

The Grapevine Great Hinton

JULY 2006

Editor Richard Clarke 870635

clarke@peppercorn.fslife.co.uk

Great Hinton Parish Council

Annual Parish Open Meeting 23rd May

Thank you to all who joined the Parish Councillors, Julie Swaby, our County Councillor and Mark Newberry, our rural beat police officer for an interesting evening in the Village Hall. The main issue debated was road safety on the A350 at Hag Hill and Stoneygutter and also the A361 at the Strand.

We were able to confirm that the County Council has confirmed that improvements to the Stoneygutter crossroads are included on their priority list for work this financial year. It is proposed to introduce right turn filter lanes, similar to the layout at West Ashton crossroads, a move we welcome as a potentially significant contribution to safety at this dangerous junction where several people have lost their lives. Further along at the foot of Hag Hill, where we turn right to enter the village, the news is not so positive. Having installed a "Slow Down" sign for South bound traffic the Highways Department will not consider any other changes.

The Highways Department have reviewed the safety of the section of the A361 from the junction to the Village by the Lamb up to the junction with the Keevil Road. They determined that each of the accidents in the last three years had been the result of driver error and not road design. It is now clear that the Highways Department's trigger for action is where more than one death occurs within a three year period.

Everyone at the meeting remained concerned about the area around the Lamb and it was agreed that the Parish Council would continue with making representations to the Highways Department of the County Council.

The meeting agreed that the contractor cutting the grass at the entrance to the village was making a good job and his services would be continued for as long as possible. David Hamot reported that there had been the theft of a bicycle in the previous few days, but Mark Newberry was able to advise that the bicycle had been recovered and a young lad was "assisting his enquiries".

Chris Munday reported that for the fourth consecutive year the parish council precept on the Council Tax had been held at £1,100 and that Parish Council expenditure remained at the minimum. Jim Clipson led a discussion about the current state of repair and accessibility on footpaths. In particular he has been trying to trace the path that joins the village road, near Hillbrow, to the Keevil Road.

Best Kept Village Competition

The judging for this year's district level has, probably,

already taken place. As soon as we hear the result it will be posted on the notice board

Parish Council Membership

Mark Newman, who has served the village as a Parish Councillor has recently stood down and I would like to thank him for his contribution to the life of our village. This means that we have a vacancy. One person has already come forward but we would welcome hearing from anyone else willing to serve as a Parish Councillor, the duties are not at all onerous and involve just 6 or 7 meetings a year.

Chris Munday Chairman Tel: 870912

Paths and Plans

I discussed the state of the village footpaths at the Parish Council AGM in May – and welcomed the various comments from villagers. Over the year many of you walk the paths on a regular basis and I am indebted for any comments – any who wish to pass on thoughts or reports about the footpaths please email me at the address below. At this time of year some of the footpaths are rather overgrown and it is worth taking a stick to combat any nettles – or at least wear long socks – however they are very dry so it is a good time to explore the 10 miles of paths within the Parish boundaries – O.S. Explorer 156 is a good map but you can go to the Ordnance Survey website, type in your postcode and get a printable map for the immediate area. There are no specific problems with the paths that I am aware of although the state of some stiles and bridges are less than satisfactory and could do with repair or overhaul.

I also act as the Community Emergency Volunteer for Great Hinton and receive a regular newsletter from the County Emergency Planning Officer – from which a few points. Various exercises take place throughout the year to test the emergency arrangements; recent ones include an exercise at Colerne and one for a flooding emergency in the South West. The newsletter also gives the **Wiltshire Police number for non-emergency calls**

0845 408 7000

In the autumn local plans will be tested – Great Hinton took place in an exercise in 2004 and there is an opportunity to be part of a county-wide exercise in October or November. If anyone is interested in participating in the exercise let me know by email and we can form a local panel to respond to the brown envelopes and phone calls from County Hall one evening in the autumn. It is not a test and no-one passes or fails but it is interesting and challenging.

Jim Clipson

james.clipson@bopenworld.com

A Gardening Club In Great Hinton?

It has been suggested that it might be possible to form such a Club – perhaps meeting in the Hall during a weekday – with a view to having speakers, swapping ideas, plants etc. and going on garden visits.

If there is anyone interested in forming/joining such a venture or has knowledge of how gardening clubs operate, please get in touch with me or one of the Hall committee members in the near future so that a meeting can be arranged for early September to discuss running such a Club, selecting a Committee etc.

So far I have nine names on the list, but feel more are needed to make a successful club viable, so please join us. Looking forward to hearing from you.

Anne Truman 870607

Christian Aid Appeal

Many thanks to all the villagers who donated so generously a total of £128. My apologies to those whose envelopes were not collected. Even making two visits I was not able to catch you all in. **Audrey**

Safari Supper – Pearl Event

Saturday 13th May once again saw 25 people proceeding around the village for the 30th Safari Supper. The weather was kind, so no umbrellas were needed to get between courses and everyone enjoyed themselves. Thank you to Audrey for hosting the get-together at the end of the evening. Perhaps someone else would like to volunteer to do this next time. Thank you also to Gary and Bev Barker who although they couldn't make it, kindly provided some home-made plum and sloe vodka, which went down a treat with several of the party.

The next Safari Dinner will be the end October/beginning of November. Look out for the notices nearer the time.

FORTHCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS

The Hall Committee is planning a repeat of some of the successful events plus two 'one off' ones that I hope will get the support of the village. These are run to generate a small contribution to Hall funds with the primary focus on having an enjoyable experience.

All are in the planning stage at the moment and no definite dates have been established. There will be flyers delivered nearer the time and you will also see them advertised on the Notice-boards outside of the Hall, in the Hall and at the phone box. The events will be:

- A Friday evening in September – **Tour of Wadworth's Brewery** with a limit of 20 people – £10 per person with ALL proceeds to the Wiltshire Air Ambulance. Villagers only and there will be a draw for places if oversubscribed
- Towards the end of September: – A **Woodwind Quartet**, which has been highly recommended. This promises to be a fun evening and volunteer conductors are required. May be combined with the Harvest Supper in which case there will be prizes for the best vegetable musical instruments!
- **Quiz Evening** in October – bring your own nibbles and drink



*Do you remember this evening when we tasted 12 wines?
Thanks to our sommelier Steve for sharing his knowledge with us*

- In preparation for Christmas another **Wine Tasting** with a small increase in ticket prices to allow a wider selection of wines. *Same format as before – same effect as before!* Numbers will be constrained, initially to villagers only, due to the number that can be accommodated.
- **Safari Supper** – October/November. New households warmly welcomed. **Kevin Crumpler**

Hilary, Glenys and Jane would like to thank everyone who attended the crematorium service for Ivor, also for the kindness and support given to Ivor throughout his illness. Thank you for the messages, cards and letters of sympathy.
Please accept this as our personal message of thanks.

Memorial Hall

Hall Bookings continue to hold up although the number of birthday bookings for children appear to have tailed off. At £10 for a village booking it has to be the bargain of the century so do give me a ring.

Many thanks to Ken Young and the Badminton Club for their donation of £50 to the Hall Trust and also to Richard Andrew for £125 being the closing balance of the Whist Club.

Neighbourhood Watch

The recent loss of a bicycle from John Proper's was quickly sorted out by Mark Newberry, our friendly local bobby, but it underlines the need to be careful about locking up garden and children's valuables. Fortunately we do not suffer from theft in the village but do not make it easy for the criminal. **David Hamott 871196**

Lunch Club

Thirteen members enjoyed a leisurely lunch in the garden at King John's Hunting Lodge in Lacock after which we visited Bolehyde Manor at Allington near Chippenham.

It is the weekend retreat of Earl and Countess Cairns and the gardener showed us around the two acres which was well stocked with flowering plants and shrubs. The property used to be in the ownership of the Parker-Bowles and rumour has it as the place where Prince Charles proposed to Diana. You could certainly imagine it to be a romantic setting with a number of garden rooms divided by yew hedges and Cotswold stone walls.

We expect Lunch Club to start again in October and then on the second Thursday of every month. If you would like to come and don't usually get the reminder I put around, please telephone me.

Audrey Plummer 870586

Childrens' Workshop

The last workshop was in time for Mothering Sunday. Both children and helpers were up to their elbows in icing sugar, butter and condensed milk. The fudge set successfully and the children of course had to sample it before taking it home as a gift for their mums. To finish the morning they made some very creative cards.

A message of thanks to all our friends in Great Hinton.

We will certainly not forget the terrible events of what happened on 12 December when our house caught fire. However, we certainly know who our friends are and what a wonderful place Great Hinton is to live.

Thank you to everyone for their help and support on the night, it would be impossible to mention everyone or what they did, but thank you all. Also for the collection and numerous gifts, including much needed clothes and offers of accommodation. We can't wait to be back.

Carol and Malcolm, Ellen, Christopher and Andrew

BYO CLUB The Tuesday evening at the Linnet is now a well-established get together venue for villagers wanting a sociable chat over a drink. Please come along 8.30 ish until 10.30 and support your Pub, and the rule is - pay only for your own drinks!
Mike Truman

BADMINTON

The interest and enthusiasm is still being maintained with 12-14 players each week. Courts are booked for an hour at 8 pm on Fridays at the Christie Miller Sports Centre and you will play for at least 45 minutes. We then enjoy a Coke and a natter in the bar. Do phone if you would like to join us.
Ken 870403

ART CLUB

We meet every Thursday evening in the Hall for two hours from 7.30. All standards welcome - from beginners to budding artists! If you would like to know more give either of us a call.

After summer break will meet again in September.

Carol Clarke 870635

Mike Dodd 870446

KEEVIL SCHOOL NEWS

Mrs Mo Laycock, our head teacher, sadly passed away on Monday 8th May after a brief battle against cancer. Mrs Laycock was head teacher of Keevil School for over ten years and leaves a legacy of creating a wonderful learning environment for all of the pupils that came to her school. Mrs Laycock was highly respected and active in the local community and will be dearly missed by all of her pupils, their families and her friends.

As a tribute to Mrs Laycock, some of the "mums" have decided to "have a go" at teaching the Maypole Dancing this year. We have our work cut out believe me! What a challenge to take on something we have only ever watched our children do under the watchful eye of Mrs Laycock. We hope to do her proud (and hope she will forgive us for any mistakes!!) and we hope you enjoy our displays!



Dancing in the sunshine at Great Hinton Garden Fete

PRIMARY SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Three local primary schools played each other in a "round robin" soccer tournament. The event was organised by the Friends of Keevil School to raise money for the school's residential course. Seend and Semington joined Keevil on a warm Saturday morning on the playing field in Bulkington. In the first game, the Seend team showed how strong they were, as they defeated Keevil. Then after a short rest between games, they continued with a

victory over Semington to remain unbeaten on the day. The final game was evenly matched, with good play from Keevil, and great goalkeeping from Semington, but finally Keevil ran out winners. In the end everyone had a good time and some money was raised. Thank you to all those who took part, and helped organise the event - especially the referee who came from Worton and Cheverell Football Club.

SWIMMING TOURNAMENT AT CLARENDON SCHOOL, TROWBRIDGE

Keevil School has seen some sporting success recently, but at the Inter-School Swimming Gala in Trowbridge they showed that taking part was equally important. Nearly all the year 3, 4, 5 and 6's competed in the gala that consisted of seventeen races. Keevil do not have enough boys in years 3 and 4 for a relay team, so they had to enter a girl and year 2 boy. Overall, they finished fifth out of the six schools and had some individual successes, with a clutch of golds and a few bronzes. In the final race - the year 5/6 medley relay - the Keevil team, fresh from their great swim at Millfield, beat all the other schools by a full length.

KEEVIL SCHOOL TRIUMPH IN TROWBRIDGE CRICKET TOURNAMENT

The local heat of a national primary school Kwik Cricket tournament took place at Trowbridge Cricket Club on Thursday 8th June. Sixteen local primary schools were split into four groups with the winners of each group going into the semis and then on to the final. (The rules of Kwik Cricket mean that every member of the team bowl and the batsmen face two overs scoring runs as usual but losing five runs each time they are out.) Keevil School got through and went on to represent Trowbridge in the County final at Devizes! Well done to all those who took part.

F.O.K.S. (FRIENDS OF KEEVIL SCHOOL)

Plant Sale & Craft Fayre

What a response we had to our Plant Sale and Craft Fayre! The weather was absolutely perfect and as well as getting a sun tan, the Sale went incredibly well, making this our best one yet! Thank you to all who came along and made the morning so enjoyable and profitable.

10K Road Race & Family Fun Day, Keevil Airfield - Saturday 3rd June

What a fantastic turnout we had at our event on the Airfield. The sun shone and brought runners and their families out in their droves to enjoy a very successful day. We had over 350 runners in the 10K Race from far and wide all out to either beat their personal best or just out for fun! We dedicated the big race to Mrs Laycock and awarded special "Mo Laycock" trophies to the fastest male, Gary Hughes who completed the race in 35 minutes 37 seconds, and the fastest female was Tamsin Simmins who completed the race in 42 minutes 14 seconds. Well done to both!

We had various children's races and had over 100 children compete during the afternoon.

The winners were:-

Under 9's	- Adam Lawes
9 - 10 year old	- Robert Ellis
11 - 12 year old	- Ashley White
13 - 14 year old	- Lauren Davidge

The Fete kept the non runners and children amused for hours. Our thanks go out to all the mobile catering services who "pitched up" for the day and also for the very kind donations we received from them.

(Continued overleaf)

We were very lucky to have a RAF Lynx helicopter fly in for the day, which was very busy with intrigued little and big 'uns!

This event would not have been possible without the true dedication and very hard work from our parents, governors and many helpers from the villages and we would like to say a very big thank you to everybody who supported this event in any way.

The money we raised from this event is being put aside to

help with the planned extension to our School. The money will go towards the décor for the classrooms and any equipment we need to purchase for it.

A date for your diary – Keevil 10K 2007 – 2nd June!!

Happy running!!

**THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR VERY KIND SUPPORT
DURING THIS ACADEMIC YEAR.**

If you require further details, please contact Debbie Scott on 01380 870410 or Keevil School on 01380 870376.

100 Club					
	£15	£12	£10	£8	£5
January	B Shipman	S Haynes	A Plummer	N Harnott	Val W-Gaiger
February	R Locke	Davis	C Clarke	D Harnott	V Francis
March	D Verschoyle	S Smith	T Smith	L Unsworth	V Austin
April	H Brown	A Plummer	M Evans	P Winterburn	M Clipson
May	J Adams	K Crumpler	B Shipman	M Evans	S SelwynSmith
June	J Newman	M Jones	J Franklin	P Haynes	G Davis

A slight reduction in members has I regret resulted in the June Megga prize being reduced to £25 which was won by P Selwyn-Smith. All other prizes remain the same

GREAT HINTON LADIES' CLUB

We have 30 ladies in our Club, of which 20 come regularly, a statistic of which we should be proud in such a small village. The Charity we have chosen to support this year is **Dorothy House**.

January Sandra Crumpler organised the skittles night – Beryl Francis won the Golly cup – her first attempt at skittling, too.

February we had a very entertaining talk by retired Chief Fire Officer of Wiltshire, John Craig.

March A good Gourmet night producing favourite menus and celebrating Spring.

April our usual AGM and Bring and Buy night, the proceeds of which went to Dorothy House. Having spent 10 years as Chairman of the Club, I felt it was time to hand over the reins to someone new. Carolyn Haynes was voted as the new Chairman and Di Drinkwater is her Deputy. The new period of office will be for two years. I enjoyed my role very much and wish Carolyn well as she leads our group. Sandra Crumpler continues as Treasurer for which we are very grateful.

Village Fete, Saturday 24th June.

To celebrate the Queen's 80th birthday, our fete had a 'royal' theme, with lots of red, white and blue decorations and children producing beautifully made crowns. The weather was good and we were pleased to see so many

villagers and friends there. We welcomed Chris Krajniewski, the new leader of Dorothy House Day Patient Unit, to open the fete for us. The sum raised was £717 which will be split between Dorothy House and the Village Hall Community Fund. The Ladies Club prize hamper was won by Rosie and Alistair Keith.

We wish to give a special thank you to Audrey Plummer for the use of her delightful garden. Audrey has hosted the fete for more than 20 years and feels it is now time to find a new venue. Do you have a garden that would be suitable? If anyone is willing to provide the space for next year, please let Carolyn know, otherwise the fete could be a thing of the past!

So many people helped in various ways – the stalls, games, teas, gate, amplification, decoration, erection and dismantling of tables, gazebos, bunting, etc., and of course coming to buy. Thank you one and all for making it such a success.

The Ladies Club meets on the third Wednesday of each month from September to April at 8pm in the village hall and are always pleased to welcome new members.

Carol Clarke

Left behind at the Fete, a green striped folding chair – claims to 870635

Happy
Golden
Anniversary!

Congratulations to Ken and Dorothy Young celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary this month.

Welcome to New Villagers

We are pleased to welcome Gary and Bev Barker to Briars Cottage in Peppercorn Orchard. Gary has been very busy in the few weeks they have been here refurbishing the cottage and once this is complete we look forward to seeing them at our Village Events.

Also to Steve and Jackie Adams living in Lorne Cottage whilst making a wonderful job of rebuilding the old farmhouse. And congratulations to them on the newly arrived twins – one of each!