

The Gossip



HORNTON

Issue Number 43

AUTUMN 2001

TROPHY PRESENTATION

It was pouring with rain on the afternoon of the presentation of the Marlborough Trophy to Hornton for the Best Kept Small Village in Oxfordshire 2001. This did not deter the many villagers who turned out with umbrellas and raincoats! Eric Turner, Chairman of the Parish Council, welcomed guests, parishioners and friends on behalf of the Parish Council. He said that Hornton last won the competition in 1968 and in those days there was a roadman, Sidney Cook from Shenington, who kept the village tidy. It is now done with the voluntary labour of parishioners. He also stated that the village had not stood still during those 30 years for in 1974 the village purchased the piece of land which is now the sports field and then the Pavilion was built, mainly by volunteers, in the late 1970s. This project has turned out to be a great asset to the village. He also mentioned that St John the Baptist Church was entered in a competition run throughout the country by the Ecclesiastical Insurance Company for the best presented churchyard in the year 2001 and Hornton reached the last 24. He thanked Oxfordshire Rural Community Council and Calor Gas for their sponsorship of the competition, Mr Peter Lund, the Honorary Organiser and the judges. He welcomed Rev. Glyn Evans, the Chairman of the Rural Community Council and also Mr John Bridgeman, Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Oxfordshire who presented the plaque.

WINNERS

Anna Miles, Stephanie Wheeler, Olivia Lucas and Stephanie Boorer's poem entitled "The Marine Ballroom" was entered into a competition and won First Prize in the 9-12 years category. The girls were invited to a special presentation evening at Ottakers Bookshop where they read out their winning poem. Author Meg Harper presented them with her latest book which she duly signed. They also received another book of their choice and a certificate.

WELL DONE

THE MARINE BALLROOM

*By Anna Miles, Stephanie Wheeler,
Olivia Lucas & Stephanie Boorer*

Dolphins dance in the crashing waves
Then swoop down low past the coral caves.

Mermaids dive to the bottom of the sea
Dancing with each other endlessly.

The seashell band plays rock and roll
As the dance begins to unfold.

The five pointed starfish twinkles in the sand
As it listens to the band.

Feather stars sway side to side
Water snails stay in and hide.

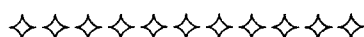
Jelly fish with luminous veils
Drift through the sea weed like mermaids tails.

The crabs stir up the grainy sand
The whale sings whilst getting fanned.

Octopuses in different moods
Grasp in their tentacles party food.

A visitor comes.

The gate crasher with its beady eyes and
sheet white teeth
The visitor who stares at the party to which
it was not invited...



Great News!! Tim and Robert Nunneley have donated to the village a piece of land adjacent to the sports field to build a tennis court. We thank them for their generosity.

METHODIST CHURCH

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

**Saturday, 10 November
2.30 p.m.
at the Pavilion**

**Refreshments Raffle
Produce Cakes Games
Christmas stall**

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY FAMILY SERVICE

**Sunday 11 November
10.50 a.m.
at the Parish Church**

The time of the year is upon us when many gardeners are preparing for the traditional autumn tidy up which, from a wildlife viewpoint, is one of the most unfortunate elements about gardening in the UK! For many birds and animals this can be a time of plenty with an abundance of seeds, berries and nuts upon which to gorge in preparation for winter. So, think twice before you tidy the flower borders, cut away clumps of vegetation and trim hedges. Clearing out all those dead-seed heads and removing vegetation effectively destroys many of the natural wildlife food sources and areas of shelter of value to your garden wildlife.

HISTORIC CHURCHES
RIDE AND STRIDE

By Julie Stanley

The Oxfordshire Historic Churches Ride and Stride was badly supported by village cyclists and walkers. However, Jean Burden and I once again represented the Methodist Chapel and walked from Cropredy back to Hornton via Great Bourton, Hanwell, Wroxton and Balscote.

It was a beautiful September day and we really enjoyed walking through the lanes and villages. It's surprising what you miss, riding in a car, the beautifully tended gardens and village properties smartly renovated and the Churches and Chapels we visited lovingly cared for. The ancient architecture and exquisite stained glass windows make our village churches a pleasure to see. Every Church and Chapel had someone there to welcome us and provide much needed refreshment.

We stopped by the pond at Wroxton and sat on the seat to eat our lunch. We tried out the chairs at various Churches to see which was the most comfortable to order for our own Chapel refurbishments. We had long chats with 'welcomers' such as Mrs Royle from Balscote, a past Chairman of the 3 H's Gardening Club, who sends her good wishes to present members, and Mrs Harris who for some years, with her husband, delivered our daily papers whatever the weather.

On our return to Hornton we were welcomed by Sheila Hillman at the Church. Thank you to everyone who

manned Hornton Church throughout the day. There were 25 visiting cyclists and walkers. At the Chapel Rosemary Gilkes was a sponsored 'welcomer' and stayed there from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. raising £20 from sponsorship. In all £110 was sent from Hornton of which half will go to the work of the Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust and half to Hornton Methodist Church.

In August the Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust visited Wroxton, Horley and Hornton Churches for their annual outing. We provided tea for 93 members at the Pavilion. They really enjoyed their time in Hornton and tea in such beautiful surroundings.



CHURCH SERVICES

First Sunday in month

8.30 a.m. Parish Church
11 a.m. Methodist Church
(United Service)

Second Sunday in month

11 a.m. Parish Church
(United Service)

Third Sunday in month

10.30 a.m. Parish Church
(Matins)

11 a.m. Methodist Church

Fourth Sunday in month

11 a.m. Parish Church
11 a.m. Methodist Church

See notice board for Christmas services

United Sunday School in the
Methodist Church
9.30 to 10.30 a.m.

BROWNIES

The Brownies have settled well at the Pavilion. We have 17 Brownies at the moment which leaves space for any interested Hornton and Horley girls who are coming up to 7 years of age. Our times are the same as before: 5 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. on Mondays.

I have a new helper now in Sarah Wright who is worth her weight in gold!

We are planning a little Christmas Open Evening on Monday, 10 December, at 5.15 p.m. It will be our last Brownie session before Christmas so please do come along.

Brown Owl

LADIES WORKING PARTY



CHRISTMAS SOCIAL & SALE

On Saturday, 24 November
At 7.00 p.m.
In the Parish Church

Our best wishes go to Philip Williams for a speedy recovery

**CHRISTING LE
SERVICE**

Sunday, 9 December
At the Parish Church
6.00 p.m.

**HORNTON SCHOOL
ASSOCIATION PRESENT
A
VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS**

ON FRIDAY, 7 DECEMBER
IN THE SCHOOL HOUSE

Food stalls Carol singing

**Switching on of village
Christmas tree lights**

*Street stalls for village charities
(more details to follow)*

BINGO

**Tuesday, 4 December
At the Church Room
Eyes down 7.30 p.m.
For Methodist Church funds**

**VILLAGE CAROL
SERVICE
ON SUNDAY, 23 DECEMBER
AT 6.00 P.M.
IN METHODIST CHAPEL**

CAMPING WITH YOUTH CLUB

By Max Talbot

A gang of us went camping at Hill End in Oxford from 17th – 19th of August. There was a mixture of both boys and girls but mainly boys.

On the day we arrived we didn't really do much because of the time we all got there, but we had a BBQ for tea.

On Saturday we went for a long walk through the woods when half way through Ian realised that we were in the wrong wood so we went across the field which was full of cows and a bull and ended up where we started from. Then we started again but this time we went to the right wood where the Oxford College students did research on wildlife animals. We walked and walked for over three hours and then went back. Once we were back Les and the girls went for another walk but this time they were chased by the bull which everyone thought was funny when they told us.

On the last day we all walked around the reservoir which was massive then we all packed our stuff up and travelled home.

It was a good weekend and was enjoyed by everyone. A big thank you to Ian, Les and Mrs Lucas for taking us.

AGE Concern OXFORDSHIRE City & County

Could you be a volunteer advocate for older people living in a residential home in Banbury?

This is rewarding voluntary work.

Work that could make a difference.

We offer volunteer advocates training, out of pocket expenses and plenty of support.

Telephone – Age Concern
01865 717615 and find out more.

HORNTON SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

BEEBLE DRIVE

Monday 26th November

In the Pavilion

7 p.m. start

(Families only. NO
unaccompanied children please)

Hornton Primary School

Term has started well. We currently have 60 pupils on roll, with another 10 expected during the year. Mr. Vince Hunt is our new Lunchtime Supervisor, replacing Kate Hart. Congratulations are due to Kate and Richard on the birth of their son Benjamin.

As we begin our first year as Beacon school, we are busy preparing a variety of activities that will take place during the year with a focus on The Arts. We are also delighted to have received the International School's Award. We still have firm links with our European partners and have commenced an exciting joint project sharing our 'languages'. Year 6 pupils are to sing at the Albert Hall in early November, which is a superb opportunity for them. Our Harvest collection once again supported 'Food Aid' and the children raised £100 by forgoing their snacks for a week!

The school association have been very busy planning events for the term. Don't miss the following:-

Saturday 10th November

Murder Night in the Pavilion.

Friday 7th December

A Victorian Christmas Bazaar

(Details of both can be obtained from Jane Wain, or the school).

We appreciate all the extra help and support that has been forthcoming from a number of local residents recently. Thank you for your interest in our school. Finally Congratulations to Olivia Lucas, Stephanie Wheeler, Anna Miles and Stephanie Boorer who won the Ottakers Poetry Competition in the 9 - 12 year age group, with their poem The Marine Ballroom.

STILTON & BROCCOLI SOUP

(Serves 6)

100g (4oz) butter

1 medium onion, finely chopped

1 stick celery, finely chopped

1 clove garlic, crushed

Salt & freshly ground black pepper

50g (2oz) plain flour

300ml (½ pint) milk

850ml (1½ pints) vegetable stock

100g (4oz) Stilton cheese

100g (4oz) very small broccoli florets

150ml (5 fl oz) double cream

Melt 75g (3oz) butter in a heavy based pan. Add the onion, celery & garlic, season well & cook over a gentle heat, uncovered, for about 10 minutes until vegetables are tender. Stir in the flour & cook for further 2 minutes. Gradually add the milk & vegetable stock, stirring to create a smooth mixture. Simmer the soup for 10-15 minutes to allow the flavours to develop.

While the soup is cooking, mash the Stilton with the remaining butter. Add a little hot soup to this mixture, combine well & then add to the pan, whisking well until the soup is completely smooth.

Cook broccoli florets for about 3 minutes in boiling water – they should retain their crunchiness. Drain & reserve a few for garnish. Add the rest of the broccoli to the soup.

Reserve 2 tablespoons of the cream for garnish, add the remainder to the soup & heat through gently for a further 5 minutes.

Serve the soup, decorated with a swirl of cream and broccoli florets, in warm bowls.

BINGO

Tuesday 6 November

At the Church Room

Eyes down 7.30 p.m.

In aid of the Ladies Working Party

BINGO

Monday 19 November

At the Church Room

Eyes down 7.30 p.m.

In aid of the Small Playing Field

"MURDER BEFORE MIDNIGHT"

**Saturday, 10 November
at the Pavilion**

Hornton School Association invites you to an evening out with a difference! Can you solve the crime and work out "Whodunnit"? Teams of up to 4 (can be organised on the night), hot chilli supper, cheese and biscuits, glass of wine, all included in the ticket price of £7.50.

For details please 'phone Jane Wain on 670716.

Prize for the winning team!

TIDY VILLAGE COMPETITION

The Judges' comments:

"The centre of the village houses the school, quite colourful, with flowers in barrels outside. From the size of the village we were pleased to see that it was fortunate still to have a primary school. The green was well mown and the notice board in good condition, with all notices up to date. With its flowering trees the impression was of an attractive centre to the village. This impression was maintained by the many colourful but tidy gardens, particularly of the older properties. We left by Miller's Lane, pausing to look at the allotments. The ones in use seemed productive and well cared for.

The general impression we gained was of a caring community, which although small, had been to great pains to produce a tidy, attractive village with good facilities for its residents."

At the Presentation of the Marlborough Trophy, John Bridgeman praised the diligent way in which Rosemary Gilkes and Philip and Harry Brooks keep the centre of the village so clean and tidy. He also thanked Malcolm Cross for planting and tending the tubs on the round Green and Bill Jeffs for his sterling work in the Churchyard.



Articles etc. for inclusion in the next edition of *The Gossip* to Julie Stanley or Ann Hemmings by 31 January 2002, please.

Please note:

Pete Mumford, the butcher, has made changes to his visits to Hornton. He now comes to the village on Tuesdays and Fridays on alternate weeks

The Co-op milkman has changed his days and now delivers on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

Refuse collection day is on a Monday.

BEST WISHES

to Ollie Fickling and Steve Woodcock on their 21st birthdays

GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

Tony Baldry, MP, has written to inform us that Monday, 3 June 2002, will be an additional Bank Holiday to mark the Queen's Golden Jubilee.

The Spring Bank Holiday that would otherwise fall on Monday, 27 May 2002, will be moved to Tuesday, 4 June 2002, so together these two Bank Holidays will provide a four day central weekend for Golden Jubilee Celebrations. The Department of Culture, Media & Sport has a Golden Jubilee office which is keeping a central database of Golden Jubilee ideas so that when villages or other organisations have confirmed Golden Jubilee events they can be listed on a calendar of daily events on the Golden Jubilee website. We can access this website on www.goldenjubilee.gov.uk/content/

Obviously Hornton will want to celebrate this great occasion and your ideas would be appreciated.

At the Queen's Coronation, Hornton celebrated by giving all the children in the village a Coronation mug. Roland Miles, electrician, installed a television in the Church Room which was left on all day so that everyone could watch the events as they unfolded in London.

WATCH OUT! THERE ARE THIEVES ABOUT!

While Bill Jeffs was on holiday in Finland in August, the new mower was stolen from the Churchyard shed. Garden sheds containing valuable gardening equipment and tools have been targeted recently. Please be extra vigilant and keep your sheds locked and valuables out of sight.

Chapel update.....

As you may have noticed, the Chapel is in the process of being redecorated by Noah's Ark Painting Company. The floor has been sanded by a voluntary working party of Paul Burden, David Miles, Harry Stanley, Don Wain, Glen Walther and David Harwood, and will be sealed after the painters have finished their work. Chairs to replace the pews have now been ordered and should be with us before the Carol Service on 23 December. We are then looking forward to worshipping in our newly refurbished Chapel.

Fundraising to finance the next phase of the project is still very much a priority. Thank you for your continued support.

CLUBS TO JOIN

BROWNIES – Monday 5.00 to 6.30 p.m. at the Pavilion. Brown Owl, Mrs A Simpkins, Tel 670620

3 H's GARDENING CLUB – 2nd Tuesday in the month at the Pavilion. Membership Secretary, Mrs Phyllis Miles, Tel. 670550

KEEP-FIT – Wednesday, 7.00 to 8.00 p.m. at the Pavilion.

YOUTH CLUB – Thursday, 6.45 to 8.00 p.m. at the Pavilion. Leaders, Les England and Ian Harris, Tel. 670541

FOOTBALL – Hornton United F.C. Contact Malcolm Cross, Tel. 670562

DRAMA – Hornton Allsorts. Contact Linda Cross, Tel. 670562

Why did the turkey cross the road?

It was the chicken's day off!