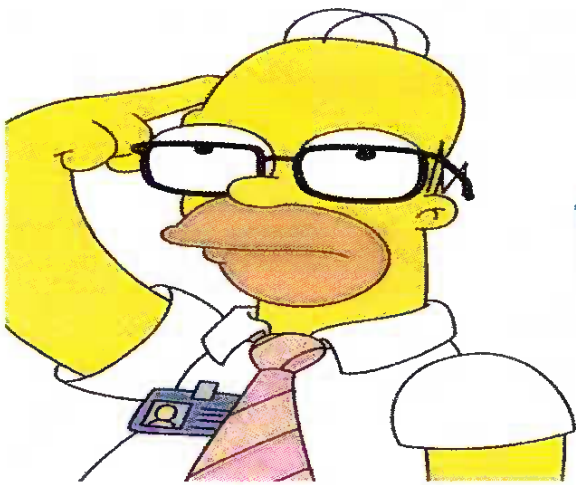


The Chronicle³⁸³

April 2018



**Quiz
night**

Sunday 22 April 7.30

Full Cash Prize and Free Draw

Dinner for two.

Get a team together or join one at

The Royal Oak for fun & frolics.

Food available

Advertise here in full colour

From the Editor.

The other month I said that the Chronicle avoids political bias but I raised a fundamental issue regarding having, in reality, a choice of one MP being John Bercow, the Speaker of the House of Commons. With that situation, the Speaker should be impartial on political debates in Parliament. I raised his bias on Brexit and again I raise the same issue.

Speaker John Bercow faces fresh row after 'Boll* to Brexit' sticker is spotted on display in his Land Rover.***



John and I became friends in our twenties as political activists and I have supported him throughout his career. However, wherever you lay your political hat, the

issue here is that we, as his constituents, do not have a real choice of who or what to vote for at General Elections.

John would do well to understand the frustrations of his constituents saddled with this local system when he chooses to promote one side or another.

If he wishes to continue in this vein he should return to the back benches and give up his position of Speaker. Then the people of Aston Abbotts and the Vale can have a proper democratic vote in the future. Please remember the Public Parish Council Meeting on Wednesday 18th April at 7.30pm.

Please be aware of the appalling potholes on your way to Whitchurch.

Many thanks to Etta Glover (County Councillor) for her excellent regular updates during the adverse weather week in March.

Happy Easter.

Pete Ed.

One new council for Buckinghamshire announced

The government have just published a recommendation to have a single, unitary authority for the county.

This means that Buckinghamshire Council Council, Aylesbury Vale District Council, Wycombe District, Chiltern & South Bucks will be amalgamated into a new 'super-council'.

The Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, Sajid Javid, said: "I am satisfied that this new single council, if established, is likely to improve local government and service delivery in the county, generating savings, increasing financial resilience, facilitating a

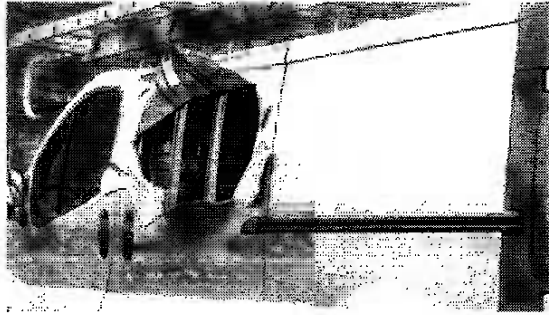
more strategic and holistic approach to planning and housing challenges, and sustaining good local services.

"I am also satisfied that across Buckinghamshire as a whole there is a good deal of local support for this new council, and that the area of the council represents a credible geography."

This is not a final decision, but it is the one that Sajid Javid, the minister is recommending to Government.

He added: "Before I take my final decision, there is now a period until 25 May 2018 during which those interested may make further representations to me, including that if a proposal is implemented it is with suggested modifications. The final decision would also be subject to Parliamentary approval.

Neighbourhood Policing



Community Forum and local priorities following the community forum at Wing Hall a decision was made by all those present to keep our main priority as: "PROVIDE VISIBILITY AND INCREASE COMMUNITY RESILIENCE ACROSS THE LPA." The aim will be to increase the number of neighbour watch areas in all parishes and improve communication through social media. Now the TVP Aylesbury Vale facebook page has gone live this will I have no doubt increase our visibility through social media. Just because you haven't seen us doesn't mean we aren't there.

Below are the statistics for the past year: Burglary dwelling Down 51% Burglary non dwelling Down 95% Theft of motor vehicle (TOMV) Up 91% Theft from motor vehicle (TFMV) Up 14% Criminal damage Up 11% Drug offences Down 43% Burglary dwelling still remains down this is due to the work we are continuing to do with bordering

forces and disrupting those responsible.

Below is an update on what we have been doing in relation to the increase in TFMV particularly thefts from vans.

OP APPLETON As a result of the increase in TFMV across the Aylesbury Vale, Thames Valley Police began Operation Appleton. This was our response to the problem. In February 2018 we received information from a local farmer that stolen tools may be being stored in two shipping containers.

When police checked the containers they were full of power tools. Enquires at the first location helped us identify those involved and the vehicles they were using. We then passed information to neighbouring areas which resulted in two further containers being found.

6 persons have now been arrested and are currently on police bail. Great Brickhill, Ivinghoe and Wing March 2018 Neighbourhood Policing Team Approximately 28 victims of crime have been identified from across the country and the current value of items recovered is estimated to be £500,000.

In the two weeks after the containers were found TFMV across Aylesbury Vale reduced by 70%. If you have been a victim of a TFMV prior to 02/02/18 please email the address below with any serial numbers or identifiable marks on your tools:

Operation.Appleton@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

We will be directly targeting vehicles in the future that have valuables on show. Please do not be offended if you receive any correspondence from the team. It is purely for your benefit. This is a crime that can greatly be reduced by simply removing valuable items for your vehicle:

- Ensure you lock your vehicle at when you are leaving it unattended even if it is for a few minutes.
- Do not leave valuables on show this includes wires for sat navs, ipods and phone chargers. This includes tools regardless of the fact it might be too much hassle. Thieves will smash the window of your car to see if anything is attached to the wire.
- Remove all tools from your vehicle if it's parked overnight.

- If it isn't possible to remove tools then consider fitting extra security locks

- If possible park your vehicle under a streetlight or in a well-lit area this will deter thieves.

Offenders brought to justice: A 26 year old man from Milton Keynes has charged with drugs possession in Stoke Hammond. A 43 year old man from Leighton Buzzard has received a court summons for assault in Stoke Hammond. A 42 year old man from Milton Keynes has been charged with assault in Stoke Hammond. **A 37 year old man from Wing has been charged with assault in Aston Abbotts.**

Have Your Say meetings Wednesday 18th April 11.00am until 12.00pm at Wing library, Leighton Road, Wing. Saturday 12th May 10.00am until 11.00am at Ivinghoe library.

Contact us if you see anything suspicious no matter how small of insignificant it may seem, if you think it's not right or someone looks out of place please call us on 999 if it is a crime in progress or 101 if you have information. You can also email the team at greatbrickhillwingivinghoeNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Is your shed secure



Many residents in Aylesbury Vale will start working in their gardens, tidying up after the winter. In the past, burglaries to sheds and outbuilding, start to increase in the spring and summer months.

Thames Valley Police is asking residents to take a moment to review the security of their sheds and outbuildings:-

- Make sure your sheds, outbuildings and garages are locked when not in use, by using strong padlocks.
- Consider fitting bars or locks to the windows.
- Use anti-tamper screws to prevent doors being removed.
- Use a battery or mains operated shed alarm, which can be bought from most DIY stores or garden centres.
- Consider using a strong box, anchored to the floor, to store smaller tools and lock bigger items, such as lawn mowers, bicycles etc to each other, or to the shed.
- Mark all your tools and equipment with your postcode, or you can purchase property marking kits, which uniquely identify property as being owned by you (further details on our website – link below).
- Make sure that anyone acting suspiciously is reported **immediately** to the police. Where possible get a description of them along with details of any vehicle they are using.
- If you are working in your garden make sure your doors are secure (both front and rear) when they are not in your direct view.

Further crime prevention advice and information can be found on the [Thames Valley Police](#) website.

Please make sure that opportunist criminals are not benefiting from your work in your garden!

ASTON ABBOTTS

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2018

The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on **Wednesday 18th April** at 7.45pm in the Village Hall. This meeting is for all residents of Aston Abbotts (it is not a parish council meeting)

Wine will be served from 7.30 – meeting will commence at 7.45

AGENDA

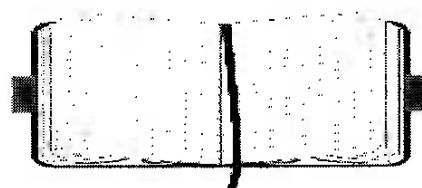
1. Apologies
2. To approve minutes of meeting held on 19th April 2017
3. Matters arising from the minutes
4. County Council, District Council and Police reports
5. Annual report from the Parish Council Chairman
6. Traffic and Traffic Calming – update from Parish Council and discussion
7. Planning and Enforcement report – report from Simon Guy
8. Silent Soldier Campaign
9. Village Orchard
10. Chronicle
11. November 5th 2018
12. Fete 2017 report, Fete 2018 – Distribution of profits
13. A.O.B.

WE HOPE YOU WILL BE ABLE TO JOIN US.

Buses Serving Aston Abbotts

Following the Transport Meeting held at Buckingham 15th March, Colin Higgs was again elected Chairman and as a result he does surveys on rural bus routes for Bucks County Council. We have, due to the passenger usage, managed to keep all routes with NO Cuts. But please use your bus services Especially our 165.

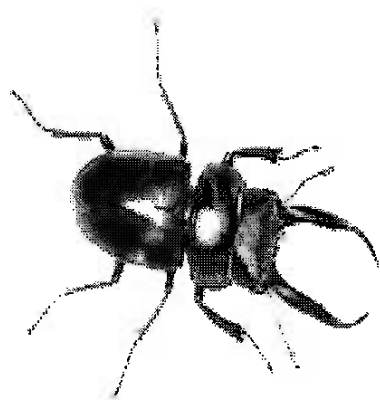
What's on in March?



Easter Day	Sunday 1 st 10.30	Church
Bank Holiday	Monday 2 nd	
Morning Cafe	Thursday 5 th 10-12	Village Hall
Whist Drive	Thursday 5 th 7.30pm	Village Hall
Beetle Drive	Friday 6 th 7.30pm	Village Hall
Rambling Club	Sunday 8 th 2pm	Meet at Wiggington
Mobile Library Need more customers	Tuesday 10 th . 10.30	The Green
Morning Café	Thursday 12 th . 10-12	Village Hall
Bingo	Thursday 12 th . 7.30pm	Village Hall
Village Footpath Walk. <i>See footnote</i>	Sunday 15 th 2pm	The Green
Annual Public Parish Meeting	Wednesday 18 th 7.30pm	Village Hall
Morning Café	Thursday 19 th 10-12	Village Hall
Whist Drive	Thursday 19 th . 7.30pm	Village Hall
Quiz Night	Sunday 22 nd 7.30pm	Royal Oak
Chronicle contribution day	Tuesday 24 th	4pm
Morning Cafe	Thursday 26 th 10-12	Village Hall

Village Footpath Walks. Many people say they are not sure where they go. They are all 'Waymarked'. Many now have kissing gates to replace stiles. Why not join in on Sunday 15th and follow one of our paths?

BEETLE DRIVE



Confirming the ever popular and hilarious
BEETLE DRIVE

will be held village hall Aston Abbots on
Fri. 6th April commencing 7.00pm.

Definitely a 'fun evening' for all and for
which the ticket price includes a two
course, hot meal (sausages, mash and
onion gravy)

Ticket prices;-

£7.50 adults

£5.00 youngsters under 12

£20.00 family ticket (two adults plus two youngsters)

A two course, hot supper is included (sausage, mash and onion
gravy plus puds) .

Bring your own favourite 'tipple'. Any profits from this event will go
to maintaining our church - St James Church Aston Abbots.

You're invited to bring along your favourite 'tipple'!

**All profits go towards the maintenance of our church, St James
Church Aston Abbots.**

**We strongly recommend you book early to avoid
disappointment!!!!!!**



ASTON ABBOTTS THEATREGOERS Lucky Lottery

If you would like to be included in the raffle for these tickets then please email me or drop a note astonabbotts@theatregoers.co.uk or at Marloes, Lines Hill. The draws will take place two weeks prior to the day of each show.

Judy Hardcastle

Show	Date & Time
JAMES BOND CONCERT SPECTACULAR Tickets limited	SUN 8 APR 7.30PM
CILLA THE MUSICAL	TUE 10 APR 7.30PM
MONEY FOR NOTHING – DIRE STRAITS TRIBUTE Tickets limited	THU 19 APR 7.30PM
CHAMPIONS OF MAGIC	TUE 1 MAY 7.30PM
ELLEN KENT OPERA: LA TRAVIATA	FRI 4 MAY 7.30PM
THINK FLOYD Tickets limited	FRI 11 MAY 7.30PM
MONOGAMY	TUE 15 MAY 7.30PM
MAMMA MIA!	TUE 26 JUNE 7.30PM
JERSEY BOYS	TUE 3 JUL 7.30PM
AWFUL AUNTIE Up to 4 tickets available	WED 18 JUL 7PM
SOME GUYS HAVE ALL THE LUCK – THE ROD STEWART STORY	THU 26 JUL 7.30PM
STAGE EXPERIENCE: WHISTLE DOWN THE WIND Up to 4 tickets available	THU 16 AUG 7PM

Aston Abbotts Theatre Goers:

Review on Son of a Preacher Man at the Waterside Theatre on 6th March



Craig Revel Horwood (Strictly Come Dancing Judge) was the Director and was responsible for the Musical Staging on this interesting show. I say interesting because it wasn't wholly a musical and the writer calls it a "compilation show", which I'd never heard of before. It's a story with some songs.....

The music was great, but of course Dusty Springfield is my (early!) era and all the cast except one person, were really talented singers. I guess because it wasn't a musical as such, Michael Howe who played Paul, had clearly been

chosen for his excellent acting talents, but his voice was not as strong as the rest of the cast.

Alice Barlow who played Kat, Michelle Gayle who played Alison and Nigel Richards who played Simon were the other 3 main characters, and they were very good. The rest of the cast were multi-talented, using instruments as well as acting and singing.

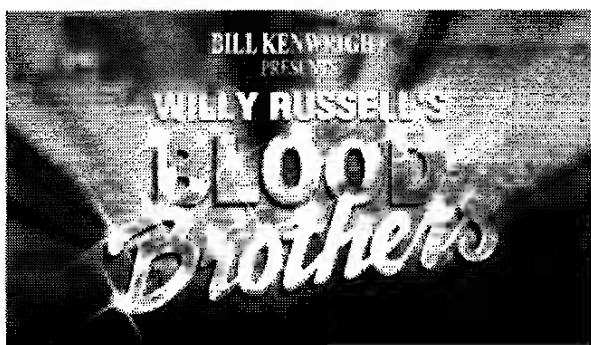
There were over 20 songs including: I close my eyes and count to ten; All I see is you; the look of love; Nowhere to run to; Wishin' & Hopin' In the middle of nowhere; Anyone who had a heart and of course, Son of Preacher Man.

As with many "musicals" the story wasn't the reason why people attend....at the end of the show, the cast sang a couple of much more "rousing" numbers and the audience was on its feet clapping along and joining in.

An enjoyable night out, especially if you like the songs of Dusty Springfield.

Many thanks to the Waterside Theatre.

Liz Barlow



I was lucky enough to be drawn for the tickets for Blood Brothers.

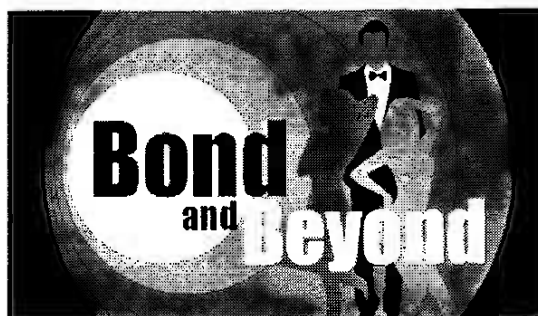
Blood Brothers is an amazing show written by Willy Russell, a story of two fraternal twins Micky and Eddie who were separated at birth. Eddie being raised in a wealthy family, Mickey in a poor family. The different environments take the twins to opposite ends of the social spectrum, one becoming a counsellor, and the other unemployed and in

prison. They both fall in love with the same girl, causing a rift in their friendship and leading to the tragic death of both brothers.

The cast were exceptional with outstanding performances from Lyn Paul as Mrs Johnstone, Sean Jones as Mickey, and Mark Hutchinson as Eddie.

A good evening was most definitely had, a huge well done to the entire cast, crew and theatre staff.

**James Bond Spectacular At
Aylesbury Waterside Theatre
Sunday 8th April 7.30pm**



THE BARRICADE BOYS

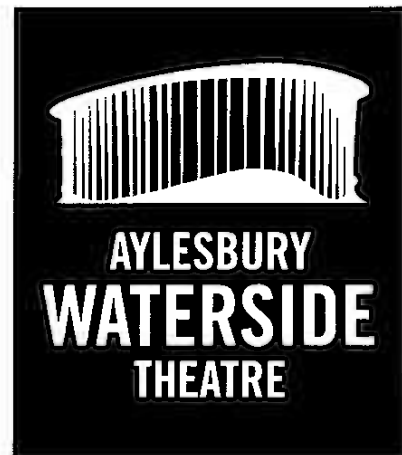


On Monday, 13th March, courtesy of Theatre Goers, John and I went to see The Barricade Boys at Waterside Theatre.

The Barricade Boys are a group of four men, SCOTT GARNHAM, SIMON SCHOFIELD, KIERAN BROWN and CRAIG MATHER, who have all previously played starring roles in some of the top West End Shows, including The Phantom of the Opera, Billy Elliot, Les Miserables and Jersey Boys, and have also appeared on a variety of TV shows including Sunday Night at the London Palladium and Ant and Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway. Individually they each have great voices but together they

harmonise brilliantly. Besides performing songs from some of the greatest shows, they also sang powerful ballads and beautiful arias, and some of the best pop, rock and roll and swing numbers produced. Backed by a quartet of musicians playing guitars, keyboard and drums, they gave a great performance with something for everyone.

Thanks to Aston Abbotts Theatre Goers for a lovely night out. John and Pam Dixon.



The Astonians - astonpete

The Village Hall Incident

I want to make it clear that it was not my fault what happened at the village hall the other night. I just booked the entertainment for the Aston Abbotts senior citizens monthly get together. What happened was an accident.

After the community sing-along led by Molly Proctor at the piano, it was time for the star of the show, Claude the Hypnotist!

Claude explained he was going to put the whole audience into a trance. "Yes, each and every one of you and all at the same time." He said.

The sceptical chatter dropped to silence as Claude carefully pulled a beautiful antique pocket watch and chain out of his waistcoat pocket. "I want you to keep your eyes on this watch" said Claude, holding the watch high for all to see.

"It is a very special and valuable watch that has been in my family for six generations" said Claude.

He began to swing the watch gently back and forth while quietly chanting "Watch the watch --- Watch the watch ---- Watch the watch"

The audience became mesmerised as the watch swayed back and forth. The lights were twinkling as they reflected from its gleaming surfaces. It was amazing. A hundred and fifty pairs of eyes followed the movements of the gently swaying watch.

They were hypnotised.

And then, suddenly, Claude dropped the microphone which fell to the stage and burst apart on impact"

"SHIT" said Claude.

It took the cleaners three days to clean the hall and Claude will never be invited there again.

Lost Pubs in and around the Vale – Colin Higgs

<i>Aylesbury Lost Pubs</i>	<i>Villages</i>	<i>Lost Village Pubs</i>
The Bear	Aston Abbotts	Bull & Butcher
Bulls Head	Cublington	The Bell
Barley Corn	Stewkley	The Bull/Black Swan
Black Horse	Whitchurch	White Horse/Crown & Thistle/White Horse
Britannia	Weedon	The George/The Wheatsheaf
The Chandos	Wingrave	The Bell/The Anchor/ Carpenters Arms
Coach & Horses	Mentmore	The Fox
County Arms	Ledburn	Hare & Hounds
The Crown	Littleworth (Wing)	Sportsman
Derby Arms	Wing	The Dove
Floresters Arms	Rowsham	Red Lion
The Duck	Bierton	The Star/The Eagle
Dark Lantern	Long Marston	The Boot
Green Man	Cheddington	Roseberry Arms
John Hampton	Marsworth	The Ship

Aylesbury Lost Pubs	Villages	Lost Village Pubs
Hen & Chickens	Horton	Kings Head
Little Vic	Gt Brickhill	Duncombe Arms
Greyhound	Western Turville	Plough
Six Grapes	Wendover	End of the World
Nags Head	Aston Clinton	Rising Sun/Rothchild Arms
Market Tavern	Buckland	Rothchild Arms
Three Pigeons	Thornborough	Lone Tree
Red Lion	Adstock	The Folly
Railway Inn	Preston Bissett	The Old Hat
Prince of Wales	Westbury	The Rainbow
Steeple Chase	Northall	Village Inn
Saracens Head	Billington	The Greyhound
Ship Inn	Winslow	Devil in the Boot
The Brewers		
The Star		
The White Hart		
Windmill		

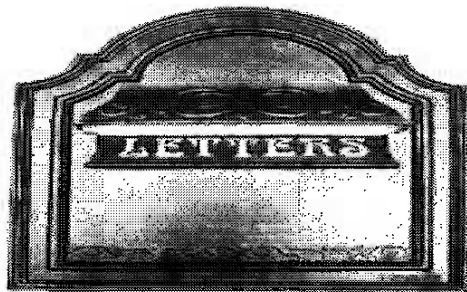
Book these dates.

Annual Parish Public Meeting. Wednesday 18th April, at 7.30pm
Village Hall. Come along and have your views voiced as to what goes on in the village.

Music in Quiet Places St James Church Sunday 24th June

Bucks county Show Thursday 30th August

Aston Abbots Horticultural Show Saturday 1st September



I have just received this notice from our local police contact:

Netta. County Councillor

TVP Aylesbury is now on Facebook

Just to inform you that the TVP Aylesbury Vale Facebook page is live from 9am on 05/03/2018. We are hoping that this will improve communication with our community. It will be used for crime reduction, witness appeals, updates on what police across the vale are up to and much more!

Can I ask you all to spread the word so we get as many people as

possible on the page. Twitter will still be used for those that prefer that platform.

<https://www.facebook.com/TVPAylesbury/>

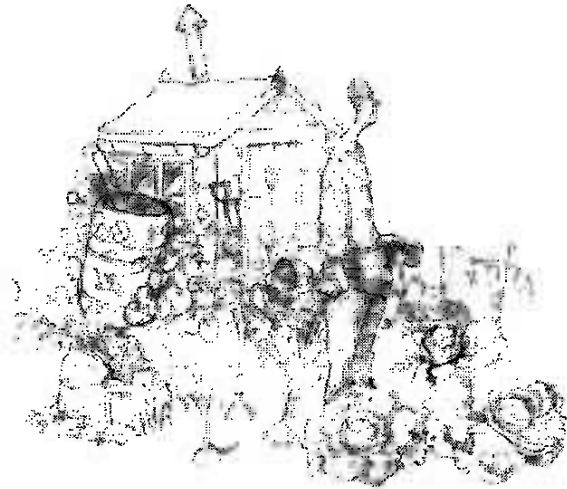
Thank you.

King Regards

Lyn

I would just like to say thank you to all the villagers especially the children who have come out in the rain to tidy our village. I apologise I wasn't able to join them but I have to go work. **Mrs Clarke**

ALLOTMENT DIARY



There was no allotment diary from me last month, not just because I had not been near my allotment, but because I have been in foreign parts – New Zealand to be precise. Whilst there, I visited Te Puke in North Island, the self-styled kiwifruit capital of the world.

I discovered that the story of the kiwifruit is fascinating. It originated in China, but was never really grown commercially there. It was then known as the Chinese gooseberry. In 1918 it was introduced to New Zealand, and was first grown in Te Puke then; and by the 1930s it was being grown commercially. However, it was in the 1960s that the fruit took off, through a combination of a happy discovery, and good

marketing. The discovery was that when refrigerated, kiwifruit remains in good condition for up to 6 months – which meant it could be grown in New Zealand, and shipped successfully around the world. The good marketing was to rename the fruit the “kiwifruit”, and under this new name it became a very trendy fruit to use.

It is now grown in other parts of the world as well – notable in Italy and Chile; and the new varieties produced in New Zealand have been taken back to China where it is now widely grown – indeed the Chinese now grow far more kiwifruit than New Zealand, Italy and Chile combined!

The fruit grows on vines either like grapes or hops, depending on the variety. You know you are in a kiwifruit growing region not because you see these vines (which you rarely do), but because you see field after field surrounded by high conifer hedges up to 20 feet high – clearly to act as wind-breaks/suntraps. The area around Te Puke was dense with them

The other thing that interested me agriculturally was the fact that New Zealand not only grows vast amounts of grapes – mainly for white wine, although some red is grown as well, largely on North Island – it also grows an awful lot of hops. Craft beers are a really big thing over there, and it was not at all unusual to be offered 5 or 6 different craft beers at any bar/restaurant one went to.

Meanwhile, back on the allotment: while I was away Adam pulled up all the sweetcorn canes, to try to dry them out for burning. I still have a couple of rows of spuds to dig up (my policy of leaving them in the ground until needed seems to be working – save that when I dig them up at the moment they are rather caked in muddy earth). I have already acquired next year's seeds, and had hoped to have got onto the allotment before penning this piece. However, having got myself re-organised after my trip down-under, I have now been frustrated by the "mini-beast from the East" – which both made it difficult to dig; and rather blunted the enthusiasm for doing it.

Nevertheless, the weather is about to turn warmer later this week, and I hope to get onto the allotment to dig up the last of my potatoes, and then unleash Adam with his Rotavator, so that I can spread compost, and then begin the first planting.

In conclusion, may I say something about Gordon Kemp, who, as you will know, sadly died recently. He was my neighbour at the allotments from the time when I first took my allotment, and I could not have asked for a more congenial and pleasant neighbour. More often than not when I visited my allotment I would meet him down there, because he was a very assiduous and good gardener, and not a dilettante like me, and it was rare for me to go to the allotments without finding him there, and having a conversation with him, not only about gardening, but a whole host of topics. He was always ready to offer advice about any vegetable problems I was having; and I shall miss him pulling my leg about the number of holidays I took, to the detriment of my allotment.

PETER SHORROCK

B I N G O

Good Samaritans Bingo!

£213 raised in March for:



Join us on **Thursday 12th April**

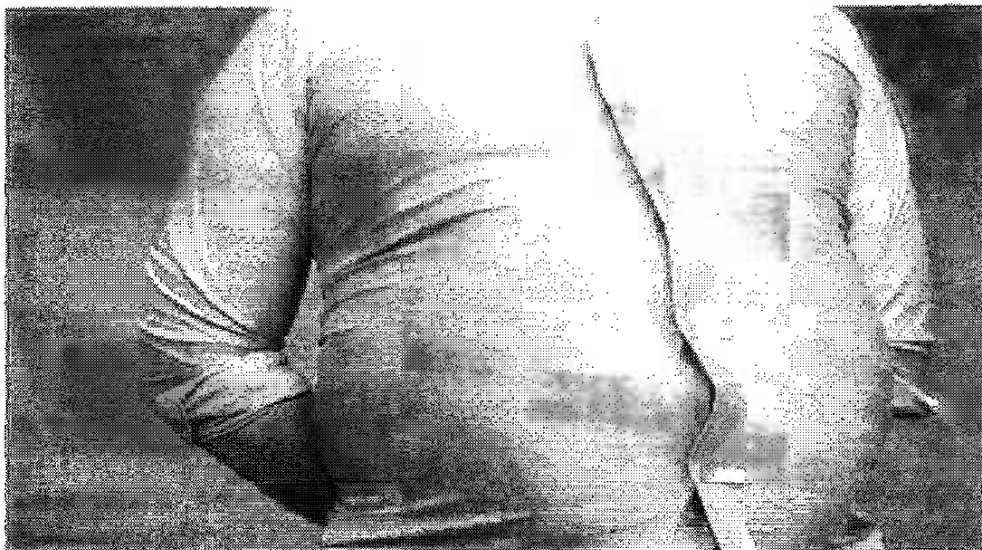
Aston Abbots Village Hall

7.30pm start

In aid of: **Sense**



Tired of ironing shirts? Get fat and watch those creases vanish



Gordon Kemp – an appreciation

We know we are speaking for many in the village when we say we lost a kind and generous friend two weeks ago. This note is from Gordon Kemp's friends at St James's church and also from us as his neighbours in Church Row.

Gordon and his partner Ann both served many years on the parochial church council, including eight years as treasurer and secretary respectively between 1999 and 2007. In addition they put in many hours outside maintaining the churchyard – a look through the PCC minutes shows just how much work Gordon and Ann did, from taming the compost bin back in 2002 to the planning and planting of the wild area. Gordon later became the organiser of the "Merry Mowers", drawing up the

rota, making sure the mowing machines were in good order and fuelled up, and, again with Ann, cutting the grass around the gravestones where the ride-on mower can't be used. He will be very much missed from St James's.

As indeed he will be in Church Row. Gordon and Ann moved here shortly after us in the late 1980s. Our children have grown up and half our lives have been spent with Gordon around, always genial as we traipsed across the garden of no.4 to get to our bike shed, always happy to talk allotments, holidays, walking (and rugby and schooling – both Gordons attended King Edward's school in Birmingham!). Thank you Gordon for being such a fine neighbour and friend, and our love and best wishes to Ann.

Caroline Lane and Gordon Smith –
2 Church Row



**Services at
Saint James Church - Aston Abbotts
April 2018**

1st April	10.30am	Easter Day	Revd. Roger Hale
		Parish Communion	
8th April	10.30am	Parish Communion	Revd. Peter Binns
15th April	9.30am	Breakfast in Village Hall	
		Followed by short service	
22nd April	10.30am	Parish Communion	Revd. Roger Hale
29th April	10.30am	Parish Communion	Revd. Canon David Holloway

100 Club Draw March 2018

1st Prize, £50 Ivan Greenaway

2nd prize, £10 Liz Clarke



Sunday
11th

March, started with a hot breakfast served by 'the chaps' in the village hall. Pancakes with choices of bacon or a range of fruits, yoghurts and cereals, all topped off with coffee or tea welcomed those who came along.

With all present refreshed, and everyone in 'high spirits' we attended the short and very informal service in the church to give thanks for all 'Mums'. The service was held without a vicar, being ran by members of our PCC. A record attendance filled half the available pews but at times it seemed full to overflowing with the very young children innocently and delightfully 'socialising' with one another', totally oblivious of the

service going on around them. Several of the older ones said a few kind words about their Mums and one lady, who was so moved by the occasion, even went so far as to give a glowing account of how much her Mother in Law meant to her and her family!! Well! - Why not? Mum in Laws are in many respects mothers twice over.

The entire proceedings were so wonderfully casual there were only two hymns. Just before the last one, children of all ages were able to choose from a wide variety of instruments so they could assist Nigel on the organ. Such was their enthusiasm that they tooted, banged, squeaked and wheezed 'almost in time with the music, completely 'out playing' him and even refusing to stop long after he;d finished!!

This 'grand finale' summed up the delightfully casual, sincere, and at times slightly shambolic' nature of this service. It ended with all Mums receiving a small posy and an invitation to stay behind for 'coffee'; the first served from our newly installed 'Bell tower' kitchen.

Our 'breakfast services', though similarly quite casual are not always as 'lively as this. They're held monthly, start with a nice sociable breakfast in the village hall, are quite short and led by members of the PCC. If you'd like to come along, keep a lookout in this magazine or for the board announcing them when it appears outside the village hall some 5 or 6 days before they're held. Everyone is given a warm welcome.

Andy Bystra

make our fete a success! Thank you all that have already volunteered – if you would like to help out, please contact Ali Carstens on 07825 751465 or ali.carstens@hotmail.com

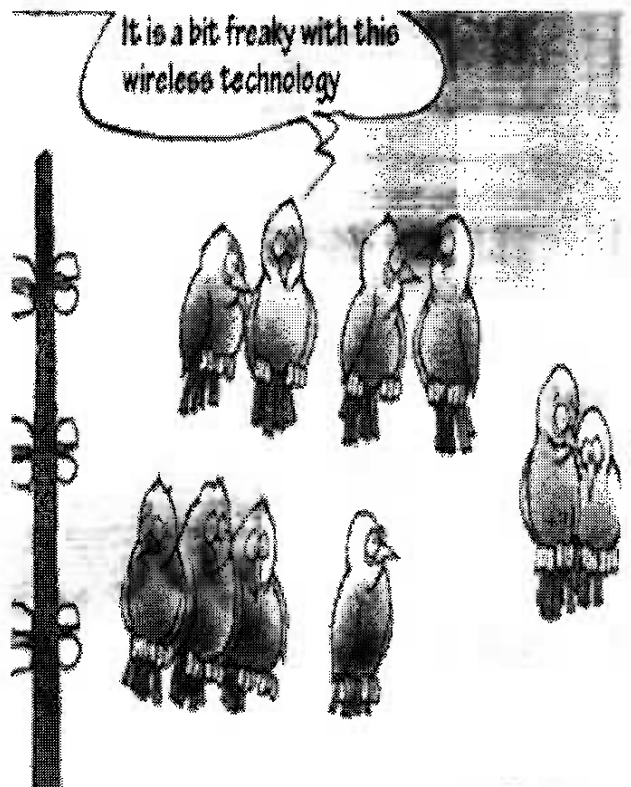
We've also started thinking about our raffle! As you know, the early bird gets the best prizes!! If you would like to donate a raffle prize, or know an organisation that would - especially for that all important STAR PRIZE, please get in touch with Liz Barlow on 07976 671701 or liz@livanti.com



Aston Abbotts Village Fete

Saturday 28th July 2018

We're looking for more wonderful individuals to man stalls, set up on the day, distribute flyers, and help



Church Matters

Diary of St. James's



The Family Service on Mothering Sunday saw Mums young and old served with breakfast by Colin, Nigel and Andy Bystra. As a result the following Church Service was full, with much participation from parishioners of all ages.

It was with great sadness that we saw the passing of Gordon Kemp last month. Long time member of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) and a previous treasurer, in recent years he organised the maintenance of the Churchyard including the mowing rota, leaf collection and edge trimming. He will be sorely missed. Our thoughts are with Ann, and Gordon's many friends and relations.

Don't forget to book your tickets for the Beetle Drive on Friday 6th April and make sure you have the 'Music in Quiet Places' concert on 24th June, Fete on 28th July and Horticultural Show on 1st September, in your diaries.

David Gray

EASTER SUNDAY

With our splendid new kitchen facilities we hope you will come and enjoy a cup of coffee or tea in church with friends from 10am, before our Easter Day Service on Sunday 1st April.

Church Duties

<i>Date</i>	<i>Cleaning</i>	<i>Flowers</i>	<i>Mowing</i>
<i>7/4</i>	<i>Colin/Caroline</i>	<i>Easter</i>	
<i>14/4</i>		<i>Donated</i>	
<i>21/4</i>	<i>Alex/Anita</i>	<i>""</i>	
<i>28/4</i>	<i>Colin/Gay</i>	<i>TBA</i>	

The Royal Oak – what's in a name?



Have you ever wondered why our village pub is named the Royal Oak? In fact, England boasts over 400 pubs bearing that name. To answer this question, it is necessary to look back to the 17th Century and the Civil War. King James I believed he had the divine right to rule and regarded Parliament as necessary only to give assent to royal decisions and grant money to administer the country. There were considerable religious differences between Protestants and Catholics who had never got over the religious upheaval inspired by Henry VIII that turned Catholic England into a Protestant country. The Catholics even sought to blow up the entire Royal Family in the

1605 Gunpowder plot. A disgruntled Parliament sought real power, which King James I and his son, Charles I, avoided by simply not calling Parliament for most of the next 40 years. Parliament, largely Puritan in sympathy, distrusted Charles I not least because he had a Catholic wife. Eventually war became inevitable when Parliament sought to impose extensive religious changes and secure power for itself. The struggle ended with Charles I losing his head in 1649, becoming the only English monarch to have been executed. Oliver Cromwell became Lord Protector and England became a republic for the next 12 years.

In 1643, Parliament had sought the Scots help, an alliance being sealed through an agreement guaranteeing the preservation of Presbyterianism in Scotland and its extension to England once Charles I had been defeated. Scotland was horrified that the English Parliament had executed the Scots King and failed to

implement its promise to settle Presbyterianism on England. The heir to the throne, Prince Charles had gone into exile in France during the war for safety together with his mother and following his father's death, was proclaimed king of Scotland, England and Ireland, but could not actually reign until he agreed to these religious guarantees. War once more became inevitable.

Prince Charles landed in Scotland in July 1650, and the following year, aged just 21, sought to recover his English throne. He entered England with 46 regiments of Scottish soldiers and moved south. Despite promises, few Englishmen joined his army which eventually reached Worcester, a city which had a history of support for the King. A few short days later Cromwell's mighty force attacked the exhausted and ill-equipped Scots, encircled the city and Charles's army fell to a calamitous defeat. Charles

himself somehow escaped on horseback with a few courtiers. There followed a six-week journey across England whilst he was hotly pursued by Parliamentary troops who were rounding up the remaining small pockets of defeated Royalist forces. If caught, he faced the same fate as his father and the odds did not look good. He was conspicuous by height being several inches taller than the average Englishman at 6 feet 2 inches and walked in a regal manner, finding it difficult to adopt the gait of a simple country dweller, which inhibited his attempts at disguise.

During that journey he relied on the help of the area's Catholics who had for years concealed hunted men and dissident Catholic priests. After a week, Charles eventually arrived at Boscobel House, however great numbers of enemy troops were nearby looking for Charles and so it was unsafe to hide either there or in nearby woodland. One of his officers, Careless,

considered that Charles might find safety in a nearby great oak tree. This had been pollarded a few years before and had grown back with an unusually thick platform of lower branches but had good views in all directions. The king and Careless climbed into the tree, using a woodman's ladder, taking with them two cushions and provisions for the day, bread and cheese wrapped in linen and weak beer. Others kept watch on the ground pretending to be gathering sticks. The king fell asleep on his companion's lap who lost all sensation in his leg and they were in imminent danger of sliding out of the tree into the hands of the parliamentary soldiers riding below, but Careless gently pinched the king until he woke up. The Redcoats passed the tree several times during the day in search of the king but never thought to climb up into its branches. At the end of the day they climbed down

and continued their long journey across country.

Eventually the king managed to escape to France on a coal barge that left from Shoreham in Sussex. Once the story of his flight became well known, the Boscobel Oak became the most celebrated tree in England and a point of pilgrimage after Charles eventually regained his throne in 1660 following the death of Cromwell. Souvenir hunters pulled off branches to make walking sticks and snuff boxes and, despite attempts to protect it, by 1722 it was all but destroyed. Its acorns were harvested and one grew into a mighty oak that stood in much the same spot. It still survives today despite being badly damaged by a storm in 2000. Many pubs were also named as the Royal Oak in order to ensure that these events would never be forgotten.

Nigel Palmer

Who's Who when you need them. Important numbers

Position	Name	Number
Chair Parish Council	Kate Curry	681137
Vice Chair Parish Council	Judy Hardcastle	688070
Councillor & Rural Transport	Colin Higgs	681343
Councillor	Peter Shorrocks	681260
Councillor	Phil' Spooner	681544
Councillor	Simon Guy	681319
Parish Council Clerk	Frank Post	668206
County Councillor	Netta Glover	688357
Fete Co-ordinator	Ali Carstens	07825 751465
Vicar	Phillip Derbyshire	01525240287
Church Warden	Caroline Abel-Smith	681001
Church Secretary	Caroline Lane	681373
100 Club Treasurer	David Gray	681952
Bingo	Pam Dixon	681626
Book Club	Sally Palmer	681152
Chronicle Editor	Pete Lucas	681387
Chronicle Advertising Enquiries	John Whyte	johnwhyte2311@gmail.com
Chronicle Distribution	Sally Palmer/Jill Wenble	681152/681877
Village Hall Hire	Liz Barlow	682605
6.30 Club	Andy Bystra	681690
Gnomes	Carol Spooner	681544
Ladies Club	Jackie Whyte	681624
Rambling Club & Whist Drive	Colin Higgs	681343
Baby & Toddler Group	Kim Gayler	681123
Royal Oak Pub & Restaurant	Teri Moults	681262
Milkman	Alan	07791885612
Post office & shop Wingrave		682964

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
Anglian Water	385995
Pre School Wingrave	681127

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Abbotts Bucks HP224LP.**

***Contribution Deadline Please remember
that February's Chronicle contributions must be
to me by 24th January. editor@aachronicle.co.uk
Many thanks. Ed.***

April 18 Wingrave Diary

APRIL 2018 Sun 1 Easter Day
Sun 1 1400 Swingrave tea
dance Community Centre Tue 3
1200 Nup End Café Methodist
Church Tue 3 1930 Parish open
meeting Community Centre Fri
6 1800 WCA Village Family
Evening Community Centre
Mon 9 0930 Wingrave
Weekday Walkers walk The
Green Tue 10 1930 Wingrave
Art Club Community Centre Sat
14 0845 Men's Breakfast Talk:
Will inter-generational
unfairness get worse with the
increase of those in
retirement?

Methodist Church Sun 15 0930
Local ramble Nup End Lane
Mon 16 School term begins Tue
17 1200 Nup End Café

Methodist Church Tue 17
Garden talk Community Centre
Thu 19 1800 Copy date for
Communiqué Fri 20 1930 WCA
Village bingo Community
Centre Sat 21 1900

Mrs Bucket's St George's Day
Supper Parish Church Sat 21
1930 80s Night with DJ Dan
Blaze Community Centre Mon
23 1800 Bowls Club playing
season starts Recreation
Ground Tue 24 1930 Wingrave
Art Club Community Centre Fri
27 1930 WWRHA talk:
Aylesbury Duck and the
Aylesbury Prune Community
Centre

Sat 28-1 My Twinning: La
Bouëxière families in Wingrave
Sat 28 1930 Wingrave Singers
concert Parish Church Sun 29
1200 Bowls Club season begins
Recreation Ground

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SUMMER BUFFET

CHARITY AUCTION And "Roulette & Blackjack tables"

Starts

6.30pm

VENUE

Carriages 1.00am

The Firs

Field

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Tickets £65.00

Contact

Frank McManus 07771 882412

John Whyte 07988 001834



Opening Times

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Wed 10:00 - 13:00

Thu CLOSED

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.....

Happy Easter 🐣

The library will be open from Tue 3 April

Big dates on the calendar this month are:

Commonwealth Games 4th to 15th; Grand National on the 14th

London Marathon on the 22nd

St. George's Day on the 23rd

Shakespeare's birthday also on the 23rd

Look out for our displays



Friday 27 April Lego Club 15:30 - 16:30



The Library is run entirely by volunteers - please support us and our special events.

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Buckinghamshire County Council





Aston Abbotts Village Hall news – April 2018

Village Hall Trust annual meeting, open to all

Thursday 24 May, 7pm, village hall

Advance notice of our annual meeting next month. Come along and hear what's been happening with the village hall in 2017, including the financial report and plans for 2018.

If that sounds a bit much, we'll be at the **Annual Parish Meeting** on 18 April

Want to help?

If you would like to join the management group, or just help out with anything – cleaning, maintenance, fundraising – come along to the annual meeting, or just let one of us know. You don't need to be a trustee.

Aston Abbotts 1000-2000 – A Village History

The village history book is getting around - we just sold two copies to a Putnam descendant in the US, and she gave us a donation as well.

Stocks are going down but we still have some left, so if anyone new to the village would like one, contact us (£10 plus postage if needed)

Bookings

Liz Barlow manages the bookings. You can email bookings to astonabbottsvillagehall@yahoo.com or ring Liz (01296 682605/07976 671701) or Nigel Palmer (01296 681152).

Caroline Lane – Aston Abbotts Village Hall trustees

Aston Abbotts Village Hall Trustees group: Caroline Lane (Chair), Liz Hall (Secretary), Nigel Palmer (Treasurer), Liz Barlow (bookings), Peter Shorrocks, John Whyte, Kevin Copping.

Email: astonabbottsvillagehall@yahoo.com



Aston Abbotts Hall Hire

Rates	Residents	Non Residents
Hourly - regular bookings	£7.50	£10
Commercial Negotiable	—	—
Minimum Hours	1	1
Daily capped rate	£60	£100
Includes	Lights, Hot Water and Dishwasher	
Excludes	Wall heaters (coin meter)	

Bookings: email astonabbottsvillagehall@yahoo.com or ring 01296 682605/07976 671701 (Liz Barlow) or 01296 681152 (Nigel Palmer)

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ASTON ABBOTTS

1000 – 2000 A VILLAGE HISTORY

Published 2000, reprinted 2016

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Photos, maps, interviews

**A really great read packed with fascinating information
about the community we live in.**

An absolute must for every household.

Fantastic value at only £10.

All proceeds from this printing to

The Village Hall restoration project

(Thanks to authors Aston Abbots History Group)

Contact Caroline Lane on 681373 for your copy, or email

astonabbottsvillagehall@yahoo.com



Tennis Club Open Day

Sunday 29th April 1-5 pm

Join a local tennis club at very reasonable rates and get fit! Go on, you know you want to! All levels of tennis available from beginner through to competitive league. Friendly club tournaments and social tennis also available. All welcome for a try out on the day.

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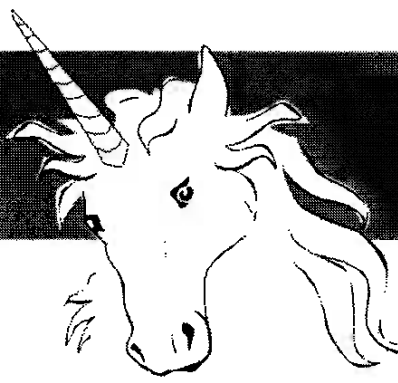
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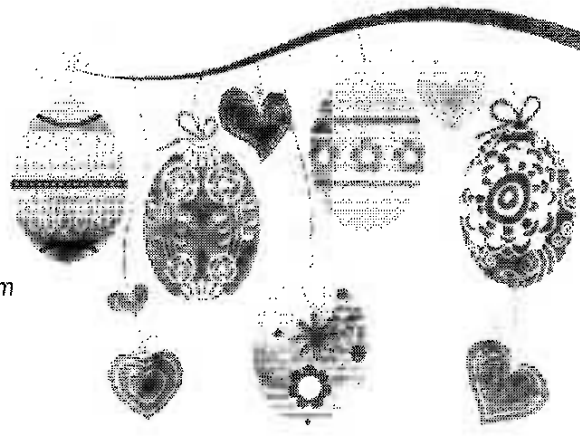
This April at



What's On

- Easter Sunday 1st - Roast Lunch 12-5pm** – booking strongly advised. Including children's Easter Egg hunt in the garden at 3pm
- Mon 2nd Unicorn Quiz** from 8.30pm
- Bank Holiday - Easter Monday**
- Thursday 5th - Steak Night**
- 2 steaks and a bottle of house wine for £40
- Saturday 7th Breakfasts** from 9.30 – 11.00am
- Sunday 8th - Roast Lunch** – booking advised
- Mon 9th National Unicorn Day**
Unicorn Quiz from 8.30pm
- Thursday 12th - Steak Night**
2 steaks and a bottle of house wine for £40
- Saturday 14th Breakfasts** from 9.30 – 11.00am
- Sunday 15th Roast Lunch** – booking advised
- Mon 16th Unicorn Quiz** from 8.30pm
- Thursday 19th - Steak Night**
- 2 steaks and a bottle of house wine for £40
- Friday 20th Live Music with**
The Measures 
- Saturday 21st Breakfasts** from 9.30 – 11.00am
- Sunday 22nd Roast Lunch** – booking advised
- Mon 23rd Unicorn Quiz** from 8.30pm
- St George's Day**
- Thursday 26th - Steak Night**
- 2 steaks and a bottle of house wine for £40
- Saturday 28th Breakfasts**
from 9.30 – 11.00am
- Sunday 29th Roast Lunch** – booking advised
- Mon 30th Unicorn Quiz** from 8.30pm

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CUBLINGTON



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Unicorn
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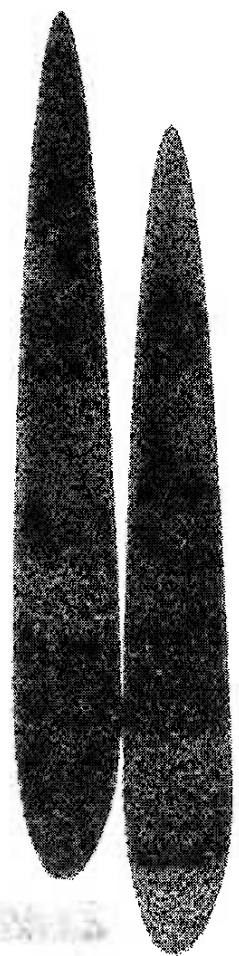
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The Royal Oak in April



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