

# The Chronicle

Parish Magazine for Aston Abbotts



## **CHRISTMAS GREETINGS**



December 1943

No. 118





## Editorial

Many thanks to Lol Hinds and everyone else who put on the firework display on the Rec on Bonfire night, and supervised that enormous bonfire. There has been a clearance of the old hedgerow behind the bonfire and the hedge will be replanted soon, mostly with hawthorn but with a few extras to plunder like crab apple and hazel.

The What's On for December is crammed, as usual at this time of year. We hope you will all enjoy the season. Please see the separate page for the Wingrave School Association events, which are not listed on the What's On page. Best wishes for a good holiday to everyone.

*Caroline*

*Gordon*

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Please let us have material for the January issue by Friday 31st December. Bring, send or telephone to 2 Church Row (681373).

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## What's On : Dec

Sunday 12th: Carol service,  
St James's Church, 3pm

Thursday 16th: Ladies Club  
carol service, Cublington,  
2.45pm

Friday 17th: Parish Council,  
8pm Church Room

Friday 24th: Methodist  
Church carol service, 7pm

Thursday 6th Jan: Whist  
Drive, Church Room, 7.30pm

### REGULARS

Tuesdays: Bin Day

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

Tuesdays: mobile library  
Wingrave Road, 11.15-30am  
The Green, 11.35-12.10  
Oxley's Farm, alternate  
weeks 12.15am

Tuesdays: NEW mobile  
butchers, about 3-4pm, will  
deliver to door, ring 0296  
75220

Wednesdays: fish & chip van  
outside Bull & Butcher,  
about 8pm; rings bell first,  
can be up to 30 mins later

Thursdays: butcher as above

Fridays: free bus to Tesco  
Aylesbury; depart The Green  
10.06am, gets back 1.40pm

Want to visit Oxford? The  
Ladies Club are going to the  
theatre on 12th January.  
Theatre seats all sold but  
they have 25 spare places on  
the bus, leaving about 1pm  
and returning about 6pm, if  
you want to shop or  
sightsee. Cost £4 from  
Christine Fox, 682024.

Wednesday 1st: Aylesbury  
Vale Transport meeting.  
Bus/train queries to Colin,  
681343

Wednesday 1st Dec:  
Neighbourhood Watch meeting,  
Church Room, 7.30pm

Thursday 2nd: Ladies Club.  
Speaker Mrs Lane, Thimbles  
and old sewing implements.  
Church Room, 2.45pm

Thursday 2nd: Bingo, Church  
Room, 7.30pm

Friday 3rd Dec: Cheese and  
wine with Christmas floral  
decorations and bazaar,  
Church Room 7.30pm. Tickets  
£2 from Shirley, Doris or  
Colin

Saturday 4th Dec: Wingrave  
JFC Quiz Night 7.30pm

Sunday 5th Dec: Sal. Army  
concert, St James's, 3pm,  
tickets £1.50 from Colin,  
Doris, Shirley

Mondays 6th, 20th: Toddlers,  
Church Room, 2.30-4pm

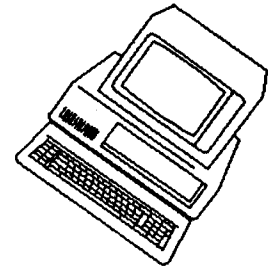
Friday 10th, Saturday 11th:  
Christmas Show, 8pm

Saturday 11th: children meet  
at Church 10.30am to do  
flower arrangements for  
carol service

Sunday 12th: Rambling Club  
meet Lillies Farm, Weedon,  
2pm

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At our November Parochial Church Council meeting it was agreed to obtain quotes for replacement rainwater piping and guttering to the tower and nave of the church, to alleviate damp patches noticed on the walls.

The forthcoming cheese and wine evening on Friday 3rd December and the afternoon concert on Sunday 5th were discussed and the final arrangements made, so if you have not yet booked your tickets I would advise you to do so now, thus avoiding disappointment.

Sunday 12th December is our Church Carol Service and this year we have asked several of the children to decorate the church for us, so please support them and come along to the service.

Our Christmas Day service will as usual be a family service with carols, followed by Communion.

On behalf of the members of the PCC may I thank all of you who have supported our fund-raising events during the year, whether by giving prizes, refreshments, or just being there; and I should like to take this opportunity to wish you a very happy Christmas and New Year, and look forward to your continued support in 1994.

Winners in the November 100 Club draw were: Mrs F. Higgs, Mrs Scutchings and Mr Von Simson.

COLIN HIGGS

St James's Church Services, see p.

Methodist Church Services in December

Sunday 5th: Family Service, 11.15am, Rev Willmott

Friday 24th: Carol Service, 7pm, Rev Ireland

CHRISTMAS SPIRIT - by Phyllis Page



Touch of a hand  
Look in an eye  
Laughter of children  
Christmas is nigh.

Crack of a cracker  
Smell of the roast  
Rustle of paper  
Glass raised in toast.

Tinsel frost sparkles  
Closeness of people  
Warm embers glowing  
Bells from the steeple.

Parties, calm moments  
Hearts filled with joy  
Love & Happiness - because  
One Baby Boy.



## RECTOR'S REPORT

I have recently acquired another 'family' clock. It is not of any great value, although it is an interesting reminder of the days when the clock on the mantelpiece was an indication of social standing. Size was important, and one that chimed the quarters was seen as vastly superior to one that merely struck the hours.

In a curious kind of way there was this family clock 'god'. It kept up its remorseless ticking to remind you both of its presence and of the passage of time. There were family rituals associated with winding the clock. It had to be treated right or it would become temperamental and stop.

Of course, it didn't matter whether you were rich or poor, whether your family clock needed winding daily or weekly, time passed by at the same rate. An hour is an hour is an hour.

It is strange that since we have stopped having clocks that need winding and 'due reverence', time seems to pass much more rapidly. Now we use quartz rather than a mechanical pendulum to measure time, we have lost the sense of rhythm - the 'tick-tock' of time passing.

The ticking of the 'family' clock could be one of those symbols that remind us of Christmases past - like the mellow warmth of a log fire crackling in the hearth. It is good at times to be reminded of the rhythm of life, and of the passage of time. There are times when we try to squeeze too much into every hour. There are times when the hands of the clock seem to move incredibly slowly. Yet the passage of time remains the same.

At Christmas we remember that: 'When the time was right, God sent his only Son into the world'. The 'family' clock (time) is not God - but God gives us time to do everything that he wants us to do.

So, don't have too hectic a Christmas.

Bob Willmott

## CHURCH SERVICES

WINGRAVE	5th Dec	10.0	Parish Communion
		6.0	Advent Carols (Singers)
	12th	10.0	Parish Communion
		6.0	Christingle
	19th	10.0	Parish Communion
		6.0	Nativity & Carols
	24th	6.0	Blessing the Crib
		11.0	Midnight Eucharist
	25th	10.0	United Service at Methodist
	26th	10.0	Benefice Eucharist
	2nd Jan	10.0	Parish Communion

ASTON ABBOTTS	5th Dec	11.15	Family Service (Methodist)
		3.0	Concert
<i>Sidesmen</i> Churchwardens Alison Ford	12th	3.0	Carols & Readings
Churchwardens Michael Hasler	19th	11.15	Parish Communion
	25th	10.0	Family Service & Communion
	2nd Jan	11.15	Family Service

CUBLINGTON	5th Jan	10.0	Family service
	12th	8.45	Parish Communion
	19th	8.45	Parish Communion
		3.0	Carols & Readings
	25th	8.45	Parish Communion
	2nd Jan	10.0	Christingle
		6.0	Iona Worship

### SUNDAY READINGS

5th Dec	Advent 2	(p430)	Isa 64.1-7; Luke 4.14-21
12th	Advent 3	(p434)	Mal 3.1-5; Matt 11.2-15
19th	Advent 4	(p439)	Zech 2.10-end; Matt 1.18-23
25th	Christmas	(p446)	Heb 1.1-5; John 1.1-14
26th	Christmas 1	(p452)	Rom 12.1-8; Luke 2.22-40
2nd Jan	2	(p458)	Rev. 21.22-22.5; Matt 2.1-12, 19-23

### FROM THE REGISTERS

Marriage	30th Oct	John Leach & Suzanne Upton
Funeral	20th Nov	Herbert Goldney at Aston Abbots

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### Birthdays

Gladys Hook (94) .....6th Dec  
 Alison Hewitt.....11th Dec  
 Eleanor Franklin....12th Dec  
 Jack Turner.....15th Dec  
 Claire Barnett.....18th Dec  
 Margaret Cheshier....18th Dec  
 Andrew Lovell.....25th Dec  
 Nicholas Osborne....25th Dec  
 Val Smith.....25th Dec

Congratulations Shirley and John Ford are pleased to announce the engagement of Alison to Carl Bowden of Weston Turville.

Belated congratulations to Gwyneth Price, who attained a First in her first exams at Oxford and thereby gained a scholarship to continue her degree.

We were very sorry to hear of the death of Herbert Goldney. He was a quiet and well liked man, and I doubt that he had an enemy in the world. Our thoughts go out to his family and friends.

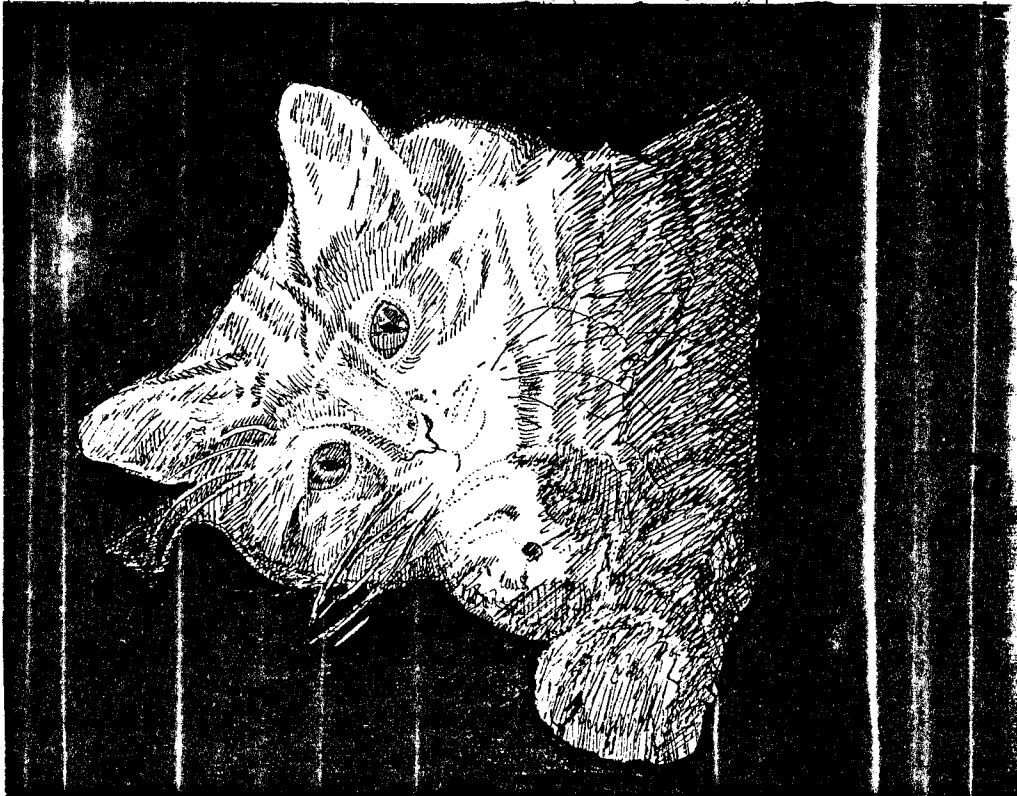
\* \* \*

Notice of thanks Many thanks to all those who attended the funeral of my father Herbert on Saturday 20th November. Thanks also for the kind words, cards and donations which made £175, all of which will be donated to Stoke Mandeville Hospital. A very special thanks to Doris, Len and Reg Scutchings and also Anita Parker for all their help, support and kindness over the past few months.

Philip Goldney

Hands that are born with gentle touch  
 Lips that are wondrous wise  
 The sympathy of an unspoiled heart  
 The love of innocent eyes.

Lord bless the pets we love so much  
 And give our hands the gentle touch  
 That they may trust the voice that  
 And recognise their human friends.



A child soon captures confidence  
 And friendship quickly grows  
 The instinct of trust in the loving heart  
 An animal always knows.

A home that keeps a dog with care  
 Will have a welcome waiting there  
 With love and laughter that are met  
 In the antics of a pet.

Thanks to  
 Rosemary  
 Franklin

## *The Cottesloe School Miscellanea*

**Autumn Term 1993**

On November 17th 1993 Wing School was officially re-opened as The Cottesloe School - Grant Maintained. The ceremony was performed by Commander Fremantle, Lord Lieutenant for Buckinghamshire who unveiled a commemorative plaque in the school entrance hall. The Reverend Sager, of All Saints Church in Wing, then gave a dedication and blessing and we were officially 'open'.

In less evocative terms we became The Cottesloe School on the 1st of September when the DFE recognised our Grant Maintained Status and the accompanying change of name.

The School has had its usual busy Autumn Term. Some of our students have been to Germany and we have had a group of American Students staying with Cottesloe families. Among other events in which our students took part were a Week of Dance with the Ludus Dance Company, a Careers Convention in Aylesbury, Duke of Edinburgh Expeditions, and Challenge 93. Some of our students help regularly at Wing Lodge.

The Parents and Friends of Cottesloe ran a very successful Craft Fair and the School held an Open Day which was attended by parents from a wide area of the County.

We will be holding a Party for the Elderly of Wing in December. Last year's Party was a great success and we look forward to seeing our friends again.

***Best Wishes for Christmas from all at Cottesloe.***

Auriol Jackson.

### ROUTEMASTER BUSES

As from 4th December, Peter and I will cease to operate the ROUTEMASTER service. It will be taken over by Luton & District (Aylesbury Bus) who will run the service at the same times as Routemaster did.

We would like to thank everyone who used our service during its four years of operation. We hope to keep on with the coach tours. Don't forget - Use your buses.

Peter and Colin

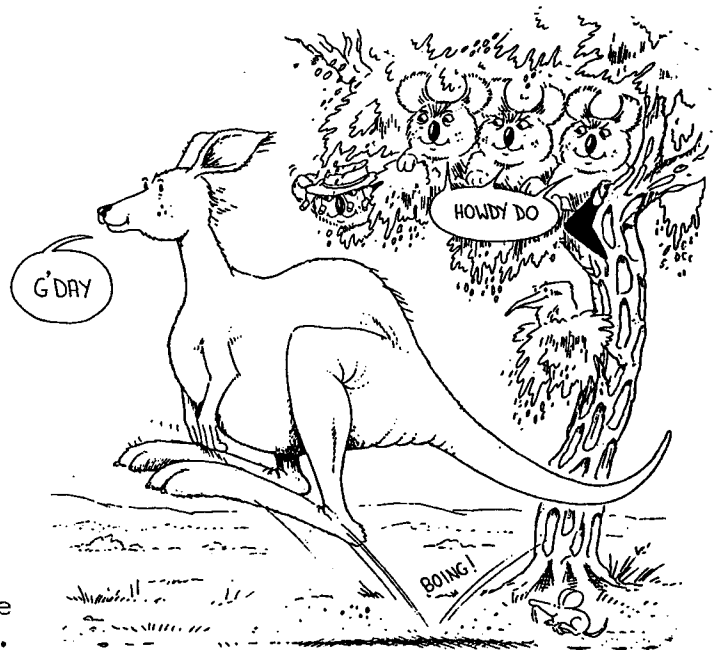


### BIN DAYS

The bins will be emptied on Thursday 30th December, not Tuesday 28th;  
Friday 7th January, not Tuesday 4th;  
Thursday 13th January, not Tuesday 11th;  
Wednesday 19th January, not Tuesday 18th.

## CHRISTMAS SHOW

As I write, all the tickets for both nights have now been sold. If you are desperate to get in, give Chris a ring on 681425 in case anyone has cancelled. If you would like to feel part of the show, but are unable to get a ticket, why not give a raffle prize and get a personal "thank you" from Margaret (681201) or Rita (681690) when they bring the wheelbarrow round to collect it? Thank you. Those that do have tickets, please note that the Show starts at 8pm on both nights.



A MONTHLY LOOK AT FACTS YOU NEVER WANTED TO KNOW

## BUSHMENS PARADISE

The Bushmen of South Africa's Kalahari Desert are poor by the world's standards, but there is a legend that they know of a secret oasis, hidden among the Kalahari's burning dunes, where huge diamonds lie on the ground in enormous quantities. There is a story that only one white man, a soldier lost from his patrol in the desert, has ever seen the fabulous oasis. He was captured and taken there by Bushmen, the primitive tribesmen who inhabit the fringes of the Kalahari. But he escaped and raised money for an expedition to make his fortune.

He was found dead weeks later, with a Bushman's arrow through his heart. In his pocket was a map showing the route to the Bushman's Paradise, and several rough diamonds. No one has yet read the map successfully, so the diamond oasis still awaits discovery.

"Wise Old Wallaby"

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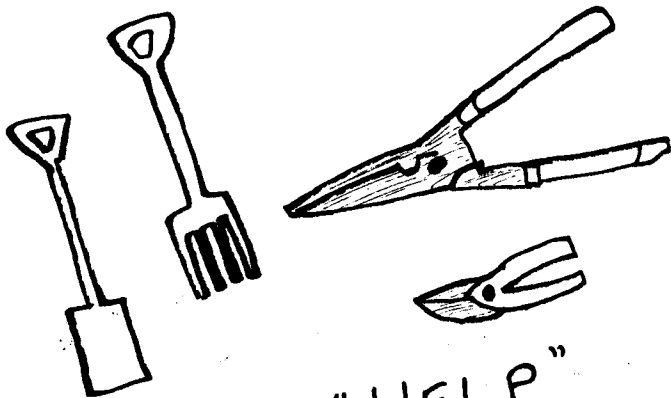
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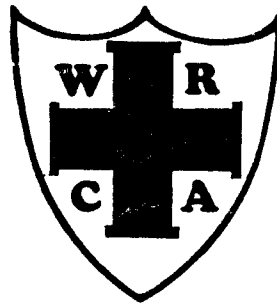
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TELEPHONE

(0296) 681235

# Wingrave CE Combined School School Association

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Twelve Leys,  
Wingrave,  
Aylesbury,  
Buckinghamshire  
HP22 4QG

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1993/194 looks like being an action packed year for those of you who attend the School Association functions. The new Committee met on 1st November and outlined a programme of events which aims to suit as many tastes as possible. As always the main aim is to raise money to provide extra books and equipment for children of all ages throughout the school. Those of you who attended the Open Evening in July will have seen a lot of the previous purchases in action. We hope to provide a new television and video for the school before Christmas and obviously we need your help and support to raise the necessary funding.

How can you help? Primarily by attending as many of the events as possible. Should none of these be to your liking then perhaps sending in donations towards raffles, tombolas, cake stalls etc. Suggest alternative functions to us - we are always willing to try something new. We look forward to seeing as many parents and friends of the school at the forthcoming events.

## Dates for Your Diary

- December 4th: 2-4 p.m. Christmas Fayre and Santa's Grotto - Christmas Prize Draw.
- January 22nd: Quiz Night
- February 19th: Cabaret Supper - a new venture and we'll be looking for some star performers!
- March 11th: Family Disco
- April 16th: Db's return by popular demand
- April 24th: Family Treasure Hunt
- May 29th: May Day Village Sponsored Walk
- May 20th: 50/50 Sale of nearly new children's clothes, fashion show and mini auction.
- June 11th: Promise Auction and Grand Summer Prize Draw - an alternative major fundraiser to the summer fete.

We aim to keep as close to this schedule as possible and further details of the events will be advertised in the local community papers, on posters and on the school newsletters.



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681425

Margaret Cheshier,  
20 The Green, 681201

John Ford, 2 Ross Road,  
681865

Roy Malin, 3 Ross Road,  
681358

John Whyte, 14 Bricstock,  
681865

George Fox, 1 Church Row,  
682024

### YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

Roger Biddle, 1 Firs  
Cottage, Wingrave Road,  
681102

John Ford, 2 Ross Road,  
681865

Caroline Lane (Chairman),  
2 Church Row, 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, Wingrave,  
681621

Unofficial notes from the meeting on November 12th.

Matters arising: A meeting had been arranged for Neighbourhood Watch on Wednesday 1st December; it would be addressed by PC Frank Yabsley, the NW community liaison officer, and by our own Mick Griggs.

A quote had been received for a new street light near the shop, for £220 for an orange light, or £187 for a softer light, plus £163 for electric connection. The views of local residents would be sought and the company asked where we could see a similar light in operation before deciding whether to go ahead. There was further discussion about moving the light on the Green or putting up a new one to illuminate more of the Grove corner; again, views of local residents would be sought and the company asked to clarify the quotation we had last year. It was thought that (short of felling the tree) trimming the branches would not help very much.

Planning application Overhead electricity cable to Moat Farm; no comment from PC.

Accounts Two months' electricity, £49.40; street light repair, £34.96.

A418 The Chairman and one of the affected farmers had been to a meeting with the Department of Transport, together with two reps from Wingrave/Rowsham PC. Reasons for not wanting a junction onto the new road were discussed and the PC's written response handed over, together with the petition signed by residents of Aston Abbotts parish.

The Aston Abbotts Action Group had received a copy of a further submission by Sir Evelyn de Rothschild on the Wing Bypass Inquiry, saying that publication of the Aylesbury-Wing section, and the inclusion of the A418 in the European network, mean the inquiry had insufficient information, and strengthen his argument for the outer northern route. This document would be circulated among the members of the Action Group and a response sent by the Group.

Recreation Ground The sponsored walk had raised £195 (with some money still to come in to the Clerk) and the Rec. Subcommittee would meet to decide what next.

Bucks County Council The PC expressed interest in a possible scheme to contribute to a speed camera which would be used from time to time in the village. There would be no resultant prosecutions, as this can only be done by the police, but as a recent experiment shows, a stiff letter to those photographed speeding might help awareness of the problem.

The PC also expressed interest in a scheme to supply villages with dog waste bins - thinking one could be installed at the Rec. We would pay for it, but the County would empty it.

AOB a member of the public was worried about cars parked at the entrance to Church Row, feeling that they were a hazard in that they made cars entering the village move to the crown of the road on the bend. The Chairman declared an interest and took no part in the discussion. It was felt that there were no worse problems here than there are anywhere else in the village and it was not practical to ask residents to park elsewhere.

Next meeting Friday 17th December, 8pm, Church Room

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**ASTON ABBOTTS**

**Usually Resident Population 1991**

Total Population	340
Males 172 Females 168	
In households	340
Not in households	0

**Characteristics of Usually Resident Population 1991**

Aged under 16	22%
Aged over Retirement Age	17%
Non-white ethnic group	2%
Economically Active*	66%
With Limiting Long Term Illness	9%
Moved in previous 12 months	9%

\* Percentage of over 16s

**Households and Dwellings 1991**

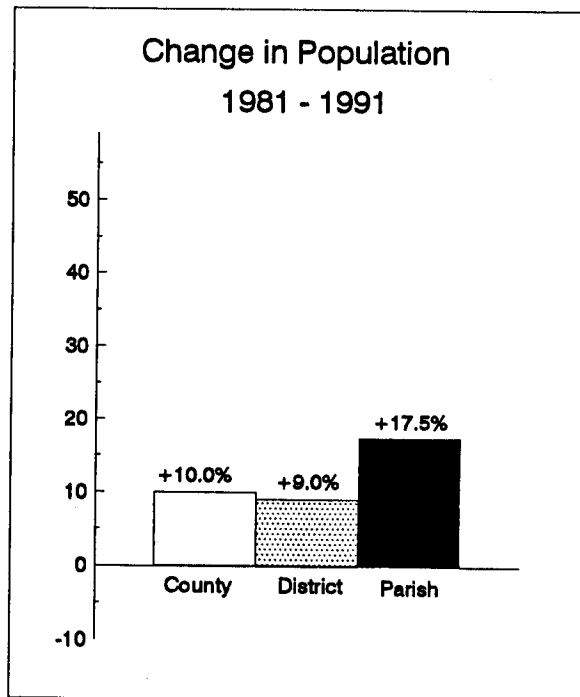
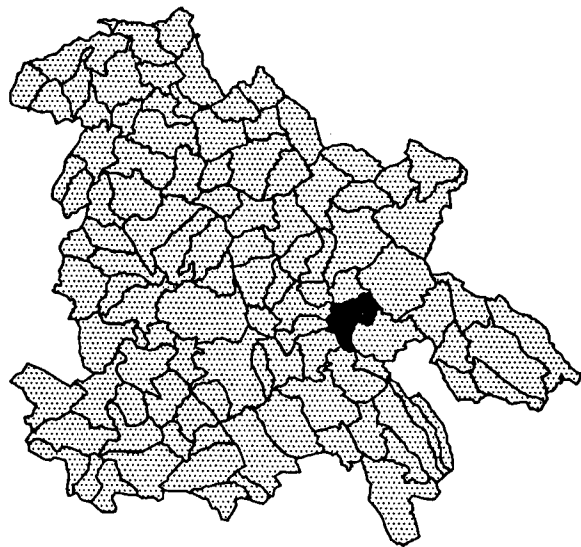
Total Households	129
Total Dwellings	137
Dwellings with Residents	130
Average household size	2.64

**Characteristics of Usually Resident Households 1991**

Owner-Occupiers (in permanent buildings)	69%
With no car	17%
Without central heating	10%
With more than 1 person per room	0%
Lone 'Parent'	0%
Containing pensioner(s) only	24%

\* One adult with dependent child(ren)

Source: 1991 Census - Crown Copyright



Aston Abbotts village hosts a combination of the new and the old, with buildings from as early as the fifteenth century. Much of the village was built in the mid nineteenth century, but there has recently been further development, which accounts for the increase in population since 1981.

In many ways, the population of this parish is fairly typical of many in Buckinghamshire. The majority of houses are owner-occupied, with central heating and the other basic amenities. The proportion of households with no car is slightly higher than for the average County parish. This might be explained partly by the fairly high proportion of pensioner-only households.

Even though the proportion of residents over retirement age is slightly higher than average, the percentage of adults who are working or looking for work is close to the figure for the County as a whole.

5170  
2

13 December [Before 1752] - Before the change in the calendar, this date, which is still dedicated to St Lucy, coincided with the winter solstice (now December 20)

---

A Nocturnal upon S. Lucies Day  
Being the Shortest Day

Tis the yeares midnight, and it is the dayes,  
Lucies, who scarce seaven houres herself unmaskes,  
The Sunne is spent, and now his flasks  
Send forth light squibs, no constant rayes:  
The world's whole sap is sunk:  
The generall balme th'hydroptique earth hath drunk,  
Whither, as to the beds-feet, life is shrunk,  
Dead and enterr'd; yet all these seeme to laugh,  
Compar'd with mee, who am their Epitaph.

Study me then, you who shall lovers bee  
At the next world, that is, at the next Spring:  
For I am every dead thing,  
In whom love wrought new Alchimie.  
For his art did expresse  
A quintessence even from nothingnesse,  
From dull privations, and lean emptinesse:  
He ruin'd me, and I am re-begot  
Of absence, darknesse, death; things which are not...

But I am None; nor will my Sunne renew.  
You lovers, for whose sake, the lesser Sunne  
At this time to the Goat is runne  
To fetch new lust, and give it you,  
Enjoy your summer all.  
Since she enjoys her long nights festivall,  
Let me prepare towards her, and let mee call  
This houre her Vigill, and her Eve, since this  
Both the yeares, and the dayes midnight is.

John Donne (taken from The Booklover's Almanac)

A bit depressing? What about this to cheer up your Christmas - a jolly traditional game, an account of which has been found in Chambers' Book of Days:

Christmas Games: Snapdragon

A quantity of raisins are deposited in a large dish or bowl (the broader and shallower this is, the better), and brandy or some other spirit is poured over the fruit and ignited. The bystanders now endeavour, by turns, to grasp a raisin, by plunging their hands through the flames; and as this is somewhat of an arduous feat, requiring both courage and rapidity of action, a considerable amount of laughter and merriment is evoked at the expense of the unsuccessful competitors.... Ho, ho, HO.



Rupert at Christmas:  
a page to colour

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