

# The Gossip

HORNTON

Issue Number 29



1998



## SPRING

It was a cool but dry morning as I set out for my morning walk with my dog Bruno. Walking through the village on that tranquil May morning, I could hear the cuckoo in the distance and the birds singing their morning songs. As though to order, the cherry trees were in full bloom. Some of the pink blossom floated to the ground as the cool morning breeze gently rustled their branches.

10 a.m. - ribbons appeared on the flagpole and suddenly people were scurrying everywhere. Tables and chairs appeared on David's red pick-up. Bunting was strung across the road. The clank of cups and saucers being carried into the School house for the teas. Bales were unloaded on the green outside Holloway Cottages for the bowling. The barbeque was set up. Isabelle and I hurried by with our baskets full of flowers on our way to decorate the May cart at The Gables as Philip arranged the King and Queens thrones by the Manor gates.

As we returned, our task completed, cars full up with goods for stalls were being unloaded. Two Shire horses (Percy and Arthur) pulling abrightly painted cart plodded up the village to the top green and were tethered under the lime trees.

12.30 p.m. - a bell could be heard in the distance as David (Town Crier) announced the May Day celebrations. Suddenly there were people everywhere. Music could be heard, getting closer. The procession had begun. The crowds stood back to make way for the Musicians, Morris Men and the May cart carrying Hornton's May King and Queen. Behind them a double line of Maypole dancers looking splendid in their pretty dresses and white shirts and black trousers. They processed around the round green and back to the May thrones where Harold Hart once again did the honour of crowning the King and Queen. (The Queen's crown of flowers was made by Sarah Walther). They then processed back to the Maypole and the dancing began. The sun shone as they danced. Afterwards the Morris Dancers did their traditional dancing. The stalls did a roaring trade. The tea ladies were rushed off their feet and the barbeque sold out of hot dogs. The pub was packed all afternoon, (thank you Terry and Doreen for staying open) and the whole afternoon was a roaring success.

The sun disappeared and the people began to drift away. The stallholders packed what they had left into their cars. David appeared with his pick-up and the tables and chairs were transported back to the Church Room. the ribbons were removed from the flagpole and put away for next year. By 6 p.m. the village was back to its tranquil state. The May celebrations were over for another year.

Our May Day has now become part of Hornton's tradition. Thank you to everyone for putting so much effort into making it such a great day.

### Working towards the Millennium

A committee has been set up by the Parish Council to look into your ideas for celebrating and commemorating the Millennium.

So far we have received some excellent ideas and are now evaluating these for possible grant applications.

We hope to make the year 2000 a fun year and a memorable one for future generations.

So keep your ideas coming in to our chairman David Miles, Jubilee House, Hornton, telephone 670550.

We will post the minutes of our meetings on the Parish noticeboard to keep everyone up to date on our progress.

Bill Jeffs

Secretary Millennium Festival Committee.

***** ***** ***** <u>MAY DAY 1998</u> *****	
<u>School - Bottle Stall</u>	120.00
<u>Slot Machines/Sweets</u>	19.00
	£139.00
<u>Football</u>	
<u>Beat the Goalie</u>	£ 36.00
<u>Brownies</u>	
<u>Bric a Brac</u>	90.50
<u>Death by Chocolate</u>	18.00
	£108.00
<u>Small Playing Field</u>	
<u>Raffle - Childrens</u>	25.00
<u>Adults</u>	88.00
<u>Bowling</u>	61.00
	£174.00
<u>Churches Together</u>	
<u>Stalls</u>	216.00
<u>Teddy Bears Picnic</u>	18.30
	£234.30
<u>Playgroup ????</u>	
<u>Pavilion</u>	
<u>Teas</u>	260.00
<u>White Elephant</u>	387.65
<u>Barbeque</u>	178.00
<u>Pick a Ticket</u>	113.40
<u>Lucky Square</u>	60.00
<u>Horses (Percy &amp; Arthur)</u>	62.00
<u>Stall Rentals</u>	12.00
	1,073.05
<u>Less Expenses</u>	50.50
	£1,022.55 *****



It is with great pleasure that I can announce Dennis Merritt of Peelers Cottage, Bell Street has agreed to become our new Parish Clerk.

Dennis is very interested in village life and is very qualified to undertake the clerks duties as he has spent most of his working life in management. I am sure he will do a brilliant job for Hornton and wish him well in his new post.

## MUSICAL CORNER

By Mike Webber

### UNFORGETTABLE

The name Nat King Cole is probably known to virtually everyone. To most people his recordings of "When I fall in love", "Mona Lisa", "Ramblin Rose" and "Unforgettable" would no doubt immediately spring to mind. However there was another side to Nat King Cole and that was his original role as pianist, of which I am primarily writing.

He was born on March 17th 1917 in Alabama USA and his real name was Nathaniel Adams Coles. Later Nathaniel was shortened to Nat, and the "s" dropped from his surname. He was one of four brothers, all of them musical. His father was a Church Minister. The family moved to Chicago during 1921. Nat's earliest musical influences were from the Church where he sang and picked out tunes on the Organ. Each year young Nat would enter an amateur talent contest run by the Church at Christmas, the prize being a 25lb turkey, which he won on four consecutive occasions!

In 1934, whilst still at High School, he ran a band called "The Royal Dukes". Soon after this he played in his brother Eddie's band called "The Solid Swingers" with whom he made his record debut on 28th July, 1936 when they recorded four tunes in Chicago. Then in 1937 he left Chicago to tour with a road-show called "Shuffle Along", encouraged by one of the show's dancers Nadine Robinson. When the show reached Los Angeles it collapsed, leaving Nat stranded, but soon after this Nat and Nadine were married.

In order to keep playing (and eating!) he briefly worked with a 7-piece band at the Urbagi Club. When this job folded he landed another gig at the Swanee Inn. It was here that he earned the name "King" when the manager made him wear a gold coloured paper crown on stage! It was here also that two other events shaped Nat's future. From this Swanee Inn job he was asked to form what should have been a quartet, but the drummer became ill and didn't turn up. So good was the sound made by Nat (piano) Oscar Moore (guitar) and Wesley Prince (double bass) that the drummer was told not to bother. They were known as the King Cole Trio.

To be continued.....

### OPEN AIR SERVICE

WITH THE SALVATION ARMY  
BAND

ON THE GREEN

SUNDAY, 21 JUNE

2.30 P.M.

### PARISH CHURCH

At the recent P.C.C. meeting the Rev. Jeff Chard reported that he had been approached by the Hornton Millennium committee regarding raising money to restore the East Window, the West Window and the Bells at the Parish Church as one of Hornton's Millennium projects.

Church Warden, Eric Turner had already obtained estimates for these projects, the approximate cost being £60,000.00. The vicar pointed out that a large part of this amount could be raised by way of grants but the village would have to find some of the money. The P.C.C. agreed that they would like the work to be done and that the East Window should be a priority.

Rev. Chard outlined the agenda for the Pastoral Trail which has been arranged by the Benefice for Saturday May 30th. The trail starts with a service at Hanwell Church at 9 a.m. All the churches in the Benefice including Hornton will then be open for visitors throughout the day. Refreshments will be on sale in all the churches which will be beautifully decorated for the occasion. Lord and Lady Tweedmuir and Audrey and Eric Turner will be opening their gardens.

### METHODIST CHURCH

Thank you to everyone who came and supported the Coffee Morning at Langway on May 9th. The sun shone after a very wet week and lots of people came. We raised £187.00 for Chapel funds. Our next Coffee Morning is on June 13th - 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon, hosted by Jean Burden in the Chapel Car Park. We look forward to seeing you.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School Outing has been arranged for Saturday July 11th to Thorpe Park, Nr. Windsor. A few seats are still available at £17.00 which is bus fare and park entry (rides inclusive). To book your seat ring Jean Burden on 670664.

## IN LIGHT RELIEF

Sir-With all the interest in public conveniences I thought the following might take one's fancy.

A newly married couple decided to buy a house in the country. After viewing it they remembered they had not seen where the WC was, so they wrote to the vicar who had shown them over the house, asking if he knew where it was.

The vicar being ignorant of the abbreviation WC thought it meant Wesleyan Chapel, so imagine their surprise when he replied: "I regret the long delay in answering your letter but the nearest WC is seven miles away from your house. This is rather unfortunate if you are in the habit of going regularly, but it may please you to know that some people take their lunch and make a day of it. Others who can't spare much time go by train and get there just in time. "It accommodates 200 people and the council have decided to fit plush seats to secure greater comfort. There are social facilities for ladies presided over by the vicar, who gives all the assistance necessary, while the children may sit in groups and sing during proceedings.

"The last time my wife went was ten years ago and she had to stand all the time. I, of course never go myself. Hoping this will be of assistance to you.

"PS Re hymns -there are plenty of sheets and can be found hanging behind the door".



### **CHURCH SERVICES**

#### ***1st Sunday in month***

08.30 Parish Church - Holy Communion  
11.00 Methodist Church - Holy Communion

#### ***2nd Sunday in month***

11.00 Parish Church - Holy Communion  
11.00 Methodist Church

#### ***3rd Sunday in month***

10.30 Parish Church - Matins  
11.00 Methodist Church

#### ***4th Sunday in month***

11.00 Parish Church - Holy Communion  
11.00 Methodist Church

*United Sunday School meets at the Sunday School Room, Methodist Church at 11.00 every Sunday.*

## COFFEE AND BANANA MERINGUE (SERVES 6)

Approx 100 calories per portion

### For the meringue base

Egg whites from 2 large eggs  
1 tbsp instant coffee powder  
115g (4oz) caster sugar

### For the topping

2 bananas  
lemon juice  
1 large scoop Walls "too Good to be True"  
vanilla frozen dessert

To make the meringue base, whisk the egg whites and coffee powder until very stiff. Add 2 tbsp of the sugar and whisk again until stiff. Fold in the remaining sugar.

Spread the mixture on non-stick (silicone) paper on a baking sheet to form a 20cm (8") circle. Bake in the centre of a cool oven (190C, 225F or Gas mark ¼) for about 4 hours.

Leave to cool and store in an airtight tin until required (the meringue will keep for about 2 weeks).

Just before serving, slice the bananas and toss in the lemon juice. Scoop the vanilla dessert onto the meringue base and arrange the bananas on top.

The Pavilion A.G.M. was held at the end of April. Eric Turner (Chairman) thanked the retiring committee for keeping the Pavilion running so smoothly. In the absence of Lynne Fickling (Treasurer), O Fickling submitted the financial report showing a healthy balance. On her behalf he thanked Liz Jeffs for banking monies received throughout the year for bookings and Miss Dimelow for once again auditing the accounts.

The committee was re-elected on bloc with the exception of Bill Hillman who although still very interested in the Pavilion, decided it was time to retire.

Bill has been one of the driving forces behind the Pavilion project and put in many hours helping to build it. In subsequent years he has given his time to maintain it, through painting and general labour when jobs need doing. Thank you Bill, your labours have been so worthwhile in providing this valuable asset to the village.

The committee expressed their concern that no new committee members have come forward. So if you are interested in joining our committee we would be pleased to have you. New ideas are always welcome.

The Parish A.G.M. was held in April. At this meeting the new clerk, Mr. Dennis Merritt was introduced and the retiring clerk, Mrs. Julie Stanley, thanked by the Parish Council for her work over the past 12 years.

A letter about the Millennium had been sent to every household in the village, asking for ideas as to how Hornton might celebrate. This was discussed at length and it was decided to form a committee to co-ordinate ideas. David Miles, Liz and Bill Jeffs, Eileen Lewis, Libby Frazer and Audrey Turner all volunteered to become the committee.

Reports from all the Clubs and organisations in the village were read out by their representatives. A report from Ian Harris (Cubs) was read out by Julie Stanley in his absence. Ian has decided to retire as Cub leader after several happy years and Les England will be taking over, subject to being accepted by the Cub movement.

The Dog Warden was also at the meeting and gave a short and interesting talk on dog fouling. She pointed out that new laws are now in force and it is an offence with a penalty of £1,000.00 for dogs to foul anywhere other than in their own gardens.

Cllr. David Turner gave a short talk, even though he had just undergone throat surgery. He said how impressed he was at all the activities which go on in Hornton throughout the years.

## SCHOOL NEWS

Hornton School is flourishing and has now outgrown its two classrooms. The Governors have therefore obtained permission and finance for a new classroom. This will be in the former canteen where Mrs. Pettitt will teach reception and year one infants. Mrs. Childs will continue to teach year two and three infants in the infant classroom and Mrs. Clifford and Mrs. Porter will teach years three to six juniors in the junior classroom. It is hoped that this work will be completed before the start of term in September.

STOP PRESS: SCHOOL FETE  
Saturday, 4 July

## FISHER ELECTRICAL

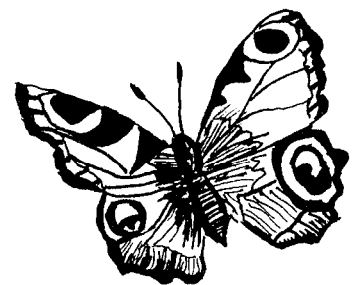
WOODSIDE COTTAGE, DRAYTON  
BANBURY, OXON OX15 6EH.

Tel: 730194 Mobile 0411 378824

## CONGRATULATIONS TO:

- Laura Hemmings and
- Rosie Hinton

on their recent 18th birthdays



It is with great sadness that we have to record the sudden death of our friend and neighbour Mrs. Helen Sumner.

She was a person to look up to. Her attributes were many and varied. She lived in Hornton all her married life and supported her husband Vincent and family in everything they did. This was also the case in village life. She worked tirelessly to keep our village spirit alive. Mrs Sumner was a school governor for many years and will be particularly remembered for her work as Treasurer for the Pavilion Committee and The Methodist Church. Along with her husband Vincent she was a driving force in getting the Pavilion built.

She was a regular worshipper at the Methodist Church and would work throughout the year knitting and sewing to boost its funds. She also organised the cleaning and flower rota and until recently provided and arranged the flowers herself.

She was a person to be relied on both as a neighbour and friend and she will be greatly missed by all of us.

## FLOORBALL

by Laura Hemmings

I was lucky enough to be selected for the Great Britain Women's team who were playing in two matches at the International Floorball Tournament held in Denderleeuw, Belgium, on 25 and 26 April.

Floorball is similar to hockey, particularly Uni-hoc, although the rules are slightly different and it is an indoor sport. In floorball both feet and stick can be used to control the ball. The goal posts are smaller and the goal-keeper is positioned on his knees and is only allowed to throw the ball out once he has stopped it. There are six players on the pitch at once and these can be "subbed" whenever required. "Time outs" are allowed to discuss team tactics throughout the game and the "Sin Bin" is also employed. A game consists of three periods of twenty minutes play. It is a very fast and tiring game but very enjoyable.

We travelled by car to Belgium via Le Shuttle and after a long time on the road we eventually reached the Sports Centre at Denderleeuw where the matches were to be played. We met up with the rest of the Women's team and set up camp in the Sports Centre. Remembering that our first match was the following morning, my friends and I decided to have a meal and a night out on the town. Unfortunately Denderleeuw was not a "night-life" sort of place so we returned to the Sports Centre and retired to the bar! Unfortunately when we turned in at 11p.m. the local football team were busy celebrating their Cup win upstairs in the bar until 2.00 a.m.

Nevertheless, by 9.00 on Saturday morning everyone was up and about and we watched the Men's Floorball tournament. Many teams from around the world took part in this and there were four teams from Great Britain including "our lads", the Cotswold Cobras and Basingstoke. Our own game was due to be played at 9.00 p.m. so prior to this we had a training session and sorted out team tactics. Our first game was against the Belgium/Flemish team. It was very exciting when both teams lined up for the National Anthems and were introduced individually to the

### OPEN GARDEN

for National Gardens Scheme

### BELLEVUE, BELL STREET

by kind permission of  
Mr and Mrs Eric Turner

**SUNDAY, 24 MAY**

Refreshments in the Church Room  
by Cubs and Brownies

spectators. We then had our team pep talk and "chant" and were ready to bully-off. After a very hard match and despite some magnificent saves by the opposing goal-keeper, we were relieved to win our first match comfortably. Needless to say, we celebrated our win in good style, joined by the GB men's team who had also defeated their opposition.

On Sunday we again supported the men's competitions which had reached the quarter-final stage with three GB teams still in contention. Unfortunately two of these teams were knocked out but Guilford reached the finals against an excellent Swedish team who were the world champions, and this match was to be played following our next Women's match.

Our game was versus a much stronger team this time and as we had lost one of our defensive players through injury, I, at left-back, knew I would have a more challenging game. The match was also being broadcast live on Belgian TV and on local radio. It turned out to be an extremely hard match for us with the Belgian team leading for most of the game and their supporters were very volubly behind them! Despite this, however, we managed to come through and stay ahead and at the final whistle we were ecstatic, celebrating in true style with the Union Jack, champagne and a team picture. Unfortunately in the Men's Final our GB team were knocked out after a brave fight against Sweden who well deserve to be reigning champions.

After a celebratory barbecue, we were presented with our Trophy and Certificates and began the long journey home. I had a wonderful weekend and thoroughly enjoyed the experience of playing for my country.

Our next International Tournament will be in Scotland from 24 to 26 May and I am hoping to be selected for next year's World Championships in Sweden.

**FOOTBALL**  
by James Fisher

### 1st Team

Success for Hornton's 1st team: after an up and down season for the team, Hornton managed promotion into the Banbury & District Premier League, finishing second behind champions Deddington, against whom Hornton had previously won and drawn. Cup runs were disappointing for Hornton apart from the Junior Shield where the team reached the 5th round to be beaten by Ducklington from Oxford 3-0. Hornton's luck has been down this season with injuries to key players such as Justin Stanley who was out for seven weeks and missed important games. Also Ian McClymont has had two operations on his knee so far and is out until Christmas-time.

## RESCUED RABBIT

Thursday 9 April, another wet and windy day. The rains came down in torrents. The brook began to fill up and within a few hours had flooded the gardens to the west including the School garden. Luckily Philip Brooks remembered Thumper, the School rabbit and rescued him in the nick of time.

Unfortunately Frank Jarrett's home had by this time been flooded. The Fire Brigade were on the scene at approximately 3.30 p.m. and realised the water was not escaping under the road as it should. To get rid of the rising water a hole had to be made in the School wall. The rushing torrent then swept across the road through the Manor gates, lifting the newly laid tarmac as it went.

Good Friday dawned - the rains had ceased for the time being. The aftermath of the storms could be plainly seen. Sandbags were strategically placed against doors and the School wall with a gaping hole, now repaired.

D A V I D M I L E S

CARPENTER  
JOINER AND  
BUILDER  
☎ 01295 670550



### Hornton Reserves

The Reserves had performed extremely well all season and were moving towards deserved promotion to Division 1. Unfortunately also hit by injury (up and coming young player Damian Hemmings fractured his wrist during the match against North Newington putting him out for the rest of the season) then shortage of manpower, the Reserves have struggled for the last few matches and will stay in Division 2.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the few who regularly come and support both Hornton teams. Unfortunately there are only a few who do support in other ways which is very disappointing considering the club's history and size. If anyone is able to help in any way it would be much appreciated before Hornton Football Club disappears. Glen Walther and Malcolm Cross do an excellent job of running the club and all the players would like to give their thanks.