

# The Chronicle

Parish Magazine for Aston Abbotts



## **CHRISTMAS GREETINGS**



DECEMBER '87

No. 51



# Editorial

A very happy Christmas to everyone.

Thanks this month to all who helped stage the Bonfire Night and for the £14 that was contributed to Chronicle funds as a result of their efforts.

Thanks as well to Reg Keen for his generous donation to the Chronicle.

The saddest note in this months issue is the closure of the Youth Club, but our thanks must go to Margaret Chesher and Rita Robinson who have kept it going since its rebirth a few years ago. I know the amount of time and effort such a commitment takes , sad that they have had to fold through lack of support.

Christmas is the season of goodwill and I would like to echo the idea mentioned in Church News of everyone contributing 1% of their take home pay to overseas aid. Many of you, I know, already do this but to those of you, like me, who keep meaning to do it but never quite get around to putting pen to paper, please make a Christmas resolution ( no don't leave it 'till New Year) and contribute through your employers scheme or by covenant to one of many charities. Remember while we eat and drink on Christmas Day thousands will be dying from hunger in a world that over produces in food. Please give, just a little in this season of goodwill.

*Graham Parker.*

N.B. The January 1988 edition will be printed on January 4th or 5th and distributed on the 6th and 7th.

DEADLINE FOR JANUARY EDITION: 31ST DECEMBER 1987.

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

1. By telephone to Graham on Aylesbury 681325.
2. By dropping a note through his door - The Cloisters.
3. Leave a note in the Village Shop or at the Post Office.

Published by Graham Parker.

Printed by THE SQUIRREL PRESS, Waddesdon School, WADDESDON.  
Distributed free to all households in the Parish of Aston Abbotts. If you would like extra copies please inform the Editor.

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# INFO

## WHAT'S ON IN DECEMBER AND THE NEW YEAR.

- SUNDAY 6th. DECEMBER : RAMBLING CLUB MEMBERS MEET TRING MUSEUM 2.00 p.m.  
 THURSDAY 10th. DECEMBER : WHIST DRIVE, CHURCH ROOM, 7.30 p.m.  
 THURSDAY 10th. DECEMBER : WHIST DRIVE, CHURCH ROOM, 7.30 p.m.  
 THURSDAY 11th. DECEMBER : BINGO, CHURCH ROOM, 7.30 p.m.  
 SUNDAY 20th. DECEMBER : CAROL SERVICE, St. JAMES CHURCH, 3.00 p.m.  
 SUNDAY 27th. DECEMBER : RAMBLING CLUB MEMBERS MEET HULCOTT GREEN 2.00 p.m.  
 FRIDAY 8th. JANUARY : PARISH COUNCIL MEETING, CHURCH ROOM, 8.00 p.m.

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## " THE NOT THE CHRISTMAS SHOW, SHOW "

FRIDAY & SATURDAY 4th & 5th. DECEMBER at 8.00 p.m. IN THE CHURCH ROOM.  
 TICKETS £2 FROM TONY HEWITT, CHURCH FARM HOUSE (TEL: 681390)  
 PROFITS TO PLAYING FIELD FUND & THE CHRONICLE.

\*\*\*\*\*

## USE THE BUSES FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING.

Your new bus to Milton Keynes:

Leave Aston Abbots 9.20 a.m. returns at 2.00 p.m.

OR Aston Abbots to Aylesbury 7.48 and 9.30; the new EXPRESS to Oxford departs Aylesbury at 8.35 and 10.05 and returns at 10.45; 1.45 and 4.45.

OR take the 8.40 to Reading from Aylesbury and return at 2.44. Then return Aston Abbots at 12.38; 4.00; or 5.50.

BUY EXPLORER TICKET ON THE BUS.



### 505 LUTON AIRPORT - LUTON - DUNSTABLE TRING - AYLESBURY - BICESTER - OXFORD

	MONDAYS TO SATURDAYS										SUNDAYS							
LUTON AIRPORT	-	0720	0900	1130	1300	1430	1600	1730	1900	2030	0845	1045	1245	1445	1645	1845		
LUTON Bus Station	-	0730	0910	1140	1310	1440	1610	1740	1910	2040	0853	1053	1253	1453	1653	1853		
LUTON AND DUNSTABLE HOSPITAL	-	0740	0920	1150	1320	1450	1620	1750	1920	2050	0903	1103	1303	1503	1703	1903		
DUNSTABLE, West Street	-	0750	0930	1200	1330	1500	1630	1800	1930	2100	0912	1112	1312	1512	1712	1912		
TRING, "Rose and Crown"	-	0810	0950	1220	1350	1520	1650	1820	1950	2120	0930	1130	1330	1530	1730	1930		
ASTON CLINTON, "The Bell"	-	0815	0955	1225	1355	1525	1655	1825	1955	2125	0935	1135	1335	1535	1735	1935		
AYLESBURY, Bus Station	0745	0835	1005	1235	1405	1535	1705	1835	2005	2135	0945	1145	1345	1545	1745	1945		
WADDESDON, "White Lion"	0757	0847	1017	1247	1417	1547	1717	1847	2017	2147	0955	1155	1355	1555	1755	1955		
BICESTER, Sheep Street	0815	0905	1035	1305	1435	1605	1735	1905	2035	2205	1010	1210	1410	1610	1810	2010		
KIDLINGTON, Garden City	0835	0920	1050	1320	1450	1620	1750	1920	2050	2220	1022	1222	1422	1622	1822	2022		
OXFORD, George Street	0900	0935	1105	1335	1505	1635	1805	1935	2105	2235	1035	1235	1435	1635	1835	2035		
		C ■																
OXFORD, George Street	0620	-	0915	1045	1215	1345	1515	1645	1815	1945	2115	0845	1045	1245	1445	1645	1845	
KIDLINGTON, Garden City	0635	-	0930	1100	1230	1400	1530	1700	1830	2000	2130	0858	1058	1258	1458	1658	1858	
BICESTER, Sheep Street	0650	-	0945	1115	1245	1415	1545	1715	1845	2015	2145	0910	1110	1310	1510	1710	1910	
WADDESDON, "White Lion"	0708	-	1003	1133	1303	1433	1603	1733	1903	2033	2203	0925	1125	1325	1525	1725	1925	
AYLESBURY, Bus Station	0720	0725	1015	1145	1315	1445	1615	1745	1915	2045	2215	0935	1135	1335	1535	1735	1935	
ASTON CLINTON, "The Bell"	-	0735	1025	1155	1325	1455	1625	1755	1925	2055	-	0945	1145	1345	1545	1745	1945	
TRING, "Rose and Crown"	-	0740	1030	1200	1330	1500	1630	1800	1930	2100	-	0950	1150	1350	1550	1750	1950	
DUNSTABLE, Church Street	-	0820	1050	1220	1350	1520	1650	1820	1950	2120	-	1008	1208	1408	1608	1808	2008	
LUTON AND DUNSTABLE HOSPITAL	-	0830	1100	1230	1400	1530	1700	1830	2000	2130	-	1017	1217	1417	1617	1817	2017	
LUTON, Bus Station	-	0840	1110	1240	1410	1540	1710	1840	2010	2140	-	1027	1227	1427	1627	1827	2027	
LUTON AIRPORT	-	0850	1120	1250	1420	1550	1720	1850	2020	2150	-	1035	1235	1435	1635	1835	2035	

CODE: C - You can travel on this coach to points between Aylesbury and Luton Airport by changing onto another vehicle at Aylesbury Bus Station. You can pay the full through fare on the first coach.

■ - This journey diverts via Edlesborough between Tring and Dunstable.

UNDER 5's.

We are having a CHRISTMAS BAZUMBLE on Saturday 12th. December from 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon, in the Church Room. We would very much appreciate donations of jumble, bric-a-brac, cakes, unwanted toys etc. If you have any of these items or would be prepared to make a cake, please can you either take along to the Church Room on Friday 11 December between the hours of 8 - 9 p.m. or deliver at any time to:

Lynne deLooze, 8 Wingrave Rd. (Tel 681773)

or

Jane Plestead, 10 Wingrave Rd. (Tel 681740)

We will collect, if you prefer - just give us a ring. Thank you.

\*\*\*\*\*

USED POSTAGE STAMPS

I would be grateful if you could save any used stamps for donating to the WHITBY LIFEBOAT which I support.

Colin Higgs.

**Litter**

THE LITTER PROBLEM IS INCREASING .....

..... WOULD THOSE RESPONSIBLE PLEASE REFRAIN FROM DUMPING LITTER IN WINGRAVE ROAD AND ALONG THE ALLOTMENT HEDGEROW.

THE FINE IS £ 200.

YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

Colin Higgs, [Chairman], 6 Wingrave Road. Tel:681343.

John Whyte, 14 Bricstock. Tel:681685.

John Ford, 2 Ross Road. Tel:681865.

Richard Speakman, 79 The Green. Tel:681042.

Bryan Round, [Co-opted], 11 Nup End Lane, Wingrave. Tel: 681621.

NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: FRIDAY 8th. JANUARY 1988.

<p><b>BP.</b></p>	<p>BP; Bold Publicity; Big Profits; Be Pushy; Buy Plenty. Bubble Pricked; Blind Panic; Bum Price; Back Pedal; Burn Prospectus. Bloody Privatisation! (Dr) N. J. Spencer, Sheffield.</p>
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<p><b>S &amp; N BRACKLEY</b> <b>117 WINSLOW ROAD</b> <b>WINGRAVE</b></p>
<p>VEGETABLE &amp; FLOWER PLANTS. CUT FLOWERS MAY - NOVEMBER PRESENTATION BOUQUETS &amp; FLORAL TRIBUTES TO ORDER.</p>
<p>GARDEN SUNDRIES. POTTING COMPOSTS. PEAT. POTTING SAND. FERTILIZERS.</p>
<p>CHEMPAK SOILLESS COMPOST COMPOUNDS &amp; SPECIAL FERTILIZER STOCKISTS.</p>
<p>ALL ENQUIRIES WELCOME - TELEPHONE AYLESBURY 681384.</p>

# The Christmas chronicle

## Iola Smith delves into the festive season's archive

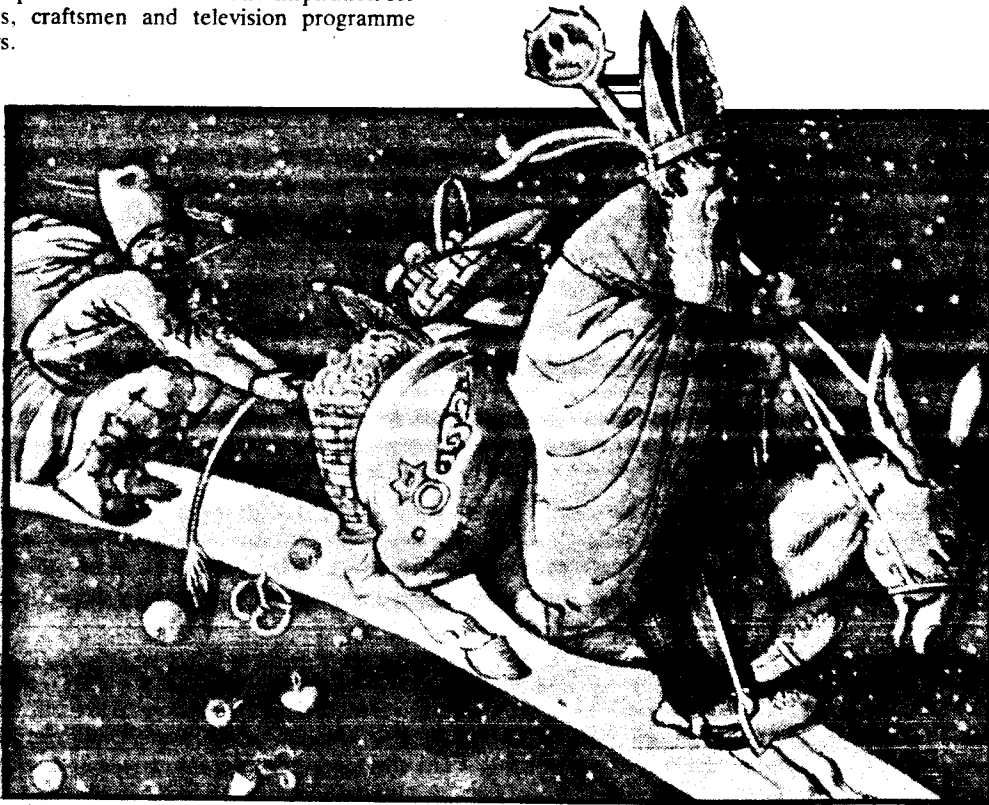
According to the North American Hópi Indians, the Christmas story was told by a thunderbird to the braves, not by angels to shepherds. For the Cherokee it was three chiefs, not wise men, who brought gifts to the baby Jesus. And in Burkina, West Africa, where it's taboo for a man to be present during a baby's birth, there is a belief that Joseph was out searching for food when the Christ-child was born.

These cultural variations on the Biblical theme are some of the traditions being researched and recorded by Christmas Archives International. With over 100,000 artefacts, ranging from Christmas cards, decorations and cribs, to an extensive book and picture library, the Cardiff-based archive provides information and inspiration for schools, craftsmen and television programme makers.

The Christmas tree, first seen in Strasbourg in the sixteenth century, had numerous fore-runners. In pre-Norman days, Christmas was known as Adam and Eve's Day rather than Christ's Mass for feast day, and it was customary to decorate an Adam and Eve tree. Paper flowers recalled their innocence, an apple symbolised temptation, and shining objects illustrated the Fall. Then came the Jesse tree, based on the shape of a Jewish candelabrum, and decorated with religious symbols.

The Strasbourg Christmas tree had paper flowers, gingerbread biscuits and glass beads. Later, the bakers of Nuremberg made and painted wax models to hang on the trees. The most popular was an angel shaped model, the fore-runner of today's Christmas tree fairy.

Christmas Archives' research suggests that Martin Luther was the originator of Christmas tree lights. He was supposedly walking in a forest



*St Nicholas, 19-century Dutch bringer of gifts.*

The best known gift bringer of all, around whom numerous myths have grown, is St Nicholas of Myra, the real Santa Claus. This fourth-century bishop who became the patron saint of children is reputed to have become a priest while still a teenager, and then devoted much of his life to the poor. Gifts stockings are traced back to the legend in which he put bags of gold in the stockings of three poor girls about to be sold into slavery by their father.

Dutch legends developed the religious theme – the saint came as a gift bringer to Holland. Then European immigrants took the myth across the Atlantic to the United States, where they corrupted the Dutch name for St Nicholas – Sinter Klaas – into Santa Claus, the familiar, fairy tale character of today.

at night, saw stars twinkling through the trees and thought that they personified God's light in a dark world. Wishing to illustrate this point to his children, he placed candles on a fir tree, and so began the tradition.

"The turkey is a fairly new tradition, dating back to the Pilgrim Fathers' discovery of wild turkey in America. Previously, rich Europeans had feasted on beef and bear's head, while the poor made do with a goose fattened up in their own back yard. But plum pudding hails back to *Hannukah* the Jewish festival of light, when a plum porridge of meat, wheat, spices and fruit was eaten. Either the recipe, or the food itself, was brought from Israel to Europe by the crusaders in medieval times".

## Golden nostalgia for the village girls



THE Aston Abbots Ladies Club marked an unbeaten 50 years in the village with a special Golden Luncheon at the old school house recently.  
The club's first chairman Mrs Prudence

Steel travelled to the village from London to mark the occasion, joining nearly 50 members and friends both past and present.

Founder members Ivy Brandon and Elsie Brock were also present at the old school, now the Old Masters Restaurant, where the

ladies enjoyed a tasty lunch and reminisced over happy memories.

Committee member Nora Little said: "A lot of the ladies remembered the old school as it was, so it was all very nostalgic. We had a lovely lunch, just to celebrate being

in the same village for 50 years, which is quite an achievement."

Chairman Miss Betty Bennett gave a welcoming speech, and Mrs Steel replied on behalf of the guests, some of whom had travelled from as far away as Shropshire.

THE BUCKS HERALD, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1987

# Paul found happiness on paradise isle



**CARPENTER** Paul Drysdale didn't go deliberately in search of paradise — but he found it in Tonga, an island kingdom in the South Pacific which looks like something out of a Bounty bar advert.

Twelve and a half thousand miles away in geographical terms, it is moons apart from the council estate at Southcourt, Aylesbury, where Paul grew up.

His home overlooks a lagoon, the island is dotted with bananas and coconut trees and he took an exotic native girl as his bride.

They have two children, Malini (3) and Halisi (5), who have been getting to know their paternal grandparents during a visit to England.

Paul, who was initially sent to the South Pacific during voluntary service overseas, has carved a niche for himself as a furniture craftsman and joiner and also runs a small freight business.

by Val Haynes

Despite his idyllic lifestyle, he is proud of his working class roots — so much so that he brought his wife Vika from the other side of the world to see where he spent his most formative years.

Their itinerary included a stop at Mandeville School, Aylesbury, which celebrates its 25th anniversary in January and where Paul was one of the first pupils from 1963-67.

He presented the school with souvenirs from Tonga and his wife performed a traditional island dance.

Vika is a nurse back home and met Paul when he needed hospital treatment for a tropical leg ulcer.

"The only trouble is, when you ask a girl out in Tonga you have to take a chaperone as well, so I ended up taking Vika AND two of her nurse friends on our first date," 36-year-old Paul recalled with a chuckle.

The couple were courting

for three years before he followed island custom and asked the Minister of Police for permission to marry.

To satisfy Tongan law, they had to undergo two weddings — one in a church and one in a register office.

The Tongans are an intensely religious people — 29-year-old Vika's father is a Methodist minister — and Sunday is still strictly observed as a day of rest.

Paul did his first VSO stint in the South Pacific from 1978-80 and extended his service for another two years before deciding to settle in Tonga.

The family could ultimately move to England for good, however, and while Paul flew back to Tonga last weekend to oversee his business, he left Vika and the children at their other house in Aston Abbots — with the prospect of a nine-month separation ahead of them before his planned return.

Paul shrugs off the distance between them with the wry comment: "So what? I'm only going to work."

Watched by Paul and Malini, Vika cracks open a coconut, one of the fruits of their island.

# People

OUR MONTHLY COLUMN ABOUT VILLAGE PEOPLE

Edited by Bridget Brandon.

\*\*\*\*\*

## BIRTHDAYS

- ALISON HEWITT ..... 11th. December.
- DENNIS JUDD ..... 14th. December.
- PAULINE DIXON ..... 16th. December.
- MARGARET CHESHER ..... 18th. December.
- ANDREW LOVELL ..... 25th. December.
- NICHOLAS OSBOURNE ..... 25th. December.
- GILLIAN ROFF ..... 26th. December.
- PAUL TURNHAM ..... 31st. December.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO ....

SHIRLEY KEMSTER and Derek Rootes, who were married recently.

## NICE TO SEE YOU ....

PRUDENCE BONHAN (HALSEY). Pru, an old 'Astonian' moved to Canada some twenty years ago, but when asked where she would like to spend her silver wedding anniversary. it had to be in Aston where she got married. The surprise party that had been laid on by old friends, I'm sure, made her day a very special one.

## BEST WISHES

RUBY RICKARD, who is presently in hospital.

## YOUTH CLUB

Would members and parents please note, that regretfully Youth Club has now CLOSED down. Falling numbers have made it uneconomic to continue. Margaret and Rita would like to thank the older members of the Youth Club who have supported the club in the past. If any other parent(s) would like to continue at sometime in the future, we will be glad to offer advice or help.

Many thanks to all who contributed fireworks etc. on November 5th. A particular thank you to Peter Knight who built a splendid bonfire which kept everyone warm throughout the evening. The Friends of the Chronicle were out in force feeding hungry mouths and raised £14 during the course of the evening.

Thank you all for your support.

Tony Hewitt & John Ford.

## MOAN BOARD.

What really bugs me is 99p. Who do shopkeepers think they are kidding when they price items at £1.99, £2.99, or £3.99? You know darn well if you pay £3.99 for something, you are waving bye bye to £4, but the shops would have us believe we are only actually spending £3 ish. You don't see many things priced at £2.01, £3.01 or £4.01, because that would give the game away. What will happen I wonder when the One penny piece is abolished, as it inevitably will be sooner or later. I suppose we then revert to 98p, which will bug me just as much as 99p. I say come clean, do away with 99p, and 'round up the pound'.

## SALES PSYCHOLOGY

This month's 'Moan Board' may contain the secret to a new approach to sales psychology. Why not advertise items at £2.01, £3.01, or £4.01, and then be able to say to the customer 'Thank you sir' or 'Thank you madam - forget about the penny, lets call it £2 [or £3, or whatever]'. The customer then leaves feeling that generosity has been extended to him or her, and feels psychologically well disposed toward that company or shop. Surely after sale satisfaction is better than before sale cynicism.

DON'T FORGET IF YOU HAVE A MOAN PLEASE FEEL FREE TO VENT YOUR FEELINGS THROUGH THE 'CHRONICLE'S' MOAN BOARD.

## RECREATION GROUND ....

now has a pair of 'Baby' swings that will be put up as soon as the volunteers can find the time. The Committee also has some money in hand and would welcome ideas on how the rec. can be developed and facilities improved.

# THE BEST OF BRITISH

FIVE MORE THINGS THAT ARE 'ESSENTIALLY BRITISH'



Wimbledon. Championships reign supreme for prestige if not for the pickings - the grass is always greener on the next court

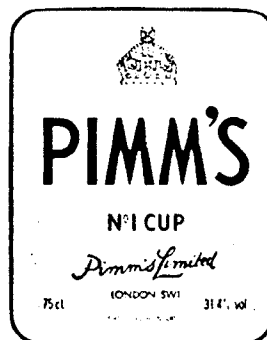


London taxi. Cabbies famed for 'The Knowledge' and their cabs for U-turns. Traditional design now under threat

## 10.15 The Archers

Omnibus edition  
Directed by PETER WINDOWS  
Producer WILLIAM SMETHURST. Agricultural story editor ANTHONY PARKIN  
BBC Birmingham

Radio 4. The voice of the middle classes - decent, informative and amusing; occasionally complacent, silly and (oh, not 'The Archers' again) repetitive



Pimms No. 1. Empire sundowner. Young fogeys now serve it but go light on the fruit-salad garnish



Public footpaths. Provide the right to trudge across other people's land



ITEMS FROM JUST 90p

## BARGAINS GALORE

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# UPDATE

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

At Friday evenings (20th. November) Parish Council meeting it was noted that planning had been granted for a new house adjoining 5 Ross Road and a new house next to the shop. In addition District Councillor Bryan Round reported that permission had, to his amazement, been granted for light industrial units at Longmoor, despite the Parish Councils observations, and objections from nearby residents; but it was still not clear what type of light industry e.g. graphic design studio or something more intrusive to the environment.

### Highways Meeting.

The long awaited tour of the village by parish councillors and Bucks C.C. Highways Department was scheduled for Thursday 26th. November, when special attention will be paid to pot holes, storm gullies, kerbing. Hopefully the idea of additional parking areas will be addressed to help alleviate the present parking problems.

### Seminars and visits.

Both Richard Speakman and John Ford outlined the recent seminar they had attended and thanked other members for allowing them to go. Colin Higgs and John Whyte will be attending a Civic Centre evening with the Chairman of Aylesbury Vale District Council (Cllr. Michael Griffin), and the Chairman will also represent the village at the Wing School Speech Day and at the newly formed Bucks C.C. Village transport scheme.

County Councillor Reg Keen ..... answered questions regarding the problems with the school bus service, and also about the next improvement for Wingrave Crossroads. It had been noted that several accidents had occurred during daylight recently but a drop in night time accidents had definitely been noted since the installation of the new lighting system.

### Dogs fouling rec.

Complaints regarding dogs fouling the recre-

## VACANCY

**A vacancy has occurred for the post as Clerk to Aston Abbotts Parish Council.**

**Anyone who is interested please apply in writing to the Chairman, Cllr. C.H. Higgs before 31st. Dec.**

### Environment.

New baby swings, with safety cradles, were now on order and would hopefully be delivered soon. Ideas for the new Environment Enhancement Grant [see last months Chronicle pages 7 and 8] were outlined, such as rebuilding the churchyard wall, providing off street parking on the site of the old telephone exchange, landscaping round the village, erecting storage or changing shed on the recreation ground. The Chairman appealed for other ideas [if you have any thoughts, please contact one of the Parish Council members], but stressed the grant must be applied for before the end of the year, and the project must cost more than £100 to qualify for support.

ation ground had been received and those dog owners whose pets are responsible are asked to ensure that the recreation ground is kept clean for children to play on.

### Litter and village vandals.

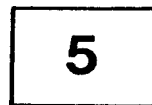
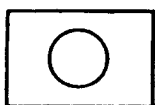
The Chairman announced that he had also received complaints regarding the increased litter and the dumping that was taking place along Wingrave Road. Those responsible are asked to stop this, as it does carry a fine when caught.

Cllr. Speakman also reported that the bus shelter had recently been climbed upon and the felt damaged. It was also reported that some children had been seen using matches and aerosol cans. This is highly dangerous and should stop immediately before a serious fatal accident occurs .... parents take note please; be sure its not your child.

# Happy Christmas

# PUZZLE PAGE

## TESTING A RULE



**The Situation:** Four cards are presented, two have symbols (circle and triangle) and two have numbers (one odd and one even).

**The Rule:** If a card has a circle on one side then it has an even number on the other side.

**How Can The Rule Be Tested** (by turning over only two cards) ?

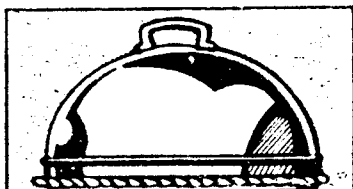
You must explain which two cards you would have to turn over to test the rule stated above.

### SOLUTION TO LAST MONTHS PUZZLE

Third line total is 20. First column total is 25.

Explanation: Top line (4 apples) is 28 thus each apple is 7. Second line has two apples [14] plus two bananas to make 30, thus each banana is 8. Column two has two apples [14] plus one cherry and one pineapple to total 19; thus a cherry and a pineapple are 1 and 4, or 4 and 1, or 3 and 2, or 2 and 3. On the bottom line there is one banana [8] with two pineapples and one cherry to add up to 16. Thus cannot be 1 and 4 or 4 and 1; pineapple must be 3 and cherry 2 to give correct total.

SOLUTION / EXPLANATION TO THIS MONTHS PUZZLE WILL BE IN NEXT MONTHS ISSUE.



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TIDY WORK  
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JUST RING ME (ADRIAN)

CHEDDINGTON (0296) 668610

# Hurricane causes havoc

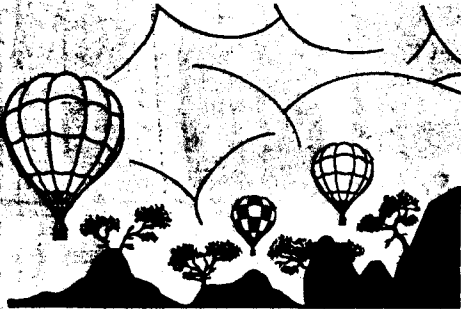
Dear Graham,

I read with interest your article in last months Chronicle 'Hurricane Causes Havoc', and the inset of Mr.Helps' barograph recording a low of 28.5 inches of mercury. With my interest in ballooning, I constantly watch the shift in barometric pressure and on the night of the storm my instrument fell to 28 inches, which is the equivalent of 948.2 millibars, a low that I have never read before or seen on T.V. forecasts. That same night I recorded wind speeds of 40 - 50 knots, but that was nothing to what was recorded in the south of the country.

Yours sincerely,

David Body.

Mount Pleasant Farm, Stewkley.



**MIDBUCKS FARMERS  
BALLOON GROUP**

D. BODY, Mount Pleasant Farm, Stewkley,  
Leighton Buzzard, Beds. Tel: 0525-240451

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

Thanks to Davis Body for his letter. The great storm of the early hours of 16th. October, killed 19 people, felled 15 million trees [the initial estimate was 2-3 million] brought down 3,000 miles of telephone lines and deprived hundreds of thousands of homes of electricity; enen the Stock Exchange closed .... and on the next day of business suffered a crash just as devastating as the great storm

This was the greatest storm to hit the south east since records began, and was probably the worst since the great gale of November 1703, when more than 8,000 people died. That devastation was chronicled by Daniel Defoe, and his account reads uncannily like last months newspapers, reporting 'whole Parks ruined, fine walks defaced and Orchards laid flat'.

[Extract and info taken from the Observer Weekend Extra on The Great Gale 22 Nov. 87]

\*\*\*\*\*

## RECORDS

■ **CLAIMS:** Association of British Insurers anticipates claims of about £500 million, equalling the cost of Hurricane Frederic in the USA in 1979. Previous British record: £195 million, winter of 1984.

■ **TELEPHONES:** British Telecom lost a record 3,000 miles of telephone lines, a record 3,000 poles damaged or destroyed. BT will refund customers whose service was suspended.

■ **WIND SPEED:** 94 mph in London, highest since records began in 1940; on the south coast, speeds exceeded measurement capacity.

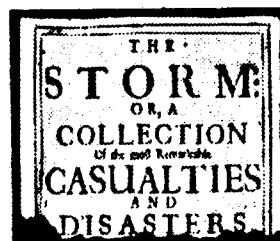
■ **CLOSURES:** The Stock Exchange for the first time since 1974 devaluation; Port of Dover for the first time since 1703; Tower of London, for the first time since WWII; UK cheque and payment clearance system closed by Bank of England; worst power cuts were 300,000 homes in Seeboard area (in Kent, Surrey and Sussex); 250,000 in East Anglia; 150,000 in Southern Electricity Board area (inc Isle of Wight, Yeovil).

■ **SALES BOOM.** Woolworth sold a record 25,000 brooms and 25,000 candles.

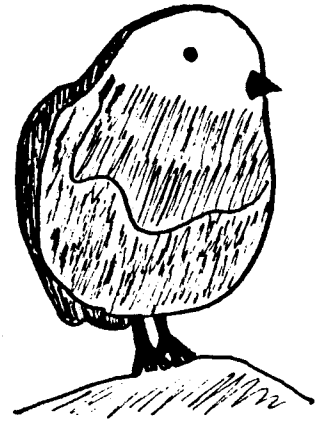
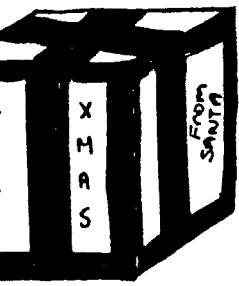
■ **REDDEST FACE:** BBC's Michael Fish, who announced on

Thursday there was no possibility of unusual weather.

■ **QUICKEST BOOK:** by Bill Ogle, editor of *Sevenoaks Chronicle* — written by candlelight in a week ('In the Wake of the Hurricane,' out 30 November).



■ **DANIEL DEFOE** had just been released from Newgate Prison when a gale hit southern Britain on Friday, 27 November, 1703. He galloped straight off to Kent, and his account, 'The Storm—Or, A Collection of the Most Remarkable Casualties and Disasters which happen'd in the Late Dreadful Tempest Both By Sea and Land' was published in 1704. What most struck him were the deaths at sea, reckoned to be 8,000, 'including what were lost on the coast of Holland, what in Ships blown away ... and what were drowned in the Flood of the Severn, and in the River of Thames.'



Early New  
Stall

# ASLON ABBOTS Under Fives

## CHRISTMAS BAZUMBLE ON

Jewellery

File

### SATURDAY 12th DECEMBER

OTHER  
CHRISTMAS

### from 10. AM - 12 NOON

New  
Knitwear

Coffee  
Pie!

### in THE CHURCH ROOM

Cakes  
Stall

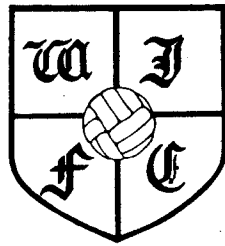


Christmas starts here!

Come along, find a bargain  
and enjoy our festive fare



# WINGRAVE JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB



## NOVEMBER RESULTS

### UNDER 16's

- 8th. November : Tring Tornadoes 11 Wingrave 3.  
A brave performance with only ten men against one of the Leagues better sides. Scorers; S. Megram; R.Dennis; N.Porter.
- 15th. November : Thame 12 Wingrave 1  
Another heavy defeat with Robert Dennis scoring our only goal.
- 22nd. November : Wingrave 3 Stocklake Lions 3.  
An excellent result played on the Bierton pitch, to whom many thanks for the use of their facilities. Scorers: N.Porter, R.Hickson, and S.Lunnon.
- 29th. November : Bardwell (Bicester) 3 Wingrave 3.  
Another good result with S.Megram, N.Porter & R.Hickson scoring.

### UNDER 14's

- 8th. November : Wingrave 2 Corinthians 1.  
D.Scott, C.Arnold.
- 15th. November : Game v. Arrows POSTPONED.
- 22nd. November : Wing 5 Wingrave 0.
- 29th. November : Game v. Woodside POSTPONED.

### UNDER 12's

- 8th. November : 999 0 Wingrave 2.  
Lee Bracey-Wright 2.
- 15th. November : Game v. Woodside POSTPONED.
- 22nd. November : Wingrave 2 Wing 1.  
James Perrett and Kevin Pretty.
- 29th. November : Wingrave 1 Pitstone 1.  
Nick Jones.

### MATCHES FOR DECEMBER

- 6th. Dec. : No game.  
13th. Dec. : v. Wing (H).  
20th. Dec. : No game.  
27th. Dec. : No game.

- v. Brooklands (A)  
v. Water Eaton (A)  
No game.  
No game.

- v. Brooklands (A)  
v. Arrows (A)  
v. B.R. Foxes (H)  
No game.

[Home games at the Rec.  
K.O. 2.30 p.m.]

[Home games at the school  
K.O. 10.30 a.m.]

N.B. NEW YEARS DAY : DADS v. LADS CLASSIC 10.30 a.m. ON THE SCHOOL FIELD  
[This will be confirmed by your team managers; Dads let team managers know if you are interested.]



# STRIDING OUT

NO. 2. ALFRED WAINWRIGHT.

[ From The Independent 17.Jan'87. ]

## An unfussy birthday for grand old man of the fells

By Stephen Ward

THE MAN known to millions of hillwalkers simply as A. Wainwright, the author, is 80 today. After spending most of his life walking and recording in painstaking detail every inch of his beloved Lake District landscape he is still fit and says he has the enthusiasm of a teenager, but his eyesight has now almost failed him, and his second volume of memoirs published today is called, with a touch of sadness, *Ex-Fellwanderer*.

Characteristically, Wainwright, who despite selling more than a million books keeps even his first name private (it is Alfred, or Alf to his few close friends), refused any fuss for the occasion. He did not attend the opening of an exhibition in his honour in Kendal, where he has lived for 45 years. He refused offers of a civic dinner, and would agree to nothing more than a small lunch at his favourite fish and chip restaurant, Harry Ramsden's across the Pennines.

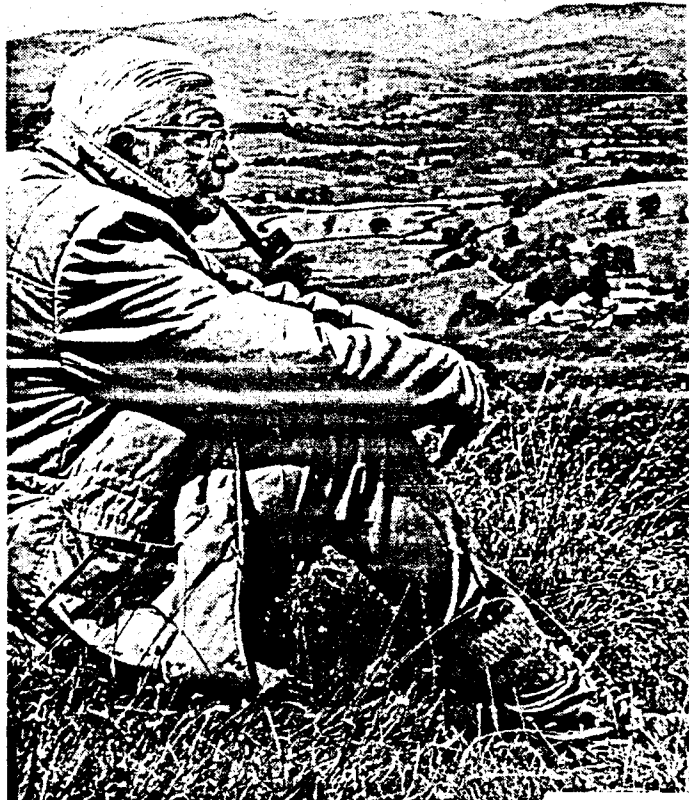
He has never worn the garish clothing of the climbing fraternity. His picture is not on the dustjacket of the guidebooks. Occasionally he would include a sketch of himself, but always from behind. Up on the fells he would hide behind trees to avoid other climbers, or if he was too late, would deny his identity.

But despite, or because of his desire to be alone, he has acquired a cult status, with early editions of his books fetching up to £100, and with 1986 a record year for sales. In the pubs at night climbers still discuss possible "sightings" of his lumbering 6ft-plus frame.

His fame is founded on seven guides produced between 1954 and 1966 which gave the word "Wainwright" much the same attachment for walkers as "Wisden" holds for cricket lovers. He was 45 when he embarked on the project and nearly 60 when it was completed. In those years he walked 10,000 miles — always alone — to each summit, and charted the way up and down almost every conceivable route.

The achievement is all the more remarkable because the task was completed in his spare time from a full-time job as treasurer of Kendal Borough Council. Each handwritten page of the guidebooks took him a day-and-a-half. The texts are peppered with advice, minutely detailed sketches, maps and notes. Surveyors revising Ordnance Survey maps use them as a reference.

Born and brought up in Blackburn, he did not see the Lake District until he was 23 and went there on holiday with a cousin. In *Ex-Fellwanderer* he describes his first summit, Orrest Head. "It



Wainwright's way: The author alone with the hills he loved

was a moment of magic, a revelation so unexpected that I stood transfixed, unable to believe my eyes. I saw mountain ranges, one after another, the nearer starkly etched, those beyond fading into the blue distance. Rich woodlands, emerald pastures and the shimmering waters of the lake below added to a pageant of loveliness, a glorious panorama that held me enthralled... Those few hours on Orrest Head cast a spell that changed my life."

The youngest son of a working class family, he had climbed socially to an office job with Blackburn Borough Council. He dreamt of returning to the Lake District, and finally in 1941, after spending his weekends and holidays fleeing there alone, he took a drop in salary to move to Kendal as an assistant to the borough treasurer. In 1947 he became treasurer.

By 1952 he was at a loss for something to do. "For years the idea had been nagging at me that I really ought to be paying my debt to the Lakeland Fells," he writes. "The only way I could express my gratitude was by writing about them." The books were not intended for any one but himself, his own private record for his old

age, but he was persuaded to publish. Thirty other publications have followed the seven classics.

His books are not without their critics, who pay tribute to the magnificent scholarship, but see them as a mixed blessing because of the erosion on his routes. Time, too, has made some of the walks dangerous. The introductions make clear that the books are not revised, saying it would be an endless task, and there have been accidents.

Now barely able to climb unaided, Wainwright is expanding the animal sanctuary he has set up with most of the royalties from his books. He frequently says in his memoirs that he prefers animals to people.

And he still has his second wife Betty, 15 years his junior, and his fells. He writes that he recently climbed Haystacks, his favourite fell, where he has asked for his ashes to be scattered, and kept stumbling because he could not see the six feet to the ground.

"Days on the fells have always been my best days of all. They still are, but now I must be content to relive them in memories."

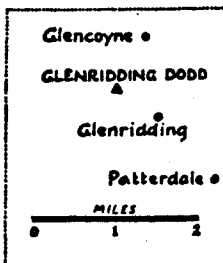
*Ex-Fellwanderer* is published by The Westmoreland Gazette, Kendal, Cumbria LA9 4NE. (£7.50)

Glenridding Dodd

1425' approx.



from Ullswater (Sheffield Pike behind)



Fashions change. When people climbed hills only for the sake of the views, the heathery summit of Glenridding Dodd must have been more frequented than it is today, for once-popular paths of ascent are now overgrown and neglected. It occupies a grand position overlooking the upper reach of Ullswater. It is the end, topographically, of the eastern shoulder of Stybarrow Dodd.

# Portraits of Buckinghamshire

No. 25. BOARSTALL TOWER.

West of Brill, on the backroads to Oxford, lies the tiny settlement of Boarstall, famous for its duck decoy and for the magnificent medieval Boarstall Tower, probably the oldest house in the country. In the tenth century a verderer [an official of a royal hunting forest] by the name of Nigel killed a huge wild boar and presented the head to his king, Edward the Confessor. To mark the occasion, Neil was appointed overseer of the whole of Bernewood Forest and given permission to build a house there. Bernewood would not have been a thick forest such as we know today, but a hunting forest of heath and scrubland. Neil built his house, and in 1266 Henry III confirmed the grant to his heirs. In 1312 Sir John de Handlo owned Boarstall and built there a fine fortified manor house with moat, drawbridge and gatehouse, of which the turreted gatehouse still remains. The building is now owned by the National Trust and can be viewed by written appointment with the tenant on Wednesdays from 2 - 6 p.m. from May to September. The Duck Decoy and Nature Reserve is open from April to August again on Wednesdays between 2 and 5 p.m.; it is also open on Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holiday Mondays between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.



*Boarstall Tower, one of the oldest buildings in the county.*

Sketch by Elizabeth Ogan and text adapted from Elizabeth Cull in their book 'A Picture of Buckinghamshire', published by Robert Hale in 1985.

Happy



Christmas

# THE ROYAL OAK ASTON ABBOTTS

WHAT'S your idea of a traditional country pub?

If it's oak beams, horse brasses, open fires and plenty of little nooks and crannies you may be hard pressed to find such a place among the growing number of 'plastic' hosteleries in the area.

Fortunately there are a few pubs that have resisted this 'progress' and one such notable watering hole is The Royal Oak in Aston Abbotts.

Landlord Grayburn Owen and his wife Joanna have been in residence at the pub since July and, while realising that the traditional aspect of the premises was an essential part of the business, quickly saw that changes had to be made.

The result is a new lease of life for the 15th century building that began life as cottages for workers at a nearby stud farm.

The homely intimate feel of the bar, the type of which can only be found in an English country pub, has been retained. But added to it are the sort of modern refinements Grayburn and Joanna have been used to offering their clientele in the hotel industry — their former occupation.

To this end, a menu of pub food has been initiated. "It is good honest pub food," said Grayburn. "We are trying to steer away from the chips with everything type of menu so we are offering casseroles and that type of thing. "Although we will be offering



Grayburn and Joanna Owen.

them on our menu. I can't stand the smell of chips cooking — especially with good beer around!"

Perhaps the biggest change is the re-siting of the bar. It has been moved from the far end of the pub to the side, giving the customers greater room to move around and admire the two magnificent open fireplaces that dominate the bars.

Another bonus from the alteration is the addition of an extra nook, affectionately termed 'the Hole' by the staff!

The couple are keen to see family outing visits to the pub, especially at weekends. They know only too well from experiences with their two-year-old son Alexander the difficulty of finding a pub that will accept children.

To this end, they have retained the childrens and games room at the end of the pub. Said Joanna: "We hope that people will come out with their children. Al-

exander loves to see other kids come into the pub, he goes up and brings his toys down for them to play with!"

The couple have been impressed with the work of Chiltern Fixings who have carried out the alterations. "They even hoovered up behind them!" laughs Joanna.

They both feel that the decision to keep the pub open during the work has benefited the villagers and regular customers who might otherwise have been more than a little worried about what was happening to their local.

"It has been good because they have been able to get used to the changes gradually and won't be so shocked at the end of it all," said Joanna.

It has also been of use to the Owens. "Some of the customers have made one or two good suggestions about dec or and so on which have been insti-

gated," explained Grayburn.

Once the new order of things is established, the couple plan to extend the menu to steaks, gammons etc in the evenings. "We will also have some decent wines available," added Grayburn.

Another positive feature is the pub's extensive, and fully enclosed garden. "This is another feature that will attract families in the summer — if we have a summer! We have ordered some new garden furniture and are thinking about barbecues and so on," he said.

New furniture has also made an appearance in the bar as have new carpets, upholstery and curtains. But it is the furniture that is most eagerly awaited by the locals. Explained Grayburn: "We've got some new bar stools coming. At present there is only one that is the right shape and size and there is always a queue for that!"

**To Grayburn  
and Joanna, every success for  
the future**





# Bookworm

Perhaps it's the time of year for a few recommendations on what to buy that bookworm friend of yours.

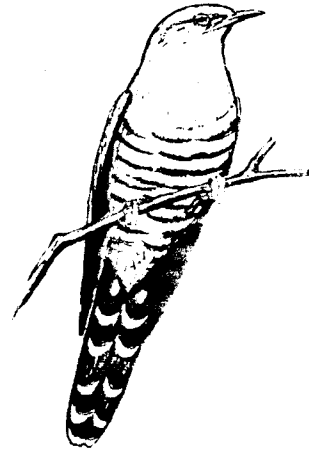
THE SONGLINES by Bruce Chatwin (Cape £10.95) is for me one of the best of the year. Not easy to put in a category, to me it was an enthralling travel book but Bruce Chatwin calls it a novel. Whatever you call it, it's a great read.

The setting for Songlines is the Australian outback and with the bicentennial celebrations reaching full flow we have had a flood of books on Australian history. Without doubt the best is THE FATAL SHORE by Robert Hughes (Collins Harvill £15), an epic tome that will remain a definitive classic for years to come.

However my book of the year would be the Booker Prize contender that was pipped at the post [by Penelope Lively's MOON TIGER (Andre Deutsch £9.95, perhaps the most easily read and most easily enjoyable Booker winner for many a long year)]. For me the Booker winner should have been ANTHILLS IN THE SAVANNAH by Chinua Achebe (Hinemann £10.95), a book of considerable force and elegance written by one of the English languages' greatest exponents. This is both exciting and informative, as well as riddled with irony and hope.

As a book to pick up and browse through then you would find it difficult to better the third volume of Peter Scott's TRAVEL DIARIES OF A NATURALIST (Collins £17.50). The somewhat thin text is more than compensated for

by Scott's magnificent sketches of birds, pandas, flowers and fish that he saw on his travels to China and elsewhere.



One of Peter Scott's sketches.

Other recommendations would include: BEHIND THE WALL by Colin Thubron (Heinemann £10.95). A journey through China - excellent. WOLF WINTER by Clare Francis (Heinemann £10.95). Her first thriller - like the lady herself, good stuff. THE NEW CONFESSIONS by William Boyd (Hamish Hamilton £10.95). Astonishingly not short-listed for the Booker ... but then I'm a Boyd fan. Finally THE LIFE OF MY CHOICE by Wilfred Thesiger (Collins £15). Enthralling autobiography .... what a life.

---

## HELP LINE

In an emergency (a prescription needs collecting: hospital visit has to be made: form needs filling: a pipe has burst or whatever) please ring any of the following numbers for help:

Les Smith, 'Gatesgarth', Lines Hill (Tel:681368)  
Peter Dines, 87 The Green. (Tel:681459)  
Colin Higgs, 6, Wingrave Road. (Tel:681343)  
John Whyte, 14 Bricstock. (Tel:681685)  
Graham Parker, The Cloisters, Church Row (681325)  
David Watts, 'White Wheels' (681376)

Can we add your name to our Help Line list? If so just contact any of the above.

# 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.

## The Chronicle:

### Advertisement Rates for 1987

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	Inside	£25 per annum.
HALF PAGE	: Back	£25 per annum.
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	Inside	£ 5 per annum.
ALL OTHER ADS.	: Inside only	£5 per annum.

Please send copy and cheque [made payable to 'The Chronicle'] to Michael Cox, The Old House, Aston Abbots, Aylesbury, Bucks.



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# CHURCH NEWS

We have laid the plans for our Carol Service on Sunday 20th. December at 3 p.m. and have high hopes that we can exceed last years congregation of ninety. As I wrote last month the service will be conducted by Rev. James Woodward, the Bishop of Oxford's Chaplain, and will be aimed at the children. We have chosen well known carols so please come and join in and start Christmas week well.

After the service, as has become our tradition, there will be mincepies and cups of tea.

On Christmas day itself we will be holding a Family Service at 10 a.m. Last year well over a hundred people came and again it would be good to exceed that figure this year. So ... why not book a double 3 p.m. Sunday 20th & 10 a.m. on Friday 25th ?

There will be no service here on Sunday 27th. but we start the new year with a Family Service on 3rd. January.

The P.C.C. is meeting early in December to decide amongst other things our charitable giving for this year. It is good to do this as some small token of our gratitude to God for all the blessings we enjoy. The Bishop of Oxford has suggested that we should each give 1% of our net annual income to some good cause(s), and to write to our M.P. to urge him

that our country should honour the United Nations target of 1% of G.N.P. for overseas aid. A penny in the pound seems precious little to me but if we all did this what a difference we could make to many a bleak life. That is something to ponder on when we think about the real meaning of Christmas, giving till it hurts.

## CHURCH SERVICES FOR DECEMBER

6th. December	: FAMILY SERVICE 11.15 a.m. Isaiah 64(1-7) 426 Luke 4(14-21).	<u>Sidesman</u> Alison Hewitt.
13th. December	: HOLY COMMUNION 11.15 a.m. Phipippians 4(4-9) 432 Matthew 11(2-15).	Colin Higgs.
20th. December	: CAROL SERVICE 3.00 p.m. (See Rector's page).	The Churchwardens.
25th. December	: CHRISTMAS DAY FAMILY SERVICE 10 a.m. (See Rector's page).	The Churchwardens.
27th. December	: No service.	
3rd. January	: FAMILY SERVICE 11.15 a.m. (See Rector's pages).	Alison Ford.



ST. JAMES THE GREAT, ASTON ABBOTTS, BUCKS.



## Happy Christmas

# **BUCKINGHAMSHIRE**

## **COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE**

Walton House  
Walton St.  
Aylesbury  
Bucks HP21 7QQ  
Tel: (0296) 21036  
Charity Reg. No. 270206

President: Cdr. The Hon J.T. Fremantle, RN (ret)

Chairman Mrs. M. Thackray

Director J.J.L. Leggett

November 1987

TO: Village newsletters and parish magazines in Bucks

### Review of parochial charities

Buckinghamshire CVS is a voluntary organisation and itself a registered charity. Its purpose is to support and encourage other voluntary and charitable groups and thus to improve the quality of life in the county.

For several years BCVS has kept a list of local charities at its offices to help members of the general public seeking information on sources of finance. Now the County Council has empowered the CVS to undertake a review of local charities, and has appointed Mrs Jennifer Spencer as Review Organiser. Such reviews have proved useful in several neighbouring counties. In this case, the review will be concentrating on parochial endowed charities, with the exception of ecclesiastical charities. It has two main purposes:

- 1) to update the records on local charities, which in many cases are no longer accurate. The new details may in due course be published as a handbook. This, together with the computerisation of the records in this office, should improve their accessibility and benefit both those making applications for help and the charity trustees themselves.
- 2) to offer help and advice to charity trustees, individually if requested and by holding seminars. The first of these seminars will be in 1988 for those in Aylesbury and Milton Keynes Districts, and will probably cover subjects such as charity law, investments and the responsibilities of trustees.

The Charities Act 1985 is designed to be helpful to charity trustees, and BCVS is happy to provide whatever assistance it can at a local level. A letter and questionnaire have already been sent to the people named in the Charity Commission records as being correspondents for all the charities in Aylesbury Vale and Milton Keynes (those for Chiltern, Wycombe and South Bucks will follow in the new year). However, in many cases the name and address and other details of the charity are no longer accurate. BCVS would be very grateful for any help which vicars, church wardens, parish councillors and others can give in tracing the current correspondent and updating the details, so that the records can once again be of real use.

- - - -

We would be very grateful for any publicity which you can give to this review. Further details, if needed, from: Clare Graham Aylesbury 21036 (office hours)

Thank you.

*The Rural Community Council for Buckinghamshire*

December 1987

THE RECTOR'S MESSAGE

Aylesbury 681623

# The heart of Christmas

What is the heart of Christmas?  
A large pile of presents?  
Special food?  
The family gathering?  
Or simply a sense of fun  
and excitement?

None of these things were there at the first Christmas.

The baby in the manger – he was the centre.

His coming was so important that a great army of heaven's angels sang praise to God.

Luke gives us this account in the Bible:

Luke 2.8-20

And there were shepherds living out in the fields near by, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to men on whom his  
favour rests."

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

Like the shepherds, we need to go and worship him. We need to rediscover the peace he came to bring.

The coming of Jesus is the heart of Christmas. He came to save us from the guilt and power of sin and to give us peace with God.

May the peace of the Lord be always with you.

Yours sincerely,

FR. JOHN HEFFER

WINGRAVE PARISH CHURCH AT CHRISTMAS

ASTON ABBOTTS: 26th December 5.00 p.m. Carol Service  
(Rev. J. Woodward)  
Christmas Day 10.00 a.m. Family Service  
10.40 a.m. The Christmas Communion

CUBLINGTON: 26th December 5.00 p.m. Carol Service  
(The Rector)  
Christmas Day 5.45 a.m. The Christmas Communion

WINGRAVE: 26th December 5.00 p.m. Christingle & Carol Service  
20th December 10.00 a.m. "Nativity Scenes"  
Christmas Eve 11.00 p.m. Midnight Mass

United Methodist Church 27th December 10.00 a.m.

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NOTES Gifts of toys brought to Cublington Carol Service and the "Nativity Scenes" (by the Junior Council) at Wingrave, 20th December will be given to the Macmillan Society.

The Christingle on Sunday 26th December, has a collection for the Church of England Children's Society. Lessons and special carols involve the children from our Day School.

In preparation for the Midnight Mass in Wingrave Parish Church, the Wingrave Singers will be singing carols from 10.00 p.m. The collections will be given to "The World International Christmas Appeal" - the charity of which Mr. Barry Thomas is Chairman.

On Christmas Day, Aston Abbotts Parish Church invites everyone, especially children with their families to come to the now famous Service. Toys are invited as well.

All of us in the three parishes are once again meeting together in Wingrave Parish Church on Sunday, 27th December at 10 o'clock, when festive beverages are served after the Service.

Anyone who receives communion at the Midnight Mass may receive again on Christmas morning.

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SUNDAY LESSONS (1990 Year 2 - page 443)

Christmas Eve	Isaiah 9(2,6-7)	John 1(1-14)
Christmas Day	Micah 5(2-4)	Luke 2(1-14)
27th December	Isaiah 12(1-8)	Luke 2(22-40)
3rd January	Isaiah 60(1-6)	Matthew 2(1-12)
10th January	Epheians 2(1-10)	John 1(29-34)
17th January	1 Samuel 3(1-10)	John 1(35-51)

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FUNERAL 17th November James Thomas REEVE (Wingrave)

# INSIDE THE BACK PAGE

A few more notices for the office. Career Prospects comes from the book of the Sunday Telegraph 'Mini Saga' series that was also featured on Radio 4's 'Today' programme, and will be frighteningly familiar to those of you employed in education!

## *A Story Of Four People*

This is the story of four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that, because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when actually Nobody accused Anybody.

### GUIDE TO PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL

Appraisal is now the answer to the nations industrial and commercial decline. Those of you who have had anything to do with the growing army of professional appraisers will know that they have their own mysterious and often expensive methods of establishing the levels at which you and I perform in our daily tasks. For those not familiar with such techniques, this 'Ready Rating Table' is offered.

	A	B	C	D	E
Performance factors	Far exceeds job requirements	Exceeds job requirements	Meets job requirements	Needs some improvement	Does not meet requirements
Quality	Leaps tall buildings with a single bound	Needs running start to leap tall buildings	Can only leap over a building with no spires	Crashes into buildings when attempting to jump	Cannot recognize buildings at all, let alone jump.
Timeliness	Is faster than a speeding bullet	Is as fast as a speeding bullet	Not as fast as a speeding bullet	Would you believe a slow bullet?	wounds self with bullet
Initiative	Is stronger than a locomotive	Is stronger than a bull elephant	Is stronger than a bull	Shoots the bull	Smells like the bull
Adaptability	Walks on water constantly	Walks on water in emergencies	Washes with water	Drinks water	Passes water in emergencies
Communication	Talks with God	Talks with the angels	Talks to himself	Argues with himself	Loses such arguments

## **CAREER PROSPECTS**

Nice chap, our new headmaster. Keen to make changes. He 'welcomed' our suggestions. Never adopted one.

Had his own ideas – for 'maximising motivation', 'individualizing discipline', 'neutralising competition', and so on.

Absolute chaos. But he never saw it like that. He's a Director of Education now.

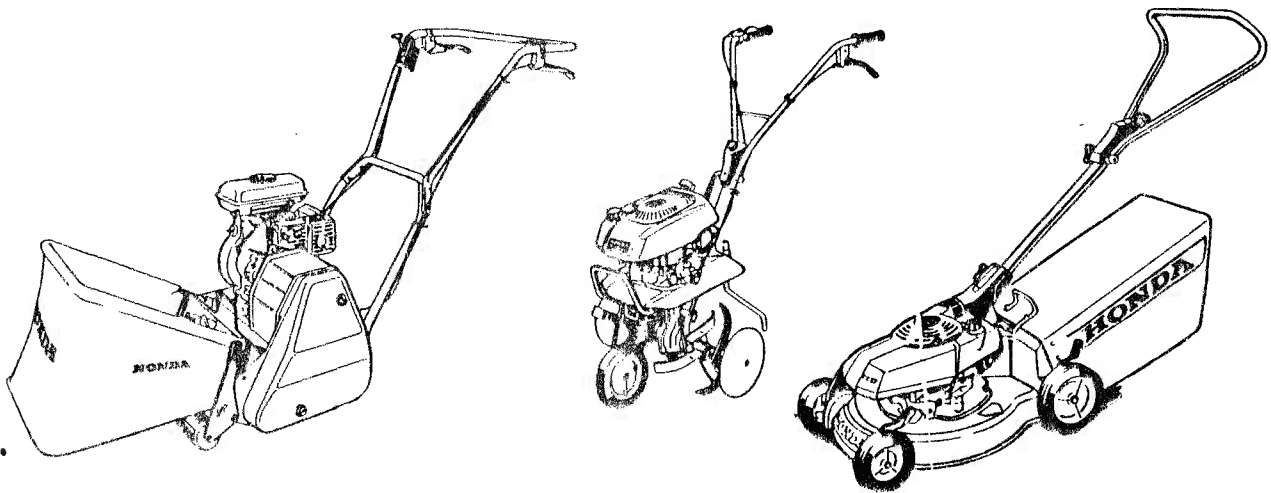
Good with words, you see.

*Berwick Coates*

BARNSTAPLE

*Abbotsbury.*

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