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VILLAGE MAGAZINE



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Bugbrooke Link Magazine (Issue No. 15)
Christmas 1985

Editor.....John Sexton.

OTHERS

"LINK" wishes all its readers "A Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year". At this time of the year, this is a common enough phrase - a greeting which has now been used annually in the Christian World for nearly two thousand years.

But in the use of this seasonal greeting we must not deceive ourselves into thinking that there are not those who will not have a happy Christmas and those who will not be "prosperous" in the normally accepted meaning of the word. Prosperity, however, should not be solely connected with wealth and belongings. In a wider sense, a prosperous man is a contented man, and contentment is within every mans grasp. But contentment will not be attained by our looking enviously at those who have more than we have - it can be gained by giving to those who have less. And to those who live alone, a cheerful word - no more, no less - can be more acceptable than the most expensive gift.

Let us all enjoy ourselves this festive season, but let us above all "REMEMBER THERE ARE OTHERS".

COMMUNITY CENTRE.

Elsewhere in this issue we publish a letter received from Pam Hollis, Chair Person of Bugbrooke Playing Fields Association on the subject of a Community Centre for the Village. We wish to make it clear that the views expressed in that letter are not necessarily those held by the Management of "LINK" but the letter is published as being a contribution to the debate on a subject of interest to all inhabitants of Bugbrooke.

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE FEBRUARY EDITION IS. . .JANUARY 22nd 1986.

A Christmas Thought

Amidst all the colour, gaiety and joy of Christmas, it is easy to forget that first Christmas with the tiny baby beginning life in a dirty old stable, with little to wear and only the warmth of the animal bodies to save him from chill. How could God allow his Son to become such a helpless creature in such poor insanitary surroundings - at the mercy of everyone and of every natural disaster - what a chance he took. It could have ended there in that stable, so many tiny children died soon after birth in those days, ended where it began with nothing achieved. We wouldn't have planned it like that, but God did, for Jesus was to be like us in every way - vulnerable, surrounded by dangers, misunderstood, ridiculed - his was no sheltered life. But through that life begun in a stable, we are assured that God knows, in the depths of his being, all the problems we face. He rejoices with us, suffers with us, laughs with us, cries with us, for he has promised that he will be 'with us always, to the end of time.'

Tim Partridge - Rector



A new and unusual photograph of our Parish Church in its autumnal beauty by Martin Freson.

GOOD THINKING FOR 1986.

'Do what you can, where you are,
with what you have.' -- (Moody).

DEFINITION.

'A budget is a method of worrying
before you spend - instead of afterwards!'

BUGBROOKE CONSERVATIVE CLUB.

The Autumn Dinner and Dance was held on Friday 15th November at Rothersthorpe Village Hall. This was a new venue for this event and proved to be very popular.

Approximately ninety people attended. Guests included Mr Michael Morris M.P. and his Wife and Mr Gordon Gee, Chairman of the Rural Area of Northampton South Constituency, with Mrs Gee. Michael Morris, who addressed the gathering briefly, was introduced to those present by Councillor Mrs Kathleen Riggall, Chairman of South Northamptonshire District Council.

Catering was by Eric Hillyer with Roy Goodwin providing the music for dancing.

As those attending left Rothersthorpe this function was voted the best yet.....combined with the eternal query as to why a much larger village such as Bugbrooke could not have similar facilities.

Parish Council Meeting – David Harries Reports

28TH OCTOBER, 1985

There were very few members of the public at this meeting - either the Parish Council is losing its charm or people were deterred by the colder weather and the absence of effective heating in the village hall.

Proposed changes in the bus timetable, although retaining an hourly service, would mean that the last weekday bus from Northampton would leave town at 8pm. This would make life extremely difficult for hospital visitors and cinema goers. The Parish Council agreed to support a letter from Pam Chambers, the Bugbrooke Public Transport Liason Officer, to the Bus Company setting out the difficulties this and some of the other proposed changes would pose.

The distinctive smell of raw sewage was noticeable recently, wafting over from the aquaducts. The appropriate Inspector from South Northants District Council was called out and he explained that there had been a small leak at the pumping station. The matter was quickly resolved, however, and the District Council confirmed that they would be only too happy to respond to any future calls for an Inspector in similar circumstances.

The County Council are to be approached once again with the request for extensions to the footways at Pilgrims Lane, Peace Hill and the surgery. Although the County Council stated that there is no money available for this work in the foreseeable future the Parish Council considered that a further approach stressing the need for these paths would be worthwhile.

The bollards at the mouth of the West End footpath seem to have a life of their own - appearing and disappearing with alacrity. It is by no means clear who wants them, where or why. The County Council, having installed one at the request of the Parish Council and swiftly removed it following a complaint, are to be asked to suggest an acceptable solution in this dilemma.

Remaining in the West End area; the footbridge has now become impassable and the Parish Council have suggested that, when the repair is carried out, concrete should replace the existing wooden beams.

The Parish Council also considered a number of planning applications; collected their envelopes for the annual Cancer Reasearch collection; resolved to pursue the question of the acquisition of grit bins; decided to ascertain the legal position of owners of dogs fouling footpaths etc; reviewed the level of street lights; and expressed concern over the need for road repairs.

Bus Services

Following the recent changes to the bus timetable I have been asked to report any problems caused by the new times, particularly the 8.08am service, as there is now only the one bus to replace the previous 7.59am and 8.19am. If anyone has any difficulties due to overcrowding on the returning of this, or any other service, please would they contact me on 830198.

Pam Chambers, 6 The Paddocks.

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Walking in the countryside in winter is often more rewarding than in the height of summer. In winter trees are without leaves, the air is often clearer and as a result one gets a better view. Paths across farmland, although muddy, are free of crops. So, continue walking all through the winter. "Countryside Walks, Bugbrooke," pamphlets are still available in the shops in the village.

The law on footpaths and bridleways is often complicated and so a few reminders about your rights and the rights of a landowner may be useful. Let's start with obstructions and trespass.

If, on a public right of way, you are confronted with an obstruction which is really impassable, the law recognises a right for you to continue on your way. This you may do in one of two ways. Firstly you may remove just enough of the obstruction to allow you to pass. You must do the minimum damage to the obstruction. The more practical alternative to removing the obstruction is to pass round it. If the path is really impassable you are entitled to deviate round the obstruction but you must be careful not to cause damage while going round. Where a right of way crosses a field with growing crops you are entitled to follow the route even if this means treading on the crop. However, if the crop itself constitutes an impenetrable obstruction you will have no option but to try and walk round.

A person who enters or remains on land without lawful authority (e.g. not on a footpath) commits a civil offence of trespass and to deviate from a right of way which is not obstructed is trespass. The owner of the land may order the trespasser off his land and he must leave by the shortest route and as quickly as he can. Owner may, in addition, sue for compensation for any damage done. If the trespasser fails to leave he can be ejected using more than reasonable force.

Please note that in the case of trespass on a railway, this is a criminal offence for which you can be prosecuted. In any case, it is very dangerous to trespass on a railway. You should only go on a railway line at public crossing places and then should take particular care.

Any further information from; Colin Nuttall. 830658

Nature Notes by Bill Lantsbury

My word, wasn't that the most wonderful October you can remember? It couldn't rain, the sun shone, there was no frost and very little wind. The flowers in the garden bloomed on and on, most of the trees retained their leaves and they were an absolute picture.

On the 20th I took my grandson for a walk, down to the river. A hare scuttled out of its form right under our toes. Ten mallard took off from the Bends. Two lovely swans, with their three cygnets paddled serenely past. What a lovely way to spend a Sunday afternoon. There was one drawback. From across the fields came a steady roar. It was from the M1. The volume and speed of the traffic was unbelievable.

On 2nd November there was a real frost - 5 deg C, and the following morning, when the sun shone on the trees, they absolutely rained leaves. What a delightful spectacle. In one morning some of the conker trees had lost them all.

Looking out of the window at the moment, the oak tree has kept all its leaves and they are quite green!

One other tree interested me. I wondered why some ash trees had millions of seeds hanging on them and some had none. When I read it up, the book said that ash trees do not have seeds until they are forty years old!

To finish off, I must say one word about the weather. Something white fell from the sky last night. Oh dear, we are back to normal!

POLICE MESSAGE - WATCH THAT ICE!

Would the parents of all children please bring to the notice of their offspring the extreme danger of playing on a frozen river or canal. As the canal's are now starting to freeze over I would like to point out that dozens of children were chased off the canal last year by me and I know of many adults who have also chased children off.

I would also like to take the opportunity of wishing everyone in Bugbrooke all the best for Christmas and the New Year.

P.C.DODD, Police Station, Bugbrooke.

Darby & Joan Club News

- Vera Thompson Reports

Our Anniversary Dinner and party, quickly slipped by; what a lovely time we had, it is such a great pity that we cannot slow down enough to enjoy these special moments to the full. There were 80 of us sitting down to our dinner, members, committee, tea-ladies and drivers, and our guests for this year Mrs Adams, Mr & Mrs Langrish, Mr & Mrs Bayeley, Dr & Mrs Dutta and those two very special friends Roy and Beryl, who so readily give us so much pleasure with their music. Although this is a festive occasion we like to remember past members by placing a floral tribute in church over that weekend. This job was so splendidly carried out by Brenda and Arlene.

A fortnight later, we held a Jumble Sale making £89. Thank you all who so kindly gave, and those who turned up to buy on the day.

On Tuesday November 5th, Harpole Club invited us over and a very pleasant afternoon was spent in their company.

Thursday November 21st, off we went to Turners for an afternoon tea dance where we met up with our friends from Oxford Darby & Joan - surely be good start to Christmas celebrations! Then on Saturday December 14th we look forward with great pleasure to joining Heyford Darby & Joaners for their Christmas afternoon entertainment.

The following Wednesday we wind up with our own special 'Family' afternoon. Christmas Tea, presents and a Carol sing-a-long with Esther at the piano.

The name of our club may be Darby & Joan, but when it comes to getting cracking I would think that we are well to the fore. A very active group, a force still much to be reckoned with. We have just welcomed Mrs Mildred Bates, Mrs Ethel Ellison and Mrs Nancy Bubb as new members, and hope they will enjoy our company, as much as I am sure we shall enjoy theirs.

This then seems a very appropriate time to remember those members away from our village.

To Mrs Gran Perkins and Mrs T. Botterill in Ridgeway House at Towcester.

To Mr Faulkner at Evelyn Wright Daventry, Mrs Byles in Lingwood Home, Northampton, Mrs Myers with her daughter at Kislingbury and to Mr Marriott at home at 1 Spencer Close and Mrs Bowen who has to attend Danetree.

May you all have a Happy and Peaceful Christmas and in the words of our club hymn. "God be with you till we meet again."

W.I. Notes.

We open the New Year with a celebration, our 58th Birthday Party on January 6th when there will be a buffet supper and entertainment. On Feb 3rd we are to learn about the work of the Northampton Leisure and Libraries Service from Mr G. Atkinson.

I would like to wish all members and readers of Link a Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

ACTION RESEARCH NEEDS YOU!

Mrs Florence Edwards, the Chairman and main-stay of Action Research for the past few years, will shortly be leaving Bugbrooke to live in the United States.

Whilst we all wish Mrs Edwards and her family all the best in their new life, it does of course mean Action Research will need someone to take over from her, otherwise the Group may not be able to continue.

Anyone who is interested in helping us continue with this very worthwhile charity for raising money for research into all crippling diseases, please contact Florence on 831051 to discuss in more detail what is involved.

17, Georges Avenue
Bugbrooke
Tel:- 830919

Sir,

When I took over the chair of the Bugbrooke Playing Field Association, I was told by quite a few people that nothing positive ever happens in the village because people were apathetic. Many reasons for this attitude were put forward

- (A) I've done my bit let someone else contribute
- (B) Why should I help, theres nothing in it for me.
- (C) We're new here they don't mean us
- (D) Whats the point, nothing will get done.

These are just a few comments that I have heard. I must admit I did not believe that that sort of attitude could exist, but after 6 months I find that in fact it does. The majority of people in Bugbrooke seem to think that if they turn up at the Fete and Bonfire night, that is all the support that they need to give. Thank goodness they do support those functions, otherwise we would be unable to maintain the Playing Field.

But its not enough. In addition to new changing facilities the village needs a Community Centre from which all will benefit Young and Old alike. This year's committee of the Playing Field Association, at its first meeting, declared that, it was their aim to have a purpose built brick building erected for the benefit of all.

To do this we have two options:-

- (1) Sell some of the Playing Field.
- (2) Ask the village for help.

I am looking into the first option: But feel sure the second would be a better choice.

We estimate that we need to raise £50,000 and with our bank balance at present standing at £2,000 you can see that we have a problem!

The heartening thing is that there is the possibility that every £1 we raise can be doubled by grants available. But before we can apply for grants we have to have money of our own. Please read this article carefully. Talk about it with your neighbours, workmates, friends and boss's. Make sure that all of Bugbrooke is aware of the Playing Fields potential.

If you feel able to make a monetary contribution do not hesitate to contact me or any of the committee and if anybody - business, club, or association feels that they would like to sponsor our aims I would be delighted to hear from them.

Come on Bugbrooke, Wake up! Make 1986 the Year things started to happen.

Signed: Pam Hollis, Chair Person.

Bugbrooke Playing Field Association. November 1985.

Bugbrooke Girl Guides

Firstly we would like to say thank you to anyone who helped with our Jumble Sale which was held in September. £140 was raised. During October the Guides took part in an Autumn Challenge when they made corn dollies, apple fritters, leaf pictures and decorations using fir cones, acorns etc. We also went on an evening walk to Kislingbury and had a disco. The Guides are now busy planning patrol activities and we will also be making decorations for the Christmas party at Princess Marina Hospital. We will be taking part in the District Carol Service on December 15th.

Youth Club

As you are probably aware, the Youth Club has not re-opened this year. This is mainly due to the lack of adult support and also to the fact that existing equipment has been damaged by damp within the building, which has resulted in the failure of electrical appliances, and warped snooker tables.

This is not a 'one man' job, but if anyone is interested in taking over the Club, I would be happy to assist in any way I can, please ring Colin Lovesy on 832385, evenings only.

