

Letter from the Editor

We are really excited about this edition of Outlook, which is being published shortly after the royal visit by the Duke of Gloucester.

The visit was a great success and we are sure you will enjoy reading about it and looking at the pictures.

There is also a distinct environmental theme to this issue. The environment is an increasingly important subject for us all.

The Trust's track record on environmental matters is good, and one of our key business plan targets in 2006 was to review and strengthen our existing policy. As part of our commitment, we have produced some simple energy-saving tips on Page 12.

And the competition in this edition fits in nicely with our environmental theme too. We are offering readers the chance to win a trip to Conkers - the hands-on enviro-experience in the heart of The National Forest. The competition is on Page 14 - and good luck!

This is YOUR Outlook, and we encourage people to submit ideas for articles, letters and suggestions - our Editor's contact details are below.



• Alastair Flint

If you have a story for Outlook, would like to write a letter, have a comment to make or ideas for a feature, we would love to hear from you.

Please contact the Outlook editor Alastair Flint on 0121 415 6406 or email alastairflint@bvt.org.uk

Re-living their history

Pupils had a real-life history lesson when they teamed up with residents from the almshouses at the Quadrangle.

Year Five pupils from Bournville Junior School joined forces with residents from the scheme in June to find out what it was like to live in Bournville over 50 years ago.

The children interviewed residents from the Quadrangle, in Mary Vale Road, about what their life was like at the school back in their day.

A workshop was run by the Shoebox Theatre Company, which saw current pupils acting out old playground games and rhymes, with strict guidance and instruction from the former pupils!



• Bournville Junior School pupils team up with residents from the almshouses at the Quadrangle

One hundred up for tenants!

Bournville Tenants Ltd, who are celebrating their centenary this year, is a housing organisation founded by George Cadbury in 1906.



• Kingsley Road

He did this by creating a limited company, and the money to build the Estate - on land that he had provided - was raised by the issuing of shares and loan stock. The 145 houses that comprise the Estate were designed by Alexander Harvey, who was George Cadbury's

principal architect for the original Bournville village.

The building works were completed in 1912 and the Estate included an enclosed recreational ground and a mini village green, at the junction of Kingsley Road and Hawthorne Road. For over 60 years one of the houses was utilised as an office for the secretary who managed the Estate.

This arrangement ended some 30 years ago when Bournville Tenants Ltd appointed the Trust as their managing agents and this very successful and productive arrangement has continued ever since.

During this period the complete modernisation and refurbishment of the houses has been carried out and now a third are owner-occupied.

The capital receipts from these sales have largely paid for the improvements which have ensured that the Estate, which is a Conservation Area, has remained a very desirable residential area.

The most recent, and by far the largest, capital programme has been the award-winning development of seven bungalows in Hawthorne Croft off Kingsley Road. Elderly residents are able to apply for these bungalows and be re-housed without moving off the estate.

Duke helps the centenary celebrations go with a swing

Children at Bournville Junior School received a royal visit as part of the school's centenary celebrations.

The Duke of Gloucester made the trip on October 19 and dedicated a specially-commissioned stained glass window to mark the occasion.

The school was the inspiration of George and Elizabeth Cadbury and was opened on April 23, 1906.

The royal visitor was given a grand tour of the school, which cost £30,000 to build and was designed by architect Alexander Harvey. There were originally 12 classrooms, six of which held 50 children and six of which held 40 - smaller than in the 1900s, when the norm was classes of 60 and 50. The school now has 384 pupils aged 7-11 with roughly 30 to a class.

The centenary stained glass window was made by Norgrove Studios and designed by Clare Johnson. The design incorporates characteristics and symbols associated with the school, such as the four school houses of Jupiter, Mars, Venus and Neptune.

Symbols from the school badge are represented by the bell, book and goat whilst the coca tree and pod acknowledge the importance of the Cadbury family to the foundation of the school.

The Junior School is also home to the nationally famous Bournville Carillon, which comprises 48 bells, with the largest bell weighing over three tonnes and the smallest 12 lbs.



• The Duke of Gloucester visits the almshouses where a plaque commemorates the visit by the Duke's Grandfather, King George V. in 1919.

This was donated by George Cadbury following a visit to Bruges where he first heard a Carillon played in 1906.

The Duke completed his Bournville tour by visiting the first house to be built on the Bournville Estate, in Mary Vale Road, and the Trust's solar village, in Oak Farm Road, which was completed in 1985.

The houses have 'passive solar' features which make them more economical to heat.



• The intricate design of the stained glass window

