

# THE CHRONICLE

Aston Abbotts Parish Magazine – December 2013



**Biggest Pumpkin — 2013 Winner**



**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

**To all of our Readers**

# EDITORIAL

**THE CHRONICLE**

**Issue 337**

**December 2013**

Thanks James for the last issue(s) back to me for this one and pleased to report possibly a couple of volunteers for some future issues. ( although I do suspect that one just wants to keep her father out of the Chronicle!)

An eventful couple of months in the village!

As you will have guessed from the front page, Simon Guy & Mike Bush were finally defeated in the pumpkin competition by Tony Hinds, more details inside, but a great village evening with the competition followed by dinner in the Oak, the restaurant was full and from a personal point of view great too see such a mix of Village People (thought long and hard about that) a great evening, good food, good company and far too much red wine!

Following the evening many suggestions for a future event sometime in the spring, best suggestion so far a Baileys drinking competition between Carole Spooner and Dave Lewis, from my fuzzy memory (yes drink was involved) The challenge was issued by Carole!

The literary quiz in my last issue was won by Neil Chesher, who wins a meal for two at the Oak, thanks Terri.

Also inside a great idea from Chris Phillips for a way for the village to commemorate the Start of the First World War, having made several visits to the battlefields of northern France I'll certainly be taking up this idea.

Thanks to Kevin Copping ( and all the other volunteers ) for putting on another great firework display, it's amazing what you don't see when your helping with the lighting, even more disappointing the mulled wine had run out by the time the display finished. This was another village tradition that we were in danger of losing until Kevin stepped in.

Also thanks to those who actually get this through your letter boxes, I just sit here with a glass of wine typing., and the regular contributors keep them coming.

Sorry if the above sounds like an Oscar speech.

Finally, all that remains is to wish all in Aston Abbots a great Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

Phil Corrigan

## **In this issue:**

- The hare and tortoise, a modern version
- Pumpkin competition the full story
- Lots of theatre reviews
- Caption Competition page 3

# Alison's Gossip Column

## **BIRTHDAYS**

The birthday list is so out of date, with a lot of people having left the village and as a relative newcomer (10+) years a lot of unknown names I thought it best if you have a special event of any kind let us know and we'll give it a mention.

Alison has taken a vow of silence.

I thought Dave was smiling a lot !

Overheard in the Royal Oak:

“ how often does Danny Baker appear on the Simon Guy radio show”

Simon & Wendy Longman best wishes from AA for your move to Sussex, thanks for your contribution to the village

### **Caption Competition**

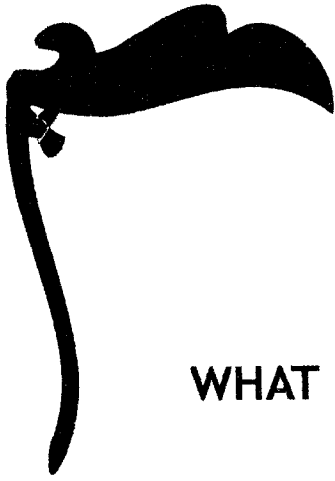
Any amusing suggestion for the front cover

Photo.

Still not claimed, large bunch of keys found on the Rec, includes several Yales & a couple of 5 lever Chubbs

Contact Phil 688191

Very hot gossip from somebody who wishes to remain anonymous (retired butcher & winner of a recent competition), anyway the other night he told us that.....sorry you had to be there!



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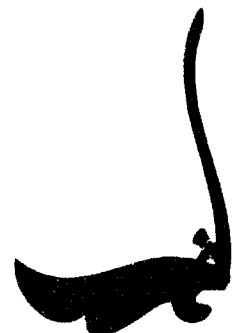
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# Village Information Page

## What's on in December

Lots, hence the whole page thanks, for all the info Colin.

- Sunday 1<sup>st</sup>** Rambling Club, members meet at Stony Stratford 2pm, (do you walk there ? Ed)  
St James Church evensong 6pm (hope the ramblers are back Ed)
- Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup>** Aylesbury Vale transport meeting, Methodist Church Aylesbury 2pm  
Bus/train queries to Colin
- Thursday 5<sup>th</sup>** Coffee/ Shop Village Hall 10am – 12.00  
Whist drive 7.30pm
- Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup>** Parish Council Meeting Village Hall 7.30pm
- Thursday 12<sup>th</sup>** Coffee/ Shop Village Hall 10am – 12.00  
Bingo 7.30pm
- Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>** Coffee /Shop Village Hall 10am – 12
- Friday 20<sup>th</sup>** Carol Singing on the Green 7pm, bring a torch/lantern
- Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup>** Christingle/Carol Service St James Church 4pm
- Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>** Mobile library The Green 10.30am
- Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup>** Parish Communion St James Church 10.30am
- Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup>** New Years Eve footpath walks The Green 2pm

**Church Duties** Cleaning Dec 7<sup>th</sup> Colin & Caroline L  
Cleaning Dec 14<sup>th</sup> Gordon & Ann  
Cleaning Dec 21<sup>st</sup> Alex & Anita  
Cleaning Jan 4<sup>th</sup> Colin & Caroline L

- Hope I've got it right, no flowers during Advent.(Ed)

**Diary date** 26<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup> July Village Festival/Fete ??

**Finally** Late night shopping 8pm in Aylesbury every Thursday



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- Friday 27th** Dinner and Jazz
- Tuesday 31st** - New Years Eve
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- Wednesday 1st** - New Year's Day  
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## A Great Idea.....

July 1914 commemorated in Aston Abbots.....

Next July – the 28<sup>th</sup> to be precise – is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the start of World War I.

The horrors of this conflict are still vivid and, in total, over 9 million men and women, from countries across the world lost their lives. Aston Abbots was also affected - many of our boys, fought – and gallantly lost their lives - in the War.

Nevertheless, with this important anniversary fast approaching, I'd like to suggest the villagers of Aston Abbots make a small – yet notable – recognition of the beginning of this conflict. And, it's something which will be present year after year.

Now is the time to start sowing Flanders Poppies. They are easy to sow and will be resplendent next July, and many July's thereafter. Flanders poppies are those used to commemorate the Great War, and these can be bought from many gardening outlets – both on the high street and online. If you wish, I can purchase these for you.

It's a small gesture, but by sowing these in your garden, you too can remember those who fell and the sacrifice made. I hope this small, yet significant, statement is something the local community will get involved in.

I have also approached the Parish council to show their support too.

Chris Phillips  
07879 660115  
67 The Green

### September Literary Quiz

- “season of mists and mellow fruitfulness” Keats (editorial)
- “people generally see what they look for, and hear what they listen for” Harper Lee ( should have got that one Peter)
- “Aston Abbots version of Bleak House” Dickens
- “never miss a party it's good for the nerves like...celery F Scott Fitzgerald
- “always read something that will make you look good if you die in the middle of it” PJ O'Rourke
- “a sure cure for seasickness is to sit under a tree” Spike Milligan
- “I think I shall never see a poem as lovely as a tree” Joyce Kilmer

As mentioned in the Editorial won by Neil Cheshier who is in danger of becoming the theatre & restaurant critic of the Chronicle

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## **Theatre Reviews** ( where do these tickets come from? Ed)

### **Seven Brides for Seven Brothers.**

What a fantastic show. I don't need to explain the story as I'm sure you've all seen the film.

Bless My Beautiful Hide! We were subjected to having to watch the brothers' dancing energetically, and what a sight it was when they stripped their tops off. They were all beautifully toned, all with 6 packs, it was a sight to behold.( steady ladies. Ed)

Sam Attwater (of Eastenders and Dancing on Ice fame) played the lead, Adam, with a commanding performance and a powerful voice. Helena Blackman made an excellent Milly, the leading lady, and she had such an amazing voice. You may have seen her on TV auditioning for The Sound of Music's Maria a while ago.

The audience were captivated, what a brilliant show, go and see it if you get the chance.

Mel Smith and Shirley Hanlon.

### **And the male viewpoint**

What a great show and how well it was all done

Like many I remembered the film with Howard Keel and those awful red wigs for the brothers.

Here the show was fresh and full of energy.

Staged in Oregon in the 1850's amongst deep pine forest . The story was loosely based on the Roman legend of the Rape of the Sabine women, and a short story called 'Sobbin Women', although not too much rape was in evidence just some kidnapping. Typical American in that they cannot pronounce easy words and ended up with 'sobbin women' . The great Johnny Mercer was the lyricist

I had forgotten most of the songs such ' Bless your beautiful hide', 'Going courting', 'Spring, spring spring', and 'Sobbing Women'

The lead female had been a finalist on the 'Search for Maria', and was excellent, as was all the singing. The staging was inventive, although the avalanche was a bit stagey.

The dancing was truly outstanding, with the brothers stripping their shirts off at frequent intervals to delight the female audience and the chaps had to make do with bloomers for the female dancers.

The audience cheered several of the dance routines, which were really mind boggling.

All in all a wonderful night that will live in the memory of what can be done at a provincial theatre.

Neil Chesher

Still mentioned the stripping brothers!(Ed)

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# Aston Abbotts Book Club

## September

We met at Brigitte's house at the end of September to discuss 'The Thread' by Victoria Hislop. The novel centres on the turbulent history of Thessaloniki during the two World Wars when the city was devastated by fire and later destroyed by the Turkish army and subsequently with the city's occupation by the Germans. Historically the book was interesting - the plot lines and characters were somewhat predictable. It was an easy book to read, a good holiday choice. Victoria Hislop's first book 'The Island' was judged to be her best so far. Many thanks are due to Brigitte's generous provision of food and wine and thanks also to Juan for an exceptional Spanish omelette.

Our next book is Sally Palmer's choice 'To Kill a Mockingbird' by Harper Lee. Meet at Sally's house on 23rd October. Our book for November is 'Passport to Hell' by Terri Daniels; meet at Pam Hewitt's house on 27th November.

John Hardcastle

## October

9 Book Club members came to my house for our October meeting to discuss my choice, To Kill a Mocking Bird.

John read a long email from Deirdre, sent from Hanoi, giving her thoughts on the book. He had also received comments from Kate and Pam who were unable to attend. I am pleased to report that this book seemed to be enjoyed by all members.

The story is famous for describing the trial of a black man (Tom Robinson) for the alleged rape of a white girl. The black man is defended by the father of the narrator Atticus, a white man who is the local public attorney. Atticus is intimidated by the local community for defending Tom but bravely faces down his critics. He proves in court that the girl's allegations are false but the white jury still find him guilty. Tom is sent to prison while awaiting an appeal but is so convinced he will not be pardoned that he tries a desperate escape.

The book is narrated by Atticus's precocious daughter "Scout" who is a real tom boy and the early part of the book describes an idyllic childhood in which Scout is allowed to play out, largely undisturbed by adults, with her brother Jem and another boy, Dill, who is sent by his disinterested parents to stay with a relative near to Scout's home. Their various activities are delightfully narrated and centre on trying to find out about a reclusive man who lives nearby. Scout's mother has died so the mother figure is provided by the black housekeeper Calpurnia. Atticus, though criticised by others for his hands off parenting, is revealed as a wise father and provides a marvelous role model for his children giving them freedom to find their own way and wise council when the world seems unfair or confusing.

The book is highly autobiographical and paints a vivid and often funny account of life in a small town in the deep south of America in the 1930s. The book has remained as an exam text because of the many themes explored in the book including the nature of justice, race, parenthood, growing up and poverty.

Sally Palmer

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## Letters Page

It's blank at the moment but I'm inclined to think that there are enough opinionated (my spell check offered opiated!) people in Aston Abbotts with views they would like to express across a whole range of issues that may affect the village, or just to inform people.

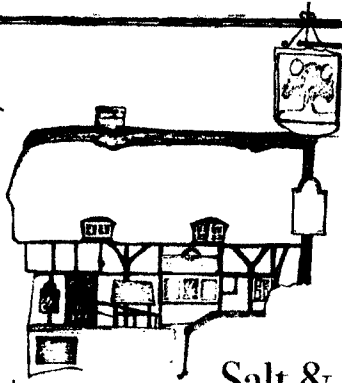
- could be humorous,
- could be to thank somebody,
- could express outrage that the "Chunkees" may reform
- could be feedback on the Chronicle
- or any subject you wish

over to you

names and addresses required but anonymity if requested

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- Pan roasted Gressingham duck breast, braised red cabbage & apple, garlic saute potatoes & cider jus
- Beer battered cod, hand cut chips & minted mushy peas served with homemade tartare sauce

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## More theatrical Reviews

### New Jersey Nights

Having always loved the music of Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons, ( I thought that was Vivaldi Ed) it was a real treat to receive the complimentary tickets for the international hit musical show, New Jersey Nights. And it did not disappoint!

The stage rapidly came alive with four talented male singers, a live band comprising four musicians and six energetic rock and roll dancers. It was an exciting explosion of colour and sound from start to finish. The songs were instantly recognisable from the original soundtracks of the 50s, 60s and 70s and from the numerous cover versions recorded throughout the intervening years. Hits included Sherry, Rag Doll, Silence is Golden, Walk like a Man, Big Girls Don't Cry, Can't Take My Eyes Off of You and many, many more. The younger generation will know some of their hits from films like Dirty Dancing and The Deer Hunter

Described as one of the hallmark voices of our generation, Frankie Valli had a really unique and impressive range, including a powerful falsetto. He was an iconic vocalist and inspirational to the likes of Barry Gibb of the Bee Gees and Brian Wilson of the Beach Boys whom it seems were in awe of Valli's voice and style. Valli himself had been inspired by Frank Sinatra from the age of seven when his mother took him to see his idol in concert in New Jersey.

The Seasons made exceptionally good music which has stood the test of time. The Show itself was performed superbly well by the four young men, who paid great tribute, with a good deal of humour throughout the delivery. These singers knew just how to 'work the audience' ensuring everyone had a thoroughly good time. The dancers and musicians gave a hundred and ten percent. The atmosphere was electric! The standing ovation at the end said it all! Thanks Ed.( didn't come from me, Ed)

June Cox

### Save the last dance for me

We obtained tickets via The Chronicle to attend this relatively new musical on Bank Holiday Monday. Penned by the creators of 'Dreamboats and Petticoats' it is a "jukebox musical" written around a group of popular songs from the early 60s. In total it included 28 songs written by Pomus and Schuman in America in the late fifties and early sixties. Not all of the songs were familiar to me, probably because they were hits before I became a teenager. Songs included Sweets for my Sweet, Rhythm of the Rain, Please Mr Postman and, of course, Save the Last Dance for Me.

The story, whilst essentially a vehicle for the songs, was reasonably promising. Two sisters, one aged 16 and still at school, the other older and a little more street-wise, go on holiday together to a caravan in Lowestoft. The holiday is pretty dull and damp until they meet an American airman from the nearby air-base and take up his invitation to go to a dance at the base. The younger girl falls for an older, coloured airman but is dismayed that he doesn't write when she goes home. It turns out that Mum has hidden the letters and when this is discovered, the girl returns to the base for a predictably happy, if unbelievable, ending. Personally I felt the casting of the male love interest slightly odd as he was supposed to be a Negro from Tennessee but was very light skinned. I thought the darker skinned actor who was cast as the Officer fitted the character much better.

Overall this was an entertaining evening, the music being performed by accomplished musicians who were on stage throughout and the dancing, based on the popular dances of the period, very energetically performed. The show captured the period well even though the sets were pretty basic. The story, while a bit flimsy, did have some interesting aspects. Definitely a nostalgic show for those aged around 65

.Sally Palmer

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## **The Hare and Tortoise (a modern fable)**

Hopefully you recall the original Aesop fable.

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September leave Aston Abbots at around 6.30 am bound for the Goodwood Revival, DL is driving, (initials used to protect the guilty)

DL drove like the proverbial bat out of hell, 100mph down the A41, more of the same on the M25 and the roads to Goodwood, it became a matter of pride that at no stage of the journey did his wheels stop rolling, although the cars in front got very close on occasions, or more correctly we got close to them.

Two and a half hours later, feeling very satisfied DL parked in the Members car park and treated himself to an excellent breakfast and enjoyed a day of motor racing and flying displays.

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> September Neil Cheshier leaves the village at a similar time bound for Goodwood. As befits his age and status, and being a Jaguar driver, makes his way sedately, even serenely, to Goodwood, his sat nav issuing a siren warning if he gets any where near the speed limit. Frankly I've never been overtaken by so many cars and at times the man with the red flag had to wait for us! we continued south through the rolling hills of Surrey and Sussex with time to take in all the sights unlike the previous days blur.

Eventually two and a quarter hours later Neil parked in the members car park at Goodwood, some fifteen minutes quicker than DL.

I would like to bring you the reaction from DL but am conscious that some readers may be of a delicate disposition and not understand some of the words he used.

Phil C

### **Distributors**

As mentioned in the Editorial, without their efforts this wouldn't get on to your doormats, so thanks to:

George Fox

Caroline Lane

Margaret Hinds

Phil & Carol Spooner

Diana

Andy & Shirley Ford

Andy & Rita Bystra

Bob & Cora Carvey

Sam Charlie & Harry Bystra

Also Gill Carter at Waddesdon School for printing the Chronicle every month

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## **CELEBRATION EVENT**

**The Trustees would like to show villagers the suggested  
plans for the proposed extension  
and improvements to our Village Hall.**

**The meeting will be held on  
Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January – doors open at 2pm.**

**The Trustees will be on hand to hear your comments and ideas and to explain the  
progress made and the future efforts necessary  
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**Services at  
Saint James Church - Aston Abbotts  
December 2013**

<b>1<sup>st</sup> December</b>	<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>Evensong</b>	<b>Rev. Philip Derbyshire</b>
<b>8<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Communion</b>	<b>Rev. Peter Binns</b>
<b>15<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>4.00pm</b>	<b>Christingle &amp; Carols</b>	<b>Rev. Philip Derbyshire</b>
<b>22<sup>nd</sup> December</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Communion</b>	<b>Rev. Roger Hale</b>
<b>25<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Communion</b>	<b>Rev. Philip Derbyshire</b>
<b>29<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>At Stewkley</b>	<b>Rev. Philip Derbyshire</b>

**St James Church**

**100 Club Draw November 2013**

**1st Prize, £50: Kirsty Peacock**

**2nd prize, £10: Shirley Ford**

**David Gray – PCC Treasurer**

## Community News

### Don't give thieves a chance this Christmas

With all the seasonal festivities at this time of year, home security is often the last thing we'll think about. However, make it a priority this year to assess the security of your home like a burglar would. Christmas is the only time of year we advertise goods in our homes to such an extent. Follow the Community Safety Partnership top tips:

- Securely lock front and back doors/windows with the key, and remember to also lock your side gate.
- Use a light timer switch so your home lights up automatically. This ensures your home isn't left in darkness whilst you're not there.
- Before wrapping presents jot down model and serial numbers. UV mark all valuables with your postcode and door number/house name. By doing this your items are less attractive to opportunists because being caught in possession of marked goods incriminates thieves. Also your goods are more likely to be returned to you by police if found.
- Resist putting gifts under the tree until Christmas morning, or if you do before then, pull your curtains or blinds so items are not left on view.
- After opening presents rip up present boxes, making sure not to leave them in view outside. An empty TV box for instance advertises the new item in the home.
- Secure and lock your garage/shed as well as your home - they contain the tools a burglar requires to gain access to your property.
- Use your household alarm if you have one.
- Be vigilant of any suspicious behaviour in your area and report it to the police on 101. If you believe a burglary is in progress call 999.
- Be conscious of what you put on social networking websites in regards to going out and leaving the home empty.
- For more information visit: [www.thamesvalley.police.uk/crprev](http://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/crprev)
- Have a safe and merry Christmas!



December 2013



The Chronicle

AYLESBURY VALE  
DISTRICT COUNCIL



Page 22

## Royal Oak, Aston Abbotts, October 26<sup>th</sup> 2013

It was Friday evening, the day before the Pumpkin competition which was to be held at the Royal Oak the next night. Mike Bush and I had been polishing our entry the previous few days confident that we would be retaining our 'Heaviest Pumpkin' crown. (OK, so we were the only entrants in last year's competition largely due to the fact that no else knew there was a competition but hey, we have the certificate to prove 1<sup>st</sup> prize) and now I was trying to work out which of the giants we had grown would be entered. In the end both went up that evening and we would judge which to enter on the day itself

We also had the logistical problem of getting James Cloughs' monster from his shed (where it was in hiding) to the Royal Oak that night. Luckily I had help in the shape of Tony Hinds (retired butcher of this parish) and his trusty wheel barrow and we met the next evening at the allotment to bring South African James' entry up to be weighed. Tony (2<sup>nd</sup> place in the 'Longest Runner Bean' competition that year – winner – Mike B and yours truly) had dropped his 'tiddler' off already so with a few grunts and a heave the pumpkin was safely loaded and we trundled to the Royal Oak to display our weighty gourds for all to see (and a first pint of the evening).

Imagine my shock, surprise and indeed dismay, when, having delivered our colonial cousins' pumpkin to the pub, it became apparent that Mr T Hinds had, on display, a huge specimen of '*Cucurbita Maxima*', "Ooooh what a beauty"

It was obvious from that point onwards that the crown we held was about to be lost. I now knew how Richard III felt at the Battle of Bosworth.

There was one more entry to be displayed and Colin Higgs duly delivered his squash to be considered. We also had a best carved pumpkin and Holly & her friendss' entry looked very impressive as judging commenced.

Many thanks to Carlos & Steve for acting as the weighing bridge and to Karl for providing the scales.

It was no surprise when the results were read out in reverse order:

3 <sup>rd</sup> Mike & Simon	26 kg
2 <sup>nd</sup> James	31kg
1 <sup>st</sup> Tony Hinds	61kg

Holly & friend received 1<sup>st</sup> prize medals for the decorated pumpkin and a generous cash prize from Senior Councillor Richard Clarke (yes, I know, Clarkey & Cash, who'd of thought it?)

Congratulations to Tony who received a Whistling Gnome trophy for his magnificent whopper. This is to be returned next year where it will be returned to its rightful owners i.e. Bush & Guy – Market Gardeners Ltd.

After all the fuss and excitement had died down (and we discovered that it was actually Margaret who did all the hard work in raising the humongous vegetable) 20+ of us sat down to a marvellous dinner provided by Teri Moul. A delicious repast of Steak & ale pie with accompanying vegetables (thankfully not including pumpkin) was consumed by all who sat down in the splendid new restaurant area. Suitably replete I staggered back to the bar and drowned my sorrows with a last half pint (it's all I could fit in after the food we had just eaten). I left soon after determined to come back next year with a challenger, the work began the next day.

Everybody has commented how much they enjoyed the evening (including several bottles of red wine quaffed after dinner) and many thanks to Teri for agreeing to hold the event in the Royal Oak. I hope we can encourage more entries amongst the village gardeners next year as well as getting the children involved in the decorated pumpkins.

I would also like to think that similar events could be held next year and if anyone has an idea for a spring or summer one then please let us know (it doesn't have to involve large vegetables).

Well done Tony (& Margaret) Hinds, just don't get too attached to the trophy.

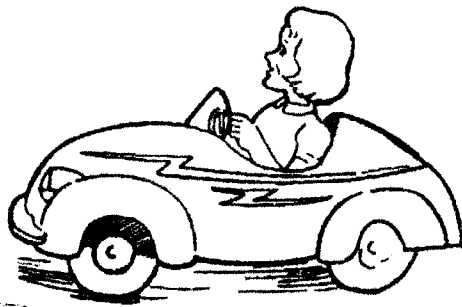
Simon Guy

# Trendz

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# ASTON ABBOTTS

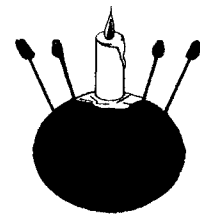


We're holding a

## **CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION WORKSHOP**

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Please come and join us to make Christingles and  
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displays for our village Church and your home



A time for families to share together and enjoy!  
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PLEASE NOTE:-

**Our traditional Christingle  
and Carol Service will be**

on

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December**

in

**St James Aston Abbots**

starting at

**5.00pm!!**

J W SARGENT HAS CHANGED NAME AND IS TRADING AS

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**07809113090**

**EMAIL [jts.dec24@gmail.com](mailto:jts.dec24@gmail.com)**

## ALLOTMENT DIARY

Now that the end of the year is approaching, there is less activity on the allotments, and unfortunately the mild wet weather we have recently been experiencing has caused a fine crop of weeds on the areas left bare after crops have been dug up. Mine is no exception! I still have one row of potatoes to dig up, and remarkably, this year two of my courgette plants are still producing usable courgettes at the time of writing (11<sup>th</sup> November): however, I think that the two I have just harvested will be the last.

However, I still have two crops growing: my leeks, and my experiment for 2013, a plant called “Oca” – which apparently will produce some potato-like tubers, with a slightly lemony taste. Like the potato, these originate from South America, and the vegetable is very popular in the Andes. Why it has not been sold here before I do not know: perhaps the answer will become apparent when I eat some! I am keen to try them but the instructions from Thompson & Morgan say that the tubers should not be harvested until the plant above the ground has been killed off by frost.

My apple crop this year from the trees in my garden was one of my biggest ever. The crop was later than normal this year because of the year’s unusual weather. According to the English Apples & Pears Association apples were ready to pick three weeks later than usual, because of the long cold spring, and the late arrival of summer. However, they also said that apples this year had good sugar levels and a good, crunchy texture; and that apples were redder than usual this year because of the chemical reaction caused by the warm late summer temperatures and the cool nights. I can confirm that these remarks certainly applied to my crop.

I had so many apples that when I had finished making and freezing puddings, I took a large number of boxes to a farm at Longwick to have them made into apple juice, and they made me 49 bottles. The juice is pasteurised, and the bottles sealed with airtight lids, so that the juice will last for many months. I still have a dozen or more trays of apples stored in the garage: but the problem I find is to keep them from being eaten by mice – specially as the winter draws on, and they have little other food to eat.

Finally, a piece of curious allotment-related news: a study by scientists at Rice University in Texas suggests that even after being harvested, fruit and vegetables remain sensitive to the time of day. Levels of antioxidant chemicals, believed to help suppress cancer, peak at noon, and dip to about half the maximum level in the evening. They are not sure why this should be the case, and one suggestion is that even after being picked or dug up, fruit and vegetables continue to respond to changes in light. Clearly we should not just be eating five-a-day, but doing so at lunch-time!

**Röda Langbyxor**



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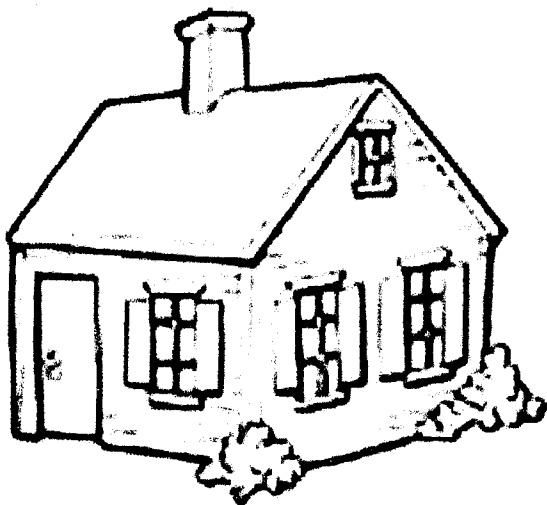
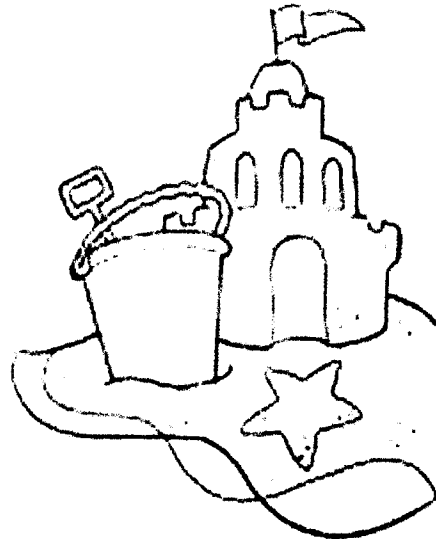
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## Summary of Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2013

**Present:** - Cllr's P Shorrocks (Chair), C Higgs, Mrs K Curry, Mrs J Hardcastle, B Carvey, R Clarke, P Bruton (Clerk), County Cllr. Mrs N Glover and District Cllr. P Cooper and two members of the public.

**Clerk's report: - Parish Councillor vacancy** – The Clerk reported he had been unable to get a response from Cllr Perkins, the Clerk would write again and it was noted that if a Councillor who is absent from all meetings of the Council and any committees of which they are a member for a period of six months automatically ceases to be a member of the Council unless they have been given leave of absence by the Council before the expiry of that six month period, the last meeting that Cllr Perkins had attended was 26<sup>th</sup> June 2013.

**BCC consultation** – Bucks CC were requesting Councils support to complete a survey and promote a public consultation on what we want from our County Council in the future. The Clerk would circulate the relevant form and collate Councillors comments before the 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2013. The on line address for members of the public to participate in the survey is [www.buckscc.gov.uk/budget](http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/budget).

**Correspondence to note** – The Clerk passed to the relevant Cllr activity based correspondence received, this included Play around the Parishes and it was noted that if this was something the residents wanted to run then funding had been withdrawn by AVDC and the Council would consider an application for a donation. It was also noted that AVDC were adopting the Householder Extensions Local Development Order. Details of the LDO requirements were on the AVDC website: [www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/home-ldo](http://www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/home-ldo).

**County Councillor Glover** presented her monthly report and encouraged residents to take part in the previously mentioned BCC survey as Government Grants continued to be cut and choices would have to be made on what services should be prioritised when considering next years budget. Cllr Glover had put forward to Highways for the road in the village from Ross Road to The Oak to be fixed in the coming year, and would look into the current situation regarding the hedgerow along Moat Lane that Councillors were concerned about. Preparations were in hand for the winter weather and there was a workshop on 28<sup>th</sup> November for safe driving at Park Street, Aylesbury – cost £10 and included a car safety pack. Book via [www.buckscc.gov.uk/winterdrivingworkshops](http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/winterdrivingworkshops). Cllr Clark requested confirmation that the Lines Hill to Weedon road was still on the salting route as it was a school bus route.

**District Councillor Cooper** reported AVDC had similar budget issues as they were looking to cut costs by 15% next year and similar percentages in the following 2 years. It was important that residents took part in the consultation process as services were likely to be reduced. Any suggestions or proposals on the future structure of local government would be of interest. It was noted that the Arla dairy site was currently being commissioned and would soon be up and running. The issue of traffic flow in this area was of concern and we

Cont'd

## Parish Council meeting (cont'd)

are likely to see an increase in volumes and congestion until the road works currently being carried out were finished and the phasing of the traffic lights had been fine tuned.

The Queens Park Arts Centre in Aylesbury is once again putting on a fabulous family oriented Pantomime. The tickets are very reasonable and the production is being directed by our very own Neil Gurney. Follow this link for full details - <http://ow.ly/26i2TS>.

**Village Plan** – The Clerk would write to Cllr Perkins and request a copy of the current plan in order that we can finalise the publication.

**Wingrave Bus Shelter** – Cllr Shorrock advised he had received a reply from his contact at Wingrave Parish Council and that the reasons they had removed the internal frames was due to their concerns over personal safety and the potential for the shelter to be used by people as a meeting point for anti social purposes.

**Community Shop** – Cllr Higgs raised the subject of giving consideration to the introduction of a community shop in the village as some residents had expressed an interest. After discussion it was felt that we should first establish whether sufficient residents were in favour and that volunteers would be willing to run the establishment. Cllr Higgs would look into this and perhaps an article in the Chronicle could ask for volunteers to judge the viability.

**Refuse freighter** – The Clerk advised that in the past we had a freighter for large items visit the village twice a year, AVDC had withdrawn funding and we could still organise ourselves with a cost of £200 per half day. There was concern expressed that the container dumped the contents into landfill and there was an excellent recycling facility on the A41. It was AGREED to defer booking the service at this time and if residents had strong views on the service they should discuss the matter with one of the Councillors.

**Mobile Library** – The Clerk confirmed the new Mobile Library timetable service following the reduction in the service to once a month. The first scheduled visit was Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November.

**Heavy Duty Lorries** – The Clerk reported he was trying to arrange a meeting with Kinsale Agriculture. Additionally we had received from Bucks Transport a suggested sign to put up at the first junction for The Green opposite Humphreys Clsoe stating “Unsuitable for heavy goods vehicles”. It was RESOLVED to accept this proposal with the additional request that a similar sign is placed in an appropriate position at the junction of The Green and Moat Lane.

### **Planning application 13/02627/APP (1 Nashs Farm)**

Retention of section of wooden fence – Install new gate in gap in curved wall. Removal of existing fence panels on Nashs Farm side of curved wall and replacement with hedge and retention of fence posts to support hedge.

The above application was discussed and after consideration it was RESOLVED to oppose the application as the revised proposals did not address the reasons for the original planning refusal and the reasons for dismissal of the appeal by the Planning Inspectorate had not been rectified or addressed and Council therefore believed the application was not in accordance with policies GP35 and GP53 of the AVDC Local Plan.

Cont'd

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13/02841/APP (Norduck Farm, Moat Lane)

### **Temporary siting of an agricultural worker's mobile home**

The above application was discussed and it was RESOLVED to raise no objections to the application. However there was concern over the apparent changes to the original consent and the actual work being undertaken and description of the development in the recent application for a mobile home on the site. District Cllr Cooper would arrange a meeting with the planning department to review the development with representatives of the Parish Council.

### **Recreation Ground Safety Check:**

- Cllr Clark reported all the maintenance issues raised in the Annual Safety check had been concluded and there were no outstanding matters. Additionally he had reviewed the condition of the trees on the Recreation ground and there were no immediate safety concerns.

**Brickstock – Hedge and tree work** – Cllr Clerk reported the works had been carried out and was very pleased with the work undertaken. A vote of thanks to Adam Shorrocks for the standard of work was recorded.

It was noted that the next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2013** at 7:30pm in the Church Room.



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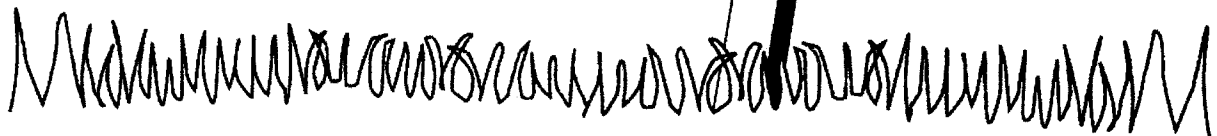
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## Rev Philip Derbyshire

Dear friends,

As I write we are in yet another 'natural disaster' in the typhoon which hit the Philippines, the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in Sri Lanka, the eve of the General Synod meeting of the CofE (discussing women Bishops yet again!).

All, some or none of these impact on our lives depending on what we are interested in. As a Christian I believe they all subjects of prayer and in varying degrees action. They are not nothing, because everything which affects human life is of interest to God our Father/ Creator and His Son Jesus Christ.

There was a slogan seen on a wall recently in Oxford which said "God is back". I believe He never went away, we just misplaced Him and more and more people are beginning to wonder and ask "just what is this God business anyway? Some of it, but only some, is about the story of Christmas and His entry into our world as a vulnerable displaced baby in Bethlehem over 2000 years' ago. God did not choose a palace, a mansion, celebrity or great wealth and power to make Himself known personally but humility, simplicity and relative poverty in a very hostile world full of lack of understanding.

As we approach the end of 2013 and the beginning of 2014 I commend to you the oft-told story for further reflection and guidance.

God bless to you all, Philip.

Church duties December see page 5

### 100 CLUB

A big thank you to the many of you who have already subscribed to the 100 club for 2013/14.

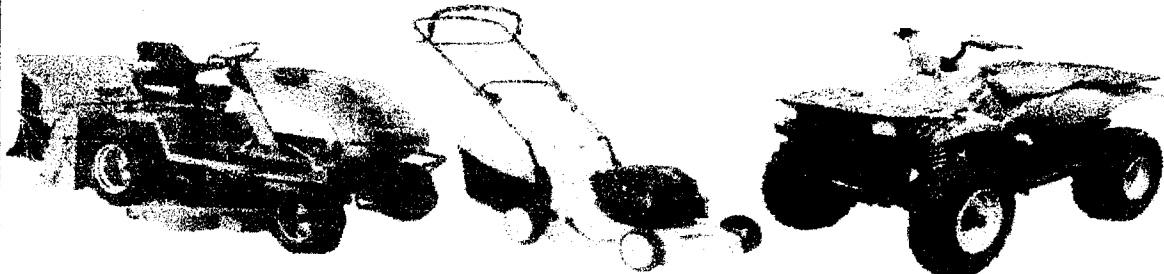
For those of you who are meaning to but have not got around to it, then if you hurry and get your money to me by the end of June, I can include you in the first of 12 monthly draws that start in July. Thank you for your support.

David Gray (PCC Treasurer)

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630 Club	Andy Bystra	681690
AVDC	Switchboard	585858
Baby & Toddlers Group	Kim Gayler	681123
Bingo	Pam Dixon	681626
	Sondra Dickason	682249
Book Club	John Hardcastle	688070
Bus Enquiries	Travel line	0870 6082608
Buses	L & S	415468
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Chronicle Distribution	Marisa Abel Smith	681411
	Zandy Ayres	682419
Chronicle Editorial	editor@aachronicle.co.uk	
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	Deirdre Whyte	681685
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 Moulton	681262
RSPCA	Enquiries	08705 555999
Scouts	Nikki Reeve	681372
Whist	Colin Higgs	681343
Wingrave Pre School	Kelly Targell	681127
Wingrave Post Office	PO Only	682964
Wingrave Post Office	Stores	681696
Wingrave School	Office	681436

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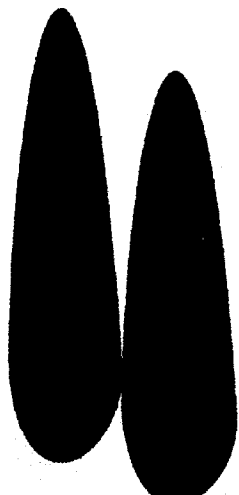
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I am based in Aston Abbots and will deliver your chosen design, free of charge, to any address within a 5 mile radius of the village. I can also deliver outside this area for a reasonable charge.

Please telephone Jayne for further details or email to receive a selection of sample photographs.

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07952 255639

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County Jewellers

CLOSED THURSDAYS



### CHURCH DUTIES- December

See page 5

## 100 CLUB

A big thank you to the many of you who  
have already subscribed to the 100 club  
for 2013/14.

For those of you who are meaning to but  
have not got around to it, then if you  
hurry and get your money to me by the  
end of June, I can include you in the first  
of 12 monthly draws that start in July.

Thank you for your support.

David Gray (PCC Treasurer)

If you would like flowers in Church in memory of a loved one then let Colin Higgs know

## **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

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01296 688191

corriganpc@aol.com

## **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 707833

- Churchwarden

Colin Higgs 681343

Ann Goodman 681763

Anita Parker 681325

Gordon Kemp 681763

Caroline Lane Sec 681373

David Gray 07935414495

- Treasurer

Gay Walker 688632



# What's On In December

**See page 5 for full details**

## **Address**

Please note that all  
Submissions for the  
Chronicle should be sent to  
Phil Corrigan  
5 Nashs Farm, Aston Abbotts

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

## **Dates for the Diary**

**26/27 July**

**Village Fete & Festival**

## **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 specialise in  
intelligent conversation over a  
glass of something.

## **Baby sitters/dog sitters available**

Reliable 14 year olds available to look after either children,  
babies or dogs!

Contact Ellie and Tom Farrands - 681182

## **MOBILE LIBRARY**

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December.

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wish all of their friends in

Aston Abbots a very

Merry Christmas

and a

Happy New Year

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