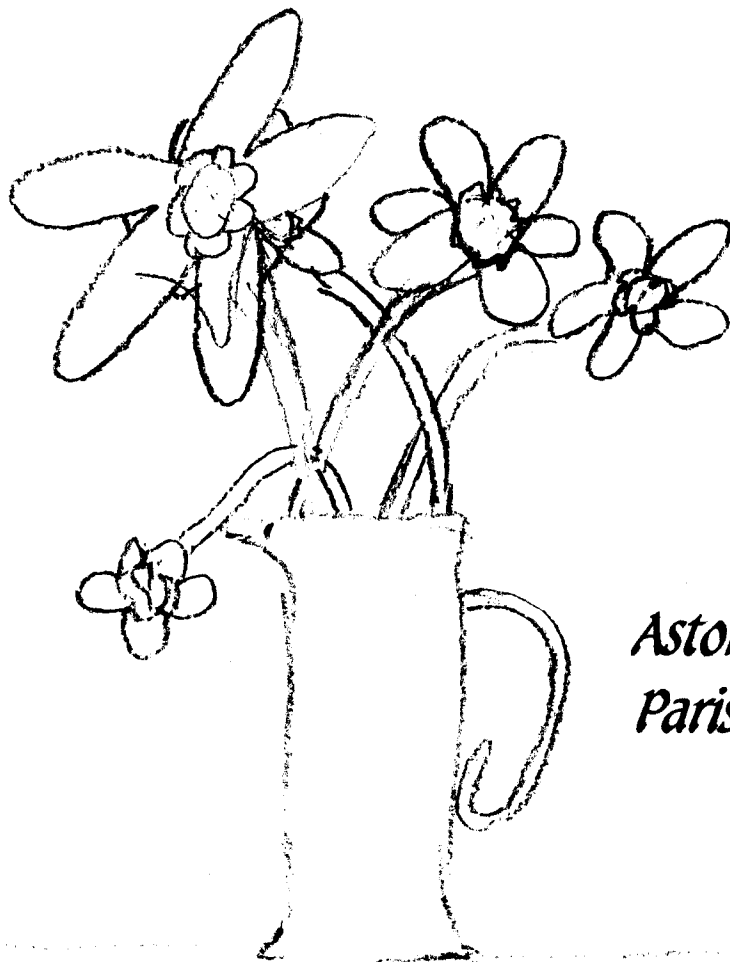
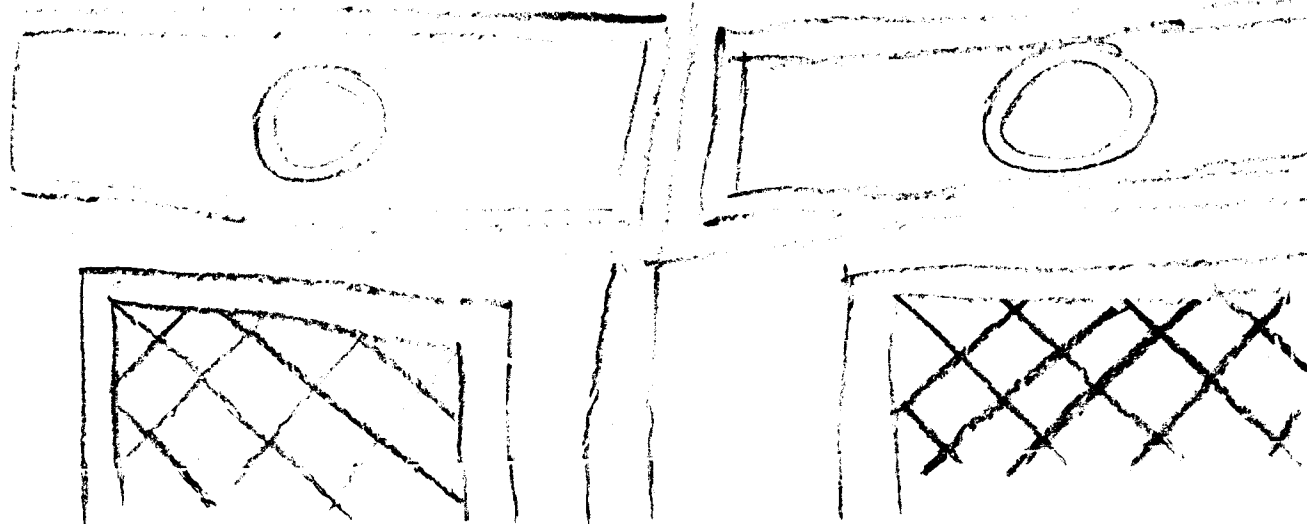


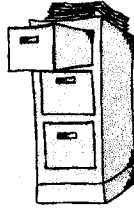
The Chronicle



Issue No. 157
March 1997

Aston Abbotts
Parish Magazine





From my desk, February has appeared a rather dull month in the village. The highlight seems to have been when the old Ford bowled over the Trig Point at the top of Lines Hill. Thankfully, it wasn't Andy!!

I note from my trusty Encarta that March was the first month of the Roman year, named after Mars, the god of war. In England, until the Gregorian calendar was adopted in 1752, March was still considered the first month with the legal year beginning on March 25. Perhaps this is still the case and is why legal activities seem to take so long to 'grind their course'; they start three months behind the rest of the population!

More interestingly, I see that April 22 is designated 'Earth Day' to emphasise the necessity for the conservation of the world's natural resources. It apparently started as a student-led movement, and has become a major educational and media event.

Environmentalists use it as an occasion to sum up current environmental problems of the planet: the pollution of air, water, and soils; the destruction of habitats; the decimation of hundreds of thousands of plant and animal species; and the depletion of non-renewable resources. The emphasis is on solutions that will slow and possibly reverse the negative effects of human

activities. Such solutions include recycling of manufactured materials, fuel and energy conservation, banning the use of harmful chemicals, halting the destruction of major habitats such as rain forests, and protecting endangered species.

Since most people have some interest in environmental matters, I should very much like to know (for a future article) whether this is being observed by our local schools and if so, how do they participate.

Finally, many thanks to Claire Biddle who sent me the artwork which I used for this month's cover and other sketches.

Andy Bystra



Printed by the Squirrel Press at Waddesdon School and distributed free of charge to all households in Aston Abbotts

Please note that copy date for the April issue will be Fri. the 21st of March 1997 All items for publication will need to reach me (Andy Bystra. 31 The Green, (Tel 681 690 or 688 125) by this date please.

RITA'S PEOPLE PAGE



A very happy birthday to all those celebrating their birthday during March, especially;-

Elsie Clark 2nd March
Claire Biddle 8th March
Andy Bystra 8th
Ross Macgregor 13th
Lydia Smith 15th
Ann Goodman 15th
Tracey Fletcher 17th
George Brandon 31st

Welcome

We extend a very warm welcome to;-

Liz and Ivan
who have just moved into number 1 Nash's Farm.

and

Paul and Ellie
who have moved into number 4 Nash's Farm

Apologies

To Rachel who sang so very well at the 'Late, late' Christmas Show .

Regrettably our 'theatrical correspondent' omitted to mention her sterling performance in last months 'write-up' about the show and I didn't spot the error until The Chronicle was printed.

Ed.

SWANBOURNE HOUSE

TWO DOMESTIC ASSISTANTS required at Swanbourne House School Swanbourne for;- cleaning, and dining room/pantry duties.

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THE CHRONICLE

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JOHN WHYTE

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GEORGE FOX

1 Church Row, 682024

TONY HINDS

6 The Green, 681454

If you would like to join
the help line
tel. Andy Bystra on 681690

YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

ROGER BIDDLE

1 Firs Cottage, Wingrave Road 681102

GWEN KEMPSTER

53 The Green, 681310

CAROLINE LANE Chairman)

2 Church Row, 681373

MARGARET KENT

6 The Green, 681454

TOM MANNING

682115

SUE TAYLOR (Parish Clerk)

3 The Acorns, 681 875

District Councillor

BRYAN ROUND

11 Nup End, Wingrave, 681621

County Councillor

BRENDA JENNINGS

2 Cotes Way, Wing 681065

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(Please crush cans if possible)

PAPER All newspaper and magazine wastes
(No large amounts of cardboard please)

THE MACINTYRE CENTRE can also take
textiles (All old clothes, rags, blankets etc) and is
open 8.30am to 6.30pm MONDAY to
SATURDAY

Dates for your diary!

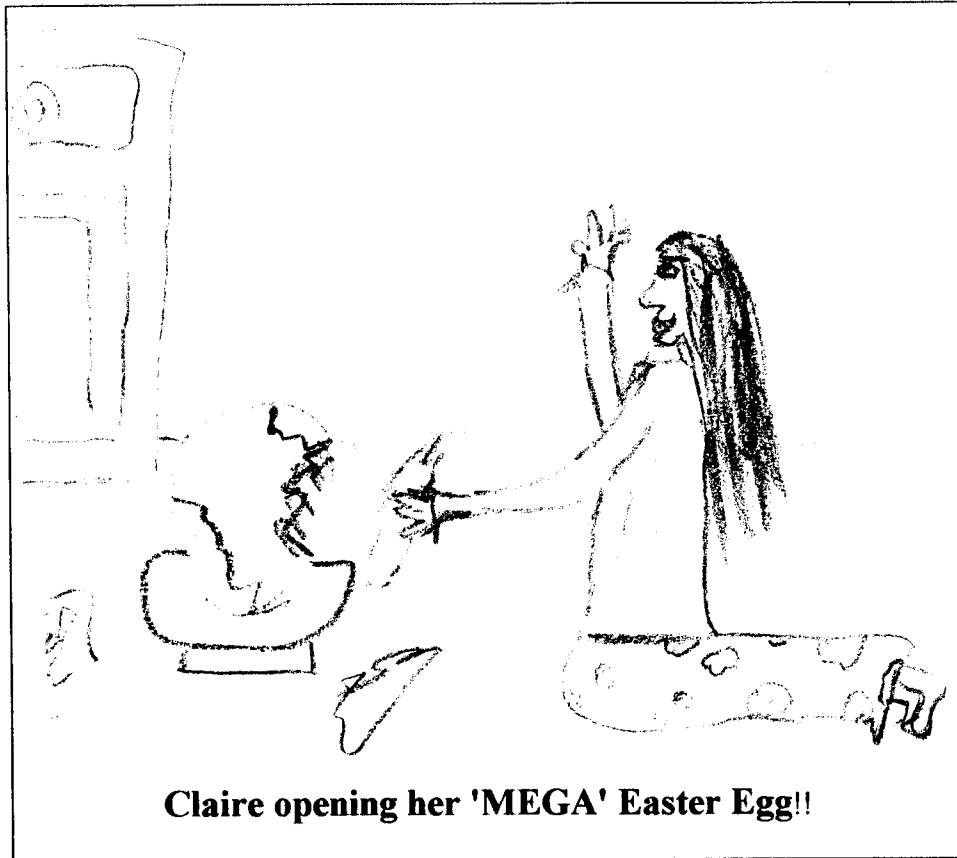
April 19th Trevor Howard
at Wingrave

May 26th Coach trip to
Stratford upon Avon

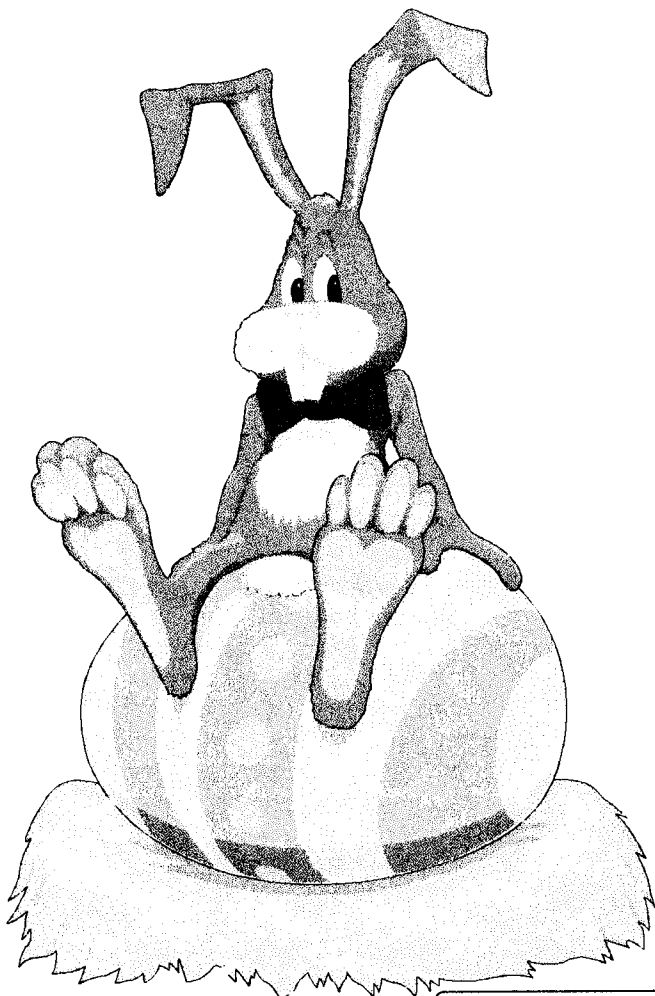
June 1st 630 members and
friends Club visit to Bass
Brewing Museum Burton on
Trent. Further details to
follow.

June 22nd Village Gardens
Open Day (Teas & crafts)

July 26th & 27th Village
Fete and Festival



Claire opening her 'MEGA' Easter Egg!!



**Having difficulty deciding what
sweet or pudding to prepare for that
special party?**

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Also;-

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The Trevor Howard Country Band

will be appearing at

WINGRAVE COMMUNITY CENTRE

on the evening of

Saturday the 19th of April 1997

Tickets which include a buffet supper are £5.00 each
and are available from George and Christine Fox on
01296 682024

Proceeds in aid of St James Church Aston Abbots

WHAT'S ON IN MAR.97

Tuesday 4th Floral Class. Church Room 7.00pm

Wednesday 5th Aylesbury Vale Transport Meeting (Bus/train queries to Colin please)

Thursday 6th Bingo Whist drive Church room 7.30p

Sunday 9th Mothers Day Rambling Club meet at Marsworth 2.00pm

Thursday. 13th Whist Drive Church Room 7.30pm.

Sunday 16th Village footpath walk. Meet at The Green 2.00pm.

Wenesday 19th The Annual Parish Meeting - All villagers welcome) Church Room 7.30pm.

Thursday 20th Bingo Church room 7.30pm.

Friday 21st Quiz evening in aid of Church Funds. Church Room 7.30pm. (Tickets from Shirley Ford or Hilary Hasler.)

Sunday 23rd Rambling Club members Meet at Brill 2.00pm.

Thursday. 27th Whist Drive Church Room 7.30pm.

Sunday 30th Easter Day. Rambling Club members Meet at Cublington 2.00pm

Tuesday 1st April Floral Class Church Room 7.00pm

NOTE;- Refuse will be collected on Friday 4th April instead of Thurs.3rd

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

19 March, 7.30 p.m., Church Room

All parishioners are welcome at The Annual Parish Meeting. This gathering pre-dates the Parish Council and provides an opportunity for anyone from the village to raise and discuss concerns related to the village.

In recent years, the following issues have been discussed: the running of the Church Room, The Chronicle, the Recreation Ground, Neighbourhood Watch, and the Village Fete.

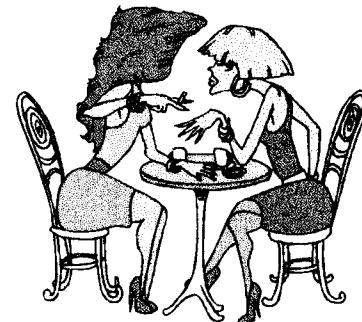
Of particular interest this year will be progress with plans for the future of the Church Room. I will put a full agenda on notice boards around the village nearer to the date of the meeting. If you would like an item included on the agenda please ring me on 681373.

Gordon Smith

LADIES CLUB NOTES

March 6th Spring Lunch. Ticket priced at £1.50 for members and £3.00 for guests are available from Avril Bradley-Davis 681357

March 20th 'A Chat and a Chuckle'
No speaker. Members to enjoy their own conversation.



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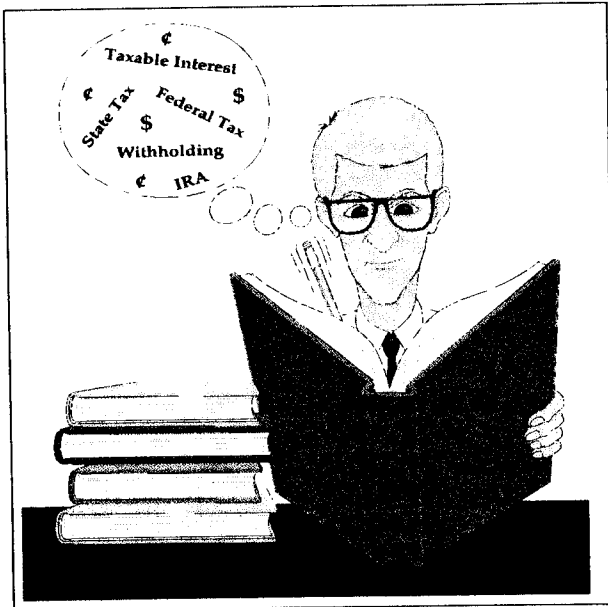
*For enquiries or appointment
please ring Jane on;-*

01296 682394

or

03798 371848 (mobile)





Dear venerated Editor, 'revered Andy'!
(henceforth **VERA**)

In recent issues you have posed questions about the meanings of certain phrases, and their origins. Lest you should think that your editorial effusions go unread, I thought I would try to find some answers.

Doing so reveals that practically any word in the English language either has or has had many meanings. The first query was about the expression 'flash in the pan', which you thought derived from an improbable episode involving exploding terrorists. Sadly, according to the Oxford English Dictionary, the explanation is more banal, and is that the pan was the part of certain kinds of pistol that held the priming: a flash in the pan was when the gunpowder exploded in the pan without actually firing anything from the gun.

Given that this explanation involves much excitement but little satisfaction it is probably not surprising that, according to Partridge's Dictionary of Slang, it gained a meaning that should not be gone into in a family publication.

This wonderful Dictionary also reveals that in the eighteenth century a flashpanny was a tavern or lodging house frequented by thieves, in which you might well find a flashman (one who talks the slang of the underworld), a flash mollisher (a woman thief or swindler) and probably flashtails, about whom the less said the better.

Another query was about 'trick or treat'. Although of course Hallowe'en is as old as the hills the authors of the books I've looked at have been unable to find any reference to trick or treating before 1947. It's an American dodge, that has started to catch on over here, I would guess through the 'Peanuts' cartoon; though I have read that it's now frowned upon in some parts of America, as being rather dangerous.

As for the 'Stewkley men', I wonder if this might derive from 'stooks', in the sense of large bundles of straw. Apparently this word also used generally to mean 'support'; so that in a coal mine the stooks were the pillars of coal that held up the roof. Just to prove the point about the same words meaning a huge number of different things 'stook' also used to mean pocket handkerchief, and a 'stookbuzzer' meant a pickpocket. On reflection the more likely explanation, as you say, is the well known fact that people in Stewkley spend all day leaning up against fenceposts.

Gordon

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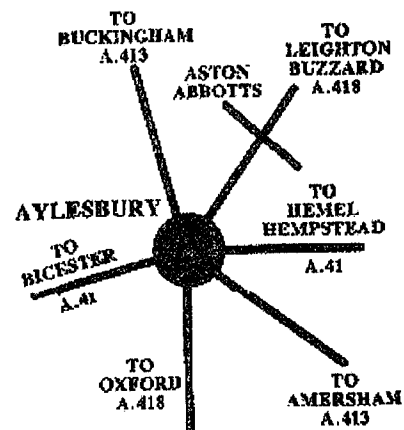
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COLD COMFORT GUN CLUB

After a long absence from this page, I thought an update was in order so here goes.

The standard of shooting has been very high and the '96' Season finished off with Darryl Dyer taking all the trophies we could offer including Top Gun for the season with 40/48, and the pairs flurry trophy at the annual bar-b-q. Dick Withey holds the overall top gun spot with a very credible 44/48. Darryl Dyer and Lol Hinds are close on his heels though and so the race is on.

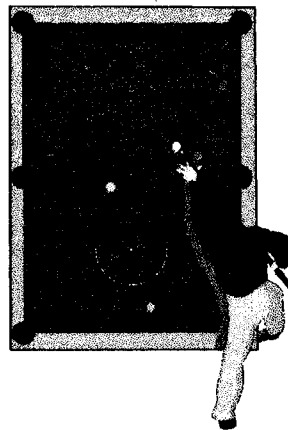
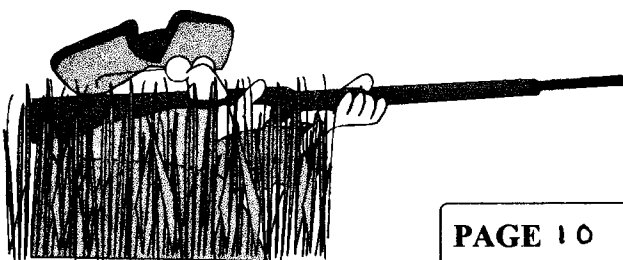
A new handicap system (which works rather like a golf handicap) is in operation this season. It has allowed some new faces to win individual shoots and have the undisputed honour of buying the first round at Franks! Allegedly, it was introduced by the top scoring members, to give everyone an equal chance (although we suspect it is really to save them paying for a round).

It had been noticed that many members were saving money by shooting two clays with one cartridge. Club Secretary, Syd Pratt-Heaton was, as ever, quick to spot a cash making scheme and now fines any one shooting two clays at once the sum of one pound. The money raised is to go towards new equipment for the Club. It's quite amazing how some people's shooting has changed!

We welcomed several new members this year and hope they enjoy themselves throughout the season.

The Weedon v Cold Comfort Toilet Seat Challenge is almost upon us, the first leg to be held at Weedon on 2nd March. Watch this space for the results.

Tom Manning.



TONY'S SPORTS COLUMN

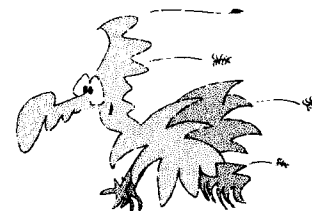
The new season is now well underway but unfortunately The Bull & Butcher's last two games have been total disasters.

We went down 6-2 & 5-3 respectively against The Swan Grendon Underwood and The County Arms Stone. However, on a more cheerful note Tony & Lol Hinds have reached the semi-final of the League pairs competition.

Bad luck to Will Ellis and Marc Brandon representing The Royal Oak, on being knocked out in the quarter finals.

After what seems like a run of 'bad luck' hopefully, it looks as though our fortunes are about to improve. During the last match this term we managed a magnificent win against our old rivals The Five Elmes at Weedon. It's fair to say that on this occasion we fairly trounced them; the final result being 8-0. Well done team and keep up the good work!!

Finally, and as if to confirm our new found run of 'good luck' the Bull & Butcher managed to win a friendly dart's match against The Royal Oak 3-2



Tony Hinds



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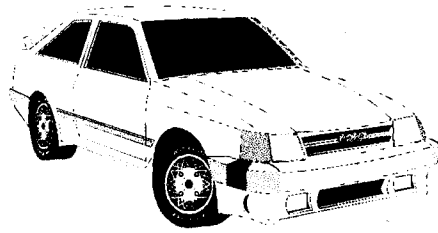
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Monday 26th May (Bank Holiday) Stratford on Avon App. £7.00

Saturday 3rd August Gloucester Docks/Shopping £8.00

Sunday 24th August (Bank Holiday) Folkstone £8.00

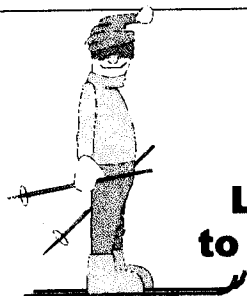
Saturday 4th October Canterbury Cathedral Flower Festival. (Price to be advised)

Sunday 2nd November Brighton (For the 'Old Crocks' Race) £8.00

Saturday 7th December Nottingham Christmas Shopper. £8.00



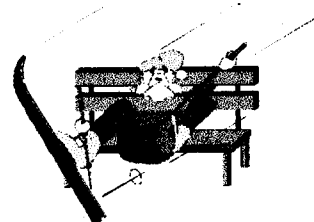
Pickup points	Trip 1	Trip 2	Trip 3	Trip 4	Trip 5	Trip 6
Aylesbury (Kingsbury Sq.)	1.30	9.15	8.15	8.15	8.15	8.15
Wingrave (Abbots Way)	1.10	9.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.30
Aston Abbots (Bull & Butcher)	1.05	8.55	7.55	7.55	7.55	8.35
Cublington Cross Rds	1.00	8.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	8.40
Wing (Stewkly Rd bus stop)	12.55	8.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	8.45
Linslade (Church Rd)	12.45	8.35	7.35	7.35	7.35	8.55
Golden Riddy			7.30	7.30	7.30	9.00



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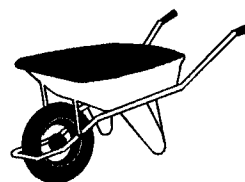
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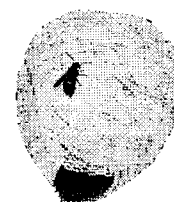


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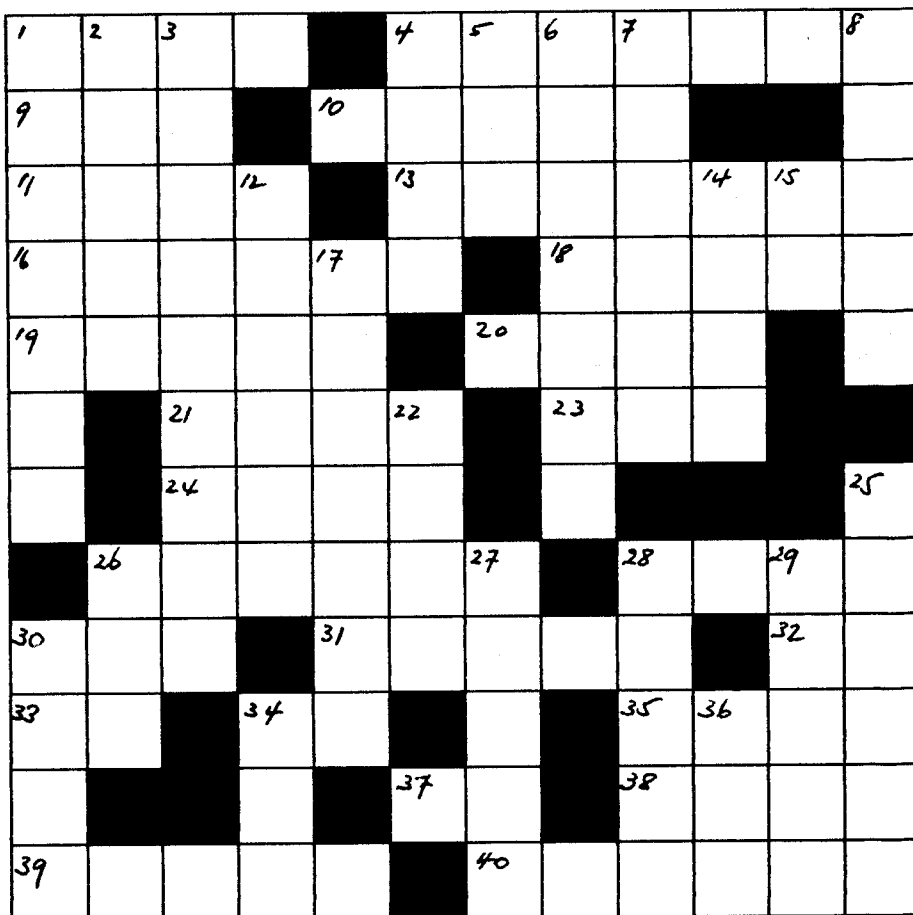
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MARCH



ACROSS

- 1&4. Bucks town (4&7)
 9. A number (3)
 10. Devout (5)
 11. Tear, rip (4)
 13. Struggles (7)
 16. A garland (6)
 18. A jewelled headpiece (5)
 19. Aquatic animal (5)
 20. Gentle, mild (4)
 21. ---- of March (4)
 23. Colouring agent (3)
 24. Shout (4)
 26. Having a brick fence (6)
 28. Month (abbr. 4)
 30. To be unwell (3)
 31. Fool (5)
 32. Naval rank (abbr. 2)
 33. Grand turismo (abbr. 2)
 34. When, while (2)
 35. European plant (4)
 37. There are a lot of these in "The Chronicle" (abbr.2) -----
 38 Girl's name (4) 39. Notable, large (5) 40. Another number

DOWN

1. Local Village (7)
 2. Sluggish (5)
 3. Genial etc (anag 9)
 4. Among, by (4)
 5. Not me (3)
 6. Guardianship (7)
 7. Form into bone (6)
 8. A composition (5)
 12. Skilful or intricate ((6)
 14. Tale (anag 4)
 15. Royal letters (2)
 17. Latticework for plants (7)
 22. Snow vehicle (4)
 25. Part of flower (6)
 26. Humour, intelligence (3)
 27. Electronic valve(5)
 28. Fixed look (5)
 29. Dried fruit (5)
 30. Eager, curious (4)
 34. Girl's name (3)
 36. Small Reverend (3)

Answers to February: Across. 1 Princes. 7 Abo. 9. Line. 10 Noisy.

12. Established. 14 Aber. 15 All. 16 Sore. 17 Etch. 19 ER. 20 Digs. 23 Oh. 25 Needier.

17. Quell. 29 Nun. 30 Gleaming. 31 Shown. 32 Damsels

DOWN: 1 Please. 2 Risborough. 3 Inter. 4 Neared. 5 Enlarge. 6 Soil. 7 Ash. 8 Bye.

11 Isle. 13 Dehorners. 18 Tring. 21 Inland. 22 Sexism. 24 Helot. 26 EU. 28 Lew. 31 SW.

CAN YOU SPEAK FOR SOMEONE IN NEED OF HELP?

Aylesbury Vale Advocates (AVA) is a local charity which has been working throughout Aylesbury Vale for four years

AVA helps people with communication difficulties which prevent them from voicing their own needs. These difficulties may arise from a variety of causes, learning of physical disability, or old age.

AVA volunteers get to know their clients well so they can then speak out or write on their behalf when need arises - for example to agencies like the local council, health authority and social security. Help has also been given by volunteers in arranging holidays, obtaining advice about benefits, personal budgeting, making appointments and attending meetings with solicitors, doctors and social workers, finding accommodation and dealing with correspondence.

Volunteers are fully supported by the AVA Co-ordinator, a qualified counsellor, who offers advice and training. Out of pocket expenses are paid.

If you have a caring nature and a couple of hours to spare a week, you can apply to become a volunteer. To find out more about our work, please contact:-

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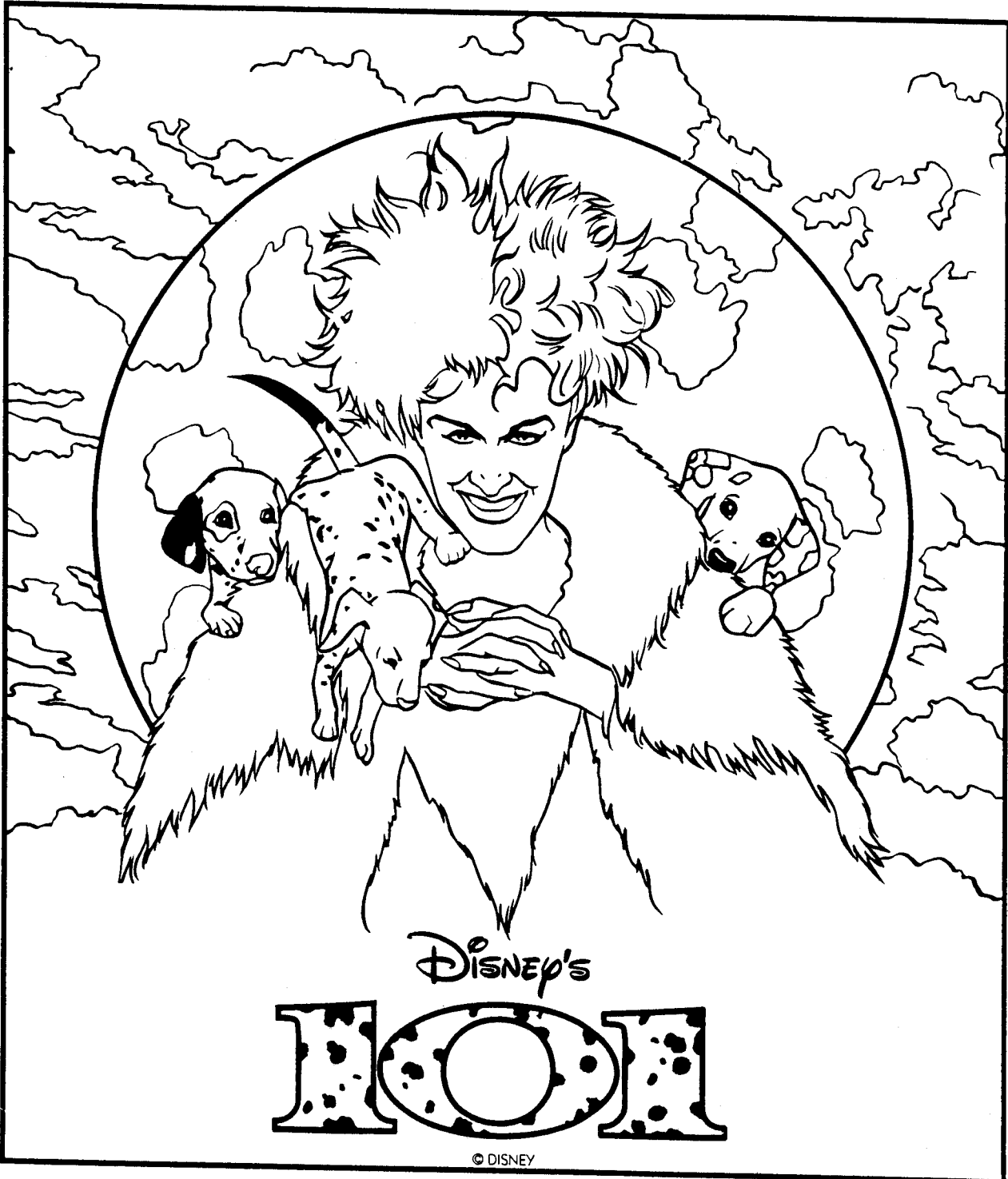
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101 Dalmatians

at Leighton Buzzard Theatre
this Easter!

Win four tickets to 101 Dalmatians on Tuesday 25th March 1997 by entering our Dotty Colouring Competition!



Name:

Age:

Address

Closing Date: Monday 10th March 1997

Send your entry to 101 Dalmatians Competition, Leighton Buzzard Theatre, Lake Street, Leighton Buzzard.
Judges decision is final. The winner will be notified by 12th March 1997.





CHURCH SERVICES



SUNDAY READINGS

2. March 97 Lent 3 (p.514) Col. 1, 24-end;
Luke 9, 18-27

9. March. 97 Lent 4 (p.518)
2 Cor. 3, 4-end; Luke 9, 28-36

16 March.97 Lent 5 (p.523) Col. 2, 8-15;
John 12, 20-32

23. March 97 Palm (p.532) 1 Cor. 1, 18-25;
Matt. 21, 1-11

30. March.97 Easter (p.577) Col. 3, 1-11;
John 20, 1-10

6. April 97 Easter 1 (p.603) 1 Pet. 1, 3-9;
John 20, 19-29.

ASTON ABBOTTS

- 2. March 97 11.15 Parish Communion
- 5. March 97 19.30 Annual Church Meeting
- 9. March 97 11.15 Morning Worship
- 16. March.97 10.00 Parish Communion
- 23. March 97 11.15 Parish Communion
- 28. March 97 10.00 Good Friday Devotion
- 30. March 97 11.15 EASTER COMMUNION
- 6. April 97 11.15 Morning Service

CUBLINGTON

- 2. March 97 08.45 Parish Communion
- 9. March 97 10.00 Family Service
- 16. March 97 08.45 Parish Communion
15.00 Annual Church Meeting
- 23. March 97 08.45 Parish Communion
- 28. March 97 12.00 Good Friday Devotion
- 30. March 97 08.45 EASTER COMMUNION
- 6. April 97 10.00 Family Service

WINGRAVE

- 2. March 97 10.00 Parish Communion
15.00 Annual Church Meeting
- 9. March 97 10.00 Parish Communion
- 16. March 97 10.00 Service at Aston Abbotts
- 23. March 97 10.00 Parish Communion
- 27. March.97 20.00 Maundy Eucharist
- 28. March 97 14.00 Good Friday Devotion
19.00 Service at URC
- 30. March 97 10.00 EASTER COMMUNION
- 6. April 97 10.00 Parish Communion

A small boy was brought up very strictly by religious parents. One evening he was given a bowl of prunes for desert but out of character, refused to eat them.

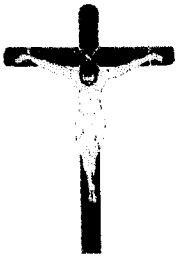
He was sent to bed, and told that God would be very displeased. In the night thunderstorms developed during which his parents heard footsteps down the stairs. The father said "He's going down to eat his prunes"

At that point a particularly vivid flash of lightning was immediately followed by a roar of thunder and the boy was heard to mutter "What a silly fuss over a few prunes".

Anon

**Church flowers at Aston
Abbotts.**





RECTOR'S REPORT

In one of the churches that I used to look after there was a row of hat pegs down one side. I would guess that they probably dated from around the late eighteenth or early nineteenth century. There were probably about twelve or fifteen wooden pegs morticed into a wooden board fixed to the wall.

When I first saw them, they reminded me of one of my first exercises in woodwork at school. We only had to make one peg - and I remember that mine was not terribly good.

The church hat pegs dated from a time when the men all sat on the south side of the church and the women on the north and the men wore stove-pipe hats. They seemed to me for a long time to be an interesting curiosity that didn't have very much meaning. After all, a row of pegs is a row of pegs!

But then, one evening during a discussion, someone reminded me of the way we use mental "pegs" on which to hang our ideas and our thoughts. Sometimes we use a sequence of pegs as our thoughts develop - pegs which are stages in our thinking process. At other times we use a peg as a point of temporary storage for an idea; we hang it up and leave it for a while so that we can come back to it later after we have thought about other things. Then there are those ideas which we need the space to stand back from so that we can see them more clearly. Pegs allow us to put our thoughts into perspective and to distinguish between the helpful and the valueless.

Above the row of hat pegs that I saw Sunday by Sunday was a fairly modern (and not very special) tapestry of the Last Supper. Whether the two were put together on purpose or not I do not know, but the pegs provided the opportunity to develop thoughts about the Last Supper.

We do not know of all the thoughts that went through the minds of the disciples at that meal, but we do know how that meal was the prelude to the Trial and Passion of Jesus - of the events that took place in the days which followed and of the way those thoughts have nourished Christians ever since. We have been provided with a wonderful set of pegs on which to hang our thinking and our understanding of the events of that first Holy Week, and we can still use the pegs today!

Bob Willmott

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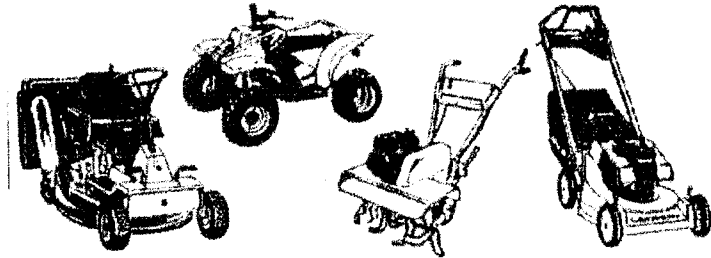
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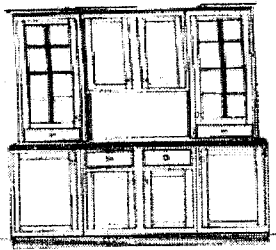


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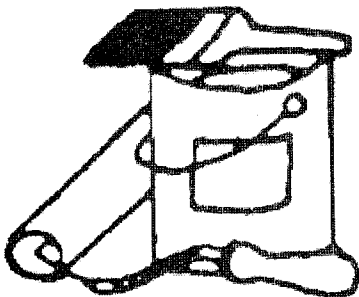
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