

# GRAPEVINE

Spring 1989

## GREAT HINTON VILLAGE NEWS

### BEST KEPT VILLAGE

Your Parish Council has entered the village in this year's competition. Just to remind you of our record to date, we completed for the first time in 1986 when we were placed second in the first round which included entrance in the West Wilshire District only. The winners of the first round only go forward to compete County wide for the cherished trophy. This 1986 result was considered reasonable for the first attempt, but as usual in Gt. Hinton we were determined to be the best.

We entered again in 1987, winning handsomely both the District and County wide rounds. A presentation ceremony was held in the September, attended by a host of dignitaries, including the Lord Lieutenant of Wiltshire and the Chairman of the County Council. We were able to proudly display the 'Best Kept Village' sign for the ensuing year. In accordance with the competition rules, we were not able to compete in the following year.

The competition conditions include:-

1. Villages will be grouped and judged according to population.

Large villages		801-1800 population
Medium	"	351-800 "
Small	"	up to 350 Gt. Hinton
2. First round judging will be made from Mid May. Winners to County wide final.
3. Winners of the first District round to enter the County wide Children's Poster competition.
4. Judges at District and County level will be looking out for the absence of litter and the overall condition and tidiness of all features visible and accessible to the public.
5. Presentations - Ceremonies will be in the Autumn at the winning villages.
6. Thanks to generous Lloyds Bank sponsorship there will be cash prizes of £100, £50 and £30.

V. A. Bush - Chairman

# THE VICAR

"O to be in Hinton, now that April's there" - if I may adapt the poet Browning for my own purposes. (Browning, you may remember, misguidedly put 'England' instead of 'Hinton' - he should have been more specific!)

Yes Hinton, in common with many of our Wiltshire villages, looks lovely in the Spring, in April - though April practically came in March, even February, this year, didn't it?

Great Hinton looks lovely in the Spring - and perhaps looked even lovelier at one time when, as John Fennell was telling me recently, there used to be a 'tree tunnel' as you came down into the village.

We look at the beauty, the attractiveness of the surroundings we are lucky enough to live amongst, and they can throw into sharp relief in our minds at this time of the year, by contrast, the black, bleak things that happen all the time. I don't mean just in the world at large, as seen on our TV screens.

In the four days immediately before writing this, two of my fellow clergy were overtaken by tragedy: the Rector of Melksham lost his son in the car crash, and the Vicar of Chilmark lost his three young daughters in a fire - you probably heard of both events at the time. Or, less drastic, but we feel for them, those undergoing serious illness and unpleasant treatment for it - in Great Hinton our hearth has gone out to Catherine Tonner in all she has been through. Since this article was written we have had the sad news of Catherine's death, and our deep sympathy goes out to John and all others bereaved by her loss.

I expect we all know, or know of, people going through similar things. And, I'm told, people suffering from clinical depression actually get worse in the Spring as the fine weather comes - the contrast between the sunshine and beauty outside with the darkness inside them can become unbearable.

What are we to make of all this? Well, our compassion is always needed for those who suffer, whatever the time of year. But the fact that the sunny, beautiful Spring tends to make a sharp contrast with people's suffering shouldn't lead us to devalue the benefit and the significance of all that the Spring brings. Spring is a symbol of hope, a symbol of life restored, of a new start. In the Northern Hemisphere that chimes in with the Christian message of Easter too. So let's give thanks for the Spring, for its beauties, its attractiveness, and the meaning we can read into it both for ourselves and for others.

Derek Burden - Vicar.



# AGONY RUN

This will be the fifth run and we look forward to another good day. 75% of the money raised will be going to the Trowbridge and District committee of the Bath Cancer Support Group and the balance going to Hall and Community funds. By popular request we will not be asking for sponsors this year but will have a collection on the day. Offers of help, raffle prizes, cakes will be gratefully received by the following:-

RAFFLE Jessie Bush, Olive Ainger, Anne Truman, Ruby Perrett

CAKES Joan Barker, Sue Smith

ICE CREAM Carol Burch

MARSHALLS Ron Storey

TIME KEEPERS Vic Bush

CHILDREN'S GAMES Sandra Crumpler



SUN. JUNE 18

## WHIST

The Whist evenings have enjoyed reasonable winter weather this year thus enabling people to come without too many problems. The drives have been well attended and very much enjoyed. Grateful thanks must be extended to all who gave gifts towards the Christmas Drive making it yet again a successful event.

It would be nice if we could have one or two further volunteers to help with the evenings by going on a rota three or four times a year. Volunteers to me or at the next Village Hall A.G.M. Whist will definitely go on until the end of April and then volunteers will be required for any period afterwards.

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DID YOU KNOW - Never display kiwi fruit in a mixed fruit bowl. The other fruit give off gases which make it ripen too quickly.

# TREE PLANTING

During a dark January evening when I turned into the lane leading to the village, I was pleasantly surprised to see planted, the first of the trees as planned by the Gt.Hinton Tree Planting Scheme committee. However, this first tree, planted by arrangement in the centre of the designated area, is in fact a little more special than the others. This particular tree, a Norway Maple, was allocated by the local authority to commemorate the centenary of the Wiltshire County Council and was, in fact, planted ceremoniously by Mr. Gareth Roberts.

The trees which flank the central tree, three either side, are those purchased under the Tree Planting Scheme, together with the timber frames for protection from the cattle which are driven along the lane from time to time. Thus, the final arrangement comprises a row of seven trees. The five inner trees being the Acer Plantanoides (Norway Maple) and the trees at either end being Sorbus Aucupania (Mountain Ash). The timber frames have been constructed to near National Trust standards and dimensions.

The total cost of the six trees provided under the scheme, complete with stakes, planting, and fencing, including fencing of the commemorative tree was - £296. 59

The scheme qualified for a Local Authority grant of £110. 00

Grant from Council for the Protection of Rural England £ 50. 00

Gt. Hinton Parish Council award £ 40 or £ 50.

The balance coming from the village funds.

The planting and fencing of the trees during the 1988/89 planting season marked the culmination of a village project, achieved through the enthusiastic cooperation of a considerable number of village committee and Parish Council members.

It is hoped the arrangement of trees will give pleasure for many generations to come.

K. R. Ainger.

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We would like to thank all our friends in the village for their support and messages of sympathy to us in the loss of David our youngest son on the 19th February. We are, of course, at the moment devastated, but hope to be involved in village affairs again before too long.

Rosemary and Bill (Mudd).



# VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

The new year commenced with a Hangover Party on 13th January which was a lot of fun and well attended. The hot supper and yummy trifles, together with plenty of liquid refreshment was much enjoyed and everyone entered into the spirit of the evening, as can be seen from the photographs in the village photo album! (Diane Norris has this and will be pleased to show them to you anytime - they will be on view on the evening of the A.G.M.) Our thanks to Vic and Jessie for organising a really super evening.

Much discussion at the last meeting was in respect of the Agony Run - see Bill Barker's notes in this issue of Grapevine.

The A.G.M. is to be held in the Hall on Wednesday 26th April at 8 p.m. Please do try to be there as this committee works for all the village and we like to get everyone's views on future activities etc. Why not stand for committee - you'd be most welcome.

Index inserts for the Great Hinton Cookery Book are available from Joan Barker, 30p. which is 10p. printing cost and 20p. to go towards this year's Agony Run charity. Thanks to Bill Barker for compiling this for us.

Anne Truman.

## 100 CLUB

The 100 Club has 78 members this the fourth year, a few down on the previous year for various reasons. The prize money this year is £13, £9, £6, £5 with the quarterly prize of £18. So far the eight winners for the first 2 months have been:-

### January

1st. Mr. Shipman  
2nd. Mrs. Felstead  
3rd. Mr. Tapsell  
4th. Mr. Crumpler.

### February

1st. Mr. F. Gotelee  
2nd. Mr. P. Squibbs  
3rd. Mrs. Dolly Newman  
4th. Mr. Paget.

# PARISH MEETING

The Annual Parish Meeting which was held in the Village Hall on March 22nd was well attended - the hall was packed. Mr. V. Bush, chairman introduced Mr. Gareth Roberts our County Councillor, Mr. Madge, Footpath Warden for Wilts C.C. and P.C. Newbery.

In his report Mr. Bush mentioned that the Parish Council were still trying to save the red telephone kiosk from being replaced by the modern yellow and glass type. There was now a litter bin, thanks to Mr. E. Wickham, next to the bus shelter. The trees planned last year were now planted and protected. The various road safety jobs had been done, and loose dogs were still causing a nuisance. Mrs. J. Bush was thanked for looking after the flower tub by the letter box for the last year, and she and Mrs. A. Plummer would attend to it for the coming year. Mr. Crumpler was thanked for looking after the village pump. Mr. Bush spoke of the Best Kept Village competition and concluded his report by adding that the rates would be increased fractionally this year. Mr. Madge told of his work for Wilts C.C. He spoke about the footpaths, their upkeep and sign posting of them, and answered questions about maps. Another walk was suggested for this year, but no dates were given. P.C. Newbery spoke about the Neighbourhood Watch scheme, the recent car break-ins, and the need to be vigilant. He was questioned about traffic in the village, particularly heavy vehicles and vehicles using the village roads as a short cut.

The Villagers points of view centred around traffic and its speed and size. There was some discussion that Back Street (the road opposite the pub), and Back Lane (the road behind the pub) are confused in addresses and on deliveries. The Parish Council agreed to look at ways of remedying this problem.

The Meeting was closed and coffee served.

## SPORT

### TABLE TENNIS

As the 1988/89 season heads towards its climax, both of our teams are still enjoying mixed fortunes. Whilst the 'A' team are in a comfortable position near the top of Division 2, Great Hinton 'B' are currently second from bottom and relegation looks a distinct possibility, with just a handful of games remaining.

Great Hinton 'A' are now assured of at least a runners-up trophy in the overall team handicap event after easily winning their semi-final against one of the league's top teams. 'A' team player Ginny Sherman, one of the few lady players in the league, will hope to add a further winner's trophy to the two she collected at the recent individual competitions held at Clarendon School. She won the overall handicap event, having already defeated 'B' team player Marc Pardey to win the divisional title.



# LADIES CLUB

We have had a very good start of 1989 with three very interesting and entertaining meetings. In January, Sandra Crumpler demonstrated the art of sugar craft and proved what talent we have in the village! In February we invited guests to a Gourmet evening, with wine (!) and members once again contributed superb savoury and sweet dishes - an opportunity for our husbands to see what we get up to on our Wednesday evenings!! March saw us going all theatrical! Mr. Bill Underwood from the Costume shop in Devizes came along with make-up and costumes and demonstrated stage make-up. Within the hour we saw the transformation of Jackie Hallam into a Geisha girl (made up by Diane), Val became a flapper girl, feathers and all, with make up ably applied by Jessie, Jean happily turned into a clown, Anne thoroughly enjoying covering her with bright colours! But the transformation of the evening was a very brave Audrey, who, with Olive's expert help, became a really gruesome witch, warts and all! We shall have some photos to go into the album! Jean kept her face on much to the amusement of customers in the Linnet later on!

Our next meeting on April 19th will be the A.G.M., so please come and join us and help make the next season as varied and enjoyable as this one has been. We have some very interesting meetings lined up for next year.

Anne Truman.





## POLICE

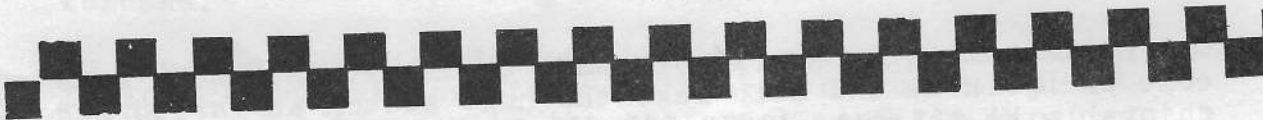
We have had another instance of an attempt to break into a car at Great Minton. Please lock your cars at all times and do not leave valuables in the car.

There has been a spate of day time burglaries in Trowbridge. Please be vigilant and suspicious of strange cars in the village.

At the recent Parish meeting, there was concern over investigation of the weight restriction signs at either end of the village. The car and motor cycle sign restricts all vehicles over three tons, including coaches. A lorry sign would just restrict lorries. There are plans to update all these signs to one of a lorry and a gross weight of 7.5 Tonnes.

Please do not hesitate to contact myself at Trowbridge Police Station (Trowbridge 763101) for any advise on Police matters.

P. C. 266 Mark Newbery.



## GRAPEVINE

Our local newsheet 'The Grapevine' I believe has been a very worthwhile vehicle of communication for the village and has given Anne and myself much satisfaction in producing it for the first six issues. However, I believe a change of Editor will be healthy for the Grapevine and have decided to step down and let somebody else have a go!

I would like to thank those of you who have supported the Grapevine with your variety of contributions because without your help it would never have continued.  
And now for the good news!!

I am delighted to tell you that Min Squibbs has agreed to take over as Editor and I am sure you will join me in wish her luck but please make her task easier by giving her your contributions in plenty of time.  
Good Luck Min.

Mike Truman.

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### STOP PRESS

1st Mr. J. Hallam  
4th Mr. G. McDonic

### 100 CLUB

2nd Mrs D. Storey  
5th Mr. S. Dew

### MARCH WINNERS

3rd Mr.R. Andrew