

# The Grapevine Great Hinton

**Editor Richard Clarke 870635**

## August 2004

### Great Hinton Parish Council

#### Bus Shelter

More Good News! We have received confirmation from Wiltshire County Council that they have approved our grant for 50% of the cost. We have also been advised by West Wilts District Council that the proposal does not require planning permission.

With all the obstacles now overcome we will be seeking three competitive tenders for the construction work. Subject to affordability we hope the new shelter will be constructed in red brick under a tiled roof. The shelter is being designed to give protection from the weather whilst ensuring both that there is good visibility of approaching buses and it is a safe environment.

Hopefully the construction will go ahead this autumn and provide shelter this winter for our children who use the stop to catch a school bus and other bus travellers.

#### Fore Street Farm

Prior to the sale of the property the council gave consent for a new dwelling alongside the village hall, subject to various emergency repairs to the existing Fore Street Farm House. The council await the proposals from the new owner, but have already resolved to be supportive of any application that will secure the long-term future of this prominent listed building. I will endeavour to keep you apprised of developments.

#### Brian Shipman – Parish Council Vacancy

As many of you will know Brian and Helen have sold their house and are moving on. Consequently Brian tendered his resignation as a parish councillor at our recent meeting. On behalf of the Parish Council I would like to thank Brian for his service to our community over the last few years.

Brian's departure has created a vacancy on the Parish council and I would welcome volunteers to replace him. Duties are far from onerous as they involve attending approximately 6 or 7 meetings per annum, with very occasional, and entirely optional, meetings at West Wilts District level.

If you have a view of your own on local services or are otherwise willing to be a voice of our community, please contact me or alternatively Carol Burch, Clerk to the Council.

#### Best Kept Village Competition

We came second, out of three, in the District Round of the competition. Overall our marks were reasonable, with no single item losing us a lot of points. One concern this year has been the grass cutting, or rather the lack of it. Our contractor, who did so well last year, has let us down. If anyone knows of a reliable odd-job man/gardener please contact either Carol Burch or any of the Parish Councillors

**Chris Munday Chairman 870912**

**I.T. CLASSES** There are a few places at both the morning and afternoon sessions for either beginners or anyone who may wish to update their computer skills. These very popular classes are held in the Village Hall on Mondays 10-12 noon or 1-3pm. First four hours free then £1.00 per hour thereafter, payable in advance at £30.00 for 15 weeks. Tea/Coffee and Biscuits 30p. New terms starts Monday, September 13th. See notice boards for full details, with photos - can you recognise anyone?

Please let me know if you are able to join in this very successful project.  
**Anne Truman 870607**



**The Village Art Group** has been a great success thanks to the ten regular villagers who have given their support. However, it has been decided to have a rest for a year with the intention to re-group with refreshed inspiration! The reason for resting the Group as it is at the moment is really the dwindling numbers due to people leaving the village, business commitments, etc. Thanks to everyone who has supported the Group which has been very successful and

has produced some wonderful pictures.

It has been finally decided to freeze the surplus funds from the Art Group contributions so that it can be made available to assist the Start Up of the group next year. A meeting of current members will be called to discuss this in the future.

If, however, there is someone in the village who would like to make the arrangements for the group to continue, or who has ideas to restructure the group, please make yourself known.

**Mike Truman 870607**

## BYO

**EVENINGS** 19 villagers have been attracted to the "By Your Own" evening at the Linnet on Tuesday evenings. This shows what an increasingly popular

social get together it is proving to be. Villagers usually turn up from 8.30pm onwards, and of course only buy their own drinks. It's your Pub, come and enjoy it!

### SAFARI DINNER – 27 and still going strong!

The 27<sup>th</sup> Safari Dinner will be held on **Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> October**.

Hopefully the weather will not be the same as whilst I'm writing this (July - summer rain, gales etc!!) and we will be able to get around the village without the use of umbrellas or being blown over. The only excuse for not being able to walk straight should be excess alcohol!!

Unfortunately we have to say goodbye to two of our regular participants – Helen and Brian Shipman will have moved to the Isle of Wight by then and although they might like to join in, time taken to travel the distance between courses may cause a few scheduling problems! We hope you both enjoy your new home and will be thinking of you. Perhaps you could start a Safari Dinner Group in your new neighbourhood.

As always we welcome any newcomers to the village to join us – this has proved a great way to get to know the villagers (we do not get as tipsy as I may have suggested above – honestly). If you are interested please give me a call and I will explain in more detail what a Safari Dinner is all about.

Anyone wishing to join in this time please let me know by **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October** and you will be told how many guests to expect and which course you need to prepare on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> October.

Hope to see you there.

**Sandra 870906**



## Neighbourhood Watch

There have been two recent burglaries in the area, one at Keevil and one at Bratton where jewellery and figurines were stolen. Please keep an eye out for suspicious cars and report to either me or the police.

David Harnott 871196

## Hall bookings

The summer months have seen a reduction in the use of the hall. However Wednesday mornings during the holiday are devoted to table tennis for younger villagers. Please contact Di for details. Yoga starts again in September, on Tuesdays; if you are interested please contact Anne Vingoe 870233

## Lunch Club

Lunch Club has been as successful as ever this year. We finished for our summer break in April, but we had a very enjoyable outing in June when sixteen members visited the garden of Captain and Mrs D Armitage at Sharcott Manor, near Pewsey.

The garden is normally open on the first Wednesday of each month from April to October, but we were able to go as a private party on a Thursday. The weather was perfect and I think we saw it at its best. The roses and early perennials were in full bloom.

We were welcomed by the owners who provided an excellent buffet lunch for us and as we were a private party we were able to enjoy wandering around the 6 acre garden at our leisure and undisturbed by other visitors. Before leaving we were given afternoon tea and all agreed it had been a most enjoyable day.

Lunch in the village hall will resume on Thursday 9th September. Anyone is welcome to join us for a pleasant two hours amongst congenial company with good food thrown in for extra measure all for the reasonable cost of £3 + 50p for a raffle ticket.

Audrey Plummer

## Childrens Craft Club

Our last get together was during the Easter holiday. Eight girls and five boys attended. The girls made peg dolls and paper dolls and the boys made aeroplanes. Doris had cooked biscuits for our mid-morning break, which were much appreciated. All the children worked most industriously and seemed to enjoy themselves.



We are going to cheat for our Hallowe'en meeting and hold it a day early on **Saturday 30th October**. We learned a lot from last year's party of what to do and what not to do!! For one thing we shall not be giving the children tea - just light refreshments. We shall combine the workshop and party in the evening. The children will assemble at 5pm in the village hall. The first hour will be spent doing craft work and the second hour we shall be playing Hallowe'en games. At 7pm we shall go as one big group "Trick and Treating" - so be warned! All children will be escorted home between 7.30 and 8pm.

Audrey Plummer

**The Badminton Group** continues to flourish with twelve to fourteen players most weeks using three courts. During the summer months with members on holidays we still manage to hire two courts with eight or ten players. The village contingent has grown with new players joining over the past months. Friday nights are not just a night we keep fit (or in some cases get fit) - it is a social event as well as we chat over a drink and wind down before returning home. It has already been mentioned in past editions of the

"Grapevine" that from part of our weekly court subscriptions an amount is donated to the Village Hall. It is pleasing that these small amounts have made it possible for regular monies to be given to the Treasurer to help with the running and maintenance of the hall.

Ken Young



## Great Hinton Memorial Hall Trust

The Trust was formed on 31 December 1997 to manage the Memorial Hall. On 10 May we held the Trust AGM and to make it easier for people to attend we have held the Trust Committee and Community Committee AGMs together. The content of the Annual Trust Report covered the kind of issues that have been the subject of the regular Trust section in the Grapevine, so to summarise 2003-04:

- We secured a £1965 grant from the Millennium Commission which was matched by donations from the Community Committee, the Lunch Club, the Ladies Club and the Safari Supper, plus some funds from the Trust itself. With this we created a fully furnished kitchen suitable for catering for Hall events and purchased new tables for the Hall. It should be mentioned that Doris and Derek Saville also very kindly donated a double oven and a ceramic hob.
- Hall usage continues to remain high and income from lettings has increased.
- In the financial report it was noted that going into 2004/05 the Trust has less money in reserves than at the start of 2003/04. This is because of the funds it added to the Millennium Commission grant. However, assuming income continues at a similar level we should be able to build up our reserves over the next two to three years.
- The following people were either nominated by user groups or elected to the Trust Committee for 2004/05: Carol Clarke, David Harnott, Neil Haynes, Chris Munday, Derek Saville, and Mike Truman.

## Great Hinton Community Committee

The Community Committee exists to arrange events for the local community - those who live in the village and nearby. It's a well-established committee and works hard to put on a number of events each year.

In the recent past, new ideas have been tried and succeeded e.g. Quiz Night, Pub Olympics, Children's Workshops. And new ideas have been tried and not succeeded e.g. a Barn Dance. We are always looking for new ideas and this year a new development will be the re-introduction of a Village Bonfire Night event, with fireworks and food.

Many of the Committee have been members for some time, and although they are happy to continue to work on behalf of the community the Committee is always keen to find new members who may bring in new ideas. It would probably not be appropriate to calculate the average age of committee members, but we could do with one or two younger members to bring the average age down a bit! If you are interested in helping, speak to one of the Committee members listed below.

Since the last report in the Grapevine the Committee have run an Easter Children's Workshop and a Quiz Evening. There are a number of events planned for the rest of the year, so make a note of these in your diary from "Dates for Your Diary" below. More details will be circulated closer to the event.

As a reminder, your Community Committee members are: Carol Burch, Carol Clarke, Kevin Crumpler, Sandra Crumpler, David Harnott, Neil Haynes, Diane Norris, Audrey Plummer, Derek Saville, Doris Saville, Sue Smith, Anne Truman, Mike Truman.

Neil Haynes 870153



### **Friends of Keevil School (F.O.K.S.)**

We have had quite a few events over the last few months including the D-Day celebrations at Keevil Airfield in June where we had a 1940's tea tent. The older children of Keevil School took part in the Maypole and the younger pupils did a very impressive "Red Sparrows" display. We have had various fundraising activities throughout the year including a Barn Dance at Steeple Ashton Village Hall, our regular Jumble Sales at the School, School Discos and the Plant Sale, and it's thanks to the local villagers who come along and continually show their support that enable us to continue providing necessary items for the school.

We are always looking for more support and have recently lost a few members of the fundraising team, so if you would like to come along to one of our "very informal" evenings, or coffee mornings to pass on your ideas, or if you wish to get more involved, please contact me.

**Debbie Scott 870410**

### **St Mary's Church Steeple Ashton**

Summer is here, and many of us have more time to reflect than at other times of year. Like many, I am travelling away from home, in my case visiting extended family overseas. Those who stay at home may perhaps hope for a slackening of the normal pressures of life.

Wherever we are, whether working or resting, whether at home or away, Christ calls us to follow him. So often the activities we are busy with occupy our minds, and it may be when we are in a strange place or away from the normal routines of our life that we have the opportunity to stand back and consider how we are responding to that call.

Every one of us is valuable to God and has our own unique gifts to bring to those we encounter. All of us can pray, and when we speak to God he hears us and is able to act in the situations that concern us, even if we ourselves do not see the effect. For example, prayer for the village is a powerful way of building its common life, and prayer for our workplaces is effective in helping to ease difficult situations and strengthen relationships; and every time we pray we open ourselves a little more to God's gracious and gentle work in ourselves.

Over this summer, whatever we find ourselves doing, let us use the change of pace (and perhaps the chance of spending time outdoors?) to respond to God's call to us, by giving him a little of our time and asking for his blessings on the things that matter to us.

**Andrew Otto** Curate, Holy Trinity Trowbridge

### **From our County Councillor's Newsletters**

#### **SPEED LIMITS IN VILLAGES**

Every year in March the County Council decides which roads deserve new speed limits. The Council has agreed to reduce speed limits outside thirteen schools in the County, in all cases to 30mph from 40, 50 or 60mph.

*However of over 120 requests from Parish Councils for lower speed limits none have been granted.* This repeats the pattern of previous years, when the excuse has been that the County was "waiting for government guidance" on speed limits. This guidance has now arrived, so the excuse this year is that they need to think about it for twelve months.

#### **NURSERY EDUCATION GRANT**

is now available for all three year olds. Parents who wish to take up the free places should contact their childcare provider. Free places are available for children born before 1st April 2001 for the summer term, 1st September 2001 for autumn term, and 1st January 2002 for Spring term 2005.

For more information contact 'Ask' on 08457 585072.

#### **CHECK YOUR SHEDS!**

On 31st March it became illegal to store some garden pesticides. DEFRA has set up a website ([www.pesticides.gov.uk](http://www.pesticides.gov.uk)) so you can check if you have any of the banned ones.

#### **STEEPLE ASHTON SHOP AND PRE-SCHOOL**

STASH have submitted an application to create a village shop within the school buildings, and a nursery school will open in the new year, subject to planning permission. If you know of anyone requiring the services of a pre-school contact Kyrstie Burrows on 01225 759203.

#### **RIGHTS OF WAY**

The proposal to grade the County's footpaths into 3 groups is about to be approved by Cabinet. 25% of Parish Councils responded to the consultation in 2002. 2 opposed the plan, 23 fully supported, and 12 supported with some reservations. The main concern is that 'Group 3' rights of way will simply be neglected, especially as they'll only be inspected once every 5 years. However officers claim that reported obstructions will still be dealt with as soon as possible. There is though no increase in the resources available to the RoW department, and the amount of work they have to do maintaining footpaths and bridleways, as well as responding to changes in legislation, is increasing.

**Great Hinton needs a footpath officer.  
If this could be you, contact Chris Munday  
Chairman of the Parish Council**

#### **STAN**

stands for Student Travel Advice Network. The website [www.wstan.connectfree.co.uk](http://www.wstan.connectfree.co.uk) and helpline 01225 757575

give information on the best way to travel to sixth form or college, and how to get discounts on travel if you're in the 16 to 19 age group.

#### **Trevor Carbin**

228 Church Street Hilperton Trowbridge BA14 7RG

01225 713066 fax 713137

[trevorcarbin@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:trevorcarbin@wiltshire.gov.uk)

website [www.trevorcarbin.org.uk](http://www.trevorcarbin.org.uk)

Surgery Saturday mornings 11 to 12.30 at above address

## Children of the Village

From the sparkling intellectual conversation over a safari dinner a suggestion was made which fortunately was remembered the following day, and it was to ask the children to write for the Grapevine. We have had contributions from our youthful villagers in the past but we want the younger children to be represented as well, so here are the first two pieces ever to be published by Chloe and Katie. Remember for the future – you first read of them in the Grapevine!

**Keevil School** is a small school. In September I am going to be in Year 2. My teacher is called Miss Bullock. She is fantastic. I love school and I have got a lot of friends.

Written by **Chloe Scott Age 6**



**My pet Rosie** is a black cat with a white blob under her chin. She is a funny cat, a crazy cat, a naughty cat, and a greedy cat. But I still love her.

Written and illustrated by

**Katie Locke Age 7**

### Do these snippets stir the memories of schooldays?

Although coming from Surrey to the village 14 years ago, my first day at school was spent at St Peter's Primary in Bath Road, Devizes back in 1951. I was definitely not a happy schoolboy. To the family I was something special as I was named after my grandfather and like him I was left-handed. But at school that was a problem as all the inkwells in the desks were in the top right-hand corner and unless I changed my ways I would never be able to write without dropping ink blots across my exercise books. So for the first two formative weeks in school I sat on my own with the pencil in the right hand trying to write as well as I could with my left. This led to total frustration and anguish until my parents called on the teacher to accept that my left-handed writing was perfectly legible. They did promise her (whose name is the only one I cannot remember of all my primary teachers) that I would practice my handwriting in an exercise copybook. Which I did sitting at the dining room table and until 1970 when the table was sold it bore the indelible impression of one of the exercises. Unfortunately shabby chic and distressed furniture was not in vogue at the time and my parents had paid good money for a new dining-room suite when the price of furniture was still at a premium after the War.

I have survived being a lefty, cack-handed, sinistrous, to name but a few – but have been “left” totally confused. I play golf right-handed, but badminton with my left which seems to nicely confuse the opposition. I hold a knife and fork the right way round, but not a spoon and fork. It is often useful to be able to use a screwdriver in either hand but not a hammer. As a left footed player I might have been useful to the England football team, and as a wicket keeper I could catch with either hand.

Now with a grand daughter aged 14 months who seems to prefer left-hand to right, my daughter-in-law has referred me to Dr Miriam Stoppard's New Baby Care Book (Whatever happened to Dr Spock?). She says “Never, ever try to dissuade your baby from being left-handed. You could well risk causing psychological side effects, like stuttering as well as reading and writing difficulties by altering what your baby's brain naturally wants to do.” Does anyone know a good lawyer?

**Richard Clarke Age?** (work it out)

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Thursday 9 September**

Lunch Club at 12.15

**Wednesday 15 September**

Ladies Club at 8 p.m.

**Saturday 18 September**

Harvest Supper

**Sunday 19 September**

Harvest Service at 3 p.m.

**Saturday 9 October**

Skittles Evening

**Saturday 23 October**

Safari Dinner

**Saturday 30 October**

Hallowe'en Special at 5 p.m.

**Saturday 6 November**

Bonfire Party

**Tuesday 14 December**

Christmas Carol Singing

**and into the New Year 15 January**

Hangover Party

### Ladies Club

As usual, the Ladies Club have not met during the summer months, but that does not mean we were not busy getting ready for the Summer Fete on July 3<sup>rd</sup>. Thank you to all who prepared so much to make it a very successful day. And thank you to everyone who came and spent money and joined in the fun. We were relieved to have had an almost rain-free day, considering the unpredictable weather of July. The children of Keevil school enhanced the day with their skilful maypole-dancing, so a big thank you to them and Mo Laycock for organising it. We welcomed June Fleming, Chairman of the Hope Nature Centre project who opened the Fete and judged the children's “Garden on a Plate” competition and we were delighted to be able to send her a cheque for £700 – the profit of the day! Another spectacular result – thank you one and all.

The programme for next year is still being planned – our first evening will be Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> September, being the third Wednesday of the month which is our usual pattern. We do hope to have some new ladies and I believe there were some who expressed interest at the fete. We will be pleased to welcome you. If you would like to come just turn up on the night at 8pm in the village hall, or ring me and either I or one of the ladies will call for you.

**Carol Clarke 870635**

### 100 Club

The lucky winner of the June Summer Bonus prize was John Fennell

		£15		£12		£10		£8		£5
March	93	Eliz. Newman	88	L Unsworth	86	Cherie Munday	123	D Dickenson	66	Sandra Crumpler
April	95	Kevin Crumpler	104	Andy Squibbs	102	Carol Clarke	66	Sandra Crumpler	77	Mary Noad
May	108	Mrs Mills	79	Gillian Fennell	93	Eliz. Newman	83	David Harnott	98	Jim Clipson
June	7	Sue SelwynSmith	27	Lynn Wiltshire	98	Jim Clipson	77	Mary Noad	31	Mrs McDonic
July	88	L Unsworth	48	Brian Shipman	41	Anne Truman	3	Ian Knight	9	Terry Cunningham