

April 1994

LINK Bugbrooke



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The Bugbrooke "LINK" Committee

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Bugbrooke Link Magazine

(Issue No. 65), April 1994

Editor: John Sexton

Spring

A few beautiful days experienced in the middle of March must surely have announced the arrival of Spring . . . Daffodils, Crocuses and primroses all appeared to blossom simultaneously: but, as seems traditional, they still had to fight off a mischievous late frost.

Spring is arguably the best of the seasons - the time of the year when one says good riddance to a dull, dreary, damp Winter and expresses the hope that a warm enjoyable Easter will lead to a Summer of sunshine and heat.

And Bugbrooke is such a lovely village when the sun shines!

Good News

From information received it sounds likely that the floodlighting of our Church may soon be restored following the vandalism and robbery reported in our last issue. It is hoped that new "safety measures" to be employed will prevent a repetition of this sordid occurrence.

LINK A.G.M.

LINK Annual General Meeting takes place on Wednesday May 4th at 7.30pm. in the Village Hall. Attendances in previous years have been abysmal. Perhaps, then, it will be the A.G.M. of 1994 which will provide a suitable opportunity for a few more members of the Public to support John Unwin and his team, in their endeavours, firstly by being present and perhaps - who knows? - even offering their services to assist.

Closing date for the June issue is Monday 9th May, 1994.

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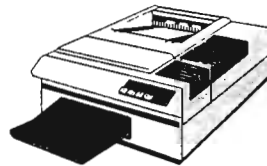
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Parish Council – January and February 1994

After careful deliberation over the likely levels of expenditure, the Parish Council decided to seek a precept of £16,000 in 1994/95. This is an increase of £2,000 over this year's figure, but Bugbrooke remains one of the lowest costed parish councils per head of the population. Despite this frugality, we have still managed to make significant progress in a number of areas – the street lighting has been greatly improved, and the improvement programme continues; the recent housing survey may be the first step towards providing affordable housing in the village now that there is no longer a national council house building programme; active support is being given to the Playing Fields Association for the provision of a Community Centre; and numerous highways matters are being addressed, some of which are explained below.

The Parish Council have, over many years, been attempting to resolve the known traffic hazard at Great Lane, particularly at the point where the footpath is at its narrowest. Over the years a number of possible solutions have been suggested and rejected. After our latest representations to the County Council, they put forward a proposal designed to improve safety for pedestrians and also slow through-traffic. This involves completing the resurfacing of the footpath on the north side of the road and increasing the width of the smallest section of footpath from 0.5 metres to 1.5 metres. The kerb on the footpath on the opposite side of the road to this section would be raised. This would restrict the width of the road at this point to 3.4 metres, making it single track only. Road narrows/single track warning signs would be posted at an appropriate distance from each approach to this section, providing adequate early warning for motorists to reduce speed. All the residents of Great Lane were informed of this proposal and no objections were received. Consequently, work should begin and be completed before the end of March.

The County Council, as highway authority, continue to surprise us with their positive approach to our suggestions. (Could it be something to do with the current review of local government structure?) They have now agreed to provide additional grit bins which we hope to locate at the Pilgrims Lane/Camp Hill junction, near Elm Tree Bank and at Spencer Close/Levitts Road/Chipsey Avenue. They will also provide "speed boards" which, despite their name, are designed to remind drivers to keep their speed down. These will be erected by volunteers from the Parish Council for a temporary period from May 9.

The Parish Council have decided to take over responsibility for cutting the grass verges in the village. The money provided for this

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purpose by the County Council should be more than enough to match or even improve the number of cuts made in past years. This is a separate contract to that for cutting the play areas on the Merriefields estate. Needless to say, both contracts will be carefully monitored.

There is continued concern over the number of foul water sewers which remain unadopted – and therefore the responsibility of residents in the areas affected. The roads in Bugbrooke with unadopted sewers are Almond Close, Beech Close, Johns Road, Lime Grove, Maple Close, Oaklands, Smitherway (part) and the Paddocks (part). Consequently, although this is a national problem, the Parish Council (perhaps flushed with recent success) have asked our Member of Parliament to take this matter up with the Government. A leaflet produced by Anglian Water explaining who is responsible for the sewers also drew attention to the fact that the system was designed to carry dirty water and water-borne wastes only, and that old socks, underwear, children's toys and false teeth must not be put into the system. Therefore, if you have an old teddy bear wearing socks, underwear and a set of false teeth, please do not try to dispose of it down the toilet.

100 copies of the Countryside Walks leaflet, showing all the official footpaths in Bugbrooke, will be purchased and made available for sale at the outrageously reasonable price of 40p each in village shops and Post Office. It is hoped that they will sell like hot, or at least fairly warm, cakes.

Finally, the Parish Council were baffled by a brochure advertising BT Environment Week '94. The reason for the bafflement was that the week seemed to last 10 days. Canon Partridge provided the probable answer in that whenever BT say something will take a week, it invariably takes 10 days.

David Harries

Nature Notes by Bill Lantsbery



In my last notes I was going on about good television nature programmes. I thought the one recently about snakes was jolly good. It was about a Heath in Dorset, Studland by name, that is just above Swanage. All the British snakes are there; the grass, the smooth and the adder. The question of snakes brought back a fond memory to me. Some time after I came to Bugbrooke to teach, one of the boys brought a large jar to school and it had a grass snake in it. I told him to take it round to every class and let them see this fine snake. He did that and then left the jar in our large room. At playtime, Miss Jones who came from Pattishall



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came quietly to my side and said, "If that snake stays in this school I am going along to Barford's to get my car and I am off home. I cannot stand snakes!" I told the lad who had brought it to take it up Smith's Lane and let it go. Miss Jones gave me a lovely smile when I told her she was safe! I have asked several people who take their dogs for long walks if they have seen any snakes lately and they say they have not. Have they all been killed off? Please let me know if you have seen one.

What a pleasure it is to see the rooks so active in the trees opposite. They started to build on 25 February and now on 2 March there are three really good nests. Of course there will be more but I do like to see the bird that stays on guard to prevent the stealing that sometimes goes on. Those rooks have been in those trees every day of the winter. I sometimes wonder where they go off to at night. Is it Harpole Cover? I would love to know - I decided to sit and watch and about six o'clock the bulk of them took off and flew over Home Farm and continued due West. They certainly never went towards Harpole!

Chatting with Mr Scrutton, from Peace Hill the other evening, he said that nearly every morning when he looks out of his bedroom window, he sees a fox. I think that there are many about nowadays. Many are killed on the roads too. He also said he disagreed with the people who said certain species of birds are getting less. The robin was mentioned! I think we have never had so many in the garden. The blackbirds are running each other about as never before. They are starting their nests too. I think the thrush and the skylark have gone down in numbers.

Phil from the Paddocks told me that one day when he was going to Harpole, up Sandy Lane he saw a dead mink by the side of the road. Kevin Bridger was with him at the time.

Yesterday 3 March, Jim from next door, took me off to Moreton-in-Marsh and Banbury. It was a lovely trip but we had to see one unpleasant sight. A badger lay dead just a few yards from the village of Maidford. Animals have a job to cross a road today don't they? Another thing I noticed on this trip. Have there ever been so many mole heaps before? Some fields are completely filled with them. Is it the wet conditions? There is a small lake or pond in every field!

To finish on a happy note. Isn't it a pleasure to see the daffodils showing colour, the blackthorn coming out, the tits popping into the nest box, snowdrops and crocus everywhere. We are going to forget those bitter winds and dreadful rains because Spring has sprung!

PS 6 March Jimmy Haynes has just rung to say he has heard a skylark singing!



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Operation Springclean

Having won "Most Improved" in the Tidy Village Competition twice, lets *go for gold* this year and really tidy up our village. There are still one or two blackspots for rubbish (unfortunately they're always the same places!) which I should be grateful for help to clean up on Operation Springclean Day - 16th April. Collect bags, gloves, etc. from my house (1 Church Lane) between 10am-4pm.

Sue Pace



St Michael & All Angels Church News

Church Annual Meeting

As a new venture this was held in church after Parish Communion on Sunday, March 6th. A better attendance resulted with about 40 people present. The current Churchwardens, Nigel Burt and Sue Pace, together with the 7 retiring members of the PCC were re-elected. Reports from 18 of the different Church activities were received, they were printed in a little booklet which is available in church. The accounts were adopted which showed a healthy position, though with the projected increase in our diocesan parish share would mean that we would have to improve our giving in 1995. We were able to give away our traditional 10% of our PCC income. The Rector reported on what he felt was a year of consolidation, average Sunday attendance was similar to last year, much of the year had been spent getting ready for 'Reaching Out' to the village and he hoped that this would result in a growth in Church life in the next twelve months. He looked forward to the completion of the chancel step project with the new opportunities it provided. The proposed link with Rothersthorpe, which should be complete by the summer would mean fresh opportunities for more lay involvement as the Rector would have a greater work load. Various matters were raised in the general discussion at the end and the meeting finished at just after noon.

Lent Groups

About 40 people are attending our five Lent House Groups, and the rest of the congregation are involved too with a weekly work sheet. The theme is 'Sharing our Faith', and it should help to equip us to 'Reach out'.

'I believe and trust' Course

This has now come to an end and has been greatly appreciated by those who took part. It is hoped to begin a new course after Easter.

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Quiet Evening

A quiet evening with a difference took place on Feb 10th in church from 7.30pm to 9.30pm. Each half hour was devoted to a different type of stimulus to prayer. First came the sensory focus as we focussed on a candle, a bowl of fruit and then the smell of incense, then we spent half an hour with varying kinds of music as the background to our prayer. Next came a focus on pictures as our lead into prayer and finally we moved round the church and spent time focussing on the altar, font, pulpit and lectern. For those who came it was a worthwhile experience as they discovered which approach was most helpful for them.

Open Air Songs of Praise

Book 3pm on Whitsunday, May 22nd. The Salvation Army Band will be leading our Songs of Praise which will be on the School Close, weather permitting, or under cover if not. Village organisations are to be asked to choose a favourite hymn and we also invite individuals to let Tim Partridge know of a favourite hymn they would like; jot your choice down on a piece of paper and put it through the Rectory letter box.

16-21 May Christian Aid Week

The Co-op Bank has agreed to support Christian Aid Week in a deal worth almost £1/2 million over 3 years, which means more money from the collection will go to Christian Aid's work overseas and amongst the poorest of the poor, refugees and victims of war. With more than ever of these people, demands on Christian Aid are increasing each year, so please give generously when the envelope drops through your door between May 16th-21st.
Sue Pace 832516

Anniversary Waltz

Bugbrooke Flower Festival 1994

Don't forget to make a note in your Diary - VISIT THE FLOWER FESTIVAL! This year it is on Saturday and Sunday June 25th and 26th, in the Parish Church.

On Saturday June 25th there is a concert by a group called Consensus Vocalis - who hope to both amuse and entertain us. They and their conductor Alan Leroy have helped with many fund-raising events including recent installation of new toilets in a church - so I am sure their programme will be well worth listening to.
Gill Turland, Festival Co-ordinator.

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Bugbrooke O.A.P. Christmas Gift Scheme

Now that Spring is officially here the committee has had to turn its mind to fund raising events ready for next Christmas and we hope to start these in the early Summer.

May we thank all the recipients of gifts who sent thankyou letters and Christmas cards to us - it is very much appreciated.

Our Annual General Meeting will be held in the Sunday School on Wednesday 4th May 1994 and we would be pleased to welcome anyone who is interested in our activities or wishes to join the Committee.

Bruce Piper, Chairman

Darby and Joan Club

Firstly, apologies to our members and tea ladies for having to cancel a February meeting due to such dreadful weather. Many thanks to those who helped to spread the word for us.

Sitting here now writing I can see all the lovely daffodils and spring flowers in full bloom (despite the rotten weather we've had). It certainly is a welcome and beautiful sight. So like the Spring happenings we at our club go onward and look forward to our future outings and functions. Trips to Spalding, Hunstanton and Lincoln already planned and a few of our members have booked a summer holiday to Torquay.

If there are any ladies or gentlemen wishing to join the club, please do apply. A short application note to any committee or club member with your name and address so as we may be able to contact you. We only have a couple of conditions that men be 65 years and ladies 60 years of age and that members attend at least 12 meetings a year (unless of course poor health makes this impossible). A membership fee of 5 pence per meeting and 20 pence for a very nice tea is charged and we meet fortnightly. So if you feel you wish to give us a try why not drop us a line.

SJM 830725

Fundraisers Thanks

A big thanks to Elsie Clarke and the families of Fred Savage and Alf Scrutton for their unwanted items which I sold for £35.

Also a big thanks to Lyn Clayton for his gift of lovely wall tiles, which kept James my husband occupied and off the street making teapot stands which were sold for £65.

I have donated £100 on their behalf to the Darby and Joan Club at their January meeting.

Lily Maguire

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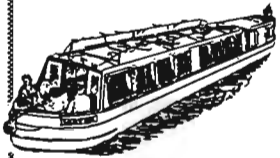
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Mothers Union



Our Beetle Drive on January 19th was a most enjoyable evening for members and friends.

Our now Bi-Annual Jumble sale held on February 5th was a great success. We raised £231, half of which went to 'Away from it all holidays' and half to the M.U. Project Fund 'Drop in' Centre at Wellingborough. This is a major project supported by the M.U. for homeless families and anyone in a situation where they need somewhere to go for a chat and a cup of tea. Once again we thank all our jumlbers for their never ending support.

On February 10th Mrs Kathleen Salisbury came to talk to us about her life in India.

Mrs Salisbury, who, with her husband spent 15 years as a missionary in India, gave a most interesting and colourful description of the culture and the way of life there. Last year they went back for a holiday and met up with many old friends. They are now retired and live in Towcester.

During the next couple of months we have speakers on subjects that will interest many of you. One speaker in particular is Carol Berry who will talk about 'HIV and Aids'. A major problem of our time that anyone who is socially aware can not ignore. I am sure that this talk will be both informative and helpful.

This is an open meeting, everyone will be welcome.

Sue Nightingale



Women's Institute

At 7.30 on January 3rd this year many very dubious looking characters were seen making their way into the Sunday School Rooms. No, Bugbrooke had not opened a soup kitchen! On closer inspection, the 'ladies and gentlemen of the road' turned out to be respectable members of our village community - W.I. ladies in fact. The occasion was the annual birthday party of the Bugbrooke branch of the Women's Institute and the party took the form of a tramp's supper. Everyone entered into the spirit of the evening and great fun was had by all!

On a more sober note, in February, Mr Billing of the Northampton Amateur Operatic Society gave a talk on his thirty years with the society. Older members were able to indulge in a bout of nostalgia as he referred to the days when the group sang in the New Theatre (formerly standing on the site now occupied by Primark) in Abington Street.

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The March meeting is to be a demonstration on how to glaze photographs onto plates. Understanding Dyslexia is the theme of April's meeting - a subject of interest to anyone with or working with children. As you can see W.I. offers a great variety from month to month. Do come along and join us - visitors and new members are assured a warm welcome.

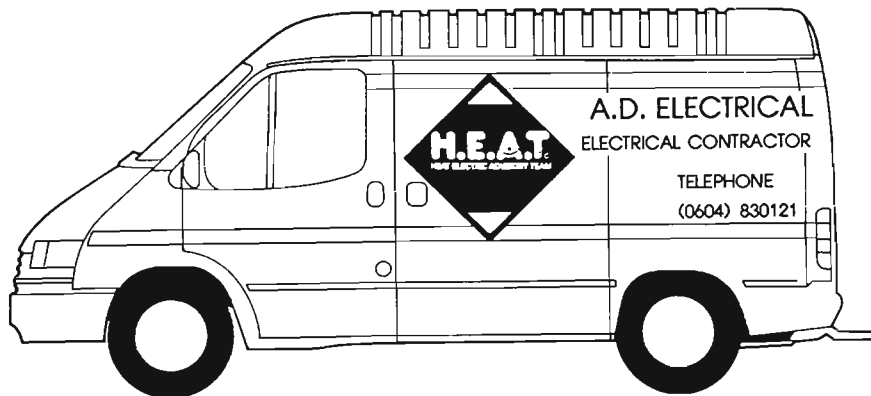
B.R. Inch, 830933

The Royal British Legion

There is a condition brought about by constant exposure to bombing. It is evident in those who were stonked at Monte Casino, Caen or in the Blitz in the Second World War. More recently, there are examples from Korea, the Falklands and Northern Ireland. It is nothing new for it was present in the Great War, although not officially recognized. Commonly known as shell shock, there is now an ultra-modern title for this condition. It is called a post-traumatic stress disorder or PTSD. Apparently, if the War Office (sorry, Ministry of Defence (Army)) fails to identify an individual as having the problem and give treatment for it, the tax payer can be burdened with a £100,000 settlement. Would it not be better to admit the individual to a Military Hospital and treat him, even though he has been discharged from his military service?

It is very surprising in this modern world that women still become pregnant despite all the available precautions. It used to be that Service-women in this condition were required to leave their job. This was a specification of their employment which they accepted when enlisting. But the goal posts have been moved and they can now claim for unfair dismissal burdening the tax payer with a bill for several thousand pounds each. This is on top of the lone parent's DSS payments which some of them already receive from the tax payer. These women chose to be pregnant so they should accept responsibility and not look for a handout. What a learned judge might have called an occupational hazard.

Have you noticed how a tax introduced for a specific purpose is retained by subsequent governments? In 1940, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir John Simon, brought in Purchase Tax to provide extra funds for the war effort. Though the war ended almost 50 years ago, the tax is still with us, although now called Value Added Tax. This is now being used to levy sums on domestic fuel and will, without a doubt, in time be increased as the mood of the day dictates. It is recognized by the government that the pensioners will suffer, so a placatory allowance is



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being paid to compensate them. Needless to say, the allowance is nowhere near the actual cost to the pensioner and will not be increased to compensate for future higher taxes. Age Concern guesstimate that it will cost an extra 74p per week to cover the VAT just to heat a one-bar electric fire.

It is pleasing to find that the DSS have ruled that war widows will receive a VAT fuel allowance of 50p a week on their widows pension as well as on their State pension as from April. They are a most deserving case. But women's State pensions will only be increased by 20p if they get their pension on their husband's contributions. Sadly war pensioners will not have this benefit added to their war pension. Similarly, those aged 80 or over will only receive 20p a week.

At our last meeting, we had to vie with others for a suitable area for our deliberations. It was so crowded that we found ourselves being entertained by a group of village ladies attending their own meeting.

We are pleased to know that our Secretary, Harry Clarke, is making a good recovery from his illness and look forward to his return to full fitness.

Royal British Legion - Womens Section



Despite bad weather for our Jan meeting we had several guests turn up and the slides of Finland by Anthony Kemp were wonderful. Also the music to accompany the slides was a delight. Our secretary Mrs Sylvia Abrahams and 'Taff' have celebrated their Golden Wedding, it seems to be such an achievement in these days of just living together and divorce and we wish them Good Luck in the future. We have speakers in March and April and will be putting Bills out to invite people to come as we do enjoy visitors to our meetings.

Enid Pell

Hon Chairman

Long Service Awards

In a recent quiet ceremony Colonel Colin and Mrs Barbara Nuttall were each presented with the Womens' Royal Voluntary Service long service medals. The presentation was made on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen by Mrs Angela Cobley of the W.R.V.S. County Headquarters in Northampton. For many years both Colonel and Mrs Nuttall have assisted in the Meals on Wheels service for Bugbrooke and Kislisbury and in addition Colin Nuttall has acted as Treasurer. Mrs Doreen Sexton,

the local organiser, in paying tribute to their work said what a loss to the Service it was that failing health meant that they now had to restrict their activities.

Bugbrooke Flower Society

Our A.G.M. was a roaring success, how many associations have to draft in more chairs!! Thank you to the Committee for a delightful supper.

In a February swept by rain and snow it was lovely to see our demonstrator using spring flowers, it makes you hope Spring and Summer are not too far away.

On April 13th we shall be holding a "Figurine" evening when we will be taught how to make our own from wire, paper and paste. Tickets and details for this are available from Simone - Tel: 0327 342167, price £2.00.

We shall be holding a Table Top Sale at Heyford Village Hall on May 15th, details for this also from Simone, who incidentally, is our new secretary.

We have a full and varied programme for 1994 and we always welcome new members and visitors.

B.E. Bell, 831639

St. Michael's Music Society

The first meeting for 1994 was an informal "Lollipops" evening. This is always a popular event with members bringing along their own favourite pieces of music. As in previous years this produced a very varied programme for the evening.

In February members took part in a Musical Quiz evening. This proved to be a lighthearted yet informative affair with rounds that taxed our musical knowledge of instruments, composers, tunes and titles. In April members and friends will be able to enjoy a visit to the Deragate Theatre to hear 'The Mikado' performed by the Northampton Gilbert and Sullivan Group.

Hazel Kitchener, Hon. Sec.

Fostering and Adoption

Children come into care for a number of reasons and we need foster carers who can provide emotional and physical space to care for these children. It does take a lot of commitment and support from the whole

family. Carers do not need to have special qualifications, to be married, or in employment. We need carers from all backgrounds to reflect the needs of children of various ages and ethnicities.

Fostering can be temporary for a few days or up to several months or permanent where the child stays for the rest of their childhood.

Adoption is a way of making or completing your family and is a legal means of transferring all parental responsibility to the adopters by a court. We also need carers for our other schemes. Approved lodgings is a scheme that provides for 16-18 year olds. It allows the young person some independence with adult support and care.

The Family Link Scheme provides regular short breaks for parents who have a child with a disability. It can be for a few hours or days at a time.

All carers have support in terms of a Social Worker from the Homefinding Team and allowances to cover the cost of caring for a child.

We would be particularly interested to hear from people who could consider fostering older children (aged 10-15 years) on both a temporary or a permanent basis.

For further information please contact your local Homefinding Team.

Corby/Kettering	- 0536 401104
Wellingborough/East Northants	- 0933 276341
Daventry/South Northants	- 0327 300567
Northampton	- 0604 236091.

Tessa Saunders
Social Worker,
Homefinding Team

Bugbrooke Playgroup

Spring is heralding exciting changes for Playgroup. After Easter we shall be moving to the Village Hall as unfortunately we have outgrown the Sunday School both in group numbers and the amount of storage space required. Legislation also recommends that we provide outdoor facilities for our children.

At present Playgroup opens three mornings a week plus a pre-school session on Monday afternoons. However from the beginning of the Summer Term we shall be running five morning sessions. Tuesday afternoons will be reserved for administration and we are intending to run additional activities on the remaining three afternoon sessions. Two

possibilities are a combined Playgroup and Tots Group and Tumble Tots. Details of these will be available soon.

The Staff and Committee have been working very hard cleaning and decorating the Village Hall and thanks to their efforts the work is well on the way to completion.

However, in order to make the building fit to accommodate Playgroup and to comply with regulations we have encountered considerable expense. e.g. a new kitchen has been fitted, additional heating is being installed and new flooring laid. This has taken up a large part of our Property Fund although I am sure that those of you who see the finished result will agree the money has been well spent.

Therefore we ask you to support us in our forthcoming Fundraising events so that we can continue to buy new toys and specialised equipment for our children.

Thursday 7th April 10am to 12 Village Hall -

GRAND OPENING AND EASTER BONNET PARADE

For the under fives - prizes will be awarded for the best decorated hats, which must be all the childrens own work. The cardboard hats which are to be decorated are available from Playgroup price 50p this includes entry to the competition.

For the older children there will be a painted egg competition entry price 50p. Again prizes will be awarded for the best creations. Please remember to hard boil the eggs first!

There will be refreshments on sale, Lucky Dips, Name the Teddy, a cake stall and face painting also an Egg Hunt which weather permitting will be held in the garden.

Please take the opportunity to come along and take a look at our new premises. Everyone is welcome.

Friday 8th April 7.30pm Five Bells - KARAOKE NIGHT

Throw away your inhibitions, let your hair down and have a great night out. Admission FREE. Grand prize raffle. All proceeds to Playgroup.

We look forward to seeing you there.

CAR BOOT SALES 10 AM TO 2 PM

To be held on the PLAYING FIELDS on the following Sundays:

May 1st, June 5th, July 3rd, August 7th, September 4th

Prebooked cars £4.00 All vans £6.00

On the day cars £5.00 vans £7.00

Attractions will include a Bouncy Castle, Pony Rides, Refreshments, Face Painting and Five-a-side Football.

Come and join us on a fun day out for all the family.

Wednesday 15th June 7.30pm Sunday School -

TALK ON HYPNOTHERAPY

Local Hypnotherapist Alan Robertson is giving a talk and demonstration.

You've seen Paul Mc Kenna on television, now come along and find out how it's really done. An opportunity not to be missed! All ticket proceeds to Playgroup.

If you have any enquiries concerning any of these events please telephone Emma on Northampton 750067.

Anyone interested in enrolling their child for Playgroup please telephone our Admissions Officer on Northampton 830207. She will be pleased to answer any questions you may have.

Finally as we are now lucky enough to have a garden at the Village Hall we are in need of outdoor equipment. If any of you have any small children's bicycles, sit and ride toys or any other outdoor toys you no longer require we would be most grateful for them. Please telephone Emma on Northampton 750067 and she can arrange collection.

Thankyou for your support.

Nicola Bignell.

Friends of Campion

A quiz evening is being arranged for 29 April; book your team (4 adults or 4 students) with Jane Roberts c/o Campion School.

This year's summer fête will be on Sunday 12 June 1994.



Bugbrooke Girl Guides

Its been a busy time craft wise at guides this term. We entered the Division Craft Competition at the Abbey Centre Daventry and many an evening both at guides and at home was spent preparing items. Sandwich cakes were made, biscuits decorated and items recycled to make pen holders and bird feeders. The Fimo and Shrink-it came out for the making of ear-rings and jewellery. Pictures were painted, collages stuck and a unit project on a world theme constructed. We did quite well too. Our unit project came 2nd, and Debbie Haylock, Claire McIlhiney and Anne Bestwick all came 3rd with their biscuits, embroidery and paper mache caterpillar respectively. This placing us 3rd overall in the guide section.

Thinking Day was on Tuesday 22nd February. This is a very important day in the guiding calendar. It was the joint birthday of our founders Lord and Lady Baden Powell and is the day on which we think of guides around the world. Consequently a service was held for the district at Bugbrooke Church. It was well attended by our guides and we lit candles, heard readings and sang songs to celebrate guiding world wide.

Other events this term included a visit to the village pantomime Pinnocchio and at half term we went to Zapp Attack in Northampton for an exciting afternoon of zapping opponents with lazer beams.

Rachel 831697, Helen 9 340404

Bugbrooke and Harpole Venture Scout Unit

In January we went hiking in Snowdonia. We stayed in a "luxurious" scout hostel in Bethesda and travelled in the Group's stylish orange minibus nicknamed "The Flying Pumpkin." On the Saturday we climbed over 10 miles of mountainous terrain. We encountered many obstacles including plenty of marshy ground and lots of sheep. We didn't see much snow, but fortunately it didn't rain either. We stopped for lunch on top of a windy mountain and took a few photos before setting out to complete our circular route.

Several mountains later we returned to our warm hut and enjoyed a delicious meal prepared by our chef Kathryn. After a good night's sleep we set out into the mountains again to carry out a mountain rescue exercise with three casualties: one unconscious, one in shock and one suffering from hypothermia. Thanks to Kathryn and Roger for organising this weekend. By next year we should have recovered enough to go again!

Suzanne Gordon and Claire Sawyer

Bugbrooke Youth Club

Due to the dark cold nights we have been and still are only opening on a Wednesday evening, we hope to reopen on Friday evenings when the lighter nights arrive. If anyone is interested in helping please get in touch with Lynn on 832116 or phone the Youth Club Wed evening from 7.30 to 10pm on 831137, we really need more helpers, especially when we start the outdoor activities. You don't have to join in the games, you can serve the tuck, take the money for coming in or just be there to help set up and pack away.

Anyone aged 11+ is welcome. Admission is 30p, if you would like to come along and see what's on offer, please do.

On February 19th we had tremendous fun tobogganing at Skewbridge Ski School and on Feb 23rd the Youth Service brought Indoor Archery to the Club (some were better shots than others!). We hope to be arranging some more trips in the future.

Steph & Lynn

Neighbourhood Watch

I have received a letter from the police concerning attacks on post offices. They are certain some reconnaissance and forward planning must have taken place prior to these raids and they are asking us to be extra vigilant concerning strangers and strange vehicles, particularly vehicles that are stationary but occupied and in the vicinity of the post office. If you see anything suspicious you should contact 700700 and ask for Weston Favell Control. If possible try to obtain the registration number, make, model, type and colour of the vehicle. Concerning the individual, note the sex, approx. age and height, hair colour and length, build, clothing and other distinguishing features. They do emphasise, however, that you must ensure you do not become the focus of the suspect's attention.

I am pleased to say that due to the efforts of one member of the community two more streets have entered the Neighbourhood Watch scheme. There are, however, still a number of streets that have not produced a contact person. In a past article I referred to the fact that crime was increasing in rural communities. The latest statistics that I have received from the police show that this is true as regards our village. For the year 1991-93 the total number of crimes reported to the police was 110, an increase of 32.5% on the year 1992-92. It is clear that we all need to be vigilant and to inform the police of anything suspicious.

I was also informed at the beginning of March that a number of vehicles in the village have been broken into or damaged. This has taken place in a number of streets. This again emphasises the need for vigilance and the need to pass on information or suspicions to the police.

The police are arranging a *Crime Prevention display* in the main hall of Campion School from 10.30am to 1.30pm on Saturday 16th April. There will be a number of displays dealing with many forms of security and the local officer will also be present. Do go along and have a look.

Crime is increasing in the village. A few pounds spent on improving the security of your house and car may prevent the trauma of having them broken into.

Terry Lewis, 831363

Betty's Pantry

Sticky Toffee and Apple Pudding

Sauce

1oz Butter or Margarine
2Tbs Soft dark brown sugar

2Tbs Golden Syrup

Pudding

6oz self raising flour
3oz atora suet
3oz soft light brown sugar
1 Large cooking apple chopped up (approx 4oz)

Grated rind of 1/2 lemon
1 No. 3 egg beaten. Milk to mix

1. Grease 2pt pudding basin.
2. Melt all ingredients for sauce together, stir until sugar has dissolved. Pour into basin.
3. Mix together all dry pudding ingredients and apple, stir in egg, sufficient milk for a soft dropping mixture. Spoon into basin.
Cover with pleated greaseproof and foil secured tightly. Steam for 2 hours, serve hot with custard or cream.

Pizza

Dough

1lb self raising flour
2Tsp baking powder (level)
2oz cheese (grated)

1/2 pint milk
2oz margarine
Salt

Topping

2 large onions (chopped)
1 Large tin tomatoes
2Tbs tomato puree
2-3Tsp oregano

1/2lb yellow cheese
Sprinkling of Parmesan.
Salt and pepper

1. Fry onions in oil gently until softened in saucepan, add tomatoes and juice, chopped up, with puree and herbs - season - leave to simmer.
2. Mix flour, baking powder and margarine in electric mixer. Add grated cheese. Remove and add milk to form dough.
3. Divide this into 3 and roll out thinly to cover 3 Pizza plates or ovenproof shallow dishes. "Crimp" edges to give an edge.
4. Divide topping onto the 3 Pizza bases (this is quite runny). Grate cheese over top, sprinkle with Parmesan for stronger flavour. Cook 350° for 20-30 mins until topping is bubbling and base browning.
Serve warm, not hot. Flavour is better than when cold. Freezes well.

LINK NOTES

Contacts

LINK endeavours to maintain an up-to-date list of Organisations their Officers and more importantly the name and addresses of those appointed by such organisations as their official Contact with LINK.

All Clubs, Associations, Societies etc are asked to ensure that the LINK Office is advised of all relevant changes – this could save a lot of time and sole leather.

Reporting Sheets

A substantial number of News Gathering Sheets and Diary Entry sheets are delivered for each issue of LINK. Some of these are never used or for that matter returned. Again time and sole leather could be saved if those who never use them would confirm or not whether they wish to receive them in the first place.

Inserts

After considerable discussion the Committee of LINK have decided that they will no longer accept loose inserts or leaflets for distribution with our magazine. There were several reasons for arriving at this decision the most important being that the system could on occasion work to the detriment of our regular advertisers.

The decision does not completely preclude at some time in the future an insert of a non-commercial nature but only from a Bugbrooke Organisation and solely at the discretion of the LINK Committee.

AGM

The Annual General Meeting of 'Link' Magazine will be held on Wednesday, May 4th, 8pm at the village hall. It is important that your views and suggestions as to the running of your magazine should be heard. Please attend.

Answers to quizzes in last issue:

Chinese chequers	German measles	Spanish omelette
Indian ink	Chinese lantern	Russian roulette
Turkish delight	Irish stew	Danish pastry
French windows	Scots mist	Egyptian mummy
African violet	Hungarian goulash	Siamese twins
Persian carpet	Jamaican rum	Swiss roll
Welsh rarebit	Maltese cross	

D day	Y fronts	X ray	L plate	H bomb
G string	J cloth	S bend	T junction	U turn

In Focus

Profile of Ian Fergus

Where were you born? Birmingham

Where were you educated? A grammar school in Birmingham and later at Weston-Super-Mare.

Your favourite part of Great Britain?
Northamptonshire and Scotland

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

Books A photo album of the family - The books of Spike Milligan - a copy of the New Testament

Music Anything by Kenny G (Saxophonist) also John Denver (who has a special meaning for me)

Whom do you admire the most and why? All disabled sportsmen particularly those confined to a wheelchair - it must take immense courage to overcome the disability let alone take up a sport.

What is your greatest fear? Apart from the normal day to day fears nothing haunts me.

What is your favourite food and drink? Italian food and wine

What ambitions do you have? To be involved with coaching sport at a higher level - particularly with children.

What talent would you have liked most of all? To have a good singing voice.

What do you do for leisure? Play golf and involvement with the Church Youth Group.

What single thing would improve your quality of life? To be able to spend more time with my children.

Do you have any embarrassing moments? When parking my Police motor bike in a lorry park it fell off it's stand in front of the lorry drivers who then fell about with laughter.

Do you have any pet dislikes? Intolerance in people who are not prepared to hear both sides of the argument.

What did you do before joining the Police Force and what did you do in the Police Force? On leaving school I worked in the building trade for a while then spent 3 years at British Timken before joining the force, although it had always been my intention to become a Policeman.

After 2 years in Northampton I was moved to Towcester and then became village bobby for Bugbrooke. After leaving I then spent a



short time at Daventry then moved to the traffic division where I spent 5 years on the motorway, then onto motor cycles which sadly ended my police career due to my accident.

What happened? I was on the A43 travelling from Kettering to Northampton to finish my shift at 6pm when about 4.50pm a pheasant flew up into my face and I collided with a car, which left me with severe injuries to both legs - subsequently losing part of my left leg 16 months later.

Where did you meet your wife? At Towcester police station where we both worked.

What do you like/dislike about Bugbrooke?

Like I find it a friendly village with a good atmosphere.

Dislike No particular dislikes.

How would you like to be remembered? As somebody who put something back into the community.

If you could live in any part of the world where would it be? A few years ago I would probably have said New Zealand but now it would be France.

Do you have any advice for young people starting out? Only to listen to people with experience, you can learn a lot quickly.

When and where were you married? St Lawrence's Church, Towcester in 1980

If you could have your life over again what would you change? To have worked harder at school, and probably joined the Royal Navy instead of the Police Force. I had been interviewed for both the Navy and the Police, the acceptance into the Police came first.

What do you enjoy most about your work and what is the least enjoyable about it?

Like Working and meeting with other people.

Dislike Working in local Government can be frustrating at times.

How did you come to Bugbrooke and when? I came as the village bobby in 1980.

Do you have any regrets? Yes, in moving out of the Police house when I bought my own house. It cost me the village policeman's job.

What are your favourite T.V. programmes? Most sport and quiz programmes.

How did you become involved in Paralympic sports? I had had my limb about 2 weeks when I met a fellow amputee at the limb centre, who said you are a tall chap, do you play volley ball?, this led me to visit Wolverhampton where the volley ball side trained, they kitted me out and I spent the next 3 hours at volley ball which certainly put me and

my new limb through it. I was then asked to return the following day for serious training.

From then on I trained with the British Amputee Sports Association monthly until I was selected for the British Volley Ball team for Barcelona, then for the next 8 months the training was stepped up.

What memories of the games do you have? The games themselves were an achievement for not only the competitors but also for the Catalan people who could not do enough for us and spent long periods queuing for tickets and we invariably played to full houses.

The opening ceremony in front of 60,000 people was very moving and hard to describe and had to be seen to be believed, the different nations of the world whose athletes varied from the partially sighted to those suffering from severe cerebral palsy, competing against each other in harmony.

The sight of the one legged runners turning in times that would make the average two legged man puff. Our opening game was against the Czechoslovakians who were the European champions.

And finally the closing ceremony where we said goodbye to many new friends. Whether I make Atlanta remains to be seen.

I would never have achieved international status in sport on two good legs, but with the support of my family and the village I made it on one or should it be 1½.

Due to my right leg injuries I have had to take up wheelchair basket ball, this is rather hard when I can walk away from the wheelchair and the others cannot.

What do you do and think of last thing at night? Look in on my children and reflect on the events of the day.

My thanks to Ian for allowing me the time to ask the questions.

Don Prime.

Bugbrooke Playing Fields Association

As a result of the efforts of local councillors and the BPFA Committee the Community Hall and Bowls Green may soon become a reality. We now need your assistance in ensuring the plans match up to what you as organisations and residents require. Please don't wait until we've started to build and then say "but what about . . .". Take the time to see the plans at the Playing Fields. The new constitution for the combined Community Hall and Playing Fields is now drafted by the

Charity Commission and will be implemented at an appropriate time when the facilities are nearer completion. Again, the details of the scheme can be read at the Playing Fields.

The A.G.M. of the Playing Fields Association will be held on 28th April at 8.00pm in the Social Building. The Chairman and Treasurers reports will be followed by discussion of the future developments and election of the committee for next year.

The Playgroup will be organising their very successful Car Boot Sales again this year. These will take place on the first Sunday of the month commencing on May 1st at 10am. We hope you will come along for a bargain and support them in their efforts to provide a much needed amenity for the village.

BM Curtis, Chairman

Family Announcements

FRANCIS - David and Angela

Congratulations and best wishes Mum and Dad on your Silver Wedding Anniversary.

Lots of love Mark, Sheila and David

FRANCIS - Congratulations Angela and Dave on your Silver Wedding Anniversary on 5th April.

Love Mum, Dad and Glynn

COOPER - Happy 4th Birthday Kelly on May 27th

Lots of love darling from Nanny, Pappy and all the Family xxx

COOPER - Happy Birthday Kelly, 4 on 27th May.

Lots of love from Mummy, Daddy and Abigail xxx

DARVELL - Happy Birthday Theresa on 13th May. Love from Mum, Dad and Matthew.

DOVEY - Happy 11th birthday Martin on May 9th. Love from Mum, Dad and Lizzie.

GARLICK Lee - Happy 7th birthday Popsy on 23rd May. Lots of love Mummy and Daddy.

Anchors Aweigh!



We are indebted to Mrs Norma Whipp for the two photographs taken down the Paddocks twenty-five years ago when the Brook flooded. How many remember that day?



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Sport

St Michael's 74 Cricket Club

By the time this issue of the LINK reaches you, we will have started our 20th season. It is in fact, a double celebration year, as not only is it twenty years since St Michael's C.C. was formed, but also it is 10, very successful years as a Northampton Town league side. Later in the season we will be rounding up all those old forgotten stars of years gone by, to participate in a fund-raising game, youth verses experience. So watch out for details in the next LINK edition.

Fund-raising, once again this year, will be top of my list. As secretary, I shall be on the prowl to seek out all or any willing benefactors, who could support our club in any way possible. Our main aims are, to provide a more satisfactory playing surface i.e. a permanent non-turf wicket, outdoor cricket nets and also to establish a youth team or teams, catering for ages from 8 to 16 years.

Support for these causes, no matter how small, will be very gratefully received. So if you or your company can help in any way, please contact me.

Cricket games start this year with a friendly on April 24th against Woodford, near Thrapston and League games commence the following Saturday at home to Doddridge. As usual anyone interested in playing, please ring me at home or come along to any of our home games on the playing field.

So here's to a dry and sunny Summer and another memorable season in this club's history.

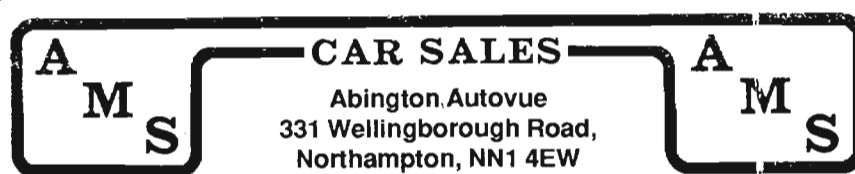
John Chapman 584565

(Hon. Secretary)

Bugbrooke St Michael's Football Club



No news is good news! Following the Editor's reprimand in the previous issue we would like to advise everyone that we are still in existence and providing football for about 10 teams. Unfortunately the monsoon winter meant that few matches were played in December and news about them was limited. So far the season has been successful in terms of consolidating the structure around which football is provided in the village. The 1st and Reserve sides have done well in their



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A.M.S. BODY REPAIR CENTRE

respective leagues having maintained good positions throughout the season. This is a particular success for the UCL teams because we are one of the few teams not to pay their players and we consider that a point has been made that it is possible to compete successfully in UCL football without resorting to such means. In fact, with a better response to the training programme it is highly likely that we would be even better placed in the leagues.

The 'A' side have been a disappointment. They started the season well but have slipped badly since January. Although the team comprises entirely of village lads they do not always play with the fire and determination expected of Badgers' teams. It's a pity they are not old enough to have seen the blood and thunder teams that stood their ground for the village in the past. Hopefully it will be a passing phase and they will develop a more determined approach, otherwise they are likely to be overtaken by the extremely good youngsters coming through in the 'B' side. These lads have done particularly well, having reached the Semi-final of their Knock Out Cup. Although the majority are only 16-18 years old they have stood their ground and played some excellent football. If they continue in this vein they will be ready for UCL football in two seasons.

The Youth teams have comprised of local boys and they have been encouraged to develop good skills and sound sportsmanship by their managers and their parents. The teams have got better as they have grown older and the Under 16's have done extremely well in the County Youth Cup and in the league. They seem ready made for the 'B' side next season. They have been coached since they were 12 years old by Willie Marriott and it is a tribute to his skills that they have done so well. In fact the village owes a lot to Willie, as he undertakes the coaching of boys from the age of 7 at Campion School on Tuesday evenings. He has had a big influence on the development of young footballers in Bugbrooke and surrounding villages and it is hoped he will continue to carry on even though his team have now gone through the league system.

The club has been invited by Northants F.A. and South Northants Council to help promote Ladies' football. This is an increasingly popular sport for girls and ladies and a coaching course for 14-16 year olds will be taking place on the outdoor practice area at Campion School in April. It will be followed by further coaching sessions at the Football Club during the Summer months. Anyone interested in taking part should contact Neil McGivern at SNC on (0327) 350211.

Also, if you are still convinced that life begins at 40, a Vets side of over 35's is operating on a friendly match basis. Anyone keen to get



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involved should contact Dave Mellor on (0604) 831466. We normally provide about 16 players for each game so there is good opportunity for a breather!

Steady, but slow, progress is being made towards the construction of seated accommodation for spectators. This is being developed as finances allow and any assistance from former players and Vice Presidents would help the process along. Completion will see the ground acceptable for Premier UCL football and it will then be up to the players to prove themselves capable of achieving it.



Bugbrooke R.U.F.C. Founded 1977

Bugbrooke were successful to gain promotion last season into Leics/East Mids Division 2. Immediately we found the level of competition more intense and the need for improved fitness and match preparation.

The club were early casualties in two cup competitions in November 1993. Firstly to Towcester in the Alliance Cup and then to Old Northamptonians in the Pilkington Shield.

Bugbrooke have had differing success in League games resulting in a mid-table position.

Played 9, Won 5, Lost 4. With three league games left we can be assured of playing in the same division next season.

With the start of the New Year the second Alliance competition commences, this being the Lewis Shield. Bugbrooke were proud winners of the competition in the 91/92 season. So far we have beaten Brackley in round one and await the winners of Mens Own v Olney in round two.

Overall our results for the season 93/94 stand at Played 25, Won 14, Lost 11. There is obvious room for improvement.

Currently we run three senior and a colts side, we are always on the 'look-out' for new players or people to become involved in coaching or helping with the future of the clubs progress. If you have any of the mentioned interests or would like to use the facilities at Pilgrims Lane, do not hesitate to visit the club on match days or training nights.

Club Capt. Adam Ogden

Match days every Sat. between Sept & April.

Training Tues 8pm Champion school gym

Thurs 6.45 pm Rugby club.

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Should you wish to support the club by way of match sponsorship please contact Nick Baxendale on (0604) 769802

Footnote

A plea from Bugbrooke Cricket Club and echoed from all Sports Associations – please think of the players when you let your dog defecate on the sports fields!

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Sunday 10 am–2 pm

From Thursday 5th May until Sunday 14th August inclusive. Sessions will also be available during the summer holiday.

For more details contact: Allison Stewart (before the end of April if possible) at Campion School Bugbrooke NN7 3QG tel: 0604-830677

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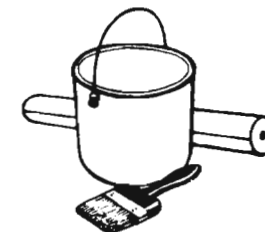
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	Full Page	£75

Inserts will only be accepted from
Village organisations (Charge £10
to deliver)

For contacts see Committee list

Village Diary

April	4	12.00	Table Top Sale	FC.
	4	7.30pm	Disco	FC.
	5	7.30pm	CNC KO Cup Final	FC.
	7	10am-12pm	Playgroup grand opening and Easter Bonnet Parade	VH
	8	7.30pm	Playgroup Karaoke Night	Five Bells
	11	7.30pm	W.I. Mr D Payne 'Understanding Dyslexia'	S.S.
	14	2.30pm	M.U. 'Family Celebrations'	S.S.
	16	10am-4pm	Operation Springclean	meet at 1 Church Lane
	16	2.00pm	W.I. Jumble Sale	S.S.
	16	7.30pm	Taygold Cup Final	FC.
	18	7.30pm	British Legion Womens Section Meeting	S.S.
	20	8.00pm	PCC Meeting	S.S.
	22	8.00pm	Play: The Farndale Housing Estate Townswomen's	
	23	8.00pm	Guild Dramatic Society Murder Mystery	C.S.
	25	7.30pm	Parish Council meeting	VH
	25	8.00pm	Flower Club Country Customs (Mr. D. Roades)	S.S.
	27	8.00pm	M.U. 'HIV & Aids' a talk by Carol Berry	S.S.
	28	8.00pm	A.G.M. Playing Fields Association	Social building
	29		Friends of Campion Quiz Evening	C.S.
	29-2		Twinning Trip to Iteuil	
May	1	10.00am	Playgroup car boot sale	Playing fields
	4	2.15pm	Darby & Joan Meeting	S.S.
	4	8.00pm	LINK A.G.M.	VH
	4		Bugbrooke O.A.P. Christmas Gift Scheme A.G.M.	S.S.
	9	7.30pm	W.I. Mrs M Keech 'Resolutions'	S.S.
	12	7.30pm	Ascension Day Communion	Church
	14	7.30pm	BSMFC Annual Dinner	FC.
	15		Flower Club Table Top Sale	Heyford VH
	16	7.30pm	British Legion Womens Section	S.S.
	16	7.30pm	BSMFC Annual General Meeting	FC.
	16-21		Christian Aid Week	
	17	8.00pm	Twinning Association AGM	
	18	2.15pm	Darby & Joan Meeting	S.S.
	18	8.00pm	M.U. 'Away From It All Holidays'	S.S.
	21		M.U. Diocesan Festival	Peterborough Cathedral
	22	3pm	Open Air Songs of Praise	School Close
	23	7.30pm	Parish Council meeting	VH.
	23	8.00pm	Flower Club Home Sweet Home (Mrs J Lloyd)	S.S.
June	1	2.15pm	Darby & Joan meeting	S.S.
	5	10.00am	Playgroup car boot sale	Playing fields
	6	7.30pm	W.I. Mr P Sibley 'Gardens of the National Trust'	S.S.
	9	2.30pm	M.U. 'Family Album'	S.S.

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