

THE CHRONICLE

Aston Abbots Parish Magazine

EXPENSES CLAIM SHOCK!



A villager reacts with disbelief at the opening of Aston Abbots Fete 2015 as special guest the Right Hon John Bercow M.P. exposes the full extent of the organisers' expenses claim. "50p for a cup of tea? It's outrageous!".

However, many others were much more forgiving, praising the excellent fete organisation and pointing to the superb result of £3000 raised for village activities. Well done Pam and David!

EDITORIAL

THE CHRONICLE

Issue 354

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Welcome to the new style Chronicle, looking back through the old issues probably first major change since the introduction of computers. There are also some changes of format within the magazine hopefully it will make it easier to read and for you to find your favourite parts. To get away from large slabs of print I have used newspaper style columns in a couple of areas and varied typefaces for some variety. In truth I probably won't get the full effect until it is back from the printers, so probably best to treat it as a work in progress. I hope you like the changes, do let me know either way or any suggestions gratefully received.

A worrying start to the summer with the news that the Brewery had served notice on Terri & Gary at the Royal Oak, would we become another village without a pub? I'm pleased to say that they've managed to buy the pub and the future seems secure. There are more details in a short interview with Teri inside.

With summer drawing to a close I need to thank the organisers of both the Ball and Fete, two very successful event. Having been very involved in a number of Astonburys I can appreciate the work and effort that goes into putting these events on so well done and here's to next year, although I'd appreciate it if somebody could ensure I keep my hands down during the auction.

Phil Corrigan

INSIDE THIS CHRONICLE:

Countryside matters... the musings from our sons of the soil: page 4
Peter Knight Round the village
Peter Shorrock Allotment report
James Henderson Countryside matters
Peter Knight Orchard Report

Village Stuff page 10
Royal Oak. A chat with Teri Moulton
Fete Report
Dog Show report
Fete Accounts
Annual Parish meeting minutes
Whats on in September
Urgent Planning volunteers needed
Aston Abbotts & Marilyn Monroe (you'll have to read it Ed)

The Arty Bits: page 25
Books
The Astonians
Theatre
Letters... well 1 Ed

St James: page 33
Breakfast Service
Church Duties
September Services
Church Diary
Dear Friends

ROUND THE VILLAGE Peter Knight

What a year for haymaking – with the weather we had in June it would have taken a clever man to spoil a hay crop, not that hay is as important as it used to be – it was once the fuel for working horses.

Harvest is now about half way through, but round here it is unlikely to be finished by the magic date of “The Bucks Show”. I suggest it has been a pretty good year for mixed farming production wise but the prices for those products are a disgrace. We should be ashamed of the price we pay for milk. The return per hour that the dairy farmer works and the return for his investment and knowledge is a pittance. I had half a life time in the dairy industry and am proud of what we achieved in the good days. I could weep for the small dairy farmer today struggling with T.B.; ever rising costs; ever increasing restrictions and regulations; the price of milk is an insult – yes weep with anger.

My vegetable garden hasn't produced as well as usual this year. Our early potatoes did very well, we have a very good crop of onions and the runner beans are producing well as they have been well watered. Brassicas however, are awful, stunted, full of virus yellows and now being consumed by caterpillars. Wasps ate all our grapes and most of our early plums and tomatoes are taking ages to ripen – an average sort of year in our garden I suppose!

With harvest moving on, the fields are being cleared and I'm seeing more deer and hares about than usual. Last week at Cublington a field was being ploughed and eight kites were floating overhead to feed on worms and mice turned up by the plough. This week there have been approximately 250 starlings feeding in rough ground at Lower Burston – I think they've had a good breeding year. To me the village now seems over populated with wood pigeons which seem to have pushed out the ubiquitous Collared Doves – too much food under bird tables at present, I suggest. The Rooks and Jackdaws are away temporarily feeding on the corn stubbles and ploughing, a time of plenty for them.

I expect you have seen the adult Canada Geese with their young in the fields round Windmill. The young of course, can't fly until they are fully fledged so they must walk out from the Abbey Moat across the road and into the fields to find grass to graze (yes they graze like sheep). What wonderful parents geese are, they seem to be able to protect their offspring from foxes and cars – no mean achievement. At the weekend I held a young swift in my hand – it was trapped in the belfry of Wingrave Church, and was easily caught and taken outside and released. Swifts have had a terrible breeding year thanks to a lack of insects early in the summer so this one represented 25% of this year's hatch. It was a thrill for me to release it into its natural home – the sky. It won't land or touch a building for 2 years – they sleep on the wing and feed in the air – mystical birds for sure, they were called Devilins in the Leicestershire of my childhood.

Now this month's star prize and for once no doubt – no close runners – up out on its own – Neil Chesher's front garden in Nash's Farm and I bet the south side of the house is even better. A wonderful riot of colour in this tricky year/

As I spent hours watering Neil's garden centre while he was bobbing around the Ionian sea I'm taking some of the credit Ed

ALLOTMENT DIARY

Well, it may not have been the hottest summer ever, but it hasn't been a bad one for gardeners, so far. There have been one or two dry spells, but by and large the weather has been conducive to vegetable growing. I've personally only had one failure this year: my strawberry crop was almost non-existent. On the plus side I had a record amount of gooseberries, my blackcurrant crop was OK, my raspberries seem to be coming along nicely, and my plum tree has a more than adequate amount of fruit. The cultivated blackberries which I planted a couple of years ago are also beginning to justify their existence.

On the vegetable front, the first and second early potato crop has been good, as have the onions. My mangetouts were a bit disappointing, but the long purple French beans are making up for this. I have not been inundated with courgettes this year, as I usually am: only two of the eight seeds that I planted in the greenhouse germinated, and the first courgette plant that I moved to the allotment got attacked by slugs within a week of arrival. I have no idea how the wretched things got to it: as I always do (having had the problem before) I surrounded the plant with a circle of slug-deterrent granules, but somehow one got past them and ate through the stem. Fortunately my next-door neighbour, Pete Newens, kindly let me have a plant he had grown (having bought it by mistake, thinking he was buying a cucumber), and this has filled the breach, while my second plant, which was the runt of the litter, has just started producing fruit.

My big vegetable success, however, has been my Romanesco cauliflowers. I am growing them inside a netting cage. The netting developed a large number of rips when I took it in last autumn, as a result of weeds growing

through the netting, and tearing it when I pulled it up. However, I was able to mend all these with darning thread and clips, so as to keep both cabbage white butterflies and pigeons out, and I am now reaping the benefit. Unfortunately all the plants seem to be ripening at once, so that I am having to give a number away.

In the greenhouse, I am again indebted to Pete Newens, who taught me that I should pinch out the side shoots of tomato plants before they start growing and sapping the strength of the plants (which expend all their energy into growing these shoots, instead of growing fruit). Since I am a completely self-taught gardener, I had never heard about this before; and following his advice, I have had my best ever crop of tomatoes. Unfortunately none of my cucumber seeds germinated, but the tomatoes have more than compensated.

As I mentioned in an earlier allotment diary, we on the allotments are experiencing a new problem this year, which is predation by rabbits. There are few gardeners on the allotments who have not suffered at the hands (or rather teeth) of these pests. Some have planted several sowings of carrots, to have each one eaten as soon as the shoots appear; others have lost lettuces and beans. My misfortune has been, I believe, to lose a number of sweetcorn plants. I cannot be sure it was rabbits that ate these: but only 6 of 30 plants came up of one part of my patch, compared with a 90% success rate on the adjoining strip on ground – and there were scrapings in the soil near these six plants, which I am fairly sure were made by rabbits.

The next battle on my allotment will be to try to protect my sweetcorn crop from attack by the pests that start eating the cobs even before they are ripe. I believe that the principal culprits are magpies (who Richard Clark witnessed attacking sweetcorn plants

ripped the sheaths off the cobs, so exposing the kernels of corn beneath, other predators attack the plants as well. I am planning to construct a scarecrow, and hope that it lives up to its name. I grow too many plants to net the whole crop, which is what a number of my fellow allotmenters do.

I will report next month on the success or otherwise of the scarecrow technology!

Peter Shorrocks

Countryside Matters

I have never known the wasps as bad as they have been this summer. We have dealt with at least 15 nests and the badgers have dug up 5 of them. The badger, apart from being a much loved animal by a few but not by the dairy farmer and hated by gardeners whose lawns, flowerbeds and vegetable patches are wrecked by these destructive creatures, digging under walls and fences; they might have just found a new useful side line, digging out wasp nests. They leave a hole in the ground about the size of a football with the grey carcass of the wasp nest left as an empty shell. Obviously it's the grubs that they are after, completely clearing out all the contents of the nest. They must get badly strung on their nose and mouth but it must be worth it! The other place that badgers are very unwelcome is in the church grave yards for obvious reasons. Moving back to wasps, they always struck me as some of nature's useless species, "Oh" I hear you say, "they pollinate flowers and fruit", news to me. I think most of the pollination is done by others, bees and bumble bees from late February through March and into May and June, the wasps don't normally arrive until mid to late July and early August. Still someone must love them, certainly not me.

Delighted to see the dairy farmers are being promised a better deal by some supermarkets and I shall definitely be buying the dearer milk. It is great to see the young farmers and especially the daughters of dairy farmers getting involved, buying up supermarket milk and giving it away in the car parks for free, (Daily Mail- August 13th), it was called "The milk trolley challenge", good luck to the young 26 year old Gloucester Farmer's plucky daughter and her friends for sticking up for what they believe in, a stronger and more secure future.

James

ORCHARD REPORT

What a strange and disappointing summer for both gardens and the village orchard. Here in Aston Abbotts we've experienced the hottest day ever, the coldest July day and one of the driest years on

record - not a good growing season.

I decided early on that I would regularly water the five trees that were planted last November. Most weeks I have visited the orchard twice with a barrel of water. I began by watering five trees and that soon became nine as other established trees showed signs of suffering. Had I known in advance that it would be so dry I would have stripped all the fruit that set. Two well grown trees that cropped heavily could not supply enough water for both the fruit and the leaves - they suddenly looked very poor - hopefully regular watering has revived them.

There is a huge contrast in how the trees have fared. Violette for one has grown at least 6 inches on every branch over the summer. Many trees have grown 3 inches but also many trees have hardly grown at all. There is still time for growth if we have a decent amount of rain. It is quite simply the bigger the tree, the deeper the roots and the better it's ability to stand a dry time.

Greengages remain a puzzle:- one small Oullins Gage appeared dead in the spring - no leaves appeared at all, then, at the height of the drought, this "dead tree" sent up a new and vigorous shoot that is growing well. Next to this tree is another, this one looked well and vigorous in the spring but very soon all the leaves dried and they still hang on the tree - a flag of failure - this one will have to be replaced. A black Mulberry too has died and will be replaced even though these are difficult to find. All the smaller Pear trees have struggled but are alive and waiting for a better growing year next year.

All summer there has been water in the trough and buckets in the shed. Congratulations to those who have made use of this facility and helped their trees along. Well done Tone and Margaret in particular. We are no doubt advancing, but at a slower rate than I had hoped.

Your orchard is already a delightful place to walk and sit. One day it will be a real wonder and a great asset to the village.

You may ask why there has been no "picnic" this year- my answer is because you have not organised one! The orchard is there to be used.

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Village stuff:

A Chat with Teri at the Royal Oak

AAC: firstly congratulations, it must be a relief to have the future of your home secure?

Teri: Yes it certainly is, it was a complete surprise when the Brewery served notice on us which they could only do on a specific date during our three year lease.

AAC: So you had no idea it was coming?

Teri: No, but it may explain why they have been reluctant to invest in the pub or even meet their contractual liabilities.

AAC: Now that you've managed to buy the Oak can you assure the Village that it will continue as a pub?

Teri: Yes certainly, as you know we were on a short rolling contract which also made it difficult for us to invest.

AAC: Can I ask what plans and ideas you now have for the Oak?

Teri: Well it's all happened so quickly we are still planning what we can do and when. Obviously we can bring in a wider range of beers as we are no longer tied to the brewery, in fact we'll be changing some very soon, and will be developing a new menu, and introducing theme nights.

Now the future is secure we will be updating the kitchens and hopefully will be able to make better use of the dilapidated outbuildings, now that we own the Oak we're looking forward to continuing these improvements.

We're looking forward to continuing to welcome villagers old and new to the Oak

The Fete:



ASTON ABBOTTS FETE 25th July 2015



After a wet week with a month's worth of rain falling on the Friday, Saturday dawned bright and sunny and it remained fair all day. On the Sunday rain resumed. In short we were incredibly lucky with the weather on Fete day. A missing key for the mower shed and a blown element in the Village Hall tea earn served merely to sharpen the coordinators wits and raise his heart rate.

The Rt. Hon. John Bercow MP opened the Fete at 1pm and, following the recent publicity about his expenses, took Peter Knight's introductory remarks about him coming on his bicycle, in good spirit.

Villagers responded well to requests to provide items for sale at the Gift and Bric-a-brac stalls and bottles for the tombola. The cake stall sold out by mid-afternoon as usual and the BBQ and Pimms were as popular as ever. Donkeys from Abbots View Farm and The Old School coped well with the mass petting they received and the Dog Show was, as usual, a great success.

A big thank you to all those who helped with this year's Fete; with raffle ticket sales and house-to-house collections, setting up on the day and manning the stalls and displays, providing food and drink at the BBQ, Pimms and Village Hall teas, running the Dog Show and traditional Coconut shy and Skittles. We could not have done it without you. The flowers in the Church were stunning and our thanks to Colin Higgs for organising the floral display again this year.

We are grateful to Morrisons and M & S for the raffle prizes they donated and to the Cold Shoulder Gun Club from the Quanton hills who donated the clays for the have-a-go clay pigeon shoot organised by Rob Hunter.

The net proceeds of £3,000 (see details of the 2015 account elsewhere in this month's Chronicle) have been split equally between The Chronicle, the Village Hall, the Recreation Ground and the Church as decided at the Annual Parish meeting in June.

We would welcome any comments on the way we run the Fete and any suggestions for improvement.

David Gray Fete Coordinator and Treasurer.

Aston Abbotts Dog Show Report

The dog show on fete day attracted 90 entries. Our judge was Kennel Club Judge Jill Fountaine.

Most Handsome Dog was won by Tango a Lurcher, handled by Giles. Second was Rudi a Puggle owned by Nathan and third was Moss a Border Collie, owned by Bryony.

Prettiest Bitch was won by Ellie a Cavershon, owned by Lesley. Flyte a Belgium Shepherd owned by Ian was second and Myla a Leonburgher owned by Wendy was third.

Golden Oldie was won by Dash, a nine and a half year old Belgium Shepherd owned by Ian. Pickles, a thirteen year old Jack Russell owned by Judy was second and Honey, a nine year old Collie, owned by Shirley was third.

Best Rescue was won by Scooby, a Cocker Spaniel owned by Richard. Sky, a Border Collie, owned by Tracy was second and Harley, a Cocker Spaniel owned by Rowan was third.

Best Puppy winner was Soraya, an Afghan Hound, owned by Karen. Myler, a Leonburgher owned by Rowan was second and Lucia, a Chug, owned by Chris was third.

Most Appealing Eyes was won by Storm a Husky/Collie cross owned by Clare. Smudge a Cocker Spaniel owned by Emma was second and Molly, a Labrador, owned by Charlie was third.

Waggiest Tail winner was Rosie, a Jack Russell owned by Joy. Harley, a Cocker Spaniel, owned by Rowan was second. Smudge, a Cocker Spaniel owned by Emma was third.

Fastest Sausage Eater came next and the winner was Gismo, a Doberman, owned by Rowan. Second was Tara, a Belgium Shepherd owned by Erica and Darcy, a Labrador owned by Kate was third.

Sitting Challenge was won by Darcy, a Labrador owned by Kate. Tara, a Belgium Shepherd owned by Erica was second and Flyte, a Belgium Shepherd owned by Ian was third.

Dog The Judge Would Most Like to Take Home was won by Myler, a Leonburgher owned by Rowan. Darcy a Labrador owned by Kate was second and Storm, a Husky/Collie cross owned by Clare was third.

Our Best In Show winner was Soraya the Afghan Hound owned by Karen. Reserve Best In Show went to Tango, the Lurcher handled by Giles.

Sally Clarke

**ASTON ABBOTTS FETE
2015**

Income

The Green	Proceeds
Books	£123
Bottle Tombola	£191
Gifts	£66
Bric-a-Brac	£345
Cakes	£145
Charity Stall	£25
Plants	£110
PIMMS	£261
BBQ	£545
Orchard	£3
Misc Raffle & Auctions	£93
Raffle	£1,038
The Grove	
Children's Rides	£70
Coconut Shy	£114
Dog Show	£70
Ice Creams	£140
Skittles	£72
Clay Pigeon Shooting	£100
Church Room Teas	£295
Donations	£200
Total Income	£4,006

Expenditure

Morris Men	£120
Great Horwood Silver Band	£160
Raffle Prizes	£150
Food & Drink	£360
Gaming Licence	£20
Drinks Licence	£21
Sound System (Aylesbury Little Diggers)	£70
Raffle Ticket Production (Quills)	£105
Total Expenditure	£1,006

Net Proceeds £3,000

Minutes of the Aston Abbotts Annual Parish Meeting

8.00pm 20th May, 2015

Present: Mr C Higgs (Vice Chairman, Parish Council), Mr Paul Bruton (acting secretary), Mr Peter Cooper (District Councillor), Mrs N Glover (County Councillor) Ms P Boston (PCSO, North Wing) and 20 parishioners.

1. Apologies: Mr P Shorrocks, Mrs K Curry, Mrs J Hardcastle, Mr B Carvey, Mr S Markwell, Mrs V Smith and Mr L Smith.
 2. The Minutes to the meeting held 14th May, 2014 were approved and signed as a true record
 3. No matters arising.
 4. **County Councillor Glover** advised that her monthly reports included within the minutes of the Parish meetings had hopefully kept residents up to date with current developments within Bucks CC. A question from the floor was asked whether the A418 bypass would ever be built. This was not planned and as a result concern was expressed regarding the junction with the A418 that was extremely hazardous and dangerous. Given the anticipated increase in use of the A418, County Cllr Glover was requested to raise the matter on behalf of residents with the appropriate department. County Cllr Glover agreed and would keep residents updated via the Parish Clerk. **District Councillor Cooper** addressed the meeting with a number of updates to local issues affecting Aston Abbotts and the Aylesbury area in general although as the election had only just been held and as the new Council had yet to meet, precise plans were not agreed.
- The upgrade to Broadband is due to have the cabinet that serves Aston Abbotts & Rowsham switched on in June. There was an issue with the power supply that has delayed the anticipated date and this has now been resolved.
The possibility of a cycle path to Aylesbury was still being explored and a feasibility study had been commissioned with funding from the Local Area Forum. It was hoped an application for funding the project from the New Homes Bonus would be made next year. The cycle path would run from the crossroads to Berton where the plans for development of Aylesbury East included a cycle path into the Town Centre.
- Areas that the new Council had to address included the following:
- The development of the Local Plan was forecast for 2017 and Cllr Cooper felt this was too long and Council should be putting more resource and effort into developing the plan sooner. Our neighbours Wingrave had developed a Neighbourhood Plan as a way to control development in their village as developers had identified 21 sites. Although Aston Abbotts is smaller and there are no developer sites at present, the current situation regarding the Local Plan did mean we were exposed given our proximity to the A418.
 - The development of Aylesbury town centre was continuing with plans for the Old Police station to be demolished to create a Cultural area to include a new piazza with new restaurants and shops. The open air car park will be affected during the build.
 - The new Council will have to continue to make cost savings as cuts to the Central Gov't Grant continue with the potential for no grant within the next 5 years – a saving of £10m - £12m, or alternatively continue to look for ways of generating income. They will also look to change the

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- Structure of Local Councils reducing the number from 5 to 1 or more likely 2, a consultation has been commissioned.
- Answering questions from the residents Cllr. Cooper confirmed residents' fears that the A418 would get busier as the new Dunstable by pass is built and Aylesbury grows. A recent bid by BCC for funding a by-pass had been thrown out and there were currently no plans to improve the situation. There was also a question concerning grass cutting and this was the responsibility of BCC who were only planning 2 cuts this year as the cost savings continue to affect certain services.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Cooper for his report and making the effort to attend given the other meetings he was committed to attend this evening.

- PCSO Boston reported that over the past 12 months there have been 3 reported crimes within our Parish, these have all been theft from vehicles. This has been the main issue in our Area with power tools being the main aim. There have been targeted operations carried out and arrests made but we feel there are different groups carrying out these offences. Crime prevention is a key message, we all have a responsibility to make ourselves and our property as secure as possible.
- There were 36 calls to Thames Valley Police to report incidents in addition to crime and these included calls regarding abandoned vehicles, parking issues, road hazard, noise complaints and suspicious persons activity.
- WE are in the process of implementing priority based budgeting, this is to ensure that monies are spent to tackle the main crime issues that affect communities and resources are directed where it is needed. It is important residents report crimes when they happen so a true reflection of what is happening in rural areas.
- Wing police office is at full resourcing with 3 PCs and 5 PCSOs with full support from the Aylesbury and Buckingham response teams, we also have dog units that book on at Wing Station who although covering all of the Thames Valley area have been fundamental in assisting within the rural area.
- Many villages are up and running with Community Speedwatch and sharing the use of MVAS – this has been positive with villagers taking action in educating motorists in adhering to the speed limit and when there is evidence of a persistent speeder information is passed onto to Thames Valley Police to intervene.
- Thames Valley Police website is worth a look to gather varied information and signing to alerts keeps you in the picture on what is happening within our policing area.

The Chairman thanked PCSO Boston for her report.

5. Parish Councils Chairman's Report, In Mr Shorrocks absence Cllr Higgs read his report and this summarised the work undertaken during the year;

Council had been considering whether to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan, a formal document that sets out the planning policies for an area and will have legal weight in any planning decision. A Neighbourhood Plan is supposed to be ancillary to a master plan prepared by the Local Council, but the AVDC Local Plan was rejected by Government, and it will not be completed until 2017 leaving the area open to speculative planning applications from Developers. The cost of developing these plans can be in excess of £10,000 and although it may be possible to get a grant towards these costs we would still have to find several thousand pounds out of its own

- Resources. For this reason very few parish councils have prepared such plans and none as small as ours. We have sought advice and although there is some risk it does seem that the risk is less great here than Wingrave, who are developing a Plan. We will continue to discuss the matter and no decision has yet been reached.
- Community Right to Bid - Recent legislation has allowed Parish Councils to register various buildings and areas of land in their area as ones for which they or groups of local residents would like to have the right to buy should the property come on the market in order to preserve that building for the benefit of the Community. We are taking advantage of this to register the Village Hall, the pub, the Church, the Recreation Ground and the allotments.
- The Rural Exception Policy – There is a planning policy called the Rural Exception Scheme that allows for the provision of housing in small villages if a need is established. Once built such houses will remain in perpetuity for the benefit of the parishioners with a strong local connection and will not be readily saleable on the open market. The scheme would provide for example starter homes for younger people, down-sized dwellings for the elderly, and generally affordable housing. We commissioned a survey that recommended we should try to provide 4 one bedroom houses for rent and 3 two bedroom houses for rent or shared ownership. The houses would be built on plots of land that are not ear marked for development and are usually built in a way that respects the character of the village. The search for a suitable site is on-going.
- Council agreed to support a feasibility study for the provision of a cycle way alongside the A418.
- We have been continuing to press for Moat Lane and Lines Hill to be gritted in icy weather, especially after the accidents that occurred last winter, Cllr Higgs and Clarke attended a recent Local Area Forum meeting where it was agreed that the road meets the criteria and we expect the road to be included next year.
- There have unfortunately been no volunteers to update the Village Plan, despite advertisements in the Chronicle, and the Council will have to try to keep it updated.

6. Village Activity reports:

7.

- Phil Corrigan updated the meeting on the current position of the Chronicle and advised that from September a new version would be launched that hopefully would help to reduce production costs. Currently we had around £1,800 of income from adverts – costs were £3,200 at present with the difference being made up with donations from the Fete and village funds. The new production method should reduce costs however any additional funding from the Fete would be gratefully received. A vote of thanks was recorded to Phil for taking on the Chronicle that all agreed was appreciated by residents.
- Phil Spooner reported that during the year the Village Postie had been launched. The website although not official was due a facelift and any ideas for content and layout would be welcomed. We could offer a link to local businesses, please contact him if interested. The Village postie had been started by S Burgess, S Markwell and himself after Steve Markwell raised the idea, and currently we have 90 email addresses and we are hoping to get more at this years Fete. Emails are vetted for suitability and generally passed, there are some commercial but these must have a village connection. A lot of items have been circulated and include notices of forthcoming events and meetings. Comments on any posts are not circulated to ensure control. Those present all agreed it was a great addition to keep residents up to date with local activities and a vote of thanks was recorded for all involved.
- Colin Higgs reported the Good Samaritan Bingo takes place on the 2nd Thursday of each month in the Village Hall and it is a fun game for all ages, children included. There are cash prizes for the winners of the main games, an accumulating Snowball, plus raffle. It is a light hearted, very friendly evening. Donations were made to the following charities. Whitby RNLI, British Heart Foundation, Florence Nightingale Hospice, Motor Neurone Support, Air Ambulance etc. Thanks to all the loyal regulars and all those who have made prize donations. Colin Higgs also advised there was a Whist drive every 1st, 3rd, & 5th Thursdays of each month and all were welcome, the Ramblers also meet on the 3rd Sunday every month meeting at 2pm on the Green to explore local public walks.
- Sally Palmer reported that the GNOMES (Girls night out men excluded) met every Tuesday night – new lady members were always welcome. They had organised a number of events during the year including an evening of Boules, games night and a race night raising funds for Charity.
- John Hardcastle reported that the Village Orchard now has 111 fruit trees of 84 different varieties. There will be a stall on behalf of the Village orchard at the Fete kindly run by Brigitte Gutierrez. Peter Knight has recently mowed the Orchard and it is a good time to walk around and see all the trees. Gordon Smith has updated the Orchard Book, this lists all the trees and the family connections associated with each tree. Copies of the book are available in the shed if you would like to use one whilst visiting the Orchard. Finally a thank you to Peter and Ale for all their hard work.
- John Hardcastle reported on the Aston Abbots Theatregoers – tickets for the summer season are printed in the Chronicle and cover the period to the end of September. About 25 people regularly express an interest and the tickets are free and you are offered a programme and a drink during the interval. It would be good for other villagers to enter the draw for each John Hardcastle reported on the Aston Abbots Theatregoers – tickets for the summer season are printed in the Chronicle and cover the period to the end of September. About 25 people regularly express an

interest and the tickets are free and you are offered a programme and a drink during the interval. It would be good for other villagers to enter the draw for each show.

- John Hardcastle reported on the Book club that was started in 2009 and now had 14 members (2 male) who meet once a month at one of the member's homes to discuss the book of the month (chosen by the host) and enjoy the odd glass of wine., now on their 66th book. The size of the club seemed to be just about right and if other people were interested then he would be happy to start another club, John Hardcastle reported to the meeting that planning consent has been received and Building Control have approved the drawings for the development of the Village Hall. The Trustees have appointed a Quantity Surveyor who will be able to report on the anticipated costs and have prepared the documents potential contractors will use to provide quotations. It will soon be possible for applications to be made to potential funders, the most likely one being WREN. Support from the village will be needed. The Trustees are very keen that all interest groups in the village are represented. If you would like to join the Committee please let me know, your input would be very welcome. Trustees have now received a Defibrillator from the British Heart Foundation that will be located at the Village Hall.

8. The meeting was asked if there were any volunteers to help with the implementation of the Village Plan Actions, unfortunately none were forthcoming.
9. The Distribution of the profits from the 2015 Fete was discussed and it was agreed that the profits from the fete would be distributed in equal proportion between The Chronicle, The Church, The Village Hall and The Recreation Ground.
10. AOB – Residents from Brickhill raised concerns over the tree cuttings that had been deposited on the Recreation Ground creating an eyesore for them and visitors to the area, they enquired how long the cuttings were anticipated to be there. Cllr Clarke explained that the cuttings were as a result of addressing another residents concerns over a dead cherry tree and various Safety issues. It was anticipated they would be removed/disposed of within the next 3 weeks weather and wind conditions permitting.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.15pm

And then we adjourned to the Oak Ed

Whats on in September:

Tues 1 st	Mobile Library	the Green	10.30am
Thurs 3 rd	Coffee Shop	Village Hall	10-12pm
Sunday 6 th	Rambling Club	Aldbury	2pm
	Breakfast Service	Village Hall	9.30am
		St James	10.00am
Tues 8 th	Aylesbury Vale Transport Meeting		
		Buckingham	2pm
Thurs 10 th	Coffee Shop	Village Hall	10-12pm
	Bingo		7.30pm
Sunday 13 th	Village Footpath Walk the Green 2pm		
Thurs 17 th	Coffee Shop	Village Hall	10-12pm
	Whist Drive		7.30pm
Weds 23 rd	Parish Council	Village Hall	7.30pm
Thurs 24 th	Coffee Shop	Village Hall	10-12pm
Tues 29 th	Mobile Library	the Green	10.30am
Thurs 1 st	Coffee Shop	Village Hall	10-12pm
	Whist Drive		7.30pm

URGENT PLANNING NOTICE

AYLESBURY VALE DISTRICT COUNCIL

ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH COUNCIL INTEND TO MAKE A COMMUNITY RIGHT TO BUILD ORDER TO HELP INFLUENCE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT IN THE VILLAGE.

A Community Right to Build Order is put together by local people who can decide on the type, quantity and design of buildings they want, and in the locations they want.

A Community Right to Build Order can be used to grant outline or full planning permission for specific development which complies with the order. For example: homes, shops, businesses, affordable housing for rent or sale, community facilities or playgrounds.

WE ARE FORMING A STEERING GROUP WITH COUNCILLORS AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY AND WE URGENTLY NEED YOUR HELP.

If you have any time to spare in whatever capacity – your parish needs you. Can you be on our Steering Group for this project? All ages and abilities would be most welcome. Do you have knowledge of IT or Web building? Can you take notes, do you have any knowledge of planning, transport, administration, could you deliver leaflets? This is exciting and rewarding work, community led and driven for the benefit of parishioners.

Please contact; Mrs. Zandy Ayres, Clerk of Aston Abbots Parish Council, 15, The Green, Aston Abbots, HP22 4LX
Tel: 01296 682419
Email: astonabbotsclerk@gmail.com

What's the connection between Aston Abbotts and Marilyn

Monroe? For the answer, read on....

Many of you will be aware that there is a plaque in the church commemorating the donation of money in 1929 for the restoration of one of the church bells. The plaque states that the donation was made by William H Putnam of Hartford, Connecticut in memory of his ancestor John Putnam who emigrated to Salem, Massachusetts in 1634. This was all the information we knew about the Putnams when we went on holiday to Massachusetts this year, but we certainly found out a lot more while we were there. While staying in Boston we took the train to Salem. The heavens opened so we took shelter in the visitor centre and got chatting to a local guide. We mentioned John Putnam to him whereupon he took a sharp intake of breath and then went on to tell us how important the Putnam name is in that area.

Salem, of course, was the location of one of the more ignominious episodes in early American history - 20 people were executed there in 1692, having been found guilty of witchcraft. We discovered that the Putnam family was heavily involved in the whole sorry saga. John Putnam died some 20 years prior to this but Ann Putnam, his great-granddaughter, was one of the girls who initiated the witch-hunt by making accusations of witchcraft against others in the village. In this she was goaded by her mother (also Ann) and her father Thomas, John's grandson. The accusations initially came about because of what is now assumed to be an attack of group hysteria amongst several local girls. It snowballed into a campaign of revenge between different Salem families, the most prominent of these being the Putnam family, and most of the accusations were signed by one of the Putnams. In 1706 Ann Putnam, then aged 26 and having survived both her parents, publicly apologised for the accusations she had made as a girl and stated that she now believed all those who had been executed had been innocent of witchcraft.

What do we know of John Putnam? He was born in Wingrave in January 1580, into a well-to-do farming family. His ancestors have been traced back to Ralf de Puttenham (c. 1210), whose family owned land around, and gave their name to, the village near Tring. Sir Roger de Puttenham was MP for Bucks in the middle of the fourteenth century. Later ancestors owned land at Edlesborough, Slapton, Rowsham, Wingrave and Stewkley.

It is believed John Putnam farmed at the now-vanished hamlet of Burston, just down Lines Hill. He and his wife Priscilla had seven children, two of whom died in childhood and are buried in Aston Abbotts churchyard. His other children all moved to Massachusetts with them, but exactly when this happened is unclear. He is first recorded in Salem in 1640; according to one source, there is no evidence other than

family tradition of his having left England in 1634, and indeed we now believe this date to be incorrect. In an Aston Abbots church inventory of 1638 John Putnam is named as churchwarden (our thanks to Shirley Ford for this information), so he could not have left in 1634. It is perhaps unsurprising that it is not known exactly when he sailed to America since there were of course no passports or travel documentation in those days. (The names of all the passengers who sailed to Plymouth on the *Mayflower* in 1623 are known, but this is exceptional). Over the course of the next few years he acquired some 800 acres of farmland around Salem, making him one of the wealthiest men in that area. He died at the age of 82 in December 1662. A stone in the graveyard in Danvers (originally Salem village) is inscribed to John Putnam 1580-1662 and says: "In this plot rest the remains of immigrants from Aston Abbots, co. Bucks, England, 1640".

We do not know what motivated the Putnam family's move to America. The Pilgrim Fathers had left Plymouth for the New World only a few years earlier, a hazardous journey that took them 66 days to complete. Although many of the early settlers left England to escape religious persecution, a significant proportion of them were sponsored and went for commercial reasons. John is known to have become a prominent member of the church in Salem, so it is unclear whether his move was for financial or spiritual gain. This is something we hope to investigate further.

In Boston we discovered that descendents of John Putnam were involved in the fight for independence against the British: Seth Putnam took part in the Boston Tea Party and Israel Putnam was a General who fought at the Battle of Bunker Hill.

And the answer to the teaser? American playwright Arthur Miller wrote a play in 1953 about the Salem Witch Trials (actually a thinly-veiled attack on McCarthyism) called *The Crucible*. And in 1956 he famously married Marilyn Monroe. So there you have it.

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- Goats cheese & caramelised onion tart
- Feta & Olive salad
- Field mushroom stuffed with goats cheese on garlic toast
- Homemade soup of the day with crusty bread

MAINS

- Ribeye steak garni
- 1kg Moules mariniere on wholegrain mustard mash with pancetta & onion gravy
- Oven roasted lamb rump served with dauphinoise potatoes, mint jus
- Tagliatelle with olives, sun dried tomatoes, pesto & mozzarella served with garlic ciabatta
- 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

PHONE : 01296 681 262

The Arty BitsBooks.....Music....Theatre...Travel & Food.... and the bits I'm not sure where to put!

Books

The Book Club met 26th August at Alison Lewis' to discuss "The Rosie Project" by Graeme Simsion.

The book tells the story of Don Tillman, a 39 year old Australian geneticist with undiagnosed Asperger syndrome who has never had a second date. So, he devises "The Wife Project", a scientific test to find the perfect partner. Enter Rosie - "the world's most incompatible woman" - throwing Don's safe, ordered life into chaos.

Most unusually, every member of the book club thoroughly enjoyed this novel. It's hilariously funny, entertaining and poignant but, at the same time, quite an insight into the mind of a man at the high functioning end of the autistic spectrum.

Definitely a book to be recommended.

'The Grapes of Wrath' by John Steinbeck recounts the progress of the Joad family who have been forced off their land in Oklahoma and travel west to California looking for work and a better future.

It is a polemic against the ruling elite who use the 'lower' classes as slave labour and make no concessions to their wellbeing.

The book was first published in 1939 and its message is as true now as it was then.

At first it's a awkward read - you need to get in tune with the dialect, but when the journey south begins I found it a difficult book to put down.

It made a great impression on me when I first read it some 50 years ago and although I'd forgotten why it left a memory as a 'good book' I'm very pleased I've read it again.

John Hardcastle

The Night Circus by Erin Morgenstern

"The circus arrives without warning. No announcements precede it. It is simply there, when yesterday it was not. The black sign, painted in white letters that hangs upon the gates, reads: Opens at Nightfall - Closes at Dawn. As the sun disappears beyond the horizon, all over the tents small lights begin to flicker, as though the entirety of the circus is covered in particularly bright fireflies. When the tents are all aglow, sparkling against the night sky, the sign appears. Le Cirque des Reves: The Circus of Dreams. Now the circus is open. Now you may enter."

The Night Circus is a sprawling historical novel about magic and the circus. It is a story of an ancient dual between two schools of magical knowledge: old and new. During the course of the deadly game, two young illusionists fall in love, forever changing their lives and the lives of the performers in a mysterious travelling night circus.

This was my book choice. I chose it simply because I had read it a couple of years ago and thoroughly enjoyed it. When I picked it up to re-read I still enjoyed it, but maybe not quite as much as I remembered. When the Book Club discussed it a couple of weeks ago, I was surprised at the range of emotions it had aroused amongst my fellow readers. It seemed most people had either loved it or hated it, and those for and against were ready to defend their views quite passionately! Which side will you take? Read it and see for yourself.....

Kate Curry

The Astonians Part 10

Whining and gnashing of teeth in Church

Astonpete

All characters are fictional and hold no association to anyone

It was so nice to attend the family service at St Abbotts Church in the village and here some great healing testimonies until the Vicar asked if anyone else in the congregation would like to express praise for answered prayers.

Julie Branton, the pretty but slightly thick blond stood up and walked to the podium. She said, "I have praise. Two months ago my husband, Phil' had a terrible bicycle accident and his scrotum was completely crushed. The pain was excruciating and the doctors didn't know if they could help him."

Well you could hear a muffled gasp from the men in the congregation as they imagine the pain that poor Phil' must have experienced. "Phil was unable to hold me or the children," she went on, "and every move caused him terrible pain.

We prayed as the doctors performed a delicate operation and it turned out they were able to piece together the crushed remnants of Phil's scrotum and wrap wire around it to hold it in place." Again, the men in the congregation cringed and squirmed uncomfortably as they imagined the horrible surgery performed on Phil.

"Now," she announced in a quivering voice, "thank the Lord, Phil' is out of hospital and the doctors say that with time his scrotum should recover completely." All the men, especially me, sighed with unified relief. The Vicar rose with a squint in his eye and tentatively asked if anyone else had anything to say. A man stood up and walked slowly to the podium.

He said, "Hi, I'm Phil'." The entire congregation held its breath. "I just want to tell my wife, the word is sternum!"

Theatre

YOUR CHANCE TO WIN THEATRE TICKETS.

The Waterside Theatre have again kindly offered two Press Tickets for each of the shows listed below. The tickets are free and you will usually also be offered a programme and a voucher for a drink during the interval or a drink at the Press Stand in the foyer.

If you would like tickets for any or all of these shows then let me have an email to johnhardcastle@me.com or a note through my door at Marloes, Lines Hill with a contact telephone number.

The draw for the tickets to each event will take place two weeks before the day of the event.

Show	Date & Time
JEEVES & WOOSTER	MON 7 SEP 7.30PM
JERSEY BOYS	WED 23 SEP 7.30PM
BAY CITY ROLLERS Starring LES MCKEOWN	WED 14 OCT 7.30PM
THE CARPENTER'S STORY	THU 15 OCT 7.30PM
Ellen Kent's TOSCA	SAT 17 OCT 7.30PM
THRILLER	MON 9 OCT 7.30PM
PRISCILLA QUEEN OF THE DESSERT	MON 26 OCT 7.30PM
ABBA MANIA	THU 19 NOV 7.30PM
WESTCOAST – THE BEACH BOYS	FRI 20 NOV 7.30PM
THE FULL MONTY	MON 23 NOV 7.30PM
SAINT PETERSBURG CLASSIC BALLET: GISELLE	MON 30 NOV 7.30PM
DICK WHITTINGTON Starring SAM BAILEY (Up to 4 tickets available)	MON 14 DEC 7PM (pre-reception from 6pm)

John Hardcastle

DIRTY DANCING

This was a high-energy tribute show comprising an evening of dirty dancing and songs from the movie soundtrack. The young, dynamic cast displayed athletic dance routines and performed iconic songs such as Big Girls Don't Cry, Hey Baby, Wipeout, Do You Love Me, Hungry Eyes and, of course The Time of My Life. Despite the obvious talent of the performers the production did unfortunately have a low budget feel to it, with dancers having to contend with hand-held microphones. Nonetheless, a very enjoyable evening at the theatre which included a performance by a troupe of local youth dancers from the Spotlight Musical Theatre coached by none other than former Aston Abbotts resident Julia King.

Sondra Dickason



Letters Page

I would like to thank everyone for their cards and condolences on the recent death of my father Don Richards. It was a great support to us at a very sad time.

Sally Clarke

I am persisting with the letters page, some of you must want to voice opinions, or spread the word about something. Ed



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St James Church

SAVE THE DATE

SUNDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER

FOR

OUR NEXT ASTON ABBOTTS BREAKFAST SERVICE

9.30am in the Village Hall

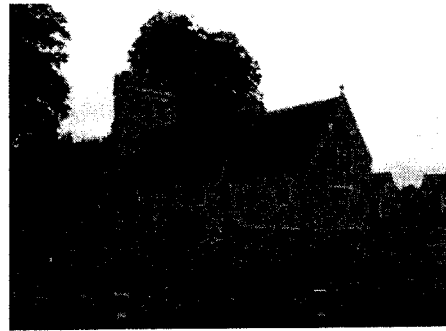
followed by a short, joyful and informal service in Church.

There were 41 of us, including 11 children, in June,
so we very much hope you will join us on 6th September.

For further information do contact Caroline Abel Smith on 681001

Church Duties

	Cleaning	Flowers	Mowing
5 th Sep	Caroline L Colin	April	Andy
12 th Sep	Ann & Gordon	April	Caroline L
19 th Sep	Alex & Anita	Colin	Adam
26 th Sep	Colin Gay	Colin	Mark
3 rd Oct	Colin Caroline L	Colin	Nigel



**Services at
Saint James Church - Aston Abbotts
September 2015**

6th Sept.	9.30am	Breakfast in the Village Hall followed by a short Service	
13th Sept.	10.30am	Communion	Rev. Peter Binns
20th Sept.	10.30am	Communion	Siv Tunnicliffe
27th June	10.30am	Communion	Rev. Roger Hale

We look forward to seeing you

100 Club Draw July 2015

1st Prize, £50: Caroline Guse

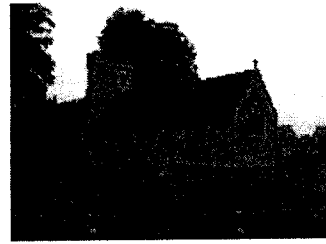
2nd prize, £10: Tracy Hinds

100 Club Draw August 2015

1st Prize, £50: Eve Allen

2nd prize, £10: Venita Dixon

Church Matters



The diary of St. James's

I was sitting in the garden looking across at the church porch when a donkey appeared and proceeded down the path to the gate. Now there is a relationship between donkeys and the Christian faith but I have never heard of a donkey going to Church on their own. I intercepted him at the gate; fortunately he was very docile and had a bridle and rope attached. I returned him to his owner who had by then worked out that he had gone walkabout. He had actually gone behind the Church rather than into it but from where I was sitting he looked like he had been saying his prayers.

Another strange event occurred in early July. The Church organ started playing by itself. Now the Church is not known for its ghosts although it has a history going back to the 13th century. So it was the organ repair and maintenance company we called upon rather than an exorcist. One of the nimbler members of the maintenance team managed to solve the problem once he had climbed inside the organ.

The rainwater disposal system on either side of the porch has been remodelled as requested by the Church surveyor during his last inspection. The pipework above and below ground has been reconfigured but before the holes were filled in the system needed a test. The day before the Fete, when a month's worth of rain fell in a day, provided just such a test and there have been several retests in the last few weeks. I am pleased to say the new system coped well. There is one more downpipe in the middle of the south wall that needs attention so that any future blockages can be easily rectified.

Having flowered and seeded the wild areas to the north of the Church have been strimmed. There remains a small area that has not been cut down. This is not where the gardeners ran out of steam but is an experiment to see what happens if the vegetation is not cut down. We will report on the results of this in the future.

On Sunday 6th September we will have the third of our Family Services preceded by a light breakfast in the Village Hall. So come along at 9.30am and bring the family, whatever their age.

The Harvest Festival Service will take place on Sunday 4th October at 4.30pm and you are all welcome to the Harvest Supper in the Village Hall after the service followed by our usual auction of produce. Best to book early as places are limited (see separate advert elsewhere in this month's Chronicle for details).

The Novice

Dear friends,

This has been a seriously commemorative year! The liberation of concentration camps in 1945, VE+VJ days, Magna Carta, Waterloo, Hiroshima and Nagasaki and this month, on 20th., Battle of Britain Day.

One of my A level tutors was a Spitfire pilot and used to regale us with tales (mostly true I'm sure) of his and his friends exploits in the skies over Kent during the very fearful Summer of 1940. This was all good stuff as he was speaking to us in Chatham, a mile from the Naval Base and surrounded by air bases manned by the incredibly young men of 'the few' as Churchill called them. Now its history, then it was pretty recent stuff with all the signs of destruction all around us.

I t always seemed very appropriate that the weather was turning autumnal---slightly shorter days, more gentle light in the sky, occasional violent downpours of rain. Nature seemed to be reflecting our own human experiences growing up in post-war Britain. Autumn is a time of reflection and for looking forward, especially for those moving on in their academic life or starting in the world of work. Let us remember all our children and young people as they prepare for our increasingly complex world and pray for their safety and well-being. God Bless, Philip.

**Reverend Philip Derbyshire
The Vicarage
2 High Street North
Stewkley
Leighton Buzzard
Lu7 0HH**

HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE, SUPPER & AUCTION

SUNDAY 4th OCTOBER

The Harvest Festival Service at St. James will commence at 4.30pm
followed by the Harvest Supper in the Village Hall at 5.30pm

After supper we will hold our famous auction of locally grown produce

Tickets for the supper and auction are available from
Caroline Lane, Tel 681373, email carolinelane@btinternet.com
priced at £12 for Adults or £7 for youngsters under 14

We recommend you book early as ticket numbers are restricted

*Donations of produce can be brought to the Church Service
or left with David at Church Farm House beforehand*

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Core hours are between 09.30 and 15.00.

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No heavy lifting involved.

Like all small businesses, we enjoy the challenge of multi-tasking. The ideal candidate would be someone who is adaptable and likes to get involved.

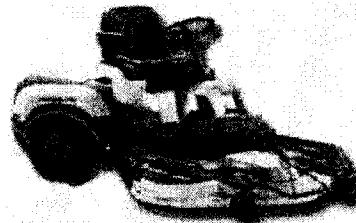
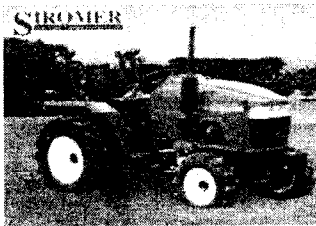
Starting late August/early September.

Please email your CV to me in the first instance. Nigel@mecatech.co.uk

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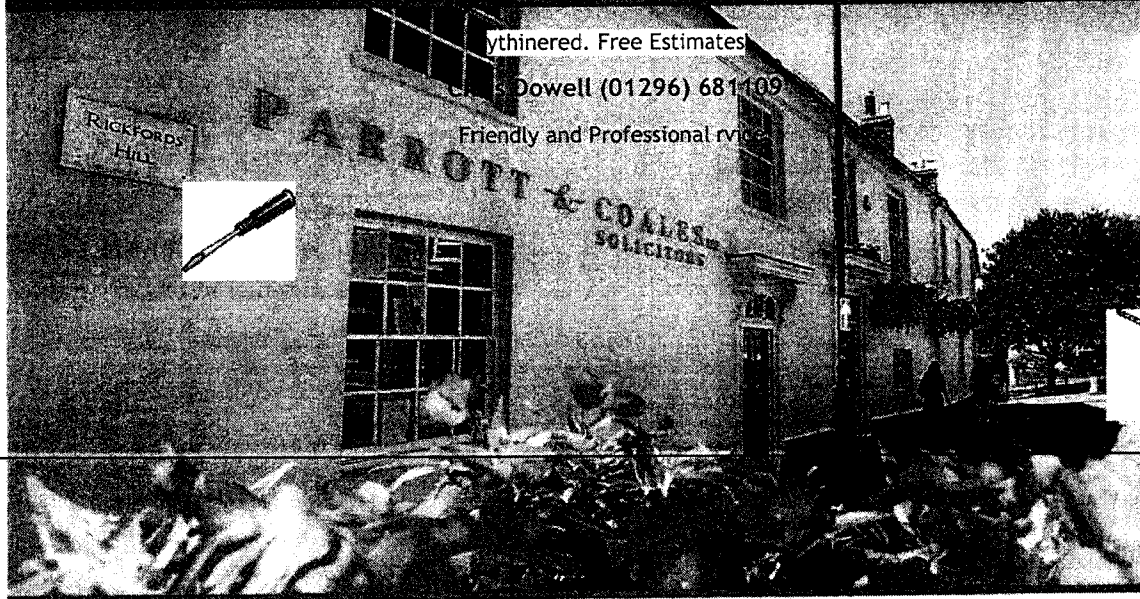
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Bingo	Pam Dixon	681626
	Sondra Dickason	682249
Book Club	John Hardcastle	688070
Bus Enquiries	Travel line	0870 6082608
Buses	L & S	415468
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Church Mowing Rota	Gordon Kemp	681763
Church Room Hire	Tracy Hinds	688479
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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	David Gray	681952
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 Shorrocks	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

Se

Please advise of any errors or omissions

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:

WingNorthNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

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

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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Quarter £10

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‘The Chronicle’

Phil Corrigan,

5, Nashs Farm, Aston Abbots, Bucks.

01296 688191

corriganpc@aol.com

YOUR

PARISH COUNCIL

Kate Curry (Chair)

2 Norduck Cottages, Moat Lane – 681137

Mrs Zandy Ayres (Parish Clerk)

astonabbottsclerk@gmail.com

682419

Richard Clarke

Maplewood, The Green – 681007

Judy Hardcastle

Marloes, Lines Hill – 688070

Peter Shorrocks

Oak Farm House – 681260

Phil Spooner

The Birches - 681544

Bob Carvey

12 The Green – 681053

Colin Higgs (Vice Chairman)

6 Wingrave Rd - 681343

District Councillor

Peter Cooper

Brewhouse Lane, Rowsham – 681250

County Councillor

Netta Glover - 688357

Parochial Church Council

Rev. Philip Derbyshire 01525 240287

Caroline Abel Smith

Churchwarden 681001

Elvina Chu 07709607171

Ann Goodman 681763

Anita Parker 681325

Gordon Kemp 681763

Caroline Lane Sec 681373

David Gray 681952

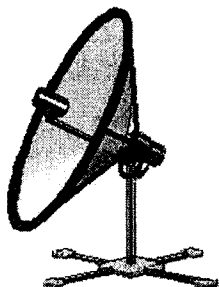
Treasurer & Synod Rep 07935414495

Gay Walker 688632

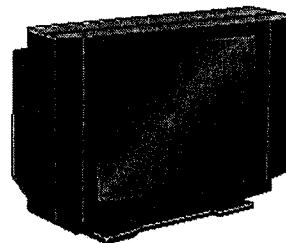
April Curnow 707833

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Jokes from the Edinburgh Fringe

"I just deleted all the German names off my phone. It's Hans free" ~ *Darren Walsh*

"Surely every car is a people carrier?" ~ *Adam Hess*

"What's the difference between a 'hippo' and a 'Zippo'? One is really heavy, the other is a little lighter" ~ *Masai Graham*

"If I could take just one thing to a desert island I probably wouldn't go" ~ *Dave Green*

"Jesus fed 5,000 people with two fishes and a loaf of bread. That's not a miracle. That's tapas" ~ *Mark Nelson*

"Red sky at night. Shepherd's delight. Blue sky at night. Day" ~ *Tom Parry*

"Kim Kardashian is saddled with a huge bum... but enough about Kanye West" ~ *Stewart Francis*

"The first time I met my wife, I knew she was a keeper. She was wearing massive gloves" ~ *Alun Cochrane*

"Clowns divorce. Custardy battle" ~ *Simon Munnery*

"They're always telling me to live my dreams. But I don't want to be naked in an exam I haven't revised for..." ~ *Grace The Child*

"I never lie on my CV, because it creases it." ~ *Jenny Collier*

"If you don't know what introspection is you need to take a long, hard look at yourself" ~ *Ian Smith*

"I usually meet my girlfriend at 12:59 because I like that one-to-one time" ~ *Tom Ward*

"Whenever I get to Edinburgh, I'm reminded of the definition of a gentleman. It's someone who knows how to play the bagpipes, but doesn't" ~ *Gyles Brandreth*

"Let me tell you a little about myself. It's a reflexive pronoun that means 'me'" ~ *Ally Houston*

"Earlier this year I saw 'The Theory of Everything' - loved it. Should've been called 'Look Who's Hawking', that's my only criticism" ~ *James Acaster*

Tesco Advice

When visiting Tesco in an expensive Alfa Romeo loan car, please:

- 1) Avoid the entrance posts.
- 2) Make sure you have comprehensive insurance.

Thank you.

FLACKWELL ELECTRONICS — PURVEYORS OF PLASMA SCREENS TO THE GENTRY