

Don't Forget the Banns

Alan and I were married in St Mary's Church, Shipton fifty years ago. It was customary to attend Morning Service on at least one occasion to hear your banns called.

We first went to the church at Shilton, but no banns were read. As is the custom the Vicar stood in the porch to say goodbye to the congregation; seeing our worried faces he called everyone back to the church and read our banns there in the porch.

Our Shipton banns were read by the Rev'd Winsor-Cundell during a very memorable Harvest Festival. The church was looking more than usually beautiful with large, colourful arrangements of dahlia, phlox, gladioli, carnations and roses; the aroma was heady. The displays



on the altars were splendid; beautiful plaited bread made by Mrs Kethero, stalks of corn and a bountiful supply of fruits, and vegetables. We were fortunate on our wedding day to enjoy the lovely flower displays left in the church. Our reception was just a walk away down the path to the original Beaconsfield Hall. My family put on the wedding breakfast. Four bottles of champagne had been purchased by Father through the Gas Board

Social Club. The main drinks were supplied by Len and Doris Weaver of the Red Horse Inn, on what was known as 'sale or return' basis. Needless to say, the barrel of real ale and bottles of beer and stout were all used up - nothing to return.

Phyllis Clarke, née Brookes

Windrush Valley Preparatory School

Once again this has been a very busy term with great individual and team sporting achievements

The school was a finalist in the **Best Website Award** category at a ceremony hosted by TV presenter Julia Morris on behalf of the Independent Schools Association. Darren Baker, illustrator of *Arthur the Handy Dog*, read to the children and demonstrated how to illustrate their stories. During **Curriculum Enrichment Week** children enacted scenes and events from the First World War. The science department of Wychwood School, Oxford, demonstrated

trench mud, explosions and poisonous gases reminiscent of the war and the children performed drills in the manner of their chosen regiment in Blenheim Palace. We are now twinned with Kaguvi Primary School in Mopani Park, Zimbabwe. Form 4 will be raising much-needed funds towards repairing the pump that provides the school with drinking water. Parents and children raised 3559 points collecting Sainsbury vouchers.

We are pleased to report that all of our Y6 pupils got into their first choice school.

Alan Wood
Headmaster