



VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

Easter
2003

Bargain of the Year

‘Daffodil bulbs for sale, only £1 for 50. Bargain of the year!’ I parted with my quid pronto, and persuaded my younger son to pop them in the holes I made with a broom handle. The Rectory front yard would surely sparkle this Spring.

Does it heck! Not one has come up, my hopes of spectacular new life were confounded.

Standing in the icy wind, the sad relatives huddled round a rather bigger hole on Stanley Hill, I read the familiar words of Jesus ‘Those who trust in me, even though they die, will live...’ Are these promises any more trustworthy than those of the nameless Garden Centre?

It is now full Spring. Only a few weeks ago it would have been hard to believe that anything so wonderful might occur. But now the leaves have burst from the trees, and the gardens are covered with vibrant colours.

It is hard to believe sometimes that the Easter promise of Resurrection is reliable, but God reassures us, with the annual cycle of the seasons, that in Christ we too have everything to hope for. William Wordsworth expressed it this way:

I have learned
To look on nature, not as in the hour
of thoughtless youth; but hearing
oftentimes
The still, sad music of humanity,
Not harsh nor grating, though of ample power
To chasten and subdue. And I have felt
A presence that disturbs me with the joy
Of elevated thoughts, a sense sublime
Of something far more deeply interfused,
Whose dwelling is the light of setting suns,
And the round ocean and the living air
And the blue sky, and in the mind of man:
A motion and a spirit that impels
All thinking things, all objects of all thought,
And rolls through all things.

From ‘Lines written a few miles above Tintern Abbey’

Tim Harper
Rector of Amersham with Coleshill



News from All Saints'

The Revd Rosie Harper

The Revd Rosie Harper has been appointed Priest-in-Charge of the Parish of SS Peter and Paul, Great Missenden and her licensing will take place there on Wednesday 9th April at 7.30 pm. Anyone wishing to attend is welcome to do so but, in order to give an idea of numbers, please sign up on the form posted on the notice board in the church porch.

We express grateful thanks for all the work Rosie has done in our Parish and wish her well in her new appointment.

Christmas Services

The Christingle Service, Festival of Lessons and Carols and Christmas Day service as always were very well attended. We are most grateful to Pat Dawson, Rosie Searles and Dumpy Swerling for organising a splendid free tea in the hall following the Carol Service.

Mothering Sunday

There will be a Family Communion Service for Mothering Sunday at 9.00 am on **Sunday 30th March**, to which all are welcome.

Holy Week and Easter

Full details of services in the Parish appear on the final page of this newsletter.

Christian Aid

Hazel Thomas has kindly agreed to co-ordinate the house-to-house collection for Christian Aid Week, which will be the **11th – 17th May**.

Helen Spencer will be arranging a sponsored walk on **Sunday 11th May**, beginning at the Red Lion at 11.00 am. Further details appear elsewhere in this Newsletter.

Planned Giving

The Rector and Pro-Wardens would be grateful if the form sent out with their letter in January could be completed and returned as soon as convenient. Forms should be placed in an envelope addressed to the Treasurer and given to one of the Pro-Wardens (Patsy Wright-Warren or Dumpy Swerling) or posted to the Parish Office.



In Memoriam

2002

Jean Valerie Smith – 11th December

2003

Dimitrije (Meta) Stefanovic – 2nd January

Leonard William Attridge – 24th January

John Gordon Chenevix Trench – 13th February

Holy Baptism

2002

Jessica Lynne Dodsworth – 24th November

2003

Holly Imogen Musk – 12th January

Tom Daniel White – 9th March

2002

Blessing of Marriage

Charles Lee and Christina McDannell - 21st December



John Chenevix Trench

17th October 1920 - 13th February 2003

John Gordon Chenevix Trench was born into a family that until his father, mostly seemed to distinguish themselves in the church. He was born in Newick near Maresfield in Sussex where his father Major (R.E.) Ralph Chenevix Trench was stationed. Since his father was one of the founder members of the Royal Corps of Signals, it seemed natural that he should follow him into the Corps, but by his own admission he was not cut out for the military life and following the end of World War II he was invalided out of the army in 1946 due to injuries sustained to his back.

By his own account, the high point of his Military Service was perhaps the story of how he mended the Emperor of Ethiopia's radiogram:

'I did once meet the Emperor, Haile Selassie. H.I.M. rejoiced in the possession of a gigantic Italian radiogram, which one day went on strike, and it fell to me to go to the palace to see what could be done (taking a fitter to do the actual work, needless to say). The Emperor was affable and commanded champagne for us; his French was much better than mine. We decided the radiogram would have to go to our workshop, so we loaded it on to our truck and off we went. Skilled men toiled on it devotedly far into the night and in the morning it was lovingly loaded up again, carefully wedged and padded. But my appreciation of the situation had overlooked one factor: the decrepit state of all our transport, which had travelled over 2,000 miles without much in the way of roads; and the tailboard of this truck was held up with a piece of field telephone cable. So when, back at the palace, I jumped smartly down and went to unload the Emperor's radiogram, the tailboard was hanging loose and the stately great edifice, H.I.M's pride and joy, was not there. It was, we later discovered, scattered in small pieces all over the Via Vittorio Emanuele. So we went to the Emperor and told him his radiogram was beyond repair, which was true by that time; and we bought him another one, even bigger. And that's the true story of how I mended the Emperor's radiogram.'

After meeting and marrying (within six months) Ann in September 1944 John left the Army and returned to what had obviously been his first love - words. He landed a job at the advertising agency of S.H. Benson Ltd. as a copywriter. It is perhaps noteworthy that he took up his appointment on April 1st 1946. On reading the letter offering him the post I note that his salary was £ 7.0s.0d. per week and the letter goes on to say that they hope that the association will be a long one. It was. When he finally retired in October 1980 he had been with the company in its various incarnations for 34 years.



Just before Christmas 1954 John and his family came to live in Coleshill. It was here at Windmill Farm, his home for the next 47 years, that he found the ideal place to put down roots and raise a family. Here in the house he loved, he was able to pursue his love of gardening, history, archaeology and writing.

In between writing advertisements for Guinness, the Army and other well known brands, he also found time to write 4 novels (now, alas, long out of print).

His fascination with archaeology led him into researching the history of almost every old house in Coleshill and to write the history of the village itself. He became editor of the journal of the Bucks Archaeological Society and also wrote articles for the same. This work was sufficient to get him elected to the Society of Antiquaries and his expertise in mediaeval timber frame buildings gained him membership of the Vernacular Architecture Group.

His friends in Coleshill will be familiar with his garden, which for many years provided the family with fresh fruit and vegetables and, for all who came to visit, great pleasure in the beauty of its flower beds and shrub borders. After his retirement it also provided the materials for a large number of homemade wines, some excellent, some not so, but nearly all at least drinkable and certainly alcoholic!

John also sang in a number of local choirs; The Penn Singers, The Harewood Singers and Amchor, as well as the choir at All Saints'.

As his son, my abiding memory is of a gentle, scholarly man who was also the kindest person I ever met. When I was a child he never had to raise his voice to me and my mother's threat 'wait until your father gets home' never bothered me as much as it should have; I was far more frightened of my mother's wrath!

Despite his scholarliness he was also a skilled man with his hands; I am currently the proud owner of a model warship of Nelson's navy, built when he was 18, and members of the amateur dramatic group can testify to his skill as a constructor of scenery.

I do not believe I am overstating the case if I say that he enriched the life of all who met him and that he will be sorely missed.

Max Chenevix Trench

(The next instalment of Coleshill - A Short History by John Chenevix Trench
is continued overleaf)



Coleshill - A Short History

Introduction

This extract is reproduced with kind permission of John and Max Chenevix Trench. The original booklet is reproduced in full and is available from Patsy Wright-Warren, price £2.00, donation to the Coleshill Harvest Charity.

John Chenevix Trench, a well known figure in Coleshill, having lived in the village for 50 years, passed away on the 13th February 2003. He was a well-respected local historian and antiquarian who pursued painstaking academic research into ancient archives, many of these in Latin, and has published many scholarly works, including this short history of Coleshill.

Yeomen and others

Of the humbler actors on our stage we know almost nothing until the 16th century. We know that a village man called Alexander Erl was murdered in 1295 by Matthew Burdens of Beaconsfield, which might be interesting if we knew anything about Erl - where he lived or his status. It is a reasonable inference that Osbert Podifot and his son Peter farmed at Puddephants, east of Brentford wood, but was this 11.5 acres all the land they had? It is a good guess that the Cantelos, a family much given to driving off their neighbours' sheep, were at Red Barn. But for most we have nothing beyond their names.

13th century records contain a number of names still found in our area: Dean, Aldridge, Birch, Francis, Ryding (the same as Reading), but none of these families have been continuously in one village. And after this we have almost no names for 200 years. At some point during this blank period the name 'Stock' went out of use and 'Coleshill' replaced it. It is possible to conjecture how this came about.

'Kolir' (short for 'Kollungr') was a common Scandinavian name in these parts. In Coleshill it is found in Collins Field, Coleslett Field (Kollr's ledge), and probably Coleshill itself. But that was the name of the *feature*, the hill, not the village. And the first name under which the village is found is 'Coleshill Green' - the Green *on* Coleshill. Later this was misinterpreted as the Green *at* Coleshill. So Coleshill was understood as the name of the village.

For the year 1524 we have, in a tax return, a list of all adult males, and all householders, of either sex. There were only 22 names on it (of whom four were farm servants), compared with 32 land holders in 1294. Coleshill still had some way to go before it can be said to be out of recession.

There were three families of Readings, one in the Beaconsfield part of 'Little Hertfordshire', (probably at Ledborough Farm), and one owning Bowers (but living in Chesham). Walter Tredway lived at Stock Place and farmed Ongar Hill (where there was no house yet), and most of the Luckings land was being farmed by Edmund Rolfe.



Around the middle 1500's the Childs and the Balls first appear on the scene. The Childs owned the farm on the site of Porch House for 300 years and also leased Luckings for a time in the 17th century. Later, as we have seen, an Amersham

branch of the family bought the manor. But they did not set up as gentry; after they sold the house they moved to Coldharbour before emigrating.

The first Coleshill Ball, John, died in 1566 in a house on the site of Red Lion Cottage. The oldest part of the present house was built by his great-grandson, Henry, about 1620. Henry's son, Edmund, sold up in 1670, but by then his younger brother, another Henry, had become established at Brentford Grange (Brentford Barns in those days). His descendants remained there for another 200 years. The 16th century also saw the first Wingroves (or Wingraves) settled here: they seem to have been blacksmiths and lived at what is now Church Cottage.

At Fagnall around 1600 was a branch of the Bovingdon family, who had been in Penn since at least 1292. Stockings was on a long lease to one of the Tredways, but after his death the head-tenant was an absentee, one of whose sub-tenants was the Henry Ball who went on to Brentford Barns. After him at Stockings came three generations of Babbs.

During the Commonwealth, after George Coleshill's death in 1645, the Readings sold Bowers to Zachary Allnutt, a young man from Hughenden. Three generations of Allnutts lived at Bowers.

These yeoman families enjoyed two great periods of prosperity: in the early 17th century, when most of the medieval farmhouses were replaced by the houses we see now, and at the end of the century when almost all of them were added to.

Stockings was completely rebuilt at this time. Forge House was modernised. Built about 1570, it was not old enough to need rebuilding. The occupant in 1625 was Henry Wingrave, a tile maker. He was followed by a sequence of potters up until the late 18th century.

Two houses dating from the second modernisation have date plaques to record the fact.

Nathaniel Ball, a retired farmer, put his initials on Stock Cottage with the date 1692; and Richard and Elizabeth Child put theirs on Rosary Cottage in 1705 after handing over their farm to their son. At The Rosary the Clarkes, who had been there since the 16th century, added a wing to their medieval house (Their 19th century successors replaced the medieval part)

All these houses were the homes of prosperous yeomen. The only labourer's cottage to have survived from this period is Dell Cottage, which was built by the 'overseers of the poor' for the parish to house homeless families. It has been much added to since then, and eventually housed four families.



The first house at Ongar Hill was built in 1640 for the tenant of the eastern manor demesne; it was rebuilt in about 1890. 54 acres of this demesne were sold in 1625; it already formed an agricultural unit separate from the rest of the demesne and this was

farmed from Larkins Green, built about 1550, and the oldest house in Coleshill.

The 18th century saw many social changes. After George Allnutt's death in 1782, Bowers was not again lived in by its owner till the present century. It was farmed by a succession of tenants beginning with William Child from Amersham. Meanwhile the ancestral property of the Coleshill Childs had been taken over by a Ball, John. After his death it was broken up. The farmstead and some of the land eventually came into the possession of a London lawyer called Sergeaunt and it was probably he that built Porch House in the early 1800s.

At The Rosary the Clarkes died out, and there was a succession of short tenancies. In 1826 the place was known as 'The Retreat', suggesting ownership by a middle-class Londoner with a hankering for rural peace. This was probably Thomas Bowden. If so it was he that replaced the medieval part of the house with a Regency block. A little later some of the land was sold and used to build Coleshill House.

At Brentford Barns (or Grange) the Balls themselves joined the ranks of the gentry and ceased to be working farmers. By the middle of the century they had ceased to be resident either.

By this time there had occurred a change with greater consequences than any so far in history. In 1816 the parish was enclosed. The ancient system of co-operative agriculture was swept away, and the common fields divided between those who already had strips there. The common grazing was allotted according to a complicated formula that resulted in the squire of Amersham, Thomas Tyrwhitt-Drake, getting the lion's share. He let the common to a Winchmore Hill potter, William Slade, who mined it for clay. The results can still be seen.

Loss of grazing was the most serious result of enclosure for poor people. But so long as there was Wycombe Heath almost on their doorstep, they had access to hundreds of acres of common grazing for their cows. So the loss of Coleshill Common was not a disaster for them. It was the loss of Wycombe Heath, enclosed in 1855, that was a catastrophe.

After 1816 the number of small landholders declined. But many of them were not Coleshill people and, the process had started long before enclosure.

From this time dates New Road, built in the great hedgerow between Church Field and Gospel Field. and also the present layout of roads bordering the Common; the eastern one previously ran much closer to the houses. Its proper name, recorded in 1700, was Moor Street. It never occurs to local authorities to consult local historians when they name roads.

To be continued



Coleshill W.I.

Surely it can't be time to write this report again already. There is nothing like being a member of the W.I. to ensure that the months pass faster than ever! We gained seven new members last year and our membership stands at 49 now. Which of you would like to join us and make it fifty?

The New Year started with a meeting in the Cricket Pavilion, because the kitchen at the hall was being re-furbished. We listened to tales of the Amersham Martyrs and our President nearly took being burnt at the stake too literally, singeing her skirt standing too close to a heater. (Fortunately hems are shorter this year!) Whilst we all had a marvellous time at the last Christmas Party we decided to book a caterer for this year and have a magical celebration with friends and husbands too.

Since then we have had interesting talks on the 'History of Lace-making in Buckinghamshire' and 'Red Kites in the Chilterns'. We have entered the Inter - County Quiz and a Public Speaking competition. I will let you know how we get on next time. We have written to express our views on the Home Energy Conservation Bill and the proposed Private Members Bill dealing with fireworks. Closer to home we shall make our feelings quite clear on the appalling destruction of our roads and verges caused by the development off Windmill Hill in the hopes of ensuring a major clean up operation.

On a happier note we have supported the ballet at Wycombe Swan Theatre with trips to both 'Nutcracker' and 'Madam Butterfly'. Many of us are looking forward to an outing to the R.H.S. gardens at Wisley, a day out at Loseley Hall, a guided tour of the Square Mile, and a visit to the Museum in Old Amersham.

As I said earlier there is never a dull moment once you become a W.I. member and we were delighted to see that Sally Pool has become the Assistant Secretary at our County offices in High Wycombe. We hope she will have time to come to one of our meetings to see what happens at the grass roots...and anyone else would be most welcome too.

Eileen Gershon



Coleshill Infants School

We have 42 pupils on roll at the school this term rising to 45 in the summer term, so our school is continuing to thrive. The new children who joined us in the New Year have settled in very well.

The highlight of the term was 'Book Day' where the children and staff all dressed as book characters to celebrate World Book Day. There was a wide variety of colourful characters. Mrs. Earp and Mrs. Stainer dressed as Noddy and Big Ears and there we hope the similarity ends!

At the beginning of February, the children took part in the annual music morning held at Jordans Infant School. The theme this year was 'Weather' and the children took umbrellas, sunglasses and hats with them to help the morning go along with a swing. It was a magnificent sight to see almost 100 umbrellas being waved during, 'Raindrops Keep Falling on my Head'. There was just a slight sigh of relief from the teachers when it was time to put the umbrellas down! A good time was had by all and the whole event was, as usual, professionally orchestrated by Pauline Griffiths, our honorary music teacher.

The Parents and Friends group has been very busy organising events and fund-raising for the school as ever. A Quiz night in January was organised by Glynis and John Culley and another 'Ladies Indulgence Evening' is being planned to coincide with Mothering Sunday. This will take place at the Village Hall on **Friday, March 28th**, from 7.45 - 10.30 p.m. A whole range of treatments will be available, so why not come along ladies, be pampered and support the school at the same time? Looking further ahead, the school May Fayre will take place, weather permitting, in the school garden on **Saturday May 17th** from 12- 2.30 pm. Please come along and join in the fun. Thank you to everyone in the village who has supported our events. It is much appreciated by everyone at the school.

A special thank you to everyone who contributed so generously to our school appeal for a new resource area. We have almost raised enough money to cover the cost of the new building and the governors are hoping we will have the full amount soon. As you will have seen, the building is well underway and we are hoping it will be finished before the end of the summer term.

We now have two new governors, Lindsey Haubner and Frank Fallon who we welcome warmly to our school family. I wish them both well in their work ahead and thank them for volunteering to help our school.

Our end of term service takes place at All Saints Church, Coleshill on **Friday, April 11th** at 11 a.m.. You are cordially invited to attend if you are able. A very Happy Easter to everyone.

Jenny Earp - Headteacher

Coleshill Common

Work sessions have continued every fortnight through the Winter months. Our band of volunteers has cleared the margins down Barracks Hill, and created space in the woodland area for some planting of native trees. Contractors had to fell a large oak which had split and become a hazard.

A valued member George Plumridge has moved to Marlow, but his loss has been offset by four new helpers - all newcomers to the village! Work has now stopped for the nesting season, but will resume in the Autumn. Anyone is welcome to join the team.

Chris Wege Tel. 724152

Christian Aid

The Christian Aid Walk this year will take place on **Sunday 11th May** starting from The Red Lion at 11.00am.

The route will take us from Coleshill to Winchmore Hill and round some of the Penn House Estate. The walk should take a good two hours but for those who prefer a shorter route there is either a way back from Winchmore Hill through the woods to Ongar Hill Farm or alternatively by the road.

Please bring your family, friends and dogs and put a date in your diary now. The walk is not to be missed.

Helen Spencer



Parish Council

Ever thought about being a Parish Councillor? The Local Council elections are in May, why not put your name forward for election onto Coleshill Parish Council. There are six Parish Council meetings a year where numerous topics are discussed and voted on. Within the greater scale of things you may feel that the Parish Council is a powerless body within a small community. However, consultation is a process that is now embedded in many areas of public policy formulation, and increasingly Government consultation papers are being forwarded for comment by Parish Councils.

You can make a difference. Why not come to the next Parish Council meeting and see first hand what its all about. The meetings always start with the democratic quarter of an hour for Coleshill residents to voice any problems they may have, i.e. parking, overgrown footpaths, planning applications and many more items. This period then closes and the full Council meeting starts, members of the public are invited to stay but they do not have a voice. It is interesting and very informative so please join us.

It's that wonderful time of year again, when everything seems to burst into life after resting for the winter months. Primroses, snowdrops, narcissus and crocus showing their beauty, the only downside is, the pheasant that just has to start squawking at five o'clock in the morning. Good thing I'm a vegetarian!

Susan Smith

Clerk to the Parish Council



Red Lion

Since my last report, despite the horrid weather on Boxing Day, we had a good turnout for the Golf Challenge (48) and this years winner was Peter Ellingham in 14 strokes. The winner was decided after an exciting sudden-death play-off between Peter and Kathie Auton, a non-golfer and niece of Frank Auton. In the end true golfing skill paid off for Peter as Kathie's ball disappeared under the picnic tables. Again, mercifully, no damage and the Pools were very kind in supplying a welcoming coffee & biscuits at the tee. (Editors note: John is too modest to tell that he opened the course in torrential rain, while the rest of us waited a half-hour until the rain eased off!)

The Burns Supper was well attended (42) and highly successful, as evidenced by the photos. Andy Domin gave an excellent 'Immortal Memory' and Hilary McGuire gave us all a laugh with a very amusing 'Reply from the Lassies'. The music was provide by an excellent piper - who runs his own bagpipe manufacturing business in Worcester! The supper was authentic and excellent - thank you Chris and her team!

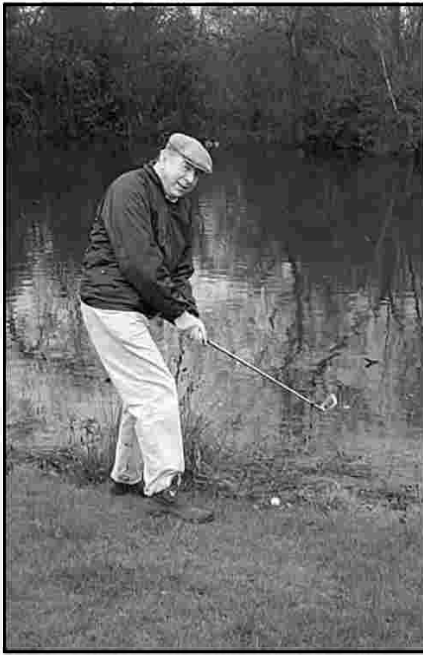
Forthcoming events include the Singles Petanque Championship on Sunday 23rd March, where Mike Smith will defend his title. Grand Union Morris will be here on May Day. See Lindsey's Village Voice Column in the Amersham Advertiser for details nearer the date.

As the Winter Pub Games Season draws to a close, the Crib and Dominoes Team have a fair chance of winning the 1st Division for the first time, both the Quiz Teams are in contention also, but the stars are the Ladies Darts Team who have reached the Final of the League Knock-Out Cup, when they will play Chalfont Wasps in April.

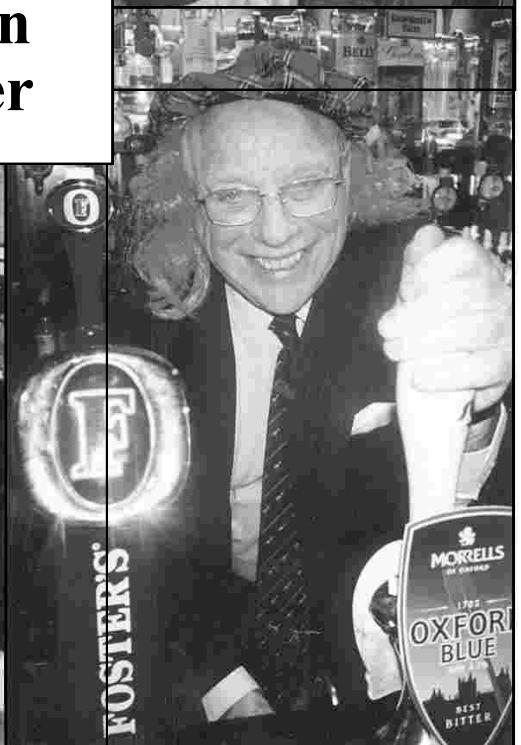
I will give a fuller report in the Summer Issue, as this was written in haste before going on holiday.

John Ullman





The Red Lion Burns Supper



Village Hall

The Village Hall kitchen has been refurbished with new cupboards, sinks, worktop and floor. This will hopefully please Environmental Health Officers when they next visit the Hall. The inspections and certificates required by Chiltern District Council have increased considerably and this is adding time and expense in running the Hall.

The AGM of the Village Hall Management Committee will be held on **Friday 25th April at 8.30pm**. All residents of the Village are welcome to come to this meeting and enjoy a glass of wine with the Committee afterwards.

Ann Lawrence

Meta Stefanovic

The Stefanovic family wish to thank villagers for the many, kind messages of sympathy received, following the sudden death of Meta on 2nd January 2003.

Thank you also, for the generous donations to charity, which amounted to £270.00.

Thank you.

June Stefanovic

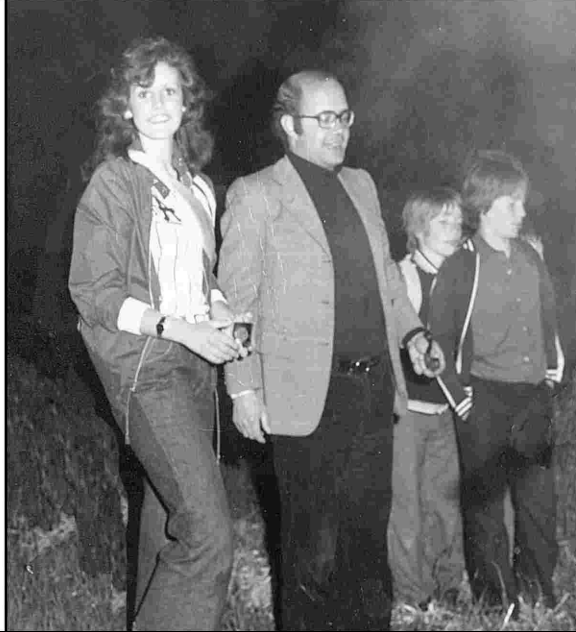
Easter Greetings

*Mary & Nick Sadler send Easter Greetings
to all their friends in the Village*

(Published with apologies from the Editor for omitting to print Mary & Nick's



Miss Coleshill - 1977



In the last edition of the Newsletter I asked for any information about the current whereabouts of Jennifer White, who was Miss Coleshill - 1977. Many thanks to Sue Miles who tells me that Jennifer is now a mother of three children and living in Seer Green.

Village Road - 1897



Thank you to the several responses from villagers, especially Ken Crossley and Denis Hall for setting me straight about the Cedars referred to in the photo taken by George Ward. Ken and Denis tell me that the cedars referred to are the cedar trees standing by the side of the road. The field they stand in was known locally as Cedar Field (and still is by some people). The stump of one of them can still be seen, and resulted from a big blow when it fell across the road and cut the village in two for a few days. When it was being cut it righted itself! The white house in the photo was known as Coleshill Cottage in the 1900's, then it became White Rose Cottage, since shortened to its current White Roses. Sadly, there is no longer a white rose growing over it. The house opposite, built much later, is called Cedar House after the trees.

Tennis Club

The start of the finer weather is bringing more players onto the courts, particularly during Club Play on Sunday mornings - so do come along and join in, it's fun! Club Play will continue on Sunday mornings at 10:00 as well as Tuesday evenings. Tuesday evening play will commence on the 8th of April at the usual time of 18:00.

Now is a good opportunity to tell you about our Fund Raising Event - A Gaming Evening, in the Village Hall on **Saturday 17th of May**. Please look out for posters around the village for more information.

Committee member Robin Ferguson has been extremely busy planning the Club's matches for the forthcoming Summer season; we have submitted two teams to High Wycombe & District Mixed Tennis League and now of course are looking for enthusiastic players! Please contact Robin on: 713218 if you would like to participate in these matches.

Committee member Chris Teal has taken on the responsibility of the Tennis Club's web page on the Village web-site. Please contact Chris on: 434270 should you have any contributions for the page.

Once a month, the Club meets with Iver Heath at their courts for 'friendly matches' of ladies doubles, usually four ladies from Coleshill drive to Iver Heath. This is of course an opportunity to play with different players and gives us practice for future matches - sometimes against Iver Heath! If you would like to be included please let me know on: 721865.

Please note the following events in your diary:-

Fun Day	6th April	A day of fun for ALL members
Fund Raising Event	17th May	
Village School Coaching	Beginning of May	
One Day Fun Tournament	18th May	
Village Open Tournament	8th June	
Ladies Doubles Finals	13th July	
Mens Doubles Finals	20th July	
Mixed Doubles & Singles Finals	14th September	
Fund Raising Event	During October	
Annual General Meeting	26th November	

The Club Coach, Alan Lowe has indicated that, subject to demand, he is happy to run the following group lessons:-

Ladies	Thursdays	9:00 - 10:00 am
--------	-----------	-----------------



Ladies	Thursdays	6:00 - 6:45 pm
Mens Intermediate	Thursdays	6:45 - 7:30 pm
Mens Team Practice	Thursdays	7:30 pm until dark

Coaching will commence on Monday 28th April 2003.

With regard to children's coaching, Alan has said that he is prepared to organise this with one of the coaches at a weekend but he will need to know the level of interest and in particular, the age of the children so as to organise proper age groups. Accordingly, if anyone is interested in children's coaching, please let me know on: 721865. All members should have received their Newsletter by now; a gentle reminder to send your subscriptions in on time please.

Happy Tennis Days - and evenings!

Angela Perry
Secretary

Bowls Club

The bowls club has not had its best year as far as the league is concerned, however there is always a silver lining and we are now just about full as far as membership is concerned. What is very pleasing is that the latest influx are virtually all villagers.

The club is well represented at the National finals again this year: Kevin Goodman winning the county singles, and John Holland, Paul Megson, Kevin and a player from Beacon club in Pitstone Ross Martell (losing singles finalist), teaming up to play the fours. Let's hope for some success.

John Holland



Boxing Day at the Fleur



Boxing Day, just after the war, and Aunt Beat and I walked the first mile into Old Amersham. Then it was up the steep and twisting Gore Hill to the water Tower, and finally along Village Road to the Fleur-de-Lys where Uncle Wal and Aunt Em lived.

Down the front path, past the well on the left, to the front door. As always Aunt Em would have her hair tight back in a bun, her double chins wobbling, and would be wearing her wrap-around apron. As we went in, the Parlour was to the left, and the Tap Room to the right. Here there were two trestle tables and some high-backed wooden benches. A black range gave out some welcome heat.

Behind the front rooms you went down a few steps into a sunken cellar where the beer was kept. In the kitchen was a copper which would be heated by a wood fire on wash day. The loo was out the back with its wooden seat and cut - out hole.

Uncle Wal and Aunt Em Wingrove were as mean as mustard. They lived a frugal life. The pub, as I remember it, was no more than a place where a few men would go for a drink and dominoes, with the beer brought in from the cellar by a jug. The smallholding behind the pub helped keep them going, with pigs, chickens, vegetables from the patch, and fruit from the orchard.

Once, at the table, I asked for jam to put on my bread and butter. 'That's butter! You don't put jam and butter on together!' And I remember, during a summer



visit with friend, how we waited for Uncle Wal to go down to the pigs, carrying the pails on his yoke, and then made for the plum tree. As our hands reached up to pick, he shouted across the orchard 'Ay, ay, ay, you girls! I can sell them plums up the tree. You eat them ones on the ground.' The wasps and chickens had made them less than appetising!

It may have been on the same visit that I was doing handstands up against the wall in the orchard. Aunt Em's voice rang out 'Little hussy! Look at her knickers! They don't even cover her knees!' One night I stayed at the Fleur. There was gas lighting, but I was given a candle to light me up the stairs. It was very spooky, and I was scared. I think my Aunt Beat must have been with me, or I would not have stayed.

Many years earlier my grandfather brought his family over to the Fleur from Tylers Green by horse and cart, and when it was late and time to go home it was found that the horse was drunk from eating too many windfall apples. They all had to stay the night. I think it may have been that the horse was alright, but that grandfather was not.

Mary Wege

Lindsey's Log



It was with much surprise that after constructing this fine log bench, a coffee table, complete with lamp, plate, coffee cup and daily newspaper mysteriously appeared overnight. Jack & Lindsey have a shrewd idea of who did it! In London this would be called an installation and win a Turner prize!

Internet Coleshill

Thank you to everyone who has submitted articles and photos for the proposed Village Web Site. We have nearly all the information we need and are only awaiting a couple of pages to be completed.

Some of you may have read the article in the Bucks examiner about the Amersham resident Matthew Jones who has set up an Amersham web site. It is worth a look on <www.amersham.org.uk>. I have spoken to Matthew about what is involved and he has guided us towards a local hosting company. They are providing us with a quotation for handling the web site.

The next stage is to register a domain name - the unique address for the site on the internet. We are probably going to choose <www.coleshillbucks.org.uk> . This is both descriptive of where we are and does not sound like a commercial web site.

Then we need to design and construct the web site. This is not as straightforward as we had hoped. It is possible to do-it-yourself but this can lead to a poor and ineffective web sites. I have been attending evening classes to learn what is involved. What I have learned is how complicated it is! We are therefore looking for some more professional help but have to avoid going fully commercial as a full web site design can cost many thousands of pounds! Any suggestions of skilled web designers who would donate their expertise to Coleshill would be welcome.

Frank Auton

For those active Internet users in Coleshill, I am sure many of you are considering the possibilities of going over to a high speed broadband

Broadband Coleshill

connection. This is not always available and relies upon BT upgrading the exchange that serves your property.

Coleshill is served by two telephone exchanges. One of which definitely can support Broadband and I know at least one resident who has installed it. To check if you can get Broadband - call BT. If you find you cannot get Broadband and do not want to wait for BT there is another solution. This requires establishing a shortwave radio and satellite connection using an 8 inch wall mounted receiver.

Graham Cook from Naphill wants to trial a Bucks village on this system. If interested call him on 01494 564357 or email graham.cook@tesco.net

Neighbourhood Watch

We have been advised of several scams which are occurring at the moment and ask you to note the following advice:

Number 1: Beware of unsolicited telephone calls and DO NOT PRESS 90 on your key pad if requested by the caller. This enables them to make calls, which will be charged to your account.

Number 2: Beware of replying to unsolicited faxes starting with 090 numbers. These are premium rate fax machines, programmed to transmit slowly and which will cost you £1.50 per minute.

Number 3: Beware of bogus invoices from a company called Universal Books, Post Office Box No: 36907. This company is sending bogus invoices in an attempt to defraud. If you receive one of these invoices please telephone Sergeant Tim Cox on 01494 881915.

Also, Chiltern Vale Police are urging residents to be cautious after a spate of thefts from domestic garages in the area. Items such as bicycles and tools have been stolen recently and the Crime Reduction Officer offers the following advice:

Ensure garage/shed areas are kept secure by using good quality locks and consider installing lights and/or alarms on outbuildings.

Property mark items with your postcode and house number.

Use proper cycle anchors and lock through the frame.

Take a record of your bicycle frame number, colour, number of gears etc. Likewise lawn mowers and other garden equipment.

If you have any information about these crimes you should contact Amersham Police on 01494 431133.

There have been a couple of break-ins to outbuildings in our own patch since the last letter and also, interestingly, a group of gypsy horses have been left to graze on grass behind Rushymead Farm.

Jack & Lindsey Haubner
722589



Horticultural Society

In trying to decide a topic for our Spring Talk this year, your committee realized that we have never fully addressed the subject of organic gardening. The first place we tried to find a speaker was HDRA – the Henry Doubleday Research Association. Those of you who are particularly interested and have access to the web will find countless links for all organic supplies and information on their site.

The list of speakers they sent, though, didn't have a HDRA speaker in our immediate area. However, they did lead me to Mr Paul Cooper, who is not only a keen organic gardener of many years standing, but runs the gardens at Grendon Underwood Prison, near Aylesbury. Apart from their grounds, they have an acre of walled vegetable garden, which supplies all the vegetables for their own kitchens, along with greenhouses where they raise flowers for other prisons, as well as a market garden and rare breeds of sheep etc. He sounds a very knowledgeable and entertaining gentleman who, as he says, has plenty of labour available to keep the garden in order. The garden is so good that it is appearing for the first time in the Yellow Book of gardens open to the public in August. Perhaps we should follow up his talk with a visit.

If you would like to learn more about this subject, the Horticultural Society Spring meeting will take place on **Friday, May 9th** in the Village Hall, with the doors opening at 7.30pm for a glass of wine or juice, before the talk by Mr Paul Cooper, which starts at 8pm. Tickets are £5.00, which includes refreshments, are available from committee members from the end of this month or pay on the door.

Lindsey Haubner
Chairman - Horticultural Society



Magpie Lane - 1923



Diary Dates

- Friday 28th March Village School Ladies Indulgence Evening
Village Hall - 7.45 pm
- Sunday 6th April Tennis Club Fun Day
- Friday 11th April Village School End of Term Service All Saints' - 11.00 am
- Friday 25th April Village Hall Management Committee AGM 8.30 pm
- Monday 28th April Tennis Club Coaching commences
- Thursday 1st May Grand Union Morris The Red Lion - time tba
- Friday 9th May Horticultural Society Meeting Village Hall - 7.30 pm
- Sunday 11th May Christian Aid Walk The Red Lion - 11.00 am
- Saturday 17th May Village School May Fayre School Garden - 12- 2.30 pm
- Saturday 17th May Tennis Club Gaming Evening Village Hall
- Sunday 18th May Tennis Club One Day Fun Tournament
- Sunday 8th June Tennis Club Village Open Tournament
- Sunday 13th July Tennis Club Ladies Doubles Finals
- Sunday 20th July Tennis Club Mens Doubles Finals
- Sunday 14th Sept. Tennis Club Mixed Doubles & Singles Finals
- Wed. 26th Nov. Tennis Club AGM



Contact Numbers

Reverend Tim Harper	Rector	724426
Dorothy Potter	Parish Secretary	729380
Dumpy Swerling	All Saints' Pro-Warden	873931
Patsy Wright-Warren	All Saints' Pro-Warden	433356
John Brumwell	Parish Treasurer	724704
Ruth Murphy	Hon Secretary All Saints'	433539
Catherine Green	Church Flowers	724922
Ruth Murphy	Organist & Choirmaster All Saints'	433539
Frank & Heather Auton	Newsletter	431036
Susan Smith	Clerk Parish Council	724490
Ann Lawrence	Village Hall Bookings	433421
Marianne Holt	Magpie Club & Parish Youth Worker	723793
Jenny Earp	Head teacher Village School	727206
Jack & Lindsey Haubner	Co-coordinators Neighbourhood Watch	722589
Catherine Green	President Coleshill W.I.	724922
Amanda McCallum	Iain Rennie Hospice at Home	725083
Lindsey Haubner	Coleshill Horticultural Society	722589
Angela Perry	Secretary Coleshill Tennis Club	721865
Nigel Palmer	Secretary Coleshill Cricket Club	763036
John Holland	Coleshill Short Mat Bowls	729357
John & Chris Ullman	The Red Lion	727020
Chris Wege	Coleshill Common Committee	724152

Parish Councillors

David Hall	Chairman of Parish Council	725231
Richard Valentine	Vice-Chairman of Council	725794
Tony Barber	Member of Parish Council	722143
Gillian Bungey	Member of Parish Council	431583
John Jefford	Member of Parish Council	433230
Sue Miles	Member of Parish Council	721717
Nick Sadler	Member of Parish Council	726277

Services in the Parish

Holy Week and Easter

Palm Sunday – 13th April

8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP), St Mary's
9.00 am	Holy Communion (CW) with procession, All Saints'
10.15 am	Family Communion (CW) with procession, St Mary's
11.45 am	Matins (BCP), St Mary's
6.00 pm	Choral Evensong (BCP), St Mary's

Wednesday in Holy Week – 16th April

10.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP) in St Catherine's Chapel, St Mary's
----------	--

Maundy Thursday – 17th April

7.30 pm	Christian Passover Celebration, flowing into Maundy Thursday Eucharist, stripping of the altars and quiet meditation, St Mary's (If you are intending to come to the Passover celebrations, please let the Rector know in advance, telephone 724426)
---------	---

Good Friday – 18th April

11.00 am	Service of Meditation, All Saints'
2.00 pm	Good Friday Liturgy, St Mary's

Easter Eve – Saturday 19th April

8.00 pm	Service of Light, St Mary's
---------	-----------------------------

Easter Day – 20th April

8.00 am	Easter Communion (BCP), St Mary's
9.00 am	Easter Communion (BCP), All Saints'
10.15 am	Easter Family Communion (CW), St Mary's
11.45 am	Easter Communion (BCP), St Mary's
6.00 pm	Festal Evensong (BCP), St Mary's

