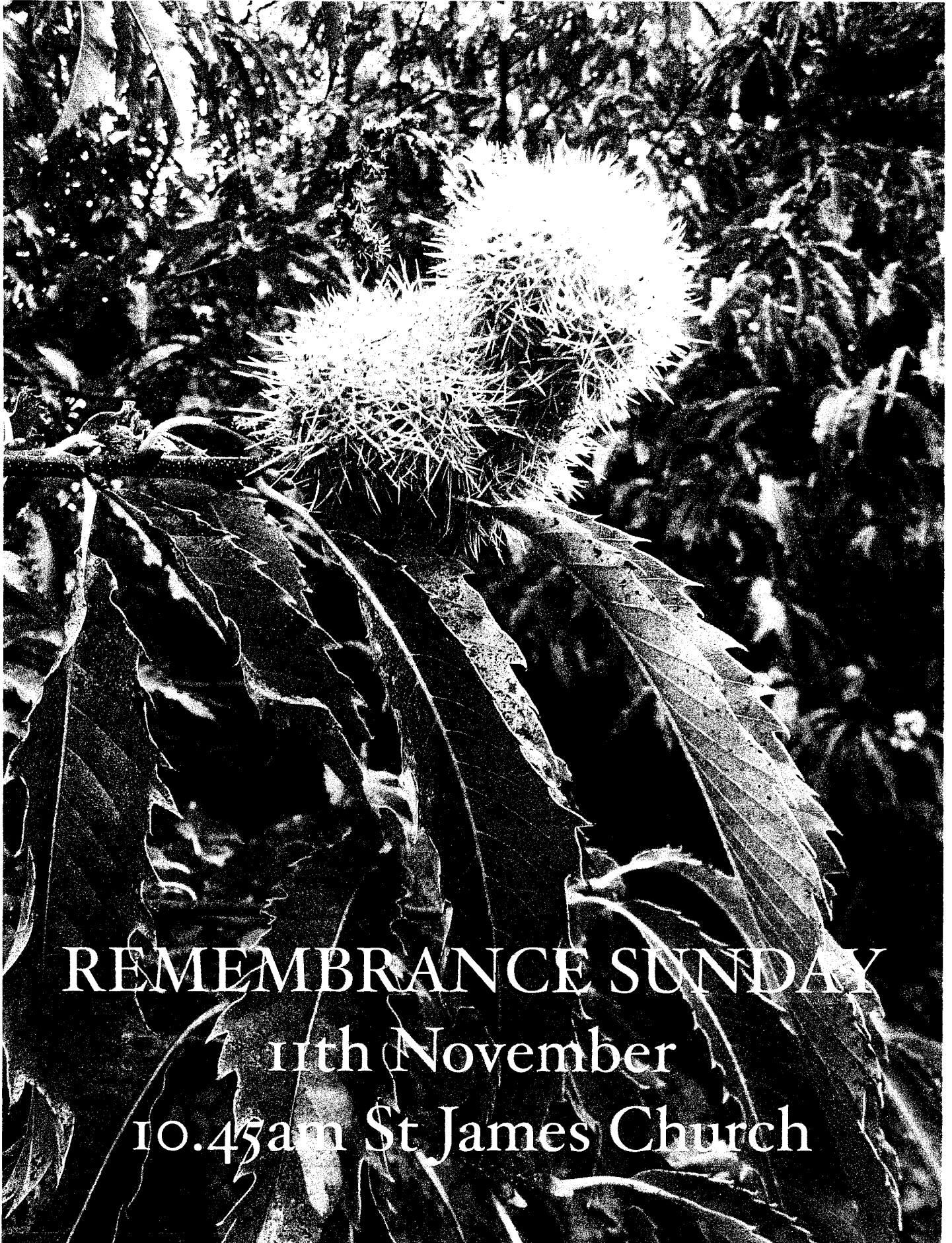


THE CHRONICLE

Aston Abbotts Parish Magazine - November 2012



REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY
11th November
10.45am St James Church

Editorial

Alan Jones has recalled a moment in history of great significance to us all. Please read his personal recollection of the Cuban Missile Crisis. (see page 17)

Judy and I enjoyed a few days holiday in Dubrovnik. We rented a small apartment in the middle of the old town. It was at the end of the tourist season but the city was still very busy. What it must be like at the height of the season when the temperatures are a lot higher and when the cruise ships are queueing up to drop anchor one wonders? Dubrovnik was very badly damaged during 1991-95. It has been faithfully restored. When viewed from the city walls you can see that about 80% of the roof tiles are new.

By the time you read this we will have returned from a week in Kerry on the west coast of Ireland. All the family will be there. We currently total 14. When I view the weather patterns swinging in from the Atlantic I trust that our week will not have been a total washout. I'll let you know.

The ground is certainly very wet. It is perfect conditions for planting trees though. The next batch of fruit trees were planted in our village orchard on 20th October.

(see page 15 for Orchard Report)

Judy is having a new hip soon. She will be in the Horton Hospital in Banbury for a few days. I'm a bit apprehensive at 'being in charge' whilst she recovers - hopefully I'll make a good job of it. All the people we've spoken to who have had the operation have been very positive of the outcome.

Trust you survived Halloween and enjoyed the Village fireworks on the Rec.

On page 13 there is the opportunity for you to win a family ticket (2 adults and 2 children) to go and see this year's Pantomime at Aylesbury Theatre. You need to get your entry in no later than 23rd November. The winner will be advised by the 30th November. The village response to the theatre's offer of free 'press tickets' has been good. I'll ask if the offer can be continued next year.

Christmas is not far away now. Judy is busy collecting small items for our grandchildren's Advent Calendars. *John*

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- COUNTRYSIDE MATTERS
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THE CHRONICLE

Issue 326

November 2012

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A note to all would be advertisers-
More than 205 households receive
The Chronicle 11 times a year and with
rates from just £25 per annum (far
cheaper than some local Parish
Magazines). Can you afford not to be in?

Copy date for the next issue

Friday 30th November

Please pass items to the
Editor John Hardcastle 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
Abbotts, our local Doctors'
Surgeries and to Wing Police
House.

Alison's Gossip Column

BIRTHDAYS

November

Eleanor Farrands	4 th
Thomas Farrands	4 th
John Brancker	7 th
Caroline Hall	7 th
Bridget Brandon	8 th
Amy James	9 th
Gavin Winston	16 th
Percy Humphries	19 th
John Whyte	23 rd
Olivia Gresswell	23 rd
Karen Smith	30 th

VIC SCOTT ORCHARD AGM

Tuesday 11th December

in the Church Room

7pm start - late arrivals still very welcome. Wine Tea and Mince Pies will be available.

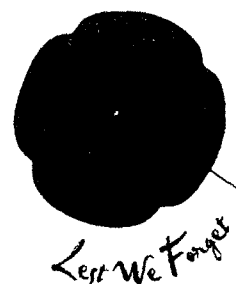
Put the date in your diary please
all villagers and 'tree donors'
very welcome. Lets have your views
on the future of our orchard.

ART IN CHEDDINGTON

Town Farm Art Show: festive show with warm welcome, mulled wine, Christmas cake, mince pies, plus unique, high quality Christmas gifts. Nine artists showing paintings, textiles, porcelain, ceramics, woodcraft, contemporary basketry, sculpture, woodcarving and jewellery.

www.townfarmartshow.blogspot.com Friday 23 November: 2 – 8pm; Saturday 24 - Sunday 25 November: 10am – 5pm
6 Town Farm, Cheddington, Near Tring, LU7 0TT Please park on High Street – not in Town Farm.
Free entry. Donations for refreshments in aid of Iain Rennie Hospice at Home.

The Poppy Coffee Morning
will be held on the 10th November
and The Poppy Bingo on
the 17th November



Congratulations to Sarah Plested and Carlo Valvona on their engagement. According to mum Jane, Sarah has met her match!

We extend a very warm welcome to Reverend Peter and Rosemary Knight who have moved into Bramble Cottage, 17 The Green. No relation to Our Other Peter Knight who also lives on The Green!

Doris & Len's legacy

Doris and Len Scutchings lived in Aston Abbots where they ran the village post office and stores. They were keen churchgoers. For many years Doris played the organ and Len was a Church Warden. The Scutchings were always very enthusiastic about our church and spent a lot of time & effort ensuring it's interior was a pleasant place in which to worship.

The PCC has recently been advised that, a sizeable legacy has been left to 'St James' in their name, although the exact amount is not yet fully known

At our last PCC meeting (September), ideas were put forward as to how this windfall might best be used. The initial consensus seemed to be that some of the money should be spent to further improve the interior of our church so as to make the building a better amenity for all who use it, whether for Church Services or for other uses. Further discussions will be taking place before any of this money is committed to ensure it's put to the best possible use.



Golfers will be familiar with bird names used to describe golf scores; a birdie, eagle or albatross. However, apparently when playing golf the other day Neil Chesher scored a duck. Neil took one almighty swipe at the ball. Instead of taking off and curving gracefully through the air to land on the green a few metres from the hole, the ball scorched across the fairway horizontally at a height of four inches until it's progress was terminated abruptly by the rear end of a large Mallard.

Keep working on that swing Neil! - *Phil Spooner*



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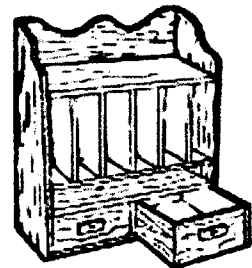
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ALLOTMENT DIARY

Digging up the first of my crop of Jerusalem artichokes, I wondered, not for the first time, why this vegetable is not more widely grown. We were given some tubers by a friend of my late wife, Clare, some 20 years or more ago, and we have brought some with us to each of our later houses.

To my mind it is an absolutely delicious vegetable, and I had always thought that it made particularly superb soup. I was delighted to discover, doing some research for this piece, that in 2002, at the Nice Festival for the Heritage of French Cuisine, it was voted the best soup vegetable.

It has absolutely nothing to do with the perhaps better-known globe artichoke, and they are not even members of the same family. It is a member of the same family as the sunflower (*Helianthus*), as you will be able to see when you look at a full-grown plant. The single stems can grow up to 10 feet in height, and when the flower comes it is sunflower-coloured: but there the resemblance ends - the artichoke flower is daisy-like, and ridiculously small - about the size of a dandelion.

The reason for the strange name is two-fold. Firstly, Italian settlers in the USA called the plant "girasole", which is Italian for "sunflower"; and for some reason, although the Italian immigrants did not form a large part of the population, this name became widespread. Secondly, the taste was said to be similar to that of a globe artichoke. Consequently when the plant/vegetables were sold in Britain, they were sold as "girasole artichokes". Very soon "girasole" (which was a word no-one here had heard before) got corrupted to "Jerusalem" (which was a foreign word everyone knew), and the incorrect name stuck. (This is a very similar to the way the old pub name "Infanta de Castille" got corrupted to "Elephant & Castle").

It thrives in the British climate, and is absurdly easy to grow. Why then is it not more widely grown? I can only think of two reasons. The first is that the tubers which one eats can be very knobbly, and therefore difficult to peel. (However, if one is ruthless, and cuts off all the knobs to produce a fairly regular potato shaped vegetable, I have not found this a big problem). The second is that it is too easy to grow. If, when you are digging up your tubers, you leave one tuber - or even part of a tuber in the ground, it will grow. Once you have planted Jerusalem artichokes, therefore, it is very difficult to get rid of them. I understand that commercial growers who wish to stop growing Jerusalem artichokes in a field and to grow another crop have to give the field a dressing of glyphosate - and sometimes two - to eradicate the artichoke plants.

A possible third reason is that it allegedly causes flatulence - although I have never found this to be the case. And, if you can find a corner of your garden or allotment where you can grow the plant, and are happy that it may be difficult ever to grow anything else on this patch, I recommend it.

As always, at this time of year, I have been busy stringing my onions so as to hang them up for use in the winter and spring. I always have ambitions to produce long string of onions, like those with which one has seen in old pictures of Breton onion sellers cycling round southern England, but I can never achieve a string of more than six or so onions before the string comes apart. I don't know if my plaiting technique is faulty, or if the Bretons had some special variety of onions, or way of preserving the stalks so that they could be interwoven better. If anyone knows the answer, and can enlighten me, I should be grateful.

A very curious thing happened in our garden one night in the middle of October: several square yards of our lawn were spoiled by badgers grubbing up the grass. This is only the second time this has happened since I have been living in the village. The previous time was several years ago during a long dry spell one summer, and we supposed that the reason then was that the ground in general was so hard it was difficult for badgers to dig up worms and grubs: whereas we had been watering our lawn, and the ground was therefore nice and soft, and thus badger-friendly. However, that cannot be the answer now, after a wet summer, and during a rather wet October. If any reader has a theory to explain why my lawn should have been attacked now, I should be glad to hear from him/her.

At the time of writing this piece, my allotment is looking appalling - a carpet of weeds everywhere except on the patch where I dug up my last maincrop potatoes, which I did sufficiently late that weeds could not get started. However, with luck I will be able to get Adam to do a thorough rotavation in the next week or so. So the message to my fellow allotmenters is that I apologise; and don't despair!

Peter Shorrocks

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*Here is the poem read out by
Annie Copping and Anysia Hall
(both aged 8!) at the
HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE
held at our church last month*

Thank you Father for Nature
For supplying the food we eat
For the many wonderful fruits
That are tasty and so sweet.

Thank you for the vegetables
That help the body to survive
That nourish our very being
To keep us alive.

Thank you for the conditions
The wind, the rain and storm
Thank you for the sunshine
That ripen the fields of corn.

Bless all the harvest
That grace our table fare
Abundance of glorious food
A feast for all to share.

So as we celebrate Harvest Festival
Let us think of those in need
Send your thoughts out to the starving
That all of them may feed.

Help us to share your treasure
To those that are starving today
Give them strength and nourishment
To soothe their pains away.

If through your love and understanding
We conquer famine, decay and despair
Then Father we have learnt our lesson
For through you we have learnt to share.

HARVEST SUPPER & AUCTION 7th Oct
The PCC wishes to thank all those who supported this annual event by coming along to the supper, donating produce to be auctioned or helping with it's organisation.

Despite a rather poor growing season we were given a generous selection of good quality vegetables, fruits and flowers to auction.

Additionally, there seemed to have been more cakes, preserves and even a bottle of whisky this year.

Thanks to April Curnow and 'her ladies', some 48 of us enjoyed a very tasty chicken supper followed by a selection of 'crumbles' before getting down to the main business of the evening; the auction.

At this point, huge thanks have to go to Marcus Hall and his two delightful and energetic young 'assistants'; his daughter Anysia and Annie Copping. Between them, not only was all the produce successfully auctioned but they charmed bidders into giving generously.

A total of £703.00 was raised by this event. This is to be used to give Christmas gifts to some of our more senior residents with any remaining cash being set aside for church maintenance.



Christmas Services

Sunday Dec 16th

Carols & Christingle 4.00pm

Friday Dec 21st

Carol singing around the village, all welcome. Commencing 7.00 pm at the Green and ending at The Royal Oak!!

All money raised will be donated to a local charity which will be announced in the Dec. Chronicle

Sunday Dec 23rd There will be no Service at Aston Abbots as it will be held in Cublington; time to be advised

Tuesday Dec 25th

Christmas morning. A family Service 9.00am conducted by Rev. Philip Derbyshire

Sunday Dec 30th

There will be no Service at Aston Abbots but there will be one in Soulbury at 10.00 am

THE ROYAL BRITISH
LEGION

SATURDAY
10 November
10am to 12 noon

COFFEE MORNING
+ Raffle

At Aston Abbots
Village Hall

In aid of the **Poppy Appeal**

Take time out to enjoy a short break
..... and support a good cause.

ASTON ABBOTTS BOOK CLUB

In October we met to discuss 'The Restraint of Beasts' by Magnus Mills; chosen by Anita Parker.

Our next read is John Hardcastle's choice 'The House on the Strand' by Daphne du Maurier. Meet at John's house 21st November 8pm.

John Hardcastle

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Aston Abbotts Parish Council

Parish Council Meeting - Monday 24th September 2012

Present: - Cllrs. P Shorrocks (Chair), C Higgs, Mrs K Curry, B Carvey, Mrs J Hardcastle, J Perkins, R Clarke and P Bruton (Clerk). County Councillor Mrs N Glover, District Councillor P Cooper and two members of the public were in attendance

County Councillor Mrs N Glover County Councillor Mrs N Glover updated the meeting on a number of initiatives and items of interest that included: Rural speed limits were under review, particularly 60mph that may be reduced to 40mph.

The proposed expansion of Luton Airport was on going and a report / consultation document was now available for review on their website.

Residents and businesses could register their support for faster broadband by following the link www.superfastforbucks.org or if unable to register on line call 01296 395000.

District Councillor P Cooper added his support to encouraging residents and businesses to sign up to the broadband registering process.

The new refuse bins project had gone reasonably well, there had been some issues but these were being addressed, if there were any specific issues then he would be happy to assist in solving the issues.

The potential wind farm application for Wingrave / Rowsham was currently not being pursued, however Cublington to Wing location is still a potential site and Cublington had formed an action Group to monitor the situation.

Parish Council Code of Conduct

The new Code of Conduct that was required following the mandatory obligations introduced in the Localism Act 2011 was discussed and it was AGREED that Councillors would review the updated Register of interest documentation and make a decision at the next Council's next meeting.

Village Plan – The meeting with Sarah Allwood had been held and after agreeing a few outstanding points it had been agreed we could move to publishing the document and it was now with a Desktop publisher. A final draft would be circulated and Cllr Perkins would obtain costing of the various options on publication including the number of copies and document quality for our next meeting.

Wingrave Crossroads Bus Shelter – We had received a copy of a quotation for the proposed works and there was some concern over the detail/type of the work and it was AGREED that Cllr. Shorrocks would discuss the matter with his contact at Wingrave & Rowsham Parish Council.

Tree funding and locations – It was AGREED that the location for any future trees would be the recreation ground as other areas were adequately covered.

LAF Meeting – Cllr Curry confirmed we had been successful in our bid for funding from the LAF and had secured £20k with the balance having to be funded from other grants, our own S137 funds and donations. The work needed to be completed before the start of the new financial year (1st April 2013) It was AGREED that a sub-committee of Cllr's Perkins, Hardcastle and Curry would oversee the project with assistance from the Clerk when required. The sub-committee would also consider contingency plans for the monies raised in case the project was not completed. The Clerk would discuss with BALC the legal aspect of the project. A meeting week commencing 15th October was being arranged to progress the project.

Cllr Curry also advised that at the recent meeting it was noted that the boundaries for policing were changing however we were advised that our current levels should not be affected.

Streetlights – At the last meeting there had been some concern expressed over our Insurance cover in the event of an accident involving a streetlight in our Parish, particularly given we had resolved to adopt the additional lights at the crossroads. After consideration of the risks and the detail of our policy it was agreed that no further action was required at this time.

Neighbourhood Plan – Cllr Carvey reported he had nothing to add or to report on at this time.

Planning application - 12/01859/APP (Farm House, Longmoor Farm)

Revised Front Dormers and additional roof lights to front & rear roof (part of retrospective amendment to planning permission)

The above application was discussed and it was noted that this was part of a retrospective planning application as a result of the development not being built in accordance with the approved plans of the permission granted. District Councillor Cooper advised that there was a further application in the pipeline that Council might consider relevant to this application. It was also noted that both applications would be discussed at the same Development Control meeting. Council felt that to formally comment on the application without viewing the further application would be difficult and the Clerk would request that Council could comment on both applications at the same time. There was concern that the development had not been built in accordance with the approved plans and the impact of the changes on the neighbouring properties.

Recreation Ground Safety Check: - Nothing to report.

Recreation Ground Annual Safety Check – The annual safety check had been carried out, however Cllr Clarke had requested that he was present at the check but unfortunately this had not been the case. He would contact our consultant once the report was received to discuss any areas of concern.

Spending review – The future expenditure of Council was reviewed given the current financial position. It was AGREED that at this time any future spending should reflect and take into consideration the action points of the Village Plan and this would become clearer once the document was published and the relevant subcommittee begins implementation.

It was confirmed that the next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 24th October 2012 at 7:30pm in the Church Room.

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Wingrave CE Combined School

Reading continues to be at the heart of school life, including reading for pleasure which is modelled by all staff by: reading in assemblies; holding a weekly reading raffle; reading to children in class etc. Another effective way to encourage all to read for pleasure is to have a 'Reading for Pleasure Day', which we will be hosting on Friday 30th November. Each session starts with a shared story followed by a selection of activities related to the teacher's chosen author or genre. Parents, guardians and other members of the community are invited to join in with their child/the children. Further details will be available from the school office and on the school website at the start of November.

Finally a challenge to get you all thinking – To write an acrostic poem for Wingrave CE Combined School. All entries to be handed into the school office by 16th November. Poems will be displayed in the hall, so think about how you might present them and poets will earn 50 house points.

Acrostic poems use the letters in a word or phrase to begin each line. All the lines of the poem should relate to or describe the topic word.

For example: **SCHOOL**

Staff help and support

Children love to learn

Homework to be done on time

Open door so all are welcome

Older students like to help

Lifelong love of learning

Val Britnell

MO-BRO

Hair is a wonderful thing, just think how amazing it is and what joy it brings!
It's also very good at spreading a message.

I with a few others in Aston Abbots will be supporting Movember again this year by growing a wonderful moustache through the month of November and raising some money for a charity which supports the fight against Cancer.

Since its humble beginnings in Melbourne, Australia Movember has grown to become a truly global movement inspiring more than 1.9 Million Mo Bros and Mo Sistas to participate with formal campaigns in Australia, New Zealand, the US, Canada, the UK, South Africa, Ireland, Finland, the Netherlands, Spain, Denmark, Norway, Belgium and the Czech Republic. In addition, Movember is aware of Mo Bros and Mo Sistas supporting the campaign and men's health causes across the globe, from Russia to Dubai, Hong Kong to Antarctica, Rio de Janeiro to Mumbai, and everywhere in between.

In 2011, Mo Bros and Mo Sistas around the world raised £79.3 million.

If you feel like joining in or supporting by donating then we have a team donation page on the Movember website under the name "The Three (could be more) Amigos"

Come on let's get HAIRY.

James Perkins 81 The Green

(count me in James Ed)

Cider & Sausages at The Royal Oak

Following on from their successful cheese and wine evening earlier this year, this was another great Sunday evening event at the pub. The idea was that we had to sample and name the eight or nine sausages which had been supplied by Tony Hinds. At first glance a difficult task, but by no means a chore, since they were all delicious and accompanied by four different, hand crafted and very tasty breads.

Oh! And then there were the ciders!!! All totally different and ranging visually, from crystal clear to what might generously be described as 'cloudy'. I haven't drunk cider for many years after an unfortunate night while stationed in the RAF in Wiltshire. However, on this occasion I thought I might try a couple. The first was exquisite, slightly sweet but it complemented the sausage and bread wonderfully well. The second was the 'muddy one', quite dry, but, non-the-less, extremely enjoyable and seemed to 'clean the pallet' and sharpen the taste buds when trying to determine the names of all those sausages.

Now, there was one particularly hot spicy sausage which I just couldn't leave alone but it definitely required another pint of cider, just to 'cool the throat before proceeding. There was one called Rosie, something or the other, I can't quite remember but it was delicious and slipped down before I knew it.

They tell me I insisted on trying the fourth but luckily there was only a 'drain' left. I do remember it was jolly nice but damned if I can remember what it was called. I can't even remember who won the competition that night but if you really want to know, pop in and ask Terri!!



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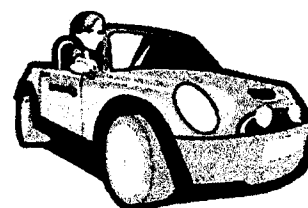
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ASTON ABBOTTS THEATREGOERS

I have the opportunity to offer a pair of tickets for some forthcoming shows at Aylesbury Theatre to anyone in our village who would like to apply for them.

If you are interested in seeing a particular show (listed below) then let me have an email (editor@aachronicle.co.uk) or put a note through my door at Marloes, Lines Hill, with your name and telephone number, when I will put names in a hat to draw the winner for each show. The draw for each event will take place 2 weeks before the show.

The pairs of tickets are free and are usually in the stalls about one third back. Parking opposite the theatre costs £1 for the evening after 6.30pm. The list of shows available will hopefully be updated every month in the Chronicle.

In return it would be nice if the 'theatre-goers' gave a short review of the show they saw. Ed

SHOW OF HANDS (limited tickets)	SUN 18.11.12 7.30PM
42ND STREET	TUE 20.11.12 7.30PM
COMEDY CLUB (limited tickets)	FRI 07.12.12 7.30PM
LIVESCREEN – ROYAL OPERA HOUSE THE NUTCRACKER (limited tickets)	THU 13.12.12 7.15PM

THE ILLEGAL EAGLES

After being informed we had been awarded a pair of tickets we 'eagerly' awaited our free evening out. And what a fabulous evening it was! We have visited Aylesbury Theatre a couple of times and always chosen to sit in the circle. This was going to be an opportunity to try out the stalls. We were not disappointed –

fantastic seats with the added bonus of having no-one sitting directly in front of us and being able to take our complimentary drinks into the auditorium! Sadly, the theatre had some empty seats, but this had no bearing on the performance we were all treated to, as everyone seemed to appreciate good live music and were out to enjoy themselves.

The band, superbly called 'The Illegal Eagles' consisted of 5 excellent multi-instrumentalists, who had pitch perfect vocals and outstanding harmonies. All the classic tracks were played... 'Peaceful Easy Feeling', 'Lying Eyes', 'Witchy Woman', 'Taking It Easy', 'James Dean', 'Desperado', to name just a few.

The introduction to the legendary 'Hotel California' gave the band a chance to break away from playing Eagles music and show their versatility by playing a few opening bars of other songs which have memorable introductions. We experienced Led Zeppelin, The Who, Lynyrd Skynyrd and (with hands clapping above our heads) Queen..... Aylesbury Theatre was rocking to 'We will Rock You'! All this led up to the famous chords we all recognise as the start of 'Hotel California'.....a personal favourite.

My partner John, an accomplished musician who often sings and plays Eagles songs, also thoroughly enjoyed the gig. So much so, that I had to tell him to stop singing along to the songs so loudly, as the person sitting next to him had come to see the band and not listen to his renditions!! And apologies to whoever was sitting in our row and could feel the seats moving in time to the music....John just couldn't help tapping his feet!

The Illegal Eagles had everyone up out of their seats, dancing, singing and clapping, by the end of their polished and fun performance. On exiting the theatre I said to John "If you had told me that we were going to see The Eagles tonight, apart from them probably being a little younger than the original group, I would not have known the difference." In my eyes (and ears), The Illegal Eagles became the LEGAL Eagles! A fabulous night out and thank-you for the free tickets.

Sue Wheatley & John Sutton



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- A dog



Entry deadline Friday 23rd Nov 2012.

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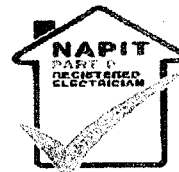
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Countryside Matters

Well what an amazing year for farming; this year has been recorded as one of the driest winters for a long time, then the rain came in late spring and early summer and did not stop for seven to eight weeks, and was breaking all records for many a year. The resulting pollination of crops and fruit was almost a non starter. The bees were unable to leave their hives and carry out their diligent work. The wheat straw, still green at harvest and the combines not designed to have straw like rope put through their systems meant that some of the newer models were not able to cope with this unfit commodity. Combine machines costing up to £300k were not able to function properly causing lengthy and costly breakdowns.

In the past, over 20 years ago, the Ascott Estate ran Massey Ferguson combines and on a very good day all four were working normally, sometimes only 2 or 3 were required; but today by having only one massive machine to cope with an increased acreage means when that machine fails, due to adverse conditions, for up to 2 days you are really in the deep 'smelly' stuff. Thank goodness at least 2 or 3 of the older machines were kept going. But the wet harvesting did not end there, it put everything back by a month so drilling next years crop is already later and now held up again by the wet sticky conditions.

As I write this column the oil seed rape is coming through and hopefully shall grow enough to fight off the increasing numbers of pigeons. As you drive up to Wing village through the park, the crop is well established and is looking good. The maize crop is now being harvested for milking herds and then there is the opening of the Biomass Digester on the A5; more of that later in the next exciting instalment.

James Henderson



Photos above show Kim Lawrence and Ron Lawrence supervising Peter Knight planting their tree and John & Sheila Murray standing alongside their newly planted tree.

The flamboyant grub eating the leaves of the Wotton Costard has been identified as the caterpillar of the Rusty Tussock Moth or Vapourer (*Orgyia antiqua*).

A recent newspaper article explained that 'Costard', first mentioned in 1292, is one of the oldest types of apple and was grown extensively and sold by 'costard mongers' from hand carts, the name eventually shortened to 'costermonger' or greengrocer. By comparison Reverend W Wilks is an early-season culinary apple variety, raised at Langley Nurseries in the early 20th century. Reflecting the great importance attached to cooking apples in England at that time. It was named after the then secretary of the Royal Horticultural Society. *Ed*

Orchard Report

There can be few jobs as satisfying as planting trees. When the time spent tree planting is passed in the company of friends, when there is no hurry and refreshments are on hand, when the weather is good and the soil conditions are perfect, then the day has been very special.

Such a day was Saturday 20th October when fourteen more trees were planted in the Village Orchard.

There are now 100 trees to give us interest and pleasure in the future. The orchard now contains an Irish Peach, which is an apple, a Shropshire Prune, which is a plum, a red pear and a Thorpes Peach - another apple - yet more fascinating names to join the 'ghastly' Wotton Costard and the 'worrying' Warwickshire Drooper.

We still intend to plant two Black Mulberries this month when we have found suitable stock.

We are arranging to hold an AGM on the 11th December in the hope that as many 'tree donors' and villagers as possible can come to put your ideas and thoughts to the 'management' and discuss plans for the future.

Peter Knight

here is the list of trees planted on 20th October

B5 Coeur de Boeuf - Ken & Viv Rhodie
B4 Arthur Turner - Mike & Mary Talbot
C8 Long Reinette - Ron & Kim Lawrence
C9 Golden Russet - Ken & Viv Rhodie
D9 Old Greengage - Louise McManus
E4 Catillac - Elizabeth McManus
E5 Red Pear - Ron & Kim Lawrence

F4 Api Noir - Elizabeth McManus
K10 Hazel - John & Pam Dixon
L8 Shropshire Prune - Peter Shorrocks
L9 Victoria - Jean Bellingham
M5 Irish Peach - Rena Coleman
M8 Thorpe's Peach
N4 Annie Elizabeth - John & Sheila Murray

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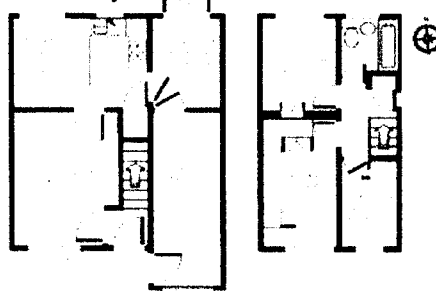
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THE FORGOTTEN ANNIVERSARY

This year, 2012, has been notable for a number of events and anniversaries. One anniversary is the 50th of a world changing event which was in the end, a non-event, and for that reason alone should be celebrated all the more.

As I write this at the end of October it is 50 years ago to the week that for several days I had not been out of combat kit except to have a shower. I, like the rest of 50 Regiment Royal Artillery, was confined to barracks. This was the Cuba crisis. The Soviet Union as Russia, as its empire was then called, had been installing nuclear missiles on the Island of Cuba well within range of the most important parts of the USA. President Kennedy was threatening to stop and, if necessary, sink Russian ships loaded with more missiles and already on their way to Cuba. The whole of NATO went to the highest state of alert. V Bomber crews sat in their cockpits ready to start up and go. All round the world fingers moved closer to nuclear triggers.

I was part of one of the triggers. 50 Regiment was one of three nuclear artillery regiments, one for each division of the Rhine Army. Each of these three regiments had two batteries each with two Honest John rocket launchers and two batteries each with two 8inch Howitzers. I was the Section Commander of left section 78 Battery RA. 78 was a gun battery with its two Howitzers, a reconnaissance and survey troop and a Saracen armoured command post for the major commanding of the battery plus a number of 3 tonne trucks for re-supply.

Once in the field each gun or rocket section would be on its own. Perhaps as far away as 20 miles from Battery HQ. We would probably only see the Battery Quartermaster every 3 or 4 days with food and fuel. I had a Sergeant, a Bombardier (RA equivalent to corporal) and about 12 lads (gunners). In addition, if I was lucky, I would have a driver for my 3 tonne truck which carried food, small arms ammunition and bits and bobs of kit and a driver/radio operator for my Austin Champ. This was my little command. I was responsible for these young soldiers and my gun number one, Sgt. Joe Massara (Big Joe), an Italian from Soho, nearing the end of his service; he had fought his way across North Africa and up Italy. As a young subaltern it was wise to be very sure of your ground before disagreeing with him on points of gunnery or soldiering. Any mistakes I made resulted in a loud correction and the demand for a pint! We had trained hard. We knew what we were supposed to do and, as a result of our test exercises and inspections, we were rated "fully operational".

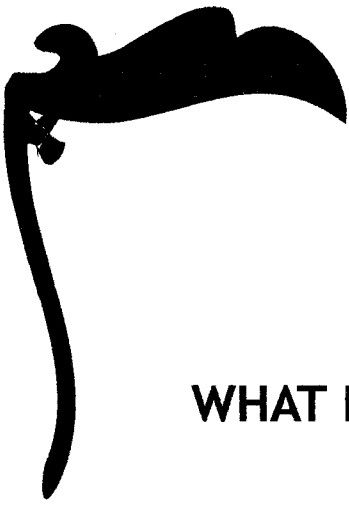
For several days we were at half an hour's readiness to move. Where, we didn't know. The orders were sealed. So we never did find out where we were to start our part in World War III! During the day we tried to carry on as normal. Laundry runs to Dortmund, beer for the NAAFI, bread deliveries for the cookhouse; but drivers still checked and re-checked their vehicles. At night on a few occasions I went down to the gun park making sure our prowling sentry knew I was there. In the dim light of the street lighting my Austin Champ stood in its place with its trailer hooked in, both loaded with kit. Then the Bedford 3 tonner. Next an empty space where the massive MackNO gun tractor usually stood. She was hooked into the gun ready to move a big bit of kit; she stood out in the open with the 15 tonnes of gun behind still under cover. The shape loomed over me in the dark and for no reason at all I climbed into the back to check the load again even though it was Big Joe's job and I already knew it was all OK. I looked out of the back through the chain hoist used to lift the trails of the gun when hooking in. The burnished steel of the breach gleamed in the dim light and I sat for a long time wondering what it was all about. Here I was in a very pretty part of Germany, the Saurland, ready to go to war in the nuclear age. I knew what a nuclear shell looked like, we had a dummy to train on, but was it really going to be like our training. Nuclear war was a huge unknown. Would anyone survive? In the field we moved at night and hid during the day. We assumed that as nuclear artillery we would be a priority target if not a nuclear one. We couldn't range onto a target as normal we had to completely predict the target, we even had to make a correction for the rotation of the earth and then fire one round and move to a new hide. "Shoot and scoot".

Sitting in the dark I went over the sequence of fire orders. I thought of folk at home. I thought of practice live firings, the woof of the gun. This big gun didn't crack like a tank gun, it was a gentle sort of violence and you could watch the shell disappear into the distance while the barrel rang like a great tuning fork of war. So many thoughts in the dark and then back to my room bidding the sentry goodnight. Or, back to the mess where one or two of the boys might be playing cards; they couldn't sleep either.

Eventually, on the 28th, Kennedy and Kruschev reached agreement. The whole world heaved a sigh of relief and we in Menden had a bit of a party.

In 2012 it is difficult to recreate the feelings of fear and unreality of those days. The cold war very nearly went hot. Had that happened I wonder what Aston Abbotts would be like now? Such an event now seems impossible and Kennedy and Kruschev deserve some thanks for that. However the real architects of the end of the cold war were perhaps the much derided butt of jokes Ronald Reagan and his Russian counterpart Mikhail Gorbachev when, at Reagan's instigation, the two met at the Iceland summit with no advisers, just their interpreters. Perhaps there is a lesson here for those who govern us; bureaucrats are not always all they crack themselves up to be and in this case it was the simple who saved the world.

Alan Jones



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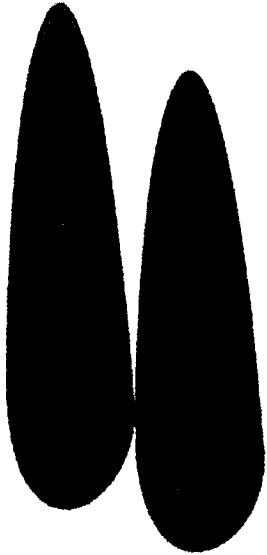
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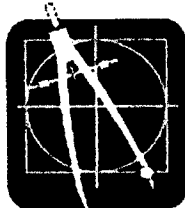
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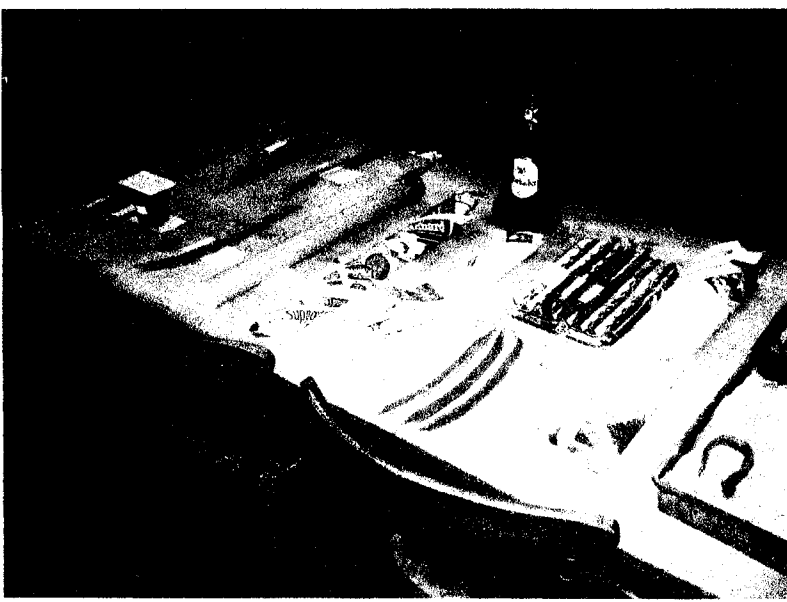
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The Bean Competition

Sat 22nd Sept.

The 'lead-up' to this year's competition was far from smooth. It started with rumors of highly specialized fertilizers being experimented with, causing much concern amongst some of the competitors. Then, as the season progressed, all participants became anxious as a cold spell caused bean plants to rot in the ground. Then, in the spring, the weather was too hot, too soon and in any event, even when some beans flowered, there were no bees to fertilize them. To 'crown it all', the weather was again blamed as it had

rained too much throughout the summer but was again too dry when the beans were developing. Perhaps a case of, "a cropper's lot is not an nappy one" !!

To make matters worse, about this time, whispers were heard of a 'super bean' measuring nearly 23 inches long. Of course, this was at first dismissed as hearsay; an impossibility given the extremely poor growing weather throughout this year, but it did, in conjunction with the poor weather, influence the 'organisers to delay judging for a couple of weeks to enable their 'beans on the vine' to catch up!

The day of the competition dawned. Judging benches were set up at The Royal Oak and competitors arrived with their entries. There was much tension, particularly when Harry Bystra turned up with entries for the matching bean class as well as a fine specimen for the 'Longest bean'. Regrettably somebody else thought it had a good chance of winning since it mysteriously 'disappeared'!!

All three categories were well represented though, with lots of humor and ingenuity displayed in the 'cheat's class including two beautiful beans knitted by April Curnow.

Terri Moulton had kindly offered to judge the competition but when it was discovered she was considering awarding a 23inch long specimen the coveted Wilkinson trophy, it was gently pointed out to her that it was in fact a carved & painted replica and should in fact be in the cheats category.

Prizes were presented by Sharon Wilkinson as follows

The Wilkinson trophy for the longest bean, Tony Hinds

Best matching pair, Harry Bystra

Cheats category, Andy Bystra.



DIARY OF A NOBODY

The Edinburgh Fringe came to the Old Schoolroom Weedon in October as part of the Theatre in the Villages scheme sponsored by Bucks CC. Kate Curry arranged tickets for a number of people to attend this very enjoyable show that had received good reviews in Edinburgh this year.

I had never heard of the book but it was written by George Grossmith and serialized in Punch magazine between 1888 and 1889. It is essentially the diary of Mr Pooter who works as a senior clerk for a rather stuffy bank. He decides to publish a diary on the grounds that it might be as interesting as anybody else's diary. This device allows the author to detail the humorous aspects of daily life in a 'respectable' Victorian household.

I discovered that the diary has been recently revived and updated as a blog on the internet the material certainly lends itself to such treatment.

The show was performed by just 3 people, one of whom did not act but played suitable music on a keyboard. The busiest performer was the actress playing Mrs Carrie Pooter. She played all the other characters including her son, Lupin, the cleaner, Sarah, and Lupin's girlfriend. This involved many costume changes behind a simple screen on stage. The show was enlivened by several songs sung by the characters of Mrs Pooter and Lupin's girlfriend. The songs, executed with varying degrees of skill by the 2 characters, were excellently performed by the same actress who had been classically trained as a mezzo soprano.

Sally Palmer



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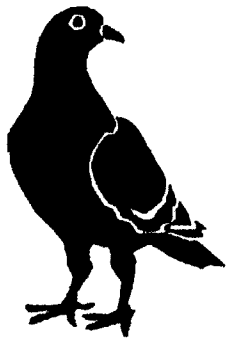
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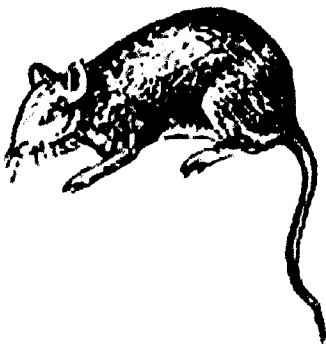
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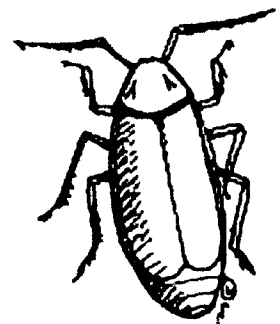
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Aston Abbots Parish Council

Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday 24th October 2012

Present: - Cllrs. P Shorrocks (Chair), C Higgs, B Carvey, Mrs J Hardcastle, R Clarke and P Bruton (Clerk).
County Councillor Mrs N Glover, District Councillor P Cooper were in attendance.

Apologies: Received from Cllrs Mrs K Curry and Mr J Perkins

We had received invitations to apply to participate in Play around the Parishes and Music in Quiet places and the documentation was handed to relevant Councillors for passing on to interested parties.

It was noted that AVDC were currently tendering for a single contract covering street cleansing and horticultural services, this would mean a change of our Dog Hygiene collection service although we may see a reduction in our costs. We had received a letter requesting a donation to Dial a Ride and was AGREED that we would not contribute at this time.

County Councillor Mrs N Glover County Councillor Mrs N Glover updated the meeting on a number of initiatives and items of interest that included: A number of villages were holding speed watch events that were proving very successful. Bucks Connect online directory - The online directory provides information on care and support and how to get involved in your local community. If you belong to a club, society or provide care and support for adults you can advertise your details on the website free of charge and help us to make this a really useful source of information for everyone. For more information please visit www.bucksconnect.org.uk.

BCC has signed a contract with a new company to provide an integrated IT system across lots of public services. The general public will only notice that access is faster but the main thing is that the new service will save us tax payers £7 million.

District Councillor P Cooper District Councillor P Cooper reported that the new refuse bins project had gone well with about 98% of residents had been successfully changed to the new system. Unfortunately the remaining 2% had caused problems and it was hoped that these would be addressed in the next 3 to 4 weeks. The recycling system is working very well with the anticipated levels being exceeded. Residents should be reminded that the criteria for collection is that the bin should be within one metre of the side of the road.

It was also noted that AVDC had completed Phase 1 of the Vale of Aylesbury Plan which was the Core document. The next stage was to develop the individual policies and the timetable for completion of the complete document was 2014.

Parish Council Code of Conduct

It was RESOLVED to adopt the NALC Code of Conduct for Parish Councils and Councillors would complete the Register of pecuniary interests and return to the Clerk.

Village Plan – The Clerk circulated a report from Cllr Perkins and after discussion it was AGREED to arrange for 50 copies of the bound Plan and Cllr Carvey would obtain a soft copy of the document and produce a copy for every household in the Village.

Wingrave Crossroads Bus Shelter – Cllr Shorrocks reported that he had met with Cllr Stovold of Wingrave & Rowsham Parish Council and outlined Council's view on the proposed refurbishment of the Shelter. They were awaiting 2 further quotes and would revert to us once these had been received. They had agreed with our suggestion that the costs should be split on a per electorate basis.

Centenary Tree – We had received notification that the tree would be delivered at the beginning of November and Cllr Clarke had volunteered to assist with its planting in a suitable location in the Recreation Ground.

Hedgerows – There was concern over a number of hedgerows in the village that were a health and safety risk. It was AGREED that the Clerk would write to the residents concerned and request that the appropriate work is carried out. It was also NOTED that the Parish Council strongly urges all residents to keep their hedgerows trimmed back away from footpaths and roadways for the safety and benefit of pedestrians and road users.

Firework Display – We had received a note from the organisers of the forthcoming event advising that the relevant authorities would be notified of the event. Cllr Shorrocks confirmed he would issue our standard letter of required actions to the organisers.

LAF Meeting – Cllr Hardcastle confirmed a meeting had been held and a number of potential funding sources were being explored, however we were still awaiting confirmation of the cost of the work from BCC. In the meantime the matter would be raised at the forthcoming LAF meeting scheduled for the 20th November.

Neighbourhood Plan – Cllr Carvey reported he had nothing to add or to report on at this time.

Planning application - 12/02094/APP (Farm House, Longmoor Farm)

Revised Rear Loft Dormer (part of retrospective amendment to planning permission)

It was noted that the Planning committee had met to decide on the above and it had been RESOLVED to oppose the application. The development had not been built in accordance with the approved plans and the impact of the changes on the neighbouring properties was not in accordance with GP8.

12/02141/APP (Norduck Farm, Moat Lane)

Renewal of temporary permission for siting of an agricultural workers mobile home for a further 3 years.

It was noted that the Planning committee had met to decide on the above and it had been RESOLVED to raise no objections to the application.

Recreation Ground Safety Check: - Nothing to report.

Recreation Ground Annual Safety Check – Cllr Clarke reported that he had spoken with our consultant and he had agreed to meet him the next time he was in the area to discuss our concerns and his pending report.

Precept / Budget 2013 – The budget document for consideration at the next Parish Council meeting was circulated.

It was confirmed that the next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 5th December 2012 at 7:30pm in the Church Room.



Lazy Dog Holiday Cottages

Tregerrick - sleeps 4 - a 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom contemporary character cottage in the heart of Padstow, North Cornwall. Gas central heating and all mod cons inc dishwasher, washer/dryer, leather sofas, flat screen TV/DVD etc. Within walking distance of Rick Stein's restaurants.

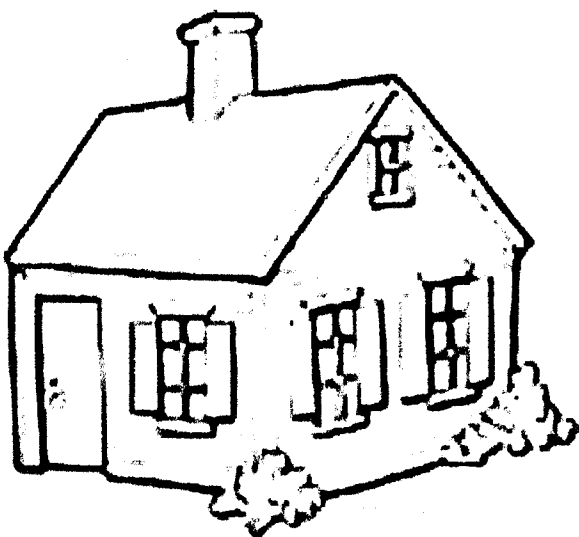
Annet - sleeps 4 - a 2 bedroom spacious character cottage with large garden, large living room, separate dining room, ideal for families with children, 3 miles from Padstow. Gas central heating & all mod cons inc dishwasher, washing machine, TV/DVD etc.

See our website for photographs and full details - www.lazy-dog.biz

Both cottages available for holiday let all year round

Dogs welcome by arrangement

Call Andy & Sally on 0775 272 6229
Or email us at sallyturnham@hotmail.com
www.lazy-dog.biz



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In Aylesbury - Quality, clean, spacious furnished rooms in clean & tidy shared houses. Fully equipped houses with all mod cons - gas central heating, washer/dryer, microwave, bathrooms with shower, etc. Single rooms from £80 and doubles from £95 (inclusive of bills)
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Home: 01296 682305

Mobile: 07776 180781

Email:
clare3hinds@hotmail.co.uk

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If you get an email telling you that you can catch Swine Flu from tins of ham then delete it. It's Spam.

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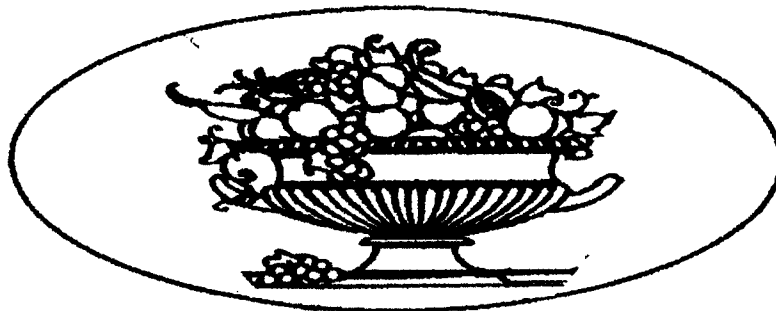
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CHURCH ROOM

Bookings

£6 per hour for residents
(plus metered electricity)

£20 per hour for non residents

(plus metered electricity - a returnable deposit
of £50 at the time of booking is required)

Please note that an additional hour over and above the
period of the event must be booked to cover setting up
and clearing away.

Weddings and Christenings -
a fixed charge of £50.

Please contact Tracy Hinds on
if you wish to book
688479

Stewkley Singers present

Music and Mince Pies

**A Celebration of Christmas Music
And Seasonal Readings**

**The Stewkley Singers, St. Michael's School
Choir and
St. Michael's School Hand Bell Ringers**

**Friday 7th and Saturday 8th
December 2012, 7.15pm**

**at
Stewkley Village Hall,
High Street North,
Stewkley**

Admission by ticket: £7- adults, £4 -16 & under

To include wine and seasonal refreshments

Tickets available in advance from:

St Michael's School Tel: 01525 240248

Julia Sims Tel: 01525 240671

YOUR

PARISH COUNCIL

Peter Shorrocks (Chairman)
Oak Farm House - 681260

Paul Bruton (Parish Clerk)
51 The Green - 682322

Colin Higgs (Vice Chairman)
6 Wingrave Road - 681343

Richard Clarke
Maplewood, The Green - 681007

Judy Hardcastle
Marloes, Lines Hill - 688070

Kate Curry
2 Norduck Cottages, Moat Lane - 681137

James Perkins (co-opted) - 07882 980415

Bob Carvey
12 The Green - 681053

District Councillor
Peter Cooper
Brewhouse Lane, Rowsham - 681250

County Councillor
Netta Glover - 688357

Parochial Church Council

Rev. Philip Derbyshire 01525 240287

Caroline Abel Smith 681001 - Churchwarden

April Curnow 681459 - Churchwarden

Colin Higgs 681343 - Deputy Churchwarden

Shirley Ford 681865

Andy Bystra 681690

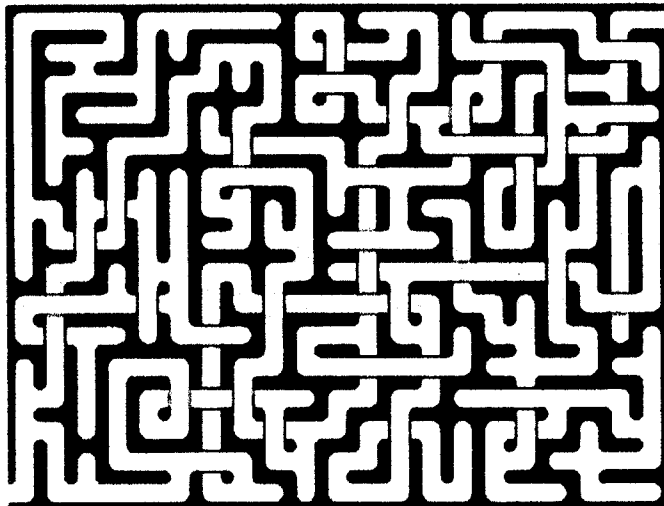
Ann Goodman 681763

Anita Parker 681325

Gordon Kemp 681763

Caroline Lane 681373 - Secretary

David Gray 07935414495 - Treasurer



100 Club Winners for October

Mrs P Gray

Mr C Wicks



WELCOME TO ESPANOL VILLA

A TOP QUALITY PRIVATELY OWNED
HOUSE AVAILABLE FOR HOLIDAY RENTAL
IN THE BEAUTIFUL COSTA CALIDA
REGION OF MURCIA, SOUTH-EASTERN
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320 days of sunshine per year

The property "Cornamusa" is a modern fully furnished 3 bedroom house just 50m from the sandy beaches of Los Alcazeres.

The Costa Calida (warm coast) nestles in the South eastern corner of Spain - the 'real Spain'. It's an area of long sandy beaches (the one at Alcazeres is over 5km), promenades and traditional towns and villages popular with the Spanish and the British.

The coast here is dotted with national parks, nature reserves and there's heaps of shopping, culture, golf courses, sports, and spas
The Cornamusa beach house sleeps up to 7, air conditioning, luxury furnishings, fully fitted kitchen, balcony on main bedroom. Everything you need for a fantastic holiday. It's just a 10 minute transfer. Direct low cost flights from Luton Airport to Murcia San Javier with Ryan Air.

Prices range from £260 - £350 per week



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Trendz

**ANOTHER NEW PRODUCT HAS
JUST ARRIVED
GET A THICK AND LUSCIOUS
HEAD OF HAIR FROM THE
LATEST IN HAIR EXTENSIONS**



There are many hair extension techniques available in the hair industry today such as sewing, braids, using heat, using adhesives and fusing, but the micro ring method is a more advanced and safer technique and is much more sought after. Micro Ring Hair Extensions are sometimes known as Loop or Easy Ring Extensions.

This remarkable technique has increasingly become popular and is highly favoured by celebrities. It provides a natural look that almost makes you forget that you have hair extensions on. Micro Ring Hair Extensions can be treated the same way as you would treat your normal hair, such as colouring or blow-drying.

Micro Ring Hair Extensions are the safest and most unnoticeable hair extensions method available. There is no glue, no heat or chemicals needed for Micro Ring Hair Extensions which means there is no damage to your natural hair therefore your hair will continue to grow naturally. Micro Rings are used to hold the pre-bonded hair extension securely but gently to your natural hair. Micro Rings are tiny rings that are lined with silicone to protect your natural hair and to prevent slippage.

Micro Rings are suitable for all hair textures from fine to thick hair. This method is very reliable, very popular and also allows you to add highlights and lowlights.

As our Micro Rings are so small, coloured to blend in with your natural hair and applied in a way that they are so discreet and unnoticeable, you will look and feel completely natural.

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GENTLEMEN, WHY NOT BUY A GIFT VOUCHER AND TREAT YOUR BELOVED TO A PAMPER FOR XMAS

St James Church

4th November	6pm	Evensong	with Rev Derek Witchell
11th November	10.45am	Remembrance Service	with Rev Peter Binns
18th November	10am	Communion	with Rev Derek Witchell
25th November	10am	Team Service at Soulbury	with Rev Philip Derbyshire
2nd December	6pm	Evensong	with Rev Philip Derbyshire
9th December	10am	Communion	with Rev Philip Derbyshire
16th December	4pm	Christingle Service	with Rev Philip Derbyshire
23rd December	9am	at Cublington	with Rev Roger Hale
24th December	11pm	Midnight Mass at Wing and also at Wingrave	with Rev Derek Witchell with Rev Siv Tunnicliffe.
At Soulbury it will be held at 10pm and at Stewkley 11.30pm both			
25th December	9am	Communion	with Rev Philip Derbyshire
30th December	10am	Communion at Soulbury	with Rev Derek Witchell

CHURCH DUTIES

	<i>Cleaners</i>	<i>Flowers</i>
3rd Nov	Colin & Caroline L	Caroline A/S
10th	Ann & Gordon	Remembrance
17th	Andrew & Shirley	Remembrance
24th	Anita & April	Ann Goodman
1st Dec	Colin & Caroline L	No flowers Advent

Service of Remembrance 11th November 10.45am



*Christmas cards and diaries are now available for sale
at the back of the church or at the Thursday morning coffee shop*

November for Christians has traditionally started with two major events to do with the deceased: All Saints and All Souls. On the 1st of November we remember the great characters, heroes and heroines of faith; the famous people as it were. The following day people were encouraged to remember those who had been personally close to them and who had been 'promoted to glory' as an old Salvation Army officer I once worked with so beautifully put it. Promoted to glory isn't a euphemism like 'passed' or 'gone' but a celebration of a life lived for God, others and now earning a deserved rest! There was nothing mawkish or avoiding about it, just a frank recognition of an inevitable fact.

These days were sometimes marked with solemn communions and even processions but in our more utilitarian and less colourful days all that has gone. However it is interesting to see how many roadside shrines have now sprung up in a kind of secular spirituality. I guess the death of Princess Diana gave a huge boost to that as a way of expressing grief. On the day of her death I was the Chaplain at Holloway Prison and had to break the news to the women at the 10.00 Chapel service; some of course already knew having radios.

There was the most heartfelt outpouring of sadness and anger. The only response to which was really profound silence. Even though Diana was rich and famous and the women I ministered to were mainly poor (and at best a bit infamous) they felt a bond of shared pain and rejection and some of the in-cell shrines were tended for many months. Grief can often break down barriers, as we have seen with the case of little April Jones in central Wales, and can lead us to be more gentle with one another. Let us continue to uphold her family in our own prayers and pray for the Police as they endeavour to find her in order to give them some peace of mind.

God Bless you all. *Philip*

16th December **CHRISTINGLE SERVICE** - A **Christingle** is a symbolic object, related to the pomander, used in the advent services of many Christian denominations. A Christingle consists of:

- an orange representing the world;
- a red ribbon around it representing the blood of Christ;
- dolly mixtures, dried fruits or sweets skewered on cocktail sticks pushed into the orange, representing the fruits of the earth and the four seasons; and
- a lit candle pushed into the centre of the orange, representing Jesus Christ as the light of the world.

The base of the candle is commonly wrapped in tinfoil. Many regard this as functional, though others ascribe it with a specific meaning.

The story of the Christingle is that there were three children, who were very poor, but wanted to give a gift to Jesus, like the other families at church were doing. The only nice thing they had was an orange, so they decided to give him that. The top was going slightly green, so the eldest cut it out, and put a candle in the hole. They thought it looked dull, so the youngest girl took her best red ribbon from her hair and attached it round the middle with toothpicks. The middle child had the idea to put a few pieces of dried fruit on the ends of the sticks. They took it to the church for the Christmas mass, and whereas the other children sneered at their meager gift, the priest took their gift and showed it as an example of true understanding of the meanings of Christmas.

The clocks have gone back, so cosy up in front of the log fires... and enjoy these great nights of entertainment at The Unicorn.



THE UNICORN at Cublington

Award winning pub & restaurant!

4 more teams to delight you!
Come Dine With Us



BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!



DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

HEAT 2 - Sunday 4th November - The Cut Throats (John Law & Co)

November 8th

TUGS at Weston Turville

Come Dine With Us HEAT 3 - Sunday 11th November - Team GB (George/Brazier)

Come Dine With Us HEAT 4 - Sunday 18th November - Howard Sayers & Team

November 26th Festive Menu starts

Friday 31st Dinner with Jazz

BOOK NOW!

PLUS enjoy these Unicorn Regulars:

Shop open for milk, butter and other essentials. Pre-orders required for freshly prepared produce.

Coffee & Homemade cake Every morning from 10.30am

Afternoon Teas Please preorder served between 3 and 5pm

Monday Night is Quiz night The Unicorn Quiz 8pm - 10pm Why not bring a team?

Saturday Breakfasts - Start the weekend with the newspapers and a Full English served 9am - 11am

Sundays Best of British Roasts 12pm - 3pm Booking strongly advised

Bar Snacks available throughout the day!

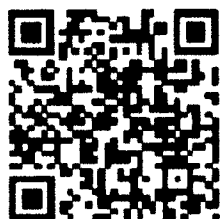
Hold your business meetings in our Club Room FREE WIFI internet access! Ask for details

Open for food Sunday evenings from 6.30pm - 8.30pm.



Don't forget Dec 12th Sloe Gin Competition

New Year's Eve - bookings being taken



01296 681261

Follow us on 

Booking always advisable!

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Please see web site for full details www.theunicorpub.co.uk

DIARY OF EVENTS – NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

HALLOWEEN Wed. 31st Oct. & Sun 4th Nov.

Fun for all the Family with witches and wizards. Steam train rides; Spooky Story-telling; Children's Fancy Dress Competition.

Day Out With Thomas. Dec. Sat 1st, Sun 2nd, Sat 8th, Sun 9th

Santa's steam train will be pulled by **Thomas the Tank Engine™**, under the watchful eye of Sir Topham Hatt the Fat Controller. This event is an excellent day out for all Thomas fans and there's plenty for the whole family to enjoy. For more information about "Thomas" visit www.thomasandfriends.com

Santa's Magical Adventure. Dec. Sat 15th, Sun 16th, Sat 22nd and Sun 23rd

Standard prices held from 2011. Online booking now available at <https://shop.bucksrailcentre.org/index.php?catidtree=1753>

Mince Pie Specials Dec. Thurs 27th and Fri 28th

A great family day out with a festive flavour! No need to book for these events. just turn up and enjoy the fun. Open 10-00am - 5.30pm

For further information visit our Website www.bucksrailcentre.org Tel. 01296 655450 (recorded info.) or 01296 655720 (weekdays 9.30 > 4.30)

**Aston Abbotts
Squash League**

Are you a squash player?
We are looking to put together our very own squash league.

Entrants will play each other twice (i.e. home and away) and the competition will run from July to 31st December 2012 - so plenty of time to play.

There are a few players locally, so let's have fun and make it mildly competitive! Some villagers are members at courts in Aylesbury, Leighton Buzzard and the surrounding areas, so there are plenty of places to play!

The emphasis here is on fun, but with a competitive edge!
All ages, genders and abilities very welcome. Please pass on to anyone else you think might want to play.

If you are interested, please contact:
Chris Phillips at 67 The Green or call 07679 660115.



Beware

Thieves are targeting

Catalytic Converters.



If your vehicle is fitted with a catalytic converter follow the below advice to help prevent it from being stolen:

- Locked garage** - Park in a locked garage if possible.
- Alarm** - Have an alarm fitted that sounds if an attempt is made to remove your converter.
- Property Marking** - Etching a catalytic converter with your vehicle index number and having warning stickers on windows will deter thieves and help police return it if it is stolen and recovered. A number of garages are currently offering a free engraving service on your converter.
- Welded Bolts** - If a catalytic converter is bolted on it is possible to have the bolts welded shut making it more difficult to remove.
- Defensive Parking** - It is possible to block high ground clearance vehicles by using structures and walls and low clearance vehicles to help prevent access to vulnerable areas.
- Effective security lighting** - Good security lights make vehicles more visible and improve natural surveillance.
- CCTV** - The installation of CCTV to cover parking areas can help reduce thefts. Remotely monitored CCTV could even stop catalytic converter thefts before it happens.
- Perimeter Security** - Fencing is the first line of defence for most compounds and regular checks of the fence for damage, ensuring holes are repaired quickly will help deter thieves. Regular walks around any fleet vehicles will be noticed by opportunistic thieves and this will deter them.

Catalytic converters are targeted due to the precious metals inside. Scrap metal merchants will only pay up to £100 for a catalytic converter compared to the thousands of pounds you will have to pay if one is stolen.

If you would like more information on how to secure your catalytic converter please contact your local neighbourhood policing team by calling 101.

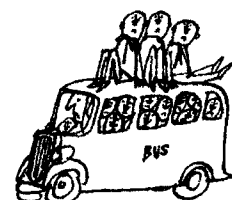
REPORT ON LOCAL BUS SERVICES

by Colin Higgs

I have just completed surveys on rural bus services on behalf of Bucks County Council and am happy to say services 165 via Aston Abbotts and Cublington will remain unchanged BUT please use the 2pm bus to Aylesbury, and the 5.50 from Aylesbury needs more support OR?

The Wednesday bus 153 via Weedon will commence and terminate at Aston Abbotts departing at 10.50am and return at 2.25. The section Cublington - Stewkley will be WITHDRAWN so please use the bus.

Brill, Woton Underwood, Upper Winchendon have also suffered with REDUCED SERVICES ??
So take notice!



The Aston Abbots Telephone List

100 Club	Colin Higgs	681343
630 Club	Andy Bystra	681690
AVDC	Switchboard	585858
Baby & Toddlers Group	Kim Gayler	681123
Bingo	Pam Dixon	681626
	Sheila Humpreys	681649
Book Club	John Hardcastle	688070
Bus Enquiries	Travel line	0870 6082608
Buses	L & S	415468
Chronicle Advertising	Phil Corrigan	688191
Chronicle Distribution	Andy Bystra	681690
Chronicle Editorial	John Hardcastle	688070
Church Mowing Rota	Gordon Kemp	681763
Church Room Hire	Tracy Hinds	688479
Citizens Advice	Aylesbury	0870 1264056
Bucks County Council	Switchboard	395000
County Councillor	Netta Glover	688357
Dial-A-Ride		330088
District Councillor	Peter Cooper	681250
Doctor	(emergency out of hours)	331511
Fete Coordinator	TBA	
G.N.O.M.E.S.	Carol Spooner	681544
Hospital	Stoke Mandeville	315000
Ladies Club	Shirley Ford	681865
Member of Parliament	John Bercow MP	714240
Milkman	Ron Miller Dairies	482838
Mobile Library	Buckingham	01280 813229
NHS Direct	24 hr Advice Line	0845 4647
Parish Clerk	Paul Bruton	682322
Parish Council Leader	Peter Shorrock	681260
Police	Emergencies	999 or 112
Police	Non-Emergency	0845 8505505
Police	Wing Police Station	396163/4
Railways	Chiltern Railways	0870 5165165
Ramblers Club	Colin Higgs	681343
Rector	Rev Philip Derbyshire	01525 240287
Refuse Collection	Enquiries	585510
Royal British Legion	Alan Jones	682366
Royal Oak	Teri & Gary Moutt	681262
RSPCA	Enquiries	08705 555999
Scouts	Nikki Reeve	681372
Whist	Colin Higgs	681343
Wingrave Pre School	Paul Weston	681127
Wingrave Post Office	PO Only	682964
Wingrave Post Office	Stores	681696
Wingrave School	Office	681436

please advise of any errors or omissions

The Chronicle

Advertising rates per issue

Full Page	Back	£100
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	Inside	£35
Quarter Page	Full	£20
	Half	£15
	Quarter	£10

Seasonal and short term ads are also accepted at these rates

Send copy and cheque payable to
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to Phil Corrigan,

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01296 688191

An Arab sheikh tells his two sons to race their camels to a distant city to see who will inherit his fortune. The one whose camel is slower wins. After wandering aimlessly for days, the brothers ask a wise man for guidance. Upon receiving the advice, they jump on the camels and race to the city as fast as they can.

What did the wise man say to them?

answer at bottom of next page

7H15 M3554G3
53RV35 7O PR0V3
H0W 0UR M1ND5 C4N
D0 4M4Z1NG 7H1NG5!
1MPR3551V3 7H1NG5!
1N 7H3 B3G1NN1NG
17 WA5 H4RD BU7
N0W, 0N 7H15 L1N3
YOUR M1ND 1S
R34D1NG 17
4U70M471C4LLY
W17H 0U7 3V3N
7H1NK1NG 4B0U7 17,
B3 PROUD! 0NLY
C3R741N P30PL3 C4N
R3AD 7H15.



The neighbourhood policing team works on issues identified by local residents and businesses.

To contact them call

101

This is a non-emergency number. Alternatively, email them on:
WingNorthNPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

What's On in NOVEMBER

Thursday 1st	Coffee Shop 10-12noon Whist Drive 7.30pm	Church Room Church Room
Sunday 7th	Rambling Club 2pm Evensong	Wing St James Church
Monday 5th	Bonfire Night 6.30pm Fireworks 7pm	The Rec
Tuesday 6th	Mobile Library 10.30am Refuse Freighter 7.30-11am	The Green The Green
Thursday 8th	Coffee Shop 10-12noon	Church Room
Sunday 11th	Remembrance Day Service 10.45 Village Footpath Walk 2pm	The Green
Wednesday 14th	Whist Drive 7.30pm	Church Room
Thursday 15th	Election of Police Commissioner Ladies Club AGM/Bring+Buy 2.15pm	Church Room Leafy Oaks
Saturday 17th	Poppy Fund and Bingo 7.30pm	Church Room
Tuesday 20th	Mobile Library 10.30am	The Green
Thursday 22nd	Coffee Shop 10-12noon	Church Room
Wednesday 28th	PCC Meeting 7.30pm	Church Room
Thursday 29th	Coffee Shop 10-12noon Whist Drive 7.30pm	Church Room Church Room
Sunday 2nd Dec	Rambling Club 2pm	Heath & Reach

Address

Please note that all submissions for the Chronicle should be sent to
John Hardcastle
Marloes, Lines Hill
01296 688070

Email submissions to:
editor@aachronicle.co.uk

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

Classified

CLASSIFIED ADS ARE FREE in The Chronicle

Phone us on 01296 688191
or email

editor@aachronicle.co.uk

A Celebration of English Music Saturday 24th November 2012

There will be a celebration of English Music at the Aylesbury Methodist Church on Saturday 24th November from 7.30pm

AYLESBURY FESTIVAL CHOIR

under their musical director James Davey and with clarinettist Paul Vowles the Choir are giving a concert including works by Parry, Handel, Walton, Finzi and their founder David Aylett.

Ticket prices are £12, with concessions £10, and are available from the choir website – www.aylesburyfestivalchoir.net where you will find more information

Please also contact Barbara Venables on 01296 489988 for tickets and further information

An evening with Neil Reece who will give two talks. One on 'King ZOG' and the other, William Penn and the Buckingham connection with Pennsylvania, Supper will be served between these two talks. This is being planned for mid February, details to be published in Chronicle

Fri 22nd March A return of the ever popular Beetle Drive Church Room

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STORES 21 Winslow Road, Wingrave

SHOP 681696 POST OFFICE 682964

fresh food available to order: Fruit and Vegetables - order by Wednesday, collect on Friday/Saturday Bread baked fresh daily - Large White Split Tin, Small White Farmhouse, Large and Small Wholemeal, French Sticks and Baguettes Pastries on Saturday and Sunday - Croissants, Pain au Chocolat. Pain au Raisin PLACE

YOUR ORDERS NOW!

The wise man told them to switch camels.

630 Club - meets every Saturday in the Royal Oak at 6.30 pm. New members very welcome. Contact Andy Bystra if you need an introduction.

GNOMES (Girls Night Out Men Excluded Sorry) meet, usually in the Royal Oak, every Tuesday 8 pm onwards - all Ladies very welcome - GNOMES specialises in intelligent conversation over a glass of something.

MOBILE LIBRARY

November 6th & 20th

The Green 10.30am

MOBILE LIBRARY

NEEDS YOU!!!!

'USE IT' don't 'LOOSE IT'

Dave Lewis

Flackwell Electronics

Church Farm

Cublington Road, Aston Abbotts, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire

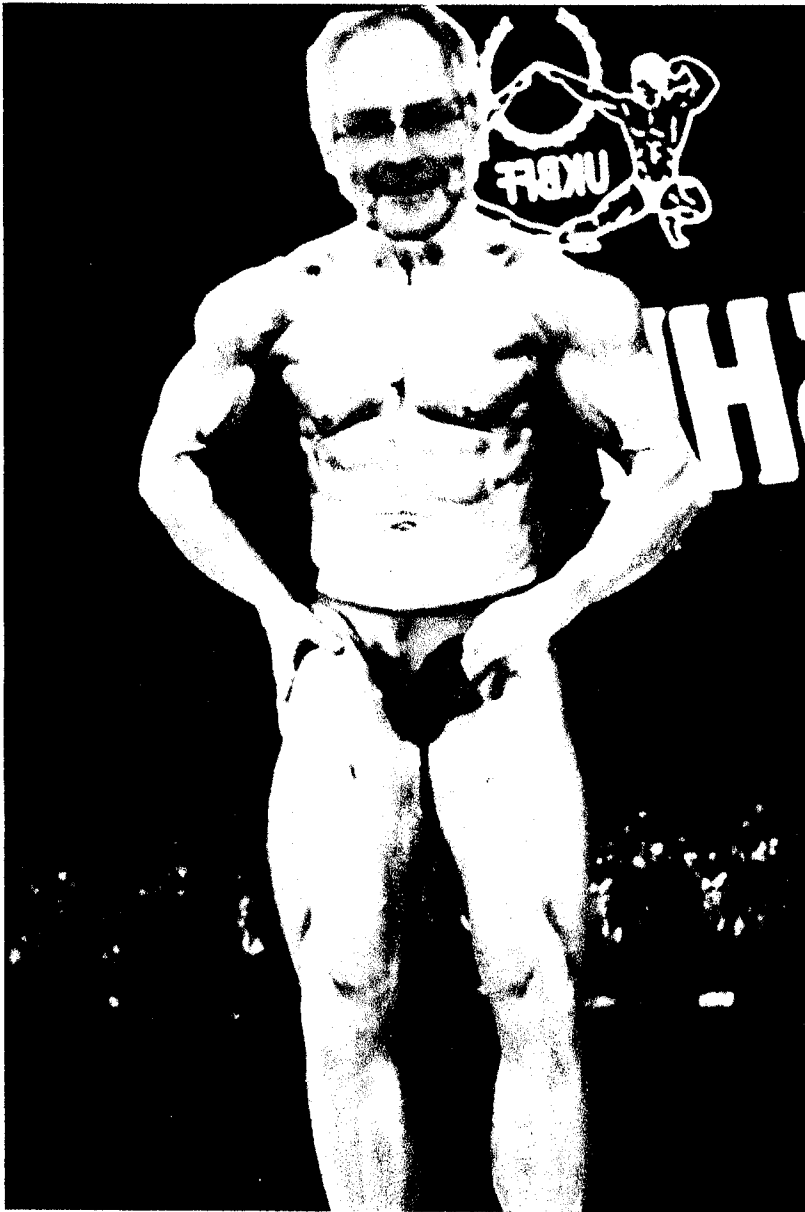
HP22 4NB

Phone 01296 682126

Fax 08713141439

Mobile 07910253970

Do you recognise this man?



He was :

- a former editor of the Chronicle.
- a sound engineer at Astonbury.
- often involved with village events.
- He has now moved on to bigger and better things.

After a brief holiday in the Channel Islands he embarked on a Body Building Course. This is the result!!

Ladies if you want to feel his muscles and lumpy bits for yourselves, call into the Royal Oak on Friday evenings. Carol is so pleased!

He can easily be spotted as he is now the bodyguard for local celebrity **Terry Daniels**.

Author of the Blockbuster new book, '**Passport to Hell**'.

Available from Amazon Released in January 2013 By Summersdale