

THE CHRONICLE

Aston Abbotts Parish Magazine - December 2012



ORCHARD AGM
Monday 7pm 10th December

WISHING ALL OUR READERS
A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS
and a PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

Editorial

The meeting to discuss our orchard has had to moved forward by a day - all villagers are welcome; so if you have donated a tree or would like to get involved please come along to the AGM of the Vic Scott Orchard to hear about progress to date and the plans for the future - the meeting is in the Church Room on **Monday 10th December starting at 7pm.**

Our family holiday in Killarney went very well - I'm pleased to report that the weather was kind; the anticipated deluge, coming from the Atlantic, never materialised. New York did not do so well!

Judy had a new hip fitted at the beginning of November. I'm pleased to say that everything went very well. Her surgeon advised her not to drive for 6 weeks and not to Hoover for 6 years - I'll need a second opinion on that second bit of advice.

Joy of joys - on a rare beautiful November afternoon I was down at my ponds and was treated to the wonderful site of a kingfisher. A brilliant flash of startling blue. A bird I never ever expected to see. As you can imagine I've been keeping a close watch since hoping to see this beautiful bird again, but not yet. I watched the programme on Channel 4 that dealt with stalking and particularly the horrible events inflicted on Pam Hewitt and her family by a stalker. Pam and her family have suffered a most distressing time. Hopefully the perpetrator will stay in prison indefinitely and/or will be sent back to his country of origin never able to return.

I would like to thank all those involved with the production and distribution of the Chronicle. Firstly the regular contributors; Alison Lewis for 'Alison's Gossip Column', Peter Shorrocks for 'Allotment Diary', Colin Higgs for 'Whats On', Paul Bruton for Parish Council Minutes, Alan Jones for 'Nature Watch', James Henderson for 'Countryside Matters', Bob Carvey for 'Community News' and Phil Spooner for the Back Page. Many thanks also to Phil Corrigan who handles the Chronicle's advertisers. This generates some of the annual income needed to pay the Chronicle's printing bill - the rest of income comes from the generosity of the Fete Committee.

Many thanks are also due to the many villagers who kindly distribute the Chronicle every month under the leadership of the Chronicle's right-hand-man Andy Bystra, who also contributes many articles of interest.

**I wish you all a very Happy Christmas
and a Prosperous New Year.**

John

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THE CHRONICLE
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Contacts

Editorial /General

John Hardcastle
Marloes
Lines Hill
01296 688070
editor@aachronicle.co.uk

Distribution

Andy Bystra
31 The Green
01296 681690
oldariel@tesco.net

Advertising

Phil Corrigan
5 Nash's Farm
01296 688191
corrigan@aol.com

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More than 205 households receive
The Chronicle 11 times a year and with
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cheaper than some local Parish
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**Copy date for the next issue
Friday 4th January**

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

December

Ivan Greenaway	2 nd
Phil. Spooner	2 nd
Jo Perkins	4 th
Pam Hewitt	5 th
Allison Hewitt	11 th
Brigitte Gutierrez	11 th
Simon Smith	11 th
Rosie Manning	12 th
Stella Howell	14 th
Kevin Copping	15 th
Claire Barnett	18 th
Derek Ludlam	19 th
Michael Ellis	19 th
Peter Curry	19 th
Robert Smith	20 th
Jane Copping	22 nd
Shirley Hanlon	22 nd
Nicholas Osborn	25 th
Val Smith	25 th
Harry Hunter	30 th
Mollie Poulter	30 th

We were very sorry to hear of the death of Keith Bignell, long time resident of 7, The Green. Keith died at home 7th November. His funeral was 23rd November at Chiltern Crematorium. Our condolences go to his family.

Welcome to John Hawley, Katie and Joshua who have recently moved into Nashs Farm.

Christmas Greetings to all friends in the village of Alison & Dave Lewis, Liz & Ivan Greenaway, Francesca & Bob Bean, Deirdre & John Whyte, Brigitte & Juan Gutierrez and Bridget Brandon. A donation to charity will be made in lieu of Xmas cards.

Richard and Sally Clarke would like to welcome their granddaughter Poppy Hannah Clarke to the world. Born 28th November 7lbs 5oz. Congratulations James and Karen. Thank you everyone for your cards and best wishes.

Peter Shorrock will not be sending Xmas cards to people in the village, but will instead be making a contribution to charity.

Nigel and Sally Palmer wish you a happy Christmas and healthy new year. They will make donation to the MS Society instead of buying cards.

VILLAGE CAROL

& CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

This ever popular Service and prelude to Christmas will be held on
Sunday Dec 16th

Commencing at 4.00pm.

It will be as usual be very much be a Family orientated
with children especially welcome.



CHRISTMAS COLLECTION DATES

Normal collection day

Revised collection day

Tuesday 25th December

Thursday 27th December

Tuesday 1st January

Wednesday 2nd January

extra recycling at Christmas may be left out in open carrier bags next to your recycling bin. Please help the bin men by using the recycling bin for heavier items like bottles and newspapers and using any extra open carrier bags for lighter recycling items like plastics and cardboard.

Remember, this extra recycling will only be collected on your next recycling collection day, not on your waste (green bin) collection day.

VIC SCOTT ORCHARD AGM

please note revised date

now Monday 10th December

in the Church Room

7pm start

late arrivals still very welcome.

Wine Tea and Mince Pies will be available.

all villagers and 'tree donors'

very welcome.

Lets have your views on the future of our orchard please.

FRIENDS OF WHITCHURCH SURGERY

We are holding our Annual Raffle Draw on 8th December from 10 am to 12 noon (draw will be at 11.30 am)

at the Surgery in Whitchurch.

Come and enjoy coffee and biscuits and watch the raffle draw which you have so generously supported.

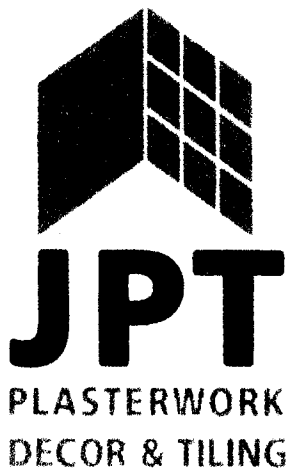
Anthony Stansfeld has been elected the new Police and Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley Police.

The election result was declared on Friday (16/11), and Mr Stansfeld will take up his role from 22 November, with the Police Authority ceasing to exist at 11.59pm on Wednesday 21 November.

At midnight on Thursday 22 November, all police staff employed by the Authority will transfer to the PCC.

The PCC will indicate their proposed budget and precept for 2013 – 2014 in December, and their Police and Crime Plan will be published by March 2013.

Chief Constable Sara Thornton said: "I would like to congratulate Mr Stansfeld on his election victory and look forward to working together on behalf of the people in the Thames Valley."



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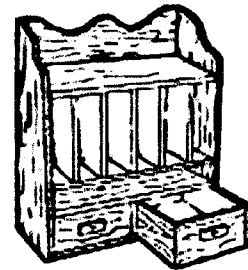
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Taken to the Skies in Dave's flying machine.

My wife Jane is not a great fan of flying except as a means to access the sun. She kindly donated her winning prize from the summer Fete to me. I soon had two other volunteers to accompany me on my intrepid journey with Dave Lewis in his flying machine; that was my son Andrew and Carlo my daughter's fiancé. With the weather being so changeable we picked a couple of days in mid October, and were left wondering if we would get off the ground. Luckily the first date we selected turn out to be sunny and Dave soon called to confirm departure.

Just over an hour after leaving Aston Abbotts we arrived at White Waltham Airfield, near Maidenhead. Here we were shown into a 1940's period club room/bar, and you could imagine the Spitfires on the runway and airmen and ground crew relaxing in the bar.

Dave soon had the plane ready, which I think he said was constructed of off-cuts from the Airbus! He showed us a map and the flight plan and we clamber aboard. I sat up front next to Dave, a few minutes later we were taking off; little did I know that I would soon get an opportunity to take control of the direction and altitude! The gull wing doors were like a super car but Dave insisted we did not open them while airborne. Take off was pretty smooth from the undulating grass strip and we soon reached 1500 to 2000 feet and headed toward Stokenchurch tower. It was here that Dave took his hand from the joystick and I soon found that the slightest movement of my hands took us up, down, left or right. This was great fun although I not sure how safe my fellow passengers felt during this experience.

From the tower we could soon see County Offices in Aylesbury and from there we flew onward to Aston Abbotts. Dave gave us two low flying laps of the village before heading north to Turweston, near Brackley. We stopped at the airfield here for a well deserved lunch stop. Amazingly the sun was still shining as we climbed aboard for the return journey, this time going via the Silverstone race track and on to the metropolis of Milton Keynes. This actually looked great from the air. Back for another couple of laps round Aston Abbotts before heading back to Waltham Airfield. Dave's landing was so smooth that I wish he had been at the controls of our last 'Easy Jet' flight! We were soon back in the clubhouse for a pint and then back to good old Aston Abbotts.

A great day was had by all and we want to send a big thank-you to Dave for not only making it possible but for such an exhilarating experience.

Richard Plested

1st Wingrave Scout Group - Update

Beavers began the Autumn term with a Roald Dahl evening, including a quiz and Roald Dahl storybooks as prizes. The colony ventured over to the playing field for their Autumn Watch, collecting leaves (and eating blackberries) as part of their Adventure Badge. The Beavers joined in Humphrey's Pyjama week, in support of the Children's Trust, by wearing pyjamas to one meeting and playing games. On World Food Day the Beavers tasted various fruit from all over the world, guessing from which country they originated.

Cubs have completed their Chef's Badge this term. To achieve this they worked together to cook a two course meal (spaghetti carbonara, followed by pancakes – yum!). They have also recently completed their Global Conservation badge, and are currently working on their Communication Badge. Cubs attended a handicraft evening at Hobbycraft in Aylesbury, where they learnt decoupage. They are now starting working on Christmas projects and will be holding a joint Christmas party with the Beavers. Arkala and Baloo are currently working on plans for visits to the fire station, police station and ambulance station in the New Year.

This year the Group attended the Remembrance Service at Aston Abbotts, with representatives from Scouts, Cubs and Beavers all in attendance.

We'd like to extend a warm welcome our new Chairman, Jeff Pollard, who stepped into the role this month. Jeff has been involved with our Group for many years, and it'll be great to have him on the team. We are always on the look-out for more adult and young helpers. If you're interested in getting involved, or would like to simply find out more, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Nigel Palmer

Beavers, Cubs and Scouts are open to girls and boys aged between 6 and 14. We meet weekly at the Scout Hut in Chilern Road. Anyone interested in finding out more, please contact the Group Scout Leader, Michelle Masters, on 01296 681911, or via email: quaveriw@yahoo.co.uk, or the Group Secretary, Alison Barlow, on 01296 682862 or at derekandalison@yahoo.co.uk



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EXTRAORDINARY BELLRINGING

A month ago we at 59 The Green had a most unusual phone call. Firstly, the call was from America, and secondly, it was from a bellringer. Now it is not unusual to receive a call from somewhere in England, and the caller asked if he could bring a band of visiting ringers to ring at Aston Abbots – from America!

Now, there are only 32 bell towers in the whole of the U.S.A. – there are, I think about 5000 in England. So let's say at most 12 ringers/tower so 380-400 bellringers in the U.S.A. Then consider that the team wants to come and ring at Aston Abbots and you can see what an unusual occurrence this was on Monday evening 12th November.

We Aston Abbots ringers are rather proud of our Parish Church and its bellringing so we thought that at least we should offer the Americans tea afterwards in the Church Room. I wanted to tell them a little about our Parish – that Charles Clarke Ross lived and died here; that the Putnam family left here for America in 1600 and then in 1939 donated a new treble bell to our tower.

So how did it all go? It was a good start. They emailed accepting our offer of tea, so tea cakes and biscuits were provided in large amounts. I learned a lot. I learned that the captain of the band drives for 4 hours to get to his nearest bell tower and that he's still mad keen on ringing; that he has toured Africa, Australia and New Zealand bell ringing and that he regularly brings a band to the U.K. I learned that they are only here to 'grab towers' – they try to ring in 100 new towers every year (think of that for a minute). All they want to do is get into as many towers as possible each day – all they wanted to do was to cross Aston Abbots off their list. They had no interest in the Church or the village and cared nothing about the 'Putnam bell' or links with Ross. They didn't even ask how big the village is let alone how often we rang, and they barely glanced at the Church itself.

They drank tea, ate cake with a spoon, and then shot off to their next assignment. It was all quite amazing.

We are left with memories of a rather strange visit. Jill and Anita can both say they have rung with Americans and Jill can boast that she has conducted an American band ringing a special Aston Abbots arrangement. We are, perhaps, a little wiser than we were and we can safely say we will not see another American band at Aston Abbots in our lifetime.

Did you hear them?

Peter Knight

ASTON ABBOTTS BOOK CLUB

In October we met to discuss 'The Restraint of Beasts' by Magnus Mills; chosen by Anita Parker. The book tells the story of two Scottish fence builders and an unnamed supervisor who move from location to location building high tensile fences. The theme of repetition is established early on, as the men fall into a routine of working during the day, going to the local pub at night and "accidentally" killing people along the way. Everyone liked the simple style of the writing with its deadpan humour and comic touches, the use of short sentences and mundane dialogue seem to reflect the simplicity of the protagonists. The vivid description of the squalor of the caravan raised much discussion as did the ablutions of the two fencers. The more cerebral in the group wondered about the symbolism of the fences - whether they were for "restraining" the individual and questioned the reason for building fences that were seven feet high to "restrain" animal or human "beasts".

In the end some of the group thought they might even read another Magnus Mills! *Anita Parker*

In November we met to discuss John Hardcastle's choice 'The House on the Strand' by Daphne du Maurier. This is one of her last novels and concerns the 'adventures' of Dick Young who agrees to act as guinea pig for a drug that takes him back in time to the early C14th. He becomes addicted to the 'excitement' of the apparent parallel universe despite the after effects of nausea and the bizarre behaviour he shows to his family and friends. We agreed this was a well crafted novel that kept you enthralled right to the end. Val Smith has very kindly agreed to host our Christmas Literary Quiz (ha-ha!). Meet at her house Wednesday 8pm 12th December with a bottle of your favourite tipple.

The book for January is Val Smith's choice 'The Gift of Rain' by Tan Twan Eng - meet at Val's house on Wednesday 23rd January 8pm
John Hardcastle

The Aston Abbots Webmaster apologises for his tardiness in updating the website with photos and information sent to him over the last few months. This delay has been caused by a combination of work and family issues. These are unlikely to let up before Christmas, but it is hoped to do an update over the Christmas holiday.
Phil Spooner

Curry was an unknown entity. Olive oil was kept in the medicine cabinet

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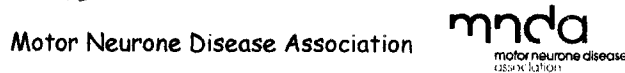
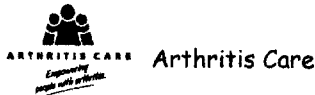
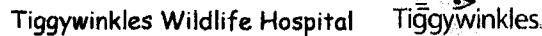
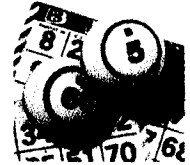
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For those new to the village or those who perhaps have a stereotypical view of bingo, here is an insight into the background of Good Samaritans Bingo in Aston Abbotts.

Regular Good Samaritans Bingo sessions have been held in the village for 60+ years, starting in the 1950s by Frank and Josie Humphreys. Since then Len and Doris Scutchings and Colin Higgs have all had a turn at being organisers. Sheila Humphreys and Pam Dixon have been organising Good Samaritans Bingo since 2007 with assistance from callers Percy Pollard and Venita Dixon. The fundamental aim of raising money for charity has remained the same and will continue as long as they continue to get sufficient support for events. Many charities, large and small, have benefitted over the years. They have all been selected by those who come to play bingo and usually because they are causes close to their own hearts for one reason or another. Here is a selection that have received donations in recent years:



Bingo has experienced something of a revival in recent years and is a game of FUN for all ages, children included, not just those of a certain age! Winners receive cash prizes for the main bingo games and all players receive one complimentary free game. A variety of alternative prize games will be introduced and don't forget the raffle and refreshments of course. They are a very friendly, light-hearted, welcoming bunch and enjoy the social gathering. Many thanks go to all their loyal regulars (particularly those from outside the village) and also to all those who make prize donations.

So why not give the Christmas Bingo Special a try? All newcomers at this or the February St Valentine's Day Bingo will be warmly welcomed. Put the dates in your diary now!



**WEDNESDAY 12TH DECEMBER, ASTON ABBOTTS CHURCH ROOM, 7.30PM
WEAR A CHRISTMAS HAT**



THURSDAY 14TH FEBRUARY, ASTON ABBOTTS CHURCH ROOM, 7.30PM



Contact Pam Dixon (01296 681626)
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Countryside Matters

The North American Grey squirrel was introduced into the United Kingdom in 1876, then, just after the First World War, the signs of the devastation started to appear in 1918. Naturalists remarked that, "the red squirrels were disappearing as the greys advanced northwards and an increase predation of bird nests was also taking place". Landowners and foresters noted the damage to trees caused by grey squirrels stripping bark. The clever greys adapted their feeding habits to their new habitat and now up to 40 species of tree are found to be suffering from Grey squirrel attacks, including the oak, witch, cherry and spruce. Grey squirrels are listed in the top 100 most destructive, invasive, alien species. There is a strong feeling that the apparently responsible use of tax payer's money to fund tree planting schemes is completely wasted if grey squirrels are not vigorously controlled.

On a Suffolk estate the foresters have to kill 1.5 greys per woodland acre/year to avoid serious damage to young oak, hornbeam and sycamore.

But of course the most serious damage is done to their red cousins who are persecuted by their smaller size and succumb to the squirrel pox that does not affect the greys. Apart from a small haven in Dorset, no red squirrel population exists on mainland England south of Liverpool. The volunteers and landowners in England's northern counties work very hard to protect their red squirrel populations. Anglesey in North Wales is a fantastic example of a shining light for the recent successful reintroduction of the reds.

So to all you folk who encourage and feed these invasive "Tree rats" think carefully about your responsibilities, after all they are vermin.

James Henderson

Village Footpath Walks

Gavin and I have now enjoyed living in this lovely little village for over a year. One of the great joys I have on waking up every morning is pulling back the curtains to view an endless carpet of rolling green hills and fields that are ever-changing in colour and texture. Better still has been the opportunity to explore the many miles of public footpaths that criss-cross this wonderful landscape; perfect for meeting with nature up close and personal, while taking some exercise and breathing in the fresh country air. An excellent introduction to the myriad of local walking routes has been through the "village footpath walks".

Colin Higgs has been leading the monthly village footpath walk for 10 years now. Having lived in Aston Abbots for many decades, Colin is a treasure trove of local knowledge and being a keen walker knows all the trails between here and the surrounding villages. The walks generally last around 1.5 to 2 hours and we cover several miles at a comfortable pace always starting promptly at the village green on the second Sunday afternoon of each month at 2PM. All walks are advertised in The Chronicle so do look out for the next one in the "What's On" section and try out a village footpath walk with us.

This year it has been particularly damp and muddy but my trusty walking boots and water-proof jacket have kept me warm and dry, so whatever the weather I can still look forward to going on a walk. I have now met some new and friendly faces in Aston Abbots, learnt more about the local history of the surrounding area and I also know the location of all the best wild apple, bramble and sloe bushes. It would be great to see more of you on the walks in the coming year, alas the number of walkers has dwindled but the walks are so good I hope you will join us and see for yourself. Remember with the footpaths we "use it or lose it" so if no one walks the footpath landowners can reclaim it as private land and no one will ever be able to walk that route again.

Elvina Chu

MO-BRO

"The Three (could be more) Amigos" ie James Perkins, Adie Bystra & John Hardcastle raised approx £285 by growing fabulous moustaches during November, all in the cause of raising funds for research and to raise awareness of prostate and testicular cancer. The original instruction from Captain Perkins was to look like a Mexican refugee - my effort is better than last year (when nobody noticed) but I haven't achieved the zapata look - the only thing I did achieve was the instruction 'Come on let's get HAIRY.' Very many thanks to all our sponsors. *Ed*

A takeaway was a mathematical problem. A pizza was something to do with a leaning tower.

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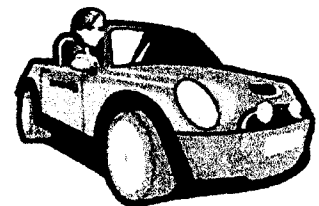
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ASTON ABBOTTS THEATRE GOERS

The Aylesbury Waterside Theatre has kindly indicated it will continue to allocate 'press tickets' for some shows up to Easter.
I'll keep you posted *Ed*

HALFWAY TO PARADISE

On Friday evening, 9th November, John and I made our way across from the very conveniently placed car park opposite Waterside Theatre to join the stream of folks intent on an evening of nostalgia, compliments of our Chronicle's free ticket draw, to see 'Halfway to Paradise - the Billy Fury Story' at Waterside Theatre. After collecting the free tickets from the box office we were shown to our seats in the stalls.

The stage was set-up with drums and other musical instruments and it was backed by a huge TV screen. There was a buzz of chatter as people found their seats and greeted friends. I wasn't surprised to note that the majority of the audience were in our age group and it was an added bonus for us to see a number of friends there, and to be able to arrange to meet up with them in the interval.

The show started with the three members of Billy Fury's original backing group, The Tornados, setting the scene with their music and then the huge screen behind them came to life showing scenes from the late 50's and 60's. The films reminded us of the fashions and styles of the time with adverts, street scenes, etc of that era.

Then a very young looking guy joined the group on the stage. Dressed in a suit that looked a size too big for him and supporting a huge quiff of hair, he struck a 'Billy' pose.

Who was this guy? He wasn't what we had anticipated. I must admit I thought we were going to be disappointed as the lad looked nervous but then he started to sing. He had a marvelous voice. He sounded so like Billy Fury we were soon all under the spell of the songs and enjoying an evening of great music. Accompanied by nostalgic flashbacks on the TV screen, as the evening progressed we were told about Billy Fury's early days and how in 1959 at the age of 19 he secured a record contract with Decca records and entered the UK top twenty with his own compositions of 'Maybe Tomorrow'/'Gonna Type a Letter'. It was the first of 29 hit records, and he went on to sell more records for them than any other artist, including the Rolling Stones. (Scoring more hit singles in the 60's than the Beatles). Sadly this fairytale career was cut short and he died aged just 42, in 1983. The Rheumatic fever he had contracted as a child left him with a weak heart and, though he had extensive heart surgery, ill health followed him through his life.

In the interval we enjoyed our free drink and the chance to catch up with friends, having a good laugh about times and fashions we had thought we had forgotten, then it was back for a second helping and more excellent music. It was then that we were then told that Colin Gold, who normally fronted the group, had been taken into hospital, and this young chap was his eldest son, Ricky, who was standing in for him. His Dad would have been proud of him. I had hoped to hear Billy's hit 'Once upon a dream' which came from his first film 'Play it Cool' as it was, and still is, one of my favourite songs from that era. and I wasn't disappointed.

Though the theatre was only half full, it didn't stop the audience getting into the music and clapping along. We had a lovely evening and from comments overheard on our way out it appeared that everyone who attended had as good a time too.

Pam and John Dixon

Show of Hands 18/11/12

A couple of weeks ago, Jill and I decided to forgo the pleasure of watching the Strictly Come Dancing results show and instead went to the Waterside Theatre in Aylesbury for a concert by Show of Hands.

For those of you who may not know them, Show of Hands consists of Steve Knightley and Phil Beer and they have been stalwarts of the English folk, roots and acoustic music revival scene for more than 20 years. As well as following successful solo careers, they won Best Duo at the prestigious BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards in 2010. They play a range of instruments, including guitar, banjo, fiddle and mandolin. For their current tour, to promote their new album Wake the Union, they are augmented by Miranda Sykes, a young double-bass player in the Bert Jansch mould, and she provides additional breadth to their sound.

This turned out to be a cracking concert, full of energy and with absolutely first-rate musicianship. They perform mostly self-penned material, with Steve being the main songwriter. The majority of his songs have some stinging social commentary, whether on the corruption of big business, the plight of rural communities in modern England or the immorality of plagiarising material from the Internet and claiming it as original (think Billy Bragg, but less strident and more tuneful). But perhaps his most poignant number was a narrative tale on the traumatic impact of the death of his wife on a survivor of Hurricane Katrina.

Normally in a concert where there is a support act, you spend the time wishing they would get through their set as quickly as possible so that the main act can get started. Not so this evening. Show of Hands were supported by New Yorker Matt Gordon on fiddle and harmonica and Leonard Podolak from Winnipeg on claw-hammer banjo, who entertained us hugely with their mix of blue-grass / hill-billy music, accompanying themselves with some energetic Appalachian dancing. They instructed the audience in the lost art of body percussion, which will no doubt prove to be a useful party trick for amusing the family after Christmas lunch this year.

Naturally, this being a folk concert, there were choruses to join in with. It was good to see the Waterside nearly full, and in fine voice. The enthusiastic audience gave Show of Hands a well-deserved standing ovation at the end.

This was my first visit to the Waterside, and I'm impressed with the venue - it is so much better than the old Civic Centre. Finally, thanks are due to John Hardcastle for providing the tickets.

Mike Wenble



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42nd Street

I was lucky enough to win the two tickets to see 42nd Street by sending my name in to go in the draw that John Hardcastle organises. I took one of my granddaughters who had been looking forward very much to seeing the show and what a show it was. From the first moment we were tapping our feet as the familiar tunes rolled out. The show was like a Hollywood Musical and a Las Vegas Spectacular all rolled in to one. The cast were all amazingly talented both with their singing and dancing and the costumes were stunning and glamorous. Razzamatazz at its best. Although Marti Webb was billed as the the female "star" of the show she was by no means the star in our eyes. She sang a few songs and looked wonderful but the real star was the girl who played the part of Peggy Sawyer who was on stage for so much of the show singing and dancing with enormous energy and skill. Dave Willetts was the male lead and he gave an excellent performance but he is a veteran of the West End stage. I saw him in Les Miserables and I believe he was also in The Phantom of the Opera for a spell.

Thank you John it was a great evening and especially nice to be given a programme and a drink in the interval.

April Curnow

Friday Dec 21st - Village Carol Singing

How about coming along for a little early Christmas spirit by helping us sing carols for a local cause. If you can't join us then we hope you'll enjoy listening as we sing our way around the village.

We'll be meeting from **6.50 pm onwards on the Green** and plan to start singing around the village by 7.00, ending up at The Royal Oak!!

Please come and join in or make a donation if you hear us. Everyone's welcome and all money raised will be donated to our local branch (Wing) of Age UK

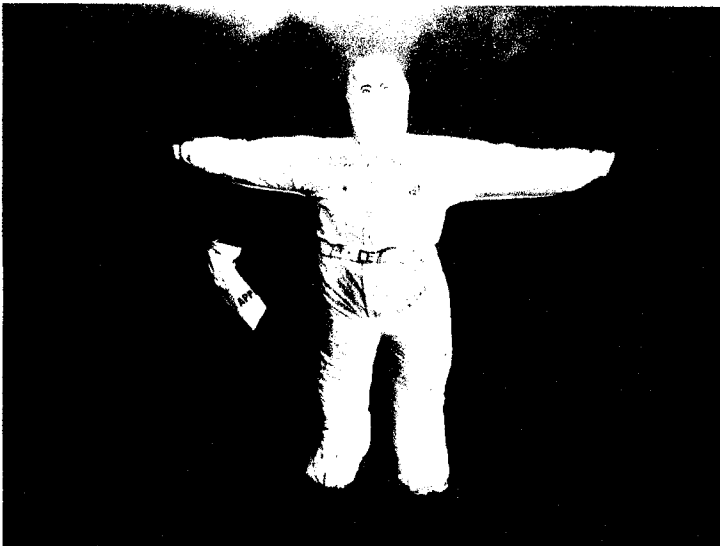
Sunday Dec 23rd

Contrary to details given in last month's Chronicle, there will be a Service at Aston Abbots, **commencing at 10.00am**. This will be a joint service, conducted by Roger Hale at which congregation members from Cublington will be especially welcome.

Christmas Day

A carefully timed Christmas morning service has been arranged which hopefully will leave you enough time to open your presents, get the turkey in the oven and still make it down to the pub to wish your friends a Happy Christmas. It's to be a family orientated Service **commencing at 9.00am** and conducted by 'our very own' Rev. Philip Derbyshire.

Everyone will be most welcome so bring along your family and guests.



You probably won't have spotted this but Norduck Drive has Aston Abbots's equivalent of The Angel of the North (except that he's called Billy The Baby). He's certainly doing a good job frightening off the pigeons. The recent high winds have pushed him over. Trust he will be up and 'running' again soon.

Ed

Sunday Dec 30th

There will be no Service at Aston Abbots but if you would like to attend church you will be made very welcome in Soulbury church where the service

starts at 10.00 am

All crisps were plain; the only choice we had was whether to put the salt on or not.

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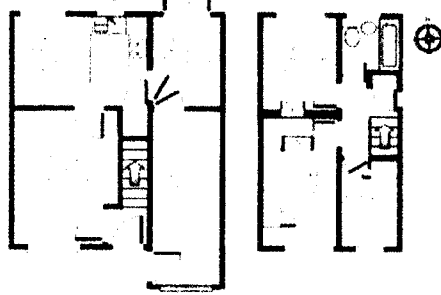
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Doris & Len's legacy

Following a lengthy discussion at November's PCC meeting it was felt that a third of this legacy should be held in reserve for future contingencies and to earn a little interest. A further third will be set aside in the expectation that next year's inspection of the fabric of the church will identify work outstanding from the previous report plus further areas needing attention.

Of the remainder, it was felt that some should be spent improving further the church's interior with a view to increasing it's potential for uses other than services.

As a first step, it was agreed the carpeting should be renewed. The main carpet was laid in 1977 to commemorate the Queen's silver jubilee and is now unsurprisingly rather damaged and worn.

Some of the damage has been caused by the Victorian tiles underneath having moved and 'cut' through the carpet. This will be rectified before any new carpet is laid.

Doris Scutchins arranged for this original carpet to be laid so it seems particularly appropriate some of this 'windfall' should be spent in this way.

Legacy continued!!

It seems that legacies, like buses are a rare as hen's teeth one minute and then come along in pairs. It was announced at the last PCC meeting that our church is to receive a further legacy of £1000.00 from the estate of Commander Ross's great granddaughter Miss Ester Ross.

What a wonderful and generous link with our past!!



Jubilee tree

It has now been agreed that the tree to be planted in the churchyard to mark the Queen's golden jubilee is to be a 'Royal Burgundy' flowering cherry.

This should grow to a height of 20 feet with a max width of 15. It has a vase like shape with burgundy coloured leaves. It should look particularly attractive in the late spring when it produces a profusion of deep rose flowers.



ASTON ABBOTTS FIREWORKS DISPLAY

The annual Aston Abbots Fireworks display was held as usual on the recreation ground on Monday 5th November, what wasn't usual was the fabulous weather I organised for the event!

Over 100 villagers were in attendance to enjoy the roaring "clean burn" fire, indulge in Hot dogs, Burgers, Soup and Mulled Wine. A small profit was made which will be held on deposit to assist in the cost of next year's display.

The display started at 7pm and lasted for around 20 minutes with rockets, cakes, barrages, candles and fountains lighting up the cloud free skies above Aston Abbots, I am told it was the best display of my tenure!

As always these events can only happen through time devoted by volunteers not just on the day but in the preparation so a huge thank you goes to the team:-

The Guys; Dave "Fire Starter" Lewis, Marcus "Barrage" Hall, Tony "Tidy Fire" James, Simon "Afterglow" Longman, Chris "Baptism of Fire" Looker, and Ady "Rocket" Bystra.

The Girls; Dawn James, Jane Copping, Jane Hall, Francesca Bean, Vanessa Bystra and Jenny Looker.

Thanks also to the kind Gentleman who each year provides us with electricity for the tent, you know who you are!

So as I type, it's just over 11 months until we do it all over again.

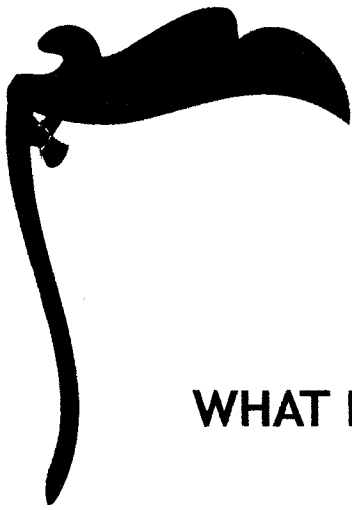
Finally thanks to all of you that turned up on the night, I hope you all enjoyed it, without you raising funds through donations and the catering we wouldn't be able to put on a village display.

Cheers!

Kevin Copping

My daughter in law and my grandson told me that the Aston Abbots display was much much better than one they saw in Berkhamsted a couple of days earlier. A great event - well done Kevin and the team. Ed

Rice was a milk pudding, and never, ever part of our dinner. A Big Mac was what we wore when it was raining.



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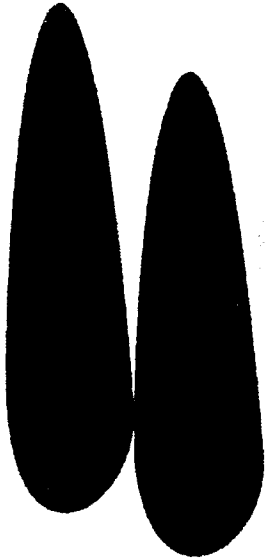
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ALLOTMENT DIARY

I have hardly been near my allotment since I last wrote one of these articles, because of the wet and windy weather we seem to have been having for weeks. The golf course in Bierton has now been closed for many days because it is waterlogged; and when I played at the end of last week on the course near Stewkley, the ground was as sodden as I can ever remember a course being. To my surprise, however, I read an article in my paper today, saying that although November has seemed exceptionally cold, wet and gloomy, the recent Met Office figures (up to 28th November) tell a different story: over the country as a whole, rainfall has been only marginally above average, temperatures were where they should have been, and the hours of sunshine were only slightly down. However these figures conceal the fact that the Met Office were talking about the country (including Northern Ireland) as a whole. In fact, as I had felt was the case, England – especially the West Country - has been soaked, whereas Northern Ireland and eastern Scotland and about 25% less rain than they would normally have. Here in the east, we have had about 50% more rain than usual.

Thinking about this wet weather made we wonder how we compare with other parts of the globe? For example, the Saturday before I am writing this piece, 72mm (2.8in) of rain fell on Plymouth in the 24 hour period. However, the world record is a day's rainfall is on Reunion Island, a French dependency east of Madagascar, which came to 1,825mm (71.9in)! Whereas the records for the most rain in one minute, and in 15 minutes; are both held by West Indian islands: in November 1970 38mm (1.5in) fell in one minute on Guadelope; and in May 1916, 198mm (7.8in) fell in 15minutes on Jamaica.

Over a 12 month period, the world record rainfall is 26,466mm (1,042in) at Cherrapunji, in the Khasi Hills of India. These hills catch the full brunt of the monsoon rains sweeping up from the Bay of Bengal between May and November. This was an exceptional year, however, and the place that has the highest average rainfall, year after year, is another spot in India: Mawsynram, which has an average annual rainfall of 11,872mm (467.4in).

Nevertheless, the place which has the most recorded days each year when it rains is Bahia Fells, in Tierra del Fuego in the south of Chile, which has on average an incredible 325 days a year with rain – although it is suspected that there are parts of the Hawaiian Islands, where proper records are not kept, where there may be as many as 335 rainy days each year.

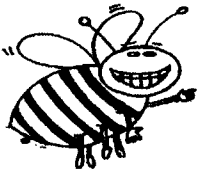
By comparison, the wettest place in Britain is a spot in Argyllshire in Scotland, with an average 2,218mm (87.3in) of rain each year; and in England itself, Seathwaite in the Lake District is the wettest inhabited place, with an average 3,552mm (140in) per year. (A nearby lake called Styhead Tarn averages 4,391mm (172.9in) yearly, but is uninhabited).

And what of the future? Last night we had a heavy frost and minus temperatures; and it is predicted in my paper that December will be relatively dry, but colder than usual with some sleet, snow, ice and frost. So the rain should be less, and the flooding gradually recede. Perhaps the pictures on the Christmas cards we will shortly be receiving will be more representative than usual of the weather round us?

A Happy Christmas to all my readers!

Peter Shorrocks

Brown bread was something only poor people ate. Oil was for lubricating your bike not for cooking, fat was for cooking.



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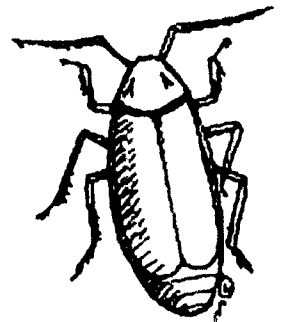
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Community News

Broadband – a straw poll of Aston Abbots shows that broadband speeds in the village vary wildly, with neighbours getting very different speeds from fairly fast and able to watch BBC IPlayer to almost dial-up!! Well not that it helps any, the problem is common in particularly rural North Bucks. There is quite a lot of work going on to get this changed, there is government money available and contracts are being issued to get improvements in place. The trick is to get Aston Abbots included in the early stages and this may be possible if everyone registers their interest. Apparently there is some potential opportunity at the Wing exchange for those on 681xxx numbers.

In Wingrave with Rowsham the PC put a "Flier" in the Parish Magazine for people to sign-up, also they used the Village E-mail "Postie", where we have sent out two call notices to the Sign-up" links on the Superfast Broadband Website. In the Parish they have had over 150 sign-ups, mostly from home users who want a reliable broadband service. But getting business interest is also important, possibly more so. HP22 has 350 registrations.

Go to <http://www.superfastforbucks.org.uk/> and complete the very short process to register your interest. If you are unable to complete this task, but would still like to participate then drop me a note at 12 The Green and I will let you have a manual submission form.

Heating Oil – if you use, or know someone that uses heating oil it is well worth looking at the scheme Community Impact Bucks is running for Buckinghamshire residents and businesses, it is one of 21 counties running this scheme – 58p per litre last month!! Go to <http://www.communityimpactbucks.org.uk/pages/work-with-commu-bulk-oil-buying-scheme-159.html> or call 0845 3890389.

RURAL areas have fewer police officers per head of population than urban areas, it has emerged - Details of police numbers were obtained by the Countryside Alliance. It published the figures ahead of the first ever Police & Crime Commissioner Elections on 15 November.

On average, rural areas within police forces in England and Wales have fewer police officers, police community support officers (PCSOs), and special officers per head of population, it found. There was one police officer for 1,037 people in rural areas in 2011-2012, compared to 581 people in urban areas. Similarly, In 2011-2012, there was one police community support officer (PCSO) for 4,794 people in rural areas compared to 3,530 people in urban areas. Wing North and South was recently combined and has an inspector, a sergeant, three PCs and 5 PCSOs covering a huge area – the inspector and sergeant also cover the three Buckingham areas. AA is in Wing North. Unfortunately I have received no response as yet for the same specific statistics for our area.

Funding for LEPs (Local Enterprise Partnerships) – are a system where local business and the local councils work together – the Bucks LEP is at <http://www.buckstvllep.co.uk/>

The government has announced an additional £24 million funding package for LEPs.

An interim £5 million funding package will be made available immediately for all LEPs to draw upon for the remainder of this financial year. This will be followed by up to £250,000 per LEP per year for the following two years.

Bob Carvey

KING ZOG COMES TO ASTON ABBOTTS!!

Those of you who have heard Neil Reece 'speak' before will be delighted to find he's agreed to come along to the church room, Aston Abbots on the **25th of January 2013** to entertain us with a talk on 'King ZOG'. OK!! So perhaps you haven't heard of this fascinating character. Well, that's all the more reason to come along and be entertained by this very entertaining speaker who'll deliver an exceptionally well researched presentation about this little known piece of history?

A hot supper will be served and there will be ample opportunity to discuss this interesting subject with Neil. Further details to be published in the January issue of the Chronicle.



Tea was made in a teapot using tea leaves, not bags.



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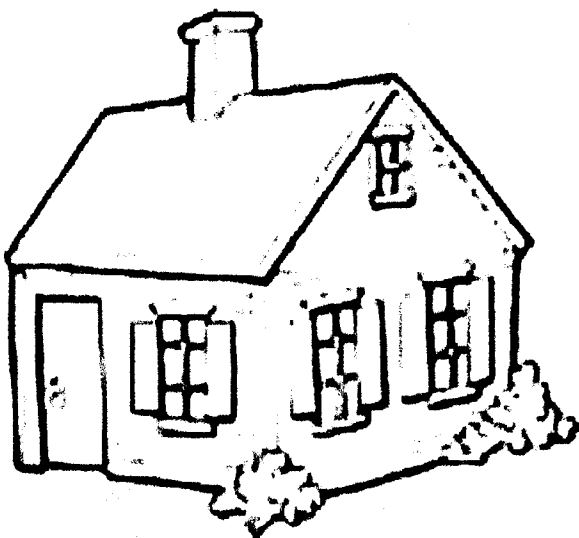
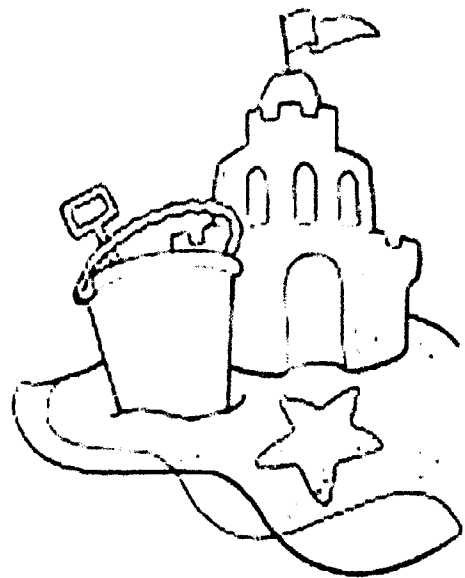
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Available between 7am and 7pm mon – fri
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For a chat please contact Clare....

Home: 01296 682305

Mobile: 07776 180781

Email:

clare3hinds@hotmail.co.uk

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www.ParrottandCoalesLLP.co.uk



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
688479 if you wish to book

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

Aylesbury's Waterside Theatre offer of 'press tickets'
was enjoyed by the following:-

Julius Caesar	Kate Curry
The Illegal Eagles	Sam Reynolds & Sue Sutton
The Incredible Dr Guttman	Vanessa Worrall
Great Expectations	Val Smith
Halfway to Paradise	John & Pam Dixon
Northern Ballet	Sally Turnham
Show of Hands	Mike Wenble
42nd Street	April Curnow
Comedy Club	Kate Curry
Livescreen - The Nutcracker	Jo Perkins

I am hopeful that this offer of 'press tickets' will be extended
up to next Easter. I'll let you know which shows are being
offered. If you would like to be included in the raffle for any
of next year's shows then let me know. If you are successful
you will be advised 2 weeks before the date. Ed

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

November

Mr D Clarke

Mr I Greenaway



WELCOME TO ESPANOL VILLA

A TOP QUALITY PRIVATELY OWNED
HOUSE AVAILABLE FOR HOLIDAY RENTAL
IN THE BEAUTIFUL COSTA CALIDA
REGION OF MURCIA, SOUTH-EASTERN
SPAIN

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

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	10am	Communion	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 Philip Derbyshire with Rev Derek Witchell

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

Dear friends,

It will be no surprise that on 25th December we celebrate/remember the birth of Jesus Christ --- a vulnerable baby born in trying circumstances in a corner of a powerful empire. Despite all that he was loved and nurtured by his immediate and wider family.

He was, in the words of the great atheist science fiction writer H.G.Wells, the 'centre of

human history'. Even in our largely secularised world we still measure time as before(BC) him and after(AD)him. He was born an innocent in a highly corrupt world and unlike the rest of us he stayed innocent whilst becoming extremely wise in the service of his heavenly Father.

The innocence of many children has been and is stolen from them by physical, emotional and sexual abuse, by war, discrimination, poverty and hunger. Our newspapers and TV screens are filled with reports of the Jimmy Savile scandal, the dark side of '60's and '70's rock stars lives and the terrible things which went on in Bryn Estyn, Wrexham. And we have to take note that such things still go on all the while there are perverted adults who think they can use younger people as play things.

I feel it is sad that there are adult victims as well, such as the thoroughly decent George Entwistle (DG of the BBC for only 56days) and the elderly and sick Lord McAlpine, falsely identified as part of a paedophile ring.

We have good news to celebrate and share as Christians not to ignore the horror stories of the media but to put them in the wider context of the hope which the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ offers to our broken and sadly not innocent world.

God Bless you at this festive time and a happy 2013.

Philip.

CHURCH DUTIES

	<i>Cleaners</i>	<i>Flowers</i>
1st Dec	Colin & Caroline L	No flowers
8th	Ann & Gordon	No flowers
15th	Andrew & Shirley	Advent
22nd	Anita & April	Christmas Decorations



ASTON ABBOTTS CHURCH ROOM 7.30pm

CHRISTMAS

Wednesday 12th December 2012

Wear a Christmas hat please

St VALENTINES DAY

Thursday 14th February 2013

Please put these dates in your diary

We're hoping to encourage a few more folk from Aston Abbots to attend as currently the majority come from outside the village and numbers have dropped in general.

Please come along and support a very good cause.

Figs and dates appeared every Christmas, but no one ever ate them.



To all our customers from everyone at

Just a few things to help you finalise your festive celebration calendar this December!



THE UNICORN at Cublington

Aylesbury Vale Pub of the Year 2012-13

The Ultimate menu from Come Dine With Us

Sunday 2nd 7.30pm

Cooked by our very own talented chefs!

Friday 7th Live music with 'Three Bar Fire'

Tuesday 11th Festive Folk Music

Wednesday 12th

Cublington Sloe Gin Contest 8pm

Friday 21st

Spokes Christmas Special 9pm start

Monday 24th

Christmas Eve Quiz 8.30pm start

Tuesday 25th

Christmas Day Drinks 11.00am - 1pm

Tuesday 25th

Christmas Day Lunch service from 1pm

Wednesday 26th Boxing Day 12pm - 10.30pm

(Lunch & Dinner set menu available)

Friday 28th Festive Dinner and Jazz

Monday 31st New Years Eve

Restaurant - 3 course set menu available

£37.50 from 7.30pm

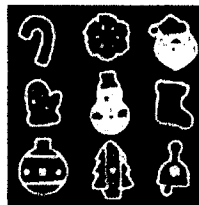
Bar - see in the New Year with a traditional knees up and sing song!

Tuesday 1st January

New Years Day set Menu 12pm - 2pm

Tuesday 8th January

Live Folk Music



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.



01296 681261

Booking always advisable!

Follow us on 



The Unicorn, High Street, Cublington, Bucks, LU7 0LQ

Please see web site for full event details www.theunicornpub.co.uk

Don't give thieves a chance this Christmas

Assess the security of your home like a burglar would, Christmas is the only time of year when we advertise all the goods in our house to such an extent.

- Make your home appear occupied when you're out at Christmas parties and don't leave your home vulnerable – leave a light on, securely lock doors, windows and gates and use your household alarm if you have one. If you return late to your property on a regular basis use a light timer switch so your home lights up automatically.
- Don't leave gifts/boxes on show in your car. It's an advertisement of quick money and quick getaway and is all too tempting for an opportunist thief.
- Before wrapping presents jot down model and serial numbers. Keep receipts separate so you have a record and thieves can't return your items to the shop.
- Don't hide your presents in obvious places like under the bed or in the wardrobe. Thieves are less likely to get into the attic.
- Don't put gifts under the tree until Christmas day or make sure you pull your blinds or nets so presents aren't on show.
- After opening presents put your postcode on with a permanent marker to make them harder to sell on and therefore less attractive to thieves - they are also more likely to be returned to you by police if found.
- Rip up present boxes, making sure not to leave them in view outside. Empty boxes advertise that a house has brand new and valuable contents.
- Secure your garage or shed as well as your home - they contain the tools a burglar requires to gain access to your property. For a copy of our new leaflet on Shed and garage security please call 01296 585061.

Merry Christmas from the Community Safety Partnership!

On 14 November 2011, Thames Valley Police went live with 101, the new national single non-emergency number, which replaced the 0845 number. Both numbers have run side by side for the last year, and now 70 per cent of non-emergency calls to Thames Valley Police come from the 101 number.

The 0845 number will be switched off on 1 December 2012. A recorded message will tell callers who ring the old non-emergency number to re-dial 101.

101 is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Calls to 101 (from both landlines and mobile networks) cost 15 pence per call, no matter what time of day the call is made, or the duration of the call.

Everyone calling the police for non-emergency matters can be assured of equal access whether they are on a pay-as-you-go mobile or a home landline.

The routing is based on the same system as 999 calls, which link a caller's dialing code to the police force that covers that geographic area. Calls from a landline are routed to the nearest police force that covers the area's dialing code. If the caller is using a mobile, the call is routed using the location of the mast that the phone is transmitting from.

Supt. Howard Stone, Head of the Control Room and Enquiry Department, said: "The introduction of the 101 number in the Thames Valley a year ago has proved very successful, with over 70 per cent of all calls coming in via the 101 number.

"This national scheme to introduce an easy to remember number to contact police anywhere in the country means callers do not have to spend time searching for the number of their local force, and the number of 999 calls have not risen since the change, meaning people are aware of the new 101 number to call in a non-emergency situation and are not misusing the emergency lines to contact us."

AND NOW FOR SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT

This took place in Charlotte, North Carolina. A lawyer purchased a box of very rare and expensive cigars, then insured them against, among other things,...fire. Within a month, having smoked his entire stockpile of these great cigars, the lawyer filed a claim against the insurance company. In his claim, the lawyer stated the cigars were lost 'in a series of small fires.'

The insurance company refused to pay, citing the obvious reason, that the man had consumed the cigars in the normal fashion. The lawyer sued - and WON! (Stay with me.)

Delivering the ruling, the judge agreed with the insurance company that the claim was frivolous. The judge stated nevertheless, that the lawyer held a policy from the company, in which it had warranted that the cigars were insurable and also guaranteed that it would insure them against fire, without defining what is considered to be unacceptable 'fire' and was obligated to pay the claim.

Rather than endure lengthy and costly appeal process, the insurance company accepted the ruling and paid \$15,000 to the lawyer for his loss of the cigars that perished in the 'fires'.

NOW FOR THE BEST PART...

After the lawyer cashed the check, the insurance company had him arrested on 24 counts of ARSON!!! With his own insurance claim and testimony from the previous case being used against him, the lawyer was convicted of intentionally burning his insured property and was sentenced to 24 months in jail and a \$24,000 fine. This true story won First Place in last year's Criminal Lawyers Award contest.

Speeding.

Speeding continues to be the main concern raised to us by Parish Councils and residents alike during our Have Your Say meetings and through general discussions. The Local Area Forum Speed Awareness subgroup have been working on demonstrating the Community Speedwatch system within our villages alongside volunteers who have shown an interest in using the system to monitor and deter speeding motorists. This has been carried out in Wing, Pitstone, Cheddington, Drayton Parslow, Wingrave, Ivinghoe, Stoke Hammond and Marsworth. Other parishes are still considering dates for these speedwatch events. If you would like to be involved please speak with your Parish Council.



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 Humphreys	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 Phillip Derbyshire	01525 240287
Refuse Collection	Enquiries	585510
Royal British Legion	Alan Jones	682366
Royal Oak	Teri & Gary Moulton	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
	Inside	£90
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Quarter Page	Inside	£35
One Offs	Full	£20
	Half	£15
	Quarter	£10

Seasonal and short term ads are also accepted at these rates

Send copy and cheque payable to

'The Chronicle'

to Phil Corrigan,

5, Nash's Farm, Aston Abbots, Bucks.

01296 688191

corriganpc@aol.com

Quanton Railway Society Ltd.
Quanton Road Station
Quanton, Near Aylesbury, HP22 4BY



DIARY OF EVENTS – DECEMBER

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)

BEETLE DRIVE

There will be a return of the ever popular Beetle Drive in the Church Room on

Friday 22nd March 2013 commencing at 7.00pm.

A supper will be included and you're invited to bring along your favourite 'tipple'.

Further details regarding ticket price/availability to be published in the Jan. issue of the Chronicle.

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 DECEMBER

Sunday 2nd	Rambling Club 2pm	Heath & Reach
	Evensong	St James Church
Tuesday 4th	Mobile Library 10.30am	The Green
	AV Transport Meet 2pm	Buckingham
	train and bus queries to Colin	
Wednesday 5th	Parish Council 7.30pm	Church Room
Thursday 6th	Coffee Shop 10-12noon	Church Room
	Whist Drive 7.30pm	Church Room
Sunday 9th	Village Footpath Walk 2pm	The Green
Wednesday 12th	Bingo 7.30pm note change of date	Church Room
Thursday 13th	Coffee Shop 10-12noon	Church Room
	Ladies Club Carol Service	St James Church
	followed by tea in Church Room	
Sunday 16th	Christingle Service 4pm	St James Church
Tuesday 18th	Mobile Library 10.30am	The Green
Thursday 20th	Coffee Shop 10-12noon	Church Room
	Whist Drive 7.30pm	Church Room
Friday 21st	Carol Singing round village 7pm	The Green
	(bring torch/lantern) ending at the Royal Oak	
Sunday 23rd	Church service in Cublington	
Tuesday 25th	Family Service 9am	St James Church
Sunday 30th	Church Service 10am	Soulbury
Tuesday 1st January 2013	NEW YEARS DAY	

Book these dates in 2013
27th & 28th July Festival/Fete

FOR SALE Treadmill Reebok RT1000 (very low mileage) £55 (ono) tel: 681053

4 acre field to rent in Aston Abbotts with stables and tack room.
Please contact Jackie 681182 for more details.

ROCKATORIO Celebrating Christmas in the new, old-fashioned way... Our Rockatorio event is an evening of festive entertainment for the whole family. The programme includes some of our favourite Christmas songs, a mini-pantomime, and the premier of Rockatorio, a re-telling of the Christmas story with entirely new music and lyrics created by Rebecca Taylor and Nina Gregory.

Tickets are £10 (£9 concessions). Please call 01296 422645 or 07985 053887 to purchase them. Also, ask us how you can raise money for your charity or cause by selling our tickets.

Bishopstone Village Hall, Moreton Lane, Aylesbury HP17 8SQ
Saturday 8 & Friday 14 Dec 2012

New Year Banners at The Roald Dahl Museum

For 8+ years: make a buzzwangling bunting banner for your New Year's Eve party or just to hang in your doorway to welcome in 2013.

£2 per participant in addition to Museum entry. Call 01494 892192 to book tickets. Workshops at 12.30 pm to 1.30 pm and 2 pm to 3 pm.

81 - 83 High Street, Great Missenden, Bucks, HP13 0AL
Sunday 30 Dec 2012

WINGRAVE POST OFFICE AND 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!

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

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

4th & 18th December
The Green 10.30am

MOBILE LIBRARY

NEEDS YOU!!!!
'USE IT' don't 'LOOSE IT'

FLACKWELL ELECTRONICS

DAVE AND ALISON WISH ALL
OF THEIR FRIENDS IN ASTON
ABBOTTS A VERY
MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A
HAPPY NEW YEAR



DAVE DENIES REHAB RUMOUR

Dave Lewis has been forced to deny rumours that he has gone into rehab after many people have spotted a gloomy Dave using Coke in the Royal Oak.

It has been widely known for some time that Dave has been doing Slime - a lethal cocktail of Lager and Lime - in large quantities. Recently, those close to him had also observed him taking large doses of Baileys, sometimes laced with caffeine.

Dave has insisted that he does not have a Slime habit, claiming that changing to the supposedly much safer Coke is simply an attempt to reduce his weight. However, those closest to him insist that he needs careful support during his cold turkey.


Dave's struggle with Slime abuse has clearly affected his demeanour. It is also having an effect on others, with one well-known local author claiming that it's now boring not being chased behind the bar on a Friday night.

ramazon

"Skeg 'eear lad, is dis slime?" I couldn't speak of word of Yorkshire, but I recognised the word "Slime" and I knew that I was in a lot of trouble.

At just 23 years old Dave Lewis was wrongfully accused of smuggling one million pints of Slime into Humberside. Read Dave's incredible true story in his amazing new book 'Pisspot to Hull' - available on January 7th via ramazon.

Retail price £9.99
Our price £0.01p
You save 99.9%
ISBN: 184953344X



ASTON AUTOS—PURVEYORS OF FINE AUTOMOBILES AT BELOW COST PRICE