

100 YEARS AGO!

Life in Bampton: January 1921

with thanks to Russ Davies

On New Year's Eve the Bampton Parish church bells rang a muffled peal and ushered in the New Year's morning with merry peals, under Captain C. Broomfield. The Town Band discoursed pleasing selections in various parts of the town, under the leadership of Sergt.-Major Bawden.

An enjoyable whist drive was held in Bampton Drill Hall on behalf the Wolf Club. Miss Stacey is in charge of the Bampton contingent of Wolfs. Rev. E. V. Cox (Vicar) carried out the duties of M.C. There was a good attendance. The prize winners were: LADIES – 1, Mrs. Penny; 2, Mrs. Gooding; consolation prize, Mrs. Watts. GENTLEMEN – 1, Mr. H. Cloade; 2, Mr. B. Cleeve; consolation prize, Mr. L. Kingdom. Mrs. Cox kindly distributed the prizes, which were the gift of Mrs. Moutray Read (Castle Grove).

The United Methodists of Bampton held a successful social in the Drill Hall. Over 200 people gathered. Games were arranged for the young people by a Committee consisting of Mesdames W.H. Sampson, M. Jones, J. Tucker, Misses M. Weston, B. Nott, and Mr. J. Greenwood. Music was supplied by the String Band under the leadership of Mr. J.E. Coren. During the evening Mrs. Tucker cleverly entertained the company with humorous Devonshire recitations, while the "Beauty Show," so well arranged by Mrs. H. James, assisted by Mrs. Tucker and Messrs. M. Jones, H. James, S. Jones, R. Jones, H. Nott, C. Nott, C. Kennard and J. Tucker provoked roars of laughter. The refreshment department was under the management of Mesdames Turner, Nott, Down, Davey, Watts, Stone, Greenwood, Lowe, Hill, Jones, and Moore. The fortune-telling doll was in the capable hands of Miss Fox, while Gladys Paul, Ivy Webber, Ivy Cottrell, and Ruby Sampson were in charge of the bran tubs. The competitions were arranged by Mrs. James, Messrs. W.H. Sampson, J. Tucker, M. Jones, C. and H. Nott, C. Kennard, C. Fewings, Mrs. Henson and Miss Greenwood. Mrs. W.H. Sampson and Misses James did well with the clock competition.

"Want of capital and my own bad health since the war" were the causes of failure alleged by Sam Durman, draper and outfitter, of Fore Street, Bampton, at a meeting of creditors at the office of the Exeter Official Receiver. The liabilities were £554 12s 6d, and the assets £85 1s 2d; deficiency £469 11s 4d. The Official Receiver observed that the debtor, aged 40, had a wife and child dependent upon him.