Bugbrooke

L I N K

Bugbrooke LINK Magazine

(*Issue 175), August 2012*

Editor: Paul Cockcroft

I would like to pick up on a point that is frequently overlooked and that is the significant amount of time and effort that a relatively small proportion of the population give in order to organise, raise funds and improve the lives of others.

Every event, organisation and club in Bugbrooke, including the LINK magazine, relies on individuals to volunteer as part of a team in order to arrange meetings and find time from busy lives to push forward and generate enthusiasm for a particular interest.

I am grateful to those who have sent in thanks, appreciation and photos for the Jubilee, to acknowledge both the celebrations themselves and the work that went into every aspect of the weekend and bank holidays.

Whilst many people are worthy of mention, I will use this editorial to focus on John Curtis who has been awarded the British Empire Medal for serving the community in Bugbrooke. You can read about the details of his massive contribution to village life in a separate article and clearly his award is well deserved. The LINK committee would also like to congratulate John and Marion on their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

Our website can be found at www.bugbrookelink.co.uk, containing an impressively wide range of items and links to other organisations and websites, including back issues of LINK as well as current and historical information that is not contained within the printed magazine.

The deadline for articles and advert changes for the next issue is Monday 03 September 2012, but earlier submissions are most welcome. Please note that the preferred way of us receiving copy is by email to editor@bugbrookelink.co.uk.

Bugbrooke Parish Council

The new allotments at the Wharf were allocated to 22 people on June 30th. There may still be vacancies if people relinquish old plots, so if you are interested, get your name on the waiting list. The allotments were useable from the start thanks to Mr Chay Adams who prepared the ground. There is still plenty of time for autumn and late summer plants to be sown. Assistance was also provided by Pinnegar and Barnes who stored fencing materials and distributed them on site when required. The allotment holders did a good job in erecting the fence saving the Parish Council, and fellow residents, in excess of £1000. Their efforts are appreciated.

It was agreed, by those who kindly attended to represent village organizations, that the Twinning Ceremony with Vöhl was a great success. The village presented

Front Page: This is Poppy, one of the stars at the Bugbrooke Jubilee Celebrations

itself extremely well and the visitors from Vöhl were very impressed and left with the feeling that they are linked with a great community. They presented us with two memorial Beech trees from the National Forest near Vöhl which they hope will provide a permanent memorial of the twinning.

The Parish Council have co-opted Kate Meech and Paul Henson to replace the councillors who resigned. Thanks go to those who applied but were unsuccessful this time round. The interviews for a new Parish Clerk took place on July 5th and the successful candidate was Sally Bramley-Brown. We all look forward to working with her and wish her every success in the new job.

One of the first priorities will be resolving the issue of the new burial ground. This has been a drawn out procedure that needs bringing to a close. Now that the Allotments and Twinning issues have been resolved we must concentrate efforts on an issue that is important to many local residents.

At this time of year it is necessary to remind owners of hedges adjacent to public footpaths that they should cut them back to their boundary wall or fence. We would like to think that this can be done without a reminder from the Parish Council. In the event of non-compliance with the requirement to keep footpaths free of obstacles the Parish Council has to ask the County Council to remove the obstruction and charge the offending party for doing the work. It seems best to do it yourself!

The Parish Council has been informed that those residents who applied for the land at the end of Johns Road to be turned into a village green have withdrawn their application. We assumed this would be the end of the matter, but the landowners are insisting the hearing goes ahead on July 30th, so that the issue can be buried once and for all. As they have appointed a QC to represent them let us hope no claim for recompense is made against the applicants.

John Curtis

Frederick John Curtis B.E.M.

You are probably aware John Curtis was recently awarded the British Empire Medal in the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Birthday Honours. To those of you who may be newcomers to the village or do not know John very well we thought we would let you know just what he has done to get this very deserved honour.

We first met John when we came to the village in 1973. He was one of the driving forces behind the Playing Fields Committee that spent many years raising funds to buy the area on which the Football, Rugby, Cricket and Bowls clubs now play. At the same time he was running a very successful series of Youth Activities at Campion School that hundreds of children enjoyed every night of the week. Later on he was an important part of the group that developed the Community Centre.

John has always been heavily involved in the Football Club, despite Bugbrooke lending him to the Cobblers for a couple of seasons until injury cut short his professional career. He was Chairman for many years, built up the incredibly vibrant youth section, and is now President of the Club. He has always been a strong

supporter of the exchanges that take place annually between Bugbrooke F.C. and Vöhl and it was only fitting that John, in his role as Chairman of the Parish Council, recently signed the formal Twinning Document between the two communities.

Despite being a committed football man John also provided invaluable support for the Rugby Club in its formative days even turning out for the side on more than one occasion. He supported the Campion Mixed Hockey club that formed in the village in the late 70s and played for them in goal, especially during the summer season. He is also a former Bugbrooke Cricket Club member and Vice President of the Club, so John's sporting talents have been spread far and wide.

John has been a Parish Councillor since 1973 and represented the village on the District Council as an independent from 1979 until 2010. He was so highly regarded for his work with the District Council that he was elected Leader of the Council in 1995 and Chairman of the Planning Committee. He was a member of the committee that developed the retirement home in the village, he oversaw the development of the Millennium Green and was a founder member of the Bugbrooke History Society. For many years he wrote the weekly spot in the Chronicle and Echo and founded the Village Strollers Group that meets every Thursday.

This is just the tip of the iceberg as far as John's involvement in village life is concerned. It is impossible to count the endless hours he spent in ensuring that all these activities were well organized and well supported. He would not have been able to do this without the support of his wife, Marion, who has been his staunchest ally throughout the years. We are sure you will all agree there is no more deserving person to receive an award for 'Services to the Community of Bugbrooke'. Well done John (and Marion of course).

David and Linda Pope

Twinning Ceremony

The official twinning of Bugbrooke and Vöhl took place on Saturday 9th June at the Community Centre. All organizations in the village were invited to attend and the hall was packed with representatives along with visitors from Vöhl. We have since had a letter from Harald Plunnecke, Bürgermeister of Vöhl, to say how much they valued the hospitality and friendly reception they received from Bugbrooke. Congratulations were also expressed at the Parish Council meeting, on June 11th, for the way the Council had presented the village on this occasion.

The ceremony opened with the chairman of the Parish Council welcoming guests from Vöhl, and our MP Chris Heaton-Harris. He outlined the background to the twinning through 27 years of exchanges between local football clubs. The Bürgermeister responded and expressed the hope that the twinning would help the two communities to appreciate each other and come together in freundschaft (friendship). Our local MP then expressed the hope that the twinning would help countries in Europe to forget past differences and come together for the benefit of future generations.

As a gift to commemorate the occasion, three of Bugbrooke's Guides presented Herr Plunnecke with a montage of photographs representing the many and varied activities that take place in Bugbrooke, whilst the Bürgermeister presented Bugbrooke with two beech trees from the natural forest that is being created in the area around Vöhl. These will be located on the Millennium Green and the Playing Fields. The signing of the official document was undertaken on behalf of the two communities by the Bürgermeister and the Parish Council Chairman.

The Chairman concluded the ceremony by thanking all those who attended and also Campion School who provided the international flags, the music for the occasion and, along with our WI, the excellent banner to celebrate the event. This will be permanently displayed along with the Twinning document in the small hall of the Community Centre.

Thanks go to all of those who turned out to provide an outstanding representation of our village on this important occasion.

John Curtis

The Spice of Life

I have an admission to make, albeit a very small admission! Apart from the news and the odd sporting occasion most of my viewing is 'shift viewing', that is, I record and watch what I want when I want. Only the other night I was watching a recorded episode of 'Top of the Pops 2' with such a random selection of past hits I found myself fast forwarding more than I watched!

However, after listening to Johnny Mathis and Deniece Williams singing their 1978 hit 'Too much too little too late' I found myself sitting through the Spice Girls singing their 1996 hit 'Who do you think you are' and not only wondering how come they became so popular as it seemed only one of them had a good voice, but also wondering what were their stage names! Sad I know, but late evening, mind numbing television, can have that effect on a person!

Skip forward a few hours, and there I lay at 6:10am in the morning, just awake after a deep sleep, still trying to remember the names of the Spice Girls! Posh - Scary - Ginger (was she the one who left?). . . that was as much as I could remember, but

what on earth was I doing? I have hardly ever given them a passing thought for many years, but now, between sleep and waking, I found myself trying to remember their names as if my life depended on it! Peculiar to say the least!

Yawning, I dragged myself out of bed, switching on both my radio and mind to both the state of the Euro and the day ahead! A funeral to take, a wedding to book, a wedding rehearsal along with a couple of business meetings only finishing with watching News at 10, some sixteen hours later, what a day and a feeling of roll on tomorrow!

After a shower, making myself look reasonably presentable, a spot of breakfast and a big mug of tea gulped I thought 'what next?'. A quick look at my Bible was what I thought and I flicked through the pages, hoping my eyes would alight on something uplifting to get me through the day (not a recommended way of reading the Bible I know!).

I stopped turning the pages, and what were the first words my eyes fell on? – "There had never been such spices as those the Queen of Sheba gave to King Solomon" (2 Chronicles. Chapter 9 v 9).

I blinked, wondering what were the mathematical chances of such a thing happening quickly followed by the thought 'what did it mean?'.

After a few moments I simply felt it was just one of those moments when God delights to remind us that he is there, that he wants to communicate with us and us with him and he definitely has a sense of humour.

As we go into August with hopefully some warmer and drier weather, remember God is there always and wants to interact with us.

Grace and Peace

Stephen French, Rector of Bugbrooke, Harpole, Kislingbury and Rothersthorpe

Does Your Organisation Need Funds?

As your County Councillor I have an Empowering Councillor's allowance. The purpose of this allowance is to support local projects for the benefit of residents in my Division. To date I have supported many different projects and groups including the Scouts, village halls and sports clubs.

My allowance for 20012/13 is £6000.00. Please contact me if your organisation needs funds for new equipment or if you would like to set up a new project which benefits the community.

I can be contacted by telephone, e-mail or letter. Details are shown below.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Joan Kirkbride

Telephone 01327 340370, Mobile 07872197253

E-Mail JKirkbride@northamptonshire.gov.uk

Generous Bugbrooke

I've organised 2 house-to-house collections every year in Bugbrooke for some time, but finding collectors is becoming more and more difficult. Christian Aid Week in May this year raised £1700 (well up on last year) to help the poor of the world and last year's churchyard and church building collection was £2000. Although it saddens me (as you know I spend a lot of time in Africa) to realise that people give more to the maintenance of the churchyard than the poor, it is still a VERY generous village. We also raised £624 with the Open Gardens weekend, so many thanks to all who helped in any way.

The Parish Council have agreed to give £1000 for the churchyard maintenance, but that will still leave us £1000 poorer, so you're very welcome to make a donation any time! The annual collection will NOT take place again, but again thanks to all who have collected in the past. We do need more volunteer mowers to keep up the high standard of our beautiful churchyard please. It only involves an hour or so a week for 6 months of the year!!

Sue Pace (Christian Aid organiser and churchyard manager!)

Friends of St Michael and All Angels Church

We had our Fish and Chip Supper/Quiz at the Community Centre on 6th July. In accordance with tradition last year's winners set this year's quiz and acted as quizmasters. A very good job they made of it too, with a varied and interesting set of questions, which challenged all the teams, but none too much. It was nice to see the look of sheer surprise on the faces of the winning team when the results were announced. As always the fish and chips were very hot and very delicious. Overall the event made some £425 for the Friends' funds. So a big thank you to everyone involved.

Our next fund raising event will be a wine tasting at the beginning of December.

Jim Inch

Guinea Fowl

Many thanks to everyone who has kindly let me know when my guinea fowl have strayed on to the road outside my house. Some people have taken the trouble to stop their car and call in and some have even called by phone. Also, thanks to those who have slowed down and avoided them whilst they scuttle across the road. There are 27 altogether, not by design, but because last year they raised 21 chicks! The hen will sit on the eggs for almost a month, with her male companion watching over her. She will leave the

nest only to feed. I have seen a hen sitting on 36 eggs, but most times the fox will come, taking the hen and eating the eggs. This happened about four times last year but the last sitting escaped the fox and as a result there are so many this year! They roost in the cherry tree in my garden, and I always know when something amiss is happening as they guard like geese and make a real noise. So, thank you all very much for being so caring and if anyone wants guinea fowl to keep let me know should they sit again—I shall have plenty of chicks and by the way their eggs are delicious.

Many thanks once again,

Kaye Adams

Bugbrooke Art Group

It was a pleasure to take part in the Jubilee fete on 4th June. Our contribution was the cut-out of a coronation coach, from which you could be photographed doing the royal wave through the window. We offered the choice of taking your own photo or having us take one for you. I hope all those who took part will have a lovely memento of a very special day.

Many thanks to Tony Pace for his help in building the coach, and the use his garage for this purpose and the messy business of painting it. Thanks also to Justin Gardner, and colleague, for the tricky matter of transporting it to the Community Centre.

By the time this comes out, we will have held an exhibition of some of our work in the Church as part of the church fete. If anyone is interested in joining us we meet every Tuesday evening at the Community Centre from 7-30pm to 9-30pm.

Jim Inch

What a Great Day – Jubilee Celebrations on the Playing Field

Months of work and planning led by the effervescent Ian and Lisa Gordon and their committee all came together on June 4th. The weather did not deter anyone, we Brits are built of sterner stuff than letting a drop! of rain stop us enjoying a good day out and what a day it was. Opened formally by Mrs Annie Boswell, resplendent in red, white and blue, who was presented with a beautiful basket of flowers to match her outfit by two and a half year old Madison Westley, the event got under way.

Best Jubilee Hats Competition won by Tamsin Maynard and Kyle Botterill. Well done all who entered.

Dancing and Displays from the Primary School, Gymnastic display, Wellie-wanging, Tug of war, numerous diverse stalls and Zumba dancing on the stage. Ladies you were magnificent!!

Yummy cakes and tea by the W.I., thank you to all who donated the cakes.

The Football and Rugby Clubs kept up a running bar and also sold food. Have to say the chips were delicious.

The History Group presentation was so informative and I am sure Pat and Alan had a few horror filled moments of 'please don't let anything get broken'.

Then came Bugbrooke's Got Talent, and what some talent there was, they were all winners to us, but taking the eventual trophy was Tristan Foreshaw. I am sure that everyone who took to the stage was impressed with the experience.

The stage was kindly donated by Unusual Rigging. Also thanks to Ian and Phil for the music.

Celebrations continued in the evening with a Party in the Park with bands and again music from Ian and Phil together, The Sounding Line, Cousin Avi and Dawson City.

Thank you to everyone for your commitment, help and donations, too numerous to mention but you know who you are.

Best Dressed Jubilee House – LINK Committee agreed to give two first prizes and these were to Mrs Carlene Bates and Mrs Emma Bending and their families. Congratulations to you both and thank you to all who entered.

Barbara Bell

Diamond Jubilee Celebrations

We would like to thank everyone who helped make Bugbrooke's Diamond Jubilee celebrations such a great success.

A special thank you goes to Unusual Rigging for donating the use of a stage.

Congratulations to all those who won competitions, the winner of the lucky programme was Polly Webster.

Finally a big thank you to all of you in Bugbrooke who came out to support their village. Without you the event would not have been the huge success that it was!

Ian and Lisa Gordon

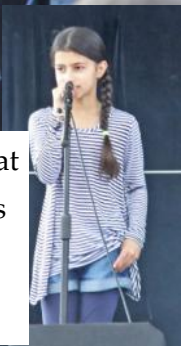
Best Dressed House

What a fab couple of days we have had, and what super village sprit was enjoyed by all.

Us at the Old Police House, have had great enjoyment, fun and satisfaction in decorating the house, all ready for the Royal Celebrations. We have enjoyed immensely seeing all the joy and smiling faces passing by the house, with beeps from the cars, to local Villagers

Pictures from the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations

Joint winners of the best dressed house Jubilee competition



Evening Entertainment at the Jubilee Celebrations

and folk from the Canal coming and taking photos. We even had a visit by the Chron which was also very exciting for us!

Thrilled and proud to have jointly won with the very deserving 'Crown' from our fellow Camp Hill resident, great that both houses were totally different and appreciated in different ways by everyone.

The idea of the Palace Balcony, Century Box, London Bus, Corgi, Crown, tea party etc had been thought out over quite a long period, and preparations and plans had taken quite a while!

I must admit though that whilst the name Emma Bending was read out as the winner, I did have lots of help and support from my long suffering family, as I have within the last 2 weeks had an operation.... So it is with many many thanks to them, that my ideas became reality!

Last year my family organised a Royal Wedding party at the Five Bells, with Eve Jackson, which was great fun for all the Villagers who attended, this year it was quite nice to take a back seat and enjoy what Ian and Lisa Gordon had prepared for us – a big thank you to them for all the brilliant hard work, what a success it was, well done!

Whilst writing I would like to also thank you all at the LINK for encouraging and supporting the idea of the 'Best Decorated Jubilee House'.... It has really bought out the Patriotic side in many of us... Thank you!

I would also like to ask you to make our winnings out to the 'Tommy' campaign, support for premature birth, still birth and miscarriage sufferers. As you may, or may not know, we lost our little boy Thomas 2 hours after he was born prematurely at 24 weeks, so this is very dear to our hearts.

Again many many thanks for all your support.

Emma Bending, The Old Police House, Bugbrooke

Coronation Memories

Michael Wills of Bugbrooke who was in the Household Cavalry, played a very special part in the Queen's Coronation. This is his account of the day.

The Day of the Coronation

I had the honour of being selected as one of thirty two men who rode rearguard to the Queen on her Coronation Day.

The day started with a visit to the cook-house. We were given a small amount of tea in our mugs, about one inch, and two dry biscuits. We were also given strict instructions not to eat or drink anything else. To go to the toilet in full state uniform was impossible.

Just before the day I had passed the test to become a farrier, so I was told I would ride Shylock. Shylock stood seventeen and a half hands high, roughly six feet at his withers. The weather that day was pouring with rain, so over our state uniform we wore a cloak.

We made our way to the Palace where crowds of people were already gathering.

The beauty of having a mounted escort was that the Queen loved horses and felt at home with them.

And so the escort started, thirty two men from the Royal Horse Guards, nicknamed the Blues, rode fore-guard. We took the Queen to the Abbey and once she was safely in we rode away to the foot guards' barrack at Bird Cage Walk. This for health and safety reasons. At the right time we returned to collect our Queen.

And so started the escort. Vast crowds of cheering people despite the weather.

When we approached the Palace the crowds were even thicker, the noise, the cheers, and we finally arrived back at the Palace.

Once the Queen was home safely we had to return to our barracks.

People were still trying to see the Queen on the balcony.

I think this was the only time the order was given for us to break ranks and return to barracks as best we could. I knew Shylock, so I touched the rein on his neck and put pressure on his side with my leg, and he started to passage his way through the crowds. Others soon followed.

When we arrived back at barracks the horses were left in the care of recruits. We went to our rooms to change from state uniform to best battle dress. And then it was time to eat and drink.

After that I went to see my mother and Dolly Hayes catch the train home. They had won tickets for them to see the parade from a balcony in Oxford Street.

Michael Wills

Music Circle

Monday 3rd September at 10.30am Jubilee House. Brian Astell invites you to come and enjoy classical music, using CD and Keyboard with helpful information about items to be played. Half time refreshments and time for chat. All for £1.

Bugbrooke Allotments Association

By the time this is read the extension to the allotments will have been completed; on Saturday 30 June the boundary fence was erected and the additional plots allocated.

It has taken a long time to achieve this and I would like to give my thanks to the following people:

Catherine Parry, John Curtis and the whole Parish Council.

Chay Adams for all the help in the preparation of the soil and the trimming of the hedges.

And all the plot holders who came to help erect the boundary fence.

It is with great satisfaction that I can report, that thanks to the sterling efforts of

both existing and new plot holders the allotment extension has been fenced and the plots marked and allocated.

With the help of Mike and Co. using the auger the fence was erected in four and a half hours, during which time the twenty extra plots were marked and allocated to people on the waiting list, which has now reduced from twenty six to three.

Once again I would thank everyone who came to help, supervise or supply food and drink to the workers.

Having completed this project makes it easier for me to stand down and pass the mantle of Chairman on to the next generation.

Now that the extension is completed, I feel that I can stand down as Chairman at the AGM (date to be announced). I was hoping to stand down last year but as there were no nominations I reluctantly decided to continue for one more year. With the introduction of a number of new members I would hope that there will be someone who is prepared to take over. Do remember if no one takes on the job the association cannot exist and then we all lose our plots.

Any nominations should be given to Vicky Greening (Secretary) 831385.

Bev Dinsey, Chairman 830198

The Wednesday Club

Hello everyone. My write up for the June LINK was handed in but then was lost in transit. When found, the LINK had been processed, so here is the June write up to start with.

April 11th was our Easter Celebration lunch. The tables were set out in spring colours and a very tasty hot meal was served. Some (like myself) were offered and enjoyed an extra top up. As always there were wines and fruit drinks served, then a choice of desserts ending with tea and coffee. Thank you to our Ladies who prepared and served this lovely meal. "Easter in Tudor Times" was our entertainment. A talk by the Lord of the Manors of Sulgrave and Sudbury, ancestor of George Washington the USA President, was given by a gentleman in a costume of the time. Life was very hard then and not much comfort for the sick and elderly. Before leaving he judged the Easter Hats competition. Elsie Clark was the winner.

Sadly we have lost 2 long time members, Mildred Bates and Iris Rees both of advanced ages, and a more recent member Sylvia Abraham. Our thoughts go to their families at this time. These 3 ladies will leave a big space and lots of memories to their families.

This is the news for August LINK.

We have sadly lost yet another of our long time members, Mrs Pauline Gilkes. She was a keen whist player, always ready to help or take part in events. Our thoughts are with her family at this sad time.

On May 9th we had a trip to the Picturedrome in Northampton which included lunch and tea. June 9th was our Diamond Jubilee celebration lunch, prepared by our usual team, "thank you". We were entertained once again by "Our Flossie" who as

always, with good music and old songs, got us all singing our best. Her change of costumes while this takes place is hilarious and decent. We ended with tea and special cakes. June 20th was a usual meeting but we ended on a good "note" for a change. Many thanks to Mr Brian Astell for the CD recording of him playing on the piano our closing hymn. He has also recorded the Happy Birthday tune for those occasions we require it. A much needed ending to our meetings.

The club welcomes new members to enjoy our meetings and events. To join ring Cherry on 830389 or Linda on 831219.

Mrs D M French

Bugbrooke O.A.P.'s Christmas Gift Scheme

Bugbrooke pensioners that apply to the above scheme, will be pleased to learn that the gift voucher this year will remain at £9.00 per applicant. The application forms will be printed in the October issue of 'LINK' and further copies will be available from Bugbrooke Post Office. These must be returned by October 31st.

We know that there are some frail and elderly in the village that do not apply. We rely on families and good neighbours to do this for them.

At a recent committee meeting we discussed fund raising events. It was decided that we hold a Cream Tea afternoon on Sunday, September 9th in the Sunday School room and gardens. There will also be a book stall and a bric-a-brac table. Please watch out for details around the village nearer the time.

We are also holding our popular annual Wine Tasting evening at the Community Centre on October 5th.

Do reserve your places if there is time. We rely on the support of the village to help us continue to provide these gifts each year.

Judith Piper (Chairman)

Bugbrooke WI

It seems that the bad weather this June did not stop our village from succeeding in all that it set out to do, and that includes an amazing show of cakes provided by many generous members of our village WI.

A big thank you goes to Linda Pope for her organisational skills regarding the Jubilee refreshments, all in all four hundred cups of tea were drunk and a wonderful assortment of cakes eaten.

Our meeting on the 11th of June was held in the Community Centre and John Bates was our guest speaker, entertaining us with true nostalgic stories of his youth linked through poetry.

A big thank you to Cherry and Anne for representing us at the AGM, held this year at the Royal Albert Hall and for Cherry's most informative report.

Another big thank you, although this is in advance, to Ruby Coles who is kindly hosting our next meeting as a "social" event in her garden where we shall all share in an abundance of picnic fare.

Looking ahead to August and we will be visiting Bay Tree Cottage, a family run garden nursery known for their workshops and wonderful cakes.

As always Bugbrooke WI welcomes all new members as well as visiting guests.

Kim Baughan

Bugbrooke Neighbourhood Watch

After 3 years, I'm sad to announce that I shall be stepping down as co-ordinator from August 1st 2012. If anybody would like to step forward and take on the role please get in contact with Jen Harrision, PCSO for Bugbrooke at Towcester Police Station or Bugbrooke Parish Council. Thank you for the support I have received, especially the Women's Institute and the helpers who delivered leaflets last year.

Thank you again.

Rosemary Berkshire

Jesus Fellowship – The story of a Bugbrooke lad

Most of us are aware that the Jesus Fellowship has grown steadily in the UK since its beginnings in Bugbrooke back in the 70's. However what may not be known is that in recent years we have had Christian groups from all over the world contacting us as they see something in the Jesus Fellowship they love. We therefore formed an international network called "Multiply" so that these groups can link up with us and each other. Many of them are African, and this year some of our guys went to visit a group in Kenya. One of them was Johnny Haynes, who was brought up in Bugbrooke, and you may know him better as his Dad Jeff is well known for his repair of sewing machines. Johnny is a carpenter by trade, and went to help with a special project teaching them skills, especially power tools which they are not accustomed to. Here is his report:

"On the 28th of February myself and 3 others set off to Nairobi, Kenya. We spent the first few days together in Nairobi, linking up with Bishop Gregory, who we have had connections with as a church for several years now (he, along with many other guys from different countries, visited us for a UK conference at Cornhill in June). It was great to be able to experience another culture and also pretty humbling to be welcomed with such hospitality and generosity by people who didn't necessarily have that much from which to give.

After our time in Nairobi, we split up, the two older guys went on to Rwanda and Tanzania to be running conferences, and Jason (a friend my age, 23) and I went off to Kimilili, right in the west of Kenya. We had, in the previous 4 months, collected and shipped donated tools and other bits (including old computers which they were able to use), in a container – thanks to anyone who donated! Unfortunately the container had still not arrived by the time we had, but luckily we had crammed whatever space we had left in our luggage with various tools. We spent the next ten days doing various building jobs around the church building, and there were a handful of guys who had come to learn carpentry skills from me. Their vision is to be

able to set up a small polytechnic college with the kit we have sent them. Many people, especially young people over there, jump at any chance they get of learning a practical skill. It was great to work with these guys and complete the various tasks together. We left the following week (March 13th) knowing that we left behind good friends."

The Jesus Fellowship meet at 11am most Sunday mornings in the Chapel, but every fourth Sunday we meet as a larger group at the Jesus Centre in Northampton. The August Bank holiday event will take place from 24th – 27th August at Cornhill. All are welcome, to find out more call 01327 344511, or look at the website www.jesus,org.uk

John Thomason

Friends of Campion School

The Friends of Campion recently held a car boot sale at the school, the first for several years. The rain held off – just about – and although it was chilly we had a good turnout of both buyers and sellers, raising a total of £146. There will be another car boot on Saturday 8 September, so think ahead if you are turning out your cupboards or garage this summer.

This term we've been spending money as well as raising it, our most significant donation being approximately £1500 to pay for the installation of a new water cooler at the school to replace old unhygienic water fountains. This has gone down really well with the students. We have also recently paid for the purchase of a digital hard drive hand held video camera for use in Expressive Arts and Theatre Studies.

Looking ahead to the autumn, we have the following events planned:

Saturday 8 September	Car boot sale, 12 o'clock start
Monday 10 September	Committee meeting, 7.30 (school staff room)
Friday 5 October	Quiz/fish & chip supper, £9 per head for teams of four. Starts 7.30
Tuesday 9 October	Committee meeting, 7.30 (school staff room)
Saturday 24 November	Christmas market 2–4 pm

Although we have a reasonably full calendar of events, there are just a handful of people attending our monthly meetings to plan events and decide how to use the money raised. We'd really appreciate some thoughts and input from different people – even if you can only come once in a while we'd be really happy to see you! If you can't make meetings, we'd also welcome more help at the events we organise or support at the school. If just 5 or 6 more people were able to help or come to meetings once in a while, it would really take the pressure off our small band of dedicated supporters.

Contact Jane Wood on 07901775639 or at woodmanyana@aol.com for more information about any of the above.

Bugbrooke and District Flower Society

For fifteen years Bugbrooke & District Flower Society held a "Mammoth" plant sale. It started with a stall at a jumble sale developing into a huge event at Campion School raising a large amount of money annually. It was, however, a huge amount of work for the main organisers and so a couple of years ago we held our last sale, much to the disappointment of our regular customers.

We had a very healthy bank balance but we knew it would soon dwindle with the ever increasing cost of demonstrators and travel costs. So we had to put on our "thinking caps". We now have several events which keep our funds topped up. We have enjoyed a quiz with another planned, two fashion shows, stalls at Nether Heyford fete and a sale of accessories at our June meeting. So we should be able to continue to enjoy top class demonstrators well into the future.

Meetings take place on the fourth Monday of the month at 7.45pm at Nether Heyford Village Hall.

So, if you like flowers and gardening and want to learn some more about how to get the best out of your flowers and plant material, come along to one of our meetings where a very warm welcome awaits both new members and visitors.

Jane Barker

Bugbrooke History Group

It seems a long time since the Jubilee Celebration at the Community Centre, but nevertheless thank you everyone who contributed to the History Group's exhibition of Coronation and Jubilee Memorabilia. We had an amazing array of stuff; china cups, plates, mugs, teapot and jugs, scarves, tea towels, model coaches and horses, a 'viewmaster' with pictures of the Coronation, newspapers, magazines, and books, games, coins, stamps, photos and written memories. All of this could be viewed with a background film of Queen Elizabeth's Coronation narrated by Sir Lawrence Olivier.

Our June Meeting was the A.G.M. and a very professional presentation by the Naseby Project. We do support the effort they are making to make the historic battlefield accessible and to develop a heritage museum there.

Thanks to the LINK I have recently heard from a descendant of Nimrod Gardner, who was born in Bugbrooke in 1827. He went to live in Birkenhead near Liverpool and had 12 children there. If anyone has information about any of this family please let me know so that I can pass it on, or put you in touch with Heather who has written to me.

Our next full meeting will be September 12th 7.30p.m. at the Community Centre. Everyone welcome.

Pat Kent (secretary) Tel.01604 830518, e-mail tricanal@tiscali.co.uk

Bugbrooke School

We finished the busy school year with the usual flurry of end of term events which included saying goodbye to our Year 6 children as they leave us for pastures new. It has always been a time to reflect on their achievements with pride and to acknowledge how they have matured into responsible young people over the past seven years. It is with pride and confidence that we send them on to their new schools knowing that they are well set to make the most of the opportunities ahead of them.

It is also a time when we prepare for our new children to join us and in September we will have 42 Reception children coming to Bugbrooke School, a significant increase on recent years, and a clear sign that the school is thriving and is well regarded in the area.

Part of our end of year arrangements include evaluating the successes of the past 12 months and planning our next steps for improvement. Even with a highly successful OFSTED inspection under our belts, we are never happy to stand still and have already identified our new challenges for 2012–13.

One of our highlights has to be the school's involvement in the village Jubilee celebrations. Many of you will have seen our wonderful Decades Dance and enjoyed the fabulous spectacle of our Bugbrooke's Got Talent finalists!

Look out for Akilah – *our friend from Tanzania* !

The children worked hard on this project in Art Club to design our entry for the Northampton Safari Arts project – *you may remember the Pride of Northampton Lions theme from the last time it was held!* We chose an elephant to symbolise our links with Kimnyak Primary School in Tanzania. One side shows the children's ideas of Bugbrooke while the other shows our learning about Tanzania.

Jubilee Commemorative Gift

Kind thanks go to Dave and Linda Pope who presented all the children with a leather bookmark, decorated with our Bugbrooke badger, to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Mr and Mrs Pope came in to school to show the children their bookmarks which they have kept since the Silver Jubilee and which they still use. We are very grateful for this generous gift and hope that the children will treasure theirs as a memento of this special occasion.

Greek Visitor to KS1

For the past few months Key Stage 1 children have been finding out about Greece. They have done this through learning about a boy called Christos and his life in a small Greek village. The children learnt how to say some Greek words and enjoyed watching Greek television and singing nursery rhymes in Greek. They were also visited by Greek teachers who taught the children more words and performed stories in Greek. The children were very excited when Christos, who now lives in the UK, came to school for the afternoon and told them about what it is like to be a child living in Greece.

Bugbrooke Olympics

Towards the end of the term, the whole school took part in a special Olympics topic. The children learnt about the history of the games and the values and ideals

Spanish Omelette and Tortillas enjoyed by all

Olympic Torch Bearer Charlotte Burrows shows off her torch

Christos visits the school

Royal Jubilee 'street party' at Bugbrooke School

Pictures from the Bugbrooke Church Fete on 14th July

underpinning them. We organised the school into 10 Olympic countries and children from Reception to Year 6 worked together in special sessions to learn about the culture, language and history of their country. Children had a wonderful time making new friends from different year groups and working with different adults on a range of fun activities and learning!

One of the highlights of the topic was a special assembly in which Olympic Torch bearer Charlotte Burrows came into school to show the children the torch and tell them about her experiences as an official torch bearer!

The children thoroughly enjoyed the topic and I am sure that it has helped them to appreciate how memorable and significant the event is for the whole country!
Debbie Bastin, Head Teacher

Bugbrooke Village Church Fete

The very wet conditions meant a last minute change of venue to the Community Centre. Thanks to a frantic morning's work, all was ready on time, the sun came out and another successful fete was produced with the new event of ferret racing proving highly popular.

Many thanks to Gillian, her family and all her band of helpers for the hard work put in. Thanks also to all of those who found the fete at its changed venue to make the day complete.

Nature Notes

By the time you read this in August, I hope that the wettest quarter ever recorded is no more than a memory, but July has not started well and there still seems little hope of summer making an appearance soon. The wet, windy and cold weather is bound to have had an impact on our wildlife. In our garden we have an apple, a plum and a pear tree. In the early spring we had a wonderful display of blossom, but the weather was wet and cold so that the pollinating insects didn't get around all the flowers. As a consequence, the fruit that is developing is much reduced compared to previous years. Whether it will have a longer impact remains to be seen. Butterflies emerged from hibernation early because of a warm spell in March and when there was little food supply. Since then, there have been few days when they have been seen at all. If they are not flying they are not reproducing either, so we may not see a normal number of butterflies for some time to come, but nature does often have a way of compensating for harsh conditions. If we do get a sustained spell of warm settled weather, everything might go into overdrive!

In the last edition of LINK, I asked for readers to let me know when they have seen a kingfisher in the village. As no one has contacted me, maybe we no longer have any to be seen. Again the weather may have played a part in people not seeing them, as it has not encouraged us to linger when out, and patience is the key. There is a wooden post on the right hand side of the brook when looking towards West End from the Ace Lane bridge, where a kingfisher has been seen regularly in the past. It

has used it as a perch for long periods watching for tell-tale signs of fish. On a fine day, the bench by the gate in Millennium Green would be an ideal place to watch.

Soon it will be time for our summer visiting birds to leave. The swifts will be on their way by the middle of August. The swallows will be collecting on overhead lines in September and the house martins are the last to leave later in October. The swifts are here for a very short time as they are late to arrive in May. During that time the young swifts have hatched and fledged. Their first flight from the nest lasts 23 months until they are mature and they find a breeding site. The flocks of screaming swifts that you see in the early evening tend to be the adolescent birds doing a bit of stunt flying! During their first 2 years they will have fed, roosted and slept on the wing and will have covered around 350,000 miles flying between here and Africa, as far south as Cameroon and Congo and also into East Africa. They can fly at almost 70 mph, but have an optimum speed for catching insects of around 25mph. The oldest recorded swift is 16 years old, but that does not allow for its age when ringed, and it is thought that it was at least 18. It is quite likely that the ones you see or have in your roof space are ones you have seen before, and hopefully they will be back again next year.

Stop press: John Curtis has seen a kingfisher between the Great Lane and Ace Lane bridges. He hadn't seen one for some months, but obviously they must still be about.

Margaret Cooke

Bugbrooke St. Michael's Football Club

After last season's successful campaign everyone at the club is starting out with realistic expectations for the new season with 3 adult teams promoted to higher leagues.

The AGM on the 21st June saw the following committee elected for the season:– President John Curtis, Chairman Willy Marriott, Vice Chairman Kevin Gardner, Treasurer Jillian Bowers, Secretary Debbie Preston, Mini/Youth Secretary Bill Preston, Commercial Manager Graham Connew, Membership Secretary Teresa Field, Child Protection Officer Charley Hawkey, Premises Manager Ron Birch, Groundsman Frank Field, Youth Teams Representative Nigel Thomas. In addition Steve Reeve, Peter Starmer and Graham Derby were elected as Vice Presidents of the club to recognise the work they have done over the years.

The managers for the teams for the forthcoming season will be Paul Field and Brad Piercewright (1st XI), Graham Derby and Des Ainsworth (Reserves), M Austin (As), John Tiley and Conrad Nancarrow (Bs).

It is hoped the club will be running a youth side for each age group although this may depend on finding suitably qualified coaches.

The wet summer has enabled the pitches to recover well and we are looking forward to enjoying the game and representing the club well.

Best wishes to all managers and players for the new season.

John Curtis

Bakers Arms Crib Team

Two or three years ago we found ourselves rather short of players for our cribbage team, so we advertised in the LINK. As a result of this our two ladies, Sue and Elaine, joined us – and are now the backbone of our side, and keep us old boys in order!

Two of last year's players have now moved on to pastures new, so we are once again asking – is there anyone out there, male or female, who would like to come and join our team?

We take part in the Northampton Cribbage League, the matches being held on Tuesday evenings – six-a-side in pairs during the Summer, and seven-a-side singles during the Winter.

It really doesn't matter whether you are an expert crib player, someone who used to play once upon a time but is now a bit rusty, or a complete novice (we're quite good at teaching the rudiments of the game to novices!) – if you would like to join us we would love to meet you! And – it doesn't matter whether you would like to play for us regularly, be a reserve ready to step in at holiday times – or whether you would just like a social game in good company!

Please give Graham, the Landlord of the Bakers Arms, a ring on 01604 830865, or ring our team Captain, Dave Tysom on 01604 830202 – or just come along to the Bakers for a drink and a game!

David Sargent

Bugbrooke Table Tennis Club

Bugbrooke Table Tennis Club has been based at the Community Centre since 1999 and currently fields 6 teams in the Towcester and District Table Tennis League. We play our home games on a Monday evening starting at 7.30pm. In the past our three tables have been fully used for League matches. Now, thanks to a grant from the Mast Fund, we have purchased another table meaning that anyone who would like to come and have a social game on a Monday evening is welcome. We have also bought 4 club bats, which can be borrowed for the evening. Basic coaching can be provided, so why not come along and have a go! We will be starting again after the summer break on the 3rd September, so if you fancy a game then ring me on 832155 and I can arrange for the table to be set up.

Dave Hyde

Bugbrooke Rugby Club

As we prepare for the new season, here is a quick look back at last season.

The First XV finished third in their league, just behind Peterborough Lions and Lutterworth... and would have got into the promotion play offs, but for a couple of slip ups mid season. The Second XV, under their new Captain Jake Rodwell, had a good season and finished mid table, with a view to even more success next season. The Third XV played several games throughout the season and gave some old adversaries a run for their money...highlighted by a 74 – 7 win over local rivals

Casuals. The Mini and Junior section had their fair share of success with all age groups from U7 to U16 again taking to the field, with several cups and runners up medals being won throughout the sides.

On a development note, last year's Under 13s, 14s and 16s between them had six East Midlands players and three Saints academy players in their ranks and all three teams had storming seasons finishing well placed in their leagues and semi-finalists in their respective cups. The Under 16s will be playing Under 17s rugby next season and will go on to play Colts rugby in season 2013–14.

Next season's Under 16s have a full set of fixtures and have enough players to field a competitive side, however a few more players would be very welcome in this particular age group...although new players in all age groups are always welcome!

The other bit of good news was that the club were awarded RFU Whole Club Accreditation in May. We were the first club in the county to receive this award.

So now for our plans going forward.

We have our new Committee raring to go...and the first task is to re-decorate the Clubhouse and Changing rooms and to tidy up the area at the front of the club with a new fence and pathway. We have also submitted Plans to the RFU, to explore funding for a further two changing rooms...which we will need as the club continues to grow.

Senior training is well under way on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6.30pm and Junior training is on Wednesday evenings and Sunday Mornings. Mini training starts on Sunday 2nd September at 11am, for U7 to U12 year olds.

On the Social side, the Club are once again holding a beer festival and this will be on the weekend of September 29th and 30th with the Mini and Junior open day on the Sunday.

Please feel free to come and join us at any of our matches or social events...and keep up to date with what's going on, at www.brufc.org

Bryn Curtis, Chairman 07989 230033

Bugbrooke Cricket Club

John Mundy: Chairman 830725(H,B&FAX) 07850–084535(M) j.w.mundy@btinternet.com

We are often plagued by senseless vandalism to our Pavilion. If anybody (especially dog walkers) see any damage etc please contact John Mundy or myself, if no reply please leave message on voice mail and contact the Police. Often we are the last to know as a lot of people assume we would already have been informed – we do not mind how many times we are told over the same incident. Recently thieves broke in through the roof which caused a lot of damage and stole a number of items.

We are always looking for new players of all ages so if there is anyone interested in joining our progressive Club at our picturesque ground by the brook please get in touch with myself, Roger Stone for Juniors on 842961 or John Mundy or myself for more details. This year we have Junior League Matches for Under 11, 13, 15 & 17 sides. There is a FULL Sunday fixture list of matches which started on April 8th until

October 7th. We have 1st & 2nd XI Saturday League fixtures so a lot of cricket to be played providing this very damp weather relents! Outdoor practice will continue to be held at our ground every Tuesday (not Monday as last year) from 6.30pm to 8pm, just turn up or get in touch with Roger if you have any queries. Our Bar will be open on all match days including Juniors and Tuesday Practice Nights where Tony Bird will give everyone a warm welcome!

We will be starting on refurbishing our aging Pavilion soon and are looking for assistance as well as donations to help finance the project.

Our Annual Vice President's Lunch will be held as usual on Bank Holiday Monday August 27th. All V-Ps will be circulated with details shortly but get in touch with me if you would like advanced information. On the same day the Annual Over 30's v Under 30's Cricket Match for the Jack Dawson Shield will be held.

Have a look at our website www.bugbrooke.play-cricket.com for further information with results and scorecards for all our 2012 matches as well as for the past 4 seasons.

Peter White (President) 50 High Street, Bugbrooke, NN7 3PG
(830452 H. & B) p.g.white@btinternet.com

The Five Bells

Antonio and Janet opened the doors to The Five Bells on 11th June and are delighted with the welcome received from the local people.

Both have extensive hospitality experience and are planning to make The Five Bells a family orientated pub where everyone is welcome. Currently on offer is a mid-priced menu of both traditional English and speciality Italian food inspired by Antonio who originally comes from the South of Naples. One new introduction is a chill out area in the pub with various board games available – this is proving very popular with all age groups.

Future plans include: speciality pizzas both eat in and take away also occasional live music nights and family orientated events.

As previously said, Antonio comes from the South of Italy and has been involved in the hospitality industry for nearly 30 years in the UK, including working with the National Trust and various well know restaurants in the south of England. Janet also has many years customer service and hospitality experience.

Antonio and Janet look forward to a long and happy stay in Bugbrooke.

Services and Events at

St. Michael and All Angels Church Bugbrooke

A weekly leaflet is available in Church. Please take a copy
and keep up-to-date with Bugbrooke Church Services,
News and Events. The leaflet also covers the Anglican parishes
of Harpole, Kislingbury and Rothersthorpe.

Sunday Services

8:00am	BCP Communion 3rd and 5th Sundays in the Month
9:45am	2nd and 4th Sundays in the month Holy Communion
	1st Sunday in the month Morning Worship
	3rd Sunday in the month Family Worship
	5th Sunday in the month watch for details
6:00pm	1st Sunday in the month 'Sunday@Six'
	a service of Praise and Worship.

Other Services

Tuesdays during term time 2:30 pm Tiny Tots Service in Church

1st Wednesday in the month :- 9:30 am Holy Communion (BCP) in the Lady Chapel
7:00pm Holy Communion in the Lady Chapel

Regular Events

Mondays at 8pm Bell Ringers

2nd and 4th Mondays 7:30pm Bible Study at 15 Lime Grove

Thursdays 9am to 11:15am Family Morning during term time in the Sunday School Rooms

Alternate Wednesdays 2pm 'The Wednesday Club' in the Sunday School Rooms

Thursdays 7:30pm S.M.A.S.H. *(St. Michaels At Someone's House)* Fellowship and Bible Study at 41 Pilgrims Lane.

Dates for the Diary

In the next edition of Bugbrooke LINK you will find details for the autumn, in the meantime have a wonderful holiday season whatever you are doing and trust we will all enjoy some better weather.

Please keep an eye out for other services and events.
Home Communions by prior arrangement.
Enquiries about Baptism ring 830373
Enquires about marriage ring 831621
For all other enquirers please ring either of the above numbers.
If no one answers please leave a message and we will return your call.

Family Announcements

Joan Pauline Gilkes—The family of the late Joan Pauline Gilkes would like to thank everyone for their kindness, cards and donations.

Diary

August

24th—27th		Jesus Fellowship August Event	Cornhill

September

3rd	10.30am	Music Circle	Jubilee House
3rd	7.30pm	Table Tennis Club	CC
8th	12.00pm	Friends of Campion Car Boot Sale	CS
9th	pm	OAP's Gift Scheme Cream Teas	SS
10th	7.30pm	Friends of Campion Committee Meeting	CS
29th-30th		Beer Festival Bugbrooke Rugby Club	Clubhouse

October

5th		OAP Gift Scheme Wine Tasting	CC
5th	7.30pm	Friends of Campion Quiz Fish & Chip Supper	CS
6th	2pm	Guides Jumble Sale	SS