

ISSUE 30.

# The Chronicle

A Fireside Magazine  
For Country Folk



Parish Magazine for Aston Abbotts

Feb. 86



# Editorial

My thanks to Andy for the cover illustration. I hope this will be the first in a new series of lively covers and I know that Andy already has in store some village views that will feature in future editions.

The major topic this month must be the debate regarding the funding of this magazine, which is covered in some depth both in the latter columns and 'Inside the Back Page'.

I should also like to take this opportunity to welcome a new advertiser in Jeannette Baxter and her WINGS GIFT SHOP - why not call in when you are next in Wing and mention you have seen her ad in the Chronicle.

My thanks as well must go to Mike Talbot of Burston Hill Farm who has placed an advert for his 'TALBOT SHEEPSKIN PRODUCTS'. Many of you will already be aware of Mike's enterprise which is really building on his families connection with the trade back in Somerset. The coats themselves are made in Somerset and if Mike does not have your size and atyle in stock then its only two or three weeks delivery time. Again I can only urge you to support an advertiser who supports the Chronicle !

Please note deadline dates for the March issue - the earlier the better from my point of view.

*Graham Parker*

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DEADLINE DATE FOR MARCH ISSUE: 15th. Feb, if poss; 22nd.latest.

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HOW TO PASS ON ARTICLES/INFORMATION FOR "THE CHRONICLE"

1. By telephone to Graham on Aylesbury 681325.
2. By dropping a not through his door - The Cloisters.
3. Use the box in the Village Shop or the Post Office.

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# NOTICEBOARD

3.

## WHATS ON

THURSDAY 6th & 20th WHIST DRIVE  
IN THE CHURCH ROOM 7.30 p.m.

THURSDAY 13th & 27th. BINGO  
IN THE CHURCH ROOM 8.00 p.m.

SUNDAY 16th. FOOTPATH WALK  
MEET ON THE GREEN 2.00p.m.

## LADIES CLUB

The new year started with a very interesting talk by Mrs. Webster, one of our own members, on being a magistrate. We still have another meeting to come in January - on the 30th, when we are expecting a talk on the history of John Lewis's.

The two meetings in February are on the 13th & 27th. The first is to be a talk by Mr. Mayes called "Country Ways and Customs" and the second is a talk by Mrs. Jean Anderson on the Flying Duchess and Marylands.

## YOUTH CLUB

By February 22nd, Aston Abbotts Youth Club will have been in existence for 12 months (though it sometimes seems like 12 years!), and those of us on the Committee are rather proud of this achievement. We have immensely enjoyed working and playing with the children during the past year, and we hope that we have accomplished something constructive as well as just keeping them occupied for a couple of hours on a Friday evening. That said, we are rather short of adult volunteers willing to come along on the odd Friday to lend us a hand. This needn't be a regular commitment, but it would be very helpful if we knew we had one or two people to fall back on in case of illness or holidays etc. You never know, you might even come to like it and want to join us on a regular basis!

The meetings for February are as follows:

7th February - General meeting, to include snooker, table-tennis, darts etc.

14th or 15th February - Valentine Disco

21st February - General meeting

28th February - Parachute games

ADVANCE NOTICE - (to give you chance to save up!)

On March 7th, we are going to Oxford ice skating. The cost per child, to include entrance fee, hire of skates and transport, is £3.50, and as we are somewhat limited to numbers it will be a case of first come, first go!

## LADIES .....

HAVE YOU GOT THE WINTER BLUES ? WOULD YOU LIKE A FORETASTE OF SUMMER ? IF SO .....

An invitation is cordially extended to everyone to a fashion show run by 'PREVIEW PARTY' and hosted by Margaret and Rita. The date to remember - THURSDAY 27th. FEB - the time - 8.00 p.m. in the CHURCH ROOM.

WE hope this will be an evening for everyone to enjoy and hopefully buy some of the clothes that will be shown. We are running it as a fund raising event for the village Youth Club and the Chronicle. We will receive a good percentage in commission and there will be an entrance fee of 50p. for anyone over 12 years; a raffle and a small amount charged for tea and biscuits.

SO, come and have two or three hours out of the house to enjoy a social evening and meet everyone you've not seen much of over the winter months. Of course, husbands and boyfriends are very welcome, they could well see something to titillate the eye ! Any ladies who feel they could swing the fashions along by modelling, please contact Margaret 681201 or Ruth 681690.

# People

OUR MONTHLY COLUMN ABOUT VILLAGE PEOPLE

Edited by Bridget Brandon.

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## Birthdays.

Ivy Brandon on February 5th.

Charlie Griffin on February 13th.

## Wedding Anniversaries

Mr. & Mrs. Doggett on February 18th.

Mr. & Mrs. Griffin GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY on February 22nd.

Mr. & Mrs. Scutchings on February ?

FRIENDS AT THE WHIST DRIVE WOULD LIKE TO WISH KITTY & CHARLIE ALL THE BEST FOR THEIR GOLDEN WEDDING DAY.

## Welcome

to Louise, Neal and their 'Kamikazi' kitten Kassie, who moved into 22 The Green on New Years Day.

## Congratulations

to John and Dee Whyte who are expecting their first child. John tells me they are desperately seeking a name for their child. Perhaps you can help. Please contact John on 681685 with any suggestions. Matt ; Off ; Brilliant ; and Gloss have already been suggested.

## THANK YOU

Doris Scutchings would like to thank everyone who supported the fortnightly Whist Drives in 1985 and all who gave us refreshments and small prizes. As a result a profit of £171.85 was made. Thanks to Eileen and Ernie Naylor.

[This should have appeared last month but was inadvertently omitted. Ed.]

## Well Done

to everybody who helped or took part in the Christmas Show. It has been confirmed that a profit of £310 was made.

## Deaths

Mrs. Kyle of 3 Bricstock, to all friends and relations our sympathies.

## Scrounging with thanks

Following the rather cheeky scrounging advert in last months Chronicle I am pleased to say that Mr. Kirby of New Zealand Cottages has donated a pair of speakers.

The Youth Club and the Christmas Show gang would like to record their grateful thanks.

It pays to advertise in the Chronicle !

## *Following in footsteps of Aston's own Antarctic explorer*

THE three British polar explorers who followed Captain Scott's route to the South Pole and reached it on Saturday were also following in the footsteps of a Buckinghamshire man who had been there 150 years before.

He was Sir James Clark Ross, who died in 1862 and is buried in Aston Abbots churchyard. Ross island in the Antarctic is named after him as is the huge Ross ice shelf and the Ross Sea.

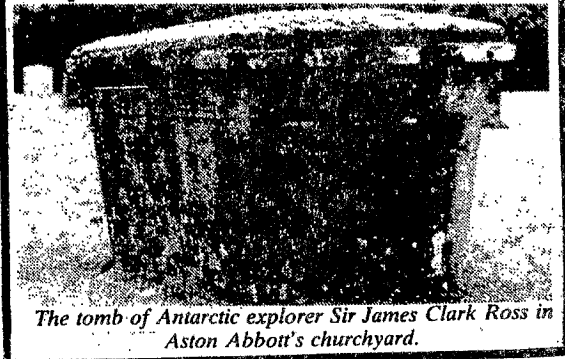
Sir James, who was the first person to discover the true position of the mag-

netic North pole, made several attempts to get to the South pole.

On one occasion his ship was very nearly crushed by ice not far from Ross island where last week's British Expedition base vessel had to be abandoned after it was crushed by an iceberg.

Sir James who on one occasion spent four years in Antarctica made his attempts by travelling with sledge boats.

Aston Abbots parish church has a stained glass window in his memory and his tomb is in the churchyard.



The tomb of Antarctic explorer Sir James Clark Ross in Aston Abbott's churchyard.



Honest Mr. Neave,  
It was Mr. Cheshers idea  
cos he wanted to try  
out his new skis.

## PICTURES FOR THE CHURCH ROOM

Looking around other villages during the Christmas holidays has made me realise how lucky we are to have such a conveniently positioned and nicely kept village hall. During recent months a number of people have remarked on how much the atmosphere inside has been improved by the Halloween and Christmas decorations provided by the children and this has led me to think that perhaps some permanent decoration in the form of pictures should be provided. I know that in the normal way these would be expensive but I am sure there must be many people in the village (youngsters included) who like to draw, paint, embroider or who take or have photographs and who would be willing to exhibit or donate them to the hall. Brief discussions with the Rev. Heffer and Chris Brandon has indicated limited funding may be available for framing pictures although this still needs to be discussed at the next hall committee meeting. In the meantime, I would like to establish whether there is sufficient interest in arranging an exhibition of paintings and photographs etc. (preferably of local scenes) sometime in the autumn and to follow this by judging those works which people would be prepared to donate to the hall to decide which should be framed and hung. Could those who would be interested or who have any suggestions on the subject please contact me; Andy Bystra, 31 The Green, Tel: 681 690.

P.S. If anyone is interested in painting and drawing during the summer months and who like me are too embarrassed to sit in the open and paint alone or who want to paint and never quite get round to starting, I would be happy to arrange painting evenings (say one evening a week). Beginners and youngsters would of course be welcome and if required I would be happy to provide some basic tuition. If you are interested please let me know.



**WINGS**

GIFT SHOP

0296-688507

44 High Street, Wing, Beds. LU7 0NR

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### *Friends of the Chronicle*

Dear Graham,

The purpose of this letter is two fold. Firstly to extend thanks to you for the work you do in bringing out the Chronicle ever month. The paper is enjoyed by a great many people and is a source of conversation in many houses not to mention pubs. It is something we all look forward to dropping through our letter boxes.

The second reason is that we would like to be of some help. Some of us send in the odd article, some of us raise funds which eventually get to you, some of us just smile as we read.

However we realise that you need additional funds to run the Chronicle and we would like to ensure its future health. In conversations this Christmas we came up with the idea of "THE FRIENDS OF THE CHRONICLE".

This would be a group of people willing to contribute a small sum of money on an occasional basis to give your venture some additional security.

The authors of this letter have already volunteered to become a "Friend" !

By the publication of this letter we would ask any one else who enjoys the Chronicle and who would like to become a "FRIEND" to contact any one of the people below.

Yours sincerely,

Andy Bystra, Bridget Brandon, Chris Brandon, Neil Cheshier, Margaret Cheshier, Helga Davies, Stuart Davies, Fred Poulter, Molly Poulter, Patricia Sims, Patrick Sims, Tricia Webb, Marshall Webb, John Whyte, Dee Whyte and Rita Robinson.

## Mystery bid

Sir,

Having seen your recently published financial statement for 1985 and noted your healthy position - a deficit of only £186.15 - I am thinking of making a bid for your magazine and to thereby increase the size of my publishing empire.

At present I produce the following: The Undertakers Weekly - but the circulation of this publication seems to be dying;

the Italian Prisoner of War Weekly. This is smuggled into P.O.W. camps and sold under plain cover. Unfortunately most of the P.O.W. camps are suffering from government cuts and are having to close. The Greenham Common Russian Spies Monthly. This magazine is available only on subscription and proof is required before accepting a subscription.

Overall the three publications show a loss of 1,250,000 lire or about £250. You can therefore see that in comparison your loss of £186 looks positively healthy.

I am sure that with my vast experience in the publishing field I could easily turn your magazine around and produce a profit. I have heard that on Channel 4 Television it is still cheap to advertise and I am sure a few thirty second spots could do wonders for the circulation.

Of course the cost of each issue would have to be raised. I have in mind about 75p, as a reasonable price per copy - by the way what do you charge at the minute ?

With this in mind I would like to offer subject to contract, the sum of £8.34 for the title and full publishing rights of Chronicle, and as a sign of good faith I enclose a deposit of ½p., which I will of course require to be returned if we cannot reach agreement.

I would also want to negotiate a non-union deal with your printers. I got this tip from Rupert Maxwell who publishes the Daily Stun.

Your early reply would be appreciated,

Yours faithfully,

Basil "Buy British" Bottom.

## HELP NEEDED

Sir,

It has been with increasing consternation and dismay that we have noticed in your esteemed magazine the dialogue concerning the canine population of Aston Abbots. Are these disreputable dogs to dominate all subsequent issues? Is there no end to their prosaic prose ?

We, the undersigned, being of a more genteel genus, also desire to present our case to your discerning readers. Having more honourable and noble natures than the above mentioned dogs, we feel that we too deserve an aspiring author willing to prevaricate on our behalf. Is there no

(CONT. ON NEXT PAGE)

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member of your readership with the considerable ability necessary to inscribe a commentary for us ?  
Reasonable remuneration may be requested.

Yours sincerely,

Languid Lucky, Perceptive Pepsi,  
Suave Sooty and Sinuous Satan -  
The famous felines of Aston Abbotts.

Dear Grrraham,

May I use your magazine to air some of my grrrievances. Firstly, the poison paw letter I received the other day. It certainly didn't amuse me, and the postman was very angrrry as well, which was hardly surprising as there had been so much rain he stepped in a deep poodle when delivering it. Luckily we get on well, so as I have no bones to pick with him, I told him to keep his chinchilla up and away he went. The writer of the letter (as the paper was wet and hummed a bit I assume it was

a damp gnome) was making accusations as to what the letters of my name might stand for. As I do not wish to damage the good name of this tabloid, I cannot repeat the suggestions made, but let me tell you, whoever you are (and this can be verified on my litter certificate) the letters stand for Remarkably Andsome Debonair And Randy. One look at me and it was probably obvious to most people anyway. Secondly, it has been really grrrating me lately the way the male dogs have been ignoring me since I found stardom. To those who have I say jealousy will get you nowhere, but I must say I'm very grrrateful to my mate Prince, we will remain friends to the grrrave. Finally, my sympathy goes to Bob Geldoff as we have something in common - I wasn't in the New Years Honours List either. I think 'Sir Radar' has a certain ring to it don't you ? Chow for now.

Yours, even more grrrowlingly than before,  
Radar.

## *A Matter for Concern*

1 Wingrave Road  
ASTON ABBOTTS

16th January, 1986

Dear Car Drivers,

As a regular pedestrian through Aston Abbotts and its environs, I have been made aware of the speed at which cars enter, proceed through and leave the village from all exits. The 30 mile speed limit sign is clearly to be seen coming from the crossroads just before the first house, but cars entering the village from this direction seem ignorant of this fact. Many cars do 60 or 70 mph up Wingrave Road only slowing down to get round the bend up to the Royal Oak, and I have one or two occasions seen cars mount the verge in an effort to take this bend.

I do realise that all cars entering the village do not belong to residents but I'm afraid that many offenders are local.

We seem to have an increasing number of children in Aston Abbotts now, six of which live down Wingrave Road, and no matter how hard we try to instil into them the rules of road safety these will not apply if motorists ignore THEIR rules.

We all heard last Summer of how Claire Scott was knocked down getting off the school bus and I have unfortunately heard recently of two similar cases where the children were killed getting off their respective school buses. In America it is an offence to overtake a school bus while it is stationary, and until this excellent idea is adopted over here perhaps we all could be aware of the dangers in overtaking the coach. I do realise that there is nothing which identifies the school coach from any other, and I am in the process of writing to the A.V.D.C. about this very subject.



I'm sure you will all agree that this is a serious matter, not just to keep our children safe but all residents of the village, including livestock which totals three dogs and umpteen cats down Wingrave Road alone !

Very best wishes for a Happy and Very Safe 1986.

Yours sincerely,

*Joanna Perkins*

P.S. Congratulations to Bernard who is sporting a "I drive at 30 mph through my village" sticker.

FROM THE DHSS

### RETIRING?

Most people retire from their regular job at either age 60 (for women) or 65 (for men) but did you know that you don't have to give up work completely to be treated as having retired? If you carry on working but earn below a certain amount or only work occasionally, you may still get a pension. Your pension will be reduced, however, if you earn more than the set amount.

You can choose how you want your pension to be paid. It can be every 4 or 13 weeks and paid direct into a bank or building society or weekly by a book of orders which you can cash at a post office of your choice.

If you go abroad you can let your pension build up and cash the orders when you get back. But remember you can't cash an order that is over three months old.

If you have to go into hospital this may affect your pension so tell your local social security office and tell them the dates if you know them.

You may also be able to get supplementary pension on top of your retirement pension. If you want to know more or you would like a leaflet (FB6) giving details why not give Freefone a ring - just dial 100 and ask the operator for Freefone DHSS.





Headmaster: I. Andrew B.Ed.  
Telephone: AYLESBURY (0296)  
688264 (2 lines)



WING COUNTY SECONDARY SCHOOL  
AYLESBURY ROAD  
WING  
LEIGHTON BUZZARD  
BEDS LU7 0NY

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## **A LETTER FROM WING.**

It only seems a few days since I wrote the last letter from the school. Christmas seemed to be on our minds for weeks before but is then all over very quickly. On behalf of the school and pupils I do wish you all a very happy and prosperous 1986.

This is Industry Year and I do hope that those of you in the School catchment area who feel that Schools, Industry and Commerce should work more closely together, will not hesitate to contact me. There has already been some response from my previous letters and this is very encouraging.

On Saturday 15th February the P.T.A. is holding another of their popular Dances. As usual you bring your own glasses and drinks and some food which is added to the buffet. Admission will be 50p as usual and the Dance is from 8:00 p.m. to 12 midnight. Please come along and bring your friends.

I would be very happy to write articles on any educational or school based topics that people are interested in. If any of you would like to contact me to suggest areas of interest I would be prepared to cover these topics in my newsletters for the general information of the people of the area.

Best wishes to you all.

IVAN ANDREW  
Headmaster

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### WINGRAVE C of E COMBINED SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

#### SUMMER FAIR - SATURDAY, JUNE 7TH

We shall be holding a Summer Fair as our main fund raising event this year and hope that you will continue to give us your support.

We are making an early plea for our PLANT STALL as obviously cuttings must be started soon to get well established. We should be most grateful if those of you with 'greenfingers' would take a cutting from your favourite plant(s) for collection at the end of May.



# Inland Trawlers Ltd.



Specialists in the Supply of Fresh Fish

EVERY TUESDAY 1.30 - 2.00 p.m.

# The Chronicle:

## Advertisement Rates for 1986

FULL PAGE	: Back	£50 per annum.
	Inside	£25 per annum.
HALF PAGE	: Back	£25 per annum.
	Inside	£12 per annum.
QUARTER PAGE	: Back	£12 per annum.
	Inside	£ 7 per annum.
EIGHTH PAGE	: Back	£ 7 per annum.
	Inside	£ 5 per annum.
ALL OTHER ADS.	: Inside only	£5 per annum.

Please send copy and cheque, made payable to  
Bucks County Council to the Editor, The Cloisters,  
Aston Abbots, Aylesbury, Bucks.

## ASTON ABBOTTS CHURCH ROOM

AVAILABLE FOR WEDDING RECEPTIONS: BIRTHDAY  
PARTIES: FOLK EVENINGS: DANCES: BINGO ETC...

MAXIMUM 60 PEOPLE.

FURTHER DETAILS FROM DORIS SCUTCHINGS ON  
AYLESBURY 681243 .

COST: £2.50 per hour + metered electricity.  
£1.50 per hour + metered electricity  
for residents of the parish.

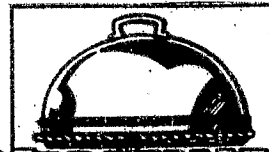
Your Village Shop

OSBORN'S

THE GROCERS

'use it or lose it'

ADVERTISE IN THE CHRONICLE  
IT MAY NOT PAY....BUT YOU  
FEEL BETTER !



**MARSHALLS**

**YOUR PERSONAL CATERER**  
CATERHIRE

●  
COCKTAIL/DINNER PARTIES

●  
BUTLERING SERVICE

●  
HOT OR COLD BUFFETS FOR ALL  
OCCASIONS

●  
HAMPERS FOR PICNICS

●  
WEDDINGS AND CHRISTENINGS A  
SPECIALITY

●  
AYLESBURY 681778

# Entente cordiale

## WINGRAVE TWINNING ASSOCIATION - PROGRAMME FOR 1986

Happy New Year - Bonne Année - to all you Twinners, those pioneers who have been with us from the start, those who have joined in since, and those for whom 1986 will be the year in which they take the plunge (of which more later!)

Our programme for 1986 is now fixed, so here are dates for your diaries and information about the events.

### 1 FAMILY/HISTORICAL WEEKENDS

The French and English committees thought it a good idea to have a theme for future weekends and this year's theme is history. This means that organised visits will be to cities, castles etc of historical interest. (If the idea works, we have plenty of other themes up our sleeves for future years, eg sporting fixtures, drama, rambling, It's A Knock Out etc). We are quite aware that some people will not wish to do the historical trips, but very much want to get together with their French family again, so it will be quite alright for those disinterested in history to stay behind with their French/English hosts.

The historical/family weekends are open to anyone in Wingrave, Rowsham, Aston Abbotts and Cublington. The dates are:

in La Bouéxière - Saturday 24 May to Tuesday 27 May  
in Wingrave - Friday 29 August to Monday 1 September.

For our trip in May we shall again take a coach and prices will probably be approximately £35 - £40 per adult. No arrangements having yet been made, this is only a rough estimate. PLEASE BOOK BY TELEPHONING JULIAN HUMPHREY ON 681341, BY FRIDAY 21 MARCH.

The Sunday of our stay in La Bouexiere is their Mothers' Day, which is quite a major family festival in France. Perhaps surprisingly, instead of deciding against having us there on a family occasion, they are happy to have us participate with them.

For those wishing to take the plunge into twinning this year, you could book to go in May, offer to host a family or part-family in August, when we shall certainly need more accommodation, or better still, do both!

### 2 EXCHANGE VISIT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

We are running another exchange, with two slight differences from last year; it will last a week, and an adult will accompany the kids. Many of the youngsters already know the person with whom they would like to exchange. For others an exchange partner can be found. The dates for the exchange are:

in Wingrave - 30 March to 7 April  
in La Bouéxière - 23 July to 31 July.

PLEASE BOOK WITH JEAN KEIGHLEY, TELEPHONE 681235, BY 1 MARCH.

If any parent would be willing to accompany the youngsters, please let her know. Accommodation would of course be provided free in a French home. The cost of the

exchange will again be very low - only the fare, insurance cover and pocket money, probably under £25 not including pocket money. Parents will again be needed to do a run to Portsmouth to collect or deliver a carload of children.

### 3 JUNIOR FOOTBALL

There will be only one football weekend this year, in England. (Next year's will be in France.) It will be from 4 to 7 April. The French are bringing two teams, Under 12s and Under 14s to play our two teams. Arrangements for their stay have not yet been made but parents of Junior Footballers will no doubt be asked to provide accommodation and transport to and from Portsmouth. As you will see, the dates for the football visit and the exchange visit overlap. The French teams should thus be sure of plenty of supporters. Both lots of French children will leave us on the same day, 7 April.

These then are the visits organised by the Twinning Committee, but many of you, with contacts in La Bouëzière, will be making your own arrangements to meet up. Please do just that! - you don't really need us once you are launched! Plenty of help and travel advice is however available from Julian Humphrey, 681341, or any other member of the Twinning Committee, who wish you all a happy year's twinning!

Jennifer Armstrong, Julian Humphrey, Jean Keighley, David Mergan and Bryan Round

**TSP**

*Quality Coats at Sensible Prices*

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AYLESBURY 681218

*M. Talbot*

### THE JON AND KAREN CARWASH COMPANY

AFTER OUR LAST ADVERTISEMENT IN THE CHRONICLE WE THOUGHT THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM US AGAIN.

IF YOU HAVE ANY DIRTY CARS INSIDE OR OUT THE JON AND KAREN CARWASH COMPANY WILL CLEAN THE DIRT AWAY LEAVING A VERY CLEAN CAR FOR THE SILLIEST OF ALL PRICES. WHY BOTHER GOING TO A CARWASH IN AYLESBURY AND WASTE ALL THAT PETROL COME TO US AND GET A MUCH BETTER JOB.

LOTS OF PEOPLE HAVE BEEN SATISFIED BY OUR GOOD, WELL DONE JOB. THE PRICES ARE:

FOR A CARWASH 50p  
FOR THE INSIDE 50p  
FOR BOTH £1.00

# THE WOTTON TRAMWAY

by Colin Higgs.



THE WOTTON TRAMWAY was a rural line in the heart of Buckinghamshire, running from Brill - Quainton, with stations at Wood Siding, Wotton, Westcott and Waddesdon Road. The line was constructed on land owned by the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, and was intended to serve the Duke's estates at Wotton.

Workmen from the Duke's estate started building the line on September 8th. 1870, good progress was made, and the six and a half miles of line was completed in April 1872.

At first horses were used to pull the waggons, with the only passengers being estate workers, or men tending livestock. The Duke then decided to introduce a regular passenger service and a composite vehicle able to carry both passengers and goods was borrowed from the GWR, and a road traction engine adapted for use on tramways was purchased from Aveling and Porter of Rochester, Kent for £400.

The villages of Westcott, Ashendon, Wotton, Dorton and Brill were served by the line and 627 passengers made use of it in the first four months.

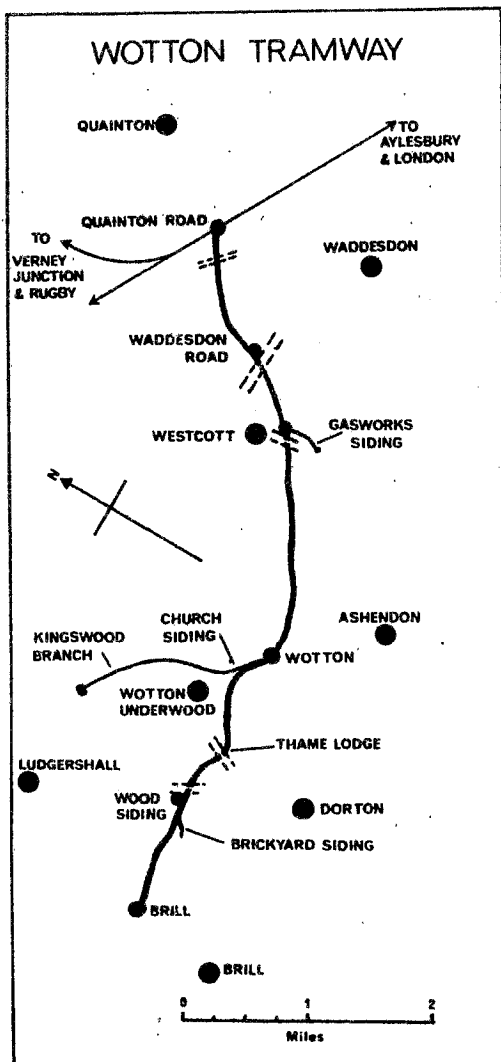
In November 1872 an agreement was reached with the Aylesbury & Buckingham Railway to carry goods from Aylesbury to any station along the tramway, the goods included such things as groceries, earthenware, haberdashery, drapery, ironmongery, wines and spirits. Trade continued to increase, then coal wharfs were installed at most of the stations, and bricks were also carried for Brill brickworks.

On March 8th 1883 three ladies maids were walking along the tramway near Wotton when they were knocked down by the evening train from Quainton, one of the girls died instantly, a verdict at the Coroners Office on the accident absolved the driver a Mr James Challis from all blame.

In 1883 the Duke of Buckingham and Sir Harry Verney proposed to link Aylesbury and Oxford by way of the Aylesbury and Buckingham Railway, the tramway and an extension from Brill to Oxford. Approval for the scheme was given in an Act of Parliament dated 20th. August 1883, and the new company was given permission to operate a line 17½ miles long from Oxford to Quainton and the right to the running powers over the Aylesbury and Buckingham Railway, but due to lack of money did nothing until 1888 when it took over the lease of the Wotton tramway and agreed to pay rent to the Duke.

In 1933 the London Passenger Transport Board was formed and the Metropolitan Railway was taken under its wing; a programme of electrification and improvement began and in 1935 the Board decided it could no longer run services to Aylesbury and beyond.

As a result of this decision the Brill Branch as it was called closed on November 30th 1935 and in April of the following year its stations were sold by auct-



# WOTTON TRAMWAY.

*His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, Proprietor.*

**A TRAIN** will leave **BRILL STATION** for **QUAINTON** at 6.55 a.m. and 2.20 p.m.; and will leave **QUAINTON** for **BRILL** about 9.10 a.m. and 6.5 p.m.

**THE RUNNING WILL BE AS UNDER :-**

	A.M.	P.M.
Leave Brill .....	at 6.55	2.20
.. Wood Siding .....	7.9	2.33
.. Church Siding .....	7.21	2.46
.. Wotton .....	7.31	2.55
.. Wescott .....	7.56	3.25
.. Waddesdon Road .....	8.20	3.40
Arrive at Quainton .....	8.33	3.55

	A.M.	P.M.
Leave Quainton .....	at 9.10	6.5
.. Waddesdon Road .....	9.33	6.26
.. Wescott .....	9.43	6.38
.. Wotton .....	10.10	7.0
.. Church Siding .....	10.16	7.6
.. Wood Siding .....	10.38	7.20
Arrive at Brill .....	10.55	7.40

These times will be adhered to as far as possible, but the running may be delayed, especially on the return journey, by late arrivals of the Trains at Quainton, or from other causes.

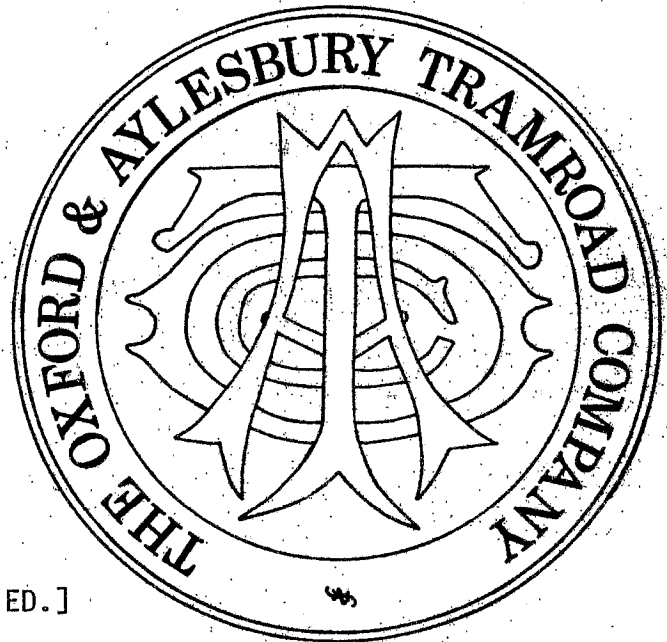
**R. A. JONES,** *Manager.*

*Brill, October 1st, 1887.*

*Wotton Tramway time-bill.*

ion. The sidings at Quainton are now used for the display of engines belonging to the Quainton Railway Society, and the waiting room serves as a book-stall and ticket office.

The Duke of Buckingham's line was constructed as a simple horse tramway, it never made much money but it gained a place of affection of the people of Brill and Wotton where it was simply known as "THE TRAM". The letter box on the site of Brill Station is still named BRILL STATION.



[Illustrations taken from 'THE WOTTON TRAMWAY' by Ken Jones, published by the Oakwood Press - an excellent little book, ED.]

## Bric-a-Brac

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Closed for LUNCH 1pm til 2pm



# QUIZ

Last months EUROPEAN CITIES quiz seemed to stretch the mind and my thanks and congratulations to all who had the courage to submit an entry. The winner with 39 (out of the 47) correct was Ruth Watts and doubtless it could be argued that several of the others Ruth offered as answers should have been accepted. The quiz was taken from a Swissair advert and partly to give them the credit for their idea, and partly to prevent me from having to type out the list, the answers that formed part of their original ad. are printed below.

Are you as familiar with the cities of Europe as Swissair? We know them well because we fly regularly to 47 of them. You may have identified some already.

If you are one of the many people who wouldn't think of flying with anyone but Swissair then you might appreciate a little more help to make sure you get all our connections. Amsterdam (which we fly to 4 or 5 times a day), Athens (twice or 3 times a day), Barcelona (twice a day), Basel, Belgrade (daily), Brussels (once or 3 times a day), Bucharest (3 times a week), Budapest (daily), Cologne (daily), Copenhagen (3 times a day), Dublin (twice a week), Dusseldorf (3-5

times a day), Frankfurt (twice or 3 times daily), Geneva, Genoa (5 times a week), Hamburg (daily), Hanover (5 times a week), Helsinki (daily), Istanbul (daily), Linz (daily), Lisbon (daily), London (6-7 times a day), Madrid (twice a day), Malaga (5 times a week), Manchester (daily), Marseilles (daily), Milan (3 times a day), Moscow (3 times a week), Munich (3 times a day), Nice (twice a day), Nuremberg (once or twice a day), Oporto (3 times weekly), Oslo (daily), Palma de Majorca (3 times weekly), Paris (7 to 9 times a day), Prague (5 times a week), Rome (3 times a day), Salzburg (daily), Sofia (twice a week), Stockholm (daily), Stuttgart (2-3

times a day), Thessaloniki (3 times a week), Toulouse (5 times a week), Vienna (2-3 times a day), Warsaw (3 times a week), Zagreb (daily), and Zurich.

You may have discovered some cities that you wouldn't have associated with Swissair. And our little diversion will have helped you to make the right connections all over Europe.

**swissair** 

This months quiz by Colin Higgs asks you to work out the names of various LOCAL VILLAGES from the clues given.

1. BABY FOX, COD FAMILY, WEIGHT.
2. SMALL, MARKET PRICE.
3. INSECTS ORGAN.
4. NOISY HOAX.
5. SHIPS FRAME (Not Quite), BABY BED.
6. DIGGING PLACE FOR GEMS.
7. SPIRIT TO HIDE.
8. SHOW THE WAY, OVERHEAT.
9. GENTLE SMACK, HEAVY WEIGHT.
10. TINY, NOBLEMAN.
11. SHINY BLACK LIKE TAR, SMALL BED.
12. CHOCOLATE BAR, VALUE OR PRICE.
13. GAIN VICTORY, BURIEL PLACE.
14. ROMAN UNIT OF WEIGHT, 20 HUNDREDWEIGHTS, MALES FROM THE ABBEY.
15. ROCK LIKE, TWISTED COTTON THREADS.
16. WATERLOGGED GROUND.
17. PLACE TO WADE ACROSS WATER.
18. SHORT FOR BRITISH RAIL, UNWELL.
19. SMALL ORNAMENTAL WOOD.
20. FANCIFUL, IN CONTACT.

No prizes but answers next month.



# CHURCH NEWS

The congregation on Christmas Day, totalling an amazing 132, must be the largest at Aston Abbotts for many a long year. Some had to sit in the choir stalls and a churchwarden was seen scurrying to the Church Room for extra chairs. By all accounts it was a splendid service and a most appropriate way of celebrating Christ's birthday. The first Family service in the new format was also well attended and it was good to see everyone taking the opportunity of a chat after the service, for whilst it is called a Family Service because it is designed for family worship it is also a chance for the family of the church to get to know one another. February 10th will see the ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING in the CHURCH ROOM, all are welcome. The Church Accounts will be presented and the elections of churchwardens and the P.C.C. will take place. All being well the new hymn books will be in use for the February Family Service on the 2nd. It will be good to have them and to learn some of the newer hymns.

## FEBRUARY SERVICES

- 2nd. Feb. : Family Service 11.15 a.m. Mr.C.Spike.  
\* Malachi 3(1-5); Luke 2(22-35).
- 9th. Feb. : Holy Communion 11.15 a.m. Mr.J.Ford.  
\* Colossians 1(18-23); John 8(2-11).
- 16th. Feb. : Holy Communion 11.15 a.m. Mr.C.Higgs.  
\* Hebrews 4(12-16); Luke 4(1-13).
- 23rd. Feb. : Holy Communion 11.15 a.m. Miss G.Ford.  
\* Genesis 7(17-24); Matthew 12(22-32).

\* Indicates Readings.  
 @@@

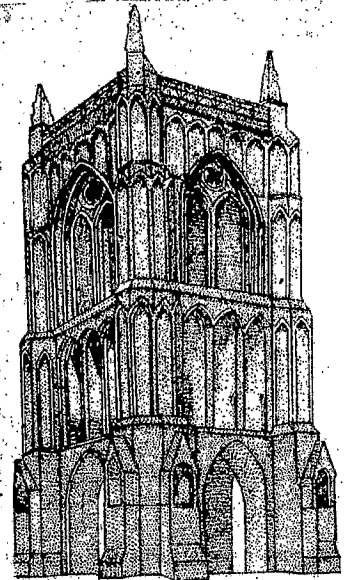
## WOMENS WORLD DAY OF PRAYER ST.JAMES CHURCH ASTON

ABBOTTS, MARCH 7th. AT 2.45 p.m.

SPEAKER : MRS DOROTHY HEFFER.

WOMEN OF ALL DENOMINATIONS WELCOME : REFRESHMENTS

AFTERWARDS.  
 @@@



West Walton, Norfolk (St Mary): The full glory of the 13th-century Early English style with an unusual bell-tower standing apart

## THE METHODIST CHAPEL

The members of the Methodist Chapel wish to thank everyone who supported us at the coffee morning in December. The grand total of £ 111.00 was raised for Chapel Funds.

## FEBRUARY SERVICES

- 2nd. Feb. : Mr. HUNT.
- 9th. Feb. : Rev. BARRIE Heafford.
- 16th. Feb. : Mrs. LARNER.
- 23rd. Feb. : Mr. NEVILLE.

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February 1986

THE RECTOR'S MESSAGE

Aylesbury 681623

SPRING-CLEANING has an ominous sound. For ladies, because it means hard work. For gentlemen, because it means chaos.

"Mind your feet, dear!" "Just give me a hand with..." "You sit in the kitchen tonight, DARLING, while I..."

Although I suspect in this liberated society, the work of the annual spring-clean is more evenly shared. Yet, the argument has gone on, I reckon, since the first cave-woman warned the first cave-man not to throw his pterodactyl wish-bone on the floor. He growled, Things were coming to something when a man couldn't do what he liked in his own cave.

Some form of annual clean takes place in most homes and, though ships, aircraft, and engines may be perfectly maintained, there are times when a thorough "MOT" becomes essential. Not least is this true for the human body. Not least for the soul - the centre of our personality. We need a special time to think, to reassess, to re-examine, to find out where we have got to in our relationship with our God and with each other.

This time, for us, in the Church is the season of Lent. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, 12th February, this year. (overpage for details)

It is traditional to 'give things up' which can be really negative. I suggest you might like to consider a more positive approach to Lent: a time for doing something extra. To help us to keep Lent in these three parishes there will be particular activities, one or more of which I hope you will find useful.

1. The Tuesday night Lent Course to be held in five different churches in the Deanery. Leaflets explaining this are on the church notice boards.
2. The Wednesday afternoon Lent Service which I hope to conduct in Wingrave Parish Church, consisting of hymns, prayers, and a thematic address.
3. Confirmation classes will begin in March. These, in addition, will take the form of refresher groups for those who were confirmed recently or long ago. For you, they could be an important part of your Lent "spring-clean". How rewarding that can be when its all over...

On another subject. Spring, they tell me, is the season when a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love. If we are no longer young, I'm not quite sure where that leaves us. But, of course, for us old'uns we must show more love in the wider context.

My thoughts turn now towards the beauty of the countryside at this growing time of the year. I am happy to report many encouraging signs of growth in the Churches. Chairs down the aisles at Christmas.....whatever next!

Thought you might like to know I am so pleased to be your parish priest. Well, I might be anywhere, mightn't I? But I'm here, and I'm very glad.

\*\*\*\*\*

It is only right to tell you that I cannot in all conscience give my support to the, so called, "Keep Sunday Special Campaign". It is so easy for the Church to adopt a negative attitude; for the world to see us as a body of moral policemen. The Continental Sunday has been a feature in other countries for years, and the anxiety that some Churchpeople have in this matter is quite unfounded. Many shops open now, anyway, so to try and force the position appears to me to be a retrograde step. It is the Church once again being the 'killjoy'. If we spent more time setting our face against the terrifying build-up of armaments in this country, and used our money wisely instead of trying to tinker with industrial "machinery" the Church would gain the respect of millions. The trouble is that too many of us will insist on confusing Sunday (the Day of Resurrection) with the Jewish Sabbath (with all its Old Testament, pettifogging restrictions).

LOOKING AHEAD: SERVICES AND EVENTS

USPG LENT BOXES These will be available in all three churches for our support of the Muheza Hospital in the Province of Tanzania.

ASH WEDNESDAY Lent begins with Holy Eucharist in Aston Abbots Parish Church at 7.30 p.m. - FEBRUARY 12TH.

DEANERY LENT Every Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock (beginning 18th February at Ivinghoe Parish Church). An opportunity for us to visit other churches in the Deanery for a weekly Service. Wingrave will host on TUESDAY, MARCH 4TH, when the Bishop of Buckingham will give the address.

PARISH LENT SERVICE Beginning on Wednesday, 19th February, a Service in Wingrave Parish Church at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. Then every Wednesday until the 19th March. The Service will last approximately 40 minutes with refreshments afterwards.

CONFIRMATION The Rector will visit (Saturday 1st March) the Parish Church of Cublington at 10 a.m.; Aston Abbots at 10.30 a.m.; and Wingrave at 11 a.m. All those who would like to be confirmed should try and meet him there then - also, those who wish to join the refresher course. We shall then try to work out the best days and times for the various classes. If you are unable to attend at these times, please let the Rector know when you will be available.

MOTHERING SUNDAY (9TH MARCH) Family Service at Cublington, 10 o'clock, conducted by the Methodist Minister. The Rector will conduct the Family Service at Aston Abbots at 11.15 a.m.. The Junior Church will be in the Church at Wingrave as the Parish Communion that day has a special Order of Service helpful to all ages! Poses will be given to the children for their mothers at each of these Services.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETINGS are planned as follows:

Cublington Sunday, 9th February at 3 o'clock  
Aston Abbots Monday, 10th February at 7.30 p.m.  
Wingrave Sunday, 2nd March at 3 o'clock.

These meetings begin with the election of Churchwardens, a review of the previous year with audited accounts, other elections and a look to the future. All who are members of the Church of England and whose names are on the Electoral Roll have a vote in this meeting, so please make sure that you are on the Roll. You should attend if possible to show your loyalty to God and his Church.

WOMENS WORLD DAY OF PRAYER (7TH MARCH) Meetings at the Parish Church of Aston Abbots, 2.45 p.m., and the URC, Wingrave at 7.30 p.m.

EASTER DAY United Benefice Evensong in Cublington Parish Church, 6 p.m.

SUNDAY LESSONS

(ASB)

2nd March	3rd Sunday in Lent (512)	"The King & the Kingdom: Suffering"
	1 Peter 2(19-25)	Matthew 16(13-28)
9th March	*4th Sunday in Lent (517)	"The King & the Kingdom: Transfiguration"
	Exodus 3(1-6)	Matthew 17(1-13)
16th March	Passion Sunday (521)	"The Victory of the Cross"
	Jeremiah 31(31-34)	Mark 10(32-45)
23rd March	Palm Sunday (526)	"The Way of the Cross"
	Philipps 2(5-11)	Matthew 21(1-13)
30th March	EASTER DAY (573)	"The Resurrection"
	1 Corinthians 15(12-20)	John 20(1-10)

\* Mothering Sunday Family Service Lessons - to be arranged.

HOLY BAPTISM

Wingrave Parish Church, Sunday, 26th January:

CHARLES GEORGE, son of David and Alex JOHNSON of Rowsham

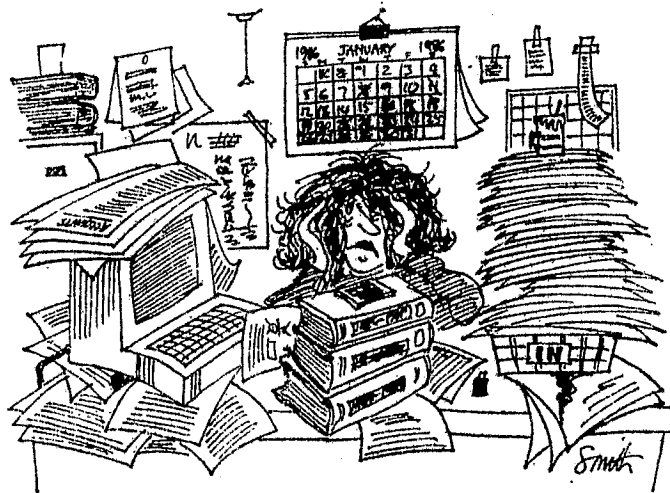
# INSIDE THE BACK PAGE

## A LETTER FROM LANCASTER

The weekly journey to Lancaster and the inevitable late nights involved with student life are taking their toll. The idea that I would have more time for reflection away from the pressures of the classroom seems not to have materialised. The sketch below may not be an accurate portrayal of your editor but the bewilderment and sense of hopelessness about the volumes of outstanding work is certainly something recognisable. So my apologies if this months issue is (i) late, (ii) full of more mistakes than usual and (iii) scruffy.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The response to last months financial statement has been overwhelming and my inadequate thanks to all who have expressed concern and offered help. The



Youth Club's carol singing raised a magnificent £59.45 and when we emptied the contributions box at the Post Office it yielded an incredible £30.79 - the vast bulk in one and two penny pieces. In addition the Chapel has contributed £5 toward our costs and the matter was debated at the last Parish Council meeting. The problem faced by the Chronicle is common to all Parish magazines and I know there is considerable concern in Wingrave over the future funding of the Communique.

I do not like the idea of the Chronicle being supported from the rates. I believe that the magazine needs to prove its worth and be supported because people believe it makes a contribution to village life. If its not fulfilling that role then its not needed. I do not believe it should be sold [ to meet production costs by this method we would be charging 25p. per copy], some people would not buy - for whatever reason - and the idea of a Parish magazine is surely to make local information available to all.

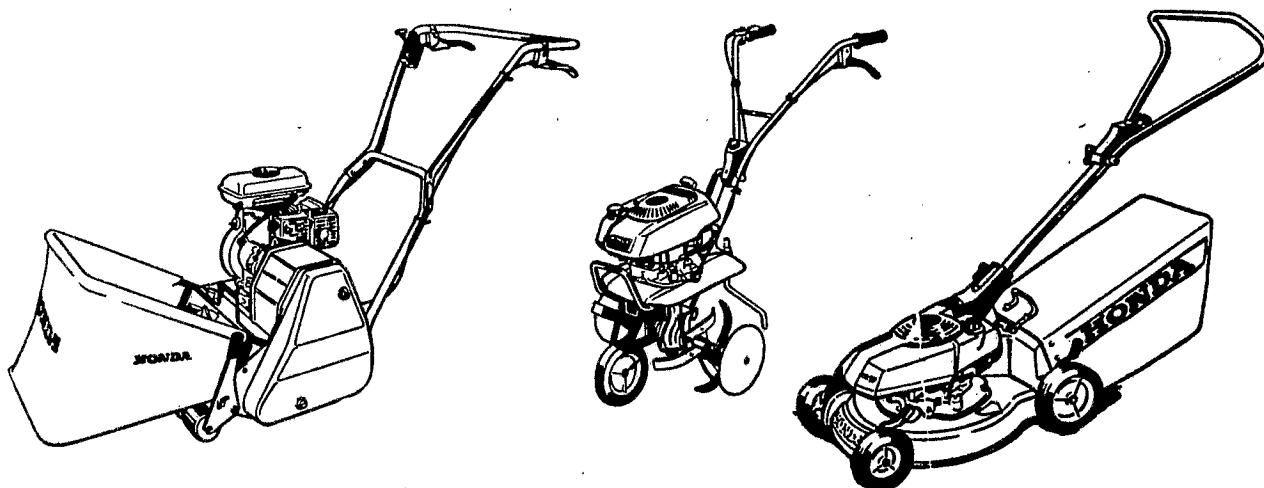
What's the answer ? Well, this months letters column contains what I believe could be the answer - the idea of a 'FRIENDS OF THE CHRONICLE' organisation seems to me to be admirable, and my thanks to all who have proposed and supported the idea. If you would like to add your supprt please contact any of the many who signed the letter.

Support has also come from others who have indicated that their fund raising efforts would always have the Chronicle in mind.

Thanks to everyone - to say I have been touched by the support sounds a bit corny - really I'm dead chuffed. Thanks a lot.

*Abbottsburg.*

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