

# The Chronicle

No. 102  
June 92

Parish Magazine for Aston Abbotts





# Editorial

May has been a month of extremes. One volunteer for the festival committee, nobody on the Litter-blitz, hardly anyone at the police surgery... is there anyone out there? There must be, because there was a craft fair, a concert in church, and a tremendously well supported jumble sale.

It is really only the festival that need cause us concern. It is nice to feel that there is something every year that draws in everyone from the village, and sad that it won't happen this year. The church is to organize its own fête, which may in practice be indistinguishable from the village fête of recent years, and we wish it well. However, we hope that at next year's annual parish meeting there will be enough willing volunteers to make a success of a broad village effort. The burden has fallen on the same people for rather too long.

Caroline Lane

Gordon Smith

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Friday 26th June is the last day for material for the next issue. This will be combined July and August. Bring, post or telephone to 2 Church Row, 681373.

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Thanks to Rosemary Franklin for her cover illustration of Church Row.

# What's On



- Monday 1st Toddlers  
Church Room, 2.30-4pm
- Monday 1st & Tuesday 2nd  
Church cleaning after  
fumigation 6pm
- Wednesday 3rd Aylesbury Vale  
Transport Users meeting  
Civic Centre, 7.30pm  
(Any bus/train problems to  
Colin, 681343)
- Sunday 7th Rambling Club  
meet Brill Windmill, 2pm
- Thursday 11th Ladies Club  
Slide show of Western  
Samoa by Dr Lilley  
2.45pm, Church Room
- Thursday 11th Whist Drive  
7.30pm, Church Room
- Saturday 13th Wingrave School  
summer fête (see p.13)
- Monday 15th: Toddlers  
Church Room, 2.30-4pm
- Friday 19th-Monday 22nd  
Skip, Wingrave Road
- Sunday 21st Bucks Countryside  
Walk. Meet Cublington  
Spinney - Kingsbridge picnic  
site, 2pm (Dunton-Stewkley  
road).
- Saturday 20th: Cublington fête
- Wednesday 24th: Police surgery  
7.30pm, Church Room
- Thursday 25th: Ladies Club  
Demonstration by the Aylesbury  
Flower Club, Church Room, 2.45
- Thursday 25th: Whist Drive  
Church Room, 7.30pm
- Friday 26th: Parish Council  
Church Room, 8pm

Sunday 28th: Rambling Club  
meet Marlow, 11am

Monday 29th: Toddlers  
Church Room, 2.30-4pm

## BOOK THESE DATES

Saturday 11th July  
Wingrave garden  
show - see p.20

Sunday 19th July  
Coach outing to  
Windsor. Depart the Green  
10.45am. Cost £5.50, book  
with Colin, 681343.

Saturday/Sunday 25th/26th  
July, Festival weekend

## REGULARS

Mondays & Wednesdays: R&J  
mobile grocery van  
About 9.30am, Bric stock  
and the Green

Tuesdays: Bin Day

Tuesdays: Wingrave Toddlers  
Community Centre, 2-4pm

Tuesdays: The Trawler mobile  
fishmonger, The Green, 1.40-2pm

Wednesdays: free bus to Tesco  
(Aylesbury) 10.31 Bull & Butcher  
Returns about 1pm

Wednesdays: fish & chip van  
outside Bull & Butcher, about 8pm

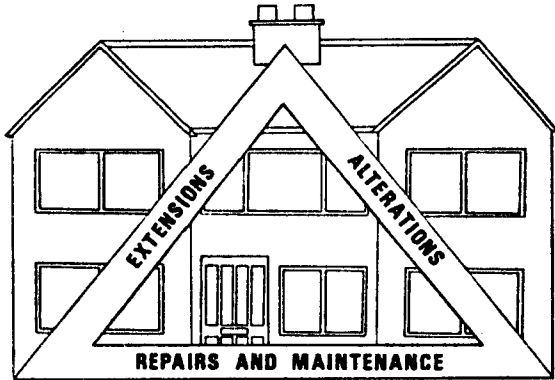
Alternate Wednesdays: mobile library  
The Green 2.00-2.30pm  
Longmoor 2.35-2.50pm  
June dates: 3rd, 17th

## Bucks Countryside Walks

The walk on 21st June is part of  
the county council's programme  
of events (this one will last  
2½ hours and cover 2 miles looking  
at farm improvements to conserve  
wildlife). Full leaflet now  
available at libraries.

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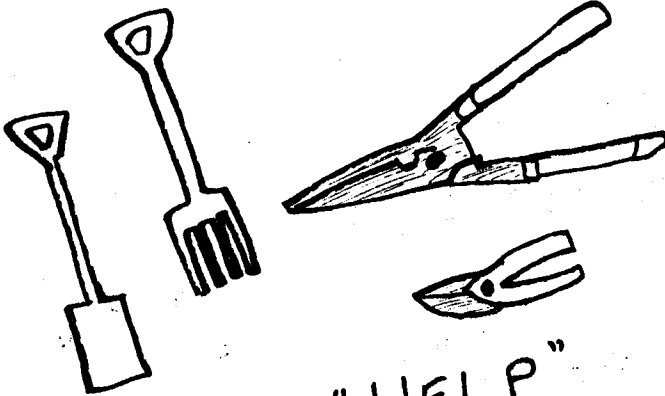
# People

## BIRTHDAYS

Jason White . . . . . 1st June  
Fred Cross . . . . . 6th June  
Pauline Price . . . . . 7th June  
Emily deLooze . . . . . 17th June  
Dave Wheaton . . . . . 21st June  
Paul Drysdale . . . . . 21st June  
Sarah Lovell . . . . . 25th June  
Kim Picking . . . . . 27th June  
David Hewitt . . . . . 28th June

## OUR THOUGHTS

go out to Barry, Daniel and Jason White after Karen's death on 29th May. She was a lovely cheerful person and will be very much missed.



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Our monthly page about village people, edited by BRIDGET BRANDON

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## CHRISTIAN AID

Mrs Shirley Ford wishes to thank everyone who gave to the recent Christian Aid collection and helped to raise the magnificent sum of £172.28p. This is the best ever and £52 up on last year. My thanks also to Alison and John.

## TODDLERS JUMBLE

The jumble sale last month raised nearly £900 for a local family. Many thanks to everyone who planned, helped, and came to support the event (particularly those queuing outside half an hour before opening time!).

## LADIES CLUB

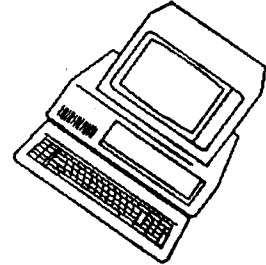
On a lovely warm May afternoon the Not So Young of Aston Abbotts and Cublington enjoyed a coach ride through the countryside taking in the Brickhill villages and on to Woburn Park, for a stop to stretch the legs and look around some shops.

After this break the coach returned to the Church Room at Aston Abbotts, where Ladies Club members had prepared a delicious tea of ham and salad, trifles and cakes. Rev Lemmon said Grace and tea began. After tea a raffle was held, prizes being won by guests and members.

The evening was completed with Mr Doggett playing the electric organ for community singing.

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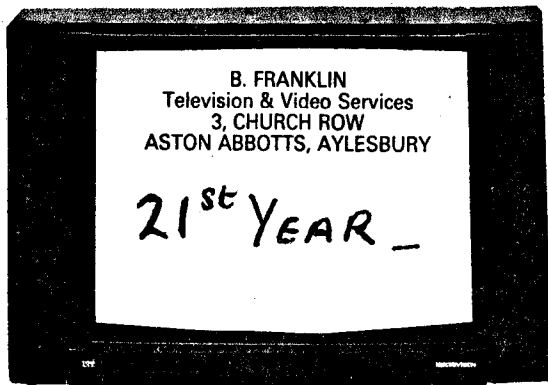
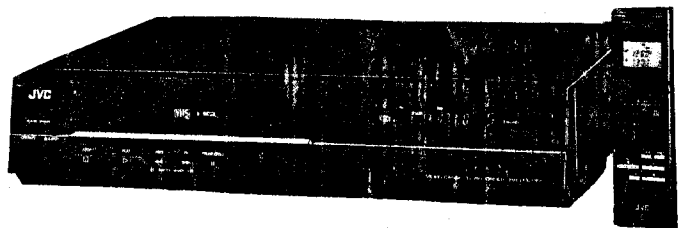


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# Festival

Regretfully it has been decided that the village fête will not be held this year. Five people met in the Methodist Church on 21st May to discuss the possibilities. We had just one offer to join the committee after the article in the May Chronicle, and it was felt we needed the very minimum of eight to make it work. We all have many other commitments with work, families etc. and it just does not seem fair or reasonable to ask six people to undertake such a lot. Perhaps a fête could be arranged by the whole village on new and different lines in the coming years, who knows? - BUT PLEASE if you'd like a village fête in the future REMEMBER TO VOLUNTEER!

Janet Biddle

## CHURCH FETE

Since there were not enough people to organize a village festival, the Parochial Church Council has decided to go ahead and hold a church fête at the festival weekend (25th/26th July).

More details will be published in next month's Chronicle.

Meanwhile, this is what it looked like in 1958... the fête at the Abbey always provided a good day out, featuring in 1958 a diving display in the swimming pool. There were even mystery parcels from America in the lucky dip.

7

# GALA FETE

In aid of Church Restoration Fund

Thursday, July 3rd, 1958

The Abbey, Aston Abbots

2-30.

Produce, Sweet, Gift and Parcel Stalls

Men's Ladies' and Children's Fashions

Tombola : Side Shows

*After Tea:*

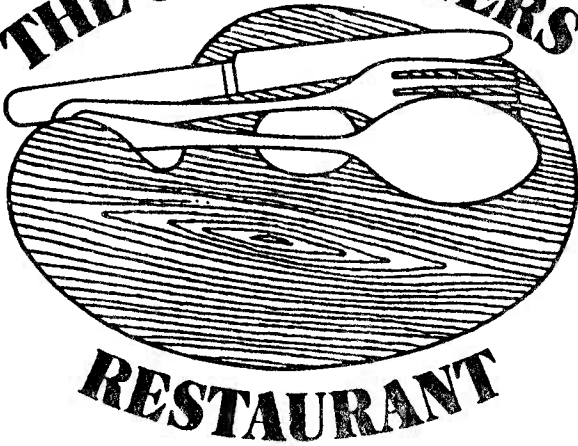
Dancing Display by the  
Lewis School of Dancing

Diving Exhibition by  
Aylesbury Swimming Club

TEAS

BUFFET

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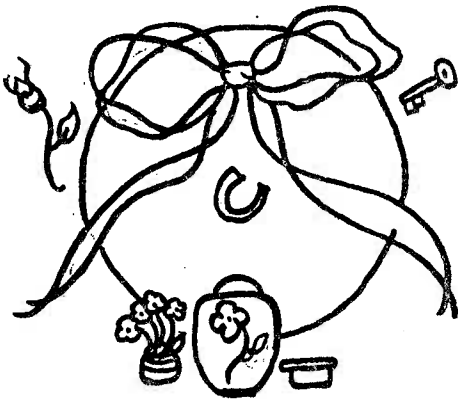
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## More pressure from village residents

**THE LATEST** protest to erupt over the Wing bypass has come from the potential victims of the outer northern or 'Rothschild Route'.

Aston Abbotts residents have formed an action group and written to three MPs to voice their dismay over the proposals.

Caroline Lane, the group's secretary, claims that if the route is chosen farms would be destroyed, the contours of the land would be altered and several miles of outstanding natural beauty and archeological interest would be lost under cement.

Her letters have been sent to John Gummer, Minister of Agriculture Fisheries and Food; Michael Howard, Secretary of State for the Environment; and John MacGregor, Secretary of State for Transport.

In them she cites two local farms — West Park and Oxley's, an ancient watercourse and seven footpaths which would lose land to the proposed dual carriageway and service roads.

The action group questions the whole proposal of upgrading the A418 to a

dual carriageway. "Since this idea was presented in the 1989 White Paper, Roads For Prosperity, there has been increasing public concern about the wisdom of building major new trunk roads like this one, which carve up our disappearing countryside and encourage more and more traffic to use them — the benefits quickly disappearing."

They say it could be an unnecessary waste of money if the Department of Transport chose an alternative road to link the M20 with the East coast ports.

● Wing Parish Council have written a strongly

worded letter to Bucks County Council officials demanding that an outer 'Southern Route' be considered for the dual-carriageway trunk road, and that the whole matter should again go out to Public Consultation before any new planning application is submitted for any route.

The letter, signed by parish clerk Harry Ayris and sent to Mr W Chapple, chairman of the Highways and Public Transport sub Committee, County Engineer Tony Sketch and County Planning Officer Edwin Schoon, as well as local county councillor Reg

Keen, asks why the idea of a southern route has been written off.

"We have been repeatedly told that the Outer Southern Route has been given detailed investigation and been rejected but the Parish Council and general public have never been told, officially, why this is so, but only by local rumours," says the letter.

"If this route cannot once again be considered along with the other two proposals we would like to know why not. We understand that the Aylesbury Vale District Council is also taking up these matters with your

council, so hopefully between us we shall get the correct and truthful answers," said the letter.

The protest goes on to speak of villagers fears that the proposed road will be part of the Outer London orbital relief road for the M25, namely the M250. Mr Ayris says that if there is any credence to this rumour, the parish feels that the original single carriageway bypass for Wing should be considered again and this major road put further away from all the villagers which will be affected.

by Claire  
Bushell

### A418 news

The letter campaign continues, and we have had a number of replies from Ministers and local government officers, none of which are reassuring in the slightest. We have had a mention in the Observer (above) — the LBO, that is — on 26th May. We have had a useful meeting with members of the Wing pressure group who gave us valuable advice about putting together formal objection documents to planning permissions. We shall soon be handing in our petition to Bucks County Council, after which we wait for the county engineer's report in July on the relative merits of the Rothschild and S2 routes. We have also met with Ted Payne, a local county councillor. Please ask your friends and relatives in other parts of Bucks to put pressure on their own county councillors to vote against the Rothschild route when the engineer has reported; councillors will probably not be aware of our local issues unless told by their own constituents to sit up and take notice.

Caroline Lane

### BUSES

There are now additional X13 buses via Aston Abbotts:

8.09am Aston Abbotts - Aylesbury ) Mondays to Friday, school  
3.50pm Aylesbury - Aston Abbotts ) days only

They do not go into Wingrave, and do not pick up at Kingsbury Squ.

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

## The Chronicle

### ADVERTISEMENT RATES FOR 1992

FULL PAGE	: Back	£55	per annum
	: Inside	£28	per annum
HALF PAGE	: Back	£28	per annum
	: Inside	£14	per annum
QUARTER PAGE	: Back	£14	per annum
	: Inside	£ 8	per annum
EIGHTH PAGE	: Back	£ 8	per annum
	: Inside	£ 6	per annum
ALL OTHER ADS	: Inside	£ 6	per annum

Please send copy and cheque (made payable to 'The Chronicle') to John Whyte, 14 Bricstock, Aston Abbots, Aylesbury, Bucks. Telephone 0296 681685

### HELP LINE

Chris Brandon, 12 Bricstock,  
681425  
Margaret Cheshier, 20 The Green,  
681201  
John Ford, 2 Ross Road 681865  
Roy Malin, 3 Ross Road 681358  
John Whyte, 14 Bricstock 681685

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(Driving you to doctor, picking  
up prescription, and so on)

### YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

Roger Biddle, 1 Firs Cottage,  
Wingrave Road 681102  
John Ford, 2 Ross Road 681865  
Caroline Lane, 2 Church Row  
(Chairman) 681373  
Roy Malin, 3 Ross Road 681358

Victor Scott, 11 The Green  
681488

Clerk: Margaret Cheshier  
20 The Green 681201

District Councillor: Bryan Round  
11 Nup End Lane, Wingrave 681621

# Church News

May has been quite a busy month. We held a splendid Craft Fair and depicted the crafts with floral arrangements in Church; we were then entertained by the December Festival Choir, who gave a varied programme and finished the evening with a rousing LAND OF HOPE AND GLORY. The whole event raised £242 for church funds. My sincere thanks to everyone who helped in any way, and especially to all the craftspeople.

After the services on 24th, the church was fumigated against the beetle, so our service on 31st joined with Cublington. We have a spring cleaning programme after the fumigation period of seven days.

We shall soon be preparing for the St James's Festival on July 25th/26th, when the theme will be ALL THINGS BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL.

The churchyard is looking neat and tidy thanks to the mowing rota being in full swing. Thanks to all who spare time for this task. The grass clippings are piling up and from time to time we shall have to have a bonfire to dispose of them. We shall of course choose a still day, and our apologies in advance for any inconvenience.

Finally we were sad to hear Arthur Roff had passed away. We shall miss him for his help and co-operation on combined functions of Church and Chapel and especially the Festival; our condolences to his family.

COLIN HIGGS

## ST JAMES'S CHURCH SERVICES IN JUNE

	<u>Sidesman</u>
7th June 11.15am FAMILY SERVICE Pentecost Acts 2.1-11; John 20.19-23 (p.636)	Colin Higgs
14th June 11.15am HOLY COMMUNION Trinity Eph. 1.3-14; John 14.8-17 (p.641)	Gillian Ford
21st June 11.15am HOLY COMMUNION (BCP) Pentecost 2 Acts 2.37-end; Luke 14.15-24 (p.646)	Alison Ford
28th June 11.15am HOLY COMMUNION Pentecost 3 Acts 4.8-12; Luke 8.41-end (p.651)	Michael Hasler
5th July 11.15am FAMILY SERVICE Pentecost 4 Acts 8.26-38; Luke 15.1-10 (p.656) Peter & Paul 2 Tim 4.6-9, 16-18; Matt 16.13-20 (p.784)	Methodist Church

## METHODIST CHURCH SERVICES IN JUNE

7th June Family service, 11.15am Parish Church  
14th June No service  
21st June Oving, 5.30pm  
28th June No service  
5th July 11.15am, Family Service

## RECTOR'S REPORT

So far as I can remember I started singing hymns when I was about seven years old. The local Vicar came to our school and I was 'volunteered' for the Church Choir.

Goodness knows how many hymns I must have sung over the years, and I have always had great difficulty in deciding which is my 'favourite'. I like different ones at different times. Some have very moving words, some have catchy tunes, whilst others I just like. Some of the newer ones are called 'worship songs' and, like their predecessors, are a rather mixed bag.

The recent Archbishop's report on Church Music urges the Church to experiment with more new hymns and songs. I think I can see what they are getting at. For the last century every parish church has built its music around the organ. Many of those organs are nearing the end of their useful life. There are problems in many places with finding organists (or people prepared to have a go!). Before there were organs each community produced its band of musicians (some of whom could play in tune!). Why should not the Church utilise the new technology and use electronic instruments, and supplement this with a group of instrumentalists?

If we stick with the hymns we feel comfortable with, and never sing anything else, we shall never develop our understanding of God. From time to time we need to try some of the new challenging/disturbing/provocative hymns and songs of today's generation. We need to remember that all the old favourites were once 'new fangled' hymns. It is just that they caught on whilst others didn't. Until we are prepared to give them a try we shall never know which of the new hymns/worship songs we like and which we don't.

I have no intention of throwing out any of the old hymns. All I want to do is to be prepared to try something new when the right circumstances present themselves.

Bob Willmott

# Wingrave CE Combined School School Association

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## MONTHLY REPORT

### May Day Walk

The Sponsored Walk on the May Day Bank Holiday was well supported. Around 110 people walked and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the lovely Spring day. Tea in the Community Centre afterwards was also much appreciated by the walkers. Thank you for your support and assistance in raising a substantial sum (not all of the sponsor money has yet been collected) for the School Association.

### Summer Disco

Everyone who attended enjoyed the lively music and dancing (at the time!). We hope that even more people will attend the next Disco arranged for 5 December.

### Summer Fete and Sports

The Summer fete will take place on Saturday 13 June. In the morning there will be competitive sports for the older children with the fete opening at 11 o'clock and running through the afternoon. After lunch there will be fun races for the younger children. Please come and support this event. There will be lots of activities for all ages including a bouncy castle, fortune teller, pony rides, tombola and also a Pet Show (any variety welcome) with a prize for the child who displays the most understanding of how to care for their pet (entry forms available from the School Secretary).

Donations of cakes and raffle/tombola prizes would be most welcome. Please bring these to the school or give to Helen Underwood on or before the morning of 13 June.

### Forthcoming Events

Don't forget the fashion show on 15 July. Autumn events will include a Treasure Hunt and a Quiz Evening.

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# Wingrave Garage

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## Parish Council

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### Unofficial notes from the Parish Council Annual General Meeting, 8th May

Caroline Lane was elected chairman for 1992/3, with Roger Biddle vice chair. Roger is street lighting officer, and Vic Scott, John Ford and Roger are on the Recreation Ground Committee. I am afraid the other posts escape me, but the Clerk of course has a full list.

Accounts The accounts for 1991/2 were approved; financial summary is in this month's Chronicle. Public audit day is 19th June when accounts available for inspection—ask the Clerk.

It was noted that the monthly electricity bill for street lighting is down from £48 to £26 due to the new photocell units now fitted to all lights.

A418/Wing bypass Reg Keen, our county councillor, attended and assured the parish council that he had the interests of Aston Abbots very much at heart. He does of course represent several villages, including Wing, but he believes that route S2 (closest to Wing), with substantial extra cutting and tunnelling near the village, is the best solution. He is opposed to the outer northern route. He added that money is unlikely to be forthcoming for either project in the next two years.

Planning Granted by AVDC: - rear extension, Gatesgarth  
- drainage system, Windmill Hill Farm  
Refused by AVDC: - extension of garden onto agricultural land, Lower Burston Farm  
Going to appeal: - rendering of wall to cover decorative brickwork, the Abbey  
New applications: the parish council had no comment to make on the following, which now go to AVDC:  
- agricultural building, Red Barn Farm  
- continuation of mobile home, Willowbrook  
- front extension, 14 Bricstock  
- barn, Civic Trees

The parish council expressed doubts about viability of proposed site for farmhouse at Moat Farm.

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### CAR BREAK-INS

Two cars were broken into near Church Row recently. Please make sure your car is locked and valuables removed, and stereos and tapes out of sight if possible.

Our community police officer Gareth Blaken is having another surgery in the Church Room at 7.30pm on Wednesday 24th June when he will be pleased to give advice or answer any questions about local policing.

ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH COUNCIL

Financial Summary 1991/92

<u>Balances Brought Forward</u>	£	£
Current Account	35.45	
Deposit Account	522.33	
Recreation Current Account	187.98	
Recreation Deposit Account	<u>400.65</u>	
		1146.41
 <u>Receipts</u>		
A.V.D.C. Precept	3000.00	
Grants	360.80	
Interest Deposit Account	139.47	
Interest Recreation Deposit Account	9.27	
V.A.T. Reclaim	170.21	
Donation	<u>150.00</u>	
		<u>3829.75</u>
		4976.16
 <u>Payments</u>		
Electricity	623.02	
Admin. and Audit Commission	478.41	
Insurance	137.38	
Petrol & Mower (Parish Council)	440.45	
Petrol, Mowing & Repairs (Recreation Ground)	270.53	
Street Light Repairs	180.01	
Bank Charges	45.00	
Grants	110.00	
New Goal Posts	77.02	
New Street Lights (Loss Rd)	243.22	
Sundries	<u>94.30</u>	
		<u>2708.34</u>
		<u>2267.82</u>
 <u>Balances Carried Forward</u>		
Current Account	104.66	
Deposit Account	1616.62	
Recreation Current Account	236.62	
Recreation Deposit Account	<u>309.92</u>	
		<u>2267.82</u>





## Cleaning up

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### LITTERWHAT?

I have it on good authority that nobody, but nobody, turned up for the Litterblitz. Shame on you. (I was on holiday, honest, and it was a bit much to expect my mother to come all the way from Yorkshire.) Our trusty Parish Councillor was reduced to mowing the grass instead.

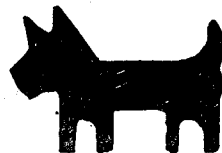
### BEST KEPT VILLAGE

Never mind - there is still time to rush around tidying up for the first round of judging for the Best Kept Village competition. Scouts will be out in the first two weeks of June, followed by a second visit in the first half of July if we get that far. Please do what you can - we won this once...

### DOG MESS

Aylesbury Vale's environmental health officers have just held a no dog mess exercise, part of a national campaign - we found out about this rather too late on the parish council, so you have been spared the Free Literature and Poop-Scoops. Seriously though, dog mess is a problem even in a rural area like this. You have to watch your feet on some of the footpaths, and we often have complaints about dog mess on the recreation ground. Dogs can carry infections which do not harm the animal but in severe cases can cause blindness in children. Please be responsible and follow three guidelines suggested by AVDC:

- Don't allow your dog out of your garden on its own
- Don't allow your dog to foul footpaths, verges, or recreational land which the public use
- If it does (and of course it can't be avoided) then clear it up. You might feel silly using a poop-scoop (certainly a silly name) but the very next person along the path will be glad you did.





# Byron HOUSE

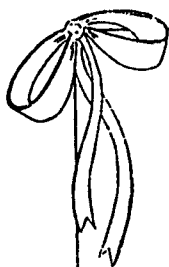
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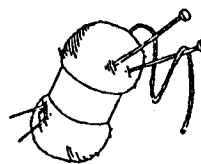
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## Hedgehogs: by the Wildlife Hospital Trust

What's the one night-time wanderer that everybody welcomes into their garden? The hedgehog! Small, noisy and not particularly good looking, the hedgehog is nevertheless the gardener's best friend and everybody else's favourite wildlife visitor.

The hedgehog, *Erinaceus europaeus*, is strictly speaking an insectivore, and it relishes a meal of slugs, worms and insects, together with more unusual fare such as fallen fruit or carrion. It is one of our most friendly wild animals, often popping into gardens at a regular time for a hand-out of tinned dog or cat food and a bowl of water (bread and milk are real no-nos and can harm the hedgehog).

However, that doesn't mean that the hedgehog doesn't have his enemies. Badgers are the only natural predator, so if you have a sett anywhere near you, no matter how much you encourage hedgehogs into your garden, you won't be successful.

And the hedgehog's natural defence mechanism - of rolling into a tight ball so that all its prickles stick out and form an impenetrable ball - is of no use against its most dreaded enemy, the motor car. Hundreds of thousands of hedgehogs fall foul of this man-made danger every year.

And there are other dangers in the garden to contend with, too. Barbed wire and netting are obvious ones, bonfires and compost heaps, drains, lawn mowers and bowls of oil in the garage less so. And then of course there are herbicides, insecticides and pesticides - wood preserver and slug pellets, for instance. Ponds are another area for concern - if you have a pond, make sure that there is a ramp for the spiny garden visitor to use if falls in; though hedgehogs can swim well, they will get exhausted if they cannot climb out.

But, all in all, towns and cities are a friendly place for hedgehogs, who will wander up to four miles a night in their search for food. Dogs are about the only other animal, apart from the badger, that will injure a hedgehog, so if you have regular hedgehog visitors, try to keep the dog in during the evening. And don't worry about the hedgehog's legendary fleas - yes, they do have them, but the hedgehog will not thank you for puffing flea killer all over it, as the powder is just as likely to harm the hedgehog as kill the fleas. Hedgehog fleas are host-specific, so they won't live on humans, dogs or cats, and won't find carpets a very satisfactory home. The best course of action is to leave them, and the hedgehogs, alone.

It is also best to leave an accidentally-disturbed nest of young hedgehogs alone. Cover them up quickly and retreat, mum should soon return. If the mother does not return and the babies start leaving the nest in desperation, 'piping' loudly, or if you come across a sick or injured youngster (or adult) then that is another situation entirely. Take the orphans or casualty in, put it in a deep box with a hot water bottle wrapped up in a towel at one end, and phone The Wildlife Hospital for advice (0844 292 292).

Any hedgehog out during the day is likely to be in trouble and, having taken it in, one of the most important procedures to carry out is to check for maggots and fly eggs. Every one must be removed with tweezers and the area bathed with dilute Savlon; it really is a life-saving practice. (Then, again, phone The Wildlife Hospital for advice.)

So, being hedgehog-friendly does take some effort - keep the garden clear of hazards, including chemicals, and offer food to supplement their natural diet - but the effort is well worth while and you will be rewarded by regular visits from the namesakes of one of Britain's favourite nursery characters - Mrs Tiggy Winkle.

---



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THICK THIEF

Someone recently thought they had more right to the Recreation Ground mower than us, and stole it. They obviously lacked a brain because rather than open the gate of the field and push it out, they took down some fencing. The sad thing is that they will probably end up dumping it, because we have had trouble starting it, and if we couldn't do it, they certainly haven't got the sense to.

Rideon

WINGRAVE BOWLS CLUB (Ladies' Section)

Do you like being out in the fresh air, playing a leisurely but skillful game, and enjoying good company?

The bowling season starts again at the beginning of May and Wingrave Bowls Club would welcome any ladies who would like to play. Club Night is on Mondays, from 6.30pm, playing until dark, followed if you wish by a friendly drink in the Clubhouse Bar.

The Ladies' Section was formed two years ago and they play their own matches mid-week. They join the men in mixed friendly matches on Saturdays and they also sometimes take a ladies' rink to the Men's League matches.

If you would like to try your hand, please come along any Monday evening, when you will be made most welcome. Alternatively, ring the ladies' secretary, Jill Roberts, on 681416.

If your husband would also like to play, either bring him along, or get him to ring the men's secretary, Norman Rickard, on 681276.

A MONTHLY LOOK AT FACTS YOU NEVER WANTED TO KNOW

There are as many molecules in a spoonful of water as spoonfuls of water in the Atlantic.

The Sepick Crocodile lays oblong eggs with white yolks.

The longest worm ever found was washed ashore in Scotland in 1864 - a bootlace worm (*Lineus longissimus*) measuring more than 180ft.



"Wise Old Crocodile"

CHRISTMAS SHOW THEME?

Gordon-Smith took time off from his fruitless efforts at winning a Meisterstuck pen in the Independent Crossword to do the magazine's writing competition:

Results of No 186  
You were invited to write the story that results from the double booking of a hotel in which a Mills & Boon romance weekend overlaps with an Agatha Christie murder-mystery weekend.

A bottle of champagne to Gordon Smith:

Evening sunlight flooded the Great Hall of Aston Priory. It fell upon the members of the group nervously awaiting the first supper of their brief acquaintance.

It fell upon Jasmine Thorogood, whose sharp intake of breath caused her neighbour, an elderly lady crouched over her knitting, to look upwards, and share the effect caused by the strikingly handsome man who appeared to have paused half-way down the oak staircase.

"Quite so, my dear," said the knitter sympathetically, "but he does unfortunately bring to mind young Annie Price. A pretty Queen of the May, and greatly admired while carried on her throne through the village. But sadly unable to lead the Maypole dancing. Quite dead of course, throughout the entire procession."

The man crashed over the balustrade. Chief Inspector Jasmine Thorogood rose, and insisted that no one should leave the room.

Volunteers are needed for a new information service at the Eye Clinic at Stoke Mandeville Hospital. If you have some time to spare and would like to help, please contact Mrs Maureen Matthews at the address below:

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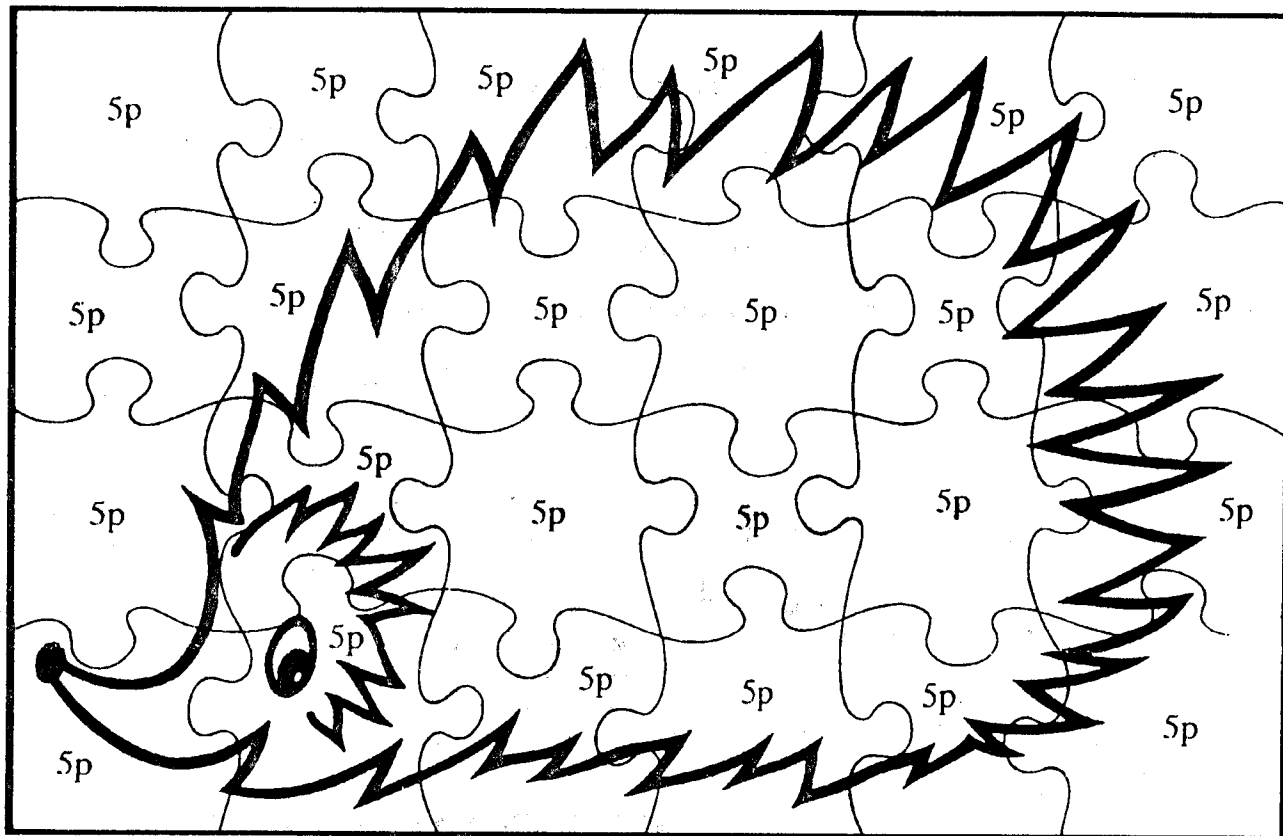
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# St Tiggywinkles Jigsaw

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*Remember to keep it safe!*

*When you have done the best that you can, give the sheet and the money to your parent or teacher.*

*Thank you for your help.*

Name of pupil \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Amount collected \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or teacher's signature \_\_\_\_\_



*In the community*

**Please return the form and money to: St Tiggywinkles,  
Wildlife Hospital Trust, Aston Road, Haddenham,  
Aylesbury, Bucks HP17 8AF. Thank you.**

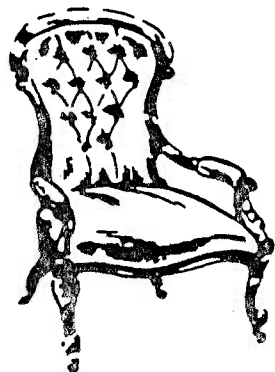
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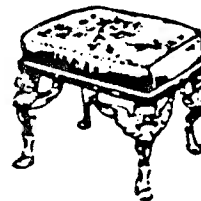
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