

# THE CHRONICLE

ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH MAGAZINE  
ISSUE 194 OCTOBER 2000



The Chronicle online  
e mail us at  
[astonmag@al.com](mailto:astonmag@al.com)



## Editorial

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2000

### IMPORTANT INFO - E-MAIL

Unfortunately our Web Master has moved to pastures new (reportedly in the Emerald Isle) and so we have had to temporarily suspend **THE CHRONICLE'S** e-mail service

### DON'T BE SHY!

Come along people of Aston Abbots, don't be shy!!

You may recall that last month I announced my retirement from **THE CHRONICLE** and asked for volunteers to fill the role. I must confess that I didn't expect a flood of phone calls (and sadly I wasn't wrong) but it is disappointing that nobody has yet come forward.

Suffice to say, it would be a crying shame if the magazine were to fold through lack of an editor, so please call me if you think that you might be interested in overseeing production of the paper.

If you would like to take on the role or have some questions about the job, please call me on 01296 682651 or drop round to 2, Nash's Farm at any time.

### A-ROAD IRONY

It is rather ironic, but the good folk of Anglian Water - they who contrived to divert most of Bucks' traffic through the village for most of the school holidays - have succeeded where all others have failed.

The speed limit on the dreaded and notorious A418 is to be reduced to 40mph between Wingrave Crossroads and Wing. But don't cheer for too long - it's only a temporary measure while AW replace yet another water main.

It's a great pity that Bucks CC can see the dangers posed by roadworks (which will inevitably slow the traffic) and act accordingly, but can't appreciate the far greater dangers of this road in its usual condition. What price do we have to pay before they make a 40mph speed limit permanent?

While we are on the subject of the A418, now is the time for my annual warning, especially for newcomers to the village, about the black ice which regularly forms on the A418 between here and Wing. It is especially bad early in the mornings after a clear night. Be warned, because if you are travelling too fast, you won't know about the black ice until you are spinning across it.

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

*Andi Swain*

### IN THIS ISSUE OF THE CHRONICLE

- As you were at The Rec
- They're Under Starters Orders
- E-by Gone
- I Remember the Days When.....
- Fireworks - Literally!
- News for Youngsters.....
- All of our regular features
- And Loads, Loads more

### PRODUCTION TEAM CONTACTS

<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

A note to all would be advertisers - more than 198 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 November issue is Friday October 20<sup>th</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, our local Doctor's Surgeries and to Wing Police House.

# THE PEOPLE'S PAGE

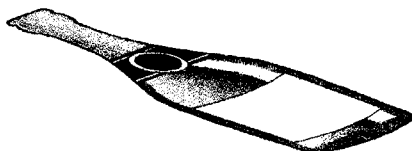
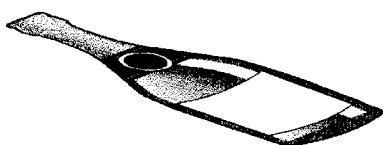


Aston Abbotts wishes a **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to everybody celebrating in **October**, especially

George 'Freddie' Lowden	1st	Christine Scott	24th
Denise Robinson	2nd	Jackie Farrands	24th
Juliette Gutierrez	3rd	Rita Robinson	26th
Stuart Biddle	5th	Val Espley	27th
Devon King	8th	Mandy Thornhill	29th
Edward Picking	11th	Hayley Wilkinson	31st
Juan Gutierrez	14th		

A message to **Don Bellingham...**

We all hope that you are on the mend, Don.



## 31st October

### Village Beware...

### IT'S

# Trick OR Treat

### Can You Help???



Does anybody from the village go to Aylesbury on Mondays and Wednesdays between 8.00am and 8.30 am, and return between 5.00 and 5.30pm?

I am looking for a lift on these days and would be willing to contribute towards Petrol.

**MARGARET KENT - Telephone 628316**

### JAZZ at The Bull & Butcher....

**Niiiiiiiice!** (See 'What's On' for details)



Let **TRACEY HINDS** know about your news, birthdays, or forthcoming events

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## 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

**JOHN SANSOME (Chairman)**  
Longmore Farm 681010

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

**TOM MANNING**  
681160

**GWEN KEMPSTER**  
53 The Green 681310

**MARGARET KENT**  
6 The Green 681454

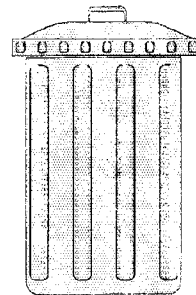
**LINDA SUTTON**  
Sadlers Farm 681413

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

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

## LOCAL RECYCLING

Collection point is available at  
**The Bull & Butcher, Aston Abbots**



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ARE COLLECTED FORTNIGHTLY FROM  
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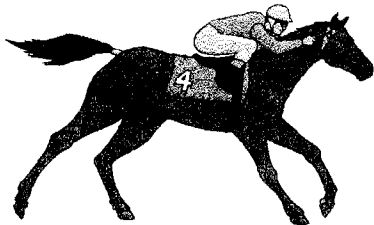
# IN THE VILLAGE 1.

## It's 6.30..... and they're off!!

Following on from the success of last year's trip to Huntingdon Races, Tony Hinds was persuaded (it didn't take too much) to organise a similar outing on August Bank holiday this year.

The only downside was that being an early bird himself, Tony arranged for the bus to pick us up at the 'Bull' at 8.30a.m. that Monday morning; not too bad normally but a touch uncivilised following a riotous barbecue on the Sunday. Conversation on the journey towards Huntingdon was rather subdued but at least one could catch up on 'the form' from shared racing papers.

The first stop was St. Ives which apart from being a very lovely riverside town, also has a huge Bank Holiday market. However, most of the 'lads and lasses' on our bus were more intent on finding a decent breakfast rather than bargains. They were not disappointed!! It would have been all too easy to linger by the river but after a brief meeting in a pub (where else?) the decision was made to head into Huntingdon to find a pub for lunch!!



Racing started at 3.00 and thanks to Pete Harvey's driving and navigation, we got there in time to put a bet on for the first race. Fortunes varied but Andi Swain had the worst piece of luck of the day. Studying 'form' at the ring prior to each race he couldn't help noticing a priest apparently blessing a horse then backing the 'nag' which always won.

By the fifth race Andi decided to back the horse to which the priest had just attended. It led the field for half a lap and promptly fell down stone dead. Having put quite a large sum of money on the horse he thought he would have a word with said priest who promptly asked Andi if he was religious. When he replied that he was not, the priest said that he thought not, otherwise he would have known the difference between a blessing and the last rites.

A totally uneventful drive back to Woburn for a pint or two at a thoroughly delightful pub in the high street (sorry but can't remember it's name) then back to Aston Abbots to meet up with 'other halves' at the 'Bull' for what turned out to be an excellent supper.

Many thanks to Tony for organising a great day out, Pete Harvey for all the driving, Darren for a terrific meal and Andi for the 'in transit entertainment'!!\*



\*Don't ask. Ed.

## Situation Normal at The Rec

It seems from feedback received at **THE CHRONICLE** that last month's article about the damage at The Rec came as a surprise (and shock) to many villagers. A lot of notes were sent and calls made to air concerns.

But the very good news this month is that things seem to be getting very much back to normal, with no more problems reported, no more damage and no more late night drinking!

On behalf of the village, **THE CHRONICLE** would like to thank the Parish Council for placing a notice on the Playground to help prevent problems; thanks too go to PC Buckle, our village PC who I believe might have had a word or two in a few ears.

But most of all, thanks go to the youngsters in the village who may, or may not, have been responsible for the situation but who have listened to the concerns of other villagers and put a stop to the problem.

Enough said. **Ed.**

## BONFIRE BONANZA

Talking of The Rec, we're getting close to Bonfire Night and our traditional village bonfire party. It should be particularly good this year as Bonfire Night falls on a Sunday!



As ever, the bonfire will start taking shape on the edge of The Rec in mid-October but please remember to wait until the end of the month before taking your wood etc. to The Rec.

You'll find more about the party later in **THE CHRONICLE**. **Ed.**

## TRADITIONAL WAYS THE BEST....

After a trial period, **THE CHRONICLE** has decided to end its e-mail service, asking readers to use the phone and letters instead.

The magazine feels strongly that modern communication methods (e-mail especially) detract from our historical skills of written and oral communication. Telephone and even one to one conversations are more lively than "Times New Roman" e-mail messages which are often baldly splot and lacking feeling. Lively debate is needed; colourful expression in wonderful English prose; thoughtful communication all round.

Oh, and our web-master has cleared off to Ireland.

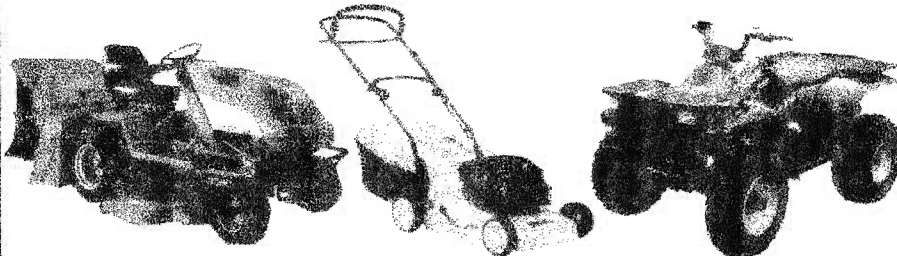
Er, any takers for the job?

**Ed.**

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## IN THE VILLAGE 2.

### THE VILLAGE INTERVIEW

“When a village shop or a Post Office closes, it is the end of a village,” says Bernard Osborn, who has worked in the village shop opposite the Bull and Butcher since he first helped his mum and dad as a small boy. “My mother and father started the shop here in Aston when they were married. They moved to the Old Forge, then they moved down here. It would have been 1926.

“My father’s family were engineers. They used to do the old steam engines, and he was the odd one out - they wanted him to go in to the engineering business and he rebelled and went into the grocery trade. Mother, she loved the shop. Like a lot of the people years ago, they potted. They didn’t kill themselves with work, but they were going gently all the time. They did things in their own time.”

He grins as he remembers the innocent mischief the village children got up to in those pre-war days. “We used to turn gates upside-down. All these rows of houses had wooden gates and you could lift them off, turn them upside down so when the poor old dears come out in the morning the latch was down the bottom. You know, nothing really bad, but naughty.

“Fireworks night was always a good night. Penny bangers on the doorstep sort of thing. Chased round the village. Of course during the war there were no fireworks, but some bright boy who should be nameless was given some Little Giant powder and some fuse [for blowing up tree stumps] and he made fireworks. They went off with a lovely bang!”

But Miss Childersley, the schoolteacher, had power over her young charges. “Poor old Chilly... she used to walk across the Green and if it she saw us she would say ‘Boys! Boys!’ and we would disappear. That was the way.”

On Sundays there was always chapel for the young Bernard. “First thing in the morning you’re all dressed up in your best. Sunday-school in the morning and you were allowed to go for walks afterwards with your suit on. Then there would be afternoon chapel. Then in the evening at 6 o’clock. We used to watch the clock... you know 5 to 7 and you’d think ‘Cor Blimey’ - and some of those preachers would go on to half past! And the old fellows would say ‘Good service tonight’. Things have changed haven’t they? It was one continuous stream going up to Church and Chapel. Sunday evenings in the summer when it was warm there’d be no end of people walking along the main road in the evening, all dressed up.”

With the war came inevitable changes in village life. “The early part of the war my father did the Post Office. They hadn’t got a postman so the Head Postmaster rang him up and said could he undertake deliveries. For years I delivered the mail round Aston. That was on the carrier bike - a big wheel one. Then we lashed out on a little wheel one with a big basket and I took the lady who used to live up at Longmoor home in that basket more than once! You had to make sure you were sitting on the saddle before she got in there otherwise you went arse upwards.

“Of course wartime and just after the war, we were

very busy here. Village shops were busy - that was the heyday of them - because people could not go in to town and that. We used to sell an awful lot of stuff in those days. During the war we were registered for cooking fat, but a producer at Prestwood produced pigs and we had lard all during the war, which was a rarity.”

After the war Bernard did National Service in the Air Force and laughs as he remembers how he gained rapid promotion. “I did a short time at Bletchley and had a rapid posting from there to Group Headquarters, because there had been an *orgy!* There was this goings-on in the Signals section, so they had a grand clear out and posted a load of officers from Bletchley to take charge over there.”

Unlike some, Bernard enjoyed his compulsory Service. “I did very well in the Air Force and they wanted me to stop in. They offered me a post straight away in Japan, but my one aim was to come out and that was one of the silliest things I’ve ever done you know, come back here! It was kind of expected of you, wasn’t it, to move back into the family business.”

Not long afterwards Bernard married Valerie, the sweetheart he had written to during his National Service “I think I’d known her since before the war. Her grandmother used to live down the Royal Oak, but her family home is London - Hampstead. We’ve been married 46 years.”

Living in Cublington since his marriage, Bernard has continued to run the shop, seeing the growth of the supermarkets and changes in village lifestyle gradually erode the business. “Things have changed. The amount of deliveries and stuff we used to have in, possibly six boxes of butter a week, things like that. But today... I just can’t sell it within the sell-by date. It’s just had to go like so many other things.

Is he saddened by the decline in trade? “Well yes, to a point. You think you’ve got the right product, the price is right, but people still don’t bother. Then once in a while people come in and they say ‘I didn’t know you stocked so and so’, or ‘You’re cheaper than Tesco’s’ and things like that, but they still won’t use the village shop now. Years ago we used to carry an awful lot more stuff. It’s quantity again. A box of bananas is 28 pounds - I just couldn’t sell it.

“Little shops like this... It’s things like the rates and so on, which are crippling. You’re penalised for giving a service... truthfully, money-wise, I’ve propped this up for years.” But Bernard isn’t bitter, he just recognises that the trade for his village shop has gone forever, “Oh no, no. It won’t come back!

“Well I’ve got to the point now where one of these days I shall say ‘Sod it!’ and that’s it. I mean the amount of stock and that I carry... It’s the old story, the more you sell the more you can stock. So one of these days I shall say enough is enough and sling it in.”

“Truthfully I shouldn’t be here, but it’s become a hobby. It becomes a way of life you know. I come over here at 8 o’clock in the morning and that gets me out in the morning, whereas if I was at home all day long I’d drive Valerie around the twist wouldn’t I?”

Bernard was interviewed by Phil Spooner.



# 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.

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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**



# VILLAGE FIREWORK PARTY

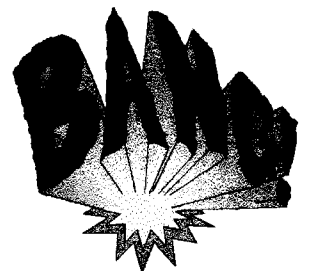
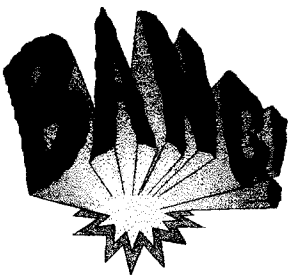
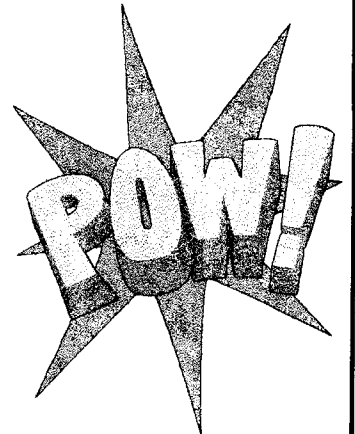
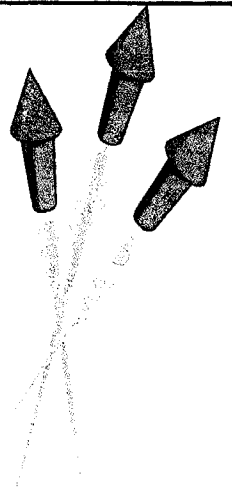
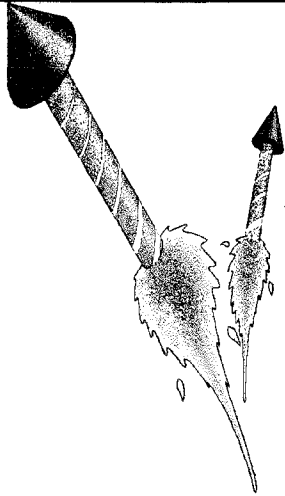
**ASTON ABBOTTS  
VILLAGE  
FIREWORK  
PARTY  
SUNDAY NOVEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup>**

**AT THE RECREATION GROUND  
ASTON ABBOTTS**

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FIREWORKS START AT 7.00 PM  
PLEASE BRING A LARGE  
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NIGHT AS YOUR ENTRY FEE**

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DONATION CAN BE PASSED TO LOL  
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WOOD ETC FOR THE  
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FROM SATURDAY 21<sup>ST</sup>  
OCTOBER**



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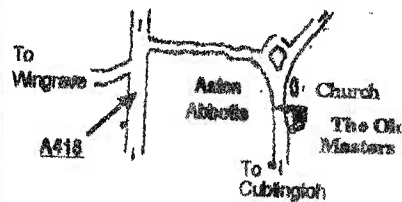
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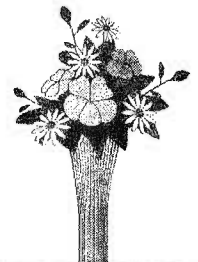
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# IN THE VILLAGE 4.

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**(in conjunction with)**

**Friends of Long Marston School**

Presents

**A FASHION SHOW by**  
**"THE CLOTHES LINE"**

*featuring: Local Models*

**To be held on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2000**

**At 7:30pm for 8pm in the School Hall**

**TICKETS (Limited availability)**

**£3-00 (pre-booked)**

**£3-50 (at the door)**

**Tickets from the Village Shop/School Office**

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**We look forward to seeing you on the night**

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## LETTER TO THE CHRONICLE

21 September 2000

The Editor, The Chronicle

Dear Andi

Firstly, although my tenure as "Playgroup Leader" has ended now that my son has started Wingrave School, I would just like to publicly thank, once again, the Fete Committee for the generous donation to the Aston Abbots Toddler Group; it was very much appreciated.

Secondly, can I also take this opportunity to inform those who are not aware of the Toddler Group's existence that it meets every Thursday morning 1000 - 1200 in the Church Room. Mums (or Dads) can sit and chat over a coffee while the young ones can let off steam. New members are always most welcome. The first visit is free and thereafter £1 for toddlers and 50p for babies.

Yours sincerely

S Dickason

Mrs S J Dickason  
No 1 Abbey Cottages  
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## 'WHAT'S ON' IN OCTOBER 2000

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup>** . Leighton & Lindslade Transport Meeting. (Bus train queries to Colin please)  
**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup>** Whist Drive in The Church Room 7.30pm  
 Also Toddlers Group in the Church Room 10.00-12.00  
**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>** Harvest Festival Service St. James Church 11.15 am.  
 Harvest Sale at The Old Masters – Come along, bid for bargains 7.00 pm.

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup>** Mobile Library The Green / Wingrave Rd / Oxley Farm.  
 Rambler's club winter programme planning meeting 13 Moorlands. Wing 8.00 pm.  
**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup>** Bingo in The Church Room 7.30pm  
 Also Toddlers Group in the Church Room 10.00-12.00

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup>** Floral class (Note change of day) Church Room 7.00 pm.  
**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>** Whist Drive in The Church Room 7.30pm  
 Also Toddlers Group in the Church Room 10.00-12.00

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>** Mobile Library The Green / Wingrave Rd / Oxley Farm  
**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup>** Bingo in The Church Room 7.30pm  
 Also Toddlers Group in the Church Room 10.00-12.00  
**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup>** Rambling Club members meet Wendover 2.00pm

**Thursday Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>** Whist Drive in The Church Room 7.30pm  
 Also Toddlers Group in the Church Room 10.00-12.00

### BOOK THESE DATES

**SUNDAY 8- OCTOBER**  
 Harvest Festival plus Harvest Sale at Old Masters 7.00 pm.

**SATURDAY 2- DECEMBER**  
 Christmas shopping tripto  
 Bristol

## JAZZ

AT

## THE BULL & BUTCHER

The following bands have already been booked so why not come along and listen to good lively music whilst enjoying a 'pint or two' with friends?

### OCT

**Fri 6<sup>th</sup>** Chiltern Jazz Band  
**Fri. 20<sup>th</sup>** Bill Freeman's Happy Jazz Band

### NOV.

**Fri. 3<sup>rd</sup>** Fenny Stompers  
**Fri 17<sup>th</sup>** The Eagle Band

### DEC.

**Fri. 1<sup>st</sup>** Stackyard Stompers  
**Fri. 15<sup>th</sup>** Fenny Stompers



### CHURCH FLOWERS FOR OCT.

7/8<sup>th</sup> Harvest  
 14/15<sup>th</sup> Mrs Hartnett  
 21<sup>st</sup> Mr. C. Higgs  
 28<sup>th</sup> Donated

### SIDESMEN FOR OCT.

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 22<sup>nd</sup> Mr C. Higgs.  
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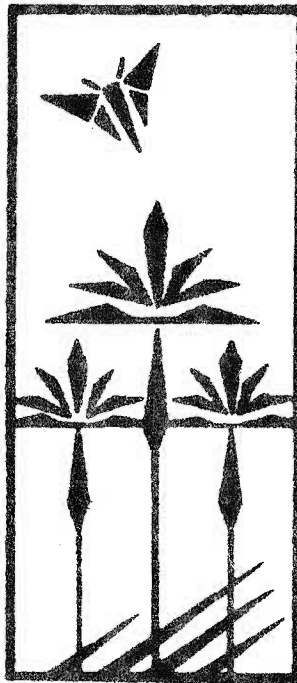
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# IN THE VILLAGE 6.

## SO HOW OLD DO YOU FEEL?

A pal of mine in Holland sent me the following reminder that I am not as young as I once was, or like to think I still am... I wonder how many of you will be similarly affected? Ed.

**The people who are starting University this autumn across the nation were born in 1981.**

They have no meaningful recollection of the Thatcher era. They were prepubescent when the Gulf War started.

Black Monday 1987 is as significant to them as the Great Depression.

Their world has always included AIDS.

Atari's and Space Invaders predate them, as do vinyl albums and audio tapes. The Compact Disc was released when they were born. As far as they know, stamps have always cost about 26 pence. Few, if any, have lived without an answering machine. Few have used a TV set without a remote control and they don't know they come in black and white. They were born the year that Sony brought out the Walkman.

### Like me, you are a true child of the 80s if ....

You wore a Kagoul, especially those wind breakers that folded up into a pouch you could wear around your waist.

You remember Le Freak by Chic and Bad Manners' Can-Can.

At school, you and all your friends discussed elaborate plans to get together again at the end of the century and play "1999" by Prince over and over again.

You ever dressed to emulate a person you saw in a Duran Duran, Madonna or Bruce Springsteen video.

There was nothing strange about Bert n' Ernie living together.

You even wanted to learn to play "Stairway to Heaven" on the guitar and choreographed "Dancing Queen" by yourself in your room. The first time you ever kissed someone was at a dance during "Crazy for You" by Madonna.

You know who shot J.R. but have probably forgotten.

You remember which policeman you liked best in "Chips".

Mark from Eastenders will always be Tucker from Grange Hill / Tucker's Luck. You remember when Terry Wogan was on TV everyday.

You could sing "99 Red Balloons" in English and in German.

Your jaw would ache by the time you finished those "brick-sized" packages of Bazooka gum and you remember a 'Man's got to chew, what a Man's got to chew'.

You remember when there was no breakfast TV and when TV shut down at midnight, and when there was nothing on TV in the middle of the day.

You remember Farley's rusks tasting nice, but when you had one about 5 years ago they were bloody awful!

**One word.....SPANGLES!!!**

You remember 'Now' compilations that had the pig on the front cover. You never questioned why the A-Team was always imprisoned in places that had sufficient tools to build an armoured tank. Dungeons & Dragons was your favourite cartoon

You've ever said "bright light, bright light" in a strange high-pitched voice. You know the theme tune and the names of all the actors and characters in Dallas & Dynasty.

You ever wished your hair/clothes/lifestyle resembled the above (or they actually did!).

You fell out with friends during heated arguments about the relative merits of Matt & Luke. You owned, or wanted a "Frankie says..." T-shirt. Cerise pink, electric blue and banana yellow have ever featured in your wardrobe or make-up collection. You remember when the Aha video was the pinnacle of modern technology, and you can still sing all the words (from the first time round!).

Girls - your best party dress was either a ra-ra or puff-ball skirt  
Lads - you owned a thin, black leather tie (and were proud of it), or worse it was patterned like a piano!

You wondered why a popular kids TV programme told you to "Turn off your TV set and go and do some less boring instead".

You have ever pogoed or space-hopped. You wondered why your walkie-talkie didn't have the same range as those in the Red Hand Gang. You remember watching a house inhabited by a jester, a pantomime horse, and a woman who sneezed, and thinking that this was perfectly normal.

You thought ABBA were cool, the first time round!

You tried to convince your Dad to fit a strip of red lights on the front of his Capri so it looked like KITT. You wouldn't say no to a milkshake and you've had more than 10 sweets in a 10p mix.

When Yoda said 'There is another Skywalker' you wished he was talking about you. Wearing your hair like buns on the sides of your head seemed like a good fashion statement.

**You hid behind the sofa whenever you heard the word Exterminate.**

Girls - you owned a pair of Pixie Boots, generally worn with leg warmers! Boys - you owned a pair of pale grey slip-ons, generally worn with white towelling socks! Shiny grey flecked suits. You've rolled the sleeves of your suit jacket up

You've ever held a chicken in the air, or stuck a deckchair up your nose. You went to school with Pogo Patterson, Gripper Stebson, and Roland. Giant Haystacks and Big Daddy have ever featured on your Saturday afternoon. **Fingermouse.**

You fantasised about those girls from that Robert Palmer video.

You know all the words to Hey Mickey (well nobody knows passed the first verse anyway). You remember Look In magazine, and when it was only 20p. Your best mate had a soda stream at home and you were jealous.

You remember mobile phones that had briefcase size battery packs attached.

**But this is the real kicker :**

**You cringed every time your parents reminisced about the popular culture of their youth.**

Ahem, Ed.



---

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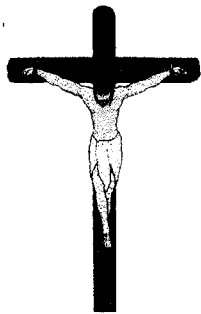
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## RECTOR'S REPORT OCTOBER 2000

"Welcome to the Xxxxxxx Diocese of the Church of England. If you have a touch-tone telephone please press the star button twice. Thank-you. If you wish to arrange a Baptism, please press 1. If you have lost a loved-one please press 2. If you are planning a Wedding, please press 3. For a home visit please press 4.

To leave a message for your local Vicar press 5 .....If you would like details of next Sunday's Services please press 8. To speak to one of our Call Staff press 9. Press 0 to hear the options again".

"Thank you for pressing 9. We are sorry that all our Consultants are busy at the moment. Please do not replace your receiver. You are in a queue and your call will be answered as soon as possible..... Sorry to keep you waiting, you are still in the queue and we shall be with you very shortly.....".



We have become accustomed to this kind of disembodied voice message for many areas of our lives, and surely it can only be a matter of time before the Church also gets on the band-wagon. I am sure that my attempt at a script will not be how it will be handled – but, you never

know! And, of course, you will never know whether the Call Centre is in Liverpool, Newcastle, or anywhere else, nor whether pressing the next option button transfers you to Carlisle or Edinburgh. All you will know is that you dialled the number and were connected to the system.

There is quite naturally a difference between how such a system would work in towns and how it will be received in more rural communities. In the towns it is more likely that you would not know (and may not even be too bothered) about the person who conducted the Baptism, Wedding or Funeral – so long as it happened without any particular problems. People in smaller communities like to have someone that they know, and whom they feel knows them. From my point of view it is much easier to deal with families that I know something about. But with less full-time clergy around in the future, such knowledge will inevitably be more limited.

The technical arrangements to introduce a Call Centre will of necessity be quite complex – and yet those arrangements will not need to be known by those who call. People who opt for details of next Sunday's Services will not need to know of the complex computer links between the Call Centre and individual churches, which in the way of things, will need updating almost on a weekly basis.

Yet, whilst a Church Call Centre seems a strange and in some ways a fearsome thing, is it really very different from the way in which we have always related to God? We do not need to know how God works, but we do know that he is there when we call him (and sometimes he puts us on 'hold' before giving us the answer to our prayer). God knows us all. He loves us all – and whilst we may fear the technology, he will always meet our deepest needs.

**Bob Willmott**

## 1<sup>st</sup> Wingrave Scout Group

### Beaver Scouts

We have started the new term full of energy and enthusiasm! The boys will be spending the first half term looking at things that fly, making kites, flags and discovering the strengths or otherwise of balloons.

We have welcomed Harry Pickering and Jack

O'Donnell to the colony and are all looking forward to completion of the new Scout Hut so that we can hold our meeting in the new central base.

For more information about Beavers please contact Sue Ascott (681878) or Jan Antiesowicz (681430)

### Cub Scouts

Life without a Hut is interesting to say the least!

We started the term with an evening at Kaa's house, where the Cubs carried out a number of activities towards their Home Help Badge. We also invested Bradley Jones and welcome him to the Pack.

Our second meeting was a games evening on Wingrave Park - during the evening our newer Cubs had a chance to do some tracking, also towards an award and something we need to fit in while the evening is still light enough to see!

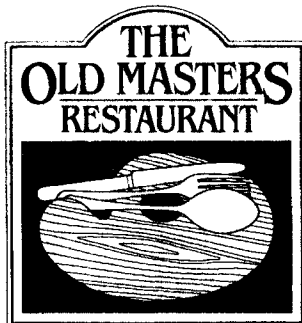
Fuel crisis allowing we hope to take the Cubs for an evening swimming, both to practice for the forthcoming swimming gala and to allow the boys to achieve a swimming award (the level being dependant on their ability).

Meanwhile work on the Hut is progressing. We are very grateful for the help that we have had in clearing the site and can't wait until all is finished!

**Julia Ellis**

### Guides where are you?

From time to time **THE CHRONICLE** hears from the Guides and Brownies about what they're up to - we would be delighted to hear from you each month and print news of what's going on. Please feel free to send in an article to the editor at 2 Nash's Farm Aston Abbotts for publication.

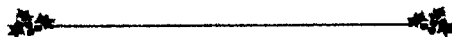


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*Festive Menu 2000*



*Leek and Watercress Soup*

*or*

*Eggs Old Masters*

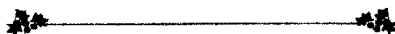
*scrambled egg with prawns served on garlic toast*

*or*

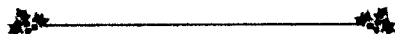
*Piquillo pepper filled with ratatouille and served with a sweet pepper sauce*

*or*

*Melon and Fresh Fruit Platter*



*Home Made Sorbet*



*Roast Breast of Fresh Turkey with home-made stuffing,  
Chippolata wrapped in bacon and Fresh Cranberry Sauce*

*or*

*Salmon Dieppoise*

*poached in white wine served with mussel, mushroom and cream sauce*

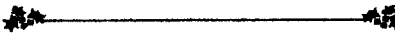
*or*

*Beef Bourguignon*

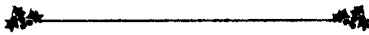
*braised in red wine with bacon, garlic, onions, mushrooms and fresh herbs*

*or*

*Pancake filled with fresh spinach and pine nuts in a béchamel sauce  
with a hint of nutmeg served with a spicy tomato sauce*



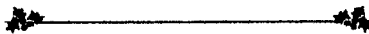
*A Selection of Fresh Seasonal Vegetables and Potatoes*



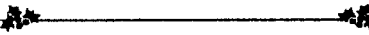
*Desserts of the Day*

*or*

*Christmas Pudding with Brandy Sauce*



*Coffee and Mince Pies*

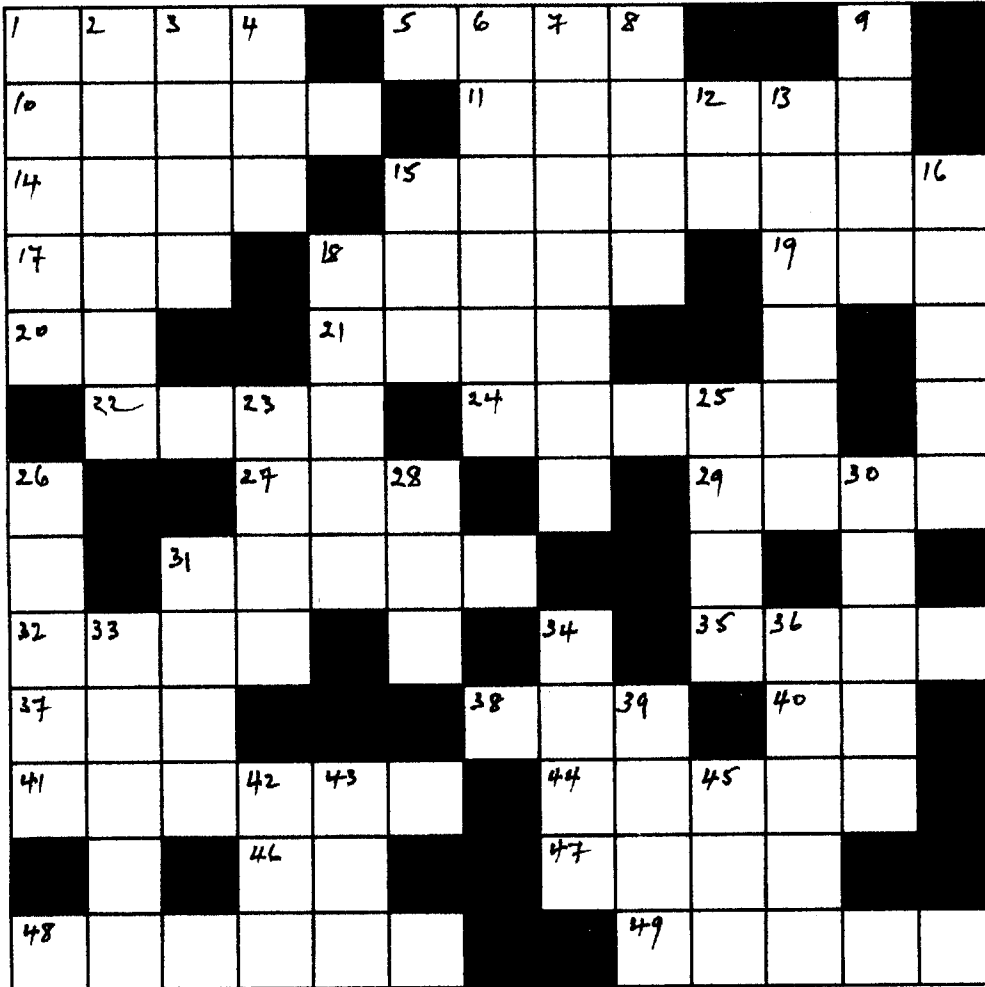


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*A £10 non refundable deposit per person is required at the time of booking.*

*Please may we have your choices 2 weeks prior to your booking. Thank you.*



Answers to September  
**ACROSS:** 1 Request. 7 Homes. 12 Unseat 14 Mast. 15 A bank. 17 Papers. 19

Mesa. 20 Pronto. 21 Satire. 25 Truced. 26 Trail. 30 Rid. 31 Sally. 32 Sac. 33 Ad. 34 Drilled. 37 Limbo. 41 Din. 42 Exit. 43 Nerd. 44 Elks. 46 IE. 47 Need. 48 Destitute. 49 TD.

**DOWN:** 1 Ream. 2 Quasar. 3 Unnatural. 4 Esk. 5 SE. 6 Tapped. 8 Omen. 9 Martial. 10 Esso. 11 St. 13 Tar. 16 Best. 18 Posts. 22 Icicle. 23 Red. 24 Ply. 27 RA. 28 Ill-bred. 29 Wedded. 32 Sinks. 33 Adieu. 35 Rile. 36 Exit. 38 Inn. 39. Meet. 40 Odd. 45 St.

**ACROSS**

- 1. Flat Hill (4)
- 5. Enthusiasm (4)
- 10. Sluggish (5)
- 11. Estimated (6)
- 14. Adjoining (4)
- 15. Friendly (8)
- 17. Weep (3)
- 18. US State (5)
- 19. --- & feather (3)
- 20. For example (2)
- 21. Reject (4)
- 22. -- heave -- (2/2)
- 24. Boys name (5)
- 27. ROE (an.3)
- 29. Globes (4)
- 31. Senior member (5)
- 32. Stain (4)

- 35. Slightly open (4)
- 37. S.Am town (3)
- 38. Domestic fuel (3)
- 40. Printers measure (2)
- 41. Enlists (6)
- 44. Joy (5))
- 46. Us (2)
- 47. In chimneys (4)
- 48. Lots (6)
- 49. Long teeth (5)

**DOWN**

- 1. Grind (5)
- 2. Vigour (6)
- 3. Sensual (4)
- 4. Painting e.g. (3)
- 6. Equal, correspond (6)
- 7. Writers (7)

- 8. Emblem (4)
- 9. Girl's name (4)
- 12. Preposition (2)
- 13. One or another (6)
- 15. Poem (3)
- 16. Smiles (5)
- 18. ---- towers (5)
- 23. Owl's call (4)
- 25. Greek letter (4)
- 26. Thread (5)
- 28. Fish (3)
- 30. Vegetables (5)
- 31. Entrance (4)
- 33. LOG IN (an 5)
- 34. Pokes (4)
- 36. Jokes (5)
- 39. Groove (4)
- 42. Indebted (3)

- 43. Boy's name (3)
- 45. Indebted again (3)

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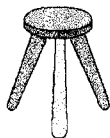


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# ST. JAMES CHURCH, ASTON ABBOTTS

## CHURCH SERVICES

1st Oct	10.00	Cublington	Family Service (Harvest)
	10.00	Wingrave	Parish Communion
	11.15	Aston Abbots	Morning Service
	18.00	Cublington	Evensong
8th	08.45	Cublington	Parish Communion
	10.00	Wingrave	Parish Communion
	11.15	Aston Abbots	Harvest Festival Communion
	19.00	Aston Abbots	Harvest Sale at Old Masters
11th	10.00	Aston Abbots	Franciscan Service
15th	08.00	Wingrave	Prayer Book Communion
	10.00	Cublington	Family Eucharist
	10.00	Wingrave	Family Service
	11.15	Aston Abbots	Parish Communion
18th	10.00	Rowsham	Franciscan Service
22nd	08.45	Cublington	Parish Communion
	10.00	Wingrave	Parish Communion
	11.15	Aston Abbots	Parish Communion
25th	10.00	Wingrave	Franciscan Service
29th	10.00	Wingrave	Three Parish Communion
5th Nov	10.00	Cublington	Family Service
	10.00	Wingrave	Parish Communion
	11.15	Aston Abbots	Morning Service

## SUNDAY READINGS

1st Oct	Trinity 15	James 5.13-20; Mark 9.38-50
8th	Trinity 16	Hebrews 1.1-4;2.5-12; Mark 10.2-16
15th	Trinity 17	Hebrews 4.12-16 Mark 10.17-31
22nd	Trinity 18	Hebrews 5.1-10; Mark 10.35-45
29th	Trinity 19	Hebrews 7.23-28; Mark 10.46-52
5th Nov	4 before Advent	Hebrews 9.11-14; Mark 12.28-34

## FROM THE REGISTERS

Holy Baptism	3rd Sept	Connor La-Plain at Wingrave
	10th	Courtney Hewitt at Wingrave
Marriage	16th Sept	Tom Clancy & Nicky Camilleri at Wingrave
Funerals	30th Aug	Charles Guess - burial at Cublington

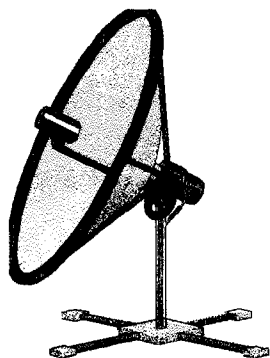
## ST JAMES CHURCH ASTON ABBOTTS

### PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

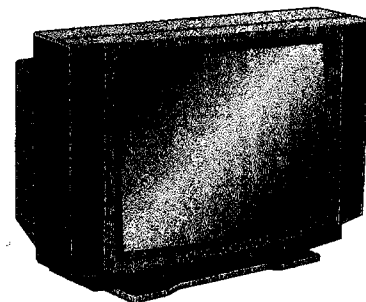
Rev Bob Willmott	681623
Gordon Kemp	681763
Shirley Ford	681865
Ann Goodman	681763
Andrew Ford	681865

# FLACKWELL ELECTRONICS

OF CHURCH FARM, ASTON ABBOTTS

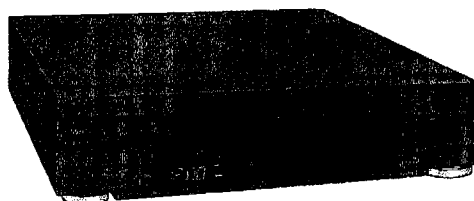


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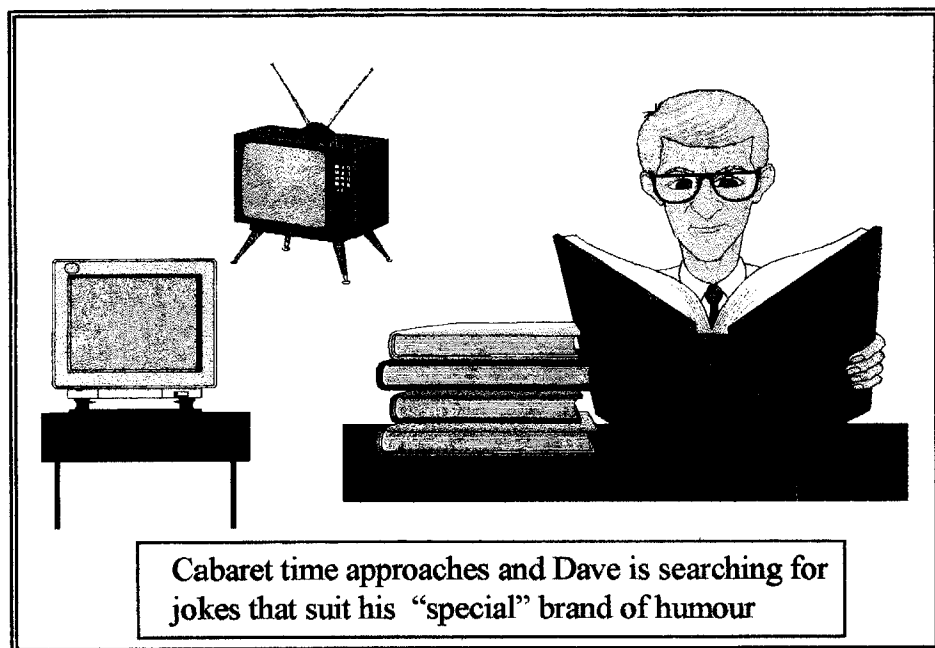
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THE SAME  
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Cabaret time approaches and Dave is searching for jokes that suit his "special" brand of humour

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