

ALL SAINTS' VILLAGE NEWSLETTER No. 122

The Rectory
Church Street
Amersham

November 1987

BRING BACK ADVENT

Bring back what? Advent? Yes! The Church has always recognised the need to prepare ourselves to celebrate **the great festivals** of the year: we keep the forty **days** of Lent before Easter, and the four weeks of Advent before **Christmas**. These are times which can allow us to look forward to the feast that **is** coming **so** that, when it does arrive, we have prepared ourselves a little better to be open to its meaning.

What a hope, you may be thinking, **with** all there **is** to do by way of other kinds of preparations for Christmas - deciding on presents; shopping for them; **wrapping** and **posting** them; writing the **Christmas** cards; planning the menus; **buying** and preparing **the** food; decorating the house; visiting friends and family: so **it** all goes on. So much to do. So many **details** to prepare.

But what do all these **preparations** signify **without** **some** preparation for the truth that is **at** the heart of it all, namely that God has come among us, to live with us, to live in us? The celebrations and the **festivities** on their own are for nothing unless at the centre is the birth of the Christ-child. And that is what especially needs our **attention** and thought. Hence Advent. **It** would be strange **for** a couple getting married to give all their energy and time in preparing just for the Reception on their **Wedding** Day and **nothing** at all to the nature of their own love and relationship in marriage. Yet we can easily **give** all our **preparations** at Christmas to the meals and **presents** and nothing to the love **and** **relationship** at the heart of **it**.

Each year, **the** commercial **pressure** seems to be **to** begin "Christmas" earlier. **By** the time the 25th December has arrived, "**Christmas**" is in danger of becoming "stale" because it has already been around for so long! **If** we were able to keep Advent more as a time of **preparation**, we would also be less drawn into a premature and, **therefore**, half-hearted celebration of Christmas itself.

The more that we are able to "bring back Advent", the more we are likely to discover that the true joy of **Christ's** birth fills us this Christmas

Anthony Priddis

HOLY BAPTISM

On 12th July, Gavin **Martin** John Holland, son of Simon John and June Holland of Coleshill.

On 2nd August, **James Kieren** Bell, son of Nicholas David and **Lisbeth** Ann Bell of Winchmore Hill.

On 30th August, Harry John Radford, son of Andrew **Michael** and **Julie** Marion Radford, of Winchmore Hill.

HOLY MATRIMONY

On 22nd August Stephen Hark **Kneebone** of Rickmansworth married Alicia Caroline **Hamilton** of Amersham.

On 29th August Steven Leslie Harris of Chesham married **Michelle** Jane Atkinson of Amersham.

IN MEMORIAM

On 22nd July 1907, **Willie Northcliffe**.

On 26th August 1987, **Mabel Howlett** of Tower Road, **Coleshill**.

On 4th **September** 1987, **Claire Lintott**.

On 8th September 1987, **Dorothy Rodnight** of **Mount House**, Coleshill.

On 10th September 1987, **John Pelly** of **Rushymead**.

On 7th October 1987, **Vera Marcham** of **Hill Meadow**, Coleshill.

Honor Jane Mary **Coales**, died 21st October 1987.

It is with regret that we hear of the death of Honor Coales, formerly of **Grove Hill**. Our deepest sympathy goes to her husband and family.

Thanks to her we have a Brownie and Guide company in the village. Her efforts started the family services in church, her help was given to the **Maggie** Club, the Over 60s Club, also the **Horticultural** Society.

She was a very caring person and we remember her **with** love and gratitude.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

Committee Membership. After sixteen years on the Church Committee, most of them as either treasurer or pro-warden, Alastair Panton has decided that, now that he has moved out of the village, he would resign. The amount that he has given to the church and the committee in time and wisdom is inestimable and his presence at meetings will be greatly missed - not least because they will be much less fun without him! His place on the Committee will be taken by Nick Sadler.

Church Repairs. As could be seen from the scaffolding surrounding the church, major repairs have been going on on the roof. By great good fortune they were far advanced before the Great Gale, so no damage occurred to the church.

Deacon. The Bishop has agreed that the parish should have a deacon to assist Mr Priddis from next June. Accommodation will have to be provided and it is hoped to buy a house on Hundred Acre Estate. Some of the capital from the Parsonage Fund, which was put aside for just such a purpose, will be used.

All Saints * Harvest Charity. As in the previous two years, it was decided to support the tuberculosis eradication scheme run by the Ryder/Cheshire Mission at Dehra Dun in Northern India. Our money is used to buy food and blankets for the very poor people who have tuberculosis and who would not get these comforts if it were not for our help. A letter received from Major General Bakhshi, who runs the centre, made it clear how much our contributions are appreciated. This year, the fund raising events after the Harvest Festival services and at the Harvest Supper were more successful than ever. They raised £218.61 which the church agreed to match and round up to £440. Together with donations of £150, we are therefore able to send off £590 to the Mission. Thanks are due to everyone who helped, who gave prizes, cakes and produce, and who bought raffle tickets in such profusion.

Guest Service. In order to encourage more people from the village to find out more about the church and its worship, a special Guest Service was held, timed to coincide with the clocks going back and the extra hour in bed! It was widely publicised to individual households and to all village organisations, and it was very encouraging to have over 70 people in church. Those who met in the village hall for coffee afterwards were enthusiastic about the event.

All Saints' Day. As 1st November fell on a Sunday this year, it was possible to celebrate our Patronal Festival on the day itself. At the morning service the new tapestry cushions and kneelers for the chancel were dedicated. They were designed by Mary Stickley and worked by Sharon Hall, Jean Higgs, Nita Ovington, Mary Sadler, Emily Stephens, Anita Urry and Patsy Wright-Warren. The whole enterprise was organised by Anita Urry. All worked long and hard and the fruits of their labours certainly beautify the church. At the evening service, we were joined by the choir and congregation from St Mary's to give our celebrations a joyful and friendly finish.

Tapes of Services. The Guest Service and the morning service on All Saints' Day were taped and can be borrowed from Stella Platzer. Other services can be taped on request.

Bequests and Gifts. We have had two generous bequests, each of £500. These came from the estate of Mrs Mumford, and from Mr and Mrs Dickinson (Helen Spencer's parents). We hope to use these to beautify the church and one suggestion is that we should have two new kneelers for the altar and also more for the nave, so that all the pews have them. Would anyone interested in making one please contact Anita Urry. Sue Bullough has been kind enough to present the church with a splendid new notice board.

Caring for the Church. Most people will know that Len and Jean Bristow are planning to leave the village in the near future. Len has, for many years, cared for the church in a most devoted way. Not only has he opened and closed it each day, but he has also acted as caretaker, sacristan and cleaner. We have all appreciated his work and the church will miss him desperately. We have so far found no one to take over from him. If anyone would be willing to take on any or all of the work, would they please get in touch with Anthony Priddis, one of the pro-wardens or Patsy Wright-Warren. It is urgent that we find someone or form a rota soon.

Organists. Unfortunately, after only a short time with us, David Wheeler has moved away from the area, so we have two weeks each month with no one to play the organ on a regular basis. If anyone could take on one or both weeks, or knows anyone who might be interested, would they please get in touch with Ruth Murphy.

P.W-W.

CONFIRMATION

On Sunday 15th November, four young people, all, members of the choir from Coleshill, were confirmed at St Mary's by the Bishop of Buckingham: Elizabeth Eardley, Alex Murphy, Gregory Murphy and William Sadler.

HARVEST SUPPER

Preparations for the Harvest Supper started about midday on Friday, 2nd October, with the setting up of the tables and chairs in the Village Hall and the arrival of the first contributions to the evening meal. By early evening the tables had been laid and decorated and much activity had started in the kitchen area where Dumpy Swerling and her team of helpers were preparing to provide, once again, a miraculous supper for a full house of 136. This year it was to be hot turkey casserole with vegetables, the usual delicious sweets and puddings (kindly produced by various ladies) followed by coffee.

After supper, the Rev Anthony Priddis said how delighted he and Mrs Priddis were to be at their first All Saints' Harvest Supper and to be part of what was obviously a major Village party. He welcomed the guests, Canon and Mrs Hickin, Michael Tagent and his wife, Stella Hunter and her husband and Brian Oxley - who had been so helpful to All Saints' in various ways during the past year. To long applause, he then thanked all those who had been involved in the arrangements for the supper.

The **Choir**, directed by Ruth Murphy, then entertained us with a variety of songs which were much enjoyed and appreciated. The programme included an amusing and topical '**psalm**' which by request is reproduced below. Traditionally a very happy evening closed with some robust community singing led by Patsy **Wright-Warren** with Ruth Murphy at the **piano**.

D.C.U.

THE WEATHER REPORT

1. This weather report is brought to you by **the C.C.C.** which being interpreted is the Coleshill Church Choir.
2. It has been prepared for the benefit of local farmers: without whose hard work, early mornings, late nights, ingenuity in the face of adversity, skill and **determination**, there would be no harvest at all.
3. After this beautifully warm and sunny day: we can expect a bright and starry night, and the moon being at the full, there is every chance of a romantic walk home.
4. But you may find that there is a distinct nip in the air: even amounting to a frost, which will finally kill off all your dahlias.
5. Tomorrow there will probably be more of the **same: though** on the other hand there is always the possibility of something completely different;
6. Depending on whether the wind continues to blow from Siberia: or shifts round to come from **Timbuctoo**.
7. High winds mean that there will be clouds, Swerling **around: due** to a cyclone that is **anti**.
8. And if your team is ploughing in the resulting downpour: you will find it positively **Higgs-austing**.
9. We are sorry to have to report that next week there will be a deep depression due to a trough, which should not be confused with the one from which you feed your pigs.
10. As a result the heavens will open: and it will tip down, rain **stairrods**, not to mention cats and dogs, in other words it will be extremely wet.
11. And all that we can say about the long term forecast: is that it is **Pusey'lanimous**.
12. As you can **see**, we are in thoroughly optimistic mood, and are doing our best to cheer up farmers: and we have every confidence that they will once again turn up trumps;
13. So that next year we shall be back in our village **hall: to** celebrate our harvest with great joy.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

There is now a Sunday School and creche in the village, in place of Friday **Fellowship** catering for children aged 0 - 11. The Sunday School meets every 4th Sunday in the **month**, with the exception of August and December. The children go to the village hall just before 9 a.m. where they have their own religious instruction and activities. They then join their parents in church prior to the communion. Children unaccompanied can sit with the Sunday School and then be fetched from outside the church at 10 a.m.

Rosemary Valentine 72
For **more details**, please phone: ~~Helen Spencer~~ - Amersham 5857.

Adria, Sue & Simon Caddy.
Ted, Ann, James & Robbie Downie

C*H*R*I*S*T*M*A*S G*R*E*E*T*I*N*G*S

- Jack Adams
X Joan Allan
Geoffrey & Nancy Alpe
~~Florence, Jean & Freda Appleby~~
✓ ~~Ian & Jean Bristow~~ ?
Peter & Jennifer Brock
~~Trixie Browne~~
✓ John & Julie Burton *Adria, Sue & Simon Caddy*
John & Ann Chenevix-Trench
50. X Kitty Clifton
25. ✓ Doris Coleman
25 ✓ Ronald & Mary Colles
~~Ruth Colles~~
25p. ✓ Hilda Collier
25 ✓ Nancy Collier
Catherina Cossey & Family
25 ✓ Leslie & Jean Croydon
David & Marigold Curling.
25 ✓ Norman & Minnie Darvill
25 ✓ Jan Day *Tom, Pat, John & Anna Dawson*
25 ✓ Christina (Deaky.) Deacon
Jim & Alison Dening & Family
25. ✓ Charles & Anna-Marie Desoutter
• The Dover Family
✓ Jonathan & Lindsey Eardley & Family
~~Louise E Edwards~~
25 ✓ Albert & Louie Edwards
25 ✓ Jack & Pat Emblow
20. ✓ Robin & Jacky Ferguson & Family
✓ David & Chris George & boys
25 ✓ Peggie Gow
Naisie & Andrew Grant
25. ✓ Lena Grayer
Harold & Win Grindley
25 ✓ John Guest
25 ✓ Rodney & Renee Gunn
25 ✓ Denis & Chloe Hall
✓ Florence Harris
Philip & Betty Harris
Elizabeth Harvey
25. Jack, Lindsey & Nicola Haubner *family*
~~Michelle & Mark~~
~~Nargot Hesford~~
Michael & Di Hesford
25 ✓ Les & Joy Hicks
Roger & Jean Higgs
✓ The Horsbrugh-Porters
Bill & Barbara Houlton, Auntie & boys
Hugh Jones
25 ✓ Teddy & Betty Joseph
~~John Kurzer~~
25 ✓ Peter & Ann Lawrence & Family
25 ✓ Marjorie Long-Brown
David & Ineke McCammon & Family
~~Pat McCann~~
25 ✓ Judy McLean
25 ✓ George & Pat McNeil
25 ✓ Violet Martin
25 ✓ George & Ruby May
Henry & Diana Maynard
~~Kathy Monk~~
25 ✓ Ron, Ruth, Gregory & Alex Murphy
25 ✓ Nita Ovington
✓ Alastair & Christopher Panton
25 ✓ Philip & Hazel Pearce
25 ✓ Tony & Stella Platzer
25 ✓ George & Barbara Plumridge
25 ✓ Peg Pomeroy *Suzannah Phillips*
25 ✓ Dora Pcost *Dorothy's Alice Pond & children*
25 ✓ Margaret Price
Micky Prothero
✓ Doug & Jessie Pusey
✓ Roger Pusey
25 ✓ Jim & Pleasance Riley
✓ Gillian, Colin & Clare Saeh
✓ Nick & Mary Sadler & Family
✓ Ewart, Jean, Beryl & Colin Smith
25 ✓ The Spencer Family
Sidney & ~~Emily~~ Stevens
25 ✓ Mollie K Stone
✓ Pam & Paul Stubbings
✓ The Swerling Family
25 ✓ Peggy & Ann Trotman
✓ Donald & Anita Urry
25 ✓ Richard & Rosemary Valentine & Family
✓ Betty Waite
✓ Sidney & Ann Ware & Family
25 ✓ Chris & Mary Wege & Family
✓ Doreen Wheldon
50 ✓ Catherine Wicks
25 ✓ Mercie & Martin Williamson
✓ Reg Woolacott
25 ✓ Spike & Phyllis Wright
25 ✓ Patsy Wright-Warren

The above have advised that they do not propose to send Christmas Cards locally, but extend to all friends their very best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

CALLING ALL JOGGERS (AND WALKERS)

Now that dark mornings and evenings are here again, it would add greatly to your safety and my peace of mind if you were to make yourselves more visible by wearing a fluorescent belt, or something equally eye catching. You probably don't realise how suddenly and alarmingly you loom out of the darkness!

An Early Morning Driver

1st COLESHILL (ALL SAINTS) BROWNIE GUIDE PACK

We started the Autumn Term with ten Brownies. We were sad to say goodbye to our three sixers, Anna Bayley, Annabel Eardley and Katharine Sadler. They all set excellent examples as sixers, and we shall miss them but wish them all the best at Guides.

We welcomed two new recruits at the beginning of term, Suzy Bond and Rosalind Pool, both have now been enrolled. Tara Hall, Sarah McNeilly and Natalie Hall have gained their swimmer's badge.

We had a Rainbow evening for parents and testers. We ended the evening with refreshments and a bring and buy. We were able to send a cheque for £44.34 to "Sight by Wings", an organisation in Africa which saves children's sight. We were very pleased with this and would like to thank everyone who supported us.

On 13th December we will be singing carols at Rushmead and then going on to the Christingle Service at church at 5 p.m.

D.S.

1st COLESHILL GUIDE COMPANY

Since we have been back after the summer break we have been busy preparing for our entertainment and tea party which we intend to hold on the afternoon of Sunday, 6th December and which we hope everyone in the village will attend. One of our uniquely designed posters will soon appear on the noticeboard in the village hall. In addition, we have had some interesting evenings with activities such as keep fit and preparation for badges.

We welcome 3 new Guides who were enrolled this term. They are Anna Bayley, Annabel Eardley and Katharine Sadler. The new patrol leaders this term are Emma Cox, Jo Gregory and Natalie Newton.

We attended the Remembrance Service at St Mary's Church and will try to have a Guide representative group at All Saints' Church once a month, although with so many Guides from outside the village it is sometimes difficult.

Finally, congratulations to Emma Cox and Natalie Newton who were presented with their Green Trefoils and Elizabeth Eardley who received their Yellow Trefoils.

K.H.

COLESHILL C. E. FIRST SCHOOL

In July, we held our Fete, Sports and Barbeque. In spite of wet weather, a magnificent profit of £320 was made.

The end of term Service was held in Church on 21st July, conducted by Rev A. Priddis. In September, we spent a day at High Wycombe Urban Studies Centre where the children explored High Wycombe, visiting the Heritage Exhibition, a watermill, the Dyke etc.

Harvest Festival was conducted by Rev A. Priddis on 30th September. Sale of produce raised £30 which was forwarded to the National Children's Home. Our Christmas Bazaar will be on Saturday, 5th December at 10.30 a.m. Everyone is cordially invited.

MAGPIE CLUB

We had a successful series of activities in the summer holidays, the weather being bad on only one occasion, and everybody enjoyed the events they came to.

Events for the Christmas season:

Monday 7th December. 12.30 - 2.30

Maggie Mothers' lunch in the village hall. Please contribute £1 to the cost of the hire of the hall and a glass of wine. Please bring a contribution for lunch ½

Monday 21st December, 2 - 4 p.m.

Carol singing round the village. Meet at the village hall.

Monday 4th January, 3 - 5 p.m.

Children's party in the village hall. 20p per child and please bring a Contribution for tea.

Any queries please phone Mary Sadler. Amersham 6277. ..

COLESHILL CLUB

In August we enjoyed tea and a social afternoon at 'Greenlands'. We held our Annual Lunch in September which was greatly enjoyed by members and friends invited to join us.

At the A.G.M. in October it was decided to close through lack of support, also three valued members passing away over the last few months, and quite a few unwell and unable to attend. After the meeting, we were pleased to welcome Mr and Mrs Weedon from Bristol, showing us slides kindly loaned by Mrs Ovington of Church Fetes of some years ago, very much enjoyed. Mrs Weedon was founder member of the club.

We thank you all who have been so helpful over the past years.

THE COLESHILL BRANCH OF THE N.S.P.C.C.

invite you to join them for

C H E. I S T M A S T E A

TO BE HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL on SUNDAY 2 DECEMBER 1987

after the Carol Service (approximately 4.15 p.m.)

TICKETS: Adults - £1.00 Children -50 pence

Available from: Gillian Bungey Amersham 623'4
: Jean Freemantle " 6441
Sharon Hall " 5231
Mary Sadler " 6277
Rosemary Valentine " 5794

COLESHILL WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Our members have been very busy since the last newsletter. We had our usual party for our friends from the Deaf and Dumb Club of Acton in August. They were entertained by a display of Square Dancing arranged by our member, Mrs Stella Platzer. Also in August a number of members attended the Group Garden Party held at the home of Mrs Joan Adamson, and a party of us visited the Fashion Reflections Exhibition at Stowe School on August 6th.

At the September meeting we were saddened by the news of the death of Mrs Dorothy Rodnight who had been a popular and active member for some years.

A tour round Chenies Village, church and gardens on 17th September was a great success, the weather was marvellous for a change and Chenies U.I. provided us with a delicious tea at the home of Mrs Betty Leach.

We hosted the Group Meeting in October at the village hall, at which we had an excellent speaker in Mr Norman Croucher. We have had some interesting speakers at our meetings, including Mrs Langford on "Childhood under Occupation" and Mr Teddy Joseph, Executive Film Producer on some of his film-making experiences. A trip was made to Windsor Theatre this month.

Preparations are in full swing for the W.I. Quiz Supper on November 20th, and the Christmas lunch on December 12th. There is an interesting programme of speakers and outings planned for the New Year.

We are very pleased to welcome visitors and new members.

P.W.

COLESHILL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

This year the Horticultural Show in September was opened by the Society's new President, Mr David Curling, and although the bad summer had decreased the number of entries in the flower and vegetable sections there was still much to see with colourful arrangements in floral art classes and some very ingenious entries in the children's handicrafts, not to mention the mouth-watering cakes and preserves.

Thanks to Derek Horrocks for the splendid auction of produce at the end of the proceedings and to the committee and helpers who work so hard preparing the hall in the days beforehand and running the Show on the day. Thanks also to those who have kindly made donations to help 'keep the show on the road'.

Congratulations to this year's cup winners who were;

The Grindley Challenge Cup	- Mrs P Griffiths
The Jerram Challenge Cup	- Mrs J Smith.
The Woolacott Vase	- Mrs L Haubner
The Cotswold Challenge Cup	- Mr E Miles
The Coleshill Challenge Cup	- Mrs C V Cossey/Mrs B Plumridge
The Edmond Waller Challenge Cup	- Mrs B Plumridge
The Wheatsheaf Children's Cup	- Alexandra Rooksby
The Ovington Rose Bowl	- Miss A Trotman
The Windmill Bowl	- Mrs E Hansford
The Clifton Cup	- Mrs J Glover
The Le Mead Cup	- Mrs J Glover
The Wand-Tetley Book Award	- Annabel Horrocks

The conditions for the Greenfingers stall in October were reminiscent of Noah's Flood. It lashed with rain - the wind gusted and the frozen committee felt they might as well have been standing in the Village Pond all morning instead of beside it! Many thanks to the valiant folk who braved the elements to dig plants up for us to sell and to those who turned out to make purchases to swell our funds. £27.30 was collected during the morning.

We shall now hibernate for the winter and look forward to seeing everybody at our Spring Speaker Meeting in April.

C.M.W.

COLESHILL TENNIS CLUB

Considerable advance has been made in the past two months and following meetings with the Sports Council, we can look towards an application for a Sports Council Grant in February. The planning application has also been made for three all weather courts.

Fundraising, however, is still an all important factor, and we would like all those people who did not put their names forward for membership, whether it be for team play, family or just social, to please let us know if they are interested. If you are one of these people, please contact Jo Swerling, our membership secretary, on Amersham 6414.

Finally, our next social event is on Friday, 4th December, at 8.00 p.m. in the village hall. Come and enjoy a "Swinging Sixties Revival". Tickets are available from Sharon Hall on Amersham 5231.

David George

COLESHILL VILLAGE DRAMA GROUP

Panto Season is" upon us again "Ooohh yes it is!!". .. and this year we are taking you back to Sherwood Forest and merry men as we present "Babes in the Wood". There will be three performances, Friday and Saturday nights at 0 p.m. on February 26th and 27th and also a matinee on the afternoon of the 27th. Although the main parts are cast, the chorus can be as big as we like, so if you have ever thought you'd like to join us "on the boards" why not give me a ring on AMERSHAM 22589 and cone along to one of our rehearsals. (It's O.K. fellas, you don't HAVE to wear tights!..... unless you'd like to !!) Tickets will be on sale in the new year.

Be there or be square!!

Lindsey Haubner

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COLESHILL VILLAGE HALL

The Management Committee has been continuing to consider how to resolve the problem of properly ventilating the Hall. This matter is complicated because the Hall is sited within 30 yards of Church Cottages to the west and is even nearer to the houses to the east. The noise that can easily be created from normal gatherings of people in the Hall could become a nuisance to these neighbours. The Management Committee recognises that it has a moral responsibility to them not to cause undue disturbance. It is also aware of its legal responsibilities in connection with the emission of noise.

As may now be well known the Committee has already taken a lot of trouble and incurred considerable expenditure in double glazing all windows and buying electronic control equipment to cut off the power source of any excessively noisy musical equipment. The double glazing helps to control the noise well, but in effect turns the Hall into a sealed box. When a large number of people are present, or when the weather is hot, the atmosphere becomes oppressive or nearly intolerable.

To provide ventilating equipment, which itself does not cause a noise problem, is extremely expensive, and beyond the financial resources of the Hall. Over the past 18 months we have applied to the Bucks County Council for a grant. Unfortunately they have recently indicated that no funds are available for the current or the next financial years. We are therefore seeking an alternative source of finance and an application is about to be submitted to the Chiltern District Council.

Under recent legislation it is also possible for Parish Councils to provide funds to Village Halls from Parish rates. This matter is currently being discussed with the Coleshill Parish Council. If you have views on this subject, it would be appreciated if you will kindly pass them oh to any member of the Coleshill Parish Council, (or to Peter Lawrence on Amersham 7207).

P.M. Lawrence

AN INTERESTING ARTICLE ON ZOE HORSBRUGH-PORTER'S TRIP TO INDIA

INDIA ON THE G.A.P. SCHEME 1986

In February 1986 I was lucky enough to get a teaching placement in India, where I had a wonderful time. I applied for it through a scheme called G.A.P. Activity Projects which caters for school leavers who want a year off abroad. The interviews take place from April to November of the previous year and I especially asked- to be sent out with a school friend, Sarah Holden, which was a good decision as there were some very ill-matched pairs, stuck together for six months! The school was in the state of Bihar, North of Calcutta, and was a Victorian Missionary school, built in the 1900s; Bishop Westcott Girls' School, Namkuen. It was run on very strict discipline with frequent canings and parrot fashion learning, reminiscent of English prep schools in the 1920s. The whole school was modelled in fact on an English school with a strong dedication to Christianity which was very odd in a school where the girls were 90% Hindu!

The state of Bihar was very backward, with rats creeping into bathrooms and found dead on the streets. The town nearby, Ranchi, was very violent as there were many riots between the Moslem and Hindu contingents which each made up half of the population.

When we arrived in early February we were immediately given jobs as class teachers which meant I was faced with a classroom of fifty three 10 - 13 year olds. The discipline was a real problem and apparently my shrieking voice could be heard throughout the school. I taught English language and literature but also insisted I could teach science which I rather regretted when faced with the intricacies of the Pulley System, and in the end I had to resort to sending girls out if they asked too difficult questions. I also taught sport which was rather embarrassing as I had completely given up games at sixth form, and my efforts as sewing mistress amounted to a continuous string of napkins and handkerchiefs!

The whole experience was a real insight into the teaching profession, and the strain of a week's teaching was off-loaded every Sunday on our great friend, Ernest Coe, who had been in India most of his lifetime as an English missionary, and is now running the St Michael School for the Blind. After church in the morning he would have us round all day where we would sit on the veranda eating the great delicacy of English tinned spam and listening to the blind boys who made music on drums and harpsichord. We were also sent off to W.I. meetings where the Indian women were fascinated to know what went on in Coleshill!

After three and a half months, we left the school with great regret and travelled round North India and Nepal for another two and half months before returning home in July.

Zoe Horsbrugh-Porter

LITTER

1987-88 is the 'European Year of the Environment' (EYE) and as its contribution the Coleshill Parish Council is considering whether to adopt a formal 'Community Environment Programme' (CEP) specifically designed for Villages. We have been in touch with the 'Keep Britain Tidy Group' and they are encouraging us to run a CEP as a pilot scheme, and one of the first to be adopted by a village

Very briefly the approach of the CEP is to endeavour to educate and to change attitudes so that ultimately the creation of litter is avoided. In the meantime, sources of litter have to be identified, steps taken to eliminate the source, and if all else has failed, arrangements made for removal.

If you are concerned about litter in the Village, and would be willing to assist or to lead the CEP in Coleshill, please contact Mr Sydney Ware, Clerk to the Coleshill Parish Council, The Nightingales, Barracks Hill, Coleshill, 'phone: Amersham 7345.

Generally the present approach suggested by the Parish Council is to encourage people to remove minor pieces of litter from the vicinity of their own homes. However, if you observe any areas in the Village with a lot of litter, please contact any member of the Parish Council. They will then make appropriate arrangements with the Chiltern District Council for the litter to be cleared.

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LENT GROUPS!
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We know that Lent is ages away yet, but plans are afoot for Ecumenical Study Groups throughout the country in 1988. Two years ago, there was a similar study group called 'Not Strangers but Pilgrims'. This coming Lent there will be a follow up course, and if you would be interested in taking part in an ecumenical study group, please let Anthony Priddis or Roland Gillott (Am 22674) know.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

NOV 28th Sat Open Gift Day at St Mary's 10 am-4 pm in aid of Organ Fund.

- DEC 4th Fri Tennis Club "Swinging Sixties"
- 5th Sat Christmas Bazaar Coleshill School
- 6th Sun Guides Tea Party
- 7th Mon Magpies Mothers' Lunch
- 12th Sat Wycombe Sinfonia Family Concert at St Mary's 3.30 pm
- 13th Sun Christingle Service
- 20th Sun Carol Concert 3 pm. NSPCC Tea 4.15 pm.
- 21st Mon Magpies Carol Singing

1988

JAN 4th Mon Magpies Children's Party

FEB 26th & 27th Drama Group Panto

The Rev. A.P. etc.

THE PARISH OF AMERSHAMWITH COLESHILL

Tel!

St Mary's Church, Amersham

Sunday Services	8.00 am	Holy Communion
	11.00 am	Matins
	11.30 am	Holy Communion (1st Sunday in month)
	6.00 pm	Evensong

2nd
 Each Wednesday: *read out* 10.00 am Holy Communion

Jan 15th. There will be a Service of Confirmation by the Bishop of Oxford 10.30 am

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, COLESHILL

Sunday Services	9.00 am	Parish Communion
	6.00 pm	Evensong (1st Sunday in month only)

Advent Sunday 29th November 9.00 am Family Service

Christmas Services:

Sunday ^{11th} 13th December	5.00 pm	Christingle Service
Sunday 20th December	3.00 pm	Carol Service
Christmas Day	9.00 am	Parish Communion

Family Services 9.00 am 2nd Sunday in month

Tel

Pro-Wardens - n. Valentine, Friars Vane, Coleshill . . . 72 5794
 - J. Chenevix-Trench, Windmill Farm, Coleshill . . . 5439

Hon. Treasurer - D.C. Urry, Ardlair, Coleshill 72 7420

Hon. Secretary - Miss P. Wright-Warren, 1 Amber Cottages, Coleshill 43 3356

Brownies - Monday Evenings 5.30 - 7.00 p.m. Coleshill School
 Guides - Monday Evenings 7.00 - 8.15 p.m. Village Hall
 W.I. - 2nd Thursday of every month at 2.30 p.m. Village Hall

MOBILE LIBRARY - This calls at Coleshill every other Wednesday, stopping at
 The Village Hall 3.45 - 4.00 p.m.
 Hill Meadow 4.00 - 4.15 p.m.

Next vi.sits: DECEMBER 2nd, 16th & 30th; JANUARY 13th & 27, FEBRUARY 10th

Apr. 6 & 20 - 14 - May 4 & 18. June 12 & 15 & 24th