



THE AMPNEY TIMES

August/September 2006

Fete raises £3,000 – Barry Dent

The Ampney Crucis Fete was held on a wonderful, sunny, summer afternoon on 24 June and everyone attending enjoyed two hours of fun activity at the cricket ground.

A record £3,000 was taken and the organising committee want to say a big thank you to all who contributed. This sum will be divided mainly between the church and the school but all village groups who applied for financial support got some allocation: the Cricket Club, the Humpty Dumpty Toddlers group, and the Ampney Crucis Playground Association. And there was a little left for a donation to the Star College for disabled students.

Thanks go to all who set-up stalls, to those who looked after them and to those transported all the equipment needed to the cricket ground and then back to where it came from.

The grand raffle was drawn at the end of the afternoon and there were some excellent prizes, including a cash prize of £75, a super food hamper, two drinks hampers and a make-up hamper. This year all the major prizes were won by people living in the village. And a special thanks is due to those who provided for our material needs during the afternoon: a great BBQ of burgers and sausages, some really tasty cakes to have with our teas and, of course, the cake stall and the Pimm's stall.

During the fete we were treated to music from the Swindon Brass Band with favourites old and new, giving a very pleasant background to all the activity.

Finally, on behalf of everyone who attended, I would like to say a special "thank you" to the Organising Committee for all their creative planning, commitment and hard work which contributed to such a successful fete.

An invitation to cycle (or walk)

Nick Tanner and Marilu Hignett

All villagers are warmly invited to cycle or walk for a charity well worth supporting on **Saturday 9 September**. This sponsored cycle/walk for adults and children, organised by the Gloucestershire Historic Churches Trust, involves walking or cycling around our local churches. It is great fun and even better if there are lots of local children and adults just visiting a few churches.

You are entirely free to visit as many or as few churches as you like in any order during an hour or even a whole day, depending on age and stamina. Refreshments are provided in most churches on the way.

Participants can start at any church, but one group will set off from Ampney St Peter at **2.00pm**. We hope to meet lots of you there or to wave to you en route.

Sponsorship forms are available from Nick Tanner (Ampney Crucis) ☎850256 or Myra Bye (Ampney St Peter and Ampney St Mary) ☎851605. Proceeds are split between a local church of your choice and the Gloucestershire Historic Churches Trust, who are responsible for maintaining our beautiful churches.

Please come and support the day. If you are unable to cycle or walk you can even horse ride! Failing that, perhaps you can come and sit in your church for an hour or so to encourage and support the riders. For further information contact Nick Tanner ☎850256, Myra Bye ☎851605 or your local church warden.

Ampney Crucis Cinema

Chronicles of Narnia. Cert PG.

Four children find a way into a magical parallel world where they must fight an evil witch in the name of the great lion Aslan. CS Lewis's children's classic gets the big budget live action treatment from *Shrek* director Andrew Adamson.

Wednesday, 23 August, 7.30 pm.

Wednesday, 27 September, 7.30pm. Film to be announced - see posters in Ampney Crucis Village.

All films are in Ampney Crucis Village Hall, £2.50 at the door. Refreshments are available. Bring cushions for the hard seats!



Car boot sale – Rosanna Armitage

Ampney Crucis School and the Cricket Club together invite you to come to our car boot sale on **24 September** from **2.00pm** to **4.00pm** in the cricket field. For further information please contact Rosanna Armitage ☎850005.

Ampney St Peter news – Nick Gibbs**Mobile library**

As regulars will know already, the mobile library now visits us between 2.00pm and 2.20pm on alternate Wednesdays. The next visit is on 9th August, and I promise to return all my outstanding books by then. The Library Helpline is 0845 230 5420.

Biodiversity

Graham Thompson is looking to produce a biodiversity report for The Moor, ditches and the pond. The chances are that we will be obliged to do this in the future, so it's good to be ahead of the game, and must be a good thing if it protects the flora and fauna of Ampney St Peter. Such a report should help us compile a schedule for cutting grass, managing weeds, and clearing the pond and ditches. Graham hopes to have something for discussion at the next village meeting in September.

Grain store

David Hardie, who manages the land at Ranbury Ring, intends to speak at the village meeting to outline their plans for a grain store and agricultural buildings. Joan Sparks has spoken to David, and says that he wants to help with proposals to control traffic on the main road.

Boundary changes

The Cotswold District Council's Cabinet has voted in favour of the proposals to change the boundaries at Can Court, The Old Rectory and the Poulton end of the village. The CDC has now said that the Electoral Commission wants it to do further consultation, particularly regarding the move of properties at Ranbury joining the Hampton district ward and the East Cotswold county division. If you have any comments please contact Sarah Dalby at CDC (☎623009)

The Clerk

As no one has opposed Rhonda Thompson's offer to be our new Clerk, I suggest that we go ahead with passing appropriate responsibilities to Rhonda, and introduce her to the legalities of the job before formalising her position at the village meeting in September.

Manhole cover

A lorry, or perhaps an overweight mole, has broken a manhole cover by the postbox. I don't know what we can do about this. Any suggestions gratefully received.

Car boot sale

The PCC has confirmed that the church insurance does cover the running of the car boot sale. I am checking that the estimates the village has been given for insurance (c.£290 in one case, and £330 in the other) cover us as owners of the land upon which the event is run. The PCC says that police signs will be provided, but reiterates what was said last year, that no one should direct traffic off or onto the road. As a village we have to do a risk assessment as part of the annual audit. I am asking the auditors whether or not third party events, like the car boot sale, fall within such an assessment and to what degree we are expected to assess risk.

Tunnel

The tunnel under the main road has obviously been completed, and as we go to press in the midst of a mini-heatwave we're all longing for rain to see if it will work! The village is contributing to the cost (not in a huge way), and I'll explain more at the September meeting.

**Ampney St Mary news – Nicoll Ferguson****Addition to the family**

Congratulations to Marco and Gemma Renna on the birth of a baby boy. He is especially welcome, being the first child to be born in the village for ten years.

Speed limit

For many years a number of residents have pressed for a speed limit in the village, and at last the powers that be have agreed. The appropriate order has been made by the Gloucestershire County Council's applying a 30mph limit in the village. It is hoped that this will at least deter drivers from speeding.

Village barbecue

The annual BBQ of Ampney St Mary and Ampney St Peter took place at College Farm on Friday, 7 July. This year it was under new young management, we oldies having retired. As usual, a great social occasion and a great success. Thanks must go to John and Denise Dytor and their hard working team, and to Tom and Vanessa Bennett for the use of their orchard – and kitchen facilities!

Over £850 was raised, which will be divided between the churches and a local charity.

Mobile Police Station

The mobile police station, with PC Reuben Wyatt, will visit the Ampneys at approximately the following times:

	AC	A St M	A St P
9 Aug	1245	1300	1400
22 Aug	1245	1300	1400
5 Sep	1645	1700	1800
23 Sep	1645	1700	1800

☎07734 068276

What's been happening at the school? Marilu Hignett

Acting head

Following the departure of Andy Simpson (as reported in the previous Ampney Times), our new acting head is Mr Richard Woolston from Longlevens, who will be with us for the winter term only. The new headteacher, Anne Maria Wilkie, has been appointed and will start in January 2007. She is currently the deputy head at Stratton School and we are delighted with her appointment.

Open garden

What a great day this turned out to be! The visitors were able to see the new willow tunnel structure and the vegetable garden and, for those with sport in mind, to watch the football on the big screen! Meanwhile there was a variety of accomplished musicians entertaining us in the outdoor performance area. The decorate a pot competition was kindly judged by the local gardening experts. The proceeds were donated to the Cobalt Trust and the school.

The Great Cotswold Walkers were greeted by a fabulous banner as they arrived, sore footed and feeling very hot, but the surprise Pimm's soon put paid to that! Almost £2,000 was raised to be shared by the school and CLIC.

Silver Surfers

The Silver Surfer initiative, arranged through Age Concern, has encouraged children to teach the over 60's how to use a computer. Of the eight visitors which we had in open Silver Surfer Week, one is still a regular user.

Garden news

A new orchard has been planted, thanks to kind sponsorship by Euro Fireguard, to whom we are extremely grateful. We are always seeking help and sponsorship from other local companies too!

Wishing to complete the orchard, we are keen to find an Ampney Red Apple. Does anyone know where to find one? Answers please to Myra Bye ☎851605.

Other news

The Country Dance Festival went well and was enjoyed by all who took part.

The Cricket Team are enjoying their season and came third in a local competition.

The children have been busy with trips this term, with Willow Class continuing their current knight topic with a visit to Warwick Castle and Maple Class who are studying the seaside, with a trip to Weston-Super-Mare. Many thanks to all the parents who helped with these trips.

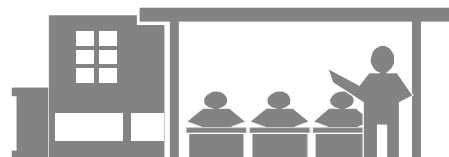
Robert Pleydell Trust

The Trustees will shortly be considering educational grants for the coming academic year. Grants are available to any students going to college, university, or undertaking a vocational course or apprenticeship. The grants are to help with the purchase of books and equipment.

To qualify, you must be under 25 and you must have attended one of the local schools in the past. Additionally, either you or your parents must live in the parish of Ampney Crucis and must be recorded on the Electoral Roll as at 31 August 2006.

To be considered for a grant, please write (by no later than **30 September**) to David Vessey, Convamore, Ampney Crucis Cirencester, GL7 5SF, giving your name, address, date of birth, details of your course and saying why a grant would be helpful. Please give a telephone number in case of queries.

The Trustees will allocate grants at their meeting on 9 October and all applicants will be contacted within the following seven days. The Trust does not have unlimited funds, so priority will be given to first-time applicants.



A couple of advertising opportunities

The new Villages Directory

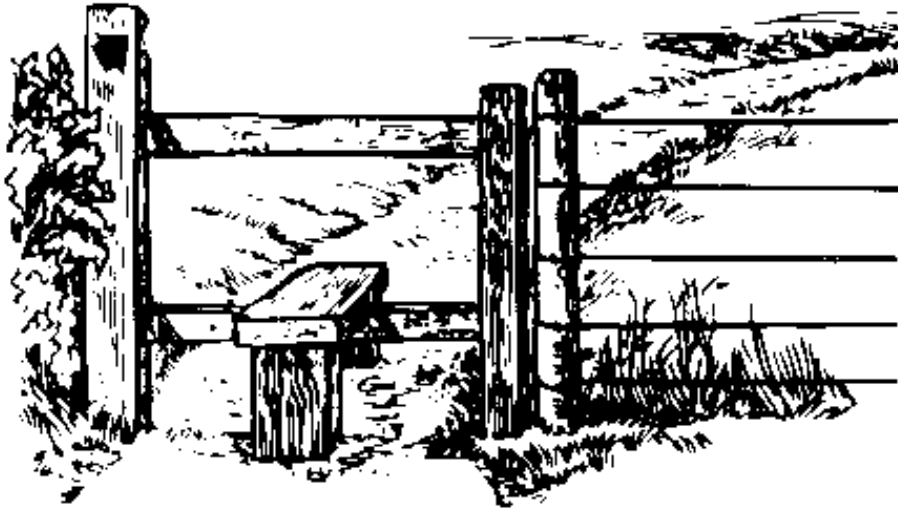
In previous editions, we have kept you informed on the progress of the new Ampney Villages Directory 2006/7 which will be published this autumn and distributed free of charge to all households in the three villages. Part funded by the Cheltenham and Gloucester Rural Initiative Fund, the glossy professionally printed 12 page (+cover) directory will be a guide to all organisations operating in the Ampneys as well as containing maps of all three villages, including footpaths.

We are now ready to accept advertising in the new Directory. It is planned that four pages of advertising slots (£40 full page, £20 half page, £10 quarter page) will fund the remainder of the costs of production. All businesses with connections in one or more of the three villages are invited to reserve their slots as soon as possible, or by **15 August** as the latest. Please contact Elisabeth Gerver, ☎850508, to reserve your space or to ask for further information.

The Newsletter itself

The original newsletter arose as a result of the 1999 Ampney Crucis Village Appraisal. The area which drew most interest was the idea of a Wanted and a For Sale column. As it turns out, this is the least used facility and it is possible many people don't know it exists. So, if you have something you don't want, or need something you haven't got, £1 gets your request in front of the 416 households who get a copy of *The Ampney Times*. David Vessey ☎851438 has more details

Footpath changes in Ampney Crucis



At the eastern end of the Village Street, the track leading down from the post box to the Old London Road is a special type of right of way known as a RUPP (road used as a public path) – the others are footpath, bridleway and byway open to all traffic. There are about 5,000 miles of RUPPs in the country and ours is the only one locally (the next nearest is in Bibury). There were two problems with RUPPs – they were the only type of right of way not maintainable at public expense and the rights of use by mechanically propelled vehicles were not clearly defined in law. These points have been settled by legislation in the Natural

England and Rural Community Act 2006.

All RUPPs throughout the country will now become a new class of right of way known as a 'restricted byway'. Restricted byways will be maintainable at public expense and they will be closed to all mechanically propelled vehicles (cars, lorries, motor bikes etc) i.e. priority has been given to the needs of walkers and riders.

This prohibition does not extend to neighbouring landowners who retain full existing rights of vehicular access to their properties. The County Council has put up new signs at both ends of the track.

Good Driver?

Time to spare? Community Transport Gloucestershire is looking for volunteer drivers to help those who are unable to get around easily and who find it difficult to access doctors, hospital, shops etc. Even a couple of hours a month could make a difference and expenses are paid.

For more information call 0845 0450302 or log on to www.a2binfo.net.

Avertissement - Gerry Cutts

A French warning for those who write news bits for *The Ampney Times*. If you miss an article an editor plus husband will track you down; there is no hiding place. For example, I did not do a piece for the last issue about the Gardening Club. Imagine my surprise when, as my wife and I were standing in a small hotel in a small unremarkable village in an unremarkable part of France well off the beaten track, the eagle eyed editor descends down the stairs. All smiles, but I knew that I was guilty. I know now there is indeed no hiding place.

Editor's note: I hereby promise not to follow up other non-contributors quite so assiduously. But do note that Gerry has now resumed submitting his reports.

A couple of farewells



It's goodbye from him.....

After 17 years as a postman, the last seven of which have been as the local postman for Ampney Crucis, Bob has decided to hang up his bag and take things easy. A collection was held and Bob was touched by the generosity of those who contributed.

He wanted to use the newsletter to deliver his final message and that is "A big thank you for the retirement cards and gifts; I shall miss you all".

Thank you, Bob, and we shall miss you.

...and it's goodbye from him

After helping to launch the village newsletter in January 2000, David Vessey has decided to hang up his red pen and relinquish the position of editor. Elisabeth, Christine and Terry are now looking for a replacement.

The essentials are that you have access to the internet as the majority of work in preparing each edition is done via email. Each editor takes it in turn to produce an issue and the newcomer is unlikely to be in serious action until June – so there is plenty of time to learn the ropes.

If you would like more information please ring David Vessey ☎851438

Social Events

Bingo

9 August and **13 September**, Ampney Crucis Village Hall, doors open **7.00 pm**; eyes down **7.30 pm**.

Organised by the Friends of Ampney Crucis School.

Whist

8 August and **12 September**, the Pop Inn, Cirencester, **7.30 pm**.

Organised by the Ampney and District Royal British Legion Women's Section.

Ampney and District Royal British Legion Women's Section

Usually meets monthly Tuesdays Ampney Crucis Village Hall 2.00 pm unless otherwise noted.

16 August Outing from Toddington to Cheltenham on Gloucestershire and Warwickshire Railway.

19 September 4.00 pm to 6.00 pm Afternoon tea and raffle

Contact Janet Gibbs ☎851227

Ampneys Gardening Club

Meets monthly Thursdays Ampney Crucis Village Hall 7.00 pm to 9.00 pm unless otherwise noted.

17 August "Scented plants", a talk by Miss B Jones. Everyone welcome.

21 September "How green is your garden", a presentation by Rebecca Billington. Everyone welcome.

Contact Joyce Cutts ☎ 851540

Sixties Club

Meets Mondays Ampney Crucis Village Hall 2.00 pm unless otherwise noted.

5 September Summer outing to Bridges, time to be announced.

18 September John Nutting - music.

Contact Paddy or Peggy Thompson ☎851619

Mothers' Union

Meets monthly at various venues and times; everyone is welcome.

Wednesday 9 August, 3.00 pm

On Mary Summer Day a picnic at Beechenhurst in the Forest of Dean, Service at **5.00 pm**. If you are interested in going, please contact Rosemary Franklin ☎654282

Thursday 17 August, 11.00 am – 3.00 pm Activity day at Chedworth Village Hall. Children under 8 are welcome. No charge.

Thursday 7 September 7, 2.30 pm Cynthia Miller on "Glenfall House". Venue to be confirmed.

Contact Rosemary Franklin ☎654282

Women's Institute

Meets monthly Thursdays Ampney Crucis Village Hall 7.30 pm unless otherwise noted.

28 September Film Show, by Norman Wheatat.

Contact Sonja Payne ☎850267

Club news

Cricket report – Phil Gearing

The cricket season has been badly affected by the football World Cup which has meant several fixtures being cancelled owing to shortage of available players.

However, we have played matches against Barnsley-Beeches, Nailsworth, Poulton and North Cerney, during which our young players have improved. We have also hosted two games, notably two sides from a Swindon factory and a match between branches of a company from Cricklade and London. The pitch has stood up well during the recent hot spell.

Petanque Club

Meets Thursdays at the pitch by cricket clubhouse 7 p.m. to dusk. All ages, all abilities welcome. Just turn up or contact Liz Anderson ☎850141 for more information.

BOOKINGS

To book Ampney Crucis Village Hall contact Paddy or Peggy Thompson ☎851619

To hire the village marquee contact Rosanna Armitage ☎850005

Youth Club

The club is open to all children in years 2 to 6 who live in Ampney Crucis and or who attend Ampney Crucis School; new membership will start in September. If you are interested in your child/ren joining, please contact Rosanna Armitage ☎850005.

Gardening Club socialises -

Gerry Cutts

The Gardening Club had a very well attended social evening at the Gadens on June 29th. The weather was perfect and the Gaden's interesting garden was as nearly perfect as a garden could be. There seemed to be an enormous of food. Ursula judged the rose competition.

Advertisements



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Achy Bones? Flabby Tummy?

Pilates could be for you!

Pilates classes have been running for three years in Ampney Crucis – **they are friendly, rewarding and fun.**

Pilates is ideal for stretching and toning your muscles (especially your tummy).

For new mums it is a good way to return to exercise.

GPs recommend it for managing back and joint problems.

It's practised by men and women from 18 to 80
Classes are held in the Village Hall for one hour each Tuesday at either 1.30 or 5.30 p.m.

For more information

(or to come along for a taster session):

Call Zarina ☎07881 511 535

Interested in placing an ad in *The Ampney Times*?

Personal ads cost £1 per issue. Local businesses may place an ad (£5) or sponsor an issue (£15).

Please contact David Vessey ☎ 851438 for details

This is your newsletter; contributions from individuals, clubs etc always welcome

Copy deadline for next issue (October/November): 15 September 2006

Send to Elisabeth Gerver, Cider Orchard, Ampney Crucis, Gloucestershire GL7 5RY

☎ 850508

Editors: David Vessey, Elisabeth Gerver, Christine Cridford, Terry Bloxham

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