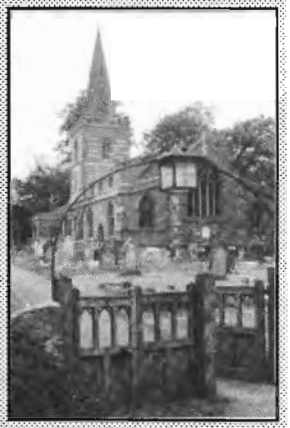
February 1993

LINK Bugbrooke



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The Bugbrooke "LINK" Committee

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Bugbrooke Link Magazine

(Issue No. 58), February 1993

Guest Editor: Linda Gould

Welcome to the first edition of the Link for 1993. John Sexton is taking a break and as I am the guest editor for this edition I would like to wish you all a Happy New Year.

As well as the usual articles and news items about the village we have had contributions from and about some of the enterprising women in Bugbrooke, who after a period of not working, have taken the opportunity to return to work in entirely different occupations from their original ones.

The article "Could This be You" might stimulate some readers to take a fresh look at their skills and capabilities and see if they too could branch out in a new and interesting direction. Jenny Unwin is an inspiring example of someone who has done just that and now has a small business making and selling her own original designs of machine knitted jumpers from her home. I have been talking to her about how she started and how she became one of the finalists in the BBC I's Clothes Show Knitting Design Competition.

The heart of any village is its shops and we in Bugbrooke are fortunate to have such a variety of them. Several of these are run by women and Mary Cave, the proprietor of The Stores has answered our questionnaire.

Finally, Linda Dutta has been listening to Agnes Collett's fascinating and amusing memories of life as the village doctor's wife when she first came to Bugbrooke just after the war.

Now that the Christmas festivities are over and our New Year's Resolutions are beginning to flag, it is the ideal time to make plans for the future and make 1993 the best year ever.

Deadline for the next issue is Monday 8th March 1993

Gratitude

As is usual at this time of the year "Link" has received a number of requests from recipients that we should record their thanks to the Committee of the O.A.P. Christmas Gift Scheme for their generosity at yuletide. This we do with pleasure.

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An Interview with Agnes Collett

by Linda Dutta

Agnes Collett in 1940

Mrs Collett came to the Bugbrooke practice as "the doctor's wife" in 1947. She was admirably trained for such a job having completed six years sick children's nursing in Hull and then continuing with general nursing and midwifery in the East End of London. During her time at Queen Mary's Hospital, Stratford she met and courted one of the "midder boys" (midwifery housemen), St. John Wallace-Collett. Their courtship had to be in secret as those were the days when Matron would forbid any socialising between her nurses and the young doctors. They were married during the war and then Dr Collett was sent on a course in tropical medicine and posted to India with the troops.

After the war Dr Collett came to Bugbrooke to become a partner with Dr White in the small surgery at the Dower House. Dr White had practiced single-handed as had his father before him. Some villagers may still have memories of Dr White's father doing his rounds in a pony and trap. Observant patients will have seen the framed photographs of all three doctors in the present surgery in Levitts Rd.

The Colletts lived in Kislingbury for the first nine years and Mrs Collett would cycle daily to the surgery in the Dower House where she was receptionist, secretary, nurse, dispenser of medicines and cleaner. The waiting-room was a mere cubby hole with a wooden bench on each side seating 4 to 5 people. The consulting room was no bigger and the adjoining kitchen had a sink and it was here that the medicines were made up and the empty bottles washed and recycled. There were few packet medicines in those days and basically three stock medicines, "one for cough, one for constipation and one for diarrhoea". The medicine bottles were stored in the cellar which periodically flooded. At

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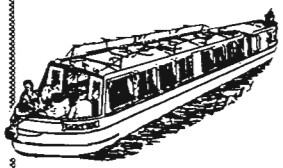

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such times the clinking of bottles from below was a signal for Mrs Collett to find her wellingtons and wade into the cellar. There were no appointments. Evening surgery started at 6.30 pm and continued, if need be, to 9 pm or later.

The day eventually came when new premises had to be found for the surgery. The new surgery needed to be on a bus route and to have car parking space. With this in mind the Colletts bought the Grange and began the Herculean task of converting the existing dairy, kitchen and dining-room into a waiting-room, receptionist's room, dispensary and two consulting rooms. The builders went bankrupt, money was tight and life was very difficult in a partially-converted house which for a time had no kitchen. Eventually the surgery was complete and the switchboard situated in the new kitchen so that Mrs Collett could answer the phone whilst preparing meals. In those days it was 24 hours on call.

Occasionally Mrs Collett would have to deal with a patient if the doctors were not available. On one occasion before Christmas, Mrs Collett was busy making mince pies. A patient arrived needing stitches near the buttock. The pastry was pushed to one side (and covered!), the patient was placed over the kitchen table and the stitches inserted.

Villagers will have many memories of Mrs Collett. They may remember her running the monthly baby clinic and organising the annual party for the mums in the summer. Others may remember her working for hours in the tea tent during the village fetes or going from house to house collecting the playing field's tote. Some may remember her as a parish councillor or as one of the first school governors when Campion School was opened.

What has been the biggest change that Mrs Collett has seen during these past 45 years?

"The number of cars. There were only two when we first came to Kislingbury".

And if Dr Collett had lived to see his retirement would they have returned to Guernsey, the island where he was born?

"Oh no, we wouldn't have wanted to have lived anywhere else but in Bugbrooke".

Could This Be You?

Here is a story of two women who changed their careers.

When Jane left school she thought her only option was office-work as neither nursing or teaching appealed to her. Kate, on the other hand, knew she was likely to become restless in a desk-bound job and wanted

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something more physically active. She decided to work with young children. Nothing unusual in their choices, but what happened to these two people later on?

After working for a few years in a Building Society, Jane married and eventually had two children. When the children reached school age, she considered trying to return to her former occupation, but realised that her interests and needs had changed. Now she wanted to do something which gave her a personal, caring involvement with people. Yet she knew that she dealt best with people on a one-to-one basis in situations where there was not too much pressure. It was partly because she was aware of the stress levels involved in nursing that she had turned down the idea when she was younger. Now she realised that there were other alternatives in the medical field which might suit her better – eg. radiography or chiropody.

Fortunately Northampton has a School of Chiropody (Podiatry), and with two science 'A' levels, she realised she might get accepted as a mature student for the three year training. Then she would be able to work full-time or part-time for the NHS or privately in her own time. Her first problem was to get another 'A' level (she only had one). She could either study on an Access Course during the day or an evening 'A' level course at Northampton College which welcomes mature students returning to study. Although this would take some time, at least it gave her something to aim at and a different kind of future to look forward to. It took a little time for her husband and family to adjust to the idea of her being a student as well as a mum, but as they got used to it Jane seemed to gain a new lease of life and everyone benefited from her increased sense of purpose and optimism.

Kate's life turned out rather differently than Jane's. She married quite soon after leaving school but unfortunately the marriage did not last. As a single parent with two lively youngsters, she eventually took a job as a Care Assistant in an Old People's Home. Fortunately her employer allowed her to work hours which fitted in with her family responsibilities. However as time went on Kate realised that unless she was willing to study for some kind of social work qualifications, when the children were grown up, she would not be able to gain a more responsible job in this sort of caring work. She was a practical, down-to-earth, easy-going person who had never taken her school work very seriously, and she did not like the idea of becoming a student. However, as a single parent she had learnt how to manage her own resources, and discovered that she had a flair for organisation, and also a knack of relating to people and making them feel at ease. So she

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decided to make plans for a complete change of direction and do something which did not require any GCSEs. She would become a Driving Instructor.

She made enquiries and discovered that in order to be an Approved Driving Instructor she would need to pass the Department of Trade's written and practical examinations. To do this she could either take professional training or obtain a trainee licence and learn on-the-job with an established driving school.

Fortunately her work with the elderly had helped her to develop a lot of patience which she would be able to put to good use with nervous learner drivers. But one snag she had not thought of was that many people want driving lessons in the evenings and at weekends and this might interfere with family life unless she organised her time very carefully. However she decided to give it a try and if she was successful perhaps one day she might be able to become self-employed and even set up her own driving school. A friend told her that she might need to take a short part-time course on business skills for the self-employed if she got that far. At first, however she thought she should try to negotiate different flexi-hours with her present employer so that she could fit in some experience as a trainee driving instructor to see how she got on. This was the difficult part, and she realised that even before she did this she might have to practise on her friends to test out her teaching skills. Nevertheless, making plans for a possible different future lifted her spirits and she began to look ahead with more confidence.

There are many other stories of women like these who have discovered that they can have a new sense of direction and purpose once they have decided what they really want to do. If the idea appeals to you, you could be one of them, so start making plans now and make 1993 your year of decision. *A.A.*

Jenny Unwin

Jenny Unwin started knitting for her family soon after her second daughter, Hannah, was born. She had always wanted a knitting machine and bought herself a second-hand one for £20. From the beginning she took to it, loving the fact that she could make things so quickly. Soon friends were asking her to knit them garments and were prepared to pay her for doing so. A business was born!

Before she and her husband John moved to Bugbrooke eighteen years ago, Jenny was a legal secretary working for a firm of solicitors in

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Enfield, which she enjoyed very much. After the move she got a similar job with a Northampton company but found that she was not expected to have as much responsibility as she was used to. Frustrated with this she worked for an agency as a 'temp', which offered her more variety until shortly before her first child, Kate, was born when she happily gave up work to look after her family and home.

Jenny has always been interested in crafts such as patchwork, sewing and hand knitting, but when she got her knitting machine it opened up new possibilities for her. As she never uses a pattern she was able to experiment with new designs and see the results quickly.

Her first customers were her friends, but to her surprise she found that there was also quite a market for school uniform jumpers for the Primary School. A dress hire agency in Northampton sold some of her more exotic mohair evening jumpers and the Dairy Farm Craft Centre at Stowe have also sold a more general selection. The most successful method of selling her work, however, has been by having an "Open House" twice a year to which past and present customers are invited. In fact, Jenny is always happy for people to call at her home, 21 High Street, to look at what is currently available and has a permanent display there, but twice a year she collaborates with a friend and fellow knitter, Pat Dove, to put together a special collection of casual and formal knitwear. Both of them paint as well and make some lovely hand painted silk earrings and greetings cards which are also on sale.

Three years ago the BBC1 Clothes Show opened their annual knitting competition to machine knitters. Jenny sent in a sample of her work, a cotton jumper in shades of pale green and peach and was thrilled to find she was one of the twelve finalists. Although she didn't win first prize she did have the excitement of seeing her work on national television and of having it judged by Kaffe Fassett (the man who turned knitting into an art form), Christina Dodwell and of course, Jeff Banks.

What next? Her family is still her priority which is why she likes to work from home, but she is not content to sit back on her laurels. Last September Jenny embarked upon a part-time City and Guilds Machine Knitting course at Moulton College and is loving every minute of it. It is giving her lots of new ideas and she is learning how to get the maximum out of her machine. She likes the idea of her garments being entirely her own creation from the initial design in her head down to the labels and packaging, and the Art and Design element in the course is helping her to bring these ideas together and extend her creativity.

So, I think we can look forward to some exciting new designs from Jenny Lynn quite soon.

Linda Gould

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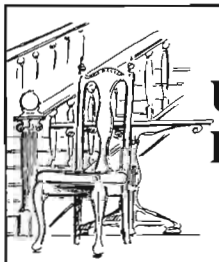

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IN FOCUS Profile of Mary Cave

Mary Cave runs The Stores in the centre of the village and she has kindly agreed to answer our questionnaire.

What is your idea of perfect happiness?
Just to have a lie-in.
What is your greatest fear?
Growing old and infirm, and the dentist.
What do you admire most in other people?
Creative talents.
What do you admire least in other people?
People who are impatient.
What is your greatest extravagance?
Clothes.
What objects do you always carry with you?
A little silver sixpence, which goes everywhere with me.
What makes you depressed?
Seeing starving children on T.V.
What do you dislike about your appearance?
My hips.
What is your favourite smell?
Freesias.
What is your favourite word?
One you wouldn't be able to print.
What is the greatest love of your life?
The countryside.
Which living person do you most admire and why?
Simon Weston, for the way he has rebuilt his life, and his courage.
On what occasions do you lie?
When people ask how I am, and I reply "Fine" – when I'm not really!
What is your greatest regret?
Not trying harder at school.
How do you relax?
I enjoy dancing, and generally keeping fit.
What single thing would improve the quality of your life?
I'm quite happy with my life as it is.
Which talent would you most like to have?
To be able to sing really well.
What would your motto be?
Don't put off until tomorrow, what you can do today.

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Parish Council Meeting

November 1992 to January 1993

In considering next year's budget the Parish Council were on the horns of the usual public service dilemma; balancing services provided against a reasonable charge to what always used to be ratepayers, briefly became Community Chargepayers and from April 1993, will become Council Taxpayers. Bugbrooke has a history of very low charges to its parishioners. For 1992/93 the parish community charge in Bugbrooke was £7.04 per adult compared with Harpole's £11.67 and Nether Heyford's £11.25. Depending on your viewpoint this is either good housekeeping or a failure to provide anything but the basic services. Members were particularly concerned over a list of street light columns which the Electricity Board considered should be replaced as this would involve significant additional expenditure. It was probably this that influenced the majority of members to support a small increase in the precept to be requested from South Northamptonshire Council of £1000, from £13000 in 1992/93 to £14000 in 1993/94. Together with existing balances it is hoped that this will enable much of the work required by the Electricity Board to be carried out next year. It may, however, limit any other improvements in street lighting for the time being.

Money and how to spend (or save) it wisely is also at the heart of a problem concerning the future of the Village Hall. The Village Hall Committee have been given a list of work required by the Environmental Health Officer of South Northamptonshire Council and have asked the Parish Council to help meet the cost. Whilst sympathetic to this request the Parish Council are concerned that the letter from South Northamptonshire Council considers the Village Hall as "primitive" and warned that necessary work in such an old building would be "extensive and expensive". Further consideration of this request will be given at the next meeting when it is hoped that additional information will be available.

Northamptonshire County Council have agreed to provide a "Children" sign at the junction of Pilgrims Lane and Meadway; whether this will slow traffic at this point remains to be seen. Another step forward concerns the provision of a hard paved area at the Wharf Turn bus stop. All we need now is a proper path leading to it.

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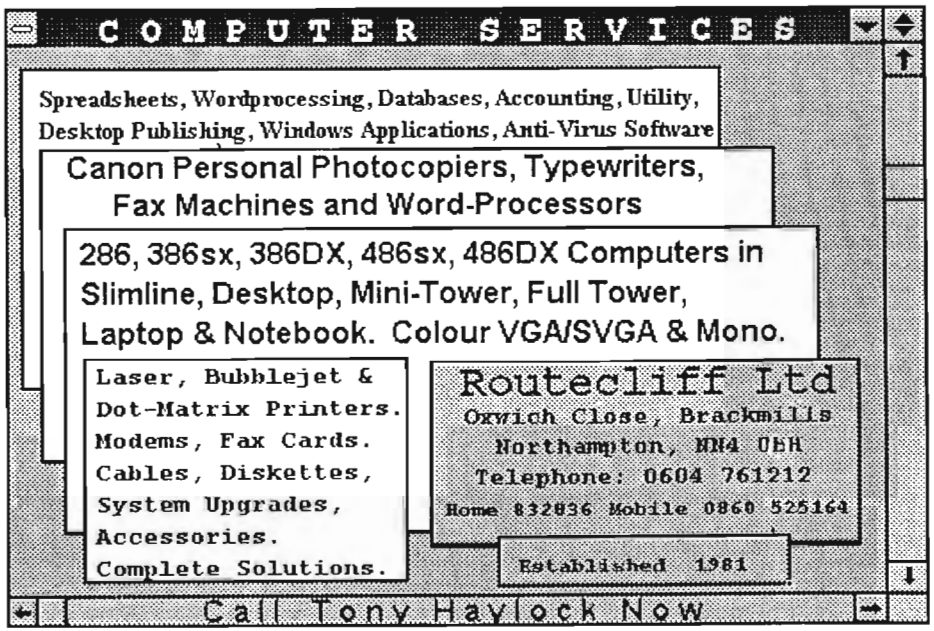

PC Wallace referred to or heard of problems with illegal parking, vandalism and noisy chip vans.

Ken Gardner, being a good sport, has agreed to represent the Parish Council on the Playing Fields Committee.

Finally, we all have our own "it'll be all right on the night" experiences when, for some unknown reason, what we say is not exactly what we mean. Responding to Canon Partridge's report of finding a West End street sign in the brook, Sue Pace said "I wonder where that came from?" However, the answer was not as obvious as we all thought. West End were not missing a sign! Curiouser and curiouser.
David Harries

1992 Best Kept Village and Churchyard Competitions

We are here reproducing the actual marking sheets and comments made by Members of Northants Rural Community Council for the 1992 Village Competition. We apologise for the lateness in publishing this but Link received these too late for the October edition and had insufficient space in the Christmas issue.

However the results do make good reading – we were once again the Most Improved Village. Lets hope 1993 is our year to win.

	Maximum Marks	Marks Awarded	Remarks
Absence of litter and unofficial refuse dumps	35	31	A great improvement, continuing from last year. Butts Hill almost completely clear – Green opp. school excellent – nice new litter bins, telephone kiosk in High Street still a bad spot.
Tidiness of public features churchyards and chapel yards, cemetery, village greens, roads, playing fields, village hall and surrounds bus shelters, telephone kiosks. (NOTE) exclude litter marked in above	40	34	Litter between kiosk and electric box. Village Hall room needs a new door, shelter on green opp. Primary School vast improvement, cleared of graffitti, well done.
Tidiness of gardens, allotments, outhouses, sheds, hedges, fences, walls and trees	20	17	Base of wall and entrance to Bugbrooke Hall very weedy. Allotments still very good but old wire could start and make it untidy. A border of weeds in fence between pitch and path of playing field.

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Visibility of Tidy Village Competition Poster and orderliness of advertisements and other notices.			
Best Kept Village Poster	2	2	
Children's Poster	2		
Tidiness of Notice Board	1	1	Notice board at Butts Hill would be better if it could have a glass front.

AREA TO BE IMPROVED FOR 1993
Would suggest base of Bugbrooke Hall perimeter wall/footpath – entrances if you are able!
TOTAL MARKS AWARDED OUT OF 100 **85**
DATE July 5th 1992

BEST KEPT CHURCHYARD COMPETITION 1992

	Maximum Marks	Marks Awarded	Remarks
Absence of litter	20	18	No litter of general nature but obviously a recent wedding with a lot of confetti on main path.
Care of grass and around gravestones	35	30	Grass well cut and trimmed around stones but seemed a bit patchy – less well attended – flower beds and grass on north side near door excellent, no weeds – pansies – grass cut and edged.
Care of paths, verges, walls, lych gates	30	26	Some flower beds on south side full of groundsel – a marked difference between north and south – one path full of clover – base of church weedy east end not as good as rest. One gate missing I hope not stolen! Gates would benefit from some treatment.
Overall general impression	15	12	When entering from main road first impressions not as good as they used to be though obviously a lot of work is still being done in a large and complicated churchyard. Lot of nettles between church and car park.

TOTAL MARKS AWARDED OUT OF 100 **86**
DATE July 5th 1992

St Michael & All Angels Church News

Christingle Service

This was a great occasion, with over 200 people in church, as we did our Christingle Communion. The Brownies, Guides and Rainbows were there, together with the Sunday School, and at least 100 Christingles were given out to the youngsters in the congregation, then they were lit so that the Church was filled with candles speaking of Jesus as the light of the world. This was one of our regular parade services when the Guides, Brownies and Rainbows come and take part in our service. We shall be having our next parade service on Mothering Sunday, 21st March, when we hope that lots of the Guides, Brownies and Rainbows will be able to come and parents are very welcome to come with them too. It doesn't matter whether you are Church of England or not, you are very welcome at our service, which tries to include everyone.

Christmas Services

As always, these were a great delight, the church was beautifully decorated and the Choir and the Music Society had worked hard on their anthems to sing to us. The midnight was less well attended than usual because of the awful weather, but still it was a stirring occasion and on Christmas morning at 10 o'clock the church, as before, was full and the collections on the three Christmas services, together with £156 from the hand bell ringing and £30 from the Brownie carol service, meant we gave well over £500 to the Children's Society. We also gave £80 to Helen House, the Hospice for children, from the Music and Junior Choir carol singing round the village on the Saturday before Christmas. We thank everyone who supported that and who gave towards the Children's Society over Christmas.

Sunday School

Our Church Sunday School meets in the Sunday School at 10am on Sundays during the School term. We have the Sundays off either side of half term, but otherwise we meet in the Sunday School for about an hour. There is an enthusiastic band of teachers looking after the children and there is also a creche for younger children whilst their parents are at church. Do bring your child along to Sunday School, all children are welcome, and it is an opportunity if you wish, to come to the Church service, the children are looked after until you are able to collect them after the service. If you would like to know any more you are welcome to contact Carol French on 831034, Rowena Eddison on 830605, Kathryn Hill on 831586 or Alison Mellor on 831466 and they will gladly tell you more about our Sunday School.

Lent – a time of preparation for Easter

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, 24th February this year, when we shall have an Ash Wednesday Communion Service at 8.00 pm. This, as always, will be preceded on the Tuesday evening – Shrove Tuesday – by a Social at 7.30. There will be a list in Church for names of those who would like to come to that. During Lent we shall run our usual house groups on as many of the evenings of the week as we can manage, again we shall be seeking names in Church, there will be a list for those who would like to, to put their names down under the day they would like to join a Lent group. If you have any questions do contact Tim Partridge – 830373. We shall lead up to Holy Week, which begins with Palm Sunday, when we shall do our usual palm procession and our distribution of palm crosses at our Communion at 10am. Then there will be the usual services during Holy Week and on Good Friday, culminating in the celebration of Easter – the greatest festival of all. There will be further details on the Church newsletter nearer the time.

Tim Partridge 830373

Nature Notes by Bill Lantsbery

I have just read the account of the tanker smashing into the Shetland Islands and pouring its cargo into the sea. The reporter talks about the Braer being an ageing tanker. Can it really be possible that an old ship was hired to carry 21 million gallons of oil right across the Atlantic, quite close to these wonderful Scottish Islands, at a time when severe storms might occur? Words fail me. The wild life now is in dreadful danger and otters, seals, fish, whales and birds will die. Not only oil but big business stinks doesn't it?

I must get away from this dreadful story and write about something beautiful. On January 3rd we awoke to find the fog had gone but the severe frost had turned everything pure white. I have never seen trees so beautiful and they stayed like that for most of the day. I would guess there were a few thousand photographs taken.

A very pleasant thing happened to us on that Sunday. I had bought some nuts in town but I think they were old stock. The birds seemed to be having difficulty in pecking them out of the holder. I decided to put a dish of these hard nuts on top of the table. The tits liked the idea and soon flew off with a nut or two. Then two lovely birds appeared and came back time after time for a nut. They were nuthatches. What pretty birds. Fred Flavell from a little bit farther along the lane tells me that he has photographed a white thrush in his garden. I see very few thrushes

in the garden, I wonder if they move farther south during the winter. There are heaps of blackbirds and they have eaten thousands and thousands of berries from the pyracantha, on the house. Karl Knott who used to live in Waggoners Way and now keeps a shop in Daventry, rang me up one day to say he had seen a buzzard in Nobottle wood. He also told me how interesting it is to go round Daventry Country Park. He said cormorants nested there last year. I am going to that Park as soon as I can. There have been various sightings of certain birds in the village. Someone told me they had had a lesser spotted woodpecker on their table. We have not been so lucky. The heron has been seen fishing in the brook. The kingfisher has been seen beside the canal. I am surprised that with all the cold weather I have not seen or heard the fieldfare. The other day the newspaper printed an article saying the robin was struggling to survive. I think they could be wrong on that one, the robins are here every day.

On December 10th I went with Jim down to Somerset. We saw the usual killings on the road, two foxes, one hare and rabbits. One other animal was a new kind, the small deer, the muntjac. As we drove into Devizes a fox trotted across the road as calm as you like. There are lots of foxes about nowadays. Philip from 8 The Paddocks tells me he has seen one as he gets out of his car at night. Eric Roberts who writes in the evening paper says he has heard of a fox playing with a kitten in broad daylight, near someone's home.

Last night I watched a wildlife programme on television. It was about flamingoes in the Kalahari desert down the bottom part of Africa. What wonderful photography. This is certainly television at its best.

There may be a reduction in the number of some birds but the starling surely is increasing. It eats nearly all the food on my bird table and the flocks going to roost in the evening are enormous.

One last pleasant thought. Two little white flowers are peeping through near a rose bush. The snowdrop is heralding Spring.

Darby and Joan Club

After the hectic time of Christmas and New Year, at the time of writing, it is slowing down time to recharge batteries and prepare for the year ahead. I do hope that our members enjoyed their festive holiday and from the committee and myself I thank you all for all your cards and the presents you gave to us all.

Mrs Brenda Earl visited our members who now spend their time in homes around the county and delivered their presents and our good

wishes to them. She found them all cheerful and so well cared for. Brenda also delivered over 15 knitted blankets to Danetree hospital for their patients and very pleased they were too to receive them. We thank all members who make these every year for us to give to the hospital. Whilst on the subject if anyone has spare odd balls of wool that we may use please could you contact any committee or club member. Thank you!

Unfortunately we started the year on a sad note at the passing of two of our members. Mrs Robinson who was at Duncote Hall and will be remembered by older villagers for running the village shop with her husband for many years. A very kind and gentle lady and I am sure she will be greatly missed by her family to whom we send our sympathies. Our sympathies go also to Mrs Clarke and her family at the passing of her husband. A lively and jovial man at our club meetings and also always ready to give us a helping hand and crack a joke. He too will be greatly missed.

We look forward to our fish & chip supper in March. Everyone always enjoys this time as it is usually our first social evening of the year.

On Saturday April 17th we have our Spring Jumble. We will collect if you have any for us. Please no big items; we simply cannot cope with them. Once again we ask for your support.

If anyone wishes to join us (60+ for ladies & 65+ men). Please drop a note to any club or committee member and we will contact you. *SJM*

Bugbrooke Flower Society

Who needs a National Demonstrator when we have such talent within our ranks!!

Maureen and Cherry gave us a delightful demonstration full of novel ideas and reasonably priced too. I hope everyone tried out at least one of them, I know I did.

Our Christmas demonstration at Campion School was very well attended and hopefully enjoyed by all. What a pity we didn't all win one of those lovely arrangements in the raffle.

John and Bett Wareing were the most amusing couple and hopefully they will visit us again in the not too distant future.

By the time Link is delivered we will have had our AGM and partaken of supper provided by our Committee and we also will have donated a cheque to the Macmillan Nurses for the wonderful work they do. Last year was a very varied and interesting timetable, let's hope 1993 will be just as good.

As I write it is pouring down with rain and there is a lot of snow

around the country but as I look and smell the hyacinths on my desk I know that spring can't be far away can it? *B.E. Bell*

Bugbrooke Old Age Pensioners Christmas Gift Scheme

Most vouchers were delivered during the first two weeks of December to the applicants and although there were one or two hiccups due to mislaid application forms these were soon rectified.

Flowers were delivered to all known Bugbrooke pensioners who are now in residential/nursing homes throughout the county and they were very pleased to be remembered.

The Committee will now start preparing for next Christmas and we would like to offer our thanks to those businesses in the village who have maintained collecting boxes for the fund or contributed directly to the fund.

There are still a few tea towels left at £2.50 each should anyone want them. Please contact me at 71 High Street, Tel. 832292 and I will be able to arrange a supply. *Bruce Piper* Chairman

Community Craft Fair at Campion School

Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st March 1993

Following the popular success of the craft stalls at our Summer Fete and Autumn Fair, and as part of our wider community interest, we plan to hold a Community Craft week-end in the school Sports Hall on Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st March 1993 between 10.30 and 4.30pm.

We would like to include local craft stalls and exhibit work of our Adult Education classes and school pupils. In addition, we plan to have demonstrations and opportunities to "have a go" at particular crafts. We are looking to stage a truly "community" event!

If you are able to give demonstrations or you are interested in allowing members of the public to try your craft, I am particularly interested and would be happy to discuss further terms. Please also feel welcome to ring either Alison Stewart at Campion or myself for more information (tel: 0604-830677).

Barron Walton Associate Deputy Head (Community)

Calling All Parents

If you have not registered your pre-school child for school, we at Bugbrooke County Primary School would love to hear from you.

We are currently drawing up the list of pupils due to start with us in September 1993 and we are anxious to ensure that all the village

youngsters whose parents would like them to attend BCPS are registered. All you have to do is give us a ring on 830610 or pop into the school and see us personally.

Our maximum 4+ intake for the next year is 45. To attract adequate funding, we must try to reach that figure. I would like to think that this number would be made up mainly by village families. However, if we have not reached our target by February, we will have to consider the growing number of applications from new parents who live outside the catchment area.

We look forward to hearing from you.

STOP PRESS

Invasion Of Bugbrooke Imminent

Well, almost . . . so excited are the people living in our twin village of Iteuil about the visit proposed for their Choir that a great many choir members are bringing husband or wife, and some young people are also coming over.

The visit will be from May 28th to 31st (Friday afternoon to Monday morning of the Spring Bank Holiday 1993) and during that time there will be two concerts, one in Bugbrooke and one in a church selected by Bugbrooke & District Choral Society.

We shall need all the support and hospitality that those in the village who are interested in the twinning can muster – there are 73 visitors in total although as I say, many will be couples. We are applying to the Local Government International Bureau for finance from Brussels to cover this, we don't want anyone in the village to be out of pocket. But please, please, if you have any spare accommodation you could offer, let Tim Partridge or myself know. There will be a return visit, we hope, some time during 1994 when all those who offer hospitality will have their turn at being spoiled.

The Twinning Committee would like to thank you all for your support in this venture. *Diana Cockrill* Twinning Secretary 830129

Bugbrooke Computer Club

The computer club continues to thrive, with new members each week. We still have not got past the stage of playing mainly games within the club, but this will change in the new year.

So far, our problem has been that we have more computers than televisions so we haven't been able to use all of the computers yet. We

have acquired an additional portable colour TV recently but we will always be on the look out for portable black and white or colour TV's. If you know anybody who has them then please let me know.

Along the same vein, we would also be interested in purchasing second hand computers and games for the club to use. We also have a list of second hand games and computers for sale which will grow in time. Again anyone interested should contact me on the number below.

The Bugbrooke Junior Computer Club will be starting on **February** 1st. The junior club will be for ages 8 to 11 and will be held at the primary school in one of the classrooms on Mondays from 3.45 until 5 pm. The costs for joining the club and the cost of each evening will be less than the cost of the 11 to 16 years computer club.

Anyone interested in the junior computer club should contact either myself or Mr Langrish for details and application forms. The numbers will be limited and dealt with on a first come first served basis.
Ian Mcilhiney Tel 832746

Royal British Legion

Women's Section
December was our Annual Christmas dinner, once more held at the Sunday School and it was nice to be joined by the Men's Branch and guests. In January, weather permitting, we will be joining the men's branch for a game of skittles at the Five Bells. February will be a game of Bingo as weather once more means usually a small meeting. Our president Mrs Trinder is at the time of writing still in hospital and we wish her good health in the New Year.

In March it is our turn to host the Group Meeting. Other branches will be visiting us and County Officers will attend. Is there anyone out there who would come to speak, sing, or whatever to us as we find it difficult to keep members interested. A small fee would be forthcoming. Happy New Year to everyone and a big thank you to O.A.P. Committee for vouchers and to schools etc. who make our Christmas so happy.
Enid Pell (Mrs) Hon. Chairman

Bugbrooke Primary School Association

We held our Christmas Bazaar at the end of November and raised approximately £700.00. A big thank you to all who came along and supported us.

We have been filling in our diary for the next few months so here are some dates you may like to make a note of. Craft Fair Sat 27th Feb 1–5

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pm; Barn Dance Fri 7th May; May Fair Sat 22nd May; Family Quiz Night Fri 18th June.

If anyone is able to lend a hand at any of these events we would love to hear from you. Once again thank you for your continuing support.
Teresa Garlick (Secretary) 832433

Bugbrooke Junior Youth Club

Happy New Year to one and all, with wishes of a prosperous 1993 to everyone.

To re-cap slightly, in December we had our presentation night for raffle winner Mrs K. Peacock. Matthew Price from Radio Northampton came along and presented the super mountain bike to her, which resulted in a subsequent write up and photo in the Chronicle & Echo. Following this we had a lovely evening out at the theatre, watching "Cinderella", Unfortunately I think that I embarrassed most of the children by shouting, "Oh no you don't" a little too loudly and too often. After a successful Christmas disco, our finale for December, the "Children's Christmas Variety Show", topped the lot. All the acts in the show were the kids' own creations and were performed with great gusto and confidence. Congratulations to everyone who took part and thanks to all the parents and siblings who came along to support and enjoy the show.

In January we started with a Karaoke evening. Despite torturing some well loved oldies, we had a good laugh. Along with our monthly craft nights, January will have seen a quiz night and a Self Defence evening at the Club. A trained instructor will have been to show us moves and give advice about something which is necessary these days.

So to February and March. On February 17th we will be embarking on our fourth trip. This time, ice skating. Parents and kids can rest assured that I will not be attempting the scenic route through Milton Keynes again. My husband has generously volunteered to drive. March will bring us a talent night on the 16th. Thank you to P.C. Lloyd Fairey, who has agreed to judge the entrants. Anyone who is interested in joining in or watching, feel free to come along.

Once again I have to inform you of some changes. We will be opening on Tuesday nights, from the beginning of January 1993. Had we not taken this step, we would have been in the same situation as before, and only opening three weeks out of four. There will now be no other commitments on the hall. We realise that some children might not be able to come now and we apologise for this, but hope that it will

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open the door to others who could not attend before. We have a full range of equipment now, including many box games, thanks to generous donations and hard fund raising. With our craft corner and special activity nights we can cater for a wide range of interests. Come along and see for yourselves kids, that is what we are there for.

If you have any queries, you can contact myself: 832383 or Annette: 832410

Pennie Pancoust

Women's Institute

Well what have we been up to since my last report? Just prior to Christmas a few of us joined Gayton WI at their Christmas party which took the form of a Tramps Supper. If your idea of WI ladies is sensible, conservative, or dare I say it, boring, then you should have seen the contingent setting off for Gayton! We had a most enjoyable evening and a really good time was had by all, with many laughs.

In January we had our own Institute's 65th birthday party with a 20's flavour. We had a lovely supper and were entertained with a sing song by "The Good Companions".

What's to come in the next few months? The Northamptonshire Federation celebrates 75 years this year and a celebration family weekend is planned for July at the Northampton Grammar School at Pitsford. Also forthcoming is a Bridge Drive; what to do with soft fuits; Badminton; Skittles; WI Driver of the Year 1993; and a Music Festival. We did well in the darts tournament last year although not making it through to the final. The skittles tournament will be starting any time now.

We have recently introduced a Craft Evening, when a few ladies with various craft hobbies get together to chat, compare, and swop ideas, and this has proved popular so far.

If you would like to join us, you would be made most welcome. We meet at the Sunday School on the first Monday in the month at 7.30 pm and at our next meeting on 1st February, our guest speaker will be Kelly, from John Richardson Hairdressing.

V. Chambers

Mothers Union

Our next afternoon meeting 2nd Feb, Kathleen Salisbury will be coming to talk to us about prayer.

Don't forget we have our Jumble Sale on 13th Feb at 2 pm. If anybody has any jumble they can deliver to me or the rectory, or I can collect if you give me a ring.

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24th Feb is our Ash Wednesday Service in church.

Looking further ahead we have a Quiet Day at Weedon church on 25th March, if anybody would like details, give me a ring.

Sue Nightingale (831025)

2nd Bugbrooke Brownies

Here we are again into yet another new year. Here's hoping that 1993 will be as good and happy as 1992.

1992 started with a trip to Derngate to see Aladdin, what a good time we had! During the year we did lots of good things including a fun afternoon at Campion, swimming at Danes Camp, a summer trip to Wicksteed park with 1st Bugbrooke Brownies. Never have we seen so many green faces after a few rides. No it wasn't the Brownies, it was the adults.

We had our usual sports evening with trophies being presented to the winning team and summer wouldn't have been summer without our treasure hunt around the village. We had a cake decorating session in the autumn and the Brownies really did impress us with their culinary ideas and art work. We finished our year with a Nativity Play and Carol evening in the church.

1993 again starts with a trip to Derngate. This time to see Cinderella, but surely the highlight of this year will be Snowy Owl's wedding in June. How do you feel about 24 plus bridesmaids Alison?

Girls can start Brownies at 7 years of age – to be placed on our waiting list please phone Chris Searle on 830280.

Happy New Year to everybody. *Chris, Maria, Alison and Miranda*

1st Bugbrooke Scouts

Scout Association National Woggle Day

The Scout Association 1992 Promise Appeal was strongly supported by local parents and children. The National Woggle Day was celebrated on October 23 1992 by the sale of Special Edition woggles and, due to enthusiasm of all those involved, a total of £219 was collected. Of this total £170.80 has been paid to The Association Appeal, whilst £48.20 has been retained by 1st Bugbrooke Scout Group.

On behalf of 1st Bugbrooke, I should like to offer our thanks to all those involved with the Campaign and for all the support given. We particularly appreciate the enthusiasm and co-operation shown by our two schools' Head Teachers, Mr Langrish and Mr Bartlett, for allowing representatives of the Group to sell woggles at their schools, during school time.

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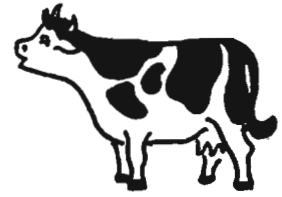

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There were 600 woggles sent to 1st Bugbrooke to be sold.

We actually sold 438, the Group bought 50 for members, leaving 112 unsold.

The funds raised were apportioned 35 pence per woggle to be paid to The Association Promise Appeal and 15 pence per woggle retained by The Group.

MONEYS COLLECTED

Bev. Hyde	25.00	Paid to Prom Appeal	170.80
Glenda Day	17.00		
Campion School	40.00	Retained by Group	48.20
Primary School	95.00		
Brownies, Guides & Leaders	42.00		
	219.00		219.00

Martin Dovey Treasurer

1st Bugbrooke Venture Scout Unit

During the short days in the winter months, the Venture Scout Unit has continued to provide a challenging, yet entertaining programme for its members.

We finished the month of October by attempting to make some home brew cider – to be sampled later at the Christmas party! November was highlighted by two very successful meetings. The first was a cheese, wine and games evening for Unit members' parents. This was thoroughly enjoyed by members and parents, with games such as, 'Give us a clue' and 'Call my bluff' to warm everyone up!

The second enjoyable event was when members and leaders grabbed cloths and paint brushes to renovate the Scout hut. Our choice of paint was welcomed by Craig, a very tasteful 'muffin' was put on walls and people alike – if you stood still for long enough – you got painted!

In December Jenny ran a very successful international cooking evening in which, creamy carrot soup, a vegetable concoction and chocolate mousse were created by teams of budding chefs – all we needed was a fridge to set the mousse in!

We ended 1992 by a fabulous Christmas meal organised by Clare and myself – honestly I'm not biased. A three course Christmas meal was eaten by 18 hungry people and, as a thank you from our Unit for helping us in 1992 we asked Mick and Sue Saunders (Scout and Cub leaders) to join us in our merriment. This proved to be a mistake when

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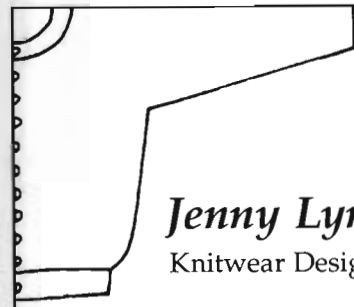

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Mick pulled out his 'camcorder' during the after dinner Karaoke with Ken's fabulous Karaoke machine!

We are a lively bunch of males and females aged from 15 to 20 who enjoy both indoor and outdoor activities. We go on a camp at least once a year. In 1993 we hope to go to Wales for a long weekend. If you enjoy the outdoors, venture scouting is for you, however while entertaining activities go on there is also the opportunity to work towards your Venture Scout Award and then the Queen's Scout Award.

We meet at Bugbrooke Scout hut every Monday from 7.45 pm till 9.30 pm. So come and join us for a more exciting year than the last one . . .
Kathryn Cockrill

Bugbrooke Girl Guides

As you would expect Christmas pretty well dominated our December meetings. We made decorations for what used to be Bugbrooke ward at the Princess Marina hospital, which were very well received by the staff and patients. We made Christmas cards from tangram shapes and feasted on hot dogs and ice cream (not together) at our Christmas party.

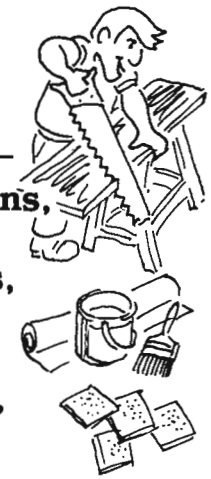
The highlight of the term was our, now annual, trip to McQueen House, Twywell, for a weekend of Christmas crafts and cooking. Fir cone Father Christmas', material wreaths, and plastic canvas stars were made plus "shrink it" earrings and brooches. Culinary skills were put to the test with the making of biscuits, sweets and pizzas and on the Saturday evening we donned smart clothes and dined in style on turkey and accompaniments. The inclement weather meant the night hike became a late morning stroll, though the mud and the 'steps' were just as challenging. *Rachel* 831697 *Helen* 9 40404

Bugbrooke St Michael's Music Society

A number of members took part in carol singing round the village in conjunction with the church choir and succeeded in raising a respectable sum for the Helen House Hospice. These strenuous efforts were followed (much to everyone's relief) by supper and drinks at Nigel and Val Burt's house.

The next event in the calendar is the Young Peoples Music Workshop on Saturday March 13th in the Sunday School. This will be organised by Miriam Shipman of 1 Waggoners Way, Tel. 831999 and all interested children of 7 or over should contact her there as soon as possible.
Bruce Piper Chairman

R.L.GARLICK
Carpenter



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Bugbrooke Cricket Club

Work continues on the ground and club house but more volunteers are needed.

The 1993 fixture list is now almost complete, and there are many attractive matches to look forward to. The A.G.M. will be held at the end of February, and several important positions will need to be filled, particularly that of Treasurer. Social events are still being arranged for the Spring and Summer. More details later. New members are always welcome – players and social.

Bugbrooke Playing Fields Association

The new year has seen our fair share of frost, rain, and wind, but at the Playing Fields these elements seem to be thrown at us rather harder than the rest of the village. The rain has lashed down as we have battened down and so far we haven't lost anything. However the frost did beat us on one occasion causing a leak in the beer store, but don't worry all the bottles and barrels did their job – keeping beer in and water out!

We have struggled with playing surfaces this year – particularly hockey, which despite our successful efforts to cut the pitch has thwarted us with either frost or waterlogging. On the bright side, no teams should have problems bringing on their 'subs'. (sorry!)

The committee have been pleased to see an increase in the use of the social facilities by village organisations and individuals. For example it seems to be quite popular for children's parties and we were delighted to help out the Primary School with one of their fund raising events towards new equipment. Any village organisation, seeking a venue for jumble sales, social evenings etc, are sure of a response which reflects our desire to see all the clubs and associations in Bugbrooke flourishing for the benefit of all. *B.M. Curtis,* Chairman. 832244

St Michael's 74 Cricket Club

Our indoor net practice is now up and running each Sunday at Duston Upper School from 2–3.30 pm. So from now until Easter why not come along and get fit for the coming season.

In early April, when it's possible to get outdoors to play, we shall be looking towards the youth of the village. Anybody from the age of 9 up to 16 will be welcomed along to take part in all forms of cricket practice. So if you are interested why not drop me a line with your name, age,

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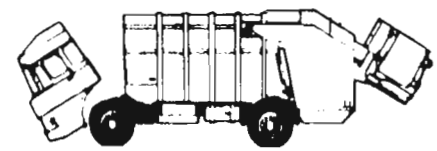

plant, H.G.V.'s
light vans, cars

Mark Collins
47 Smitherway
Bugbrooke
NN7 3PT
Tel: 831495

address and telephone number. I will be in touch nearer the time, but this is just to get some idea of numbers.

This Season will be a heavy year for fundraising in the club. Our plans for our 20th year celebrations in 1994, include a brand new permanent all weather playing surface. This is somewhere in the region of £3,500–£4,000 (this is where I start the grovelling).

If there are any companies or kind individuals that would like to start the fundraising ball rolling, with sponsorship or donations of any kind the club will be very grateful. Any interested parties please contact me.

John Chapman 50, Kerrfield Estate Duston Northampton NN5 6JY Tel: 584565

Bugbrooke R.U.F.C.

The weather and cancellation of games because of hard frostbound surfaces put an end to what for Bugbrooke was proving a most successful year. The final result was that the Club played no games for a full month, and for the first time in most peoples' memory the traditional Boxing Day game against the Presidents XV was a victim.

The first games in 1993 were played on January 9th and the 1st, 2nd & 3rd XV and the Colts all lost – a Black Saturday where lack of match play and training was all too evident.

By the time this short report is read let us hope that the players can regain the momentum and continue their quest for promotion.

The next Rugby Club Social event will be a Valentine's Disco on Saturday 13th February at the Playing Fields – 8 pm–midnight – only £2.50.

Bugbrooke St Michael's Football Club

All teams are trying to contend with the wettest winter for 30 years. A number of matches have been cancelled but the efforts of Stuart Wykes and Eddie Barr have enabled most matches to be played whenever there has been a break in the downpours.

All teams are holding their own in their respective leagues, with the Reserves making a gallant effort to retain the Northants Lower Junior Cup they won last year. They have now reached the last 8 and need to win 2 more rounds to repeat their success.

In March, once a suitable evening can be decided on, it is hoped that a Bingo session will be held each week. This will be aimed mostly towards older residents in the village and good support will ensure that it becomes a feature of village life. The club is also running a series of Sports Quizzes which will culminate in a grand final in December, 1993.

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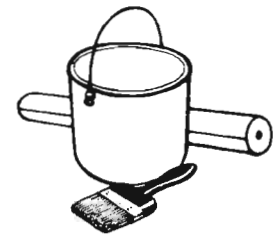

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Any teams of 4 who want to enter should refer to the Link Diary for dates and contact the Football Club to book in.

Supporters are always welcome to our adult matches on Saturdays and youth games on Sundays. It is possible to get teas at half time and full time. Older supporters can enjoy the game from inside the clubhouse so come along and see how the present young players are doing.

6.1.93 Oil Slick by J.W. Bowen

The ship which was required to keep its charge
Now founders on the rocks
And from its belly now comes forth
A black and sticky hand
Long cruel fingers now reach out
For shore and seaward land
And all that lives within its path
Will now partake its oily bath
Otters, seals, sea birds of all kinds
Will play no more in Shetlands Tidal Winds

Up the Clumps by J.W. Bowen

A clump of trees upon a hill
Known as The Clumps, known as it still
The laughter of children can be heard up there
Playing for hours without a care
Swinging from the boughs of an old oak
Hanging on a tyre at the end of a rope
Swinging out into the sky
No time for smiles or waves goodbye
Then in the winters evening chill
Watch them sledging down the hill
Into the distance and far away
Like sun set at the end of a day

Family Announcements

EDDISON – Happy birthday Daddy on 18th February. Love from Simon.

FRENCH – Happy 5th birthday Peter. From Lucy, Simon and all your friends.

CORNICK – Lucy, have a very happy 5th birthday. Lots of love from Auntie Rowena & Uncle Ian.

CURTIS – Happy 11th birthday on March 6th Becky. Have a super day. Love from all the family xxx

PELL – Felicity and Jessica. A very happy birthday to you both on March 21st. Hope you have a lovely day. Love from all the family. xxx

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CONGRATULATIONS – Elaine Coles, Tracey Curtis and Tim Curtis for winning the colouring competition and Andrea Jackman and Paul Akehurst for their cover designs on the Christmas Link.

The Village Diary

February			
1	3.45pm	Junior Computer Club starts	P.S.
1	7.30pm	WI – Kelly from John Richardson Hairdressing	S.S.
3	2.15pm	Darby & Joan Meeting	S.S.
10	8.00pm	PCC	S.S.
11	2.30pm	MU Meeting 'Prayer'	S.S.
12	8–11.30pm	St Michael's Football Club Youth Valentine's Disco	F.C.
13	2.00pm	MU Jumble Sale	S.S.
13	8–midnight	Bugbrooke R.U.F.C. Valentine's Disco	Playing Fields
13	8–midnight	St Michael's Football Club Adult Valentine's Disco	F.C.
15	7.30pm	R. Brit. Legion (Wms) Meeting	S.S.
17	2.15pm	Darby & Joan Meeting	S.S.
22	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	V.H.
22	8.00pm	Flower Society Meeting	S.S.
23	7.30pm	Shrove Tuesday Social	S.S.
24	8.00pm	Ash Wednesday Communion	Church
27	1–5pm	BPSA Craft Fair	P.S.
28	11am–5pm	Daisy Chain Craft Fair (821015)	C.S.
March			
2	7.30pm	Northants Theological Society	
3	2.15pm	Darby & Joan Meeting	S.S.
10	6.15pm	Darby & Joan Fish & Chip Supper	S.S.
11	2.30pm	MU Meeting "I Believe and Trust"	S.S.
13	2.45pm	Young Peoples Music Workshop	S.S.
15	7.30pm	R. Brit. Legion (Wms) Group Meeting	S.S.
17	2.15pm	Darby & Joan Meeting	S.S.
20	10.30am–4.30pm	Community Craft Fair	C.S.
21	10.30am–4.30pm	Community Craft Fair	C.S.
21	10.00am	Mothering Sunday Communion	Church
22	8.00pm	Flower Society Meeting	S.S.
24	8.00pm	MU Talk on New Zealand	S.S.
25	9.30am–3.30pm	MU Quiet Day	Weedon
25	7.30pm	Lady Day Communion	Church
26	8–11.30pm	St Michael's Football Club Sports Quiz (Round 2)	F.C.
29	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	V.H.
31	2.15pm	Darby & Joan Meeting	S.S.
April			
3	8–Midnight	St Michael's Football Club 60's Disco	F.C.
4	10.00am	Palm Procession and Communion	Church
8	8.00pm	Maundy Thursday Service	Church

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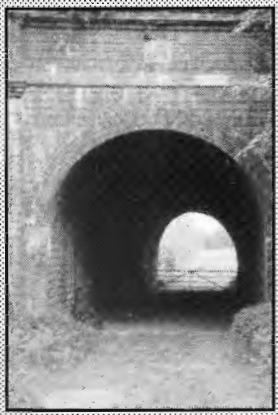
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