

The Chronicle 385 June 2018

Inside this issue: News in Brief – Your Letters – Theatre lucky draw – The Astonians and much more.....



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Don't forget Quiz Night Sunday 10th June 7.30

From the Editor.

Unfortunately burglaries continue to blight our village and that of others. I have asked the police as to what has been done since the recent Aston Abbotts Burglary. This is what I have received from Pcs0 9953 Megan Harriett.

The Neighbourhood Policing Team have increased their patrols of the area. I have done some foot patrol around the village and spoken to some of the local residents on my travels. Do you have a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme in place? If not, this is something I can help you set up and it is a good way of all the villagers to keep in touch and be in "the loop".

We must do all we can to keep our properties and that of our neighbours safe. Without wishing to appear patronising, please ring 101 if you see anything suspicious and 999 if an emergency.

Speeding is another problem we face especially on the main road of The Green. As I write this editorial, a skip lorry has passed by travelling at least 40 MPH.

Children are present on the streets of our village and would have no chance if such a vehicle hit them at that speed. The Parish Council must act to cease the speeding on The Green main road at the earliest opportunity.

I'm happy to say that I have secured more advertising revenue within the Chronicle. You will notice the **front page** has been sold to an advertiser. So please remember this for the next 11 months as the front page will be similar throughout the year. This, of course, helps finance the Chronicle.

News in brief

Woman injured after car hits house in Wing



The emergency services were called to an incident in Wing on Saturday night 12th May when a car struck a house.

A Volkswagen Polo struck the front of a property on Aylesbury Road in Wing just before 9pm.

The emergency services went to the scene of a crash. Firefighters assisted a woman, who was uninjured, from the house.

Two women were assessed by the ambulance service at the scene but did not require hospital treatment.

Burglary Aston Abbotts

Witness appeal following a burglary - Aston Abbotts ***

A burglary, Sunday evening 3rd May, on Wingrave Road.

The front door was forced open and the offender(s) stole cash and an ornament.

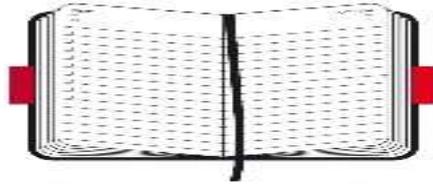
Did you see anything suspicious in the area between 6:50pm and 9:45? Suspicious people, or vehicles?

If you've got any info please give us a call on 101, reference 43180133755

Bucks county Show will be Thursday 30th August

Aston Abbotts Horticultural Show Saturday 1st September

What's on in June



Rambling Club	Sunday 3rd 2pm	Meet at Weedon
Evensong	Sunday 3rd 6pm	Church
Morning Cafe	Thursday 7th 10-12	Village Hall
Whist Drive	Thursday 7th 7.30pm	Village Hall
Tour De Vale Cycle Ride	Sunday 10th	
Village Footpath Walk	Sunday 10th 2pm	The Green
Quiz Night	Sunday 10th June 7.30pm	Royal Oak
Morning Café	Thursday 14th 10-12	Village Hall
Bingo	Thursday 14th 7.30pm	Village Hall
Fathers Day	Sunday 17th	
Parish Council	Wednesday 20th 7.30	Village Hall
Morning Café	Thursday 21st. 10-12	Village Hall
Cublington Fete	Sunday 24th 1pm	Orchard Ground
Chronicle contribution day	Sunday 24th 4pm	
Village Walk	Sunday 24th 6.30pm	
Music In Quiet Places	Sunday 24th 7.30pm Tickets from Caroline Lane	Church
OAPs Bus Pass Trip	Tuesday 26th	09.08 bus to L/Buzzard then to Luton & St Albans



Sunday

10th June 7.30pm

**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

Minutes of the Aston Abbotts Public Annual Parish Meeting 7.45pm 18th April, 2018

Present: Mrs K Curry (Chairman, Parish Council), Mr Frank Post (acting secretary), Mr Peter Cooper (District Councillor), Mrs N Glover (County Councillor) and 34 parishioners.

1. **County Councillor Glover** shared her report:

- **Childrens Services** - It was noted that that the proposed changes to Childrens Services is currently in public consultation.
- **Small Highway Schemes** - It was noted that BCC through this scheme will make planters available at the principle gateways to the village.
- **Potholes** - Extra money is being made available to the County to address this issue – to report potholes link to www.fixmystreet.bucksscc.gov.uk
- **Health Check** - Available for residents aged between 40 to 74. Further details available through County website.
- **Bike safety** - Council are promoting a series of initiatives to “be a Better Biker” with a series of events between April and September. Bookings available through County website and will take place at Marlow Fire station.
- **Highways/Freight** - Bucks Freight strategy is out for consultation. Parishioners were encouraged to contribute where they have concerns about heavy haulage from major development projects (HS2, Expressway). It was also noted that the repairs to the road between Weedon and Aston Abbotts would be more permanent. Improvements for the road toward Bierton are subject to developers’ contributions.

District Councillor Peter Cooper shared his report:

- Local District Council plan has been submitted and will come into force next year. 28800 extra houses will be accommodated.
 - Aylesbury Council prefers two unitary Councils to provide balance across the County. Again, parishioners were encouraged to contribute to the consultation to the Secretary of Sate.
james.brokenshire@communities.gsi.gov.uk
- **Plans for the Express Way linking Oxford and Cambridge are being developed and several options being reviewed. It was noted that one option would impact the area particularly around Wingrave Crossroads on the A418.**
- **Aston Abbotts is a priority area for BT upgrade on broadband but scheduled for September 2019. The broadband will be fibre based to individual premises.**

2. **Parish Councils Chairmans Report:** - Thanks were extended to Councillor Richard Clarke who resigned in December. The new Councillor Lesley Clough and the new Clerk Frank Post were welcomed.
- **Traffic/ Traffic Calming:** - **Several measures to improve traffic calming are/have been implemented, including sharing a MVAS sign with five adjoining villages which will be located at Moat lane, Cublington Road and Wingrave Road to slow down drivers and collect data. Councillor Phil Spooner highlighted that recent data had not been useful in light of recent road repairs. Speed tubes are being installed at Lines Hill and centre of the Village to again collect data. Following consultation with Bucks County Council, white hatching for both ends of the inner Green are being implemented, with funding from the Local Area Forum being match funded by the Parish Council.**
 - **Play Area** - Swings and aerial runway have been replaced this year. The Parish Council also funded the Play around the Parishes event last summer.
 - **Bins** - Two new dog bins have been installed and frequency of emptying increased.
 - **Notice Board** - New notice board has been installed. Parishioners wishing to display a notice can do so by contacting the Chair or the Clerk.
 - **Maintenance** - Council continues to mow the urban hedges, maintain the recreation ground, replace street signs and repair street lights.
 - **Funding** - Council continues to fund the insurance cover for the fete and support the Fireworks display. Parishioners are encouraged to table grant requests for promoting village welfare.
- Councillor Kate Curry concluded her report by thanking her fellow Councillors, in particular Councillor Higgs who has served the Village as a Councillor for 50 years.**
3. **The Chronicle** - Pete Lucas informed the village that the Chronicle is doing well, with a revamped front cover policy to *eventually sell for advertising*. Advertising raised £780 last year but costs equate to £1500.
A contribution from the Village Fete this year would be gratefully received.
4. **Fireworks** - Kevin Copping discussed the Fireworks display. It was noted that no bonfire is feasible unless a different location is identified, because no insurance cover is feasible for the present location..

5. **Village Fete:** - Sally Palmer informed the Village that last year's event raised £3000 in part due to poor weather. After deductions, there was £1550 distributed to the Church, £500 to Fireworks, £200 to recreation ground. Preparations for this year's event are going reasonable well, but 2 coordinators are required and replacement wooden signs needed.

Distribution of funds: The following was decided upon

- £600 to the Chronicle - £500 to the Fireworks - £250 toward Silent Soldier campaign - Remainder to the Church.

Planning - Councillor Simon Guy provided an update on the Parish Council's engagement with Planning and Enforcement, which has seen a more effective engagement process established. The Council input is part of the consultation process and has the benefit of attending committee meeting at District, if objections are tabled. The input of individual parishioners commenting was highlighted as being as effective for review by Planning as well as Enforcement. It was also noted that both enforcement and planning departments at Aylesbury Vale were being restricted by lack of funds.

6. **Village Hall & Village Orchard** - First full year saw minor modifications to heating at the Village Hall and the building up of funding. A price increase was applied. The AGM of Trustees is 24th May with contributions from parishioners encouraged.

With 4 acres, the focus this year on the Village Orchard has been on supporting low growth trees and filling vacant plots. Peter Knight noted that more visits from all are welcome.

The meeting concluded in discussions about the commemorative event around Silent Soldiers in November (WW1 conclusion), with positive encouragement from parishioners to organise two silhouettes through individual contributions and Council funding.

A question was also raised about the bin at Lines hill and it was noted this is being reviewed by the Parish Council.

Aston Abbotts and Cublington Ladies Club

The Aston Abbotts and Cublington Ladies Club has been in existence for over 80 years and it would be lovely if we had some new members. To this end I thought it might be a good idea to publish the planned programme for the next season.

We start our year in September, meeting on the third Thursday in each month at the Aston Abbotts Village Hall starting at 2.30pm, and finish in July with a garden party.

Would you please be kind enough to publish the programme as follows :-

LADIES CLUB PROGRAMME FOR 2018 - 2019

20th September. A talk entitled GREAT GRANDMAS QUILT by Hazel Kerr

18th October. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

15th November. A talk entitled 'ALLO, 'ALLO, 'ALLO by

Ian Dedman (needless to say a retired policeman)

20th December. Christmas Carols and afternoon tea.

17th January. A talk PLUMBING THE DEPTHS by Colin Oakes (Hilarious tales of a plumbers mate)

21st February. A talk about Whipsnade Zoo

21st March. Spring Lunch

18th April. PACE - A charity that supports children with many difficulties.

16th May. Quiz and Bring and Buy

20th June. Summer Outing. (This year it's Kathy Browns Garden in Bedford)

18th July. Garden Party.

The subscription for the year is just ten pounds.

Please come along to take part in a pleasant afternoon finishing with tea and cake.

April Gilbert (Curnow as was)

My Fair Lady

A biased review



A good contingent of Abbottonians saw the Friday evening performance of this popular musical at the Court Theatre Tring put on by the Vale Musical Society. Among the cast were Neil Cheshier and Nigel Palmer from the Village as well as Pat Daniels, who is well known in Aston Abbotts.

This show was probably the best production I have seen by this group (and I have seen a

few!). The parts had been well cast with Eliza Doolittle (played by newcomer Angela Milton) and her father Alfred P Doolittle by Iain Houston particularly impressive. Angela played the linguistically challenged heroine beautifully as well as singing incredibly well. Iain brought a good deal of energy to his role and portrayed the roguish Alfred to a tee. My only complaint being I couldn't get the song I'm Getting Married in the Morning out of my head for a day. The role of Henry Higgins was challenging due to the difficulty and length of some of his songs but was well performed by Andy Faber. Live music was played under the capable leadership of Andrew Dimond, a local music teacher, in contrast to many professional shows these days that often use recorded music.

The main set was the living room of 23A Wimpole Street, the home of Professor Higgins who wagers a bet with Colonel

Pickering that he can pass the flower seller Eliza off as a proper lady by teaching her how to speak properly. The set was constructed by the group and looked very professional. I had particularly to admire my husband Nigel's section of cream painted wall. Pity he cannot apply his paintbrush to his own walls with the same enthusiasm!

The costumes were also very impressive the ladies were particularly glamorous in black and white coloured outfits, including suitably splendid hats, for Ascot. The men did have a few problems with their top hats as some were too small to fit and had to be carried while one was noticeably too big and made the wearer look rather disreputable.

In contrast to some musicals the story of My Fair Lady has a good deal of depth being based, as I am sure you know, on George Bernard Shaw's play Pygmalion. It is a story of transformation through education and hard work but examines the subject of class, prejudice, and the role of women in society. The story along with the great songs that include the aforementioned I'm getting married, Wouldn't it be Lovely, The Rain in Spain and I could have Danced All Night make this an enduringly popular show. The Vale Musical Society certainly made it a great one under the indefatigable director Neil Gurney and I look forward to their upcoming productions of High Society next year and The Sound of Music being planned for 2020.

Sally Palmer

The Astonians

Nosella Peeps, the nosey bizzy body from up the road is still trying to join the police force after several rejections. This time it was for Detective Assistant. The detective conducting the interview looked at Nosella and opened a drawer and brought out a folder.

He opened it, pulled out a picture and said, "To be a detective, you have to be able to detect. You must be able to notice things such as distinguishing features and oddities like scars and so forth." So he stuck the photo in Nosella's face and withdrew it after about two seconds. "Now," he said, "Miss Peeps, did you notice any distinguishing features about this man?"

She immediately said, "Yes, I did. He has only one eye!" The detective shook his head and said, "Of course he has only one eye in this picture! It's a side profile of his face!

The detective said, "We'll try again". Then he stuck the photo in her face for a further two seconds, pulled it back, and said, "What about now? Notice anything unusual or outstanding about this man?"

"Yes, He only has one ear!"

The detective put his head in his hands and said, "Didn't you hear what I just told you? This is side picture profile of the man's face. Of course you can only see one ear!

The detective said, "This is probably a waste of time, but...." He flashed the photo for a couple of seconds and withdrew it, saying, "Alright, did you notice anything distinguishing or unusual features about this man?" Nosella said, "I did. This man wears contact lenses." The detective frowned, took another look at the picture, and began looking at some of the papers in the folder. He looked up at Nosella with a puzzled expression and said, "You're absolutely right! His bio says he wears contacts! How in the world could you tell that by looking at his picture?"

Nosella rolled her eyes and said, "Well, helloooooooooo! With only one eye and one ear, he certainly can't wear glasses."

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 judyhardcastle@me.com or at Marloes, Lines Hill. The draws will take place two weeks prior to the day of each show.

Judy Hardcastle

Show	Date & Time
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

Think Floyd-A Review



I am so glad I won these tickets as I have been a Pink Floyd fan for many years and am gutted

that I never got to see them perform. So, although I'm not a fan of tribute bands, I was quite

blown away with how good these guys are, they were without doubt the best tribute band I have ever seen. They played a selection of songs from various albums, the audience very much appreciated them all. And as for the female singer, what a set of lungs, she certainly proved her talent on 'The great gig in the Sky'.

These guys are back in the area (Dunstable and MK) in October/November. If you're a Pink Floyd fan, I think you'll be amazed with Think Floyd.....go and see them.

Mel Smith and Shirley Hanlon.

Theatregoers - Champions of Magic



Well what a night it was at the Champions of Magic Show at

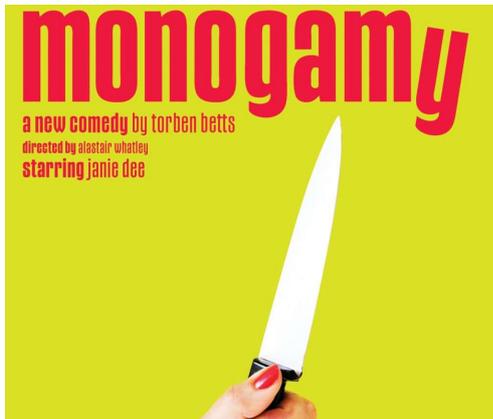
the Waterside Theatre last week – a fantastic show filled with laughter and some spectacular magic tricks and illusions.

The show had magic for all, and all styles of magic; elegant sleight of hand with Edward Hilsum; sharp, comic mind reader Alex McAleer; seasoned trooper Fay Presto, and illusionists with a touch of hip hop Young and Strange. I found it hard to clap as much of the time my hands were over my face in wonder as I thought, “How did they do that?”

We would definitely recommend this as a fun night out for all the family. The production is really spectacular, with incredible lighting and special effects This was a great magic show for adults and children alike. Thank you once again Judy for being generous enough to raffle the tickets.

Kate & Peter

**Monogamy – Aylesbury
Waterside Theatre
Review by Ian Duffy**



A new adult, dark comedy from the talented Torben Betts (Writer).

The play revolves around TV chef Caroline Mortimer (Janie Dee), who seems to have it all in her big house in Highgate, North London. However her private life is quite the opposite.

Her golf obsessed husband, Mike (Patrick Ryecart) is also a drunk. Caroline, craving love and attention, has a fling with the decorator Leo (Jack Archer), who's deranged wife, Sally (Charlie Brooks) discovers.

Throw a gay son, trying to come out to his parents, into the mix and we have a domestic incident playing out whilst the cameras are turned off.

From TV, theatre and radio, the cast were well chosen for their individual parts and the single setting story was believable. The dialogue was executed brilliantly with humorous one liners included.

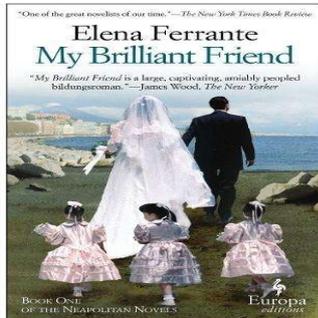
The audience left the theatre in lifted conversation about the show which I would highly recommend seeing whilst it is on tour.



It is with regret that the mobile Library service has been withdrawn

Aston Abbotts Book Club

My Brilliant Friend by Elena Ferrante, chosen by **Deirdre Whyte.**



The novel is set in the 1950's in a Neapolitan, working class neighborhood and is concerned with issues of gender and class. It covers a period of approximately ten years; from when the two main characters, Elena and Lila, meet at school, aged six to when Lila marries at sixteen.

Their friendship becomes very close but is always a competitive relationship with jealousy over who is the prettier, slimmer or cleverer and this continues throughout the novel.

Both very able academically, Elena was able to continue her education beyond 14 while Lila's family insisted she leave and work in the family's shoe repair business.

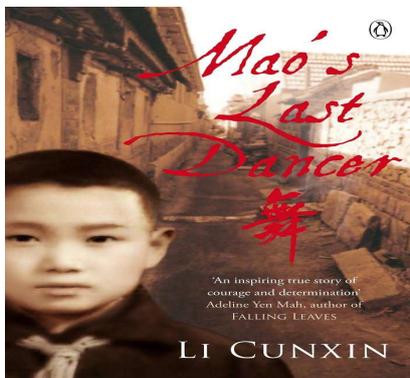
Having been denied her education, ambitious Lila puts all her talents into the family shoe repair business and sees this, and marriage as a route out of poverty.

Elena continues her education and has opportunities for a life beyond the village.

This novel is the first in a set of four which follow the lives of the two girls.

Our discussion centered on the friendship aspects of the girls, and the importance of education as a route out of poverty. Reaction to the book was mixed, but generally positive. Whether it deserves the outstanding reviews is another question.

BOOK CLUB – 'Mao's Last Dancer' by Li Cunxin



This was my choice of a book for the May. Li Cunxin's memoir tells his incredible story of rising from extreme poverty and the politics of fear in Communist China to becoming one of the world's most well-known ballet dancers.

The sixth son of Chinese parents, Li was born in 1961 just before the Chinese Cultural Revolution brought great changes to China. We read about his experiences while living in extreme poverty where food was scarce and the family existed mainly on dried yams. As a child, Li witnessed first-hand the brutality of the government under the guise of Communist purity.

Li's life is changed when, at the age of 11 years, he is selected by Madame Mao's cultural arts program to join the Beijing Dance Academy. At first he is very homesick and does not put the required effort into his dancing. He changes his attitude when he realises what a disgrace it would be for his family if he was expelled from the Academy. He trains hard under some rather drastic training methods, year after year, and, in 1979, his efforts pay off when American choreographer Ben Stevenson

invites Li to spend a summer at the Houston Ballet. From his early school years and throughout his training at the Beijing Academy, he has been brainwashed into believing that only the Chinese people lead privileged and happy lives and elsewhere in the world people live in abject misery under evil political systems. He joins and becomes the leader of a Communist Youth group and is convinced that Chairman Mao can do no wrong and is to be revered.

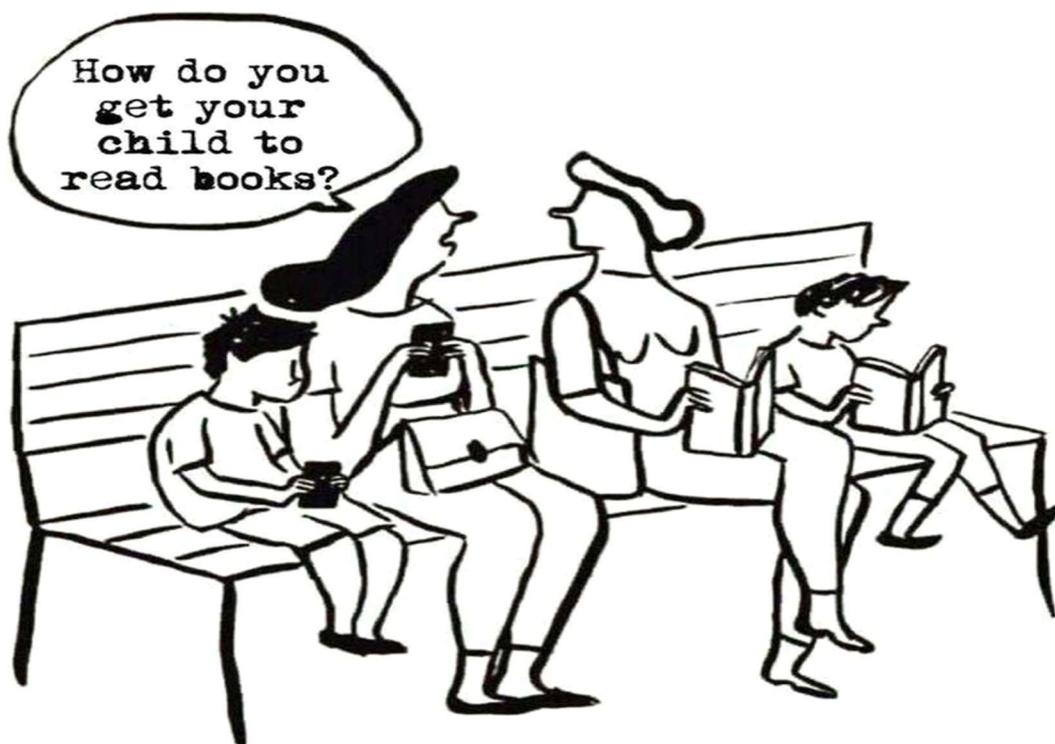
Li's visit to Houston changes his views of the world and of the politics in America. He gets a taste of what freedom means and begins to realise that he has been lied to all those years. When he returns to China he stops at nothing to return to America and lobbies feverishly to bring this about. He finally receives permission to return and is granted a one-year stay. When the year is up, he refuses to return to China and defects.

In the United States, Li dances for the Houston Ballet and marries a fellow dancer. He rises up the ranks and becomes the principal dancer for the Houston Ballet and later for the Australian Ballet. Eventually Li retires from dancing and switches to work in finance.

It is not the best written book and tends to drag in the second

half. However his account of his early years with his parents and brothers in his village and his experiences at the Beijing Academy make a fascinating read – a far cry however from our very comfortable, safe lives here in the UK.

Gay Walker



Aylesbury Vale Yesterday – Water Pumps

Colin Higgs

Water pumps were in common use in backyards and on the Squares or Greens of the town and villages. A survey in 1849 reported that water drawn for a well behind an Aylesbury Inn was at times very foul and unfit to drink. A pump in 1838 had been put in an open space off Kingsbury Square served very good water.



www.alamy.com - EY6JHP

Pumps made of Elm predate those of iron or other metals. Elm had been used for pumps since the idea of raising water using a lever or wheel and these pumps had an advantage as they rarely froze in winter. In 1849 the local Board of Health erected 6 pumps in

Whitehall St, Buckingham St and Oxford Rd Aylesbury. A good specimen of one of the oldest 19th century town water pumps still exist in Pebble Lane (off Kingsbury) and has a plaque explaining its origin.



Aston Abbots had several pumps – **Church Row, Moat Lane, (33/35 The Green), New Zealand Cottages, Wingrave Road** and some still exist.

Some pumps were upgraded by erecting an ornamental shelter allowing the drawer of water to work the pump under cover. Some refinements were often added later as a memorial to a person or national event.



Your Fete Needs You!

A big thank you to those who have already provided Liz Barlow with raffle prizes and have volunteered to man stalls on the day! Please keep the prizes and volunteering coming! Liz's contact details are 07976 671701 or liz@livanti.com

We're looking for three Local Coordinators to cover 33-87 The Green, the Ross Road / Chapmans Lea area and also Wingrave Road – from The Royal Oak up. Coordinators help to distribute and collect raffle tickets, collect produce for the stalls etc – if you can help with this, please give Ali Carstens a call on 07825 751465 or email ali.carstens@hotmail.com

SAT 28TH JULY

Fete Day is approaching!

Do you have any quality bric-a-brac you would like to donate? Could you provide any bottles for the Bottle Tombola? We will also be looking for donations of plants, cakes, books etc... Details will be coming through your door and via the Post Box to let you know how.

Posters to advertise the Fete will be going up soon – if you work locally or can display any posters at a local play group, school, doctors surgery etc, please let me know, so I can get some to you!

Thank you,

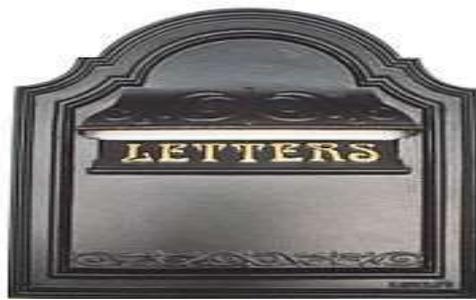
Ali Carstens – Fete Coordinator

ali.carstens@hotmail.com / 07825 751465

June at the Royal Oak

Great food, real ale, Gin menu, enclosed beer garden and good company 7 days a week

	<p><i>Delicious locally sourced Burgers every Wednesday from 5 – 9pm. £9.95</i></p>
	<p><i>Spice up your Thursdays with our beautiful curries 5 - 9pm. £8.95</i></p>
	<p><i>We are famous for our Real British Roasts Sundays 12-4pm. From £9.95</i></p>
	<p><i>Sunday 10th June 7.30pm. Fun & Frolics with full cash prize & free draw for that Dinner for 2</i></p>
	<p><i>17th June 12 – 4pm. Treat Dad and the family to our famous Sunday Roast. From £9.95</i></p>



One afternoon I was coming through the village and a child came out of their driveway on their bike didn't even look to see if there was any traffic just cycled straight into the road thank goodness I was travelling at 15mph had I been driving at the 30mph speed limit or been one of the maniac drivers that travel on our village roads I dread to think what may have happened.

This afternoon while out walking with my dog a younger child came out of the same driveway this time on a scooter again didn't even bother to stop and look if there was any traffic coming just straight into the road.

Please can we make the children aware of the dangers of not stopping and looking for traffic our village roads are no longer safe with the speed and volume of traffic coming through here all day everyday.

The other evening I decided to make the most of not having to work and take a nice evening stroll along moat lane the rush hour was over so I hoped that I could enjoy a quiet walk listening to the birds and enjoying our pretty village. How stupid of me I nearly gave up it was like trying to avoid the traffic on a major road I do wonder if these ignorant drivers can read a speed limit sign or know what the road sign indicating no footpaths is for. When I first moved here you could walk along moat lane or all the way to Cublington and hardly saw any traffic if only it could be like that again instead of constantly worrying if the speeding motorist coming up behind me will hit me. One morning I had so much verbal abuse from drivers because I was actually walking along the road, and they had to slow down and actually drive within the speed limit. I cut through

Burcott and Broughton on my way to work these villages have the same problem as we do drivers completely disregarding the speed limit, I just wonder how long it will be before someone is seriously injured or even lose their lives on our village roads all because of these ignorant drivers who think it is their right to ignore the speed limit and break the law .

Sorry if my ranting seems meaningless but all I want is for myself and the residents of our village to be able to take a walk around our village in safety. Moat Lane is so pretty at this time of year its a shame that we cannot enjoy a walk along it anymore.

Thank you

Lyn

Couldn't agree more Lyn. I have made an appeal to the Parish Council in my editorial. (Ed)

Dear Ed

Most of you know I was recently burgled. I would like to thank everyone who visited me or phoned and a special thank you

to Pam, John, Linda, Teri and Gary and all my friends for their help and enquiries to see if I was ok. **Colin**

Hi Pete,

When walking my dog for me today my husband said there were four lots of dog poo in the recreation ground just in the area that he walked.

He has mentioned that he has seen this on a number of occasions. There are enough notices up but people are clearly ignoring them.

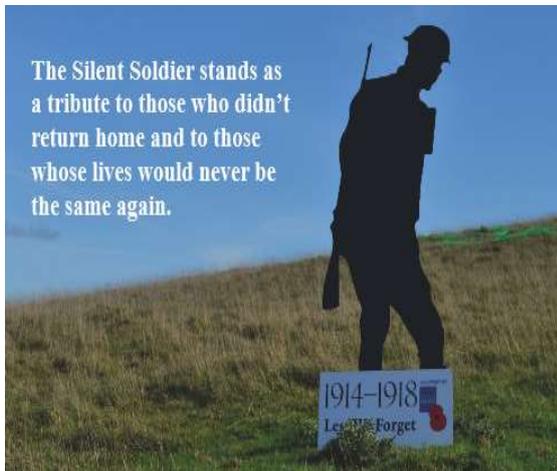
Regards,

April.



Dear Pete

Silent Soldier Campaign



This year marks the centenary of the end of the First World War.

A discussion was had at the last Annual Parish meeting on how we could commemorate that occasion and remember those who lost their lives and those who returned from the fighting.

It was agreed that Aston Abbots should join in the "Silent Soldier Campaign".

Why a Silent Soldier?

Following the end of the war in November 1918, the process of demobilisation and discharge was still a long process as the British Army still had commitments to fulfil in

Germany, North Russia and in the garrisons of the Empire. On arrival back in England the men would move to a Dispersal Centre, this was a hutted or tented camp or barracks where they received a railway warrant or ticket to their home station. From there they were on their own, and would be seen across the country, walking back home, down the roads and across the fields, returning to their families. Most of the war service men were back in civilian life by the end of 1919.

We would like to raise £250 to purchase a "near life size silhouette" of a soldier to be placed in various locations leading up to the 11th November 2018 (£150 of this goes to the British Legion Poppy Appeal).

If you'd like to donate, please 'pop' some money into an envelope and drop it in the letterbox at my house - 3, Church Row, Aston Abbots. (We've already raised £40 from

generous parishioners). Please write 'Silent Soldier' on the envelope.

I'd also like to appeal to local businesses to 'dig deep' into your CSR budget and help Aston Abbots show their respect to the men and women of WW1.

Music in Quiet Places

Sunday 24 June, 7.30pm, St James's Church

A reminder to reserve your tickets if you'd like to come to this very special concert in our church.

Robert Secret and his colleagues will play:

Moeran: Fantasy Quartet for Oboe and Strings

Quantz: Flute Quartet

Mozart: Duo for Viola and Cello

Beethoven: Trio for Oboe, Violin and Viola

Crusell: Flute Quartet Op.8 in D

The First World War changed the world forever. If you would like to find out more, get involved and show your gratitude to a generation who fought for our freedom, please contact me.

Simon Guy

There will be an optional village walk at 6.30pm led by Colin Higgs and the concert starts at 7.30pm. Refreshments with donations to St James's. Tickets £10 (all the same price this year, our church gets 20%) from Caroline Lane, 681373 or email

carolinelane@btinternet.com

VILLAGE PRAYER GROUP

We meet every Monday morning from 9 15 to 9 45 at 1 Bricstock. Anyone wishing to join us will be most welcome.

A word from the Vicar.

Dear friends, When I was Chaplain at Holloway Prison in the late 1990s the Spice Girls launched 'girl power' on us, well beyond their girlhood years! Presently we have the likes of Beyonce and Kim Kardashian apparantly acting as models for women who want to feel 'empowered': seems to involve stomping about a lot and wearing very little clothing. Very empowering for them and the canny businessmen behind them but not for anybody else except for those who enjoy seeing women merely as objects. There are really empowered women around: Tracy Borman, Lucy Worsley and Mary Beard to name three great female historians on TV at present who can hold their own with any of their male colleagues across a whole

swathe of historical study. On 15th.June the Anglican Church remembers a truly remarkable woman called Evelyn Underhill (1875-1941) who wrote powerfully about prayer, mysticism and Christian pacifism and also led retreats in Chelmsford Diocese. She came from a secular family and discovered God's love through an experience in her mid- 20s and decided to dedicate her life to sharing her 'empowerment' with many thousands of people over many years. A prayer by Evelyn Underhill: The power of the Father, guide and guard us. The wisdom of the Son, enlighten us. The working of the Spirit, quicken us. Guard our souls. Strengthen our bodies. Our senses, refine; our conduct, correct; our characters, set in tune. Amen. May God Bless you. Revd.

Philip.

Church Duties

<i>Date</i>	<i>Cleaning</i>	<i>Flowers</i>	<i>Mowin g</i>
<i>2/6</i>	<i>Colin/David</i>	<i>Colin</i>	<i>Mark</i>
<i>9/6</i>	<i>Ann/Caroline L</i>	<i>Colin</i>	<i>Andy</i>
<i>16/6</i>	<i>Alex/Anita</i>	<i>Donated</i>	<i>Peter C</i>
<i>23/6</i>	<i>Colin/Gay</i>	<i>Donated</i>	<i>Caroline</i>
<i>30/6</i>	<i>?</i>	<i>TBA</i>	<i>Peter s</i>

Church Matters

The diary of St. James's

June is the time of year when the 100 Club lottery subscriptions are due. For newcomers to the village this lottery works like this - every month a 1st prize of £50 and a 2nd prize of £10 are drawn and the winners' names declared in the Chronicle. But "to win it you must be in it" and a one-off subscription of £15 (due in June) will ensure that your name will automatically be entered in each of the 12 monthly draws starting in July. This is one of the main fundraising activities at St. James so please consider joining. Your chances of winning are better than most lotteries as we return half the subscriptions in prize money over the year. So keep an eye open for the application form which will be

delivered round the village in the next week.



Don't forget it is Father's Day on the 17th June and bring them to the Breakfast and Family Service at St. James. The idea began in America (Father's Day not the Breakfast Service) and in 1966 President Johnson decided that the third Sunday in June should be Father's Day. Six years later Father's Day was made a permanent holiday in the US when President Nixon signed it into law.

Make sure you have the 'Music in Quiet Places' concert on 24th June in the Church, the Village Fete on 28th July and Horticultural Show on 1st September, in your diaries.

David Gray



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

3rd June	6.30pm	Evensong	Revd. Philip Derbyshire
10th June	10.30am	Parish Communion	Revd. Peter Binns
17th June	9.30am	Breakfast in Village Hall Followed by a short service	Father's Day
24th June	10.30am	Parish Communion	Revd. Roger Hale

100 Club Draw May 2018

1st Prize, £50 Margaret Hinds

2nd prize, £10 Nigel Brown



Join us for the Whist Drive

**1st & 3rd Thursdays in every month at the Village
Hall.**

Call Colin on 01296 681343 for details

ALLOTMENT DIARY



A bit of a curate's egg, so far. Potatoes and onions doing splendidly. Mange-tout growing well. Beans doing well in the greenhouse, shortly to be planted out. Leeks coming along nicely, again so far in the greenhouse. It also looks as though I will have a couple of pepper plants.

In addition, all the tomato plants I bought a few weeks ago are thriving, as is the cucumber I bought at the same time.

However, so far no sign of any parsnips growing in the greenhouse: I seem fated never to grow a successful crop of this vegetable. Worse still (since I do not personally like parsnips) none of my courgette seeds have yet produced a shoot. They were last

year's seeds, but allegedly they were still viable for 2018. I think I'm going to have to try to buy a couple of young plants, if I am not already too late to do this.

Even more disastrously, none of the sweetcorn plants Adam planted appear to have germinated yet. Last year I raised half the crop in pots in the greenhouse, while Adam planted the other half straight into the allotment. He reckoned that his plants did as well as mine, and this year he planted the whole crop in the allotment, at the end of April. After he did this, we have had one or two very cold nights, and I hope that these have not persuaded the seeds to remain dormant. There is still time for the plants to germinate, but I am getting worried that I am writing these notes two thirds of the way through May, and I rather think that we should have seen some activity by now.

At the moment the crop of weeds has not been too disastrous, and I hope to have the weeds under control before I go away in June.

In gardening news, I read that there is yet another possible threat to British plants, which has arrived from America into continental Europe. The disease is called *Xylella Fastidiosa*, and has already wiped out whole olive groves in Italy, as well as vines and other plants across the continent. It can kill or damage over 350 types of tree and shrub, and there is no cure. The only way of stopping it is to wipe out the

insects which carry it, with insecticides. (These insects include aphids and froghoppers). At the moment no cases have been reported in the UK, but the RHS has clamped down on imports; and all imported semi-mature trees must now be held in isolation for 12 months, before they are allowed to be planted in the UK.

Peter Shorrocks



Good Samaritans Bingo!

£100 raised in April for:



£118 raised in May for:



Join us on **Thursday 14th June**

Aston Abbotts Village Hall

7.30pm start

In aid of: **Florence Nightingale
Hospice Charity**



Opening Times
Mon CLOSED
Tue 14:00 - 19:00
Wed 10:00 - 13:00
Thu CLOSED
Fri 14:00 - 17:00
Sat 10:00 - 13:00

Tea and coffee
always available

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Audio, Teen, Children's fiction & non-fiction
Second-hand books and magazines for sale
Photocopying, Printing, Laminating, Shredding
Internet, Displays, Local information
Craft sessions for children in school holidays

If you belong to any Buckinghamshire library you can borrow or return in Wing

4-10 June is National Bookstart Week.

The theme is Bookstart Bird Boogie – see the special book

**Remember to register for the introductory session
on improving your child's reading 5 June 7-8pm**

We now have a RNIB used stamp box.

Donate your stamps to a very good cause



Now every Friday Lego Club 15:30 - 16:30



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

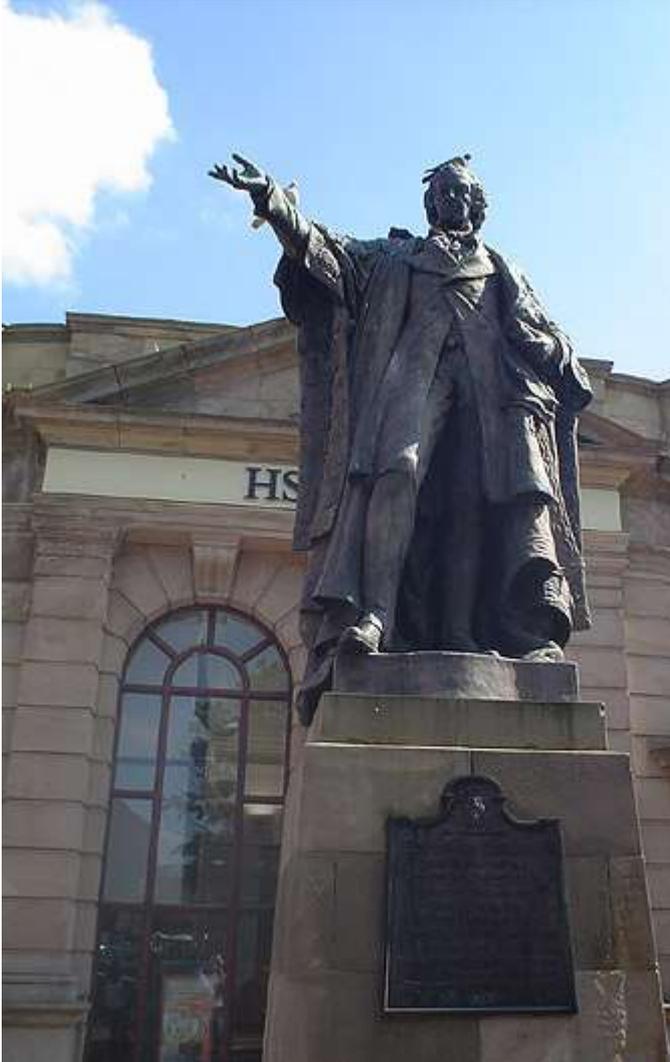
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Buckinghamshire County Council



Aylesbury's Market Square statues,

Benjamin Disraeli, Earl of Beaconsfield.



He was born on December 21st 1804 in Bloomsbury, London to Jewish-Italian parents. From an early age he had aspirations of

being Member of Parliament but was unable to because he was Jewish.

Eventually this rule was abolished and he was then able to fulfil his ambitions. In addition to his political career he was a gifted novelist and wrote many titles. He was MP for Buckinghamshire, Chancellor of the Exchequer and also Prime Minister twice.

The statue was first proposed in June 1913 and was to be paid for by public subscription. All was going to plan until war broke out.

This put a halt to proceedings and nothing was again mentioned about it until the middle of 1922. The sculptor, H. C. Fehr of London was the same man who sculpted the Hampden statue so his work is well represented in the square.

On September 6th 1923 the statue was unveiled by Lord Cottesloe, Lord Lieutenant of Buckinghamshire. It depicts Disraeli in the robes he wore when he was Chancellor of the Exchequer

Historical events in June

1st 1947	Television licences were issued in Britain for the first time; they cost £2.
2nd 1953	<u>Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II</u> took place in <u>Westminster Abbey</u>
3rd 1937	The Duke of Windsor married Wallis Simpson in Monts, France. As King Edward VIII, he had <u>abdicated the throne</u> in December 1936 amid tremendous controversy to marry Simpson, an American who had been divorced.
4th 1989	The Chinese government ordered its troops to open fire on unarmed protesters in Tiananmen Square in Beijing.
5th 1968	<u>Robert F. Kennedy</u> was shot and mortally wounded while leaving the Hotel Ambassador in Los Angeles.
6th 1944	<u>D-Day</u> , the largest amphibious landing in history, began in the early-morning hours as Allied forces landed in Normandy on the northern coast of France.
9th 1870	The nation's best loved author <u>Charles Dickens</u> died of a stroke at his home in Gad's Hill Place, <u>Kent</u> . His sudden death is being blamed upon his punishing work schedule, including tours of England and the USA.
1898	The British signed a 99-year lease for Hong Kong, consisting of an area measuring 400 square miles administered as a British Crown Colony until July 1, 1997, when its sovereignty reverted to China
11th 1509	In a private ceremony at the <u>Palace of Placentia, Greenwich</u> , the 18 year old English <u>King Henry VIII</u> married his former sister-in-law Catherine of Aragon, his first wife.
1994	After 49 years, the Soviet military occupation of East Germany ended.

14th 1645	In the English Civil War, <u>Oliver Cromwell</u> defeated the Royalists at the <u>Battle of Naseby, Northamptonshire</u>
1864	German psychiatrist and pathologist Alois Alzheimer (1864-1915) was born. In 1907 he published an article first describing 'Alzheimers,' a degenerative disease usually beginning at age 40-60, affecting nerve cells of the brain and leading to severe memory impairment and progressive loss of mental faculties.
15th 1215	King John and his barons met on the banks of the River Thames at Runnymede and sign the <u>Magna Carta</u> , thus removing total authority from the monarchy forever.
16th 1890	Film comedian Stan Laurel (1890-1965) was born in Ulverston, England.
18th 1815	British and Prussian forces led by the <u>Duke of Wellington</u> and Gebhard von Blücher defeated Napoleon at the Battle of Waterloo, in Belgium
21st 1982	Prince William (William Arthur Philip Louis) was born.
25th 1950	The Korean War began as North Korean troops, led by Russian-built tanks, crossed the 38th parallel and launched a full scale invasion of South Korea.
26th 1945	The United Nations Charter was signed in San Francisco by 50 nations. The Charter was ratified on October 24, 1945.
28th 1914	Archduke Francis Ferdinand, Crown Prince of Austria and his wife were assassinated at Sarajevo, touching off a conflict between the Austro-Hungarian government and Serbia that escalated into World War I
30th 1894	Tower Bridge in London was officially opened by H.R.H. The Prince of Wales. After the ceremony the bascules were raised to allow a flotilla of ships and boats to sail down the Thames.

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
Councillor	Lesley Clough	07841 519740
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	Lesley Clough	07841 519740
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 Moulton	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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***Contribution Deadline Please remember
that July's Chronicle contributions must be with
me by 24th June. editor@achronicle.co.uk Many
thanks. Ed.***

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Sarah Watson from Travel Impressions in Tring has been recognised by Destination Canada as one of the top eight Canadian Specialist travel agents in the country! The qualification process recognised her experience, knowledge, promotion of Canada and sales figures.

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Sarah will be visiting Canada again in June to experience The Ocean train from Montreal to Halifax. It is the oldest continuously operated passenger train in North America. The route follows the coastline of the St Lawrence River before turning inland to cross New Brunswick to Moncton and finally onwards across Nova Scotia to Halifax. She will be visiting four different provinces as part of this trip. You will be able to read about her travels in her Blog later this year. If you, any of your family or friends are planning to visit Canada, you may find her previous Blogs on Travel Impression's website helpful www.travelimpressions.co.uk. To speak to Sarah please call on 01442 890265.



Aston Abbotts Summer Ball
Saturday, 14th July 2018

Live music
Impressive marquee
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Pimms on arrival
Summer buffet
Charity auction
"Roulette & Blackjack tables"

Raising money for 

Starts: 6.30pm
 Carriages: 1.00am
 Tickets: £65.00ea
 Black tie

Venue: The Firs Field
 Aston Abbotts

Contact
 Frank McManus 07771 882412
 John Whyte 07988 001834



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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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Cublington

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Sunday June 24th

*from 1-4pm
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£2 Adults, 50p Concessions

Fun Dog Show

CLASSES:

Prettiest Pooch

Waggiest Tail

Best Biscuit Catcher

Most Like its Owner

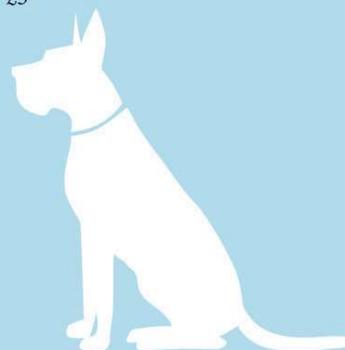
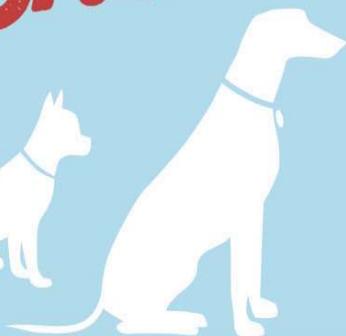
The Dog the Judge would most like to take home

Dog Show Registration

1.00 - 2.00pm

One class for £2, three for £5

*England vs
Panama
shown
live*



This June at



What's On

Saturday 2nd Breakfasts from 9.30 – 11.00am

BBQ in the garden from 5-9pm

Sunday 3rd - Roast Lunch

Mon 4th Unicorn Quiz from 8.30pm

Thursday 7th - Steak Night

2 steaks and a bottle of house wine for £40

Saturday 9th Breakfasts from 9.30 – 11.00am

BBQ in the garden from 5-9pm

Sunday 10th Roast Lunch – booking advised

Mon 11th Unicorn Quiz from 8.30pm

Thursday 14th - Steak Night

- 2 steaks and a bottle of house wine for £40

Saturday 16th Breakfasts from 9.30 – 11.00am

BBQ in the garden from 5-9pm

Sunday 17th Fathers Day Roast Lunch

All day dads day and a A free pint of XT 4

for booked tables of 4 or more! - booking strongly advised

Mon 18th Unicorn Quiz from 8.30pm

Thursday 21st - Steak Night

- 2 steaks and a bottle of house wine for £40

Friday 22nd Live Music with Dr Guitarz



Saturday 23rd Breakfasts from 9.30 – 11.00am

BBQ in the garden from 5-9pm

Sunday 24th Roast Lunch – booking advised

Mon 25th Unicorn Quiz from 8.30pm

Thursday 28th - Steak Night with Jazz



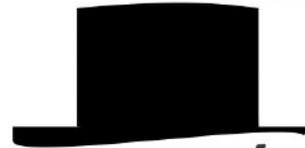
Alison Carter Sings Jazz

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Father's Day*



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17th June

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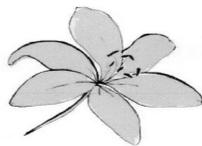
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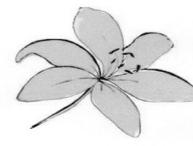
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www.cublington.com/tennis

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