 850116.

Under 13s Adrian Smith Tel: 212549.

Under 9s Alan Day Tel: 210093

Under 6s Philip Walker Tel: 852361

Meetings at The Talbot Hotel every 1st Wednesday of the month at 8pm.

#### Bampton Archery Club

Chairman: John Hill Tel: 850513.

#### Short Mat Bowls

Mr G. Taylor Tel: 850566

Don't forget you can hire the 'all weather' court for 5-a-side football, netball, basket etc., etc. Also the football pitches are on offer.

#### Bampton Tennis Club

Membership fees for 2002/03

Adults £25

Juniors £ 5

Family Membership £50

(2 adults + 2 children)

Membership Secretary:

Gill Berry Tel: 850963

Chairperson:

Penny Fowler Tel: 852357

**Club Night - Thursday**

### Bampton Town Football Club Circa 1912



Back Row									
W Walker	Dover	J Byor	T Brooks	J Green	Unknown	J Rose	F Green		
Middle Row									
B Wells		J Eggleton	B Dixie	B Lindsey	W Knob	A Tanner	Gardner	Cecil	F Loy
Front Row									
P Green		D Rose	J Gordon	V Craddock	P Lane				

### 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

General Hire £ 5 per hour

Commercial Hire £15 per hour

Morning Session

8am - 1pm £20 per session

Afternoon Session

1pm - 6pm £20 per session

Evening Session

6pm - 1am £60 per session

Wedding Receptions

Whole Day

8am - 1am £150 per day/eve

Football Pitch £25 per game

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

Ray Willis 01993 852483 or 07855 537559.

### Other Sporting Activities held in Bampton

#### Bampton Town Football Club

Chairman: Mr J. Shuker Tel: 850830

Sec: Mr S. Paintin Tel: 850871

#### The Horseshoes Football Club

Chairman: Alan Clarke Tel 850201

Manager: Bill Godfrey Tel

#### Bampton Gun Club

Sec: Debbie Holifield Tel: 01451

822327 or Trevor Gardner Tel:

850950.

Clay Pigeon Sunday 10-12am

#### Bampton Weightlifting Club

Chairman: Don Rouse Tel: 851480

Sec: John Davies Tel: 702266.

#### Bampton Badminton Club

Enquiries: Judy House Tel: 851406

Meets every Tuesday 10 - 12am

Bampton Village Hall.

## THE QUEEN'S GOLDEN JUBILEE SPORTS AFTERNOON

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2002

Results of the Many Races of the Day

After a very busy day the results as follows:

The Tennis section provided several skill competitions and our thanks go to David Shaw and Peter Ferstendik for supplying the Speed Gun and the Ball machine so that everyone could participate.

**The winners of the Fastest Serve were:**

**Ladies:** Kirsty Bamber 88mph

**Mens:** Neil O'Brien 84mph

**Children:** Emma Cowan 44 mph.

(Aged 10)

Anyone wishing to obtain further details or wanting to join the tennis section, please contact the Chairman:

**Penny Fowler: Tel: 01993 852357.**

The Archery Club attracted much interest and 12 applications for membership were received on the day, for this already thriving section, which meets on Wednesdays throughout the year Chairman: **Andy Briggs: Tel: 01993842623.**

The new Cricket nets are now installed and will provide an excellent facility for the Bampton C.C. members to practice. The bowling Competition was a big success on Jubilee Day and the winners were:

**Boys:** Tom Fowler (after a bowl off)

**Mens:** Kevin McQuilkin

A further 8 people expressed interest in joining the Section and this is just what is needed, as we now have 22 matches scheduled for this season of which 14 are at home.

The Football Section arranged a 7-a-side match for the U10s & U11s and a Target Competition, which was won by: Richard Parkin-Mason - the prize being 2 tickets to a Premiership game in the new season.

The Boys will have 3 teams in the League next season U8s, U10s and U11s, and they are building for the future with the U8s squad - so any young boys who would like to join or come along to have a go, please contact the Chairman **Philip Walker: Tel: 01993 852361.**

By 3 p.m. the events were all in full swing and we were ready for the Pig-gott School of Dancing to present

their "50 years of Dance" routine. The group has over 40 members with ages ranging from 6 to 14, and they love to perform (Organiser: **Rachel Newman: Tel: 01993 852355**).

We were now ready for the Sports Races, which started with the Toddlers 3-and-under, and went through all the age groups up to 30 +, finally ending with the 3-legged version. Great Fun!!

**Race 1 Toddlers:** 1<sup>st</sup> Jenna Bugler 2<sup>nd</sup> Heoma Fisher 3<sup>rd</sup> Grimwade

**Race 2 4-6yrs Girls:** 1<sup>st</sup> Georgina Money 2<sup>nd</sup> Elizabeth Rybrants 3<sup>rd</sup> Chanel Ebanja

**Race 3 4-6yrs Boys:** 1<sup>st</sup> Edward Landry 2<sup>nd</sup> Harry Stevens 3<sup>rd</sup> Edward Rouse

**Race 4 7-9yrs Girls:** 1<sup>st</sup> Alice Williams 2<sup>nd</sup> Rebecca Box 3<sup>rd</sup> Lisa Day

**Race 5 7-9yrs Boys:** 1<sup>st</sup> Sammy Hancock 2<sup>nd</sup> Ben Mayer 3<sup>rd</sup> Richard Stevens

**Race 6 10 - 12yrs Girls:** 1<sup>st</sup> Jade Hewlett 2<sup>nd</sup> Natalie Collett 3<sup>rd</sup> Camilla Day

**Race 7 10-12yrs Boys:** 1<sup>st</sup> Christian Collis 2<sup>nd</sup> Lloyd Hancock 3<sup>rd</sup> Joe Parr

**Race 8 13-15yrs Mixed:** 1<sup>st</sup> Chris Baughn 2<sup>nd</sup> Mark Blair 3<sup>rd</sup> Haley Curtis

**Race 9 16-18yrs Mixed:** 1<sup>st</sup> Kirsty Boyd 2<sup>nd</sup> Luke Fowler 3<sup>rd</sup> Sammy Hancock

**Race 10 18-30yrs Ladies:** 1<sup>st</sup> Zoe Rouse 2<sup>nd</sup> Kelly Ebanja 3<sup>rd</sup> Nikki Rouse

**Race 11 18-30yrs Men:** 1<sup>st</sup> George Rawle 2<sup>nd</sup> Paul Grubb 3<sup>rd</sup> Dean Prior

**Race 12 Over 30 Ladies:** 1<sup>st</sup> Sarah Moseley 2<sup>nd</sup> Antionette Codington 3<sup>rd</sup> Mandy Kendall

**Race 13 Over 30 Ladies:** 1<sup>st</sup> Becky Fisher 2<sup>nd</sup> Debbie Landray 3<sup>rd</sup> Jill Hearn

**Race 14 Over 30 Men:** 1<sup>st</sup> Michael Beckett 2<sup>nd</sup> Mark Constable 3<sup>rd</sup> Nick Fisher

**Race 15 3-Legged 11yrs Mixed:** 1<sup>st</sup> Thomas Allinson/Thomas Rivers 2<sup>nd</sup> Gillian Box/Jack Hewlett 3<sup>rd</sup> Kezia Escott/Daniel Jacobs

**Race 16 3-Legged 11yrs Girls:** 1<sup>st</sup> Camilla Day/Lisa Day 2<sup>nd</sup> Rebecca

Box/Lucy Box 3<sup>rd</sup> Nia Jones/Bronwen Jones

**Race 17 3-Legged 15 Mixed:** 1<sup>st</sup> Kirsty Boyd/Kimberley Boyd 2<sup>nd</sup> Elizabeth Allinson/Holly Campbell 3<sup>rd</sup> Tom Clarke/Andrew Fallows

**Race 18 3-Legged Mums & Dads:** 1<sup>st</sup> Debbie Jacobs/Ade Johnson 2<sup>nd</sup> Jackie Allinson/Marion Rivers 3<sup>rd</sup> Karina Tanner/Paul Tanner

**Race 19 3-Legged Mums & Dads:** 1<sup>st</sup> Peter Bray/Louise Bray 2<sup>nd</sup> Leslie Barnes/David Barnes 3<sup>rd</sup> Karen Williams/Stuart Williams

**Race 20 3-Legged Mums & Dads:** 1<sup>st</sup> Becky Parr/Chris Parr

It was a splendid effort, especially from the Ladies and some of the 70m sprints were terrific!

After the Races, we had the tug-of-war Challenge, which ended with the Morris Clown team as Champions of Bampton beating the gallant SK 8 Board team. We also had two ladies teams enter, and the winning team was the "Spare Ladies", beating the FOBS (Friends of Bampton School). Many thanks to all the brave participants, who gamely gave it their all! Not an easy sport!!

The finale to the day was the presentation of medals and prizes to all the race winners and sports section competitions, followed by the gift of Queen's Golden Jubilee mugs to all Bampton children 11 years and under (Jubilee mugs can still be purchased from Temple's price £3).

You will also have seen the "S K 8" stand for the new Skateboard project, which will be located at the Recreation Ground. Fund raising is well underway to achieve the £35,000 necessary to build the "Street Scene" skate-park. If you would like to contribute towards the fund please contact the Chairman: **Alan Dunbar: Tel: 01993 850207.**

We hope you enjoyed the Sports afternoon, and do let us know if you feel this event should be repeated each year or at some other frequency. And, more importantly, ensure that you use these excellent facilities to the benefit of the whole family.

## Remembrances of My Service in the US Army Part 2: Bampton

In our last edition, Dick Ford took us from his time with the US Army in Panama in 1941, to reaching Bampton in 1942, as one of the forward elements of the US Army which eventually landed in Normandy.

Here, his memoirs continue, with a picture of life billeted in the then Vicarage, with the Rev Bateman and his family.

As I recall it, the Vicarage was a square-like building, the bedrooms were on the second floor, all off a balcony-like walk and you looked down onto the first, or ground, floor. (Ed's note, now Cobb House).

In the beginning we were drawing British rations. The food was horrible. We would have boiled potatoes, brussel sprouts, and boiled mutton every meal. You could smell the mutton 2 miles down the road. I swear that the meat was from old rams that couldn't walk anymore! Brussel sprouts were the vegetable of the day every day, to this day I cannot abide them. The best part of the food to me was the bread. It was a heavy bread and slightly gray in color, but very tasty. I remember the British Army complained because we were requisitioning too much marmalade and peanut butter. The mess sergeant would make a blend of these and it was used as a spread on the bread. This was about the only food the men didn't gripe about. As time went on we began to get some American rations which helped the morale situation.

The next big change was the latrines - toilet facilities. The toilets were big 'honey pots' shaped like coalscuttles. They were emptied every other day. On inquiry, they told me the farmers used the refuse for fertilizer. The latrines at the pubs were located outside, usually being a wall against which you urinated and a small trough at the bottom carried it away to someplace. It was no fun using the toilet if it was raining. I remember one night a Mrs Lakin had invited us to dinner at her place. As we were walking down the road to her place the air smelled beautiful, like perfume. Evidently she had bathed using bath salts or a per-

fumed water of some kind. Out door plumbing was new to the majority of us. Maybe some farm boys back home had outside facilities, but the majority of us didn't. When we did get to places with indoor plumbing, the tank



Lt. Dick Ford, Saltash, 1944

above one's head, with the pull chain was a novelty.

The European practices were eye openers to us unsophisticated Americans. Our boys got a charge out of the girls riding bicycles. They sat on the seat but never pulled their dress under their bottom - this would ruin the dress. They sat on their knickers and their skirts would billow up - although I think this was probably more prevalent in France as was the following. At the outdoor toilets, it was not uncommon to see a girl holding a man's bicycle while he was behind the brick wall urinating and they would be carrying on a conversation over the wall.

What was of real interest to me was that our clothes were washed by a local laundry in Aston. They washed our wool ODs and they never shrunk. This amazed me as we knew you couldn't wash woolen goods in the US. Bampton was also the first time I had ever had my hair cut by a woman. I believe it was in a house on the High Street. However, she did do a good job.

The pubs I frequented the most were the Elephant & Castle, George & Dragon and The Plough. The latter two because they were closer to the Vicarage as far as I remember. One night, after being in the Elephant & Castle for a couple of hours, I left for home. As I passed the roadblock I was assaulted and knocked to the ground. I could hear the assailants run off. Never could figure this out. In 1958, I was in Baltimore, Maryland visiting the fellow who had been our Company Clerk. He brought this up and told me there were two of them in the private quarters of the E&C waiting for me to leave. They were out past curfew time and didn't want me to catch them. After I left they hurried out to delay my return to the camp to make a 'bed check'. They were home free as, after being knocked down, I didn't go back to the camp to make bed check.

The fog and the darkness were formidable. Being out in the country, without street lights, accounted for the darkness, but the density of the fog was something new to us. I recall one night Lt. Luther and I had gone to Brize to a party at the air base. It was so dark and foggy coming home, Luther ran off the road. It was decided he would drive and I would sit on the hood (bonnet) of the Jeep and tell him how close he was to either side of the road. We probably had had one too many to start with, but this worked out fairly well as we were not driving very fast. We had one problem. As we entered the town and got near the square, the sides of the road disappeared. I didn't know where we were until the brick building in the square loomed up. Just in time I pulled my legs up out of the way, and then we hit the wall. Luckily we both came out of it without a scratch, although I'm not sure about the wall!

There were two of us officers billeted with the Vicar in Bampton. One night when I came home the other officer had a girl in his room, I don't know who was entertaining whom. He had closed the door to his room and locked it. The lock was ancient, and had a key that weighed about two pounds and he couldn't get it open. After some discussion, we decided that I should get a Jeep from the Company, drive around under the window

and he could hand the girl down. She was a WAAF (Women's Auxiliary Air Force) stationed at Brize Norton. I brought the Jeep, drove it under the window, stood on the hood, and looked at the job in hand. I figured that I could just about get my hands above her ankles when he had hung her out the window. I thought that this would be ok, since, when she was let go, I could let her slide between my hands and be able to hold her. The perfect solution I thought! Meanwhile, in deciding how to do this, the local constable rode by on his bicycle and stopped to ask if we needed any help. I told him that everything was fine, and that we had everything in hand!

However, the outcome was not quite as planned. As she dropped, my hands encountered a girdle (I guess), and, while I got her down safely, the end result for me was two dislocated fingers. I took her back to Brize, fingers killing me with the pain and the swelling, and went on sick call in the morning. The Battalion Surgeon asked what happened, and I told him that they had got caught in a girl's girdle. His reply "That must have been a real dog fight!"

I remember the Batemans had a girl that worked in the house. Her name was Bessie. She was an extremely shy girl and would not speak unless spoken to. She was very nice and would put the hot water bottles (china) in our beds every damp cold day. I recall writing to the Vicar and inquired about Bessie. He was a little anxious for her as she had been called up into one of the services. My thought at the time was 'poor Bessie', hope everything works out well for you.

I am not sure how long we were in Bampton, but I do know we were at Tidworth Barracks for Christmas, our first in England.

And so it was farewell to Bampton. We had had a great time, notwithstanding that there was a war on, and we left with fond memories of the Village and its people, and traveled into the unknown - well actually only to Tidworth barracks - but that's another story!

Read the final account of Dick's memoirs on England in the next edition of the 'Beam'.

## LETTERS and E-MAILS TO THE EDITOR

The Editor,

The Jubilee Weekend Barn Dance Following the outstanding success of the Tuesday evening Barn Dance, those lucky enough to be members of "The Band from the Jubilee" would like to thank EVERYONE for coming and making it a night to remember. The view from the trailer that night is one we will never forget.

A BIG thank-you must go to everyone who helped out that night, it was a real team effort. However, particular thanks must go to the Bampton Fire Brigade for helping set up the square, Colin Rouse for providing the straw bales, and Steve Radband and Anthony Smith for the trailer. Thanks too to Mark Booty and Lynne Pointer for calling and special thanks to those who supplied the band with beer all night!!

We'd also like to thank David Hawkins for his hard work and especially his unrelenting optimism and encouragement; without this, the dance would never have happened.

Many people have asked us to do this again sometime. While we all feel that next year would be too soon, but maybe we could do it on some future special occasion. Any suggestions, please contact the Bampton Beam.

From: Chad Trueman, Sallie Martin, John Grout, Jeff Dando, Steve Finley, Martin Landray, Joe Perry, Jamie Wheeler, Alistair (Fred) Cook, Mat Green

Dear Editor

I should just like to say a great big Thank You on behalf of myself and my family to the SPAJERS for putting on such a great show for the 50<sup>th</sup> Shirt Race. As my John would have said if he was still with us, 'I'm 'umbled but proud'. Such a lot of hard work was put in by the SPAJERS committee, and I know by a lot of others besides, but it gave such a lot of enjoyment to so many people, and it certainly brought back so many memories for me. Thank you again SPAJERS.

I should also like to take this opportunity to say another Thank You, this time to The Pumpkin Club. They pre-

sented me with a gift of a Jubilee Coin - which they gave to all of us Village 'elderlies'! A lovely thought, and so unexpected that I must admit a

'tear began to creep in'! Thank you Pumpkin Club so much for this, it is really appreciated.

Edie Quick

Dear Editor

We should like to thank to people of Bampton for electing us for the Ward of Bampton, Black Bourton, and Clanfield as District Councillors. As your councillors, we hope that you will let us know your concerns, and please feel free to contact either of us if you need our help.

We look forward to working with the Parish Council in protecting and enhancing the quality of life in the Parish.

Thank you.

Fred Gray

Tel: 851653

Jonathan Phillips

Tel: 850321

Dear Editor,

I have heard that the Parish Council is planning to make more parking places available by putting concrete strips on some of the verges. I want to protest most strongly against this plan.

Our verges are a public green space, for the enjoyment of everyone. They should not be regarded as free parking space for those people who have cars. It would be a great loss if any of our verges are used for this purpose.

I would suggest instead that car owners are encouraged to park at the roadside. This is a strong deterrent to cars speeding through the village. Anyone who is familiar with the main street through Eynsham for example, or further afield, and even more effective, Goring and Streatley on Thames, will see that, where local people have parked at the road-sides, cars driving through those village have to drive with the utmost caution, at really low speeds. Or even here in Bampton, note that when cars have parked to buy their papers at the paper shop, the flow of traffic is slowed to a safe pace.

There used to be bollards along the verge in Bridge Street. These have been pushed over by parking cars. The beautiful verge in Broad Street is being spoiled by the selfish parking of

car owners. I believe the Council has made a request for this NOT to happen but it goes on. When are there going to be bollards placed to stop it? I feel that using our verges as car parks is the equivalent of concreting over Hyde Park so that car owners can find it easier to park in London.  
Yours sincerely  
Jo Lewington

Dear Editor,  
I shall be grateful if you will put a short note in an appropriate spot in your next edition of the Bampton Beam underlining what I said in the letter which you published in the last 'Beam' about the Fete and Donkey Derby to be held at the end of August in Sandford's Field.

We badly need as much as possible for sale at the different stalls. In particular we offered to collect any items for sale, including items at the time of moving house which might be redundant for their owners. The kind of things we are looking for include small pieces of furniture or house furnishings in good condition, toys of any sort for children, ornaments or jewellery, porcelain or china or anything else which could be sold on the White Elephant or other stalls at the Fete.

Also, we should be glad to have any items for the produce stall, e.g. cakes, jams, fresh fruit, etc.

Those able to help should contact either myself on 851231 or Don Rouse on 850297 for collection.

Yours sincerely  
The Earl of Donoughmore  
President of S.P.A.J.E.R.S

Dear Mrs Gray  
Edie Bindweed's gardening page in the previous issue of the 'Beam' contains some useful tips but she does seem rather keen on insecticide and other chemicals. Gardeners concerned about the environment, and this includes professionals, are increasingly giving up spraying, relying instead on natural predators. It is also cheaper! Some use of chemicals may be justified to control difficult weeds and those in lawns.

Similarly, the use of peat, which she advocates, is now frowned upon by many since its extraction damages sensitive landscape sites and their

## LETTERS and E-MAILS TO THE EDITOR

wildlife and commercial extraction is being cut back Peat-free composts are available and you can of course make your own by recycling garden waste. Does Edie need to become a bit more organic?

Yours sincerely  
Geoff Soames

Editor Madam!!

Thank you, to you and your team for continuing to forward my copy of the 'Beam'. Its great to read, although many names are not familiar to me now. My copy incidentally ends its journey in Australia, keeping the family of the late Mrs Joyce Beckett (nee Long), in contact with the Village. There must be a few people who remember Joyce when living with her mother, brother and sister in Aston Road. Both Valerie and Cynthia were young schoolgirls when the family emigrated to Australia in 1949. Having received the book by Freda Bradley on Bampton, I am up to date with all the publications over recent years.

I have to thank my sister Mrs M Dafter for each copy as they become available, and of course her friend Peggy who invariably gets them in the post.

I certainly enjoyed your book Freda, and may I say how surprised I was to see the photograph of Emmy and her pony, Polly, setting off on her Saturday morning round of the Village selling fruit and veg. I am now waiting to see published photograph of Mr P Shepherd with his horse-drawn mobile fish and chip van. I have clear memories of him leaving home in Buckland Road, on a Wednesday evening around 1935-36. One of my school friends in those days, George Bishop, and I were often seen in Buckland Road visiting his grandmother and aunt at The Old Swan Inn, and frequently watching the Hurdle Maker, Mr George Long, in the adjacent yard - he worked in the open in favourable weather. George and I were watching him the day during the election campaign in November 1935, when this vehicle entered the Village from Buckland Road with the Conser-

vative Colours and a loud speaking voice call 'Vote Conservative'. Mr Long was always spinning yarns and jokes and on this day he said 'Vote for Edmondson with a hot cross bun', then 'Vote for Wade with a shovel and spade and don't be afraid'. Col. Edmondson was of course the Conservative candidate, and Mr Wade was Labour.

May I say to the retired farmer, 'Don', here is one member you overlooked when pointing out the jobs associated with farming in the April edition. This doesn't detract from my very great pleasure reading your humorous and very interesting entries over the years. I can't remember you or your brother, but I do recall saying 'Good Morning Mr Rouse' and the response was always the same, 'Good Morning John'. In those days, you lived in New Road, and your father cycled to Weald Farm to begin milking around 5am. As I walked up High Street to the bakery to also start work at 5 o'clock. Sometimes Reg came down New Inn Lane and sometimes round Lavender Square. One could always hear him with the little milk can vibrating on the old bike.

Great days and fondest memories.

J Morton

Dear Editor

I would like to reply to Mr Geoff Soames' letter in the last issue, in which he asks if Bampton is a Town or Village. Bampton has always been a Town. I'm told it was mentioned in the Domesday Book (indeed it was, see the Bampton Website - Ed), as a Market Town, and that Witney wasn't even mentioned. I believe that Bampton was a very important Town, in the past.

Witney magistrates used to come to Bampton, and up until about 10 years ago, it still went under Bampton East and Bampton West sessions.

The Village Hall came about when the Women's Institute Group was disbanded, and was always known as the W.I. Hall. So when the group broke up, they had to sell it and I think it was bought by the Parish Council.

(Growing up in a West Oxfordshire Village) on the cover of my book was not of my doing. When the cover went for design this was added by someone along the way, but I quite liked it so

left it that way.

May I take this opportunity to thank everyone that bought my book, and for all the nice things that have been said about it. I have had so many letters from all over the world, and people from the past, and those that have wanted to know about their past families which makes it all worthwhile.

Thank you  
Yours sincerely  
F Bradley

Dear Editor

The Jubilee Weekend

On the Saturday the Shirt Race was excellent. What a wonderful turnout. It was so nice to see so many people. The fancy dress was good, the band from Holland was indeed a pleasure; also the roundabout for the children. Of course the weather was the best for years (no rain). It was indeed a lovely 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

On the Monday the Morris men were dancing despite the mid morning showers. They all must have been very tired after dancing all day. There was a good following of people right until the end of the day.

On Tuesday the Jubilee celebrations began. I cannot report on the sports afternoon, as I did not get that far. But I believe it was a grand afternoon.

What can we say about the Barn Dance except that it was brilliant! Thanks to Mathew and Friends for the music. Everyone young old seemed to enjoy every minute of it. It was a perfect way to end the day.

Thanks to everyone for making this such a special weekend for the Village.

Ruth Wheeler

Dear Editor,

On behalf of the Trustees of the Friends of St. Mary's I would like to thank all those involved with the Secret Gardens of Bampton which were open to the public on Sunday, 30<sup>th</sup> June. A special thank you to Ian McLintock who did a splendid job of organising the event and produced a most informative map and route guide. More than 280 people paid to see the fourteen gardens including Weald Manor and approximately £650 was raised for the Friends. Everyone said what a pleasant afternoon it was and many enjoyed the delicious

## LETTERS and E-MAILS TO THE EDITOR

teas provided by the Gardening Club team in the Village Hall.

Another sincere thank you goes to Magpie Lane who once again filled the Church for their very enjoyable concert on 31<sup>st</sup> May. It was an excellent start to the weekend of celebrations for the Golden Jubilee and the audience had the added bonus of the stunning floral display in the Church. The very generous sum of £1300 was given to the Friends from the proceeds. The Trustees are extremely grateful for the support of Magpie Lane and other fund-raisers.

Jonathan Phillips -Chairman

Dear Editor

Well done Geoff Soames (letters, April) who contrasts the position between those who wish more local development, such a business park, with others who are cautious. A business park is probably an idea too far and shares merit with the suggestion of building an indoor swimming pool on the recreation ground. I think Bampton needs a new approach.

We need an action plan for those KEY issues that affect ALL residents and, perhaps, we should drop some of the grandiose ideas.

It was good to have an election for the Parish (and District) Council seats. Councillors deserve our support. However, I saw nothing explaining what Parish Councillors would do with our money and their opportunities.

I see only five essential priorities for all councillors.

1. Tidy up the centre, finalise the Market Square refurbishment and look at where this work can be extended.
2. Look hard at the parking of cars on verges, not least the Clanfield Road. We all want to see cars parked properly and safely.
3. Revise and repair the traffic-calming scheme. Did you know that large lorry rat-running has increased by 500% in four years? This is unacceptable.
4. Look again at the opportunities and threats for Bampton's busi-

nesses. Create a team to look at this, to be as effective as the teams that created the Pavilion and Woodland. It can be done.

5. Continue querying each and every inappropriate building development but look again at the possibility of building small numbers of good quality, low cost houses each year for bona-fide cases.

On the other hand, for balance, may I propose the following? I propose a relief road around Bampton served by a concrete bridge over the Thames next to the Trout. This will be infilled to the north side of Bampton with a one hundred unit Business Park (with corporate flags) and - phase one - ten thousand urban houses, sorry, homes, all looking the same but well-lit to avoid crime. We will need new pubs with fake beams and regular 'disco nites', a new health centre, a large 24-hour convenience store selling everything imaginable. We must have a cut-price petrol station/truck stop with bright signs, and a fast food burger restaurant (or two) bringing in the visitors and entertaining local folks on Sundays.

We must insist on the usual half-hearted, designer 'landscaping' to restore the countryside to its former glory, but only using species of trees and shrubs that don't belong here. We will be able to do away with formal traffic calming, since cars and vans will choke roads and pavements as only one parking space will be available per house, sorry, home.

Although the developer's marketing people and artists will be promoting their beautiful houses, sorry, homes, in this vision of a country idyll, they can be confident that most would sell at once because, as we know, people have nowhere else to live. Don't worry, there will be plenty of properties available for well-heeled residents to buy for let to those lucky visitors searching for the real countryside, whilst the turnover of people selling up looking for the next 'village experience' to turn a profit should provide enough business for several estate agencies. It can't happen here? It's already started.

Yours faithfully  
Roger Howard  
2 Fleur De Lys, High Street  
Bampton



## Simple, Straightforward Advice

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

**Call (01865) 517200**

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

[www.oxforddoubleglazing.com](http://www.oxforddoubleglazing.com)

### Opening hours:

9.30 - 5.30 Monday to Friday  
10.00 - 4.00 Saturday

### Showroom

3 South Parade, Summertown, Oxford OX2 7JL



## GREY GABLES GARAGE

CURBRIDGE, WITNEY, OXON OX18 7PD

Telephone  
01993 702609  
Fax  
01993 774169

## NEW SKODA



## DEALER

New & Used Cars  
of other makes available

MOT and garage repairs

# DOMINO



## Quality Menswear

44 Corn St. Witney  
Tel: 01993 771413

FORMAL HIREWEAR  
SPECIALIST

EVERYTHING FOR THAT  
SPECIAL OCCASION

IMMEDIATE HIRE OF

Dinner Suits  
Morning Suits

AGENTS FOR

Highland Wear  
Page Boy Suits  
Lounge Suits

## THE STANDLAKE GARAGE

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

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

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

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

# LONDIS

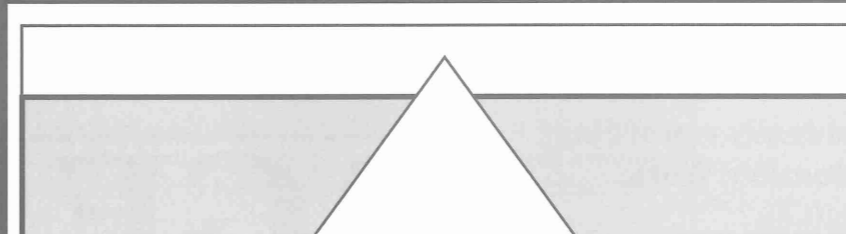
**MARKET SQUARE, BAMPTON**  
**OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK**  
**UNTIL 10PM**

**YOUR FRIENDLY COMMUNITY SHOP  
AT YOUR SERVICE**

ELECTRICAL METER KEYS CHARGED · NATIONAL LOTTERY · TOP UP MOBILE PHONE CARDS  
'ET VOILA' FRENCH BREAD BAKED ON THE PREMISES · FRESH FRUIT & VEGETABLES  
FRESH MILK & CREAM · FREE RANGE EGGS · WINES, SPIRITS, BEERS & CIDER  
COOKED MEATS & BACON · FROZEN FOOD & GROCERIES · POSTAGE STAMPS · VIDEO HIRE

**OPEN** EVERY SUNDAY UNTIL 10PM  
BANK HOLIDAYS UNTIL 10PM

**WE DO NOT CLOSE FOR LUNCH**



## R. Cooper

BUILDERS - PAINTERS - DECORATORS

CARPENTRY - JOINERY - GENERAL HELPERS

SPECIALISTS IN DRY STONE WALLING

The Old Gasworks, Aston Road, Bampton  
Oxon OX18 2AL  
Phone/Fax 01993 851851

## BOJANGLES

Rosemary Lane, Bampton  
01993 850850

All aspects of hairdressing  
Woven Highlights + Perms  
Gents & Children  
Senior Citizen's Days

Tues, Wed, Thur 8.45am - 5pm  
Fri 8.45am - 5.30pm  
Sat 9am - 2pm

Appointments not  
always necessary

**Do you suffer muscle aches  
or pain caused by injury,  
occupation or lifestyle?  
A course of Remedial/Sports  
massage could help!**

Contact  
Dawn Puckey  
MGCP IHHT ITEC  
'Bodytalk'  
Bampton  
Tel: 01235 524309

### IS YOUR ELECTRIC BLANKET SAFE?

Unsafe electric blankets can cause fires.

We are offering FREE safety checks at WITNEY on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2002  
Tel: 01993 770222.

Strictly on a first come first served basis, and by PRE-BOOKED appointment only.

Oxfordshire County Council and  
West Oxfordshire District Council

### Could you be a Citizen Advocate?

The West Oxfordshire Citizen Advocacy (CITAD for short) has six years experience of helping people living in West Oxfordshire who are communication disabled. CITAD recruits, trains and supports volunteer citizen advocates of all ages - who are independent of care providers - to make one-to-one relationships with another person who has difficulty in expressing themselves as clearly as they might want. A citizen advocate need not be an expert in any field, or qualified in any way with the legal profession.

A citizen advocate is a valued person with life experience who is prepared to visit their advocacy partner regularly, to share a fortnightly cup of tea together, and get to know one another. As the relationship develops, the advocate gradually becomes able to be a voice for their advocacy partner on any matter that the partner may want to have raised. Citizen advocacy is not a befriending scheme. Citizen advocacy is not a sympathy lobby. Citizen advocates are not paid by anybody at any time. Citizen advocacy is arguably one of the most rewarding forms of volunteering available where personal fulfillment can be very high indeed.

Sometimes a partner wants a voice for only a short period of time in respect, perhaps, of some specific issue - we can help that person. At other times a person would welcome a long-term advocate - we can help that person. If you know of a person who can't speak effectively then please tell him or her

about us and put them in touch with us.

If you or a friend - or both of you! - would like to volunteer to become a citizen advocate with this registered charity then please contact us at -  
**33a High street, Witney OX28 6HP:**  
**Tel: 01993 704826:**

**e-mail**

**info@CITAD33a.freesevice.co.uk.**

A person who struggles to get their point of view across, or who is not able to speak up when they are being abused, is looking forward very much to meeting with you. Thank you for considering this appeal.

### Volunteer Link-Up

Thinking about volunteering? Wanting to meet new people? How about driving? Visiting elderly people or young families. Shopping? Wheelchair outings? Gardening? DIY? Day Centres? Youth Groups? Committees? Go on - give it a whirl!

The office is open 9am-1pm Mondays to Fridays

Contact **Anne, Alison, or Ruth** at the **Methodist Church Centre, Wesley Walk, Witney.**

**Tel: 01993 776277**

**E-mail: westoxonvb@freeuk.com**

### For really rewarding Voluntary Work, Read on?

Volunteer Reading Help, the charity that helps children to read, is growing, and needs your help. Our next training course for new volunteers will be held in October, and we are looking for people who have a genuine interest in books and helping children.

VRH has been established in Oxfordshire since 1973 and works in primary schools with children aged 6-11 who are struggling to read. We have many schools in your area on our waiting list for new volunteers. Volunteers receive training before going into school twice a week to work individually with 3 children, sharing books and friendship, and helping to develop their confidence in reading.

It's a really rewarding way to spend 3 hours a week during term-time. If you would like to know more, please contact us. Your involvement could make

a real difference to a child's life.

**We have moved**

Our temporary new address is:

**Volunteer Reading Help  
Oxfordshire Branch  
New Marston First School  
Copse Lane  
Oxford OX3 0AY  
Tel: 01865 744284  
E-mail: oxford-vrh@genie.co.uk**

### Why not be a Magistrate?

**Are you a good listener?**

**Can you see both sides of an argument?**

**Do you like a good discussion?**

**Do you like to see fair play?**

**Then you could dispense justice in your community?**

Magistrates try to reflect the community they live in. That means we need a mix of people from all walks of life and ethnic groups, with different backgrounds and skills. The role is a fascinating one. It opens up many new avenues of interest and gives an insight into how we live and behave in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Most of all, you will be using your skills as a service to your community - 'justice to the people by the people'.

# AGE Concern

### OXFORDSHIRE City & County

**Voluntary Work that makes a difference**

Our Information & Advice Service is looking for volunteers: To help staff the Telephone Helpline at our office in Oxford and to visit people in their own homes to help with form filling and benefits checks. No particular qualifications required. People of all ages welcome. We offer training, plenty of support and expenses. For more details telephone:

**Sandra or Jenny on 01865 247852**

## S.P.A.J.E.R.s News

*By Don Rouse*

As many of you know we had the most fantastic time of our lives when Bampton helped us celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> Shirt Race. We had the biggest field of competitors ever. We had the most number of Stops (Watering Holes) for many a year, for which we say a big thank you to all those residents who are living in what used to be our pubs. Namely the householders of the Wheatsheaf, Eagle, George & Dragon and Jubilee. Your efforts were very much appreciated. Also thanks to our Landlords for all their help and assistance.

Many people visited the display of Shirt Race memorabilia that was in the old W.I. Hall. It was fun trying to recognise and name the Old Bamptonians who were in some of the old photos. We were amazed at the response that we had to our appeal for old photos etc. Thanks to all of you who helped set up and produce such a wonderful display.

There is one thing that I always like about the Shirt Race/Morris dance weekend, and that is the number of old Bamptonians who return to their roots just for the occasion. People who went to school here and have now moved away; people who came to Bampton, married our girls then took them away! It is all one big happy reunion. Whilst I was doing the MC'ing a former member of the Weightlifting Club came along to say hello; he has been in Australia for 25 years! It was absolutely magic.

Our next big event is the **Donkey Derby** which we are holding on the 26<sup>th</sup> August, and have we got problems? At least seven of our Officers and stalwart helpers are unable to help us this year so you can imagine the extra workload that this throws on to those that are left. So we are desperate for helpers. We are desperate for people to man (or woman) the gates, people to set up and run stalls, help with refreshments, help set up/clear up the field. We need produce and Bric-a-Brac; we need cakes, childrens toys & videos, jewellery and anything you consider to be saleable; we also need Raffle Ticket Sellers.

So please if you can in any way help, let either me or any member of the Committee know. **Don Tel: 851480** or our vice-chairman, **Frank Hudson, Tel: 842126**. We shall be pleased to hear from you; we need lots of kind and willing people not only to help us to maintain our tradition of making this a joyous occasion for Bampton, but to also help us raise lots of money for our very worthy cause.

I often get invited to give talks on "My life and Times in Bampton" to all sorts of groups of people in our neighbouring towns and villages, and they are all fascinated and possibly a little envious when I tell them about our S.P.A.J.E.R.s being about Bampton people caring for Bampton people and having a lot of fun along the way. So I hope we can all work together more than ever this year to show them what a fantastic community we are.

To join our S.P.A.J.E.R.s all you have to be is a resident of Bampton or Lew for at least six months and have achieved the national retirement age; if you know of anyone who is not on our list please let one of our Committee know.

On 28<sup>th</sup> August we are going to Bournemouth for our annual outing. We have room for 106 members. We shall know one

week before the event if our Coaches are full. If there are any spaces we will be willing to sell them for £10.00 per seat. To find out more just phone me after the 21<sup>st</sup>!

We were hoping to put on another tea party this year instead of the Outing, but as we all know there are no Halls in Bampton capable of seating more than 100 people for a meal, and with the inclement weather that we usually experience, hiring Marquees was out of the question. I must say that I hope that during my lifetime that our Parish Council will be able to see its way clear to providing us with such a facility! (sorry Ed I forgot, no Politics in the S.P.A.J.E.R.s column! Better shift it to the Farmer's column!)

In November we shall be holding Josie's Draw again. Always a good money-spinner this one! Josie, her family and friends all work very hard to make this a fantastic success, I know that she can count on your help. I am hoping once again to have some Dutch Dignitaries over for the occasion. Our connections with them certainly paid off this year. We were hoping to get Witney Town Band to play at our 50<sup>th</sup> Shirt Race, but they were unable to make it! So turning to our Dutch contacts they were only too pleased to come and play for us if we gave them some Supper! This we did, but when it came to paying the bill for the supper, the Oxford-Leiden Link jumped in and paid for the supper themselves, saying that we in Bampton had done a good job in entertaining their guests and there was no way that they would let the S.P.A.J.E.R.'s hard earned money be used up this way.

So we say a big Thank You to this wonderful organisation for all the support that they have given us and hope that they continue to enjoy our festivities.

### Obituary for Margaret Bruce-Mitford

How sad we all are to hear of the death of Margaret Bruce-Mitford (known affectionately to many as simply MBM) in Witney Hospital on 6th July. This is a great loss to Bampton, which seems to attract people of her quality. A great loss to BEWG too, which would not have come into existence without her energetic influence. She had lived for part of her life in India but moved to Bampton from Bradford on Avon, where she had founded a local amenity group. BEWG benefited greatly from the knowledge and experience she brought with her, and will miss her.

She was positive, witty, informed, amusing, and a great introducer. She extracted loyalty and commitment from all of us. She had a great passion for Bampton people and its buildings. While she never held back from speaking her mind, it was always out of concern for Bampton and those around her.

The past year was a trial to her because she was unable to be as active in the ways that had sustained her throughout her life. At the end her ardent wish was to re-start her domestic life without support, but this seemed very difficult. Now it has been decided otherwise.

Everyone in Bampton who knew her will surely grieve with her family the loss of a great lady, but celebrate the achievements of her life.

### The Bush Club 'Helper's Wanted'

The Club meets every Wednesday in the Scout Hut in Church View and caters for 40 pensioners. We provide tea, coffee and a hot meal. For many this is the only day they have away from their homes during the week. Kitchen helpers are urgently needed. Only two/three hours every six weeks. For more information please contact **Helene Grygar, Tel: 851697.**

### Bampton Bridge Club

The Club meets in the Village Hall every Tuesday, 7:30 pm to 10:00pm. Duplicate Bridge is played on the 1st, 3rd, and any 5th Tuesday of the month; Rubber Bridge on the 3rd and 4th Tuesdays. 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**

### The Children's Society

Our house-to-house collection this year raised £206.82, with an additional £74.43 from Londis, for which we are very grateful. Thank you to all those kind people who collected for us.

We would be very pleased to hear from anyone who might like to help next year. It only takes perhaps an hour to collect one street and anyone over 16 is eligible. If no-one comes forward we may have to stop collecting and rely instead on boxes held in the home.

If you feel you can help, or would like a collecting box in your home, please contact **Pauline Hawkins Tel: 851066.** Thank you.

### 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 educational value which would otherwise be beyond their means. We try to offer a bursary of 50% of the amount required. Anyone who feels

## NOTICE BOARD

they qualify (or knows of someone who may do so) should contact the Correspondence Secretary, **Roger Snow, 40 Bushy Row, Bampton, OX18 2JU or Tel: 850113.**

### Red Cross Collection

The Red Cross Week street collection in Bampton, in early May raised a total of £295.48. This is an excellent result, and a big thank you is due to the collectors, and all those who gave so generously. Sally Proctor, Street Collection Organiser.

### Coffee Morning

**For the Coronary Care Unit  
at the John Radcliffe Hospital  
Saturday 31st August  
Town Hall, Bampton  
10am - 12am**

Last year we made £400 for this Unit. This money went towards equipment to help people with breathing difficulties. For more information contact **Daphne Pullin, Tel: 851221.**

### Bampton Youth Centre

*By Colin Allport*

The Youth Centre occupies the old Victorian Primary School in Church View which was saved from dereliction to create a facility for the young people of the area largely due to the efforts of the people of Bampton in 1984. With the exception of a part time caretaker, the Centre is entirely run by a committee of volunteers and the only regular funding is now from the village '250 Club'. The remainder of the income comes mainly from rentals - and this includes payments by the County Council for use of the premises by the Youth Club. The Centre has also benefited over the years from generous donations by the Bampton Welfare Trust towards the cost of major capital projects. We are now, more than ever, dependant on rental income and anyone wishing to run a family or children's party or holding a dance or disco should consider using these excellent facilities with a great atmosphere and more than ample parking space.

If you would like to rent the Centre,

please contact **Jill Ruck Tel: 852010.**

The annual general meeting was delayed but took place on Tuesday 11th June. Sadly, the meeting opened with the announcement of the recent death of the Treasurer, George Howell. The Chairman, Jonathan Phillips and the Secretary, Cohn Mlport were re-elected as were the remaining committee members and Carolyn Main, Tony Page and David Rose were elected as new members. Janet Newman joined the committee as the Parish Council representative.

The level of income of the Centre is still causing concern following the withdrawal of the regular County grant and various measures are being considered to improve the situation. We are most grateful for the action being taken by West Oxfordshire District Council to help - at least on a temporary basis - and this should ensure that expenditure can be covered for the current financial year.

In the meantime the Youth Club continues to flourish and has recently received £4,000 of funding for equipment and furniture as part of the government's campaign to make young people aware of the dangers of drugs. It would be a great pity if expenditure and efforts in this respect were wasted due to the failure of other arms of government to ensure that funding is available to keep the Centre in operation. The amount of money required is relatively minor due to the inputs from the village and Parish Council plus the voluntary efforts of those involved and there is a great need for a sensible and logical overall view to be taken by those who control financial affairs. Anyone interested in joining the Youth Club or in helping should contact **Gary Gummer Tel: 851913** or the area youth worker, **Jo Melling Tel: 842416.** We would also very much like to see the Scouts and Cubs revived and the contact in this respect is **Phil Roberts Tel: 851267.**

### Bampton Ladies Group

We are a very casual group of ladies who meet in the Village Hall on the third Wednesday of every month at 8pm. We have speakers or go on outings and just have a pleasant evening together. Posters are put up around the village, so if you spot one and would like to come along please do. The

membership is £6 yearly but your first visit is free. For further information please contact **Joan Farthing Tel: 851206.**

### The Cancer Research Campaign

The Cancer Research Campaign and the Imperial Cancer Research will now be joined together to form a new research organisation called Cancer Research UK.

During 2001 we made £6804.12p. We would like to thank everyone for their contributions.

### Fund raising events for 2002

**September 21<sup>st</sup>**

Coffee Morning

**November 13<sup>th</sup>**

Pre-Christmas Bingo, Village Hall

**November 27<sup>th</sup>**

Pub Quiz Elephant & Castle

**December 20<sup>th</sup>**

Country & Western Dance, Social Centre, Carterton.

### Bike Path Project

*By Jo Lewington*

Sadly, the Bike Path Project failed in its attempt to get a safe cycle path along the Buckland Road. Because we failed to get the necessary Lottery money, we had to return £29,000 worth of grants which were dependent on being able to complete the planned route. We have decided to hand the remaining hard won funds to the Parish Council with the proviso that at some future date, perhaps when safe cycling is considered more important in country districts by the public authorities, the money will be put towards a safe cycling route for Bamptonians. We will make available a map showing what routes are relatively safe for cycling in the vicinity of Bampton. However until we get a safe route out of Bampton, there will always be the problem of getting oneself and the bike to the safe route. Chain Reaction has now sadly disbanded.

### Shillbrook Wood

The woodland is continuing to flourish and, despite the prolonged spell of dry weather in the early spring, the survival of the trees and shrubs planted in the extension in February has been very encouraging. The wil-

## NOTICE BOARD

lows and alder planted in the Millennium Year are already up to head height and many of the other trees will be at similar level after this year's growth. The Woodland Trust contractor has, recently, carried out a weed control exercise by cutting between the rows of trees and along the pathways. This will have to be a regular effort for the next few years until the trees themselves come to dominate the area. It is hoped that natural woodland flowers will then begin to establish themselves.

Recent visitors to the woodland will have noticed a wooden bench that has been placed on the inner pathway. This was generously donated by a Mrs Heady of Brackley, Northamptonshire in memory of her late husband. The seat has been positioned so that it will have attractive views to the west along both arms of the path. For more information contact, **Collin Allport Tel: 850411.**

### Bampton Museum Group

We have had our first exhibition. It is on in the Robert Vesey Room of the Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> July.

The first exhibition was about the Bampton Shirt Race. The next, starting mid September is about Bampton and agriculture will be held in the same venue. There will be more photographs and some recorded history, so go and look and listen. Some of the school children are going to do some recording.

Fund raising has been successful. The Grand Plant Sale raised over £1,300 which, together with money from the teas sold on Morris Dancing Day gave us over £1,500. We have been given a grant of £450 from West Oxfordshire District Council and donations to date have given us about £1,200. With this money we are planning to get computer equipment so that all the photographs, videos, cine films, and audio tapes that people either lend or give us can be stored on computer and used for future exhibitions or for research. So far we have bought a good tape recorder to do some oral history recording. If anyone is interested in

recording reminiscences please contact one of the museum team or anyone with photographs, videos or anything they think might be of interest to Bamptonians, please lend them for putting on the museum computer.

The Museum Committee includes:-

Diana Alcock	Tel: 851196
Freda Bradley	Tel: 850645
Jo Lewington	Tel: 850947
Janet Newman	Tel: 850755
Sally Proctor	Tel: 850479
Roy Shergold	Tel: 850094

### Bampton Websites

Bampton's official Website can be found at **www.bamptonoxon.co.uk**. It contains a wealth of information on the Village, and is being accessed more and more by Web users all over the world.

There are also excellent 'unofficial' Websites around, for instance **www.ox18.com**.

Anyone with non profit-making events around the area can advertise on these sites free. For the official Bampton Website contact **fredgray@witneyserve.net** or on **01993 851653**, and for the other contact David Oakey at **dave@ox18.com**.

### Some Useful Telephone Numbers

Police	Witney	01993 703913
	Carterton	01993 893951
	Urgent	01865 266000
Witney Hospital		01993 602900
Minor Injuries Unit		01993 602966
Power Cuts		0345 708090
Gas Emergency		0800 111999
Water & Sewerage		0645 200800
BT General Enquiries		0800 309409
BT Line Fault		151
Env.Services		01993 770222
Abandoned Vehicles		01993 770308
Bulky Waste		
	Collection	01993 770222
Witney Town Council		01993 704379
Tourist Information		01993 775802
Citizens Advice		01993 705691
Train Information		08457 484950
Trading Standards		01865 815000
Bampton Surgery		01993 850257
	- out of hours	01993 851616
Witney Health Centre		01993 703641
Stagecoach Witney		01993 702197
WODC		01993 702941
Lost & Found		01608 659029
Clerk Parish Council		01993 850776

## OUT AND ABOUT

### The May Day Street Fair



Well Attended



The May Queen Jordan Bradley  
with her attendants  
Katie Seacole and Claudia Kemsley

### Thank You

The 'Beam Team' would like to thank our stalwart 'Beam Walkers' for the wonderful job they do every year. Without them it would be impossible for everyone to receive their copy of *The Bampton Beam* delivered straight to their homes.

*Jubilee photographs courtesy Janet Newman*

### Jubilee Celebrations

#### The 50th Great Annual Shirt Race



#### Morris Dancing Day



## OUT AND ABOUT

### Jubilee Sports Afternoon



#### The Young!



#### The Not-So-Young!



#### New Road Street Party



### The Barn Dance



### The Garlands

by Ruth Wheeler

Our prayers were answered for we had good weather for the Jubilee Celebrations. What a wonderful turn out the children made with their Garlands all so pretty and neat.

Thanks to Mrs Vera Elward for so kindly giving a step by step demonstration at the school, and explaining which flowers to pick and where to pick them. Thanks also to Mr and Mrs Jonathan Phillips for sponsoring the Garlands. Each child who entered the competition received a small gift.

Thanks also go to Mrs Dawn Knight, who did the judging, and presented the plaque, which is in memory of her daughter Corrina. It was indeed a very hard job to pick the winners, so

I would like to congratulate all the children who took part and their 'mums and dads' for helping to make the Garlands.

After the prize giving, several of the Garlands were taken to the church and put on display along with the 'Flower Festival'.

Please let's keep this tradition going by making the May Garlands for 2003, and thank you again everyone who took part.



## BAMPTON FAIR

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup>, Friday 16<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> August

The Annual Fair is about to come again to Bampton. Some Bamptonians say 'good', or 'brilliant', while others are less than enthusiastic!

Having been born here in Bampton, I have grown up with its yearly visits. As the fair rolled in, it was always a reminder to us children, that the holidays were nearly over; school was only a week away. But there was excitement as we watched the building of the magical but scary rides, where hopefully we would be trying them out later in the evening. And then the disappearance on the Sunday morning, 'was it here or was I dreaming?' The rides would be towed into Bampton by huge great lorries and powered by either steam engines or the 'new' heavy generator lorries. These generator lorries still park along the High Street, churning out the power for the rides and the many different varieties of stalls in the Market Square.

Have you ever considered what engineering feats those big lorries are. Take Mr. Hebborn's 'Dodgem Carrier'. This lorry has been specially designed to hold all the parts for the 'Dodgems'. Specifically packed in rotation for putting it up and taking it down. Everything tidies away into its own space. Remarkable.

Today the rides at the Fair have to be even more scary and tummy turning

same thrill to them as it did to us! One of the latest is the 'Satellite Ride', owned by Mr. Jimmy Hartwell

### A Short History of Bampton Fair taken from the August 1993 edition of *The Bampton Beam*

The Fair in its present form dates back to the days of the Horse Fair, and since 1930 the arrangements were in the hands of Mr. John Thurston & Son Ltd, Amusement Contractors of Norwich, a member of The Showman's Guild of Great Britain, who provided a variety of rides and side stalls. In those days of little traffic the fair was held in the Market Square and High Street without causing too many problems, and the living caravans were parked in the streets leading into the Market Square.

However, by the 1960s, with the increase of vehicles on the roads and the congestion caused by larger equipment it was agreed to move these living caravans. After several sites were used relatively unsuccessfully - rents were even discussed for the use of various fields but not implemented - and with the modernisation of the caravans, which now have proper sanitation and water supplies, the decision was made to use Lavender Square and the verge along New Road. This decision was welcomed by many residents, although not universally.

In 1968, it would appear, from Parish Council correspondence, that the conduct of the fair had given rise to some complaints, and the Council therefore advertised in 'World's Fair' for other operators to tender for the August Fair. Mr. John Thurston, however, put

up a strong challenge, claiming to 'hold all the tenant rights except two in respect of Bampton Fair that any interference would be dealt with under Guild Rules'. Mr. John Thurston and one other (who was not a Guild member) submitted tenders, but the Council accepted Mr. Thurston's. In 1970 there were pleas from the showmen for the High Street to be closed to traffic. An application to the County Council was refused and another application in 1998 was also refused.

In 1972 Mr. Charles Thurston took on responsibility from his father and continued to run the fair until 1987, when pressure of work persuaded him to hand it over to Mr. H. G. Hebborn, a local member of the Showmen's Guild from Littlemore who had been attending the fair for a number of years with his then most popular ride 'The Twist'.

Mr. H. G. Hebborn is still the man in charge today, he still owns 'The Twist' but thrills us with the 'Dodgems' instead these days. As well as the many fairs he attends, he is also in demand from within the motor racing fraternity, taking his rides to both the Williams 'Grand Prix' at Grove and Brackley British American Racing Team 'Grand Prix' for their summer entertainment. Oxford Colleges have also been amongst his clientele, but not always without problems. Once, he was commissioned to take the dodgems into the grounds of one particular college, but because the gate was too small to allow his lorry through, he had to disassemble the equipment, hand carry it all through the gate, and reassemble it on the other side! I'm not sure he has agreed to go back to this College!

There are still many families who remember the fair as the highlight of the summer, and who have developed friendships with the visiting fair people, some going back many years. Mr. Alan Pullin, a walking encyclopedia on the subject of local fairs, is such a person. I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for letting the 'Beam' use his photographs, and knowledge, not just this time, but on many other occasions.

While much of this article is based on material written for the 'Beam' in 1993, I don't think much has changed

in terms of how the Village people feel about it; some love it, and others wish it would go away and stay away! For me, it is part of the tradition of the Village, and I hope that, with a little knowledge of its history gleaned from this article, the less than enthusiastic Villagers will be a little bit more tolerant of the disruption caused to the centre of Bampton during the Fair's short visit to us each summer.

The following is taken from 'History of the Parish and Town of Bampton' by J.A. Giles, originally published in 1848, but which I feel is very apt for



David Sheppard's Roundabout

this occasion

*The principal festival of Bampton is its annual fair, which takes place on the 26th August, and is a sort of carnival to all the neighbouring villages. This fair is of great antiquity, having*

*been originally held by William de Valence in the early part of the thirteenth century. We learn this fact from an Inquisition made in the reign of Edward I before Jurors, who find upon their oath that the 'aforesaid William de Valence hath there [i.e. at Bampton] a market and a FAIR; and that he had the aforesaid tenement by the gift of king Henry [the III] father of the king Edward that now is.' The celebrity of Bampton fair arises from two causes, first the large number of horses which are sold there, secondly from the large number of children, servants and other persons, who flock thither from the whole neighborhood, and enjoy it as much as the Greeks and Romans did their Saturnalia.*

It would be a very sad day if this link with Bampton's historic past were to end, or even be re-sited away from the centre of the village.

## The Charter to Hold a Fair

Bampton Fair is most probably a franchise fair. This means that the privilege to hold a fair is conferred by the sovereign to an individual (Lord of the Manor in this case). The franchise can generally be transferred or leased only by deed, and on the death of the owner it passes to his heirs. Franchise to hold a fair was granted by Edward I to the Lord of the Manor around 1300. Henry III granted Lordship rights to the Earl of Pembroke who lived at Bampton Castle. According to Oxfordshire County Records this title was held, in the 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, by the Earls of Shrewsbury.

In 1968 when the Parish Council tried to find out the present Lord of the Manor, a letter from Stephenson Harwood & Tatham, lawyers to the Earl of Shrewsbury states: as far as they know, there has never been a deed disposing of manorial rights so presumably it is still held although no record is available. A request in 1987 to Manorial Research to look into the matter appears to have received no reply.

Mr Hughes Owen comments, "Talbot daughter married a Coventry of Bibury taking 2/3 of Lordship with her. Later this was acquired by Thomas Denton who lived in Lew House approx. 1840. 1/3 of manorial rights may still be in Chetwynd Talbot family."



LITERAL TRANSLATION OF AN EXTRACT FROM THE CALENDAR OF CHARTER ROLLS, vol.11, 1226 - 1257, IN WHICH HENRY III (1217 - 1272) GRANTED TO IMBERT PUGEIS (POGEYS) WEEKLY MARKET AND ANNUAL FAIR AT BAMPTON.

To the Archbishops etc. Greetings. Know that we have granted and by this our present charter confirm to Imbert Pugeis for himself and his heirs for ever that they shall hold a market at his manor of Bampton every seven days on a Wednesday and that they shall hold in the same place each year a fair lasting two days, namely on the eve and on the day of the Assumption of the Blessed Mary unless the aforesaid market and the aforesaid fair injure any existing ones. And so we will etc., Witnessed by the blessed in Christ Peter Aquablanca Bishop of Hereford, Peter de Sabaudia, Stephen de Segrave, William de Cantulupe, Hugh de Vivon (ia), Bertram de Cryoyl, Geoffrey de Despenser, John de Pless(etis), Bartholomew Peche, Thomas de albo monasterio and Others.

*The original Charter would have written out the 'etc' clauses in full, but the official record, which is what the Charter Rolls are, would not trouble to go into such detail. The two days of the Fair would be 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> August.*



Harry Hebborn's 'Dodgem Carrier'

than ever before; youngsters of today seem to prefer it that way. The Twist, Walzer and Octopus don't have the

# THE PITSTOP

## QUALITY PARTS, COMPONENTS & ACCESSORIES

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

CAR REPAIRS  
SERVICING  
MOT WORK  
BREAKDOWNS  
DISCOUNT CAR PARTS



ALSO HOUSING  
**OXFORD CARB SERVICES**  
Weber • Solex • Pierburg etc



**01993 850654**

Unit 1, Viscount Court, Station Road, Brize Norton

## The Elephant & Castle

Bridge Street, Bampton  
01993 850316

17th Century Grade Two listed  
country pub

Beer Garden Aunt Sally Darts  
Accommodation

Enjoy our

**Real Ales**

And

**Fine wines**

and our wide range of

**Single Malts**

all served in the convivial

atmosphere of our

Beamed Bars with their

Inglenook Fireplaces.

We also have

cottage accommodation

all en-suite

with colour TV

and tea and coffee facilities.

# PELLMANS

Solicitors

1 Abbey Street, Eynsham, Oxon OX29 4TB

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

**Tel: 01865 884400**

**Fax: 01865 884411**

Evening surgery at North Leigh by appointment

## SICK WASHING MACHINE POORLY COOKER?



THE  
APPLIANCE DOCTOR  
IS  
"ON CALL"

TELEPHONE FOR  
FREE ESTIMATE OR  
ADVICE  
WITNEY 705947



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

## LITTLE CHICKS CHILDMINDERS

Are you looking  
for good quality  
childcare?

Full or part-time?

Then give us a call

**01993 210013**

Registered Childminders  
First-Aid Trained

## The Robert & Doris Watts

Residential & Nursing Home

30/32 Black Bourton Road  
Carterton,  
Oxfordshire OX18 3HA  
Tel: 01993 844923/843102



18 Single Rooms  
2 Double Rooms  
All With Modern Facilities  
Tastefully Decorated  
Nurse Call System

The Robert & Doris Watts Residential & Nursing Home is a family run home offering a high standard of nursing in a warm and homely atmosphere.

The fees represent excellent value for money.

### Life Lease Purchase Also Available

In a new initiative, the concept of purchasing a lease-for-life is now being offered.

Such leases offer major benefits to clients of the home, and their estate.

Call us now for further information.

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

## The Flower Mill

Flowers Bouquets Baskets Plants

Original Floral Designs

by

Christine Pope



Mill Race Farm  
Mill Lane  
Black Bourton  
Oxfordshire OX18 2PJ  
Tel: 01993 850436



Opening Times  
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 10am - 2pm  
Wednesday: Closed  
Saturday: 10am - 12noon



Flowers Direct : Next Day Delivery to UK  
Most Credit Cards Welcome

## LIVE-IN HOME & PET MINDING SERVICE

Call Jacqueline & Merv

**077 333 567 72**

for more information

Basic Rate: £10.00 per day  
Extra Pets

Dogs - £1 per day extra per dog

Cats - 50p per day extra per cat

Many long-standing clients

References available

Only a few dates left for  
2002 and 2003

## Quality local produce direct from the field to your fork

Home produced  
Lamb & Beef

Local Preserves, Apple  
Juice,

Clotted Jersey Cream,  
Butter, Cheese

Home-made Cakes and  
Pies

Fruit & Vegetables

Free Range Eggs



FOXSBURY FARM SHOP  
BURFORD ROAD  
BRIZE NORTON

Shop open Thursday, Friday and  
Saturday 10am - 6pm  
01993 844141

Situated just off the A40  
between  
Burford & Asthall Barrow  
roundabouts

Ready made meals  
using Foxbury Farm  
Meat

Flour, including  
large 16kg bags,  
suitable for bread  
making Machines

And lots of Farm  
animals to see in the  
new Foxbury Farm  
Friends Barn

## Don Rouse Cars Fully Qualified P.C.V. Driver

Local Runs - Day Trips  
AIRPORTS & SEAPORTS

Business Trips  
**COURIER SERVICE**

Air Conditioned Luxury  
PEOPLE CARRIER  
Up to six passengers  
NON-SMOKING

**Tel: 01993 851480**

**Mobile: 07770 533764**

## Bampton Environmental Watch Group

By Ralph Norman

The BEWG AGM, held on March 1<sup>st</sup> in the Village Hall, was well attended. The following were elected as Officers and Members of the Executive Committee:

**Chairman** - Ralph Norman: **Hon Secretary** - Ann Norman  
**Hon Treasurer** - Ray Proctor: **Vice-Chairman**—Helene Grygar: **Members** - John Battersby, Martin Bishop, Freda Bradley, Jo Lewington, Sally Proctor, Anna Pullman, Richard Shaw.

Gilly Marsh and Tony Page have both resigned but will continue to be in touch as needed. Gilly has served on the Committee for a decade and his architectural expertise and experience have been a major plus for BEWG. Tony Page has the distinction of getting the Old School in Church View listed as a building of historical and architectural importance (in spite of two earlier failed attempts), so we shall be looking to him if other buildings in the village reveal a hitherto unsuspected antiquity. Richard Shaw, who has considerable experience of environmental issues in the Henley-on-Thames area, was elected to the Committee, along with the seven incumbent members who are standing again. After the conclusion of this business Ray Borrett gave an instructive lecture on organic cultivation.

On the planning front West Oxfordshire District Council's First Deposit Draft Local Plan 2011, which did not include Bampton in areas designated for development has, as expected, evoked a strong opposition from developers anxious to exploit space within the village boundaries. They have submitted objections to the Draft Plan, requesting the inclusion of four development sites within Bampton.

These are (1) New Road/Mount Owen Road (where a very large development was proposed some ten years ago, was vigorously opposed by the Parish Council, BEWG and the Society for the Protection of Bampton and refused planning permission). (2) On the left of Station Road adjoining the garden of the Surgery. (3) In Aston road adjoining Calais Farm. (4) On the left of Buckland Road, by the bridge opposite Fair Acres Nursery.

It is hoped that the District Council, in their wisdom, will not add these sites to the next Draft issue of the Local Plan, but if they do then we will all have the opportunity to comment when the Second Deposit Draft is published (anticipated date is Autumn 2002).

Although not unexpected, the possible inclusion of these sites is a threatening proposal. Equally threatening is a recent Green Paper promulgated by the DTLR (Department of Transport, Local Government and the Regions).

This proposes increasing to 90% the target number of planning applications dealt with by local planning authority officers under Delegated Powers, rather than by the elected local planning committee. This paper also suggests removing the planning control of County councils to a regional body, by its size and geographical distance cannot have the same understanding of local planning issues. BEWG have responded to these proposals with strong opposition. (NB The

DTLR is now defunct and the Planning Green Paper comes under the ODPM - Office of the Deputy Prime Minister.)

A happier development is the excellent restoration of the former "Paper Shop" in Cheapside into a residential dwelling. Though the loss of a shop to the village brings some regrets, the improvement to the visual aspect of that corner is immense. From the northern end of Broad Street, where previously the view of the lime avenue was spoilt by the obtrusive dirty grey cladding of the shop, there is now an agreeable vista leading up to a building which in colour and design fits in perfectly with neighbouring houses whether the listed buildings of Cromwell Cottage and the Old Forge or the new block of Thornberry Apartments across the road.

While discussing planning matters, change of use to residential has been granted by West Oxfordshire District Council for The Stores, Market Square. It is pleasing to see that the Parish Council has installed the consolidated BEWG map in the new notice board in the Square.

BEWG has been in touch with Oxfordshire County Council concerning the speed of traffic through Bampton and, as a result, Bampton is to be added to the list of areas to be assessed for possible traffic calming. (Provision of speed cameras having been ruled out due to Government criteria that there must be a history of either 3 people killed or seriously injured, or 8 slightly injured per kilometre in the previous 3 years!)

The bric-a-brac stall raised £150. Many thanks to all who gave their support.

BEWG has welcomed the formation of a committee to form a Bampton Museum and receives regular reports as to progress. The Museum Committee has been given a small sum by BEWG as "seed money".

An Open Meeting was held on 24<sup>th</sup> April, when Adrian Thornton spoke on the National Parks. Mr. Thornton showed slides of the 11 National Parks in England and Wales (Scotland having none so far) and tested the audience's knowledge by inviting them to identify each one in turn. Two new Parks, the South Downs and New Forest have recently been added to the English ones. Scotland may be about to acquire two Parks, the Cairngorms and Lomond and Trossachs.

There will be an Open Meeting on 31<sup>st</sup> July, when Jean Saunders of Friends of the Earth returns to talk on recycling. On October 30<sup>th</sup> Jenny Freeman of the Historic Chapels Trust will speak about Cote Chapel. Both Meetings take place in the Village Hall at 8pm and non-members are welcome for a donation of £2.

### Obituary for Margaret Howse

Bampton has suffered another very sad day with the death of Margaret Howse. She was part of the fabric of Bampton Society for so long, and served loyally on the Parish Council for many years. She loved Bampton, and was always on the look out for anything which she thought might spoil the Village while out walking with her dog. A long standing and tremendously active fund raiser for Macmillan Cancer Relief, she generously gave the use of her house for many a sale - and she had a real knack of getting people to help out when needed.

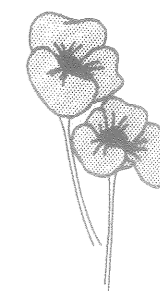
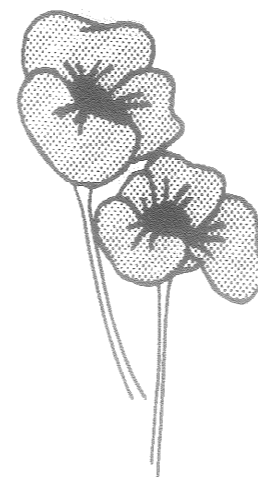
We will all remember Margaret with love and affection. A wonderfully generous lady. She will be sadly missed.

## WE WEAR THEM WITH PRIDE

*"We will remember them"*  
**Remembrance Sunday**

**November 10<sup>th</sup> 2002**

**10.45am War Memorial**  
**11am St Mary's**  
**6pm Methodist Chapel**



## The Ballad of the Great Retreat

*(September 1914)*

*by Patricia Wentworth*

*This poem belonged to Percy Sheppard an 'Old Contemptible'.*

**THERE'S** never been anything like it before,  
And there never will be again  
A fighting line of a hundred mile  
And a million fighting men.

A million men to come on and fight  
And only half of us ready,  
So it's back, and fight 'em, for every inch,  
And steady, my lads, keep steady

And I don't know whether the sky was grey  
Nor whether the sun rose red,  
And I don't remember the songs we sang,  
Nor the faces of the dead

For we marched and fought, and we fought and  
marched,  
And still they came on and down,  
Till we'd fought from the cornfields of Belgium  
To the forts of Paris town.

Nothing's been like it before in the world,  
A million men on their feet,  
And fighting, fighting all the way  
On the roads of the Great Retreat.

Rail and river, and road and rut-  
We crossed 'em fighting still,  
And I don't remember the songs that we sang,  
But I know we sang with a will.

Back from the guns of the Paris forts  
And the walls of Paris town,  
Sudden and sharp as the tide came up  
So sudden the tide went down.

There's never been anything like before,  
A million men on the go,  
And the dead to make us a rearguard,  
Piled high like a drift o' snow.

Fighting fighting all the way,  
From the cornfields yellow and brown,  
Over the vineyards and over the vines  
To the walls of Paris town.

All the way to the Paris forts  
They drove like a driving sea,  
Three, and four, and five to one,  
And we fought 'em, one to three.

All the way to the Paris forts  
We fought 'em, one to five,  
And they drove like the great big wallowing  
waves  
That a flooding tide lets drive.

And under the guns of the Paris forts  
And the walls of Paris town,  
Sudden and sharp as the tide came up  
So sudden the tide went down.

By rail, and river, and road, and rut  
We turned 'em, and drove 'em back  
And the road was an easy road to find,  
For the dead men marked the track.

## The Gardening Club News

### Results of the 'Bampton Only' Competition

#### Class 93

##### Best Window Box or Tub (commercial)

- 1st Morris Clown  
2nd The Horseshoe  
3rd The Elephant & Castle

#### Class 94

##### Best Window Box or Tub (private)

- 1st Brockstone, Buckland Road  
2nd 35 Chandlers Close  
3rd 1 Pococks Close

#### Class 95

##### Best Hanging Basket (commercial)

- 1st Simmonds Shop ( Wonderful—how do you get them so big Mr Simmonds?)  
2nd Morris Clown  
3rd The Romany

#### Class 96

##### Best Hanging Basket (private)

- 1st Brockstone (good colour)  
2nd 35 Chandlers Close  
3rd Colt House

#### Class 97

##### Best Kept Private Vegetable Garden

- 1st 2 Weald Manor Cottages  
2nd 1 Weald Manor Cottages  
Joint 3rd Sandford Cottage & Colt House

#### Class 98

##### Best Kept Small Front or Back Garden

- 1st Bay Tree Cottage (small but very interesting)  
2nd 1 Pococks Close  
3rd Brockstone

#### Class 99

##### Best Kept Bampton Allotments

- 1st K Paice  
2nd P Haynes  
3rd M Green

### Please Note - Very important

Please return your  
trophies as soon as possible to  
Christine McLintock  
2 Weald Manor Cottages or Tel: 850736

## THE ANNUAL SHOW

will be held on  
**Saturday 24th August 2002**  
Youth Centre

### Church View Bampton

Staging 9am—11am  
Admission to the public 2.30pm  
Entrance fee 20p

*Please note for the first time we  
are taking late entries between  
9am—10am on the morning of the show.*

Prizes for 'Bampton Only' Competition  
will be presented at the Show

## Please Don't Forget

Registration Night  
Wednesday 21st August  
Town Hall, Bampton 7pm—9pm  
Free Entry for Children's Classes

If you would like a schedule please contact  
Fenella Gray Tel: 851653.

Don't forget to return your Trophy!

### Social Trips for 2002

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September Malvern Autumn Show  
Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November Cardiff (Shopping Trip)  
Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October Wye Valley (Senic and Relaxing)  
Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December Worcester (Christmas Market)  
Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December Turners 'Merry go Round'

If you have to cancel, could you please let Ellen know at least a week before the trip - unless of course it's an emergency? If you don't, you may have to pay at least half of the cost to cover the ever increasing expenses. Giving Ellen a week's notice of cancellation also allows time to consult the waiting list and see if others can be found to fill the gap - it's better to have your name on the waiting list, than not at all!! If you are interested in any of the trips please contact **Ellen Parker Tel: 843985.**

## LETTERS TO: AUNTIE BEAM

Dear Auntie Beam,

Why is it that on a lovely summer's day (when we do get one!), or on Bank Holidays, when you want to be in your garden pottering or lazing about, SOMEONE always lights a bonfire? It's usually about lunchtime, when there's a full line of washing drying, and all the windows in the house are open. What can be done about it?

Yours, Ex-smoker.

Dear Ex-smoker,

I agree, it is a nuisance. Bonfires can spoil one's enjoyment of one's property, and increase general air pollution levels. The best thing is to discuss the matter with the person concerned, pointing out the alternatives: composting, recycling or using the Council's Refuse Collection service.

A special green sack collection service is available for green waste, FREE OF CHARGE. Between 4 and 12 green sacks will be collected from your door, and will be taken to be shredded. Phone 01993 770222 to arrange for collection.

However, a lot of garden and kitchen waste, along with cardboard and paper can be composted. The results can be fed back onto the garden to enrich the soil, saving money on shop bought products. Phone the above number for details of REDUCED PRICE home composting bins.

The Council also provides recycling facilities at many locations throughout the district, as well as kerbside black box collections in Bampton. There is also a special service for the disposal of larger items of domestic waste, e.g. old furniture. Up to 4 items will be collected free of charge. If you require this service, contact the Contracts Management Section on the above number.

If a bonfire has to be lit, these guidelines are recommended:

- Only burn dry material.
- Never burn household rubbish, rubber tyres, or anything containing plastic, foam or paint.
- Never use old engine oil, meths,

petrol or paraffin to light the fire.

• Avoid lighting a fire in unsuitable weather conditions. Smoke hangs in the air on damp, dull day and in the evenings.

• Avoid burning when the wind will carry the smoke over roads or into other people's properties.

• Avoid burning at week-ends and on Bank Holidays when people want to enjoy their gardens.

• Avoid burning when the air quality in your area is 'poor' or 'very poor' (you can check this by ringing Tel: 0800 556677, or looking at Ceefax page 401)

Never, never, leave a fire unattended or smouldering.

Source: West Oxfordshire District Council leaflet - Environmental Nuisances - Bonfires.

I hope this helps you with your problem.

Yours Auntie Beam



If you would like to write to Auntie Beam the address is; Auntie Beam, c/o The Cotton Club, Bridge St, 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.

### Bollards

I understand from the Parish Council that a meeting with an engineer from the Oxfordshire County Council Highways Department has taken place, regarding the installation of bollards at each side of the entrance to Cheyne Lane, in order to stop motorists parking on the pavement, to access the ATM machine, or visit the butchers. Apparently, the OCC has agreed to install the bollards, but as yet no date has been forthcoming from them. Hopefully, by the time the next issue of the 'Beam' is ready, the bollards will have been put in place!

### Bampton Library Books-on-Wheels

Did you know that Bampton Library could provide you with books or cassettes even if you are housebound?

We offer a Books-on-Wheels service run by volunteers who call once every 2 weeks on Monday afternoons.

Please let us know if you are housebound and would like to avail yourself of this service.

### Courses

Elsewhere in this edition of the 'Beam' you will read about computer courses which are on offer from the Abingdon and Witney Colleges.

However, if you would like to do a course in any other subject, please give us a call. We are looking for ideas from you!

Please call Jan at the library with your suggestions.

### Bampton Library and

Robert Vesey Room  
Old Grammar School  
Church View  
Bampton  
01993 850076

### Opening Hours

#### Monday

2.30pm – 5pm  
6pm – 8pm

#### Tuesday

Closed

#### Wednesday

9.30am – 12.30pm

#### Thursday

2.30pm – 5pm

#### Friday

2.30pm – 5pm

#### Saturday

9.30am – 12.30pm

## N. J. WOODLEY BUILDING MAINTENANCE

### COMPETITIVE RATES

15 CALAIS DENE, BAMPTON, OXON.

Tel: 01993 850753

Mobile: 07799 655385

## A. SIMMONDS *The Old Fashioned Village Store*

Market Square, Bampton  
Tel: 01993 850204

Traditionally Baked  
Bread and Cakes

---  
Groceries  
Confectionery

---  
Discounted Toiletries  
and  
Household Cleaners

---  
Logs      Coal

---  
Large Range of  
Pet Foods & Requisites

---  
Free Local Delivery

## S.P.A.J.E.R.S. DONKEY DERBY

.....  
MONDAY 26<sup>th</sup> AUGUST  
Sandfords Field, Church View

3 Entrances to Field  
Sandford Lane

Back of Youth Centre (Parking)  
Path by Elephant and Castle

First Race 2pm

Jockeys always needed - no experience required  
Come and have a great day out!

## TEMPLES MARKET SQUARE, BAMPTON TEL: 01993 850877

DIY, Ironmongery, Paint, Wood, Cement, Sand,  
Gravel, Toys, Gifts, Candles.  
Gardening Equipment including Mr. Fothergills  
Seeds and a wide range of Compost.

A Range of Car Accessories  
Wind Screen Wipers, Plugs, Batteries etc.  
NOW DRAPER STOCKIST & AGENTS FOR  
SWAN DRY CLEANING

COME IN AND LOOK AROUND  
WE ALSO DELIVER LOCALLY


Don't go anywhere else until you've been to  
Temples!



**ANDREW BOWMAN**  
**MASTER THATCHER**  
HEDGEFIELDS FARM  
BAMPTON  
Tel: 01993 850116  
Member Oxon, Berks, Bucks  
Master Thatchers Association

**HAIRDRESSERS  
DRESSMAKERS**  
Have Your Scissors  
SHARPENED

P  
O  
L  
I  
S  
H  
E  
D



B  
A  
L  
A  
N  
C  
E  
D

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

## Go for greens

If you're eating out, try somewhere  
different - come to **g**reens

Choose from just a starter up to three  
courses. Using the finest, local  
ingredients, our New World and  
European menu will have something  
to tempt you.

A basket of bread, unlimited iced  
water and coffee with hand-made  
chocolates are all included in the price!

Open 12noon - 2.30pm

7.00pm - 9.30pm

(Last Orders)

Closed Sat Lunchtime & Sunday Evening



**Enjoy**  
at Witney Lakes Resort

FOR RESERVATIONS CALL:

Tel: 01993 893000

Downs Road Witney,  
Oxfordshire. OX29 0SY

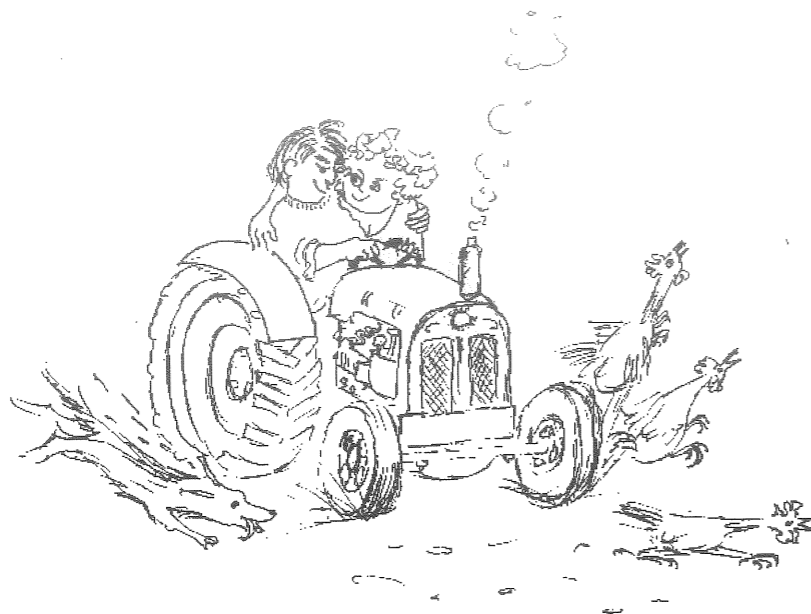
## OUT OF WORK FARMER - TURNED AGRICULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

By Don Rouse

How things have changed since my first article five years ago! Then, farmers around here were quite independent, every one being able to do their own ploughing, planting, harvesting etc., etc., and having their own Combine, Baler and a selection of Tractors ranging in power from 40 horse power to possibly 100 hp being totally self contained. Now when I look around it has all gone. Many Farmers are totally reliant on contractors doing the work for them which for me, as a person who did not like being beholden to anybody, would have been totally unsatisfactory. Your crop can be at its peak ready for harvesting; contractor lined up, when suddenly there is a problem at the previous farm delaying the contractor, and there is nothing you can do about it as you watch your crop spoil. One of Bampton's bigger farms has not got a single tractor on it - mind you he was a "Fergie" farmer, so it doesn't really surprise me that he has got rid of them! Having said that, my younger brother has caused a family row; we always said that we would never have a "Fergie" on the place, but what did I see in his Barn recently, a "Fergie" 35!! Still I can't say too much, he is the only one in the family still farming.

Sorry, I have digressed, so back to these Contractors and their enormous equipment. Some of these tractors are over 300hp and cost well over £100,000. So by the time you have thrown in a Combine costing £100,000, a Baler of some £40,000, a mower of over £25,000, you can see why farmers are unable to update their equipment and stay independent. Yet think what these contractors must do to be able to service such an invest-

ment. When the season for corn is at the most 8 weeks, and the hay and silage season a little longer at possibly 16 weeks. As they charge by the acre, or the more modern ones by the hectare, there is going to be a lot of acre-



age done in a very short time - often they have to work through the night. So be prepared to encounter one of these monsters charging along our back roads in the dead of night as they go from farm to farm. They have no alternative to working every hour possible. A bit like the Bars and Night Clubs at the seaside resorts; they also have a short season and we do not complain about them working all hours when we are on holiday. I have been told of one local contractor having over 150 Combines and as he covers an area from Banbury in the north to Marlborough in the south. The management skills for such an operation must be tremendous. Talking about farms with no equipment, I have noticed up here at Lew there are no home based animals in the Village. We have beef animals from Clanfield, sheep from Curbridge and dairy cows from Brize Norton, yet nothing from Lew. It wasn't that long ago that all seven farms had their own variety of animals. We our-

selves had cows, pigs, sheep and chickens. Mind you the demise of farm animals is not surprising when you consider what has happened, for instance to dairying - when I ceased farming five years ago the price paid to the farmer for a litre of milk was 25p, yet now it is only 16p, but you, the customer, have been paying 42p per litre throughout. Someone has obviously benefited from the 9p reduction in the cost of the raw material,

but it isn't the farmer and it certainly isn't us the consumers. All I can assume is that the supermarkets have been pocketing the difference. Mind you we mustn't complain too much about the supermarkets as one of the bigger chains has presented a Bampton farmer with an avenue for diversification - he has become a male model! He assures me that no money has changed hands, but in return for his macho image being plastered around the store they are sourcing all their

milk from the dairy farms in the locality. Well done Waitrose and well done Brian Barnett!

I see in the report on the foot and mouth outbreak that only 5% of all the animals slaughtered actually had the disease. That means that 95% died unnecessarily. I think there is a call here for vaccination.

I was chatting to our local Butcher the other week about the price of meat and the need to promote local produce, something that Patrick Strange excels in, although being a producer as well as a Butcher, he would wouldn't he? He was commenting on the price of U.K. chicken and pork being twice that of our European counterparts. The outcome of our discussion was noting that the obvious difference was in the production costs of these meats. Take the production of pork for instance; the EEC animal welfare officials decreed that pigs should not be tethered or crated. The UK, being very disciplined, and wanting to be seen as being politically correct,

implemented these rules immediately. As yet, the rest of Europe has not got round to it, thereby creating a different standard of production. If only the British public were to refuse to buy Meat produced in what the hype implies is such a barbaric way the UK farmer would stand a better chance of survival.

I would like to expand a little about the crating of pigs as I feel the general public do not understand the full story. My father always maintained that a little knowledge was a very dangerous thing. A sow would be crated only within hours of the impending birth of it's young - like the human version a mother would be hyper active just before and during the event! These mothers in their crates would have constant access to food and water and with an infrared heat lamp over the creep alongside the crate she would be very, very comfy. When they are having their babies the mothers have a tendency to kick their legs about, as I said, a bit like the human version. But, unlike us humans, pigs have very high multiple births with an average of fourteen or more piglets, so that during all the fracas of birth the first born piglets could get hurt and if the mother could turn around and move about freely many of them would get laid upon and squashed to death. Being in a crate prevents this as the Mother can stand up and lay down but not turn around, giving the babies a chance to escape under the rails to the safety and warmth of the heat lamp. Once the piglets are strong enough, usually within a week, the mother is released. I would say that the lives of at least five piglets per litter are saved by using this method. So for being caged up for a few days to save the lives of these piglets is not in my opinion so bad, after all human mums are supposed to stay in bed for a few days after giving birth; or am I living too far in the past? I remember that when I was keeping pigs my wife used to think I was quite neurotic, when it was obvious that a sow was about to give birth, along with putting the sow in the crate, I would place a baby alarm in the creep alongside her, and with the use of a very long wire going right across the farmyard into the house and into our bedroom, I would place the other end under my pillow. This way I could monitor what was happening throughout the night and respond to it immediately. It's just as well that I have a very understanding wife. Something tells me that our resident cartoonist is going to treat us to another bedroom scene!

A few years ago, one of the ways that farmers could get a bit of pin money, was to sell disused farm machinery for scrap. Now I am told you are very lucky to be able to get someone to take it away let alone give you money for it! That is why we see so many abandoned cars around our lanes, there is no longer money in scrap metal. I have it on good authority that most good scrap metal gets shipped all the way to Pakistan where it is melted down and then returned to this country as steel. They say this way is cheaper than sending it to Wales like we used to do. What a crazy world we live in.

In the last issue of the 'Beam' I mentioned about some Bampton farmers becoming park keepers, and I am told that among the criteria for increasing one's income is the option to plant flower seeds in the grassland. To plant pure grass seed would cost approximately £68.00 per hectare but to include the flower seed would put the cost up to £386.00 per hectare. I am assured the extra cost is very worthwhile. So it is flowers that the Government wants, not wheat. With the profit on a hectare of wheat being less than £80.00 who wants to grow it any way! Looks like there will be plenty of wild flowers around for Bampton's Garland Parade next year, with some left over I am sure to put on the gravestone of British Farming!

What ever happened to that old war time saying of "Feed the people"? I always thought it was *flour* that was needed not *flowers*!

## Yellow Peril Beware the Killer Weed

**Common ragwort** (*Senecio Jacobaea*) is the most common form of poisoning in livestock and in March yet another pony suffered horrific pain and died in our county due to ragwort poisoning. Ragwort also damages our environment by smothering rare wild flowers and most worrying is that research now proves that the pyrrolizidine alkaloids (the poisons in ragwort) have been found in eggs, grain, milk and honey.

### Some useful information about ragwort

Ragwort is easily identified; the plant produces a rosette of green ragged edged leaves in early summer and then grows into a 3ft upright plant with a woody slightly red stem. It produces a large head of flowers with daisy like petals of bright yellow. Ragwort is so poisonous it is a listed plant under the 1959 Weeds Act so to allow it to grow and flower on your land, whether owned or rented by you, contravenes the law.

This weed is killed easily before it flowers by spraying with a 2.4D herbicide. A natural non-toxic environmentally friendly spray is also available called Barrier H. No animals must be allowed to graze on sprayed land until all the ragwort plants have rotted into the ground.

Mature ragwort plants pull up easily but all plants must be burnt.

This plant retains its poisonous toxins whether growing, sprayed or dried in food.

Each mature plant can produce up to 150,000 seeds and these can spread up to a 10 mile radius. If you want to safeguard the environment for future generations this is how you can help

Check your land regularly for ragwort plants and treat as necessary.

When you see ragwort plants in your locality pull them up and incinerate them.

### ALWAYS WEAR GLOVES WHEN HANDLING RAGWORT.

When you spot large areas of ragwort in fields or on road side verges contact either myself or the Oxfordshire County Council Environmental Services Tel: 01869 241144 with full details of the location.

During July and August the British Horse Society clearance volunteers will be working throughout Oxfordshire clearing ragwort from public land, commons etc. So if you can spare a few hours to help please contact me. Lets make our county a safer place for both animals and humans free from the dangers of ragwort.

If you would like further information, leaflets or even a field visit to help identify ragwort please contact Tel: 01993 702844.

## A Bampton Doctor from the Eighteenth Century

by Mike Evans

In the eighteenth century the standing of the local doctor was less well established and his career more precarious than is now the case. The short stay of one such figure in Bampton can be followed through the pages of the local newspaper at the time, *Jackson's Oxford Journal*. Copies of the Journal and of indexes to it are held at the Centre for Oxfordshire Studies in the Westgate Library, Oxford.

George Hall first appears in the newspaper of 15<sup>th</sup> February 1772, with an advert stating that Mr Hall "surgeon apothecary, man-midwife and bone-setter" had taken over the existing business of Mr Holmes in Bampton. "Having attended midwifery under the celebrated Dr Mackenzie, and surgery in the London Hospital", he begged for the confidence of Mr Holmes' friends and the public.

Hall soon felt a need for extra publicity, and in June a letter from a grateful patient appeared in the Journal. Joseph Gills of Buscot thanked Hall for the cure of "a most violent scurvy which I have been afflicted with for seven or eight years; I was all over spotted like a leopard; attended with great lowness and sinking of spirits, with loss of appetite". Needless to say, having taken Hall's medicine for the cure of ulcerated sore legs, he was "in the short space of ten weeks" entirely cured. In a postscript Hall notes not only that his medicine has "good effects in old ulcers in the legs, piles and fistulas, scorbutic and all other disorders proceeding foulness of blood", but also that he "takes off wens and excrescences of all sorts, without cutting".

We next hear of Hall a year later in the midst of a dramatic dispute which will blight his stay in Bampton. Hall evidently included inoculation against smallpox among his medical skills, and had begun to practice it in and around the Parish. Smallpox was at this time a greatly feared and potentially deadly infectious disease, one that often scarred badly where it did not kill. The inoculation practiced was

not the vaccination with cowpox which Edward Jenner was to pioneer later, but rather the introduction of a (hopefully) mild form of the disease in order to protect against more virulent strains. This technique, which had only been introduced from Turkey fifty years earlier, clearly did carry an element of risk for the patient, and was still controversial.

Thomas Horde, Lord of the Manor of Aston, and at least some of the better-off inhabitants of Aston seem to have taken a strong dislike to Hall and his activities. In a notice published in the Journal and dated 14<sup>th</sup> July 1773 they threaten with prosecution anybody coming to Aston to be inoculated. They complain not only that the practice is spreading smallpox through the district, but also that the principal inhabitants will be put "to great expenses with their poor, who are numerous". Moreover Hall "performs inoculations among them more through a motive of ill nature and insolence than for any gain he reaps thereby, his terms being so meanly low as £18 shillings".

Hall however continued to inoculate, and matters came to a head in September when a fifteen-year-old boy he was treating died. Charles Baker, from Cassington, had been inoculated two weeks before in Aston. He appeared to be recovering well, but complained of a pain in his head and back. Hall let some blood (a standard procedure at the time), but the next morning the boy was found dead in bed. Hall's enemies lost no time in accusing him of incompetence or worse, and their claims led to the coroner rapidly ordering an inquest upon the unfortunate boy. The jurors however concluded that Baker "died by the will of God, and that no intention was made use of by Mr. Hall to occasion his death".

Hall may have been vindicated, but one suspects that public confidence in him had been shaken. He carried on working in Bampton and Aston through 1774, but appears to have moved premises twice - perhaps as a result of continuing concern amongst neighbours about the infectious nature of his business. Then, in February 1775, a notice is placed in the Journal by a William Gearing, asking all of

those owing money to George Hall "apothecary, late of Bampton", to send the sums instead to Gearing as his creditor. Hall responded in outraged tones that the advert was malicious, and that he had no intention of leaving Bampton. However when in March he next advertises in the Journal it is as a debtor confined in Oxford Prison: "Through a series of events as unforeseen and unexpected as unmerited, Hall, apothecary and surgeon, of Bampton, is now in Oxford Castle; and though his fortune is greatly shattered, yet he believes his faculties are still unimpaired; he therefore humbly begs the favour of the public, and hopes that all persons who have been so happy as to be cured, or to have received benefit from his electuary, will be so kind as to recommend it to their friends and acquaintance...".

Hall moved shortly afterwards to the Kings Bench prison in London, but must have then reached an accommodation with his creditors. By July 1775 he is back in Oxford, practicing medicine and lodging with a Mrs Day in St Ebbes Lane. There is no indication however that he ever returned to Bampton. Instead he last appears in *Jackson's Oxford Journal* in May 1778 as carrying out inoculations in Appleton - and no doubt relieved to be at least a few miles away from Bampton and Aston.

## Flu Vaccine Campaign 2002

The flu season is almost upon us again, and it is time to start thinking about your vaccination! If you suffer with Diabetes, Asthma, Heart Disease, Kidney Disease or are aged over 65 then you are entitled to receive a flu vaccination.

You will be able to book an appointment at a flu vaccination clinic during September, though the clinics may not actually begin until October. If you have any queries as to whether you are eligible then please do not hesitate to contact one of the Practice Nurses Tel: 850257. If they are busy then the Receptionist will take your telephone number and the nurse will return your call.

**Dr. Mackenzie & Partners  
Bampton Surgery**

## THE COOKERY CORNER

By Gilly French

### Feeding a crowd

At this time of the year - along with at Christmastime - culinary thought in our household is very much focused on feeding large numbers of people. We always provide supper for the cast and singers of Bampton Classical Opera (average numbers 45) for our two summer dress rehearsals and our annual December concert. It's a convivial way of ensuring that everybody has a good time and that, with a bit of luck, they would like to sing or play for us again. Over the years we have found a number of ideas which are significantly more than the inevitable sandwich one gets elsewhere but also mean that one doesn't necessarily spend the whole day in the kitchen. Here are some main course ideas. Quantities are given for four or six, but they scale up easily.

### Pasta and gorgonzola

Pasta shells - about 4oz per person

Gorgonzola - about one packet for four people  
whipping cream  
pepper

This one's easy. Cook the pasta in lightly salted water. Whilst it is on, melt the cheese in a separate pan and add cream until the desired consistency has been achieved (I like it quite runny, like a sauce), season with pepper (it won't need salt). Add to the cooked drained pasta and serve. Delicious comfort food.

### Beef stroganoff

I have adapted this from a recipe in *The Silver Palate Cookbook*. It feeds six.

1 large tub crème fraiche,  
1½ tablespoons Dijon mustard  
3 tbsps tomato puree  
3 tbsps Worcestershire sauce  
2 teaspoons paprika  
salt and pepper  
1 tablespoon sherry or port  
1 lb button mushrooms  
butter  
2lb braising steak  
red wine or beef stock

Combine crème fraiche, mustard, tomato puree, Worcestershire sauce, paprika, salt, pepper and port/sherry in a medium-sized saucepan.

Brown meat, return to large casserole, add a smallish amount of red wine or stock and cook on a low heat on the hob for two hours. Add mushrooms (sliced if necessary) and crème fraiche mixture, return to the heat for another half-hour.

### Ham

We discovered that a whole ham is an excellent way of feeding a large number of people. Not only is it a real



treat, but if there is any left over (unlikely) it keeps for some time. In her Christmas cookbook, Delia Smith recommends baking the ham at 160°C/325°F/gas 3 in a tent of foil for 20 minutes per pound. Calculate when the last half hour will be and at this point remove it from the oven, remove the skin and score the fat in diamonds. She then suggests putting a clove in the centre of each diamond and then spreading first with English mustard and then with Demerara sugar before returning it to a hotter oven, (220°C/425°F/gas 7), without foil but with all the juices, for 30 minutes. Leave to rest for 45 minutes before removing from the oven. Tip - always check with your butcher as to whether the ham needs soaking, otherwise you risk a salty roast (not great for singers!). If in doubt, soak it anyway.

## Abingdon & Witney College THE VILLAGE COLLEGE IN BAMPTON

Would you like to brush up on your computer skills? Whether you are a complete beginner who finds the whole idea of using a computer really scary or you have been using one for a little while but want to get more out of your computer we have the course for you.

Abingdon & Witney College will be running more free taster courses from this September in Bampton Town Hall on the following dates.

### Complete beginners:

10<sup>th</sup> September, 2002

morning - 9.30 to 12.30

3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2002

late afternoon - 4.00 to 7.00 p.m.

### Intermediates

3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2002

evening - 7.15 - 10.15 p.m.

### Getting to grips with e-mail and the Internet

12<sup>th</sup> September, 2002

morning - 10.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.

12<sup>th</sup> September, 2002

afternoon - 2.00 - 5.00 p.m.

12<sup>th</sup> September, 2002

evening - 6.00 - 9.00 p.m.

We will also be running some longer courses, which follow on from these taster sessions. Ten-week Introduction to Computers course. This will be on Tuesday mornings from 10.00 - 12.00 starting on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September and finishing on 26<sup>th</sup> November. The cost of this course is £58\*.

Two ten-week E-mail and Internet courses. These will be on Thursday mornings from 10.00 - 12 and Thursday afternoons from 1.00 - 3.00 p.m. from 19<sup>th</sup> September to 28<sup>th</sup> November. The cost of this course is £58\*.

\*People in receipt of means tested benefits may be eligible to pay a reduced fee.

Places are limited as the room is only small so please do book early if you would like to come along to one of these courses. We can only offer each person one free taster session each. Call into Bampton Library to pick up a booking form, or call Jan Fretten - Tel: 01993 850076 - at the Library.



## West Ox Arts

### W.O.A. Gallery, Market Square, Bampton, Oxon OX18 2JH

Tel: 01993 850137 E-mail: westoxarts@yahoo.co.uk

Opening Hours: Tues - Sat 10:30am - 12:30pm and 2pm - 4pm; Sun - 2pm - 4pm

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

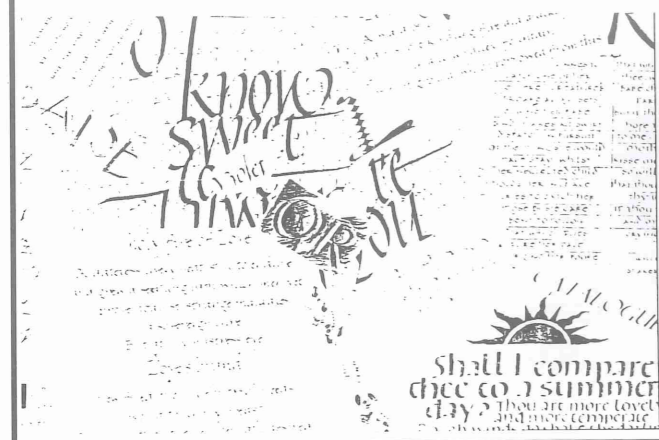
Thursday 1 August

Sunday 1 September

### Shakespeare in Summer

The Bard comes to Bampton in a display of Shakespeare's sonnets interpreted by the calligraphers and lettering artists of the Oxford Scribes.

The exhibition also includes smaller pieces featuring well-known quotations and affordable ephemera such as boxes, books and even children's windmills - a good way to begin an acquaintance with England's greatest poet.



### WOA Calender of Events

WOA kicked off 2002 with 'Words of the Century', a touring exhibition from Southern Arts. The display comprised 100 photographs by Jimmy Symonds, each teamed with a word or phrase which became current in the last century. The exhibition also featured an interactive element in the shape of an I-Mac computer which enabled visitors to navigate through the exhibits in a variety of ways.

Our next exhibition, saw artist Andrew Forkner making a return to WOA. This time his meticulously observed wildlife drawings were accompanied by works by his wife, textile artist Kerry, also drawing motifs from the natural world. These 'Natural Partners' proved a compelling combination and visitors travelled from as far as the Peak District to see the show.

This was followed by a show with a sculptural theme. Everything from discarded copper ball cocks to an old bicycle chain went into Sophie Thompson's animal sculptures - recycling at its most ingenious use. Simon Lea also made witty use of scrap in his metal masks and both Simon and Sophie's work was complemented by Christine Burgess' powerful life drawings and ceramic figure sculptures. The

Sunday 8 September

Sunday 22 September

### Six in September

A showcase of work by a sextet of WOA members

Shirley Davies - Paintings

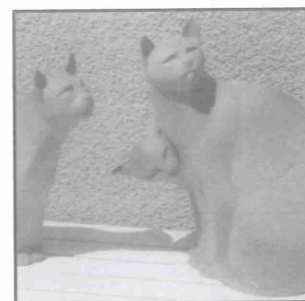
Juliet Dyer - Sculpture

Maggie Fitzpatrick - Watercolours

Louise Rice - Mixed media

Maureen Wilsker - Ceramics

Gunnel Rosengard - Photographs



exhibition was a commercial and popular success - and our younger visitors were particularly intrigued by the animal sculptures and masks.

A group of mature fine art degree students from North

Oxfordshire College, Banbury staged the next exhibition - a presentation of their ongoing work in contemporary painting, printmaking and sculpture. For visitors this offered a fascinating insight into how artists just starting out on their careers responded to a series of assignments.

From the art of the future to the art of the past. 'Medieval in Mind' featured the work of four artists, each inspired by the art of the Middle Ages. Alison Merry's watercolours were packed with detail - often humorous - and her subjects ranged from contemporary sporting activities (racing at Cheltenham, the Oxford & Cambridge Boat Race) to pieces with more historic themes such as the legend of St Frideswide. Her pictures were accompanied by footstools by Laura Glynne-Jones, a trio of beautifully constructed quilts by Gillian Clarke and calligraphy by Peter Lloyd. Another well-received show, the preview was attended by a former Chancellor of the Exchequer and a member of the cast of the Archers!

### Future Events

WOA's annual Members Exhibition coincided with Artweeks and showcased the work of over 30 artists. The show attracted over 400 visitors during its run and a favourable review in the Oxford Times. Following fast on its heels was 'An Eye on the East', a selection of vibrant works by Cairo based artist Hugh Sowden which brought the people and places of the East to Bampton.

As you can see we have had a busy six months - we host a new exhibition every month so there's always something different to see and enjoy. Our dynamic exhibition programme is supplemented by schools workshops, art and literature classes, and theatre performances (such as Oxford Touring Theatre Company's production of 'Arthur' which was performed in the Village Hall in February and attracted a large family audience). Everyone is welcome at the gallery - come along to a preview, enjoy a glass of wine and meet the artists. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Sunday 6 October

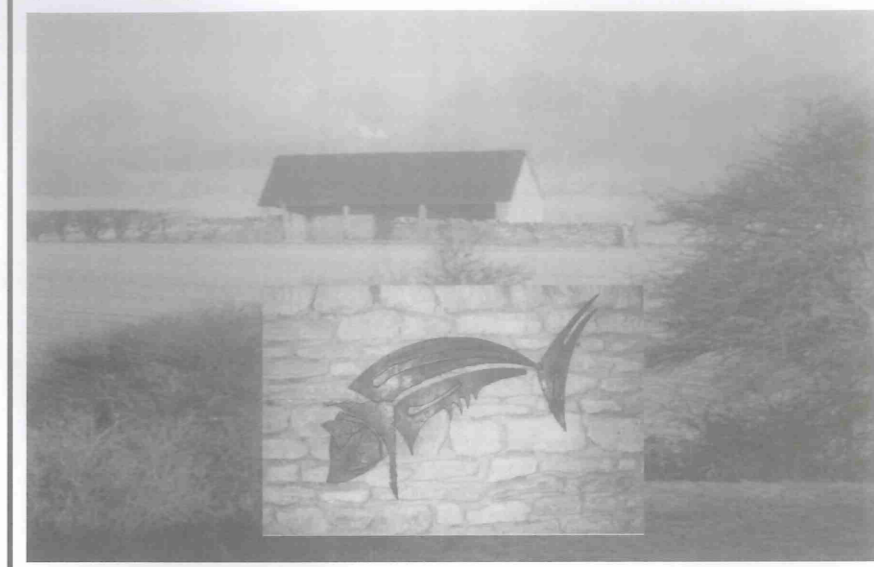
Sunday 20 October

### Christopher Townsend Gilly Whittington and Terry Wigley

Vibrant abstract paintings and metal sculpture by Christopher Townsend.

Ceramics by Gilly Whittington using locally dug clay and wood ash, exploring the relationship between form and texture to create a sense of movement.

Also evocative photographs capturing the light and landscape of the Wychwoods by Terry Wigley.



### Robert Vesey Room : Exhibitions

The Robert Vesey Room @ Bampton Library

### Mid-September to End October

Bampton and Agriculture presented by Bampton Museum

Opening Hours: Monday & Thursday 2.30 to 4.30pm; Wednesday & Saturday 10am to 12 noon.

If you would like to book this exhibition space for a month during the second half of 2002, please contact the Administrator on 01993 850137, or Ailsa Matheson on 01993 851004

### Gallery Life Drawing Classes

#### UNTUTORED LIFE DRAWING SESSIONS

Monday mornings 10am to 12.30pm; Wednesday evenings from 7.30 to 9.30pm in the Gallery - aimed at those without the need of guidance.

No booking necessary.

Pay as you attend.

WOA members £6.00.

Non-members £7.50

#### TUTORED LIFE DRAWING CLASSES

ALSO AVAILABLE—EVENINGS

£40 for 4 sessions.

For more information about all life drawing classes, please contact RICHARD MORBEY 01993 851004



### Future Exhibitions in the WOA Gallery

3 November to 24 November

Drawn to Light

Ann Manly & Dennis Harrison

29 November to 15 December

Christmas Fair

Gifts for Christmas

## Garden Trading Company

Bushey Row, High Street,  
Bampton, OX18 2JU

Tel: 01993 853900

Fax 01993 852606

Contemporary garden  
accessories and gifts

(as supplied by us to Conran,  
Heal's, Harrods, Fortnum & Ma-  
son, National Trust, John Lewis  
and House of Fraser)

*Beautiful fresh hand-tied  
bouquets every weekend*

e-mail

sales@gardentrading.co.uk

www.gardentrading.co.uk

## = P&S Builders =

ROSEBROOK, ASTON ROAD, BAMPTON, OXON OX18 2AF

Office: 01993 851700

Mobiles: 07764 281289 or 07747 612826

All Building Aspects Covered

including

Design and Build

FREE ESTIMATES



## Lynwood Leisure Buildings Ltd.

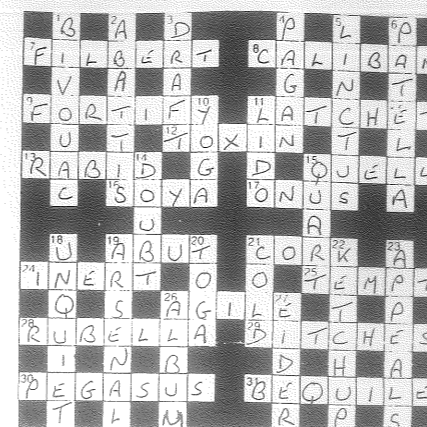
Suppliers and Installers  
of

Conservatories, Windows, Doors  
Garden Buildings



Failed Glass doesn't mean new Windows  
Replacement Glass supplied and fitted  
Call us on 01993 842257

### Solution to April's BEAM CROSSWORD



The £5 winner for April's crossword is Mr D Tompkinson, of Ampney Orchard. Congratulations!

We would also like to donate £5 to Cancer Research, as a thank you to Mr. Bill Govier for producing yet another crossword for us to enjoy.

### The Bampton Beam Adverts

Why not give your local  
business a lift?

#### Advertise in 'The Beam'

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

The rates for 'The Beam' are  
very reasonable. So why not  
call the Editor now and book  
your spot for the next edition?

Tel: 01993 851653

#### Examples

Full Page £100

Half Page £50

1/3rd Page £30

1/6th Page £25

1/12th Page £16

Additional Artwork  
from £20

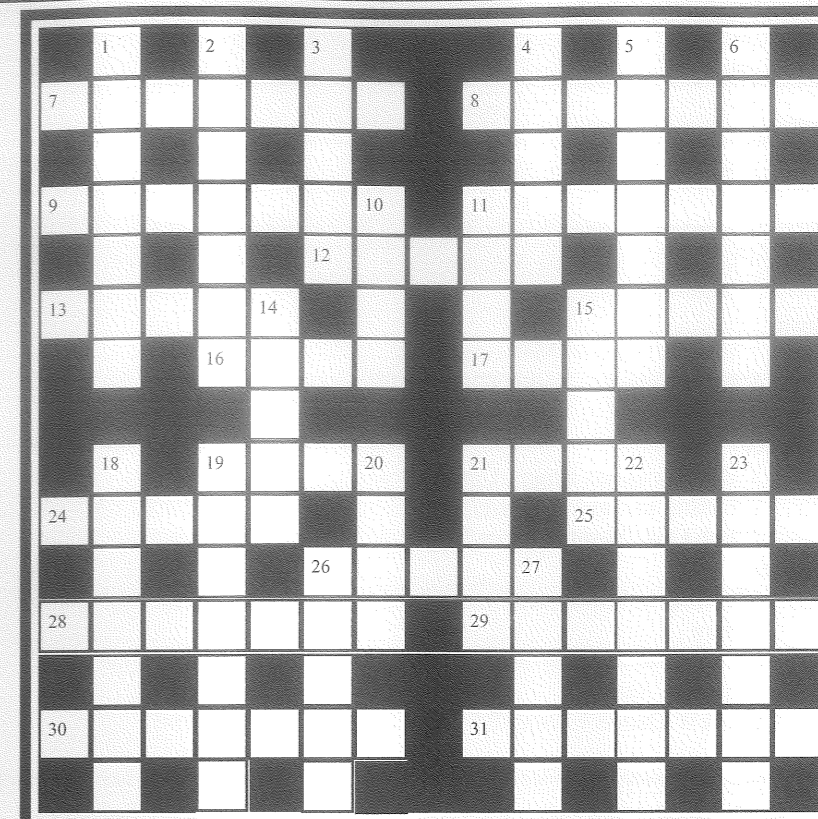
#### Town Hall Bookings

For Town Hall bookings contact

Mrs B. Sapsford Tel: 850776.

Town Hall keys to be collected  
from Londis shop.

## THE BAMPTON BEAM'S CROSSWORD



#### CLUES ACROSS

7 Used in treatment for diabetes

8 Crush

9 A young hare

11 Umpire

12 Renovate

13 Condition

15 Silence

16 A test

17 Additional

19 A coagulation of fluid

21 To pick, to select

24 Sod, piece of turf

25 Milky juice of some plants

26 Thicket

28 American grasshopper type insect

29 Hollow-eyed and tired looking

30 Resting against

31 Principal female character in a  
story

#### CLUES DOWN

1 Aphids, lacewings, etc.

2 Wedge-shaped

3 Framework on which clothes are  
hung to dry

4 Prison warder

5 Bone of the upper arm

6 Plans

10 Limited period of time

11 Gather a harvest

14 To ennoble

15 A spine of a porcupine

18 Optical illusions, especially in a  
desert

19 Imitating

20 Dull, heavy sound of a fall

21 Truncheon

22 State of dreamy inaction

23 A combination of cog- wheels

26 Offspring of a stallion and a she-  
ass

27 Wasting away, emaciation

## Calendar of Events

### August

- 15<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> Bampton Fair, Market Square and High Street  
 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Show, Gardening Club, Youth Centre, 2.30pm  
 26<sup>th</sup> Donkey Derby, SPAJERS, Sandfords Field, 2pm  
 31<sup>st</sup> Coffee Morning, JR Coronary Care Unit, Town Hall, 10am - 12 noon.

### September

- 15<sup>th</sup> Vision Afternoon, Methodist Chapel, 2pm-4pm  
 21<sup>st</sup> Coffee Morning, Cancer Research, Village Hall  
 29<sup>th</sup> Harvest Festival, Methodist Chapel, 1am and 6pm  
 29<sup>th</sup> Outing to Malvern Autumn Show, Gardening Club, Market Square, 9am

### October

- 1<sup>st</sup> Harvest Supper, Methodist Chapel, 7pm  
 5<sup>th</sup> Book Sale, Methodist Chapel, Village Hall, 10am - 12noon  
 20<sup>th</sup> Outing to Wye Valley, Gardening Club, Market Square, 9am

### November

- 13<sup>th</sup> Pre-Christmas Bingo, Cancer Research, Village Hall  
 17<sup>th</sup> Outing to Cardiff, Gardening Club, Market Square 9am  
 27<sup>th</sup> Pub Quiz Night, Cancer Research, Elephant & Castle

### December

- 1<sup>st</sup> Outing to Worcester Xmas Market, Gardening Club, Market Square, 9am  
 15<sup>th</sup> Outing to Turners 'Merry go Round', Gardening Club, Market Square, 9am  
 20<sup>th</sup> C&W Dance, Cancer Research, Carterton Social Centre

## THE BAMPTON BEAM

*The Bampton Beam* is published three times a year and distributed free to all households and businesses in Bampton. Extra copies are available from the Post Office, Emmie's, Abbey Properties, Temples and The Library.

### Editor

Fenella Gray Tel: 851653

### Sub-Editor

Fred Gray Tel: 851653

### Artwork

Jo Lewington Tel: 850947

### Treasurer

Christine McLintock Tel: 850736

### Advertising:

Fred Gray: Tel: 851653/Fax: 851892

E-mail: fredgray@witneyserve.net

### Photography

Ian McLintock

Fred Gray

### Distribution

Vacant

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

**Fenella Gray Tel: 851653**

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

### Next deadline - 30<sup>th</sup> October 2002

While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of information printed in *The Bampton Beam*, the editor and 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.

*The Beam Team* wishes to thank **The Cotton Club - quality fabric suppliers** - as well as the 'Beam' letter box! Also thanks to **Abbey Properties**, and to the **Parish Council** for their financial support each year.

If you wish to have *The Bampton Beam* posted to yourself or a relative or friend on a regular basis, please send your name, address and cheque (made payable to The Bampton Beam) to: The Bampton Beam, Subscriptions, c/o The Cotton Club, Bridge Street, Bampton, Oxon OX18 2HA. Annual Subscription - £2.50

## West Oxfordshire District Council Environmental Services Holiday Refuse Collection Timetable AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY

Normal Day	Substitute Day
Monday 26 August	Tuesday 27 August
Tuesday 27 August	Wednesday 28 August
Wednesday 28 August	Thursday 29 August
Thursday 29 August	Friday 30 August
Friday 30 August	Saturday 31 August
Monday 2 September - Back to Normal	

## THE BAMPTON DIRECTORY 2003

The Bampton Directory will be updated and reprinted in October 2002. Copies will be delivered free to all households and businesses in Bampton and extra copies are available from The Post Office and Abbey Properties.

### Advertisers & Business Directory

If you wish to advertise in this issue and have not yet completed a form, please contact **Helene Grygar Tel: 851697** as soon as possible. All advertisers will automatically have an entry (in bold type) in the Business Directory section but if you are not an advertiser and would like to have a free entry in the Business Directory, please fill in a form available from The Post Office or Library or The Cotton Club.

### Local Organisations

All organisations already listed in the Directory will be contacted for their current information. If any organisation is not already listed and would like to be included, please contact **Liz Page Tel: 851886**.