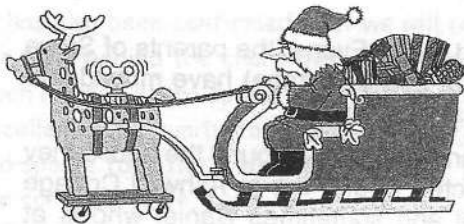


The Grapevine Great Hinton

Editor Richard Clarke 870635

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DECEMBER 2006



Great Hinton Parish Council

Highways

With the news of another fatality in the last few weeks on the A350 it is good to know that the County Council has, at last, completed the improvements to Stoney Gutter crossroads. Let's hope that the addition of right turn filters to the traffic lights will improve the safety of this junction that most of us in Great Hinton use on a very regular basis.

We will as a council continue our campaign for safety improvements at the two turnings off the A350 to the village at the foot of Hag Hill near Coldharbour, particularly as we expect HGV traffic to increase on the A350 once the proposed lorry ban on the A46 at Bath comes into effect. The other principal road safety concern we have is the junction of the village road with the A361 at The Strand and whilst we have little optimism that there will be investment into safety at this location in the near future we will continue to press our case.

To improve maintenance of local roads the County has introduced a system of "Parish Stewards". One of these workmen will visit our Parish twice a year to undertake routine highway maintenance and as well as making minor repairs himself he can also call on other resources for larger jobs. Any villager who spots any highways maintenance need please let any of your parish councillors know.

Best Kept Village Competition

When the Grapevine was last published we were waiting to hear how we fared in this year's competition. Unfortunately we could not repeat the success of 2005 and were placed third in the district round of the competition.

Remembrance Sunday

The land on which the village hall stands was donated to the Parish Council shortly after the First

World War by the widow of Bratton man who owned land in Great Hinton and who was killed in action. The land was to provide a village "reading room" which would also be a memorial to the men of this parish who served their country. This is why our new village hall still bears the title "Memorial Hall".

Every year, and this year was no exception, the Steeple Ashton branch of the British Legion along with the vicar of St Mary's hold a short remembrance service and wreath laying at 12:00 noon outside the hall. Very sadly the number of villagers has dwindled in recent years to a very few and it would be nice if next year more residents could join the memorial party for the 5 or so minutes that it lasts.

Parish Council Membership

I am pleased to welcome Mike Dodd as our newest, co-opted, member of the Parish Council. Mike, who is from Coldharbour, is the first representative for some time from the outskirts of the village. Whilst we welcome one new member we are also saying goodbye and thank you to another existing member. A big thank you to Mary Clipson for her dedication and hard work, as she and Jim leave the village. Jim will also be missed as he undertook the duties of both footpaths officer and emergency Planning Co-ordinator.

Fortunately we may have already found a willing volunteer to take over from Mary but we do need to find volunteers to take over from Jim. The footpaths officer acts as a liaison between the village and the County Council to ensure that our long established footpaths remain open and accessible for all to enjoy. Far from being onerous, especially for someone who enjoys walking in the countryside that surrounds the village, it can be very pleasurable and rewarding. The emergency planning role is a little strange, in that the person simply maintains a register of information that would be relevant in the event of a major civil disaster.

If you think that you could fill either of these volunteer positions please contact Carol Burch, myself or indeed any of the Parish Councillors

Chris Munday Chairman

870912

Royal British Legion Poppy Collection



The sum collected on the house-to-house calls around the village this year amounted to £143.76. Chris Morgan, the local honorary organiser for the Appeal, would like to thank everybody for their support, without which the Royal British Legion would be unable to continue its vital welfare and benevolent work.

Mike Dodd

Found – a gentleman's ring, probably dropped by a bird. Contact Min 870634

Village Hall Trust

A new front entrance door has been fitted to the hall to replace the present one which was falling apart. It is in oak which looks very grand, and the cost will be covered by the generous donation given by the Ladies Club from the village fete proceeds.

Nothing to report at present about **Neighbourhood Watch**, and lets hope it remains that way. Do keep an eye out for neighbours when they are away and do please let me know when you are away and who is the keyholder.

David Harnott

871196

The Art Group

We still enjoy meeting every Thursday 7.30 pm - 9.30 pm in the village hall, to chat, paint in whatever medium we prefer, listen to relaxing music, and drink a glass of wine. We usually bring something to copy, whether a greetings card, our own photos, or something from an art book. Sometimes we bring still life and have, in the past, had instruction and the opportunity to try life drawing and painting. We are quite a small group at present and would welcome more members and you don't need to be good at art to join because nobody is judging! It is just a relaxing evening and it is surprising how quickly you can find skills you didn't know you had. Of course there are those who will offer help if needed. So why not come along. If you want to come and bring along another craft then that is fine as well, so long as it is portable and not too messy! For further details phone:

Mike Dodd, Mike Truman or Carol Clarke.

Safari Dinner – 18th November

The weather was kind to 23 Great Hinton 'wanderers' as they moved around the village during the evening, enjoying many varied dishes and plenty of wine! Thank you again to Jon at the Linnet for putting up with us all invading the pub for an hour at the beginning of the evening, hopefully we didn't disturb his clientele too much.

Thank you to everyone who produced such wonderful food and especially to Rachel and Jon who entertained us all at the end of the evening for coffee, cheese, more wine, port etc.

We welcomed back Gillian and John Fennel (Peppercorn Orchard) and also introduced Lisa and Ross, and Bev and Gary – both new to Safari Dinners. They all seem to have thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

The next Safari Dinner will be in April or May (probably one of the last Saturdays of April) - watch out for the notices. As always newcomers to Safari Dinners are welcome - don't hesitate to ask what it is all about. Any volunteers for the 'final get together' are always appreciated.

Sandra

Welcome to the Village

There has been quite a lot of movement over the last few months in the village.

Ross and Lisa Cornelius live at Stoggy Lane with their 4 children. They have already met several villagers at the Bonfire Evening, Safari Dinner and at the pub on a Tuesday - hopefully we have all made a good impression and you will stay!

Ron and Sheila Jennings recently moved from Winsley into Braelyn in Back Street and will be joining us for the wine tasting evening on 2nd December.

Barbara and Ewart Evans (the parents of Steve and Jackie at Lorne Cottage) have moved into Tantivy in Back Lane.

Tom Rolls and Angie have found the house they never expected to and are in Ashwell Cottage with Rachel and sometimes Daniel who is at university.

And in December there will be a new family moving into The Manor House.

We hope you all had a non-eventful move and wish you a warm welcome and many happy years in Great Hinton. Please ask any one about any of the events in the village and even if they don't know themselves, they should be able to point you in the direction of someone who will.

Proposed Gardening Club

Thank you to the eleven enthusiasts who were interested in starting a Gardening Club in the village - unfortunately it would not be viable with this number as paying for visiting speakers, garden visits etc. etc. would be quite expensive. Having researched this idea with several local villages, I discovered that a lot more members are needed to run a successful club. Never mind, perhaps we can try again at some future date - anyone interested please keep in touch. Thank you all.

Anne Truman

870607

Tall Sunflowers

It's a bit early to be talking about a tallest sunflower competition, but some of you keen ones might be thinking already of preparing the compost heap and getting in other secret ingredients. The competition is for both children and adults and judging details will be in the July Grapevine.

Mike Truman

Children's Workshop

The next workshop will be on Saturday 2 December from 10 to 12 in the village hall when we shall be making gingerbread houses and Christmas cards.

Audrey

KEEVIL SCHOOL NEWS

As a new Head Teacher to the school, I have been delighted to pick up the baton from the previous Head and continue the journey of taking the school forward. We now have 49 families enrolled at the school making up a total of 78 children.

The new build looks set to start in January providing 3 new classrooms with a view to being completed and ready to move into by the beginning of the Autumn term. This cannot come soon enough as our numbers are on the increase and that number is set to rise further due to the promising number on our books for next year. It has also been confirmed that we will have use of the field behind the church which will provide much needed extra space. This will be an excellent opportunity to extend our playground and sports facilities - when the weather permits. We continue to be, however, a small village school and are keen to ensure that we maintain the family atmosphere and personal touch that goes along with that.

Many families took part in a highly successful Family Learning Challenge last month at Steeple Ashton Village Hall. Thirteen families took up the challenge of creating a tableau of a given historical event for other families to guess. Events ranged from the Great Train Robbery to Edward Jenner developing the smallpox vaccination to the miners' strike. With a quiz and refreshments thrown in for good measure, it proved to be both fun and educational.

We now turn our attention to the Christmas Carol Service and Nativity to be held at Keevil Church on December 20th at 6:30. We would love to see as many people there as possible to join in the carols with us.

I look forward to a long and productive partnership with Keevil and surrounding villages over the coming year and ask that if anyone has any concerns, queries, suggestions now or in the future, then please contact me at school.

Jackie Chalk Head Teacher 01380 870376

100 Club

These are the names of the lucky winners over the last few months.
The Christmas draw including the £50 special prize will be drawn earlier than usual

	£15	£12	£10	£8	£5
July	Kathy Baker	Sandra Crumpler	Eloise Welch	Sharron Tapper	Alise Nicholl
August	Julie Doel	Neil Harnot	Richard Andrew	Debbie Scott	P Selwyn Smith
September	Mary Noad	Carol Clarke	Brian Shipman	Gwen Harnott	Anne Truman
October	Sylvia Tarrent	George McDonic	Veronica Francis	Margaret Geary	Mrs Mills
November	Elizabeth Newman	Claire Evans	Clive Blake	Mary Jones	Helen Shipman

TUESDAY 12 DECEMBER 7 – 8 pm in the Hall

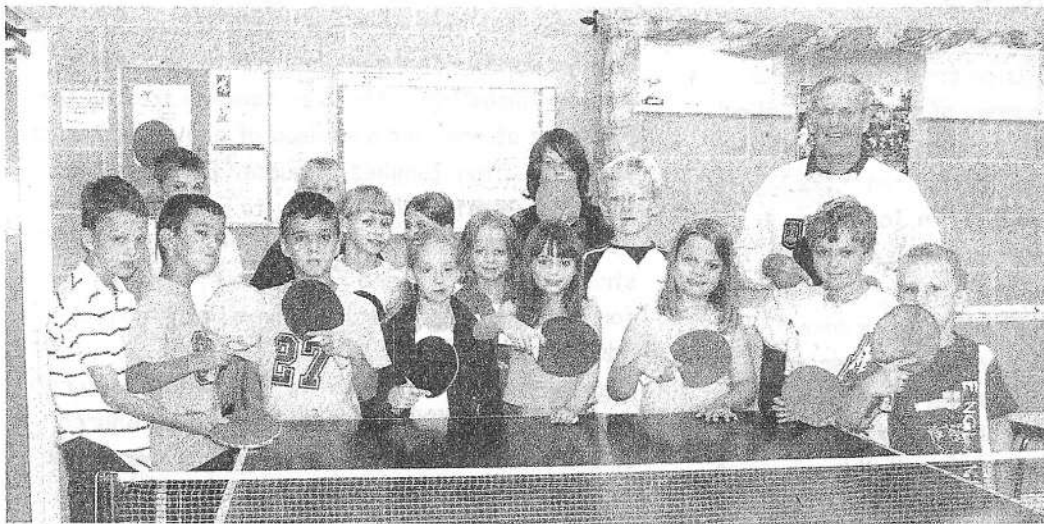
CAROLS AND CHRISTMAS READINGS WITH MINCE PIES AND MULLED WINE

Bring the children

Collection for Ladies Club Charity of the Year Hope Nature Centre Southwick Country Park

CHRISTMAS QUIZ

1. What one reindeer is never mentioned in "The Night Before Christmas"?
2. What carol is known as the counting song?
3. What song was originally titled "One Horse Open Sleigh"?
4. What country started the tradition of exchanging gifts?
5. What is the most popular tree topper?
6. What do most elves wear on the tips of their shoes?
7. After red and green, what are the two most popular Christmas colors?
8. What two words are normally pre-printed on gift tags?
9. What is the 12th day after Christmas called?
10. What was the name of the angel who appeared to Mary?
11. Where did Joseph and Mary live after their marriage?
12. Who was the first English monarch to have a Christmas tree?
13. According to the Bible, in which season was Jesus born?
14. How many sides does a snowflake have?
15. When were electric Christmas lights first used?
16. In which two oceans would you find a 'Christmas Island'?
17. When did the first Christmas celebrations happen?
18. Which book of the Bible has the most to say about Christ's advent?
19. What is the name of the red flower associated with Christmas?
20. Who tried to have Christmas abolished?



Every Wednesday morning for five weeks during the summer holidays WWDC provided a coach at no cost to help the village youngsters develop their table tennis skills in the Village Hall. Thanks to Diane for organizing this.

TABLE TENNIS FACTS

The origin of table tennis has never been exactly pinpointed, even though it's a relatively young sport, younger than lawn tennis and not much older than basketball.

The earliest known form of the sport, called indoor tennis, was played in the early 1880s by British army officers in India and South Africa, using lids from cigar boxes as paddles and rounded corks from wine bottles as balls, with a row of books set up across the middle of a table (perhaps a billiard table) to form the net.

Other versions developed in England during the 1890s, known variously as "whiff whaff" and "gossima," and Parker Brothers began manufacturing an indoor tennis kit that included a portable net that could be set up on a table, a small ball covered with netting, and miniature paddles.

James Gibb, an Englishman who visited the United States in 1900, brought some hollow celluloid balls home and began playing indoor tennis with friends, using the new balls. Gibb apparently came up with the name "ping pong," representing the sounds of the ball hitting the paddle and then the table.

However, an English manufacturer of sporting goods, John Jacques, registered "Ping Pong" as a trade name in 1901 and sold American rights to Parker Brothers, who came out with a new kit under that name.

Another Englishman, E. C. Goode, in 1902 covered his wooden ping pong paddle with pebbled rubber, which allowed him to put spin on the ball. A Ping Pong Association was founded in England that year, but it lasted less than three years, mainly because Parker Brothers' control of the name made equipment rather expensive.

Nevertheless, the sport spread rather quietly in England and Europe, primarily with equipment marketed by other manufacturers using the generic name of table tennis. A new Table Tennis Association was established in

England in 1921. It was followed by the Fédération Internationale de Tennis de Table (International Table Tennis Federation), founded at a 1926 meeting in Berlin by England, Sweden, Hungary, India, Denmark, Germany, Czechoslovakia, Austria, and Wales.

The first world championship tournament was held in London in 1927. From then until World War II, Hungary dominated the sport. The top players of that early period were two Hungarians: Maria Mednyanszky, who won seven women's championships, and Viktor Barna, a five-time men's champion. Czechoslovakia and Romania also produced several champions.

The American Ping Pong Association was organized in 1930, but its membership was limited because only Parker Brothers equipment could be used. Two rival organizations, the U. S. Amateur Table Tennis Association and the National Table Tennis Association, were founded in 1933. The three groups merged in 1935 into the U. S. Table Tennis Association, which was renamed U.S.A. Table Tennis in 1994.

Central European dominance continued for a time after World War II, but Asian players took over the sport beginning in 1953. One factor in the sudden emergence of Asian stars was the introduction of the foam rubber paddle by Japan's Horio Satoh in 1952. The new coating made the game faster and also allowed players to put even more spin in the ball.

Asian players also developed the "penholder" grip, in which the handle of the paddle is held between forefinger and thumb, which allows the player to strike the ball with the same face of the paddle on any stroke. That grip is now used by virtually all top international players.

Table tennis became an Olympic sport in 1988, with singles and doubles competition for both men and women.

Bonfire Night

The village firework display this year was really spectacular with lots of fireworks that were all different colours and some even made ear-splitting noises. The rockets were the best because they went high, looked really good and made a very loud bang. The bonfire this year was big and hot as well. Part of the event was a competition to make a Guy Fawkes. Adam, Daniel and I made a guy to go on the bonfire as well as Lillie, which was great fun. Lillie's guy won the prize, (a box of Heroes.). It was quite a cold night so we were happy to have hot food and especially enjoyed the soup and jacket potatoes.

BY ROBERT ELLIS

Our thanks to Kevin and his team for bonfire building and letting off the fireworks, and to Gill and Dominic for the use of their field. Also to the Ladies Club for providing hot refreshments.

Fireworks Regulations

The excitement, noise and spectacle of a fireworks party is not always shared by your neighbours who may have pets and particularly in the countryside where there are fields with horses and livestock. Animals can be terrified by fireworks. So please warn your neighbours and local farmers in advance so they can keep pets indoors and take other necessary precautions.

In Great Hinton please place a notice on the village noticeboard and inform Min (870634) and Debbie (870410) who will pass on the information to others with horses and livestock. At least one week's notice should be given to allow stock to be moved.

In summary, the police are responsible for enforcing regulations with regard to the use and possession of fireworks.

- ◆ It is an offence to use fireworks between the hours of 11pm or 7am. Exceptions allow use until midnight on 5th November, and until 1am on the nights of the Chinese New Year, Diwali, and New Years Eve.
- ◆ If you are under 18 it is an offence to have or use adult fireworks in a public place. Adult fireworks are any firework except for a cap, cracker snap, novelty match, party popper, serpent, sparkler or throw down.
- ◆ The supply, purchase or possession of a category 3 firework that has a noise level exceeding 120 decibels is banned.



Photo by Golly

FRIENDS OF KEEVIL SCHOOL '100 Club'

How about trying your luck and joining our '100 Club'? For as little as £12, you could win up to 3 prizes from each of the 6 draws to be held this school year. Cash prizes reflect the amount of tickets we sell, so go on, have a go today! For more info contact Jan Flynn on 828248 or ask at the school.

10K Run & Family Fun Day at KEEVIL

AIRFIELD will be held once again next year on Saturday 2nd June. The programme will remain the same as this year with the 10K Run being held first, followed by various children's races. There will be a Fete throughout the day with lots of children's activities and attractions for all the family. Further details will be available on our website: www.keevil10k.co.uk shortly and we will keep you updated with all the necessary information on application forms and contact numbers asap.

The FOKS team would like to wish you all a very merry Christmas and thank you for all your support during 2006! We look forward to bringing you a fun filled calendar of events for 2007! Watch this space!!

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

B.Y.O. Evenings

Now that the light evenings have gone and television programmes leave a lot to be desired, why not come to the Linnet for our B.Y.O. (buy your own) evenings on Tuesdays from 8.30pm onwards.

On a busy evening, as many as twenty villagers have turned up for a chinwag and an opportunity to catch up with village events and gossip, or discuss world affairs if you like!

Buying your own drinks has proved to be a popular feature, saving the embarrassment of large expensive rounds.

Hope to see you there.

Mike T.

Creating art from nature

Have you bought or had as presents small leaved bonsai trees – usually a Chinese elm – that never seem to survive? This was certainly my situation. Most come from China with a clay based soil that probably aids transportation but does little for good healthy plants.

Undeterred I decided to undertake a bonsai workshop and learn some more on the subject. A few workshops later I have amassed a small outdoor collection that survives in all weathers. On the 21st February I will be giving a practical talk to the Ladies Club (everyone is invited on this occasion). At this time of year the trees are not in their splendour but this is the busiest time. Trees need replanting, root and branch trimming, and wiring into shape. I will demonstrate these techniques and also get the audience to participate. If you have a bonsai that needs repotting and/or trimming please bring it along. Bonsai compost will be provided. Two trees will be put into the evening's raffle.

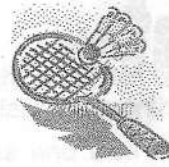
Kevin

Lunch Club

We meet on the second Thursday in each month from October until April and this year we have a record number of members. Anyone is welcome to join us for lunch which is cooked by a team of volunteers. The cost is £3.50 and 50p for a raffle ticket and any profit goes towards new equipment for the village hall. Our Christmas lunch will be on Thursday 14 December at 12.15 for 12.30 and cost £5.00 (including the raffle). Contact **Audrey 870586** or **Richard 870635** if you'd like to join us.

Mobile Library

Unfortunately owing to lack of support the mobile has ceased to visit our village. It has been coming to the village for at least 40 years. Anyone wishing to use it may visit it at Steeple Ashton by the Long's Arms at 10.50-11.45, or St Mary's 11.50-12.10, or by the bus stop at Ashton Common 12.15-12.30.



Badminton

Despite the very hot weather during the summer we managed to keep playing, only missing one week due to holidays. It was certainly very hot conditions and

plenty of water was consumed.

Colin (one of our founder members) has unfortunately had to stop playing due to an injured shoulder. Injections were tried without success so a scan was taken and it now looks as though surgery will be necessary. Another regular player has been missing due to other commitments but we hope Paul and Colin will soon be back on court.

Most Friday nights we occupy three courts with the help of friends from outside the village. If there are any of you who would like to play, even if not regularly, please give me a ring.

A skittles night at the village hall is being planned, probably after Christmas.

Ken 870403

Ladies Club

The new season opened with a belly dance workshop led by Waafa Powell. This was well supported and many of us had a go. It was great fun, but quite difficult to co-ordinate tummy, arms and legs at the same time! After the same meeting a presentation was made to Carol Clarke to thank her for all her hard work. She has been our chairperson for 10 years.

Our second meeting was where we organised shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. We managed to fill 66 boxes and there were lots of items over, these will be used to fill more boxes at the warehouse. We also gave £24 as a donation towards the transport of the boxes. This year the shoe boxes will be sent out to children in Armenia. Thanks to everybody who was involved.

Our programme for the year includes a Textile and Craft workshop led by Terri Dodd and Val Laverick, a talk on the art of Bonsai, and our Christmas dinner at the Linnet. We are always pleased to welcome new members – do come and join us for our meetings on the third Wednesday of the month in the village hall.

Carolyn Haynes

And the answers are:

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 Rudolph | 2 Twelve Days of Christmas |
| 3 Jingle Bells | 4 Italy (Romans) |
| 5 Angel | 6 Bells |
| 7 Silver and gold | 8 To From |
| 9 Epiphany | 10 Gabriel |
| 11 Nazareth | 12 Queen Victoria |
| 13 Spring | 14 Six |
| 15 1895 | 16 Pacific and Indian |
| 17 4 th century | 18 Isaiah |
| 19 Poinsetta | 20 Oliver Cromwell (1642) |

HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR READERS