

Primary Teacher of the Year

London and South East Region

On June 22nd Yvonne Hewson, who lives in Shipton and teaches at Bure Park Primary School in Bicester, was awarded a Distinction (second place) in the Primary Teacher of the Year Awards Ceremony.



schools in Uganda and Bali, as well as four schools in Europe. After seeing a presentation of the school's work in London, members of the British Council came to Bure Park to see the work first-hand; they then nominated Yvonne

for the award.

Rob Pearson, Head Teacher, endorsed the nomination in February and Yvonne thought no more about it. What a surprise then to receive a letter saying that she was one of the finalists. Two judges came to the school and talked to children, parents, governors and staff.

An International Perspective

Yvonne has been teaching at Bure Park for ten years, since the school opened; as well as teaching a Year 2 class, she has taken on the role of International School Co-ordinator. The school does not have a high mix of nationalities so Yvonne feels it is important to encourage the children to look wider and be aware of other cultures. International studies fit neatly into the national curriculum, which she helps develop in her other role as Deputy Head. As far as the children are concerned the work is exciting, stimulating and fun! The school involves the local and wider town community, calling on parents, friends, local people and businesses to help.

The school applied for an International School Award through the British Council and were able to gain funding to link with

So When's the Party?

Baroness Shirley Williams is chair of the UK judging panel and the presentation of awards was made at the British Museum by Melvyn Bragg and Emma Thompson. More than 9,200 teachers were nominated, so to be one of the last three finalists in her category is a big achievement.

Congratulations Yvonne on all your hard work and enthusiasm. And the children in her school are so excited that they want a big party to celebrate!

Christine Halliday

Tom Jourdan

It was with great sadness that we heard the news that Tom had recently died. Tom was one of the original committee who saw the building of the New Beaconsfield Hall in Shipton. He was the 'thorn in the side' of the builders and made sure that they stuck to every specification on the plans. He built the wonderful storage

drawers which slide so easily under the stage area; without them who knows how we would manage to store the equipment needed by so many diverse user-groups. Tom will always be remembered as a good friend to the village and the Hall.

**Management Committee,
New Beaconsfield Hall**