

The Rectory
Church Street
Amershorn

narch 1988

THE TOMB IS A WOMB

Easter has managed so far to escape the excessive commercialism that Christmas has suffered. As a result, it is still clear to most people what lies behind the annual holiday that they have, namely the central Christian festival, celebrating Jesus' resurrection from the dead.

It is not surprising that Easter is less commercial. The attraction of a baby is obvious to everyone. The attraction of a tomb is less easy to develop, albeit an empty tomb. But that tomb needs to attract our attention. It is the focus of the life of the most remarkable human being who has ever lived. There are not many people who would be prepared to give up everything even for their friends. There are fewer still who would do so for their enemies. Yet that is exactly what Jesus did. He gave up everything, even his life. He went to the cross because of his love for us, and he ended up in the tomb.

We all know the story of how Jesus' closest friends went to the tomb on the first Easter morning and found to their amazement that the stone had been rolled away. They understood that Jesus had risen from the dead, partly because the tomb was empty, but also because he met them in his new risen life. This was difficult for them to grasp, just as it is for us. But it is true. It makes sense of everything when one comes to understand its significance. Jesus' love could not be killed. He loves with the strongest and most perfect of all possible loves - God's love. That love is the strongest force in the whole world, stronger even than the worst evil. It is a love that cannot be overcome, can not be conquered, can not be killed. So Jesus' death is followed by his rising to new life.

When two people fall in love and marry, they are likely to want to have children. This desire to create a new life is part of their love for each other. It is part of their love, because it is the way of God's love. Human love at its best comes from God and bears the mark of his kind of love. God is the creator because he is love. His love always wants to make things, and make things new. It is his love that caused Jesus to be born as his Son. It is his love that gave Jesus new life beyond death. It is his love that made the tomb become a womb, a place of new life, not just for Jesus, but for the whole world.

In that work of God is our hope, and also the meaning of our lives, God loves us and wants us to experience his gift of new life fully.

Anthony Priddis

PARISH EVENTS

26th March	SATURDAY	Concert at St Mary's - Town Band and St Mary's School Choir
27th March	PALM SUNDAY	Handel's 'Passion' at St Mary's. 7.45 pm.
31st March	MAUNDY THURSDAY	Holy Communion at St Mary's. 8.00 am
1st April	GOOD FRIDAY	Special Service for Good Friday, - "The Foolishness of the Cross" at St Mary's. 2.00 to 3.00 pm
24th April	SUNDAY	Annual Parish Meeting following 6 pm Evensong at St Mary's.
28th April	THURSDAY	Chiltern Christian Training Scheme - New Testament Course begins

NEWS FROM ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

Deacon. Unfortunately no suitable deacon to work in the parish has come forward, so it is unlikely now that any help will be found until next year.

Guest Service. We shall be holding another guest service to which we offer a special invitation to everyone in the village. This time it will be in the evening on Sunday 5th June. Further details nearer the time but do put it in your diaries now. Everyone will be very welcome and we hope that even more people will join us than at our first guest service last year.

Organists. Harry Cordwell has now joined the rota to play on one Sunday each month, but we are still in urgent need of another. Any ideas or volunteers? - Please contact Ruth Murphy (Tel: 433539):

Tape Recordings. In addition to last year's guest service, All Saints' Day Patronal Festival and carol service, we now have tape recordings of Len & Jean Bristow's last Sunday (14th February) and of the Mothering Sunday service. Anyone is welcome to borrow these from Stella Platzer (Tel: 724232) or, if you would like one to keep, if you let her have a blank tape, she will make you a copy.

Care of the Church. For the last six years, Len Bristow looked after the church with great diligence and devotion. It is only since he has left that we have discovered just how much he did. We now have a list of six people who are doing the jobs that he did single handed! Principal among these is Pat McNeil who is in overall charge and locks and unlocks the church each day, and Tony Platzer who does the clearing. We are very grateful to all the willing volunteers who have come forward.

P.M.-M.

HOLY MATRIMONY

On 6th February 1980 John Neale Charlton-Jones of High Wycombe married Tina Hobbs of Mill Meadow, Coleshill.

IN MEMORIAM

On 12th November 1987, Edwin Thomas William Patmore at Amersham Hospital.

KEY GROUP

The Key Group is a new venture which started meeting at the beginning of this year. It is basically a Christian group of young people aged between 13 - 30 yrs, which meets once a fortnight on a Wednesday, either at the Spencer household in Coleshill (Am 725857) or the McLoughlin household in Chesham Bois (Am 726796). It is entirely ecumenical and covers not just Coleshill but surrounding areas, eg. Amersham, Chesham, Missenden etc. Topics talked about and discussed are to do with "key issues" - abortion law, racialism. It is a lively group and we are always open to suggestions, and new members are welcome. For more information please ring either of the above numbers.

COLESHILL C.E. FIRST SCHOOL

Our Christmas Bazaar held on 5th December raised the magnificent sum of £412. Our Concert was held on the 3th and was attended by at least 30 people. On the 13th December some of the children attended the Christingle Service in Church and sang a carol with Mrs Griffiths, and a carol service was held in Church with a Nativity Tableau.

Also in December, all children with some mothers, and younger children, went by coach to the Royalty Theatre, London, to see "Winnie the Pooh". On 'Comic Relief Day' children came to school dressed as clowns, donating 10p or more for the privilege to 'Children in Need' charities, £18 was collected and great fun was had by all. We have had a talk from a representative of the Royal National Institute for the Blind.

Our annual Whist Drive will be on Wednesday, 27th April, at 7.30 pm in school. Tickets: 50p including refreshments, will be on sale after the Easter holidays.

FROM JEAN & LEN BRISTOW 19.2.88

Greetings to all our friends in Coleshill. •• May we say a very big thank you to all - who gave us such a lovely send off and for the cheque which was presented to us and the card with all your names and your comments which we cherish.

Ever since we left on Tuesday, we have been blessed with lovely warm sun, today we were by the sea and children were paddling and making sand castles, and this is February! For those who have not already heard, we have put an offer in for a property in Pickering which has been accepted, how it is in the hands of solicitors. It is a lovely property, only six years old, with small garden and in a quiet part, about 7 minutes from town.

On Ash Wednesday, we attended evening service, which was the Rite B Communion, and I was rather lost, I like our old service better. We were introduced to vergers and the Vicar by our friends and made welcome, and given the gen on the various activities. As soon as we are settled, we shall communicate, and maybe we shall see some of you if you are this way. There will always be a welcome.

Best wishes and many thanks,

Jean and Len

Update; Jean and Len send everyone their best wishes for a Happy Easter, and advise that their new address from 28th March will be:

52 Firthland Road, Pickering, North Yorkshire YO18 8BZ.

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When Jean and Len Bristow left Coleshill to retire to Yorkshire last month, they left a gap in the village that will not easily be filled.

For so many years now we have been welcomed at Church by Len's smile and pleasant greeting, and knew that he was always available if something needed doing behind the scenes.

Jean too took her share of responsibility in an unassuming way. There will be fewer delicious puddings at the Harvest Supper, fewer cakes at the Church Fete and other fund raising events* She was a superb cook, and the best tea I've ever eaten was provided by her after the Women's World Day of Prayer Service last year, which service, incidentally, she also organised.

Lucky Yorkshire to have such a delightful, capable and modest couple living in its midst.

A.C-T.

CHRISTIAN AID

We held a coffee morning on 4th February in response to the urgent appeal for famine relief in Ethiopia and Tigray, and would like to thank all those who came and gave so generously so that we were able to send a total of £200 to this appeal.

Christian Aid Week this year is; from 15th - 21st May and will start with a service in church at 9 am on Sunday 15th. Our event at Coleshill School on Tuesday 17th at 1.45 pm will include a short presentation by the children of their interpretation of the Christian Aid week slogan "The poor haven't a share in the World". This will be followed by a film on family life in Zambia, a cake stall, tea, and a Traidcraft stall.

Our main fund raising event will be on the evening of Friday, 20th May, 6.30 pm at the Cricket field when two teams of adults, followed by two teams of children, will be taking part in two sponsored fancy dress rounders matches. This will be followed by a barbecue supper in the Cricket Pavilion and some side shows. Please act as sponsors and come and support the teams. A house-to-house collection will complete our effort for

1983

R.A.L.T.

COLESHILL VILLAGE FETE
SATURDAY, 11th JUNE 1988

The Village Fete will be held at the Cricket Ground, off Tower Road, on Saturday, 11th June. Gates will open at 2 pm and the fete declared officially open at 2.15 pm.

The following have kindly agreed to organise stalls and your contributions to assist them will be greatly welcomed.

Tombola	Mrs Sharon Hall	725231
Household	Mrs Anita Urry	727420
Bocks	Miss Ann Trotman	433545
Greenfingers	Mrs Jean Smith	725420
Cakes	Mrs Hilda Collier	724842
Sweets	Mrs Rosemary Valentine	725794
Toys	Mrs Jane McNeilly	726736
Teas	Mrs Barbara Plumridge	433044
Preserves	Mrs Gillian Bungey	726234
Raffle	Miss Patsy Wright-Warren	433356
Bran Tub	Mrs Jean Freemantle	726441

The Coleshill Village Fete Committee welcomes any suggestions for improvements and/or changes to the format of the day. Kindly call either David McCammon (726126), Donald Urry (727420), Helen Spencer (725857) or Dumpy Swerling (726414). Anyone wanting to help on the day should also call one of the Committee.

Your continuing support is much appreciated.

COLESHILL VILLAGE TENNIS TOURNAMENT - SUNDAY 12th JUNE 1988

The one-day mixed doubles village tennis tournament will take place on the day after the Village Fete - Sunday 12th June. The Committee welcomes entrants (aged 15+) of all standards and the cost is £4.00 per person.

For those who have not entered before, the day includes enjoyable tennis on courts around Coleshill, with an opportunity to meet others in the village and beyond.

Do contact David Hall on Amersham 725231 or David McCammon on Amersham 726126 to reserve a ticket.

COLESHILL VILLAGE DRAMA GROUP

David Hall's children, Tara and Natalie, showed that 'Dad' isn't the only actor in the family when they starred as the "Babes in the Wood" in February. The 'Talented Two' with their Nurse (Nick Sadler as you've never seen him before!) stole the hearts of the audience and turned the tables on the wicked Baron Stoneyheart de Stoneybroke (Charles Hollings). Meanwhile, Plaid Marion (Gill Pusey) got her 'man' Robin Hood (Mary Sadler - with possibly the best legs in Coleshill?). The Talented Two then made mincemeat of the 'Terrible Two' - Horrible Herbert and Frightful Fred (brilliantly played by Steve Hitchen and Hugh Jones), and, helped by Ruffles the dog (William Sadler - with, possibly, the flattest kneecaps in Coleshill!) and Polly and Muddles (Sophie Denning and newcomer Darren Holland) brought everything to a satisfying 'Happy Ending'.

Several of the teenagers in the village took up my offer in the last newsletter to come and have a go. One was a little devil, well, demon actually. Louise Norcliffe is a really evil a/s the Demon Catbane, but kept in check by the good fairy, big sister Emma. We also had some newcomers from out of the village, Seer Green, Amersham and Holmer Green to add to our cast of over thirty.

We would all have been at sixes and sevens if we hadn't had the brilliant piano accompaniment and musical direction of Ruth Murphy to hold the show together. With this thought in mind we are pursuing the idea of another musical evening in June and a spy story later in the year.

L.H.

1st COLESHILL (ALL SAINTS) BROWNIE GUIDE PACK

Two new Brownies joined us after Christmas, Katie Higgs and Sally Shearn, and have subsequently been enrolled. We have been working for some badges and the following passed their House Orderly: Sarah Miles, Sarah McNeilly, Jessie Dell, Katie Higgs, Natalie Hall, Rosalind Pool and Suzy Bond. Tara Hall and Rosalind Pool passed their Collectors Badge.

We attended the Divisional Thinking Day Service at St Mary's and Sarah Miles read the lesson. We are hoping to have an outing to the Aylesbury Museum in April.

Brown Owl

1st COLESHILL GUIDE COMPANY

The pre-Christmas activities followed our usual pattern and commenced with a tea party at which we entertained and provided refreshments to our family and friends in the village. This year we had a Western theme. We went carol singing with the Coleshill Brownies at Rushmead and attended the Christingle service at All Saints' Church. Our winter term finished with a visit to see the traditional 'Cinderella' at the Beck Theatre, Hayes.

Since the New Year, we have been busy preparing for badges and Trofils. We also hosted a party for the Perm Street School for the Deaf at which we played games and 5 Guides qualified for their Hostess Badge. Congratulations to Elizabeth Eardley, Vicky Redstone, Anna Bayley, Jo Glover and Alex Murphy.

Finally, welcome to two new Guides, Sarah Head and Tessa Ware.

K.H.

COLESHILL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

At the end of our winter hibernation, we look forward to a large turnout at our Spring meeting. This year we will welcome Mr Chris Chadwell who will talk and show slides on "The Flowers and Birds of Little Tibet"; Mr Chadwell has made several trips to the area, and we look forward to an interesting evening.

Date: FRIDAY 8th APRIL, Venue: Village Hall, Time: 7.45 for 8.00 pm.

We are planning a summer outing on 2nd July to Sycn House where there is a fine Butterfly House and gardens and lakes. Please contact John Savory (Am 724112) or any member of the committee if you would like to go.

The A.G.M. of the Society will be held in the Village Hall on 4th May. Everyone welcome.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

There is now a Sunday School and creche in the village, 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 am 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 am.

For more details, please phone: Rosemary Valentine - Amersham 725794.

MOTHER & TODDLER GROUP. A Mother and Toddler group is run on Tuesday mornings in the Church Rooms, Amersham, 9.30 - 11.30 am.

MAGPIE CLUB

The events of the Christmas holidays now seem a long time ago but were enjoyed by all who attended.

For the Easter holiday: Wednesday 7th April - Rounders at the Cricket Club at 2 pm.

Any suggestions for activities would be most welcome. Please phone Mary Sadler on Am 726277.

THE MOTHERS' UNION

I wish to thank all the members of the Coleshill & Winchmore Hill Mothers' Union for their gift, and for all their support over the past years. It is with regret that the branch now has to close for the time being. The Mothers' Union has been active in Coleshill for over 67 years with many changes during this time.

Jean Bristow
Enrolling Member

COLESHILL M.U.

Our members have again been very active since the last newsletter. In November we held a M.U. Quiz Supper instead of our usual Christmas Bazaar. This proved to be very successful both socially and financially. Apart from raising funds for our annual lunch, entertainment and tea in August for our friends from the Deaf & Dumb Club of Acton, we were able to make donations to the MacMillan Nurses Association and the Springhill Day and Hospice Centre, and this year to the Scan Appeal Fund, Amersham Hospital and the Stokebury Day Centre. At the December meeting 65 members and their guests sat down to a delicious traditional Christmas lunch prepared by the members of the committee, which was followed by an excellent entertainment of songs etc by the M.U. choir.

Visits have been made to the Barbican for an L.S.O. Concert, a guided tour of Little Missenden Church and a nature walk at Weston Turville. Future outings include a birdwatching visit to Stockers Lake on 23rd March, a nature walk in Penn Woods on 30th March and a visit to Windsor Theatre on 24th March, also trips to Burford on 15th April, Osterley Park on 10th May and Littlecote on 7th June. The Spring Group Meeting took place on 17th March and was hosted by Ley Hill V.I. This was greatly enjoyed by the members who attended, especially as our "entry for the competition 'A Summer Picnic Basket for Two' won the Trophy.

The talks at the meetings have been varied and interesting. There have been displays of patchwork, tapestry pictures and cushions and also paintings by members. The fortnightly patchwork afternoons held at Mrs Lindsey Haubner's home are thoroughly enjoyed by those who take part.

We have been very pleased to welcome five new members, Mrs June Pearson, Mrs Christine King, Mrs Seed, Mrs Storer, Mrs Kay Vines and also to welcome back Mrs Gill Pusey as a member. We are very sorry to lose our Founder Member Mrs Florence Harris, who is leaving the village.

We are always happy to welcome visitors and new members.

P.H.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

APRIL	7th	Thu	Magpie Rounders
	3th	Fri	Horticultural Society Evening
	27th	Wed	Whist Drive in School
	27th	Wed	ACM of Coleshill Village Hall
MAY	15th - 21st		Christian Aid Week
	19th	Thu	Village Hall Planning Meeting
	20th	Fri	Rounders Match & Barbecue Supper
JUNE	5th	Sun	Guest Service - All Saints'
	11th	Sat	Village Fete
	12th	Sun	Tennis Tournament -
JULY	2nd	Sat	Hart Soc outing to Syon House

PARISH COUNCIL - A report from the Chairman

It was felt at a recent meeting of the Parish Council that, in each issue of this Newsletter we should give you a report on some of the matters with which your Council has latterly been involved.

Village Shop. When last year, this was threatened with closure, it was felt that this would represent a serious loss to the community and particularly to those without ready means of personal transport. Spike Wright - a member of our Council - agreed to head a campaign to ensure, if at all possible, the continuation of a reasonably well-stocked shop, whether by the then owners or by somebody else. We managed to get excellent support from the local Press; there was a village meeting followed by a petition - this latter largely orchestrated by Ann Trotman and the ladies of the Women's Institute. The final outcome - the good news - is that we now have new shop-owners. We welcome Tim Bendell and his family. Now it's up to you, for its long-term viability will depend upon us all giving the shop as much of our custom as we can.

Planning. The Parish Council keeps a very close watch on all planning applications and passes our views to the District Planning Officer. Our policy is to be as helpful as possible but firmly to resist any applications which, in our judgment, represent over-development. A recent good illustration is that of the land just below Amber Cottages on Barracks Hill. Here we had accepted plans for the erection of one house and a bungalow. A (new) purchaser tried for four three-bedroom houses. We resisted, for this would have seriously over-crowded the plot and adversely affected do 1 Amber Cottages. His application was turned down by the District Council. He tried again - this time for three four-bedroom houses. This was merely "a cosmetic variation, so again we objected. The developer withdrew that application - and now we await the next move.

Tidy Village Competition. We have again entered this year and judging will take place at times during June and July. We won this trophy once - let's get it back again!

Finally, let me say that, as your elected representatives, we are always only too happy to discuss any matters that you wish to bring up; please don't hesitate to get in touch with any of us. We are: David Curling (Chairman), John Chenevix-Trench (Deputy Chairman), Lavinia Horsburgh-Porter, Peter Lawrence, Jean Smith, Dumpy Swerling and Spike Wright. The Clerk is Sidney Ware. Parish Council notices are displayed on the board outside the Village Hall.

David Curling

COLESHILL CRICKET CLUB

Last season was a good one with mixed results, good wins and close games, enjoyed by all. We also entered the National Village Championship. At the moment we are playing for the first time indoor cricket in a six-a-side league which is held in the Ludwig Guttman Centre at Stoke Mandeville. A completely new experience which is being thoroughly enjoyed by both those participating and spectators alike* Hopefully, next season will be as good, if not better.

This coming season we are once more playing League Cricket on a Saturday. We are playing in the Mid Bucks Cricket League Premier Division. On Sundays we will be playing Club Cricket. We have again entered the Morsk Hydro Village Championship, the final of which is played at Lords (we can but dream!), as well as the usual Mid-week knockout competition.

The committee and members would like to take this opportunity to thank our Vice Presidents for their continued support. It is very much appreciated. Thank you.

If anyone is interested in becoming a playing member, would they please contact our Chairman, Mr Graham Pyle, Coldharbour Farm, Tower Road, Tel: 728430, or would like to become a Vice President or social member, please contact no on 722143.

Kate Barber

COLESHILL TENNIS CLUB

We would like to thank everyone for their continued support. We have had two social fund raising events since the last newsletter - in December we had the "Swinging 60s revival", which was a very well supported fancy dress night and just shows what some of us have kept hidden away in our wardrobes - did Derek Horrocks really look like that in the 60s and was he an ardent Harikrishnan supporter? Derek won the male fancy dress (I won't say the best dressed male!!) and Linda Worthington, in her suede hotpants, won the ladies' prize. Our first annual dinner and dance was held in February and this also proved to be very successful.

The '100 Club' draw has now started, but we would welcome more subscribers, just £10 to complete the rest of the year with a chance of winning £25, £10 or £5 each month.

Over 100 people within Coleshill are showing enthusiasm in our venture and are prospective members, not forgetting another 30 from Birchmore Hill and a few from Perm Street and Woodrow. This excellent support will ensure Coleshill Tennis Club getting off to a flying start with healthy finances.

D.C.

COLESHILL VILLAGE HALL

The very heavy rain in the earlier part of the year caused problems with the hall's cesspool. Normally the six thousand gallon tank is emptied by Chiltern District Council every 5-6 weeks, and previously this had been adequate. However, in January and early February the tank was filling every 7-10 days. We believe this was caused by surface or spring water flowing through cracks in the rendering of the brickwork of the inspection chambers. The brickwork has now been re-rendered and we hope the problem will not recur. Our apologies to the wedding party that suffered because of what was initially thought to be blocked drains!

Moving to the subject of ventilation equipment for the Hall, our application for a grant from the Chiltern District Council is due to be considered by their Grant sub-Committee on 5 April. Their recommendations need to be ratified by the full Council due to meet on 26 April. We hope for a favourable and generous decision.

We have a simple plea to users of the hall with regard to the heating controls. Please do not turn off the radiators if less heat is required. Just turn down the thermostat. There is one in each hall. But please remember to reset at 20°C at the end of your booking. We believe that if everyone follows this system, we should be able to satisfy the heating requirements of all users. We do now have the electronic timer that is set in advance for all bookings.

May we remind readers that the A.C.M. will be held at 3.15 pm on Wednesday 27 April. All who live in Coleshill and the immediate vicinity will be welcome. There will be a glass of wine afterwards.

Finally, the usual planning meeting for Village organisations will be held on Thursday 19 May, also at 8.15 pm. The purpose of the meeting is to co-ordinate the booking of the hall by village organisations in the year ahead commencing on 1 October 1903. Will all Village organisations please note, and arrange to send a representative..

P.H.L.

THE PARISH OF AMERSHAM WITH COLESHILL

The Reverend Anthony M. Priddis, The Rectory, Church Street, Amersham, Bucks.
Tel: Amersham 729330

St Mary's Church, Amersham

Sunday Services 8.00 am Holy Communion
10.15 am Family Communion (with Creche, Sunday
School and Young People's Church)
11.30 am Matins with Holy Communion
(1st Sunday in month)
6.00 pm Evensong

2nd Wednesday of each month 10.00 am Holy Communion

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, COLESHILL

Sunday Services 9.00 am Parish Communion
Family Service 2nd Sunday in month
6.00 pm Evensong (1st Sunday in month only)

Easter Services: Harvest Time

GOOD FRIDAY April 1st 11.00 am Matins with Litany
EASTER DAY April 3rd 9.00 am Holy Communion
6.00 pm Festal Evensong

Pro-Wardens - R. Valentine, Friars Vane, Coleshill Tel 725794
- J. Chenevix-Trench, Windmill Farm, Coleshill 725430
Hon. Treasurer - D.C. Urry, Ardlaire, Coleshill 727420
Hon. Secretary - Miss P. Wright-Warren, 1 Amber Cottages, Coleshill 433353

Brownies - Monday Evenings 6.30 - 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 Church 3.45 - 4.00 p.m.
Hill Meadow 4.00 - 4.15 p.m.

Next visits: APRIL 6th & 20th, MAY 4th & 18th, JUNE 1st & 15th

July 28th Aug 11 & 25 Sep 8 & 22 Oct 6 & 20
