

# THE CHRONICLE

**ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH MAGAZINE ~ Issue 234 ~ May 2004**



***INSIDE ...***

***ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2004***

***ASTON ABBOTTS IS SAFE***

***THE CHURCH ROOM***

*Email : [editor@aachronicle.co.uk](mailto:editor@aachronicle.co.uk)*

# Editorial

## Thanks

Thank you to the Annual Parish Meeting for voting to contribute 15% of this year's fete proceeds towards the printing costs of The Chronicle. This is greatly appreciated and it will help to ensure continuance of the magazine.

## Post

Last months April Fool item seemed to pass most of you by, or perhaps you actually believed that the Post office would launch a premium extra-cost service which allows you to collect mail from the home of the sender?

However, the Post Office *have* been causing concern in Aylesbury Vale recently, with their plans to shut several Post offices prompting the *Bucks Herald* to start a "Save Our Post Offices" Campaign.

It is quite a number of years since Aston Abbots lost its Post Office. Fortunately we have a local Post Office in Wingrave and, I hasten to add, this is not under threat. Recently Andy and Helen, who have run it for the last three years or so, have moved on to pastures new, so we wish them luck and extend a warm welcome to the new owners. We are very lucky to have such a useful facility so close to the village—just a couple of minutes in the car, or a pleasant walk if you are reasonably fit—and it's easier than getting into Aylesbury. So don't forget to use the Wingrave Post Office and support our local businesses.

## Fish

I've been reading how a failed Zimbabwean asylum seeker lost control of his car and crashed into a garden pond in Little Kimble, killing fifty fish (*Bucks Herald*, 14<sup>th</sup> April). Aylesbury magistrates understandably took a dim view of this and put six points on his license for driving without insurance... then fined him £75 for not having a license to put the points on! That'll teach him! Taking the lack of MOT and previous driving offences into account the magistrates then banned him for driving for a year.

So let's see... no license, no insurance, no MOT, no tax, a history of previous driving offences... If they think that he's going to take much notice of the ban they must be living in cloud-cuckoo land.

The point of all this is that what happens in Little Kimble could happen here. I often hear people complaining about the speed at which some drivers rush through Aston Abbots. However, next time you see one just remember that it might not just be an inconsiderate commuter in a hurry—it could be some unlicensed, uninsured idiot who hasn't passed a British driving test driving an untested and possibly unsafe vehicle—so whatever you do keep out of his way!

editor@aachronicle.co.uk



In This Issue

In your May Chronicle ~

- Aston Abbots is Safe
- Vale Housing to Double
- St Georges Day
- Friends of St James
- Church Room Passions
- Nature Notes

and much, much more.....

# THE CHRONICLE

## Issue 234

## May 2004

## Contacts

### Editorial / General

Phil Spooner  
The Birches  
Wingrave Road  
01296 681544  
editor@aachronicle.co.uk

### Distribution

Andy Bystra  
31 The Green  
01296 681690

### Advertising

Claire Gresswell  
19 The Green  
01296 682949  
cgresswell@abbotts19.fsnet.co.uk

~o~

A note to all would be advertisers -

More than 201 households receive The Chronicle 11 times a year and with rates from just £10 per annum (far cheaper than some local Parish magazines)...

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~o~

Copy date for the next issue is:

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2004**

Please pass items to Phil Spooner at The Birches in Wingrave Road 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.

# Alison's Gossip Column

## Happy Birthday

Mervyn King	2nd May
Charlie Bystra	3rd
Harry Bystra	9 <sup>th</sup>
Hannah Brandon	12th
Jeff Banister	17th
Callum Hilton	21st
Tom Manning	22nd
Benjamin King	22nd
Milani Drysdale	23rd
Neil Chesher	26th

Taking into account various parties with friends, family and colleagues, **Geoff Curnow** must have enjoyed one of the longest 70<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations ever. If all these separate events have been as good as the party April organised for village friends on Fri. 16<sup>th</sup> of April, then he must have had a great birthday.

On behalf of those of us who were lucky enough to be there; thanks to April & Geoff for a lovely evening.



Many thanks to everyone who gave so generously to the **Lifeboats Appeal** last month. We raised a creditable £125.22p.

**100 Club**
  
 Winner of the Friends of St. James
   
 April 100 club draw no. 1
   
 Mrs D Scutchings

We were deeply saddened to hear about the death of **Andy Page** and our thoughts are with Mr and Mrs Page and the whole family at this very sad time.

We were sorry to hear that **Minnie Doggett** has passed away. Please see page 9.

Welcome to **Val and Rod** who have moved into No. 2, Nash's Farm. We hope you'll enjoy living in Aston Abbots.

Congratulations to **Kevin and Jane Copping** on the birth of their beautiful daughter **Annie May**, who arrived on Tuesday 13th April, weighing 5 lb 11 oz.

Congratulations also to **Ben King** who over the past few seasons, and often riding in pretty dire weather, has been steadily working his way up the motorcycle trials riding league. Well done Ben and we look forward to a photo or two of you in action.



Many thanks for all the 'Get well' cards, messages and flowers I have recently received. All the kind thoughts were much appreciated and cheered me up at the same time. ~ **Rita**

Congratulations to **Andrew Ford** who ran the Flora London Marathon in the time of 3 hours and 34 minutes, his second best time ever. He has raised nearly £400.00 for Cancer Research UK.



Congratulations to **Bernard and Valerie Osborn** who celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary in May.

Rumour has it that Bernard is planning to take Valerie away for a Second Honeymoon to a luxurious hotel at a mystery location on one or other of the Caribbean islands. We all offer our heartiest congratulations to them both and look forward to getting a card!!



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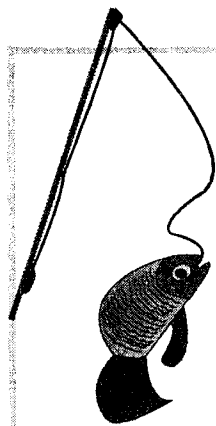
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# In The Village

## Aston Abbotts Is Safe

Aston Abbotts is a safe place to live—that was the message from Police Sergeant Gregory at this year's Annual Parish Meeting. Giving a breakdown of the 21 crimes recorded in Aston Abbotts during the last year, he explained that this was not a high crime rate.

Sergeant Gregory then went on to describe how the police structure in Thames Valley is to be reorganised this summer, breaking the large area into five districts of which Bucks will be one. He also explained that as the responsible officer for Wing he did not want his police officers sitting in the office awaiting phone calls. They should be out in the community and that is why calls to Wing police station would often get an answering machine. Calls should be made to 999 only in an emergency or if a crime is in progress and that there is now a new general number – 0845 8 505 505 – for less urgent crime reports. However calls to Wing police station may still be made for local, non-urgent enquiries.

Finally Sergeant Gregory addressed questions from the floor, including concerns about untaxed vehicles being parked in the village.

Comments made to The Chronicle after the meeting showed that Sergeant Gregory's presentation was well received and his attendance at the meeting was appreciated by villagers.

~ Phil Spooner

## Vale Housing To Double

59,000 houses are to be built in Aylesbury Vale, doubling the number of houses that exist at present, under plans being implemented by the office of the Deputy Prime Minister, John Prescott. At this year's Aston Abbotts Annual Parish Council meeting District Councillor Peter Cooper explained how Aylesbury had been designated as a major development centre, with much of the rest of the development concentrated around Winslow and Wendover. Milton Keynes is included in a separate plan. However, although there will be some immediate major developments, including Weedon Hill, Berryfields, and 400 flats on a brownfield site next to Aylesbury station, the full 59,000 do not have to be completed until 2031.

Peter Cooper went on to explain that much of the development will concentrate on properties for single people and first-time buyers with an emphasis on flats. As an example of this there are new flats included in Aylesbury's proposed £110m Waterside development. There is a major drive to regenerate Aylesbury, creating new jobs and bringing major business back to the area to avoid the need for commuting. There will be investment in the area infrastructure to support this massive development, great care will be taken to minimise the environmental impact and a 'park-and-ride' scheme for Aylesbury was mentioned.

More information on Peter Cooper's discussion of proposed development in the vale can be found in the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting on page 19.

~ Phil Spooner

## Church Room Passions

The subject of the Church Room raised some considerable passion at this year's Annual Parish Meeting, with the Reverend Bob Willmott expressing considerable dismay and frustration at a perceived rift between the Church and village over the issue. He also expressed anger that the church was incurring legal expenses as a result of the protracted legal process.

Peter Shorrocks provided an excellent overview of the current position which, whilst concise, left one with the impression of the legal fraternity going around in ever decreasing circles and in imminent danger of disappearing up their own backsides. It was left to Gordon Smith to be a voice of reason and point out that there was no rift and that a common goal existed. This led to an easing of the inflamed passions.

Neil Chesher made a very well-argued proposal to the meeting that the village should consider building a new larger village centre. Explaining that he was currently heading a feasibility study, he outlined his group's contacts with other villages who had implemented similar schemes. His proposal that the feasibility study should continue gained general approval, with several people pointing out that the two village Hall/Centre schemes could currently run in parallel until the point at which the village needed to commit its resources.

It is clear that the issue of the Church Room and the failure to resolve the situation continues to frustrate many people. The situation with regard to the continuing use of the Church Room in its current state has become somewhat clearer and I am grateful to Peter Shorrocks for contributing an article on this subject elsewhere in this issue.

~ Phil Spooner

## Gnome Gnews

After our successful appearance on the front page of the Chronicle to celebrate St Valentines Day, the 'Gnomes' decided on a trip to the theatre at Milton Keynes. We assembled at the Royal Oak on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> April to be chauffeured to see – 'The Full Monty'. Of course, to get into the spirit of the evening we first wine and dined at the Italian restaurant before heading off for the evening's entertainment. Being an American version of the film it was to me totally different to what we were expecting so it took a little while to get into it. The singing, songs and acting by the cast were all very good though.

At the end of the show when the 'main attraction' started and the Full Monty strip progressed, as you can imagine the theatre was in uproar. However, strip to nothing is just what those brave fellas did. Only the lighting hid what their hats had covered seconds before, though a few noticed that depending on where you sat, some saw more than others!!

A great night out; here's to our next outing.

~ Gnome correspondent.

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## Letters To The Editor

### Dogs

Over the last few months, I've been sad to see that each edition of The Chronicle has carried negative articles concerning dogs in the village. We regularly see complaints about people not picking up poo in various locations but have also had several mentions of stray dogs running loose. Most recently I was dismayed to read Peter Knight's article concerning dogs harassing sheep and even "killer" dogs.

I would just like to defend the responsible majority of dog owners.

Like most caring owners, I would never dream of letting my dogs run out of control in a field of sheep, with or without lambs. In fact I normally avoid entering fields with lambs in, even with the dogs on leads, just to avoid concerning the sheep! I would be as horrified as the farmer if a dog injured or killed a sheep or lamb - I'd find it hard to forgive the dog, but even harder to forgive myself if the dog had been under my care. Most dog owners are also lovers of animals in general.

If my dogs were straying loose in the village I'd be terrified for their safety, particularly the risk of them being hit by a car.

Finally, my dogs are not allowed to foul pavements, footpaths etc and should they foul the recreation ground or another such area, then I'd certainly clean up after them. I don't think I possess a jacket that doesn't have poo bags in the pockets!

Most dog owners are also good citizens. Please do not tar us all with the same brush because a small minority let the side down.

Thank you.

*~ A responsible dog owner (name and address supplied)*

*As a dog owner myself I heartily concur. Most of us take great care to keep our dogs under control and are very conscious of our responsibilities regarding livestock and not fouling the village. I always print items and notices complaining about dogs when I receive them, because clearly some villagers are unhappy. However, like our correspondent above, I am becoming slightly resentful that the thoughtless and irresponsible actions of a small minority of dog owners are reflecting poorly upon the majority. At the Annual Parish Meeting it was suggested that if you witness a person allowing their dog to foul a public place without clearing it up and putting it in the Dog Bins provided by the Parish Council you should report the person to Aylesbury's Environmental Health department on 01296 585858. ~ Ed*

### Thanks

Just a little note to thank you all again for the generous gifts on my 70<sup>th</sup> birthday.

I know I have thanked you all individually but this entry in the Chronicle is therefore more to thank so many people for the very kind spoken words, little thoughtful gestures and helpful deeds which made it a very special day, or week as it turned out.

It is also a mind-boggling thought that not every card shop would automatically stock 70<sup>th</sup> birthday cards which has meant a special effort for the senders of my 55 cards. This makes me feel very humble.

Many thanks once again.

*~ Geoff Curnow.*

## Church Room or New Build?

In last month's Chronicle Neil Chesher invited other people to respond to his article about the proposed new Village Centre. By saying that a new building would be "warm, inviting, decorated tastefully and equipped with modern toilets, kitchen and even an area for an outside bar. It would have a demountable stage area, a sound system and a lighting rig" he implied that none of this would apply to the extended and refurbished Church Room. I must take issue with him.

The plans for the extension to the Church Room include modern toilets and kitchen. It will be possible to enlarge the space available by opening sliding or folding doors between the new entrance hall and the existing room. In this way, the entrance hall would provide an excellent stage area, complete with "proscenium arch" for the cabaret etc., or could be the buffet area or quiet sitting space for parties.

The refurbished Church Room would have good heating and be tastefully decorated. Indeed it would be a far more inviting space than a hall which was capable of being used for badminton and volley ball, with the inevitable high ceiling making it feel like a bleak cube. A new hall would have none of the architectural interest and quiriness which makes the present building so interesting and potentially pleasing. The only facility listed by Neil that the Church Room would not have is an outside bar area.

When it comes to the use made of any future village hall, I quite agree that a space within the village that can be used for sports and by younger generations would be a valuable asset. But I object to the thought that the older residents should take second place to this, the implication being that their interests and activities are of lesser importance. The existing hall is placed centrally in the village which means that elderly people can reach it on foot at any time of day, at any time of year, witness the number of older people who came to the Sausage and Mash Lunch last month. Any new hall would be on the outskirts of the village making it more difficult for elderly people to reach it and even stopping them attending evening events in winter through nervousness. Furthermore, once the Church Room is refurbished and extended there will be no reason for groups such as the Toddlers Group not to use it.

It seems to me that provided the legal problems can be sorted out, our best plan would be to continue with the Church Room project which can be achieved relatively quickly and cheaply, and then to put all our efforts into raising the money for a new Village Centre. This would fulfil the requirements of all the age groups in the village giving us variety and a choice of venue according to the nature of the activity we are involved in. After all other villages, such as Cublington, have the best of both worlds so why shouldn't we. And we would certainly be the "Can Do" village that Neil wants.

*~ Clare Shorrock*

## Apology

My apologies to Sondra Dickason and Wingrave School for omitting their advertisement from last month's Chronicle, which was due to a mistake on my part

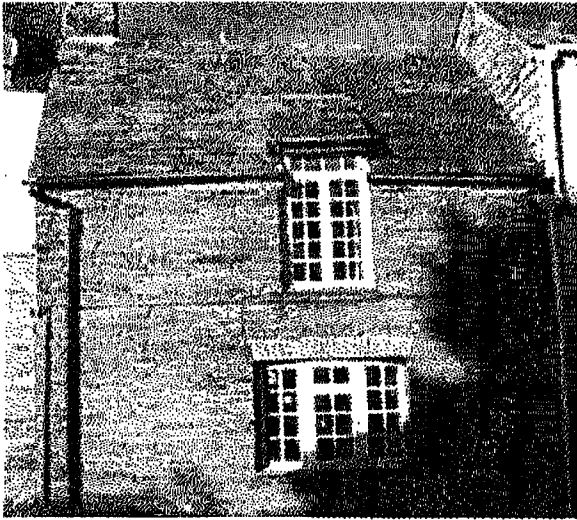
I hope that you managed to have a successful Murder and Mystery evening despite my error.

*~ Phil Spooner*

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## Village Halls & The Disability Discrimination Act, 1995

I recently attended a meeting to discuss the ramifications and implications of the above Act on Village Halls. I made the following notes at the meeting, and they are my understanding of the law. (However, I must add the disclaimer that I have not made any attempt yet to verify these points, and they should not be relied upon as totally accurate).

1. The Act comes into force in October, and after then, organisations running Village Halls should take *reasonable steps* to enable *disabled* people to have access to such halls. However non-complying village halls will not automatically be closed down after October if they fail to comply.
2. My understanding is that failure to comply with the legislation will not give rise to a criminal offence, but will leave the organisation running the Hall open to risk of civil proceedings.
3. "*Reasonable steps*" means that the organisation should review the Hall, and work out what problems may exist at the present time for disabled people, make any necessary changes as soon as reasonably possible, and monitor what has been done. However the cost of doing the work is a relevant factor, as is the difficulty of getting builders to do the work needed. The fact that the remedial work has not been carried out by October will not render the organisation immediately liable, and provided that it has carried out an audit of the existing problems, and has a timetable for doing the work in the near future, this should prevent the organisers from having liability under the Act
4. "*Disabled*" is given a wide meaning, and does not just mean persons who are confined to wheelchairs, or who have to walk using a stick or a crutch. It also includes people with sight or hearing difficulties, and with a mental disability.
5. "*Access*" does not just mean the way into a building: it also covers access within a building – i.e. the way in which disabled people can circulate within a building, and use toilet facilities.
6. In the case of the Church Room, improvements that clearly need to be made are the construction of a ramp to enable access to be obtained - probably through the main doors, although it may perhaps be possible to provide access for disabled people around the side and through the kitchen door – and the construction of a toilet which disabled persons can use. If and when the proposed lease of the Church Room is granted, and the planned extension and improvements to the building are carried out, consideration may have to be given to making the kitchen more easily usable by, for example, persons in wheelchairs, and those with a sight problem.

~ Peter Shorrock

## Minnie Doggett's Funeral.

A few weeks after moving into her new home in Winslow, Minnie sadly died.

Her funeral was held in St James Church here in Aston Abbots at 1.00 pm on Thursday the 15<sup>th</sup> of April. Many villagers were among the 60 or so who attended the Service conducted by the Rev. Bob Willmott.

Born in London, she was evacuated to High Wycombe and in later years met and married Arthur Doggett; moving to Aston Abbots where they lived in a bungalow adjacent to the 'Rec'. Arthur played the organ at St James and Wing Churches and was even persuaded on one occasion to accompany 'The last night of the Proms' at one of our Cabarets. He was a quiet gentleman but enjoyed the odd 'half' at the 'Bull', occasionally regaling us with tales of his and Minnie's sailing exploits in the Lake District. Both were regular churchgoers and after Arthur's death, Minnie continued to live in Aston Abbots, often seen on her way to church on a Sunday, the library van, or Ladies Club. She was a kind, forthright lady, always interesting to chat to. In later years she increasingly enjoyed needlework and crosswords.

She will doubtless be missed by many in Aston Abbots.



Minnie Doggett

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2004**

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# Friends of St. James

The Friends of St James has been raising money for our parish church - not the Diocese - for almost a year now which means that it is time to sign up for the 100 Club for another year. While we call it a 100 Club there is no reason why there shouldn't be more than 100 members. If more people belong we would hope to give more prizes each month - for example, 1st prize £60, 2nd prize £20. So either fill in the form below and give it with a cheque for £15 to Colin Higgs, or wait until one of the Friends knocks on your door in the next few days and give the completed form and cheque to them. More than one person per household can take part - the more the merrier and the more chance of a prize coming your way in the next year.

We will be running a small plant stall on the Sunday and Monday of the Bank Holiday w/e at the end of May to coincide with the Flower Festival in the Church. So if you have seedlings etc. which will not last until the Fete please bring them to the Church Room on the Sunday morning clearly labelled. Meanwhile you might like to see how we have raised money in the last year - all of which has gone to pay for the rewiring in the church - and how valuable your support has been in many ways.

~ Clare Shorrock

*Well done to the Friends Of St James. That is a huge amount of money which will help our church directly. The whole group and especially Chairwoman Clare Shorrock is to be congratulated and on behalf of the village I would like to offer our thanks to them all ~ Ed*

Coffee morning	£174.50
100 Club	£715.00
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Bonfire night refreshments	£163.60
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TOTAL ~

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## 100 Club

The 100 Club has now completed its first year, so if you want to continue to take part in the monthly draw with the possibility of winning £65 (provided 100 people take part) just fill in the form and write out a cheque for £15 (for 12 monthly entries) payable to "Friends of St. James". Please use the form below and return it to Colin Higgs. The draws take each month and winners names are printed in The Chronicle.

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# Countryside Diary

18th April

I don't suppose many young people read this monthly rubbish but, if they do, can I say that spring in England gets more beautiful every year and the older you get the more you appreciate the wonderful bursting of life that is spring. To me everything is looking its best in the countryside. The grass and corn are a perfect green across the fields, it being too early for weeds, thistles and the like to spoil the look. Hedges are a lovely soft green with the blackthorn in full flower showing white all round the village.

Cattle have been turned out and to me, sheep man though I am, there is no sight better than contented clean cattle in a fresh grass field. Just look at the Limousin in Westcraft - don't they look beautiful? Sheep can't compare, they always contrive to look slightly (or very) shaggy and untidy. It's also very pleasing to see our sheep contented with the young lambs enjoying the fresh grass and warm sunshine. Soon enough we shall have to worm the lambs and watch out for fly strike on the ewes..

Pigeons have been a real pest on the rape fields around the village this year, as no doubt most people are aware, thanks to the bird scaring gun going off at regular intervals. They've also been a real pest on the brassicas in the gardens with spring cabbage and purple sprouting being impossible to grow unless well covered with netting. At home I have lost a whole row of peas, dug out of the ground by jackdaws - last year jackdaws took two rows of broad beans from the Abbey Gardens - the seeds dug out of the ground before they emerged. How do they know they are down there? The birds don't dig about at random until they find a pee or bean, they dig straight down and work their way along the row. Surely the seeds don't smell?

Talking of birds, that lovely harbinger of spring the chiff-chaff has been busy these last few days, but I have yet to see a swallow and I seriously wonder if we will hear a cuckoo in Aston Abbots this year. I remember cuckoos being that common that they rather got on my nerves some days. Last year I only heard a cuckoo once in the village.

I was interested to read that in a recent survey house sparrows

were the commonest bird in Buckinghamshire gardens. Well there's a turn up. The RSPB has been telling us that they are becoming an "endangered species"! I do sometimes find the RSPB difficult to understand. They state categorically that magpies have no effect on the "songbird" population when "we" all know nest after a nest has the eggs or young eaten by those horrible scavenging predators.



A few animals that are doing well at present: -

Newts - we have never seen so many newts in the various ponds around the abbey and village. Incidentally, do they eat frog spawn? Please tell me if you know that they do.

Rabbits - well they breed like... well... like rabbits don't they?

Butterflies - I've already seen Commas, Orange tip, Brimstones and Tortoiseshell.

Deer, badgers and seemingly hares - no doubt most of these creatures all benefit from a long mild winter, but then don't we all?

*Pete Knight*

## PLANTS PLANTS PLANTS

*It's that time of year again! Clare needs you to remember the plant stall at the fete. Please pot up surplus seedlings and any bits and pieces that have spread too much in your flower beds. Keep them safe and give them to Clare at Oak Farm House the week before the fete.*

*Remember your efforts last year raised over £300... the most profitable stall at the fete!*

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# Aston Abbotts Parish Council

Unofficial minutes from the meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2004

## Present

Cllrs. T.Manning (Chairman), C. Higgs, D.Dicken, J.Farrands, P.Shorrock, R.Clarke and Mrs. K.Curry (Clerk). One member of the public was present. Apologies were received from Cllr. M.Kent.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and signed.

## Matters Arising

Buckland Landscapes have been employed to mow the grass on the Recreation Ground this season.

The new Post Box should be erected soon.

The Parish Council would be able to take on the Church Room lease as Trustee for the charitable trust.

## County Council, District Council & Police Matters

No representatives were present from the County Council or Police

The Police have sent a Feedback Form, which the PC felt would be a good way to communicate local concerns. The Clerk agreed to publish the form in the Chronicle, for members of the public to return to her. [see page 25—Ed]

District Cllr Peter Cooper discussed the format of the Planning Committee Meeting, due to take place on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April, into the Home Farm development. Representatives from the Parish Council will ask to be allowed to speak on behalf of the residents of Church Row. He also informed the meeting that the Police had raided the travellers' camp at Cublington and discovered a large quantity of stolen property.

## Minor Authority Governor

Resolved to endorse the nomination of Claire Gresswell to become the new governor for Wingrave School.

## New Seat

Resolved to put the bench donated to the village on the Green. Cllr Clarke agreed to do the work.

## Planning

To consider planning applications:

- 04/00430/APP 71, The Green. Insertion of dormer windows to rear of no 71, erection of double garage for nos. 71/73 with studio over. Resolved to object to this application on the grounds that the dormer windows are out of keeping with the surrounding area.
- 04/00513/APP New Zealand Cottages, Wingrave Road. Erection of four carports and two storage sheds and provision of three car parking spaces. Alterations to landscaping and existing access. Resolved to make no comment on this application.
- 03/02527/ Home Farm. Erection of three dwellings with detached garages (amended plans). Resolved to object to this application.
- 04/00537/APP 2, Longmoor Barns, Cublington Road. Front Canopy. Resolved to make no comment on this

application.

## Highways

It was reported that the drains in Wingrave Road are due to be repaired this year. Also Lines Hill is due to be resurfaced.

## Recreation Ground

Safety check – children's play area: up to date. One of the swings had been broken, but is now repaired and re-hung.

The skateboard ramp is up but unfinished. The work will be completed within the next few days so that it can be inspected for insurance purposes.

## Date Of Next Meeting

Confirmed that the Annual Meeting of Aston Abbotts Parish Council will be on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2004 at 8 pm in the Church Room.

Everyone Is Welcome To Come Along

~ Kate Curry, Parish Clerk

Thanks to Kate for these minutes. Please remember that anyone can attend a Parish Council meeting ~ Ed

## Nature Notes

Winter seems to be behind us, with the last of the snow having melted, and no more early morning frosts. After months of dark, drab mornings it is a pleasure to wake to the pallet of spring colours all around us. As if by clockwork, nature is bringing forth its annual cornucopia of beauty.

The streets of Aston Abbotts have been brightened once again by the delicate daffodil shades of the Planning Notices (*Conservarea Ornoconservarea*), adding gaiety and interest to our otherwise boring daily lives. They seem earlier than usual this year – perhaps another sign of global warming?

Of course, these herald the arrival of the transient Lesser Builder Birds (*Developus Regardlus*) in the fields around the village. These compensate for their dull appearance by building a wide variety of habitats – extensions, loft conversions, garages, flats and even complete houses. They are gregarious little creatures, rarely settling for individual nests but preferring to build large clusters if they can. Beavering around like worker ants, they have a symbiotic relationship with many other species – with care, it is possible to spot *Rufa Tyla*, *Scaffoldus Erectus* and the hybrid *Carpenta Plumma* to name but a few.

Their methods of transportation are a delight to observe too. Lorries, vans, tankers of many different sizes and hues appear with regularity, some with trailers attached. Many a time I have been brought to a standstill while passing through the village in order to admire their merry comings and goings.

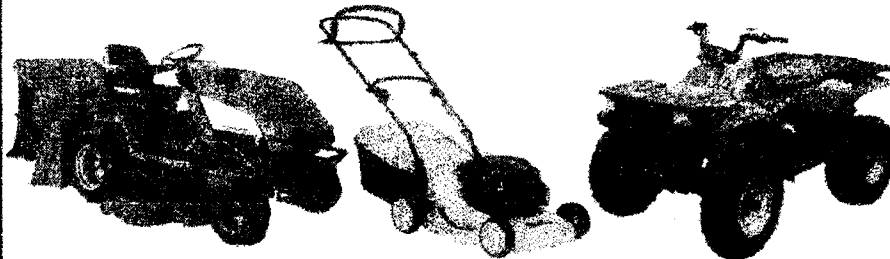
Inevitably, as summer approaches, we must expect an infestation of *Wastaspaea Hamptonii*, or the Estate Agent parasite, to give it its common name. Unfortunately, there does not seem to be an effective method of pest control for this creature. Still, one must not complain; it is truly a wonderful time to enjoy the marvellous sights, sounds and smells of rural life.

~ Mike Wenble

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## St George's Day

It has now become a firm date in the 630 Club calendar for St Georges day to be formally celebrated. This year was no exception and 38 members and their 'other halves' enjoyed a splendid traditional roast beef dinner at the Stag Mentmore on Saturday the 17<sup>th</sup> of April.

Resplendent in evening dress they met at the Oak at (surprise – surprise) 6.30 pm. for a quick couple of pints before boarding the coach for Mentmore.

Seated at our allotted places, with military precision, pre-ordered starters appeared and (in almost every case) served as chosen. There followed the traditional roast beef 'main' and 'puddings'.

Port and coffee signalled the taking of toasts to Her Majesty, St George and the Ladies, these being given respectively by Jeff Banister, Andy Shilligford and Adrian Bystra.

Tim and Ray then passed among the assembled company who were gently 'mugged' into buying raffle tickets and subscribing to a tip for the staff who had looked after us well.



A professionally painted watercolour was won by Gordon Kemp & Anne Goodman with Bob & Francesca Bean and Tony & Margaret Hinds winning the two bottles of champagne. The raffle raised £200.00 which will go into Club funds.

Finally, many thanks to Tim & Ray for organising a great evening



*This years event rather broke with tradition, as there actually was a prize for the raffle. In fact, as Andy mentioned, there were three prizes. Steady on there chaps—people will begin to expect it!  
~ Ed*

*Top picture: Organisers Ray Wilkinson (left—the man who won't take nein for an answer) and Tim Peacocke (on the right) joyously extract another fiver for the raffle from a St Georges Day diner.*

*On the left: "It Could Be Me" - Bob Bean holds his second prize winning ticket aloft, applauded by Rita Robinson.*


  
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# Minutes From The Aston Abbotts Annual Parish Meeting 2004

The annual Parish Meeting was held on Wednesday 21st April in the Church Room at 8pm.

## Present

Tom Manning (Chairman of the Parish Council), Kate Curry (Clerk to the Annual Parish Meeting), Peter Cooper (District Councillor), Brenda Jennings (County Councillor), Sergeant Gregory (Police) and 30 parishioners.

## Minute 1 Apologies

None

## Minute 2 Minutes of previous meeting

These were approved by the Meeting as a true record, and signed by the Chairman.

## Minute 3 Matters arising

None.

## Minute 4 Police

Sergeant Gregory reported that Aston Abbotts is a relatively crime free village, with a total of only 21 recorded crimes during the past year. He said the crime figures for the whole of the Thames Valley region are lower than the national average, and the area has the lowest police officer to population ratio in England and Wales. He gave an interesting talk outlining the structure of the police force in our area, and answered questions from the floor. The Chairman thanked him for attending the meeting.

## Minute 5 County Council & District Council

County Councillor Brenda Jennings spoke about housing, roads and transport.

She emphasised the County Council's commitment to ensuring the infrastructure is in place before the planned housing developments in Aylesbury Vale begin. The road which will affect us most directly will be the A418 between Wing and Aylesbury, which is to have significant improvements.

The Luton Airport Consultative Group is to be restructured, with less representation from local authorities.

Rights of Way – The County Council is opposed to the use of unclassified roads by motorised vehicles.

Illegal roadside dumping – she reported that the use of CCTV cameras has been quite successful, and that they will continue to be used locally.

Mrs. Jennings admitted that our local roads are in poor condition. The County are to introduce a new provision this summer, called 'Highways on Call', which will provide various new services and should alleviate the situation.

Finally, Mrs. Jennings said that the Area meetings, which are currently held in Winslow, are to be divided into cluster groups in an attempt to make them more 'local'.

District Councillor Peter Cooper talked to the meeting about the Growth Agenda.

The Office of the Deputy Prime Minister has proposed in the Milton Keynes and South Midland Study to build additional houses. Between now and 2031, 59,000 new houses are to be built in Aylesbury Vale (double the existing stock) and 28,000 new jobs created. These figures do not include Milton Keynes. Aylesbury Vale will have a Local Delivery Vehicle (LDV), and AVDC and BCC will retain their planning powers. LDV will

have the powers to acquire land, provide roads, doctors, crematoria etc. Also "Vision 2031" will be set up to advise Delivery 2031; it will represent local people and organisations such as Parish Councils, with Sir Nigel Mobbs as Chairman.

Housing: It is intended to concentrate housing in Aylesbury, Buckingham, Winslow, Wendover, Newton Longville and a small amount in Haddenham. Milton Keynes could overflow into the small villages in the north of Aylesbury Vale.

Economic Development: This is a major concern for Peter as it is his brief in the AVDC Cabinet. It is intended to attract new businesses into Aylesbury Vale. Currently a net 17,000 people leave Aylesbury Vale to work and he wants to reverse this. As Aylesbury is now a development area lots of government help is available.

## Minute 6 Church Room

Peter Shorrocks told the meeting that little progress has been made towards the granting of the lease for the Church Room to the Church Room Trustees because of the legal problems encountered along the way. It is possible that the problems could be solved by the Parish Council taking the lease instead. At the moment Bucks Association of Local Councils are looking at the position on our behalf.

Bob Willmott said he could not understand why the situation had become so complicated. The delay in procuring the lease meant the Church was now accruing debts for the Church Room, which it is unable to pay. There was some discussion on the subject, but no conclusion was reached.

## Minute 7 The New Village Centre

Neil Chesher spoke about the idea of building a new Village Centre. He said the Church Room was built many years ago, to cater for a very rural population. It is now used only by the older generation, not by toddlers or children's groups any more. Also, the village is expanding. He asked whether Aston Abbotts should consider building a completely new centre: modern, and 'owned' by the village, possibly with a sporting connection. At present a feasibility study is being carried out, and the group are talking to other villages, such as Quainton, who have recently embarked on similar projects. Bucks Community Action would probably be able to help with the planning stages.

## Minute 8 The Chronicle

Phil Spooner said the Chronicle had passed two milestones during the year: its first colour cover and its first 'nudity'! He was grateful that several new contributors had come forward during the year. Funds are healthy, thanks to donations from the fete and the Parish Council, and the efforts of Clare Gresswell, who is in charge of advertising. Andy Bystra was thanked for continuing to organise the distribution.

## Minute 9 Fete 2003

Gordon Smith reported that the Fete made a profit of about £3000 last year. It was a most enjoyable day, for which special thanks must go to the organiser, Jackie Farrands.

## Minute 10 Fete 2004

Preparations are already underway for this year's fete, which will take place on July 24<sup>th</sup>. Jackie Farrands will again be organising it, and everyone was asked to support it, and to

*(Continued on page 29)*

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## The Aston Abbotts & Cublington Ladies Club.

### April 1<sup>st</sup>

25 members were present at today's meeting in the Church Room. After a short business meeting, our Chairman, Joan Alexander, welcomed Mrs Barbara Taylor from Marlow who had come along to give us a talk and slide show about India. She was thanked by Doreen Powis for providing an entertaining afternoon.

Tea Hostesses were June Brine and Daphne Rogers and the raffle was won by Doreen Powis.

### April 15<sup>th</sup>

17 members of the Ladies Club met today in the Church room. At 2.30 pm. our Chairman, opened the meeting by welcoming members after which the minutes were read and duly signed.

The Chairman spoke about Minnie Doggett who had died since our last meeting and who's funeral had been held earlier in the afternoon in St James Church. The Ladies Club made a donation to the Motor Neurone Disease Society in her memory

Tickets for a Coffee Morning to be held at Audrey Stephenson's house on the 6<sup>th</sup> May went on sale at £1.50 each. Any money raised will go towards Club funds.

The Chairman then introduced Mrs Teresa Mela from Milton Keynes who had once again come along to show us how to make 3D cards. She was thanked by Margaret Hinds.

Tea cakes and biscuits were served by Carole Maurice and Christine Scott and Margaret Hinds won the raffle.

~ Shirley Ford

1979-2004

# 25years

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If you would like to talk to someone, please call our Dementia Support Worker -

**JULIE on 01296 331722**

Should Julie not be there when you call, do leave a message and she will return your call at the earliest opportunity.

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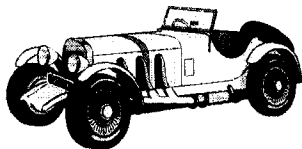
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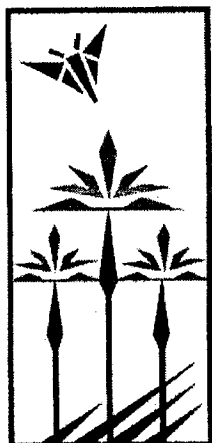
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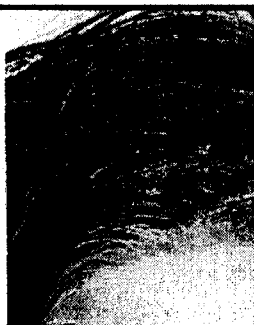
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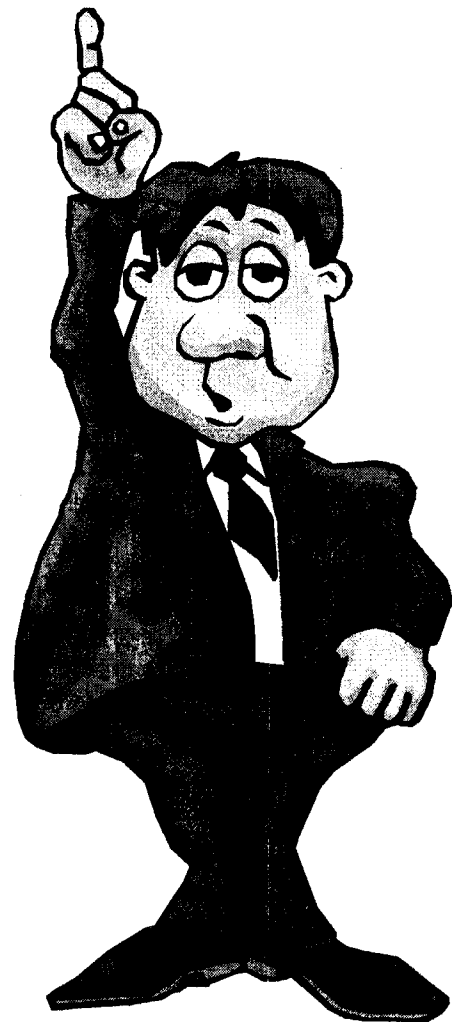
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# EXCUSE ME!

Sorry to interrupt your reading, but the Aston Abbotts Fete Committee urgently need volunteers to help for an hour or two on fete day—Saturday 24th July. If you could help a little please phone Jackie Farrands on 681182. Thank You.



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Please contact the County Council to request a questionnaire on tel. 01296 38 2053; or write to the: Transport Policy & Strategy Team,

Buckinghamshire County Council, e Floor NCO, County Hall, Aylesbury, HP20 1UY; or e-mail [transportps@buckscc.gov.uk](mailto:transportps@buckscc.gov.uk)



## Ice fishing

A drunk decides to go ice fishing, so he gathers his gear and goes walking around until he finds a big patch of ice. He heads into the centre of the ice and begins to saw a hole.

All of sudden, a loud booming voice comes out from above. "You will find no fish under that ice."

The drunk looks around, but sees no one. He starts sawing again. Once more, the voice speaks, "As I said before, there are no fish under the ice."

The drunk looks all around, high and low, but can't see a single soul. He picks up the saw and tries one more time to finish. Before he can even start cutting, the huge voice interrupts. "I have warned you three times now. There are no fish!"

The drunk is now flustered and somewhat scared, so he asks the voice, "How do you know there are no fish? Are you God trying to warn me?"

"No", the voice replied. "I am the manager of this hockey stadium!"

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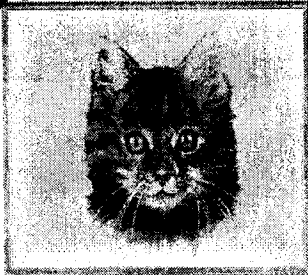
If there are 'NO ISSUES' Please endorse the form None at this time

NUMBER	WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?	WHEN DOES IT HAPPEN TIME & DAYS	WHERE DOES IT HAPPEN?	WHO IS INVOLVED?
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				
7.				
8.				
9.				
10.				

Please return this form to: Kate Curry, Parish Clerk, 2 Norduck Cottages, Moat Lane, Aston Abbots.  
Issues will be raised at Parish Council meetings as well as being fed back to the police at Wing.



# Pet Portraits



From Your Photo

Call Jan on

01296 688198. [email.janted2@msn.com](mailto:email.janted2@msn.com)

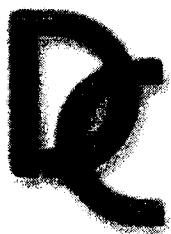


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**Tel: 01582 668698**



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the new single number for Thames Valley Police

in an emergency call 999

## The Cat

A man absolutely hated his wife's cat and decided to get rid of the animal one day by driving him 20 blocks from his home and leaving him at the park. As he was getting home, the cat was walking up the driveway.

The next day he decided to drive the cat 40 blocks away. He put the beast out and headed home. Driving back up his driveway, there was the cat!

The man kept taking the cat further and further and the cat would always beat him home. At last he decided to drive a few miles away, turn right, then left, past the bridge, then right again and another right until he reached what he thought was a safe distance from his home and left the cat there.

Hours later the man calls home to his wife: "Jen, is the cat there?"

"Yes," the wife answers, "why do you ask?"

Frustrated, the man answered, "Put him on the phone, I'm lost and need directions back home!"

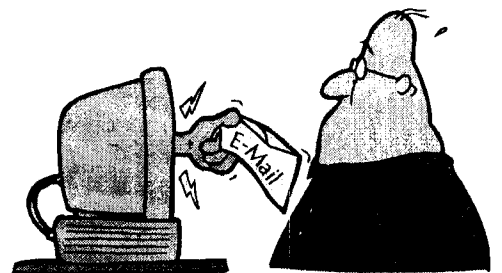


# WIN CASH!

**EVERY MONTH—SEE PAGE 11**

## You Know You're Living In The Year 2004 When:

1. Your reason for not staying in touch with family is because they do not have e-mail.
2. You have a list of 15 phone numbers to reach your family of three.
3. Your grandmother asks you to send her a JPEG file of your newborn so she can create a screen saver.
4. You pull up in your own driveway and use your cell phone to see if anyone is home.
5. Every commercial on television has a web site address at the bottom of the screen.
6. You buy a computer and 3 months later it's out of date and sells for half the price you paid.
7. Leaving the house without your cell phone, which you didn't have the first 20 or 30 (or 60) years of your life, is now a cause for panic and you turn around to go get it.
8. Using real money, instead of credit or debit, to make a purchase would be a hassle and take planning.
9. You just tried to enter your password on the microwave.
10. You consider second-day air delivery painfully slow.
11. Your dining room table is now your flat filing cabinet.
12. Your idea of being organised is multiple-coloured Post-it notes.
13. You hear most of your jokes via e-mail instead of in person.
14. You get an extra phone line so you can get phone calls.
15. You disconnect from the Internet and get this awful feeling, as if you just pulled the plug on a loved one.
16. You get up in the morning and go online before getting your coffee.
17. You wake up at 2 AM to go to the bathroom and check your E-mail on your way back to bed.
18. You start tilting your head sideways to smile :-)
19. You're reading this and nodding and laughing.
20. Even worse; you know exactly who you are going to forward this to...



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We are a small friendly village Pre-School for children from 2 ½ years of age.

Children 3 years and over are free subject to Government funding.

We are open 5 mornings per week  
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Focusing on learning through play (indoors and outdoors) and working together with Whitchurch Combined School.

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Holly Searles: 07762 272410

Rachel Cope: 01296 640920

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- 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 telephone

01525 221413



## YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

**TOM MANNING (Chairman)**

The Bungalow, West Park Farm, Wing,  
Beds, LU70PG

**KATE CURRY (Parish Clerk)**

2 Norduck Cottages, Moat Lane ~ 681137

**MARGARET KENT**

6 The Green ~ 681454

**RICHARD CLARKE**

Maplewood, The Green ~ 681286

**JACKIE FARRANDS**

1 Norduck Cottages ~ 681182

**PETER SHORROCK**

Oak Farm House ~ 681260

**DICKIE DICKEN**

Norduck House ~ 688577

**COLIN HIGGS**

6 Wingrave Road ~ 681343

*District Councillor*

**PETER COOPER**

Brewhouse Lane, Rowsham ~ 681250

*County Councillor*

**BRENDA JENNINGS**

25, The Green, Soulbury ~ 01525 270610

*Margaret Kent is Street Light Officer, so people should let her know if a light isn't working. Number above.*

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Tel/fax :- 01296-670201  
e-mail :- Dempsey@cheekpiece.fsnet.co.uk

## Clergy Comment

The time has come to put the plans of the last few months into action. For on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> May I shall be officially Licensed as Priest in Charge of Wing.

The Service, which will take place in Wing Church at 8.0 pm, is open to everyone and will be presided over by the Bishop of Buckingham and our Archdeacon.

In a way it will be a strange occasion – because normally the Licensing marks the arrival of a new priest who has left somewhere else. But, I am not leaving – I'm staying! (Maybe it says something about not knowing whether I am coming or going!) The arrival frequently marks the beginning of a "getting to know you" exercise. But, to some of you, I am already quite well known!

However, I shall be doing my best to become better known in Wing. Although I have to say that there are groups of people in Wingrave, Aston Abbots and Cublington that I still do not know very well. Some of these are newcomers, others have lived locally longer than I have. But, that is the ways these things happen. And my having a lousy memory for names does not help much.

In a way it will be hard for me to become known to the people of Wing, for the majority of the Baptisms, Marriages and Funerals will be conducted by Revd. Siv Tunnicliffe. She will also be leading some of the Sunday Services.

It is usually expected that the new priest will conduct the majority of Church services. But, with three churches already, I am afraid that I shall not be quite such a frequent visitor to Wing as you might have hoped!

In order to "manage" an extra set of church Services, it has been necessary to do some juggling – although we have tried to keep this as minimal as possible. The new service Schedule will start in June, and we are not sure whether we shall be able to continue with this pattern. However, we shall try it out over the summer. At the moment we have only a plan on a piece of paper – but it looks as though it should work. If it proves that it doesn't – or that it could be improved, then we shall do our best to provide a better/more adequate pattern of Services.

One of the other changes is that one Sunday each month it will be the responsibility of the congregation (or a group of them) in each parish to organise their own worship without a priest being present. There are plenty of resources available and ideas to try – from the time-hallowed Services of the Book of Common Prayer to very much more informal times of Praise and Prayer. It could be a "Sing-in", or it might revolve around a discussion of the Gospel for the day. The clergy are here to help it happen – but we can't be there to make it happen!

One way and another, the future for our parishes looks very exciting.

~ Bob Willmott

## RECYCLING

Remember—local recycling bins are available at the rear of the Royal Oak Car Park

## Aromatherapy JTEC

European Body Massage

Indian Head Massage

IN YOUR HOME OR OFFICE

Telephone Mel Eden

07989 470131 or 01296 398734

(Continued from page 19)

encourage their friends to support it too.

After some discussion, it was agreed to distribute the proceeds as follows:

Church	40%
Church Room Restoration Fund	25%
Chronicle	15%
Recreation Ground	20%

### Minute 11 Recreation Ground

The Chairman said the Parish Council had employed a new contractor to mow the Recreation Ground this year.

Richard Clarke was thanked for the work he has taken on in connection with repairing playground equipment and the installation of the skateboard ramp.

There are repeated problems with dogs fouling on the Rec. Mr. Manning suggested reporting offenders directly to AVDC, as fines of up to £1000 can be imposed.

Concerns were raised by some residents of Bricstock regarding the level of noise from the skateboard ramp during the evenings.

### Minute 12 A.O.B.

None

The meeting closed at 9.57 pm

~ Kate Curry, Parish Clerk

## Potholes

A usually reliable source reports that Bucks. County Council Transportation Department has defined a "dangerous pothole" as being "a sharp edged depression on the carriageway" which measures at least 1½ inches deep and 12 inches long. It is recommended that if you wish to report the existence of such a pothole to the Council, you should make sure that you use the adjective "dangerous".

The source says that it is unlikely to be fixed any quicker, but might prevent the County Council – as confirmed by Brenda Jennings at the recent Parish Meeting - from continuing to claim that 95% of dangerous potholes are repaired within 24 hours of being reported!

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Fresh bread delivered daily - fresh vegetables - groceries - plus a wide range of household requisites and stationery, confectionery and drinks.

We can also offer a dry cleaning and shoe repairing service - and even bulk supplies of pet food.

### **OPENING HOURS**

**Monday**

**8 am to 5 pm**

**Tuesday—Friday**

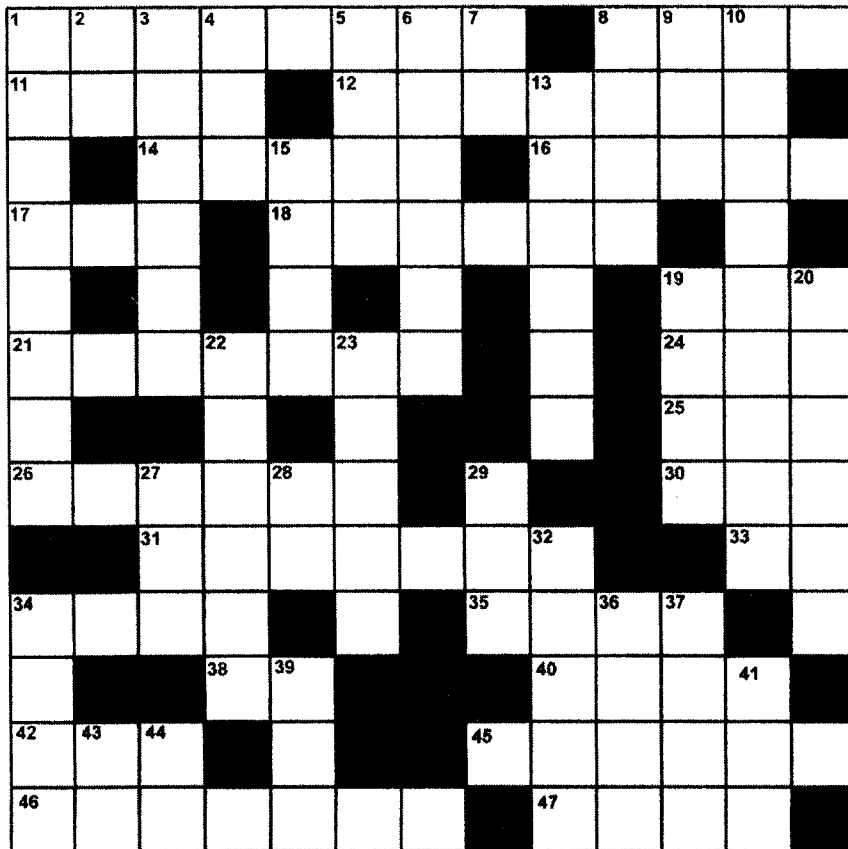
**8 am to 1 pm & 2.30 pm to 5 pm**

**Saturday**

**8 am to 1 pm**

# The Chronicle Crossword

May 2004



**April solution**

**Across** 1 Stewkely 4 RAF 7 Out  
8 Music 10 Unclean 14 Unite  
15 Hip 16 Eng 17 And 18 Beeping  
19 Nee 20 Dos 21 Akin 23 St  
24 No 25 Therefore 27 Pulling  
30 Pace 31 Visions 33 Fat 34 Eel  
35 NI 36 Antic 38 Gusto  
39 George 40 Pro 41 NY 42 Sends

**Down**

1 Soulbury 2 Tun 3 Etched 4 Run  
5 Asian 6 Fitness 8 Muggings  
9 Cede 11 Liposuction 12 Epistle  
13 Negative 26 Osseous  
27 Paste 28 Nil 29 Poison  
30 Pang 32 Inure 33 FA 37 Cry  
38 GP's

**ACROSS**

- 1 Local town (8)
- 8 Boast (4)
- 11 To a position within (4)
- 12 Wearing away ((7)
- 14 Wounded by insect (5)
- 16 Country (5)
- 17 Look (3)
- 18 A bees does it (5)
- 19 Dish (3)
- 21 FOR DAFS (an 8)
- 24 Relates to TV (3)
- 25 Bird (3)
- 26 Enlarge (6)
- 30 Rhymes with yew (3)
- 31 ARM A NAG (an 7)
- 33 Close (Ab 2)
- 34 Croon (4)
- 35 Rodents (4)
- 38 For example (2)
- 40 Belgian town (4)
- 42 Jewel (3)
- 45 Iran (6)
- 46 Anti (7)
- 47 Chair (4)

**DOWN**

- 1 Local town (8)
- 2 Letter (2)
- 3 Le fist (An 6)
- 4 Obtained (3)
- 5 Shelter (4)
- 6 Wild parties (6)
- 7 Negative (2)
- 8 Containers (4)
- 9 Pole (3)
- 10 Liveliness (9)
- 13 Sign (6)
- 15 One who uses (4)
- 20 Sorrow (4)
- 20 ATE RUN (An 6)
- 22 Fruit (5)
- 23 Avoid (5)
- 27 Grek god of nature (3)
- 28 Scottish "no" (2)
- 29 Barrier (3)
- 32 Apes (5)
- 34 A GAS (an4)
- 36 Inner part (4)
- 39 Firearm (3)
- 37 Entertainment group (4)
- 41 Rest (3)
- 43 For example (2)
- 44 Motheri

Compiled by Don Bellingham

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by Sally Roff

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beautiful views overlooking  
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# St James Church

## Church Services

2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Wingrave	10.00	Parish Communion
	Cublington	10.00	Family Service
	Aston Abbots	11.15	Parish Communion
9 <sup>th</sup>	Wingrave	08.00	Prayer Book style Communion
	Cublington	08.45	Parish Communion
	Wingrave	10.00	People's Praise
	Aston Abbots	10.00	Parish Communion
16 <sup>th</sup>	Wingrave	10.00	Parish Communion
	Cublington	10.00	Family Service with Communion
	Aston Abbots	11.15	Parish Communion
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Cublington	08.45	Parish Communion
	Wingrave	10.00	Parish Communion
	Aston Abbots	11.15	Morning Service
30 <sup>th</sup>	Cublington	08.45	Parish Communion
	Wingrave	10.00	Parish Communion
	Aston Abbots	18.00	Evensong
6 <sup>th</sup> June	Wing	08.00	Holy Communion
	Wing	10.00	Parish Communion
	Wingrave	10.00	Parish Communion
	Cublington	10.00	Family Service
	Aston Abbots	11.15	Parish Communion

## Church Sidesmen

2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mr. C. Higgs
9 <sup>th</sup>	Mr. G. Kemp
16 <sup>th</sup>	Mr. A. Ford
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Mrs. Ford
30 <sup>th</sup>	Mr. C. Higgs

## Church Flowers

1/2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mrs. A. Parker
8/9 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs Abel Smith
15/16 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs Abel Smith
22/23 <sup>rd</sup>	Wedding
29/30 <sup>th</sup>	Flower Festival

## Sunday Readings

2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Easter 4	Revelation 7.9-17; John 10.22-30
9 <sup>th</sup>	Easter 5	Revelation 21.1-6; John 13.31-35
16 <sup>th</sup>	Easter 6	Revelation 21.10, 11-22.5; John 14.23-29
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Easter 7	Revelation 22.12-14,16-17,20-21; John 17.20-26
30 <sup>th</sup>	Pentecost	Acts 2.1-21; John 14.8-17,25-27

## From The Registers

### Funeral

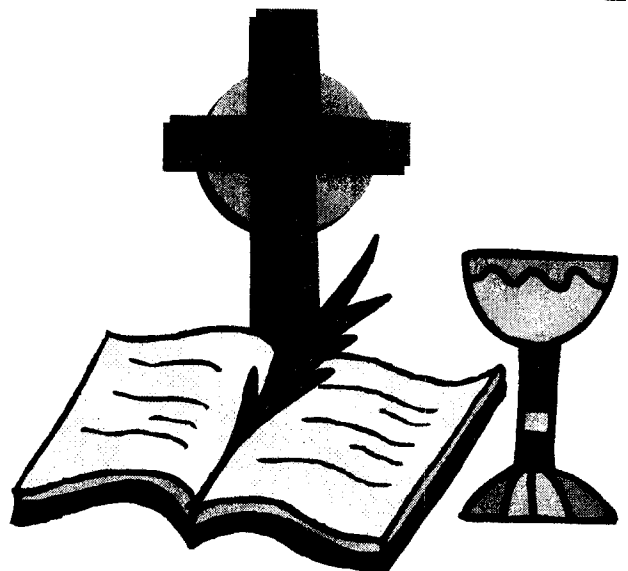
15<sup>th</sup> April Minnie Doggett at Aston Abbots & Crownhill



## 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 Aston Abbots Telephone List

100 Club	Colin Higgs	681343	Mobile Library	Buckingham Library	01280 813229
630 Club	Andy Bystra	681690	NHS Direct	24hr Medical Advice Line	0845 46 47
Astonbury	Peter Shorroch	681260	Parish Clerk	Kate Curry	681137
AVDC	Switchboard	585858	Parish Council Leader	Tom Manning	07812 525703
Bingo	Doris Scutchings	681243	Police	Emergencies	999
Busses	Arriva	468730 or 423445	Police	Non-emergency	0845 8 505 505
Chronicle Advertising	Claire Gresswell	682949	Police	Aylesbury	396000
Chronicle Distribution	Andy Bystra	681690	Police	Wing Police Office	396163
Chronicle Editorial	Phil Spooner	681544	Railways	Chiltern	0870 516 5165
Church Mowing Rota	Gordon Kemp	681763	Rambler's Club	Colin Higgs	681343
Church Room Redevelopment	Tom Manning	07812 525703	Rector	Reverend Bob Willmott	681623
Church Room Hire	Doris Scutchings	681243	Refuse Collection	Enquiries	585510
Citizens Advice	Aylesbury	0870 126 4056	Roads & Transport	Colin Higgs	681343
Coach Trips	Colin Higgs	681343	Royal Oak	Teri & Gary Moulton	681262
Council	Aylesbury Vale District	585858	RSPCA	General Enquiries	08705 555 999
Council	Bucks County Council	395000	Scouts	Julia Ellis	681118
County Councillor	Brenda Jennings	01525 270610	Shop (Osborn's)	Bernard Osborn	681233
District Councillor	Peter Cooper	681250	Toddlers Group	Claire Gresswell	682949
Fete Coordinator	Jackie Farrands	681182	Wingrave Preschool	Claire Upton	681700
Floral Class	Colin Higgs	681343	Wingrave Post Office	(PO only)	681011
Friends of St James	Clare Shorroch	681260	Wingrave School	Office	681346
Hospital	Stoke Mandeville	315000	Wingrave Stores	Shop	681696
Ladies Club	Shirley Ford	681865			
LBO Reports	Colin Higgs	681343			
Milkman	Ron Miller Dairies	482838			

*Please let us know of any errors or omissions*

Andy and Helen Welcome You to

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# What's On In May

- Monday 3<sup>rd</sup>** (Bank Holiday) Ascot gardens (Wing) open  
*also* Coach trip to Grafam water, depart Bull and Butcher 12.00.
- Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup>** Mobile library, The Green, Wingrave Rd, Oxley Farm
- Friday 7<sup>th</sup>.** Refuse collection NOT Thursday
- Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup>** Aylesbury Vale transport meeting at Buckingham 2 pm. (travel queries to Colin)
- Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup>** Annual Parish Council Meeting, Church Room 8 pm
- Thursday 13<sup>th</sup>** Whist Drive, Church Room 7.30 pm.
- Sunday 16<sup>th</sup>** Rambling clubs annual Spider walk. Meet Cublington Crossroads 2.30 Tea in Church Room
- Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup>** Mobile Library, The Green, Wingrave Rd, Oxley Farm
- Friday 21<sup>st</sup>** DEADLINE FOR THE JUNE CHRONICLE
- Thursday 27<sup>th</sup>** Whist Drive, Church Room, 7.30 pm.
- Saturday 29<sup>th</sup>** Flower Festival, St. James Church Sat to Mon 12 – 5 pm. *and*
- Sunday 30<sup>th</sup>** Teas Saturday and Sunday 2.30 – 4.30 pm. *and*
- Monday 31<sup>st</sup>** Ploughmans Lunch on Monday 12.30 – 2.30 pm.
- Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June** Refuse collection Friday NOT Thursday

*Please don't forget tell us of any events that you would like included in the What's on list*

## Book These Dates

This year's Cublington Fete is on Saturday 19th June at 2 pm at The Old Rectory, Cublington

The 2004 **Aston Abbots Festival and Fete** weekend is Saturday and Sunday the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of July

## Notice

Come to Ch??rch  
~ what is missing?

U R

## Classified

Do you need a **BABYSITTER**? I am experienced in looking after children of all ages and am willing to offer my services. Contact Nikki on 01296 681413 or 07903 083085.

**BABYSITTING**—Phone Claire Biddle on (01296) 681102

Sarah Smith is available for **BABYSITTING**. Phone 01296 681373

**CLASSIFIED ADS ARE FREE** in The Chronicle. Phone us on 01296 681544 or email editor@aachronicle.co.uk

**ANYONE WILLING TO MAKE A CAKE FOR THE MAY WEEKEND FLOWER FESTIVAL, PLEASE CONTACT SHIRLEY FORD ON 681865**

There is one double room left on the Whitby week (Mon. 13<sup>th</sup> – Fri. 17<sup>th</sup> September. £230.00 pp. all-inclusive. Contact Colin for details.

## Bank Holiday Revised Refuse & Recycling Collections

### Easter

**Friday 16th April**

Normal collections resume Monday 19th April

### May Day Bank Holiday

**Friday 7th May**

Normal collections resume Monday 10th May

### Spring Bank Holiday

**Friday 4th June**

Normal collections resume Monday 7th June

### Summer Bank Holiday

**Friday 3rd September**

Normal collections resume Monday 6th September

## Information With Regard Refuse And Recycling Collections

Recycling will be collected on the same day as your refuse, following the same fortnightly pattern. If your collection is delayed for any reason, please leave out your refuse and recycling and it'll be collected as soon as possible.

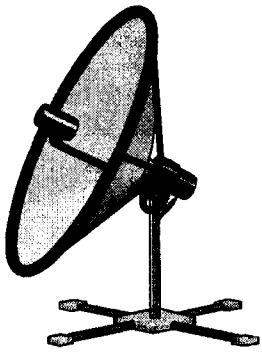
Please remember it is essential that refuse and recycling is available for collection at the edge of your property from 6:30 am.

You can contact the Refuse Office on 01296 585510,

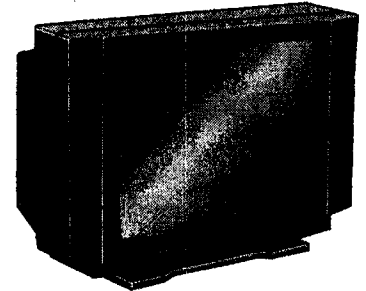
AYLESBURY VALE DISTRICT COUNCIL

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OF CHURCH FARM, ASTON ABBOTTS



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REPAIRED  
THE SAME  
DAY



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ASTON  
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ON 01296 682126

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*(No refunds)*

### **Stop Press**

James Perkins is one of Dave Lewis' greatest fans and he assisted Dave's journey home last Saturday night, despite Alison bending his ear.

### **Classified**

**ROOM TO LET.** Recently vacated.  
Apply D. Lewis.