

# THE CHRONICLE

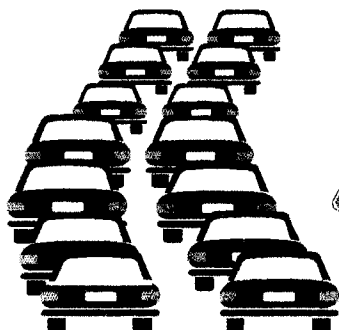
ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH MAGAZINE

ISSUE 188 - MARCH 2000

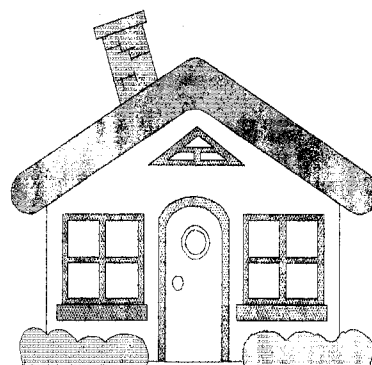
---

THIS MONTH'S MAGAZINE HAS THE EPIC  
STORY OF THE THREE Rs

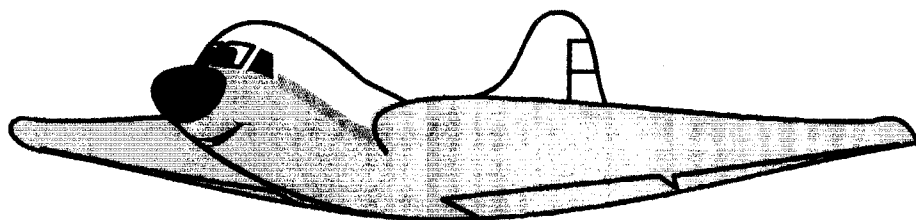
A ROAD...



SOME  
RESIDENCES...



AND A  
RUNWAY



60s & 70s DISCO : SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER RETURNS  
TO ASTON ABBOTTS (AS IF IT EVER WENT AWAY!)

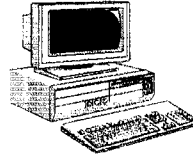
SEE PAGE 28 FOR DETAILS



## Editorial

Wednesday March 1<sup>st</sup>

**DON'T FORGET - YOU CAN E-MAIL  
ARTICLES AND LETTERS TO THE CHRONICLE AT**



**astonmag@aol.com**

Apologies for the slightly late arrival of this month's paper - half term holidays! Anyway, we should be back to normal next month.

This is probably the biggest ever issue of **THE CHRONICLE** - some 29 pages in all. I hope that you find time to read all of the articles - especially some interesting new offerings including an interview with a villager and a page designed by Hannah Brandon as part of her course work (thanks, Hannah - you are very welcome to produce the page each month!!).

Things seem to be hotting up on a number of popular topics - the A418, The Church Room and now our friends at Luton Airport want to make life more comfortable for those living in the middle of the city (guess at whose expense). Whilst it's not quite at the 'placards and lying on the runway stage', we must keep a very close eye on things and support the Parish Council in any action it takes.

Talking of which, later this month sees the annual village meeting. This is your chance to take an interest in the village, question the AAPC, put forward your ideas and generally influence matters. It really is a worthwhile meeting and a great way for everybody, especially those new to the village, to hear what is happening in Aston Abbots. I'll see you there.

I would like to thank all of the new contributors to **THE CHRONICLE** this month - more are always welcome!

Anyway, enough of my ranting - enjoy **THE CHRONICLE!**

*Andi Swain*

### IN THIS BIGGEST EVER ISSUE OF THE CHRONICLE

- **A Road - more on the A418**
- **Some Residences - the plight of House Hunting Youngsters**
- **And a Runway - Wave to Friends Over Head**
- **American Adventure - Final Instalment**
- **The Village Interview**
- **Millennium Party - Final Report**
- **The Village Meeting**
- **Junk Mail**
- **AAH**
- **Historical Crosses**
- **The Rector's Message**
- **Jottings From the Chalk Face**
- **Crossword**
- **What's on in the village this month**
- **What's on Elsewhere this month**
- **All of our regular sections and more !**

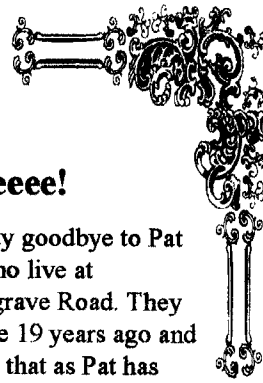
#### **PRODUCTION TEAM CONTACTS**

e-mail:	astonmag@aol.com
<b>Editorial / General</b>	Andi Swain 2 Nash's Farm - 01296 682651
<b>Distribution</b>	Andy Bystra 31 The Green - 01296 681690
<b>Advertising</b>	Ivan Greenaway 1 Nash's Farm - 01296 682605
<b>WebMaster</b>	Pat Donovan - astonmag@aol.com

A note to all would be advertisers - more than 196 households receive **THE CHRONICLE** 11 times a year and with rates from just £10 per annum (far cheaper than some local Parish magazines) **can you afford not to be in?**

Copy date for the April issue is Thursday March 23<sup>rd</sup> - please pass items to Andi Swain at 2 Nash's Farm or to a member of the Production Team as early as possible. 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 **March**, especially



## Byeeeeeee!

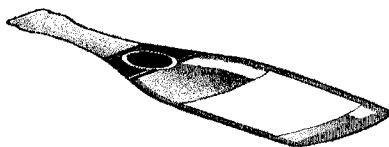
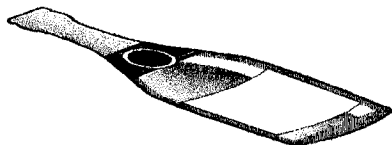
We are sorry to say goodbye to Pat and Pat Simms who live at Cherrytrees, Wingrave Road. They came to the village 19 years ago and have now decided that as Pat has taken early retirement they will return to Dorset to a village called Yetminster, which I am told is a similar size to ours. This move will take them nearer to one of their daughters and parents.

It's been nice knowing you both. Hope all goes well on moving day and that you will be very happy in your new home.

Isobel Hall	3rd	Ann Goodman	15th
Andy & Lynn's Edward	5th	Abby Louise Bowden	16th
Claire Biddle	8th	Tracey Fletcher	17th
Andy Bystra (age 42)	8th	Ray Coates (age 42)	22nd
Andrew Dutton	10th	Charlotte Ellis	26th
Lydia Smith	15th	George Brandon	31st

## HELLO!

We would like to say hallo and welcome to Paul and Juliette who will be moving in to Cherrytrees later this month.



## VILLAGE GARDENS OPEN DAY

The ever popular (and increasingly so) Village Gardens Open Day will be held on June 4th this year. Various gardens will be open between 2.00pm and 5.00pm. Teas will be served in the Village Room and plants and flowers will be on sale.

## BELL RINGING

Welcome to our two new recruits - **CLAIRE BIDDLE** & **SALLY DEAN**. Keep up the good work and we hope you enjoy being bell ringers.



## SAD LOSS

We are sorry to record the death of Bob O'Sullivan. Our thoughts and deepest sympathy are with his wife, Linda and son Arkle.

## SLIMMING FOR CHILDREN IN NEED

Teri at The Royal Oak has started a sponsored slim in aid of BBC Children in Need. Her target is to lose five stone by the time of the next appeal in November. Her progress is being officially recorded at her Doctor's surgery. If you would like to help a good cause with a village connection, pop into The Oak and sponsor her.

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

## BABYSITTING

Hayley and Sarah - Reliable Babysitters

Please phone Hayley on 688597 or Sarah on 681740



## THE CHRONICLE

### Advertising rates per annum

FULL PAGE	Back	£ 70
	Inside	£ 40
HALF PAGE	Back	£ 40
	Inside	£ 25
QUARTER PAGE	Back	£ 25
	Inside	£ 15
EIGHTH PAGE	Back	£ 15
	Inside	£ 10
Front page 1/8 <sup>th</sup> size per month		£ 5
OTHER SIZES	Inside	£ 10

Seasonal, short term, or one-off ads are also accepted at these rates

Send copy and cheque payable to  
The Chronicle to

**Ivan Greenaway, 1 Nash's Farm,  
Aston Abbots, Aylesbury  
Tel 01296 682605**

## HELP LINE...HELP LINE

Driving you to the Doctor, picking up prescriptions and so on.....



**JOHN WHYTE**  
14 Bricstock - tel. 681685

**GEORGE FOX**  
1 Church Row - tel. 682024

**TONY HINDS**  
6 The Green - tel. 681454

If you would like to join the Help Line  
please call Andy Bystra on 681690

## YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

**TOM MANNING (Chairman)**  
681160

**KATE CURRY (Parish Clerk)**  
2 Norduck Cottages, Moat Lane 681137

**GWEN KEMPSTER**  
53 The Green 681310

**MARGARET KENT**  
6 The Green 681454

**LINDA SUTTON**  
Sadlers Farm 681413

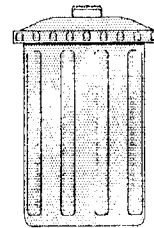
**JOHN SANSOME**  
Longmore Farm 681010

District Councillor  
**PETER COOPER**  
Brewhouse Lane, Rowsham 681250

County Councillor  
**BRENDA JENNINGS**  
2 Cotes Way, Wing 681065

## LOCAL RECYCLING

Collection points are available at  
**The Bull & Butcher, Aston Abbots**  
and **The Macintyre Home, Wingrave**



**GLASS** - Please sort into green, brown, and clear glass

**CANS** - All types accepted including aluminium and steel  
food and drink cans (please crush cans)

**PAPER** - All Newspaper, magazine, and junk mail  
(no cardboard or yellow pages)

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

# IN THE VILLAGE 1.

## VILLAGERS MAKE THEIR POINT.....

Aston Abbotts' Villagers swept the board this week (February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2000) in the Bucks Herald letters' section.

Lol Hinds e-mailed the paper to express his concerns about the difficulties faced by youngsters trying to stay in the village when they leave home and Lyn Clark wrote about plans to remove the speed camera from the edge of Wing.

They were the Star e-mail and letter of the week receptively...

## Removing cameras will cost lives

ALTHOUGH I am not a resident of Wing, I was appalled to hear that the council intends to remove the speed cameras.

I travel through Wing regularly and the speed some drivers insist on doing through the village never ceases to amaze me. I'm sure some drivers think the 30mph limit ends as you enter Wing; many cars seem to gain speed as they pass the speed limit signs.

If drivers do this speed with cameras operating, imagine what it will be like if the cameras are removed. Surely enough lives have been lost on the A418 in recent years - removing the cameras will cost even more innocent lives.

I have written to the council expressing my concern. The residents of Wing and the other villages which are to lose their speed cameras have my full support.



Sponsored by Methven's

LYN CLARK  
Aston Abbotts

# Housing crisis is no great surprise

I WAS amazed to read your article about the Aylesbury Vale housing crisis.

This is nothing new.

Lack of affordable housing around this area has been with us for a long time, due to the lack of foresight by planning officers.

In 1989 myself and other people living in the village of Aston Abbotts were so worried by the rising cost of properties, we decided to form a group called The Aston Abbotts Low Cost Homes Association.

After years of watching friends and relatives leave the village we began a project to provide cheaper housing for those in need.

The Bucks Herald even publicised this for us.

We applied to the council to



site 20 chalet-style residential homes on the outskirts of the village and after months and months of meetings with various council officers we were led to believe that this could be possible, but at the final stages we were turned down flat. We then had no option but to give up on the project. Now, 10 years on, nothing has changed. Any houses built in our village are for high wage-earners, nothing is ever earmarked for youngsters who do not wish to move away from family and friends.

So to read that the Vale has a housing crisis is no big surprise to me.


Who knows, with a little more commitment from our housing officers all those years ago perhaps, just perhaps, some of this could have been avoided.

L HINDS  
Aston Abbotts

## BYPASS CLOSES!

We are delighted to confirm that the Wing to Stewkley Bypass - also known as Aston Abbotts - has now been officially closed.

At last the weight restriction on the bridge between Wing and Stewkley has been removed following refurbishment and improvement. This after we were told last year that there was no money for the improvements and that the restriction would probably become permanent.



**THE BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**(CASTLE HILL BRIDGE, C8 STEWKLEY ROAD, WING) (WEIGHT RESTRICTION) (REVOCATION) ORDER, 2000.**

Notice is hereby given that on 25 January 2000 Buckinghamshire County Council made the above-mentioned Order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. The effect of the Order, which will come into operation on 4 February 2000, is to revoke "The Buckinghamshire County Council (Castle Hill Bridge, C8 Stewkley Road, Wing) (Weight Restriction) Order, 1999".

A huge "well done" is due to our Parish Council and our other locally elected representatives for achieving the seemingly impossible!

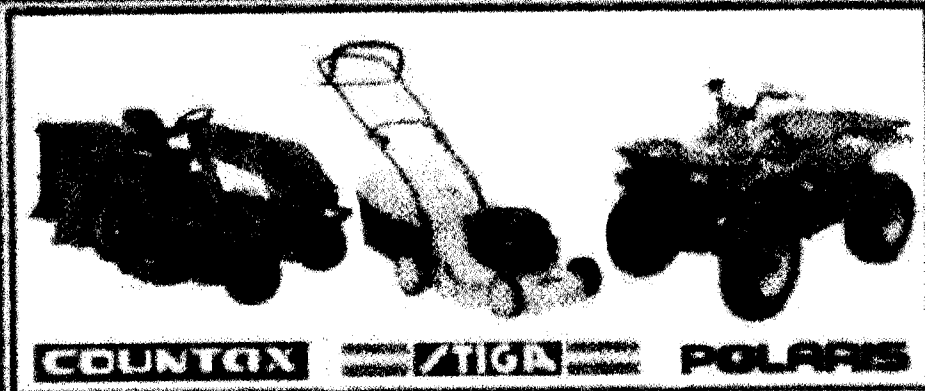
Now perhaps we can walk through the village without fear of being swept aside by articulated lorries and delivery trucks. Who knows, drivers using our roads as a Milton Keynes to Aylesbury rat run may even start to observe the speed limit (well, perhaps some dreams really are pure fantasy!).

Ed.

# LAWNMOWERS

GARDEN MACHINERY - QUADS

SERVICE - SALES - REPAIRS  
USED MACHINES AVAILABLE



**RGC ENGINEERS, MURSLEY**

Tel: (01296) 720066 or (01296) 681007

LOCAL COLLECTION & DELIVERY SERVICE AVAILABLE

ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

## WINGRAVE GARAGE

Terry Bracey - Wright & Michael Mitchell  
Telephone 01296 681543

### YOUR NEW LOCAL MOT CENTRE

By Appointment 8.30am to 6.30pm Monday to Friday.  
(Saturday mornings by arrangement) Free Retests

PLUS ALL THE USUAL SERVICES:-

**Petrol Sales, Servicing and Repairs**

**Bottled Handy Gas Stockist**

**\*\*\*\*Free Courtesy Car\*\*\*\***

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

Most Credit cards taken

# IN THE VILLAGE 2.

## THE VILLAGE INTERVIEW

*The terrific work carried out by the AAH over recent months has stirred up interest in the village's history. Many of us have bought and read the village history book and paid a visit to the exhibition. Now THE CHRONICLE begins a series of interviews with people who have a story to tell. Phil Spooner will be speaking with villagers to find out about how things used to be in Aston Abbots, what they think of the way things are today and how matters could be improved for the future ... this month Phil speaks to ex-CHRONICLE Editor Andy Bystra.....*

"The biggest change is that it has moved from a farming village to a commuter village," reflects Andy Bystra, not unaware of his part in the change. "Of course it really was a farming village and I think I was one of the first commuters... I think I was probably the only one going into London from here"

Andy was born in South London, the son of an English mother and an immigrant Dutch engineer (his father anglicised the family name of Bijstra). He was schooled in Mitcham, where he enjoyed only art and metalwork, then did an engineering apprenticeship as a toolmaker and journeyman. Following National Service in the RAF, he got a job as a designer at the War Office in London until he became disillusioned with the armaments business. "I found myself designing weapons which were designed to maim rather than to kill people"

So he moved to the MoD, first in Quality and then in Project Management specialising in gas turbines, propellers and gearboxes. Before retiring in 1997 he played a key role in the MoD restructuring of the 90s.

Working in London for most of his life, Andy moved first to Cheddington before he and Rita came to Aston Abbots 22 years ago. "We came here simply because it is such a nice village really. We were great ones for driving around on a Sunday, going to pubs and so on, and this was one place we fell in love with".

He remembers their first introduction to Aston Abbots social life came at New Year, a few weeks before they moved in. "We asked them [Ernie and Eileen Naylor at the pub] if there were going to be any New Year 'do's so we could come along and meet the people we were going to live with." Sent to see Doris and Len at the Post Office they were sold tickets for the New Year's do at the Bull and Butcher, which at £14 seemed rather expensive. "Len then proceeded to ask us what we like to drink. I said I'd drink whisky and Rita drinks Cinzano... and we'd drink red wine with the meal".

On the night they turned up and were introduced to the villagers. "There were a lot of people there and, as we sit down, on the table in front of us there's a bottle of whisky, a bottle of Cinzano, a bottle of lemonade and a bottle of red wine. So no wonder the tickets were so dear!" After the meal and a formal welcome to the village they were told it was tradition for everybody to stand up and say a few words or sing a song. When his turn came, Andy recited a comic poem. "And so it went round the table... it was a delightful evening... the whole thing

was being tape-recorded. Len then winds this back and we have a good laugh as we listen to ourselves doing our party pieces. But then Len says 'Ah' he says '1974 - that was a good year'... and we listen to all these old tapes of people doing the same sort of thing. Now, what I want to know is, where are those tapes now?"

Andy is a founder member of the 6.30 club. "Ray [Wilkinson], Tony [Hinds] and myself had met up at the pub for years on a Saturday night while the girls were in the shower. We'd have a quick couple of pints and then we'd go our separate ways. We always called ourselves the 6.30 Club jokingly without any intention of it being anything formal, but then the lads from Nash's Farm got to hear about it and they came along and that was the making of it. One of them suggested 'if we are going to be a club we'll have to wear bow ties or something' and it sort of stuck.

"Having run it like that for about six months or so, it suddenly dawned on us all that we had quite a lot of talent there. So we thought it would be nice if we could do a few things and make a bit of money be put towards village things. One of the first things that came along was the Full Monty. We raised quite a lot of money on that occasion - many hundreds of pounds."

He is involved in many village activities, including the annual fete. "I like doing the fete. I think the fete is a great institution for the village anyway. Over the years I've made many of the games for the fete. That's the sort of thing I like doing - I'm good with my hands. The latest thing was that I made a complete coconut shy.

"I've always had a workshop. My father and I used to mess about making engines... steam engines and so on. I've restored motorbikes and have built two cars. I've got a vintage motorbike, an Ariel. Motorbikes have been a passion of my life." He can sometimes be seen on his modern 750 Kawasaki, which he rides on Sundays. "Biking, artwork and engineering have been a theme right through my life. I haven't diverted from them and neither have I lost interest in any of them - they are passions of mine."

His artwork skills came into demand for the Chronicle. "Graham Parker started the Chronicle [in 1983]. There were few of us - Graham Parker, myself, Neil Cheshier, John White and one or two others. There was no funding for the Chronicle initially... in fact that was how the village show started really, to raise money for the Chronicle. I used to draw cartoons for it. For quite some while I started drawing all the village houses. My aim was to end up having drawn the complete village. The whole idea was that there would be a record in my line drawings." (One of his drawings was used on the cover of February issue.) "One of my aims is to go to most of the major events and do a little write-up so that in future years people have a pretty good idea of what life was like in Aston Abbots. A sort of Samuel Pepys of Aston Abbots." Andy became editor of the Chronicle for three years when he retired.

Continued on Page 8



## Gourmet Cooking



Do you enjoy entertaining at home and eating Gourmet food? But would rather not have the hassles of menu planning, shopping, preparation, cooking and washing up!

Well... why not spend more time with your guests and less time in the kitchen and let a talented and innovative chef look after you and your friends in your own home?

I can take care of everything from choosing the right menu to clearing up and will even wait on you at the table, leaving you free to enjoy an a la carte meal with your friends.

**Please ring Tim for further details on**

**(07971) 936767**

# Talbot Sheepskin Products



---

**Burston Hill Farm, Weedon Rd, Aston Abbots,  
Aylesbury, Bucks, HP22 4NQ**

**Tel: Aylesbury (01296) 681218  
[www.talbotsheepskinproducts.co.uk](http://www.talbotsheepskinproducts.co.uk)**

---

**Lambskin coats, Flying Jackets, Moccasins, Slippers,  
Mules, Hats, Bootees, and Gloves etc.**

**Rugs available in various colours and sizes suitable for the  
chair, the bed, the floor or the baby.**

---

**Please phone for our latest Brochure**



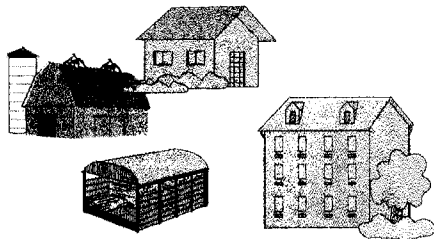
# IN THE VILLAGE 3.

Continued from Page 6

Since retirement he has continued to enjoy his hobbies. "I have got so many. I make steam engines. Anything to do with engineering really. I love any artwork. I like painting and drawing but I don't really get enough time to paint. I sketch. I keep a few Bees."

He has no doubts about what makes Aston Abbots special. "It's the people. Uniquely we have a nice blend of people, a nice mixture of the original people and new people and representative numbers of both groups want to do things - to run the fete, to do their thing for the Church, the 6.30 Club, Cabaret or whatever. There are enough people there to do those things and make sure the social life of the village is a clearly active thing. The fact that probably 75 per cent of the people don't want to join in is neither here nor there. I'm not criticising that 75 per cent and if they don't want to join in, that's fine."

The change in the village's social structure has brought new development. "I see no harm whatsoever in building new houses within the framework of the village. What I would totally oppose is if the confines of the village were expanded by somebody saying we are going to develop in that field there. A massive injection of houses would change the social structure of the village rapidly, which I don't think is a good idea and it would spoil all the views around the village."



But he recognises the difficulties faced by young people who are unable to find housing and employment in the village where they grew up. "If we are going to build the next Nash's Farm, then I think 50 per cent of them should be £70,000 houses. The other thing I would be totally supportive of would be work units up here. Barns converted into factory units and so on.

"We've lost the obvious farming element. It's a tragedy that the Post Office has closed. It's a tragedy that people don't use the shop more, or the bus, because one can see over a period of years that is killing the village, as the village used to be. If you've got a romantic notion of a village, it's killing that. If you want it just to be a pretty dormitory, then that's what you're going to get if you don't use them."

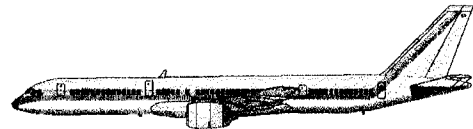
Although rueful over some changes he has seen, Andy has no regrets over his choice of village home. "I don't particularly want to go very far from the village. I just love it. There is not a morning that I don't get up and I walk across to the workshop and I look up at the trees and think 'Thank you God', because it is so beautiful here. Whether it is snowing, hailing, or sunny, it's just a lovely place to be."

Andy Bystra was interviewed by Phil Spooner

## PLOT TO INCREASE AIR TRAFFIC RUMBLED...

Luton Airport's recent application for a new flight path will see planes flying at just 4,500 feet over the village.

Luton Airport is beginning to take over from the A418 as our most talked about transport nightmare. It emerged last month that the airport has applied for permission to use a new flight path for planes landing in an Easterly direction (about 40% of the time). This new route will bring planes in a loop over Leighton Buzzard, Wing, Wingrave, Mentmore and Cheddington - right over our heads!



This huge increase in noise over the countryside is planned to lessen noise over north Luton, a very large town not renowned for its peace and tranquillity. We could have a low flying plane overhead every 10 minutes of the day at certain times.

It seems that the airport authority did consult our Parish Council - but only *after* their deadline for responses had passed. AAPC is protesting about this as well as the new plans.

It is difficult to know just where Luton Airport Authority (a privately owned company) will stop with its expansion plans. It is getting to the point where the noise levels could be almost as bad as if Cublington Airport had been opened!

Keep a look out for updates in **THE CHRONICLE**, at Parish Council meetings and in The Bucks Herald. Ed.

## AFTER ST.PATRICK'S.....

When life seems flat and dull and there's nothing to look forward to, come along to the

**ANNUAL PARISH MEETING  
ON WEDNESDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> MARCH  
8.00PM AT THE CHURCH ROOM**

The annual Parish meeting is independent of the Parish Council and is open to everyone who lives in the parish of Aston Abbots. It has become the main meeting of the year at which the running of the fete. The Church Room, the Recreation Ground and The Chronicle are discussed. Any issue relating to the village can be raised. If you would like any subject addressed please let me know in advance (Gordon Smith, 681373) or turn up on the night.

**YOUR CHANCE TO HAVE A SAY - DON'T MISS IT!**

# **M a G i S e**

for

## **Kitchens & Interiors**

Showroom

54 Western Road  
Tring

**Kitchens & Bedrooms**

Offices & Studies

Fitted Furniture

Tel: 01442 890808



## **Spanish, English and Continental Cuisine**

Spanish, à la carte and Vegetarian menu  
Wedding • All Special Occasions



Dinner: Mon - Sat  
7.00-10.00pm

FULLY LICENSED

Cublington Road, Aston Abbots

Tel / Fax 01296 681432

## **GENERAL STORES & OFF - LICENCE**

# **LINCOLN'S**

Groceries \* Fresh Fruit & Vegetables

Pet Food \* Toiletries\* Greeting Cards

Fresh Flowers & Pot Plants

Dry Cleaning \* Shoe Repairs

Monday to Friday 8.00am - 6.00pm

Saturday 8.30am - 3.00pm

High Street, Whitchurch

Telephone 641384

## **LEARNING FRENCH or SPANISH CAN BE FUN**

- With tuition at home that you can share with friends
- Courses for complete beginners or any level, at times to suit
- Includes background to the culture of the country
- Plenty of variety, lots of practice (Social and/or business)
- Tutor currently teaching in Cublington, references can be supplied

Please phone Malcolm Burrell

for further information.

Tel: 01525 221413



# 'WHAT'S ON' IN MARCH 2000

- Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup>** Parish Council Meeting in The Church Room 8.00pm
- Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup>** Bingo in The Church Room 7.30pm
- Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup>** Pancake Day – Aylesbury Vale Transport Meeting – Train/Bus – queries to Colin.
- Thursday 9<sup>th</sup>** Whist Drive in The Church Room 7.30pm
- Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>** Rambling Club meets at Eggington (Horseshoes) 2.00pm
- Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup>** Mobile Library The Green / Wingrave Rd / Oxley Farm
- Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>** Village Footpath walk, The Green 2.00pm
- Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup>** Whist Drive in The Church Room 7.30pm
- Saturday 25<sup>th</sup>** Table top Sale & Coffee Morning - Church Room 10.00 – 12.00 noon
- Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup>** Mobile Library The Green / Wingrave Rd / Oxley Farm  
Floral Class in The Church Room 7.00pm
- Thursday 30<sup>th</sup>** Bingo in The Church Room 7.30pm
- Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April** Mothering Sunday  
Rambling Club members meet Ashridge 2.00pm.

## WING AND DISTRICT WEA PROGRAMME 2000

Why not come and try something different in  
**Wing Village Hall ?**

Find out about our friendly way to learn  
You don't need any previous knowledge.

**The Way We Were  
Life In The Eighteenth Century**  
starts Monday Feb 28<sup>th</sup> 1.30 – 3.00 p.m.

**Family History**  
starts Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> February 7.30 - 9.30 p.m.

**The Natural History of Wing Parish**  
Starts Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March 7.30 - 9.30 p.m.  
come and walk with Victor Scott  
Call Enid 01296688435 or Iris 01296681798  
for more information



There is a twin bedded room vacant on the  
**Whitby weekend trip – 26/29<sup>th</sup> May.**  
£143.50 'all in'.  
If you are interested in going, please ring Colin 681343

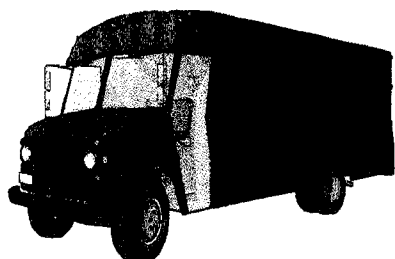
**NOTICE**  
There is a half plot  
allotment garden  
vacant - £3.00 per  
year.  
For further details,  
phone Colin on  
681343

### CHURCH FLOWERS FOR FEBRUARY

4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Mr Belgrove  
11/12<sup>th</sup> 18/19<sup>th</sup> 25/26<sup>th</sup> No flowers during Lent

### SIDESMEN FOR FEBRUARY

5 <sup>th</sup> Mr A Ford	19 <sup>th</sup> Mr G Kemp
12 <sup>th</sup> Mr Hartnett	26 <sup>th</sup> Mr C Higgs
2 <sup>nd</sup> April Mr A Ford	



## **THE MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE**

The Mobile Library visits the village on alternate Tuesdays. The dates are always shown in **THE CHRONICLE** 'What's On' section but here are a reminder of the times:

- The Green, Aston Abbots 10.25am - 10.55am
- Wingrave Road, Aston Abbots 11.00am - 11.15am
- Oxley Farm 12.55pm - 1.10pm

For further information or enquiries, contact Buckingham Library on 01280 813229

**Please use the service or we will lose the facility!**

**J.D.ROOFING &  
GENERAL BUILDING**



**All types of Building  
work undertaken**  
**For free estimate  
call 01525 270878  
or 0958 584655**

*Painting and Decorating*

*Interior and Exterior*

*including specialist finishes  
graining, marbling, murals etc.*

*Highest quality work,  
lowest rates*

*References available.*

*L J Waring 01296 688185*

**THINKING ABOUT  
HOLIDAYS NEXT YEAR?**

**We have a holiday home for rent in  
LYME REGIS, DORSET  
for weekends or weekly lets all year round.  
Sleeps 4-7. Close to town and beaches,  
beautiful views overlooking  
Lyme Bay and Golden Cap.**

**Ring Helen and Simon Dowling for further details  
01525 383315**

# IN THE VILLAGE 4.

## *Autumn in America 5 by Shirley Ford*

For the final two days of our holiday we stayed at the Radisson Hotel, Hyannis Port, Massachusetts. On the first day we were up, breakfasted and away at 9.00am. The coach took us to Provincetown which was the furthest point one could get around Cape Cod. When the Pilgrim fathers left Plymouth, England to sail westward to the Americas, they landed at what is now known as Provincetown not Plymouth Rock. They tried to establish a community but there was not enough fresh water or fertile soil to grow their crops so they packed everything back onto the Mayflower and sailed across the bay to what is now called Plymouth Rock.

We spent the morning walking, shopping and having a snack, finally meeting up around 11.45 at the harbour to get our tickets for a whale watching cruise. This was to be another highlight of the holiday. The ship was called the Dolphin 7 and we set off at 12.30 in perfect warm, sunny weather, enjoying the hour or so it took to reach Satell Wagon Bank situated in the middle of the bay. During this cruise, a local naturalist gave a very informative talk about the whales we would hopefully see and their lifestyles. Between 1.30 and 2.30 there were 19 sightings of Minki, Humpback and baby whales, some very close to the ship. The local naturalist knew most of them by name and it was a wonderful experience to see these huge creatures, so close too.

Arriving back in harbour at 3.00, we boarded the coach getting back to the hotel nicely in time for a relaxing swim or to write letters before going out for a final meal together.

We all boarded the coach that evening in our best finery to go to the Barnstable Tavern, a 30 minute drive from the hotel. It turned out to be an excellent restaurant with a room set aside for our party. Following a modest salad starter, Andrew and I tucked into huge spare ribs of beef with jacket potatoes and a nice selection of vegetables. The strawberry sponge which followed was almost too much. It was a jolly occasion since two couples from our group were celebrating their wedding anniversaries and another his birthday.

When the meal was over, Patricia our tour guide and Jay our driver were thanked for looking after us and given gifts in appreciation of the nice time we had all had. Everyone was in high spirits and we sang all the way back to the hotel. Our last day started at 7.30 with an early breakfast, leaving the hotel at 8.00. Hyannis port is 'Kennedy land' where some of the family live all the year round and others choose to holiday there. We were shown St. Saviours RC. Church where the Kennedy's worship. On the outskirts of Hyannis port is the JFK memorial, a long stone wall with a medallion head of JFK in the wall plus a fountain in front of the wall. After seeing some of the Kennedy's homes and boats we went onto Plymouth Rock for an all too brief 15 minute stop. Three years ago, an exact replica of the Mayflower was built in England and sailed to America and is now moored close to where the original landed.

Our final visit of the holiday was to Plimoth Plantation, just a mile from Plymouth Rock. Why "Plimoth" instead of the

more familiar "Plymouth"? The answer is apparently twofold: In the 17th century, spelling had not been standardised, the name on maps and in books is spelled several different ways, including both of these spellings so both are correct. "Plimoth" is used at the visitors centre simply as a means of differentiating themselves from other Plymouths.

This 'centre' included the 'home site', a re-created 17th-century Wampanoag family's home and a Crafts Centre, where artisans make reproduction 17th-century goods for use on site and for sale in the museum shops. Beyond the Crafts Centre is the 1627 Pilgrim Village where we saw people role-playing the lives of the Pilgrims of Plymouth. Visitors were able to talk with these 'actors' at all the sites and they in turn were keen to 'share their stories' and answer questions.

The Eel River Nature Walk - a stairway and boardwalk - connects the Pilgrim and Native sites, and provides a good view of Cape Cod Bay and the Eel River Estuary, a protected wetlands. On entering the Visitor Centre, we found '*Irreconcilable Differences*', an interactive exhibit that relates the moving story of what happened when two cultures (the pilgrims and native Americans) met during the 72 years of the Plymouth Colony.

There was a good dining facility at the Visitor Centre where both fast food or meals, prepared as they would have been in the 7th century were available. Of course there were also the inevitable museum shops. As we left we saw Nye Barn where information is available on the breeds Plimoth Plantation is helping to preserve. The Mayflower replica is some 2 miles away on the Plymouth waterfront.

Leaving at 3.30 we headed for Boston, arriving at 5.30. Many sad goodbyes were said to other members of the party who were going home on different flights to ours. Special hugs and farewells for Patricia and Jay and we were off to the check-in and a quick snack before boarding the plane. We both have very fond memories of this wonderful holiday and who knows - perhaps we will return again some day!

**Shirley Ford**

*Thank you very much, Shirley, for a wonderfully enjoyable and most enlightening series about 'Autumn in America'. Ed.*

## **ASTON ABBOTTS & CUBLINGTON LADIES CLUB**

The club enjoyed an excellent talk given by Mr Victor Scott, assisted by his wife Christine. The subject was the wildlife in the County and was illustrated by beautiful slides.

### **Forthcoming events:**

March 9 <sup>th</sup>	Lunch
March 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Talk by Mrs B Taylor - 'The National Trust'

# Painting & Decorating



- . All Interior & Exterior.
- . Redecoration's.
- . Paper Hanging.
- . Free Estimates
- . No VAT Charged.

Adrian Bystra  
Home: 01296 337137  
Mobile: 0850 255985

**Alison J Whittaker,**  
B.A. Hons. Music

**Piano, Electric Keyboard &  
Theory of Music Teacher**

10 Recreation Ground Cottages  
Wingrave,  
Nr. Aylesbury  
Bucks. HP22 4PH      Tel: (01296) 681639

## **BIGNELL & BRANDON**

**Carpentry, Glazing,  
General Building and  
Maintenance**

Aylesbury 681242      Aylesbury 681972

*Mobiles 07979 804516 or 0468 126612*

## **Country Style Hair Design**

is a 4 Star member of the  
**Good Salon Guide.**  
We pride ourselves on  
offering highly qualified  
hair designers and a  
professional approach.

As a Lamaur and Kerastase  
approved salon, we can  
offer free consultation  
for styling and  
hair design.

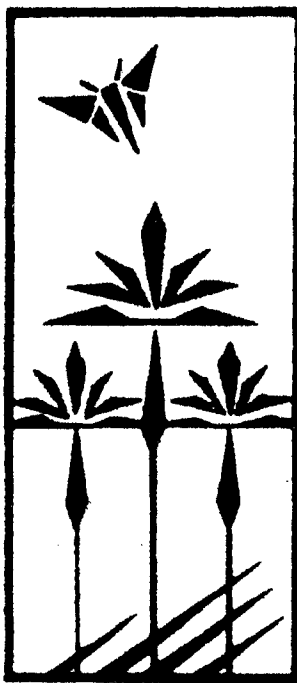
Let the best  
do their best.

**KÉRASTASE LAMAUR**  
PARIS

**01296 688117**

8 High Street Wing Leighton Buzzard

# Country



# Style

## **Hair Design**

## **ASTON ABBOTTS CHURCH ROOM**



Available for  
**Wedding Receptions**  
**Birthday Parties**  
**Folk Evenings**  
**Dances : Bingo**  
**Just about anything!**

**Maximum 60 people**

For further details call  
Doris Scutchings on  
01296 681243

Cost £5 per hour +  
metered electricity

£2.50 per hour + metered  
electricity for Parish  
residents

# ① Where, When, What, Who? ①

## Theatre



**The Civic Centre,  
Aylesbury**

**Tel: 01296 486009**

**Tom Sharp's Vintage Stuff!**

Friday 10th March, 8pm

Tickets = £7 - £9

\*

**Charlotte Bronte's, Jane Eyre: a  
new musical!**

Thursday 23rd March, 7.30 pm

Tickets = £8.50

\*

**Milton Keynes Theatre**

**Tel: 01908 606090**

**Ben Elton's award winning  
Comedy - "GASPING"**

Staring David Haig

Mon 6th - Sat 11th March

Tickets = £7 - £16

\*

**Anton Chekhov's "The Seagull"**

Staring Penelope Wilton

Tues 14th - Sat 18th March

Tickets = £8 - £19

\*

**"Stand By Your Man"**

Mon 27th March -

Sat 1st April

Tickets = £7 - £18.50

\*

**Leighton Buzzard  
Theatre**

**Tel: 01525 378310**

**"Hey Gringo - Through Peru"**

True life travel tale

Sat 18th March, 8 pm

Tickets = Max £6.50

## Music



**"One Way Out"**

The Bull & Butcher

Sat 25th March

\*

**"Dog House"**

The Swan, Cheddington

Sat 18th March

\*

**"Karaoke"**

The Black Boy, Oving

Sat 25th March, 8.00 pm

!Prizes to be won!

\*

**"Wild Willy Barrett"**

presents: 'Wimpoles Acoustic  
Music Zoo'

The Stag, Mentmore

Every other Sunday inc. 5th

& 19th March,

6.30 - 10.30 pm

Tel: 01525 378859

E-mail: [amz@wimpoles.co.uk](mailto:amz@wimpoles.co.uk)

\*

**At the "Wheatsheaf"**

**Leighton Buzzard:**

**Tel: 01525 374611**

Sat 4th March -

Robin Chandler and

the Howling Tomcats

Fri 10th March - Jump World

Sat 11th March - Lovelies

Wed 15th March - U.I.U.

Sat 18th March -

Captain Gorgeous

Wed 22nd March -

Natural Gap

Fri 24th March - Bronzen

## Cinema



**Leighton Buzzard  
Library Cinema**

**Tel: 01525 378310**

**"The Sixth Sense" (15)**

Thu 9th March, 8pm

Staring Bruce Willis

\*

**"East is East" (15)**

Fri 10th March, 8pm

\*

**"The Straight Story" (U)**

Thu 16th March, 8pm

\*

## To find out more:

**The Point, Milton Keynes:**

Tel: 0870 6034567

**ABC Superplex, Aylesbury:**

Tel: 01296 424474

**The Apollo, Oxford:**

Tel: 0870 606 3500

**The Maxwell Centre**

Tel: 01296 585550

**Tiddenfoot Leisure Centre:**

Tel: 01525 375765

**Jardines - bowling:**

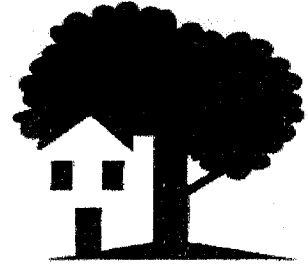
Tel: 01296 415698

**Kidzone:**

Tel: 01296 330405

---

# S.M. ARMAN.



## BUILDING & LANDSCAPING

---

- \* HOME EXTENSIONS**
- \* RENOVATIONS & ALTERATIONS**
- \* BUILDING MAINTENANCE**
- \* ALL TYPES OF LANDSCAPING**

*To discuss your requirements  
and for a FREE  
no obligation quotation  
please telephone:*



---

**0374 831122 (mobile)**

**01296 688335 (home)**





# IN THE VILLAGE 5.

## MILLENNIUM MATTERS

Yep, there are still more Millennium matters! Here are the Minutes of the Meeting at the Bull and Butcher on 15/02/00. This was a short meeting called to bring matters to a close and to thank Clare and Peter Shorrocks for their hospitality.

As a thank you to Clare and Peter, the committee on behalf of all those who attended the party, have arranged for the planting of an Oak tree in their garden at Oak Farm House. The tree will be purchased locally (Civic Trees) and should be planted sometime during the week commencing 21/02/00.

The only other agenda item was to agree what we should do with the remaining funds. After a short debate - what/who could benefit from our funds? Should we distribute the funds amongst a number of the village's good causes? - the committee unanimously agreed to give all of the remaining funds to the fund for the re-development of the Church Rooms.

We estimate that with the additional £369.30 raised by the race night, the total sum to be transferred will be in the region of £850.

Ivan Greenaway AA2000 Chairman.

Here's another 'thank you' letter, this one sent to John Whyte....

01 - 01 - 00

Thatched Cottage  
Otterton  
Budleigh Salterton

Dear John,  
I felt I ought to write to someone on the organising committee to thank you all for a splendidly enjoyable Millennium Celebration. Both Chris and I had a fantastic time. The setting was brilliantly conceived, the food superb, more than enough bottles the band and the company great. Thank you for allowing such a rank outsider to share the festivities with you. Please pass on our best wishes and thanks to all concerned.  
Regards.

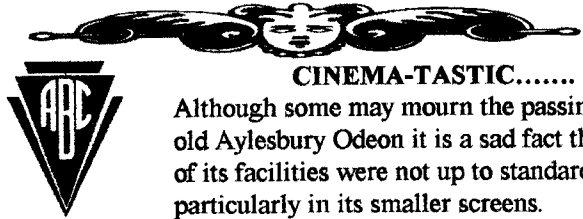
Ken and Chris

And possibly the final thank you.....

"We wish to put on record our delight, amazement and heartfelt thanks for the wonderful gift of the large oak tree which we have been given for holding the Millennium Party at our house. Since it was a genuine pleasure to hold it here and see everyone having such a good time and the old house brimming with life and good humour, we never expected any tangible thank you, let alone such a magnificent and generous one. We both agree that nothing could have been more "just what we wanted" and it will give us and many generations to come endless pleasure. What could be more appropriate than a millennium oak for Oak Farm House. We intend to have a plaque made explaining why it is in the garden so that future generations will know its history.

So thank you to all the conspirators" from Peter and Clare Shorrocks.

## THE CHRONICLE ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE



### CINEMA-TASTIC.....

Although some may mourn the passing of the old Aylesbury Odeon it is a sad fact that some of its facilities were not up to standard, particularly in its smaller screens.

Aylesbury's new ABC Superplex Cinema has six screens in a purpose-built complex, allowing a varied programme of films to be presented to a standard expected by the modern cinema-going public. Its sharply tiered comfortable seating provides an unobstructed view of the wall-to-wall screens, while Dolby Digital surround sound delivers the sonic goods.

Tickets for the new cinema are £5.50 or £6.50, the extra pound buying a slightly more luxurious pre-assigned seat in the central area of the cinema. There are concessions for the old and the young, and facilities for the disabled. A full telephone booking service is available avoiding the need to queue at the box-office. Pre-booking also allows you to reserve the best seats.

For a little bit of extra luxury, one of the screens has been especially furnished as the Hollywood Suite. This offers a cloakroom, private bar, and 150 luxurious seats arranged in separated pairs, almost like sofas. Each seat pair has its own small table and you can take drinks from the bar into the auditorium. On the night we tried the Hollywood Suite we were also given a complimentary box of chocolates. Tickets for the Suite cost £10, but we thought it was worth the extra.

If you want a bite to eat or a drink before or after the show, there are three new bar/restaurants in the Cinema complex: the Chicago Rock Cafe, Yates's Wine Lodge and Hogshead. These offer a variety of food and drink, but Yates's and Hogshead may not serve food after 8:30pm so please check before going. We have tried the food at both the Rock Cafe and Hogshead - the service in the former was a little slow but both were very acceptable. These three establishments are quite popular with young people at the weekends, so you may find them busy then. It appears to be necessary to book a table at the Chicago Rock Cafe some nights.

The Cinema is located in Exchange St next to the Maxwell Baths and Civic Centre. Convenient parking is available in the Civic Centre car park (free after 6:30pm). For details of the current programmes, phone the Cinema, look in the local press, or check the full listings available at [www.abccinemas.co.uk](http://www.abccinemas.co.uk).

The ABC cinema is a great new facility for the Aylesbury area. If you haven't been to the cinema for a while, or were put off by the old cinema, why not give it a try.

ABC Superplex	01296 424474
Chicago Rock Café	01296 422488
Yates's Wine Lodge	01296 424974
Hogshead	01296 426967

Phil Spooner

# Hair by Jane

In the comfort of  
your own home

20 years experience  
Special rates for  
pensioners

For enquiries or appointment  
please ring Jane on:-

01296 437624

or

0878 971848 (mobile)



## AROMATHERAPY MASSAGE THERAPY INDIAN HEAD MASSAGE

*now available*

*Improve your health in 1999!*

- Helpful for a wide range of conditions:- stress and tension, headaches, insomnia, fatigue, muscular aches and pains, arthritis, digestive problems, PMT, painful periods, coughs, colds, and much more.!
- Very beneficial during pregnancy
- Peaceful setting for treatment in Stewkley
- Fully trained and qualified therapist and a member of the International Federation of Aromatherapists

**ANNETTE GESOFF**

**S.P.Cert.A., MIFA, ITEC**

Please phone for further information  
Stewkley (01525) 240135

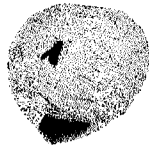
## DO YOU NEED HELP WITH YOUR GARDEN ?

Pruning and strimming  
Hedge Cutting  
Weeding etc...



Experienced in all garden  
maintenance - No job too small !

REMOVAL OF WASP NESTS  
NOW UNDERTAKEN !



Reasonable rates -

CALL Alan Kempster on 01296 681 310

or on his mobile on 07979 880 359

Andalucla ~ the perfect setting for your holiday

Duplex to sleep 6

3 Bedrooms, Bathroom, Kitchen, Lounge, Patio  
Swimming Pool and Gardens

Situated in the fishing port of Caleta on the Costa del Sol.  
40 Minutes drive from Malaga airport.  
A quiet location close to all amenities.

Available to rent throughout the year

Call Iain or Sue on 01296 688 779

TRICOUNT DECOR

## N.P.LAMB

**TRADITIONAL MASTER DECORATOR**

Mobile : 0850 556417

Telephone 01296 668714

# THE CHRONICLE CROSSWORD

**MARCH**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7		8	9			
10												
11								12			13	
				14			15					
16	17		18						19	20		21
22						23		24				
			25	26							27	
28		29							30			
31						32	33					
34				35	36							37
		38	39					40			41	
	42							43			44	
45								46				

**Answers - February**

ACROSS: 1 Manchester. 9 Isolated. 12 Antler. 15 Office. 16 Alder. 18 Sat. 20 Amnesty. 24 Owllet. 26 Most. 27 Needed. 29 Bat. 30 Redirected. 33 NHS. 34 Ha. 35 Ear. 38 Nothing. 41 Erected. 43 Ensure. 45 Len. 46 Ore. 47 Eg. 48 RN. 49 Sadness. 50 Mud  
 DOWN: 1 Meals on wheels. 2 Call. 3 Eire. 4 SS. 5 Too. 6 Elfins. 7 RAF. 8 EEC. 10 Ties. 11 Deny. 13 Tatler. 14 Edited. 17 Ram. 19 Awe. 21 Modest. 22 ET. 23 Toad. 25 Eden. 28 Dinners. 29 Beans. 31 Rhodes. 32 Thing. 36 Area. 37 Rend. 39 Heed. 40 Guru. 42 Toe. 44 End

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <p><b>ACROSS:</b><br/>                 1&amp;10. Local town (7&amp;10)<br/>                 8. THERE (anag 5)<br/>                 11. Carvings, Statues (7)<br/>                 12. Shout (Town Crier)<br/>                 14. SLADE (anag 5)<br/>                 16. Marsh plant (4)<br/>                 19. Clock face (4)<br/>                 22. Xmas festival (arch. 4)<br/>                 23. Not like a man (7)<br/>                 25. Engine part (6)<br/>                 27. Age (3)<br/>                 28. Wanderer (5)</p> | <p>30. Rotated (4)<br/>                 31. Work set to music (5)<br/>                 32. Aspects (6)<br/>                 34. Encountered (3)<br/>                 35. Lure (4)<br/>                 38. Heads or - - - - (5)<br/>                 40. Seaside air (5)<br/>                 42. Voice amplifier (9)<br/>                 44. Preposition (2)<br/>                 45. Constructed (4)<br/>                 46. A node (6)<br/> <b>DOWN:</b> 1 Monastery (6)<br/>                 2. Edge (3)<br/>                 3. Girl's name (6)</p> | <p>4. Useless (initials 3)<br/>                 5. CODE (anag 4)<br/>                 6. Made a mistake (5)<br/>                 7. A plant (4)<br/>                 8. GOES (anag 4)<br/>                 9. --- will be done (3)<br/>                 13. Enthusiastic, fervent (7)<br/>                 15. Thoroughfare (4)<br/>                 17. Continent (6)<br/>                 18. To discourage (5)<br/>                 19. American lawyer (init 2)<br/>                 20. Clumsy (5)<br/>                 21. Girl's name<br/>                 23. Aloft (2)<br/>                 24. Motor transport (abb. 2)<br/>                 26. A country (6)<br/>                 28. European city (4)<br/>                 29. Inspected, checked (6)<br/>                 30. Clasped (6)<br/>                 32. e.g. shark (4)<br/>                 33. Indicates position (2)<br/>                 36. European mountains (4)<br/>                 37. Outdoor festival (4)<br/>                 39. Era (3).<br/>                 40. ---- Yoko (3)<br/>                 41. Nothing (3)<br/>                 42. A degree (2)<br/>                 43. -- &amp; off (2)</p> |
|--|--|--|

Andy and Helen Welcome You to

## WINGRAVE POST OFFICE STORES

NEWSAGENT • GENERAL STORE • OFF LICENCE  
VIDEO CLUB  
DRY CLEANING AGENT

### OPENING HOURS

SHOP		POST OFFICE	
Mon - Sat	6am - 7pm	Mon - Fri	9am - 5:30pm
Sunday	6am - 1pm	Wednesday	9am - 1:00pm
		Saturday	9am - 12:30pm
	Tel: 681696		Tel: 681011

DAILY VILLAGE NEWSPAPER DELIVERIES  
MAGAZINES ORDERED & SAVED  
CONFECTIONARY • ICE-CREAM • GREETINGS CARDS • WRAPPING PAPER  
FRESH FRUIT & VEGETABLES  
FRESH BREAD & MILK DAILY

## TWO HOLIDAY COTTAGES FOR RENT

### SOUTHERN DORDOGNE - FRANCE

The cottages are part of a 150 year old converted barn in an acre of orchard. Both contain original features such as hand made floor tiles and beams while also offering modern facilities. Each has two spacious bedrooms, bathroom, fully fitted living room /kitchen and sleep up to 6 comfortably.

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.

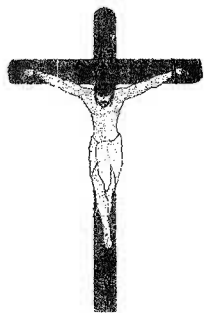
Weekly rental charges (note these are per cottage not per person)

<u>Nov/April</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>Week commencing</u> <u>1st July-26th August</u>	<u>Sept</u>	<u>Oct</u>
£150	£280	£330	£ 520	£330	£200

PHONE  
LIZ BARLOW  
01296 682605

PHONE  
LIZ BARLOW  
01296 682605

FOR FURTHER DETAILS CONTACT JOHN & PENNY HAYES  
Tel. No. 0033 553242930 E-mail address leverger@easynet.fr



## RECTOR'S REPORT - MARCH 2000

The recent Report by the House of Bishops about the remarriage in Church of those whose previous marriages have failed has already had its fifteen minutes of publicity.

It has had the usual effect of such Reports. It is only a discussion document – but many people assume that the rules have already been changed.

But it raises other searching questions. The Church's involvement in Marriage might be seen as some kind of God-given right (God intended us to be married, so the Church must be involved). But, just as important, Marriages have taken place in Church since at least the 1500s because the Church was where the Registers were.

Now that the Marriage Registers are controlled by the State, and Marriages can take place in places other than Churches, does the Church still need to be involved in Marriage? Similarly, since the place and importance of Marriage in Society has changed (whether we like it or not) is there not an even stronger argument for moving all Marriage ceremonies away from the Church?

But, following that line of thinking, it is not very long before we need to examine the role of the Church in contemporary Society. Are the declining numbers that we read about in the Press really telling us that the World has moved on, and that the Church no longer has any relevance? If the Church has little or no relevance, why do people still choose to get married in Church?

Some fifteen years ago, when the Church last tried to address the problem of people wanting to be married a second time, it devised a Service of Prayer and Blessing after a Civil Marriage. It is not a perfect solution, but we do not live in an ideal world. The time may come when all marriages take place before the Civil Registrar, and only those who so choose come to Church for a Service of Blessing. If this should happen, then it will remove yet another link between the Church and the Community it serves in God's name.

The three traditional links were "Hatches, Matches and Dispatches". Times when as human beings we are given a special glimpse of the workings of the God of love. Yet those links extend far beyond birth, marriage and death; for the Church exists to promote and develop the continuous relationship between the Human and the Divine. That relationship encompasses all human existence – in times of need and in times of plenty, in times of sorrow and in times of joy, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, till death us do part.

Like Marriage, the relationships between Human and Divine and between Church and Society are very complex. But they are all inter-related, and making any kind of change is much more difficult than it appears.

**Bob Willmott**

## 1<sup>st</sup> WINGRAVE SCOUT GROUP

### BEAVERS

This month we have invested Matthew Packer into the Colony and the Beavers are now back up to full strength. We have themed meetings around boats, looking at a variety of aspects including Vikings, the RNLI and what makes a vessel float. Perhaps not surprisingly the boys particularly enjoyed making edible boats from French bread, cheese and vegetables. We took part in the RASP bird count at the end of January and our thanks go to the Owe family for allowing us to use their garden as a base. We also took part in the District Handicrafts event where 80 boys spent a Saturday afternoon making 20 different craft items from masks to sewing cards and felt flowers to paper aeroplanes. For more information about Beavers, including the availability of places please contact Sue Ascott in Wingrave (681878) or Jan Antiosewicz in Cublington (681430).

### CUBS

We have continued with our special meetings planned by each six and executed with the help of the leaders. On the 8th of February we invested our four new cubs, Jamie Ascott, James Alexander, Callum Best and George Chappell, who have moved up together from Beavers. We welcome them all to our pack. Saturday the 12th saw the jumble sale which raised £240, which is a terrific boost to our rebuilding fund.

### SCOUTS

13 out of the 16 scouts went to the camp at Pochards early in February. We were very lucky with the weather, having a mild and even sunny weekend. The boys were able to complete some badge work along with the conservation work they set out to do. The patrols have also made their own flags for a wide game in Wendover woods. We are taking a coach to the gang show at High Wycombe in April which will be a wonderful experience for all the boys (and leaders).

Just to prove that there is a nutty streak in all scouting leaders, Julia Ellis is going to take part in this years London Marathon, raising money (large amounts hopefully) with 50% going to the scout hut rebuilding fund and 50% shared between Cancer research and M.S. Training is hard - your sponsorship will help! Sponsorship forms at the village shop.

**Julia Ellis**

## CYCLING AWARENESS STARTS 26<sup>th</sup> MARCH

This year's cycling awareness course will start on Sunday 26th March at the School. The course is open to all children living in the village aged 10 and over and is free of charge. It will be necessary to complete a few formalities (such as parents consent and bicycle safety checks) before the course starts, and therefore the cut off date for applications will be **FRIDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> MARCH**. I have asked the School to give application forms to all children in years 5 and 6 with the Newsletter on 3rd March, but if you would like more details, or you do not receive an application form (e.g. because your children do not attend Wingrave School), please give me a ring on 01296 681513. **Andrew Muir**



NO JOB TOO SMALL

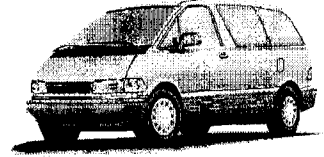
# Wing Cars

- Airports
- Hospitals
- Collections
- Evenings Out



Private Hire:

Cars or  
Minibus



Tel: (01296) 688739 or 681013

NO JOB TOO LARGE

Ask for details of our shopping trips.



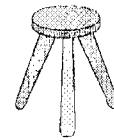
A Peaceful Country retreat  
for your Cat in Spacious  
Heated Farm Accommodation

- ▽ Individual and family units,  
in a converted barn
- ▽ Each unit incorporates a  
separate heated sleeping  
area and very spacious run
- ▽ All diets catered for -  
24 hour supervision
- ▽ Secure and peaceful -  
Inspections welcomed

Mrs Gillian Alexander -  
01296 681104  
South Tinkers Hole Farm,  
Cublington Rd, Wing

ADVE  
RTISE  
HE RE  
AND  
YOU'L  
L BE  
QUI  
DS IN  
682605

## STEWKLEY PINE



**COME TO  
STEWKLEY PINE**

For An Extensive  
Range of **Top Quality**  
Pine at **LOW Cash &  
Carry Prices !**

\* Open Monday to Saturday  
from 9.30 to 5.00

\* & Sunday & Bank Holidays  
from 10.00 to 4.00

Stewkley Pine, Acorn Farm,  
Cublington Road, Wing

**Tel / fax : 01296 681853**

Credit Cards Accepted

# IN THE VILLAGE 6.

## AAH - ASTON ABBOTTS HISTORY

A year ago a group of Aston Abbots residents met to discuss the idea of researching the history of the village and producing a book about it - little did they know what they were letting themselves in for! But their enthusiasm made them blind to all the hazards and their optimism ran away with them still further as they added to the basic plan. "We could have an exhibition" and "Why not establish a village archive?" Why not indeed!

Well, the project is now two thirds completed. The book is published (and yes, we now have all the copies from the printers - better late than never!) and the exhibition is over. We are now in the process of copying all the items we have been lent so that they can be stored for future reference in the archive.

Judging by the response to the book and the exhibition from both locals and "foreigners" we have achieved our original aims, to produce a project for the community, about the community and by the community. And this last is very definitely true - without the help and involvement of a large percentage of the population we could not have achieved what we did. Whether you lent us documents, photographs, old implements (or whoppers and VCRs!), or were interviewed or photographed, or volunteered to man the exhibition, your help was invaluable. So thank you - we couldn't have done it without you.

Our original aims had fund raising low on the list of priorities but it is a really pleasing added bonus that by the end of the exhibition we were able to give the Parish Council £1000 towards the cost of the next stage of the Church Room improvements. If we sell all the remaining copies of the book we should be able to write a similar cheque.

A couple of requests though - we would really like to add to our collection of photographs of Aston Abbots residents 1999/2000. The idea is that in years to come future inhabitants should be able to see who lived in the village before them. Those who visited the exhibition will surely agree that Paul Ridgley's photos are quite exceptional in every way and, since copies are very reasonably priced and Paul is taking the brave step of becoming a freelance professional photographer, this is an opportunity to have something more than a snapshot for the family album. So PLEASE contact Paul (682058) and volunteer to take part this year.

Also, we will be continuing to add to the archive in years to come, so if you come across something that might be of interest please let us know. You may not have realised until you saw the exhibition just how fascinating those old photos, newspaper cuttings, letters and other bits and pieces were - but we value them and would be happy to copy them for the archive. Again many thanks to all of you who have helped us in the last year including those who volunteered to help man the exhibition. Not only could we not have done it without you but your contributions have made it a truly community achievement.

AAH

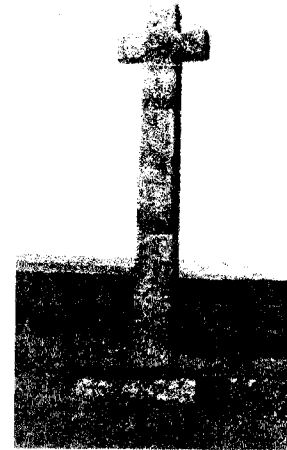
## VILLAGE CROSSES

*An article by THE CHRONICLE'S historical writer, Colin Higgs*

Your village or nearby town may still have an old stone village or market cross, many of which were placed in Churchyards and many still have a base hidden by grass. At Wing, a sundial has been placed on a headless shaft.

Villagers used to gather round the cross to learn local or national news and in Churchyards they were also places of devotion. Villagers often knelt before the cross and offered prayers before going to Church and on occasions the priest would address his flock from the steps at the base.

Apart from memorial crosses for the dead, Churchyard crosses were the earliest stationary crosses used in Britain. As the first wooden crosses decayed they were replaced by stone ones (usually a single column mounted on a base formed of steps).



**Ralph Cross, North York Moors**

Wayside crosses were erected in early times often serving as boundary marks and guides to travellers (i.e. RALPH CROSS, LILLA CROSS, FAT BETTY) erected on the North York moors. In larger towns and cities early simple crosses often gave way to market or butter crosses (i.e. BUTTER CROSS - THAME) but it is the simple village cross on the green or in the Churchyard with its associations (momentous and trivial) with past generations that is of lasting interest and well worth a passing thought. In particular, more than passing consideration ought to be given to their preservation for the future.

Sites to visit:- Wing, Quainton, North Marston (churchyard) and Banbury.

Colin

**M<sup>c</sup>CONVILLE**

*Bowden*

**At Last, a local estate agent with massive coverage of prospective purchasers wishing to buy *your* home**

- **Four** offices covering Bucks, Beds, & Herts including Stewkley and Leighton Buzzard.
- **All offices** use computer and digital camera technology to ensure you get the best from your agent.
- **All details** are produced in full colour with external and internal shots wherever appropriate.
- **Feature** your property on the World Wide Web at <http://www.mcconville-bowden.co.uk>
- **We are open** seven days a week and offer advertising through various newspapers in up to 350,000 households per week.
- **We are committed** to getting the best price for your home and to offer homes to buyers from far and wide.

**So contact your local agent for a free valuation, or better still **INSTRUCT US TODAY !****

**44 High Street North, Stewkley, Bucks.**

**Tel: 01525 240055**

**Offices in Herts, Beds, and Bucks**



# IN THE VILLAGE 7.

## ASTON ABBOTTS' NEW BOY RACER.....

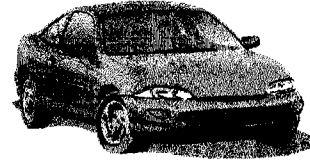
Do you get as much junk mail as we do? Scarcely a day goes by without the Aston Abbots postman bringing details of the latest DIY sale, the bargain break at the hotel we stayed at (for one night!) three years ago or an invitation to apply for yet another unwanted credit card. Just before Christmas our junk mail did include one offering that made me pause for more than the usual second before reaching for the nearest recycling bin.

It was a picture of a bright yellow Lotus Elise sports car with a caption bearing just three words 'Racing Drivers wanted'. No, surely not in Aston Abbots. Had someone seen me taking the chicane in Weedon at 20 mph? I turned over to read the reverse. 'The Ultimate Sports Car. The Open Race Track. Yours for a Day. Free.' Call this number and quote your driver reference number "00003010". Instinct tells me that's a lot of zeros but one phone call won't hurt, even if 99 million others are making the same call simultaneously.

Five weeks later another item of junk mail arrived. I read on 'Ayrton Senna, Mika Hakkinen and Jim Clark. They've all driven for Lotus. Now it looks like being your turn. Your trackside pass is enclosed, now call this number to confirm your place.' But wait! Terms and conditions! No driver may exceed a height of 6 feet 6 inches and / or weigh in excess of 18 stone. All drivers should wear trousers, shoes and "other clothing." Come on. The Bull Monty must have been at least two years ago. Phew! I made the call.

So it came to pass that at 7:45am on 22<sup>nd</sup> February, I arrived at Snetterton, Norfolk on a crisp but sunny morning, together with about 50-60 other would-be racing drivers. Our motley bunch assembled in the briefing room, where key instructions were

imparted - "keep both hands on the steering wheel" (except when changing gear), "overtake only on the left" etc.



We then made our way to a line of 30 Lotus Elise cars neatly parked in the pits. When my turn came, I crawled into the cockpit (well have you ever tried to get into a Lotus Elise with the hood on, elegantly?), the test driver climbed in along-side (he'd had rather more practice at getting in than me) and we were off.

I can report that the Elise will reach 100 mph comfortably down the straight with your foot anchored to the floor. The clear instructions from my passenger ensured that I quickly found the racing line and selected the correct gear (most of the time). Towards the end of the morning, we swapped over and I have to say that we went rather faster round the corners after that and left a lot of rubber behind. My thanks to the Lotus instructors and support staff whose enthusiasm made for an unforgettable day. I left with a smile on my face.

Was there a catch? Well no, not exactly. They sure weren't selling time-shares. No doubt they were hoping that a couple of boy-racers would fall in love with the Elise and buy one - a snip at £22,675. The trouble is, how do I persuade 'er indoors that you can get a cello in the boot, even if it is really only large enough for an anorak? Only joking!

**Nigel "Jonathan" Palmer - CHRONICLE Motor Racing Expert (ahem. Ed.)**

## JOTTINGS FROM THE CHALK FACE

One of the features of Wingrave School, as noted by OFSTED Inspectors, is the level of courtesy and consideration that the children show towards one another. Aspects of good behaviour such as this are repeatedly highlighted and reinforced during assemblies and lessons in Personal, Social and Health Education.

With this objective in mind I recently told the children a story about an Irish farmer who found a Hobgoblin in a hedgerow alongside a field that he was ploughing. The Hobgoblin promised the farmer that he would help him provided that he was released. The farmer decided instead to imprison the Hobgoblin so that he would always be there should help be needed. Word got around about the Hobgoblin and his magic powers. Villagers asked the farmer if the Hobgoblin could help them.

The farmer refused. He was too selfish. He wanted the Hobgoblin all to himself. Then disaster struck. The farmer's barn catches fire and he rushes to the imprisoned Hobgoblin to ask for

help. The Hobgoblin had gone, no help for the farmer and a just reward for being so selfish and not sharing his good fortune.

I finished the assembly by saying that I wondered if there were any Hobgoblins living in the hedgerows surrounding our school field, and asked by a child, described what I thought one would look like. I then thought no more about it.

A few hours later, during the lunch break, a nine year old came up to me and said that they had been looking for a Hobgoblin but hadn't yet managed to find one. Now it is, of course important that children should be able to distinguish the difference between fact and fantasy, indeed it says so in the National Curriculum and I could have dispelled the illusion. I didn't. Instead, after finishing my lunch I joined the girl concerned together with a handful of friends and continued to hunt. We may yet find one and if we do all our problems could be solved!

**Baird McClellan**

# Photographs

by Paul Ridgley

A photograph captures a moment in time and can communicate directly with our imagination and emotions to bring back a myriad of memories.

When photographing people my objective is to help them feel relaxed and look 'real' - and preferably in familiar surroundings which say something about their personality.

But whatever the subject the photograph should be imaginative, crisp and, of course, special.

SPECIAL OCCASIONS

GROUPS

INDIVIDUALS

STUDIES

AT HOME

STUDIO

SPECIAL  
LOCATION

BLACK & WHITE

COLOUR

MOUNTED

FRAMED

**Call Paul on 01296 682058 to discuss your photographic requirements.**

## Chiltern Hills Vintage Vehicle Rally

WESTON ROAD  
(NEXT TO AYLESBURY RUGBY CLUB)  
ASTON CLINTON

SUNDAY, 21st MAY 2000.

10.00 am to 5.00 pm

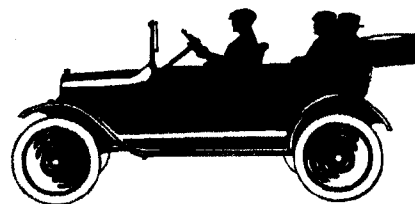
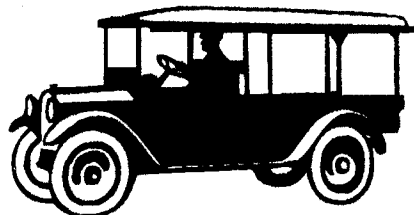
MAGNIFICENT DISPLAY OF VINTAGE VEHICLES OF ALL SORTS

AUTOJUMBLE, STALLS, FAIRGROUND

"HAVE-A-GO" CLAY SHOOT

ENTRIES WELCOME ON THE DAY

A GOOD DAY OUT FOR ALL THE FAMILY



# ST. JAMES CHURCH, ASTON ABBOTTS

## CHURCH SERVICES

5 <sup>th</sup> March	10.00	Cublington	Family Service
	10.00	Wingrave	Parish Communion
	11.15	Aston Abbots	Morning Service
	15.00	Wingrave	Annual Church Meeting
7 <sup>th</sup> (Tuesday)	19.30	Aston Abbots	Annual Church Meeting
8 <sup>th</sup> (Wednesday)	20.00	Wingrave	Ash Wednesday Service
12 <sup>th</sup>	08.45	Cublington	Parish Communion
	10.00	Wingrave	Parish Communion
	11.15	Aston Abbots	Parish Communion
	15.00	Cublington	Annual Church Meeting
14 <sup>th</sup> (Tuesday)	20.00	Wingrave	"All Together Now" Lent Course
15 <sup>th</sup> (Wednes.)	10.00	Aston Abbots	Franciscan Service
19 <sup>th</sup>	08.00	Wingrave	Prayer Book Communion
	08.45	Cublington	Parish Communion
	10.00	Wingrave	Family Service
	11.15	Aston Abbots	Parish Communion
21 <sup>st</sup> (Tuesday)	20.00	Wingrave	"All Together Now" Lent Course
22 <sup>nd</sup> (Wednes.)	10.00	Rowsham	Franciscan Service
26 <sup>th</sup>	08.45	Cublington	Parish Communion
	10.00	Wingrave	Parish Communion
	11.15	Aston Abbots	Parish Communion
28 <sup>th</sup> (Tuesday)	20.00	Wingrave	"All Together Now" Lent Course
29 <sup>th</sup> (Wednes.)	10.00	Wingrave	Franciscan Service
2 <sup>nd</sup> April	10.00	Cublington	Family Service
	10.00	Wingrave	Parish Communion
	11.15	Aston Abbots	Morning Service
	18.00	Cublington	Evensong

## SUNDAY READINGS

5 <sup>th</sup> March	1 before Lent	2 Corinthians 4.3-6 Mark 9.2-9
12 <sup>th</sup> March	Lent 1	1 Peter 3.18-22 Mark 1.9-15
19 <sup>th</sup> March	Lent 2	Romans 4.13-25 Mark 8.31-38
26 <sup>th</sup> March	Lent 3	1 Corinthians 1.18-25 John 2.13-22
2 <sup>nd</sup> Apr March	Lent 4	Ephesians 2.1-10 John 3.14-21

## ST JAMES CHURCH ASTON ABBOTTS

### PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Rev Bob Willmott	681623
Gordon Kemp	681763
Shirley Ford	681865
Ann Goodman	681763
Andrew Ford	681865

### **The Friends of Florence Nightingale House**

Here are details of some events in aid of Florence Nightingale House:

- Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March - Art in Flowers champagne preview at Waddesdon Manor - cost £15 - call 01296 653226
- Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March - Supporters' Luncheon at The Oak, Aston Clinton - cost £15 for three courses - call 01296 429975
- Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March - Concert by The Berks, Bucks and Oxon Big Band at Mandeville School, Aylesbury - cost £5

### **TESCO VOUCHERS**

Tesco is again running its "Computers for Schools" campaign, giving vouchers when you make a purchase. The vouchers are redeemed by schools in exchange for computer equipment.

You can pass your vouchers direct to a school or post them through the Editor's Door at 2 Nash's Farm - they will be passed to Wingrave School. Ed.

# St. Patrick's Night

at the  
**BULL & BUTCHER**  
Aston Abbotts - Tel: 01296 681520  
in aid of the  
**Macmillan Cancer Fund**  
Friday 17th March

\* **Live Irish Music** (JUICE OF THE BARLEY)

\* **BUFFET**

\* **MARQUEE**

\* **AUCTION**

**8PM 'TIL 1.30AM**  
(BAR UNTIL 1.00AM)

**ENTRY BY  
TICKET ONLY  
SMART DRESS PLEASE**

**£20.00** EACH



**TICKETS ON SALE FROM  
14TH JANUARY  
LIMITED NUMBERS ONLY  
NO RESERVED TICKETS  
FIRST COME-FIRST SERVED**

# IMPORTANT ... LATE BREAKING NEWS

FLARES ALLOWED



PLAY GUITAR  
WITH ZIGGY

## 60s and 70s Disco Fever Night Out

LOL IS COMING OUT OF RETIREMENT  
FOR ONE NIGHT ONLY ON SATURDAY APRIL 29<sup>TH</sup>

TO HOST A 60s + 70s DISCO AT THE CHURCH ROOM

RAISING FUNDS FOR THE CHURCH ROOM IMPROVEMENTS

SEE NEXT MONTH'S CHRONICLE FOR DETAILS...

COMB THAT CHEST  
HAIR-PIECE



MEDALLIONS  
WELCOMED

**BE WARNED - TICKETS WILL BE LIMITED AND ARE LIKELY TO GO VERY QUICKLY**

### ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH COUNCIL

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES OF MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE ROOM ON WEDNESDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2000

- **Matters arising** - There were no matters arising.

- **Planning**

99/02672/ATC The Old Vicarage, Cublington Road, Aston Abbots. Felling one holly tree. **Approved**

99/02869/99 Land Adj. Longmoor Farm, Cublington Road. Storage of building materials and plant. Letters objecting to this proposal were read out. **Resolved to write to AVDC urging them to investigate the applicant's claims further**

A/99/02424/APP Norduck Farm House, Moat Lane - pole barn. **Approved**

A/99/02729/ATN Wingrave Rd. Transmitting Station - installation of telecommunications equipment. **Approved**

A/99/02625/APP Barn 3, Longmoor Farm, Cublington Road. Crown reduce one Oak by 20%. **Approved**

A/00/00055/ATP The Old Vicarage, Cublington Road. Works to two yew trees. **The P. C. had no comment to make on this proposal**

#### Dear Dog Owners.....



Unfortunately, we have to report that dogs' muck is being found on the Rec and on the football pitch.

The vast majority of local dog owners are extremely responsible but some lack consideration for others.

If you walk your dog on the Rec please clear up its mess - a bin is provided for this purpose. Please bear in mind that the Rec is a children's play area - dogs' muck is unpleasant, unhealthy and can be dangerous, especially to youngsters.

**Thank you.**

- **Footway light at Bricstock**

A letter signed by the residents of four of the bungalows and supporting the retention of the footway light was read out. **Resolved to leave the light as it stands at the moment.**

- **Village Room Extension**

Following the public meeting people are beginning to volunteer to help.

- **Luton Airport**

Proposed Western Extension to Luton Airport Controlled Airspace. AAPC was not consulted regarding this proposal until after the due date for responses had passed.

**Resolved to write protesting about this lack of consultation and request more information re projected noise levels.**

- **Reports**

Dogs on the Rec. - Cllr. Kempster reported that dogs' excrement is being found on the football pitch. **Resolved to write a note in THE CHRONICLE.**

Parking in the Village - Cllr Kempster commented on the dangerous practice of parking facing oncoming traffic. **Resolved to write a note in THE CHRONICLE.**

Roadsides along the A418 - **Resolved to contact Highways to get the verges cleared.**

Cllr. Sansome reported that the Recreation Ground Committee has been dissolved due to lack of support.

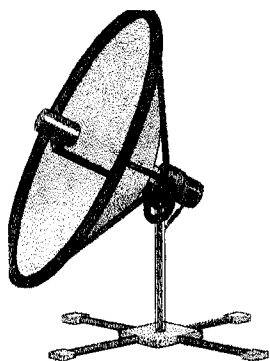
The damaged signpost on The Green was discussed - it was agreed to try to get it repaired rather than lose it.

A member of the public has requested a new litter bin for the lamppost outside The Firs. Quotes to be obtained.

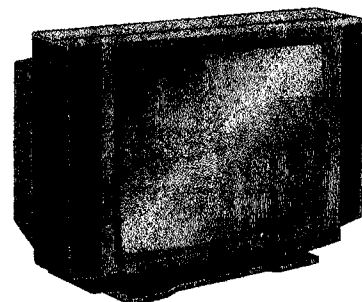
**DATE OF NEXT MEETING** Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2000. Everybody is welcome.

# FLACKWELL ELECTRONICS

OF CHURCH FARM, ASTON ABBOTTS

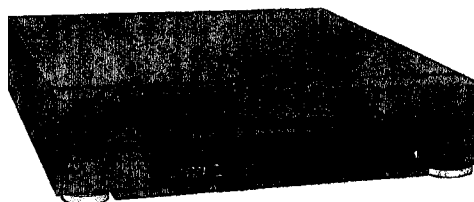


T.V. VIDEO AND  
SATELLITE  
SERVICING AND  
GENERAL REPAIR



RENTALS, NEW  
AND USED SALES

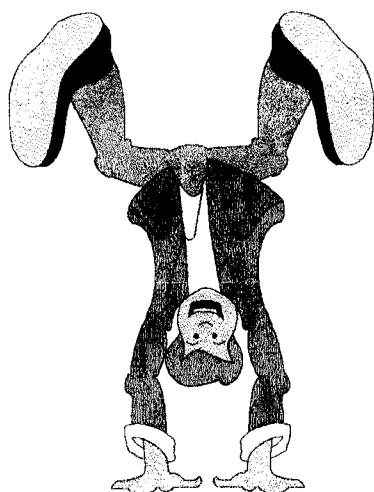
MOST MAKES  
REPAIRED  
THE SAME  
DAY



NO CALL OUT  
FEE WITHIN  
ASTON  
ABBOTTS

PHONE DAVE LEWIS

ON 01296 682126



Dave hears the news  
about the 60s & 70s  
Disco and immediately  
starts rehearsing his  
Saturday Night Fever  
routine.

FRIENDLY  
SERVICE

DLT



The Aston Abbotts  
Music Maestro

BACK PAGE THE CHRONICLE