

The Chronicle

February 21 Issue 412



Take a new look at your Chronicle

If it's local news, Important information, Local Education for Adults and children or items of interest, there's something for you inside. Take a close look.

Featuring, Aston Abbots as it was in colour

Lots of local news including the sinkhole and Vaccine information

Editor's comments & Your Emails

The Battle of Aylesbury (Civil War), all the usual articles & great colour photos of the village

"It's a really good read"

Aston Abbots As It Was

Thanks to Daryl Pendlebury-Jones for the following.

Below is a picture of Church Farm House and three farm workers cottages. Now just Church Farm and Church Farm Cottage.



The layout has clearly changed in lots of ways over the years. Our cottage has three distinctive different build eras. Bit of the original farmhouse, additional bit for a farm labourer cottage circa 1700 (from what we can make out) and last bit for another cottage from around 1850. I've colourised the picture. Further on are pictures of Lines Hill, The Green including the Bull & Butcher and the Royal Oak.



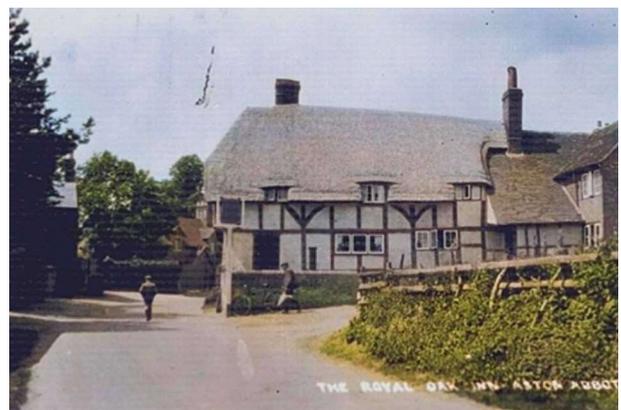
See further inside for more of Aston Abbots as it was. If anyone wants to share pictures of Aston Abbots as it was, please do.



The Green



Bull and Butcher.



From the Editor

Council Tax Increases.

Hello. I've been banging on about how much money was saved by joining several council regions into one Unitary Buckinghamshire Council. But those savings have not benefited Council Tax payers financially. In fact, one of the first actions of the new Unitary Council was to raise council tax. And we have another one coming.

The council is bloated with staff, consultants and too many buildings that could be sold off.

Cllr Martin Tett, Council Leader has finally admitted that Buckinghamshire Council currently has 202 councillors receiving full allowances. It needs just 89. The council also has a 17-person cabinet, rather than ten.

"We currently have more unitary councillors than we should, resulting from the postponement of elections in May 2020" (because of the coronavirus).

The pandemic certainly helps line the pockets of some people.

Parish Council Message.

In comparison please take a look at the message on the next page from the Chair of the Parish Council.

Lockdown Travelling Warning

I'm told that police are periodically stopping drivers near the village crossroad enquiring of their journey purpose.

Stay safe and sane. Pete. Editor.



Charlie Copping	2nd
Vikka Drysdale	7th
Chris Ellis	9th
Jack Copping	10th
Sir Richard Clarke	13th
Paul Hewitt	14th
Dana King	14th
Trevor Hall	18th
Frank McManus	21st
Sally Dutton	23rd
Fred Poulter	24th
Linda Wheaton	25th
Nikita Dowdell	25th

Polite Reminder

Please trim hedges back so as not to obstruct vision or footpaths.

Village Festival Weekend Date

Sat/Sun 24/25 July

This is a special message to residents from the Chair of the Parish Council.

Save your Parish Council



Much has been written about the Parish Council recently, especially the adverts for people to stand as new parish councillors. Our Parish Council can have seven members, but for the past year has been operating with only six, as it has not proved possible to attract a new councillor.

Sadly, the situation is now becoming more desperate for the village of Aston Abbotts. It is looking likely that by the time the local elections are due in early May the council will be reduced to three or possibly two councillors.

Less than three councillors would mean disaster for Aston Abbotts, as there would no longer be a quorum and no further decisions could be taken or bills paid.

So - what happens next?

In the event of the council ceasing to function, powers would be transferred to Buckinghamshire Council. Although the Parish Council employs a clerk, she is not empowered to make financial transactions or take decisions on behalf of the council. This is because by law every decision has to be approved at a public parish council meeting.

The likely consequences of this for Aston Abbotts:

1. Recreation Ground – this is owned and maintained by the Parish Council, so grass mowing would cease and the Rec would be left to become overgrown
2. Children’s play area – would not be maintained and repairs recommended by the annual safety inspection would not be carried out, so the play area would have to be closed.
3. Mowing of verges and The Green – these are devolved to the Parish Council, so no mowing or road sweeping would take place, and there would be no-one to chase up uncut hedges.
4. Dog bin emptying would cease as there would be no-one to pay the bills.
5. Electricity bills for street lights – standing order so may still be paid but the expense would not be

able to be approved without a meeting

6. Maintenance of the street lights would no longer happen
7. No-one to champion the village regarding traffic calming
8. No-one to maintain the new Parish Council website
9. No-one to consider planning applications and make comments on behalf of the village

So what can YOU do? How can YOU help save the Parish Council?

Being a councillor is not an arduous task. There are around 9 meetings per year which last on average an hour and a half. Apart from reading the agenda and associated documents, and being ready to give your opinion at meetings, there is little else you would have to do. For those who would like a little more involvement there are areas which would benefit from some extra input. For instance, if you have IT skills you would be very welcome to help maintain our brand-new

website. If you have young children you may like to become involved in checking the children's play area and being its ambassador. If traffic calming is your interest – well there is always work which could be done on that, as we all know.

I don't believe anyone who lives in Aston Abbotts wants to see the scenario described above, where all our lovely amenities could be lost. Believe me, Buckinghamshire Council will NOT take on the role of the Parish Council – they would probably authorise payment of essential bills and that would be that. So this article really is a last ditch plea for people to come forward and breathe new life into our Parish Council and our lovely village, and allow some of those who have worked tirelessly for this village for many years to have a well-earned break.

For more information please contact:

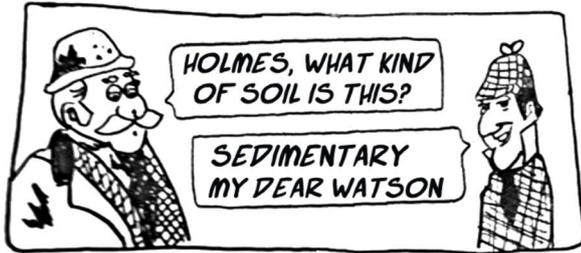
jane.baylis@astonabbottspc.org

clerk@astonabbottspc.org

The Fish & Chip Van is around the village on Saturdays around 12midday and Wednesdays round 8.15pm

News from in and around the Village

The Hole – Part 1



This is not something one would normally want to talk about in polite circles, but, just before Christmas, we had had a problem with our drains! It's a shared drain which is fed (strange word in relation to drains!) from the four properties on the corner.

The drain was unblocked by the expert wielding of drain rods by Anglian Water. However, when it re-occurred just two weeks later, an Anglian Water engineer surveyed the pipe and discovered a crack about 18m from the manhole cover in our garden (which he reckoned was somewhere under the road). He said he'd report it back so that repair work could be planned.

Christmas and New Year came and went then, early in the morning of the 5th of January, we peered out of the bedroom window and saw the sink hole for the first time. Liz rushed outside while I called the police. It was then that we noticed another chap just around the corner of the house also on the phone to the police. He was the driver of a Range Rover who had just had a very close shave – he said he had looked down at his radio to change station and then looked up and saw himself heading straight at the hole. He just managed to straddle it in time. He then parked his car across the road and we did the same thing with ours at the

other end of the road and waited for the police to arrive. Luckily, with the latest lockdown, there was not much traffic around.



The sinkhole was about half a metre deep and a considerable amount of the road foundation had dropped away.

With the use of ground penetrating radar (and, yes, it did remind us of Baldrick and Time Team!) they mapped out the area where the foundation had been compromised (highlighted below).



During the day on the 5th Jan, barriers and road closed signs were put up (only for some numpty driver to move them aside early on the 6th which then meant the traffic was driving across the undermined area of road!).

Late in the evening of the 6th, an Anglian Water engineer was surveying all the pipe work around the area and noticed a considerable amount of silt/sand in the pipework (which he believes is debris from the sink hole). For the next two days a tanker pumped

out all the silt from the pipework and further surveys then confirmed that there is a broken sewer under the sink hole. They estimate the depth of the sewer as 3½ meters. It's assumed that the broken sewer has washed away a larger area of sand around the pipe resulting in the whole ground sinking and leaving the tarmac suspended.

Work eventually started on the 9th. Following the initial excavation of the hole, they hit the water table at about two metres. They were also introduced to the "infamous" Aston Abbotts sand layer!

At the time of writing (22nd), they have had two attempts at excavating, shoring up the sides and not finding said pipe. Both attempts had to be stopped due to the sides collapsing, causing more undermining of the surrounding area. And, more importantly, they now think they may have been digging in the wrong place!

Having watched them string a cord between the two manhole covers (now, why didn't I think of that!) they've now started excavating further to the west at the edge of the road. They have also upgraded to some serious hardware in the third attempt to keep the sand at bay. The estimated completion date is now 9th Feb.

In addition to the work on the hole, a regular sight has been a tanker pumping out the sewers. (Which reminded me - do you remember the Ford advert many years ago that said "Everything we do is driven by you"? – there was an enterprising company that operated a fleet of waste tankers which were emblazoned with "Everything you do is driven by us"! And no, it's not the

company whose website is www.wemovesh.it which has a tanker with the number plate JOB 8Y – and yes that exists).

At this point I'll pause the story, but it's amusing us that it was purely coincidental that we called Anglian Water out to unblock our drains just before the road collapsed - the sink hole would have been forming for a considerable length of time. But it turns out that the crack they saw in our pipe is related to the collapse of the main sewer pipe.

Trevor Hall

Latest on the state of paths on The Green & Wingrave Road.



The shocking state of the paths on The Green and Wingrave Road remain the same. Councillor Higgs BEM, has been chasing the council to have them repaired and told the Chronicle that the delay has now been put down to staff off sick due to Covid infections and others isolating. Progress is expected soon.

Drivers are asked not to drive onto the path on The Green to post letters.



Weedon Resident issued with Criminal Behaviour Order

Following a Thames Valley Police investigation, a man has been issued with a Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO) after he was convicted of a public order offence and breaching a community protection notice.

The man aged 42, of High Street, Weedon, pleaded guilty to one count of disorderly conduct and one count of failing to comply with a community protection notice in a hearing at High Wycombe Magistrates' Court.

He was subsequently fined £40, with £30 costs and a £24 victim surcharge and issued with a CBO which bans him from shouting or swearing in public near his address and orders that he must not cause excessive noise by banging on his walls, through use of his television or any other electronic device.

He must also not enter the boundaries or property belonging to another person without permission

of the owner, occupant or tenant, and must not take pictures or videos of people or their property without their permission other than for crime prevention and detection purposes. The order will be in place for a period of two years.

PC Glen Crosland, based at Aylesbury police station, said: "Thames Valley Police will not tolerate such anti-social behaviour and will take action to prevent this from occurring through the courts where appropriate."

Hare Coursing Continues



This despicable practice has been reported in Crafton, Mentmore and Wingrave also killing Muntjac and deer. A 4x4 was recovered from the criminals and taken off to the crusher.

How to prepare for a Zoom meeting



VILLAGE NATIVITY IN

LOCKDOWN *Andy Bystra*



Members of our village church had been planning to perform a Nativity on the Green since it was unclear as to whether it might be practical or legal to hold it in the church. However, when Bucks was suddenly, and no doubt necessarily placed in tier four, the decision was made to hold it within the confines of the churchyard where it could be performed in a controlled and covid secure way on Sunday 20th Dec.



It was really heartening to see this seasonal event supported by so many villagers at such short notice and it was estimated that some seventy or so were present. Among the audience was Sharon Wilkinson, and it was so nice to see her carrying her latest Grandchild, Oliver who's only just five weeks old; this fitted the occasion perfectly. The children involved all joined in so very enthusiastically, looking the part in improvised

costumes (well done all the Mums). A very young Joseph and Mary, played by Henry and Tilly manfully made the long journey right around the southside of the churchyard to 'Bethlehem' accompanied by two Angels, James and Becky. The 'three wise men', Archie, Sam and Toby looked resplendent as they ended their journey and approached the crib. There was however a slight shortfall in 'Angels' and so a few had to be co-opted from the audience!!!



Music was supplied by Nigel Palmer who played his keyboard from the shelter of the porch (because the cable was so short he said!!!) The rest of us endeavoured to sing the carols outside. It has to be said, this didn't sound too convincing; perhaps due the cold or maybe the wearing of face masks! Overall though, this was a most enjoyable experience, capturing the true spirit of Christmas. The audience certainly thought so, showing their appreciation in the usual way. Huge thanks have to go to all who helped plan, set it all up and participate in the enactment of this eternal and beautiful story. They all made this not only an enjoyable occasion, but a fitting prelude to what

is going to be a slightly strange Christmas this year.

A collection box was available, inviting donations to the Children's Society and has so far raised approximately £200.00. In addition, I posted a brief account of the above on Facebook and was surprised and delighted to find several people had made donations. However, in my haste (and in error) I'd said the money raised was going to 'Children in Need', so it now looks as though two children's organisations will benefit from everyone's generosity!!



Bucks 729 covid deaths in 2020

At least 729 people from Buckinghamshire died with Covid-19 in 2020 - the latest data shows according to the Office for National Statistics, which released the latest figures on the 18th January. In Aylesbury 9,132 have tested positive for Coronavirus since the pandemic began. 206 people have died in Aylesbury Vale since the pandemic began. Locally, ***Wing, Wingrave & Bierton: 13***

New vaccine scams targeting care workers & elderly in Aylesbury Vale

The graphic is a purple rectangle with the NHS logo in the top right corner. The text 'COVID-19 VACCINE FACT CHECK' is written in large, bold, white and yellow letters. Below the text are two red circular icons with a white slash through them. The first icon shows a pound sign (£) and is accompanied by the text 'The COVID-19 vaccine will always be available free of charge.' The second icon shows a mobile phone with a signal strength indicator and is accompanied by the text 'The NHS will never ask you to share bank details to confirm your identity.'

The text message has a link to a scammers' website - created to look like a legitimate NHS site - which asks text recipients for their name, address and bank details.

They have also warned of a 'tax rebate scam' claiming to be from the government and offering to support people through this challenging period of the Coronavirus pandemic.

The NHS will never ask you for banking details, passwords, or PIN numbers and these should serve as instant red flags.

Do not provide any information to the scammers, but please also report suspicious messages to Action Fraud as this provides intelligence and assists authorities in combating scams."

0300 123 2040

Getting residents to their vaccination appointment

Support with transport

We are using the Buckinghamshire Community Transport Hub scheme which is commissioned by Transport for Bucks. This will help us map all offers of help so we can pass this on to those booking the appointments.

Organisations, both voluntary and non-voluntary, who can help by volunteering to drive residents to their vaccination appointments, should email Community Impact Bucks: transport@communityimpactbucks.org.uk

If you wish to offer support as a driver volunteer please register your details with the volunteering matching service on the [Community Impact Bucks website](#).

Where possible, Community Impact Bucks will signpost the organisation(s) to local active community transport schemes who could benefit from their support.

Asking for help to get to an appointment

Please consider whether you have a family member, neighbour or other transport option who can get you to your appointment or if you can use public transport.

Residents will be able to use their concessionary bus pass to travel to a vaccination appointment at any time of the day. If not, please let your GP

Practice know you need transport when you are booking your appointment.

Your Practice will put you in touch with the appropriate community transport arrangement. Where there is no voluntary transport scheme in the area, patients who have ability to pay, will be signposted to Buckinghamshire Council approved taxi companies.

Guidance when sharing a car

Car sharing is not permitted with someone from outside your household or your support bubble unless your journey is undertaken for an [exempt reason](#). An exempt reason includes getting to medical appointments and also your vaccination.

It is difficult to socially distance during car journeys. Where it is essential to car share, you can reduce the risk of transmission by:

- sharing the transport with the same people each time
- minimising group size
- opening windows for ventilation
- travelling side by side or behind other people, rather than facing them.
- cleaning your car between journeys using standard cleaning products – make sure you clean door handles and other areas that people may touch
- asking the driver and passengers to [wear a face covering](#)

Your Emails & Letters

Dear Editor

I felt I had to write about how I was spoken to by the owners of the Abbey field. I was admittedly walking around the far parameter of the first field which I have been doing for the last 6 years without a problem.

I was told to stay on the middle path in a very rude manner on their part. I was not the only villager they were rude to either. I accept that I must stay to the public path but some good manners would certainly not go amiss.

Now all of a sudden, we have been told to keep dogs on a lead. My dog sticks to the path and does not stray so he will not be put on the lead.

People have to go out for fresh air and a bit more understanding is necessary instead of rudery.

Liz Denton

Dear Editor

What a shame the new owners of the Abbey have decided to announce now that residents of Aston Abbots must stick to the footpath and keep dogs on leads. We are in the middle

of a global pandemic, this is the only way some of our elderly

residents who live alone get to see and speak to other residents of the village. This is not just dog walkers. Whilst I understand this is their land there was no need for the rude way they spoke to several villagers just after Christmas.

The villagers have had to put up with a lot of noise, large lorries destroying verges, bonfires, drunken workers leaving the pub, loud party's going on late into the night etc etc for over two years.

This could have been handled much better by the new owners of the Abbey and not have caused the upset it has to some people in the village. Rumour has it that they are now going to put livestock in the fields. That will stop people using the path. The path is a PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY.

Karen Nicol

In reply. Abraham at the Abbey

Dear Peter

Please inform fellow villagers that no rudeness or offence was intended during the day in question.

The Abbey has been abandoned for some time and we have spent a huge amount restoring it over the

past two plus years. It seems some issues date back this far when the work first started and we were not on site and therefore not aware there were issues of workmen on site causing noise and disturbance as described. As soon as we were made aware, we dismissed these workers and brought in a new team who are considerate and hard working. We can only apologise for this nuisance they caused but were unaware of it until much later.

We moved into the gate cottage around the time of the first lockdown. Now the main work is complete, we live at home in the Abbey and are turning our attention to the other side of the house to repair and replace damaged fences around the fields. It is for these reasons we ask walkers to keep to the path.

We are grateful for the villagers understanding in trying to bring the Abbey back to its former glory and we look forward to the end of the lockdown and so able to become more involved in the community.

Abraham

Dear Editor

Just a few words to say thank you with gratitude to everybody for their hard work and commitment to put together everything for the

village Chronicle and keep it going to this day.

Therefore I enclose a cheque for £50 as a donation on behalf of Paul and I.

It's wonderful to receive the Chronicle every month due to your efforts and courage with a willing heart to do so. With a thankful heart. **P & V Drysdale**

Dear Vika and Paul

Thank you so much for your generous words and financial contribution to the Chronicle. It was so heart-warming to receive and to know the Chronicle is read more and more.

A lot of work goes into the research and writing of the articles. Our contributors are loyal as are our distributors and printer, and you refer to them all.

On behalf of them and John Whyte, who deals with the finance, I would like to thank you again.

Our best wishes to you for the future.

Pete. (Ed)

Dear Ed,

Ref' to the first Chronicle edition picture last month

The first edition of the Chronicle was produced in September 1983.

The background to its formation started at a Parish Council Meeting earlier in that year. Previously there had been a monthly message from the Rector and a one page village newsletter. Prior to the Chronicle's first publication every household received a Project Report outlining plans for the monthly magazine.

The first editor was Graham Parker, who typed most of it on a portable Brother typewriter, with some "cutting and pasting" of contributions and relevant newspaper articles along with the odd advertisement. The magazine was printed by the Squirrel Press at Waddesdon School and delivered round the village by the Parish Councillors. In the beginning it was financed by the editor until the magazine attracted advertisements, donations, village fundraising events and an annual contribution from the Village Festival/ Fete.

Graham Parker continued to edit the Chronicle until September 1989 when Caroline Lane and Gordon Smith took over for the next five years.

Anita Parker

Thanks for the info' Anita. The product and content may have changed but the financing, printing and distribution is much the same.
Ed

Whoopie!!!!!! Just had first covid jab administered by an attractive and kindly nurse; next one due Jan12th. Hopefully, thanks to our brilliant scientist, medical profession, engineers and all who have contributed to the development, production and delivery of these miraculous vaccinations there is rather more than just a glimmer of hope that some control can now be achieved on this pernicious virus.

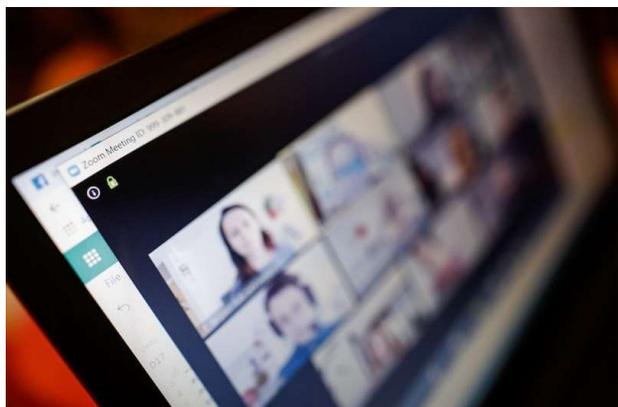
I just hope and pray all this effort will not be wasted by limited take-up and false information.

Andy Bystra



Your new LOCAL station for Buckinghamshire. Online.... Mobile App..... Smart Speaker. Launching in 1st February 2021

Aston Abbotts Parish Council 19th January 2021



Following the Christmas and New Year break, the Parish Council met again on 19th January – via Zoom. The formalities of approving the previous meeting minutes over, Councillors worked through a varied agenda of items.

In addition to an update from County Cllr Netta Glover which follows, the meeting covered, amongst other things, 4 key matters all of which are summarised below.

Netta Glover reported on the following:

Buckinghamshire Council Supports National Tree Week
National Tree Week (28 November – 6 December), was organised by The Tree Council. It is the UK's largest annual tree celebration and trees are definitely high up on Buckinghamshire Council's agenda. Bucks are currently planning where this will take place to ensure that we

plant the right trees in the right places.

For more information about National Tree Week, visit: treecouncil.org.uk.

To find out more about the Chiltern Rangers, including how to get involved, visit: chilternrangers.co.uk

Covid

There are mobile testing units in various locations throughout the county. Our walk-through site at the Gateway continues to operate for those with symptoms. Book the test at nhs.uk/coronavirus. Sites are open 7 days a week for use by anyone with coronavirus symptoms - all tests must be booked first.

Anyone with even mild symptoms is being encouraged to arrange a test to help stop the spread of the virus. Symptoms include a high temperature; a new, continuous cough; or a loss or change to sense of smell or taste. To book a test visit nhs.uk/coronavirus or call 119. It is also possible to order a home testing kit via the website.

Budget and Setting of the Precept.

In recognition of the current economic situation and an understanding of the hardship some residents will face in months to come, the Parish Council will not increase the precept this year. It will remain at £18300. From this the PC manages several local services including street lighting, road sweeping, dog bin emptying (something on the increase now so many of us have more time to get out with the dogs), mowing of the

village green, maintenance of the playground and traffic calming. The above is not a full list but leads us nicely onto the topic of traffic through the village.

Traffic Calming:

The project to join forces with Cublington, share available funding and work force and get some traffic calming measures underway has been signed off. It is now in the hands of the local Community Board to move it forward and we will update you as soon as we can. Meanwhile the PC has discussed traffic calming measures in other areas of the village and will move forward to consider costs associated with a feasibility study designed to provide workable ideas on the most effective measures to take.

Aerial Runway:

This much loved piece of playground equipment has been under review for a while. The PC now has 3 quotes to fully replace the Runway and will make a decision by the end of January on which supplier to use. Following that the PC will need to try and secure as much 3rd party funding as possible, whilst at the same time keeping this project moving.

Lockharts Farm Recycling:

The PC is in receipt of correspondence from neighbouring councils requesting support in their attempts to steer activities at the Recycling centre back towards those allowed within the original planning permission granted. An increase in lorries by more than 100% and the

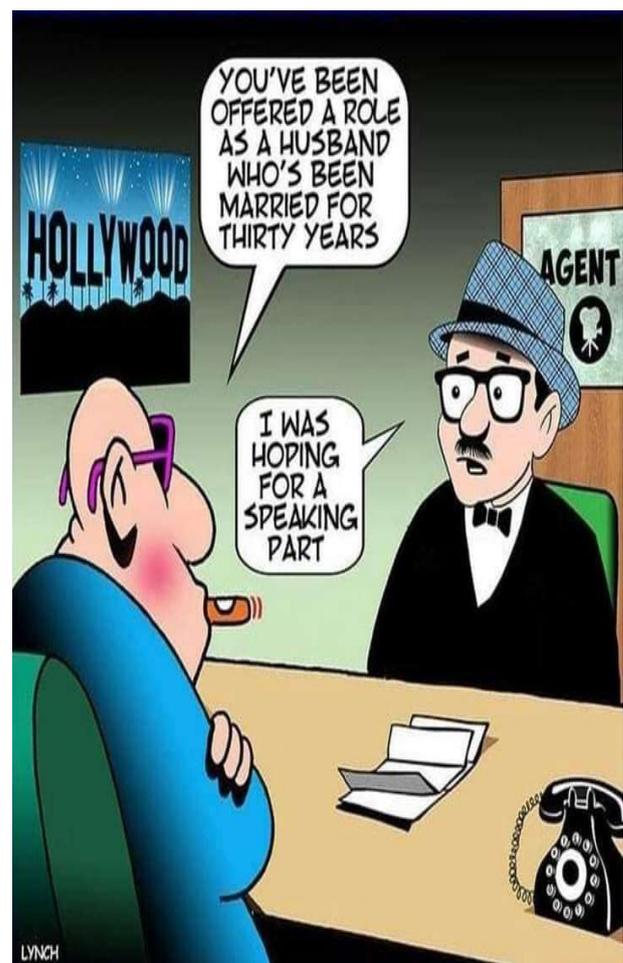
introduction of aggregate crushing has resulted in a significant impact on our rural roads and noise pollution. The PC will meet in late January to prepare a response.

For a full set of minutes from each Parish Council meeting please visit the website

<https://astonabbotts-pc.gov.uk/>

And if you would like to contact us please do so through the Clerk clerk@astonabbottspc.org

The next full parish council meeting is scheduled for 2nd March and you are welcome to join.



Aston Abbots as it was (Continued).

Colin Higgs BEM & Pete Lucas

The Village Name. The name Aston Abbots - Aston – Eston or East Town. The suffix "Abbots" refers to the former abbey in the village, which until the Dissolution of the Monasteries in the 16th century was the country home of the abbots of St Albans in Hertfordshire. (See below).

Southwest of the village is Lower Burston Farm, the site of the original village. Mounds can still be clearly seen around the farm on the left of Lines Hill.

Listed Buildings. The village has several listed buildings including Lower Burston Farm, built 1840 -1850 and the old shop, Osborn's, as well as the Royal Oak both with their timber frame and thatched roofs, Oxley Farm House, towards Wing, 1840 -1850, tiled roof and irregular chimneys, Church Farm House C17 and Oak Farm House, Wingrave Road, C17-18.

We have St James Church with its Tower late C15 housing the clock and bell chamber, the remainder built 1865/6.



It has an octagonal font and several stained glass windows, one in memorial to James Clarke Ross and his wife Ann.

The Abbey and its occupants. There has been a property on this historic site since Domesday, although the present house, which has 15th- and 16th-century origins, dates from the early 1800s and was named after lands confiscated from the Abbots of St Albans by Henry VIII.



The Abbey was once occupied by the Duke of Buckingham. Also, Sir James Clarke Ross, the Arctic Explorer, who died in 1862 and is buried in the Churchyard.

Much later in WW2, the President of Czechoslovakia, Dr Edward Benes was exiled in the Abbey with bodyguards housed in Nissan huts in the abbey's orchard, when they were not playing darts in the Bull and Butcher pub, no longer in existence in the village. One of these Nissan huts can still be seen from Norduck Lane.

Furthermore German prisoners of war were also housed in a camp at Norduck.

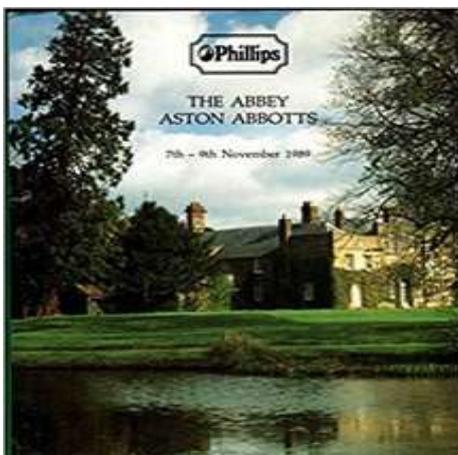
Here is a picture of a folded letter from a german P.o.W. in Camp 268

senders details: Nordduck Farm Aston Abbots written in 1946 sent to Berlin, Germany.



In 1989 following the death of the then owner of the Abbey, Mrs Beatrice Natalie Morton, the 'sale of the century' took place with the sale of the Abbey and its contents.

The contents of the Abbey for sale included furniture, rugs, clocks, European and Oriental porcelain, glass, textiles, silver, paintings, malachite, books, works of art and household effects.



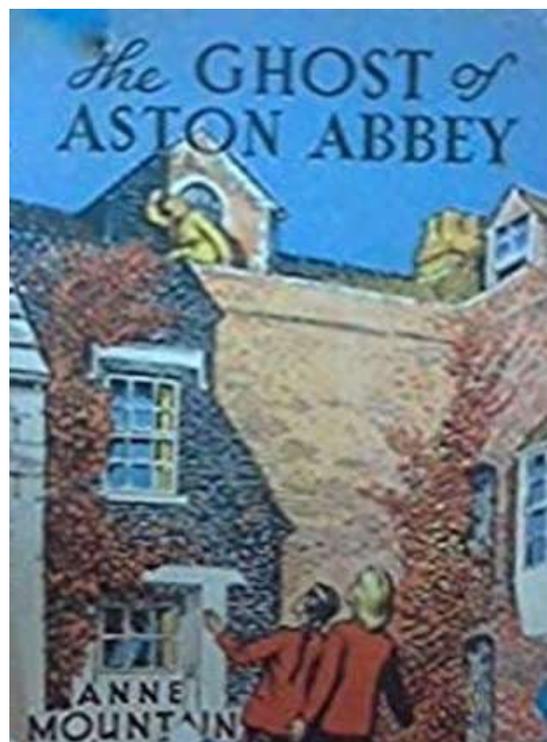
The phillips reference book for the content's sale of the Abbey from 1989.

The Abbey was further sold in 2017 to the present occupants who have carried out extensive work to bring it back to its former glory.

Aston Abbots also had two Chapels, a school, two pubs, a sweet shop, post office, a grocer, butcher, baker's and a blacksmith. Numerous travelling sellers would visit the village regularly including a mobile chemist, fish cart and Co-Op pedlars.

In next month's edition we will cover other incidents and landmarks regarding Aston Abbots.

Totally unrelated as far as I'm aware, but during research on Aston Abbots history, I came across this. Originally published in 1948 and written by Anne Mountain, this is a children's fiction book. Ed



New Bucks Walk Website



Are you fed-up with doing the same old walks? Walking in Buckinghamshire <http://www.walkinginengland.co.uk/bucks> is the website for you!

With hundreds of walks to download and print, free, and also has books of walks, contact details for all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group, all the information is there in one place.

John said 'There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in Buckinghamshire (part of the Walking in England suite of websites – one for each county in England) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you'. With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy. So home or away, check out the website and get walking!

John Harris.

www.walkinginengland.co.uk

email: john@walkinginengland.co.uk

Focus On - The Battle Of Aylesbury (Civil War)

Kevin Peters & Pete Lucas

This month we 'Focus On' the 1st November 1642, at Holman's Bridge just outside of Aylesbury, a battle took place between the Royalists under the command of Prince Rupert for King Charles 1 and the Parliamentarians, under the command of Sir William Balfour for Oliver Cromwell.



(Entrance to Watermead).

Holman's Bridge, which crosses the river Thames on the modern A413 road, next to the present Watermead, is said to be the site of the battle.

Aylesbury was at the time firmly for Parliament and against King Charles I. It is perhaps for this reason that Prince Rupert's forces chose to ride out, away from the hostile townsfolk, rather than defend Aylesbury in a siege. Also, since Rupert was a cavalryman of renown, the temptation must have been strong to fight in open country rather than from behind walls. The Royalists

were numerically superior to Parliamentary commander Sir William Balfore's detachment of around 1,500 men. Sir William's force had been deployed to contain the threat posed by Prince Rupert. Containment of the Royalists was particularly urgent as Prince Rupert was implementing a 'scorched earth' policy in Buckinghamshire.



One contemporary chronicler put it "Thither Prince Rupert marched with a force of some thousands of horse and foot, and, after some days past in securing for the King's use much of the produce of the Vale and despoiling and laying waste much more than he secured, entered and possessed himself of the town". Incidentally many a cellar in the old part of town may well be a remnant of the tunnel network built at this time which supposedly had something to do with the town's defences.

Having received intelligence of a Parliamentary force approaching from **Stony Stratford**, Prince Rupert left a troop of horse and a couple of companies of foot to hold down the unruly town while he rode out with his army to meet Sir William Balfore. Just beyond Holman's Bridge, near the swollen river that had been fed by recent rains, the two forces met. Prince Rupert was first checked by a combination of horse and infantry. After receiving two volleys of musket shot he then charged and broke through the initial first two ranks of Parliamentarian infantry. The musket of the day could take several minutes to reload so pikemen were essential in keeping cavalry at a distance.



A rugby scrum is perhaps the closest modern equivalent to the pike bloc, where one formation of men come crashing into one another, except that rugby players of today do not have fifteen foot pikestaves with lethal axes on their ends being thrust into the melee. This close quarter butchery was something that the King's forces had no stomach for, and they began to retreat across the ford,

where the Prince tried to rally his forces, but to no avail.

Although vastly outnumbered, Balfore's troops defeated the Royalists, and the engagement became known as the *Battle of Aylesbury*.



This was by no means the end of the battle. The townsfolk, perhaps goaded by outrages committed by Rupert's men during their stay, sought revenge on the fleeing King's men, and attacked the broken force as it came away from the battle. After this mauling Prince Rupert made his way to Thame.

On the King's side, 200 hundred lay dead; whereas on Parliament's side, 90. In 1818 the bones of 247 men were discovered in a mass grave close to Holman's Bridge. These were moved to St Mary's Churchyard at **Hardwick** at the request of Lord Nugent of Lilies. A tablet marks their common grave.

**St Mary's Church, Hardwick
Monument to the dead of the Civil War**

"Within are deposited the bones of 247 Persons who were discovered

A.D. 1818, buried in a field adjoining Holman's Bridge. From the History and appearances of the place where they were found, they were considered to be the bones of those officers and men who perished in an engagement fought A.D. 1642, between the troops of King Charles I., under the command of Prince Rupert, and the Garrison who held Aylesbury for the Parliament. Enemies from their attachment to opposite leaders and to opposite Standards, in the sanguinary conflicts of that Civil War, they were together victims to its fury. United in one common slaughter, they were buried in one common grave, close to the spot where they had lately stood in arms against each other. After the lapse of more than a century and a half their bones were collected, and deposited still in consecrated ground. May the memory of brave men be respected, and may our country never again be compelled to take part in a conflict such as that which this tablet records."

Oliver Cromwell came back to Aylesbury after the Battle of Worcester. He stayed in the King's Head. On arrival he received a Vote of Thanks from Parliament, in the King's Head. The National Trust has a number of artefacts dating from the Civil War.

For up to date village news, check out our local online Postbox

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Yahoo and Aol email addresses and The Postbox

Some postings from the Aston Abbotts Postbox are being spuriously

THE VIC SCOTT MEMORIAL ORCHARD SPONSORS & the Orchard's nest egg

Gordon Smith



As I write this in late January Peter Knight has just with great care planted eight new or replacement trees – thank you to all of our generous new and existing sponsors for your support.

I shall shortly be contacting the new sponsors with details of where their trees are to be found. The labels are on order but have not yet arrived – the person who does them seems to be working from home on short hours – but I hope they will be here

rejected by Yahoo's email servers. This means that Postbox recipients with Yahoo or Aol email addresses may not receive all Postbox messages.

This is being investigated, but it appears the problem is with Yahoo. We hope to find a solution soon.

Phil and Stuart

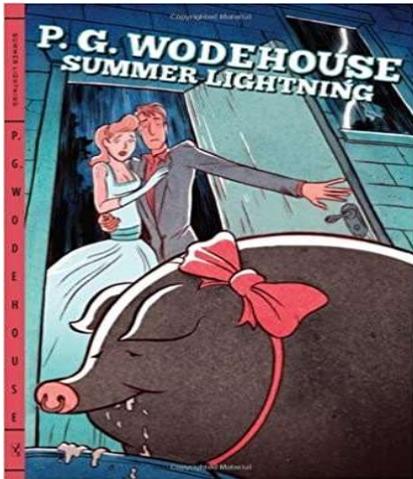
soon. If anyone else would like to sponsor a tree we are still in planting season so let me know (gordon.smith53@btinternet.com)

Here is an orchard tale from Peter.

‘Carol Spooner came up to me in the orchard and said, “something has dug a trench under our tree and it looks as though they’ve buried an egg.” So we go and have a look armed with a spade – sure enough a deepening trench had been dug out. I carefully lifted the perfect hen’s egg out (ten inches under surface) and then very carefully broke the egg to see how old it was. The digging didn’t look a bit fresh, but the egg was fresh enough to eat. What a clever fox to find the egg (where from?), carry it to the orchard and stash it away: amazing, but I can’t think of any other explanation.’

So, if you are in the Wingrave Road area and have lost an egg, then that’s where it ended up.

JANUARY BOOK CLUB



My choice for the January Book Club was Summer Lightning by P. G. Wodehouse. This was the third book in the author's Blandings Castle sagas. The book deals with an assortment of aristocratic eccentrics, their employees, and a smattering of hangers ons.

Lord Emsworth is the eccentric master of Blandings Castle and is obsessed with his pet prize pig, the Empress of Blandings. His younger brother, Galahad Threepwood, has had a colourful past and is set on writing his salacious memories about Blandings Castle and the neighbourhood. Everyone is appalled at the idea, fearing revelations about their past and want the whole enterprise scrapped. Galahad is steadfast in his desire to publish.

Ronnie Fish is Lord Emsworth's vertically challenged nephew. He wants to marry a chorus girl, but has no money. He hatches a plan to steal the pig and then "find" it, hoping to curry favour with his uncle and ensure financial security and marry his love.

He had previously bounced tennis balls on the pigs back, displeasing his uncle.

The neighbour is also a pig fanatic, a fellow competitor at local shows. He does not want the publication of the Galahad book to go ahead fearing that his "prawn" past will be revealed.

Everyone tries to get hold of the Galahad proof, using a detective, a butler, a former butler, a secretary and the neighbour.

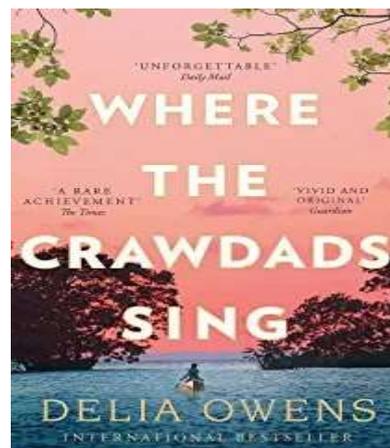
This intrigue does have a happy ending.

I chose the book as I thought it would be a light, comic read during this lockdown. Most of us did find it gently amusing, a reflection of 1920s eccentric aristocratic life.

Anita Parker

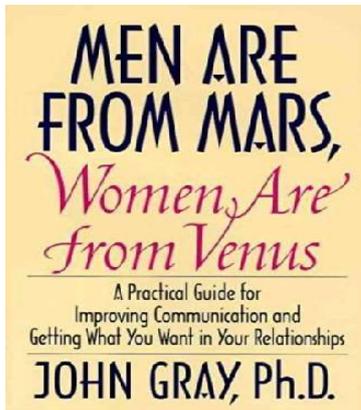
BOOK CLUB October to December

In October we again met online to discuss Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens.



This book has been at the top of the bestseller fiction list for many months. Set in the marshlands of North Carolina (an area I knew nothing of) the book tells the story of a girl abandoned by her family and left to fend for herself. The story is of love,

loss and murder and includes a gripping trial. It was an almost universal hit with the group. While some elements of the story were difficult to credit, the quality of the writing was excellent and the writer brilliantly drew the marsh setting and the nature contained in it.



In November we discussed Men are From Mars Women are from Venus, that was a best seller when first published some 20 odd years ago, it endeavours to point out basic misunderstandings between men and women in an effort to improve relationships. While most of the group recognised the truth of the basic

observations, we felt it was not concise with the same points made again and again. It also seemed very dated and failed to consider individual personalities in the narrative.

In December we followed our usual habit, as far as we could, in having a party and quiz- online again of course. We met suitably attired in Christmas hats and each member posed 5 questions in turn, having been allocated a subject eg science or cookery. We all struggled with the answers scoring low marks on most rounds. Eventually Kate came to our rescue by asking us to name all Rudolph's reindeer friends, at least we all knew some answers though it did rather mess up the scoring system. In the end, Deirdre was declared the winner due to her superior knowledge of said reindeer. I managed to find a small prize of a reindeer tree decoration to mark this victory.

Sally Palmer

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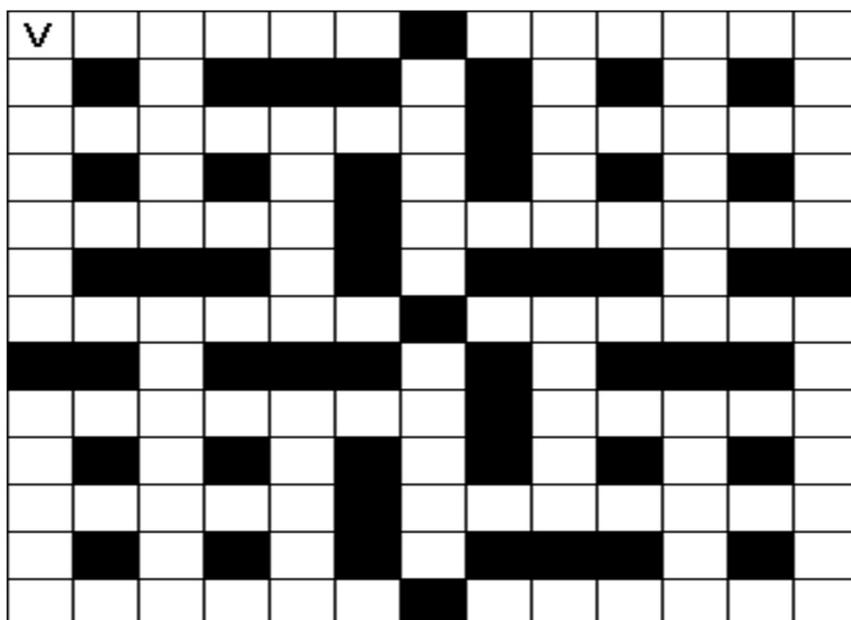
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Crossword



The first letter of each answer is written next to its clue in alphabetical order. One letter has already been entered. Can you find the words then fit them correctly into the grid? ***Solution further in magazine***

Down

- O. Musical interval (6)
- O. Volunteer (5)
- O. Fiends (5)
- R. Walker (7)
- R. Umpire (7)
- R. Narrow range of hills (5)
- R. Hazards (5)
- R. Governed (5)
- S. Arboreal mammal (5)
- S. Strain (6)
- T. Submarine weapon (7)
- V. Assorted (7)
- V. Opinions (5)
- V. Stringed instrument (6)

Across

- A. Vitriolic (5)
- A. Shrewdness (6)
- A. Fleet commander (7)
- A. Re-arranged word or phrase (7)
- B. Long seat (5)
- C. Floor show (7)
- C. Aromatic wood (5)
- C. Population count (6)
- C. Ascend (5)
- D. Sewed (6)
- D. Crane (5)
- E. Throw out (5)
- I. Angry (5)
- N. Countries (7)

Buckinghamshire Tourist - Places to visit after lockdown. Turville

(Images Buckinghamshire Live / Darren Pepe)

While Covid-19 restrictions mean we currently need to stay home, once we can travel further afield, and if you haven't already, **Turville** should definitely be on your list to visit.

Turville is in the Chiltern Hills, surrounded by beautiful countryside and with many trails to walk, is just a 50 minute drive from Aston Abbotts.

This village came to television when it was the set for *The Vicar of Dibley*. Turville is just as small and quaint as it appears on the screen, with a beautiful church and pretty houses.



The Vicar of Dibley's cottage

The village is no stranger to film crews - with *The Vicar of Dibley*, *Killing Eve* and *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* filmed there.

In the past Turville was referred to as Thyrefeld, which is interpreted as two Anglo-Saxon words, thyre and feld, meaning dry open field. The village went through a number of name changes before landing on Turville in 1826. The exact date of the parish church of St Mary the Virgin is thought to be the 12th century. Over the centuries various parts

of the church have been rebuilt and only the nave remains from the original building. The church is the setting for the St Barnabas church in BBC sitcom *The Vicar of Dibley*.

A strange story from Turville concerns an 11-year-old Ellen Sadler. It is said that in 1871 she went to bed as usual but slept for nearly ten years. At the time, *The Times* called this "one of the most astounding, inexplicable, physiological phenomena ever known". Rumours in the village suggested that the future King Edward VII visited her and gave her the 'laying on of hands' which people believed would cure her. Sadler was used by her mother, Ann Frewen, as a tourist attraction for the village and locals who became increasingly sceptical that this was just a scam.

There is definitely enough to do in and around Turville to head there for a day out. Cobstone Mill is just out of the main village but it's worth a walk up to the spot. Most famously the Mill appeared in *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*, however, it was also shown in *Goodnight Mister Tom* and *Jonathan Creek*. Once you're there you'll be treated with beautiful views out across the Hambledon Valley.



Cobstone Mill. It is also worth stopping at Turville's only pub *The Bull & Butcher*. It's a classic village pub with a timbered front, original beams inside and large open fires. There are plenty of walks in the local area which you could do after lunch.

After Independence, Buy British. Buy Local.



Buy local. Wherever local is :)

Introducing James Henderson, a no holds barred commentator

Wonderful news that we are now able to become a free trading nation again without Tariffs to Europe, shedding our yoke and shackles to prove we can be a great inventive exporting nation again, like we were in the past.

The Vaccine being a perfect example of fantastic Medical Engineering and innovation from the Oxford group, to get a result like this, in record breaking time and under intense pressure we have much to be thankful for. Yes of course there shall be problems and of course some folk shall blame the government for everything that has not gone to plan and a Pandemic that has never hit us before with such ferocity. But hang on that's what the majority of the nation voted for, was it not, and to stand on our own feet?

Being from the farming fraternity, I remember the mountains of unsold wheat, wine lakes in France, and the ridiculous set aside land which was paid

to stand idle in fallow whilst a proportion of the planet were starving.

This was all based in part, on the small French inefficient, peasant farmer, who held a large political vote and claimed large agricultural subsidies. If they thought they were not being heard, they would riot in the streets and cities and disrupt the ports, (that sounds familiar!!!) They would stop our exports of livestock at the docks, with violent demonstrations and threaten to burn the livestock lorries.

We must all learn to trust the British farmer who produces beef from grass and not beef from vast US feedlots, dosed in growth promoters and hormones, Eat our wonderful English lamb and home grown pork.

If in doubt visit our local farm shops. Use butchers like Parrots Butchers just out of Whitchurch on the Cublington road.

I have known both those boys all their lives and their father when he had the shop in the High Street. Ask them where their beef is produced and they shall tell you and every animal has traceability. Most from their own farm, they shall answer you with respect and great knowledge.

See if you can get on a farm walk or farm visit, from local NFU offices, or follow the wonderful farming programs on the box!! There are far too many people that knock livestock farmers. Some people are vegetarian which is of course is a lifestyle choice and perfectly understandable but, in my opinion, the Vegan brigade go too far, now encouraged by local organisations for

Veganuary, not drinking milk or eating cheese or buying eggs.

I was born and bred on our farm and brought up in the close nit farming fraternity. I have never witnessed blatant animal cruelty on the farms or in the Cattle markets, Do these people not realise that livestock farmers care intensely about their stock? Why would they abuse animals that make them a living?

These folk need to visit farms more often, when all this Corvid subsides. People need to move on, Battery Chickens aren't housed in cages anymore, things have moved on, yes there are cages that the birds can lay eggs in and then have room on the floor to move.

Free range egg farms have open hatches for the bird to roam outside on grass fields, but when we have weather like this, they don't leave the comfort of the shed. What does that tell you? The farrowing crate is used for less than 2 weeks, so the Sow or Gilt can have her piglets without rolling on them, or biting them during a difficult farrowing, when she is in possible distress with her first farrowing. By and large the pig farmer shall attend day or night. Trust me I have been there. Dry sow stalls are a thing of the past and have been illegal for years.

The same applies to Dairy Farmers with their calving heifers. Dairy cows are brought inside off the grass fields during the winter and fed and housed in comfort, having electric powered back scratchers and good ventilation.

Why when we produce a vast range of winter vegetables in this country, do we need to import stuff from abroad? Is it that the carrots aren't straight or not the right shape that don't fit in line on supermarket shelves? Why would this make them less nutritious? I really do think that the consumer needs to be given the choice of bendy carrots and not perfectly round tomatoes, then we might import less and eat all homegrown vegetables rather than see them dumped in landfill to rot! Why buy foreign stuff that is not in season here? I very much doubt if you see our village allotment holders buying vegs that are not in season from abroad?

Come on, we all need to buy British and buy local.

***Alium leaf borers?
Marmorated stink bugs? It
can only mean Peter Shorrock
with the Allotment Diary***



There's bugger-all to write about so far as my allotment is concerned: the combination of the recent wet weather and my convalescence after my knee operation (Yes, I'm doing very well, thank you) has meant that

I have hardly been near my allotment for over two months. My only forays to my patch have been to dig up my allium leaf borer –affected leeks. The effect of the leaf borer was worse than I had previously thought. The insect has stopped the stem of the leeks from maturing properly, and one has to discard so much of the plant to get to the inside which has not been affected, that the amount of the leek one ends up eating is about a quarter of what it should have been.

I have therefore turned to my clippings of horticultural news that I keep for occasions like this, when I have nothing else to write about.

The first news is that a bug called the brown marmorated stink bug has arrived in this country from Asia, and is breeding here. It damages fruit crops, and is so called because it gives off an awful stench to deter predators. It is feared that the bugs are thriving in polytunnels. The government has warned people to check imported plants and timber: the pest is brown with light bands, about half an inch in length and width, and is shaped like a shield. As far as I know, it only targets fruit, and not vegetables.

Slugs have become such a pest that BASF, the company which breeds nematodes – the worms bred to attack slugs – reported at the end of last year a double digit percentage growth in sales. These are not really an option for allotment gardeners;

and slug pellets, the only other effective treatment, are so toxic that gardeners are restricted to using them 4 times a year. I regret to say that the RHS chief horticulturist has said that most anti-slug measures are ineffective – including scattering egg-shells, burying cups of beer, and putting copper wire around the perimeter of the crop. Even killing them is only effective short-term, because other slugs move in to replace the dead.

At the beginning of the lock-down last March I read an article saying that the amount of land used for urban allotments had fallen by 65% over the last 50 years; but since then I have read a number of articles suggesting that gardening has been one of the beneficiaries of the lock-down caused by the Covid pandemic, as people, forced to isolate, and desperate for things to do, have begun growing their own vegetables and herbs. There were reports of shops selling out of secateurs and trowels; and in the spring online seed merchants reported a 130% increase in the sale of bulbs and seeds. And a survey carried out by the RHS (which is admittedly biased) found that people with gardens were twice as likely to feel satisfied with life during the pandemic as those with no outdoor space. Possibly one of the few silver linings of the pandemic will be to increase the interest in having an allotment, and thus the amount of land available for them.



Church Matters

With the latest round of restrictions to combat the Corona Virus there are currently no 'face-to-face' Church Services at St. James, or anywhere else. There is a Benefice Zoom Service at 9.30am each Sunday (details on the Village Postbox). A number of Parishioners have had, or have appointments for, their vaccinations so there is some light at the end of the tunnel.

So the Christmas services were the last at St. James for some time. See details of the very well attended, outdoor Nativity Service elsewhere in this month's Chronicle. Only to add that as a result of your generous donations we were able to send a cheque for nearly £200 to The Children's Society.

The Church can always be opened for anyone who wishes to enter for Private Prayer by making an appointment with Caroline Lane by phoning 681373 or email carolinelane@btinternet.com

Stay Safe

David Gray

PCC Aston Abbotts

From the Rector.

The power of love

February is upon us, the month of Valentines! All those greetings cards with hearts and cuddly animals sat in champagne glasses... Now, I am not going to rubbish all that, of course I'm not. But I wonder if we can use it to say something about the love of God in Christ for us? - I hope we can.

The two animals often look the same; the Gospel tells us that Jesus embodied our humanity with divinity. Summarised best by the opening verses of John's Gospel (the Word became flesh) I think we have lost a sense of just how radical that was to those who first heard it.

Often the two cuddlies are looking at each other so trustingly; at a wedding I always make the point that love means we trust one another to be honest about how we feel – especially when we disagree.

And we speak of wearing our loved one's name on our heart, the seat of our emotions.

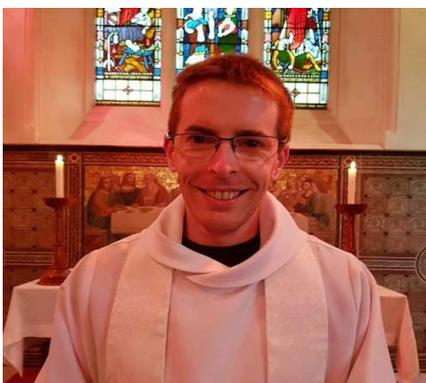
The Christian Gospel is quite clear that God's love for us is unequivocal, whether we are "in a relationship" or not. And, that Christ came to make it visible; his sharing our life is the ultimate affirmation we long for. Our relationship with Christ is a covenant relationship meaning we can trust Him always, even when we mess up. And in the earliest pages of the Old

Testament, we're told that God's name is written on our hearts. We experience love, but we also know in our heart that love is powerful and much bigger than us; that points us to the divine and the Church's claim that God is love.



God loves the world (us) so much, he sent Jesus to tell us and to show us. So, when we love we are part of God's great love for the world and Jesus said that everyone would see that love and know that you are my disciples. Happy Valentine's Day and beyond! With every blessing,
Howard.

Introducing Revd Dr Andrew Krauss



***Team Vicar for the Cottesloe Benefice,
Diocese of Oxford***

Dear all

Just a quick note to say hello as the recently appointed Team Vicar in the Cottesloe Benefice. As many of you will already know Anna and I have been in the area for just over a year now since I started in Cheddington as an interim minister in December 2019. We moved from Cheddington to Stewkley literally just before Christmas, which was an interesting experience but we managed it. In a sense it has felt like saying goodbye and immediately saying hello again, but overall of course not a lot has changed.

Although the early stages of this year will be heavily restricted, we wish you all the very best for 2021 and hope that we can all pull through the first part of this year together like we did in the first lockdown. Let us pray that the right spirit may remain and that we can look beyond Easter with a renewed sense of hope. Our thoughts remain with all who have had to stop work or who have lost loved ones, especially over a most unusual Christmas and New Year experience.

With prayers and best wishes

Andrew Krauss



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TVP Vehicle Advice There has been a recent increase in theft from motor vehicle offences. We would like to offer some advice to reduce your risk of becoming a victim:

- Lock your vehicle to prevent opportunist crimes.
- Report any suspicious activity in your area. If you have any relevant CCTV or images, please contact us.
- Try to park in a well lit area.
- Remove valuables from display.
- Wipe SatNav marks off your window - the mark on the window indicates that one may be left in the vehicle. Also remove holders/cradles.
- Do not leave loose change on display.
- Leave your glove compartment open - This shows that nothing valuable has been left in there.
- Close all windows.
- Park your car in an attended car park where possible.
- Fit an alarm or immobiliser.
- Do not store your vehicle documents in your vehicle.
- Secure your number plates with anti-tamper screws.

60 jobs to be created at Aylesbury Satellite test centre

Paul Grinnell

The National Space Propulsion Test Facility will be based at the Aylesbury Vale Enterprise Zone at Westcott Venture Park.

The image shows a section of the planned test facility.



It will allow companies and academics to fire up and test state-of-the-art space propulsion engines in a high-altitude vacuum - the equivalent of an altitude of 140,000ft.

The facility, which has received £4 million of Government funding, is expected to open later this year.

Rod Mordey, director at PATRIZIA, which owns the 650-acre Westcott Venture Park, said: "This is yet another leap forward for the development of Westcott Venture Park as a centre of excellence in the space propulsion and associated high-tech industries. Over the next 10 years, Westcott will become the UK Centre for the next generation of propulsion systems and small satellite manufacture."

Richard Harrington, chief executive of Buckinghamshire Local Enterprise Partnership, said: "The national rocket test facility at Westcott is a key step towards delivering a world-leading hub for the space sector in the heart of Buckinghamshire."

The new centre will allow companies to test large engines in the UK instead of seeking out facilities overseas. Westcott is recognised as a key part of the UK space sector growth strategy with a nucleus of well-established companies supporting rocket and satellite enabled research and development projects.



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A couple of snippets of local area interest

'During the War'

Castle Cement Pitstone

Buckinghamshire Archives

Some months ago, I included a piece on one of our once major employers, Castle Cement, Pitstone. It gained some feedback from readers so I thought this snippet would be of interest to some.

A native of [Pitstone](#) has shared his childhood memories of the quarry.



"I learned to drive in the quarry aged 12, running around in the Landrovers and old ww2 Jeep, which they called the Panic Wagon. Not much health and safety then! I was also taught to drive the big Foden tipper trucks and a Caterpillar earthmover. Oh, and a huge machine called a Bucket Wheel Excavator. All still aged under 13."



Castle Cement's activities in Pitstone came to an end in 1991, ending 54 years of chalk extraction on the large site, which started as Tunnel Portland Cement Works in 1937.

If you would like to know more about the site, may we direct you here: https://www.cementkilns.co.uk/cement_kiln_pitstone.html

The works were demolished in 1999. There is an ITN news report about it on Youtube:

<https://youtu.be/gOZ4XfQaeUQ> , any familiar faces in the crowd?

The Land of Fairford Leys

An archaeologist giving a tour of the Coldharbour Farm dig in June 1996 prior to the building of Fairford Leys.

All the stains in the ground are ditches and pits made by people living and working there over 2,000 years ago. Aylesbury was a small enclosed settlement on the hill then. In the distance to the left is the Hartwell Estate. Bucks Herald.



Lost Railway - Cheddington to Aylesbury

May 1966. The London & Birmingham Railway - later LNWR - branch from Cheddington to Aylesbury was opened in 1839. It was closed to passengers in 1953 and to goods in 1963.

The engine shed on the left and the basket works on the right



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Village Hall Hire	Nigel & Sally Palmer	01296 681152
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Women's Gnomes Club	Carol Spooner	01296 681544
Post office & shop Wingrave	Deva	01296 682964
Baby & Toddler Group	Kim Gayler	01296 681123
Royal Oak Pub & Restaurant	Teri Moulton	07809395463
100 Club Treasurer	David Gray	01296 681952
Bingo	Pam Dixon	01296 681626
Rambling Club & Whist Drive	Colin Higgs	01296 681343

Community Services

NHS Direct 24hr Advice	111
Doctor Out of hours Surgeries	01296 331511
Stoke Mandeville Hospital	01296 315000
Police Non-Emergency	101
Buckinghamshire Council	01296 395000
Citizens Advice	08701264056
MP Greg Smith (Con)	01296 714 240
Anglian Water	01296 385995
Pre School Wingrave	01296 681127
Wingrave School	01296 681436
Cottesloe School Wing	01296 688264

Crossword Solution

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

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