

The Chronicle



Parish Magazine for Aston Abbotts

No. 103

July & August 92



Editorial

Elsewhere in this issue is a note of two important dates for the Wing bypass/A418 - 10th July and 20th July. On 10th we are presenting our petition against the northern route to Bill Chapple, on the Green at 2.30pm. Please try to be there (we know Friday's difficult)... or send a cardboard cutout of yourself for the photos?? On 20th July there is a meeting at County Hall for the "Wing Panel" to discuss the routes and try to make a recommendation. This is open to the public. It is not yet formally fixed, but the details will be posted up in the village.

We did not get to the finals of the Best Kept Village competition, but we did earn words of praise, and with 78 marks only missed the finals by two marks. The judges gave especial praise to the Recreation Ground ("a well presented children's play area") and overall thought Aston Abbotts "a very well tended village". Margaret Chesher goes to the top of the class with her well prepared map of the village accompanying our entry form!

There will be plenty of activity in the village on 25th July beginning with the church fête and finishing at the Bull and Butcher in the evening. Here's to an enjoyable day for residents and visitors alike.

Caroline Lane

Gordon Smith

There is no separate August issue. Please let us have contributions for the September issue by Friday, 28th August. Bring, send or telephone to 2 Church Row, 681373.

Published by Caroline Lane and Gordon Smith
Printed by the SQUIRREL PRESS at Waddesdon School and distributed free to all households in the parish of Aston Abbotts

Cover illustration with sincere apologies to the late Gwenda Morgan (they're supposed to be boats - holiday theme - geddit?)



What's
On



Thursday 9th: Ladies Club Tea
(see below)

Thursday 9th & 23: Whist Drive
Church Room, 7.30pm

Friday 10th: Road petition
2.30pm, The Green (see p. 9)

Saturday 11th: Wingrave &
Rowsham Garden Show
2.30pm, Wingrave Comm. Centre
(tel. 681548)

Monday 13th: Toddlers
2.30-4pm, Church Room

Wednesday 15th: Leighton/Linslade
Transport Meeting; any bus/train
problems to Colin, 681343

Sunday 19th: Rambling Club
meet Wing 2pm

Sunday 19th: Coach outing to
Windsor. Depart 10.45am
The Green. £5.50, book with
Colin 681343

Saturday 25th: St James Church
Fête, The Green, 2pm

Saturday 25th: Bull & Butcher
entertainment, 3pm onwards
(see p. 5)

Sunday 26th: Floral displays in
St James Church, 2-5pm.
Songs of Praise 6pm

Monday 27th: Toddlers
2.30-4pm, Church Room

Tuesday 28th: Aylesbury Vale
Holiday Walk, The Green, 7.15pm
Everyone welcome

LADIES CLUB TEA PARTY

End of season, at Doreen
Liddle's, Cublington
Bring & Buy, Raffle
Thursday 9th, 2.45pm

Sunday 2nd August: Coach outing
Birmingham Botannical Gardens
10.30am, £6.50; ring 681343

Wednesday 5th: Children's show
11am, Church Room **FREE**

Monday 10th: Toddlers
2.30-4pm, Church Room

Sunday 16th: Coach outing to
Ebbw Vale Garden Festival
£7.50; ring 681343

Monday 24th: Toddlers
2.30-4pm, Church Room

Sunday 30th: Coach outing
Folkestone, dep. 7.30am
£8; book with Colin, 681343

REGULARS

Mondays & Wednesdays: R & J
mobile grocery van
About 9.30am, The Green

Tuesdays: Bin Day

Tuesdays: The Trawler mobile
fish shop, The Green, 1.40-2pm

Wednesdays: fish & chip van
outside Bull & Butcher,
about 8pm (rings bell first)

Alternate Wednesdays: library van
The Green 2.00-2.30pm
Longmoor 2.35-2.50pm

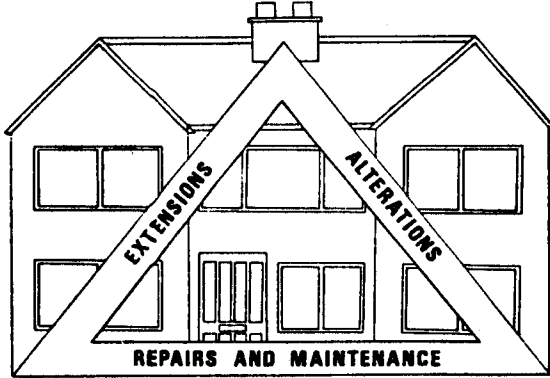
July 1st, 15th, 29th
August 12th, 26th

COMING UP - BUCKS COUNTY SHOW

Thursday 3rd September
Special bus departs 9.30am
Bull & Butcher; return 4.45pm
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Saturday
Festival: 25th July

St James's Church Fête 2pm The Green

CHILDREN'S RACES

WHEELBARROW RACE Hand your names to Len Scutchings

SLOW BICYCLE RACE Names to George Fox

TRACTOR RACE FOR UNDER 5s George Fox

BRIC A BRAC Items to Helen or Simon Dowling

CAKES Items to Doris Scutchings

GRAND HOG ROAST

in the pub garden
from 3pm

GARDEN STALL Plants to Janet Biddle

Please note the minor roads
around the Green will be
closed from 1pm to 5pm
on the fête afternoon

BOUNCY CASTLE

Pub open all afternoon

STALLS

SIDESHOWS

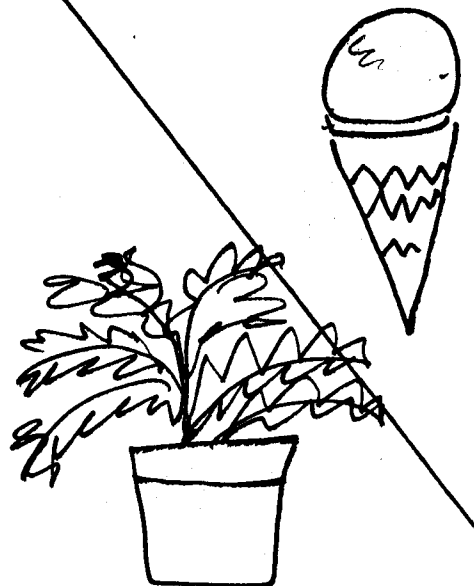
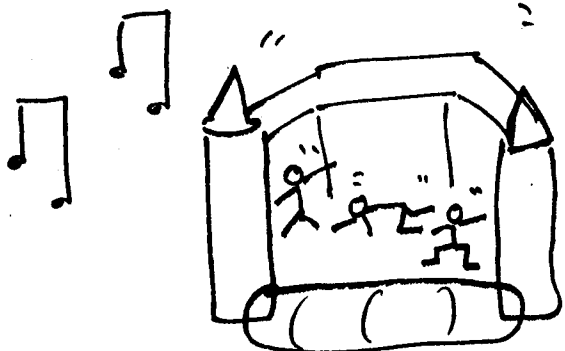
RAFFLE proceeds to the Recreation
Ground

ICES

TEAS

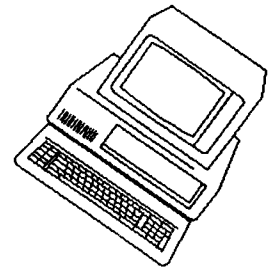
Any donations of raffle prizes
to Frank or Louise please

MUSIC in the evening



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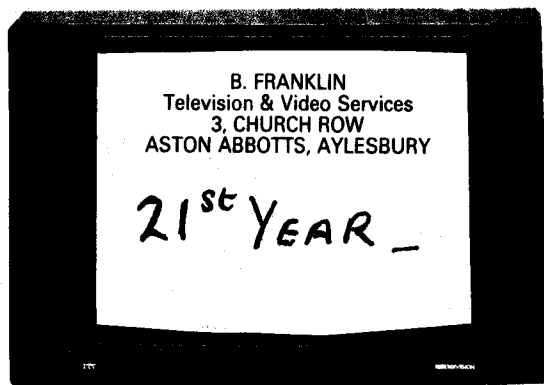
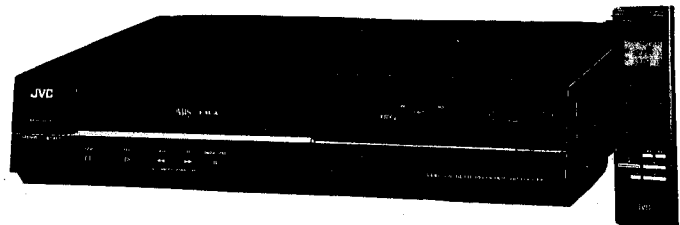


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BIRTHDAYS

John Chesher . . . 1st July
George Fox 2nd July
Brenda Malin . . . 6th July
Margaret Kent. . . 6th July
Len Scutchings . . 7th July
Nicola Lovell. . . 9th July
Vic Scott.13th July
Gordon Smith(75) .15th July
Diane Lovell . . .17th July
Andrew Pledsted . .19th July
Daniel Smith(3). .24th July
Dee Whyte.27th July
Lawrence Hinds . .29th July

Paul Fletcher . . 4th August
Doris Turner. . .10th August
Christine Fox . .10th August
Mark Hewitt . . .11th August
Andrew Parker . .21st August

Well done

John & Chris, who completed the Leighton Buzzard Half Marathon in 1hr. 53min., and to Paul Beeson who although not a local, but related, who finished in 1hr. 36min.

We were

Very sorry to learn of the death of Mrs. Cross recently. She was a lovely lady with a sense of humour to match, and our thoughts go out to her family.

Also, to the family and friends of Mrs. Cutter, who also died recently. I think I am right in saying (the lady used to tell me herself) that she was the oldest born and bred (female) in the village.

Best wishes

Dot Tuplin, who is in hospital at the moment, as are Mr & Mrs. Griffin. We wish them all well.

THANK YOU

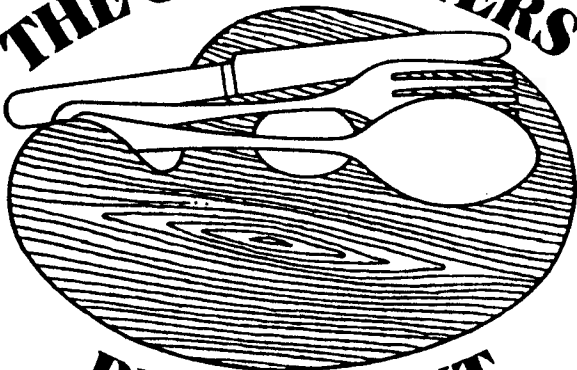
Brenda Roff, Gillian and Tim would like to thank friends and neighbours for all the kind messages of sympathy, flowers and donations given after the very sad loss of Arthur. With special thanks to all the Brandon family, David and Marion Gadsby, Mr Doggett and Paul Drysdale. Donations given to the local surgery for Asthma and Heart equipment amounted to £750.

CONGRATULATIONS

to Gillian Ford and Andrew Wyer, on their engagement. They are to be married in St James's Church in August next year.

.. & to John Chesher,
21 on 1st July

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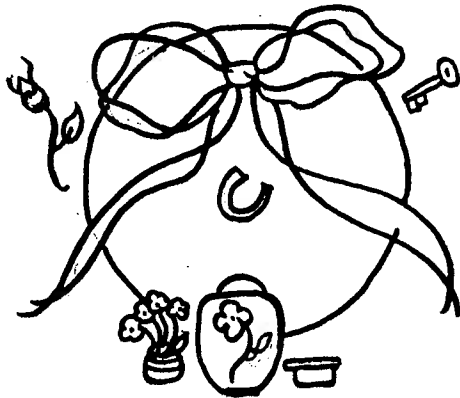
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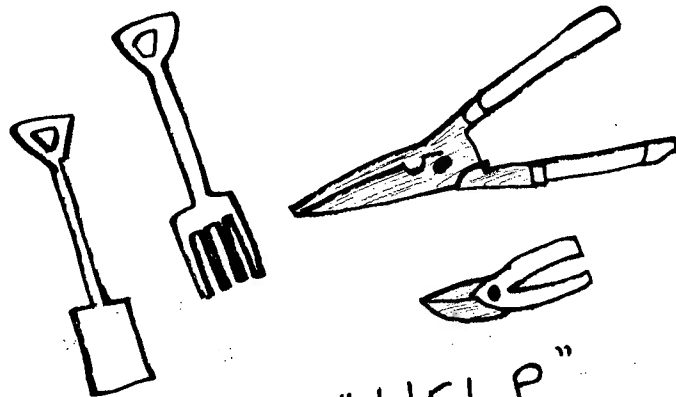
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Places to visit during school holidays

Tring museum (natural history); Marsworth Reservoir nature trail:

Bus Aston Abbots - Aylesbury 9.30, 11.40, 1.30, then service 61 at 10.45, 12.45, 2.45; return from Marsworth 1.48, 3.48; return any bus from Tring

Coombe Monument; Wendover

Either train from Aylesbury or any bus to Wendover. Follow footpath from Wendover (Ellesborough Road). Return at 12.15, 3.15, 4.15, 5.15

West Wycombe caves; chair museum at High Wycombe

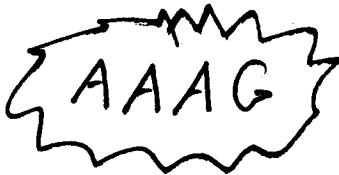
Any bus to West Wycombe for caves; return 2.45, 4.35

Oxford for river trips etc.

Bus Aylesbury - Oxford 10.35, 12.35; return 2.05, 4.10

Woburn Abbey

Leighton - Woburn 10.44 (depart Aston Abbots 9.10)
Woburn - Leighton 5.00 (depart Leighton to Aston 5.40pm)



Aston Abbots Action Group

July is decision time for the Wing bypass. The Wing Panel of Bucks County Council Planning Subcommittee meets on 20th July to consider the routes and recommend something to the full Subcommittee (probably in August). Please join us at County Hall at 2pm (time to be confirmed - look out for posters) to demonstrate against the Rothschild (outer northern) route. If you can't manage that, please try to be at The Green at 2.30pm on Friday 10th July, when we shall be presenting our petition to Bill Chapple of BCC. The more village residents we have the better!

Meanwhile, we have had encouraging letters from Oxfordshire County Council and from the Council for the Protection of Rural England. Oxfordshire oppose any upgrading of the A418 until the whole route has been properly worked out and full consultation with all the relevant Counties taken place. The CPRE believe this is part of a possible outer M25 motorway ring, and so are taking the A418 very seriously indeed. They support us in arguing for a single-carriageway bypass for Wing and other villages which really need relief, and for no upgrading of the A418.

Caroline Lane

ASTON ABBOTTS CHURCH ROOM

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The Chronicle

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	: 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

+++ HELP IN EMERGENCIES +++
(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

June has been quite a hectic month; after the fumigation period we unlocked the church to commence the spring cleaning which took members of the PCC and helpers two evenings each of three hours (there must be hundreds of homeless spiders) then Shirley put the finishing touches to the cleaning on Wednesday.

We had a wedding on Saturday 13th which went very well, and the churchyard mowing programme is going well. Sadly we have had three deaths in the village: Karen White, Rachel Cross and Annie Cutter. We offer our condolences to all their families.

The church is holding a fete for St James's festival on 25th/26th July and plans are going well. There will be stalls, sideshows, some new competitions, teas and ices. The theme for the floral arrangements will be ALL THINGS BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL, so should create interest. Do please come along. We also hope to include a car boot sale.

August is a quieter month as many families are on holiday so wherever you go have a good time and safe journeys, and look forward to seeing you at church on your return.

COLIN HIGGS

St. James's Church services in July and August

	<u>Sidesman</u>
5th July 11.15am FAMILY SERVICE Pentecost 4 Acts 8.26-38; Luke 15.1-10 (p.656)	Methodist Church
12th July 11.15am HOLY COMMUNION Pentecost 5 Acts 11.4-18; Luke 10.1-12 (p.661)	Colin Higgs
19th July 11.15am HOLY COMMUNION Pentecost 6 Eph 4.17-end; Mark 10.46-end (p.667)	Gillian Ford
26th July 6.00pm Patronal Festival Songs of Praise/ Pentecost 7 Rom 8.1-11; Mark 12.28-34 (p.672)	Churchwardens
2nd August 11.15am FAMILY SERVICE Pentecost 8 1 Cor 12.4-13; Luke 6.27-38 (p.677)	Alison Ford
9th August 11.15am HOLY COMMUNION Pentecost 9 2 Cor 6.3-10; Mark 0.14-29	Michael Hasler
16th August 11.15am HOLY COMMUNION Pentecost 10 Gal 6.1-10; Luke 7.36-end (p.687)	Colin Higgs
23rd August 11.15am HOLY COMMUNION Pentecost 11 Phil 1.1-11; Matt 20.1-16 (p.692)	Gillian Ford
30th August Benefice service at Wingrave, 10am Pentecost 12 Acts 17.22-end; Matt 5.13-16 (p.697)	
6th Sept 11.15am FAMILY SERVICE Pentecost 13 Acts 20.17-35; Matt 10.16-22 (p.701)	Methodist Church

Methodist Church Services

July 5th: Rev Willmott, 11.15am; 26th, Parish Church 6pm
August 2nd: Parish Church, 11.15am; 16th, Mr Ffoulkes, 6pm

RECTOR'S REPORT

This month's letter was to have been about soap powder - but unfortunately I was beaten to it.

Roughly I had planned to write about how the various detergents advertise their 'cleaner whites' and 'brighter colours' - unless, that is, you are regularly wanting to wash black shirts. "Recently my shirts seem to have faded rather more rapidly than they used to before we changed to the 'New advanced formula'.

Without wanting to appear mean, I don't relish the idea of throwing these shirts out just because they are faded. One thing is for sure - they will never make 'Star-Buys' at any Jumble Sale.

If I remember correctly what I was taught at school, the faded shirts should feel marginally cooler on very hot days. Actually they are more obvious when worn without a jacket on top. But, even so, there comes a point when they give out the wrong message (as the fashion writers would say).

The punch line of my intended letter was that you have to make a choice between the 'deep clean at low temperatures' and 'preserving the brightness of the colours'. You just can't have it both ways. But the manufacturers have recently launched new 'improved' products which, they claim, will cope with this problem - so, maybe, faded shirts could become a thing of the past.

In the meantime I have been thinking about trying a home dye. If you see me around in a shirt that has a very mottled effect, you will know that the experiment has been none too successful.

Fading is quite a complex business, and one that we often do not notice. The rose that emerges as a deep pink from its bud, slowly fades to a very pale shade. Freshly dug soil fades as the water dries out of the surface. Our holiday tan doesn't survive for many weeks. Newness and freshness slowly mellow into ordinariness. Even our ideas can stagnate after a while and we can become jaded, faded people, in need of brightening up. Maybe we do need the soap companies to be constantly producing their 'new improved formula' powders to prevent us from stagnating. The Church often gives the impression that it unwilling, if not incapable of moving with the times.

Bob Willmott



Unofficial notes from the meeting on 26th June

1. Footpath The planks by the Old Masters have been turned into a set of steps by Bucks County Council. Magic.
2. Planning applications
The parish council had no comment on the following, which now go to AVDC: farmhouse at Willowbrook Farm; two-storey side extension, Fair View; side extension at 5 Green (providing building materials in keeping).
AVDC has granted permission for extension at 14 Bricstock. The District Planning Officer is to determine application for farmhouse at Moat Farm. Likely to be conditions attached.
3. Accounts Electricity, £53.45 (for two months); insurance £175.48
4. Recreation Ground We have been granted £100 by AVDC for bulb and shrub planting.
Insurance claim for stolen mower being processed.
Free safety inspection of children's play area to be arranged.
AVDC to be asked to inspect and repair the fencing.

NEXT MEETING: Friday 7th August, 8pm in the Church Room
MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

Planning applications

Copies of plans are held by the Clerk, Margaret Chesher, at 20 The Green (681201). Anyone can ask to see them - you do not have to go into Aylesbury.

Aylesbury Vale Leisure Cheques

If you are thinking of starting a new group, or improving existing facilities, funding on a pound for pound basis is available from AVDC. The main criteria are that your idea should improve leisure for local people. Ring 395900 and ask for the Area Leisure Manager.

Garden rubbish

AVDC have REDUCED the cost of their green sacks from 58p to 36p !!
Buy them from the Cambridge Street depot (Mon-Fri, 9-3pm), fill them with weeds etc., and the bin people will take them away...



SPONSORED BICYCLE RIDE

On Saturday 12th September there will be a bike ride in aid of Historic Churches Trust. Details and forms from Helen Dowling.

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18thC Aston Abbots

Q. What was the Parochial Church Council doing in the 1700s?

A. Making records, among other things. Thanks to Shirley Ford for looking through them and giving us the following fascinating glimpse at Aston Abbots in the eighteenth century (before Social Security...)

The churchwardens kept careful accounts of income and expenditure. There are pages of payments made to the poor, both residents of the village and beggars passing through. Sometimes parishioners were paid to render services to unfortunates, making clothes for them for example. Payments are recorded for "surgoning", for laying out the dead, and for assisting at childbirths - sadly, these last two were often linked events. People were paid when they were ill or could not find work...

May 26th 1739 "Paid for a pair of shoos for Roger Smith 2s....
Paid for 2 pare of shoos for Roger Smith 2s 4d"
(either RS was very hard on shoes or was running a sideline!)
"Gave to a great bellyed woman 6d" (i.e. pregnant)

In 1739 came the first mention of payment for teaching: "Gave to Benjamin (Bates?) for teaching poor children 4s 4d".

1741 was a good year: "Gave to Elizabeth Mollard to dress her leg 1s"
"Pd to Thomas Pease for going about ye Townd 6d"
"Paid for beer on the parish Account 8s"

Later on in 1741:

"Beggar woman had a baby it costs 5s for the midwife"

"Pd to the Ashbys for things bought at ye shop for a beggar woman 1s3½d"

More mysterious, the following year: "Paid for Richard Keen's bill going to Winslow upon ye Beggar woman's account 13s8d" -quite a way, and quite a sum.

In 1744 Deb Myass was busy: "paid 6d for looking after her mother also 2s for washing and brewing for Margaret Hilsdon". Two years later, "for nursing her father 3s" and in 1747 "for washing and looking after Will Annat 5s".

In 1745 Ye Widow Kemp had problems: "Paid for a Bedcord for yr Widow Kemp"... "Paid to Judy Ashby for goods which ye Widow Kemp had 11¼d"... "Willi Chapman for a coffin for Deb Kemp 8s06d further charges with Deb Kemp before and after death £1 0s 9d".

There are many payments for hemp and spinning.

1752 "Paid other Great Bellied Woman that came from Burston 3s. Paid Sara Kempster Charge for looking after ye woman my whole £2.5s"

Finally, the last weeks of Ann Green: "Paid Richard Hedges for 3 Faggots for AG 6d"... August 6th, "Paid Elizabeth Baker for Nursing of Ann Green"... Sept 6th "Paid William Chapman for a coffin for AG 9s 6d; the Minister for an affidavit and other things 1s6d; Margaret Hudson and Elizabeth Baker for laying out Putting into the Coffin and Washing 4s"

A MONTHLY LOOK AT FACTS YOU NEVER WANTED TO KNOW

BLOODSHOT

Some conspicuous slow moving insects - among them the oil beetle, the bloody nosed beetle, *Timarcha tenebricosa*, and the common ladybird - bleed not when they have been hurt, but in order to prevent injury. When they are alarmed they release drops of a red, bitter tasting liquid from their mouths and from pores at their joints. The caustic flavour repels attackers before the insect is seriously harmed.

.....

SHORTEST AND LONGEST

The 20th-century French composer Erik Satie probably holds the record for a composition that is the shortest-and the longest-in the world. His piece for piano called *Vexations* lasts for just under a minute. However, Satie states in the score that it should be played 840 times in succession-a non stop playing time of 14 hours.

.....

Write to Royal Mail Letter
Delivery Office, 2 St Johns Road,
Aylesbury HP20 1AA
or telephone 82120



POSTMAN PAT

He's not really Postman Pat, and he hasn't got a black and white cat. What he has got is a nice little post round and he doesn't want to lose it. Yes, the little fellow who rattles your box every morning as he cheerfully goes on his round has been told he may be moved to another 'patch'. We would all miss him terribly, so what can we do to ensure he stays? Write to his boss and tell him, that's what. Say we don't want some old grumpyguts delivering our mail, we want the little fellow with the hairy legs and the permanent grin. If you can't write, ring, and do it now. Actually, I think Postman Pat suits him, don't you??

TWINNING NEWS

Many of you will have been aware of the presence of French youngsters in and around Wingrave over Easter. Twelve of them were on the first leg of this year's Youngsters' Exchange; the rest were two teams of Junior Footballers who had come over for the annual "international" match. All were, of course, from La Bouëxière. The English kids who are going back to France 23 - 30 July are more fortunate than their predecessors; they will be camping on the north coast of Brittany and participating in many sporting activities, principally water-sports. The week also includes a two-day hike with an overnight stop at a hostel. Eight young Germans from Hambrücken will also be at the camp.



The French family visit to England has this year moved from its habitual slot in May and will take place 11 - 14 July. Fifty or so are coming. We have planned a weekend of rural and horticultural interest, with visits to Pitstone Farm Museum, Kew Gardens etc. There will be a get-together on the evening of Sunday 12 July from 7.30 pm in the Community Centre, with a buffet supper and a bar. This is open to anyone who has an interest in twinning, and new "twinners" would be most welcome. To help with catering, please let Jean Keighley know you intend to come. (681235)

Our family weekend in La Bouëxière will be Saturday 24 October - Tuesday 27 October. Anyone is most welcome to join us. The French will find new host families for new participants, and their hospitality and warmth always amaze and delight us. The cost this year, including coach and ferry crossings, will be held at the same level as last year's prices, namely £49.50 for adults aged 14 and over, £30 for children 4 - 13. This price will include free Club Class seats on the Portsmouth-Cherbourg boats for the first 20 people who sign up! At this bargain rate, we do need to fill the coach however. Please book with Caroline Roberts, 30 Winslow Road, Wingrave; tel.681056. A £10 non-returnable deposit per person secures your place and - if you act quickly enough - your FREE Club Class seat!

Jean Keighley



Byron HOUSE

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CRISIS CENTRE

Friday mornings 10.00 a.m. - 12.00 p.m.

No appointment required

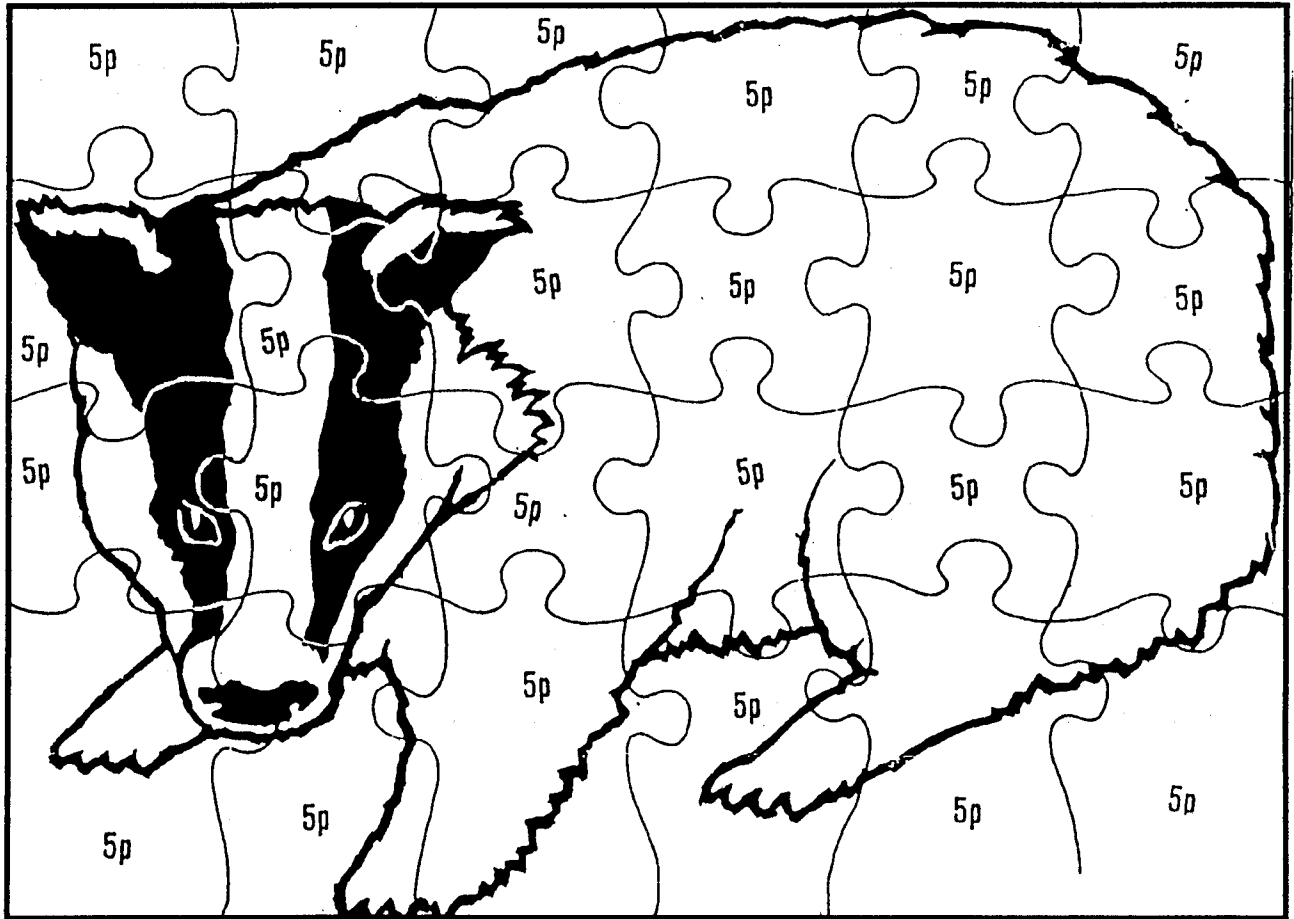
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RELATE

St Tiggywinkles Jigsaw

Help us to run a Hospital for wildlife!



Ask your family and friends to help you to complete the jigsaw by sponsoring one or more of the pieces. Colour in each piece as you collect the money.

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

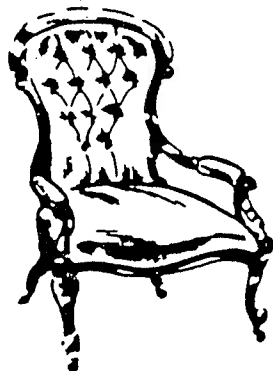
Please return to the form and money to: St Tiggywinkles,
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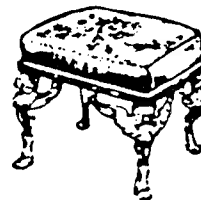
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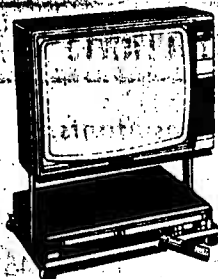
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