February 1994

LINK Bugbrooke

Village Magazine delivered FREE to every household in Bugbrooke

The Bugbrooke "LINK" Committee

Published bi-monthly. Circulated free to every household within the Parish boundary of Bugbrooke. The "LINK" Management Committe is elected in accordance with the Constitution and Rules at the A.G.M. in May annually, Its composition as at 7th May 1992 was as follows:

Chairman	John Unwin, 21 High Street, Bugbrooke
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	Carole Furniss, 60 Johns Road, Bugbrooke
	Sheila Willmore, 31 Oaklands, Bugbrooke
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Bugbrooke Link Magazine

(Issue No. 64), February 1994

Editor: John Sexton

Happy New Year

"Link" wishes all its readers and advertisers a successful and prosperous 1994.

Scandalous

Your Editor finds it quite impossible to comprehend why vandals, thieves, rogues or any combination of these three could have the audacity, thoughtlessness, effrontery and wickedness to steal the floodlights and fittings which for well over a year now has made a glorious spectacle of our village church at night. The sudden plunge into darkness was akin to the blackout during the Second World War. But this mean act hits right at the heart of the village for it is the villagers and organisations within the village who meet the cost of the floodlighting. These thieves should know that no stone will be left unturned by Bugbrooke residents to discover who perpetrated this crime and to bring them to justice and treat them with the contempt they deserve.

Disinterest

It is now seven days after the deadline date for our first issue of 1994. Not one report has been received from any of the sports organisations in the Village. Not one report has been received from any of the Youth Organisations. Is there no Sport in Bugbrooke in 1994? Have all youth organisations been disbanded? For the December issue we listened to special pleas for the insertion of an article received ten days after the deadline and did print it – regretfully – at the expense of others. For this issue – not a word!

Closing date for the April issue is Monday 7th March, 1994.

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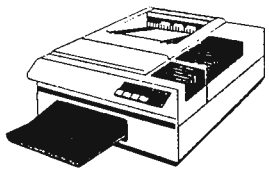

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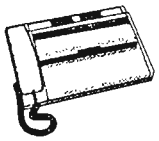

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If the Village wants a magazine it must support it, it must by and large supply the information for insertion – and regularly – and on time.

It could soon be too late for those generously thinking residents who talk of a "small dedicated band" who keep the LINK going. If keeping it going becomes a chore, it will also become a bore and we all have other things we could do.

Parish Council – November and December 1993

The County Council's Highways Area Manager may be persuaded to meet the cost of providing new village signs (perhaps with the rather optimistic request "please drive carefully") and replacement Notice Boards. These Notice Boards contain not only details of Parish Council meetings but also interesting items like changes in refuse collection arrangements (how many were caught out again over the Christmas holidays?!) and revised bus timetables. All parishioners should glance occasionally at these Boards. Whilst on the topic of Notice Boards, could I put in a plea to anyone using the Boards to advertise local events – please do not use the space reserved for Parish Council notices, do not staple notices to the Boards and don't forget to remove them after the event has taken place. Otherwise such notices are welcomed.

The Police are attempting another crime prevention evening in the village despite the poor turnout at the last event held in November. In order to ensure that everyone is aware of this meeting each house should receive a leaflet giving details of the date, time and place. They may even use the Notice Boards!

South Northamptonshire Council have re-surfaced the footpath between Chipsey Avenue and Kislingbury Road and so it is now possible to walk down this path without risk to life and limb. They also propose to close the unofficial path between the garages at Butts Hill Crescent at the rear of Smitherway. Although this may cause some slight inconvenience to some residents at the school end of Smitherway, the closure of this path should significantly reduce the scope for vandalism and various other nefarious activities. On

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balance, therefore, the Parish Council welcomed this proposal. Discussions are continuing as to where to re-locate the existing street light. The most likely location seems to be towards the school gate although a planned site inspection might produce a more favourable spot.

The Bus Company recently have seemed determined to confuse us. First, having had numerous unsightly poles removed from the High Street as the street lighting cables went underground, the Bus Company seem eager to erect a pole to replace the "lost" bus stop sign. The Parish Council are hoping that a more aesthetic means of supporting a sign can be found. Second, their changes to the bus timetables include the phrase – the Harpole to Northampton bus will now go from Flore – surely this makes it the Flore to Northampton bus?!

An officer of South Northamptonshire Council attended the meeting in December and informed the Parish Council that local byelaws for the control of dogs should be introduced by September 1994. Members were a little confused as laws regarding such controls already exist. However, as there is only one Dog Warden patrolling the whole of the South Northamptonshire Council area, the effectiveness of local or national laws will depend, as ever, on the good sense and social conscience of dog owners who must all be aware that it is illegal and anti-social to allow dogs to roam loose and to foul footways.

The affordable housing survey produced a response of 115 forms returned and these are now being assessed by the Rural Housing Association. The Parish Council were not particularly happy with the design of the form. A small committee comprising John Curtis, Canon Tim Partridge, Mrs Kathleen Riggall and myself spent many hours re-designing and testing a more suitable form as we believed that the one produced by South Northamptonshire Council could be misleading. Unfortunately, South Northamptonshire Council did not accept our form on the grounds that the Housing Association were practised in assessing only theirs. The results of this survey are still awaited.

It was slightly irritating to read in the local newspaper how efficient the Highway Authority had been in putting into place

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the new gritting arrangements just before the first severe weather of the winter. In reality they had written to parish council clerks only two days before the bad weather telling them that the necessary rock salt would be less freely available than in the past. Bearing in mind that most parish councils meet monthly and that the law requires that at least three clear days notice is given of a meeting, the truth is that villages throughout the County were caught out by the weather and some essential local routes were left in a treacherous and almost impassable condition for two to three days. Ever optimistic, however, the Parish Council have asked for existing grit bins to be replenished and even for an additional grit bin, as well as for an extension to the existing gritting route to cover the "spine roads" of John's Road, Oaklands, Meadway and Pilgrims Lane to the junction of Camp Hill. Such requests are worth making but often represent the triumph of hope over experience.

David Harries

How should we pay for our water?

In days of yore water was a national asset and we paid for it by reference to the rateable value of our property. We still do so after privatisation but this must end by the end of the century. It is arguable whether privatisation has benefited the consumer (though it is not arguable whether it has benefited the bosses), but do you realise how your bills have increased year by year since the Tories won the 1979 General Election?

If the rateable value of your house is £326 (an arbitrary figure chosen because in 1980–81 your water bill would have been £100) the remorseless rise would have been to the nearest £1, as follows:-

1980–81: £100	1987–88: £176
1981–82: £111	1988–89: £189
1982–83: £122	1989–90: £212
1983–84: £127	1990–91: £242
1984–85: £135	1991–92: £283
1985–86: £152	1992–93: £314
1986–87: £167	1993–94: £343

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Anglian Water are forecasting that by the year 2000 their charge for such a house will have gone up from £343 to at least £583.

All the various water authorities are considering what to do about charging when they can no longer use the defunct rateable value, and so far Anglian is the only one to have made up its mind to introduce universal metering; whereas three (Northumbrian, North West and Welsh) have decided against metering.

Over the last three years there has been a monitoring of metering over 60,000 houses spread over twelve areas, most of them (50,000) in the Isle of Wight, where consumption fell by 21%, but only by 11% in the other areas.

Who will benefit from metering? Certainly a small family in a large house, but certainly not a large family in a small house. Just like the unlamented Poll Tax.

It has been estimated that actual consumption only accounts for 10% of the system's running costs, and that up to a third of the water pumped through the supply pipes is lost through leakage. So would it not be better to concentrate on leak detection and repair rather than dig up every village path to install meters which will have to be read on a regular basis? Except for makers of meters of course! There are many families in the Isle of Wight who claim that metering has doubled their bills! We are not surprised. We shall see the same thing happening in the Anglian area if their universal metering idea is actually implemented. As rateable value is out of bouns, why not substitute the current A–H Council Tax charging bands?

The Director General of Water Services is the head of an independent Office of Water Services (OFWAT) set up by the Government to protect the consumer's interests. The local office is at Carlyle House, Carlyle Road, Cambridge CB4 ODU. OFWAT has invited your views on future water bills, so write and have a say in how you pay.

Courtesy of the Raven, Autumn 1993

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Nature Notes by Bill Lantsbery

Starting to write these notes on 6th January, I have never looked out on a more depressing morning. There is a thin covering of snow over everything, the ground is sodden and the sky is very grey. Yesterday morning there had been so much rain that I had a stream running across the top of the garden. December was supposed to be one of the wettest months since goodness knows when. Many people were dreadfully flooded. Roll on Spring.

Having started with a major grumble let me find one ray of sunshine. In the garden little green leaves are peeping through the snow. The daffodils are making a start! Another pleasant sight in these grey days are the two bushes that are on flower – the Jasmin and the Viburnum.

Continuing these notes on 7th January we had some very elegant birds pecking about in the garden at breakfast time. Two cock and five hen pheasants. They are pretty, I wonder why we like to eat them?

On the Monday which was called Boxing Day, it was very frosty and we had several lovely birds in the garden. I saw something which was like a rather big thrush so I fetched the binoculars and had a closer look. There were three Redwings pecking about in the fallen leaves. The splash of colour under each wing is really pretty. I have never seen them again since Boxing Day! We don't have many thrushes in the garden now but I was pleased to see one that day. The bird table is a popular spot in these cold conditions. The Tits are giving the nuts what for! I thought I saw a small Tit with a completely black head. I wondered whether it was a Willow Tit? Chatting to Dean Manning one day, while he was working on the stone house opposite the Post Office, he said he had seen a Tawny Owl somewhere near Fawsley. That is good news, I would love to hear an owl towhit-towho again!

I have decided that I will never say there is nothing on the television that is worth watching! The series 'Life in the Freezer' which has just finished was some of the best photography I have ever seen. The female Emperor Penguin handing

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the egg over to the male to look after was wonderful. The pictures of the krill being eaten, the penguins shuffling off for hundreds of miles and then a photograph of 600,000 of them huddling together to try and keep warm. Yes, this series was a winner. Now as I stop cracking these wonderful pictures up, I find that last night the Attenborough squad started a new series and the first one was about the orang-utan – and very good it was too.

I have seen two very good articles in the papers during the week. One was about Holland. In that country all hunting is banned, so is all lead shot! This means that foxes can increase and some birds like lapwings and curlews and many ground nesting birds have all been eaten.

The other article was only this morning, 8th January. It was asking 'Why are there so few thrushes?' It put that down to most of us putting down too many slug pellets! Why do we not hear the skylark now? It is thought modern farming methods were taking away the food for many birds. Stubble ploughed up and another crop planted so quickly might take food for the birds away.

St Michael & All Angels Church News

Christingle Service

This was a great occasion, extra chairs were needed as about 220 people joined in our Christingle Communion. Guides, Brownies, Rainbows and Beavers were there together with the Sunday School. When Christingles had been given out to all the youngsters, they were lit, the lights switched off and we sang 'Jesus bids us shine' by candlelight.

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. On Christmas Day at 10 am Carol Communion extra chairs were needed for the second time in a week. The church was also full for the Candlelit Carol Service on Dec. 26th, and a wonderful atmosphere was created

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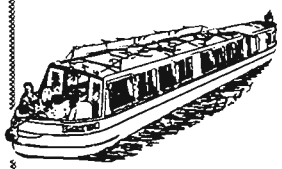

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by the flickering candles and the joyful carols. Our collections at Christmas were for the Children's Society, together with nearly £140 from the Handbell Ringing we sent £555 to this worthy cause. Our Carol Singing round the village raised £85 which we gave to Helen House, the children's hospice in Oxford.

Church Annual Meeting

This will take place on Sunday, March 6th after our Parish Communion. It is a chance to hear and reflect on Church life in 1993, and to look forward to 1994 when our Church life is focussing on 'Reaching Out' to the community.

Prize Winners

The Family Morning for Mums and Tots on Thursday mornings in the Sunday School has won a prize in the Arthur Rank Rural Church Community Care Scheme Competition. There were two prizes awarded in Northamptonshire for Church sponsored schemes which helped the community, half the money will be given to Helen House and half to the Family Morning funds. Congratulations to all those who help at the Family Morning.

Lent – a time of preparation for Easter

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, 16th February this year, when we shall have an Ash Wednesday Communion Service at 7.30 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 10 am. Then there will be the usual services

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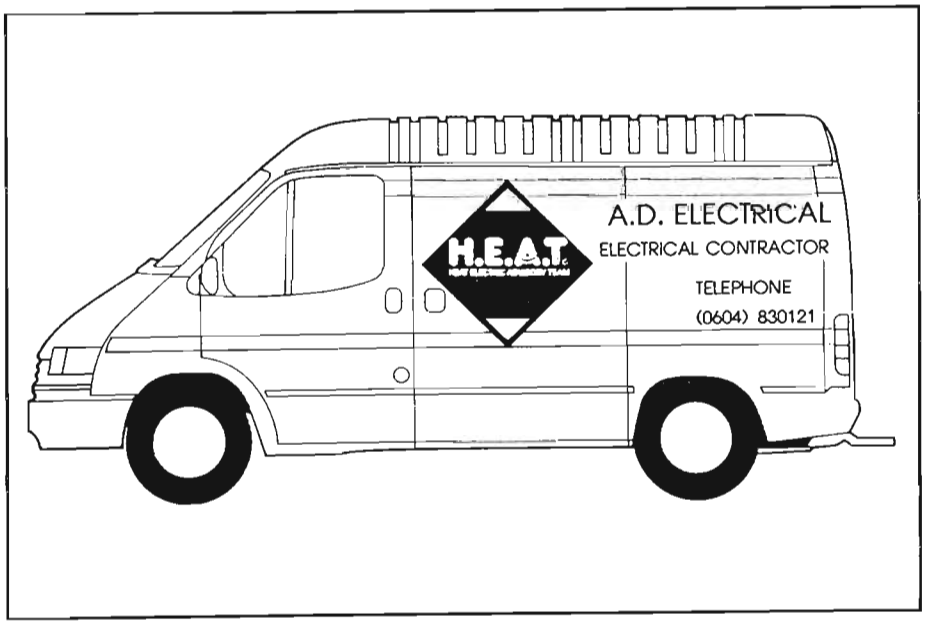

during Holy Week and on Good Friday, culminating in the celebration of Easter – the greatest festival of all. There will be further details on the Church newsletter nearer the time.
Tim Partridge 830373

Darby and Joan Club

After the hustle and bustle of Christmas & New Year we now look forward to the spring, especially after such a very wet and depressing period early in the year.

Firstly thank you one and all for your support at our Bazaar back in November and special thanks to everyone who donated, so generously, prizes for our Raffle.

A week before Christmas we visited our members in homes and hospitals around the county. All were so pleased to see us and thankful for the blankets we were able to give them. We also delivered about a dozen blankets to Danetree Hospital, as we try to do each year. Thanks to all our members and friends who spend so much time through the year knitting these, they really are much appreciated by the staff for their patients. If you have any odd balls that are not needed, we at the club would be most grateful for them to start on this years blankets.

At the end of December our member Mrs Bird died. Mrs Bird thoroughly enjoyed our meetings and social functions, she will be greatly missed. Our thoughts and condolences to her family.

Our Spring Jumble is on 16th April. Any jumble please contact any committee or club member – thank you. Please no large items as we are not able to cope with them.
S.J. Munday – (Tel 830725)

"Guess the Pandas' Names"

Once again a big thank you to all who took part in "Guess the Pandas' Names" competition. £400 was raised, this was donated to the Darby and Joan Club. Lucky winner was Mr A. Ward, 17 Meadway. The Pandas' names were GEE-GEE and ME-ME. I would also like to say a big thank you to all my

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friends who gave me all their unwanted items to sell which enabled me to donate a further £600 during the month of December to the Darby and Joan Club.

Bugbrooke people are very generous.

A happy, healthy and peaceful New Year to all.

Lily Maguire

Bugbrooke O.A.P. Christmas Gift Scheme

Over 200 Christmas cards and vouchers were distributed by the Committee in the first week of December to all applicants; baskets of flowers were taken to those pensioners who are now resident in nursing homes within the county.

May we offer our sincere thanks to those organisations and businesses who have contributed to our funds over the year and also to those people who have helped us in so many different ways.

Bruce Piper – Chairman

and thanks from recipients . . .

Once again this year's "LINK" has received many requests that it should record, on behalf of those benefitting from the Gift Scheme, a very sincere vote of thanks not only to the organisers but also to those who year after year give so generously.

No further evidence is required of that "Caring Society" which personifies Bugbrooke in this last decade of the century.

Royal British Legion – Mens Section

This year is the 80th anniversary of the start of the Great War in August 1914. At the end of that war, the survivors were told that they had fought the war to end all wars. To ensure a lasting peace, there was the League of Nations. On the strength of this, our government disarmed us to the level where it took us a couple of years of struggle in the 1940s whilst we re-armed in the Second World War. Our casualty rate was almost as terrible as that of the trench warfare of twenty years before.

Since the end of the Second World War, our government has committed our Armed Forces to maintain or regain peace in Palestine, Cyprus, Kenya, Malaya, Korea, Northern Ireland, the Falklands and now Bosnia. Much of this fighting has been done on behalf of the United Nations which had replaced the old League of Nations. Among our Branch members, we have some who can tell harrowing tales of their experiences in these 'brush-fire' wars.

With the dismantling of the walls dividing Germany and Berlin, there has again been a euphoric race to reduce our Armed Forces along with the cancellation of orders for much needed modern equipment. We sent our troops to France in 1939 (and later to Arnhem in 1944) with useless radio sets. We sent our troops to the Falklands with inadequate footwear and poorly armoured warships. Now our troops are struggling to keep warm in their inadequate clothing in Bosnia.

Cutting back on the Nation's defences is a false economy tantamount to ending the payments for the household insurance. We now see what had been feared showing its ugly face in Russia with a resurgence of the old regime. The intransigence of the United Nations has done nothing to end the fighting in Bosnia with the threat of another flare up in Macedonia in the offing. It is to be hoped that we will not be involved in another Boer war.

We cannot reduce our Armed Forces and at the same time expect them to undertake commitments all over the globe. We can only hope that the various warring factions will come to their senses and that our troops can be withdrawn. Let us all hope and pray for a Happy and Peaceful world in 1994.

Royal British Legion – Womens Section

Christmas will be long passed when these notes go to press but eleven ladies had a delightful evening at the Five Bells instead of the usual Christmas dinner at the Sunday School, and we hope to have had a good turnout for Anthony Kemp in January for his slides on "Finland".

Our Secretary Mrs Silvia Abrahams and husband Reg (Taff) celebrate their Golden Wedding in February and we wish them both much happiness in the future.
Enid Pell – Hon Chairman

Women's Institute

For several years, Bugbrooke WI has had enthusiastic Darts, Skittles and Bowls teams, and last year we extended our 'out-of-hours' activities to a Craft Circle.

The Circle meets normally every 2 months, but towards the end of last year, meetings were much more frequent as the climax of our first project was reached. We entered a county-wide competition to produce a sampler to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Northants Federation of WIs.

Three members of the Circle actually worked the stitches: Sally Maltby, Val Burt and Carol Hammons, with essential support on design and colour coming from Brenda Inch, Jean Marshall and the late Jackie Sherwin. The final sample was a tribute to the many hours of teamwork which went into it, and although we were not placed in the competition, the sampler has given our new venture a firm foundation.

Members of the Craft Circle also contributed to the beautiful Handiwork Stall at our Autumn Bazaar, which was a great success in swelling our funds, and which will hopefully be repeated next year.

Our forward programme features Cliff Billing talking about his 30 years with the Amateur Operatic Society on Monday 7th February, and Mrs Pass on glazing onto Plates on Monday 7th March. Visitors are welcome.

Mothers Union

Our year ended with a traditional candle lit Advent Carol service and readings attended by 40 members, enjoying tea and mince pies afterwards.

We hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas and we take this opportunity to wish you all a peaceful and Happy New Year.

We begin our new year with a service followed by tea at the Rectory on 13th January at 2.30 pm. Everyone is welcome. Come and see what the Mothers Union can offer. We have a varied programme this year with something for everyone, social evenings as well as talks covering different situations in family life and more socially conscious subjects.
Sue Nightingale

Betty's Pantry

South Sea Island Pork (serves 4)

1lb Shoulder Pork
½ lb Collar Bacon
½ oz Seasoned Flour
½ oz Lard
1 tbs Oil
Rind of 1 Orange cut in thin strips
Juice of 1 orange
½ pint Stock
4 ozs Frozen Peas
¼ pint Double Cream
1 oz Blanched Almonds shredded
Chopped parsley

Cut meat in cubes, toss in flour. Heat lard & oil, fry meat until sealed. Place in casserole with rind, juice & stock. Cover & cook for 1 hour (Gas Mark 4). Check seasoning. Add peas & cook for further ½ hour. Add cream & almonds. Return to oven for 5 minutes to heat through.

Serve and sprinkle with parsley.

This dish can be cooked up to the addition of peas, fridge overnight, then cook as from addition of peas.

Vegetables cooked in homely manner

2 lb Potatoes peeled
4 ozs Cheddar cheese
1 onion peeled
2 tbs oil + 2 tbs oil
Salt & freshly ground Pepper
3 Leeks washed & finely chopped
1 lb Carrots diced
1 small cauliflower in florets
½ lb Mushrooms sliced
2 tsp Fresh Parsley or Rosemary

For the topping
4 ozs Cheese
1 tbs fresh Parsley finely chopped

Pre-heat oven to Gas Mark 4.

Grate the raw potatoes, cheese & ½ onion by hand or processor. Mix in 2 tbs of oil & season well. Press this mixture into a 9 inch pie-dish, building up sides to form a shell.

Bake in oven for 45 minutes until the crust is just beginning to brown.

Meanwhile prepare vegetables. Heat 2 tbs of oil, fry remaining chopped onion, leeks, carrots & cauliflower florets slowly for 5–10 minutes turning over in pan. Then add mushrooms & continue cooking all vegetables for another 5 minutes with pan covered. Add herbs, salt & freshly ground black pepper. Next pile all vegetables into crust & sprinkle 4 ozs cheese mixed with 1 tbs chopped parsley over the top. Bake for 20 minutes until the edges of the shell look crisp and cheese has melted. Serve hot.
Can be adapted to vegetables in season.

In Focus

Profile of Mrs Radburne Adams

Where were you born? Kislingbury.

Where were you educated? Firstly at Miss Butchers, Northampton, then I went to Abbotsford, Broadstairs.

What is your favourite part of Great Britain? It would have to be Northamptonshire.

If you could take 3 books and 3 pieces of music to a desert island what would they be?

Books I do not read a lot but I would certainly take my Bible and a selection of magazines.

Music I like listening to music in general, providing it is not too heavy. Difficult to choose individual pieces.

Whom do you admire the most and why? Winston Churchill for his leadership during the war years and the Queen who appears to be coming to terms with her changing role.

What is your greatest fear? I was brought up not have the thought of fear.

What is your favourite food and drink? I like most foods but not in large amounts – a glass of sherry.

What talent would you have liked most of all? To have been a good piano player.

What do you do for leisure? Mostly walking my dog.

Do you have any embarrassing moments? None that I can recall although I am sure there must have some during my life.

Do you have any pet dislikes? Yes – unpleasant smells.

Where did you meet Mr Adams? I first saw him when I was being taken to school by my father, he used to cycle past on his way to Moulton – we met later at various parties and that is how it all began.

What do you like/dislike about Bugbrooke?

Like The friendliness of the villagers.

Dislike No particular dislikes.

How would you like to be remembered? As a friendly person.

If you could live in any part of the world where would it be? It would have to be England.

Do you have any advice for young people starting out? To achieve your aims you need to work at it and don't throw away what you already have.

Where were you married? Kislingbury Church.

Who would you like to have been, given the opportunity? I have been very satisfied with my life as it has been.

If you could have your life over again – what would you change? Maybe a few small changes – Nothing significant.

Do you have any regrets? Yes, that I had paid more attention during my schooldays.

If you had not been a farmer's wife – what would you have liked to have been? That thought had never crossed my mind.

What do you do last thing before going to bed? See to my animals, lock up, say my prayers and look forward to the coming day.

My thanks to Mrs Radburne Adams for giving me the time to ask these questions.

Don Prime

Bugbrooke Twinning Association

Wine Tasting – Saturday 19th March

Broadcaster and wine writer Philippe Boucheron will run a wine tasting in conjunction with Bugbrooke Twinning Association. This event will take place at Campion School on Saturday 19th March and will start at 8.00 pm.

The evening will focus on the wines from the area between the Loire and Poitiers (this is the area just to the north of Iteuil) and will start with a brief talk about the region, its soil, climate and other special features as a wine producing area. For those who are new to wine tasting, Philippe Boucheron will give a few practical tips on how to taste wine before starting the wine tasting session. Notes on the wines and a "tasting sheet" for each person will also be provided.

Philippe Boucheron is a former secretary of the Circle of Wine Writers. He has written for *Decanter* and *International Wine and Spirit*. His articles appear regularly in *France* magazine, *Healthy Eating* and *Wine and Dine*, as well as various regional magazines throughout the Midlands. For a number of years now he has been leading groups from the *Sunday Times* Wine Club, Diners Club and others on visits to Champagne, Bordeaux and Burgundy.

This is a unique opportunity to come to a wine tasting given by an acknowledged expert on wines. Tickets cost £5.00 each and can be obtained from Peter Parry (830267), Tim Partridge (830373) or Diana Cockrill (830129).

This event is to be publicised throughout Northamptonshire, so buy tickets now to avoid disappointment.

In Brief

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Can anybody help?
Did you take the video of Harry Gilkes' funeral on July 5th. If so would you please contact either Pauline Gilkes (Tel: 9830105) or Vicky Groves (Tel: 9830790), also if anyone in the village has, tucked away, any photographs of Harry and Pauline's Wedding Day in 1942, could they please get in touch.

Bugbrooke Primary School Association

Thank you to all who supported our Christmas Bazaar. The total money raised from this event was approximately £500.

We have some more fund raising events coming up soon. There is a Barn Dance on Friday 25th February. Tickets are on sale now at the school at £6.00 each. This includes a supper and there is a licensed bar as well. Come along and kick your heels up!

We are hoping to hold an auction on Saturday 23rd April. More details to follow. There will also be a Fashion Show on Tuesday 21st June.

For further information on any of these events, please contact *Teresa Garlick, 832433.*

An Indian Experience

An experience certainly sums up our recent tour of Northern India. We found a land of sharp contrasts and enormous diversity and learnt very quickly not to attach Western values to everything we observed.

We arrived at New Delhi just after midnight. Two hours later, we emerged through immigration and customs to find ourselves in the midst of potential guides and taxi drivers eager to be of service. We eventually found 'our man', who told us to stay put whilst he organised the taxi. Outside the airport was the first real assault on the senses. People were squatting beside stoves cooking spicy concoctions, some were sleeping peacefully among all the noise and activity. Taxis and auto-rickshaws were vying for position at the entrance of the

airport. Our taxi appeared, one of the many Morris Oxfords that seem to be in proliferation there. On the journey to the hotel, the car fired constantly on only three cylinders (we found later, most of them did) but it did not seem to worry the driver unduly.

We arrived at the hotel, a shining white edifice towering above a mixture of office buildings and shanties. We were greeted by two impressive guards, resplendent in their white uniforms and huge scarlet turbans. We were guided into the vestibule with its seven stored atrium with white marble pillars and cascading waterfall covering one wall. This was the other India of total opulence and luxury enjoyed by only a privileged few of the population.

The next day was to be our first real taste of India. We were to tour Old and New Delhi. We were driven by coach through the narrow streets of Old Delhi into the teeming activity of the Chandni Chowk. Our coach stopped for a moment beside a truck that was unloading live chickens. These were passed from the crates to someone who immediately beheaded them with a machete!

We eventually reached the magnificent Jama Masjid Mosque (the largest mosque in India), which presides grandly over Old Delhi. We had been warned that we would be approached by beggars and hawkers. Our guide said although it was entirely up to us whether we gave or not, they did not wish to encourage begging. He said it was not necessary, the government would take care of them if they so wished, but they did not choose to have their freedom curtailed. It was however, difficult to avert the eyes from such abject poverty and hideous deformities that were so apparent and concentrate on the splendour of the mosque.

We should have had a tour of the Red Fort later that day, but found it closed for security reasons, due to some religious restlessness which became noticeable by the large numbers of armed troops that were in the area. We did however, on return from our tour of Rajasthan, manage to see a 'Son et Lumiere' performance within the Red Fort. This depicted the history of Delhi from the Moghul era up to the Independence in 1947.

We then drove back to New Delhi. This was designed by Sir Edward Lutyens and is an impressive reminder of British Imperial rule, with its wide tree lined avenues, a stark contrast to the conglomeration of the bustling streets that is Old Delhi.

The next day we left for Samode, where we were to stay in what had been a Maharajah's palace. We drove along the main road out of Delhi behind camel carts and what looked like a whole school class on a bullock cart. People were bulging out of buses and perching on the luggage rack on the roof.

It was as though we had stepped back in time. The oxen were pulling the ploughs and women in brighly coloured saris were working in the fields, some walked gracefully by the side of the road, balancing baskets of produce on their heads and holding their veils across their faces with their teeth.

We eventually reached the palace, a haven of peace and tranquility, where we could walk undisturbed within its walled gardens and courtyards – until you stepped outside the palace gates of course! In the afternoon we 'enjoyed' a ride in a camel cart around the village adjoining the palace, where the dwelling accommodation was in stark contrast. Later that evening a banquet was prepared for us in the Great Hall. We were seated cross legged on cushions as the food was served to us in the traditional style. This became extremely uncomfortable after several minutes and we became acutely aware our western limbs were not accustomed to this position!

After Samode we stayed at Jaipur which was known as the pink city because it is built of pink sandstone. Our guide took us on a tour of the city by foot. Our 'crocodile' was observed with much interest; young boys would inquire of our nationality in French, German and English. We soon found out that the cows we saw walking nonchalantly down the main street have the right of way everywhere! We were told that every Hindu family was required by their religion to keep a cow. This understandably becomes quite difficult in the towns and cities as far as grazing is concerned, but because of their sacred status they are given food daily. Hindus believe they will gain a blessing from their gods for feeding them.

A few miles from Jaipur is the deserted city of Amber and

the Amber Fort, once the ancient capital of the Rajput Empire. We made the steep ascent to the fort by riding on an elephant. This was rather like being in a boat in a heavy swell. It was also rather precarious, with just a flimsy metal bar between us and a drop of several hundred feet on one side. We were carried through the Sun Gate to a pretty garden courtyard swarming with langur monkeys. Once in the fort we had a magnificent view of the classical Rajasthani landscape, parched hills, surrounding a lake where water buffalo were dozing in the sun and vultures sat in watchful anticipation in nearby trees.

On the way to Agra, we visited the deserted city of Fatehpur Sikri. This was constructed by Akbar in 1569. It is still in a remarkable state of preservation. Akbars Court occupied the city until it was abandoned after only 17 years, due to lack of water.

At almost every stop snake charmers would appear, take a basket from the canvas bag they carried, squat down and quickly try to charm the snake into action before the party moved on. We also saw the dancing bears. These were pathetic creatures with their teeth and claws removed who were cruelly jerked into performing by their gypsy owners.

At last we reached Agra and the Taj Mahal. One of the seven wonders of the world. However much you are prepared for its splendour, the first sight is still breathtaking. The shimmering white marble monument dominates the skyline. We stayed until sunset to watch the colour change from white to gold. Unfortunately we could not stay until dawn to watch it change to rose pink, as it was time to move on. Our tour was drawing to a close, we found it exhausting, exhilarating and delightful. This taste of India whetted our appetite for venturing further into the sub-continent; after a suitable period of recuperation of course!

Judith Piper

Family Announcements

Harrison – Amy
Happy 9th birthday on Feb. 14th. Lots of love from Grandma, Auntie Linda & John XX

Harrison – Amy
(Feb. 14th) Happy birthday. Lots of love from Auntie Claire, Carl and Jardine

Happy birthday to **Rebecca Curtis** 12 years old on March 6th, twins **Felicity** and **Jessica Pell** 8 years old on March 21st and to **Gavin** 18 years on March 15th. Lots of love from Nan and Pap Pell, Auntie Barbara, Ben, Bonnie, Sam and George

Sue Skinner – THE BIG 40! – Happy Birthday, love from Graham, Adam, Natalie and Luke.

A lady called **Sue Skinner**
Thought she was on to a winner
Now that she's reached 40
She said she'd be naughty
But she's now too old to be a sinner!!!

Happy birthday Sue from all at L & U.

Congratulations to Frank and **Doris Nightingale** on their Golden Wedding in February. Wishing you both good health and happiness always. Love Enid, Colin and family.

Francis – Maggie & **Dennis** would like to thank the many friends & relatives who sent cards on the occasion of their Golden Wedding. Many thanks to Angela, Dave & Bridget for the lovely party they gave us. Thanking everybody for their kindness also the lovely flowers.

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The Arts

Bugbrooke Amateur Dramatic Society

Our next production will be the Spring Play, this will take place at Campion School on Friday 22nd April 1994 and Saturday 23rd April 1994. New members are always welcome, so if you are 18 years plus and feel like treading the boards, or even helping back stage, front of house, painting the scenery, why not give Sheila a ring on 0604 830036. We meet every Wednesday and Friday evening in the village hall at 8.00 pm.

St Michael's Music Society

We would like to thank all those people who supported our carol singing around the village with the Junior Choir.

An invitation is issued to everyone to join us for our next open event.

In March there will be a variety of musical activities at a "Feast of Music Day". This will be in the Sunday School on March 12th and will last from 10.00 am to 10.00 pm. Admission will be £1.00 (£2.50 for the whole day if you wish to make several visits). The proceeds will go to the Church Centenary Appeal.

Do make a note of this date in your diaries. We look forward to seeing you.

Hazel Kitchener – Hon. Sec.

Sport

Community Sports Leader Award

If you are aged 16 or over and would like to learn basic sports leadership skills, how to organise and communicate with a variety of sporting groups, this course is for you. It will be held at Towcester Leisure Centre from 13–27 February 1994. Fee £15

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per person. If you are interested contact Neil McGivern, Sports Development Officer, South Northamptonshire Council, Springfields, Towcester, Northamptonshire. Tel: (0327) 350211 Ext 445

Bugbrooke Playing Fields Association

1994 promises to be a very important year for Bugbrooke, especially in terms of community facilities. The Community Hall and Bowls Green now have the backing of the Parish Council and the District Councils with the latter committed to £60,000 to £70,000 of works towards the Community Hall. We are awaiting the decisions from the County Council and Foundation for the Sports and Arts concerning our requests to them.

As an initial contribution, the South Northants Councils Technical Services department have drawn up some provisional plans which give a good idea of what accommodation could be constructed. Principally this involves a large hall, (16m x 12m) a small hall, (10m x 8m) a lounge (10m x 8m) and Changing Rooms. Whilst this may not be the final layout the plans can be seen at the Playing Fields and if you have any comments either as an individual or through an organisation we would be pleased to hear from you.

With these schemes starting to come together we are actively looking for individuals or companies who are prepared to offer time, materials or funds on a smaller scale. Their efforts will be recognised and rewarded in the new buildings and for firms putting in financial backing their contributions could be doubled by a government scheme called Sports Match which matches cash or materials pound for pound. Those giving labour can be equally effective in that the value of their tasks can be set against grants provided by others. In effect everyone in the community can help these schemes either individually or within organisations. We hope you will take the opportunity to support the village you are resident in. Contact me!

The Tote will be continuing into next year and we are looking to boost participation after April – the end of our financial year. With this in mind we would like to ask you to

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join the tote, to primarily support our efforts but also to give yourself the chance of winning good prizes during the year. The scheme currently brings in around £1400 each year which we spend on specific projects which otherwise wouldn't be funded. This year we are targetting playground items since it's an area which generates no income for itself but which can be very expensive in terms of equipment. Your donations, through the tote, would be most appreciated. A telephone call or a completed form (below) handed to a committee member or at the clubhouse will secure your numbers.
B.M. Curtis – BPFA

Name ..... Address .....

.....

.....

Tel No .....

I wish to subscribe to the BPFA Tote for the year April 94/95. Price £6 per year. Please contact me with further details.

Signed .....

Please return this form to a committee member or the Playing Fields

---

Quiz corner

Fill in the missing nationality (e.g. *Dutch* courage)

1)	.....	chequers	11)	.....	pastry
2)	.....	ink	12)	.....	mummy
3)	.....	delight	13)	.....	violet
4)	.....	windows	14)	.....	goulash

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5)	.....	measles	15)	.....	twins
6)	.....	lantern	16)	.....	carpet
7)	.....	stew	17)	.....	rum
8)	.....	mist	18)	.....	roll
9)	.....	omelette	19)	.....	rarebit
10)	.....	roulette	20)	.....	cross

Which letter precede these words (e.g. *A*–level)

1) ..... day
2) ..... fronts
3 ..... ray
4 ..... plate
5 ..... bomb
6 ..... string
7 ..... cloth
8 ..... bend
9 ..... junction
10 ..... turn

If A = 1, B = 2, C = 3, Z = 26, etc. What is the highest scoring 7 letter word you can make?

To put you out of your misery, here are the answers to the quizzes in the Christmas issue:

First line – of which songs?

1. Ticket to Ride
2. Yellow Submarine

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3. Eleanor Rigby
4. You've got to hide your Love Away
5. We can work it out
6. Day Tripper
7. Eight Days a week
8. Please Please Me
9. I Feel Fine
10. Strawberry Fields
11. Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds
12. I'll Follow the Sun
13. You won't See Me
14. Things we said Today
15. Here There & Everywhere
16. All my loving
17. In my life
18. Day in the life
19. Norwegian Wood
20. Taxman

A Christmas Music Quiz

1. J.S. Bach
2. Charles Wesley
3. A sleigh ride (Kern, Sleigh ride, Prokoviev Troika and L. Mozart Sleigh ride)
4. Figgy Pudding
5. France
6. Said the little lamb to *The Shepherd boy*
   Said the shepherd boy to *The Mighty King*
   (Do you hear what I hear)
7. These are the first lines of "I'm dreaming of a White Christmas"
8. Stand underneath!
9. That well-known person Anon
10. 140 (sops 26, altos 36, tenors 39, bass 39 – verified by Malcolm Tyler)

Brain of Bugbrooke Quiz

1. The first man set foot on the moon
2. The Times
3. Dads Army
4. Agatha Christie
5. Dunlop
6. 1961
7. The Great Fire of London 1666
8. The Metropolitan Police Force
9. Essex

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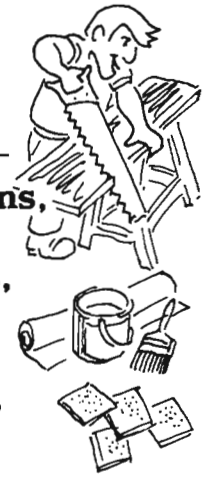
Carpenter



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10. "And so to bed"
11. Platinum
12. Everest
13. The Fleet
14. George Best
15. 1977
16. Henry Ford about his model T cars
17. Epsom
18. Ronald Reagan
19. Robert Redford
20. Ron. Greenwood
21. Jimmy Saville
22. 1970
23. Freddie Laker
24. Ivan Lendl
25. Andy Capp

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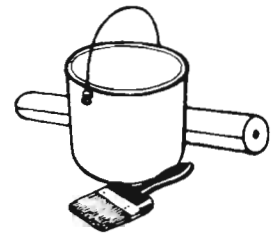

RON COPSON

Painter & Decorator

FREE ESTIMATES

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Advertising

Rates for 'one-off' advertising are
£12 for a half page;
£6 for a quarter page and
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For all advertising details contact:
Mrs. S. Willmore,
31 Oaklands.
Mrs. R. Eddison,
12 The Paddocks
Mrs. C. Furniss,
60 Johns Road.

The Village Diary

January			
24	8.00pm	Flower Society AGM	S.S.
31	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	V.H.
February			
5	2.00pm	M.U. Jumble Sale	S.S.
7	7.30pm	W.I. – Cliff Billing "30 Years with the Northampton Amateur Operatic Society"	S.S.
9	2.15pm	Darby & Joan Meeting	S.S.
9	8.00pm	'I believe and trust' course	S.S.
10	2.30pm	M.U. – Village Life in India	S.S.
10	7.30–9.30pm	Quiet Evening	Church
15	7.30pm	Shrove Tuesday Social	S.S.
16	7.30pm	Ash Wednesday Communion	Church
21	7.30pm	R. Brit Legion (Wms) Meeting	S.S.
23	2.15pm	Darby & Joan Meeting	S.S.
28	8.00pm	Flower Society Meeting	S.S.
28	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	V.H.
March			
6	11.10am	Church AGM	Church
7	7.30pm	W.I. – Mrs E. Pass "Glazing onto Plates"	S.S.
9	2.15pm	Darby & Joan Meeting	S.S.
10	2.30pm	M.U. – I believe & trust	S.S.
12	10am–10pm	St Michael's Music Society – Feast of Music Day	S.S.
18	7.00pm	Jumble Sale – Friends of Campion	C.S.
19	8.00pm	Wine tasting with Philippe Boucheron	C.S.
21	7.30pm	R. Brit Legion (Wms) Meeting	S.S.
23	2.15pm	Darby & Joan Meeting	S.S.
24	7.30pm	M.U. – Deanery Corporate Communion at Rothersthorpe	Rothersthorpe Church
28	8.00pm	Flower Society Meeting	S.S.
28	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	V.H.
31	8.00pm	Maundy Thursday Communion	Church
April			
1	2.00pm	Watch by the Cross	Church
1	7.30pm	Devotional Service	Church
3	8.00am	Holy Communion with Hymns	Church
3	10.00am	Easter Carol Communion	Church
3	6.30pm	Evensong & Communion	Church
6	2.15pm	Darby & Joan AGM	S.S.
14	2.30pm	Family Celebrations	S.S.
16	2.00pm	Darby & Joan Jumble Sale	S.S.
18	7.30pm	R. Brit Legion (Wms) Meeting	S.S.
20	2.15pm	Darby & Joan Meeting	S.S.
22	8.00pm	Bugbrooke Amateur Dramatic Society	
23	8.00pm	Spring Play	C.S.
27	8.00pm	M.U. – Aids	S.S.

J R C LAYTON - MOTORS

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