

# THE CHRONICLE

ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH MAGAZINE



ISSUE 174 - DECEMBER 1998

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL



# Editorial -

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 1998:



Well, another Christmas beckons! This will be our second in the Village and doubtless it will prove to be just as enjoyable. It's true to say that we approached last Christmas with a slight degree of trepidation - after all, you hear so much about villages "closing ranks" and not taking to newcomers.

Of course, we needn't have worried! Aston Abbots becomes an *even friendlier* place during the festive season (if that's possible!!) with open doors around every corner and a welcome for everybody.

The season seems to kick off with the Christmas Cabaret although this year I expect the 6.30 club

Christmas lunch will herald the beginning of festivities for one or two of us. But for me, Christmas proper really begins with The Carol Service, to be held this year at 3.00pm on Sunday the 20<sup>th</sup> December in St.James Church. This is an event not to be missed, especially if this is your first Christmas in the Village.

The What's On section gives you information about all of the events leading up to Christmas as well as details of additional busses running for late night shopping.

And don't miss out on the special Christmas menus on offer at The Bull & Butcher, The Old Masters, and The Royal Oak - the atmosphere in our local hostelrys is particularly convivial at this time of year. Of course, if you are partaking of a drink or two, do not drink and drive - there's a very topical quiz from the TVP in

this issue which is worth attempting and serves as a timely reminder. If in doubt, take the bus or book a taxi - you can get the number for Wing Cars from their new advert in **THE CHRONICLE**.

Talking of adverts, Ivan Greenaway - **CHRONICLE** advertising exec. extraordinaire - has been especially busy of late soliciting new adverts from local businesses. The income from these keeps our magazine going so please support the companies and individuals concerned whenever possible. There is always space for more adverts!

As an example of the power of advertising, we have succeeded in recruiting a new Parish Clerk to step into Shona's shoes; I know that I speak for us all when thanking Shona (and her assistant Steve) for all her hard work as Clerk, and when wishing them the best of luck in Sweden.

### FOOTIE KIT....

I have recently become the proud owner of a complete football kit (well, 11 numbered shirts anyway) in a striking Red with Blue edging, and sponsored by a well known brand of chocolate bar. My playing days are over so although there is no official regular village team the strip may well be useful for friendlies and so on. Perhaps Lol might be interested in the kit for the annual Boxing Day match? Let me know....

Well, that's about it for this month except for my usual plea for articles etc. for publication - I'm sure that many of you will be visiting new places of interest and restaurants serving good food over this coming month, so jot

the details down for the entertainment section (don't forget your "Abbotts")!

From everybody at **THE CHRONICLE**, all that remains for this year is to say "Have a wonderful Christmas and we'll see you in the New Year".

*Andi Swain*

P.S. Because of school holidays, the next edition will not be printed until the second week of January. Please however make sure that items for publication arrive at **THE CHRONICLE** office by December 20<sup>th</sup>.

## IN THIS FESTIVE YULETIDE ISSUE OF THE CHRONICLE

- In the Village - lots of local matters
- Bonfire night report
- **THE CHRONICLE GUIDE**  
Check your "Abbotts" in our food & entertainment guide
- Competitions
- Aston Abbots famine goes on
- Royal British Legion
- Millennium Party Update
- Czech Mate!
- All our regular sections and more!

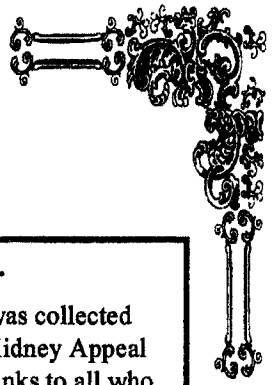
### PRODUCTION TEAM CONTACTS

Editorial / General Andi Swain 2 Nash's Farm - 01296 682651  
 Distribution Andy Bystra 31 The Green - 01296 681690  
 Advertising Ivan Greenaway 1 Nash's Farm - 01296 682605

A note to all would be advertisers -  
 more than 150 households receive **THE CHRONICLE** 11  
 times a year and with rates from just £7 per annum (far  
 cheaper than some local Parish magazines!)  
**can you afford not to be in?**

Copy date for January issue is December 20<sup>th</sup> - please pass items to Andi Swain at 2 Nash's Farm or to a member of the Production Team. Printed at Waddesdon School and distributed free of charge to all Households in Aston Abbots.

# RITA'S PEOPLE PAGE

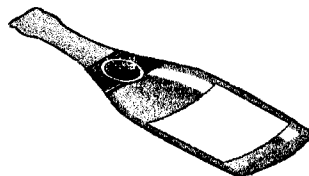


Aston Abbotts wishes a **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to everybody celebrating in **December**, especially

Ivan Greenaway	2nd	Derek Ludlam	19th
Allison Hewitt	11th	Charlotte Radford	20th
Becky Lord	11th	Andrew Lovell	25th
Rosie Manning	12th	Nicholas Osborn	25th
Stella Howell	14th	Val Smith	25th
Jack Turner	15th		
Claire Barnett	18th		

**APPEAL..**  
A total of £30.50 was collected through the recent Kidney Appeal envelopes - many thanks to all who contributed to this worthy charity

It's **HELLO** and welcome to Kitty and Angus Turner who have moved in to Cliff and Pauline's old house. trusting you will enjoy Village life and that we will make your acquaintance at future local functions.



## Plenty of goodbyes this month .....

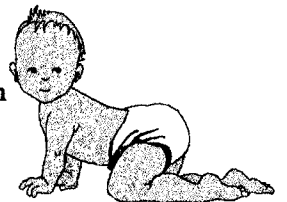
Steve, Shona and Ross Macgregor will be leaving the Village this month for their new home in Stockholm, Sweden. We hope that all goes well for you there and look forward to seeing you on your return in two years time.



We also say goodbye to Clifford, Pauline, and Ben Price who have recently moved from 63 The Green where they lived for over eleven years. They have written to say that the sale of the house went through very quickly in the end and are sorry they were unable to say goodbye to all of their friends. Their new address is St.Mary's Barn, Church End, Haddenham - Telephone 01844 292890. Should you be in that area please call as Cliff Pauline and Ben would be delighted to see you.



**CONGRATULATIONS** to Jackie and Chris Farrands on the birth of their **twin** son and daughter. Baby Thomas weighed in at 4lb12ozs and sister Eleanor at 3lbs15ozs.



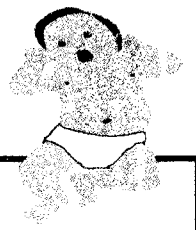
Their safe arrival was on 4th November 1998.

**Congratulations** also to Paul (who used to live here) and Kathy Turnham, on the birth of their son, Jack.

We would like to say **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** and **CONGRATULATIONS** to **ROBERT SMITH** who will be **18** on the 20th December



To everybody in Aston Abbotts from all of us at **THE CHRONICLE**



Let **RITA** know about your news, birthdays, or forthcoming event...phone Rita on 681690

**BABYSITTING**  
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TONY HINDS  
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682115

**KATE CURRY (Parish Clerk)**  
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**GWEN KEMPSTER**  
53 The Green 681310

**MARGARET KENT**  
6 The Green 681454

**LINDA SUTTON**  
Sadlers Farm 681413

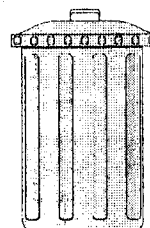
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11 Nup End, Wingrave 681621

County Councillor  
**BRENDA JENNINGS**  
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**The Macintyre Centre** can also take textiles  
(clothes, rags, blankets, sheets etc)  
Open 8.30am - 6.30pm Monday to Saturday

# IN THE VILLAGE 1.

## REMEMBERING WHAT CHRISTMAS IS ABOUT....

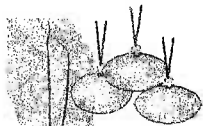
Christine Scott has passed me a note containing a delightful poem written by her daughter, Gillian, which really does epitomise the meaning of Christmas.

Christine picks up the story,

### A CHRISTMAS POEM

I've tried to see the magic  
Beyond the Christmas Cheer -  
Gaudy, glitzy glitter  
And Santa's sagging deer

I've closed my eyes to jingles  
Adverts on T.V.  
The haunting Christmas Image  
Of a plastic coated tree



I cleared out all the baubles  
Save the silver and the gold  
Reminders of the treasures  
Brought by Travellers of Old

I want to see an image  
That reminds me of a birth  
Not one to cover up the pain  
With merriment and mirth

I've found a tree with roots in  
I dug it from the ground  
I placed it in a tub of sand  
The children standing round

explaining that Gillian wrote the poem after her child asked "Where is Jesus?". Gillian thought that this was a theological question at first until she realised that her daughter was trying to assemble the crib!



I've a cardboard cut-out manger  
Shepherds ... sheep ... and ox  
But we've lost the Baby Jesus  
He wasn't in his box

I hope that we can find him  
In time for Christmas Day  
He must be somewhere near us  
He can't have gone away.

*Gillian Stevens*



Thank you very much Gillian for  
your wonderful reminder of the  
spirit and meaning of Christmas. Ed.

## A WELCOME BREAK

Having finished all our Saturday morning chores, the decision to pop down to the church room for a ready made coffee was not too difficult to make. Arriving at a little after eleven, it was nice to see that quite a few other villagers had come to the same conclusion and judging from the general hubbub of conversation and banter which greeted us, were clearly enjoying themselves.

Assessing the number of people who had given their support by attending was quite difficult since there was a constant stream of people coming and going. However, I estimated that at least 30 or 40 had dropped in for the very welcome coffee and biscuits provided.

All in all, John and Pam Dixon, aided and abetted by Mrs Allen and Kate Waite had prepared an excellent event; not only the refreshments but a 'sale table' and raffle as well. I have to mention the raffle since I won a giant panda. As it happened,



this proved to be very useful later on in the day; cheering up the eldest (two and a half year old) Grandson Zach, who had just returned home from hospital having had an operation to insert steel plates into a recently broken arm.

Providing you weren't unfortunate enough to sit next to the lady who kept taking all the best biscuits, it was a very pleasant and sociable morning which not only raised much



needed funds for the Royal British Legion, but also provided a welcome excuse for a chat and much needed coffee on an autumnal Saturday morning.



Next month - Andy reveals the identity of the mysterious biscuit eating lady! Ed.

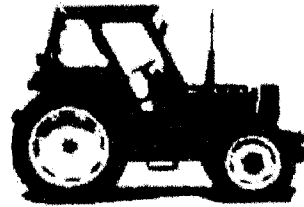
## LADIES CLUB NEWS

The Club opened after the summer recess with a talk by Shirley Ford on the history of Aston Abbots and Aylesbury. Our following meeting was the A.G.M. when a new committee was elected, and we welcomed some new members. On November 19th we had a very informative and interesting talk on hardhanger and lace making.

On December 3rd, Mrs. Sue Cato will give a talk on the work done by the Friends of Florence Nightingale, and on December 17th a carol service will be held in Aston Abbots Church at 2.45 p.m. We then have a Christmas break until January 14th, when we have guest speakers on the subject of "More Hidden Bucks".

Any new members wishing to join the Aston Abbots & Cublington Ladies Club would be most welcome.

# RGC



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**NEW HOLLAND**

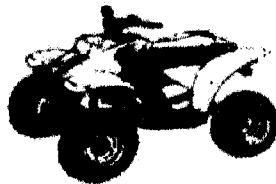
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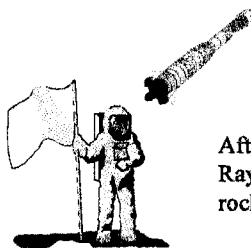
**We are happy to give you an estimate even for the smallest job!**

# IN THE VILLAGE 2.

**FIREWORKS** Once the 'fireworks' were all over, and the decision made to once again hold this event at its traditional venue, it didn't take long for our 'experienced team' to put together what turned out on the night to be a very good November the 5th celebration.

Helping to hold some of the posts while Barry hammered them into the ground late on that cold and draughty Thursday afternoon reminded me to don 'long johns' before coming out at 7.00 to watch the fireworks. Everything else seemed to be falling into place. The steel fireworks 'safe' and wheelbarrows full of soil were in position and a portable generator and lights kindly loaned by Richard Clark about to be set up. Ray Wilkinson, after much discussion, long and complicated calculations and references to various aeronautical theorems finally decided which launch angle would be safe for the rockets. Taking into account the then prevailing wind and the five day forecast these were finally set in place (Oh well, better safe than sorry). In accordance with the new

regulations the fire was duly inspected for anything which might cause noxious fumes or leave dangerous residues.



After calculating trajectory etc.. Ray Wilkinson launches the first rocket with due ceremony.

Are you *sure* this is the right picture? Ed.

At this stage the work done by Bob Chapman with his 'fork lift' in piling up the bonfire to its full majestic height could be admired. With a sense of artistry not often associated with bonfires he had created an air vent into the heart of 'the beast' which helped considerably in allowing the wind to dry it out after several days of heavy rain. He had also formed a latticework of wooden pallets on the windward side which would later be liberally soaked with the diesel he had generously donated. Coupled with a lot of hard work (and an applied high tech. approach by Dave Lewis), all worked extremely well since by the time we arrived back in the evening, the fire was well alight.

Changes in regulations meant that this year we were even further from the fire so the decision concerning the long johns had been the right one. The fireworks started early and provided a spectacular and continuous display for at least half an hour. At this stage many thanks to our Parish Council and everyone else who donated money or fireworks. All too soon it was all over and time to leave and bathe smoke seared throats with the 'purist of waters' down at the 'Bull'.

Very many thanks from all us 'kids' (both large and small) to Lol Hinds, Barry White, Pat Donovan, Bob Chapman, Dave Lewis, Ray Wilkinson, John Whyte, and Alan Kempster, for all your hard work in organising a thoroughly enjoyable display.



## POET LAUREATE .....Aged 8!!!!

Continuing our series (or so it would seem) of budding Poets in Aston Abbots, a very proud Granddad has submitted this wonderful contribution .....

### Excuses

I'm sorry I'm late for school Miss,  
But my Dad had to give the dog a kiss,  
My Mum had to sew my Dad's black bow,  
My brother fell over a dog called Rover.

When we got in the car, and hadn't gone far,  
My Dad wanted to stop for a chocolate bar,  
My Mum went in too, and met her friend Sue,  
And had a long chat about her pink hat.

After a while I said "Look at the dial,  
We're running out of fuel, we'd be better off with a mule",  
Dad took the can, and off he ran,  
To get some gas from the garage lass.

We set off again at a quarter to ten,  
And a flock of sheep decided to leap,  
Right in our way, and caused a delay.  
As they started to run, Mum said "This is fun".

We got stuck in a jam,  
and my brother said "Oh Man,  
The morning's a disaster,  
Tomorrow we must go faster",  
I am really sorry I am late for school Miss.

Miss Bonita De Silva, Aged 8, Poet Laureate???,  
Aston Abbots (Submitted by her Granddad.)

## PUB POEM COMPETITION .....

Just in case everybody is "poemed" out this month, entries for our Pub Poem competition (see last month's **CHRONICLE**) will be held over until next month. So there is still plenty of time to get your entry in to **THE CHRONICLE** Office.

All being well (and subject to censorship) I will print all of the entries and ask you the readers to vote for your favourite poem. Remember, the Editor has promised to reward the winner with a tippie at his local!). Ed.



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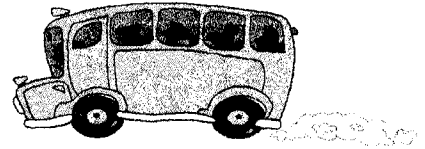
**01296 681520**



# WHAT'S ON IN NOVEMBER

- Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup>** Mobile Library The Green /Wingrave Rd/Oxley Fm  
Aylesbury Vale Transport meeting - Bus / Train queries to Colin
- Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup>** Whist Drive in The Church Room  
7.30pm
- Saturday 5<sup>th</sup>** Christmas Shopping Trip to Swindon - departs  
8.20am Bull & Butcher - see opposite for details
- Monday 7<sup>th</sup>** Floral Class in The Church Room  
7.00pm\* (\* Please note change of day)
- Thursday 10<sup>th</sup>** Bingo in The Church Room  
7.30pm
- Sunday 13<sup>th</sup>** Village Footpath walk - The Green  
2.00pm
- Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup>** Mobile Library The Green /Wingrave Rd/Oxley Fm
- Thursday 17<sup>th</sup>** Whist Drive in The Church Room  
7.30pm
- Saturday 19<sup>th</sup>** Xmas Bingo in The Church Room  
7.30pm
- Sunday 20<sup>th</sup>** Carol Service St. James Church  
3.00pm  
2.00pm Rambling club meet Market Cross, Leighton Buzz.
- Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup>** Mobile Library The Green /Wingrave Rd/Oxley Fm
- Thursday 7<sup>th</sup>** Bingo in The Church Room  
**January 1999**  
7.30pm

## BOOK THIS DATE



**Saturday 5th  
December**

**XMAS  
SHOPPER to  
Swindon. Coach  
Departs 8.20am.**

**Phone Colin on  
681343 for details**

**PRICE JUST £7**

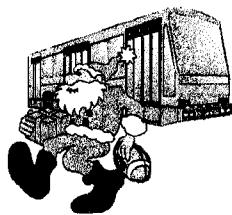


**Remember** - now dark nights are here ensure you have lights on your bike (some have been seen without lights!). Having no lights is dangerous and may cause an accident - **LIGHT YOUR BIKE!**

**EXTRA CHRISTMAS LATE NIGHT  
SHOPPING BUSES - SEE DETAILS BELOW**

### CHURCH FLOWERS

- W/E 5/6 Dec. } Advent /  
W/E 12/13 Dec.} No flowers
- W/E 19/20 Dec.} Christmas  
W/E 26/27 Dec.} Decorating  
As arranged
- W/E 2/3 Jan. No service



### ADDITIONAL CHRISTMAS SHOPPING BUSES

Why not use the bus this year when you go Late Night Christmas shopping - avoid parking fees and trying to find a space! Extra Christmas Shopping buses have been arranged as follows :-  
**ON THURSDAYS - 3<sup>RD</sup> / 10<sup>TH</sup> / 17<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER  
AND ON THE 21<sup>ST</sup> / 22<sup>ND</sup> / 23<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER**  
DEPART ASTON ABBOTTS AT 6.00PM  
RETURNING FROM AYLESBURY AT 9.15PM (AND 6.45PM)

### SIDESMEN

- 6<sup>th</sup> December Mr M Hasler  
13<sup>th</sup> December Mr C Higgs  
20<sup>th</sup> December Mr G Kemp  
Christmas Day Mr M Hasler &  
Mr J Hartnett

### WHIST CLUB ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The Whist Club celebrated its 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a splendid 3 course meal at The Old Masters. Juan (the chef) produced an excellent choice for our meal including Prawn platter, Pate, Soup and Melon, followed by Roast Beef, Chicken, Poached Salmon, with a delicious choice of sweets to conclude. Once the tables had been cleared we played a 12 hand Whist, and after votes of thanks were passed everybody made their way safely home.



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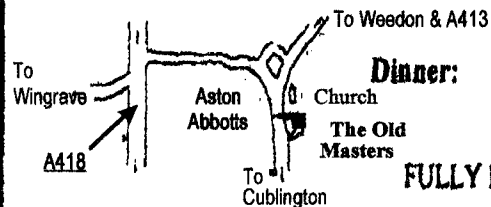
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for further information.

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# IN THE VILLAGE 3.

## FAMINE IN ASTON ABBOTTS

(By our Thin Correspondent)

Last month we reported that after days without a cook at the Bull and Butcher pub in Aston Abbots, hunger and in some cases famine were reported to exist amongst the pub's regular customers and, in an attempt to stop the famine, a telethon had been arranged to raise funds for an air drop of food over the pub. The situation was expected to deteriorate in late November with an anticipated increase in the number of Villagers unable to fend for themselves due to a mass departure of spouses to the USA (although in *most* cases this should be a temporary state of affairs).

I am pleased to announce that soon after going to press a cook was employed and the telethon called off. Unfortunately, the news came too late to stop the start of the sponsored tooth pulling. A number of the early entrants were visibly upset and the only printable quote from these now tooth-less wonders was along the lines of "Whemm I git my ands on the ibiot woos idea this was" etc. etc. Fortunately, violence was avoided by some rapid thinking by the chief tooth puller and a liberal use of laughing gas. All the entrants went home in a light hearted mood and can now look forward to starring in next months "gerning" contest.

### Stop Press.

The new cook has not been seen for several days and is presumed kidnapped by one of the warring "Bonn-fier" factions. No ransom demand has been made although bones (believed to be the remains of a roast meal) were found amongst the embers of the



Photofit reconstruction of the hat believed to be worn by Chef at the time of his disappearance

village bonfire. This merciless action has ensured that the waistlines of some villagers have continued to shrink (and about time to, Ed.).

### Lunchtime O'Grady

### Stop Stop Press.

Frank advises me that a NEW CHEF has been taken on and Meals will once again be served 5 evenings per week and at lunch times! A full traditional Christmas Menu is also now available. Ed.

## THE CHRISTMAS CRIME MESSAGE

Sergeant Mandi Simons of the Crime Reduction Department has written to remind us of some of the issues surrounding drugs and the importance of educating people about the effects of substance abuse. With Christmas just around the corner Mandi has devised a "Drugs Awareness Quiz" to test your, and your family's, knowledge on the subject. There are some extremely pertinent questions which may prompt some sobering thoughts.....

### DRUGS AWARENESS QUIZ

1. A drug is?  
a. an illegal substance.  
b. any substance which alters the way the central nervous system works.  
c. a menace to society.  
d. something I am worried my children might take.
2. Half a pint of ordinary strength beer or lager contains the same amount of alcohol as one measure of whisky?  
A. True B. False
3. There is the equivalent of two measures of whisky in some bottles of alco-pops?  
A. True B. False
4. I can drink up to 10 pints of beer at the weekend without causing any health problems  
A. True B. False
5. This drug causes one in six deaths in the UK every year.  
a. heroin b. nicotine  
c. cocaine d. alcohol
6. My driving would not be impaired if I drank...  
a. half a pint of beer b. three pints of beer  
c. two glasses of wine d. one small whisky

### ARE THESE PEOPLE BREAKING THE LAW

- A. Two 15 year olds go into a pub by themselves.  
Yes / No
- B. A 17 year old grows cannabis in the greenhouse at home.  
Yes / No
- C. A mother has valium on prescription. She gives a couple to her son on the morning of his driving test as he is nervous.  
Yes / No
- D. A 9 year old sniffs from aerosols in the local park.  
Yes / No
- E. A shopkeeper sells cigarettes to a 12 year old.  
Yes / No
- F. Someone offers to get heroin for a friend but none is available.  
Yes / No
- G. An 18 year old has a number of syringes in his pocket.  
Yes / No

Answers to the quiz can be found later in this issue.

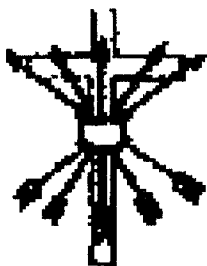
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# IN THE VILLAGE 4.

## LETTER FROM AMERICA....

It has been noted that Irene, who kindly looked after our cats, is willing to keep an eye on our menfolk when we are in America. In response to her enquiry about the food flavour they like, well really they're rather easy to feed. Steak, onions, mushrooms, tomatoes, and chips are top of the list but if time is short, fish will suffice. It also recommended that ears are tickled before a meal and tummy ruffled afterwards!!!

*Rita and the Aston Abbots Wanderers...*  
**Ahem! Ed.** (See article page 10)

## HALLOWEEN

Where did all those little devils, witches, black cats, skeletons, ghosties and ghoulies come from this year? Did I miss out on the headless horseman? There was certainly a horse helping with the trick and treating!!

We usually get caught out every 31st of October, simply because we don't often have sweets in the house. This year was to be different - we decided to 'stock-up' prior to the event. Unbeknown to me however, Rita had bought sweets at Tescos and with our usual lack of communication, I bought

more from Bernard. The nippers must have got to hear about this 'sweet mountain' because just before six, the first lot arrived. No sooner had we shut the door than the next group arrived; then the next!! Were they queuing round The Green to knock at our door?? Certainly the quite considerable pile of sweets had been reduced to near zero by 6.30, when I sought refuge at the pub. Still more came after I had left and in desperation Rita gave the 'little dears' our entire stock of Penguins.

## ASTON ABBOTS LAUNCHES 87 YEAR OLD MAN INTO ORBIT by Wally Grate-Mess Science Correspondent.

**Dateline Thursday November 5th**

In a concerted attempt to upstage NASA local villagers today pooled their rockets and blasted an 87 year old villager into orbit. The volunteer who has asked to remain anonymous (just in case he does not return) is believed to be largely in one piece and in reasonable health considering his age.

Whilst orbiting the earth our intrepid volunteer (who we will refer to as Commander Glenn) will perform a number of carefully chosen experiments designed to enhance mans understanding of the ageing process and to answer the tricky

question of 'when you drop a Jam sandwich why does it always fall Jam side down ?.' The zero gravity environment of space is believed to be essential to answering this vital question.

A spokeswoman for the village said "we did try to arrange for our launch to be part of the recent celebrations for the anniversary of the WRVS. Unfortunately, technical problems prevented this but we will be delivering meals on wheels to Commander Glenn soon." The spokeswoman went on to say that "when we start our daily deliveries to Commander Glenn we will by far surpass the achievements of the RAF who recently set the record for the furthest, fastest and highest meals on wheels delivery. It was only to an RAF veteran in Oxfordshire."

The space capsule called AA1 is believed to be the first in a series of low cost manned experiments. It orbits the earth every 90 minutes and passes over Aston Abbots at 10:20 PM every night. Please show your support for Glenn by waving. I am sure he will wave back.

**Further details next month.**

**CZECH MATE!** It's interesting that Wingrave successfully invited the current President of the Czech Republic to Wingrave and that when reported in The Bucks Herald, there was absolutely no mention of Aston Abbots. As many villagers know the Czechoslovakian President during the war was Eduard Benes and he lived as President in exile for quite some time at The Abbey.

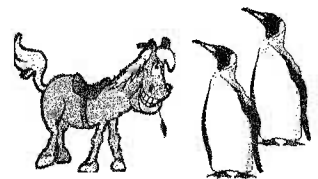
In an article in a The Weekend Telegraph (Sat. 7th Nov. 98) it was reported that seeing villagers down at the main road, stood about in the cold waiting for the bus (it didn't come into the village then), he decided to make a gift of the bus shelter which still stands at the cross-roads. So important was Aston Abbots at that time that armed guards were placed on



Commander "Glenn"



AAA1 in orbit  
 Are you really sure that we haven't got some pictures mixed up? Ed



Horses and Penguins abound on a traditional Aston Abbots Halloween

Oh well!!! it's a nice old tradition - long may it continue.



**Are you serious about getting fit?** Nor are the Aston Clinton Badminton Club but they have fun trying! Every Thursday from 7.30 - 9.30 pm at The Green Park Sports Hall in Aston Clinton. Players of all standards are welcome - call **Maureen on 01296 630424** for details.

each of the roads leading into the village.

Another fact recently told to me by Valerie Osborne is that he also presented the village with a very superior world globe mounted in a wooden turntable and complete with a silver inscription. For some time this was stored in the clock tower of the church but in the eighties, for some reason was presented to the Aylesbury museum. Does anyone out there have any more information on this important part of Aston Abbots' history and in particular the globe? If you do please contact **THE CHRONICLE**.



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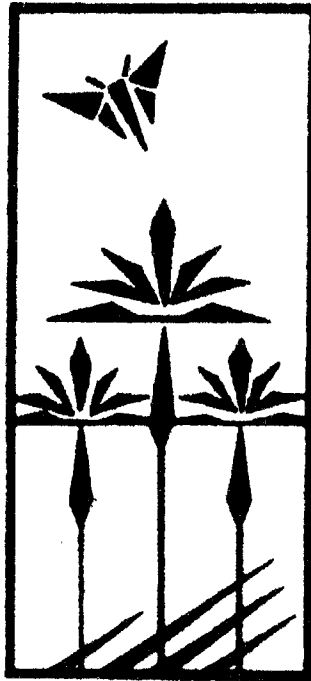
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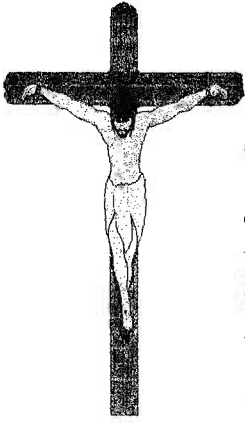
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## RECTOR'S REPORT - DECEMBER 1998

### Can we survive another Christmas?

**The question seems to challenge us at the beginning of December each year. There are the things to which we can look forward with eager expectation and those other aspects of Christmas which make us feel stressed-out merely to think about.**

Of course, you know which are the highlights of Christmas for you, and they are probably nothing like anyone else's, except that there are bound to be some highlights that will be shared. Several years ago someone asked me what I was most looking forward to doing at Christmas. My reply was - falling asleep in front of the television on Christmas afternoon or evening.

Thinking back on it, that was maybe not the answer that I should have given nor the answer that I was expected to give. The problem is that there seem to be so many extra things that need to be organised, so many preparations that need to be made in the days and weeks before Christmas; and the list of things that we have to do as individuals sometimes prevents us from appreciating that other people are also busy - and that some of their preparations are for our benefit.

I am not helping them by not having thought what I would like them to buy me for Christmas whilst they seem only too willing to let me know what they would like in return. But, then again, if I am too specific, that removes the opportunity for surprise.

We find it all rather stressful. Yet I wonder how God felt as He prepared the world for the coming of Jesus Christ? The Jewish nation was then rather demoralised - they were fed up with all the demands being made upon them by the Roman occupying powers. (Why can't they leave us in peace!) They were quite happy with things as they were, at least as far as their religion went. Yet, somehow, God had to prepare them for this big surprise - the coming of Jesus, His only Son.

It wasn't easy, especially since the Jews didn't know that they needed Jesus. And even though He spent years trying to persuade them to listen and to obey, they ended up trying Him for blasphemy and convincing the Romans that He should be crucified. God's greatest gift to His world was rejected. They were so busy wrapped up in their own affairs, protecting the traditions that they felt were important, that they could not find room in their hearts for the King of Kings.

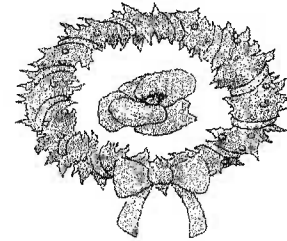
**Sounds familiar, doesn't it?**

**Bob Willmott**

### REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

The congregation gathered quietly under the wet trees outside the church gate. The vicar, members of the British Legion and other ex-service men and women, Guides, Brownies, Scouts and Cubs complete with bright banners were already there by the time we arrived. As friends, villagers and people from other parishes swelled the ranks, greetings were exchanged. Quiet conversation and the clop of a passing horse almost the only sounds. The bird song simply accentuated the sense of peaceful calm.

There was no pomp, a word or two from the vicar, a short silence, then, on behalf of the Royal British Legion and our Parish Council, Len Scutchings and Tim Loder placed wreaths at the base of the granite memorial in the churchyard.



Viewed from under the old vicarage's dripping yew, the scene was so atypical of English understatement and yet created such an incredibly powerful reminder that even eighty years on, we are all indebted to those now being remembered at similar ceremonies across the country for the peace we now enjoy and perhaps take a little for granted.

Almost the last inside the church, we were shown to a couple of the last few vacant seats. Predictably, the vicar's sermon was a reminder of the valour shown by servicemen but he also made the point that personal moral fibre is still all important in maintaining the standards without which society will with certitude slip back into 'the abyss'.

Somebody had chosen a selection of good old rousing hymns which most of us I am sure remembered from our school days. With well over a hundred in attendance these were sung with a certain amount of gusto; very reminiscent of the last night of the proms.



---

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# MILLENNIUM MATTERS IN ASTON ABBOTTS

## Minutes of the Meeting held in the Bull and Butcher at 8:00 PM on 11/11/98

### Attendees:

Alison & Dave Lewis	Liz Barlow & Ivan Greenaway	Francesca & Bob Bean	Claire & Peter Shorrick
Jackie & Ray Coates	Anne & John Brancker	Margaret & Diana Kent	Andy Bystra
John Whyte	Neil Cheshire		

### Matters Arising

The meeting discussed a number of issues concerning events to celebrate the Millennium. It was agreed that there may be special village events held during the summer of 2000 but that there would also be a party on 31/12/99. **The party will not be a profit or loss making exercise.** The meeting noted that the original proposal and costs were for holding the party in the paddock behind Nash's Farm. The meeting then went on to discuss holding the party at The Old Masters. The meeting was of the opinion that this was an excellent venue but that Fire Regulations and other issues could complicate things and restrict numbers. The meeting ruled out both the Nash's Farm and Old Masters as possible venues.

The consensus regarding the party is that, to reduce costs, it should be held at Oak Farm House. This would reduce the size of the Marquee and the need for portaloos etc. The maximum number of tickets would be 120. It is proposed that for the price of a ticket, revellers would attend a sophisticated party and receive :

**Food Red and White Wine, Beer, Larger, Soft Drinks Champagne (to toast the Millennium)**  
**Fireworks at Midnight Music by a live band.**

Tickets can be reserved upon payment of £10 non refundable deposit. To encourage families, the final cost of a ticket is likely to be:  
**£55.00 for an adult £40.00 aged sixteen and under £15.00 aged ten and under.**

A payment schedule will be agreed at the next meeting. A mailshot to all houses in the village will be arranged by Ivan Greenaway and Andy Bystra. Margaret Kent, Claire Shorrick and Anne Brancker agreed to assist. To establish the interest in this event the mailshot will have a tear off strip. The tear off strip and deposits will be collected approximately one week after the mailshot. Very special thanks were offered to Clare and Peter Shorrick and to Juan Guiterrez for their very generous offers to host the celebrations.

**If you know a good band that you would recommend then please contact John Whyte now on 01296 681685**

**Date of Next Meeting** is Wednesday 16th December, 8:00 PM in the Bull and Butcher.

### The Volunteers

<b>Food</b> will be organised by Francesca Bean	<b>Drinks</b> to be organised by Bob Bean (or perhaps Tony Hinds)
<b>Venue</b> to be arranged by Claire Shorrick	<b>Decorations</b> to be arranged by Francesca and Claire
<b>Band</b> to be arranged by John Whyte	<b>Funds</b> managed by Andy Bystra from the AA2000 bank account.
<b>Licensing</b> needs to be arranged by Peter Shorrick	<b>Insurance</b> TBA
<b>Marquee</b> TBA	<b>Crockery</b> TBA
	<b>Tables/Chairs</b> TBA (From Church Room?)

**Setting up and Clearing up to be done by all**                      **Setting up and Clearing up to be done by all**

Keep reading The Chronicle to find out what's happening in the Year 2000 - ORGANISERS of events and / or proposed events please let The Editor know about your plans - details of meetings, proposals, or pleas for help can be published for you in The Chronicle.

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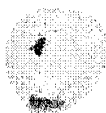
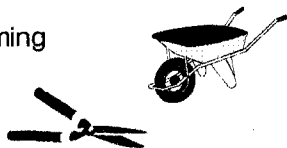
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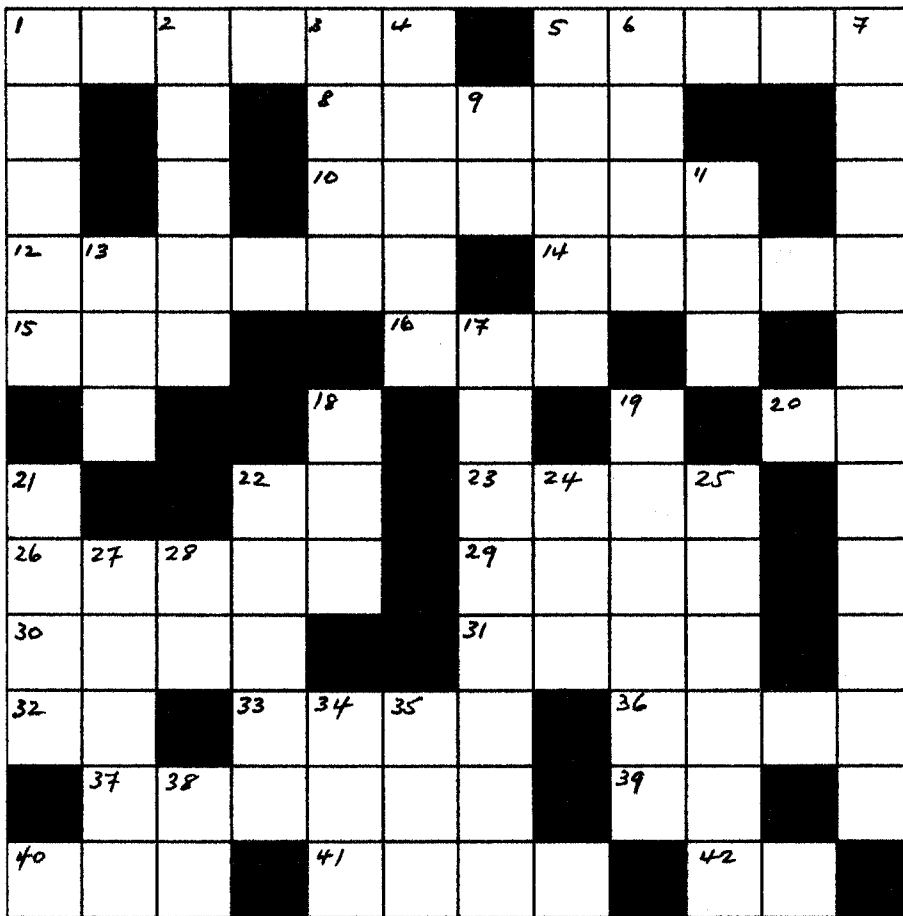
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# THE CHRONICLE CROSSWORD

## DECEMBER



*Answers to November: Across*  
 1&7 Newton Lonville. 5 Bull. 8 Ever  
 9 Sun. 10 Aesop. 12 Train. 13 Torbay.  
 15 Repast. 16 Guv. 18 Meet. 20 Urn.  
 21 Local. 23 Lye. 24 In situ. 28 Noel. 29  
 Drone. 33 Granborough.  
*Down: 1 Near. 2 Eve. 3 Western.*  
 4 Troop. 5 Bury. 6 Una. 9 Stately. 11  
 Pram. 14 BSE. 17 Outing. 19 Toe. 22  
 Kiln. 23 Ludo. 25 Nor. 26 Sea. 27 Gnu.  
 30 RR. 31 Ool. 32 E.g.

### ACROSS

- 1. Local Village (6)
- 5. Earliest (5)
- 8. Stair post (5)
- 10. Made up a team (6)
- 12. Depended (6)
- 14. Consumer (5)
- 15. Affirmative (3)
- 16. Title (3)
- 20. Indicates possession (2)
- 22. Nazi police (2)

- 23. Letter (4)
- 26. -----ever (5)
- 29. Was in debt (4)
- 30. English river (4)
- 31. Breathed out (4)
- 32. Symbol for tin (2)
- 33. Metal spike (4)
- 36. Drama School (abb 4)
- 37. From that place (6)
- 39. Senior (abb 2)
- 40. Snake (3)
- 41. School period (4)

- 42. Doctor (abb 2)

### DOWN

- 1. Tired (5)
- 2. Titles (5)
- 3. One time (4)
- 4. Foolish persons (5)
- 5. Less (5)
- 6. Parts of intestine (4)
- 7. HAL TOOK YEAR  
(Anag. 3,5,3)
- 9. Us (2)
- 11. Drinker's complaint (3)

- 13. Snakelike fish (3)
- 17. More dishonourable (8)
- 18. Tree (3)
- 19. Navigates (6)
- 21. Pairs (4)
- 22. View (5)
- 24. Bird (3)
- 25. Boy's name (6)
- 27. Searches (5)
- 28. pres. tense of "to be" (2)
- 34. Insect (3)
- 35. ---cream (3)
- 38. What a sauce ! (2)

**Frankie:  
I ruined  
Swain's  
career!**

Headline in The Racing Post, November 19th:  
 Could it relate to an Aston Abbotts Landlord and an Editor? Ed.

### CORNISH WORD SEARCH

The missing word from last month's Cornish word search was **TOLCARNE**. Turn to page 22 for this month's Christmas Word Search

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Both cottages have a private garden with patio furniture, barbecue and full use of the 35ft swimming pool. Badminton, table tennis and boules are available.

The cottages are in the southern Dordogne, near the mediaeval town of Eymet, 12 miles from the historic city of Bergerac and just over an hour from Bordeaux.

The surrounding area contains a wealth of interest including vineyards (and tasting!), chateaux and facilities for all sports amid a countryside that contains both dramatic and gentle scenery.

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# ST. JAMES CHURCH, ASTON ABBOTTS

## CHURCH SERVICES

<b>3.12.98</b> Wednesday	10.00	Cublington	Holy Communion BCP
<b>6.12.98</b>	10.00	Wingrave	Parish Communion
	10.00	Cublington	Family Service
	11.15	Aston Abbots	Parish Communion
<b>13.12.98</b>	08.45	Cublington	Parish Communion
	10.00	Wingrave	Parish Communion
	11.15	Aston Abbots	Parish Communion
	18.00	Wingrave	Christingle
<b>20.12.98</b>	08.45	Cublington	Parish Communion
	10.00	Wingrave	Parish Communion
	15.00	Aston Abbots	Carols & Readings
<b>24.12.98</b>	15.00	Cublington	Carols & Readings
	18.00	Wingrave	Blessing the Crib
	23.00	Wingrave	MIDNIGHT EUCHARIST
<b>25.12.98</b>	08.45	Cublington	Christmas Communion
	10.00	Wingrave	Christmas Service (WCT)
	10.00	Aston Abbots	Christmas Service & Communion
<b>27.12.98</b>	10.00	Wingrave	3 Parish Communion
<b>3.1.99</b>	10.00	Wingrave	Parish Communion
	10.00	Cublington	Family Service
	11.15	Aston Abbots	Morning Service

## FROM THE REGISTERS

### Holy Baptism

25.10.98	Hannah Cope at Wingrave
1.11.98	Bradley Saunders at Aston Abbots
15.11.98	Kurt Chastney at Wingrave

### Funerals

23.10.98	Robert Weatherhead at Wingrave
26.10.98	Joyce Plumbley at Amersham
28.10.98	Helen Fleet at Wingrave
30.10.98	Elizabeth Irving at Amersham

### SUNDAY READINGS

6.12.98	Advent 2	Rom 15, 4 - 13
		Matt 3, 1 - 12
13.12.98	Advent 3	James 5, 7 - 10
		Matt 11, 2 - 11
20.12.98	Advent 4	Rom 1, 1 - 7
		Matt 1, 18 - 25
25.12.98	Christmas	Heb 1, 1 - 4
		John 1, 1 - 14
27.12.98	Christmas 1	Heb 2, 10 - 18
		Matt 2, 13 - 23
3.1.99	Christmas 2	(Eph 1, 3 - 14)
		(John 1, 10 - 18)

### ST JAMES CHURCH, ASTON ABBOTTS PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Reverend R Willmott	Telephone 681623
Shirley Ford	Telephone 681865
Christine Fox	Telephone 682024
Michael Hasler	Telephone 681877
Hilary Hasler	Telephone 681877
Ann Goodman	Telephone 681763
Gordon Kemp	Telephone 681763

### MANY THANKS

Very many thanks to Alan Kempster for cutting the church hedge again this year. Also to all those (young and old) who turned out on Saturday 31st October to clear up the huge resulting amount of debris.

The morning didn't start at all well. It had rained most of the previous night so everything was well and truly soaked and by 10.30 that morning there was still no sign of it letting up. Would any one turn up to help? As the church clock struck 11.00, out of the misty drizzle came helpers of all ages.

There was a real feeling of community spirit and despite the continuing rain, everybody worked non stop, loading up the tractor and trailer which had been kindly loaned and driven by Frank McManus. Several trips to the bonfire in the rec. and all the rubbish in the church yard had been cleared away.

Thankfully we were able to return Frank to the 'Bull' precisely at opening time since by then several of us had quite a thirst.

# THE CHRONICLE CHRISTMAS WORD SEARCH

All but one of the festive words listed are hidden in the grid. They always appear in a straight line, but can be read in any direction - backwards or forwards, including diagonally. BUT WHICH WORD CAN NOT BE FOUND .....

W	E	N	H	B	S	R	E	K	C	A	R	C
T	E	B	E	T	H	L	E	H	E	M	R	F
W	R	A	A	T	U	R	K	K	E	Y	U	T
I	T	B	R	Q	H	R	A	E	E	E	D	N
S	L	Y	T	C	U	G	R	T	D	L	O	G
E	Y	J	H	A	Q	T	I	N	S	E	L	Z
M	J	E	S	R	U	V	N	E	L	I	P	E
E	O	S	S	O	Y	A	M	S	L	J	H	G
N	S	U	A	L	C	A	T	N	A	S	S	O
R	E	S	B	S	R	K	E	O	I	M	I	O
K	P	R	A	Y	E	R	S	W	O	W	X	R
E	H	Y	S	H	A	R	I	N	G	E	E	C
Y	L	L	O	H	M	I	T	Y	N	I	T	S

- |            |        |        |
|------------|--------|--------|
| BabyJesus  | Tree   | Sleigh |
| SantaClaus | Ass    | Sock   |
| TinyTim    | Ivy    | Noel   |
| Prayers    | Mary   | Carols |
| Scrooge    | Gold   | Holly  |
| Crackers   | Cream  | Tinsel |
| Sharing    | Xmas   |        |
| Wisemen    | Oxen   |        |
| Bethlehem  | Hearth |        |
| Stable     | Wish   |        |
| Turkey     | Snow   |        |
| Joseph     | Log    |        |
| Rudolph    | Star   |        |

AND THE MISSING FESTIVE WORD IS \_\_\_\_\_

## **Keep that Packaging Out of the Bin**

- ★ Would you like a lively display of children's ideas on redesigning food packaging to reduce waste to visit your centre/school/church for **free**?
- ★ Would your class/group like a **free** activities session on redesigning food-packaging? Call Aylesbury Development Education Centre (ADEC) now!

ADEC has received funding from Environmental Body Bucks (who administer Landfill Tax) to encourage young people to look at innovative ways of reducing waste. The activities and displays call on ideas from all over the world to inspire us to re-design packaging for easy re-use and biodegradability.



We have to pay through our council tax to put rubbish into landfill sites, so it seems sensible to reduce the amount of unnecessary food packaging which is not biodegradable, and which is often only there for decorative or bulking out purposes.

The ideas generated through the project will be presented to local businesses to challenge them to green up the packaging for their products.

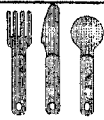


**Phone ADEC (01296 395185) for details of free activity sessions and/or displays and for details of other resources and information on waste minimisation**

# THE CHRONICLE ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE



Welcome to **THE CHRONICLE** entertainment guide featuring write ups, articles, and thoughts from Aston Abbotts Villagers who have visited, eaten at, watched, listened to, or experienced the subject of the piece! Only one entry this month - obviously everybody is saving their cash for Christmas! Please keep the reviews rolling in. By the way, did anybody try The Riverside Inn from last month's guide?????



Food

## 174.1 The Olive Grove, Aylesbury by Andi Swain

**Location :** Just along from the cinema in Cambridge Street, by the rear car park of Marks & Spencer

**Atmosphere:** Mediterranean style upstairs bistro area has soft lighting and softer music creating Greek / Spanish atmosphere. Very friendly owners / staff.

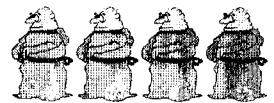
**Food:** Splendid choice of mainly Greek, Spanish, and Italian food in this self-styled Mediterranean restaurant. Good wine selection / bottled beers.

**Price:** Very reasonable - about £ 15 each for a 3 course meal - good sized Pasta dishes from £6, all excluding drinks.

**Visited :** 10/11/98 - A Greek night is held once a month with belly dancers etc.

**The Olive Grove is very popular - booking is advised on 01296 487070**

ABBOTT  
RATING



## DRUGS AWARENESS QUIZ ANSWERS

1. **B is the best answer.** If you answered A remember caffeine, nicotine and alcohol are legal drugs. C will be debated for ever more. If you said D you are sharing the concern with many other parents and although there is a problem it is exaggerated by media hype.
2. **A is the correct answer.** One unit is the equivalent to one glass of wine, one measure of whisky or half a pint of beer. One unit of alcohol will take about one hour to leave the body.
3. **A is the correct answer.** Always check the label for the percentage of alcohol.
4. **B is the correct answer.** The recommendations are that men should not drink more than 3-4 units per day and women should not exceed 2-3 units per day. *Do not binge drink!* **These are advisory units and sensible drinking should be encouraged at all times.**
5. **B is the correct answer.** Over 100,000 people each year die from smoking related diseases.
6. **None of these answers are correct.** (Trick Question!!!) Any alcohol will impair driving. Alcohol is a depressant drug which slows down the central nervous system.

## ARE THESE PEOPLE BREAKING THE LAW - ANSWERS

- A. **NO.** Young people over 14 years are allowed in a pub by themselves but can not buy alcohol.
- B. **YES.** Growing cannabis is an offence. If the parents know it is happening and do nothing to stop it then they may be committing the offence of allowing their premises to be used for producing controlled drugs.
- C. **YES.** The mother breaks the law but her son does not. The offence is to supply.
- D. **NO.** It is not illegal to sniff aerosols, glues or other solvents, at any age. It is illegal to sell them to an under 18 year old knowing they will use them for intoxication.
- E. **YES.** The 12 year old is not breaking the law but the shopkeeper is. It is not against the law to buy or use cigarettes at any age. But it is illegal for the shopkeeper to sell to anyone under 16 years of age.
- F. **YES.** The person offering to get the heroin could be prosecuted for agreeing to supply a controlled drug.
- G. **NO.** It is not illegal to possess or use injecting materials.

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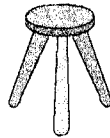


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## IN THE VILLAGE 5.

### TONY'S VILLAGE SPORTS COLUMN



It's been an up and down start for the Bull & Butcher (and now Aston Abbotts) pool team this season. After winning the first match

we have since drawn with St. John's from Stone and lost away to The Swan & Castle A team. However, a terrific battling performance saw us score a great result last week away to The Swan & Castle B team, the league leaders, and even better news - we have progressed to the semi-final of the team cup competition after beating The Swan at Westcott (currently second placed in the league).

This week (25<sup>th</sup> November) sees the B & B pairs competition take place, although the first round has already taken place. In a closely scrutinised and independently controlled

exercise, Lol and Dean were drawn out of the hat together and are the hot favourites to take the title (Lol is unbeaten all season and Dean has returned to form lately). The results will appear in next month's **CHRONICLE**.

*Tony "Tuck up" Hinds.*

*A big hoorah to Frank at The Bull & Butcher - we have a wonderful new pool table at the pub! To celebrate this and my recent run of half decent form (played 3, won 2) I have bought a new cue! Ed.*

### CYCLISTS - IMPORTANT INFORMATION

**Mandi Simons of The Crime Reduction Department has some words of advice for Winter cyclists....**

Autumn and Winter are upon us again, the days are getting shorter with the mornings and evenings getting darker. So once again we, the Police, find ourselves reminding everyone of the need to be seen whilst riding your cycles. This reminder is even more pertinent due to the recent spate of deaths both locally and those mentioned in the National Newspapers concerning young people involved in cycle related traffic accidents.

The law is quite clear on this subject; you **MUST** display lights if riding the cycle during the hours of darkness or in reduced visibility. The penalty for not doing so is a £20 fine for either the rider or for the parents if a juvenile is involved. However, other road users are well aware that sometimes the

displaying of obligatory lights on cycles is not enough to allow the cyclist to be seen, this is particularly relevant in unlit areas and extra precautions should be taken. Consider putting luminous tape or spoke reflectors onto the bike, and wearing luminous belts, cycle clips, armbands or even join the 'jet set' and get yourself some luminous training shoes!

If you are unfortunate enough to fall off your cycle for any reason, then a cycle helmet may save your life or your lifestyle. Remember that most helmets are only designed to take one impact, so check regularly for dents and replace if necessary.

And finally.... if you transport cycles on a cycle carrier on the back of your car, remember your number plate and rear lights **MUST** be visible, it is another £20 fine if you get it wrong. If you would like to book a talk or get more advice on this or any other safety or crime prevention issue, call Aylesbury Police Crime Reduction Department on 01296 396078. Ed.

## THE ROYAL OAK

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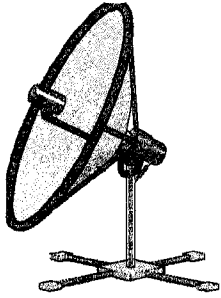
Live - Solo and Sober for the first time

9:00 PM

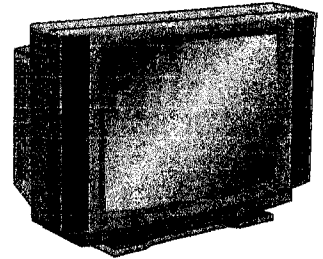
**FREE BUFFET**

# FLACKWELL ELECTRONICS

OF CHURCH FARM, ASTON ABBOTTS

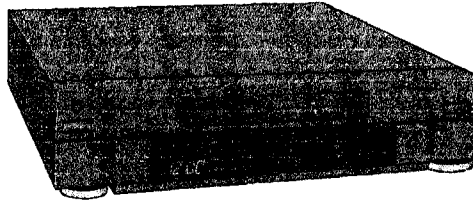


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