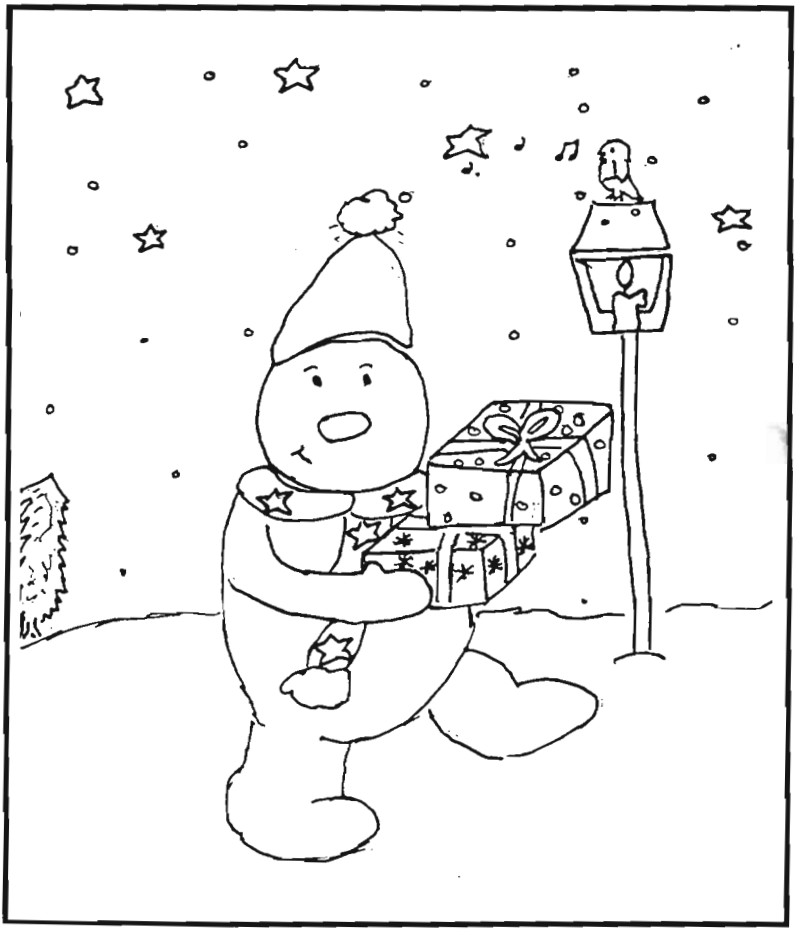
Bugbrooke Link



Vicky Hussey

Christmas 1996

The Bugbrooke "LINK" Committee

Published bi-monthly. Circulated free to every household within the Parish boundary of Bugbrooke. The "LINK" Management Committee is elected in accordance with the Constitution and Rules at the A.G.M. in May annually. Its composition as at 8th May 1996 was as follows:

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Whilst we check the information for grammar and spelling on articles supplied by our contributors the LINK magazine can accept no responsibility for errors or omissions in the factual content of the information.

Bugbrooke Link Magazine

(Issue No. 81), December 1996

Editor: Paul Cockcroft

Welcome to the Christmas issue of your village magazine; especially to those who have moved to the village during 1996. I trust that you all continue to find the magazine informative, entertaining and worthwhile. As usual, this edition contains quizzes and puzzles to keep you amused over the holiday period.

Now that the future of LINK seems to be financially secure, I invite everyone to consider the way in which you would like to see the magazine developing over the next few years. This might include the role of computers in data gathering and distribution and ideas on presentation to keep the contents fresh and relevant. (It is wonderful that so much time and effort is so readily given by so many contributors, and I do hope it encourages other people to write to me with articles.)

Back to the immediate future, the Link committee wish you all a peaceful Christmas.

The deadline for the February issue is Monday 6th January 1997.

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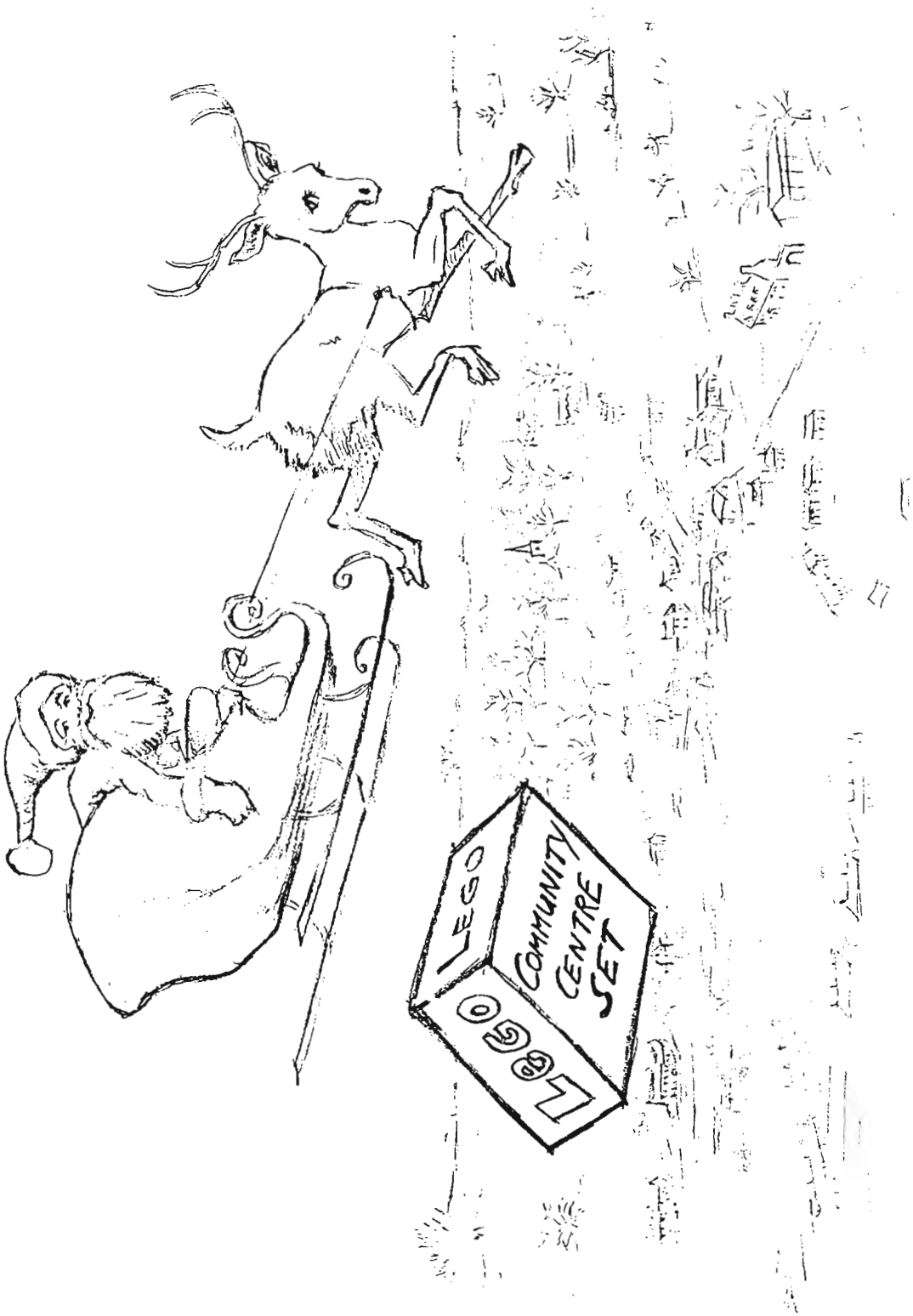

Farewell

On December 31st Bugbrooke County Primary School will lose the man who has been at the helm, so to speak, for 12 years.

Mike Langrish, a man so dedicated to his position, the children and to his staff leaves B.C.P.S. to take up a Headship in Brackley. He will certainly be missed and very hard to replace.

Mike is a very supportive, caring man as many parents will have experienced. He has always wanted the very best for the children, and sometimes has had to fight very hard on their behalf for what he believes in. He always remembers every child's name in the school and they can go to him with any problem or worry – he always makes time. And who better to cheer everyone up with a good sing-song!

I worked with Mike from the start of his time at B.C.P.S. until I retired last Christmas. I can only say it was a privilege.

Mike – on behalf of everyone, of your staff, governors, children and their parents and acquaintances and, of course, myself, we wish you every success and happiness in this next step in your career. Bugbrooke's loss is Brackley's gain!

Pam Hoare

Bugbrooke History Research Society

As a member of the Bugbrooke History Research Society, I am attempting to gather information on housing in the village.

I would be grateful if anyone with interesting details connected with their homes, particularly older properties, could contact me.

Facts such as the date of construction, original and subsequent owners, unusual features, etc would all be of great value to me.

Thank you in anticipation,

Sylvia A. Wyles 01604 830254

Nature Notes by Bill Lantsbery

Only two weeks ago Mrs Eileen Edwards died and was buried in the churchyard. I always knew that she looked after any creature that was taken to her if it was injured. Not till I rang her daughter Gill did I get the full story. She had grey squirrels and they had had young and build up to a family of ten. She had a pigeon by the name of Peter, two rooks by the names of Jack and Jill, Jack had died just six months ago but she had had these rooks over twenty years! A magpie she had, used to tap on her window and go and sleep in a cage indoors! Stray dogs, a tortoise, in fact the list is endless. I think Eileen did a wonderful job

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with sick and injured creatures and now she has gone, Bugbrooke has lost a very kind and loving lady.

Now a word about the weather. I think we have had some lovely sunshine in October but things went a bit wrong last Monday the 28th. I had to go to a meeting in the Village Hall and I had the greatest difficulty to fight my way there against a dreadful wind. It was the end of Hurricane Lily that had come across the Atlantic. Thousands of homes lost their electricity through falling trees etc. Thank goodness it only lasted one night!

I watched a television programme last night about creatures around the coasts of Australia. I think these wildlife programmes get better and better. I was pleased to see there was a programme one night giving awards to the people who take these lovely pictures. Prince Philip was present and David Attenborough was commentating.

Phil Bignell tells me that one night his wife opened the door and a fox stood looking at her! I hear there are still thousands of rabbits about and they can do a lot of damage. We seem to have lots of grey squirrels in the garden.

Evie and I saw a jaybird land on a headstone in the churchyard. It has been a long time since I saw a jay. I read from the bird book that it eats acorns and it stores some in the ground and they often grow into oak trees!

My son David has taken me over to Heyford and shown me a group of Scots Pine trees. They are very dead. Some time ago he saw some dark, long, wasp-like flies settling on the trees. They were a type of sawfly. They laid their eggs in the bark and when the grub hatched out it ate into the tree. Now there are hundreds of holes in the trees where the creature has eaten its way out. The hole is about ½cm wide. He has brought me two of these dead flies. They are black with brown wings and have a long sharp point at the rear. About twice as long as a bee. No other types of trees were affected. The book name for this sawfly is a Sirex.

LANTSBERY – BILL

A very Happy 80th Birthday, Dec. 28th; to Links' Chief Correspondent with our Best Wishes.
Link Committee

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More Quotes – Thinking & Thoughts

Brain: An apparatus with which we think we think. *Ambrose Bierce*

The trouble with the person who always says what he thinks is that he talks more than he thinks. *Lambert Jeffries*

When all think alike, no one is thinking. *Walter Lippman*

The captain's thoughts raced through his head like paperbags in a hurricane. *J.B. Morton*

Thinking has always been to me an occupation painful and without charm. *J.J. Rousseau*

I have asked several men what passes through their minds when they are thinking; and I could never find any man who could think for two minutes together. *Sydney Smith*

He could no more help having ideas about everything than a dog can resist smelling at your heels. *H.G. Wells*

One's conscience had better not speak at all than be always jabbering. *Samuel Butler*

Shake a hand, never a fist. *A.G. Elliot*

The good thing about swallowing pride is that it doesn't choke you. *A.G. Elliot*

The surest way of losing one's dignity is to stand on it. *Lambert Jeffries*

Nothing is so firmly believed as what we least know. *Michel de Montaigne*

To do two things at once is to do neither. *Publilius Syrus*

Robert Lloyd Francis MRCVS

Well known local vet, Robert Francis, sadly died on the 8th October 1996 following a car accident, leaving Paula and three children, David, John and Lydia.

Robert was a senior partner of Towcester Veterinary Centre coming to the practice in 1978 having previously worked both in Liverpool and Winslow. He was born in Liverpool in 1953 and educated there before going on to Glasgow University to study Veterinary Medicine, graduating in 1975.

The local farming community and small animal clients alike respected his expertise and warmed to his outgoing manner. He will be sadly missed.

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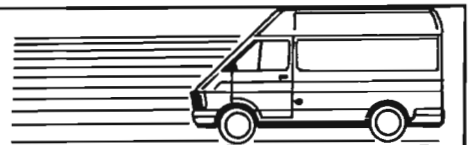

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Royal British Legion – Women's Section

At the time of writing, October, we have had some interesting meetings. The jewellery evening was very good; who would think there are so many gorgeous stones in our earth.

We had a salad for our next competition and sat down to eat them when judged. In September Bingo, and in October we ate our jacket potatoes and then did a Quiz set by Barbara Bell.

We are now all set to tour the village with our poppies. How many people realise the energy and hours that go into selling the poppies and how lucky we are to have people knocking on our doors; so many villages only have the boxes in the shops and pubs.

In November we have Mr R. Hutchings from Litchborough to show more slides of the Falkland Islands and Bills will be in the shops to invite people to come. Also in November our parade and service for Remembrance Sunday. Hope to see lots of children there as we must never forget those men and women who gave their lives for us.

Enid Pell, Hon Chairman

Bugbrooke & District Flower Society

'It's nice to hear the bells' – that's what every arranger who comes to our meetings says, and at our September meeting entitled All Things Bright and Beautiful they fitted in very well. Mrs Sylvia Poroas demonstrated with Autumn flowers with conkers, Italian and other continental designs, wedding flowers that she had used at her daughter's wedding. This was a very unusual demonstration and adaptable for Christmas.

Our main fund-raiser at Campion School with Ian Zorn was enjoyed by a capacity audience of both men and women. Congratulations to our Committee for all their hard work in making this a successful evening. In contrast our October meeting was a competition evening for members, this was in three stages and was judged by Mrs Ivy Fox. This competition was of a very high standard and everyone deserved a prize. A splendid buffet was partaken of afterwards.

B.E. Bell

Mothers' Union

Our Jumble Sale was again very well supported raising £160; half we donated to the Sunday School toilet fund and the other half to the Daylight Centre. Thank you once again to all who came and supported us.

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We began our year with a service in Church followed by a cup of tea. Our first speaker since the summer holidays was Jenny Loasby from the United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, founded in 1700.

This was a very interesting and thought provoking evening. She told of the different images of Christ around the world from being gentle and mild to angry and grotesque, a black loving shepherd with a lamb on his shoulder, or in Japan amongst the pergodas.

Our beetle drive afternoon was again a great success, a chance for members to have some fun and a chat.

The Deanery meeting at Harpole was well attended by all the M.U. branches. A speaker gave a very interesting talk about women's influence on Christianity. This was followed by an excellent supper and 'bring and buy' sale.

Neighbourhood Watch

The Area Commander responsible for policing our village, which forms part of the Towcester sector came to talk at the Parish Council meeting in October. He was supported by P.C. Gary Wood, who is our local Police Officer. It was a great pity that despite the publicity for this event, only a bare handful of residents were sufficiently interested to attend. I believe that we get the policing which we deserve, and on this showing, we don't deserve much!

Superintendent Vickers explained that there were two immediate response vehicles, and two general purpose vehicles to serve this sector, so that it was inevitable that on non urgent matters, occasionally the response would not be as quick as might be desired, but he assured the meeting that in the event of a real emergency, the response would be both quick and efficient. There is also a C.I.D. officer assigned to this area.

He stressed that serious crime such as drugs, violence, and firearms offences, etc had to receive priority. Most crimes in Bugbrooke were committed by 'outsiders', not local people. The most serious form of crime in the area was theft of and from cars, with a clear up rate of 57 per cent.

It was interesting to note that the majority of cases where the miscreants were caught, were as a result of information given to the police by Neighbourhood Watch. The Superintendent emphasized that anyone who saw anything of a suspicious nature should not hesitate to contact the police immediately.

There followed a question and answer session, from which it emerged that there was a problem with loutish behaviour on the open area behind the houses in Badgers Close. It was agreed that this area should receive closer police attention.

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Quite apart from the foregoing, we have to report that a Mother left her handbag in her car in Church Lane for five minutes whilst collecting her child from school. Upon her return to the vehicle, she found the window broken, and the handbag missing. This unfortunate incident does serve to emphasize that valuables should not be left in cars, even for short periods.
Vic & Roy

Women's Institute

The County Autumn Council Meeting was held on 22nd October, and we were thrilled that Bugbrooke was mentioned in dispatches twice. You already know that we won the competition to design the new County badge, and we were presented with a voucher for £10 to mark the achievement. Our small Institute also won the competition for a nosegay, which was beautifully arranged by Cherry Pilcher.

Prizes were presented by Jenni Murray of Woman's Hour, the Radio 4 programme celebrating 50 years of broadcasting. Jenni gave us an amusing and informative talk on how women's lives and expectations have changed since 1946. She ended by telling us that we shall know whether we have succeeded as mothers when our *sons* turn to us and say "Mum, how can I successfully cope with my parental responsibilities *and* my career?"!

Our next meeting is on 2nd December when Cherry is giving a demonstration to pass on her skills with Christmas floral decorations. The Craft Circle are also planning another Silk Ribbon Embroidery tuition evening. We are hoping to make poinsettias and pine-cones to mount in Christmas cards and gift-tags, so maybe this year some of us will actually be ready for Christmas when it comes. Our Darts Team are busy travelling the county for their matches, and so far have won 3 out of their 4 games.

The Committee wish all our members, both present and future, a Peaceful Christmas and a Fulfilling New Year.

Darby and Joan

As we come to the close of year we remember all the good times that we have had. The last one being our trip to Turners for our Anniversary (41st) Dinner. A good time was had by all. Now one more function left this year; our Christmas tea and carol afternoon on December 18th.

Many thanks again to Lily for her unending energy in raising funds for the club. Thank you for your cheque; so very generous of you and of course Jim, for keeping you in shoes!! More thanks to everyone who

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kindly donated raffle prizes for our Bazaar and to all who supported us.

In October, sadly 2 of our members passed away. Firstly Mrs Eileen Edwards who was a regular and lively member of the club and also Mrs Jeffries who, although no longer residing in the village was still remembered by us all. Our thoughts and wishes go to the families of both ladies. They will be greatly missed.

Now may I say on behalf of all at Darby and Joan Club a very peaceful and happy Christmas and a healthy happy New Year. A special wish for all the people behind the magazine (LINK) long may you continue and thanks on behalf of Bugbrooke and ex Bugbrooke villagers for all your hard work and commitment. Well done!

Merry Christmas.

SJM

Many thanks to all who bought raffle tickets and to D. Cobb, P. Archer, L. Clayson, S. Tewson, R. Whipp, E. Gascoigne and R. Tew for Raffle Prizes. Lucky winners M. Sargent, D. Winter, L. Bulliman, F. Berwick, G. Nightingale, K. Manning, A. Asplin, D. Massey, P. Gilkes and A. Austin – £400 was raised.

Also many thanks to friends for unwanted items sold for £100. A cheque for £500 was donated to Darby and Joan Club at their meeting on the 23rd October 1996.

I have said it before and will say it again 'Bugbrooke people are very very generous'.

A very Happy Christmas to you all.

Lily Maguire

Bugbrooke Amateur Dramatic Society

BUGBROOKE Amateur Dramatic Society

The pantomime 'Aladdin' will take place at Campion School on 30th and 31st January 1997 at 7.30 p.m. Also 1st February at 2.30 p.m. and 7.30 p.m. For further information please contact Sheila Bignell on 01604 830036.

It Runs in the Family

A team of over 20 Producers and Actors again conspired to put on an exhilarating performance by Bugbrooke Amateur Dramatic Society at Campion School on the 15th and 16th of November.

The ability of these amateur thespians to remember and perform to the fine timing such a farcical comedy requires never ceases to amaze. Mike McPherson was on stage continuously for almost 2 hours and still managed to perform almost without fault. He was ably supported by Jim Inch, who was word perfect throughout and timed his comments

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astutely. His valiant attempts to remove the drawers from a matronly Maggie Terry were worth the entrance ticket alone.

The Society are attracting fine new members and youngsters Craig Fergus and Paul Akehurst performed with able confidence whilst Jane Jackson and Linda Downing added professionalism and poise to the performance. Old hands Judith Piper, Ian Fergus, Roy Osborne, Sheila Bignell and Shirley Myers all put in good supporting performances and the timing of the play, which was critical, was kept flowing most of the time. It is a pity more performances were not possible so that this aspect could be perfected.

The backstage group were unnoticed and, consequently, very effective. Alan Berkshire and Phil Bignell certainly have the lighting and sound effects expertly wrapped up whilst the production and stage management of Pat Atkinson and John Gardiner ensured a good performance.

We look forward to the ribaldry of the Pantomime on 30th/31st January and 1st and 1st February. I hope everyone will have had time to recover and fit in another wholehearted effort to give pleasure to the audience. Get your tickets booked as the quality of this team is improving all the time.

JC

Nurse's Corner

Christmas Creepy Crawlies

How many unwanted guests will you have in your house this Christmas?

Pillows, like duvets and mattresses are a natural reservoir for the house-dust mite. A tenth of the weight of the average five-year-old pillow can be made up of house-dust mites and their droppings! Traditionally, asthmatics have been told to steer clear of feather pillows and opt for foam ones, but recent research suggests that the latter can harbour up to three times as many mite droppings as the former (it is the droppings which trigger the asthma). In reality, it probably makes no difference which type you opt for, as long as you wash them regularly, cover them with anti-allergen pillowcases and don't keep them any longer than five years.

Another beastie – head lice – can affect all ages and sections of the community. Head lice are tiny flesh-coloured insects 1–2mm long, which stay close to the scalp. Old egg shells 'nits' are white and shiny and are found further along the hair shaft. Finding nits alone does not necessarily mean a person still has live head lice. Finding out if your family has head lice is very simple – lice are easily detected by combing

MERRY CHRISTMAS

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Brain Teasers

1. John and Paul bought an 8 gallon barrel of cider. They wanted to share the cider equally between them but only had a 5 gallon container and a 3 gallon container. How did they manage?

MERRY CHRISTMAS

2. The result of dividing a 2 digit number by a 2 digit number on a calculator was 0.4482759. What were the numbers?

3. There were 80 ambassadors at the English embassy's reception. By the end of the evening every one of the ambassadors had shaken hands with every other ambassador. How many handshakes were there?

4. Barbara was called away in a hurry. She packed her bag in the dark so as not to disturb the dog. She had two colours of socks in her drawer – 10 brown socks and 14 red socks. How many socks did she take out to be sure of getting a pair?

5. 56 406 is the product of two consecutive numbers. What are the two numbers?

6. By putting arithmetical signs +, –, ÷ or × between these digits, make the following sum correct:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 = 100
There is more than one solution.

7. Take away 4 matchsticks to leave exactly four equilatoral triangles.

8. Arrange 8 coins as shown, to form a square with three coins each side

Move four of the coins to form a square with FOUR coins on each side.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Name the year

1. The death of King George V;
Arsenal beat Sheffield Utd in the FA Cup Final at Wembley;
Gatwick Airport opens.

2. BBC 2 begins regular colour broadcasting;
The Beatles released their album 'Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band';
Francis Chichester, the lone yachtsman, ends his round-the-world voyage.

3. School leaving age is raised to 14;
Germany signs the Armistice at the end of the first world war;
The first ever parachute drop from an aeroplane.

4. The Titanic finally located and photographed 12,000 feet down in the Atlantic;
Barry McGuigan wins the WBA featherweight boxing championship;
Wembley Stadium is the venue for Live Aid.

5. The Olympic games were held in Montreal;
Concorde has its first commercial transatlantic supersonic flight;
Jimmy Carter is elected US President.

Twenty-Five Facts you probably never wanted to know anyway!

1. The Met Office has 3,000 weather observation stations in the British Isles.
2. A total of 26 popes have been assassinated.
3. Some shrimps can grow as long as 25cm (10").
4. The hedgehog lives an average of six years.
5. About 29 thousand tonnes worth of aluminium cans are recycled yearly.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

6. Goals are least likely to be scored during the 1st minute of a football game, they are most likely in the 90th.
7. A typical Ten Gallon hat holds six pints.
8. Wimbledon tennis balls are stored at 21°c (70°f) for optimum bounce.
9. There are twice as many bicycles than cars on the planet.
10. A total of 6 billion of travellers cheques is sold worldwide each year.
11. The original Barbie doll appeared 37 years ago.
12. The ten shilling note was officially withdrawn by the Bank of England 26 years ago.
13. Only 10% of all fish & chip shops in the country use real vinegar, the rest use non-brewed condiment, a by-product of the petrochemical industry.
14. The most common length of a toilet roll in the UK is 35m (115ft).
15. Alaska was sold by Russia to the USA for just $7 million in 1867.
16. The Duke of Edinburgh was made a British Prince only 39 years ago.
17. There are more than 16 hundred daily newspapers in the USA.
18. The Japanese estimate that commercial space flights will be available to the public by the year 2020.
19. The odds of getting three of a kind in 5 card poker are 46–1.
20. There are 36 countries in the world without a coastline.
21. The giraffe's tongue can be as long as 40cm (16").
22. The UK loses an average of 13 thousand miles of hedgerow each year.
23. The first launderette opened in Fort Worth Texas in 1934.

24. The Neanderthal male had a life expectancy of 33 years.

25. Sumo wrestlers rarely weigh less than 21 stone.

A Quiz with a difference – Here are the answers, what were the questions!

1. 1948
2. Edward Elgar
3. Pacific Ocean
4. The Oxford & Cambridge boats in 1912
5. The Battle of Waterloo
6. Willow
7. Vatican City
8. Michael Collins
9. Marie Curie
10. Manhattan
11. J R R Tolkein
12. The Bible

Personalised Plates

Each of the vehicles, characters or organisations below has its own personalised car number plate. These are designed to read as words by using only the four numbers readily readable as letters, that is 1 for I, 5 for S, 8 for B and 0 for O. The number plates below are all of the form A nnn XYZ or XYZ nnn A where the letters can be any letter of the alphabet and the numbers (n) can represent anything made up from 1, 5, 8, 0 from 1 to 888.

Thus, for example, a few not used below might be:
Marble importer: ELG 1 N; Castaway: CRU 50 E; Picasso: CUB 15T
Two cabs: HAN 50 M and TAX 1 S.
Any valid alternatives to the answers intended will be allowed.

Three composers ----------

(at least five are possible)

Princess ----------

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Laurie Lee (two) ----------

Seven African countries ----------

Indian instrumentalist ----------

Three western musicians ----------

Norwegian playwright ----------

Two Scottish islands ----------

A St Peterburg opera company ----------

Two French artists ----------

Any artist ----------

Two Labour leaders ----------

Sculptor ----------

Public school ----------

Strongman ----------

Ex Yugoslav state ----------

Boris Yeltsin ----------

Greek tycoon ----------

A young male lover ----------

Two fictional sleuths ----------

Stamp dealer ----------

Cambridgeshire town ----------

A temporary resident ----------

St Francis ----------

Two rich men ----------

Israeli settler ----------

MERRY CHRISTMAS

This is not a new song – I remember it was originally a hit song for who?

1 Words, *Boyzone*/

2 You Can't Hurry Love, *Phil Collins*/

3 Kiss, *Tom Jones*/

4 Could it be Magic, *Take That*/

5 Only You, *Flying Pickets*/

6 Killing me Softly, *Fugees*/

7 What Becomes of the Broken-hearted, *Robson & Jerome*/

8 Don't Dream its Over, *Paul Young*/

9 Stairway to Heaven, *Rolf Harris*/

10 My Way, *Sex Pistols*/

11 Tears on my Pillow, *Kylie Minogue*/

12 Don't let the Sun go Down on Me, *Oletta Adams*/

13 I Will Always Love You, *Witney Houston*/

14 Mr Tambourine Man, *Byrds*/

15 Walk on By, *The Stranglers*/

16 Staying Alive, *N-trance*/

17 Groovy Kind of Love, *Phil Collins*/

18 Sealed With a Kiss, *Jason Donovan*/

19 Great Pretender, *Freddie Mercury*/

20 Delilah, *The Sensational Alex Harvey Band*/

21 You Keep Me Hanging On, *Wilde*/

22 Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia, *Don Estelle & Windsor Davies*/

23 With a Little Help from my Friends, *Joe Cocker*/

24 Not Fade Away, *Rolling Stones*/

25 Ruby Tuesday, *Melanie*/

26 Puppy Love, *Donny Osmond*/

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

wet hair. It is a good idea to comb the hair with a detection comb at least once a week. The scalp may itch due to the saliva lice inject into the skin as they feed.

If you find head lice there are two ways to deal with them.

1) Wash hair in the normal way with ordinary shampoo, and, using hair conditioner while the hair is very wet, comb through to the roots with a fine tooth comb. Clear the comb of lice between each stroke, and if you find any lice, repeat the routine every 3–4 days so that emerging lice are cleared before they can spread.

2) You could use an insecticidal lotion, available from the local chemist on prescription, to kill lice and eggs. Be thorough and cover all the head (there is no need for everyone in the house to be treated) and use a detection comb for 7–10 days after treatment.

Here's to a bug-free Christmas!

Sue Pace, R.G.N.

Girl Guides

We raised £220 at our jumble sale, so many thanks to all the people who collected jumble and especially to those who worked so hard on the day. Not forgetting of course all those who came to do all the buying. We had a parents coffee evening during which the video of our summer camp was shown to much hilarity, enjoyment and occasional embarrassment. We hope the video gave parents the opportunity to see first hand what a brilliant time we have at camp and how we fill the days with fun activities, good food and washing up!

On a lovely sunny Autumn Sunday four teams of four guides headed for Bucknell Woods for Suntrek. The morning was spent splashing through muddy puddles, getting lost and doing challenges. One team, the Musicians, equalled their record from last year by coming third.

At half term there was the district outing to Solihull ice rink followed on October 31st by a night walk through woods. Our guide Steve wouldn't permit the use of either voices or torches which added to the excitement and meant we were able to hear the owls calling to each other. Unfortunately we were still too noisy to entice the badgers out.

Rachel 831697, Helen 01327 340404

The Royal British Legion – Bugbrooke Branch

I write this article as Remembrance time approaches. You will all have heard or read of the efforts of the Legion to bring back the idea of a two minute silence on the eleventh hour, of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. Last year it was reasonably successful, and it is to be hoped that

this year it will have been even better.

This year is the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Legion, and I would remind everyone that it exists in order to help ex service men and women, whether or not they are members.

V.K.W.

Bugbrooke Playgroup

Late news – but better late than never... our LEAVER'S PARTY... which was held in July was a brilliant success with a show from Puppets Peculiar Petshop. All the children thoroughly enjoyed it. Thank you to Jo Botterill for organising and all the helpers on the day. I also must apologise to Jo for omitting this out of the October issue.

We have also lost a valued member of staff, Wendy Harrison. Wendy was with us for many years and in that time her 'artistic flair' came out which will surely be missed in the sessions. All the playgroup staff, committee and children wish you well for the future. Anytime you are having 'withdrawal symptoms' pop in and see the children!

We have taken Pauline Fox onto the staff so a very warm welcome to you. Pauline will be replacing Wendy.

We are holding a Christmas Party for the children on 20th December 1996 and parents may by now have received invites, if not yet, you should be very soon. We have booked Puppets Peculiar Petshop who are going to do a very special Christmas show.

If you wish your child/children to enrol in our playgroup we have places available for children from age 2 years and 9 months or above. Please telephone Sue Broadbent on 832040. If you would like to put your child's name on the waiting list, we take names of children from 18 months.

Merry Xmas and a Very Happy New Year from Karren, Jackie, Angie, Janice, Val, Geraldine, Pauline and all the committee.

Alison Taylor

Bugbrooke Cricket Club

At a recent Committee Meeting the decision was made to apply to join a league on Saturdays. An application has been made to the Town League, the only local league which will now accept an artificial wicket. By the time you read this report a decision will have been made by the League Committee, we are not anticipating any problems. One of the main reasons for applying to join a league is the number of matches lost because the opposition 'cannot get a team' – usually only giving about 2 days notice. Also we are hoping to attract some more useful cricketers to

our Club which should also raise the playing standard.

Our Annual Dinner is this year being held at the newly furbished Saracens Head Hotel in Towcester on 22nd November – again it will be all over before you read this article. David and Debbie Capel are our chief guests and David has kindly agreed to give us a talk. He is appreciative of our Club for letting him use our ground for coaching in the summer. Our other important guests are Jack and June Dawson in appreciation for all the hard work that Jack puts in making the ground look so nice.

Indoor nets are again going to be held at the County Ground every Thursday from 9th January to 10th April. If anybody would like to take advantage of this please contact Roger Stone (tel: 842961 h & 648484 b) who would be pleased to hear from you. We are of course also looking for players who would like to join our Club to play league cricket on Saturdays and friendlies on Sundays – please contact Roger, the Chairman John Mundy (Tel: 830725 h & b) or myself.

Peter White (830452 h & b)

St Michael & All Angels Church News

Christmas Services

On December 15th at 10.30 am there will be a Christingle Communion which is also Parade Service. The youngsters will all receive a Christingle to take home with them. On Christmas Eve there will be a Christmas Eve Communion at 10.30 pm (please note time) here at Bugbrooke and then there will be a similar service at Rothersthorpe at 11.45 pm. On Christmas morning there will be a Holy Communion with Hymns at 8 am, and at 10.30 am we shall have a Carol Communion which is designed for all ages. Both these services will be at Bugbrooke Church. Our Candlelit Carol Service at Bugbrooke will be on Sunday 29th December at 6.30 pm.

Parish Council Meetings – September and October 1996

This has been a hectic period, involving meetings with senior Police, Highways and South Northamptonshire Council officers. The chance to bend the ears of people who take decisions in the County does not often present itself; when it occurs we tend to grasp the opportunity with alacrity (not to mention glee!).

The first opportunity arose when Superintendent Phil Vickers, the Police Commander for the western area which includes Bugbrooke,

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agreed to attend the Parish Council Meeting in October. He began by outlining the operational organisation of the Force and the need for the community to be alert and active in the prevention of crime. After this the Parish Councillors and a number of local residents launched into him with their concerns about the level of policing that is available to the village (which is negligible) and the lack of information to the Neighbourhood Watch Group. The general concern remains the loss of a village bobby, who could often deal with trouble before it began, and the general withdrawal of the Police from the community – a tour through the village in a car is not seen as adequate. To his credit, Superintendent Vickers retained his composure and sense of humour during this onslaught and at least agreed to discuss some specific problems with individuals and improve contacts with Neighbourhood Watch. It is clear, however, that so far as Northamptonshire Police is concerned, the day of the village bobby is past.

Next in the firing line were the County Council Highways Department. Officers of that Department, together with the Chief Executive of South Northamptonshire Council, attended the first Community Forum in the County. This was an open meeting held at Campion School for the residents of Bugbrooke, Kislingbury and Nether Heyford and the issue under discussion was traffic. The officers fielded questions, comments and criticism, mainly about lorry movements, rat runs, traffic calming measures, through traffic and the likely future build up of traffic. Also discussed was the amazing shrinking bridge in Nether Heyford. It has already become too low for lorries to pass under and, if left unattended, in a few year's time only limbo dancers will be able to use it.

Although there are severe restrictions on the restrictions on lorries which the Highways Department can impose, the County Council officers undertook to arrange a meeting with a number of local haulage firms in view of the disquiet of some residents of the three villages.

The experts seemed to have changed their minds about the use of so called traffic calming measures, and 'throttles' (where roads are deliberately narrowed) are no longer favoured for straight approaches to villages. It was strongly emphasised from the floor, however, that some form of traffic calming is expected at the Camp Hill entrance to the new Community Centre.

Another rather disconcerting fact emerging from the Forum was the 'management by congestion' policy now openly adopted by the Government and local authorities. The intention is to make driving so uncomfortable that drivers are driven off the road. This policy will be particularly noticeable in this area when the massive development at St Crispin and 'west of Northampton' as proposed in the revised County Structure Plan becomes a reality.

Continuing the Structure Plan theme, the Parish Council have asked

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the County Council to define the term 'west of Northampton' where the revised Structure Plan expects the development of at least 1,000 houses as part of the Government's requirement for 50,000 new houses in the County by the year 2016. Having asked this question, however, the County Council plans seem to locate the houses in the Harpole area – hence our concern about the volume of traffic on the A45!

Meanwhile, changes in the Local Plan suggested by landowners to allow significant development in Bugbrooke have been rejected by the Inspector. Both South Northamptonshire Council and the Parish Council had objected to the proposed changes.

During all this activity normal Parish Council business was continuing. The Parish Council were pleased to receive plans for 3 terraced and 2 semi-detached houses at Badgers Close. This reflects the Parish Council policy of providing an element of smaller, more affordable housing in development plans. The quest for appropriately sited official low cost housing, involving a housing association, is still being pursued.

Finally, the play areas on the Merriefields Estate cannot be considered a success. They have caused problems for adjacent householders and the Parish Council for many years. Enquiries are being made about the legal position as to their future use. A number of ideas are being formulated and any other sensible suggestions will be seriously considered. All this depends, of course, on whether the legal status of the sites can be changed.
David Harries

Family Announcements

WILLMORE – ALAN 18th December

There was an old man named Alan
Who delivered beer by the gallon
He's 50 today
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DARVELL – MATTHEW
Happy 18th birthday on 20 December. Love from Mum, Dad and Theresa

DOVEY – Happy 16th birthday Lizzie on 23rd December.
Love from Mum, Dad and Martin xxx

WILLMORE – LORNA
Happy 18th birthday, 28 December. Love Mum, Dad and Karen

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THANKS

The family of Eileen Edwards would like to sincerely thank everyone for their messages, cards and flowers, received on the sad loss of Eileen.

Special thanks to all of Eileen's friends and neighbours for their kindness and support in recent months. To the doctors and nursing staff at the surgery for their care. Also to Tim for his help and kind words at the service, which was attended by many of her friends old and new. Thanks to all.

Bugbrooke Primary School

Christmas Fair

The annual Christmas Fair will be held on Saturday 7th December in the school hall. The doors will open at 2 pm.

Attractions will include Father Christmas, a cake stall, the popular Rainbow Stall, children's games and refreshments.

All money raised will go towards school funds.

For any further information please contact Simon Chick (BPSA Secretary) on 701975.

Campion School

The Derek Roberts Building

On Wednesday, 13th November the new Sixth form building at Campion School was opened by the former first Headteacher of the school. He is now retired and lives in Nether Heyford and the opening was attended by many of his former colleagues and people from Northants County Council, School Governors and ancillary staff.

The new block has excellent facilities and provides a library and computer room in addition to 8 classrooms equipped with the most modern education facilities. There is also a refreshment facility.

The new building also houses the Adult Education office and the computer and reference library are available to the public in the evening. It is expected this facility will be useful to those studying for the Open University and anyone wishing to get information onto computer. Use of the facility can be booked through the Adult Education office by leaving a message on (01604) 830431.

The rooms and computers are being used by adults in the evening and serve to provide a most up-to-date environment for adult members of the community. Anyone wishing to have a look at the facility are invited to ring the Adult Education office and arrange a tour on Monday–Thursday evenings between 7.00pm and 9.00pm.

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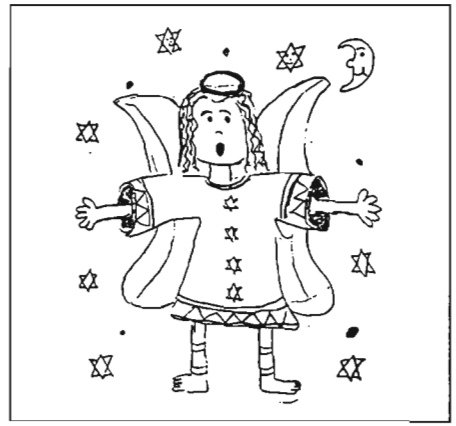

This picture was drawn by **Harriet Pattle** and was voted as the runner-up. A very good picture Harriet.

Well done to all the following who submitted some wonderful drawings for our Christmas covers:

Sam Abraham; Bradley Burns; Ruth Baker; Marc Bromsgrove; Sarah Billingham; Victoria Brewerton-Owen; Nathan Briton; Nathan Britten; Donna Bowater; Lydia Breeze-Chilcot; Hollie Bows; Stephanie Bennett; Nina Copson; Michael Catling; Robert Cox; Hannah Cooper; Nicola Case; Jenny Evans; Katherine Ebury; Shelly Farmer; Martin Farmer; Kie Fewster; Lee Garlick; Luke Gardner; Philip Harding; Melanie Hill; Sam H; Richard Harrison; Kelly Howell; Mark Iliff; Faolan Jones; Jennie Johnson; Harriet Kolb; Rachael Langley; Felicity Ludlam; Ian Mellor; Peter McIlhiney; Victoria Moody; Alexander Morris; Laura Manning; Katie Price; Chris Rayner; Jonathan Raymond; Kelvin Rudkin; Diana Russell; Robert Stockley; Sheryl Scarrott; Matthew Stapleton; Catherine Toop; Haydn Ward; Martyn Worrall; Sabina Y; Michael York; Ben; and Melody.

Hopefully we have got all your names right but we apologise to anyone whose may be wrong.

In Brief

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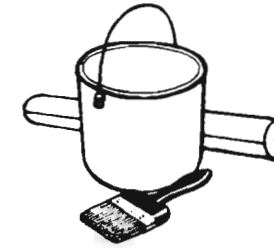

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Inserts will only be accepted from
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For contacts see Committee list

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Tuesday. We wish to apologise to the Rev. H. Jones whose advertisement in last night's paper should have read 'The Rev Jones has TV for sale cheap. Please phone his housekeeper, Mrs Jordan who lives with him after 7 p.m.

Wednesday. We wish to apologise to the Rev. Jones, who has received many annoying phone calls after last night's advert, which should have read 'The Rev. Jones has TV for sale cheap. Please phone after 7 p.m. his housekeeper, Mrs Jordan, who loves with him'.

Thursday. I, Rev. Harry Jones have no TV for sale; I have smashed it. I would like to make it clear that I am not carrying on with Mrs Jordan who was my housekeeper.

Friday. Rev. Harry Jones requires a housekeeper. Usual duties – God pay – love in.

Village Diary

December			
2	7.30pm	W.I. Christmas floral decorations by Cherry Pilcher	SS
4	7.35pm	PCC Meeting	SS
4	2.00pm	Darby & Joan Meeting	SS
7	2.00pm	Bugbrooke Primary School Christmas Fair	PS
7	6.30pm	Concert by Diocesan M.U. Choir	Church
12	7.30pm	Mothers' Union Advent Carol Service	SS
15	10.30am	Christingle Communion	Church
16	7.30pm	Royal British Legion – Women's Section Meeting	SS
18	2.00pm	Darby & Joan Xmas Tea	SS
24	10.30pm	Christmas Eve Communion	Church
25	8.00am	Holy Communion with Hymns	Church
25	10.30am	Carol Communion for all ages	Church
29	6.30pm	Candlelit Carol Service	Church
30	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	VH
January			
6	7.30pm	W.I. Birthday Party	SS
7	8.00pm	LINK COMMITTEE MEETING	John's
8	2.00pm	Darby & Joan Meeting	SS
9	2.30pm	Mothers' Union Service and Tea	Rectory
19	10.00am	Parade Communion	Church
20	7.30pm	Royal British Legion – Women's Section Meeting	SS
22	8.00pm	PCC Meeting	SS
22	2.00pm	Darby & Joan Meeting	SS
27	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	VH
27	8.00pm	Flower Society – AGM and Social Evening	SS
30th & 31st	7.30pm	BADS 'Pantomime' 'Aladdin'	CS
February			
1	7.30pm	BADS 'Pantomime' 'Aladdin'	CS
1	2.30pm	BADS 'Pantomime' 'Aladdin'	CS
2	10.30am	Candlemas Communion	Church
17	7.30pm	Royal British Legion – Women's Section Meeting	SS

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Bugbrooke Link

Eddy O'Brien

Christmas 1996