

The Chronicle

Issue 371

Aston Abbotts Village

Magazine

Join us for an Aston Abbotts Parliamentary tour and take in Prime Minister's Questions from the Prestigious Speaker's Gallery.



I am arranging a special guided tour of both Houses of Parliament on the 21st June to take in the history and present stories that make this iconic building so special. You will get to see most of the internal side of both houses including a walk through both debating chambers. The stories are gripping and to complete the morning tour, you will be directed to the prestigious Speakers gallery to watch Prime Minister's Questions which displays live all the theatre of the event. See inside for details and your chance to join this special free event. (ED)



From the Editor

As I write I am back in the John Radcliffe hospital to have my leg redone following the initial procedure not healing.

I must apologise that the village issues in this edition are not all near the front. This is due to starting things early for the March edition without many contributors' items being received, but it's all there.

Some different issues in this edition including the chance for a joint historical and present day tour of the Houses of commons and other place as it's called, plus PMQs. Take a look on how win a ticket.

I'm glad to say for this issue at least that the Astonians has gone off the boil.

The one thing I want to raise for our Parish Council is the issue of the large Lorries including Arla lorries thundering through the village. Our road surface is not the best and the safety issue should be paramount for the children and other residents.

We have had too many near misses and it can only be time before a disaster happens. Please deal with this as a matter of urgency again so we can publish your success.

Let's all stay well and good to each other.

Pete



***At the Royal Oak
Aston Abbotts Sunday
March 12th 7.30pm***

Come join the friendly fun and frolics
with the Quiz Guy.

Cash Prizes and the Quiz Guy's Lucky
dip for a Dinner for 2.

Food Available



Grand tour of both Houses of Parliament 21st June.

Our fully guided tour of the Houses of Parliament offers a unique combination of one thousand years of history, modern day politics and stunning art and architecture. Tour highlights include:

Westminster Hall, Norman Porch, Queen's Robing Room, Royal Gallery, Prince's Chamber, Central Lobby, Members' Lobby, Commons debating Chamber, Lords Chamber and St Stephen's Hall, the Speaker's procession, in all, bringing the gripping history and present day to life.

And 6 lucky people will have the opportunity to have just that on the 21st of June. And not just the tour but following a trip to the Parliament restaurant you will attend Prime Minister's Questions live taking in

the theatre of this lively event. Not from the public gallery but from the Prestigious Strangers gallery. Apart from the travel to London and personal refreshments the tour and PMQs is free.

All you have to do to have your chance of winning this short but great day out is fill in the form below and post it through 34 The Green, Aston Abbots by Friday 31st March. Maximum number of tickets each person is 2. The draw will take place at the Royal Oak Quiz night on Sunday 9th April.

Name:

Address:

Phone No.

Email:

RGCC

Agricultural & Horticultural Engineers

Mursley, Milton Keynes, Bucks MK17 0SA



Tel: (01296) 720066
sales@rgcengineers.co.uk
www.rgcengineers.co.uk

Sales, Service & Repairs

Garden Tractors
Chainsaws • Strimmers
All Garden & Ground
Care Equipment
Compact Tractors, Quads etc.

Service & Repairs

*to most leading
makes of machine.*

News from Pitstone and Ivinghoe



Man sentenced following burglary – Aylesbury

A man from Pitstone has been sentenced to 52 months in prison for burglary and failing to appear at court.



John Neville Gomez, aged 48 of Conwy Place, Pitstone, appeared at Amersham Crown Court on Wednesday 25 January.

At around 4pm on Friday 4 November 2016, Gomez broke into a house Ivinghoe, and stole a laptop, mobile phones, jewellery, a Playstation and games.

He was charged on 5 November 2016 and remanded in custody. Gomez appeared at Wycombe Magistrates Court on 7 November 2016 but later failed to appear at another court hearing.

He was consequently arrested on warrant and pleaded guilty to both offences.

At the court hearing, Gomez was sentenced to 51 months in prison for the burglary and one month in prison for failing to appear at court.

DC Gemma Howe, of Local CID Aylesbury, said: “We understand that the impact of a home burglary for victims is far greater than the inconvenience of just replacing material items.

Hopefully this sentence sends out a clear message that burglaries will not be tolerated within Thames Valley.

“This custodial sentence means that Gomez will no longer be able to commit similar offences in our communities.”

THE

Mr Cartright the guy that owns the allotment in Aston Abbotts decided to go back to full time work.... Well I'll let him tell the story:

My Only Day of Employment after Retirement...

I decided to accept a low-paid but stress-free job as a greeter at the local home improvement store in Aylesbury. After landing my new job as a greeter, a good find for many retirees, I lasted less than a day.

About two hours into my first day on the job a very loud, decidedly unattractive, and inappropriately dressed woman walked into the store along with her two kids, yelling obscenities at them all the way through the entrance.

As I had been instructed, I said pleasantly, "Good morning and

ASTONIANS

welcome." I then said, "Nice children you have there. Are they twins?"

The ugly woman stopped yelling at the children just long enough to say to me, "Of course they aren't twins. The oldest one's 9, and the other one's only 5. Why the hell would you think they're twins? Are you blind, or just bloody stupid?"

Forgetting my required professionalism, I replied, "I'm neither blind nor stupid, Madam. I just couldn't believe someone would have you twice. Have a good day and thank you for shopping with us". After explaining to my supervisor he said I probably wasn't cut out for this line of work.

astonpete



Website: atgtickets.com/aylesbury

Bookings: 0844 871 7607

Disabled Bookings: 0844 871 7677

ASTON ABBOTS THEATREGOERS

I'm pleased to advise that The Waterside Theatre has continued it's offer of a pair of tickets for each of the following shows. If you would like to be included in the raffle for these tickets then please email me or drop a note through my door indicating which show or shows you are interested in judyhardcastle@me.com or at Marloes, Lines Hill. The draws will take place two weeks prior to the day of each show.

Judy Hardcastle

MACCA	THU 2 MAR 7.30PM
NABUCCO	FRI 3 MAR 7.30PM
BUDDY: THE BUDDY HOLLY STORY	TUE 7 MAR 7.30PM
ENGLISH YOUTH BALLET: BALLET ETUDE & NUTCRACKER SUITE	FRI 24 MAR 7.30PM
MATT MONRO STORY	TUE 21 MAR 7.30PM
THOROUGHLY MODERN MILLIE	MON 27 MAR 7.30PM
YOU WIN AGAIN	SAT 15 APR 8PM
GHOST	TUE 18 APR 7.30PM



Curious incident

A Curiously Compelling Play.
Aylesbury Waterside Theatre -
7th February, 2017.

I had read the book many years ago and was really looking forward to seeing the play. I had forgotten some of it and was keen not to re-read (or flick through) the book again as I thought, as is often the case, the stage version may be different to the book. For why? I don't know, but with the book being based in Wiltshire as well as London, I didn't know how they were going to carry that one off on stage. They did. They played very true to Mark Haddon's book about a boy with Asperger Syndrome called Christopher, aged 15.

The play starts with a bang that grabs your attention and completely holds you through to

the interval and all the way through to the final curtain. There is a (model) dog on stage with a garden fork through him - dead. Wellington the dog is found by Christopher who if I recall correctly, is on stage for the whole 2 1/4 hours of the play. He must have been completely worn out at the end due to the intensity of his role, but Scott Reid played the 'boy with behavioural problems', as he calls himself, with the intensity that makes it all seem very real, not that I really know what that means.

Christopher decides it's essential for him to work out what happened to Wellington, despite his Dads instructions not to. His Mum died pretty suddenly 2 years before and his Dad really was struggling with that. This is when the whole play opens up, with Christopher finding things out that confused and stressed him. The acting of this frustration was powerful but he wanted to find out who killed Wellington? Why? And how come his mathematical brain could not logically work out the answer to this question that

was his main focus, and not the mathematics A level he was studying for and, of course, he was going to get an A* in! But maths wasn't helping him and the chaos theory he was now part of had such little changes, it was messing with the theories in his head. For him, it was...complicated.

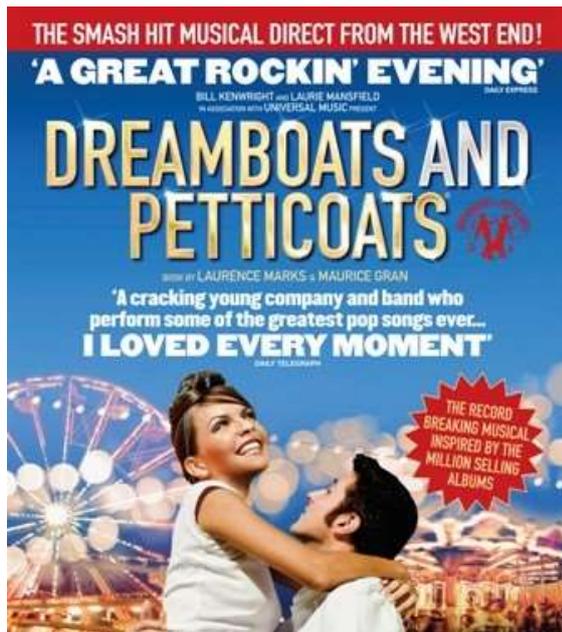
It was not at all just about mathematics though, it is about Christopher's life, about the support in the people around him, particularly in the people he trusts, such as his teacher, Siobhan. It was also about people he starts to question, such as his Dad and as the truth come out he struggles to rationalise it. What really happened to Mum? Were these other people helping or tricking him? Why do people often lie, after all, he doesn't lie!

It started with a bang and twists and turns its way from Swindon to London and back again and still manages to finish with a smile.

No spoilers here, but whether you've read the book or not, I would still go and sit through a fantastic story of a subject matter not to question, but to absorb. This play doesn't shatter the illusion of the book and the images books always bring the reader, it actually complements it rather well. But do remember, the square of the hypotenuse of a right angled triangle is the sum of the squares on the other two sides...

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time returns to our wider area at Milton Keynes in September this year and if you are looking for a night out, book now, as I am sure it will be a sell out - and you'll find out that 'Curious' is not really about Christopher at all, it's about us all.

Mark and Nikki Davison



Thanks to the munificence of the Chronicle I went to see the above show at the Aylesbury Theatre, together with Judy Hardcastle. I confess I was not sure what to expect, but I thought it was absolutely magnificent – and I am sure that anyone who is over, say, sixty, would be equally enthusiastic.

There is a plot – but I don't think anyone would go to see the show for this. Basically (spoiler alert) boy meets girl who fancies him, but he does not fancy her, because she has glasses, pigtails and always wears a school uniform. Instead he is in love with the local tart. However, she fancies his rival who is older and smoother. Girl and boy meet to discuss writing music. Eventually girl becomes sixteen, has a party where she stops wearing glasses, ditches

the pigtails and uniform, and becomes the most attractive girl on stage. Even so, the course of true love, etc. However, ultimately boy and girl get together, and win a pop song writing competition to boot.

The whole point of the show is to get the cast playing, singing and dancing to the pop songs of the era, and an incredibly large number of them are woven into the plot. I knew about 75% of them: Judy reckoned she knew nearly all of them, including some that were pretty obscure. (But then she did tell me that during that era, she had a flared skirt with a 23" waist, and the appropriate number of petticoats! I suspect she was a bigger part of the pop music scene than I was!)

The songs include *Let's Dance*, *The Wanderer*, *Shaking All Over*, *Bobby's girl* (the hero is called Bobby), *Runaway & Who's Sorry Now* (which are cleverly sung in harmony by the two stars), *Poetry in Motion*, *Do You Wanna Dance?*, *Dream Lover*, *Great Pretender*, *Only the Lonely*, *Teenager in Love* (of course), *Tell Laura I Love Her* (the heroine is called Laura), *Only Sixteen & Happy Birthday Sweet Sixteen* (of course performed around Laura's 16th

birthday), Da Do Ron Ron, Let's Twist Again and many more. And then at the end of the show, in the finale, the cast sang and performed many other pop songs of the period which they had not been able to weave into the plot! By this time the audience (including Judy and me) were on their feet, clapping and singing along!

I strongly recommend the show: the cast are all excellent singers and

And More on Dreamboats

Dreamboats & Petticoats, a must see.

A blend of lively versions like 'Do You Wanna Dance', 'Da Do Ron Ron', 'At the Hop' and many more great songs to produce a fun, feel good musical. This is an entertaining show loaded with nostalgic music and love.

The whole cast were faultless in their performance. Particularly outstanding were Elizabeth Carter as Laura, capturing the passion of a teenager in love. Alistair Higgins (Bobby) displayed the vulnerability of a male adolescence prior to the free love era.

Mar 2017

dancers, and there is a talented group of musicians on stage throughout – some of whom also sing and dance from time to time. The choreography is first-class, and while some of the sets are a little homespun, this did not detract from the pleasure of the evening. They don't, as they say, write songs like this anymore!

Peter Shorrocks

The dialogue is often sharp and witty with hilarious one liners, but the songs were so powerful that you didn't really care so much for the story.

An energetic cast who brought the 1960's back in good fashion. As the show progressed the lively audience got up from their seats and started to dance to the classic rock & roll.

This lovely show brings the memories flooding back. Whether you experienced the 60s or not, this production is a guaranteed high quality blast. Rating 10/10.

Ian Duffy

Even animal lovers have a spot in the Chronicle



"Bad news, its curiosity"



I am looking for a field/paddock to rent

I am wondering if you could help me.

I am looking for a field/paddock to rent anything from 1 acre upwards.

I've spoke to Aylesbury council and they advised me to contact

the parish council to see if they could help and that you sometimes have pieces of land available. Any help would be really appreciated.

Tel 07789345538

Email salviemia23@yahoo.co.uk

Kind regards

Mr S Romano

Women Window Cleaning

Call today for a FREE quotation

07856 726 778

- Domestic & Commercial
- Windows, Frames & Sills
- Conservatories
- Solar Panels
- Garage Doors
- Using Advanced Water Fed Telescopic Poles with Pure Water Technology



www.womenwindowcleaning.co.uk

ALLOTMENT DIARY

Regular readers of this section of the Chronicle will recall that I mentioned in an article a few months ago, that I was going to try the experiment this year of leaving some of my potatoes in the ground until I needed them, rather than digging up all the crop in the autumn, and storing the potatoes. I knew that a traditional way of storing potatoes was to put them in earth “clamps” – which were basically a pyramid made of a layer of potatoes, then a layer of earth, then potatoes, and so on. I reasoned that if potatoes would keep in this way, then they would probably keep equally well if left in the ground. I also knew that when one was digging the ground over in the late winter, in readiness for sowing ones seeds in the spring, one would often come across potatoes which had been missed when digging up the crop the previous autumn – and these

were normally in good condition.

I accordingly left two crops of main potatoes in the soil, and having dug the first up just before Christmas, dug the second crop up in early February. I can say that this year the experiment has been a great success. The potatoes thus dug up look fresher than they would have done, had they been excavated in the autumn, and then stored. In addition there was no sign of any having been attacked by any predator during their extended time in the ground. One or two potatoes had clearly suffered frost damage. (Fellow gardeners will know that if part of a potato becomes frozen and then thaws out, that part gradually turns to mush, and this eventually spreads to the whole potato. The mushy part changes colour, and there is a line on the potato between the good and bad bits).

However, this only affected two or three potatoes out of a few hundred – and there is always the risk of this happening with stored potatoes.

What I do not know, however, is what would have happened if there had been a prolonged cold spell. I suspect that I would have lost more of the crop to frost damage if this had happened. Nevertheless, I will certainly repeat the experiment this autumn; and will keep my eye on the weather forecast. These days forecasting of weather is becoming more and more reliable, and if I believe we are likely to have a long spell of frosty weather, I will either dig up the remaining crop, or else (if the ground is already too hard for digging) cover the crop with old carpet or something similar.

Finally, some depressing news: the Bucks Herald has reported twice recently that vandals have started attacking greenhouses at the allotments

at Tring Road and Bedgrove, and smashing the glass. The allotments are managed by AVDC, but it is not showing any sign of knowing how to deal with the problem; and has refused to make any comment to the Herald. I am not aware of the problem having spread outside the environs of Aylesbury, and it is to be hoped that the perpetrators do not discover the location of our allotments!

Peter Shorrock

Peter Shorrock teaches us supermarket buyers for the future.

I have no more allotment news to relate; although I know that some of my fellow allotmenters are already at work on their patches. I have, however, bought the vegetables I need to sow this spring in readiness for action in a few weeks' time. In previous years I have always bought my seeds via the internet from Thomson & Morgan, but this year I have patronised the Wendover

Garden Centre, and shall be interested to see in there is any difference in the crops I get.

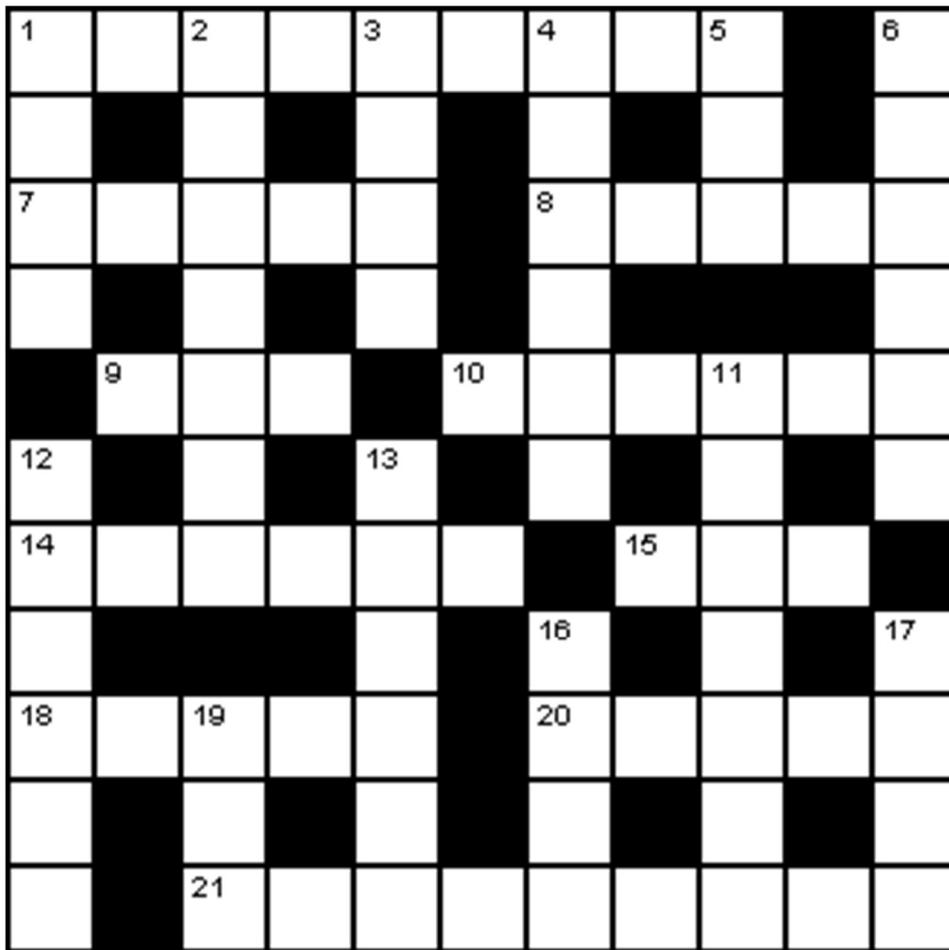
In other vegetable related news, I am sure that you will all have seen the news that the rain in Spain fell mainly on the plain – causing flooding, followed by snow and cold temperatures (down to -7°C in Murcia, where the normal average winter temperature is $+17^{\circ}$) – so that there is a serious shortage of a number of vegetables that are normally supplied by Spanish farms: in particular, lettuce, courgettes and spinach. (I have read that 80% of lettuces, courgettes and spinach eaten in the UK in the winter usually come from Spain). Those that are stocked have doubled or tripled in price. (I did enjoy the headline in one of my papers *“Iceberg lettuce hit by titanic rise in price”*). Some supermarkets have even rationed shoppers to no more than two or three lettuces per person. Another result has been to boost the sale of watercress, which has apparently thrived in the cold wet conditions that affected the other vegetables. Tomatoes, broccoli and peppers are

also likely to be more expensive until about May, since a large proportion of supermarket stocks of these vegetables also comes from Spain.

Curiously, the price of olive oil is also likely to rise shortly for a number of totally different reasons: olives are in short supply, firstly because of humid, muggy weather in Italy in the summer, which caused a plague of fruit flies, and these in turn helped bacteria to flourish; secondly, the flooding in Spain; and thirdly a heat wave in Greece last spring. And, of course the drop in the value of the pound compared with the euro will make olive oil more expensive.

Talking of courgettes, I discovered for the first time when reading about the shortages, that courgettes are now very popular with dieters because of the invention of something called a “spiraliser”, which one can use to produce long spaghetti-like strands from the courgette; and that these have been called “courghetti”. You live and learn!

CROSSWORD



Across

- 1. Group of musicians (9)
- 7. Eye socket (5)
- 8. Jockey (5)
- 9. Epoch (3)
- 10. Part of the foot (6)
- 14. Shrewd (6)
- 15. Cacophony (3)
- 18. Thighbone (5)
- 20. Ice hut (5)
- 21. Court game (9)

Down

- 1. Woodwind instrument (4)
- 2. Floor show (7)
- 3. Consumes (4)
- 4. Despot (6)
- 5. Assistance (3)
- 6. Precipitous (6)
- 11. One of three (7)
- 12. Perplex (6)
- 13. Gaped (6)
- 16. Flightless bird (4)
- 17. Metal money (4)
- 19. Disorderly crowd (3)

Answers on page 26

What's on Everywhere in Aston Abbotts in March

Wednesday 1st	Ash Wednesday 1st day of Lent	
Thursday 2nd 10-12 Midday	Coffee Shop	St James Church
Thursday 2nd 7.30pm	Whist Drive	Royal Oak Pub
Sunday 5th 2pm	Rambling Club	Meet at Wiggington
Sunday 5th 6pm	Evensong	St James Church
Sunday 12th 7.30pm	Quiz Night	Royal Oak Pub
Tuesday 14th 10.30	Mobile Library	The Green
Tuesday 14th 10.30	Aylesbury vale Transport meeting	Bus Trains queries to Colin Higgs
Wednesday 15th 7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	St James Church
Thursday 16th 10-12 midday	Coffee Shop	St James Church
Friday 17th from 7pm	St Patricks Night	Royal Oak Pub. Restaurant please book.
Thursday 23rd 7.30pm	Classic Film Night	Royal Oak Pub
Saturday 25th 10am	Litter Blitz	Meet at Village Hall
Sunday 26th 2am	Clocks forward 1 hour	
Sunday 26th 0930am	Mother's Day Breakfast Service	St James Church
Sunday 26th from 12 midday	Mother's Day Sunday Roasts	Royal Oak Pub. Best book
Thursday 30th 10-12 Midday	Coffee Shop	Venue to be advised
Thursday 30th 7.30pm	Whist Drive	Royal Oak Pub

What's on at the Royal Oak in March?



Prizes Quiz Night	Sunday 12th 7.30pm
St Patrick's Night	Friday 17th from 7pm
Mother's Day Lunches	Sunday 26th from 12 midday. Best book early
Classic cinema night – Psycho	Thursday 30th 7.30pm

And some dates for the future

<i>Sunday 4th June Time TBA</i>	<i>Music in Quiet Places</i>	<i>St James Church</i>
<i>Sunday 25th June 1pm</i>	<i>Cublington Fete</i>	
<i>Saturday/Sunday 22nd/23rd July. 1PM</i>	<i>Aston Abbots Fete/Festival</i>	<i>The Green and Abbey Field</i>
<i>Saturday 2nd September</i>	<i>Village Horticultural Show. More classes</i>	

***Points of interest from
draft minutes of the Parish
Council meetings of
January and February 2017***

**Aston Abbotts Parish Council 25th
January**

Present: - Cllrs. Mrs K Curry
(Chair), C Higgs, P
Shorrocks, P Spooner,
Mrs J Hardcastle, S
Guy, District Cllr P
Cooper and Mrs Z
Ayres (Clerk)

Prior to the meeting the
Councillors met with
three candidates for
the position of
Councillor. A vote was
taken and Simon Guy
was co-opted into the
position of Councillor.

Traffic calming pre-feasibility
study. The Clerk informed the
Council that the forms had been
completed and she was awaiting
response from the LAF.

- The following were approved for payment:

	Date	Purpose	Expenditure	Paid
EON	9/12/16	Street Lights	£102.17	£107.28
Mrs AK Ayres	31/12/16	Clerk's Salary	£244.53	£244.53
EON	9/1/17	Street Lights	£105.57	£110.85

The Budget was discussed and it
was RESOLVED to increase the
precept by 5.5% to £14,240 and
to ring fence £1000 per year to go
towards traffic calming measures
through the village

Cllr P Cooper informed the
members that the budget had
now been agreed with a
maximum increase of 3.5% or £5
per Band D property per year. A
recent residents survey suggested
that AVDC was currently popular
and working well. He informed
the members that the decision re:
The Unitary project should be
made prior to 4th April. The
transition period would take 2
years, hopefully beginning on the
4th May. Cllr Cooper informed the
members that Aston Abbotts was
on the shortlist for Broadband
but they were still awaiting the
decision from BT which should
now be made in March.

Andy Muskett	25/1/17	Street Light maint.	£93.10	£111.72
D. Lewis	25/1/17	Fireworks	£540.64	£540.64
GB Sport and Leisure	25/1/17	Playground equip.	£184	£239.57
JW Whitehead – Nudd	25/1/17	Playground maint.	£140.50	£140.50
Finesse Leisure	25/1/17	Grass Cutting (Oct)	£133	£159.60
Buckland Landscapes	25/1/17	Grass Cutting (Dec)	£107.63	£129.16
SLCC	25/1/17	Subscription	£67	£67
Mrs AK Ayres	25/1/17	Clerk's Salary	£244.53	£244.53

A forgotten son of Aston Abbotts.

An historic piece from our own Neil Chesher

Pete

This is an article I did some time ago plus supporting info'. Mrs Freemantle was Betsey Wynne who married Freemantle as a wilful 17 year old.



The name had come down the ages and the current Betsey Wynne is Mrs Ian Duncan Smith.

Czech Out: Neptune In It is quite remarkable that after the major effort made by the village to celebrate the Czech connection that no one made any effort to celebrate the strong connections the village had with the battle of Trafalgar. Having said that I had no idea of this connection until I was made aware by Peter Knight. He had picked up a passing reference on Radio 4. (He does have intellectual pretensions) There is a small but woolly section in the Village History.

However, thanks to the Watts, Google and the Senior Services Librarian at the Navy Central Library we have been able to put some meat on the bone.

It's probably an occasion where Aston Abbotts should push out its chest and take some pride in the historic association to this famous battle. It is remarkable that we celebrate Ross (with Ross Road) but there is not a thing in the village to mark a truly significant figure in British Naval History.

Thomas Freemantle commanded the Neptune, the third ship in the fleet her column at Trafalgar noted for its gunnery skills Neptune discharged a port broadside into the flagship of the French Admiral Villeneuve. Freemantle, after other broadsides laid Neptune alongside the largest war ship in the world, the Spanish Santissima Trinidad and disabled her.



At the end of the battle and after a severe storm Neptune was called upon to tow a disabled Victory away from the battle into Gibraltar, complete with Nelson's body aboard. A sad and harrowing task for someone who had been so close to Admiral Nelson. Born at the Abbey in 1765 to John Freemantle was Thomas, later Sir Thomas Freemantle. In 1797 he married Elizabeth Wynne and they had a large family. Their eldest son Thomas Francis Freemantle later became Lord Cottesloe, in recognition of his father's achievements. The second son became Admiral Sir Charles Howe Freetnantle and the grandson became Admiral Sir Edmund Robert Freemantle. Freemantle had entered the Navy at the tender age of 12 on the frigate

Hussar. He served on many ships, some of which got wrecked and spent a long time on the Jamaica station. In 1782 he was promoted Lieutenant and finally became Captain in 1791 aboard the sloop Spitfire. In 1793 he was further promoted to Captain of Tartar and sailed with Admiral Hood to the Mediterranean. He led the way into Toulon when Hood Czech Out: Neptune occupied it in August 1793 and was with Nelson for the capture of Bastia on Corsica. Moving onto the Inconstant he harried an 80 gun French ship called Calra until she was captured. He then transferred to SeaHorse and after bombarding Cadiz he was severely wounded in an attack on Santa Cruz in the Canaries. Nelson, also wounded, transferred his flag to the Freemantle's ship SeaHorse. Mrs Freemantle, who happened to be on board, nursed both Nelson and Freemantle on their voyage back to England. On his recovery he was appointed to HMS Ganges

and was assigned to the Baltic where he took part in the Battle of Copenhagen. Following that he was appointed to Neptune. He was promoted to Admiral in 1810 and was appointed Commander of Naval Forces in the Mediterranean. He fought many operations and was able to write in his diary, 'Every place on the coasts of Dalmatia, Croatia, Istria and Friulihad surrendered to some part of the squadron under my orders, the number of guns taken exceeded 1000 and between 7 and 800 vessels taken or destroyed during my command. He received many awards for his endeavours. Austria made him a Baron of the Austrian Empire and Knight of Maria Theresa as well as Knight of St Ferdinand and Merit. In England he was made KCB and then GCB. He died and was buried in Naples in 1819 after a 2 day illness. Many awards for an illustrious career but nothing in his birth place. **A forgotten son of Aston Abbotts.**

This March at



THE UNICORN
CUBLINGTON



*Mother's Day
Sunday 26th March*

Treat mum to a great meal out. Now taking bookings 12 - 5pm.

What's On

Thursday 2nd - Steak Night -

2 steaks and a bottle of house wine for £40

Friday 3rd Coffee & Cake from 10.30am

Saturday 4th Breakfasts from 9.30am – 11.00am

Sunday 5th Lunch – booking advised

Monday 6th - The Unicorn Quiz from 8.30pm

Thursday 9th - Steak Night -

2 steaks and a bottle of house wine for £40

Friday 10th Coffee & Cake from 10.30am

Six Nations Wales vs Ireland 8.05pm

Saturday 11th Breakfasts from 9.30am – 11.00am

Six Nations

Italy vs France 1.30pm, England vs Scotland 4pm

Sunday 12th Lunch – booking advised

Thursday 16th - Steak Night -

2 steaks and a bottle of house wine for £40

Friday 17th Coffee & Cake from 10.30am

Plus Live Music with Three Bar fire from 8.30pm

Saturday 18th Breakfasts from 9.30am – 11.00am

Six Nations Scotland vs Italy 12:30pm, France vs Wales 2:45pm, Ireland vs England 5pm

Sunday 19th Lunch – booking advised

Monday 20th - The Unicorn Quiz from 8.30pm

Thursday 23rd - Steak Night -

2 steaks and a bottle of house wine for £40

Friday 24th Coffee & Cake from 10.30am

Friday 24th is Fish Friday

Saturday 25th Breakfasts from 9.30am – 11.00am

Sunday 26th Mother's Day Lunch – booking advised

All events subject to change

Give mum the day off! Celebrate Mother's Day at the Unicorn

01296 681261 *Booking always advisable*

Visit web site for full event details www.theunicornpub.co.uk

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



Crossword answers

O	R	C	H	E	S	T	R	A		A
B		A		A		Y		I		B
O	R	B	I	T		R	I	D	E	R
E		A		S		A				U
	E	R	A		I	N	S	T	E	P
B		E		S		T		R		T
A	S	T	U	T	E		D	I	N	
F				A		K		P		C
F	E	M	U	R		I	G	L	O	O
L		O		E		W		E		I
E		B	A	D	M	I	N	T	O	N

JTS DECORATING SERVICE AND PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

FIRST CLASS DECORATION WITH 35 YEARS EXPERIENCE

PRIVATE AND COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES

ALL INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR DECORATION

COVING

WALL AND FLOOR TILING

PLASTERING

FLOOR STRIPPING AND RENOVATION

LOCAL REFERENCES AVAILABLE

CONTACT: JOHN

01525 240372

07809 113090

EMAIL jts.dec24@gmail.com

Your Letters

A big thank you to everyone who came to say goodbye to Andrew Shillingford at his funeral on January 24th. It was lovely service for a lovely man and was hugely attended. He will be greatly missed

Many people travelled long distances to be there which proved how popular and well loved he was

Many thanks for all the donations which amounted to a wonderful £567.00 and has been divided between The British Heart Foundation, Cancer Research UK and The Keswick Mountain Rescue Team

A huge thank you to Gary and Teri Moulton at The Royal Oak and all the lovely staff who catered so well for so many

people and all their hard work was so appreciated.

Diana Shillingford

Dear All,

Please see the email below from Peter Cooper:

The Aston Abbots defib is a Zoll AED Plus

Zandy,

The first AED session was successfully completed this morning. The defib the village has purchased is slightly different to the demonstrator I had with me. All the principles remain the same, but I thought it would be worth those who participated this morning, seeing the following video. This explains how the one piece pads are applied and also gives info on the voice prompts. <https://www.zoll.com/uk/medical-products/automated-external-defibrillators/aed-plus/video/> (Look at the AED Plus video)

Dear Community Partner,
The BCC's TV Licensing
Department are aware that
there are a substantial number
of older residents in the Vale
who are eligible for a free TV
licence but who have not
applied yet and would like to
publicise that concessions are
available.

There are
currently **6,309** individuals over
the age of 75 years old in
Aylesbury Vale who qualify for
free TV Licensing.

If you are over 75 years old,
you're entitled to a free TV
Licence to cover your
household. Although it is free,
you do still need to apply for
the licence. To find out how call
0300 790 6073 or
visit www.tvlicensing.co.uk

Elaine Hassall

Community Engagement
Officer (Older People)

FUN CASINO HIRE from Aston Abbotts

**ROULETTE - BLACKJACK -
POKER**



This is the perfect way to
entertain guests at: Birthdays,
Wedding Receptions,
Anniversaries, Christmas
Parties, Fund Raising Events,
Staff Parties, Prom Nights,
Corporate Events, Stag or Hen
Nights, etc.

There is no real money
involved, the guests receive fun
money which they exchange at
the tables for chips. There can
be prizes at the end of evening
for the person/people who
have accumulated the most
chips.

I am a professional croupier who has previously worked in London casinos for 8 years and have been doing fun casinos for quite a few years now. I have even done a couple in Wingrave Community Centre/Village Hall, which is a great venue for it.



Aston Abbotts

Village Hall news – March. The access ramp is finished, the decorators have painted the railings and are at work inside, and at the time of writing we are still waiting for the floor to dry completely so that the flooring can be fitted. Not long now!

Reopening Put **Sunday 19 March, 2-4pm** in your diaries, and come along to have a village viewing. Regular bookings should be OK from April, but please check with Tracy as we get closer. Our formal ceremony will be daytime on **Saturday 20 May**, when we will invite our funders. I'm delighted to say that Judy Hardcastle has agreed to cut the ribbon. John Hardcastle did so much to make

If you are interested or have any questions, please text or call me on: Simon, mobile: 07792 313486. home: 01296 682785 or email me at: simoncowie1@hotmail.co.uk or I live in Aston Abbotts, so could meet up with you and discuss your requirements.

this happen and we all want to recognise that.

Furniture We'll be looking soon at what we need to buy; hopefully we will have some when we re-open!

Funding My fellow trustees have asked me to remind people that we are still very short of cash to get those inevitable extras done (and we'll have a big electricity bill) – so donations, lottery tickets etc are still very welcome.

Hire charges will remain at current rates until 31 August, after which they will go up a little – but we'll still be very good value compared to neighbouring halls. Come along to the Annual Parish Meeting on Wednesday 19 April to hear our suggestions for the future.

Vale Lottery Please buy your tickets from our page if you fancy a flutter. The hall gets 50% of the value of tickets that you buy so here's that link again:

www.valelottery.co.uk/support/aston-abbotts-village-hall-trust

Village history book For anyone new to the village – we have copies of *Aston Abbots 1000-2000: A Village History* for sale at £10. Email us below.

Caroline Lane – Aston Abbots Village Hall trustees. Aston Abbots Village Hall Trustees group: Caroline Lane (Chair), Liz Hall (Secretary), Nigel Palmer (Treasurer), Peter Shorrocks, John Whyte, Kevin Copping. Email: astonabbottsvillagehall@yahoo.com



invitation

THINKING OF LETTING
OR SELLING?

This is your personal invitation to receive a
Free Valuation of your property and to discuss the marketing of
your home with one of our experienced Directors.



To accept this invitation simply telephone or call in to our office to arrange a
convenient appointment. Call 01296 398555 or visit www.mortimersaylesbury.co.uk

***Classic Big Screen
Film Night at the
Royal Oak***

***Thursday 30th
March 7.30pm
Free Entry***



***Hot Dogs and chips.
Popcorn and drinks
or whatever you
fancy from the
selected menu are
available.***

***Come and join our
very own village Pop
up Cinema***



Church Matters

BREAKFAST SERVICE

26th MARCH - MOTHERING SUNDAY

The next Breakfast Service will be held on Mothering Sunday, when there will be a special breakfast for mothers and grandmothers and of course posies for them all too.

We look forward to seeing lots of you on Mothering Sunday at 9.30am for Breakfast in church.

The Breakfast Service Team

The ‘**Temptations of Jesus**’ was the theme for our service in February and an enormous chocolate cake was just too much of a temptation for April Curnow that morning! The short dramatised reading from

St Matthew’s gospel was narrated by Anita Parker with James Rangeley as Jesus and David Gray, a very persuasive devil in red, complete with horns and tail!

BISHOP OF OXFORD’S VISIT

On Wednesday 29th March, the Rt Revd Steven Croft, the recently installed Bishop of Oxford, will be visiting this Deanery. All are welcome to come and meet him in Little Brickhill Village Hall at 7.30pm. There will be a short act of worship followed by an address from the Bishop, who will then take questions. If you are interested in coming to hear him, please let Caroline Abel Smith know. Tel: 01296 681001

Church Duties

Cleaning	Flowers	Mowing
4 th Colin/Caroline	Lent	TBA
11 th Gordon/Ann	Lent	TBA
18 th Alex/ Anita	Lent	TBA
25 th Colin & Gay	Lent	TBA

Church Matters Part 2

The snowdrops were late this year and the crocuses are now adding many more colours to the spring palette. The daffodils will not be far behind so a trip to Ascott(National Trust), just the other side of Wing, is highly recommended. It is open from 21st March (closed Mondays). If Ascott is too far then the Churchyard is also planted out with many bulbs. Last year some of the 'bordered' graves in the new graveyard were refurbished so there should be lots of bulbs coming up through the slate chippings.

If you are into spring cleaning, please remember to put aside those books, CDs, DVDs, etc that we can sell at the Village Fete (22nd July). Our thanks to Sally Palmer for stepping into the breach to mastermind the Fete this year.

We have planned our Family Service for Mothering Sunday (26th) this month so how about bringing Mum along for breakfast as a suitable start to the day.

All Allotment holders have now paid their rents so it just remains for me to wish all horticulturists the very best for the coming season.

The Novice



Painting & Decorating
Service's

Free Quote's:
Please Call: Adrian

Tel: 01296 688429
Mobile: 07986 597013
bystira@btinternet.com

www.ambdecorate.co.uk

The advertisement features a cartoon illustration of a painter in a blue cap and overalls, holding a paintbrush and a can of paint. The background is a light blue and white gradient.



Your local butcher for all your farm fresh needs:

- ✓ Poultry
- ✓ Home Cooked Hams
- ✓ Sausages
- ✓ Pies
- ✓ Preserves
- ✓ Fruit & Veg
- ✓ Home Produced Beef and Lamb

Order now from the family butcher. Established since 1914

PARROTT BROS

Butchers and Farmers, Beechmoor Farm, Cublington Road, Whitchurch, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP22 4LG Tel: 01296 641207

The advertisement has a black and white checkered border and features a circular logo of a cow's head.



The diary of Services at St. James's Aston Abbotts

March 2017

5th March	6.00pm	Evensong	Revd. Philip Derbyshire
12th March	10.30am	Parish Communion	Revd. Peter Binns
19th March	10.30am	Parish Communion	Revd. Roger Hale
26th March	9.30am	Breakfast in Church followed by All Ages Service	Mothering Sunday

We look forward to seeing you

100 Club Draw February 2017

1st Prize, £50 Gavin Winston

2nd prize, £10 Anita Parker

"Consider speaking to a pharmacist before heading to your GP"



By Dr Graham Jackson, GP and Chair of NHS Aylesbury Vale Clinical Commissioning Group

Health services across the nation face challenging times this winter, and ours in Bucks are no exception.

Our local services are robust and reliable, but you can help us ensure they are operating at their best for those who are most in need.

Illnesses like coughs, colds and sickness bugs have made unwelcome appearances and recent plummeting temperatures have helped them take hold. If you have a 'minor' illness, please consider

consulting your pharmacist for guidance. They are highly trained professionals and can offer excellent advice and very effective products to treat your symptoms.

For many minor ailments antibiotics are of no value – making an appointment with your GP unlikely to offer better treatment than your pharmacy. By managing illnesses like this yourself you can help us keep GP appointments for those people in greatest need.

There are also online options for advice - the Health Help Now NHS website (www.healthhelpnow.nhs.uk) can check symptoms and suggest the best service in Bucks for you. The NHS Choices website (www.nhs.uk) has excellent advice on illnesses and you can call NHS 111 for more guidance.

By taking a little care over what treatment you seek, you can help our health services run smoothly for everyone in 2017



Buckland Landscapes

Nursery Tree sales Planting Moving Landscape supplies

Rooted in more than 20 years of landscape design, construction and maintenance experience, Buckland Landscapes Ltd can bring creativity and expertise as well as long term maintenance solutions to your landscapes.

In addition, we have our own 50 acre open grown tree nursery based in Bushmead Road, Cublington, Nr Aylesbury.

Our website is comprehensive and very user friendly . Please take a look to see the full range of services we are able to offer.

Whether you require garden design, hard or soft landscaping, or garden maintenance, please do not hesitate to contact our office to arrange a consultation on: 01296 680350 or email: info@buckland-landscapes.co.uk.

01296 680350

info@buckland-landscapes.co.uk

www.buckland-landscapes.co.uk

Home Farm, 61 The Green, Aston Abbotts, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP22 4LY





Electrical Contractors Ltd



Replacement of old fuse boxes
 Additional sockets and lights
 Outdoor supplies to sheds, garages, ponds etc
 Replacement of faulty fittings
 Storage heater replacement
 Electrical wiring faults
 Landlords' electrical inspections
Free estimates
 Part P approved electrician

Contact **Dean**
 01296 - 712776
 07794 - 510980
 dean4832@aol.com




FOR ALL OF YOUR DOMESTIC CLEANING

YOUR LOCAL STEWKLEY BASED COMPANY

CHOOSE FROM WEEKLY OR FORTNIGHTLY

FULLY INSURED

ALL STAFF POLICE CHECKED

ALL CLEANING MATERIALS PROVIDED

CONTACT CHRIS STEVENITT FOR MORE INFORMATION ON:

OFFICE: 01525-242042

OR

MOBILE: 07850-540393

**ITG Motor Engineers
 Aston Abbotts**

For all servicing, repairs (and the odd sales) of cars, vans & motorcycles.
 All MOT work undertaken
 (I can also take your vehicle for an MOT too)

Free collection & delivery
within 10 miles of Aston Abbotts
 I'm friendly, reliable & conscientious and have 30 years experience in the trade and I don't charge extortionate rates.
Please give me a try, call Richard Upton, on 0776 966 8672

Parrott & Coales LLP
 SOLICITORS



A traditional law firm with modern values



Superior service and excellent legal support
 Aylesbury's premier law firm, providing services in:

- Business Services
- Employment
- Notarial Services
- Commercial
- Private Client
- Personal Injury
- Property
- Family

For a free, no obligation discussion and quote, or for all legal queries: Please call us on 01296 318500 or e-mail us at law@ParrottandCoalesLLP.co.uk

Parrott & Coales LLP Solicitors
 14 Bourbon Street Aylesbury, HP20 2RS
 Tel: 01296 318500
www.ParrottandCoalesLLP.co.uk



**I can do the lot (and juggle
too!)**

**Electrical, Plumbing,
Kitchens, Bathrooms, Floors,
Doors, Shelves, Tiling, Fitted
wardrobes, Maintenance,
Small Building Work.**

**Anything considered. Free
Estimates**

**Chris Dowell (01296)
681109**

**Friendly and Professional
service.**

Who's Who when you need them.

Important numbers for Residents of Aston Abbotts

Position	Name	Number
Chair Parish Council	Kate Curry	681137
Vice Chair Parish Council	Colin Higgs	681343
Councillor	Peter Shorrocks	681260
Councillor Recreation ground	Richard Clarke	681007
Councillor	Judy Hardcastle	688070
Councillor	Phil' Spooner	681544
Councillor	Simon Guy	681319
Parish Council Clerk	Zandy Ayres	682419
District Councillor	Peter Cooper	681250
County Councillor	Netta Glover	688357
Fete Co-ordinator	David Gray	681952
Vicar	Phillip Derbyshire	01525240287
Church Warden	Carol Abel-Smith	681001
Church Secretary	Caroline Lane	681373
Church Mowing	Gordon Kemp	681763
100 Club Treasurer	David Gray	681952
Bingo	Pam Dixon	681626
Book Club	Judy	688070

	Hardcastle	
Chronicle Editor	Pete Lucas	681387
Chronicle Advertising Enquiries	Phil' Corrigan	688191
Chronicle Distribution	Marisa Abel-Smith	681411
Village Hall Hire	Tracy Hinds	688479
6.30 Club	Andy Bystra	681690
Gnomes	Carol Spooner	681544
Ladies Club	Shirley Ford	681865
Rambling Club & Whist Drive	Colin Higgs	681343
Rural Transport	Colin Higgs	681343
Baby & Toddler Group	Kim Gayler	681123
Royal Oak Pub & Restaurant	Teri Moulton	681262
Milkman	Ron Miller	482838
Post office & shop Wingrave		682964/681696

Community Services

NHS Direct 24hr Advice	111
Doctor Out of hours Surgeries	331511
Stoke Mandeville Hospital	315000
Police Non-Emergency	101
Police Station Wing	396163/4
AVDC	585858
Bucks County Council	395000
Citizens Advice	08701264056
MP John Bercow	714240
Mobile Library	01280813229
Refuse Collection	585510
Z & S Bus Service	415468
Anglian Water	385995
Pre School Wingrave	681127



Flackwell Electronics

Aviation Headset Service
and noise cancelling conversions



Church Farm, Cublington Road
Aston Abbots Aylesbury Buckinghamshire
HP22 4NB

Phone 07910253970 / 01296682126

www.flackwellelectronics.co.uk