

The Grapevine Great Hinton

Editor Richard Clarke 870635

April 2004

Great Hinton Parish Council

Bus Shelter

I am very pleased to be able to report that the County Council have recently confirmed that our application for grant support for a new shelter has been approved in principle. We anticipate full approval will be just a formality and is subject only to the final approval of the appropriate county budget for 2004/05.

Over the next few weeks we will seek the views of the Town Planning department of WDC, following which we will be seeking three competitive tenders for the construction work. If all goes well, then it is to be hoped that a new shelter could be erected early this summer.

Fore Street Farm

In the last edition of The Grapevine I reported that the estate of Kath Berrett had submitted an application to build a new house, with stable and garage, on the garden land between the Memorial Hall and Fore Street Farmhouse. In recent weeks the estate have submitted a much improved application, which addresses many of our concerns about siting and design of the new house. Unfortunately these new plans do not, however, deal with our primary concern in that it does not cover the listed building.

Our concerns for the future of Fore Street Farmhouse have grown in recent months in the light of correspondence and photographs submitted by the estate's architect in an apparent attempt to prove that the existing listed house is in a very serious state of disrepair. We have no doubt that Fore Street Farmhouse is in need of some considerable work to provide basic amenities and to overcome its lack of maintenance in recent years, but a sympathetic refurbishment scheme would create an attractive and desirable residence ensuring the building's long term retention.

We have again urged the District Council to reject this, or any, application that does not deal with the whole of this important site at the heart of our village. If you feel as strongly about this proposed re-development as your parish council I would urge you to write to the planners (quoting reference 03/01793) and to our District Councillor, Mrs Virginia Fortescue.

Steeple Ashton School

We have now heard that the Education Authorities have offered places at Keevil School to all former pupils of St Mary's, which can only help to secure the long term future of Keevil. Whether our submission made any difference I don't know, but it is certainly a victory for common sense.

Chris Munday Chairman

870912

From our County Councillor

Steeple Ashton School

Following the recent consultation, Keevil School has been designated as the destination for present and future Steeple Ashton children. Parents could choose to take their children to other schools if they wished, though they'd have to make their own arrangements with transport.

Local Transport Plan

Press reports implying the government is refusing to fund the Westbury bypass are inaccurate - no decision has been made. County are told to "give thought to the measures required for the Air Quality Management Area in Westbury if the proposed bypass is not constructed". This is something they have to date refused to do. The procedure now is:

- i) the much-delayed Bristol/Bath to south coast study report is produced
- ii) this is considered by the Regional Assembly
- iii) then government ministers consider all views before reaching a decision

Coldharbour Hill

In order to improve road safety on the hill Great Hinton and Keevil Parish Councils have agreed to pay for additional signage at Shambles (Quilkins) Corner.

B3098

The resurfacing works are now expected to start in July and take about three months. When the road has to be closed diversions will take traffic around by the main roads. There will be no official diversions onto the minor roads around Coulston etc because Highways are not normally allowed to divert from a B road onto a C road.

In the light of Edington Parish Council's concerns the officers drawing up the scheme have been asked to look at ways of including traffic calming measures in the village.

The work will extend from the western end of Edington to the eastern end of Erlestoke.

Buses From Space

The latest technology is coming to Wiltshire's bus stops. Services radiating from Salisbury, including the Westbury & Trowbridge routes, will have a "Real Time Passenger Information" system, whereby buses are tracked by satellite and a display at the bus stop tells you how far away the next bus is. It's hoped that eventually the system will be accessible via mobile phones and the internet.

Rail Service

A meeting of the Rail Passengers Committee at County Hall in early February heard rail bosses announce they are to think again about services on the Bath to Salisbury and Waterloo route. Andrew Haines of South West Trains said the direct service to Waterloo was likely to be saved, subject to getting the Strategic Rail Authority to allocate the rolling stock.

D-Day Anniversary

Keevil are organising a massive celebration of the 60th anniversary of D-day on Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th of June. On Saturday there will be a Big Band concert at the Manor, and on Sunday a Church service in the morning to be followed by a series of events at the airfield including a flypast by RAF Hercules from Lyneham.

Trevor Carbin

228 Church Street Hilperton Trowbridge BA14 7RG

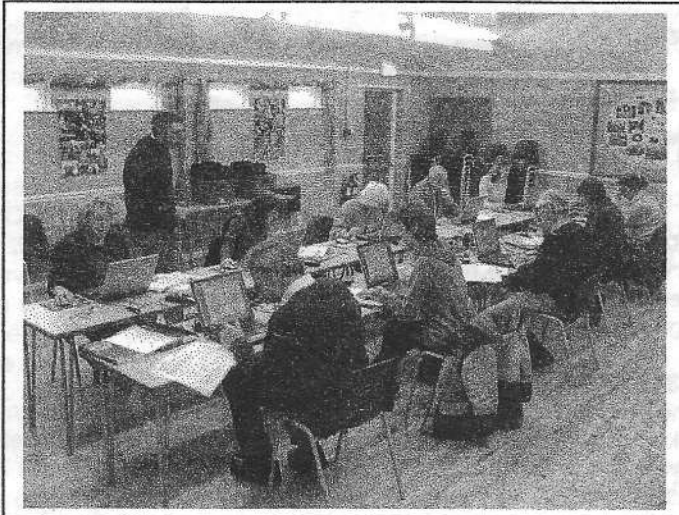
01225 713066 fax 713137

Surgery Saturday mornings 11 to 12.30 at above address

I.T. CLASSES

There are a few vacancies both in the morning and afternoon sessions, so do come and join us. Even if you have no experience at all of computers George, our tutor, will soon have you hooked! He will also help anyone with some knowledge who would like to advance their skills. We meet in the Hall on Mondays 10-12 or 1-3pm. £1.00 per hour plus 30p. for tea or coffee and biscuits.

Most of the students are currently enjoying a six week Internet class at Bromham on Wednesdays. Believe me, the internet opens up a whole new world!



As you can see from the photograph we are all very keen! You can join the class at any time. Contact me on 870607.

Anne Truman

26TH SAFARI DINNER

An Important date for your diaries, **Saturday 17th April**, is the date for the 26th Safari Dinner. No special celebrations or themes this time, just come along and be yourselves. Please let me know by Friday 9th April (Good Friday) whether you will be joining in. I will let you know numbers and courses on the Monday or Tuesday.

New-comers always welcome – please phone me if you want to know more about a Safari Dinner.

Sandra

870906

LUNCH CLUB

We continue to enjoy our monthly get together with good food and congenial company. The next lunch will be an **"Easter Special" on Thursday 8th April**. We are always pleased to welcome new faces.

Last year's outing was so well enjoyed that we shall be discussing whether to have another one this year, and if so where to go. Put your thinking caps on and come armed with suggestions.

Anne, Doris and Audrey attended a 'Hygiene Course' at West Wilts District Council Offices. It was a day of intensive training, followed by a test. We all came home with our certificates quite exhausted but glad that we had participated.

Audrey

CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP

At the Christmas workshop the children made Christmas cards and Christmas trees and Christingles which were used at the carol service in the village hall - miraculously nobody's hair was singed!!

The next workshop will be held on **Friday 16 April** from 10 to 12 as usual when the theme will be peg dolls for the girls and aeroplanes for the boys. As this is the last Friday of the Easter holidays hopefully most of the children will be around.

My grateful thanks to all who supported the coffee morning I held recently to raise funds for the workshops – to those who baked for the cake stall, donated raffle prizes, served coffee, manned the stalls, and others who just came to enjoy a sociable morning. We made the princely sum of £110 – I had aimed to collect about £50 to £60 to purchase some balsa wood models for the boys to make and other materials, so you will appreciate I am delighted as I have enough to fund the next two or three workshops.

Audrey

Art GROUP as always meets on Thursdays in the Hall from 7.30 until 9.30pm, but please note that we are taking an Easter break, and will not be meeting on the 8th and 15th April.

We are hoping to attract new people to join us, and if you would like to come along, please ring me. We are not an Art Class, and do not have teaching facilities, so please bring with you something to copy or your own still life subject. We generally all help each other, and you can expect a very friendly social evening with wine, tea or coffee at half time.

We are hoping to stage our third Exhibition during the Autumn, and details will appear in the next Grapevine.

Mike Truman

870607

KEEVIL SCHOOL NEWS – MARCH

Another busy term at Keevil School. The Year 5 and 6 pupils have been to Tintagel in Cornwall for their residential visit, studying rivers and coastlines and the legends of King Arthur. We also looked closely at alternative energy at the Gaia Energy Centre, set on the edge of a wind farm. All good stuff – watch this space!

It's the season for collecting vouchers again! **Tescos** began their system on 23 February; this runs until 2 May. **Persil** continue their star points for Art materials. We'd be very grateful if you could collect any of these for us.

During the Summer Term we are studying Britain since 1930, which will obviously have a keen focus on World War II, D.Day etc. We're hoping to put on a small exhibition of memorabilia, children's work and even a musical production. If you have any "bits and pieces" that we could borrow for a few weeks, please contact me at the school.

Mo Laycock

870376

**Found in fields near Peppercorn Orchard
Ladies wrist watch with safety chain
Contact Veronica on 870253**

BYO **EVENINGS** At the last count there were sixteen villagers at the Linnet enjoying friendship and conversation. Tuesday evenings at 8.30ish until whenever, is the time to come and enjoy our Pub and "Buy Your Own" drinks. We look forward to seeing some new faces – especially if you are recently arrived in the village.

The Mintaka Diary

Well, we are not actually on board writing this, but our two years of planning are rapidly coming to an end and the moment of truth is upon us.

We intend to set sail on Good Friday heading east. This year we will be cruising for seven months returning mid to late October to spend the winter at home. Whilst not intending to plan every inch of our trip in advance we do have a sketch route plan.

When we reach the Thames at Reading we will turn left and head for Oxford. Thereafter we will navigate our way round Birmingham and on to Manchester. We intend to join the Leeds/Liverpool canal and journey east across the Pennines and Yorkshire Dales heading for the River Ouse in order to reach York. Spending some time in York we may perhaps include a trip up the Ouse to Ripon which is as far as one can navigate in the east. Returning from York we will join the River Trent and travel south. Our hope is to explore the oldest canal in the country (the Fossdyke – built by the Romans) in order to include a visit to Lincoln. Continuing south we join the Grand Union Canal, make a trip to Stratford-on-Avon, and then on to the Thames in London.

Currently we are adding a few refinements to the boat, not least of which are provisions to improve the comfort for overnight guests. Between now and April we will be making short trips on the boat at weekends so if anyone fancies a few hours afloat let us know and you would be welcome to join us.

Colin and Judy 01225 781337

Rain Stops Play

No – we haven't started up a cricket group. This is the Badminton Group reporting. Our regular Friday evening sessions have been somewhat disrupted in recent weeks due to the leaking roofs of Christie Miller and Clarendon Sports Centres.

Our numbers continue to grow with Rosie and Alistair of Griffen Lodge joining us. We now have 10 villagers playing regularly as well as Judy and myself plus five others from outside the village. Despite sickness and holidays taking their toll, we are able to book three courts each week and we get through at least 12 games.

Judy and I will be saying good-bye to the badminton group at the end of March but the increasing membership will compensate for our absence and still leave enough players to book 2 or 3 courts each week.

Having been the originator of the Great Hinton Badminton Group I get a great deal of pleasure and satisfaction on Friday evenings watching what seems to be hordes of us leaving the Sports Centre after a good session. I owe a lot of thanks to Ken for his willing support in the early days and, more recently, in his control of the not insignificant funds produced by the group.

Colin Ramsay

St Mary's Church Steeple Ashton

I am writing this letter as the 'named pastoral contact' for Steeple Ashton and Great Hinton during the interregnum. This does not mean that I am a kind of temporary vicar. The tasks formerly carried out by David Hart have been shared out between a number of people, the heaviest burden falling on Derek and Michael as churchwardens. My particular contribution (in addition to being available for pastoral situations where a priest is needed) is to ensure that any funerals or weddings are covered as they arise.

The arrangements for the longer term are not yet completely clear. There will in the course of time again be an incumbent responsible for Steeple Ashton and Great Hinton, but that person will have responsibility for other parishes too, and is unlikely to be resident here. This period of change certainly presents a challenge, as all changes do, but it is also an opportunity for real growth and new vigour – God will provide the resources that are necessary as we pray, and if we are open to his leading he will use us in ways we could not imagine.

The mission of the Church is to love and care for others, and to proclaim the Gospel both by the way that we live and the words that we speak. This is something that every Christian is responsible for, and as we approach Easter, the festival of the resurrection when we celebrate God's once-and-for-all victory over sin and death, we are each challenged to consider how we are setting about being part of establishing his Kingdom on Earth.

Let us pray for God's blessing on each other as we rejoice at God's gift of new life!

Andrew Otto

Curate, Holy Trinity Trowbridge

GREAT HINTON COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

On 10 January we held the traditional village Hangover Party in the Hall. It was well attended as usual and it was good to see some new faces joining in on this occasion. Kevin Crumpler did another superb job of organising the activities for the evening, including a game that involved defusing a bomb! Well, not a real bomb but a pretty clever bit of kit with alarms and gyros and electrical circuits to find your way around. I'm sure you will be pleased to hear that no villagers (or other animals) were harmed in this game. If it had been real you wouldn't have got this report because my team did not win this event. The evening went with a real swing and thanks again to Kevin.

Then on 6 March we tried something new with the "Pub Olympics". Teams competed at darts, table skittles, shove ha'penny, dominoes and table football. We didn't know quite what to expect. We had a bit of trouble understanding some of the rules of the games, but once that was settled there was no stopping us. From the noise and laughter everyone seemed to be enjoying themselves. We'll probably run a similar event next year, so look out for it next time.

See the "Dates for your Diary" box for forthcoming events, including the AGM for the Community Committee. As usual all are welcome. We are always looking for new people to join the Committee. If you are interested and could attend occasional evening meetings (5 or 6 a year) please contact

Neil on 870153

GREAT HINTON MEMORIAL HALL TRUST

The Millennium Commission funded-project to upgrade the kitchen and buy new tables is now complete and everything is in place. The Millennium Commission has funded half of the costs involved, with the remainder coming from the funds of the Trust plus donations from the Community Committee, the Ladies Club and the Lunch Club. Thanks to all those groups and individuals who contributed to or helped with this project.

It is excellent to see the Hall so well used, but remember there is always some space for private bookings (contact David Harnott on 871196).

The Trust AGM will be on 10 May, at the same time as the Community Committee AGM – see the "Dates for your Diary" box.
Neil Haynes

Ladies Club

The year always begins with a battle for the coveted "Golly Cup", the ladies' prize for the best score on the skittle alley, which this year was won by Diane Norris with Kevin Crumpler providing the best men's score and Sandra taking the cash for the "killer round". I was on the other side of the world at the time but am told that it was, as always, a good evening.

In February we had a very dynamic speaker, Jenny Wasielewska -not an easy name to introduce, but she told us that her colleagues call her Jenny Vaseline – quite an appropriate 'nickname' as her talk was on First Aid. She was so enthusiastic, teaching us well on dealing with emergencies. Audrey Plummer and Doris Saville were willing 'patients' for demonstration purposes.

The Gourmet night held on St Patrick's Day set the tone for the decoration but the menu was one of "Family Favourites" and as always the ladies produced plentiful and delicious fare which we gladly shared with our menfolk!

On **21 April** we will hold our Annual General Meeting which sounds very formal but the business side takes only minutes, after which we get down to some buying and selling to re-stock our larders and bathroom cupboards and raise a little cash for our chosen charity which this year is the Hope Nature Centre fund. The Trustees are aiming to create a safe, stimulating working environment for adults with special needs which will also be an attraction for tourists and locals in West Wiltshire, to be based in Southwick Country Park. The

District and Town Councils, Social Services and the Lord Lieutenant of the County are amongst their supporters. They are well on the way to raising the money they need. We hope to contribute more to this project at

THE VILLAGE FETE on SATURDAY, 3 JULY
Further details will be posted round the village in due course.

We always welcome new members to the Ladies Club. We meet from September to April 8pm on the third Wednesday of each month in the village hall. If you have not been before and would like to come, please let me know or just turn up.

Carol Clarke

870635

HALL BOOKINGS I would urge anyone wishing to book the Hall on a Saturday to contact me sooner than later to avoid disappointment. A provisional booking will suffice and there is no cancellation fee.

David Harnott

871196

FOR SALE - TABLES

Now that the old wooden tables in the Hall have been replaced we have about 10 of these for sale. Good solid tables – suitable for children's rooms, workshops, greenhouses etc.
£5 each – first come first served.
Contact Neil Haynes on 870153

Dates for your diary.

Thursday 8 April 12.15 – Lunch Club
Friday 16 April 10-Noon – Children's Workshop
Saturday 17 April – Safari Dinner
Wednesday 21 April 8.00pm – Ladies Club
Monday 10 May 8.00pm – AGMs of Community Committee and Hall Trust
Saturday 22 May (evening) – Village Quiz Night
Saturday 3 July – Village Fete

100 Club

The lucky winner of the Christmas bonus prize of £50 was No16 – Sam Killingback

		£15		£12		£10		£8		£5
December	41	Anne Truman	38	Jenny Scrivenor	108	Mrs Mills	17	Jeff Newman	65	Wendy Probert
January	68	John Fennell	123	D.Dickenson	33	Chris Munday	60	Shirley Brooks	95	Kevin Crumpler
February	43	Richard Newman	71	Sam Barker	32	Julie Doel	118	David Clarke	121	Mrs Jones

The last draw of the year has taken place and the new club started on 1 March. During the last year there were 124 members with 5 prizes a month and a bonus prize of £50 in June and December. Now is the time to pay your £12 membership for the new year and if you have not been approached to join or re-join and wish to become a member please phone me. New members are welcome and there is no limit to the number of friends or relatives who can join. The more members – the higher the prize money! Winners names are drawn at the Linnet on the last Tuesday every month. All profits from the 100 Club go towards the running costs of the Hall, especially the insurance which rises more than inflation each year. Good luck and thank you all for your support.
David Harnott 871196