



The Chronicle.

Aston Abbott's Parish Magazine

SEPT 86

ISSUE 37



Editorial

This month I can only begin by offering my sympathy to the O'Sullivan and the Perkins families following the devastating events of the 15th of August. The only consolation is that nobody was injured. Perhaps too I might offer a word of sympathy for the plumber whose blow torch initiated the blaze. He was still shaking with shock hours after the event and will doubtless be haunted in his dreams and in his daily work for years to come. The real villain of the tragedy was, of course, the polystyrene. This highly inflammable material has great insulation properties but should it not now go the same way as asbestos, which also had useful properties but could be deadly in other ways?

From this month - the first issue of our fourth year - the Chronicle will have to pay its way, and, as promised in the last issue, we publish this month the stark financial reality facing the magazine. I am very grateful to the FRIENDS OF THE CHRONICLE for agreeing to take over the financial responsibility of the magazine. It was a burden that was becoming increasingly difficult to bear since the costs of production had risen. My own dilatory attitude toward asking people for money had obviously not helped! My own views about the basis upon which the Chronicle should be financed are, I hope, well known, but I have to acknowledge that, as with most things, I may be wrong; and I am certainly prepared to give way to the majority view. YOUR views - that is everybody's views, those of you who enjoy the magazine and those of you who loathe 'the rag' - would be much appreciated. So please contact one of 'the FRIENDS OF THE CHRONICLE' or come along to the meeting on the 2nd. of October.

In last month's issue you may remember we published a photograph of a Christmas Party and asked if you felt the standard of reproduction was adequate. Well, I agree, it wasn't, but I hope the financial resources will allow us, now and again, to publish some better quality photographs. If you have any village views of yesteryear I would very much appreciate a look at them with a view to producing an occasional page of pictures from the past.

Graham Parker

GRAHAM PARKER.

DEADLINE DATE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE: 21st SEPTEMBER PLEASE.

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

WHAT'S ON IN SEPTEMBER

THURSDAY 4th. : SPECIAL BUS FOR THE BUCKS COUNTY SHOW
Depart Bull & Butcher 9.10 a.m. Fare £2.30. Return
Bus goes direct to Showground; return 5.15.p.m.
BOOK WITH COLIN.

THURSDAY 4th & 18th. WHIST DRIVE Church Room 7.30 p.m.

SUNDAY 21st. : VILLAGE WALK-ABOUT QUIZ. MEET 2.30 p.m. at The Green - bring pens.
IF THE SUNDAY BUS WAS REINTRODUCED WOULD YOU USE IT ? PLEASE LET COLIN KNOW.

LADIES' CLUB

The 1986/7 session begins on SEPTEMBER 25th. We welcome any newcomers who would like to come along. We meet in the Church Room at 2.45 p.m.

YOUTH CLUB

Youth Club begins again on SEPTEMBER 5th and we hope to be able to provide a varied programme throughout the coming year. If there are any children who have now reached 9 years old, who would like to join us at the Church Room on a Friday evening between 7 and 9 p.m., please come along. Are there any Mums or Dads, who feel they could help out with Youth Club sometimes? Anyone who feels they could take an interest, either on a regular rota or just now and then, please call in on a Youth Club night or contact Bridget (681425).

Good news about buses

Below is a note from Colin Higgs on the future of Aston Abbots bus service. The fact that the service has been saved is a tribute to Colin's determined hard work over many, many months. Without his efforts the odds are that no buses would have found their way into the village. So, when you have the chance remember to say "Thanks Colin ...".

I am happy to report our bus service has been saved from the axe, following deregulation of public transport as from 26th. October. However minor changes are to be made to the service as follows:

07.21 Aylesbury (07.43 Aston Abbots) to L/Buzzard will depart 10 minutes earlier to connect with the 08.09 train from L/Buzzard to Euston.

An additional journey will be introduced as follows
10.08 Aylesbury (10.32 Aston Abbots) to L/Buzzard.
11.05 L/Buzzard (11.30 Aston Abbots) to Aylesbury.

There is a possibility that a Sunday journey will also be introduced, but this is to be confirmed.

Although your bus service is saved you still need to use it !

Watch the Chronicle for additional Milton Keynes & Bedford "Saturday Shoppers".

THERE was good news for bus users at Friday's meeting of Aston Abbots Parish Council.

Cllr Colin Higgs, vice-chairman, who conducted the meeting, reported that the village bus service was being retained after the October deregulation and that an additional morning bus would be introduced with a better connection for Milton Keynes and a possible Sunday bus.

It was noted that since the July meeting and site meeting with County Council representatives the kerbing around The Green and Ross Road had been completed, loose kerbs fixed and potholes filled in.

Cllr John Whyte asked if an approach could be made to the County Council regarding the erection of a privacy sign at Moat Lane and Lines Hill junctions.

Concern was expressed also at the amount of storm water running into Cublington Road from the new development at St. James Close and a request is to be made for an additional drain to alleviate possible flooding.

More details are to be obtained regarding the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme which is being set up in conjunction with Aylesbury Vale District Council.

Tree lopping around the green is to be carried out in the autumn and the Rambling Club will help with the way marking of footpaths.

Friends of the Chronicle

Some of the FRIENDS OF THE CHRONICLE (Pat Sims,Chris Brandon,Michael Cox and Neil Chesher) have got together to take over the financial running of the magazine.This will allow Graham to devote all his time and energy to the editorship.

We thought that you would all wish to know our financial position. We have just received quotations for next years costs and the 'best' picture is as follows:

Total cost	:	£600	
Less Fete	£200		
Ad's	£100	£300	Projected loss' £300
Debt from previous year	:		£280.

As you can see, we are in a parlous state, and in need of some good ideas and some hard work in order to make all Graham's tremendous efforts worthwhile. Incidentally, it is worth mentioning that all costs to date have been borne by Graham himself. This is unbelievably generous, but something which we in the village must put right - this explains the 'previous years debt' indicated above.

I think we all appreciate the worth of the Chronicle to the village, and just how much work goes into it - but now is the time for all of us to decide how we can help to support it. If we don't, there is no future for the Chronicle.

As we see it, there are a number of possible options to finance the Chronicle:

- (i) We each pay 45p. per copy per month !
- (ii) There could be a levy on everyones annual rates and we would receive that back from the council - small houses might pay £3 per year, large perhaps £9. This would need a special village meeting to agree such a move.
- (iii) We could raise the balance through various fund raising ideas - we already have some.Perhaps we could ask for a larger fete allocation ?
- (iv) We substantially reduce the quality and quantity of the Chronicle.It can be done, but we would be left with something very intermittent and very basic.

Now is the time when we need to know your views. Please talk to any of the 'FRIENDS' mentioned above if you have any ideas or comments - otherwise we are meeting on Thursday 2nd. October at 8.30 p.m. in the Bull & Butcher, so tell us then. We have already received indications of special cash support from the Church, the Church Room, the Fete Committee and the Parish Council, so we are underway - but it is YOUR support and enthusiasm we really need. Otherwise the Chronicle will die.

MICHAEL COX on behalf of THE FRIENDS OF THE CHRONICLE.



People

OUR MONTHLY COLUMN ABOUT VILLAGE PEOPLE

Edited by Bridget Brandon.

BIRTHDAYS

4th. SEPTEMBER PIERS PARKER.

10th. SEPTEMBER JAMES DIXON.

30th. SEPTEMBER ADRIAN DIXON.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

27th. SEPTEMBER - Neil and Margaret Chesher, their seventeenth. Why not help them celebrate and pop round and have a drink with them ? You will be more than welcome!

BELATED (VERY BELATED) CONGRATULATIONS

to Martin & Stella Cross, on the birth of their son David William on the 18th. May. Martin & Stella live at 1 Longmoor Farm Cottages.

GET WELL SOON

to Brenda Malin after her spell in hospital.

OUR BEST WISHES

go to the O'Sullivan and Perkins families after the horrific fire which destroyed their homes on the 15th. August. Lets hope the houses are soon rebuilt and that things can be returned to normal as quickly as is possible.

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M. Talbot

DID YOU KNOW ?

that Peter Dines is still the world mobile mower long jump champion. Since his record leap over the Church wall some twelve months ago, nobody has managed to beat it. Peter therefore retains the cup for another year. Congratulations.

A SAD NOTE

Illness and premature old age finally took their toll on the 19th. August, and we had to have Radar put to sleep. He was a dog of tremendous character and will be very much missed.



WINGS

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Bar Chat

It's an amazing thing you know when you sit in pubs you see the strangest things. The other night, it must have been the night of that wedding ... you know the one I mean.. well I broke the habits of a lifetime and strolled down to the other pub.. can't think of the name right now... but it's down there somewhere at the end of the village. Well, I was in there trying to mind my own business when I saw the landlord in full mess uniform. The only problem was it seemed to have been made for someone of a different shape... still it was a very brave try and have marked it down to borrow at some time in the future

In the meantime in the other pub I heard tell of someone who's car wouldn't work and rang up the AA only to get a very rapid visit from Alcoholics Anonymous.... it must be something in the water you know that's the stuff that Barry puts in the Beer !

Cheerio

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.
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OPENING TIMES

WED - SUN. 10am. - 6pm.
Closed for LUNCH 1pm til 2pm

Aussie Connections .

This month we have two articles from villagers who have recently been down under. The first from Neil Chesher, who was there and back inside a week during August, and the second is another thoroughly enjoyable letter from Helen and Steve Richardson. The articles are interspersed with extracts from a recent Qantas advertisement that gives an introduction to the Aussie language.

A Country Distinctly Its Own

Go to Australia they said and I said OK where's the ticket. The thing I forgot to ask was that it was winter and cold. They said it was the first time they had seen snow in Sydney for at least 25 years and of course it was just my luck to get it. Things seem to happen to me on trips and this was exactly the same. I don't why it is but by now I am looking out for things to go wrong.

What I didn't spot was that I had been told mistakenly by the travel agent that I got on the plane on a Sunday and arrived in Sydney on Tuesday .Being so busy I simply didn't check. Silly mistake and it took an eagle eyed wife, who likes to keep an eye on what I am up to ,to spot that I should arrive on Monday. A few frantic phone calls late on Saturday evening confirmed that this was so and I then had to book a hotel and ensure that the person meeting me was also at the airport the other end. Down to Heathrow and I seemed to walk into a place of absolute chaos. Terminal 3 was besieged with Indians of all sizes who were sat on the floor, festooned over the furniture ,everywhere.... I found that the plane was stopping at Bombay !

Onto the flight and that went quite well if you call 22 hours locked up in an oversized cigar tube well. Sydney and the man is there. Some relief..out from the airport and we drive down to a place called Picton. First thing I notice is that the bar is closed and I mark this down as a bad sign.

It's cold and to make it worse the motel that I have been put in is really made to be inhabited in the summer months, the door is warped and the window in the bathroom is broken. Still, I think I have to be strong so I switch on the TV and find that there is a 24 hour sports channel.

To say the commentary is biased is a mild understatement. They are showing the Commonwealth Games and it is on when you go to bed and it is on when you get up. They seem to be cheering on some very big girl who has won the Shot Putt and were revelling in the fact that at that time they had got more gold medals than the UK.

But shame on shame and I laughed, there's this Aussie guy who has won the cycling and they are giving him the roll of drums when up goes the Aussie flag upside down ! That was a good moment. So to work. I was in the country for 4 days only and was determined to see and do as much as possible.

It was the birds which made you realise you were somewhere different, the noises were completely different. The trees as well, I was told that what I was looking at were Gum trees and they looked very sad at that time in the winter.

One of my first reactions was that Australia looked like America

but the more I saw of it the more I realised that it really was a country distinctly its own. It was far cleaner and far neater than the States.

When I was there I bought a book called Great Australian Explorers and that suddenly put a lot of what I was seeing into context.

I went down the Hume highway and found that he was one of these early explorers and a whole host of similar names fell into place.

It was also rather a shock to find that most of this exploration work happened after my house was built. The date on that by the way is 1822.

I did all the tourist thing like going on the hydrofoil up the harbour past the Bridge and the Opera House onwards up to a place called Manley all at a speed of 60 mph

That's a strange thing I was expecting the Bridge to be over the entrance from the sea into the harbour with the Opera House alongside it. It came as a surprise to find it over what is really the mouth of one of the bays inside the harbour.

I stayed one night with a colleague way out in the sticks at a magnificent bungalow that he had built and for my sins ended up chasing his one cow down a road at 6.30 in the morning.

The trip was very short and has whetted the appetite to see more, but I was also glad to get back on the plane home.

That took 28 hours and that could also be the makings of another story.

EXTRACTS FROM THE QANTAS GUIDE TO THE AUSTRALIAN LANGUAGE

Strine. "Owyagoin Mite, orright? Cummin dahnunda feryer holsorwot?" Strine is the official slanguage of Oz. To call it down-to-earth might offend the earth. To tune in your shell-likes, just remember that an 'a' sound becomes an 'i', and 'i' sound becomes an 'oy', and words get run together. After all, Strine simply means 'Australian' - in Strine.

Rhyiming. Add to Strine the fact that some Aussies use rhyiming slang, and things can get unintell . . . - er, hard to understand. If it's all Greek to you, just think what it's like to all the Greeks who live here. (There are more Werris Creeks in Melbourne than in any city outside Athens. At least you get kebabs on the barbie.)

Qantas. Originally Queensland and Northern Territories Aerial Service, we're now Aussie's national airline.

Wildlife. Aussie has some animals you won't find anywhere else in the world. Apart from the ones you'll see on The Hill at the Sydney cricket ground, there are koalas, kangaroos, wombats, possums, platypusses, emus.

Vegemite. This is as Australian as meat pie, without the meat. It's a veg version of Marmite - Aussies are brought up on it.

Uey. A u-turn, often performed in a ute (utility truck) when something's been left behind - like the beer, the dog, the wife . . .

A Letter from Australia.

A second missive from Steve and Helen Richardson, this time about Australia. The letter was posted from Fiji towards the end of July. More next month.

G'day fellow Poms, we have just spent the last seven weeks in Australia. Before you get too envious, while you were watching Wimbledon in a heatwave we watched it all 11p.m. - 2a.m. each night in freezing cold, wet, miserable weather. It really made us wonder what we were doing on the other side of the world.

We arrived in Queensland in early June at a town called Townsville. Before we were allowed to leave the plane we were sprayed to kill any unwanted seeds and insects - at first we thought it was a compulsory deodorant!! Townsville International Airport consists of a couple of tin sheds apparently miles from anywhere and it seemed a far cry from Heathrow. Offshore is the Great Barrier Reef and many beautiful islands, particularly the Whitsundays, named because Captain Cook discovered them on Whitsunday.

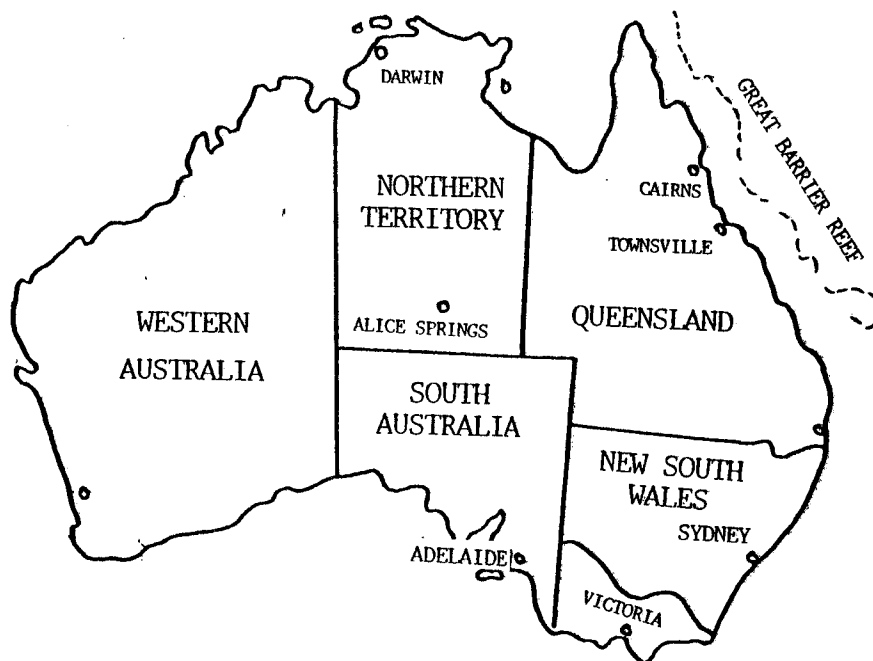
On our first evening in Australia we decided to sample some Australian nightlife and looked for a suitable bar. This was quite difficult as most contained long lines of men without a woman in sight and Helen didn't intend to be the first to walk in. Eventually we found one and started to increase our Aussie vocabulary. Beer is served in three containers - a 'tinnie' (can); a 'stubbie' (bottle) or a 'pot' ($\frac{1}{2}$ pint glass). Ice cold is essential and the 'pots' are kept in the fridge whilst 'tinnies' and 'stubbies' are served in polystyrene holders to keep them cold. We didn't find anything that Australians took more seriously than drinking beer.

Xxxx. A Queenslander's favourite brew. Every State has an affection for its own amber. In Victoria it's VB; in New South Wales it's Tooheys; in South Australia it's West End and in the West it's Swan. In Darwin they drink out of stubbies. In the rest of Aussie these are *small* bottles - in Darwin they hold about four pints.

Frosty. A cold beer that Aussies keep cold by carrying in a chillybin. (A warm beer Down Under is about as welcome as a sailboard in a swimming pool.)

Esky. Another name for a chillybin.

Now I had learnt how to order a beer we were in a stronger position to see more of Australia. We took several boat trips around the Whitsundays where we lazed in the sun, snorkelled over the reef and swam in the warm sea. Fortunately it was winter as in the summer you cannot swim in the sea because of Box jellyfish - small but apparently lethal!!



From Townsville we went up the Queensland coast to Cairns, a very colonial style town with beautiful wooden houses built on stilts to keep them cool. From here we went out to the Great Barrier Reef proper, a 2,000 mile stretch of coral reef lying around 30 miles offshore and reputed to be the longest living organism in the world. It was magnificent with more colourful fish and coral than we had seen before. Visibility was excellent and you could see over 60 feet underwater. The reef is right on the continental shelf so you can be swimming a few feet over coral one minute and the next the coral sea plunges 3,000 feet below you - quite alarming! More fortunately still no sharks were spotted.

The desert and isolation of Alice Springs was a real contrast to the lush green of the Queensland coast. Alice Springs is a small town literally in the middle of nowhere. There is a signpost there pointing to Darwin North and Adelaide South, both towns being over 1,000 miles from Alice. From here we drove out to Ayres Rock, a simple journey 120 miles along one road, turn right and carry on for 150 miles until the road ends. Along these roads were vast cattle stations not measured in acres but square kilometres. The largest we saw was over 6,000 sq.km. We saw some cattle roaming about but all they had to live on was tufts of spinifex grass, a coarse grass that makes tussocks look highly palatable. The reason there is so little to eat is that it hasn't rained for three years. It must be depressing to watch all your cattle getting thinner rather than fatter.

From Alice Springs it was off to Sydney and a return to Suburbia. Sydney is a beautiful lush green city sited on a large natural harbour. There are water inlets everywhere and masses of boats bobbing about right through the city. Many people commute across the harbour to work, past the Opera House and bridge - seemed a much better idea than the quickie from L.B. to Euston.

For the first time in weeks we had to cater for ourselves and were shocked by the price of meat. Rump steak is only £1 per lb. and you can buy 20lbs of lamb for £10. Chicken and pork however are relatively expensive. The other good buy is wine which is only 50 pence per litre. There must be a lot of overweight alcoholics out here.

Land prices too are cheap on English standards, good news to all fellow aspiring farmers. You can buy a 600 acre irrigated property for around £200,000 and a 200 acre grass farm for only £70 - 80,000 ! The same farms would cost 3-4 times more in England.

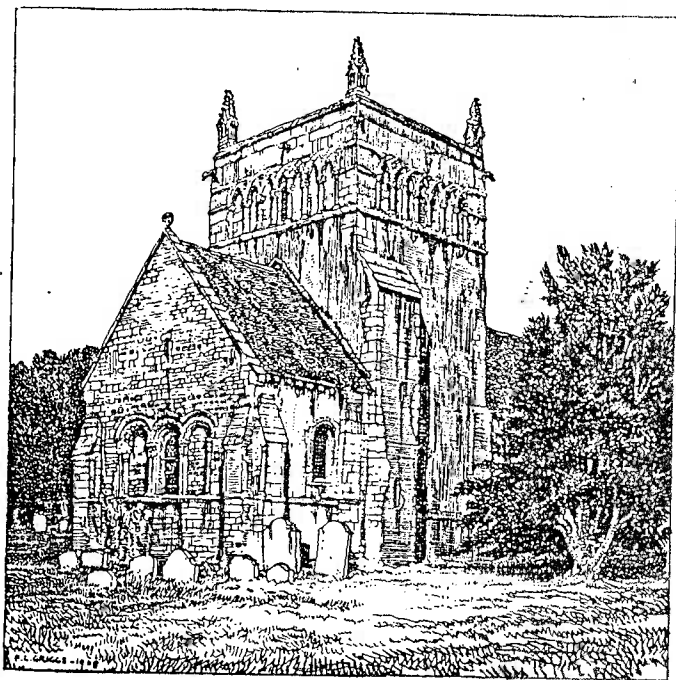
We spent about ten days in Victoria before returning to Sydney and it was so cold we even had a couple of days skiing. We also saw three wild koala bears which was rather exciting. Our last few days in Australia were back in Sydney during which time we had some culture at the opera house. It was rumoured that I was nodding a bit by the last act of Madame Butterfly. Then it was goodbye Australia and after a 3½ hour flight hello Fiji.

Portraits of Buckinghamshire

No.12 Stewkley Church

Extracts from ClementsShorter's 'Highways & Byways of Buckinghamshire. Sketches by Frederick Griggs and dated 1908.

From Dunton we go eastward and then northward to Stewkley. The church here is a beautiful building and is one of the best examples of Norman architecture in England. Alike in the exterior and interior it is charming in its zig-zag ornamentation and perfect arches. Browne Willis remarks that in his day there were neither tombs, painted glass, nor epitaphs of earlier date than 1660, as Cromwell's troops in the Civil War turned this church into a stable for their horses. We note, however, near the altar a piece of the old decoration—a Virgin and Child. The font also is old and the two arches are very beautiful.



Stewkley Church.



Stewkley Church, West Door.

QUIZ PAGE

Quotable quotes by the famous and the forgotten culled from the newspapers of 1964

Sayings of the year

First the quotes, then the names of those who spoke the words. All you have to do is match them up. Answers at the foot of the next page.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. I hold the view that anybody who thinks that Britain should not be a nuclear power must be crackers – indeed, absolutely cracked. | |
| 2. The risk is that one will tend to get caught up in the sheer exhilaration of making decisions and in the desire to make them fast, forget the point about getting them right. | <u>PUT THE NAME TO THE QUOTE.</u> |
| 3. I am probably one of the few Prime Ministers who cleans his own shoes. | NOEL COWARD. |
| 4. I think sex is absolutely gorgeous. | FIELD MARSHALL LORD MONTGOMERY. |
| 5. Contraception is not an open question. It is against the law of God. | MRS. MARY WILSON. |
| 6. I am the greatest! I am the king! I am the prettiest! | HAROLD WILSON. |
| 7. There are only two great playwrights in Britain today: Terence Rattigan and myself. | GEORGE BROWN. |
| 8. Wearers of topless dresses will be prosecuted. We take this step with regret because in 1903 we were the first seaside resort in Britain to allow men and women to bathe on the same beach. | DR. HEENAN. |
| 9. No sex without responsibility. | ELIZABETH TAYLOR. |
| 10. If you live among wolves you have to act like a wolf. | LORD LONGFORD. |
| 11. The days when some people called Africans 'Boy' are over. | JOMO KENYATTA. |
| 12. Of course, there is nowhere to hang out washing in Downing Street. | CASSIUS CLAY. |
| | RUPERT LOCKWOOD (Bexhill Entertainments Manager). |
| | NIKITA KHRUSHCHEV. |

* * * * *



PUZZLE PAGE

SOMETHING FOR THE YOUNGER CHILDREN



There are at least eighteen things wrong with this picture. Write them down—*e.g.* The boy has one sock missing.

1. Field Marshall Lord Montgomery. 2. George Brown. 3. Harold Wilson. 4. Elizabeth Taylor. 5. Dr. Heenan. 6. Cassius Clay. 7. Noel Coward. 8. Rupert Lockwood (Behill)
9. Lord Longford. 10. Nikita Khrushchev. 11. Jomo Kenyatta. 12. Mrs. Mary Wilson.

THE ASTON ABBOTTS COOKBOOK

The return of the Cookbook for what I hope will be a regular page. Thanks this month to Colin Higgs for the contributions. Can you provide a recipe for next month?

APPLE AND ONION CHUTNEY

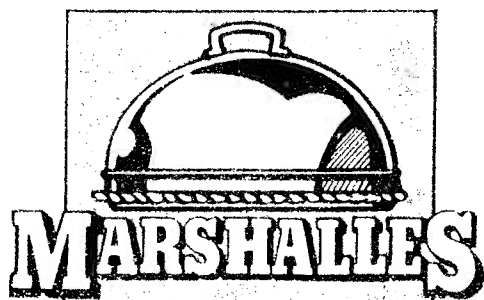
- 1½ lb. onions, peeled.
- 1½ lb. cooking apples, peeled and cored.
- 1 green pepper, deseeded.
- 6 oz. sultanas.
- grated rind and juice of 1 lemon.
- 1 pint of pickling malt vinegar.
- ½ level teaspoon ground cloves.
- ¾ lb. demerara sugar.

Finely chop the onions, apples and pepper. Place in a preserving pan or large saucepan with everything except the sugar. Bring to the boil and simmer gently for about 30 minutes or until tender. Add the sugar, stir until dissolved, then simmer uncovered, until the chutney is thick with no excess liquid on the surface. Pour into hot jars, seal, label, store for a week before use. Makes approx 3 lb.

PLUM WINE

- 3½ lb. ripe plums.
- 4 lbs. granulated sugar.
- ¼ oz. yeast.
- 1 gallon of boiling water !

Wash plums, put into large bowl and pour over the boiling water. Stir and mash with a wooden spoon, cover, and leave for 10 days. Remove mould, strain liquid off plums and add sugar and yeast. Stir well until the sugar has dissolved, cover bowl, stir daily for 3 days. Bottle, cork loosely at first, then leave for 6 months, making sure the corks are tight.



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miscellany

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.	6	1	50.	From Wingrave cross roads to. Elm tree on villiages green.
1	2	.	.	From Wingrave cross roads to Mr. Hadley Harris. Wick yard.
1	2.	6	50.	From Wingrave cross roads to Cublington boundary.

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J. G. Gwynne
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Lighton Buzzard.
Monday Dec 2nd. 1907.

To.
G. Hadley Harris Esq.
Adon Abbotts.

CHURCH NEWS

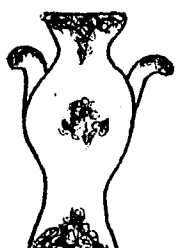
This year September brings our Harvest Sale & Harvest Service on the 27th. & 28th. We are delighted that Barry and Marilyn have offered the use of the bar at the Bull & Butcher for the sale. This always is a most happy occasion. Please give your produce to Doris or Kay, or bring it to the Bull & Butcher. The sale will begin at 8.00 p.m. Last year we had local bread, wine and honey as well as jam cakes and a marvellous array of vegetables and fruit. So please come along.

On the 28th. we will as last year have a Family Service when the children in particular, but really anyone at all, can bring gifts which, together with the flowers will be given to those in the village who would most appreciate them. If there is anyone who you think we might overlook please make sure Doris, Kay, Len or Peter is told. Let us try to fill the Church as we did at Christmas, which means all of you must come.

Looking slightly further ahead we hope to hold a Harvest Supper this year, the date is yet to be fixed but late October looks likely so watch this space next month.

CHURCH SERVICES FOR SEPTEMBER

7th. September : FAMILY SERVICE 11.15 a.m. 1 John 4 (15-21) ; Luke 16 (19-31).	<u>Sidesman</u> Alison Ford.
14th. September : HOLY COMMUNION 11.15 a.m. Galations 2 (15) -3(9); Luke 7(1-10).	Colin Higgs.
21st. September : HOLY COMMUNION 11.15 a.m. 1 Peter 4(7-11); Matthew 25(14-30).	John Ford.
28th. September : HARVEST FAMILY SERVICE 11.15 a.m. Romans 5(1-11); Luke 19(1-10).	Sarah Lovell.



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Hard work pays off at Aston's special weekend

AS LAST Saturday dawned, many anxious eyes were turned upwards to a somewhat cloudy sky over Aston Abbots, hoping the sun would appear and the planning and work for the annual village festival would be fully rewarded.

As work got underway and the green was transformed with bunting, signs, sideshows and stalls, the sun shone through and all was in readiness for the opening at 2 pm by Mr Graham Parker, editor of the village magazine, The Chronicle.

Mr Parker thanked all who had worked so hard and everyone for coming and he hoped they would enjoy the day.

Stalls were soon busy disposing of groceries, home-made cakes and other produce, fancy goods, bric-a-brac, books and plants.

The bran tub and tombola attracted large numbers, as did many sideshows dotted around.

Music was provided by the Great Horwood Band and ice cream, a barbecue and afternoon teas provided refreshments for most tastes.

St James' Church was open for visitors to see the lovely flower arrangements, as was the Methodist Chapel.

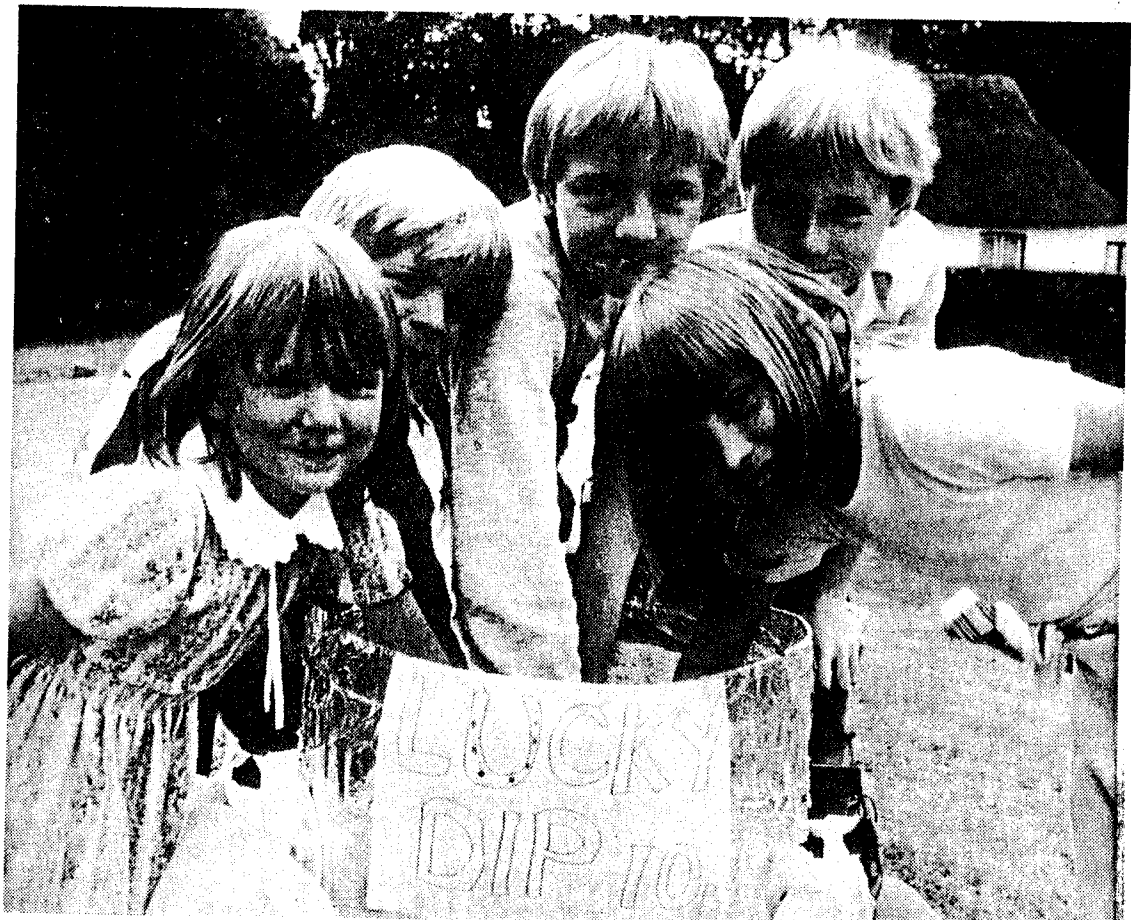
A car boot sale also attracted many customers.

Prizewinners in the competitions were: Single rose: 1. Mr Colin Higgs, 2. Mrs K. Dines, 3. Mrs Guttieres. Children's floral display: 1. Esther Chesher, 2. Polly Dixon, 3. Tracy. Children's painting, under 7: Hannah Brandon; over 7: 1. Karen Brandon, 2. Donna Wiggett, 3. Esther Chesher. Victoria sponge: 1. Esther Chesher, 2. Alison Ford, 3. Mr D. Waite. Home-made wine: 1. Mr Colin Higgs, 2. Mrs K. Kelleher, 3. Mrs K. Kelleher. Vegetables: 1. Mr D. Waite. Football prize: Peter Waite.

At 5 pm the names of the winners in the mammoth draw were picked and the first prize of a cassette tape recorder was won by Mr A. Parker.

Thirty other prizes went to Mr M. Cox, Pam Megan, Josephine Parkins, Steve, Kim Picken, Carole Whitehead, Mrs Brandon, Sophie Smith, Porter, Mrs Heffer, Mrs Shuffill, Royal Oak, D. Lister, E. Chatwin, Murray Drydale, Pumphrey, c/o M. Cox, Teresa, D. Kent, B. Sykes, Pat Hall, Mrs Cross, Stan Holmes, Mr J. Smith and Mandy Hewitt.

THE FESTIVAL WEEKEND AS REPORTED IN THE BEDS AND BUCKS OBSERVER OF JULY 29th. 1986.



● CHILDREN loved diving into the bran tub for mystery prizes at Aston Abbots annual fete. From left: Lucy Whitter, 5, Stephen Wilkinson, 6, James Wilkinson, 10, Mark Hewitt, 9, and Amy Whitter, 7.

Sun shines for the festival

On Sunday the Patronal Festival began with Parish Communion in St James' Church, conducted by the Vicar, the Rev John Heffer.

The Church Room was full for the Sunday lunch arranged by the Church Room Management Committee.

Mr M. Cox thanked all who had helped in preparing such a splendid meal and making it such a happy occasion.

Displays

The church and chapel were open during the day for visitors to see the beautiful flower displays.

The culmination of the festival came on the Sunday evening, when a 'Songs of Praise' service was held in the church. Bells rang out to welcome the worshippers to the united service.

Hymns were chosen by the vicar, Mrs D. Lovell, Mrs Hewitt, Mr A. Roff, Mrs A. Doggett, Mrs E. Harris and Mr Andrew Ford, who gave the reasons for their choice. Lessons pertaining to St James, the

patronal saint were read by Mrs Lovell, Miss Alison Hewitt and Mr A. Roff.

The vicar presented an inscribed tankard to Mr Spike who recently left the village in which he had lived for many years and remarried. He had returned for a visit and was rewarded for his work for the church and the village in the presence of many friends and well wishers.

The organist was Mrs L. Scutchings. After the service refreshments were available.

September 1986

A MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR

Tel. Aylesbury 681623

Very few people don't actually believe in God. Some like to be known as 'atheists'. By which they usually mean that the god of religions as no meaningful existence for them.

It would be difficult to conceive of the Universe and the emergence of life forms as pure coincidence. I doubt if many of you reading this believe that. Almost everybody who thinks at all holds a belief in some kind of life-urge - some creative force behind the meticulous, wonderful way in which everything is made.

It is one thing to believe that, however; quite another to relate such a creative power to the god of religions. Even more difficult to see such a god revealing himself in Jesus Christ - the healer and preacher of the Good News of the love of God - as the Christian Church has always taught.

Why? Very largely, I guess, because of suffering. This God of love who allows so much suffering in his world seems to bear little similarity to the Jesus of the Gospels. How hard it is when we, or someone we love is in pain to go on trusting this God. This God who Jesus taught us to talk to as our Father: the God who cares about individuals.

If we really want to take Christianity seriously, therefore, there are only two words that will do - ACCEPTANCE and TRUST. The "acceptance" of our situation however bad coupled with a childlike (not childish) "trust", so that in S. Paul's words, for the believer "all things work together for good".

So I commend this passage below. You may have heard in Church, or you may have read it.

One night I had a dream _____

I dreamed I was walking along the beach with God and across the sky flashed scenes from my life. And for each I noticed two sets of footprints. One belonged to me the other to God.

When the last scene of my life flashed before us I looked back at the footprints in the sand. I noticed that at times along the path of life there was only one set of footprints.

I also noticed that it happened at the very lowest and saddest times of my life. This really bothered me and I questioned God about it.

"God, you said that once I decided to follow you you would walk with me all the way. I observed, however, that during the most troublesome times in my life there is only one set of footprints. I don't understand that in times when I needed you most, you would leave me."

God replied, "My precious, precious child, I love you and would never, never leave you at any time, especially during your times of trials and sufferings.

"When you can see only one set of footprints, then it was that I CARRIED YOU."

Read it now again, praying for greater understanding and trust.

SERVICES AND EVENTS: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

RESUME OF HARVEST OCCASIONS

7th September Rowsham Manor Farm 3.00 p.m.
14th September Wingrave URC 2.45 p.m.
14th September Aston Abbots Methodist 6.00 p.m.
21st September Wingrave Parish Church 10.00 a.m. & 6.00 p.m.
28th September Aston Parish Church Family Service 11.15 a.m.
28th September Wingrave Methodist 2.45 p.m. & 6.00 p.m.
5th October Cublington Parish Church Family Service 10.00 a.m.

SUNDAY LESSONS

(ASB)

14th September	Pentecost 17 Galations 2(15)-3(9)	(717)	"The Proof of Faith" Luke 7(1-10)
21st September	Pentecost 18 1 Peter 4(7-11)	(722)	"The Offering of Life" Matthew 25(14-30)
28th September	Pentecost 19 Romans 5(1-11)	(728)	"The Life of Faith" Luke 19(1-10)
5th October	Pentecost 20 1 Corinthians 9(19-27)	(733)	"Endurance" Matthew 7(13-27)
12th October	Pentecost 21, 1 Peter 1(13-21)	(738)	"The Christian Hope" John 11(17-27)

HOLY BAPTISM

Cublington Parish Church

17th August KATE LUCY, daughter of Paul & Sheila FEATHERSTONE

CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE

Wingrave Parish Church

12th July Paul Brian GORDON and Katharine Anne INNS
19th July Gary KENDRICK and Theresa BOYCE

FUNERAL

A Service was held at the Methodist Church in
Wingrave, 10th July for Kathleen Joan BIGNELL

'May she rest in peace'

O-FIVES (pronounced 'Oh - Fives') begin their autumn session on
Thursday 11th September, 2.15 p.m. in the Wingrave Rectory Garden.
All mums and children under school age (or over if they happen
to be home from school) are welcome. Babies in prams and pushers
as well, of course. Posters (circulated in all three parishes)
will explain any further details.

MIND YOUR LANGUAGE

"Good God, look at her!"
"Jesus Christ, I've lost my maths book!"
"Get out of my bloody way!"

When I see it in print I know how horrible it is.

Holy Spirit, help me to mind my language.

INSIDE THE BACK PAGE

Have you heard the one about...?

Perhaps the most popular jokes in England are those told about the alleged simplicity of the Irish. But if you were in America you would hear the same joke reworked to ridicule the Polish immigrants or 'Polaks'. In France and Holland similar jokes are told about Belgians, in Germany about Ostfrieslanders, in Greece about Pontians (Black Sea Greeks), in Canada about Newfoundlanders, in Nigeria about Hausas and in Russia about Ukrainians.

In each case the group involved is a minority in their region, often an immigrant community whose command of the host language is not total, sometimes there is or has been open conflict between the joke tellers and the butts of their jokes.

Some of the most cutting of these ethnic jokes are told by the English in South Africa, deriding the legendary simple Afrikaner 'Van der Merwe'. These are often politically charged and expose the racial bigotry of the Afrikaners: -

Van der Merwe, on a visit to London, is intrigued to see so many men employed by the Gas Board just to dig one hole in the road. He stands watching their numerous pauses and tea breaks, until he can contain himself no longer. 'Hell man', he says, turning to his wife, 'but these rooineks are lazy. Just give me half-a-dozen kaffirs and I'd do a simple job like that on my own.'



Most of the jokes in this style have their origins in the social position of the group. The Irish who came to England left their homeland to seek unskilled labouring jobs building, in turn, the canals, the railways, and the motorways. The Irish doctor or teacher is socially invisible but "Paddy in his wellies" is a familiar and recognizable figure. Hence the jokes:

What does Wimpey stand for? We Import Millions of Paddies Every Year.

How do you recognise an Aer Lingus pilot? By the three gold rings on his wellies.

How do you confuse an Irishman? Give him three shovels and tell him to take his pick.

How do you make an Irishman burn his ear? Phone him when he's ironing.

A Pole in America working on a building site fell from the third floor of a building but was unhurt. A circus owner came to see him. "Do you think you could fall safely from the sixth floor?" he asked. "Oh yes," replied the Pole. "And could you manage it safely from the tenth floor?" The Pole looked uncertain and fell silent. "Of course he could", interrupted the foreman, "provided he managed to land on his head".

Irish jokes, then, are an international joke about any people occupying a particular social class position.



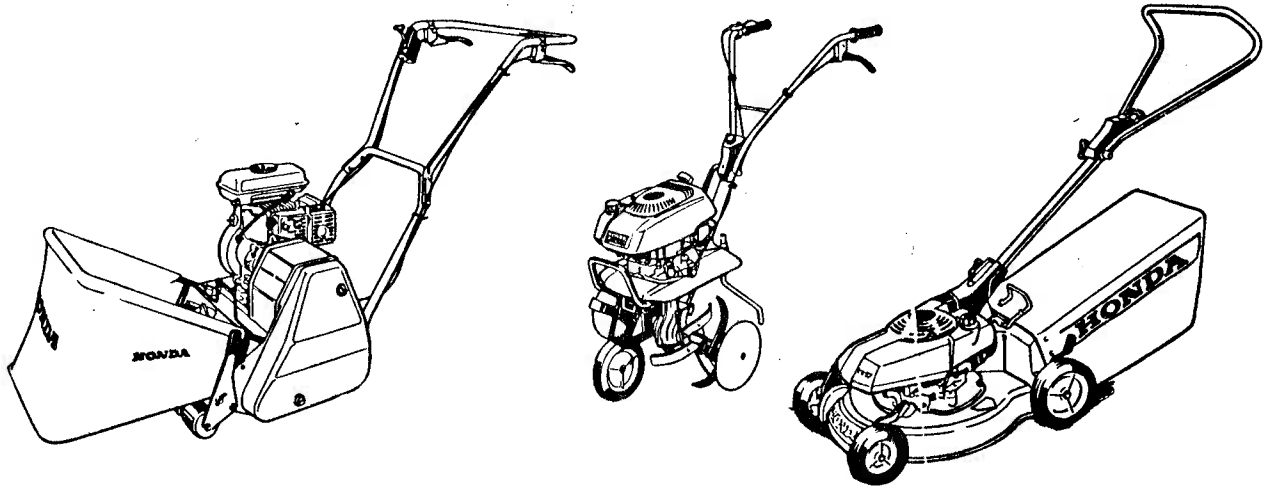
Perhaps the most distinctive feature of the English jokes about the Irish is their lack of real venom. American jokes about the Poles and Canadian jokes about the 'Newfies' are often viciously cruel. But here the Irish often emerge as winners by means of a clever use of 'Irish logic':

An Irishman applying for a job on a building site was told by the foreman: "You Paddies are none too bright, so before I take you on I'm going to ask you some questions to see how much you understand. Now, what's the difference between a girder and a joist?" "Ah that's easy", said the Irishman. "Girder wrote Faust and Joist wrote Ulysses".

Long may such jokes prosper.

Abbottsburyn.

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