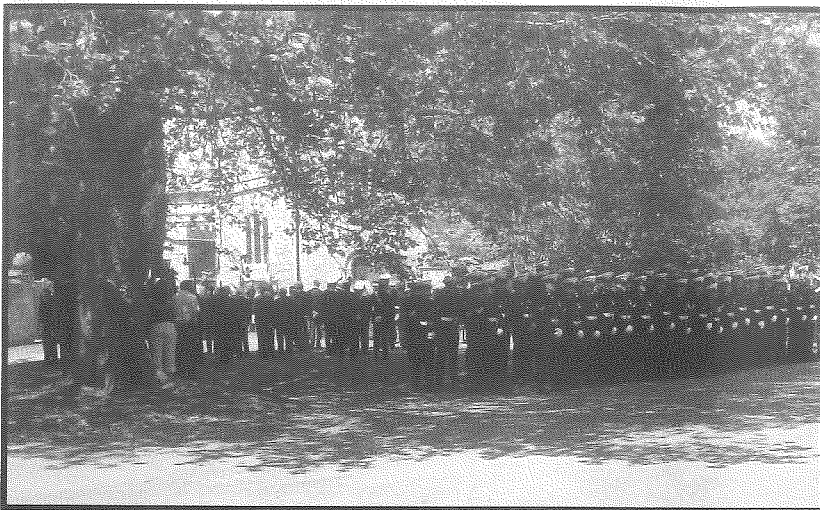


THE BAMPTON BEAM

July 2009

Volume 24, No. 2

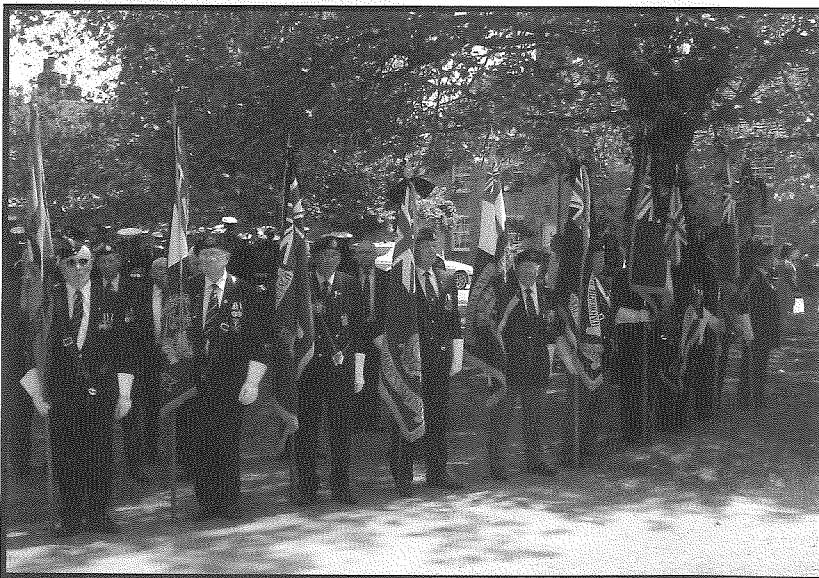
Bampton Mourns The Funeral of Marine Jason Mackie



Full Military Honours



Flowers at the War Memorial



Standard Bearer Party



The Town Hall Flag was flown at half mast as a mark of respect for a fine young man.

Jason Mackie was killed in Afghanistan in April, while on duty with the Marines. He was Bampton's first casualty of war in recent times.

We are sure that the thoughts of the Villagers are with his family at this difficult time.

More of Bampton's young people are serving their country in the Armed Forces at this time, and we are also sure that the best wishes of the Villagers go out to them for a safe return from wherever they are in this troubled world.

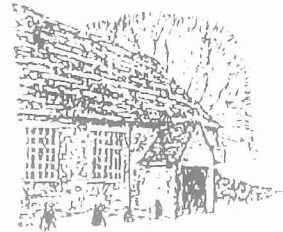
Rest in Peace Jason.

Bampton Village Hall

An excellent venue for meetings, classes, parties, performances & fund-raising events. Main hall with stage, curtains, lights & piano.

Well equipped kitchen and servery with separate locked bar. Badminton court marked and equipment available. Disabled toilet facilities.

Lettings Officer: Sarah Radband
Telephone: 01993 210160



BAMPTON VILLAGE HALL - HIRE CHARGES

General Hire	£8.00 per hour
All day and evening	£65.00
Bar use	£20.00

Town Hall Bookings

For Town Hall bookings contact Sarah Radband
Tel: 01993 851870

Keys to be collected from the Bampton Coffee House

Parish Council

Contact

Sarah Radband

Tel: 01993 851870

E-Mail - sarah.radband@bamptonoxon-parishcouncil.gov.uk

The Bampton 250 Club

The Bampton 250 Club is the local monthly lottery which supports the Village Hall and the Youth Centre. If you would like a ticket please put your name on the list at the Post Office or contact Susan Phillips Tel: 01993 850321.

WINNERS

February	£25	106 Mr A Allinson	New Road
	£15	132 Mr M Drew	Ampney Orchard
	£15	187 Miss L Davies	c/o Church View
March	£15	215 Mrs P Daniels	Fox Close
	£100	164 Mrs Farthing	New Road
	£25	079 Mr A Knight	Chandler Close
	£15	049 Mrs R Gerring	Sandfords
	£15	208 Mrs C Cordy	c/o Queen Street
April	£15	165 Mrs F Bradley	Colville Close
	£250	082 Mr & Mrs Murray-Clarke	Glebelands
	£15	182 Mrs V Hopps	The Pieces
	£15	106 Mr A Allinson	New Road
	£15	201 Mrs Kyte	The Lanes
May	£25	149 Mrs C Woodley	Calais Dene
	£15	137 Mrs I Layfield	Calais Dene
	£15	178 Mrs M Barrett	c/o Cheyne Lane

MOVIES ON THE MOVE

In Bampton Village Hall

The Theatre, Chipping Norton continues to bring up-to-date films to Bampton Village Hall on the 1st Wednesday of every month. (2nd Wednesday in September.)

Wednesday 1st July at 7.30

The Reader,

Starring Kate Winslet and Ralph Fiennes. When he falls ill on his way home from school, 15 year-old Michael Berg is rescued by Hanna, a woman twice his age. The two begin an unexpected and passionate affair only for Hanna to suddenly and inexplicably disappear. Eight years later, Michael, meets his former lover again, under very different circumstances.

Wednesday 9th September at 7.30

The Young Victoria, A sumptuous period drama, filmed at Blenheim Palace, tells the story of Queen Victoria's early rise to power and her romance and marriage to Albert. Stars Emma Blunt, Jim Broadbent and Rupert Friend.

Wednesday 4th November at 7.30

A Bunch of Amateurs, A comedy starring Burt Reynolds. A sleazy Hollywood agent tricks one of his clients, a faded action star, into playing King Lear in an amateur charity production in London.

Tickets at £4.50 each will be on sale at the Cotton Club from 2 weeks before each performance and at the door. Before each movie there will be a short film from the Bampton Archive. Ice creams are available in between the 2 performances and are 50p each.

We look forward to seeing you at the Movies.

BAMPTON GARDENING CLUB

Annual Show

Village Hall

Saturday 29th August 2009

Entries 9am - 11am

Opening Afternoon 3pm

Refreshments - Raffle

Entrance 50p

Entry Forms page 29, and from

Patrick Strainge, Post Office and

Emmie's.

For more information contact

Fenella Gray 01993 851653

BAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

By Fred Gray, Bampton Parish Council

Flood Concerns

The following is a letter sent to The Witney Gazette by David Hawkins:

The Bampton based Flood Prevention Working Group, which was set up after the July 2007 floods and which has representatives from Aston, Brize Norton, Clanfield and Carterton Councils had a nasty surprise at its June meeting. We were surprised and very disappointed to hear from the Environment Agency representative that we could no longer expect the Agency to carry out any maintenance work on rivers or streams in a huge area to the South West of Witney. We were briefed that the Agency has 3 categories of waterways which give an indication of the degree of damage to property or danger to persons should the river or stream burst its banks. These are High consequence/ Medium consequence and Low consequence. The Agency has only sufficient funding for the maintenance of High consequence waterways. The area in question extends from Burford to just north of Lechlade, then east to Aston and then north to the south west edge of Witney and then westwards back to Burford. No waterway other than the Windrush has a "high" category. We were told that, in future, all obstructions must be cleared by the Riparian owners who are the farmers whose land abuts the river or stream. Whether the farmer would be allowed to de-silt the waterways has not been decided but is unlikely.

The working group is very concerned that the "medium" and "low" consequence waterways such as the Shillbrook or Highmoor Brook would not be monitored closely and that Riparian owners would not have the expertise or the desire to undertake such essential maintenance. The idea of village volunteer groups carrying out the work has certain attractions, but is fraught with problems such as insurance cover, lack of expertise and the risk of flooding villages down stream by increasing flow rates. We wouldn't dream of setting up village vigilante groups if Thames Valley

police reduced police numbers. Nor would we consider buying second hand dustbin lorries, should bin collection arrangements be seriously reduced. Our working group concluded that the best solution is to get the Environment Agency properly funded and staffed so that flood management is rightly in the hands of just one agency. Funny old thing, this is the main conclusion of the various major studies following the 2007 disasters. The working group will make every effort to get the EA to revise their new policy and asks all Bampton flood victims to badger the Agency into doing so.

Obviously this is a serious situation, and one which the Parish Council will work strenuously on to try and get the EA funded to do a proper job. The situation at present is unacceptable.

Emergency Response Plan:

Tabletop Exercise

A tabletop exercise to test the ERP was carried out in April. It was facilitated by Caroline Martland of Oxfordshire County Council (OCC), and Bill Oddy of West Oxfordshire District Council (WODC). The Police, Fire Service and our District Councillors also attended as well as Parish Councillors. The exercise was very useful and various issues were uncovered which are being addressed and incorporated into the ERP procedures.

Mercury Close Playing Field
Cllr. Anna Pitt has been successful in obtaining funding for the new play equipment, and is aiming to complete the project over the coming few months.

Old School Building and Bush Centre

Meetings have been held with the various stakeholders with reference to the proposed move of the Bush Club into the Youth Centre Building. The present state of play is that the Youth Services of OCC and representatives of the Bush Club are to hold meetings to see how they can integrate and share facilities in the building, and in turn this will determine if there is a

need for the building to be extended to accommodate both groups. In the meantime, OCC has approached the Parish Council about taking over the lease form the Youth Centre Management Committee when it expires in October. The approach was made since the YCMC advised OCC that it did not wish to renew the lease with OCC. OCC has obtained additional funding to upgrade the Church View site to provide multi-use facility which will provide a youth club with outreach services, a day service for older people, preventative services for elderly people, and various health, leisure, youth and community uses. This is extremely good news for Bampton and OCC is to be congratulated on its success in obtaining the extra funding for the project. Total funding available is now £900,000, although exactly how it will be allocated to the various elements of the project has not yet been decided, and will obviously be the subject of much discussion. The Parish Council's aim is to make sure that value for money is obtained and that money is not just spent for money's sake.

Station Road Chicane

Advice from OCC is still awaited as to the planned timing of the installation of the new chicane.

Buckland Road Traffic Calming

A letter has been sent to OCC Highways advising them that the Parish Council wishes to have a 7.5T Environmental Weight Limit introduced on the Buckland Road, but with access rights for local businesses. In excerpt the Parish Council letter says:

1. *The Parish Council fully supports the introduction of a 7.5T Environmental Weight Limit on the Buckland Road from its junction with the A420 up to the mini-roundabout at the Market Square, with the proviso that there are access rights for businesses whose premises are located within the Parish of Bampton.*

2. *Farm equipment and vehicles such as tractors, including tractor-*

trailer combinations, combine harvesters, etc, to be exempt from the weight limit restriction.

3. To allow local businesses access to their premises, a permit system to be introduced which would allow vehicles exceeding the 7.5T limit to use the Buckland Road for delivery and collection purposes to businesses located within the Parish of Bampton.

4. The Parish Council offers to administer the Permit System on behalf of the OCC. In this sense, it is suggested that each business' application will be scrutinised for validity by the Parish Council, and on sanction, any vehicle exceeding the 7.5T limit would be required to display the permit number visibly in its cab at the front windscreen.

5. The Parish Council recognises that Thames Valley Police do not have the resources to frequently or even regularly police the weight limit zone, and accept the situation. The Parish Council believes, however, that the introduction of the weight limit will nevertheless act as a deterrent to those who would wish to use the Buckland Road for vehicles in excess of 7.5T in order to gain access to areas outside of the Parish envelope.

6. The Parish Council and residents of Buckland Road will monitor the zone for violations, and, if the situation warrants, will write to the owners of the transgressing HGVs advising them that a violation has occurred and requesting them to order their drivers stop using the route. The Parish Council has had good cooperation from companies in the past when they were requested not to use the Village as a through route for large vehicles. Should the situation warrant it, the Parish Council will request Thames Valley Police to stage ad hoc checks, as resources allow, with a view to deterring rogue vehicles from using the route.

The Parish Council believes that the permit system proposed would be relatively easy to implement and administer, and at the same time views that it would help to protect local businesses from having to have the large vehicles which service their premises from making long and environmentally unfriendly detours via Oxford and the A40.

To date no reply has been received from OCC although our County Councillor is pressing Highways on the issue.

Town Hall

Cllr. Millar is looking at various changes and modifications for the Town Hall, with a view to modernising the rooms and facilities. This includes the erection of a self-standing flagpole to eliminate the problems with the existing arrangement.

Parish Council

*The re-elected Council Members
For 2009*

At the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council in May, Fred Gray was re-elected as Chairman and David Hawkins as Vice Chairman.

The following is the makeup of the various committees and Councillor responsibilities.

Finance and General Purposes Committee; Cllr. Gray, Cllr. Allinson, Cllr. Hawkins, Cllr. Dunbar, Cllr. Millar.

Footpaths Committee; Cllr. Gray, Cllr. Hawkins, Cllr. Norman, Cllr. Smith, Cllr. Dunbar.

Allotments; Cllr. Dowding

Village Hall Committee; Cllr. Dunbar

Parish Transport Representative; Cllr. Gray

Youth Centre Management Committee; Cllr. Dowding

Bampton Exhibition Foundation; Cllr. Hawkins and Mrs B Sapsford

Planning Committee; Cllr. Gray, Cllr. Allinson, Cllr. Hawkins, Cllr. Norman, Cllr. Landray, Cllr. Millar

Sports Liaison Committee; Cllr. Gray, Cllr. Hawkins, Cllr. Dunbar

Bush Club Representative; Cllr. Dowding

RAF Brize Norton Liaison; Cllr. Allinson

Highways, Town Hall, Market Square, War Memorial; Cllr. Radband, Cllr. Millar

Flooding; Cllr. Hawkins

Affordable Housing; Cllr. Allinson

Playgrounds; Cllr. Pitt

Cemetery; Cllr. Radband

NAG; Cllr. Gray, Cllr. Radband

Projects; Cllr. Landray

Recreation Ground; Cllr. Dunbar

Nomination to the Bampton C of E

School Board of Governors; Cllr. Dowding

Dowding

Mercury Close Playing Field

By Anna Pitt

Good News!

We have now raised sufficient funds to go ahead with the project to install new play equipment.

Bampton Parish Council has put aside £8250 towards the project, and we have received a grant for £11,000 from West Oxfordshire District Council and £4,000 from Bampton Community Shop.

We have also been supported by the Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment with funding of £20,000 from the Waste Recycling Group.

I will very soon be finalising the design using the information I have from the questionnaires in *The Bampton Beam* last year and the fantastic workshop at Bampton Primary School last summer.

Thank you to all those who have written in support of the park, written with suggestions, returned questionnaires (that was mainly children), participated in the workshop or gave me their thoughts and comments directly.

This has all helped in my quest to raise funds. I look forward to the final stage of this project which is to get the new equipment in.

Well done Anna...and the Parish Council.

And a big thank you to all of the fund providers. Ed.

VERY IMPORTANT NOTICE TO DOG OWNERS

Dogs on leads at the Recreation Field.

Due to the continual fouling of the grassed pitch areas (soccer and cricket) by dogs, the Trustees of the Recreation Field have reluctantly decided that all dogs must be on a lead within the grassed pitch areas. Dog owners/dog walkers may let their dogs off the lead in the wooded area in to tin the south/east corner of the park.

Every one is reminded that the Recreation Ground is **NOT** common ground, but belongs to Bampton through the stewardship of the Trustees who are Bampton Parish Councillors. Dog owners/walkers are required to clean up after their animals. There are a dog waste bin near to the Pavilion.

The Recreation Ground is a super village facility – Let us all enjoy it. Alan Dunbar, Parish Councillor.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

22nd April, Village Hall

The following are the salient points from the various reports:

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY:

OXFORD FLOOD PROTECTION
The Environment Agency advised that there were two different schemes to address the problems in the Botley area of Oxford. The first was building a channel to bypass Botley, at an estimated cost of £100Million. They then showed a map of an area where they are looking to store water in the event that further flood protection is needed. This would expand the area of the flood plain in essence around the Shiford, Cote and Chimney areas.

The EA stressed that this was work very much in progress, and they didn't expect the channel to be approved any time soon. Also, the expansion of the flood plain was probably decades away and would to a large extent depend on whether flooding frequency increased with climate change. It was noted that Bampton would not be impacted by the projects, and indeed, if the channel were to be built it would probably allow water to drain away more quickly from the area, which would perhaps lessen the flooding problems suffered by the village.

RAF BRIZE NORTON up date on Project Catara.

Centralised Air Transport and Air-to-Air Refuelling Assets

Following the Armed Forces Strategic Review, a number of efficiencies were identified to increase the effectiveness of our operations and to secure the long-term future of our core RAF sites. One such efficiency was to combine the Air Transport (AT) and Air Re-fuelling (AAR) fleets at a single centre of excellence. After a period of consultation and investigation, it was decided that RAF Brize Norton would be developed into the core AT and AAR station and that RAF Lyneham's aircraft assets would relocate by 2012. Following this decision, a joint team was established combining HQ Air Cmd (HQ Air) staff officers and specialist personnel from Defence Estates (DE).

Since the announcement that Lyne-

ham was to become surplus to HQ Air's requirements, the team has been refining the RAF's future plan for RAF Brize Norton and preparing for the introduction into service of new aircraft such as the Future Strategic Tanker Aircraft (FSTA) and A400M, to replace the ageing VC10, Tristar and C130K aircraft. Whilst the final plan for RAF Brize Norton has yet to be confirmed, it is certain that a concentrated period of construction will follow in preparation for the new aircraft fleets and the arrival of their Support Units from RAF Lyneham. However a word of caution...

As you would expect, rumours are rife about the scope of the CATARA project. Whilst planning and consultation remain ongoing, the level of investment and infrastructure required for the Station to fulfil its new role is yet to be finalised and even those Sections and Wings that have been identified as core to the Station's output, have yet to have their final location determined.

Likewise, Programme CATARA is responsible for providing the infrastructure solutions only, not new equipment. This remains the responsibility of the equipment Integrated Project Teams (IPTs) who will introduce new equipment and training where the requirement and funding exists. That said, where new equipment requires specialist accommodation, Programme CATARA will work alongside the equipment IPTs to ensure that new buildings are designed to efficiently incorporate the new equipment and its supporting elements.

ASP (Aircraft Servicing Platform)
Twelve new and six replacement Aircraft Service Platforms (ASPs) will be constructed as part of the project to allow parking for the new A400M, FSTA Fleet and the C130Js transferred from Lyneham. The new ASP will provide the capability for on-stand refuelling, de-fuelling and ground power. Phase Two and Three of the project have commenced and all work should be completed by

October this year.

Other Projects

- Service Families Accommodation (SFA)
- C130J and 400M Simulators
- C130J Sqn Facilities
- Engineering Facilities
- Passenger Facilities
- Cargo Facilities

Completed Projects

- Runway Resurfacing & Upgrades to airfield lighting
- HV Utilities: Gas

It is going to a busy time, for some time, and the Base!

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

by Fred Gray

Change of Chairman

The makeup of the PC has not changed but Jacky Allinson decided not to continue as Chairman at the Annual Parish Council Meeting last May, and I was asked to take on the job, which I was very pleased and honoured to do. This was Jacky's second spell as Chairman and she did an excellent job both times. Our thanks to her for her efforts as Chairman, and the continued effort she puts in to this day on the Council.

Planning Applications

The Council reviews all planning applications relevant to the Parish and sends its comments to the planners at WODC. Since April 2008 we have reviewed around 40 applications, compared to around 50 in the previous 12 months. Perhaps significantly, in these times, we have reviewed only 4 applications in the first quarter of the year, compared to 16 during the same period in 2008.

Recently we reviewed the 'Core Strategy So Far', and the 'Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment' prepared by WODC. Overall it would appear that Bampton will be protected for some time from any major housing developments, and the reply sent to WODC from Ralph Norman on the 'Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment' essentially covers all I want to say on the issue:

"With respect to the SHLAA, we agree entirely with the housing assessment for Bampton and the conclusion that only the New Road site has potential for a small development for local needs, provided the problems with flooding, sewage and infrastructure can be addressed. We also feel

that any large scale development in Carterton presents a very real risk of flooding for the downstream villages, and so flood attenuation must be the top priority in all cases."

Roads

We continue to liaise with OCC in order to improve our roads in and around the Village. One of the main issues of interest to most in the Village is the Station Road chicane. It has now been agreed with OCC that the existing chicane will be removed, and a new design installed slightly farther out of the Village. The work to install it should start soon, but to date we have not heard of a firm start date. You will be aware that an 18T weight limit was imposed on the Buckland Road when OCC had to restrict HGVs transiting Newbridge at Standlake. This weight limit was imposed on the basis of Tadpole Bridge not being strong enough for HGV traffic. Subsequent to a review the bridge was declared strong enough for HGVs and the weight limit therefore became illegal, and OCC plans to remove the sign - although for some reason they have recently installed new signs at the bridge!

The PC made representation to OCC on the issue requesting that some sort of restriction be maintained on HGVs on the Buckland Road, otherwise the road could become a rat run for them given the Newbridge problem. However, conscious of the impact such a weight limit could have on local businesses, the PC requested access rights for our local traders, farmers, etc. To date this is still in discussion, with OCC officers at the moment apparently refusing to agree to allow access rights for local businesses.

Youth Centre & Bush Club

Various discussions have taken place between the relevant parties on the move of the Bush Club to the Youth Centre. However, no firm decisions have been made, and again Don Seale has been asked to intervene, and to organise a new series of meetings to look at options.

Options looked at to date, but not in a great deal of detail, include moving the Weightlifters to a new building at the Pavilion, or moving the Bush Club to the Pavilion. In the meantime, because of some H&S issues with the Youth Centre building, the Youth

Club suspended operations in December. It is understood that a meeting is imminent between the Youth Centre Management Committee and the OCC Youth Support Services to try and iron out the H&S problems, and the PC is very keen to see the Youth Club re-start in the shortest possible time-frame.

Bampton Fire Station

Carterton keeps pushing to have its own fire station, which, if it happened, would mean the demise of either Bampton or Burford fire stations; or possibly both. The Parish Council continues to resist Carterton pressure on the issue, but clearly the availability of firemen in Bampton will be crucial in maintaining the Fire Station in the Village. Two things on our side are cost and benefit. It would cost quite a sum to build a fire station in Carterton - certainly well in excess of £1 Million it is understood; and there do not appear to be any benefits - a risk assessment carried out by the Fire Service a couple of years ago suggested this.

However, as said before, we must try and ensure that Bampton Fire Station is adequately staffed, since if it could not be sustained, we might lose it altogether.

Grass Cutting

After negotiations with OCC, the PC has taken over all of the grass cutting activities in the Parish. It is hoped that this will lead to better quality being achieved and a better looking environment.

Emergency Response Plan

The ERP was issued to all households and businesses in January. Last Saturday the PC held a Tabletop Exercise, facilitated by OCC and WODC, with the Police and Fire Service, to look at various emergency scenarios in the Village, with a view to determining if the ERP had to be modified. Various issues - none serious - were uncovered which will be the subject of an update of the Parish Council's own ERP. These included things like listing all facilities in the Village which could be used to house displaced Villagers on a temporary basis during an emergency, or to act as a C&CC if the Town Hall is out of action, callout lists, additional equipment needs - such as megaphones, etc.

It is believed that Bampton is the first

village in West Oxfordshire to have issued an ERP.

Risk Assessment

Subsequent to obtaining risk assessment software a Risk Assessment exercise was carried out. The exercise proved useful, but unfortunately the software gave some problems when interfacing with Windows Vista. The software does however contain a lot of very good information of risk issues, legislation etc, and from that aspect the exercise was very good. However, the PC has decided that it will develop its own risk register using Excel, and this will be done during the course of this year. Thereafter regular Risk Assessment exercises will be undertaken with a view to ensuring that risks are identified, eliminated if possible, and reduced and managed if not. And that adequate insurance is maintained.

Fly Posting

The Parish Council was asked to intervene in the standoff between the opposing groups on the fly posting issue. The Parish Council was aware that fly posting is illegal, and therefore advised the groups accordingly, and further advised that it would not, and could not adjudicate on the matter. The Parish Council did give advice to those groups who wished to put up posters as to how to go about it - get agreement from the asset owner, and then from either OCC or WODC - but warned that the asset owners - such as BT - would be very unlikely to agree. On this basis, the Parish Council decide to install three new notice boards at the Town Hall, and the bus stops in Broad Street and Bushey Row, and to replace the notice board at Emmies. This has been done.

Town Hall

The Town Hall is in need of repair and refurbishment. Ian Millar has identified the bits and pieces needing done - such as repair to the windows, replacing cupboards, knocking a door between the two chambers for ERP purposes, etc. Once funding has been found, the work will be carried out - probably in stages.

New Clerk to the Parish Council

Brenda Sapsford has advised the Council of her wish to retire - well semi-retire since she will remain with us to do the accounts for a while until she finally decides to call it a day.

After a recruitment exercise, Sarah Radband has been appointed Clerk designate to the Parish Council. After an appropriate handover period, she will assume the duties from Mrs Brenda Sapsford.

FLOODING REPORT

by David Hawkins

Nearly 2 years on from the July 2007 floods, we have seen the final reports from WODC and the Environmental Agency. Both are good reports and clearly list all the options for flood prevention projects for the village.

What we need now - is for WODC and EA to fund the feasibility studies for the major projects that they feel will be most beneficial to Bampton and then to work out a 5 year implementation plan.

What has been achieved?

- Desilting the Shillbrook for the first time in 30 years down to the Great Brook.
- Private projects by Weald residents to value of £7k on self help basis.
- Joint project WODC/Highways/Weald residents to construct an emergency outvent across "the Rouse" field off Primrose Lane.
- Continuation of the Bampton Flood Working Group meetings every 3 months to get updates and keep the pressure on WODC etc. Meetings attended by Brize Norton, Clanfield and Aston Parish Councils and Carterton Town Council Representatives.

LOCAL POLICE REPORT

PCSO's Sarah Holmes and Isabel Webb addressed the meeting, Isabel introducing herself, as she has recently taken over from PCSO Angela Alford. PCSO Sarah Holmes explained that covering Bampton area where now 4 PCSO's and 1 PC. They were split into 2 teams, covering shift patterns which changed every 3 weeks. This was to give the residents of Bampton and surrounding areas more police visibility. Over the last year there have been 154 incidents reported in Bampton.

PCSO Isabel Webb then explained that they had been active with the speed laser gun in Bampton. PCSO Angela Alford had been to the Buckland Road area and had issued 13 drivers with fixed penalty tickets. Bridge Street had shown 40 vehicles to be over 10% +2 speed and Broad

Street hadn't found any vehicles to be travelling over 30mph.

The speed device is put out on request of the Council when speeding complaints are made. Data is then gathered with the use of the laser guns to decide the next course of action.

RECREATION GROUND TRUST REPORT

The Charity Trustees are all members of the Parish Council and the aims of the Trust are to look after the recreational well being of the inhabitants of Bampton. The Trust owns the Recreation Ground in Pembroke Place, the Buckland Road Recreation Ground, pavilion and facilities, and Sandford's Field. The Charity has investments that provide some income and an income from the Pavilion, pitches and sports clubs that use the Buckland Road facility, but neither of these cover all the running costs each year so additionally the Parish Council gives a grant to the charity. This year that grant was £15000.

Major projects of late were the new storage shed, and the fencing put up to protect the playing fields from joy riders. Maintenance and repair work has also been carried out to the facilities to keep them in good condition. A number of people work very hard in support of this charity, particularly Alan Dunbar, Anna Pitt, and David Hawkins. However, I must mention Ray Willis the Pavilion Manager. Ray works tirelessly for the Recreation Ground, making sure it is kept in top class condition, and marketing the facilities. We would be very much worse off without his services.

And the place is very busy with archery, football, tennis, cricket, to name but a few of the activities going on. We have also been lucky to have Pauline Smith as our DPS or licensed officer. Having Pauline also makes the Pavilion more attractive for parties as licensed bars can be arranged through her.

For the future, the Cricket Club is keen to put in a 'real wicket' so that they can join a proper league. The Trustees have given their support for this. Around £20000 needs to be raised to put in the wicket, and the Cricket Club has started fund raising. Once in, it will take around £4000 per year to maintain the wicket, but the Cricket Club is confident that they

will be able to raise the funds for this. Funding of the Recreation Ground in general is being looked at given the reduction in interest rates where the Trust has felt the effect on reduced interest income. However, the Trust at the moment is in good shape and there is confidence that, with an upturn in world finances at some stage in the future, it will continue to remain in a healthy position in the future.

Finally, vandalism remains a concern. We hope we have stopped the joy riders on the sports fields, but we continue to have problems in the car park. Occasionally parts of the facility are damaged - such as the damage to the practise wall on the new storage building - and it is just to be hoped that the hooligans that do this sort of thing will see sense, take pride in the Recreation Ground, and help to look after it. We remain in hope!

NEW MERCURY CLOSE PLAYING FIELD UPDATE

by Anna Pitt

Now that Town Green status for the playing field has been rejected, the project to renew the facilities has begun. We have now received £11k of funding from West Oxfordshire District Council, grants from the Community Shop, and the Parish Council is contributing £8250 (in line with funding requirements for the WODC grant).

Application has also been made to TOE for a further £25k and a meeting to discuss the project has been held with them. They seemed to be very positive about the project.

Updated quotes for the work are to be obtained since the previous ones are over a year old, and then we await the TOE decision - which will hopefully be positive. If this proves to be the case, the whole project can be moved forward with the aim to complete it this year if at all possible.

If we don't, for any reason, get all of the money this year we plan to split the project so and do it in two stages.

BAMPTON EXHIBITION FOUNDATION

by Gerald Mills

Trustees; Gerald Mills, Chairman, Nicola Gardiner Treasurer, Janet van den Burgen Minutes Sec, Marion Dowding Bursaries, mDavid Pullman Building Advisor, David Lloyd Vicar, Ted

Baughman Parish council, David Hawkins Parish Council, Brenda Sapsford Parish Council.

It is the responsibility of the trustees to maintain the Old Grammar School and to provide bursaries to those with educational needs.

Income is from leasing the premises to Oxfordshire County Council for the Library; £4000 per annum.

Expenditure on repairs and maintenance in 2008: £3,907.00

Bursaries awarded for educational needs: £ 350.00

Expenditure in the previous year: £22,411.70

Bursaries awarded for educational needs: £ 1,125.00

The building has now been made basically safe for use, but much more needs to be done.

The scheme for repairs assuming the 1st floor is not in use is estimated at £46,000.00 and our Assets as at 31st December 2008 were £38,816.06 compared to £24,543.94 of the previous year. The increase in assets was mainly due to the performance of COIF investment fund before the credit crunch.

The first floor will remain out of use for the time being until the funding can be found to restore access, which will take into account the need of disabled persons. (approximately £100,000.)

This year the wall at the boundary of the property collapsed and had to be repaired at a cost of £800.00.

Last year Bampton Community Shop gave a generous grant for repairs to the upstairs windows, and this year a further grant has been made, enabling the Trust to proceed with phase 2 of the repairs, namely the windows along the left hand side of the school.

The Vesey Room is used by The Bampton Archive and Local Study Centre for exhibitions etc.

Unable to completely restore the whole building (approx £200,000) the Trustees continue to bring the building into the best possible state of repair, step by step, as finances allow.

We have a period of 3 years over which the status quo can be held, and then the Trustees will have to reconsider the options available.

BAMPTON WELFARE TRUST

History and purpose of the Trust

The Bampton Welfare Trust as we

know it today came into being on 6th November 1972. Trustees were appointed to administer and manage the eleven charities formerly known as The Bampton Consolidated Charities. The investments which now provide The Welfare Trust with an income were a result of bequests made during the 17th and 18th centuries, for the purpose of helping the poor of Bampton, Aston and Lew.

The Committee

There are 10 trustees;

1 ex-officio Trustee - The Vicar of Bampton - The Rev. David Lloyd

7 Nominative Trustees;

4 appointed by the PC of Bampton - Rosemary Colville, Matthew Perry, Janet Newman, Joan Haslam - 2 appointed by the PC of Aston - George Wiltshire, Gerald Mills - 1 appointed by the parish meeting of Lew - Mrs Ann Grinsell - 2 co-optive Trustees - Susan Phillips, Colin Rouse; Clerk - David Pullman

Distribution of Funds

The capital is invested in the COIF Charities Investment Fund and as at 31.12.08 was £115,342. Showing a decrease on the year of 25%. Income from these funds has increased by 16%.

The Trustees meet twice a year to distribute the interest which amounts to approximately £6000.00. The main distribution takes place in January/February. The Trustees meet again in June/July to make any additional payments that are required.

The main beneficiaries in January 2009 were:

Aston and Cote Primary School £500.00

Bampton Primary School £800.00

Aston and Cote Wednesday Club £150.00

Aston Parish Community Bus £200.00

Bampton Bush Club £200.00

A sum has been set aside to be determined at the summer meeting to help the Aston and Cote Playgroup with the erection of the new premises.

Since the last annual meeting £2,255.09 was spent by the Welfare Officer on 28 families or individual cases of need. A winter fuel payment was made to the elderly and chronic sick in Bampton.

The Trustees would like to thank Janet Newman for the caring and efficient way in which she carries out her duties as Welfare Officer and David Pullman for the time and trouble he takes over the financial matters and accounts.

BAMPTON COMMUNITY SHOP

LIMITED

by Fenella Gray

Yet again we have had a very good year and sales have been high even with the credit crunch going on. We are also very lucky to still have so many volunteers working their selected hours every week so in fact these days the shop runs itself. With the help of Patrick Constable as our shop manager the shop goes from strength to strength. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who gives their time and especially Patrick and Annie Grinsell for all the work that they do, which in turn makes my life less stressful. With all this hard work and especially not forgetting all the donations of items for the shop, we have managed this year, 2009 to have awarded £14,000.00 to the following:

Bampton Mother and Toddler Group, for equipment: £300.00

Bampton Town Football Club, towards refurbishment: £1000.00

The Parish Council, Mercury Court Playing Field: £2000.00

The Recreation Trust, for Pavilion Sound Project: £1500.00

Bampton Primary School, for ongoing projects: £1000.00

Bampton-in-the-Bush Cricket Club, for new equipment: £2000.00

Bampton Exhibition Foundation: £2000.00

Fiddles and Feet Dance and Music Group: £50.00

Bampton Youth Club, for Youth Leader: £1300.00

Bampton Community Archives: £750.00

Bampton Boxing Club: £200.00

St. Mary's Church, for ongoing refurbishment £ 200.00 and Bampton Methodist Chapel, for ongoing refurbishment: £200.00

Mill Green wall Project, towards cost of the new wall: £1500.00

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S

REPORT

by Don Seale

Finances.

The Council Tax increase has been held down to less than 4% at 3.75%. The unfavourable grant from Central Government has made it difficult to maintain all services unchanged without larger increase in Council Tax. We have practically "lost" the £5 million invested in Iceland and the low bank rate has meant that we have seen a reduction in interest payments.. All main services are in fact unaltered, with some improvements. Our policy is to continually damp down increases in spite of poor settlements, and we do these by constantly seeking efficiencies in the way we do business, and an example of this is the Shared Services System which is saving significant amounts of money each year. We are also imposing real savings of 5% per year.

Health and Vulnerable People

As far as the elderly and infirm are concerned, much work is being done to improve their lives, by council policy of providing help at home rather than in residential homes. Telecare has a place to play in this by allowing people to live independently in their own homes and be looked after by the intelligent use of information systems. A new system to enlarge the direct payments scheme has been piloted in Banbury in October last year which will give those who need support a budget to handle themselves to spend as they see fit. There are many problems to overcome in this especially with those with learning difficulties that may not be able to handle such a system, but overall the system is working well and is popular.

My main theme is the need for investment in preventative services, not just for those approaching imminent old age but amongst the 40 and 50 year olds. We must change from providing care after the aging individuals' health has deteriorated to ensuring that the effects of old age are delayed so that a healthy old age is enjoyed. If we fail to do this, the balance of old age and young with the increasing number of older people compared to young, will mean that we will not be able to afford to provide the help needed if they are ill or frail, as the young will be unable to generate enough money from taxes to support them. The problem succinctly, which is a nice one to have in one respect is that the survival

rate is increasing while the fertility rate is falling. This is a potentially disastrous state of affairs in the future unless we can prevent the old becoming a burden through our inability to prepare for old age. It would be quite wrong if the longevity of people is regarded as a burden rather than a blessing.

Road Safety and Speed Limits

This is a major problem as our roads become more congested and drivers become more frustrated. We are imposing speed limits on previously unrestricted roads (where we should remember the speed limit currently is 60mph) but many drivers ignore the limits.

The police are overstretched to impose the rules everywhere so we are left with humps, bumps and chicanes, which drivers hate, or flashing signs and speed cameras. One new try is to impose a 20mph limit in parts of Oxford. It will be interesting to see how this works and whether similar scheme can be extended to other towns and villages.

As far as the A361, which is a major road in our area, is concerned I recognise that many drivers are ignoring the speed limits and I have pressed the Council to install speed indicator devices and erect notices warning drivers that parts of the road are becoming an accident black spot and that care must be taken.

Planning and The Green Belt

County Council policy is to preserve the green belt around Oxford. I believe that once developers are let in that in time Oxford will spread to take -in Witney, Thame, Kidlington, Abingdon, Wallingford and the result will be huge conurbation similar in Milton Keynes. In their perceived need for more housing space, Oxford City wishes to "review" the Green belt policy. The County is resisting this. A worry over this is the Government intention is to supersede planning laws with a setting up of an Infrastructure Planning Commission, and a National Housing and Planning Advice Unit. These bodies will supersede local planning and may foist upon us large increases in housing numbers in the order of 46000 new houses a year.

Post Offices

The County Council regards post of-

fices as essential to the life of communities in our rural county. I am aware that the impact of the internet for correspondence, paying car tax, and TV licenses and soon have reduced the business of post offices but we are opposed to wholesale closures based purely on economic grounds and will fight to prevent any further closure. It is accepted that some rationalization must take place, for example carter ton had two post offices where one would suffice, but we regard the post offices in villages and rural communities as a service for which the Government must be prepared to afford. But we have no intention of taking on the post offices ourselves as it is beyond our means, and it is not our business or expertise. We have enough on our plate to provide the services that we do.

Having said that we in the village are our own worst enemies. We want the village shop to remain open we shop in the supermarkets. We want the village post office to remain open but we use the internet for TV license renewal, car tax payments and even for sending greetings cards, and we use the bank ATM for withdrawing money. If we do not use the post offices we will lose them.

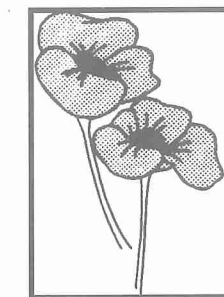
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To achieve these aims we need the largest possible membership. If you aren't a member

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Bampton Classical Opera

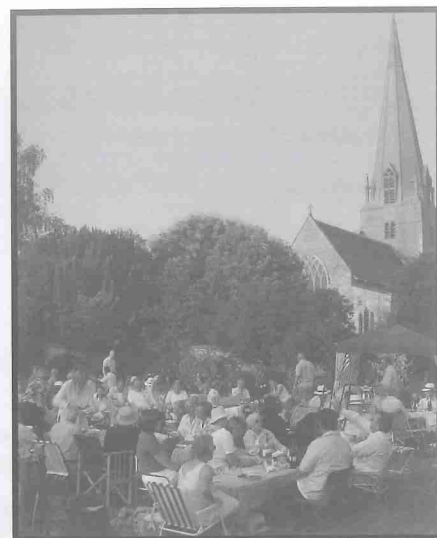
by Jeremy Gray

Le pescatrici

17th and 18th July

The Deanery Garden

(further performances at Westonbirt
on 30th August, and St John's Smith
Square, London on 17th September)
Bampton Classical Opera also per-
forms Gluck and Mozart at the Chel-
tenham Festival, 5th July, and the



Wigmore Hall, 24th July. Tickets
available from the Cotton Club, or tel.
01367 810769, or on-line at
www.bamptonopera.org.

In Haydn's hilarious *Le pescatrici*
(*The Fishergirls*) the chips are down
for the Italian fishing folk of Taranto:
their love lives have become - well - a
little vinegary, and Lesbina and
Nerina would like to hook a bigger
catch than their current boyfriends.
When the Prince of Sorrento surfaces,
seeking the lost heiress to his king-
dom, the ambitious girls swim hard to
escape the enclosing net of their
sour relationships.

But all that glitters is not a goldfish,
and when the unassuming Eurilda is
selected by the Prince, it's time for the
guts to fly and Lesbina and Nerina
receive a grilling from their men.
Happily no-one gets too battered - but
perhaps when all is finally wrapped
up the taste of tartare sauce lingers
on.....

Bampton Classical Opera has an unri-
valled reputation for breathing new
life into forgotten classics, and pre-
sents an outstanding cast in this en-
dearing *Cinderella-meets-Così fan
tutte* farce.

Set to delightful music by the most
elegant of 18th-century composers,
Bampton marks the 200th anniversary
of Haydn's death in the way that he
would have loved best – with humour
and wit.

Relaxed and accessible, and at very
reasonable prices compared to many
other opera companies, Bampton's
performances at the Deanery are al-
ways a treasured treat.

Special picnic hampers (possibly *not*
containing fish 'n chips) are available
from the Clanfield Tavern and com-
plete the enjoyment of an idyllic sum-
mer's evening.

As always the opera wouldn't get off
the ground but for the willing help of
Pauline Smith, Jacky Allinson,
Gaynor Cooper, Pat Smith, Margaret
Williams, Anthony Hall, Michael
Wareham and many others who make
costumes, build scenery, drive vans,
provide front-of-house and backstage
help.

Bampton Classical Opera is a remark-
able combination of local support
combined with some of the UK's fin-
est professional musicians. But we
would still welcome further help, es-
pecially with scenery, so if you feel
inclined to be associated with a local
organisation with a big reputation,
please do contact us (01993 851876) –
satisfaction and fun guaranteed!

Bampton Classical Opera frequently
appears at major venues elsewhere
and this season its very high status is
well demonstrated by invitations to
perform at two of the UK's most pres-
tigious: the Cheltenham Festival and
the Wigmore Hall, London.
For full details see
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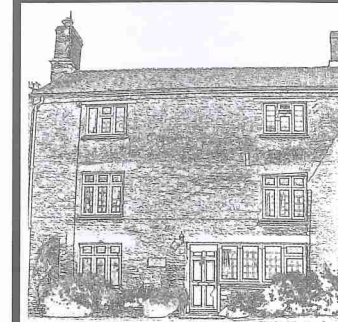
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This is a letter of thanks to the Village from the Armoured Support Group Royal Marine, RNAS Yeovilton, Ilchester. It is addressed to Mr Steve Radband but also includes thanks to the Village.

Dear Steve

I write to thank you for all the support you and all members of the local community have given to Jason's family and to the Royal Marines during the last few weeks. The assistance, efforts and time spent before, during and after the funeral of Jason is fully recognised and on behalf of the Armoured Support Group I wish to convey our gratitude. Without this support the members of the Armoured Support Group would have been unable to give the family the funeral befitting a Royal Marine who has made the ultimate sacrifice.

Every aspect of the funeral from start to finish was dealt with professionally and in a manner that enabled all other ranks of the Armoured Support Group to say goodbye properly to their fallen comrade. Consideration was also given to the emotions of the ranks involved in the ceremonial aspects, some of whom had recently returned from Afghanistan.

The time consideration and effort put in by you, Sarah and all members of the local community was considerable and I can assure you all ranks of the Armoured Support Group are extremely appreciative. I feel certain that Jason's memory will be cherished as much in his local community as it is by his comrades who had the honour of serving with him.

In conclusion, your contribution towards the funeral was first class and I thank you wholeheartedly.

Regards

K. Moss

Editor Madam!

Over recent editions of the Beam there has been mention of many old Bampton names and places. Several years ago I quoted some but I am prompted to add a few more and how those times affected me. As I said previously, with my school friend, George Bishop, we were often seen on Buckland Road on our way to see George's grandmother at the old Swan Inn. As throughout the Village in those days there were lovely families. I well re-

LETTERS AND E-MAILS TO THE EDITOR

call Mr & Mrs Dixey at Fishers Bridge; the Weston family, and Mr & Mrs Shepherd. Mr P Shepherd was a great character and his wife such a lovely refined lady. There was very little work in the Village in the 1930s. I did all kinds of jobs until September 1937 when I was offered a job as an errand boy at Eales & Son at the Central Stores. Twelve shillings and sixpence a week! I thought how wonderful to have a regular income. It was then I often called at Mr Dixey's to collect lettuce, cabbage, onions and other veg for the shop. Mr Dixey grew quite a variety in those days. Mrs Reynolds ran the old Post Office. At Xmas 1937 one of her postmen was retiring and she offered me the job, which I could fit in with my regular day's work – just a morning shift starting at 5am until 7.30am, which gave me an hour before starting at the shop. This also brought me in 12/6d per week. I did this for a year, but after being given a five-shilling fine at the shop I decided to call it a day. But I must say I thoroughly enjoyed it.

John Morton

Chippenham

Dear Editor

Grace (Ethel) Mansfield

Sadly we lost mum on 21st December last year. She finally succumbed to a chest infection after falling and breaking her hip in April last year at the age of 95 years.

Grace was born on 14th April 1913 at Sparsholt, Wantage. As a youngster, she moved from village to village with her parents and 7 brothers and sisters, as her father looked for work on local farms. At 12 years old she lost her mother and helped raise her brothers and sisters. 2 years later her father died and Grace and two of her brothers went to work for a vicar's family on the Isle of Wight.

She married her husband Bill (William Mansfield) in 1936. They lived first in Buckland, then during the war years in Aston where they had a succession of soldiers and evacuees to stay, many of whom remained Grace's friends until she died – she

would still recall many stories of those years to us all. Grace and Bill had 4 daughters; 3 still live in Bampton today.

In 1948 the family moved to Bampton and Grace became a housemaid at Weald manor. She worked for the Colviles for many years and made many good friends.

She was an active member of Bampton Womens British Legion and supported local charities. In later life she enjoyed going to the Bush Club with her many local friends.

Grace's husband Bill died in 1989, then the youngest daughter Tina died of cancer in 2001.

She was a wonderful mother and grandmother, her family being the most important part of her life. She left 3 daughters, 8 grandchildren, 15 great grandchildren, and 4 great-great grandchildren.

Dear Editor

Many thanks for your kind letter and The Bampton Beam. It is a real pleasure to read all the news in the Beam except all the friend's names who have passed away which was very sad for me. Was a very good photo and prize winning news on the "LOO". Every page of the Beam is interesting for me and I love it all! Don't know why I had to leave Bampton and retire from a wonderful life there!

The Beam certainly helps to remind me of the many friends, and memories of helping the Royal British Legion too.

My new life in Alderholt is very interesting and not many days I'm not going out and about. Must say my sincere thanks for taking the trouble to send me the 'BEAM'. Keep up the good work Editor.

Yours sincerely

Joan Keyte

Dear Editor,

One of our Bampton Environmental Watch Group members has recently sent us this report:

'I love walking and really appreciate Bampton's many footpaths. However, one particular walk down the track beyond Ham Court has been interrupted 4 or 5 times on Saturday afternoons in the winter. I have walked almost to the end of the track before finding people shooting all around, and across the footpath.

They have been friendly and asked me to wait a few minutes while they finish shooting and then allowed me to follow the footpath across to the little wooden bridge.

I wondered if warning signs could be put out when people are going to shoot near a footpath, because if I had known that they were shooting there, I would have walked somewhere else.' BEWG has contacted the Footpaths Officer, and the advice is as follows: Shooting must take place at least 50 ft. from a highway or byway where there are vehicles.

Footpaths cannot be closed.

Once shooting has started, it cannot be stopped.

There is no law governing this practice. (Amazingly).

All that can be done is for walkers and shooters to be aware of best practice and health and safety.

In conclusion, it would seem sensible for warning notices to be placed out before the shoot starts by those responsible for organizing it.

Sally Proctor, Secretary, BEWG.

Dear Editor

Youth Centre and Bush Centre

It is excellent news that the Oxfordshire County Council has managed to be successful in applying for a Government Grant of £658,000, which, added to the £250,000 already provided to develop the Old School, will mean that approximately £900,000 must be spent renovating the building before September 1st 2011.

We are all delighted that these two groups which serve the community can remain in the centre of Bampton, which is so important to their membership. The County Council has formed a group consisting of members of both communities, as well as the weightlifters and the Parish Council to make sure suggested plans meet everyone's requirements. There are many issues to be dealt with, such as access to Sandfords Field, the current position of the Youth Club, the heating of

the Old School, as well as ensuring that the Bush Club and all its other tenants who use the site are accommodated. It will be a community asset for all ages and groups.

The Youth Centre Management Committee itself now needs new, younger, enthusiastic members and asks you to join this very worthwhile group. Roger Snow has volunteered to coordinate replies to this article. Please contact Roger Tel: 01993 851113 if you wish to volunteer or if you have any suggestions about new members or the proposed plans.

The Bush Club, which is run entirely by volunteers as a weekly Day Centre for the elderly from Bampton and the surrounding villages, also needs more helpers and is happy to welcome them.

Jonathan Phillips, Chairman Youth Centre Management Committee
Rosemary Pelham, Chairman Bush Centre Executive Committee

Bampton Fair

by V Elward

In August the fair comes to Bampton Streets

Roundabouts, bumper cars, candy floss, sweets,

Hot dogs with onions, beef burgers too,

Chips, humbugs, coconut ice, all made to tempt you.

But it's not like the old days when horses were sold,

Gypsies buying and selling with sovereigns of gold.

No cheque book or bank cards were used in those days,

It was cash in the hand, that's how they paid.

Now, there's only the rides, the side-shows and stalls,

The one-armed bandits and rolling the balls.

You might win a coconut, or fish in a bag,

But for the money you spend you know you've been had.

Bampton Fair 13th, 14th, 15th August

Don't forget Bampton Fair will be in the Market Square and High Street from lunchtime Wednesday until Saturday evening. It would be very much appreciated if the Market Square and High Street are kept clear of cars and other vehicles during this time.

The prizes are trashy and not worth a cent.

But despite everything, you feel glad that you went.

The fair stays three days, and late the third night

All is packed to move off at daylight. Streets must be swept, all litter be cleared.

Good-bye Bampton Fair, see you next year.

Ode to Solar Panels

Marl and Roger have always worked well as a team

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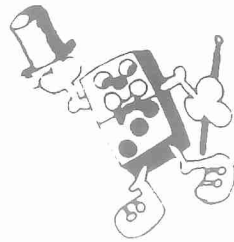
And are so pleased with the result they give them 3 cheers!

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Hypnotherapy at Bampton Physiotherapy & Associates

by Pippa Shay

Bampton Physiotherapy and Associ-
ates do quite a bit
more than Physio-
therapy.

As well as sorting
out people's bodies,
we can fix minds
too. That's every-
thing from being a
bit stressed to a full-
on phobia or re-
living memories
from the past –
things like post-
traumatic stress dis-
order. Minds are my
thing.

I'm a Hypnothera-
pist and Psycho-
therapist. So what
does this mean?

One easy way of
explaining is to tell
you a bit about what



Pippa Shay

hypnosis is. And it's not about being
turned into
a chicken!
It's actually
something
that you do
to yourself
every day
without
realising it.
Are there
times when
you're driv-
ing a famil-
iar route,
only to
have no
recollection
of doing it?
Or mo-
ments when
you are so
focused on
a TV pro-

gramme, you're emotionally involved
with the characters?

Or you're daydreaming about some-
thing wonderful?

Or you get really scared before public
speaking or an exam?

That's hypnosis – a narrowed focus of
attention, either internally or exter-
nally. And you've probably used it in
positive and not so positive ways.

One thing is for sure – you can use
hypnosis to change the way you think
and feel about life, to overcome all
sorts of problems and to realise your
potential.

Yes – you've probably seen the stage
show where people do crazy things,
but they're just there to have fun.
Hypnosis is like a motorcycle – you
can use it to do stunts and entertain
people, or you can use it as a Para-
medic, to save someone's life.

It's a brilliant way of working with
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Michelle Smith	Reflexologist
Pippa Shay	Hypnotherapist
Belinda Billinge	Foot Health Care
Amanda Edlin	Sports Massage
Natalie Webb	Aromatherapist

Tel: 01993 851753

Fax: 05600 754116

bamptonphysio@btconnect.com
www.bampton-physiotherapy.co.uk

Your Methodist Church needs.....just a little bit of YOU!

By Philip Shaw, Senior Steward
Some time ago I gave an update on the activities of a small village group called 'the Methodists'. In part, I mentioned that our Monday 'Drop-In' lunch club, whose motto has always been "eat what you like - give what you feel", has now been established over 10 years. Also that our kitchen, (from which we serve 25 - 30 meals and was put in by volunteers some twenty years ago), is in need of complete renovation.

NOTICE BOARD

So we decided to build a new kitchen, meeting room, store and toilet, on to the rear of the Chapel, along with some essential renovations to the existing building including improved disabled facilities. (The last 'new build' project was in 1891!) Having already spent over £ 6,000 in achieving planning consent and reaching this stage; we now find that the lowest tender received (including VAT and the Architect's fees) is for £136,600 which is well above the

original estimate. We have already raised just over £ 100,000 in terms of cash in hand, promises from private individuals, and sums offered from within the Methodist organisation itself.

If you would like to assist this project towards a successful conclusion then please send your donation, no matter how small, to: The Treasurer, Bampton Methodist Church, c/o Fair Acres, Buckland Road, Bampton. OX18 2AA.

Bampton & Burford Children's Centre

Stay 'n' Play session with baby clinic

Fun play opportunities for the under 5s and their parents/carers. Also, Health Visitor run baby clinic where you can weight your baby and get advice.

Where: Bampton Village Hall
When: Every Monday 9.30am-11.30am

Toy library, alongside the Mother & Toddler Group

Free toy library. Parents who register can select up to three toys which can be borrowed for three weeks and then returned at the next toy library session.

Where: Bampton Village Hall
When: Every 3 weeks on Thursday 10.00am-11.30am

Stay 'n' Play session with baby clinic

Fun play opportunities for the under 5s and their parents/carers. Also, Health Visitor run baby clinic where you can weight your baby and get advice.

Where: Bampton Pavilion
When: Every Monday 9.30am-11.30am

May Garlands Winners

1st Rebecca Chatwell and Sarah Ader

2nd Dyllon and Jesse Neatham

3rd Esme Fisher and Orla Powell

Mrs Ruth Wheeler would like to thank Mrs Rosie Sweetingham and Mrs Rosie Gerring for yet again sponsoring the Garland competition. Also Ruth would like to thank Mrs Dawn Knight who presented the trophy to the winners. Everyone who enters receives a prize, so next year lets see a few more garlands around the village

NOTICE BOARD

once more. Many congratulations to the three entries - well done!

Makers are you Interested?

Do you knit, sew, weave, embroider, quilt, felt?

Would you like to meet socially with other kindred spirits for a chat and coffee?

A new coffee and fibre group has started in Bampton. We meet at The Coffee House, Market Square, Bampton every Tuesday afternoon between 2pm and 3.30pm.

For more information contact **Lyn Tel: 01993 704276** or **Jackie Tel 01993 850760** or just turn up!

Cancer Research UK

Bampton Branch Events for 2009

19th September, Autumn Sale, Village Hall

18th November, Pre-Christmas Bingo, Village Hall

20th November, Quiz Night, Village Hall

18th December, Country & Western Dance, Social Centre, Carterton

For more information contact Doris or Michael Cleaver: Tel: 01993 850682

The Bampton Bush Club

Wednesdays 9.45am - 2.00pm 43 weeks of the year.

The Bush Club has now been in operation for over 20 years and we believe that the opportunity it provides for the older people of the area to meet and have a freshly cooked mid-day meal is greatly appreciated, particularly by those who, otherwise, are rarely able to leave their own homes. On most days talks, demonstrations, activities, entertainment or outings are arranged.

We are able to keep the charge to our members at a very low level only because of the Volunteers who give their time free of charge as Helpers, Cooks and Drivers.

Many of the Volunteers have been giving their services since the early days and are, in a number of cases, as old as, or older, than some of the members!

With the passage of time some of the Volunteers have died and others have had to cease their involvement; and the club is having difficulty in finding younger people to fill their

places.

Are you able to help in any of the following roles please?

General Helpers - normally assist alternate weeks 9.30 am - 2pm

Cooks - approximately once a month 10am - 1pm

Kitchen Assistants - approximately once a month 10am - 1pm

Lunchtime washing up - alternate weeks 12noon - 1pm

Drivers - alternate weeks either mornings or afternoons

If you are willing help please contact: **Fenella Gray Tel: 01993 851653** or **Veronica Baker Tel: 01993 851040.**

Bampton Junior Church

The children from Bampton School and the village are welcomed to Bampton Junior Church on a Sunday morning. We run from 10.45am - 11.25am in the Bush Centre. At 11.25am we march back up to church where we join the congregation for drinks. BJC runs every Sunday except for the third Sunday in the month when it is family service.

Dial-a-Ride

The Dial-a-Ride service is a door to door minibus service for those who are unable to use or find it difficult to use public transport, such as elderly or disabled people. Drivers are trained to administer first aid and to assist wheelchair users and people with mobility problems.

The Dial-a-Ride service is available between 9.00am and 5.00pm, Monday to Friday. For more details about the service including cost, what areas are covered and what type of journey the service can be used for, contact **Tel: 01865 876176.**

Bampton Drop-In

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

Don't suffer those Monday blues. When you've done your washing up don't just put your feet up with a cup of tea.

Instead, why not come and join us at this local facility for a very reasonably priced lunch, where you will be served by a dedicated band of country cooks.

Bampton Bus Services

By Fred Gray, Bampton Parish Council

Subsequent to some complaints by residents that the buses were failing to stop on occasions when hailed, the issue was raised with the Oxfordshire County Council. To our surprise we were advised that the services were not designated as 'Hail & Ride' in the contract, the surprise being that it was always understood that the services were 'Hail & Ride', and indeed when Thames Travel ran the services they indeed were.

The Parish Council have therefore undertaken to request OCC to tender the next contract as 'Hail & Ride' and in the meantime have had a meeting with the present operator Stagecoach to discuss the issue.

Stagecoach advised that they de facto run a 'Hail & Ride' service where they advise their drivers to stop when hailed anywhere in the Village. However, Stagecoach has requested the assistance of the Villagers to ensure that the services maintain punctuality, and that they can stop in relative safety when hailed. They have requested Villagers to adhere where possible to the following:

- Use the designated bus stops where possible - these are in the Market Square, Broad Street, Bushey Row, and Bridge Street close to the Horse Shoe.
- Elsewhere, try and ensure that the buses can stop with relative safety - i.e. don't stop them on corners, tight bends, etc.
- Where more than one person or groups are in the same vicinity, join together so that the bus only has to stop once - since this will help a lot with schedule maintenance.

Stagecoach stress that their aim is to provide an efficient, effective, and safe service, and that not picking up passengers is not financially attractive to them! So, please do try and stick to the protocol above, but if you have problems, please let me know - email: fred.gray@bamptonoxon-parishcouncil.gov.uk - and I will discuss the problem with Stagecoach.

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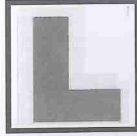
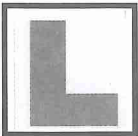
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You can enjoy a warming bowl of home-made soup, something on toast or a cheesy baked potato, followed by home-made cake, cheese and biscuits, tea and coffee. So come along and enjoy this friendly informal gathering.

Old Birthday Cards

Lizann still needs your old cards after you have enjoyed them, so that she can recycle them into re-saleable items. Please continue to leave them at 3 Broad Street or The Vesey Room and also the Cotton Club - where they are for sale.

Clanfield Baby and Toddler Group

Wednesdays, 9.30am - 11.30am (term time only) at the Carter Institute, Clanfield.

We are a group of mums and carers from Clanfield and other villages who meet every week for crafts, games, singing and trips.

Our children range from bumps to age 4.

If you and your children are looking to make new friends, play or just get out of the house on a Wednesday morning, please come and join us! We would love to see you.

Contact **Kayleigh Tel: 07765 462042** for more information.

BAMPTON GARDEN CLUB

Annual Show

Bampton Village Hall Saturday 29th August

**Entries 9am - 11am
Opening Afternoon 3pm
Refreshments - Raffle
Entrance 50p**

Entry Forms page 29 and from

**Patrick Strainge,
Post Office and Emmie's.
For more information**

**contact
Fenella Gray 01993 851653
fenellagray@btinternet.com**

NOTICE BOARD

The Bampton Business Breakfast Club (BBBC)

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 11th August at 7.30am.

We meet at The Romany Inn and breakfast served at a cost of £5.50 per head. All business owners welcome, To book contact Fiona Farmer Tel: 01993 851753 or email bamptonphysio@btconnect.com

All Bampton Pubs/Clubs

Interested in entering a team into a NEW Witney & District Monday Night Quiz League?

Please

Contact James Carr
Tel: 01865 712028

E-mail:

thebonzodog08@yahoo.co.uk

website:

www.oxfordshire-quiz-league.co.uk

Open to all pubs/clubs within a

7 mile radius of Witney.

All matches take place

Monday Evening -

8.30pm - 10.45pm

For teams of up to

5 players/6 players competitions
League also incorporates various
Table-Top Competitions including
Football, Films, Sport, TV, Rock &
Pop Quiz, USA Quiz etc.

BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL

Volunteers Wanted

This will be my 6th year as Poppy Organiser and each year there have been fewer and fewer people able to help with the collecting for a variety of reasons. I am so grateful for all the work they have done in the past - so many volunteers have numerous years of service it is quite remarkable. If anyone would like to help with this year's appeal I would be so grateful. There are a few roads in Bampton that I do not have collectors for, and I also have some spaces to fill for the collections outside Budgens on the Friday and Saturday before Remembrance Sunday.

So if you have a couple of spare hours in late October early November please give me a call:

**Lynn Shuker
Tel: 01993 210015**

WARNING

Thames Valley Police have responded to several calls regarding youths climbing over the territorial unit roofs behind the Youth Centre. Please be aware that these roofs are not safe and that there is a very high possibility that someone could be seriously hurt. Please could parents or guardians make their young people aware of the dangers.

Many thanks. PCSO Isabel Webb

Bampton Welfare Trust

Charity No. 202735

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

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

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

Clerk to the Trustees: Mr D Pullman, Mill Green Cottage, Bampton, Tel: 01993 850589. **Welfare Officer:** Mrs J Newman, Leofric House, 81 New Road, Bampton., Tel: 01993 850755

The next Trustees Meeting at which applications will be considered will take place on 19 January. If you would like to apply for a grant for the first time, please contact Susan Phillips Tel: 01993 850321 for an application form.

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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.

Bampton Environmental Watch Group

By Ralph Norman, Chairman



In March we held our AGM. The existing officers were re-elected (Chairman: Ralph Norman; Vice-chairman: Helene Grygar; Hon Treasurer: Martyn Bishop; Hon Secretary: Sally Proctor). The other members of the committee were also re-elected except we were sorry to lose Jo Lewington (who decided to stand down due to other commitments) but we were glad to welcome Wendy Nicholls as a new committee member. Dr Alan Cole gave an excellent illustrated talk about Antarctica. In April we held our first open meeting of the year, which was a well attended and enjoyed talk by Hannah Jones about the Oxford Local Studies Centre. Future open meetings will be a talk on bees on 31 July and a talk on the history of Oxford Castle on 30 October. Open meetings are held in the Village Hall starting at 8:00pm All are welcome, with attendance free for members, £2 for non-members.

The 18 tonne restriction on Tadpole Bridge has now been removed. It is hoped that it will soon be replaced with a 7.5 tonne environmental restriction on Buckland Road, High Street, part of Aston Road and other adjacent minor roads. The sticking point at the moment is access for local businesses. The Parish Council have put forward a proposal to the County Council for a permit scheme that would achieve this; OCC's response is awaited.

Following the initial consultations that WODC held during the latter half of 2008, it would appear that the sites put forward by developers and landowners for Bampton are in the main unacceptable. Only the Bush Club site and a small part of the New Road site are thought to hold any merit. Publication for consultation of sites across West Oxfordshire that WODC believe worthy of consideration, is the next stage of the Local Development Framework (LDF). Information on the current status of the LDF may be found on the WODC website.

Discussions and proposals from OCC continue on the redevelopment of the Bush Club site. There is still no agreement on an acceptable solution. There is also still no news on the awaited publication by OCC of a short list of mineral extraction sites. A slightly revised position, for OCC's proposed replacement of the Station Road chicane with a single sided pinch point, was agreed a while ago, following discussions with local residents and the parish council, but its construction is now long overdue. The new pinch point will be positioned further out of Bampton than the existing chicane that it will replace. If you would like to know more about BEWG or would like to join us please contact the Membership Secretary (Ann Norman) on 850823, or email bewg@sagaman.co.uk. You can also see our entry on the Bampton web site at www.bamptonoxon.co.uk/bewg.html

The Market Square Flower Tubs

By Ian Millar

The untimely death last year of Julian Johnson deprived the village of one of its major benefactors. Over the last few years, Julian had not only been the driving force behind the provision of the attractive flower tubs that adorn the Market Square, but had made it his job to maintain them; watering them daily, and changing the plants by season.

During last year the Parish Council undertook these tasks, but now, thanks to donations that have been made by local businesses, a far better job can be made of it. Additionally, local resident Diana Alcock has brought a gardener's perspective to the re-stocking of the tubs, and we are hopeful that they will soon be seen again in their full glory, and be a fitting tribute to the memory of Julian.

We wish to record our thanks, not only to Mrs Alcock, but also to Budgens, The Cotton Club, Patrick Strainge, The Bampton Coffee House, The Community Shop, The Talbot Hotel, Harrison's Solicitors, The Post Office, Spring Hair and Beauty, Mark's Kitchen, Thornberry Residents, The Earl of Donoughmore and Emmie's Newsagents, who have all kindly joined with the Parish Council in helping to fund the project.

Easykart British Championships

By Patrick Lay

This year I am competing in the Junior Easykart National Karting Championship. There are eight rounds at circuits all over the UK from Dorset to Norfolk and as far north as the Lake District. The Championship uses one make karts and the driver can only have one engine and limited modifications, so in turn this offers some of the closest and toughest racing in the country; as only 0.3 of a second is the difference in lap time between finishing first and twelfth.

After having successfully won the opening round in March, at Whilton Mill, Daventry, I gained a 3 point lead in the Championship. However, my luck changed for the better at the Llandow circuit in Wales, as after having come from 16th to 3rd in the Final, I was left in joint lead of the Championship. Round 3 was going to be the make or break of the season and on the 31st May, I made the break.



After a win in the Pre-Final, I finished second in the Final. This was good enough to allow me to lead the championship by 14 points.

At the end of the year, the top five drivers in the Championship standings go to the World Finals in Sienna, Italy to compete for the UK team. This is an event which I am hoping to compete in as it is where the top five drivers from over twenty-five countries compete against each other. I am still however, looking for sponsorship to aid my progress in this season's racing. Packages start from £150 and expire on 31st December 2009. The sponsor will receive advertising on my kart and suit, which gains media interest across national magazines,

internet and newspapers.

My email address is: patrick14e@hotmail.co.uk and my telephone number (day/evening) is 01993 851621.

The 'Beam Team' would like to wish Patrick every success in the championships, and hopefully he will make the World Finals in Italy. Do we have Lewis Hamilton or Jensen Button of the future here in Bampton?

More opportunities to meet the Play Rangers

With the lighter evenings and warmer weather on its way, children in West Oxfordshire now have more opportunities to meet the district's 'Play Rangers' and get active outdoors. The project, which aims to encourage children and young people to play outdoors and make the most of their local parks, is celebrating its first anniversary this month (April) and has recently expanded to cover more areas of the district. Equipped with bucket loads of fun items, from face paints to footballs, Play Rangers Helen Morrison and Mark Excell visit the following locations every week between 3.30pm and 6pm to hold sessions for 5 to 16-year-olds:

- **Middle Barton:** Recreation Ground, Worton Road, every Monday
- **Carterton:** Trefoil Way play area, Shilton Park, every Tuesday
- **Stonesfield:** Recreation Ground, Field Close, every Wednesday
- **Chipping Norton:** New Street Recreation Ground every Thursday

The Play Rangers project was set up after West Oxfordshire District Council secured funding from the Big Lottery Fund (BLF). It is managed by Oxfordshire Play Association and funding also comes from Oxfordshire County Council. All sessions are free and children can come and go as they please. Children under 5 must be accompanied by an adult. Parents should be aware that the Play Rangers are not responsible for children who attend, but are there to help them use their own imagination and have fun creating activities. Anyone wanting more information about the Play Rangers should call 07515 191724 or visit www.oxonplay.org.uk/playrangers.



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OUT AND ABOUT



The Great Annual Shirt Race : Young and Old(er)!



The Judging - A Difficult Job!



The Race - Great Crowds

The race winners were:
Seniors: William Money & Monty Green
Intermediate: James Booty and Richard Stevens
Juniors: Olivia Batho & Katy Hearn
Oldest Pair Lynne and Martin Barber with a combined age of 117 years!
Winners of the Seniors Fancy Dress was 'Bampton's Loos'!

OUT AND ABOUT

The May Garlands



May Garlands
Winners
1st Rebecca Chatwell and Sarah Ader
2nd Dyllon and Jesse Neatham
3rd Esme Fisher and Orla Powell



*The Morris Men
Another fabulous weekend in Bampton*

THE BAMPTON RECREATION GROUND

Buckland Road, Bampton.

Keep your kids active this summer

From scuba diving to street dance and yoga, a range of activities will be running at West Oxfordshire District Council's leisure centres for children during the summer holidays.

Discounted entry to some of the leisure centre facilities will also be on offer, with swimming sessions and racquet sports for just £1.

Different activities will be available at Carterton, Chipping Norton, The Windrush in Witney and Bartholomew Sports Centre, Eynsham. A Summer Holiday Activities leaflet can be viewed online via www.westoxon.gov.uk/activities or residents can contact their local leisure centre for more information.

Some of the activities that will be running include:

The popular Camp Windrush holiday playscheme for 5-11 year olds at The Windrush Leisure Centre, offering roller skating, games, bouncy castle, face painting and much more.

- Swim for £1 for under-16s at Carterton, Chipping Norton and The Windrush leisure centres during selected sessions.
- Play for £1 on racquet sports for all ages, Monday to Friday, at Chipping Norton Leisure Centre and Bartholomew Sports Centre.

Children's taster courses in swimming, including water polo, diving and lifeguarding, as well as scuba diving and 'Get Safe 4 Summer' to teach young people about the dangers posed by open water and what to do in an emergency. Plus trampolining, gymnastics, street dance, yoga, boxercise and Socratots, a soccer play programme for toddlers.

Woodstock outdoor pool is open until 30th August and, with full-size and children's pools, large grassed area and café, is an ideal venue for warm summer days. Swimming and diving courses for children will also be running at the open-air pool during the holidays.

Contact details for leisure centres are as follows:

- Bartholomew Sports Centre: 01993 861830
- Carterton Leisure Centre: 01993 861981
- Chipping Norton Leisure Centre: 01993 861951.
- Windrush Leisure Centre: 01993 202020
- Woodstock Open-Air Pool: 01993 811785

The Council's leisure facilities are run by Nexus Community, one of the South East's largest social enterprises. All profits are reinvested back into facilities and services for the benefit of local residents.

For more information about the Council's leisure facilities, visit www.westoxon.gov.uk/leisure.

A VERY IMPORTANT NOTICE IF YOU USE THE RECREATION GROUND

While using skate park

Minor accidents continue to occur on the Skatepark because of the lack of protective clothing. The Parish Council ask all parents to insist that their children wear the appropriate clothing.

Insurance Liabilities

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

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

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

Other Sporting Activities

Bampton Weightlifting Club

Chairman: Don Rouse: Tel: 01993 850938.

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

Bampton Badminton Club

Enquiries: Lesley Campbell Tel: 01993 852846.

Meets every Tuesday 10 - 12am Bampton Village Hall.

Bampton Archery Club

Chairman: Gerald Mills: Tel: 01993 850670

Secretary: Jeff Dando: Tel: 01993 850643

The Horseshoes Football Club Sunday League Football

Chairman: Alan Clarke: Tel: 01993 850201.

Secretary: Bill Godfrey: Tel: 01993 850014.

Bampton in the Bush Cricket Club
Contact: Pauline Smith Tel: 01993 210140 or Martin Landray Tel: 01993 850939 or

E-mail martinlandray@aol.com.

THE PAVILION

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

Some General Hire Prices

Pavilion

08:00 - 13:00 : £40

13:00 - 18:00 : £40

18:00 - 23:59 : £80

Whole Day : £160

Football Pitch : £25 per game

Changing Facilities : £10

Multisport Bampton Residents
£10.00
Non-Residents
£12.50

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

Ray Willis Tel: 01993 852483 or Mobile: 07766 264684

Gardening Club Page

The Garden Club Annual Show is on Saturday 29th August in the Village Hall. If you would like to enter please fill in the form below and either bring it with you on the morning or put it in the Cotton Club up until the 28th August. We would appreciate the trophies being returned to Marion Dowding, Bay Tree Cottage, Rosemary Lane, Bampton before the end of July or please contact Marion if you have difficulty returning the trophy, Tel: 01993 850167. Many thanks. We have a coffee morning on Saturday 25th July - the last one before the show.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Roses x 4 | 36 Dwarf French Beans x 5 |
| 2 Roses specimen bloom x 1 | 37 Garden Peas x 5 any variety |
| 3 Roses Floribunda x 3 | 38 Beetroot x 3 with 3" tops |
| 4 Marigolds x 6 any variety | 39 Carrots x 3 any variety |
| 5 Pansies x 5 | 40 Onions as grown with tops x 3 |
| 6 Viola x 5 | 41 Onions from sets x 4 dressed |
| 7 Sweet Peas 5 mixed colour | 42 Onions from seed x 4 dressed |
| 8 Carnations x 3 | 43 Shallots x 5 dressed |
| 9 Dianthus x 5 | 44 Squash x 2 matching pair |
| 10 Anthirums x 5 mixed colour | 45 Cabbage x 2 any variety matching |
| 11 Any other Flower from your own garden x 5 | 46 Potatoes x 5 white |
| 12 Dahlia Cactus x 1 bloom | 47 Potatoes x 5 coloured |
| 13 Dahlia Cactus x 5 small | 48 Table Marrow x 2 |
| 14 Dahlia Pom-Pom x 5 small | 49 Any other vegetable x 2 |
| 15 Dahlia Pom-Pom x 3 medium | 50 Tray of vegetables 5 varieties - 3 of each |
| 16 Dahlia Decorative x 5 small | 51 Raspberries x 6 with stalks on a plate |
| 17 Dahlia Decorative x 3 medium | 52 Rhubarb pulled sticks x 3 11/2" trimmed leaf |
| 18 Gladiola Spikes x 3 | 53 Apples - Dessert x 3 |
| 19 Chrysanthemums x 5 spray | 54 Apples - Cooking x 3 |
| 20 Chrysanthemums x 3 medium | 55 Plums any variety x 3 |
| 21 Fuchsia (bush) pot max 7" | 56 Pears any variety x 3 |
| 22 Non flowering pot plant pot max 7" | 57 Blackberries with stalks x 6 |
| 23 Cactus Garden pot max 12" | 58 A plate of any other fruit x 3 |
| 24 Single Cactus Plant pot max 7" | 59 6 Herbs 1 stem of each in a vase |
| 25 Geranium pot max 7" | 60 Longest Runner Bean |
| 26 Busy Lizzie pot max 7" | 61 Heaviest Potato |
| 27 Begonia pot max 7" | 62 Heaviest Onion |
| 28 Lettuce x 2 any variety | 63 Heaviest Marrow |
| 29 Radishes x 5 any variety | 64 A Freak Vegetable |
| 30 Cucumber matching pair any variety - green house grown | 65 Arrangement of flowers and foliage depicting 'The Harvest' |
| 31 Tomato x 5 cherry red or yellow with calyx | 66 A vase of flowers from own garden |
| 32 Tomato x 5 red with calyx | 67 Arrangement of flowers not exceeding 4" |
| 33 Tomato x 5 yellow with calyx | 68 Water Colour or Oil not signed with out a frame 12"x10" |
| 34 Courgette x 2 any variety | |
| 35 Runner Beans x 5 | |
| 36 Dwarf French Bean x 5 | |

- 69 A Sketch Pencil or Charcoal size 12"x10" unmounted and unsigned
- 70 Coloured Photograph depicting 'A water' un-mounted not signed size 12"x10"
- 71 Photograph depicting 'Black & White' un-mounted not signed size 12"x10"
- 72 Item of Embroidery not to exceed 18" (not machined) back open to view
- 73 Item of Patchwork or Quilting not to exceed 18" (not machined) back open to view
- 74 Item of knitting open to view
- 75 A Poem not more than 10 lines 'The Credit Crunch'
- 76 Any other craft - not furniture
- 77 Victoria Sponge 7"
- 78 Cherry cake
- 79 Home made Bread Rolls x 5 brown or white (not to be made in a bread machine)
- 80 Fruit Scones x 5
- 81 Apple Pie pastry top and bottom
- 82 Cookies any variety x 5
- 83 Small cakes x 6 2 varieties
- 84 1 Jar of Jam
- 85 1 Jar of Marmalade
- 86 1 Jar of Chutney
- 87 1 Jar of Pickled Onions
- 88 1 Jar of Beetroot
- 89 1 Jar of Pickled eggs
- 90 1 Jar of any other pickled vegetable
- 91 Bottle of any other Beverage
- 92 Bottle of Home-made Red Wine Dry or Sweet
- 93 Bottle of Home-made White Wine Dry or Sweet
- 94 1 Bottle of Sloe Gin
- Classes 84 - 90 please label and date all entries
- Classes 91 - 94 please label and date all entries. Please will you also provide a glass for tasting and an easy removable top for the bottles. We would like to thank everyone for their support in advance.

BAMPTON GARDENING CLUB ENTRY FORM

Please circle each class number which you would like to enter and bring it with you on the day of the show between 9am - 11am
Entry Fees - Senior Citizens 20p, Members 20p, Non Members 30p Children under 16 Free

Name Age if under 16

Address.....

Classes Entered..... Entry fee for above classes

Bampton Pre-School News

By Alexandra Miller

Easter

Spring was a wonderful time at Pre-School, our newly revamped garden began to bloom and we were posi-



and Benjamin Akroyd – well done to them and to all the Pre-School children who took part.

Upcoming Events

With only a few weeks left in term we have a number of exciting events planned that will keep us and the children very busy. On 25th June we will have our annual Summer Outing to

Farmer Gows followed by our Sports Day and picnic on 1st July. We are also delighted to announce that on 10th July we will be holding a Graduation Ceremony for those Pre-Schoolers who are leaving us to go up to 'big school'! We had the first one last year and it proved such a success that it is now to be an annual event – fingers crossed for sunshine!!

Website

A reminder that you can now visit us online at if you need any more information about the Pre-School including contact details, opening times etc.

www.bamptonpreschool.co.uk

Fundraising

Our Annual Duck Race was a fantastic day, thankfully the sun shone this year and we had a great turn out as a result. This is a fantastic fundraiser for the Pre-School and we really do appreciate all the support we receive from the village and wider community. As you can see from the pictures the children had a great time, and were more than happy to help with the duck collecting!



tively awash with all the crocuses and daffodils! Our Easter Bonnet Parade and Egg Hunt was a fantastic day, the children all made a huge effort with their bonnets and gave our judges a very difficult decision. After much deliberation the winners were announced as Leo Pritchard, Scarlett Wilson



Bampton Baby and Toddler Club

By Cerian Cooper

Bampton Baby and Toddler Club is for children aged between 0 and Pre-School age, and their parents or carers. We have been running for over 10 years, and meet every Thursday between 10:00 and 11:45 in Bampton Village Hall. We have a variety of toys for children to play with during the play session, which is followed by singing and refreshments. Toys range from those suitable for younger babies, to ride-in cars, a play kitchen, and a slide for toddlers. We also have a bouncy castle on the first Thursday of each month, and organise seasonal craft activities such as Christmas card making. All our toys, including the bouncy castle, are available to hire through our toy library. For a small fee, members can borrow items for a short period. Small size tables and chairs are also available.

At least once a month, we arrange a special activity, such as a recent visit from Tattybumpkins and story time with our local librarian. The group is a great way to meet others parents and carers, and we also arrange evenings out. **Upcoming events** include:

June 18th Mini Sports Day

June 25th Story time with our local librarian

July 2nd Bouncy Castle

July 9th Chatterbox Challenge (supporting the children's communication charity "I Can")

July 16th Final session before the Summer Holidays.

We will be back on 3rd September

Bampton Baby and Toddler Group would like to say a big thank you to **Bampton Community Shop** who donated £300, and the **Community Singing Group** which donated £40 to our group. This has enabled us to purchase new cups, new musical instruments, toddler equipment for the toilets, new toys and new safer chairs for the children. We would also like to thank our new volunteers who are helping with refreshments for the toddlers, parents, and carers.

We are a friendly group and welcome new members from Bampton and the surrounding area. If you have a child

under school age, drop in and join us. Your first visit is free and subsequent visits are £2 for non-members, £1.50 for members. For more information, contact Cerian Cooper Tel: 07843 655001 or Jo Bath Tel: 01993 837379, or just come along!

Library DVD Review

by Toby Hopkins

300

Ancient Greece... Xerxes, self-proclaimed 'God-King' of Persia is keen to rule the world. Next on his wish list is Sparta. So a messenger is dispatched there with the crowned skulls of fallen kings and the ubiquitous 'Bow down before thy God-King' sort of message. Well, the feisty and pumped up Spartan King Leonidas is having none of it, boots the messenger down a well and takes 300 of his beefcake mates to challenge the humungus Persian force in a narrow mountain pass. Expect plenty of violence, gruesomeness, decapitations, and Spartan shouting. I found the dialogue a touch clumsy and clichéd at times – but no matter, the battling is dark, stunning and the whole affair well brings alive that young schoolboy moment of reverence when he first heard about the extraordinary warring ratio at Thermopylae.

Chick rating: 4

Lads' rating: 7

WALLE

The latest PIXAR animation follows a rich modern catalogue from this vanguard film company, since their opening feature (and world's first full length computer animated film) Toy Story, in '95. The basic story is comically rather sharp and so for interest's sake is probably best left unrevealed. The core love element strayed a little too far into the realm of cutesy for my taste, and PIXAR humans remain comparatively disappointing, but overall (and especially for younger viewers) this is a really impressive visual treat. Mo, a small cleaning robot is notably enjoyable. As is BURN.E, the short film found in 'extras'. Both are master-classes in the art of subtle, clever and entertaining animation.

Chick rating: 8½

Lads' rating: 7½

Kids' rating: 9

Disturbia

Essentially here is Rear Window for the modern era. 17 year old Kale (Shia Labeouf) is under 3 months house arrest and with little else to do he takes a binocular-led interest in his immediate neighbourhood, and in particular the alluring Ashley. Along with his quirky friend Ronnie, these three subsequently embark upon "operation stupid", surveillancing and investigating another neighbour who Kale suspects is a serial killer, (we're in America, by-the-way...). The confinement of plot here, (basically 'is he, or isn't he..?') means that Disturbia, without the skill of someone like Hitchcock directing, is only moderately suspenseful (and hardly the chilling fright-fest the DVD cover may have you believe). That said, the feel of this U.S. teen romance-come-thriller is unusually likeable, the humour – nicely understated, and Labeouf (with shades of John Cusack in his acting form) should go on to bigger and better things...

Chick rating: 6

Lads' rating: 5½

Venus

Two old, fairly decrepit actors, one in particular with the reputation of a Lothario past (Peter O'Toole and Leslie Phillips) play two old, fairly decrepit actors, one in particular with the reputation of a Lothario past (chums Maurice and Ian). The script has a suitably genuine and endearing timbre, that centres around Ian's grand niece (a sort of real life version of 'Little Britain's Vicky Pollard) brought in as a home help, and her subsequent (platonic) relationship with Maurice. Meanwhile, Ian is beside himself with her ineptitude...

I've already watched Venus twice and before too long would happily watch it again....

Chick rating: 8

Lads' rating: 8

The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas

Set in '40s war engulfed Germany a secretive friendship develops between two eight year olds; Bruno, the naïve son of a German officer, and Shmual, a Jewish inmate of the 'work camp' to which Bruno's father has been posted. I approached this with a degree of scepticism as the premise sounded

somehow just too... unlikely. However "It is one of the most moving and remarkable films about childhood I've ever seen" printed here - is wholly justifiable. Tone, shots, character and performances (especially from Asa Butterfield and Jack Scanlon playing Bruno and Shmual) don't get much more spot-on accurate than this. Producing as fresh, honest and heartfelt a film as I've ever seen. During the end credits, reflecting on the Shmual character I suddenly found myself creased up in tears. I mean proper-not-Lassie-tears. Powerful, poignant storytelling. Brilliant. (Should 10 out of 10 be left for a 'happier' film, the sort everyone would be comfortable watching..? On this occasion I don't think so).

Rating: 10

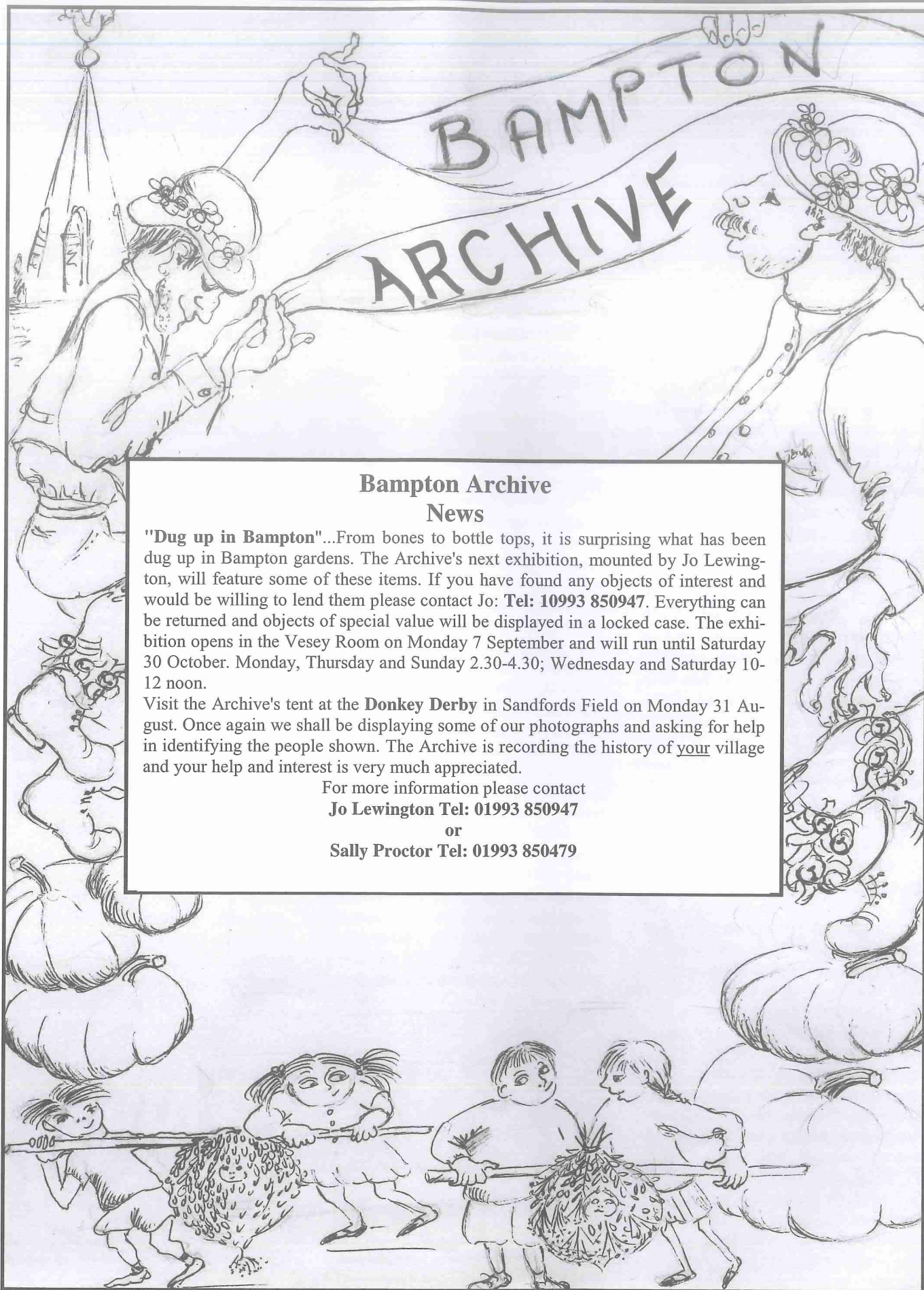
Atonement

'30s England... Love and the Class Divide, starring James McAvoy and Kiera Knightly. Expectation here this was for a sweeping, classy affair reminiscent of a David Lean classic, that at worst might be a little slow. Things soon started to go awry, alas, with this expectation. The story unfolds in an increasingly jumpy fashion until a small series of captions: 'Five Years Later', '6 Weeks Earlier', 'Yesterday', etc. has you bouncing all over the place without discernible benefit. Secondly, decent actor though he is, McAvoy's plummy English accent just got too twitty at times, as if he was in a 'French and Saunders' pastiche. Then, to make matters worse, the DVD started jumping forward of its own accord (through being dirty). The following evening, having cleaned it, I simply could not get the film out of Italian voice-over mode. (What a farce..!) Finally, '3 Days Later' I made it to the end... Overall conclusion: somewhat stogy and un-flowing, possibly better in Italian. But all is forgiven as (the young adult version of) Knightly's troublesome sister is played by lovely Romola Garai (Inside I'm Dancing).

Chick rating: 6

Lads' rating: 5½

N.B. Please don't handle the shiny side of the DVDs, or serve chips up with them, etc. Cleaning tip: 'Astonish Anti-bacterial Spray' (£1 from Simmonds) wiped gently off.



**Bampton Archive
News**

"Dug up in Bampton"...From bones to bottle tops, it is surprising what has been dug up in Bampton gardens. The Archive's next exhibition, mounted by Jo Lewington, will feature some of these items. If you have found any objects of interest and would be willing to lend them please contact Jo: **Tel: 10993 850947**. Everything can be returned and objects of special value will be displayed in a locked case. The exhibition opens in the Vesey Room on Monday 7 September and will run until Saturday 30 October. Monday, Thursday and Sunday 2.30-4.30; Wednesday and Saturday 10-12 noon.

Visit the Archive's tent at the **Donkey Derby** in Sandfords Field on Monday 31 August. Once again we shall be displaying some of our photographs and asking for help in identifying the people shown. The Archive is recording the history of your village and your help and interest is very much appreciated.

For more information please contact
Jo Lewington Tel: 01993 850947
 or
Sally Proctor Tel: 01993 850479

SPAJERS DONKEY DERBY MONDAY 31st AUGUST

Sandfords Field

First Race 2pm

Jockeys always needed - no experience required

*Children's Rides - Food - Bar - Bowls
Miscellaneous Stalls*

Brize Norton Training Flights 12th and 13th August

I am writing this to advise you that essential night training is to be carried out during the 12th and 13th August by VC10 aircraft from Brize Norton.

The training involves flying in a circuit over the airfield and surrounding areas, landing and taking off several times over a period of 3-4 hours. This training is required as part of a course to qualify new pilots and is an operational requirement. The aircraft will be operating at a height of between 1500 and 2500 ft and will only fly lower than this during approach and take off.

The training requires darkness which will likely mean it will be carried out quite late into the night.

Because of the acknowledged noise impact of this training, each flight is carefully scrutinised and has to be authorised by the Officer in Command of Operations Wing.

We are sensitive to local opinion and in fulfilling our operational and training commitments we try to keep any disturbance to a minimum. However, Royal Air Force Brize Norton is the largest operational base in the RAF and it is inevitable that some noise from our activities will encroach into the local areas.

I do apologise in advance for any disturbance that will be experienced, but trust that the Villagers will understand the need for the training, and I hope that they are not troubled too frequently by our activities in general.

Regards
 Ana Dick
 Deputy Media & Communications Officer
 RAF Brize Norton

SLIMMING WORLD: Not just a Slimming Group

By Christina Moss

It is with pleasure that I am able to update the Bampton Community with their Slimming World Group's success stories.

Being the first column entry, this edition will mainly bring you some facts and figures as well as up-to-date achievements of the group.

Obesity is a growing problem across the UK and it isn't going away. According to The Health Survey for England, 64% (24 million) of the UK is overweight or obese, giving the UK the highest obesity levels in Europe. Of that figure, I was shocked to discover that nearly half are children. At a time when we are all questioning what we can or can't afford, I am questioning whether we can afford to ignore the problem when forecasts predict we will outlive our children.

As well as physical symptoms, the psychological and social burdens of obesity can be significant: social stigma, low self-esteem, reduced mobility and a generally poorer quality of life are common experiences for many obese people. However, at Slimming World losing just 10% of your body weight has significant health benefits such as lowering high blood pressure, improving blood cholesterol levels, lowering the risk of some cancers and improving mobility and energy levels. Not to mention a boost in your self esteem, your confidence and your mood.

That's why Slimming World's Club 10 celebrates 10% weight loss. In the Bampton group 20 members have already achieved this, taking them well on their way to a happier and healthier lifestyle.

As a group with an average of 41 members coming through the doors, they have cumulatively lost nearly a tonne in weight – 932lbs or 66 stones. That is the same as 1 small car, 3 red telephone boxes or 103 domestic cats! Could you imagine them all running around the village! Four members have reached their Target weight – which was set by them and controlled by them. As a Consultant it is not my place to tell any potential

member what weight they 'should' be. It is entirely up to the individual what they feel their Personal Achievement Target is. On reaching Target they are all Lifetime Members of Slimming World – we guide them on how to stay at their Target and they can attend any group free of charge.

The numbers and facts speak for themselves but what do the Bampton members feel since beginning their journey with Slimming World? How have their lives changed? And is it something that everyone can do? I can answer whole heartedly that yes it is. Their lives are better, more improved and happy. I have the privilege of seeing my members change before my very eyes week by week and it is such a delight to witness someone's confidence grow, or see someone wearing a dress for the first time in years, or share how their family is enjoying Food Optimising without even feeling like they are on a diet! I can't think of a better way to fight back at the statistics of obesity in children than to start educating them in the home and family environment. Nicole Williams was a member who was apprehensive about the Plan working in her lifestyle of baking and cooking homemade foods all the time. I advised her the alternative ingredients to more common ones, and to her delight, she has lost over a stone and says "as a mother of two the diet needed to fit in easily with my family and this I found very easy with Slimming World."

Penny Bradley was concerned about whether the Plan would work for her as she has suffered with an under active thyroid for the past two years. She says "when I voiced my concerns to Christina she was very helpful and encouraging. Believe it or not after four months I'm over 1 ½ stones lighter and I feel great".

Slimming World is effective for all people no matter what condition or illness you might have. I have members who have diabetes, who are breastfeeding and who are on various medications. All of them lose weight whilst always taking the medical advice of their doctor, nurse or midwife. Slimming World is proud to say we have the support of the NHS and the National Midwifery Association.

It's also the small things that really

have a huge impact on my members. Pauline Smith says "I have just got my wedding ring back on after seven years of not being able to wear it because my fingers were too pudgy! It makes me feel young again"! Apart from Food Optimising, the second most important part of our members' success is IMAGE Therapy.

The weekly meetings are a great support and offer a friendly and fun evening whether we have good weeks or bad" Nicole says This is the member's chance to share ideas and support each other at whatever level of involvement they might feel like. We have food tasters, a raffle, fun and a giggle. We even have one or two men in the group – and I tell you, they love being in the minority with a room full of women all around them! Greta says "I'm loving the classes and really happy that I came back to Slimming World."

This community stems out into daily life as well. We took part in the NSPCC (Slimming World's chosen charity) in March and assisted to raise over £500 from this area alone. Member's Elaine Simpkins and Caroline McGowan both did the Slimathon and helped raise a total of £65,000 (UK figure) for the Children's Voice Appeal. Our competition winners since March have been Caroline McGowan as our Greatest Loser 2009 and Julian Jones as our Man of the Year 2009. And there are more things to come throughout the year. This being our 40th birthday we're just as passionate as ever to help beat the unhappiness caused by obesity.

Slimming World is open to anyone and everyone young and old (one member is 82 years young) so hopefully hearing about some of your fellow villager's achievements and happiness will encourage you or anyone you know who may need some help with weight loss. If you would like to find out more please know that you will be welcomed along to group by myself and the members. Feel free to bring the family or friends for support. You can listen in and decide if it sounds like it's for you. I would be delighted to see you!

Slimming World @ The Bampton Youth Centre, Churchview

We are here every Wednesday 7pm

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For exhibitions of local
artists and photographs
and oral history from the
Bampton Community
Archive

Opening Times

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

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LAURENCE LEMOINE
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WOA Gallery
Market Square, Bampton
Oxon OX18 2JH
Tel: 01993 850137
westoxarts@yahoo.co.uk
Registered Charity No. 266542

**West
OX
ARTS**

Welcome to West Ox Arts

West Ox arts is an arts association and charity supporting artists and craftspeople in West Oxfordshire. A varied programme of exhibitions showcases work by local and national artists. The Gallery shop sells greetings cards and crafts and is housed on the first floor of Bampton's Grade II listed Town Hall in the Market Square.

West Ox Arts also organises stage productions, talks, workshops and special events. It is part-funded by West Oxfordshire District Council and Bampton Parish Council, and staffed by a part-time administrator and volunteers.

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

Discounts on WOA lectures, life classes and workshops
 Invitations to private views
 Regular mailings of the WOA events guide
 Discounts at local arts suppliers
 Reduced commission rate for exhibitors
 Membership fees: Single £20, Family:£35, Student £10

Gallery opening hours

During exhibitions: Tues-Sat 10.30am-12.30pm and 2-4pm. Sun 2-4pm
 The Administrator is usually in the gallery Tues-Thurs 10.30am - 4pm

Exhibitions in the Gallery

Paint, Light and Fire

4 July - 26 July

Open: Tues - Sun 10.30am-4.00pm

Two painters, two photographers, a glass artist and a potter. Colourful dramatic paintings by Sally Crookford, glass inspired by gardens and Islamic art by Wendy Newhofer, raku and smoke fired ceramics by Crabby Taylor, photography by Judie Waldmann, semi abstract paintings by Naomi Rowling and photos of Oxford by Jemima Alder.

Reflections. Buttercross Quilters

1 - 9 August

Buttercross Quilters of Witney celebrate 25 years of quilting and friendship. *Reflections* shows a range of quilts as they have evolved over the years since the group began. See how fabrics, designs and techniques have changed and influenced quiltmaking. Exhibits include group quilts, workshop pieces, and a colourful variety of work from past and present members.

The Seasons

5 - 27 September

The annual West Ox Arts members

exhibition of art that is inspired by the seasons of the year.

West Ox Arts has around 250 members and many of them will be showing their work. A lively and stimulating exhibition of paintings, sculpture and mixed media.

Andrew Forkner. Natural Art 3-25 October

This exhibition will show work in a variety of media by local professional animal artist Andrew Forkner. Highly detailed paintings of dogs, wildlife and birds in acrylic or pastel will be accompanied by work in Andrew's more familiar medium of graphite pencil.

Lecture Series An Introduction to European Sculpture

Lecture series by Gill Salway
 These four lectures will trace the history of sculpture in Europe concentrating more on the changes in materials and techniques than on the careers of individual sculptors.

Tuesday 6th October Finding the Way - the 11th and 12th centuries
 Tuesday 13th October Mastering form and materials through 15th and

16th centuries

Tuesday 27th October Sensuousness and Prudery - the 17th to the 19th century

Tuesday 3rd November Anything goes - through the 20th and 21st century

Please contact the gallery for more information.

Robert Vesey Room

Imprimatur 09

2 July - 29 August

Prints by Geoff Smith, Gill Salway and Denise Mason.

Life Drawing Sessions

Ongoing life drawing sessions cost £8 for members and £9 for non-members. Life classes meet in the gallery on Monday mornings 10am-12.30pm and Wednesday evenings 7.30-9.30pm, they are drop in and untutored, so just come along during term times and bring your own materials.

Membership

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

For details of exhibitions, leaflets are available at the gallery.

Gallery Stewards

WOA always needs volunteer stewards to look after the exhibitions. It's a great way to meet like-minded people and to see each exhibition. If you could spare a couple of hours each month to support WOA in this way then please contact the Administrator Rosie Tomlinson for the gallery, Tel: 01993 850137. Or for the Robert Vesey Room, Richard Wilkinson Tel: 01993 850786.



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Friars Court

Health, Happiness and Vitality from the 12th to the 21st Century

To the south of Clanfield, out towards Radcot Bridge, there is a turning into a long drive towards a farm. The collection of buildings just beyond the field could easily go unnoticed and yet this is a remarkable historic setting - as vibrant today as ever! 'Friars Court', reads the sign at the end of the drive - but who were these Friars and what goes on at Friars Court to-

day?

On this site in 1149, the monastic Knights of Saint John founded their first Hospitallery in Oxfordshire. Weary travellers from as far away as Oxford, Witney and Faringdon turned up impoverished in body and soul. The good Friars cared for them, sending them on their way hale and hearty and ready, once more to meet the rigours of daily toil. And that's pretty much what's still going on today... Friars Court still offers hospitality, service, care and well-being to visitors (whatever their

creed!) and albeit in a decidedly 21st Century style. The current Cotswold stone house is 300 years old and licensed for civil ceremonies.

Nowadays booked parties are more likely to be served home baked cream teas than mutton and ale! Parties of 20+ can enjoy garden visits, escorted tours and private receptions in this beautiful unspoilt conservation area. Roger Bradley's Health and Beauty Centre is situated in the converted old stable block. Personal Fitness Training includes professional gym equipment indoors and the glorious private outdoor environment.

Our Alternative Therapists occupy comfortable, airy rooms with heated treatment couches. They provide a range of skills and expertise in appropriate treatments according to personal need. For the weary 21st Century folk, slaving over computer screens, jousting with the traffic and juggling work and family - help is still at hand! Cranio Sacral Therapy is a light touch, fully clothed and non-invasive treatment, centering on the subtle rhythm of cerebrospinal fluid moving within the body. Restrictions and tensions can be stored over years, showing up later as physical or emotional problems. Alison Auger offers this therapy, Reflexology and Indian Head Massage. Karen Miller is one of our Massage therapists, using a range of techniques to relieve and revitalise, also using Aromatherapy oils - each with their own therapeutic properties.

Useful alongside other therapies - to relax the body and soothe a troubled mind. Natalie Harwood is a Nutritionist and Dietician at the centre offering advice and guidance - we are what we eat! Homeopathy is available with Heather Abel. This therapy is safe, non-addictive and gentle, whilst also effective and powerful across an ever increasing range of ailments both physical and emotional. Suitable for all ages from new born to the elderly. Can safely be used alongside conventional medication where necessary. Homeopathy is a talking therapy with a carefully considered remedy response.

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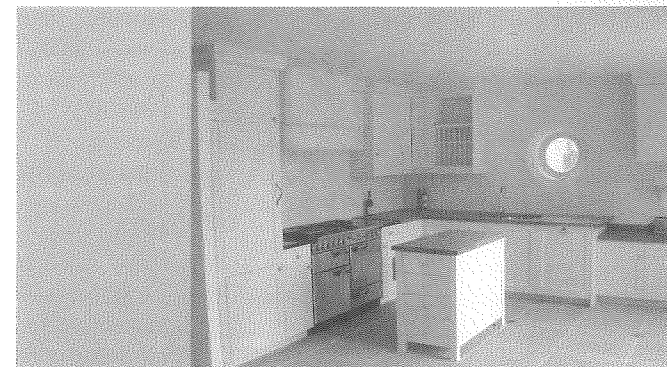
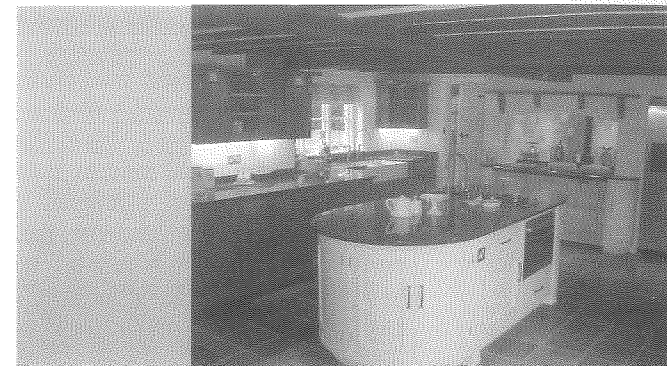
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OUT OF WORK FARMER - TURNED AGRICULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

By Don Rouse

Whilst I have lived in Lew for over 50 years, my heart, soul and pride is with Bampton, so I hate to see Bampton coming second. So you can tell that I am suffering from mixed emotions when in spite of my article in the last 'Beam' about me risking my freedom to clear a gully on 'Hoppy's Corner' without permission, and begging the Parish Council to do something about it, I find that Lew and Curbridge beats them all hands down! Up here at Lew, we have had all our gullies enlarged and cleaned.

They have put gullies where there is no need for them, like on top of the hill where water is not going to lay; they have even dug the one outside my house that I have dutifully maintained. I have never seen so many gullies, some only two yards apart! What has Bampton achieved even after my article? Well after the last lot of heavy rain that fell a couple of weeks ago and flooded 'Hoppy's Corner' there was a lorry with its hazard warning lights on trying to bring motorists attention to the fact that it was a dangerous flood in a dangerous place. Since then nothing!

Perhaps my Sub-editor with his special supply of contacts in the higher echelons of Government, can enlighten us.

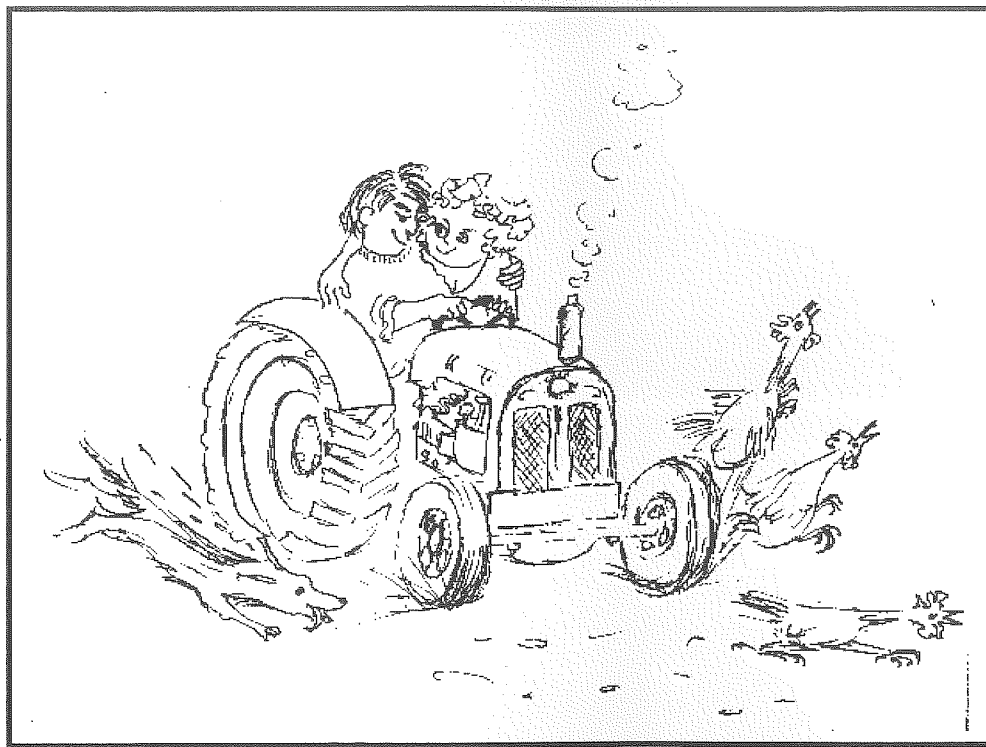
Don: the problem has been reported to the Oxfordshire County Council Highways as it is a highway issue.

It is on the Parish Council's annual 'Wish List' for the Village roads which is developed along with Highways during regular walkarounds.

I must say that Highways have been very responsive to our 'Wish List' in the past, and have done a lot for the Village roads in recent years.

We await action on this issue however! Sub-Ed.

I do care about Bampton and would do any thing to make it a better place. Indeed I went into one of our establishments the other day and told the 'Lady' behind the counter how much I cared and would do anything for her. Do you know what she said? B*****



The 'Beam Team' would like to congratulate Don & Mary on achieving the Golden Wedding Milestone!

The above is a picture of their honeymoon from the Beam archives!

Off then!! Charming. I hope my sub-editor doesn't give me the same advice.

I have never felt so proud of being a Bamptonian as I did on the evening of this year's Shirt Race. It was one of those difficult occasions when we

were having our Annual Celebrations, at the same time as one of our very brave young soldiers, Jason Mackie, was killed in Afghanistan. We felt sure that he would not have wanted us to stop this tradition, yet at the same time we wanted to show our respect for him. So before the presentations to the winners were made, we asked for a minute's silence. It was marvellous, over one hundred people were in the square and you could have heard a pin drop. Yes, Bampton is a wonderful place.

Mary and I celebrated our Golden Wedding Anniversary recently and at times like that you can't help casting your mind back to the way we were. My Stag Night was a tour of all eleven pubs in Bampton with some friends.

As I don't drink alcohol, I think it was more fun for them than me,

though I do remember the advice that I was given in the last port of call which was the Elephant and Castle by an old Bamptonian. He said, "Don if you go and smack Mary in the mouth you will probably only get six months in prison for assault. If you go ahead with your plans to wed her, you will get a life sentence!"

What romantics there were about at that time! Needless to say, I am so glad

that I took the life sentence option. Getting married at St. Mary's was no different then to as it is now. All the Villagers coming along to see the Bride (was she wearing white was the main question - very important in those days!!) and wishing them all

SPAJERS News

By Don Rouse

Our Quiz Night was once more a success with our new Question Mistress in fine form not allowing the 'dissenters' to get the better of her. It was indeed a great evening of fun and laughter, the eventual winners being the Old Church Viewans.

The Village Garage Sale was also a success but we were down on the number of participants. Whether this was due to the recession or that people had already got rid of their hoards at our previous sales I do not know. What I do know is that a lot of people had bargains and that a lot of money changed hands leaving the SPAJERS with a profit of over £650.00, all of which will be spent on our Senior Citizens.

We had our AGM on the 11th May. No changes. All our officers agreed to carry on with the good work that they had achieved in the previous year. See bottom of page for the appointments.

Our Great Original Shirt Race this year was indeed one to remember. I know that I had mentioned many forebodings about it in the last copy of the 'Beam', but I did not reckon on the great spirit of all the people who helped.

To start with the local police were fantastic. All the local PCSOs under the leadership of PC Richard Barnes of Carterton ensured that it all went off safely and smoothly, with minimum disruption to the minority of the public who were not interested in our quaint customs.

I would like to 'slip in' a slight political point here. There are quite a few Bampton people who give up their time to serve on the local Neighbourhood Action Group. This group works in co-operation with our local police to make our community a better place to live in. Whilst doing so it gives community organisations like ours the chance to have a working relationship with the police. A situation of 'you scratch my back, I'll scratch yours'. I like it!

Certainly a better situation than a few years ago when the local inspector tried to ban the Shirt Race altogether! We had loads of volunteer stewards

great happiness. Our wedding photos show many of the well wishers who came along that day. It is great fun trying to remember their names and wondering what has happened to them. Thinking about it, the Church hasn't altered much in fifty years, just a new notice board and a much scruffier Church Yard. The Bells still sound as good, though it was the 'Call Change' system used then, not 'Method' ringing as it is now. Talk to David Rose to find out the difference! Our reception was held in the WI Hall. Apart from the loos being moved away from the kitchen (how the Gents used to stink in those days), not a lot has changed there either. We had Lucy Fox, later to become Mrs Slatter, in charge of catering - she was after all the school cook. She would get together a team of local people to help her, like Mrs Wheeler from Church View and Mrs Glenister. Do any of our readers remember who else was in this team of local people who played such a big part in helping people from Bampton to have a wedding to remember that was not going to cost the earth?

I am sure that there will be official reports on what is happening to The Old School complex. Being a member of the Youth Club Management Committee as well as Chairman of the Weightlifting Club, I have attended a lot of the 'planning' meetings.

If I may, I would like to add a few observations and comments. One thing that has impressed me, and cannot be denied is the passion and loyalty of the representatives of each individual volunteer group. In one corner you have the Bush Club, who obviously want what is best for their members - cooking facilities, disabled toilets, a rest room with their particular heavy yet comfortable chairs along with a dining room. In another Corner you have the Youth Club that requires an area for playing games, a consulting room, a computer room as well as kitchen facilities to provide drinks. Plans have been put forward which in my opinion are brilliant, but it does mean that there will be areas to share and that is where the problems begin as you have both ends of the 'age' spectrum with their totally different attitudes to life. I do hope that a degree of tolerance will exist on both

sides so that a compromise can be reached. The Youth Service has indeed made some changes that hopefully will assist in there being a happy outcome. Added to all this, the Bampton Weightlifting Club, who have been providing by far the highest income for the old building, have got to be re-housed before anything can happen. The OCC has agreed to give financial assistance to create facilities at the Sports Ground to enable the Weightlifters to move. The terms though are on a 'like for like' basis. i.e. the same size of area that they enjoy now. But at the moment the club has a membership of over fifty and for safety reasons are having to turn potential members away. I foresee that with the Club being appropriately sited at the Sports Ground there will be an even greater demand for membership.

So many times in the past I have noted where a hall has been built for a Community, like Brize Norton, Aston, Standlake, and even our own Sports Pavilion, and that whilst the hall is being built the community has grown and in the end you have a place that is too small for the purpose. To avoid this, I think that the Weightlifting Club is going to have to do a lot of fund raising so that there will be an appropriately sized gymnasium for Bampton to be proud of, and one that will be big enough to accommodate all those who want to get fit. The Club has got the equipment, it is just the size of the room that is important. So I hope that there are a lot of people out there who will be able and willing to help them raise the necessary funds to enable this club, that has been such a credit to Bampton for over Fifty years, to go 'from Strength to Strength'.

In the farming world there is a saying that "A load of Hay in June is worth a Silver Spoon. A load of Hay in July is not worth a fly". Talking to my contacts, there is so much excess grass about today owing to the animal numbers in this country being so low, that by the time the farmer has cut the grass, tossed it and turned it in the Sun to get it dry, then baled it, the price achieved for the end product does not cover the cost of the work involved. I am so glad that I am out of it!

who helped man the route, as well as a lot more people acting as 'tin shakers', with the result that we made the best ever profit on the evening of well over £600.00.

We would like to thank all the Landlords for their help and co-operation for this event, but most of all we are so grateful to all those people who live in what used to be our 'watering holes' i.e. the The Jubilee, Wheat-sheaf and the Eagle for helping us to maintain 'The Original Great Shirt Race'.

The entrants to the Fancy Dress Parade had obviously gone to a lot of trouble with a very high standard for our judges - two of our retired Committee Members Dixie Deane and Mary Cook - to choose from - a brilliant array of ideas and themes. The winners of the Seniors chose the award winning 'Bampton's Loos' as their theme.

The race winners were:

Seniors: William Money & Monty Green

Intermediate: James Booty and Richard Stevens

Juniors: Olivia Batho & Katy Hearn

Oldest Pair Lynne and Martin Barber with a combined age of 117 years!

This year was one of those rare occasions where the officials had to disqualify a team for not drinking their drinks before moving on. Rules are Rules and you cannot be allowed to throw your drinks down the front of your clothes.

The new route worked extremely well, but we would like to know your thoughts on this. Either contact a committee member direct, or preferably, through the 'Beam' so that every one can benefit from your thoughts. This is your Bampton event.

The retention of glasses by the competitors worked extremely well, making for a tidier Town.

By the time you read this, plans will be well in progress for the Donkey Derby. As always, this will be held on August Bank Holiday Monday which is the latest it can possibly be this year - 31st August.

Once again I need to appeal to you all to help us make this another wonderful Community Event. Remember the SPAJERS are all about creating fun for Bampton people to raise money so

that our Senior Citizens can have fun. So we are looking for people to run stalls, people to provide us with things to put on the stalls like bottles and tins of goodies.

We also need a gang of helpers to help with erection of tents and gazebos and the clearing up at the end of the day.

I do hope that all those who have helped us in the past will help us again. WE NEED YOU!!

The Annual Outing is planned for Wednesday 2nd September and we are going to make a change this year, since so many of our members have complained about the long journey to seaside resorts putting them off. So this year we are going to go to Gloucester Docks. There is a lot to do and see there. It will be interesting to see if those who would not go to the seaside because of the journey, will come with us this time.

All our members will be notified in the usual way. If after the closing date younger members of the community would like to go and there are places available, we will make a charge of £10.

It will be on a first come - first go system. Contact me on 01993 850297. We are, with others, organising the Fireworks Event again.

This will be on Saturday 7th November.

Please note that Josie's draw will be held a week later than previous years and will be on the 13th November. This will all be covered in more detail in the next edition of the 'Beam'.

To be a Member of the SPAJERS you have to be a resident of Bampton or Lew for a minimum of six months and for females have attained the age of 60 - males 65.

Please let our 'Keeper of the Books' Jeff Dando know if you would like to become a Member. You can contact him on 01993 850643.

SPAJERS Committee:

President: Lord Donoughmore

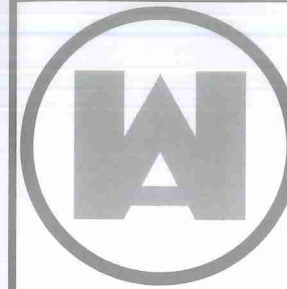
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Committee: Josie Buckingham, Neil Gold, Alan Dunbar, Dave Gardiner, Mark Booty, Chris Collett & Don Rouse.



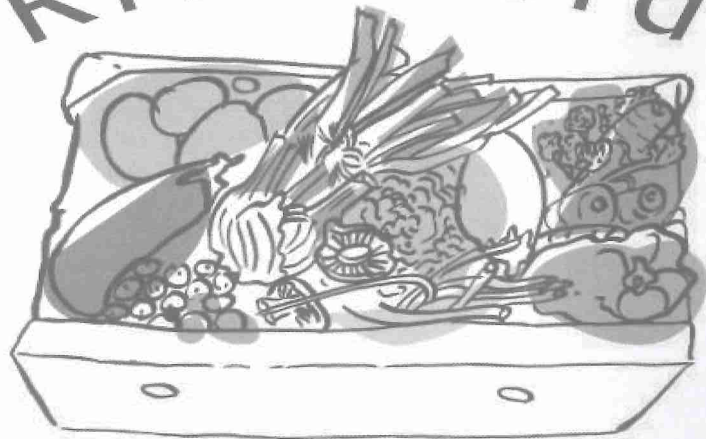
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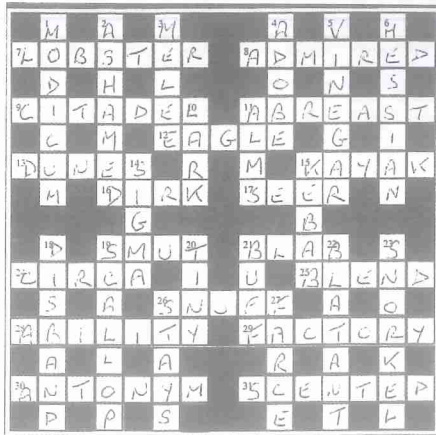
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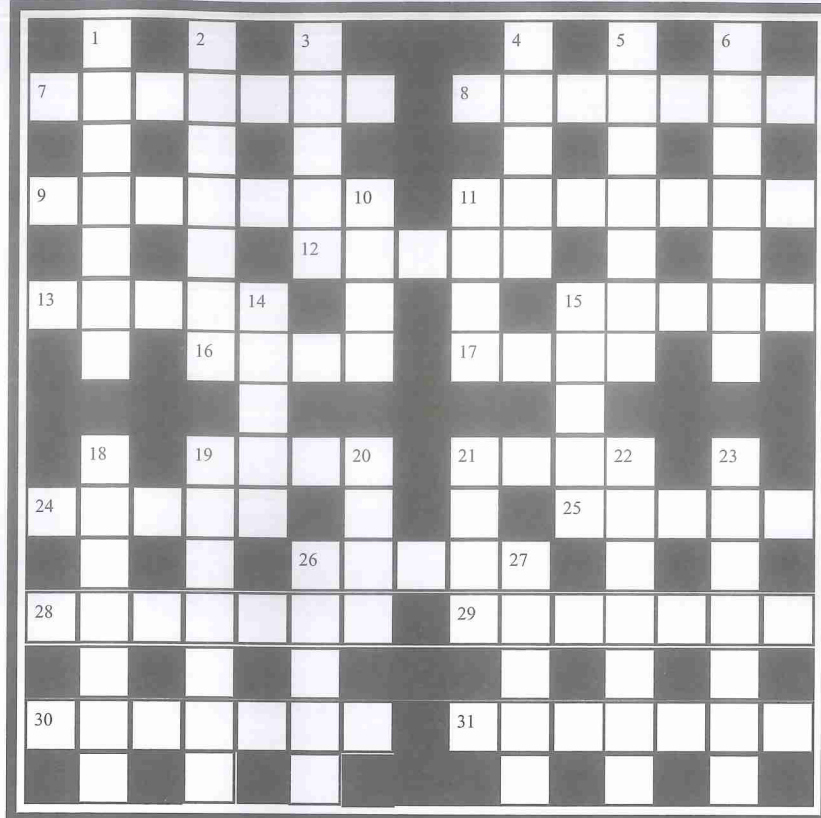


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BEAM CROSSWORD**



The winner of the March Crossword is Kay Neeves of Albion Place, Bampton. Congratulations, the £10 is yours. We would also like to donate £10 to Cancer Research UK, as a thank you to Bill Govier for producing yet another crossword for 'The Beam'.

THE BAMPTON BEAM'S CROSSWORD



CLUES ACROSS

- 7 Maybe, possibly
- 8 Call together, especially for a formal meeting
- 9 Not at all intelligent
- 11 Saved from a dangerous situation
- 12 Old fashioned
- 13 Relating to or using sound waves
- 15 Most suitable, perfect
- 16 Enclosure for keeping birds, mice, etc
- 17 A light-coloured dry sherry
- 19 Aunt-Sally word for no-score
- 21 A person's way of walking
- 24 Elderly person (informal)
- 25 Agreement to stop fighting, especially temporarily
- 26 A sudden raid into enemy territory
- 28 State of being relaxed and free from pain
- 29 Reduce the worth of
- 30 Polite and socially acceptable behaviour
- 31 A store or supply of weapons

CLUES DOWN

- 1 Atomizer
- 2 A state of confusion or disorder
- 3 A greenfly or similar small insect
- 4 Encrypted
- 5 The alligator pear
- 6 Patella
- 10 A small restaurant
- 11 A ridge of coral, usually just below the surface of the sea
- 14 Thick rope of wire or hemp
- 15 Eskimo of North America or Greenland
- 18 Permitted
- 19 Large ape-like creature, supposedly found in North West America
- 20 Stain or spot of ink, paint, etc.
- 21 Pleased, cheerful
- 22 Betrayal
- 23 Come into possession of
- 26 Shady financial dealings
- 27 Long for, pine

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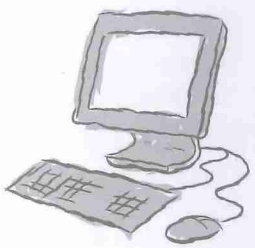
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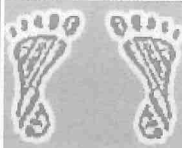
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Calendar of Events

July

- 1st *The Reader*, Movies on the Move, Village Hall, 7.30pm.
- 17th, 18th *Le pescatrici*, Bampton Classical Opera, Deanery Garden
- 22nd Supper Evening, Royal British Legion, Horse Shoe, 7.30pm
- 25th Coffee Morning, Bampton Gardening Club, Town Hall, 10am – 12noon
- 31st Talk on *Bees*, BEWG, Village Hall, 8pm

August

- 11th Bampton Business Breakfast Club, The Romany, 7.30am
- 13th, 14th, 15th Bampton Fair, Market Square and High Street
- 23rd Trip to Kew Gardens, Bampton Gardening Club, Market Square, 9am
- 29th Annual Show, Bampton Gardening Club, Village Hall
- 30th *Le pescatrici*, Bampton Classical Opera, Westonbirt
- 31st Donkey Derby, SPAJERS, Sandfords Field, 2pm

September

- 2nd Senior Citizens Outing to Gloucester Docks, SPAJERS
- 9th *The Young Victoria*, Movies on the Move, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 14th Holiday to Wales, Bampton Gardening Club
- 17th *Le pescatrici*, Bampton Classical Opera, St. John's Square, London
- 19th Battle of Britain Day BBQ, Royal British Legion
- 19th Autumn Sale, Cancer Research UK, Village Hall

October

- 11th Trip to Dean Forest Railway – Lydney, Bampton Gardening Club, Market Square, 9am
- 30th Talk on *The history of Oxford Castle*, BEWG, Village Hall, 8pm

November

- 4th *A Bunch of Amateurs*, Movies on the Move, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 7th Bonfire Night, SPAJERS, Recreation Ground
- 8th Remembrance Service, Royal British Legion, War Memorial, 10.45am
- 10th AGM, Royal British Legion, Horse Shoe, 7.30pm
- 13th Josie's Draw, SPAJERS, Horse Shoe, 7.30pm
- 20th Quiz Night, Cancer Research UK, Village Hall
- 18th Pre-Christmas Bingo, Cancer Research UK, Village Hall

December

- 18th Country & Western Dance, Cancer Research UK, Social Centre, Carterton
- 21st Handel Concert, Bampton Classical Opera, St Mary's
- 24th Mummings, SPAJERS, Village, 7pm onwards

THE BAMPTON BEAM

The Bampton Beam is published, under the auspices of The Bampton Parish Council, three times a year, and is distributed free to all households and businesses in Bampton. Extra copies are available from the Post Office, Emmie's, Patrick Strange Butchers, and The Library.

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Next Deadline: 30th September 2009

While every effort is made to ensure that the information contained in this publication is accurate, neither the Bampton Parish Council, the Editor, nor anyone supplying information or articles for inclusion in the magazine, can 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 or The Parish Council. Personal views are the responsibility of the author in each case.

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