

# GRAPEVINE

Winter 1999

## Progress Report on the New Village Hall

Again we have important news to report to you on our work towards the building of a new Village Hall. The first and most important thing to say is that the project is still on track for completion by the middle of 2000.

When we took on this project I do not think that any of the Committee realised how complex a project of this kind can be, so perhaps we were initially a little unrealistic in our early ideas concerning when we would see a new Hall standing in the village.

We only have one opportunity to build a new Hall so we want to make sure it is the best Hall we can provide given the money we have available and the restrictions of the Hall site, or building plot as it will shortly become. Although we did secure planning permission to build a new Hall earlier in the autumn, we subsequently spent some time trying to enlarge the site by buying a narrow strip of land to the side and the rear of the existing plot. We have succeeded in this and therefore we have been able to enlarge the building plans slightly and give better access around the building. A little more space around the Hall will make building maintenance much easier and also allow access to an extra fire exit to the rear of the Hall, which is something many villagers were asking for. The larger building also helps us to achieve our ambition to include a skittle alley.

Once you change building plans you have to go back to the District Council again for planning permission. This has just been secured and we are therefore now in a position where we have to finally select a builder from those who have tendered for the job, and sign a contract with them to start work in the new year.

Thanks to those of you who wrote to the District Council supporting the building of the new Hall when we were initially trying to get planning permission. In particular thanks are due to Audrey Plummer who organised a 'petition' in support of the Hall. All of this support was most helpful and the Planning Committee, after approving planning permission, wished us all luck in this new venture.

We have avoided calling the new Hall 'The Millennium Hall'! Instead it will continue to be known as the Great Hinton Memorial Hall and as part of that we are arranging, in liaison with the Royal British Legion, a memorial stone to be laid in the front wall of the new building. Incidentally, if you notice that the old British Legion memorial plaque has gone from the front of the existing Hall do not worry. We are due to take it down shortly because we will be reusing the bronze British Legion shield on the new memorial stone. We look forward to seeing work starting on the new Hall and inviting you to a grand opening event.



# GREAT HINTON





## Editorial

If there is a particular type of competition you would like to see in a future Grapevine, please let me know. If you would like to include any articles in the next Grapevine, please drop them in to me at Church Farm.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a prosperous new millennium!



All articles should be submitted by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2000.

Mark Newman (870040)

## 100 Club Winners

	August	September	October	November
£14	L. Unsworth	P. Winterburn	Pat Putt	Helen Shipman
£12	Andrew McCool	Ray Austin	Helen Shipman	Wendy Propert
£10	Marilyn Newman	Tom Meade	Gilbert Miles	Ken Young
£8	Colin Ramsey	David Harnott	Mrs. M Ashton	Joe Norris
£5	Doris Saville	Wendy Propert	Mark Newman	Chris Morris
£4	Belinda Wells	Jeannie Propert	Denise Westall	Sue Smith
Numbers Drawn By:	D. Norris	Hugh Welch	Joan Barker	Carol Burch

## Harvest Festival

We held our Harvest Festival service in the Village Hall beautifully decorated with lovely flowers, fruit and vegetables, to be auctioned afterwards in aid of Action on Homelessness, in Trowbridge.

Many thanks once again to Mrs. Celia Young, who accompanied our harvest hymns on her keyboard, with Mr. Richard Young on his flute. As the vicar, the Rev. David Hart pointed out, it is interesting that this service is one of the last events to take place in this Hall, which was re-erected on this site in 1922 having been brought from Salisbury Plain. It was endowed by a widow who lost her husband in the Great War. Next year we all hope it will be held in the new Memorial Hall in the New Century.

The Vicar led us in prayer and then related the parable of the ten lepers restored to health by Jesus, only one of whom returned to thank Him – and he was a Samaritan, a foreigner. After more harvest hymns and prayers, Richard Clarke acted as our Auctioneer. He told us of the growing success of Action on Homelessness, which had happily received a lottery grant to help them over the next three years. He and Mike Truman wheedled £90 from us, including donations, and there was also a generous collection of tins and groceries for Action on Homelessness.



Shall we see YOU, next Century?

Joan Barker

Honey in 454g (1lb) jars with/without "A Present For Christmas" labels. Also, Honey Fudge, Honey Mustard, small Beeswax Candles and Beeswax Furniture Polish.

Min (870634)



## Neighbourhood Watch

Happily, there is nothing untoward to report. Let us hope this continues during the festive season and beyond. Chris joins me in wishing you all a very happy Christmas and a peaceful and prosperous Millennium New Year.



*Sandy Salmon* (870662)

## Ladies Club

For our first meeting of the new season, on 15<sup>th</sup> September, Carol demonstrated the art of painting on glass. Then we all tried this fascinating craft and went home with some interesting results! A great idea for any future village stalls.

In October we once again filled shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child and were able to send about forty to this very worthwhile charity – Hilary McFall, the local organiser, gave a vivid account of the lives of some of these children and said that this year our boxes would go to the street children of Moscow.

We started our November meeting with Bucks Fizz to toast happy memories of our dear old village hall, this being the last Ladies meeting to be held there! Mrs. Joan Hall fascinated us with the history of Christening gowns and had brought along some gowns, as well as lace etc. to show us. We are looking forward to our Christmas meal at The Linnet on Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> December, and on the following Monday, 20<sup>th</sup>, we hope to have a lot of support for carol singing in the village. Please be outside The Linnet at 7 p.m. – children most welcome, and some male singers too please! Our first meeting of the millennium will be the annual Skittles evening. Sandra will advise details later.



The venue of future meetings whilst the new Hall is being built will be advised nearer the time.

*Anne Truman* (Secretary)

## From Your Community Police Officer

I am pleased to note that there has been a relatively low level of crime in Great Hinton lately. However, one should not be complacent. In surrounding areas, burglaries from sheds and thefts from vehicles are still occurring frequently, so make sure you lock sheds and cars as often as possible when unattended.

In spite of the fact that we have had few recent offences in the village, please remain vigilant. If you are suspicious of any unfamiliar people or vehicles appearing locally, please record as much detail as you are able to do and inform either myself or Sandy Salmon, your local Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator.



I should also like to mention that this is a particularly dangerous time of year on the roads. These are often wet and slippery and covered with fallen leaves. Please moderate your speed, especially on the local narrow lanes, and if you are out on foot wear bright, high visibility clothing to give drivers a better chance of seeing you.

Best wishes,

*Steve Drage* (Pc75)

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## Advice From The Wiltshire Constabulary

### Prepare for the holiday by

- Making sure that you have good security such as door bolts, window locks, outside lighting and indoor lights on timers.
- Arranging for neighbours to keep an eye on your property if you are going to be away from home.
- Making a list of emergency call-out numbers for major utilities and trades people who will be available over the holiday.
- Not taking too much cash with you if you go out and being aware of possible pickpockets in crowded areas.
- Checking out appliances that may be affected by the Millennium Bug and correcting or changing them if needed. Call the Action 2000 telephone helpline on 0845 601 2000 if you need advice.
- Organising a Millennium celebration in your street or home and inviting those who would otherwise be alone.
- Keeping a watch-out for young children who have been left home alone by parents out celebrating.
- Resisting the temptation to call the over-stretched emergency services if you experience difficulties other than emergencies. The Police will try to deal with incidents as they are reported but be patient if they are busy.
- Only attending professionally organised fireworks displays.



### Watch out for

- Burglars looking for homes empty for the evening or over the long holiday weekend.
- Bogus callers and fraudulent trades people offering their services on the doorstep to people, whether they need emergency work done or not.
- Pickpockets operating in crowded public areas.
- Household appliances containing computer microchips that could be affected by the so-called *Millennium Bug*.
- Appliances that could malfunction including lifts, alarm systems, communal heating systems, VCRs and PCs.
- Rowdiness due to consumption of alcohol and over-exuberant celebrations.
- Emergency services over-stretched during the Millennium holiday dealing with 999 call.
- Lonely people without family or friends nearby who may be in difficulties and need help.
- Young children who are left home alone without appropriate adult supervision.
- Fireworks parties which are not properly organised.



## 1999 Poppy Appeal

The sum total collected within the village for the poppy appeal was £105.33. The bulk of the house-to-house collection was carried out by Mrs. Sylvia Tarrant whose offer to help was much appreciated.

*Sandy Salmon*



## Great Hinton Parish Council

During the Summer and Autumn months The Parish Council has received an unusually large number of planning applications for our comment, including our own application for the new village hall. These applications have covered a wide range of proposals and included; House extensions in the village, a new closed barn near to the junction of Stoggy Lane and The Narrows, Two new houses in Bleet and , most recently, a proposal for a new highways access to Noad's Yard at Coldharbour.

It is the policy of the Parish Council, whenever possible, to seek the views of all immediate or potentially affected neighbours before we make a comment on any planning application. In this way we endeavour to ensure that we reflect the views of directly interested parties in our official response to the District Council. Any written comments we make are reproduced in the papers presented to the Area Committee of West Wilts. If you have any views on any planning matter then please contact any one of your Parish Councillors and we can then ensure that your voice is heard.



You will have recently seen workmen carrying out drain repairs in Main Street. As a result of lengthy persistence by one of the Parish Councillors the highways department were persuaded that a section of drain had collapsed. It is to be hoped that following this repair there should be a reduction in surface water on the road in Main Street.



The parish council exists to ensure that Great Hinton has a voice on a whole range of local issues and services, so if there is any local matter that you think we can help with then contact: Mark Newman or Cherry Munday or Diane Norris or Brian Shipman or myself.

*Chris Munday* (Chairman)



## Millennium and Fireworks

People take care of their domestic pets on firework night in November knowing that cats and dogs are terrified of the bangs and flashing lights of fireworks. Horse owners are careful to see that their animals are stabled.

**Please remember the sheep and cattle in the fields.**

My sheep, in a field on the outskirts of the village, were bombarded with over a dozen bangers and rockets in November. Not only are the animals frightened, I had to pick up jagged thick plastic tubes and thin spiky sticks from their field before they were injured. As the sheep had been in that field for weeks it was not as if no one knew they were there, and it was obviously known the fireworks were exploding over, because it was not just the odd one gone astray. If I had been told in advance the sheep would have been moved.

*Min Squibbs*



Many residents appear not to know where they live. We live at the end of BACK LANE, the road behind the pub. The loop road joining Main Street at both ends is BACK STREET. It is surprising the number of deliveries and lost people who arrive up BACK LANE – a single track road with no turning areas except driveways. To list a few: paving slabs, beds, building materials, GWR representatives, overnight delivery vans, a chatty inebriated friend of a villager leaning on our door-post (still driving a car when re-directed) and a fire engine on call. The fire engine arrived at the correct road they were given by the house owners – pity the owner got it wrong. Ever tried to turn a fire engine in a gateway? Last month a conservatory roof on a trailer behind a large van arrived, delivery address was BACK LANE on the documents and again it should have been BACK STREET. What prompts the above is our lost delivery this week and the driver claiming to have been in the village for what seemed a week. Yes, the delivery address on the documents was correct, just who was asked didn't know where BACK LANE was and the last person he asked in BACK STREET claimed it to be BACK LANE. The road names haven't changed and are shown on the old OS Map in the hall if proof is needed. Let's hope no one wants an ambulance.

*Paul & Min Squibbs*



## Forthcoming Events

December 15<sup>th</sup>  
December 20<sup>th</sup>  
**March 31<sup>st</sup>**

Ladies Club – Christmas Meal  
Carol Singing – starts outside The Linnet at 7 p.m.  
**Grapevine Article Deadline**