

# The Gossip

HORNTON

Issue Number 48



## ROYAL VISIT TO THE WARRINER SCHOOL

By Calum Harris

On the 31<sup>st</sup> January his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales came to visit the Warriner School farm.

He arrived at 10.20 am, landing in his helicopter on the school field and accompanied by ten plain clothes policemen, three uniformed Officers, two body guards and a dog.

The headmaster, farm manager and other dignitaries formally greeted him. He was then whisked away to the farm office for a meeting.

His first port of call was the classroom to be shown the rural crafts. Peter Hart was there to answer questions on the pigs. He was then shown the old engines and Dexter cows and goats before having a ride on the Oxfordshire cart pulled by a Shire horse accompanied by me, two other pupils and Mr Hirons (farm manager).

I sat next to him and talked about country pursuits, the weather and work experience. He was very concerned that my hands were cold, as I had left my gloves at home. Then he was taken to see the different breeds of chickens and geese before going to the main school to meet the rest of the pupils.

His visit ended at 12.30 when he flew off again in his helicopter.

I was very honoured to have met him and I thought he was a really nice and interesting Gentleman.

WINTER 2003

## HORNTON CHILDRENS PLAYGROUND

*This year we celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Childrens Playground, which was opened on Coronation Day (2<sup>nd</sup> June) 1953.*

*We shall hold the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> May during the afternoon in the Playground, but in the Pavilion if wet. More details will appear in the next issue of "The Gossip"*

*Mike Welber*

*(Secretary/Treasurer of Hornton Children's Playground Committee)*

HORNTON SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

ARE HOLDING

A

## JAMES BOND THEME NIGHT AND CASINO

ON

Saturday march 1<sup>st</sup>

At 8 pm

in the pavilion, hornton

Tickets £7.50

includes supper and  
£50 Gambling Money

Fancy dress bar quiz

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## HORNTON SCHOOL REUNION

We are seeking former pupils of Hornton School who attended the school from 1943 onwards, and who would like to meet up for a social get together.

Please contact Liz Jeffs on 01295 670529 or e-mail lizzypoppins@aol.com.

## **HORNTON PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS**

Term has begun smoothly. We welcome Christopher Shortt to our school this term and Thomas Donaldson, who joined us late last term having moved to Hornton. Visitors from Holland and Spain visited school recently. We are hoping to continue our European links - we already work closely with Holland, Sweden and Greece and are hoping to link with Spain and Lithuania in the future.

Year 5 and 6 pupils took part in the Warriner Partnership Indoor Athletics Tournament - noisy but fun! In February Years 3 and 4 pupils will be watching a puppet performance as part of our Beacon School activities.

The School Association continues to work hard in our support. They raised over £500 at the Autumn Fayre and organised a super Christmas lunch for the children at Christmas. They also paid for the school's Christmas outing to see "Thumbelina" at The Mill. The Carol concert raised £150 for the charity "Shelter".

Thank you for your support.

*Wendy Clifford  
Head Teacher*

**WOMENS WORLD DAY  
OF PRAYER**  
*Friday 7 March  
At the Parish Church  
2.00 p.m.*

**BINGO**  
*On Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March  
7.30 p.m.  
Church Room  
For Childrens Playground*

**CONGRATULATIONS** On their Ruby Wedding Anniversary, 30 March, to Joan and Pat Horsley,

### **BEST WISHES TO**

Jessie Hinton on her recent 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.

**WELCOME** to the Donaldson family. We hope you will be happy in your new home at Pages Lane.

## **CHURCH SERVICES**

### **Parish Church**

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday - 8.30 a.m Holy Eucharist  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday - 11 a.m (United Service)  
Holy Eucharist  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday - 10.30 a.m Matins  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday - 11 a.m Holy Eucharist  
5<sup>th</sup> Sunday - 11 a.m Holy Eucharist

### **Methodist Church**

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday - 11 a.m (United Service)  
Holy Communion  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday - no service  
(United Service at Parish Church)  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday - 11 a.m  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday - 11 a.m  
5<sup>th</sup> Sunday - 11 a.m

## **VILLAGE SERVICES**

March 9<sup>th</sup> - 11 am Parish Church  
April 6<sup>th</sup> - 11 am Methodist Church  
Good Friday April 18<sup>th</sup> Methodist Church  
Easter Sunday April 20<sup>th</sup> Parish Church  
See notices for other Special services.

## **? PUB QUIZ ?**

Saturday 22 February  
At 8 pm

At the Dun Cow

Quizmasters:

Ollie Fickling and Steve Woodcock

Prizes for teams of four.

Sign up your team on the list at the pub as soon as you can - and let the pub know if you'd like some grub too.

## **PUBLIC MEETING**

### **Police Village Forum**

**On Wednesday 26 March at  
Shenington Village Hall**

The residents of Alkerton, Shenington, Epwell, Hornton and Shufford are invited to attend and ask any questions they like of the speakers. Speakers are Inspector Eatwell, Sergeant Garrett, Neighbourhood Watch, Crimestoppers, Roads Policing, and CDC Nuisance Investigation and PC Bradshaw.

## **Tom Archer**

Tom Archer died at the beginning of December aged approximately 94 years old. I say approximately because although he moved to Hornton in the early 1970s, no one knew much about him.

He came to Apple Cottage, Pages Lane, and with his partner renovated the property. Also with her help he renovated Chapel Cottage for her daughters. They moved from the village but Tom decided to stay and married Mary Wheeler who kept the village shop at Priscilla House. She gave up the shop and they lived there together until her death 6 years ago. He continued to live alone and could sometimes be heard sawing or hammering in his workshop, or after he lost his car (which was found burnt out), riding his bike around the Greens. For the last couple of years he came regularly to Chapel and also attended Church on some occasions. He always made his presence known by explaining very loudly that he was deaf because of the Japanese. He was also interested in the Universal language, Esperanto, and often quoted loudly in different languages.

After his death it was discovered that he had three children in New Zealand. He left England for Australia in the 1930s with his wife after their first daughter had died as an infant. It seems that he spent many years in Australia, but fell out with his family and came back to England.

He always said that he was an inventor and this appears to be the case as at his funeral his former partner related that while renovating Apple Cottage she was expected to help with the roof and when it was windy he would tie her to the scaffold! He always tried to solve the problem without thought for the person. Perhaps that is why few people knew him or understood him.

## **CONGRATULATIONS**

To Linda and Bob Edginton on the birth of their first grandchild, Emma Louise, on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2002.

## JUMPA UPDATE

A look back on JUMPA's first six months – and how the programme and plans are shaping up for 2003 ...

Thanks to all villagers of Hornton and Horley who got the first round of fund-raising for JUMPA off to such a big success in 2002.

We've already raised well over £3000.

Starting with our Golden Mile Fun Run back in June and finishing with the JUMPA Bingo on 2 December, we managed an inventive programme of activities that has won positive feedback from those who took part.

Thanks should go to everyone who has helped with the fund-raising, including the Allsorts who staged their special Sports theme night, Don Wain who ran the bingo and Liz Jeffs who has helped out with various events and who 'led the charge' on selling the new Hornton Christmas cards. For those who didn't get any of the cards for this year, or who had already bought their stock by the time we got ours printed, there are plenty of cards left for next year. If you'd like to 'buy early', please contact Steve or Chris Woodcock and we'll sort out your order. There are cards of all designs left - £1.20 for a set of four or 50p each for individually selected designs.

### Make it a date in 2003

Realising that there are many other worthy fund-raising causes in the village – not least the simultaneous campaign to extend the Pavilion kitchen – we are working hard to come up with JUMPA events that give people real value for money – such as entertainment, rather than seeking pure sponsorship too often. Hence, the Halloween party last November and the first Progressive Dinner Party, which was a big hit.

This approach underpins the activities we've got planned for 2003 too:

**22 February Quiz Night at the Dun Cow** Teams of four, £2 per person. Sign your team up at the pub as soon as possible.

**March Progressive Dinner Party II.** There's an entry form in this issue of The Gossip. It will run just like last time, with diners perambulating from house to house for each course.

**June Golden Mile Fun Run.** Mark Wright is planning to stage the event again, along Quarry Road - this time, to turn it into an occasion for all the family by arranging a barbecue to take place immediately afterwards. More details soon.

**28 June Beach Party.** Get ready to don your shorts and bag your sun beds ... The Pavilion turns into 'Bell Street-by-the-Sea' for an evening of disco and barbecue.

## WINTER WARMER

### Tomato and Orange Soup

*Preparation time: 10 mins*

*Cooking time: 10 mins*

*Microwave setting: Maximum (full)*

*2 cans tomatoes (1 x 225 g and 1 x 400 g)*

*300 ml (½ pint) tomato juice*

*1 beef stock, crumbled*

*Juice & grated rind of 1 small orange*

*½ teaspoon dried basil*

*Salt*

*Freshly ground black pepper*

*Strips of orange peel to garnish*

Drain the canned tomatoes and puree in the liquidiser then strain into a large 2.75 litre (5 pint) bowl, adding the tomato liquid.

Stir in the tomato juice, stock cube, orange juice and grated rind and the basil and add salt and pepper to taste.

Three-quarters cover the top of the bowl with cling film and cook for 10 minutes without stirring on full power.

Pour the soup into a hot tureen and garnish with the strips of orange

## Maire Ni Chathasaigh & Chris Newman Irish Harp and Guitar Concert

A breathtaking blend of Irish and Scottish music, hot jazz, bluegrass and baroque – all coupled with Maire's clear, expressive voice and Chris's subversively witty introductions

On Friday 7th February

7.30

at The Methodist Church  
Tickets £7/£5 Tel: 670507

**THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE** who responded to the advert in the last Gossip and took part in the Nativity Play at the Christingle Service. It was a wonderful start to the Christmas celebrations and £202.87 was sent to the Children's Society.

£70 was sent to the National Children's Home from the Carol Service held at the Methodist Church on 22 December.

The Hornton Allsorts Christmas Theme Evening was a roaring success and the money raised was given to the Pavilion for the much-needed Kitchen extension fund.

*Thank you, Allsorts, for your support, from the Pavilion Committee*

Best Wishes to

**Harry Brooks**

who is at present in Oak Ward of the Horton Hospital  
From all your friends in Hornton

*Our Condolences to Judith Mills and family on the sudden death of Graham before Christmas*

### **Table Tennis Evening at the Pavilion**

Have you ever played Table Tennis? It is a very easy game to play for any age. We have two table tennis tables at the Pavilion. So if you are interested in learning to play or know how to play and would like to have a game - contact Liz Jeffs on 670529 to find out availability and cost.

### **The Belle of Hornton**

#### **What we've found out**

Thanks to those who responded to the call in the last *Gossip* for insight into a Hornton character from the Victorian era mentioned in a well-known book.

We told you last time that Flora Thompson's trilogy, *Lark Rise to Candleford* - one of the best-loved books about rural Oxfordshire - includes mention of Hornton and one of its former residents, Hannah Pollard, known as 'the Belle of Hornton'.

The book says she moved from her home of Hornton to the small Oxfordshire hamlet of Juniper.

Answering the *Gossip's* call for more information on Hannah and her family, Eric Turner has researched the Parish Records to find that Hannah was born to John and Mary Pollard of Hornton and baptised on 28 April, 1816. She married John Dipper of the same parish on 5 October 1835, presumably moving to Juniper shortly afterwards.

Meanwhile, the author, Flora Thompson, wrote another book about life in rural Oxfordshire - "Still Glides the Stream". Eileen Lewis, of Millers Lane, has a copy. The story makes mention of other nearby villages - Bloxham, Adderbury and King's Sutton - as well as referring to Banbury.

So, if local history is of interest to you, perhaps you'd like to try out Flora Thompson's books for yourself. *Chris Woodcock*

### **THE CHURCH LADIES WORKING PARTY 2002**

Thank you to everyone who supported our fundraising events in 2002 - £1,237.59 was raised which was given to the following good causes:

Work of the Church	£600
Church Room	£150
Horton A. & E.	£150
Katharine House	£100
Dogs for Disabled	£100
Small Playing Field	£ 50
Gossip	£ 50
Youth Club	£ 50
Brownies	£ 50



### **Yoga in Hornton in 2003**

Yoga starts again in March 2003. Sessions will be at the Methodist Chapel at 7pm on a Thursday evening.

The teacher is Pam Monk, from Banbury.

It's £4 per one-and-a-half-hour session, plus 50p towards 'hiring the Chapel'.

Dates for the spring session are:

March 6, 13, 20, 27 April 3, 10

Beginners are welcome.

*Please contact Chris Woodcock on 670795 for more details:*

### **FLY A FLAG FOR A FIVER**

JUMPA is arranging for a 'Birthday Flag' to be made - it will say 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY (NAME)'.

You can arrange to have this flown all day from the flagpole on the Green as a Birthday Treat for Someone Special - or even for Everyone Special - in your life. Simply write down the date and the first name of the Birthday Person and let Ian Harris at Grafton Rise, Bell Street, have the details plus £5 at least a week before the date, and he will do the rest. Unfortunately, everyone born around Christmas will miss out because as well as getting one present instead of two and having your Birthday cards mixed up and indistinguishable from Christmas cards, the Christmas tree on the Green will be occupying the flagpole hole, so you can't have a Birthday Flag either!

## **MAY DAY MONDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2003**

Bookings now being taken for your pitch or table. There will be a small charge to go to Pavilion Funds. Stalls for any village Charity - No Charge. Contact Liz Jeffs on 670529 to book your stall.

Offers of help to run stalls and organise setting up and clearing up on day. The Entertainments Committee of the Pavilion is holding a meeting to arrange the above and further fundraising events to raise money for the much needed kitchen extension. If you have any ideas and are willing to help - come to the Dun Cow on Thursday February 13<sup>th</sup> at 8.30 pm or contact Liz Jeffs.

**ART, CRAFT AND FLOWER FESTIVAL**  
**At the Methodist Chapel**  
**Sunday May 4<sup>th</sup>**  
**Monday May 5<sup>th</sup>**  
*Further details and entry forms nearer the time*

***Forthcoming Events at the Chapel***  
**Grand Percentage Sale**  
**Furniture, Bric a Brac,**  
**Good as New Clothes.**  
**To be held in the**  
**Methodist Chapel - date to be arranged.**

**BINGO**  
**MONDAY 10 MARCH**  
**AT THE CHURCH ROOM**  
**EYES DOWN 7.30 P.M.**  
For Methodist Chapel Funds