

THE CHRONICLE

ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH MAGAZINE ~ Issue 235 ~ June 2004



Email : editor@aachronicle.co.uk

Editorial

Fete Disappointment

An advertisement in last month's Chronicle for people to help with the fete produced a disappointing result—zero! This was rather sad, as the fete is the major annual fundraiser for the village from which the Church, Church Room redevelopment fund, The Chronicle, and other groups all benefit.

Of course, not everybody wants to be involved with the running of the fete. However, there are many little ways in which *you* can help.

Plants: the plant stall is always popular, so saving and potting up cuttings would be very helpful. These can be delivered to Clare Shorrocks, or collected, the week before the fete.

Raffle Tickets: the raffle is the single biggest money-earner and just buying a book or two of tickets for yourself helps a lot. If you would like some extra tickets, which you could sell to friends, relatives, workmates (on a sale or return basis) then please see the advertisement on page three opposite.

Bric-a-brac: another very popular stall which attracts bargain hunters from far and wide. So if you have something which might be saleable - don't throw it away, just put it aside until the fete helpers do their collection next month. (Sorry, we are unable to accept electrical items or clothes.)

Tombola: last year we received a disappointing number of bottles, so please put one or two aside to be donated when the collection takes place.

Gifts and Household Goods: new items are always welcome for these stalls.

Next month we will print details of when these items will be collected. In the meantime if anybody feels that they would be prepared to help on a stall for an hour or two on the day then please contact fete organiser Jackie Farrands on 681182.

Jackie is really desperate to find some people who can help with the setting up and breaking down of the fete. I've done this myself for the last three or four years and it usually takes just an hour on the Saturday morning and again at 5 o'clock when the fete has closed. So if you can help, please, please, please give Jackie a ring.

Rubbishy Recycling

Why is our recycling service so poor compared with many other counties? We have a collection of paper and cans just once a fortnight. Most of my friends get a separate wheelie bin for garden refuse. My uncle in Cornwall has not only the garden refuse bin, but recycling collections of clothes, cardboard, and bottles. What do we get? Just letters in the *Bucks Herald* complaining about the long queues and long waits at the Rabans Lane dump as we queue to dispose of our waste.

I don't understand it. So why don't we have a more comprehensive recycling service in Bucks? How on a moment! I've got it! Why didn't I think of it? It's obvious! It must be because we don't pay enough Council Tax.....

Phil

THE CHRONICLE

Issue 235

June 2004

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~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)...

...Can you afford not to be in?

~o~

Copy date for the next issue is:

Friday 25th June 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.

In This Issue

In your June Chronicle ~

- The Church Room
- New Parish Council Leader
- Alpaca Cloud wins Championship
- Parish Council Minutes
- Bizarre Book Titles
- Good English

and much, much more.....

Alison's Gossip Column

Happy Birthday

Emily DeLooze	17 th
Bernard Osborne	18 th
Dave Wheaton	21 st
Paul Drysdale	21 st
Rob Howell	22 nd
Pat Stevens	24 th
Sharon Wilkinson	26 th
Kim Picking	27 th
David Hewit	28 th
Kirsty Lewis	28 th
Adam Oldfield	30 th

Phyllis and Michael Page and family wish to thank everyone for their help, comfort and support over these past weeks.



Diana and Andy

Have a lovely wedding day on 3rd June and we wish you both every happiness in your future life together.

Love Mum and Tony, Steve and Carol

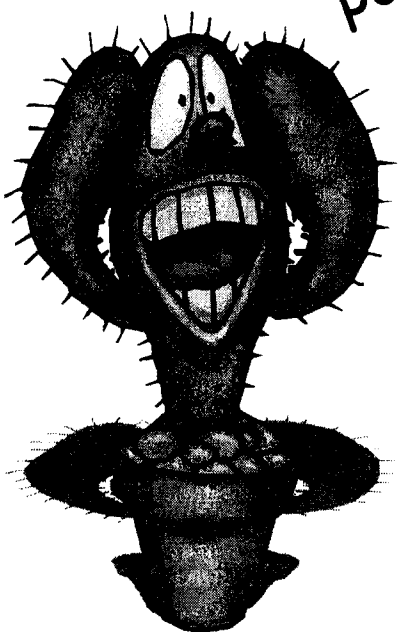


Good luck to **Bridget Brandon** who is leaving her job at The Macintyre and moving on to pastures new. We are not sure exactly what her new job, might be, but rumours suggest that a career as a page 3 girl beckons following her "naked" appearance on the front of February's Chronicle. This could indeed be true—knowing how she likes to keep abreast of things. ~ Ed



Congratulations to **Liz Barlow and Ivan Greenaway** upon their success in the British Alpaca Society championships—see page 7.

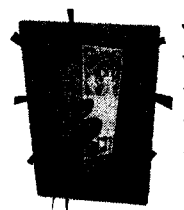
"Don't forget to pot up your plants for the fete!!!"



FETE RAFFLE TICKETS

If you could us help by selling some Raffle Tickets to your friends, family, and work colleagues then please contact Gordon Smith on

681373



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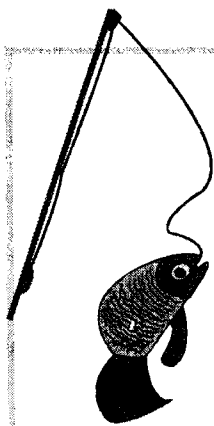
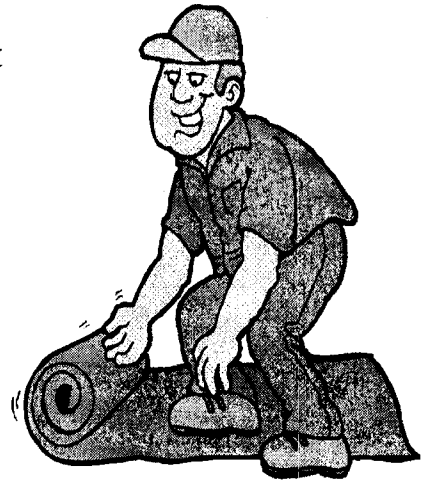
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In The Village

The Church Room

Following the Annual Parish Meeting I have been trying to think about the various possibilities and options to provide suitable meeting places for the various social events in Aston Abbotts.

It seems clear to me – simply judging by the space taken up by the number of people at that meeting, that the existing Church Room (apart from its other disadvantages) is simply not big enough for a village that has already grown since the improvement plans were first mooted, and which is currently seeing more housing development. Even with the village the size it is, there is not enough space to hold a reasonable village function.

I am frustrated, as I said at the meeting, by the time and complexity in creating a “Village Hall”. I knew it would be difficult to achieve – but I had not envisaged anything like the complexity that we have experienced – and I am very sorry that we have generated a significant bill for legal services.

As a result of my period of reflection, I should like to offer a suggestion for consideration.

1. We should do the basic and bare minimum necessary to upgrade the Church Room so that it is capable of being used for, say, the next five years. (With or without Grants)
2. We should really put all our efforts into providing a new, purpose built Hall that is significantly larger and more convenient. (The five years survival for the church Room is to allow this project to take place).
3. When the new Hall is finished, the Church Room will then become surplus to requirements for village events, and its future use can be reconsidered – possibly redevelopment of one kind or another.

As this is “top of the head” thinking, I would suggest that a possible location for the new Hall might be on the bend between the Pub and the Allotments. I do not know who owns the land – but could it be rented from the owner by the Parish Council? (Wingrave Parish Council rent the Land on which their new Sports Pavilion stands) – unless a suitable piece of land could be gifted to the project!

The new building could be basically a simple pre-cast concrete shell into which the divisions and fittings can be completed by local labour. It does not necessarily need to be an Architect designed building – there are many companies that specialise in “off the peg” buildings.

The last thought was because I know that we are talking about very significant sums of money. Raising it will be demanding – although I am convinced that it will also be very rewarding. Especially as we shall have provided the village with something of great value, and of which we can all be proud.

~ Bob Willmott

Road Closure

Bucks County Council are closing the road from Wingrave to Mentmore cross roads (Leighton Road) for resurfacing from 30th June to 6th July.

~ John Hawkes

New Parish Council Leader

It's all change at the top as Aston Abbotts gets a new parish council leader. Tom Manning, who has been leader for the last couple of years, and also served as leader back in the 1990s, has decided that it is time he steps down, as he is no longer resident in the parish. Tom remains on the council as he still carries on the family tradition of farming in Aston Abbotts and has strong links and a very strong interest in the village. We would like to extend our thanks for all of the hard work that he has put in as leader and we are grateful that he has agreed to remain on the parish council.

Colin Higgs has agreed to take on the post of leader. Colin will be known to most of you as a tireless volunteer and worker within the village. He has also been on the council and has held the position of parish council leader in the past. So our thanks to Colin for agreeing to take on the important job of heading the team who look after the interests of the parish.

~ Phil Spooner

A418 Closures

Two separate incidents in May led to the A418 being closed—for several hours on each occasion.

In the first, an accident between a car and van near Ascot House led to the A418 between Wing and Leighton being closed for around four hours during the evening rush hour whilst an injured victim was freed and airlifted to hospital.

In the second, barely 10 days later, a pair of accidents in the Bierton/Rowsham area lead to closure of the A418 between Bierton and the Wingrave crossroads. In this latter incident, rush hour traffic was diverted up through Aston Abbotts.

~ Phil Spooner

New Post Box

It's nice to see that the parish council's representations to the Post Office over the problems with our post box filling up have resulted in the installation of a much bigger “old-fashioned” type of post box. Well done to those concerned, not just for getting the new box but also for getting one in a style that befits the village.

~ Phil Spooner

Incidents

Two regrettable incidents took place in May.

In the first some old chimney pots, which were being used as flower pots, were stolen from a garden of a house on The Green. Two men in a grey car are believed to have been responsible for the theft.

In the second incident an elderly resident was startled when one of his windows was smashed by an object thrown through it. It is thought that local youths were responsible for this.

Despite these incidents, Aston Abbotts remains a fairly peaceful place to live.

~ Phil Spooner



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Livanti Cloud wins British Alpaca Society National Championship



Earlier this month the Alpaca showing season began. The second major show of the season was the British Alpaca Society National Show, which is the Breed Societies National Championship, open to all registered alpacas in the UK. This year the championships were held at the Newark and Notts Show and local boy Cloud or to use his full name, Livanti Cloud was entered in the Intermediate White Male class. Although there was strong competition with 14 entries, Cloud won the class.

This class win automatically entered Cloud into the competition for Intermediate Male Champion which, after much deliberation by Australian International Judge Diane Condon, Cloud also won. We knew Cloud was a good Alpaca, but how good? Well it didn't take long to find out. In the subsequent competition for Supreme Champion, the judge quickly focused on a mature male Alpaca imported from Australia by a large west country breeder and local boy Cloud. It was going to be hard to beat the Alpaca who 'cleared up most of the top awards last year.' It was a tough decision for the judge; she examined both alpacas exceedingly thoroughly and to our delight, Cloud was awarded Supreme Champion!!

We were thrilled - this was the culmination of 6 years work and for us it marks the end of the Foot and Mouth Crisis. Why? Well, because of FMD and the movement restrictions we had to use just one stud male for the duration of the 2002 season and Cloud was the best of four Alpacas conceived and born that year.

What next? Well we will get the Cup, Shield and Glassware engraved and we may enter Cloud into this years Royal Show. Win or lose at the Royal, Cloud will retire from competition later this year to enjoy life as a stud....well there has to be some compensation for travelling to shows and parading round a ring. [Careful Ivan doesn't get any ideas, Liz ~ Ed]

Well done Cloud.

Watch out for comment from Cloud next year on his "antics"

~ Liz & Ivan

Alpacas are South American members of the camel family. They are closely related to the llama, guanaco, and vicuna in a group known as lamoids. Of the group, the alpaca and the llama have been domesticated, with the alpaca being distinguished by its smaller size and slightly more rounded body. Alpacas are bred primarily for their wool, which is particularly fine and strong. These days alpacas exist mainly in Peru and Bolivia, although they have gained popularity here in Britain in recent years. Our congratulations to Liz and Ivan on their success in the show. ~ Ed.



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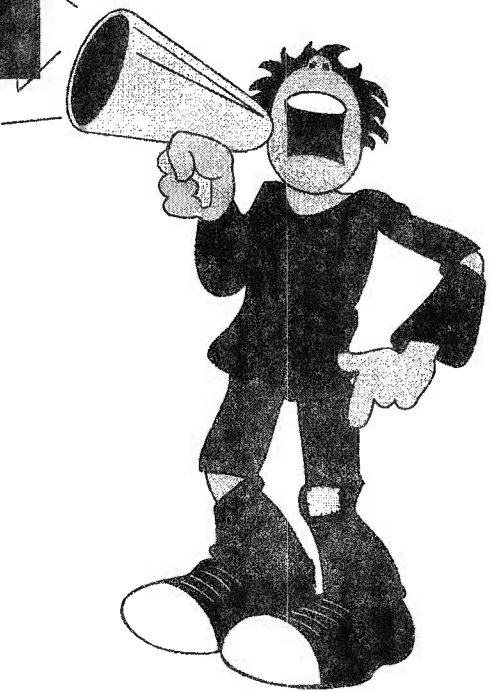
Please help! We need all sorts of small items to help the fete in raising money for the Church, the Church Room, The Chronicle and The Toddlers Group.

Next month we will call to collect the following items ~

Please donate **Books, Bottles** for the Tombola, **Gifts** for Prizes, **Small gifts** for the Kiddies **Lucky Dip, Groceries, Bric-a-Brac.**

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Countryside Diary

14th May 2004

The 14th of May and the weather has changed from cold and wet to warm and sunny at last.

Thank goodness! Although there was plenty of grass last week that grass was cold and full of water - it did the sheep and lambs no good at all and in fact we had several deaths of lambs that weren't going well - just pushed over the edge by the cold wet grass. The sheep themselves have been discontented, looking for any opportunity to escape their field and look for drier food. Hopefully drier grass will settle everything down.

I was brought up on "country sayings" such as "if the Oak is out before the Ash we should only have a splash - if the ash is out before the Oak we should surely have a soak" (out being in leaf). Well it seems to me that the Oak is always in leaf before the Ash - I have never seen otherwise.

Similarly my grandmother, every time it rained in February, would look wise and say "Oh February fill dyke" (ditch). Again records say that in fact February is a dry month. The old favourite "red sky at night a shepherd's delight" has a bit more truth in it but my uncle insisted that it really was "a good xxxx at night is a shepherd's delight"!

Anyway, this week's question - does the Ash ever come into leaf before the Oak? I doubt it.

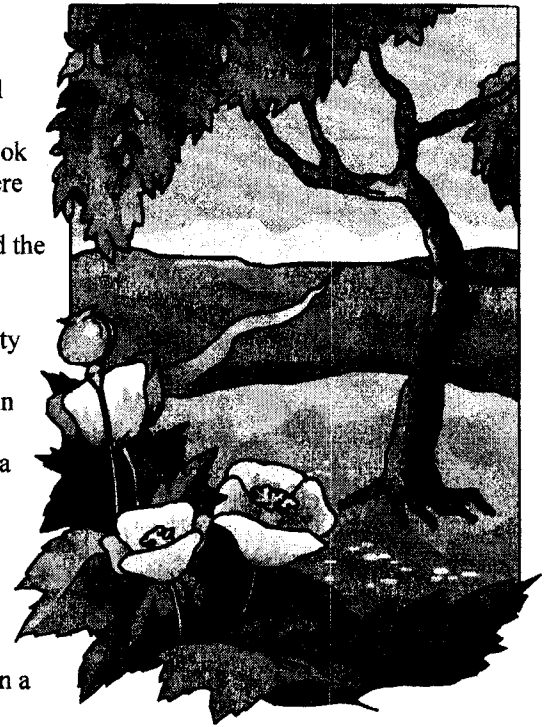
Birds are busy nesting at the moment and young fledglings will soon be about. There is a clamour in the Rookery in the Cover - the young rooks always leave the nests on or about May 10th. This is the date that "in the olden days" we always had a rook shoot to try and keep numbers down a bit. We needn't really have bothered, as we now know that 75 per cent of all young birds die in their first summer. What I gained, however, was every year a rook pie cooked by Ruby Rickard to her own special recipe - the main ingredients young rook breasts and boiled egg topped with pastry.

Has anyone heard a cuckoo in Aston Abbots this year? I spend all day and every day outside in this Parish and I can only say I think I heard the cuckoo one morning, but that is all.

The May or Hawthorn blossom is well out now and some bushes look wonderful. There is one on the footpath behind the old school - absolutely marvellous - pity they smell slightly foul. On the subject of flowers - what a shame the council cut the roadside verge between Aston and Weedon - it could have been a delight of cow parsley and flower. Keck to me, Queen Anne's lace to some, but whatever the name beautiful in May.

In the gardens the first radish, lettuce and spring cabbage are being enjoyed, but above all - asparagus! I had not eaten fresh asparagus until Alex introduced me to it. Now we have a well established and productive asparagus bed at home and I wouldn't be without it. How long before the first new potatoes? Well we have dug them on the last day of May, but it will be later this year.

Finally a thank you to the lovely lady who rang me to say she had seen newts eating frogspawn. Now I know it's true!

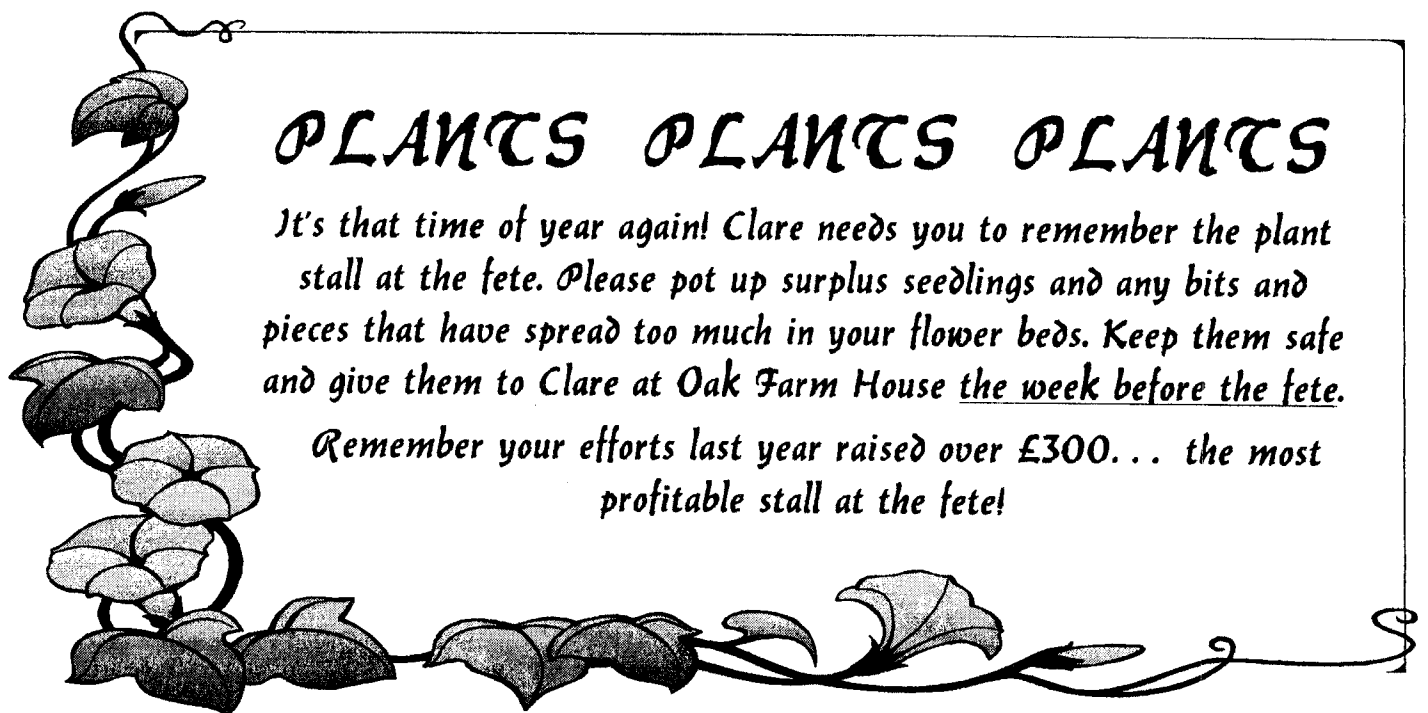


Pete Knight

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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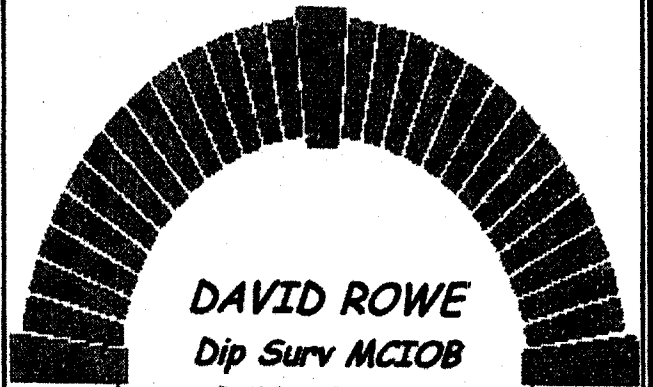
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Aston Abbotts Parish Council

Unofficial minutes from the annual meeting held on 12th May 2004

Present

Cllrs. T.Manning, C. Higgs, D.Dicken, M.Kent, J.Farrands, P. Shorrock, R.Clarke and Mrs. K.Curry (Clerk). Two members of the public was present. Minutes of the last meeting were read and signed.

To Elect A Chairman And Sign Acceptance Of Office

Cllr Kent proposed Cllr Higgs, who was unanimously voted Chairman. The declaration paper was signed Cllr Shorrock was elected as Vice Chairman.

To Elect Members To Committees

Street Lighting Officer: Margaret Kent

Planning Committee: Jackie Farrands, Colin Higgs, Peter Shorrock and Dickie Dicken.

Matters Arising

The new bench on The Green is now in place.

Chairman's Report

Cllr Manning gave a report on the activities of the Parish Council over the past year.

Clerk's Report

The Clerk distributed leaflets about a training meeting and asked for a volunteer to fill in a questionnaire from Bucks County Library (Jackie Farrands agreed to do it). The deposit bank account, which was closed last October, needs to be reopened as the bank has now stopped paying interest on our current account.

County Council, District Council And Police Matters

No one was present from any of these organisations.

Planning

- 04/00679/ATP The Firs, Wingrave Road. Works to trees. Resolved to make no objection to this application.
- 04/01029/APP Windmill Hill Barns, Moat Lane. Erection of field shelter/hay barn. Resolved to make no objection to this application.

Insurance

Resolved to approve the Insurance Renewal Schedule from Alliance Cornhill.

Highways

A committee was formed to respond to the Rights of Way Consultation Document received from Bucks County Council. The Clerk agreed to advertise in The Chronicle for responses from members of the public who may be interested.

Recreation Ground

Safety check – children's play area: Richard Clarke reported that one of the swings had recently broken and has now been replaced. The other swing now also needs replacing. Resolved to replace it.

Skateboard Ramp - The Clerk reported that all the work required by the Inspection Report had now been completed, except the erection of the fence. Resolved to delegate the employing of a fencing contractor to Richard Clarke and Tom Manning. The Clerk agreed to purchase the warning signs.

Date Of Next Meeting

Confirmed that the next meeting of Aston Abbotts Parish Council will be on Wednesday 25th June at 8pm in the Church Room.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO COME ALONG

~ Kate Curry, Parish Clerk



COUNTRYSIDE AND RIGHTS OF WAY ACT 2000

CONSULTATION ON THE PRODUCTION OF A RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

The Parish Council has been asked to participate in this consultation exercise by looking at the rights of way (i.e. footpaths and bridleways) within the Parish of Aston Abbotts and commenting on how the network might be developed for future access needs.

A committee has been formed by the Parish Council, and we would welcome input from any interested parishioner. There will be a meeting in the Church Room on Wednesday 16th June at 8 pm to look at the definitive map and consider the questions Bucks County Council has posed. If you regularly walk the footpaths or ride the bridleways, and are interested in their future, please come along.

The Carpenter's Arms

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Paws Again From Portugal

To all the animal fraternity and those two legged variety - GREETINGS.

I might well get very poetic - 'er indoors wants me to tell you about the surrounding countryside etc.. funny woman!!

Earlier on in the year, the mimosa was all over the hillsides - grows like a weed here - mustn't get it in the garden, 'er would go demented if it infiltrated the garden. Now there is the heather, gorse and broom, just like a patchwork quilt dotted everywhere.

Mum is doing 'meals on wheels' for the bird population here at Pine Tops. Great tits, blue tits, greenfinches, bramblings, blackbirds, black redstarts - she has attracted them into the garden with sunflower seeds. All very tame and fascinating to watch. Further afield there are honey buzzards, hawks, European eagles. Nearby cuckoos are in abundance and at night the owls transmit there gentle vocals.

I have to say the garden is looking great - I try not to decimate it too much 'cos I would not be a popular hound.

Glad St Georges Day went well. I have to say Mum did her bit for 14 Brits on the 23rd. Not quite up to the culinary delights of AA, but bangers, mash, onion gravy, trifle, cheese, wine by the bucket and port. I have to say it was a very successful event. Even had the flag flying.

Well must stop nattering and get back to guarding my territory. Barks and licks from me - 'er indoors says goodbye, happy gardening etc.. Adieu till the next time.

~ Jacko and 'erself too.

A farmer goes out to his field one morning only to find all of his cows frozen solid. As far as the eye can see are cows, motionless like statues. It had been a cold night, but he'd never thought anything like this would happen.

The realisation of the situation then dawned on him. With his entire livestock gone, how would he make ends meet? How would he feed his wife and kids? How would he pay the mortgage?

He sat with his head in his hands, trying to come to terms with his impending poverty. Just then, an elderly woman walked by, "What's the matter?" asked the old lady. The farmer gestured toward the frozen cows and explained his predicament to the woman. Without hesitation the old woman smiled and began to rub one of the cows' noses.

After a few seconds the cow began to twitch and was soon back to normal and chewing the cud. One by one the old woman defrosted the cows until the whole field was full of healthy animals. The farmer was delighted and asked the woman what she wanted as a repayment for her deed. She declined his offer and walked off across the field.

A passer-by who had witnessed the whole thing approached the farmer. "You know who that was don't you?" asked the passer-by. "No" said the farmer "who?" "That was Thora Hird."

Aghast at the ravages of time, a woman says to her husband:

"I'm so depressed: my face is lined, there are bags under my eyes, my breasts have drooped, my bum is flabby and I've got cellulite. Say something to cheer me up!"

He replies "Your eyesight is spot on."

Good English

When submitting articles for The Chronicle we would be grateful if you could pay attention to the following rules of good English:

1. Verbs has to agree with their subject.
2. Prepositions are not words to end sentences with.
3. And don't start a sentence with a conjunction.
4. It is wrong to ever split an infinitive.
5. Avoid cliches like the plague. (They're old hat).
6. Be more or less specific.
7. Remarks in brackets (however relevant) are (usually) unnecessary.
8. No sentence fragments. No comma splices, run-ons are bad too.
9. One should never generalize.
10. Comparisons are as bad as cliches.
11. Don't use no double negatives.
12. One word sentences? Eliminate.
13. Analogies in writing are like feathers on a snake.
14. The passive voice is to be ignored.
15. Eliminate commas, that are, not necessary.
16. Never use a big word when a diminutive one will suffice.
17. Kill all exclamation marks!!!!
18. Use words correctly, irregardless of how others use them.
19. Use the apostrophe in it's proper place and omit it when its not needed.
20. If you've heard it once, you've heard it a thousand times: resist hyperbole, not one writer in a million can use it correctly.
21. Puns are for children, not groan readers.
22. Even if a mixed metaphor sings, it should be derailed.
23. Who needs rhetorical questions?
24. Exaggeration is a million times worse than understatement.
25. Proofread carefully to see if you any words out.

~ submitted by JillWenble

A blonde female police officer pulled over a blonde woman for speeding.

The blonde Cop approached the car and asked the blonde for her driver's license.

The blonde Driver asked, "What does a driver's license look like?" as she searched through her purse.

The blonde Cop said, "It's a little thing with your picture on it."

The Driver pulled out her powder compact, opened it, looked in the mirror and handed it to the officer.

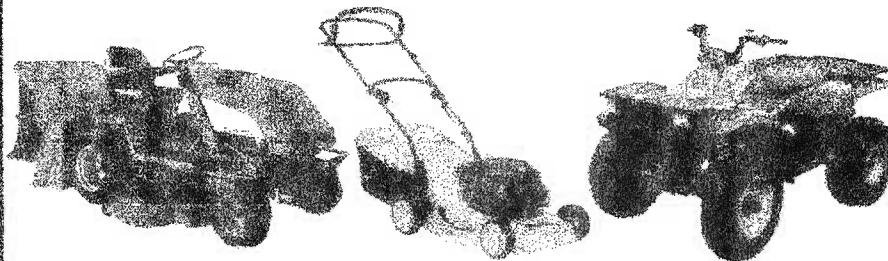
The blonde Cop looked in the mirror, handed it back to the blonde and said,

"If you'd told me you were a police officer, we could have avoided all this."

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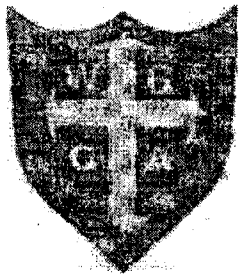
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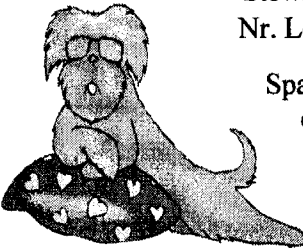





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The Aston Abbotts & Cublington Ladies Club.

April 29th

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

The Chairman then introduced today's speakers Mr & Mrs Smith who had come to talk and show slides of the charity 'Hearing Dogs for Deaf People'. They gave us an informative, interesting and amusing talk and were afterwards thanked by Jean Biss.

Tea cakes and biscuits were served by April Curnow and Margaret Hinds and the raffle was won by Irene Lowden.

~ Shirley Ford

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Bizarre Book Titles

A recent article in the Daily Telegraph highlighted the collectability of books that were somewhat unwisely titled by their authors. In the list of examples of genuine books with titles that raised a schoolboy giggle were :

Flashes From The Welsh Pulpit

Drummer Dick's Discharge

The Romance Of The Beaver

Play With Your Own Marbles

The Big Problem With Small Organs

Fine Weather Dick

Scouts In Bondage

Fish Who Answer The Telephone

Lady Loverley's Chatter

The History Of The Concrete Roofing Tile

Correctly English In Hundred Days (A Book For Chinese Students)

You Can Make A Stradivarius Violin

The Big Chest Book

Cock Tugs

Tosser Gunman

The Girl From The Big Horn Country

How To Be Happy Though Human

Be Clever With Leather

Piles For Civil Engineers

Remember that these were real books. So now that you've seen this list of titles I'm sure that you'll peruse the Aston Abbotts fete bookstall with increased interest.

An artist asked the gallery owner if there had been any interest in his paintings on display at that time.

"I have good news and bad news," the owner replied. "The good news is that a gentleman enquired about your work and wondered if it would appreciate in value after your death. When I told him it would, he bought all 15 of your paintings."

"That's wonderful," the artist exclaimed. "What's the bad news?"

"He was your doctor."

Q. What's black and white and eats like a horse?

A. A zebra.

Please tell us about your birthdays, anniversaries, etc, so that we can send you a greeting in Alison's Gossip Column

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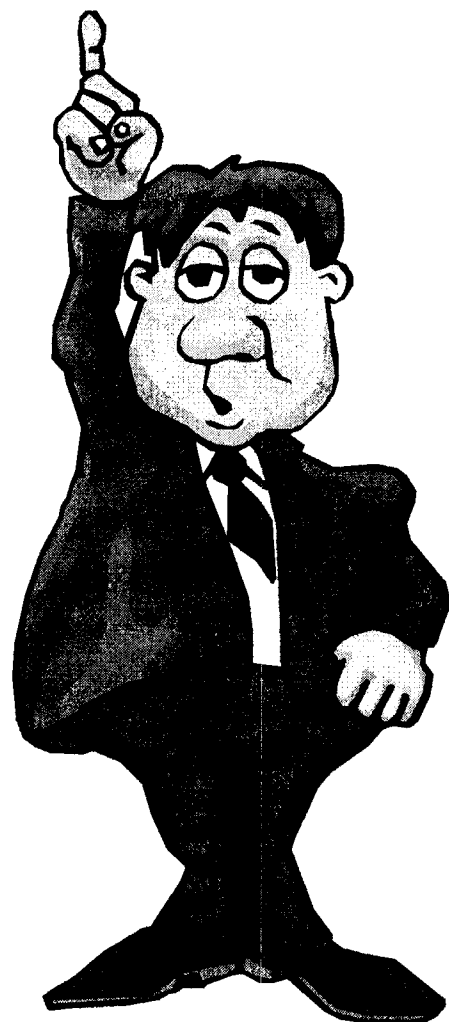
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EXCUSE ME!

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. We especially need people to help set-up on Saturday morning and clear up after the fete has finished.

If you could help please phone Jackie Farrands on 681182.

Thank You.



? What is the Buckinghamshire Children's Information Service?

The Buckinghamshire Children's Information Service (BCIS) is part of the Early Years Development & Childcare Service. It offers a FREE telephone line providing parents and carers with confidential, impartial and up-to-date information and guidance on a wide range of issues concerning children and young people aged 0-14, or 0-16 if the child has special needs.

Issues covered include...

- Childcare
- Early Education
- Leisure Activities
- Information on financial help for parents
- Information on starting a career in childcare, or setting up childcare provision

How can we help?

If you are searching for children or early education we provide lists of:

- Ofsted-registered childminders
- Day Nurseries
- Playgroups
- Pre-schools
- Nursery classes
- Out-of-school clubs
- Holiday playschemes
- Nanny, au pair and baby-sitting agencies
- Crèches

If you need information on financial help for parents we can send you information about:

- Working Tax Credit
- Child Tax Credit
- Nursery Education Funding

If you are looking for leisure or social activities we have details of:

- Dance
- Drama
- Gymnastics
- Leisure Centres
- Swimming
- Music
- Soft Play
- Days Out
- Parent and Toddler Groups
- Toy Libraries
- Services and activities for children with special needs

As well as various other sporting and social activities.

Buckinghamshire
Children's Information Service
Freephone: 0800 3283317



Email: bcis@buckscc.gov.uk
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Public Office Hours: 10am - 4pm Mon-Fri

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Unsuccessful Greeting Cards

Have you noticed how many card shops now keep the cards sealed in plastic bags and a label on the back reads 'The message inside this card is [message]'. Well here are some cards we found that didn't make it into the store.

I always wanted to have someone to hold, someone to love. And now that you've come into my life... *The message inside this card is - I've changed my mind.*

I must admit, you brought religion into my life... *The message inside this card is - I never believed in Hell until I met you.*

As the days go by, I think how lucky I am.... *The message inside this card is - That you're not here to ruin it for me.*

Congratulations on your promotion. Before you go.... *The message inside this card is - Will you take the knife from my back? You'll probably need it again.*

Someday I hope to marry... *The message inside this card is - Someone other than you.*

Happy Birthday! You look great for your age.... *The message inside this card is - Almost lifelike!*

When we were together, you said you'd die for me... *The message inside this card is - Now we've broken up, I think it's time to keep your promise.*

We've been friends for a very long time... *The message inside this card is - What do you say we stop?*

I'm so miserable without you... *The message inside this card is - It's almost like you're still here.*

Congratulations on your new bundle of joy.... *The message inside this card is - Did you ever find out who the father was?*

You are such a good friend. If we were on a sinking ship and there was only one life jacket... *The message inside this card is - I'd miss you terribly and think of you often.*

Your friends and I wanted to do something special for your birthday... *The message inside this card is - So we're having you put to sleep.*

Happy Birthday, Uncle Dad! (This card is available only in Alabama, Mississippi, and Arkansas)

Looking back over the years we've been together, I can't help but wonder... *The message inside this card is - What was I thinking?*

Congratulations on your wedding day!... *The message inside this card is - Too bad no one likes your husband.*

RECYCLING

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

The Ten Dollar Bet

A bloke travelling out west walks into the bar of a bar in a small town and notices a very large jar behind the bar. It's filled to the brim with ten dollar bills. The man guesses there must be thousands of dollars there. He approaches the bartender and asks him, "What's with the jar, mate?"

The bartender tells him, "Well, you pay ten dollars and if you pass three tests then you get all of the money."

"What are the three tests?"

"Pay first. Those are the rules."

So the bloke gives him the ten bucks and the bartender adds it to the jar with the other bills.

Then the bartender says "Okay, here's what you have to do... First you have to drink that whole gallon of Pepper Tequila, the WHOLE thing at once AND, you can't make a face while doing it. Second, there's a pitbull terrier chained up out the back with a sore tooth... you have to remove the tooth with your bare hands. Third, there's a 90 year old woman upstairs who's never had an orgasm in her life. You gotta make things right for her."

The bloke responds, "Well, I know I've paid my ten bucks but I'm not an idiot, I can't do all that... it's impossible!"

"Well, you asked, and I told you... those are the rules, and so your money stays in the jar" comes the reply.

Well, as time goes on and the bloke drinks a few beers down and gets bolder and bolder. Eventually he asks, "Wherez zat teeqeelah?"

He grabs the gallon of tequila with both hands, and downs it with a big slurp. Tears are streaming down his cheeks but he doesn't make a face.

Next he staggers out the back and soon all the people inside the bar hear a huge scuffle going on. They hear barking, screams, yelps, howling and growling, and eventually silence. Just when they think the man must surely be dead, he staggers back into the bar, with his shirt ripped to shreds and big scratches all over his body.

"Now," he says, "where's that old woman with the sore tooth?"

Astonbury 2004

A number of people have asked me when Astonbury takes place this year. Well, in case you haven't heard, there is no Astonbury this year.

Although this is disappointing, there are a number of reasons for this. Musical director Neil Cheshier, who puts so much effort into the show, has other commitments this summer. Also, unfortunately, the equipment is not available to us this year.

For these reasons, amongst others, it was felt better to rest the show this year. Let us hope it returns one day soon.

~ Phil Spooner



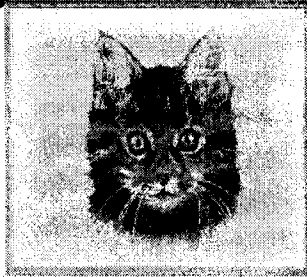
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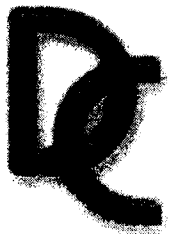


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Clergy Comment

Whilst I was in the West Country on holiday recently, I popped into one or two Village churches – like you do. I tend not to visit too many – otherwise my holiday turns into a bit of a “busman’s holiday”.

There were two that especially fascinated me by their very different “feel” and “approach”.

In the first, everything was very orderly and tidy. But it felt like the kind of tidiness that I associated with the 1950s. It was a very formal – almost fussy - sort of tidiness. Maybe the thing that I remember most was a picture given by a school whose children had been evacuated there during the War. It felt almost as though it was only last month that Matron had taken the “little darlings” back home.

But now, like very many parishes, they were part of a group who shared a priest. The notice suggested that this was the reason why there was not a Service every week. So they now only had two Services each month. I didn’t note which Sundays and the times – but there didn’t seem to be any signs that they did anything else with the other parishes – except share their Vicar.

The second Church, that I suspect I may have visited in the 1950s, was very different. Of course I cannot remember how it looked then. But there were very obvious signs of life. It had a Bookstall and a Prayer Board. They had moved some of the furniture round to make the building feel more spacious and welcoming. There were bags of soft toys and children’s books. A Lego House in the corner was a visible reminder of the House they were paying to have built for their Mission Partners – “Please help us build it!” You could do this either with the Lego or by putting some money in the box – or both. It wasn’t quite as tidy as the other Church – but it did feel alive, loved and cared for.

Although they too had a priest whom they shared with several other parishes, it was clear that they had Services every Sunday, and that they were quite prepared to organise their own Services and to join with the other villages when it was appropriate.

Here were two very different approaches to tackling the same Gospel Message. My reaction to the two buildings may have been totally different to how they would have been perceived by others. We are all different and respond in different ways. But who is to say which is right and wrong?

~ Bob Willmott

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Weapons Of Math Instruction

At New York’s Kennedy airport today an individual, later discovered to be a school teacher, was arrested trying to board a flight while in possession of a protractor, a T-square, a slide rule, and a calculator.

At a morning press conference, Attorney General John Ashcroft said he believes the man is a member of the notorious Al-gebra movement. He is being charged by the FBI with carrying weapons of math instruction.

“Al-gebra is a fearsome cult,” Ashcroft said. “They desire average solutions by means and extremes, and sometimes go off on tangents in a search of absolute value. They use secret code names like “x” and “y” and refer to themselves as “unknowns”, but we have determined they belong to a common denominator of the axis of medieval with coordinates in every country.”

“As the Greek philanderer Isosceles used to say, there are 3 sides to every triangle,” Ashcroft declared.

When asked to comment on the arrest, President Bush said, “If God had wanted us to have better weapons of math instruction He would have given us more fingers and toes.”

“I am gratified that our government has given us a sine that it is intent on protracting us from these math-dogs who are willing to dis-integrate us with calculus disregard. Murky statisticians love to inflict plane on every sphere of influence,” the President said, adding, “Under the circumferences, we must differentiate their root, make our point, and draw the line.”

President Bush warned, “These weapons of math instruction have the potential to decimal everything in their math on a scalene never before seen unless we become exponents of a Higher Power and begin to factor in random facts of vertex.”

Attorney General Ashcroft said, “As our Great Leader would say, read my ellipse. Here is one principle he is uncertainty of: though they continue to multiply, their days are numbered as the hypotenuse tightens around their necks.”

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when responding to advertisements

A photographer for a national American magazine was assigned to get photos of a great forest fire. Smoke at the scene was too thick to get any good shots, so he frantically called his home office to hire a plane.

“It will be waiting for you at the airport!” he was assured by his editor. As soon as he got to the small, rural airport, sure enough, a plane was warming up near the runway. He jumped in with his equipment and yelled, “Let’s go! Let’s go!” The pilot swung the plane into the wind and soon they were in the air.

“Fly over the north side of the fire,” said the photographer, “and make three or four low level passes.”

“Why?” asked the pilot.

“Because I’m going to take pictures! I’m a photographer, and photographers take pictures!” said the photographer with great exasperation.

After a long pause the pilot said, “You mean you’re not the instructor?”

Hair by Jane

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Special rates for
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lowest rates

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A quiet location close to all amenities.

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RELIABLE WITH COMPETITIVE RATES

KITCHEN, FLOORING, WARDROBES, DOORS,
DECKING, ANY HOUSEHOLD CARPENTRY
NO JOB TOO SMALL

COME ON LADIES! GET SOMEONE ELSE TO
DO ALL THOSE JOBS YOU'VE BEEN ASKING
HUBBY TO DO FOR AGES!

PHONE ANDY ON: 01525 240691

Lincoln's

High Street, Whitchurch
Tel. 641384

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& OFF LICENCE

HOME DELIVERY SERVICE

Lincoln's Store is happy to offer this service to help the elderly, housebound or the just 'too fed up with shopping'

24 hour notice - Free service within the village of Whitchurch and a £2 delivery or £20 minimum order to customers in surrounding villages.

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

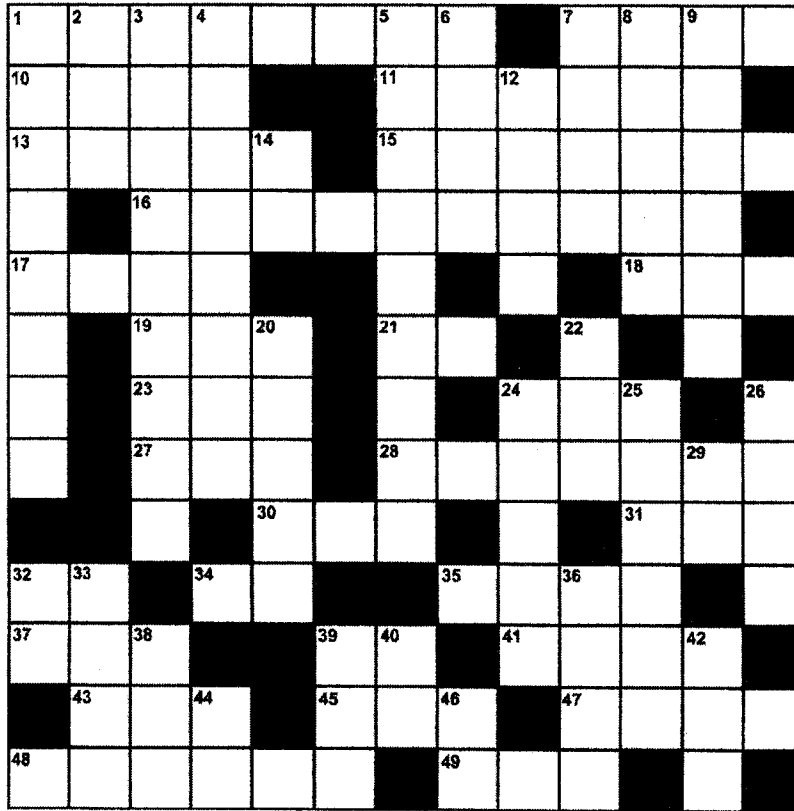
8 am to 1 pm & 2.30 pm to 5 pm

Saturday

8 am to 1 pm

The Chronicle Crossword

June 2004



May solution

Across 1 Leighton 8 Brag 11 Into
12 Erosion 14 Stung 16 India 17 See
18 Stings 19 Pan 21 Affords 24 ITA
25 Tit 26 Expand 30 You 31 Anagram
33 Nr 34 Sing 35 Mice 38 Eg 40 Mons
42 Gem 45 Persia 46 Against 47 Seat

Down 1 Linslade 2 En 3 Itself 4 Got
5 Tent 6 Orgies 7 No 8 Bins 9 Rod
10 Animation 13 Signal 15 User
19 Pity 20 Nature 22 Orange 23 Dodge
27 Pan 28 Na 29 Dam 32 Mimes
34 Saga 36 Core 37 ENSA 39 Gun
43 Eg 44 Ma

ACROSS

- 1 In Aston Abbotts (3 & 5)
- 7 Read quickly (4)
- 10 Sharpen (4)
- 11 Idea (6)
- 13 A ROPE (an 5)
- 15 CARNAGE (an 7)
- 16 Run down (10)
- 17 Indication (4)
- 18 Devious (3)
- 19 One (3)
- 21 Negative (2)
- 23 Tuesday (ab 3)
- 24 Top (3)
- 27 Rascal (3)
- 28 Essential part (7)
- 30 Also (3)
- 31 Debt (3)
- 32 Exclamation (2)
- 34 Letter (2)
- 35 Coxcombe (4)
- 37 Some (3)
- 39 Exist (2)
- 41 Not one (4)
- 43 Vegetable (3)
- 45 Engineering (ab 3)
- 47 Russian ruler (4)
- 48 Ace (6)
- 47 Underwear (3)

DOWN

- 1 Number (8)
- 2 Jump (3)
- 3 Lively (9)
- 4 Flower (5)
- 5 Bewitched (8)
- 9 Girl's name (6)
- 8 Haul over the ----
- 12 Kit (4)
- 14 Morning (2)
- 20 Country (5)
- 22 Vague (3)
- 24 Acquire knowledge (5)
- 25 Condescends (6)
- 26 NUTS (an 4)
- 29 Negative (2)
- 32 Exclamation (2)
- 33 Agate (4)
- 36 Smallest amount (4)
- 38 Dog sound (3)
- 39 Wager (3)
- 40 Printer's measure (2)
- 42 Listening device (3)
- 44 Not you (2)
- 46 Sometimes on back of car (2)

Compiled by Don Bellingham

Meadow Flowers

by Sally Roff

for

Wedding and Function Flowers
From Beautiful Bouquets to Innovative
and Vibrant Arrangements for Church
and Reception

We also offer a comprehensive Linen and
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Cheddington



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Get back into shape for the
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Enjoy our private gym

Take advantage of our nutritional advice

Achieve your health & fitness goals

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To compliment your ongoing training programme

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We have a holiday home for rent in
LYME REGIS, DORSET
for weekends or weekly lets all year round.
Sleeps 4-5. Close to town and beaches,
beautiful views overlooking
Lyme Bay and Golden Cap.

Ring Helen and Simon Dowling for further details

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St James Church

Church Services

6 th June	Wing	08.00	Holy Communion
	Wing	10.00	Parish Communion
	Wingrave	10.00	Parish Communion
	Cublington	10.00	Family Service (Lay led)
	Aston Abbots	11.15	Parish Communion
13 th	Wingrave	08.00	Prayer Book style Communion
	Cublington	08.45	Parish Communion
	Wing	10.00	Family Service & Communion
	Wingrave	10.00	People's Praise (Lay led)
	Wing	18.00	Evensong (Lay led)
20 th	Wing	08.00	Holy Communion (by extension)
	Wingrave	10.00	Parish Communion
	Cublington	10.00	Family Service with Communion
	Wing	10.00	Family Service (Lay led)
	Aston Abbots	10.00	Morning Service (Lay led)
	Cublington	18.00	Songs of Praise
27 th	Cublington	08.45	Parish Communion
	Wingrave	10.00	Parish Communion
	Wing	10.00	Parish Communion
	Aston Abbots	11.15	Parish Communion
4 th July	Wing	08.00	Holy Communion (by extension)
	Wingrave	10.00	Patronal Festival Communion
	Wing	10.00	Parish Communion
	Cublington	10.00	Family Service (Lay led)
	Aston Abbots	10.00	Morning Service (Lay led)

Sunday Readings

6 th June	Trinity	Romans 5.1-5; John 16.12-15
13 th	Trinity 1	Galatians 2.15-21; Luke 7.36-8.3
20 th	Trinity 2	Galatians 3.23-29; Luke 8.26-39
27 th	Trinity 3	Galatians 5.1,13-25; Luke 9.51-62
4 th Jul	Trinity 4	Galatians 6.7-16; Luke 10.1-11,16-20

From The Registers

Funeral

7th May Andrew Page at Aston Abbots

Church Sidesmen

6 th	Mr. G. Kemp.
13 th	Mr. A. Ford.
20 th	Mrs. S. Ford
27 th	Mr C. Higgs

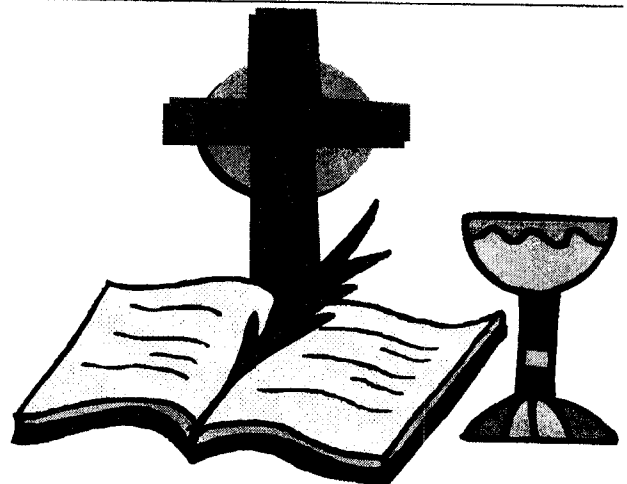
Church Flowers

5/6 th	Mrs. Ford
12/13 th	Wedding
19 th /20 th	~
26 th /27 th	Wedding

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 Abbotts 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 Shorrock	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 Shorrock	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

WINGRAVE POST OFFICE STORES

**NEWSAGENT • GENERAL STORE • OFF LICENCE
PHOTOCOPYING • VIDEO CLUB
DRY CLEANING AGENT • CASH MACHINE**



OPENING HOURS



SHOP

Monday - Saturday 6am - 7pm
Sunday 6am - 1pm

Tel: 681696

POST OFFICE

Monday - Friday 9am - 5.30pm
Saturday 9am - 12.30pm

Tel: 681011

**DAILY VILLAGE NEWSPAPERS DELIVERED IN WINGRAVE AND ASTON ABBOTTS
MAGAZINES ORDERED AND SAVED**

CONFECTIONARY • ICE-CREAM • GREETINGS CARDS • WRAPPING PAPER

FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLES • FRESH BREAD & MILK DAILY

CASH MACHINE IN THE STORE • FRESH BREAD COOKED ON THE PREMISES

What's On In June

- Tuesday 1st** Mobile Library The Green, Wingrave Rd, Oxley Farm
- Sunday 6th** Rambling club members meet at Waddesdon 2 pm
- Monday 7th** P.C.C. meeting at 4 Church Row 8 pm
- Thursday 10th** Voting for the EUROPEAN ELECTIONS in the Church Room 7 am to 10 pm.
- Tuesday 15th** Mobile library The Green, Wingrave Rd, Oxley farm.
- Wednesday 16th** Parish Rights of Way meeting Church Room 8 pm. Everyone who enjoys walking is welcome. See page 13 for details
- Saturday 19th** Royal British Legion Coffee Morning at 114 Winslow Road, Wingrave. 10 am to 12 noon. See page 27
- also* Cublington Fete at The Old Rectory. 2 pm See page 21
- Wednesday 23rd** Parish Council Meeting in the Church Room. 8 pm
- Thursday 24th** Whist Drive in the Church room. 7.30 pm.
- Saturday 26th** Rambling club members meet at Little Hampden 11 am.
- Sunday 27th** Coach trip to Folkestone. Departs Bull and Butcher 7.50 am. book on 681343
- Tuesday 29th** Mobile library The Green, Wingrave Rd, Oxley farm
- Sat 3rd July** Car Boot Sale at Wingrave School—see page 17 for details

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

Book These Dates

The 2004 Aston
Abbotts Festival and
Fete weekend is
Saturday and Sunday
the 24th and 25th of July

Notice

Situations Vacant Trainee Squire Required

Current incumbent absconding.
This time it requires a person with
a sense of humour and the ability
to sing in tune
Apply Chronicle : Box (Aylesbury)

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

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INSTRUMENTAL TEACHING NOW AVAILABLE FOR DRUMS AND CELLO

I have recently opened up a teaching space in central Aylesbury and am eager to find new pupils of all abilities. I aim to provide inspirational instruction of an excellent standard. Interested? Call Anthony on 01296 681152 or 07932 496164

CLEANER WANTED

Two hours a week.
Ring Jean Galsworthy
on 682706



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.

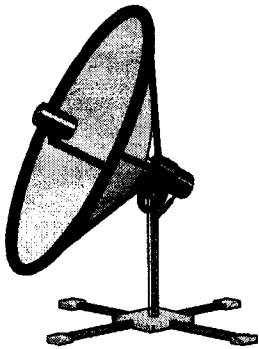
Please remember it is essential that refuse and recycling is available for collection at the edge of your property from 6:30 am.

You can contact the Refuse Office on 01296 585510,

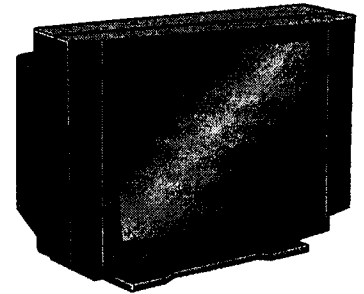
AYLESBURY VALE DISTRICT COUNCIL

FLACKWELL ELECTRONICS

OF CHURCH FARM, ASTON ABBOTTS

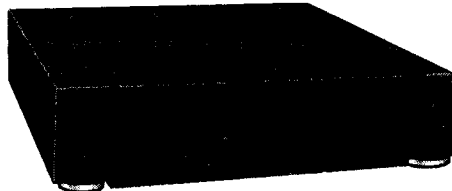


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SATELLITE
SERVICING AND
GENERAL REPAIR



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AND USED SALES

MOST MAKES
REPAIRED
THE SAME
DAY



NO CALL OUT
FEE WITHIN
ASTON
ABBOTTS

PHONE DAVE LEWIS
ON 01296 682126

FREE COMPETITION

Somewhere special in Aston Abbotts our Dave has written the following words :

DAVE
WOZ
HERE

To win, all you have to do is guess where he wrote those words, then approach Dave and say in a loud, stern voice "The place where you wrote 'Dave Woz Here' is [place name] and I claim my prize" — then just see what you get!

Shirleys Patented Superiorometer

How Superior Are You?
Are you a cut above the rest?

Do you know where you stand in the pecking order?

Use Shirleys amazing new patented Superiorometer to prove just how far ahead of the pack you are.

Just insert the measuring tip into a suitable orifice and instantly find out how many shells you rate!

