

# The Grapevine Great Hinton

Editor Richard Clarke 870635

## AUGUST 2002

### JUBILEE DAY

If you attended the event then there's little to be said, and if you were away you may still wonder if you made the right decision.

Everyone contributed to make everyone's day memorable so on behalf of the Committee thank you for the support and encouragement that kept us going even if the best news was "It's sunny already in Cornwall!"

Besides funding the event, the 'Auction of Promises' generated a surplus which the Committee has decided to use to start replacing the wooden chairs in the Hall which are delaminating.

The pictures tell the story and a collection will be mounted as a collage in the Village Hall. Neil Haynes has the CD and the contact prints, if you missed out on the opportunity to see them in the Hall. Orders can be placed with Neil who will arrange for the printing.

A great demonstration of how energy can be focused into getting prizes, cooking for 150 people, organising tables, chairs, barbeque, beacon, etc. .... what's the excuse for next year's event?

**Kevin Crumpler**



*You will eat your lunch or we will sing to you!*

Our thanks to Jon at the Linnet for opening on a Monday (his day off) and serving drinks at "local" prices, for allowing us to use his car park for our lunch, and for the use of his fridge and microwave. We do appreciate your support for the village events, Jon.

Editor



*Graced by the presence of peers of the realm*

### COMMUNITY SPIRIT

Since the last Grapevine report, the main activity of the Community Committee has been around planning and running the village's Jubilee Day party.

As the day itself - 4 June - came closer there were growing concerns over the weather. We knew that the Hall could only take a maximum of 60 people at a time, and the party had proved very popular with over 140 people committed to coming for the midday meal and games and the evening barbeque. The morning started dry but then at around 11.30 the rain started. Nevertheless all was ready and everyone turned up despite the weather. I suspect that initially a few people stayed inside The Linnet rather than outside in the car park, but by 1.00pm the rain had stopped and everyone tucked in.

The weather was still dull most of the time, but most had arrived in red, white and blue clothing, and with the flags and bunting it all looked bright and cheerful. The food was great and there was lots of it; the children enjoyed themselves; lots of people won prizes in the biggest and longest raffle in village history; the children received their jubilee mugs and the rain held off - most of the time. As master of ceremonies, Kevin Crumpler introduced rousing music at the appropriate time. A group of stalwarts, roused either by patriotic emotion or the effects of their earlier time in the pub, formed an impromptu choir and accompanied 'Jerusalem' and 'Land of Hope and Glory' with gusto (while trying to remember the words).

Following the meal lots joined in the games on the back car park of The Linnet, and then later in the day again 100 plus villagers, family and friends arrived at the top of Back Lane for the barbeque. This time the weather was kind to us and a great evening was spent consuming approximately 140 sausages and 170 burgers, and celebrating as the Great Hinton beacon was lit to finish off our Jubilee Day party.

As always some thanks have to be handed out. The mastermind for the day and for the preceding Auction of Promises was Kevin Crumpler, and didn't he do a great

job! Audrey Plummer coordinated all the food, and Sandra Crumpler the games. In addition lots of people did their bit to make it such a successful event by supplying food, putting up bunting, furniture etc, taking the photographs, loaning equipment such as awnings and barbeques etc.

A special thank you should be offered to the following:

- Bowyers who provided all the sausages for the barbeque plus pork pies and scotch eggs for lunch (courtesy of Wayne Day)
- Jonathan Firby, landlord of The Linnet, for the use of both car parks, and opening up on his 'day off', providing a great central village location for the lunch and games
- Keevil Village Hall Committee and Ian Robinson for the transport and use of their tables and chairs, and awnings
- Min and Paul Squibbs for building the beacon and allowing the use of their field and facilities for the evening barbeque, again a great location for such an event.

Thanks to everyone who came and made the day. We will be putting together a collage of photographs and hanging this in the Hall as a record of our Jubilee Day.

Neil Haynes



*The grown ups waited patiently for their turn*

## CELEBRATIONS MADE POSSIBLE

I should like to say a very big thank you to all who contributed food for the Jubilee lunch. Every household present had donated a dish or dishes of some sort and my fears of not having enough to go round were totally unfounded.

My personal thanks go to Kevin for being such an efficient and enthusiastic leader of the organising Sub-Committee. He certainly kept us all on our toes! We all owe Kevin a big thank you for battling his way along the M6 on the Saturday prior to the Monday celebrations. The pottery had let us down on delivery of the Jubilee mugs and said that we could have them if someone would fetch them on the Saturday – so Kevin came to the rescue. Thanks again Kevin.

I still have one small white china plate and two plastic trifle bowls which have not been claimed.

Audrey Plummer

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

The Community Committee is planning the following events over the next few months. Please put the dates in your diaries, and look out for more announcements on the new notice board on the front of the Hall.

- Saturday 14 September Skittles Evening
- Saturday 12 October Harvest Supper
- Saturday 23 November Quiz Evening

More events will be planned for the new year.

Neil Haynes 870153

## SAFARI DINNER – Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October

Last chance to get out and enjoy yourself before the winter sets in!!

**Put the date in your diary – meet at the pub (7.30 pm.), visit different venues for two courses, prepare only one course yourself, meet many new friends and wind up at yet another house for cheese, port and coffee. Is there any better way to spend a Saturday evening in the late autumn?**

If you would like to join in please let me know by Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October so that I can let you know which course, at what time and how many to cater for (this is usually 4 guests) on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October. Don't leave the decision until the last minute, let me know now and set the date in your diary - that way you will have to tell all other friends/relatives that you are busy on the 26<sup>th</sup> October and you cannot possibly miss this great event.

See you on the 26<sup>th</sup> October.

Sandra 870906

## GREAT HINTON MEMORIAL HALL TRUST

The Trust Committee membership was added to recently and now comprises Carol Clarke, David Harnott, Neil Haynes, Chris Munday, Derek Saville and Mike Truman.

The Hall continues to be used regularly and we are looking to gradually improve facilities in the Hall in the future, with the cooperation of the Community Committee. We are currently awaiting a response from 'Awards for All', part of the Lottery Commission, concerning an application for a small grant to upgrade the kitchen facilities so that larger scale catering can take place. This is needed to support activities such as the successful Village Lunch Club.

The Community Committee's successful Jubilee Day was funded by the equally successful Auction of Promises. The Committee has decided to use some surplus money from the Auction of Promises to buy some replacement chairs for the Hall. The wooden furniture we have at present has served the Hall well but is now starting to deteriorate. We have to check the chairs regularly for signs of weakness and have recently discarded more than ten of them. Once the chairs have been replaced we then need to consider how we can upgrade the tables.

With a new kitchen and better furniture the Hall will be a more attractive venue for private bookings, so think about it as a possibility next time you have a party or celebration.

Neil Haynes 870153



## FROM STEEPLE ASHTON VICARAGE

Dear Friends,

A saying which I came across recently gave food for thought: *'The presence of trouble does not mean the absence of God.'*

Nowhere in the Bible are we promised freedom from difficult situations. What we are promised is that if our trust is in God, then He will be with us. He will not fail or forsake us. When trouble comes, inevitably we are tempted to ask, "Why me?" But in a world full of imperfection in a multitude of ways, it might be humbler to say, "Why not me?"

The book of Job in the Old Testament begins with a challenge from Satan to God about his servant Job. "Job is only serving you because of what he gets out of it" is his taunting remark. So Job is put to the test and loses family, possessions and health in a short time. Complex arguments follow, but Job never loses his faith and in the end finds out more about the greatness and goodness of God, without ever knowing why he suffered so much.

When we cannot see the hand of God at work in our lives, it is good if we can trust in His loving heart – a truth we see most clearly at the Cross. We need to use trouble as a bridge to bring us close to God, and not a barrier to separate us from Him.

In Christian love

David Hart (Vicar)

### ART GROUP

Another very successful term for the Art Group thanks to the enthusiasm of our eleven village artists. We intend to stage our second exhibition of work either this autumn or early next year (see the next Grapevine for information). Having broken up for the summer, our next session starts on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September when we hope some new members will come and join us.

We meet at 7.30pm for two hours at the Village Hall which is always kept warm in the winter with refreshments at half time. We are planning to attract visiting artists for demonstration evenings which should be interesting.

Our Treasurer, David Harnott arranged an end of term dinner at The Linnet, paid for from our funds. It would be nice to make this a regular event as it was so successful. Please give Carol Clarke 870635 or me a ring if you would like to join us. You do not need to be an experienced artist to take part, just enthusiastic!

Mike Truman 870607

### HALL BOOKINGS

There have been very few bookings during the summer as both the art club and the whist and judo clubs take their summer break. The village hall is still a great venue for that skittles evening or children's party. Give me a ring.

David Harnott 871196

### B.Y.O. EVENINGS

As always, we meet at The Linnet on Tuesday evenings at about 8.30pm for a chatty couple of hours. Buy Your Own drinks as usual!

## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

I trust everyone received the Spring newsletter but if you didn't please let me know as I have some copies left. The same applies to the recent leaflets for the campaign regarding the identification of callers.

If villagers wish to leave details of key holders etc., with me whilst they are on holiday I shall be happy to keep the details on file.

During what should be these long hot summer days, please remember to close those windows when you go out. Whilst we do not have a crime problem in the village we do not want to make it easy for any passing opportunistic thief.

David Harnott 871196

### LUNCH CLUB

As two of the cooks will be away on holiday during September, we have decided to hold the first lunch of the new season on Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> August, at 12.15pm for 12.30pm in the Village Hall. All will be welcome.

Invitations will be issued in the next couple of weeks.

The October lunch will be on Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> – perhaps you would like to put that on your calendars.

Audrey Plummer 870586

### LADIES CLUB

We meet at 8pm on the third Wednesday of each month from September to April in the village hall so there is not much to report this time. However, we would very much like to welcome any ladies in the village who may have considered giving us a 'try' to a **Wine and Cheese Evening** with a the "history of the club" display, on WEDNESDAY, 18 SEPTEMBER 8pm in the village hall. There are no strings attached! This does not mean you will be snapped up to do lots of jobs – but it's just a chance to get to know us and enjoy the programme we have coming up. If you come and decide that it is not for you, we will not mind, but please come.

Please will current members attend a short meeting at the hall on Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> August 7.00pm to plan the evening.

Carol Clarke 870635

### CANINE CAPERS



A local dog owner was recently fined for allowing his dog to foul the verge. A number of village residents have complained of dogs fouling their front and rear gardens – clearly the result of dog owners allowing their pets free rein to do their business where they will.

There are some very clear and sensible regulations requiring dog owners to act responsibly with regard to their pet's toilet activities. It is the responsibility of WWDC's Dog Warden to enforce the regulations which basically mean dog walkers should never go anywhere without a plastic bag. You can make your complaints by telephone to the Warden on 01225 770343 and they will be followed up anonymously.

Having failed to win the "Best Kept Village Award" we surely do not want to win the prize for the best "Canine Convenience in the County"!

Colin Ramsey



## Devizes Cats and Kits in Care

Moreton Cottage,  
Drove Lane,  
Market Lavington,  
DEVIZES, Wilts. SN10 4NT  
Telephone 01380-812488

Many of you will be aware of the recent death of Kath Berrett of Fore Street Farm, Great Hinton. As you may know she had 25 farm cats all un-neutered and free roaming on her farm.

I, on behalf of D.K. & K. would like to thank those people locally who have helped us in the rescue of these cats, by feeding and checking traps. Neighbours Tony and Gil Whatley and Kath and especially Carol Burch who has taken on several of these cats permanently and has now had them all neutered. Also my colleague Daphne Crisp of D.K. & K. who has spent many hours watching and waiting on Kath's farm. Both Daphne and Carol have worked tirelessly since April to trap and rescue each and every one of these lovely cats.

There are now only two animals left on the farm, the two goats and, as I used to have a herd of dairy goats years ago, well guess who is going to have them! We need to organize housing for them and as soon as possible we will move them to Market Lavington.

D.K. & K. now have 22 of the farm cats here (one of which is about to kitten). We have ourselves funded the neutering of the majority of these cats. Four very young mothers, all sisters, still need to be spayed. All the cats have had veterinary treatment, some antibiotics and some extensive nursing care by ourselves. I am pleased to say they are now all well, have settled in and are looking magnificent. They are now ready for re-homing in pairs for companionship.

Yours sincerely

Lorraine Spencer VN

### GREAT HINTON PARISH COUNCIL

#### Annual Parish Meeting

This was held in the hall on 12<sup>th</sup> June, and though attendance this year was disappointingly low that did not hinder the liveliness of debate. Amongst the issues raised the main discussion related to road safety at the Strand and the speed and volume of traffic that uses the country lanes that serve our village.

It was reported to the meeting that the Parish Council had written to the County Highways department to request a speed restriction at the Strand, in order to make the junction with the lane to the village safer. However we also had to report that we have received only a very negative and unhelpful response. After some discussion it was agreed that we would seek support from Keevil and make further representations.

If our efforts to improve road conditions at this dangerous junction are to succeed we need as many villagers as possible to support the campaign. As you may know three people have died in road accidents there in recent years and we are concerned that action should be taken before there is another death. Please support this campaign by writing to our District and County Councillors, the County Highways department and our MP or indeed take any other action that will raise the profile of this important issue.

#### Highway Maintenance

The County Council "Parish Lengthsmen" are due to visit us again at the beginning in August and we have put forward a schedule of minor works. The next visit will be in December so if you are aware of a small repair or other task please let one of your Parish Councillors know.

#### Best Kept Village

Regrettably we only managed third place in the district round of the competition this year, losing our great record of success in this annual competition

#### Parish Council Vacancy

Due to the recent resignation of Cherry Munday we have a vacancy on the Parish Council. If you have previously expressed interest or might wish to consider becoming a Parish Councillor I would be pleased to hear from you. The duties and responsibilities are not onerous nor is there any great time commitment required, but it is a very effective way of contributing to our community.

**Chris Munday Chairman Tel: 870912**

### OUR COUNTY COUNCILLOR WRITES

The County Council were intending to build a new secondary school near the rugby club in Trowbridge to cater for the new developments and the surrounding villages. They've now decided not to do this but to expand existing schools instead. The land where the school was to be would go for housing.

The matter will come up at the District Plan enquiry, and I'm hoping to persuade the inspector to keep the land available for a school.

If any Great Hinton residents are likely to have children of secondary school age between now and 2011, and would be willing to help, I have a brief questionnaire I'd invite them to fill out. Please contact me as soon as possible.

Any resident is welcome to get in touch if they have any problems involving the County Council. I hold a surgery at my home on Saturday mornings from 10.30 to 12 noon.

**Trevor Carbin**  
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