

Lyneham Photographer Wins Oxfordshire Cotswolds Competition

Local designer and photographer Howard Sherwood has won the 2014 Oxfordshire Cotswolds Photographic Competition with his photograph 'Ripe Wheat', taken close to his home in Lyneham. Howard submitted 20 images for the competition that is run annually by West Oxfordshire District Council's Tourism department and sponsored by Blueprint Imaging of Witney and De Vere Venues at Heythrop Park. Several of his images from an entry of over 250 were shortlisted, but it was this image that was judged to be the winner. Councillor Richard Langridge commented: "Your image of the wheat field in Lyneham is stunning and it

perfectly encapsulates the sheer beauty of our area".

We are pleased to feature Howard's winning entry on our back cover.

Howard received a beautiful ready-to-hang reproduction of his entry mounted onto a 30 x 20 inch art canvas which was kindly donated by Blueprint Imaging Limited plus a scrumptious afternoon tea for two served in the Wedgwood Lounge compliments of De Vere Venues Heythrop Park Resort .

You have until **3rd August** to see a display of some of Howard's entries featuring local subjects, at Milton-under-Wychwood library.

Harmonix, Holy Trinity

Ascott villagers were treated to a first-class evening of musical entertainment by the students of Bloxham's Harmonix choir in June. They were joined by students from the Royal Academy of Music, including Ascott's own William Diggle. The audience was entertained by renditions of popular classics along with more traditional pieces by John Rutter and Charles Hubert Parry. Meanwhile, the Royal Academy students demonstrated what a year at the elite musical institution can achieve with performances from Verdi and Donizetti operas.

Ascott resident Debra Cull said, "Wow, what a fantastic evening! The standard of the choir was incredible and we all had a thoroughly enjoyable evening, while also



helping to raise money for our beautiful church. We would love to welcome Bloxham back again next year."

Proud mum of William, Jacquie

Bugeja said, "It was great to hear Bloxham's Harmonix Choir again and William was delighted to be able to perform with his colleagues from the Royal Academy of Music alongside his old pals from Bloxham."

Bloxham's Harmonix was formed in January 2012 by William, fellow pupil Christopher Price and Sebastian Thomson, the school's Assistant Director of Music. It was their second performance at Holy Trinity and raised an impressive £850 for the church.

Kate Keating