

The Chronicle

Aston Abbotts Parish Magazine

MAY 86

ISSUE 33



Editorial

This has been a bumper month for THE CHRONICLE. My thanks to all who organised the recent Fashion Show and for the £25 they donated.

My thanks also to the FRIENDS OF THE CHRONICLE for their generous gift of £45 and to Barry and Marilyn at the Bull & Butcher whose 'Sunday Lunch' resulted in the gift of £21. Along with contributions from advertisers this has enabled me to deposit well over £100 with our printers and return a smile to their faces. Many thanks.

Other ideas for fund raising have been put forward, of which, more next month.

Graham Parker.



DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE WILL BE 17/18th. MAY PLEASE
(This early date is because of the school half term)

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

1. By telephone to Graham on Aylesbury 681325.
2. By dropping a notethrough his door - The Cloisters.
3. Use the box in the Village Shop or the Post Office.

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NOTICEBOARD

LADIES CLUB

On April 10th, after the Easter break, Mrs. Roberts came from Wendover to tell us about a walk she did (with her dog) some years ago from her home to Liskeard in Cornwall. It was a fascinating talk but unfortunately the meeting was very poorly attended. However in May we have the Chaplain to the prison coming to speak on the 9th. and on the 22nd. there is the annual "Not so Young" outing and tea party.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION next meeting on 7th. May at 8.00p.m. in the Royal Oak.

MACHINE KNITTING UNDERTAKEN - any pattern - very reasonable prices - apply to Mrs. Fox, Church Row.

YOUTH CLUB

First of all, may we say a very big thank you to Jack Howe from the Royal Oak for generously donating a table-football game to the Youth Club. The children are absolutely thrilled with it, and spent all evening queueing up to "have a go".

Secondly, thanks to a meeting with the Chairman of the Parish Council, Mr Peter Dines, we are trying to do our best to keep Aston Abbots tidy. We have asked the children (1) not to drop litter in the first place, and (2) to pick up any litter they happen to see lying about the village. You will be pleased to know that the bus shelter will also be re-painted in the near future!

The agenda for May is as follows:-

- 2nd May - Table tennis tournament
- 7th May - Swimming
- 16th May - General meeting - outdoors, weather permitting
- 23rd May - " " " " "

Bric-a-Brac



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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.

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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.



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People

OUR MONTHLY COLUMN ABOUT VILLAGE PEOPLE

Edited by Bridget Brandon.

BIRTHDAYS

4th. MAY ARKLE O'SULLIVAN

11th. MAY ROSINA WEBB

PERCE RICKARD

CHRIS BRANDON

12th. MAY HANNAH BRANDON (4th).

26th. MAY NEIL CHESHER (50th).

BEST WISHES

and get well soon to Mrs. Rickard and to Margaret Kent after their spell in hospital.

GET WELL

and hope you come out soon - the SUN !!

THANKS

Joan & Herbert would like to thank Doris and Len Scutchings for their invaluable help in our move to Bricstock and for helping to make our 39 years at No. 81 such happy ones.



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VIEW FROM THE CORNER OF THE BAR

Hello - I'm here again - you know that chair by the corner of the bar.

Well its still ruddy cold and it looks as though we'll miss spring and move straight into autumn.

Pub's busy ! Pretty near impossible to get a drink some nights - I blame him - she's alright !

Sunday mornings will never be the same without those sausages - where did they go?

There's a story round the bar that Lawrence (I was told not to call him Lol) is organising a band, called the 'ROSS ROAD ROCKERS'. What a name - what a racket! Have you heard them in the Church Room? Blimey!

People seem to be drinking better dressed nowadays. Mandy was wearing her spring collection of trousers which fair did an old chaps heart good - if you know what I mean. Then one Sunday lunchtime three 'types' came in wearing dinner jackets, and one, believe it or not, had a PINK bow tie - no one left their seats that day!

Surprising some of the things you see from this seat I saw a nose pressed firmly against the glass do you know I could have sworn blind it was no couldn't have been.

Ah! Looks as though the chair is needed bye for now.

The Chronicle:

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	Inside	£ 5 per annum.
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WED - SUN. 10am. - 6pm.
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County to consider action at crossroads

Dear Graham,

I wonder if you would include in the next issue of the Chronicle the attached press notice prepared by District Councillor Bryan Round concerning the recent accident at Wingrave crossroads.

The important point to stress is that all parishioners should, at the very least, make known any incidents at the crossroads that they are involved in or witness. They can do this either by writing to or telephoning a member of the Aston Abbots Parish Council or, if they so wish, by writing directly to the County Engineer at Bucks County Council. Either alternative would be better than nothing but the latter would probably be the preferable course.

It is only by drawing the attention of the appropriate authorities to each and every incident that we can hope that eventually something positive will result. A series of letters over a period of time is recommended as the method which would have the most effect on the County Council and it would highlight the continuing nature of the problem.

I would urge everyone to support District Councillor Round's lead.

Yours sincerely,

John Whyte.

BUCKINGHAM-SHIRE'S county engineer is to look again at possible ways of reducing danger at the Wingrave crossroads where cyclist David Gaskell died recently.

The new assessment — to consider whether illuminated bollards, pedestrian islands and a proper lighting system would make the busy stretch of the A418 safer — came as a result of County Cllr Reg Keen introducing it as a matter of urgency at the county Highways Sub-Committee.

The suggestions for the road improvements came from a meeting the night before between Cllr Keen and representatives of Cublington, Aston Abbots and Wingrave Parish Councils, and district Cllr Bryan Round, who initiated the meeting.

Cllr Round said he was highly delighted by the development.

● ASTON Abbots councillors Peter Dines and John Whyte expressed grave concern about the crossroads at their own parish council meeting in March, urging the county council to make improvements.

Cllr Colin Higgs, a member of the county Road Safety Committee, said that better signposting, bus bays and white lines above laid-down standards had already been implemented there in recent years, but he would again ask for further action at this month's committee meeting.

Pot holes and poor kerbing in Aston Abbots were also discussed by the parish council and county was to be asked to give these some attention.

The article to the left appeared in a recent issue of the Beds & Bucks OBSERVER.

ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH
COUNCIL

Peter Dines (Chairman), 87 The Green (Tel:681459);
John Whyte, New House, The Green, (681685);
Colin Higgs, 6 Wingrave Road, (681343);
Les Smith, Gatesgarth, Lines Hill, (681368);
Graham Parker, The Cloisters, Church Row (681325);
David Watts (Clerk), White Wheels, Wingrave Rd. (681376).

Your County Councillor is Reg Keen, 18 Bragenham Side, Stoke Hammond. (Tel: Soulbury 467)

Below, and continued on the following page, is the full text of the press release issued by your District Councillor Bryan Round (Tel:681621).

Representatives from Aston Abbots, Cublington and Wingrave parish councils met together this week with their district and county councillors to discuss ways of focussing the attention of Bucks. County Council onto making Wingrave crossroads, on the busy A418 Leighton Buzzard to Aylesbury road safer, after the recent death of David Gaskell from Chiltern Road, Wingrave.

There is considerable feeling in the local villages about what happened to David, especially bearing in mind the calls which have been made in recent years for further improvements. This feeling is accompanied by a belief that further tragedies will occur unless something is done urgently. Gerry Burt, Vice Chairman of Wingrave Parish Council, expressed strong dissatisfaction about a letter recently received from Bucks Highway Department saying "it has to be accepted that on busy roads a certain number of accidents are inevitable". He described the letter as "insensitive in tone and without feeling in its over-generalization".

Also present at the meeting were Arthur Read, Chairman of Cublington Parish Council, John Whyte from Aston Abbots Parish Council, Terry Bracey-Wright from Wingrave Parish Council and County Councillor Reg Keen who is a member of the County Council's Highways sub-committee.

Councillor Bryan Round organised the meeting in his home after the local rector, Father John Heffer appealed to local residents to stop the traffic as a public demonstration of their disquiet. He acknowledged that the vicar's proposals to disrupt traffic had spurred him into calling the meeting and try to get something done in a less dramatic but perhaps more effective and certainly safer way.

David Gaskell's death is the third fatality at Wingrave crossroads in recent years. Terry Bracey-Wright, Wingrave's Road Safety Officer, quoted from official statistics to show that the number of accidents had actually increased since the road was widened, and local councillors suspect there are many more "near misses" which go completely unreported. They are appealing to local residents through village newspapers to report in writing to their local parish council and to the County Engineer any mishaps they see or hear about, on the cross-roads from now on, no matter how insignificant they may seem.

They believe the basic cause is frustration on the part of drivers who have not been able to overtake for some distance and then see what they think is a stretch of straight road with no hazards. Road users who are particularly at risk are vehicles in the centre of the road waiting to turn right towards Wingrave or Aston Abbots, and pedestrians crossing the road from the bus stops to walk to the villages on the other side.

County Councillor Reg Keen has fought long and hard to bring about the improvements which have been made, such as large approach signs, white-lining and central hatchway, but agrees that more now needs to be done. The vicar believes a roundabout is the answer but the meeting of councillors asked Reg Keen to enquire into the feasibility of illuminated bollards, pedestrian islands and proper lighting system. County Councillor Keen promised to ask the Highways sub-committee to look afresh at the problem at the earliest opportunity. He said he hoped that if the sub-committee showed this willingness, this would remove the necessity for the vicar to organize a demonstration which though well-intentioned, might in itself cause further accidents.

Bryan Round,

CHURCH NEWS

I understand that the Good Friday and Easter Day services were well supported and uplifting. I must say it is heartening how well the congregations have grown and how our pattern of services are now seen to fit. For my own Easter Communion I was able to join a large congregation in the parish church of Parham in Antigua in the Caribbean, where I was on a sailing holiday with my brother. I suppose there was a congregation of 250 to 300 and that I was one of a handful of Europeans. I quote from my diary: "Many people going to church which was half full when I arrived but soon filled. More women than men but many children extremely well behaved. On one occasion a baby cried when the vicar was giving the notices, he paused, smiling in the mothers direction and waited un-

CHURCH SERVICES

4th. May. FAMILY SERVICE 11.15 a.m.
* Romans 8(28-39): John 16(12-24)
** Miss S.Lovell.

11th. May. HOLY COMMUNION 11.15 a.m.
* Ephesians 4(1-13): Like 24(45-53)
** Mr. C.Higgs.

18th. May. HOLY COMMUNION 11.15 a.m.
* Acts 2(1-21): John 20(19-23).
** Mr. A. Hewitt.

25th. May. HOLY COMMUNION 11.15 a.m.
* Isaiah 6(1-8): John 14(8-17).
** Miss G. Ford.

* Readings : ** Sidesmen.

til the baby was comforted. Just in front of me was a mother with two daughters, one on her lap and the other leaning forward falling asleep. The very old lady beside me drew the mothers attention to the child that was falling forward clearly suggesting that she should have the benefit of a cuddle and a lap. This matronly advice was taken. There was a large choir in saffron robes, six or seven hymns on the board and an extra one for the introit. The singing was good, so was the sermon, not too long, on Mark 16 v4 'and when they looked they saw that the stone was rolled away' on having faith that our own stones will be rolled away. We had two selections from the choir and two duets, one very good, one not so, but both applauded and the vicar asking and getting an extra round of applause for the second.

The liturgy for the Church of the Province of the West Indies is very close to our own. During the

notices visitors were welcomed, myself especially and I was asked to say a little about where I came from. The whole service was certainly an uplifting experience. Afterwards there was tea or coffee and cake. I was pressed to have a coffee and then the vicar persuaded me to try the green tea made from a local herb and taken with sugar but no milk. It was refreshing in a temperature in the low eighties. I was introduced to a young man who won an open scholarship to the University of the West Indies and took a first in Chemical Engineering and is now hoping to take a higher degree, unfortunately in the U.S.A. rather than here"..... and so I had a glimpse of the world wide Anglican communion.

Bach home the coffee morning in the Church Room raised the magnificent sum of £85 which will be spent on robing the choir (in saffron?). The lent boxes raised £30 for the Medicines for Muheza appeal, which was considerably more than last year.



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**GARDEN SEED & POTTING COMPOST, GROWMORE, AND
OTHER SUNDRIES ON REQUEST.**

"What is the secret of good health?" I asked an old butcher friend of mine some years ago. His answer was as short and as crisp as his pork crackling: "Never go AWAY for a holiday", he shouted as he split one of my chops.

At the time, I thought he was daft; now, as the years have rolled by, I wonder... At least the digestive systems of his body were not confronted with violent change. That is also what he told me - not in so many words!

Many people seems to believe, with the coming of so much leisure time, that unless they can annually (even more than annually) go roaring off somewhere, then the rest of the year is hardly worth living. Not just an "Away-day", but an "AWAY-CRAZE". For, from Christmas onwards, the adverts. scream at us to get to foreign parts - Oldham or the Orient, Clacton or the Caribbean. But too many return feeling tired, irritable, suffering from the effects of the change of water and food, broken limbs from the "nursery slopes", or just with a strange virus, very vexing.

Sometimes the "Away" traveller returns just discontented because life cannot be like that all the time. A broken romance or two, a broken marriage, perhaps. Or, just wishing they has stayed at home and rested.

So, what is the truth? Jesus, the great exponent of rest and peace, told his followers to "Come apart and rest awhile." In fact he suggested that there would be times when they would need to go to "some lonely place" (Mark 6, v.31 (Jerusalem Bible). But, read carefully - nothing like Blackpool or the topless beaches of the French Riviera. Not, 'Let's go yatching on the Sea of Galilee, or ten days cruise on the Med.' NO, he means, in this context, for his disciples to have a rest and change for a few hours, few days, maybe. This, to set us up spiritually, mentally and therefore physically.

But, after all, perhaps you do need to get away, and, if you are planning your annual holiday this year, I do sincerely hope that it will refresh you in body, mind, and soul. Yet, all I'm saying is, Don't be misled by the current CRAZE for "Away" holidays.

My old friend the butcher lived to a great age. His advice is well worth contemplating. HAVE rest. Don't try to "do" Scotland in three days, or, even the Continent in thirteen! Potter a little. Get out of the 'keeping-up-with-the-Joneses'-style', who may flash their holiday snaps at you until you are bored to tears. Read a little. Find time to think about things that really matter.

'Doing up' the living room or weeding the garden (if it is different from your normal occupation) could well help you to 'be still' and know God a little better. You could save money as well, but perhaps I shouldn't have mentioned that.

Yours sincerely,

FR. JOHN HEFFER

P.S. DEMONSTRATION at the Wingrave Crossroads is planned for Saturday, 14th June at 10.30 a.m. Unless the Bucks CC can produce a really concrete plan - not words - I will be there and I hope you will be too. Bring your placards if possible. Mine will read as follows ****

**** "WHITE SPOT - NOT BLACK SPOT"
(White spot is a Roundabout!)

SERVICES AND EVENTS....PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

ASCENSION DAY(May 8th) Wingrave Parish Church

School Assembly at 9.30 a.m. (Parents and friends welcome)

Holy Eucharist at 8.00 p.m. (Nave Altar: Hymns: Sermon)

AREA BELL RINGERS SERVICE Wingrave Parish Church on Saturday
10th May at 4 o'clock.

Note We are hoping to hold our own benefice Bell Ringers Service in 1987 on Sunday, 22nd March at 6 p.m.

CONFIRMATION ***1986 Please continue to remember in your prayers our confirmees who are hoping to be confirmed by the Bishop of Buckingham on WEDNESDAY, May 21st at 7.30 p.m.(Rehearsal: Tuesday, 20th at 7.30 p.m.) in Wingrave Parish Church. This is a Benefice Confirmation; all three parishes are represented, not only because there are confirmation candidates from all three but, of course, the six Churchwardens will accompany the Bishop (his representatives) into the service. Refreshments will be served in church after the confirmation, which will give the Bishop an opportunity to meet us, and for us to meet each other.

USPG COLLECTION A cheque for £245 has been sent for the Muheza Hospital from the Lent Boxes Collection. Aston Abbots: £30; Gublington: £43; Wingrave: £172. Many thanks to all subscribers - £245 this year with last year's total: £197.

HOLY BAPTISM Aston Abbots Parish Church at the Family Service on Sunday, 6th April:

EMILY ROSE, daughter of Roger and Lynne deLOOZE

CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE Wingrave Parish Church:

8th March: Raymond Alan WHEELS and Julie CURZON

15th March: Robin Anthony CHAPMAN and Rosemary TARBUCK

FUNERALS Aston Abbots Parish Church:

26th March: Cicely Mary BRAZIER

Wingrave Parish Church:

14th April: Harry GOLDNEY

Also, 14th April: Committal of Ashes - George Edenborough THORP
Elizabeth Kathleen Eldred BEE

SUNDAY LESSONS

(ASB)

1st June	Pentecost 2 Acts 2(37-47)	(643)	"The Church's Unity and Fellowship" Luke 14(15-24)
8th June	Pentecost 3 Act 4(8-12)	(648)	"The Church's Confidence in Christ" Luke 8(41-56)
15th June	Pentecost 4 Acts 8(26-38)	(653)	"The Church's Mission to the Individual" Luke 15(1-10)
22nd June	Pentecost 5 Acts 11(4-18)	(658)	"The Church's Mission to All Men" Luke 10(1-12)
29th June	SS.Peter & Paul 2 Timothy 4(6-8,16-18)	(782)	Matthew 16(13-20)

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK (12th - 17th May) Please support our local organisers and house-to-house collectors. Christian Aid tries to "build for tomorrow" 18 months after the height of the famine in Ethiopia the urgent need is for agricultural production. Christian Aid's Africa regional committee made grants of £261,629 for Ethiopia in March with priority on assisting food production and agriculture in drought-prone areas, as well as supporting immediate relief with transport and administrative help.

INSIDE THE BACK PAGE

APPEARANCE COUNTS

The cricket season is here and after the debacle in the West Indies all English supporters look forward to a victorious summer against the visiting Indians and New Zealanders. The depressing aspect of the West Indian visit was not so much the defeats - or even the scale of the defeats - but the 'appearance' that we made little effort to halt the West Indian march to victory. I have no doubt the team 'felt' they made every effort, but that was not how it appeared, and when you are in the public eye, rightly or wrongly, appearances matter.

The team needed to give the 'appearance' of a disciplined approach, of a pride in representing their country and dedication to do their utmost to stave off defeat. In stead they appeared undisciplined and lacking in pride and dedication. Not only would a different approach enabled us to say 'well, at least they tried', but, I suspect, would have resulted in defeat by a marginally less devastating margin.

MEMORIES OF A GREAT CRICKETER

The new season has not begun well; not only has the weather been depressing but the deaths of Bill Edrich and Jim Laker has taken from us two great heros of the English game. Laker will be remembered for those two wet days in July 1956 when he destroyed Ian Johnson's Australians at Old Trafford, taking nine wickets in the first innings and all ten in the second. I was staying with my Uncle Arthur in Heaton Moor at the time and had been at the ground on the Saturday following Laker's nine wickets on the Friday, and seen nothing but steady rain. Sunday was much the same and Monday not much better. My Uncle was convinced there was no chance of play on the Tuesday and cursed the weather for saving the Australians, so we stayed at home. But as the Tuesday morning wore on the clouds lifted and by mid afternoon it was bright sunshine. Australia had survived a delayed morning session but when the sun came out the pitch came to life and Laker became virtually unplayable. Shortly after tea England had retained the Ashes, Laker had bowled himself into immortality and I was marooned only two tram rides from the ground!

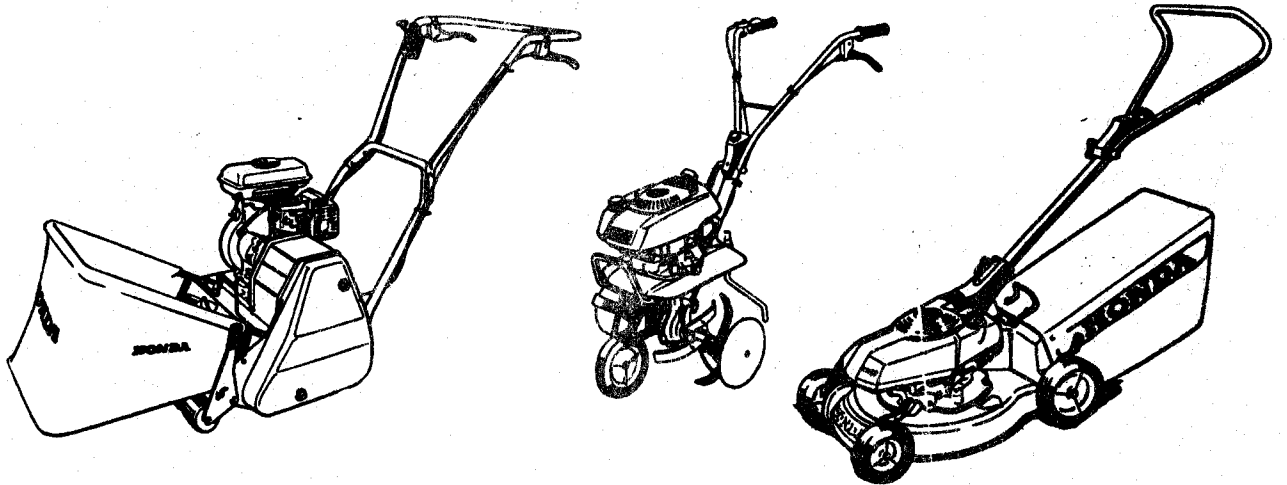
ON MARATHONS AND MUNTJACS

Many of you will have watched the London Marathon and will I hope have spared a thought for our own Terry Doel, who had finally won a place this year but had to withdraw with a knee injury. A devastating blow after months and months, indeed years, of training. The consoling point is that a place will be reserved in next years race for Terry, who hopes to be able to restart his training in the summer.

I have only managed the occasional jog, so occasional that its less of a jog and more of a shuffle. But moving at this ever slower pace does have its compensations - the other week I renewed acquaintance with the muntjac that lives just down the Cublington road. These tiny deer, only about twenty inches high, have now become quite widespread in southern England, being found as far north as Nottinghamshire and as far west as the Welsh Marches. They are natives of souther China and were first brought to London Zoo in 1840. At the turn of the century the Duke of Bedford introduced them to the grounds of Woburn Abbey and in the years since they have gradually colonised most of southern England. A shy, solitary and beautiful creature, with its delicate face, slightly arched back and chestnut coat - keep your eyes open for it if you are ever walking to Cublington.

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