October 1991

LINK Bugbrooke

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The Bugbrooke "LINK" Committee

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Bugbrooke Link Magazine

(Issue No. 50), October 1991

Editor: John Sexton

Keep Warm

The advent of October proclaims the end of summer and the beginning of autumn. The 'phoney' period in September when cricketers, many weary, and hardy bowlers see their seasons splutter to an uncertain and normally damp end is soon forgotten as football and rugby take the stage. We now come to falling leaves, ever shortening days, dark nights, early frosts and for some a temporarily changed and more restricted life.

The next few weeks leading up to Christmas is one period when all have the opportunity on checking that certain sections of the community – particularly the elderly and people living on their own – have effectively 'planned' for the more severe conditions to be encountered. The least all residents of this village should be able to expect in 1991 are warm and comfortable living conditions. It should not be considered as interference to alert ourselves to the needs of those less fortunate than ourselves.

Bonfires

On three occasions recently enquiries have been made as to what laws exist regarding the lighting of bonfires – and this from complainants whose washing on the line has been covered in black smuts. This is basically a matter not within the perogatives of LINK. However information gained suggests that there is no by-law on this subject and that only when the lighting of a bonfire causes a nuisance has any citizen the right of protest to the appropriate authorities. Surely to give cause for such complaint shows nothing else but a complete lack of thought for your neighbour.

Floodlights

It is good to hear that the Church hope shortly to get permission to floodlight the building at nights. In recent years both Kislingbury and Upton churches have done this. We have such a lovely church in Bugbrooke that it will surely outshine them all.

CLOSING DATE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE WILL BE MONDAY 25TH NOVEMBER.

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Parish Council Meetings – September

A policeman attending the September meeting had a rather rough time. This was not due to Councillors' rowdy behaviour but because they were extremely concerned that the lack of a regular police presence (preferably on foot) was leading to increased crime and hooliganism in the village. The policeman explained that the policing of Bugbrooke from Weston Favell was a managerial/operational device to cover greater areas without increasing manpower. He undertook to report back to his superiors the Parish Council's view that their scheme was not working.

Also not working was the grass cutting machinery of South Northants District Council. This was unfortunate as it soured the success claimed in a previous issue of LINK of the Parish Council swiftly reacting to the needs of the community. The whole sad story warrants explanation, not least to the understandably irate local residents on the Merriefields Estate who were repeatedly assured that the grassed areas would be cut but saw them grow steadily throughout the school holidays. The problem began when it was discovered that the firm contracted to cut these areas had become another statistic of the recession. As soon as this was realised the District Council were contracted to cut and remove the already long grass and then to cut it on a regular basis. When this was not done the District Council explained that their cutting machinery had broken, but would be repaired very soon. To cut a very long story short (which is more than could be said for the grass) each time they were approached the District Council gave a similar assurance. These assurances were, in good faith, passed on to local residents. Needless to say it was not until the children were returning to school that the cut and clearance was finally carried out. These events are very frustrating and demonstrate the difficulties of ensuring that work contracted out is performed on time. We will all be looking most carefully at the position next year!

Continuing the downbeat mood, the Parish Council did not feel justified in what is known as "the current economic climate" in spending around £3000 as their contribution to the purchase of land for a Pocket Park. "Maybe later" perhaps best sums up the position.

We may not be getting a Pocket Park but, according to the draft revised Sand and Gravel Local Plan published by the County Council, the village may acquire a sand and gravel extraction site. The proposed site, behind the new electricity sub-station, is strongly

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opposed by the Parish Council as the roads could not cope with the additional traffic. The questions of the water table and the close proximity of a pipe-line have also been raised in an attempt to get this site deleted from the final plan for extractions. There is hope, as the County Council themselves are unhappy with the level of mineral extraction required from Northamptonshire by the Government.

In order to lighten the gloom there is some good news! Pioneer Aggregates will once again donate two sacks of daffodil bulbs for planting (by volunteers) throughout the villages. Also, Mrs Sue Pace was congratulated for supplying the anti-graffiti paint for the bus stop at the Green opposite the Primary School. Apparently it works as she has been able to wipe away all offending scribblings.

Mixed news for allotment holders. The annual charge to the Association is to be increased to £125 p.a. for the next three years. However, permission is likely to be granted for the erection of one building for storage purposes.

The County Council's Rights of Way Officer is to be asked to provide tools for those involved in footpath clearance and improvements. The insurance position of such volunteers is to be checked – some of these tools are very sharp!

Finally, in recognition of the flood of legislation over the past few years regulating the operation of all local authorities, the Parish Council have decided to consider adopting Standing Orders governing their procedures. A committee comprising Mrs Debbie Blair, The Reverend Canon Tim Partridge, Mrs Kathleen Riggall and Chaired by your humble scribe has been sifting through appropriate (but often extremely boring) papers and will provide a draft for all Members to consider in due course.

David Harries

Bugbrooke Darby & Joan Club

Here we are at that time of the year where everyone is busy getting ready for Christmas. It seems just such a short time that in August we were out in the countryside enjoying the lovely scenery around Warwickshire on our mystery tour eventually arriving at the Racehorse Public House for some refreshments. It was a lovely trip enjoyed by all.

Also in August we had a Cheese & Wine evening. An event always enjoyed and doubly so when we share it with our friends from Heyford D & J Club. We look forward to being together again in the near future.

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A sadness also in August. Our sympathies and thoughts go to all the family of Mrs Bowen who passed away. A member of our club for quite some time.

September was a quiet month for us. Our AGM was held and things are ticking over very well.

The 5th October we had our 36th Anniversary dinner and we all had a wonderful time. 72 members and friends sat down to a most enjoyable meal, followed by some lively entertainment from the Bugbrooke Drama Club, who very kindly gave their time and talents to us. Thank you!

I should also like to thank everyone who has contributed and supported our club during the past year.

SJM – 830725

St Michael & All Angels Church News

Harvest Festival 1991

As always the church was beautifully decorated and we thank those who gave flowers and produce and those who arranged them. On Sunday morning the church was almost full for our Harvest Communion at 10 a.m. when the Sunday School took part in the service. In the evening there was a good congregation who again heard the Junior Choir and Music Society sing their anthem. On Monday the Primary School came to church for their Harvest Celebration in which everyone in the school took part, and all the children brought gifts. Sorting of the produce and gifts took place in the afternoon and then the older children from the Primary School assisted by the teachers took about 180 parcels to the pensioners of the village. At 7.30 p.m. the Harvest Supper took place with a full house of 78 people sitting down to the meal. Afterwards the spare produce was auctioned and we were able to send £54 to Christian Aid. Our thanks to the ladies who did the catering and to our auctioneer, Mr. George Staniland.

Daventry Deanery Quiz

Bugbrooke Church entered two teams, and did exceedingly well on what was a very enjoyable evening. The Mothers' Union team came second overall, and our other team won the Blockbuster competition.

Sponsored Hymn Singing

Thank you everyone who supported this venture, about £80 was raised and 37 hymns were sung on the Sunday afternoon. This will

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enable the purchase of two more choir gowns to cope with the increasing numbers in the Junior Choir.

Parochial Church Council

At the last meeting we agreed as our Restoration Centenary project to raise £2500 to repair a church in Guinea and to match it with some small project of a similar cost within our own church. Further details of this are to be worked out and will be written about later. We reviewed progress on our Three Year plan, and also noted progress on a cupboard for the Lady Chapel, floodlighting and extending the chancel step. Churchyard matters included thanks for all who had helped with the Churchyard Collection which raised £893, and noting that the seat was now up. We listened to a Deanery Synod Report and our treasurer's report, and then we heard about the working visit to an orphanage in Romania undertaken by one of our members and the visit to Taize by two of our members. We chose a date for our Autumn Bazaar, and noted forthcoming events including the visit of the new Archdeacon of Northampton to Parish Communion on November 3rd.

1991 – Focus On Prayer

Our Three Year plan focussed on Prayer in 1991 and the fortnightly evening Prayer Gathering is now established alongside the afternoon Prayer Time. On Saturday, November 30th (St. Andrew's Day) we shall be holding another Day of Thanksgiving and Prayer in church when we have a continuous rota of people praying in church from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. There will be a list in church for those willing to take a turn during the day. If there are any special requests for thanksgiving or prayer please let the Rector, Tim Partridge, have them. Emergency requests for prayer can always be phoned to our Prayer Circles on either 830171 or 708018

Northants Theological Society

This new society has just started as an opportunity to hear and question well-known theologians. It meets every two months in Holy Sepulchre church, Northampton and everyone is welcome. The next meetings are on November 12th and January 14th. Further details from Tim Partridge on 830373.

Church Autumn Bazaar – November 23rd

Opening at 2 p.m. in the Sunday School, there will be the usual stalls. Take the chance to get some Christmas shopping done early.
Tim Partridge – 830373

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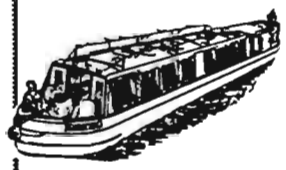

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Nature Notes by Bill Lantsbery

My word, there is a lot to write about this time. I wonder if I might start with a story about badgers. Mr Newman from Kislingbury took me to some woods near Crick one day and we were quite amused with something we saw. There were some plum trees in the wood. The little round plums were quite sweet. Some were black, some red and some yellow. The ground beneath the trees was covered with plums. As you may know the badger is a very tidy creature and we came across the part in the wood that it had set aside for its toilet! There must have been over a dozen holes that it had scratched out and tidily used. The recent hole made us smile. We could see that the badgers had been living on plums. The fruit, in this very dry season had certainly kept those creatures going, and going! When we eventually came to the badgers' setts, there was ample evidence that they were very much alive. Dirt had been scratched out of hole after hole.

Now what about all the activity in our own gardens? Have we ever seen so many flies? Dragonflies, Butterflies, Crane Flies (Daddy Long Legs), Hover-flies, I wont mention wasps, they were such a pest. A couple of facts surprised me. When I was reading about the Dragon fly, I never realised that from laying the egg it can be as much as five years before the larva or nymph climbs up the plant stem out of the water and splits and allows the new adult to fly away. My book tells me that the adults usually live about a month!

Someone asked me how long a Red Admiral butterfly lived and I was surprised when I read up about it. This butterfly is an immigrant. It flies here from southern Europe, lays its eggs on the stinging nettles, spends a lot of time on over ripe fruit in the garden and then many of them fly South in the Autumn. Painted Lady is an immigrant too. The Peacock Tortoiseshell and Comma stay here all the time.

Mr Masters from Heyford called one day and brought the larva of a moth. It must have been four inches long. He said, "What can it be?" I made a wild guess and got it right – Elephant Hawk Moth. When it moved it looked just like an elephant's trunk.

Now we must say something about fruit in our gardens. I remember saying that there would be plenty of apples. Well there are but many are very small. The plum and pear crop has been marvellous. Someone said to me that the only thing wrong with the potatoes he dug was that they were too large! We had a lot of blackberries for making jelly.

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Julian Moulton came to see me this morning, 3rd October and he said that he had fixed up something like four hundred nest boxes in various places. That will certainly help certain species of birds to multiply.

I heard that Mr and Mrs Causebrook from Camp Hill had had a family of toads living in their greenhouse. When I rang Jane about it, she said that they had now moved on!

I must finish by just mentioning the Kingfisher being seen so often on the water pipe over the brook. The Heron clearing out the goldfish from the pond in the Paddocks and the ducks walking up the brook as it is so low. I thought the thunder storm we had one day was typical of the way our weather has changed. There was one clap of thunder. Years ago you could hear the storm coming and we used to calculate how far it was away by counting the number of seconds between the lightning and the thunder. When the lightning and the thunder came together, the storm was overhead and you held your breath! The thunder rain was very heavy too. The water situation about the country is so serious, I do hope we can have a normal winter. Not too cold but rather damp.

Bugbrooke W.I.

Bats, Bowls and Barbecues – that's what the W.I. have been up to this summer. First, the Barbecue held on 22nd September in Veronica Chambers's garden – a fine sunny day sandwiched in between a week of wind and rain, and we even made a small profit for our funds. Our Bowls Team were busy taking part in the County Tournament in Wellingborough in July, their smart matching T-shirts highlighting the Bugbrooke team in a way in which, alas, their playing could not.

As for the Bats, perhaps this conjures up pictures of more sporty ladies in cricket whites, but no, there you'd be wrong, for this Bat was of the flying variety and it joined in one of our meetings in the Sunday School. There we were, quietly listening to Mrs Cowling talking about her nursing experiences with the Eskimos of Northern Canada when, as the lights went out for the slide-show, out of the blackness swooped a long-winged shape, weaving and dancing across the screen and generally causing a stir! Was it Hallowe'en come early this year – all we needed were pumpkin masks, a few ghouls and a tray of stick-jaw toffee apples! When the lights were

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put back on, the bat returned to its roost in the curtains and despite all our efforts to persuade it towards the open windows, it refused to leave us. Eventually, in order to let Mrs Cowling resume her talk, we extinguished the lights in the room, left the front door open with lights on in the porch, and the bat flew towards the light and left us in peace. I wonder who was the more frighened, some of the ladies, or the bat!

On October 14th we have our AGM followed by a Hot-Pot Supper; on November 4th Mr Beckwith (another B!) will talk to us about Stained Glass and Terrariums, and on December 2nd Mrs Colton is coming to give a demonstration on Colour Coding and Make-up. All you ladies out there are welcome to all our meetings – do come along and join in the fun, although we can't promise you a Hallowe'en party every month.

STOP PRESS

Our bowls team have just arrived home triumphantly holding the County Indoor Trophy which they won with a total of 33 points against teams from all parts of Northamptonshire! Well done, all of you!

Act Now For Tomorrows World

One world week in October 91 is an annual celebration of the diversity of our world. Third World debt is the main obstacle today to a fairer world tomorrow. Debt is costing the lives of children today that will never live to see tomorrows world.

Would you like to help change the world AND buy your Christmas cards and gifts in comfort? Instead of trudging round the shops why not buy your presents from a charity catalogue – there are more of them every year!? The only problem with mail order is you don't see the goods until they arrive, and you have to pay postage! TRAIDCRAFT is a fair trading organisation buying goods from the Third World and selling them by mail order and voluntary reps. Each year I have a Traidcraft sale in One World Week – buying from Traidcraft means the poor get employment and a fair wage for the goods they make.

So, why not start your Christmas shopping in the *Sunday School* on *October 26th* between 12 noon and 2pm or ask me for a catalogue any time?

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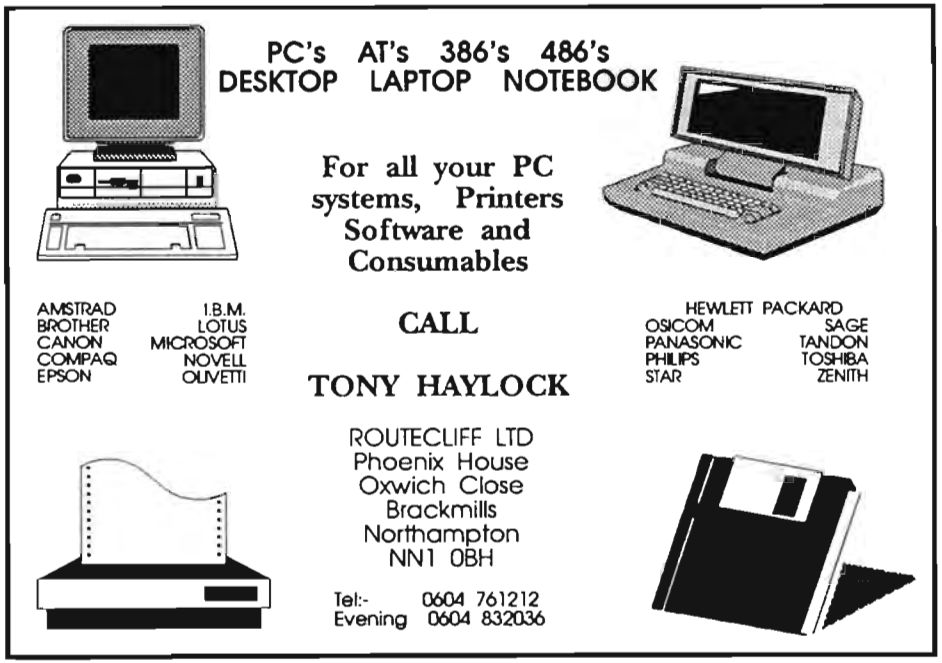

Campion Goes East ...

After months of very careful planning – and despite an unexpected technical hitch on the scheduled day of departure – we eventually set out for Central Translavania on 17 July; 'we' being a small, but highly motivated group of six 6th Form girls, Paul our extremely experienced driver/Romanian Relief Worker from Skipley in West Yorkshire, and myself. Richard Johnson, my colleague, had already left for Romania a few days beforehand, together with his wife and two teenage children – so that they could be 'in place' when we arrived.

Our destination was to a 'Casa de Copii' – a Childrens Home – in Cristuru-Sécuiesc, a small town of some 2,000 people near the foothills of the Translavanian Alps and our principal aim was to work as part of a fully-fledged, ongoing programme that is (still) dedicated to an almost total redecoration/refurbishment of the main buildings, especially the school corridors.

We realised at quite an early stage of preparation for the trip, that it is so important to liaise and work alongside a relief organization of some sort, and we were very fortunate indeed to 'discover', through one of the 6th From girls, Jubilee Outreach Yorkshire (or J.O.Y., as the acrostic spells out) – which is a Christian Human Rights organization, based in Skipley.

J.O.Y. has sent workers out to many parts of Romania ever since aid has been needed; essentially from January 1990 onwards and it has established very valuable projects in hospitals, mental institutions and orphanages throughout the Country – or Childrens Homes, as is the preferred title. The vast majority of the children, after all, are not orphans, but have been abandoned, principally for financial reasons, because of the stipulation, until fairly recently for all women to have four or five children apiece, irrespective of future prospects.

The journey to Cristuru was quite long and uncomfortable, at times – although our general mood, as a group, was very positive and we were obviously excited. After picking up Charlotte, another adult volunteer, in the Surrey region en route, as well as a lot of very specialised medical supplies from a Reverend in Canterbury, we were then to travel another 1,600 miles over three days across land, in one of the very smart J.O.Y. mini-buses provided. The journey, through six countries – France, Belgium, Germany, Austria, Hungary and finally Romania itself – was punctuated (both ways) – with two overnight stops, which made it more bearable. We were, nonetheless, quite tired and weary when we reached the Hungarian/Romanian border and even more so when faced with a five hour wait here in blistering hot sunshine, whilst the very inefficient guards dealt with our documents!

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It was just after 6 p.m. Romanian time (4 p.m. English time) when we were eventually let through and almost midnight before we reached the Childrens Home. Our first impressions of the Country, as we drove along the main Relief Route – practically a straight line east from the entry point at Oradea – were ones of despondency and disbelief: the overwhelming sense of poverty and lack of progress, was very much in evidence. Roads are un-marked, unlit and peppered with (quite dangerous) dents and holes; housing is shabby or very uniform and we saw little greenery, certainly no gardens, to begin with.

Headscarved peasant women were sitting in doorways or in front of their homes whilst their bare-foot offspring littered the streets, waving to us as we sped by, or begging for sweets and chewing gum!

We noted uncovered sewage pipes and lots of farmers and their families travelling home by pony and cart – even as late as ten or eleven o'clock at night. The pace seemed leisurely – to us, almost historical. It was like being transported back in a time capsule, at least a hundred years. The general atmosphere was one of dust, grime and absence of colour...

We felt very ambivalent therefore, on (late) arrival at Cristuru, wondering, I feel sure, what 'Casa de Copii' would be like in comparison although in many ways, I must admit, we were very pleasantly surprised.

The buildings, once a college and now converted to house about five hundred children, of both sexes, between three and about twenty – are certainly decrepit and in parts extremely depressing. The Home has been receiving almost a year of aid, however, in terms of specific provisions and practical reconstruction/painting etc. and the improvements are very marked. For instance, there has recently been the replacement of new sinks for the older girls and the installation of quite modern showers and such a gesture has made a considerable difference to morale.

What struck us most forceably, in fact, over the next few days, was the immense cheerfulness of many of the children, considering the (relatively) grim conditions they live in. There is a strong loyalty and 'camaraderie' between them and they are certainly independent and tough. They are bonded, very simply, by the situation they are in and show incredible warmth to visitors.

I must be honest and say that an almost total invasion of our space became oppressive at times, although we understood the need. We were followed about everywhere, were a constant focus, whatever we did, and were often 'jumped' by the 'tinies' who would demand a cuddle – or thump you until you obliged! I was personally 'mobbed' when I introduced myself to The Kindergarten. I came home covered in bruises (as well as the inevitable mosquito bites) – because of this tendency of the little ones to fling themselves at newcomers for individual

demonstrations of affection. One had to be very sensitive – and learn evasive techniques fast!

Another difficulty we encountered was the food. I think we had all intended to be very flexible and unfussy – but our resolve broke down after only two days and we reverted to 'emergency stocks' of Pot Noodles, cereals bars and pure orange juice for the rest of the week!

Apart from old, dirty tomatoes, we saw no fresh fruit and vegetables and the diet was a very high fat and carbohydrate one eg. breakfast was normally a luke-warm tea concoction, with bread and dripping; at best, thick marg! I don't think any of us will ever complain about school dinners again...

More positively, the links we forged with the children, especially the older ones, were very precious and many of us have corresponded with some of these, since our return. Communication was not a real problem, even though I had failed to realise that Cristuru was originally part of Hungary and Hungarian is therefore very much the vogue, rather than Romanian!

There is quite a lot of tension, sadly, between the two cultures, but plans are afoot to encourage them to work together. We were aware during our visit, of at least two Hungarian/Romanian Youth Camps which had this objective in mind.

The truth of the proverb 'what the eye doesn't see, the heart doesn't grieve about' often came to me whilst we were in Cristuru. Of course, it is good, and morally right, to respond to human need, as thousands have done in the case of Romania. No sensitive individual could fail to have been moved by the harrowing reports brought to us so directly by the media into our front rooms.

In another sense, however, the pervasion of aid from the West can have a negative, disturbing influence on those who have, through circumstances beyond their control, had to learn to cope with their lot, however unjust this might seem to us. We came to the conclusion, I think, during our brief stay that it **is** important, obviously, to try to alleviate suffering, but wrong to think that we in the West necessarily have 'the best'. I would like to believe that we learnt as much from our fellows in Cristuru as we hope they did from us.

At the end of the week, in practical terms we were satisfied with our contribution although we had certainly not 'moved mountains'. Our original intent had been to gloss-paint radiators and strip/re-varnish the wooden panels in bedrooms and school rooms and this we achieved with the great help of many of the delightful teenagers in the Home; and we distributed the ton of aid we had brought with us (essentially toiletries, medical and baby supplies, food to replenish what we expected to consume and all our D.I.Y. materials – which were all kindly supplied either through generous sponsorship or various gifts from a variety of sources).

More importantly, we had had our horizons, indeed our lives, very much broadened by the great privilege we had been given, to visit Romania and to 'rub shoulders' with folk who live very differently from ourselves. We were clearly saddened by the experience – few wouldn't be. Romania is, in many ways, a very beautiful country and the potential for agricultural development, in particular, is great.

It chastened us to see the waste – not only of land and resources, but of lives as well. The people there have been 'stamped on', emotionally, for so long: basic food, clothing and other shortages have drained their natural energy and spirit. Few folk can afford to buy their own homes and most dwellings are comparatively very tiny. A lounge, for example, often doubles up as a bedroom at night. Cars – a rarity – are also small, the most common being a Trabant. Petrol is in extremely short supply; one can queue, quite literally, for a whole day, as there is usually only one pump for a vast area!

Inflation has risen by 500% between January and June of this year (prices not having increased since the last war) – so the national currency is therefore useless at present. There is a desperate need for DM's or dollars and if, as visitors, we tried to pay in 'lai', one expected a present of toiletries or cigarettes in return. We felt uneasy at such 'corruption' but at times, there seemed no more acceptable alternative.

On leaving Romania, we were bereft even so. We had received some wonderful hospitality and had really benefited from the opportunity to care on a deeper level. We all planned to return and I am happy to report that one of our number, local girl Caroline Phillipson, set off again very recently for a second visit – this time for a month – to Satu Mare a town in the north-west corner of Romania, near the Russian border. To feel sad, does not mean one need be inactive, therefore – quite the reverse! We wish Caroline Bonne Voyage and look forward to her safe return.

I could discuss Romania for volumes, but am (very rightly) restricted here! If anyone is interested in a fuller account of our travels, I am hoping to speak to Bugbrooke Mothers Union next February '92 and to show our slides. Do come along and I will do my best to answer any questions you may have. Be warned: Romania is an addictive subject and you could well 'catch the bug' as we have.

On a personal level our visit had a profound (and I hope very positive) effect on us. One returned valuing in a new way the tremendous amount we do have in the West and – in our case – wanting to do so much more to respond to those who have not. In many ways, of course, as I have already suggested, those in the old 'Eastern Block' are far richer than we will ever be – certainly in terms of their reverence for time, people and the non-material. Such an attitude is both a refreshment and an education and we could learn much from it.

Carole Bailey

Bugbrooke O.A.P's Christmas Gift Scheme

The closing date for the application forms for this scheme is the 31st October 1991. Applications can be taken or sent to the addresses provided in the 'AUGUST' issue of 'LINK'. Collecting boxes are available at the POST OFFICE, THE STORES and CHERRENEE. Please ensure your application arrives in time.

The 'TRIVIAL PURSUIT' evening was a great success and enjoyed by everyone who took part. Another one will be held probably early in the New Year.

There will be a '60's DISCO at the Football Club on the 16th November 1991. Tickets are £5.00 and include a fish and chip supper. A bar is available. Contacts for tickets are Bruce Piper Tel. 832292 and Michael Moulton Tel. 830120.

Tickets are limited so make sure you get yours early.

Bruce Piper – Chairman

Bugbrooke Playing Fields Association

Slow but steady progress is being made on the toddlers playground with the area now enclosed by a path and the equipment now available for delivery from Wicksteed. It is hoped that in the next few weeks we shall be able to complete the work which has a nautical theme, with masts, stern wheel, sharks and walking the plank!

This sounds remarkably like making progress with the community hall and bowls green!! The Playing Fields Association have consistently proposed over recent years, to create these facilities. However, as plans have neared completion the options become fewer and wholesale changes more difficult. Our hopes for a suitable access through Pound Lane have receded. The Camp Hill and Pound Lane residents have raised several points that were not made apparent in the planning stage and which the Association are currently discussing with the Local and District Councils, as well as residents, in the hope that they can be resolved with the minimum of disturbance to those in the area.

The plans for the community hall and bowls green are, as before, available to be seen at the playing fields, and if you want to discuss matters further, please contact me on Northampton 832244.

The tote has now begun a new year and both new members and old are thanked for their support, the contributions of which go largely to the development and upkeep of the playgrounds and

childrens equipment. Also the Association would like to thank the collectors who voluntarily trudge the streets to bring in the subscriptions. Special mention must go to Trevor Parker and Mrs. Collett who have decided to hang up their walking boots after collecting tote since the BPFA started some years ago. Trevor and Mrs. Collett, who were two of the original trustees of the playing fields, have certainly given their best for the Association and have earned our well deserved appreciation.

We hope you enjoy your retirement, especially when we come knocking for your tote!

If you would like to assist the playing fields financially in this way, please contact myself and I will arrange for someone to call and see you.

Brian Curtis, Chairman BPFA – 832244

Gardening Notes November and December

November is a poor month for gardening. Fog and usually rain occurs along with northerly winds which brings snow to the northern hills.

Snow can also fall over lower ground but is unlikely to stay, milder conditions at the lower levels causes it to melt away.

Autumn ends when the temperature falls below 6°C (43°F). Most plants then begin their winter dormancy. In spite of the cold this is the month to plant shrubs and herbaceous plants.

Plant out your roses, using a little peat and bonemeal round the roots to help them on.

Complete the laying of turf for your lawn. Apply autumn fertilisers. Prepare the ground now if you are planning a new lawn in the spring. Dig and leave the ground for the frosts to break it up. Wait for spring for the final preparation.

Examine your dahlia tubers. If they are drying out too much, plunge them in tepid water, dry, and replace in peat. Cut off damaged parts and dust with flowers of sulphur.

Keep chrysanthemum stools moist but not wet, in the greenhouse or cold frame, give plenty of ventilation and keep them free from frost.

Plant your tulip bulbs now. Forget-me-nots make a good companion for tulips.

Clear your vegetable garden of old crops. Destroy anything that cannot be used on the compost heap. Sow broad beans around the

tenth of the month. Use the Aquadulce variety for good results.

Lift any root vegetables you have in the garden. Store them in dry peat. Leave your parsnips in the ground, and use as required.

Cut off your old rhubarb leaves and cover plants lightly with straw or something suitable.

December This is usually a poor month weatherwise, little sunshine, inevitable frost, dark nights and perhaps the coldest month of the year. However all is not gloom. On December the 21st we get the winter Solstice, which means the sun will be moving back to the northern hemisphere, gradually but surely giving us more daylight. Then of course there is December 25th, Xmas day, a time for Carols and festivities.

Gardening in December is practically nil. Tidy the place up during a fair spell and perhaps do a little digging.

If snow arrives leave it on your plants but shake it off your shrubs.

Remove houseplants from window sills to avoid frosts, keep watering to a minimum.

Look at your bulbs if you planted any for Xmas. Bring them into warmth and light and you will soon have flowers, very welcome at this time of the year.

Remember plant growth is very slow at this time of the year. Just let plants come along in their own time.

If you have a greenhouse my advice is do your gardening in there out of the cold.

Bugbrooke Primary School Association

The AGM was held on the 25th September and several long serving members resigned, Terry England, Sue Nightingale, Janet Braunston, Stuart King, Sally Wolley and Maria Claridge.

The Association would like to thank them for the long and dedicated service they have given.

However, there was a good response and the association now has seven new members: Elaine Gittus, Louise Pattle, Wendy Harrison, Dave Ross, Martin Roberts, Teresa Garlick and Marina Matthews. Pete Denny was elected Chairman, Ken Johnson – Vice Chairman, Gordon Garratt – Treasurer and Veronica Akehurst – Secretary.

Anyone wishing to book a stall at the Xmas Bazaar at a cost of £5.00 per stall, should contact Veronica Akehurst – Tel: 831448.

The Association is always pleased for anyone to help at any of their events. If you would like to volunteer your help please contact *Veronica Akehurst (831448) or Pete Denny (831390).*

Youth Service News

Two Campion students were part of an 18 strong group visiting Hungary in August on the second leg of an international youth exchange. The exchange included visiting the Hungarian Ministry of Finance and a day at Lake Balaton – Europe's largest lake. Students were able to sit in the members seats in the Hungarian Parliament building and took a boat ride on the Danube. They were the guests of various families and visited schools in the area. This was excellent for Shuna Vanner – not only did her partner Rita Novak spend time in Bugbrooke last year but her elder sister Vera made a surprise visit to Campion School to meet with Shuna. The highlight of the two weeks (which took place during the attempted Russian Coup and a visit to Hungary by the Pope) was a massive firework display celebrating Hungary's National Day – St Stephen's Day. This was one of many international exchanges arranged by the Youth Service. Other countries visited included Germany, Italy, Poland, The Caribbean and the USA. Anyone interested in these international exchanges should contact either Derek Nicholson at Northampton House (N'pton 236236) or locally Jackie England at 23 Moores Close (832000) Those specifically interested in Hungary should contact John Rawlings through Jackie.

Friends Of Campion

Christmas Fayre 7th December – 2 p.m.

The Christmas Fayre at Campion School is now more of a Craft Fayre with a terrific atmosphere. We're hoping this year will be as good as last year so please contact me if you wish to sell your crafts. (small table £5 – 2 or more tables £10). We are also collecting Christmas items for hampers which will be raffled.

Any offers of help gratefully received.

Please contact Jenny Unwin – 830145.

1st Bugbrooke Beaver Scout Colony

Beaver Scouts meet every Wednesday during school term from 6.30 to 7.30 p.m. At the moment there are 17 boys in the Colony, of whom 13 are enrolled. The last noteable event before the summer holidays was the Beaveree, held on June 30 at Mill Way School, Duston. 15 boys from Bugbrooke helped to make up a total of about

900 boys who attended from all over Daventry District. The activities available included assault courses, a bouncy castle, ventriloquist show, face painting and various craft and activity stalls. The day ended with a mass sing-song. Everyone looks forward to next year's meeting. The next special event is a visit to Mere Way Fire Station on October 9.
Martin Dovey

Bugbrooke Girl Guides

A term of pitching tents, lighting fires, practising tying bedding rolls and building gadgets culminated in a weeks camping at Boughton House, Kettering – more familiarly known as 'Bounce'. Guides had the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities, including rafting, archery, canoeing, pioneering, crafts, and even dry slope skiing. We had a day at Wicksteed Park and afternoon visits to both an iceskating rink and swimming pool (always very refreshing after a week under canvas).

In the evening entertainments included a disco, gangshow, steelband and a camp fire. A lasting memory of the camp will be the sight of over a thousand guides each carrying a lighted candle weaving their way through the dark woods back to their tents.

The camp closed with a visit from Princess Margaret, our President, who, looking very pretty in a yellow dress and white jacket, toured the site chatting to many of the guides. Before leaving she was presented with a bouquet from Anne Bestwick, who was the youngest guide at the camp.

With camp over we are enjoying our Autumn Term. Many thanks to all those of you who contributed to and attended our jumble sale which made approx. £200.
Helen, Rachel, Valerie and Yvonne

1st Bugbrooke Scouts

From all the 1st Bugbrooke Scouts who went on this year's summer camp, we would like to give a big thank you to Nigel Weeks, Mick Saunders and John Cockrill for making it all possible, and also to our parents for paying for us to go. This year we went to Ashover in Derbyshire. It was a very enjoyable week and we all got on really well. The activities were well thought out and interesting.

We arrived on Saturday and set up camp. On the Sunday we put up a rope swing. On Monday and Tuesday we went abseiling and

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both days we had a long hike to get there. On Wednesday we stayed in camp to have an inter-patrol competition, we found a pigeon which we named Percy. Thursday was a visit to a lead mine, then on Friday we did a 13 mile bike ride in the morning, went to a stone centre in the afternoon, and a trip into town in the evening. Finally on Saturday we went to Stoney Middleton to go down a cave, we did about a mile underground. We got home at 9.30 p.m. – exhausted! We would *hope* to get a better turn out next year, but we would all definitely like to go again. We would also like to thank Nigel's friends for taking us potholing.

Daniel Clifford, Paul Cooper, Tom Johnson, Chris Weeks and David Topliss

Owing to an increase in scouts joining the Scout Movement, I am finding it quite difficult to keep up with it. So it would be rather nice if somebody in Bugbrooke could give me a hand – it's only 1½ hours a week, and it is a good cause.

Mick Saunders, Scout Leader – Pattishall 830448

Bugbrooke Rangers

Bugbrooke Rangers have once again had an interesting summer. We started off before the summer holidays with a game of rounders with the older guides. After that we welcomed a new Ranger, Sarah, and later on Rachel. We continued with yoga, a district swim (and sauna), and fencing. The main event though had to be the badger watch.

We walked nine miles from Bugbrooke to Badby, each with two stone weight back packs! Though it was tiring, it was worth it. We spent quite a while lying on a poly bag in the FREEZING cold, watching a tree – however, we finally caught sight of some badgers. We ended up walking back through the wood in pitch dark, nearly getting seriously lost!

Coming up, the Rangers are planning to have a Halloween Party for the Brownies, a macrame night and a Murder Party. Anyone who would like to join is welcome.

If you are female, aged 14 upwards and are interested, please contact Cara on 832481 or Chara on 831769

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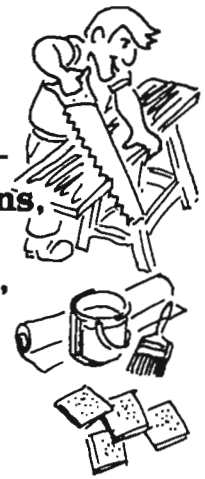

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Mothers Union

Sunny September brought a grand conclusion to our 100 year Birthday Celebrations with a Deanery Picnic held at Rothersthorpe School playing field. The branches of the Deanery each entertained us in their own special way. This included games, old time songs, solos and recitations. Hand bell ringing was our contribution which we thank Nancy Rogers for training a mostly novice team to play well known songs and hymns. Perhaps the climax of the entertainment was Daventry Branch's unusual team of Morris Men! A further highlight of the afternoon was the presentation of posies of flowers to members who have completed 50 years of service to the Mothers Union – Everyone enjoyed a piece of the Celebration Birthday Cake with their picnic tea – The sun was still shining for our concluding act of worship led by the Rev. Trevor Davies, during which the Rural Dean enrolled four diocesan members.

The new season of afternoon meetings commenced with a service in church conducted by Canon Partridge.

A Beetle Drive was held at the Rectory in mid-September which was much enjoyed by all who played. Prizes were won by Alf Oliver, Ettie Ramsbotham, Ann Gowen and Elsie Clarke.

15 Members attended a Diocesan Overseas Meeting at Earls Barton Church when Jo Roberts talked of her 30 years experience as a Mothers Union worker in Korea (one of our overseas linked diocese).

We entered a Mothers Union team in the Deanery Inter parish Quiz at Barby and are pleased to announce we came 2nd out of 14 teams.

Royal British Legion – Women's Section

Speakers being in the minority we entertained ourselves with Bingo and a good Quiz won by Mrs D. Harvey, but we did have a wonderful talk by Mr Colin Kilgour who lives in Georges Avenue. He had recently been to Australia and visited many War Graves out there. Colin has travelled over many countries to visit War Cemeteries and has some wonderful slides. Remembrance Sunday will be nearly here when this Link comes out and we will have been busy tramping the village selling our Poppies and looking forward to our Parade which was really exceptional last year, with so many young people taking part. See you at the Parade.

Enid Pell – Hon. Chairman

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(you must find your own table)

Bugbrooke Flower Society

Ladies from the Club were guests of Market Harborough Flower Society in September where they were entertained by Mr Kevin Gunnell a national demonstrator who had arranged flowers for Prince Andrew's wedding.

Also in September members enjoyed a delightful meal in the Sunday School followed by a very large raffle, we had everything from a coffee-maker to the 'Cuddly Toy'!! Thanks to everyone who sold tickets, the exact total of monies is not yet known (except by our very astute Treasurer) but a donation will be given to a representative of the Motor Neurone Association at our Annual General Meeting in January 1992.

On November 28th we will be at Heyford Village Hall for a demo by the Potato Marketing Board, you will have seen in the newspapers recently that Doctors have now decided that potatoes really are good for us. Tickets for this event will be available from Cherrenee in the High Street.

Finally some of our committee members rose very early in the morning and went laden to Cliftonville Car Boot Sale. I think they quite enjoyed themselves and hopefully made enough money to pay for a demonstrator next year. Well done ladies.

B.E. Bell – 831639

Those Dogs Again!

I know it's a bit belated, but here is another report on Crufts Dog Show 1991, their centenary year.

The day we went was basically the Terriers and Toys day, and although not my very favourite breeds, we spent a most interesting and enjoyable day. The journey to the NEC at Birmingham was straightforward, and once there the parking facilities, and buses to the main entrance, were excellent. Apart from the judging rings, the numerous stands were quite an eye-opener. You could purchase anything from dog deodorants to rainwear, paintings of your pooch to centrally heated kennels!

Judging in the various rings was going on all the time, and it was interesting to sit and watch, pick out your own choice, and then wait and see if it agreed with the Judge's choice! I think we were right a couple of times! We saw all the well known Terrier and Toy breeds, plus a few newcomers we didn't recognise.

The highlights for us were the Police Dog Display team, and the

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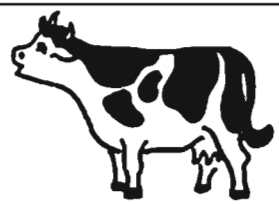

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Obedience competitions in the main arena. The Police put on a display of 100 years of Police uniforms, showing the changes through the ages, and this was most interesting. There was everything from the Bow Street Runner, to the present day uniforms. They then gave a very popular display with the police dogs, with policemen playing at "baddies", being caught by the dog, and brought down. They also introduced some of their lesser known working dogs, Springer Spaniels, Border Collies and Retrievers, used in situations where the bigger German Shepherd dogs cannot get, and frequently used for "sniffing" drugs etc.

The obedience competitions in the main arena were also very popular and left us very envious of what can be achieved with patience and hard work. Mind you, it made us smile that a dog trained to this standard, found it just too much to "stay" where he was left, while the owner went 'out of sight', and eventually got up and wandered off to find his master, who no doubt wasn't too pleased!

Wandering round, you could see dogs resting, being exercised, and being groomed for their big moment, and the patience of most of these show dogs is amazing. All in all a most enjoyable day out and it was interesting to see the highlights of the Show on the T.V. and recognise classes, judges and dogs we had seen there.

Veronica Chambers

Young Peoples Drama

St Michael's Youth Theatre began again this term with two new leaders, Robert Brown from Campion School, taking the 10-13yrs age group on Friday evenings from 4.30pm-6.00pm and Richard Conlon (A Professionally trained actor) taking those of 14 and over on a Monday afternoon from 3.45pm-4.45pm. Although these two people are new faces to some of us, things are going very well and we invite all young people within this age group to come along and join in – it's a lot of fun!!

We also hope to arrange a skate and eat trip in November – and for those over 14 a video arts group is to be formed.

You could join in a basic 6 week photography course, including developing and printing of your own snaps, or spend a day at an audio recording studio.

Please if you are interested in joining any of the above activities give Jackie England a ring, either at Campion School (830677) or on 832000. Some of these activities will take place in Bugbrooke, others as part of a broader area or county activity.

J. R. BASS

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The Value Of The Link

There is great value in our village magazine. Not only are we able to advertize forthcoming events, but we also have the opportunity to comment on past ones.

For a multitude of reasons it is not always possible to say what we would like to say on a particular occasion. I fear that my parting words were very few and inadequate at my 'swan-song' production with St. Michaels Youth Theatre, but to all you kids, old and young, past and present members, a very big thank you for the great pleasure you have given me over the years, for the beautiful gift which I shall treasure, and for the lovely flowers. I have had tremendous fun running the group and undoubtedbly I shall miss you all very much.

Pat Kent

Bugbrooke & District Choral Society

This term the choir is rehearsing 'Merrie England' by Edward German. We hope to sing this in a concert for charity in early November. We shall then start practising Christmas music which will be performed in two churches one of which is Bugbrooke (December 19th). We would welcome anyone who would like to sing with us. Come along to Campion School on Thursday evenings, 8 p.m.

J. Hanley – (Secretary)

SPORT

Cricket Club

By the time this is published, the main social activity of the club will have passed, namely the Annual Dinner, always an enjoyable evening. Several Quiz Nights have been held, and it is pleasing to report good attendances.

New social and playing members are always welcome, although season 1992 seems a long way off! One disappointment is the imminent resignation of Terry Saville as Treasurer, a position he has filled with distinction, and a tight rein on the "purse" strings, our thanks are due to him, but business commitments have considerably increased.

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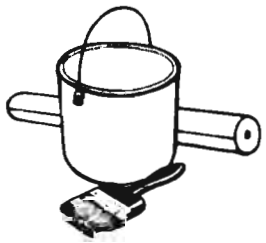

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Simon Pont and Ashley Bowling have departed to college, and the club wish them well.

It is hoped that Andy Butler will be returning from Australia in the New Year and this talented all rounder has been sadly missed. Fixtures are already being arranged for next season, and John Nuttall is to be congratulated on such an attractive list. It is hoped to form work parties during the winter months (Sunday mornings) to perform various maintenance duties, under the guidance of John Mundy and Ray Wake. All good wishes to club members as they participate in their winter sports of soccer, rugby and hockey.

Peter Minney

Boyson Construction Netball Team

The Daventry Winter Netball League has now begun and I'm pleased to report that we have made a good start to the season.

After a very close and physical game we managed to beat last seasons winners 20 goals to 19. This was not easy as we were playing with a disadvantage of one team member short. Hopefully we will be able to field a full side for the rest of the season and who knows, the league title could be in our sights!

Louise Pattle

Bugbrooke St. Michael's Football Club

We are now over 8 weeks into the football season and the football club has got off to a good start.

The two UCL sides are fairing well with the 1st team, third in their division and the reserves, top of theirs, only losing one match with eight straight wins, at going to press.

The youth football has now kicked off and there are teams playing between 11 – 18 years of age. Most of their games are played on a Sunday and they are always grateful for support.

The social side is thriving at the club with a major function taking place each month. The club boasts excellent facilities including a full bar, catering facilities and a large hall, which can be booked at a reasonable rate for private functions.

Each Saturday afternoon, one of the adult UCL teams plays at home. An admission charge of 50p will guarantee a good afternoon's entertainment, with hot and cold refreshments available.

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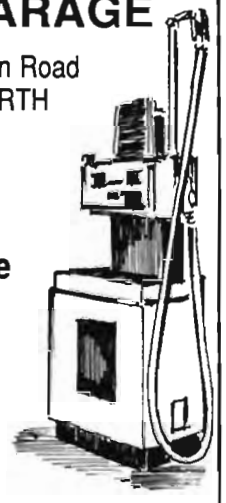

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If you fancy a game of football yourself, the club also runs two other adult sides who play regularly on Saturday afternoons.

All at the club wish the rest of the village well, especially within the sporting arena, and we hopefully look forward to seeing you soon.
DK

Campion School floodlit tennis/netball courts

Our newly vamped courts are now in use and available for hire through the year. The courts may be hired by clubs or individuals.

If you suddenly decide you would like a game of tennis all you have to do is contact the duty caretaker at the school on site. If a court is available she will issue you with a booking form which has to be returned to Campion with the fee within 7 days.

If however you wish to book in advance (individual or club use) just telephone Northampton 830677 and ask for Alison Grimes. You can, of course, call in and book/pay in advance rather than telephone.

Happy playing.

Cost of Hire		**Without Lights**	**With Lights**
Tennis	Per Court	£3.20	£5.13
Netball	Per Court	£4.70	£6.11

Mobile Library

As you may know – the Mobile Library is changing its visiting day from Tuesdays to *Thursdays*. It will *only* be visiting *fortnightly* and starts on *10th October*.

Times are:-

Johns Rd/Smitherway	1.00–1.15
Levitts Rd	1.20–2.05
Junior School	2.15–2.55
West End	3.10–3.25
Meadway/Pilgrims Lane	3.35–4.00
Camp Hill	4.05–4.20

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Family Announcements

COX – Happy Birthday to Robert on October 11th, Katie on October 19th and Christopher on November 6th. Lots of love from Mummy and Daddy.'

COX – Happy Birthdays to Robert, Katie and Christopher from Carole and Reg.

DICKIE – Happy 4th Birthday Robbie love from Simon.

CURTIS – Happy Birthday Timothy on November 27th. Lots of love from all the family. XX.

ENGLAND – Marnie – Happy 18th Birthday love from David, Sue, Anna and Thomas, X.

FERGUS – Rory – Happy 6th Birthday on November 5th, lots of love from Mummy, Daddy, Katie and Craig.

HAYLOCK – Clair – Happy Birthday love from Anna and Thomas, X.

Congratulations to **Gary Pell** on winning the Senior Heats and to twins **Jessica** and **Felicity**, the Junior Heats for dancing and singing at Warners Holiday Camp, Yarmouth, they will compete in the finals in October. Also to Jessica who has a walk-on part in Eastenders with two more small children from Chaplins Stage School. Good Luck kids from Nan and Pap Pell.

STACEY – We, the family of Marion Stacey, would like to thank everyone for their kind messages of sympathy and beautiful floral tributes upon the loss of our dear Mum.

All announcements for the Christmas edition of LINK should be sent to 12 The Paddocks by Monday 25th November.

Advertisement Section

Rates for 'one-off' advertising are £12 for a half page; £6 for a quarter page and £1 for a line of up to 20 words.

For all advertising details contact: Mrs S Willmore, 31 Oaklands – Mrs R Eddison, 12 The Paddocks – Mrs C Furniss, 60 Johns Road.

Don't forget the Bugbrooke Amateur Dramatics Pantomime 'Ali Baba' at Campion School, 30th/31st January 1992, 1st February, 1992.

For Sale: Aluminium Patio Door, hard wood surround, complete but needs re-assembly. 6ft wide £20 ono. Tel: 831060

Window White PVC covered aluminium window with white UPVC frame. 4ft wide x 3ft 6in high, hinged at top £30 ono. Tel: 831060

Found: Gold Ring in High Street, Bugbrooke on 13/10/91. Tel: 832584

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The Village Diary

October 28	8.00pm	Flower Club Gardening thro' the Ages with Mrs Pearson	S.S.
November			
1	7.00–10.00pm	BSMFC – Family Bonfire	BSMFC
2	7.30pm	St Michaels Music, 'The Life and work of Chopin' Piano recital	4a Pilgrims Lane
3	10.00am	Parish Communion – Archdeacon of Northampton	Church
4	7.30pm	WI Stained glass & terrariums	S.S.
6	2.15pm	D & J Meeting	S.S.
10	3.00pm	United Remembrance Service	Church
14	2.30pm	MU–Talk on Nat. Trust Gardens by Mr J Chapman	S.S.
15	7.30pm	BCC Annual Dinner at Pickwick Restaurant, Towcester	
16	2.30pm	D & J Bazaar	S.S.
18	7.30pm	Womens British Legion Meeting	S.S.
20	2.15pm	D & J Meeting	S.S.
22	7.00pm	BPSA–Film Club–Gt. St Trinian Train Robbery	P.S.
23	2.00pm	Church Autumn Bazaar	S.S.
25	8.00pm	Flower Club Merry Xmas with Mr D Patrick	S.S.
27	8.00pm	P.C.C.	S.S.
28	8.00pm	MU Talk–This is the Mothers Union by Mrs B Courtie	Rectory
30	2.00pm	BPSA–Xmas Bazaar	P.S.
30	8.00am–6.00pm	Day of Thanksgiving and Prayer	Church
December			
1	6.00pm	Deanery Advent Carol Service	Daventry Church
2	7.30pm	WI Colour coding & Make-up	S.S.
4	2.15pm	D & J Meeting	S.S.
7	2.00pm	Friends of Campion Christmas Fayre	C.S.
12	8.00pm	MU Advent Carol Service	S.S.
14	7.30pm	St Michaels Music 'Come and Carole' carole in comfort!	1 Church Lane
15	10.00am	Christingle Communion	Church
16	7.30pm	Womens British Legion Meeting	S.S.
18	2.15pm	D & J Christmas Tea	S.S.
19	7.45pm	Christmas Music	Bugbrooke Church
21	8.00–11.00pm	BSMFC Christmas Cabaret	BSMFC
24	11.30pm	Midnight Eucharist	Church
25	8.00am	Holy Communion	Church
25	10.00am	Carol Communion (for all ages)	Church
31	8.00–12.00pm	BSMFC New Years Eve Disco	BSMFC

Abbreviations: Church= St Michaels & All Angels; S.S. = Sunday School; P.S.=Primary School; C.S.= Campion School; BSMFC= Bugbrooke St Michael's Football Club

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