

# The Gossip

HORNTON

Issue Number 41



MAY IT CONTINUE ....

SPRING 2001

After what has seemed an endless winter, and with only six weeks to pass before the year's longest day, we were blessed with a glorious weekend in which to celebrate May Day.

There was a moment when I wondered if the cherries would bloom in time. They've always capped our festivities with showers of pink confetti. With the sun, a drying but cold wind, which helped to dry the earth and regenerate the Green (so badly treated over the wet winter months), Philip and Rosemary had mown, edged and clipped the main section almost to perfection, as had the neighbouring householders. The village really did look marvellous. Spring flowers still abounded, daffodils normally gone by Easter, mixed with tulip, saxifrage and aubrietia. Millers Lane especially has been spectacular this year. As always, by 10 o'clock the village "Team" were delivering tables, and straw bales for the bowling, setting up the Barbeque and erecting our splendid new Maypole. Cakes and all things needed for a good tea arrive at the School. (Laura Pike made her very first cake, a wonderful mix of date, apple and walnut). Isabelle and Julie pass by with bowers of flowers to decorate the May Queen's carriage, which has also been given a coat of primrose yellow paint. The Penny Arcade arrives as does Frank with willing helpers to offload an enormous mix of shrubs and plants.

Due to the "foot and mouth" epidemic we badly missed seeing Daisy with her cob and decorated cart on the Green. The White Elephant was unpacked, this year a greater selection of decorative items than ever (thank God no rusty bikes or radiators!). Anne Joyner reminded us of the books and tapes, so our table looked an attractive mix of china, glass and brass. Jonathan Short provided a magnificent canopy for both "Elephant" and the visiting wood turner and lace maker. It's good to know that in future we can set up a stall come rain or shine. Jane and Laura did a splendid job of unpacking and were soon besieged by early arrivals. We seem to be on the "boot sellers" list - they know a bargain and will spend their money, which is why we have to allow pre-opening sales. In fact by 2 o'clock it looked as though the whole world had descended upon us and everybody doing good business. What a buzz...! When the May Queen passed by all I could see was the top of her floral arch and David Miles tricorne hat. At another point a rumour had it that queues were so long at the Pub, Terry was running out of beer!! Maypole and Morris dancing draws the crowd to the Holloway Green so giving the School end a pause, and time for a cuppa' tea and cakes. Then by 4.30 the crowds thin and a quiet descends, so another Show over. As quickly as it started so the tables are stripped down and folded, cars and trucks are loaded and suddenly The Green is empty. Did such an event happen?? You're darned right it did - just look at the resulting figures. A triumph and a credit to all of you who gave the time to set it all up, help at the stalls and clear the aftermath. Well Done! For the past week prior to this happy event we've all been made aware of the awful virus that is "foot and mouth" and our sympathies have been extended to all our local farming families, the fear that must underlie, the



**LET'S GIVE IT ONE MORE TRY!**

We all know we live in one of the most beautiful villages in Oxfordshire, and soon we will have the chance to prove it is also one of the best cared for. After a few years absence, Hornton is once again being entered for

**'THE BEST KEPT VILLAGE' COMPETITION.**

It will not be easy but if everyone makes sure the area around the front of their house is the best it can be, you never know, we may stand a chance. So, let's give it one more try, and remember - 'there is only one Hornton'!

*Bill Jeffs, Parish Councillor*

*Continued over ...*

“not knowing” from one day to the next, having to be denied one’s social life, the visits of friends, the expense of keeping one’s animals interred.

The notices of restriction appeared on all gates to meadows and public footpaths, our valley suddenly a no-go area, so many of us with dogs had to face the reality of exercising our pooches on neighbouring lanes or hoofing it into Spiceball Park, Banbury. We do take the use of our fields for granted and owe much gratitude to the Nunneley and Hart families. Casting a longing eye across the meadows one realises that a whole generation of rabbits, foxes, badgers and muntjaks have been born and reared without the fear of sight of a dog or human being...!! Even on the Holloway slopes rabbits play undaunted by our presence. A very healthy male fox trots by in broad daylight, on one occasion carrying a large rabbit. Cubs were certainly fed that day!

Around our gardens birds have nested and now feeding young. The bird table still attracts greenfinches, chaffinch, a pair of goldfinch; our tit boxes now home to black caps and blue tits. Thrushes nest by the Churchyard. We have robins feeding young, a pair in the front garden, a pair at back. One has an obsessional desire to bathe! Three or four times a day a shallow dish of water is “plunged”. He, or she, then dries off, and then plunges for a second and a third time! We have a healthy colony of sparrows. It seems there has been a huge decline of this little bird in recent years with no explanation.

Have you noticed the blackthorn is still rising to full blossom? So, reader, “don’t cast a clout” just yet. We might still suffer nature’s last winter sting. Hold back the bedding plants. We had a frost only last week. Even so, don’t forget the Gardening Club’s plant sale.

What ever, though spring was short, summer will surely arise. The cow parsley is refreshing our roadsides at an alarming rate, soon to be joined by “ragged robins” and wild blue geranium. The fields will re-open and let’s hope for a few balmy evenings, pray the virus will be something of the past, and the Government and “cheap” importers will have learnt some lesson. We are the countryside and the countryside matters.

*Philip Williams*

## ***Wildlife in the Garden***

### ***Plants for butterflies***

*By adopting a sunny, sheltered part of your garden as a butterfly area packed with nectar-rich flowers, plant flowers close together to provide continuous cover and keep them well watered from your water butt to keep the nectar flowing. Make use of fences and walls by growing climbers such as clematis, ivy and honeysuckle. These will provide nectar as well as habitat for over-wintering and sheltering butterflies. By far the best butterfly-attracting plant is buddleia but there are dozens of other excellent nectar plants. To encourage butterflies not only to visit your garden but also to breed there you can plant some of the breeding species such as aubrietia, hyssop, lavender, primrose, buddleia, honesty, marigold, thyme, forget-me-not, ice plants, Michaelmas daisy, holly, ivy and nettles.*

*Time is not measured by the years that we live but by the deeds that we do and the joy that we give.*

A.F.T.

**We are proud to announce that fellow villager, John Bridgeman, of Eastgate was invited to the Palace on Ash Wednesday to receive an M.B.E. from the Queen**

## **LOCAL STAR**

One of my birthday treats in February was a ticket for the Banbury Operatic Society production of “Me and My Girl”.

It was a brilliant performance by all the cast with not a dull moment from start to finish. The whole show from costume, scenery and performance was as professional as a West End production. Michael Seely of Bell Street, Hornton, brilliantly portrayed the lead part of ‘Bill Snibson’, a Cockney market stallholder who became a Lord. His singing and dancing were outstanding.

It was a thoroughly enjoyable evening. Do look out for their next production – it will be well worth seeing.

*Julie Stanley*

## **SONGS OF PRAISE**

**In the Parish Church**

**19 August at 6 pm**

## RURAL PUBS

Some 18 months ago I wrote an article on the demise of village Pubs and their chances of survival in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Unfortunately countrywide there is still an average of three Pubs like our own closing their doors forever each week of the year. In so far as your local is concerned, we have enjoyed a better performance in Food and Drink sales since the item appeared.

I would like to thank in particular those people who have organised various events to help us and encouraged people to use the Pub as a social get together. We much appreciate it. Thank you.

**Don't Relax Folks... Only in the Pub!**

*Terry Bell*

## BROWNIES

I am finding Brownies a bit of a strain without a Tawny Owl. The mums' rota has worked really well but I do need to train someone to take over from me in case of illness etc. whilst still using mums to help. If anyone is interested in doing this important job, could they please contact me on 670620

Ann Simpkins, Brown Owl

## Congratulations to the Under 10's football team

Hornton's under 10's football team recently won the Three Counties League. They were undefeated, winning thirteen matches and drawing one. They are playing in the league tournament at Kineton on 24<sup>th</sup> June, where they will pick up the trophy.

In the league they scored 68 goals and only conceded 9 goals in the fourteen matches.

The team members were Matthew Parker, Josh Nunneley, Sam Pearce, Alex Short, Joe Coleman, Tommy Miles, Oliver Wright and Anna Miles.

## CONGRATULATIONS

*to Amy Hinton on her  
forthcoming 18<sup>th</sup> birthday*

East Gate Farm

## MAY DAY 2001

### Money raised:

<b>Pavilion</b>	£
Lucky Square	60.00
Barbecue	247.00
Teas	382.03
White Elephant	
Brownies	50.00
Petrol for	
mowing greens	20.00
Pavilion	<u>657.52</u>
	727.52
Rents from stalls	<u>45.00</u>
	1391.55
less expenses	<u>16.50</u>
	1375.05
<b>Millennium</b>	
Books/Wheel Fortune	107.71
Tea Towels	<u>32.00</u>
	139.71
<b>Hornton School</b>	
Vintage Car donations	167.00
Bottle stall	212.00
Ice Lollies	<u>28.00</u>
	407.00
<b>Peachtree PreSchool</b>	
Tatto's, Fishing Game	<u>94.40</u>
<b>Church</b>	
Produce	<u>140.00</u>
<b>Methodist Church</b>	
Pick-a-ticket	<u>188.50</u>
<b>Children's Playground</b>	
Raffles	123.50
Bowling	<u>97.00</u>
	220.50
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>£2565.16</b>

## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SUMMER PARTY

To include celebration of  
**10 years of 'The Gossip'**  
and also sealing the Time  
Capsule into the Millennium  
seat

**SUNDAY 22 JULY  
AT 6.00 P.M.**

### LIGHT SENSITIVE BULBS

Maximum 2 per household  
£5 each

Contact your Neighbourhood  
Watch Co-ordinator

During the recent Foot and Mouth outbreak endless rules and regulations have been imposed. The most obvious to the general public has been the non-use of footpaths across the countryside. It has not gone without notice that the walkers in this area have not only adhered to the advice but have not complained or faltered in any way.

As a livestock farmer in Hornton Parish I would like to thank you all for your co-operation, and who knows, you may have helped this area stay free of this epidemic. One sure fact is that had Banbury Market still been in operation it could have been a very different story.

Whilst all you people have not been walking paths, it has been noticeable that the wild life has been taking advantage in the lull of activity. Going round the cattle each day gives us a chance to see the wildlife first hand. It is quite easy at the moment to surprise several species of deer, pheasants, woodpeckers, jays, not to mention foxes, badgers etc. It has to be said that the very wet conditions of late have kept us out of the fields and this has also been to their advantage.

On a slightly different note, I was asked the other day how many different breeds of birds I had seen over the last twelve months in this area. Starting with the largest i.e. the swan on our pool, and finishing with the wren, I could count no less than 42. Unfortunately I could not include the thrush which I haven't seen for two years or more.

One more thing for those who are interested: 15 years ago when surrounded by arable fields there were sky larks hovering and singing all day. Since the fields have been permanent pasture to accommodate the cows there is not a skylark in sight. Intensive farming to blame? I think not!!

Roy Tew

GOSSIP 10 YEARS OLD

Doreen and Terry from the Dun Cow congratulate the Editors of 'The Gossip' on their 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and wish them well for the future. During these last 10 years we have read many items which have covered a wide range of subjects - to those who have contributed thanks, also long may it continue.

Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y

**VARNEYS GARAGE**  
 SERVICING, REPAIRS, & MOT'S  
 TO ALL MAKES OF CARS &  
 LIGHT VEHICLES  
 Tel: 670377  
 Wish  
 'The Gossip'  
 A Happy 10<sup>th</sup> Birthday



**David Miles**  
Carpenter, Joiner &  
Builder  
Tel: 670550

*Congratulations*  
*"Gossip" on*

*Your 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*



**Congratulations**  
**to The Gossip on**  
**your 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**  
**From Steve Hinton &**  
**family - your local**  
**decorator Tel: 670486**

**HORNTON PARISH**  
**COUNCIL**  
**THANK THE EDITORS**  
**FOR 10 YEARS OF**  
**THE GOSSIP**  
**AND WISH THEM WELL**  
**FOR THE FUTURE**

**Duncan Dawes**  
**(Farms) Ltd.**  
**Dairy Farmers**  
**congratulate The Gossip**  
**on their 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

*Well Done The Gossip*  
*on reaching your 10<sup>th</sup> Birthday.*  
*Long may you continue.*

**Bill Jeffs**

**Garden Maintenance**

Grass cutting, general gardening,  
hedge trimming/tree lopping, Patio  
cleaning, wall building, ornamental  
stonework, garden ponds and patios  
built Tel: 670529

*John & Jill Offord of*


**THE BETTER**  
**MOUSETRAP COMPANY**  
**LTD**  
 BRAE HOUSE, BELL STREET  
 TEL: 670154  
**WISH THE GOSSIP A HAPPY**  
**BIRTHDAY**

**CONGRATULATIONS &**  
**BEST WISHES FOR**  
**FUTURE GOSSIPS**  
**JULIE AND ANN**  
**FROM**

**ELISABETH JEFFS**  
**SOFT FURNISHINGS**  
Tel: 670529

Happy 10<sup>th</sup> Birthday  
to  
"The Gossip"

**CAD**  
CAMPBELL  
AYLIN  
DESIGN



**'The**  
**Hornton's Vil**  
**Thank the businesses**  
**wi**

'The Gossip' newspaper was started in May 1991. The possibility of starting a newspaper was discussed at the Parish Council AGM of that year. I was the Clerk of the Parish Council at that time and so I was asked to take on the task. I knew it would be too big a task for one person and so I invited Raynor Derrington, my neighbour and friend, to be joint editor with me. Isabelle Harris and Elisabeth Jeffs agreed to help with articles. We agreed that the paper should only contain adverts from village organisations and businesses so that the space used would be mainly about what is happening in Hornton.

I had an idea as to how the paper should look but did not know what to call it. Paul Burden put forward the name 'The Gossip' from village history. In 1919 Mr George Miles opening a 'Reading Room', a small building opposite Home Farm entrance in Bell Street where men and boys could go and read. There was a small subscription of 2d a week for those who could afford it for new books and coal for the fire. This became known as 'the Gossip' as there was more gossiping done than reading!

**'Gossip'**  
**the Newspaper**  
**Hornton for their good**  
**as.**

In the Second World War the room was converted to provide living accommodation for an East End family.

The 'Gossip' newspaper was born in May 1991 in the first issue was printed. In those days I typed the articles and Raynor proofread them and then cut them up and stuck them onto A3 paper. Headings were done with rub-off letters and artwork was free hand (quite a laborious task which took quite a long time). We then took this to a printer who reduced it down to A4 size and printed it for us.

Raynor left the village five years ago and so I invited Ann Hemmings to be joint editor with me. I now have a computer which makes producing 'The Gossip' much easier. However, we are only the technicians – the real work of writing the articles comes from villagers. We have been very lucky so far but we rely on people putting pen to paper and producing interesting articles for us.

We try to make the paper informative and a good read. It is also a record of our village history. It has been very well received over the past ten years. We are always open to suggestions on how to improve it.

*Julie Stanley*

**H.A. HART & SONS**  
 Hornton Hill Farm

COMPOST, BARK, PEAT,  
 LIME, GROW-BAGS,  
 CLACIFIED SEAWEED,  
 LAWN WEED FEED & MOSS  
 KILLER, ORGANIC BASED  
 FERTILISER,  
 HORTICULTURE GRIT,  
 SAND, SILVER SAND, TOP  
 QUALITY POTATOES

Local Deliveries Tel: 670217

**Congratulations**  
*The Gossip*  
**10 years of excellent news**

*Happy 10th*  
*Anniversary*  
*from*

**Roy & Norma Tew**  
**Eastgate Farm**

**Congratulations from**  
**Frank Gardner**  
**Nursery**

FOR ALL YOUR  
 SHRUBS AND PLANTS  
 Tel: 670410

\*\*\*\*\*

**Carolyn Ramsey**  
 MSSCH MBCHA  
**CHIROPODIST**  
 HOME VISITS Tel: 670719

*Wishes*  
*"The Gossip"*  
*A very happy 10<sup>th</sup>*  
*Birthday*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Lionel W. Gibbs**  
**(Hornton) Ltd.**  
**BLACKSMITHS &**  
**WELDERS**  
 INDUSTRIAL AND  
 TRADITIONAL  
 METALWORK  
 TEL: 670310

**Congratulations Gossip**  
**On your 10<sup>th</sup>**  
**Anniversary**



**G. Walther**

**Builder**

**Glen & Sarah**

**Congratulate**

**'The Gossip'**

**on its 10<sup>th</sup> Birthday**



**Tim & Robert Nunneley**  
 (Pasmore & Nunneley)  
**Wish "The Gossip"**  
**A happy birthday.**



and wish to thank you all for obeying the notices by not walking in the fields during the foot & mouth crisis. Hopefully it will not be too long before restrictions can be lifted.

**Kids Klub**

**Congratulations**  
**To the Gossip**  
**On Their**  
**10<sup>th</sup> Birthday!**  
**Kevin & Jane**





## HORNTON PRIMARY SCHOOL Summer 2001

**Awards** We are delighted to report two recent awards made to the school. The first is Investor in people status and the second is the Basis Skills Agency Quality Mark. Everyone has worked very hard and we are proud to have achieved these.

**Websites** We now have our own website which you will find on: [www.hornton.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.hornton.oxon.sch.uk) I hope you will find it user friendly. The other website that may interest you is that of our European partnership which has been set up by the Dutch school and includes some of the work we have sent them. That address is <http://home.hccnet.nl/rsg.kuppers>

**Curriculum** Outings will include a visit to Sulgrave Manor on 21<sup>st</sup> May for Class 2; Junior Citizen for Class 3 on 22<sup>nd</sup> May and a trip to the Cotswold Wildlife Park for Class 1 on 12<sup>th</sup> June.

Children in years 5 and 6 will also be involved in the IMP's (injury minimisation programme) at the end of term and visit the Horton Hospital.

Partnership events will include the Partnership Sports, as well as a swimming gala and Kwik Cricket tournament for the older children.

**Musical** During the latter part of term we will be putting on another musical production. Details of performances, tickets etc. will be issued nearer the time.

**Lunchtime Supervisor** We are seeking to appoint a temporary lunchtime supervisor for lunchtimes from half term. This is partly to cover maternity leave and partly to cover sickness/absence. The job could be shared. It involves supervising the children

as they have lunch and then watching them in the playground. We have invested in a number of games and large pieces of equipment to occupy the children and these also need supervision to ensure fairness. The hours are daily from 12.15 to 1.15 p.m. If you are interested, or know of anyone who is, please contact school as soon as possible.

**Summer Fete** The School Association will be working hard again this term for the Fete on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June. There will be a Grand Draw and many other attractions. Please look out for further details.

**Tesco's Tokens** Many thanks to all those who have given their tokens to Hornton School. If you have any remaining tokens we would be grateful if you could let us have them as soon as possible.

**Book Quiz** In excess of £100 has been raised by sales of our Quiz. Thank you to everyone who took part. The results were:

Adults 1<sup>st</sup> Prize - Sally Phelan

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize - Lesley Waller

Children Joint 1<sup>st</sup> Prize Tom, Jess and Liz Wain, Victoria Cooper, Hannah Phelan

A letter has been sent to all school and playschool parents requesting that they should avoid parking on the green. We hope this will help improve the situation.

The school premises and grounds should not be used in the evenings, weekends or holidays without permission. We have been plagued recently by local youths climbing scaffolding and generally making a nuisance of themselves around the school. No responsibility can be taken by the school should an accident happen to trespassers. We would be grateful to local residents if they would report any misuse of the premises at these times. Thank you.

Finally, we are hoping to make arrangements for a Japanese teacher assistant to work in school for the Summer Term 2002 i.e.

April - June/July. We are looking for a host family or other suitable accommodation in Hornton, Horley or Hanwell. The agency pay £70 per week for board and accommodation. If you are able to help or know of someone who can, please contact me as soon as possible. Further details are available.

*W.M.F. Clifford -  
Headteacher*

### *Children's Playground*

COFFEE MORNING  
On  
Saturday August 11<sup>th</sup>

10.30 - 12 noon  
in the Children's  
Playground

### **My dog Mungo**

*My dog likes chasing rabbits  
but he has other habits  
Sitting on the sofa watching  
telly  
Eating until he pops his  
belly.  
If you step on his paw  
He will give you what for  
With his nasty big sharp jaw.  
My dog likes eating meat  
When he is in the corn fields  
he runs through the wheat  
It's been a long day.  
Mungo has gone home  
where mum has saved him a  
juicy bone  
Now he has gone to bed  
Ow he has bumped his head  
Now he is asleep  
Night night!*

By Sam Thornton, aged 9  
A pupil at Hornton School



## ENVIRONMENTALLY VERY DANGEROUS

Fairly strong words about a plant that produces pretty yellow flowers but ragwort (*Senecio Jacobaea*) is extremely dangerous to humans and animals.

The toxic properties in ragwort are made up of several different pyrrolizidine alkaloids which are all poisonous to horses, cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, dogs and human beings. Ragwort causes more losses to the livestock industry than all other poisonous plants put together.

Most worrying of all is that the PA (pyrrolizidine alkaloids) poisons have been found in eggs, grain, milk and honey. Research into PAs has been shown to cause cancer in rats and other laboratory animals (*Ref. Kinghorn, Carcinogenic and Cocarcinogenic Toxins, 247-248*). Kinghorn goes on to say "Alkaloids of *S. jacobaea* have been found in honey produced from its nectar (Deinzer et al, 1977) and in milk from cows grazing on this species (Dickinson et al, 1976). PAs therefore present a significant carcinogenic risk to humans and livestock." Last year a lot of West Country beekeepers had to throw away their honey as it showed high levels of PAs. The bees feeding on the nectar of the ragwort plant flowers caused this. Researchers have also found that PAs cause birth defects and abortions. The liver damage caused by PAs is irreversible and there is no known treatment for ragwort poisoning.

Ragwort is easy to recognize when growing. The plant produces a rosette of green

ragged edge leaves in May, then grows into a 3' upright plant with woody slightly red stems. It produces a large head of bright yellow flowers with daisy like petals in late July/August.

We can prevent the risks of our food chain and the poisoning of our animals if we all work together to clear ragwort from our beautiful county. Before ragwort flowers it responds well to spraying with an herbicide. Once it flowers all plants must then be pulled up and put into sacks and incinerated before it is allowed to seed. **ALWAYS WEAR GLOVES WHEN HANDLING RAGWORT.**

The British Horse Society is organizing a major ragwort clearance programme across Oxfordshire this summer. This is a project that anyone can help with whether it is advising us of areas where you have found ragwort growing or simply pulling up the plants as you find them while out walking. To do that all you will need is your gloves and a bag to put the plant into, it's as simple as that!

If you want to safeguard the environment for future generations and care about animals please join our campaign and become involved in this project.

For advice, leaflets or to offer help, please contact the BHS Welfare Officer, Miss D M Harris, on 01993 702844

## THE GOSSIP

The next edition of The Gossip will be published during the first week of August. As usual we would be grateful for any articles, letters, poems, observations, handy tips, etc. for inclusion, by 31<sup>st</sup> July.

## CLUBS TO JOIN

**BROWNIES** - Monday 4.30 pm in the Church Room. Brown Owl, Mrs. A. Simpkins, Tel. 670620

**KEEP FIT** - Wednesday 7 pm in the Pavilion. Just come along!

**DRAMA** - Hornton Allsorts. Contact Linda Cross, Tel. 670562

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

**3 H's GARDENING CLUB** - 2nd Tuesday in the month. 7.30 p.m. in the Pavilion. Membership Sec. Phyllis Miles, Tel. 670550

**DOMINOES & CRIB** - contact the Dun Cow for details

## CHURCH SERVICES

**First Sunday in Month**

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

**Second Sunday in Month**

11.00 a.m. Parish Church  
(United Service)

**Third Sunday in Month**

10.30 a.m. Parish Church  
(Matins)  
11.00 a.m. Methodist Church

**Fourth Sunday in Month**

11.00 a.m. Parish Church  
11.00 a.m. Methodist Church

**MUSICAL CORNER**  
**"Lullaby Of Birdland"**  
*(part 2)*

*By Mike Webber*

We continue the George Shearing story at the end of 1947, with George finally living in the U.S.A. In the U.S.A. he was, of course, virtually unknown, and the only jobs he would get were interval pianist in various clubs. However, he used to drag his wife up to Harlem in New York to hear the latest 'bop' jazz-music (His wife was Trixie Bayes, whom he met very early in the War during an air-raid in London). During 1948 he did manage to get established at the famous 'Three Deuces' club in New York, again mostly solo piano.

However, he was still under contract for a further year to the Decca recording company back in England, and returned to record in November 1948 what are arguably (by jazz-musicians) some of his finest jazz recordings ever. These were trio recordings with ex-Canadian R.A.F. man Jack Fallon on double bass, and Norman Burns on drums.

His wife didn't like the new 'bop' - style jazz and before this recording session, whilst at home, begged George to play something with a melody, which she thought the public would be more likely to accept. He then proceeded to play the melody of 'The Nearness of You' in 'octaves' in the right-hand. He then recorded this at the 1948 London session, together with 'Someone to watch over me'. To me this 'octave-playing' was the embryo of his famous Quintet sound of a year later when back in the U.S.A; whether knowingly by George or not, I have never seen documented. He also recorded the tune 'Principiana' at the 1948 London session; his first 'Latin' recording of which he made several hugely successful albums later.

Back in the U.S.A. at his old friend Leonard Feather's suggestion he then augmented the trio-format (different bass-player and drums to the London recording) with

vibraphone and guitar. (The musicians in his first Quintet were Margie Hyams - vibraphone; Chuck Wayne - guitar; Al McKibbon - double bass; Denizil Best - drums, plus, of course, George). Using the octave-phasing by vibes and guitar (uncannily-like the 1948 London sound) he first recorded 'September in the Rain' in 1949. This was an instant success, and thereafter the boy from Battersea never looked back, for the famous 'Shearing Sound' was born!

The third, and final part of "Lullaby of Birdland" is to follow.

*Children come and join us*  
**United Sunday School**  
*Starts Sunday*  
**9<sup>th</sup> September 2001**  
*in*  
**METHODIST CHURCH**  
**SCHOOL ROOM**  
**9.30 A.M. - 10.30 A.M.**

*You may wonder why the Methodist Church is always raising money. The reason is that our membership is small and we have to find quite a substantial amount to keep our society in Hornton.*

*In the mid 1800's a Methodist mission was sent to Hornton and many of the population became Methodists. At first a Methodist Church was built behind Chapel Cottage but as the membership grew it was decided to build a bigger place. The present Chapel was built by voluntary labour. Most of the people were farm labourers or quarrymen. Their wages were small but they gave their skills and built a place of worship to be proud of.*

*The Chapel was always full on a Sunday until the late 1960's. Since then numbers have dwindled for Sunday services. When united special services are held then numbers increase. Our Good Friday service was quite well attended and £86 was sent to*

*Katherine House Hospice from the retiring collection.*

*Our Chapel is now well over 100 years old and some major repairs are imminent. The roof needs replacing and it needs decorating. Costs will be high and our fundraising and giving only covers our every day running costs. The members would like to keep the Chapel open for Sunday worship but would also like to see it used for other events such as concerts. (We are open to suggestions). We are hoping to get rid of the pews and have chairs instead which will give a lot more space.*

*You are invited to a*  
**COFFEE MORNING**  
*On*  
**Saturday June 16th**  
*In the garden of*  
**Julie & Harry Stanley**  
**Langway**  
**Bell Street**  
**10.30 - 12 noon**  
**IN AID OF METHODIST**  
**CHURCH FUNDS**

**Ride or Stride**



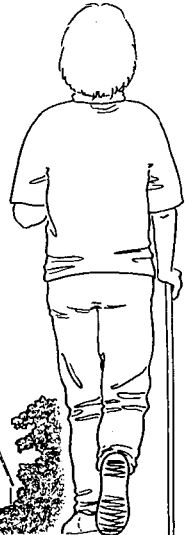
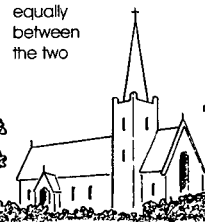
**Sat 8th Sept 2001**

A sponsored event to raise money for:

- The church of your choice and
- The Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust



Your contribution will be divided equally between the two



Sponsorship forms available from:

**JULIE STANLEY Tel: 670507**

County Organiser: John Hewitt [01865]735180 Registered Charity 235644

Printed by Drexell Ltd, Railway Station, Thurston, Suffolk



## NEIGHBOURHOOD

### WATCH

In accordance with their policy of introducing themselves to the community, a team of five officers from Banbury Police Station came to Wroxton recently.

It would seem that we have had a good year in Hornton with very little crime being reported. We are lucky in being off the main road. Drayton and Wroxton have had far more than their share – though it has to be said that some of the crimes reported were “domestics”. (I’m glad no-one has reported the frequent sound of rows issuing from our house!!)

More seriously, answers were provided to some of the questions which have bothered some of us in the past. For example, I know I have felt very indignant about the fact that one no longer receives a visit from the police if one reports a car stolen. However, as one sergeant put it: ‘Is it a sensible use of police time to come and look at an empty parking spot?’ Well, no, one has to agree. . This does not mean that the police are unsympathetic: far from it. It’s just that these days they cannot afford the time to express sympathy over a cup of tea as in days of yore.

Another thing that has been bugging many of us is the hopeless response to telephone calls to the police. When you ring the police you get transferred to the control centre at Kidlington. Then, not only does it take a long time to get an answer, but, when you do, the lack of local knowledge of the person you are talking to is often extremely frustrating.

But the call may have been taken even further afield than Kidlington! If there is no one to take your call there, it may be transferred to Leicester or even further away! No wonder they don’t know where the Horley Bends or the Drift Road are. So we just have to curb out irritation, make our message as clear as

possible so that when it is passed on to the relevant people they will be able to understand it.

And there was information about the police response time. If there is something happening at the time of the call, the police aim to be there within 12 minutes – though with the nearest police car in, say, Chipping Norton it may take a little longer! Priority calls should take 45 minutes and routine calls 4 hours.

It made things much clearer: one has to try and analyse if there is anything the police can do if they do respond with a visit. There really isn’t much they can do after the culprits, or potential culprits, have fled the scene, except to listen to our report of what happened. We can all site instances of when we feel we have been failed but the police may well have other incidents which are actually more pressing at the time – frustrating though it may seem. However, don’t let this make you hesitate to report an incident. As was pointed out, each bit of information contributes to building up a pattern, part of the overall picture which may help them to catch an offender. Wroxton do not have a Neighbourhood Watch but they kept stressing how important and effective two-way flow of information is. Keep up the good work!

On a lighter note, come to the Combined Watch Party – on the Green on Sunday 22 July, 6-8 p.m. It promises to be a good evening: the time capsule will be placed in the Millennium sundial, The Gossip will celebrate its 10th birthday and there will be wine, food and a raffle! And all this will be followed by another showing of the Millennium film!

Be there!

Dogberry

### CONGRATULATIONS

*to Zoe and Peter Whitehead  
on the birth of their son on 8  
May; brother for Ellie.*

**HORNTON**

**ALLSOBS**

*Present*

**THEME NIGHTS**



*Saturday 9 June  
7.30 p.m. for 8.00 p.m.*

### OPEN AIR SERVICE

*with the*

**SALVATION ARMY**

**BAND**

*Sunday, 17 June*

*2.30 p.m. on The Green*

*(in Pavilion if wet)*

### HORLEY CRICKET

**CLUB**

**DANCE**

*Friday, 29 June*

*in the Pavilion*

*See village noticeboard for  
details*

### HORNTON SCHOOL

**MUSICAL**

*Wednesday, 11 July*

*Thursday, 12 July*

### COFFEE MORNING

*on*

*Saturday 14 July*

*In the garden of*

*Alison and Richard Carr*

*Hornton Road, Horley*

*10.30 to 12 noon*

**IN AID OF METHODIST  
CHURCH FUNDS**

## HORNTON WEBSITE - progress report

You may remember that the last edition of The Gossip raised the idea of a village website.

There was an excellent response! Brian Wright of Foxgloves in Millers Lane, offered to register the name of the site and Paul Barrett of Starveall Barn on Quarry Road, offered to design it. Paul and his colleague, James Prentice, are website designers, so we have professionals to help us!

We had a stall on May Day to bring everyone up to date and get more people involved, but here's a summary of where we are now:

- \* We have registered the name -- It's [www.hornton.org.uk](http://www.hornton.org.uk)
  - \* We have started work on the site's design and content.
  - \* Now we need materials about organisations, clubs and events to include on the site. Please give us contact details so we can include your material.
  - \* We are looking into some funding from Oxfordshire County Council and we're forming a committee to run the website.
  - \* We held a vote at May Day to choose silhouette image which will go on the homepage -- front page - of the website. The results were:
    - 1 a specially designed logo involving the word Hornton and the outline of a tree
    - 2 the yeoman brass rubbing from the church
    - 3 the Dun Cow
- They were so close though that we may try to use all three in some way!
- \* We are starting an e-mail directory so that we can circulate updates to the website once it is up and running. If you have a computer, give us your e-mail address.
  - \* We are starting a pet directory to

return lost pets to their homes so please enter your pet's details. You don't need a computer to put your pet in the directory.

- \* We are starting a video library in the village, with a catalogue on the website. Do you have any videos which people could borrow from you for a day or two? All proceeds to village funds. Again, you won't need a computer to join the video library.

To get involved or send details of your e-mail address, your pet or your video collection, please contact Lynn Corke on 670673 or Paul Barrett on 670919 or e-mail [p.f.barrett@btinternet.com](mailto:p.f.barrett@btinternet.com).

See the noticeboard and The Gossip for further news.

*Lynn Corke*

## HORNTON MILLENNIUM COMMITTEE

Between October 1998 and April 2001 the Millennium Committee have raised £6,788 from numerous events which were not only profitable but also very enjoyable. These included Open Gardens, Music Live, Village History Exhibition, Variety Show, drama production of 'Abigail's Party', Treasure Hunt, Bingos and Beetle Drives. Money was also raised from the sale of Tee Shirts, Tea Towels and the Millennium Photograph. Donations from the Church Ladies' Working Party, Hornton Parish Council and village people were also received and Cherwell District Council gave a grant of £2,000.00. The major proportion of the money has been spent on the Hornton stone Millennium Seat on the village green and to frame the village tapestry which now stands in the Parish Church. Lights have also been purchased for the village

Christmas tree which now looks like becoming an annual event. There is currently £1,397 in the bank account which may be needed to fund the Millennium film (depending on how the sale of the film goes!!). The Millennium committee would like to thank everyone in the village for all their help and support over the past two years.



**Audrey and Eric Turner  
will once again be opening  
their garden at Bellevue for  
charity under the National  
Gardens Scheme  
on Sunday, 27 May 2001  
from 2 to 6 p.m.**

**Plant sale Teas**

## THREE H'S GARDENING CLUB

**PLANT SALE  
at the Pavilion  
on Saturday, 19 May  
10.30 a.m.**

*More successful dancing results  
from the Julie Bruce Dancing  
Academy:*

Alice Offord  
Ballet Grade 1 78%  
Emily Wright  
Ballet Grade 5 80%  
Amy Harris  
Classical Ballet 82%  
\*\*\*\*Well done to you all\*\*\*\*