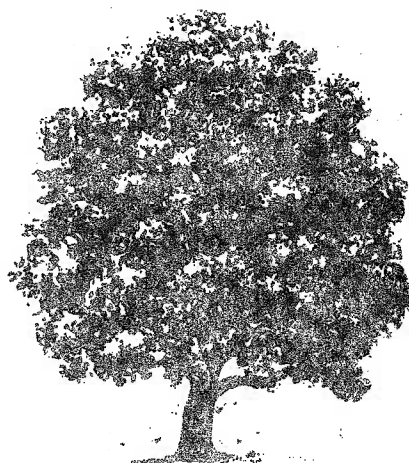


The Chronicle

Parish Magazine for Aston Abbotts



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The Rothschilds of
Buckinghamshire

A LETTER FROM WING.

February 1985.

No. 18.



Editorial

Many of you may wonder why the Rector's notes for January, which you will already have received by separate delivery, are included alongside the February notes. Well, its perhaps a presumption but I like to think THE CHRONICLE is a paper of record, and that the notes should thus be included.

The December and January Quiz results are published to put you out of your misery. My thanks to all who entered, and congratulations to the winners.

THE CHRONICLE'S financial situation has improved but not enough to make us self sufficient. The ideas put forward in the letter from a parishoner on page three seem to be a way round the problem. Our creditors would certainly be very grateful for any cash thus raised.

The Church clock has been silenced. In the Church Notes the weather has been blamed but whoever the "Condor" smoker is knows better.

Graham Parker.

HOW TO PASS ON ARTICLES/INFORMATION FOR THE "CHRONICLE"

1. By telephone to Graham on Aston Abbotts 325.
2. By dropping a note through his door - The Cloisters.
3. Use the box in the Village Shop.

DEADLINE DATE FOR THE MARCH ISSUE

By the 23rd. February please.

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NOTICEBOARD

WHAT'S ON

BINGO IN THE CHURCH ROOM 8 p.m. ON THURSDAY 31st. JANUARY
THURSDAY 14th. FEBRUARY
THURSDAY 28th. FEBRUARY.

FOOTPATH WALK ON SUNDAY 24th. FEBRUARY - MEET AT THE GREEN AT 2 p.m.

THANK YOU to you to everyone who supported the Chapel Christmas Bazaar, we raised £180 and a further £28 was raised by the children which has been sent to the Ethiopian Appeal.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Graham,

I note from a recent issue of THE CHRONICLE that it is in need of a financial boost. Most people, probably all, in the village look forward to their copy dropping through the letterbox every month, and it would be a crying shame if it suddenly stopped through lack of funds. Most shops and pubs have a collection box to support a charity, so why not have boxes to support THE CHRONICLE? Many people, I'm sure, when given a few pence as change would drop it into such a box, and after all 'pennies make pounds'.

With the death of the halfpenny I've managed to locate £1.20 worth (please find enclosed) in various places. If everyone in the village did the same that too would raise a few quid. Maybe people discard pennies the same way as halfpennies, so come on, give them to the Chronicle, and keep it alive.

"A Parishoner".

Very many thanks for the £1.20 and for the suggestions ... collection boxes seem to be an admirable idea. ED.

FROM MR. BUCKET O'BOOZE.

Dear Sir,

Surely during this time of exceptional weather all of the residents of a small village like ours should be expected to pull together and it makes me so sorry to have to write about this current lack of spirit.

I have to ask you:

How many Parish Councillors have you seen out sweeping the pavements to make them safe for our elderly residents?

How many neighbours have popped round with an extension lead asking you to plug your electric fire in to help with this winters bills?

Has any word been received from the Church with regard to using any excess wood such as old pews as free firewood?

Have the local publicans supplied free hot toddies to keep our spirits raised?

Has there been a communal bonfire on the recreation ground to keep the older people warm and the children amused?

Have the Brownies been to your front door offering to throw themselves on your fire?

I fear the answer to all of these questions is NO, and it makes me wish for the return of the good old days when people really did go out of their way to help others. Those were the days when men were men, women stayed at home and we all knew our place.

Yours faithfully,

Bucket O'Booze.

DARTS

This season is proving one of the best ever for the Royal Oak Darts Team. At the moment they are top of Division 1 of the Leighton Buzzard Licensed Victuallers League, but this may be a false position in as much as their main challengers, The Unicorn, had not had their last two results reported. If the Unicorn have won both matches, they would in fact be two points clear of the Royal Oak.

Even so, at this late stage of the season, to be at worst in second place, is certainly the team's best showing for many a year.

Last Monday's match against The Carpenters Arms of Slapton resulted in a 4 - 1 win to keep up the title challenge, and this on a dart board where many of the top teams have faltered this season.

In the Cup the team leapt over the hurdle of the first round by beating The George & Dragon of Brickhill by 19 legs to 11, in a match played on a home and away basis over two weeks. Having had a reasonable draw the team are hopeful of proceeding much further.

A further report will follow towards the end of the season.

DOUBLE SCOTCH.

Ladies Club

Owing to the very cold weather we cancelled our meeting on the 17th. of January, which was to have taken us on a tour of sunnier climes with the aid of Mrs. Sinnott's colour slides. A pity!

At the time of writing we are looking forward to a demonstration of doll making by Mrs. Humphreys of Tring on the 31st of January.

In February we have Mrs. Esther Smith to tell us about her Great Aunt Lydia on the 14th and on the 28th. we have Mr. Cornwall, who is giving us an illustrated talk on butterflies.

GRAND JUMBLE SALE

ON SATURDAY 9th MARCH AT 2:30pm

at

Wingrave Community Centre

Raffle (good prizes), cake-stall, competitions and teas.

Your Village Shop

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wh80

OLD PUMP TO BE RESTORED

AMONG the business discussed at Friday's meeting of Aston Abbots Parish Council was the old water pump in Church Row.

The clerk, Mr. D. Watts, reported that there was a good chance it would soon be possible to restore it.

The parish council is to write to British Telecom expressing an interest in the old telephone exchange, which they would like to use for various village amenities.

Complaints had been received from several people in the village regarding the status of the bridle path running through Norduck Farm.

Councillors made it quite

clear that it was definitely a public bridleway, and could be used by pedestrians and horse riders.

Motor vehicles could not use it unless going to the farm on business.

The clerk was asked to seek guidelines from the electricity board regarding street light maintenance, and the standard required to meet its approval.

The present contract with the board for the maintenance of lighting will be ended on March 31.

UPDATE

OUR REGULAR NOTES ON PARISH COUNCIL ACTIVITIES.

While the Bucks Herald article (left) outlines some of the topics discussed at the Parish Council meeting held at the Church Room on January 18th., it hardly reflects the true nature of the meeting.

Concern was again expressed at the continued non-appearance of the Lines Hill chevrons, and representations are to be made on our behalf yet again!

The future of the old telephone exchange was discussed at length. The advice of one local GP had been sought but he did not think a case could be made to the area health authority for the establishment of a surgery in the village. The meeting was told that a surgery was already held but that the

premises were far from adequate. However use two mornings a week may not justify the expense of purchase. What was needed was more information; from British Telecom, about sale arrangements; from local doctors, but especially from parishoners. HOW CAN THE VILLAGE USE THE BUILDING? DO WE NEED SUCH A BUILDING? YOUR VIEWS AND IDEAS WOULD BE APPRECIATED ... Please let your Parish Councillors know your views or write to the Editor.

In last months CHRONICLE, or was it the December issue, we asked if any tenants considered their council housing in any way sub-standard. As a result we hope that the matters that have been raised will result in improvements being made. The problem of the mud on Wingrave Road was another December problem that we hope has now been resolved.

The meeting also discussed the estimates for expenditure in 1985/6 and it was agreed to request a precept of £1,000. The Clerk also informed the meeting of the District Councils response to our conservation submission. As you can see from the extracts below the submission received praise but no immediate action seems likely because of "insufficient resources". However we were assured that any future planning application would be dealt with in the light of the conservation proposals.

Next Parish Council Meeting:

FRIDAY MARCH 8th.

8pm. Church Room.

AYLESBURY VALE DISTRICT COUNCIL

DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL SERVICES AND PLANNING

Director of Technical Services and Planning

M. F. W. Willey, M.R.T.P.I., F.C.I.S., M.B.I.M.

PLANNING DIVISION

FOWLER ROAD, AYLESBURY, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, HP21 8QX



23rd November 1984

Dear Mr. Watts,

Suggested Conservation Area, Aston Abbots

Further to my letter of 3rd October 1984, your Council's suggestion that part of Aston Abbots be designated a Conservation Area was reported to the Development and Recreation Committee on 19th November 1984.

The Committee felt that upon completion of the current programme for conservation area designation, which covers the most significant townscapes in Aylesbury Vale, there was merit in considering further work so as to include Aston Abbots and other suitable areas of the district. The Committee will shortly be reviewing the programme of projects undertaken by the Council's Planning Division, in the light of the resources available, and this is something which will be taken into account.

I was asked to thank the Parish Council for drawing attention to the particular characteristics and features of the village, and to express appreciation for the way in which the case for designation had been presented.

8th January, 1985

Dear Mr. Watts,

Suggested Conservation Area : Aston Abbots

Further to my letter of 23rd November, 1984, the Development and Recreation Committee considered on 18th December, 1984 the Council's forward planning work programme.

It was decided that, having regard to the resources available, there were insufficient to enable the extension of the conservation area designation programme at this time. However, having already indicated that there was merit in including Aston Abbots and others in such an extended programme, the matter would be considered again at the next review later this year..

Yours sincerely,

Director of Technical Services and Planning.

The Rothschilds of Buckinghamshire

by JOHN CAMP.

PART TWO



Nathan Rothschild.

Nathan Rothschild, founder of the English end of the family business, died in 1836. He left four sons, one of whom soon went to Paris to help his uncle James, whose health was poor, the other three taking over the banking business now firmly established in New Court in the City of London. Old Mrs. Rothschild, their mother, was keen that they should have other interests outside the world of banking and encouraged them to buy estates near London and become real English country gentlemen. That they and their sons, over a period of thirty years, settled in turn in the Aylesbury area was due mainly to their solicitor, an Aylesbury man, who knew what properties were coming on the market in the area. Between 1851 and 1884 six grand mansions became occupied by the family in the Vale of Aylesbury.

The first to arrive was Anthony (by then Sir Anthony) Rothschild who purchased a fine property in Aston Clinton in 1851. There he came with his wife Lady Louise (a member of the well-known Montefiore family) and his two young daughters, Constance and Annie. Lady Louise was very much a professional hypochondriac and most of her life worked very hard at being poorly. Just before her first confinement in 1843 she wrote an impassioned letter to her husband telling him that her health was so poor that she would never survive childbirth, and imploring him to be a good father to the motherless child she was about to bequeath to him. She wrote this letter when she was 22 and died at the age of 91 ! Her fears, unlike the birth, were premature ! She even survived a second confinement eighteen months later.

At Aston Clinton, after buying the spacious Aston Clinton House near the canal in Stablebridge Road, Sir Anthony's first act was to build a village school. Much to his surprise this thoroughly upset the locals who accused him of interfering. The truth of the matter was that the small toddlers of the village, instead of going to 'dame schools', were usefully employed in straw-plaiting, a cottage industry flourishing at the time. The parents sold the plaited straw to merchants at Tring Market every Tuesday, and they, in turn, sold it to the hat makers in Luton. The arrival of the first school put an end to this juvenile employment, and Sir Anthony was told he had 'sabotaged the economy of the village' ! But very soon all was well again, and a few years later Sir Anthony built a second village school as a sixteenth birthday present for Connie, who taught at the school herself on many occasions, as did her somewhat eccentric mother.

Sir Anthony died in 1876 and the desolate widow built, in his memory, the Anthony Hall which is such a useful adjunct of village life to this day. Constance eventually married the Hon. Cyril Flower, later Lord Battersea, inheriting even more wealth from her husband's vast estates in South London. She later wrote a book of reminiscences of life with her mother at Aston Clinton. Lady Louise was something

of a literary lady and attracted gatherings of famous writers to the house. A great friend was Matthew Arnold, a schools inspector she had met when he had inspected the Jewish Free School in the East End which she had founded. Thackeray was another friend (he describes Lady Louise in 'Pendennis') as were the Brownings and several noted French writers. She was also intensely interested in comparative religion, and never had consistent faith in her Jewish religion. At one time she seriously thought of becoming a Quaker but was finally dissuaded by her rabbi. In his younger days the Prince of Wales, Albert Edward (later Edward VII) came often to Aston Clinton to dine, though it is unlikely that he contributed much to any learned or literary discussions. Constance has also edited her mother's memoirs, in which Edward's visits are recorded, both in youth and as a middle-aged man.

Annie, a year younger and considerably more flighty than the somewhat stodgy Constance, had a good time as a girl and eventually married the Hon. Eliot Yorke - a kind of Victorian Mike Yarwood. On one occasion, so the story goes, the Rothschilds of Aston Clinton were invited with others to dine with Queen Victoria at Windsor, and Eliot was a member of the party. It was customary for guests so invited to entertain the company after dinner, and Queen Victoria is said to have looked at the quaking Eliot Yorke and boomed "Why don't you give us some of your impressions, Mr. Yorke? We understand you do US particularly well!" One wonders if the wretched Eliot Yorke had enough nerve to imitate the Queen to her face, but it demonstrates yet again how very cheerful the fun-loving the Queen was in the years before the tragic death of Prince Albert.

Today Aston Clinton House is no more, having been demolished in 1963 after various uses including that of an hotel. The site, marked by two dilapidated lodges near the canal bridge in Stable Bridge Road, is now Green Park, a centre for the training of youth leaders run by the Buckinghamshire County Council. While regretting its absence we should, perhaps, be thankful that this is the only one of the original six Rothschild mansions that has gone. The other five are still in existence and three of them may be visited by the general public.



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A LETTER FROM WING.

HELPING YOUR LOCAL SECONDARY SCHOOL

In the letter I sent to the local magazines to introduce myself I mentioned ways in which the School could assist members of the local community. On this occasion I would like to indicate ways in which YOU might be able to help the school.

PUPILS, EX-PUPILS, PARENTS

Please search your house for any books that should have been returned to the school and give them to a reliable pupil to bring back now. Every book that we can recover in this way saves an expensive replacement.

ANY ADULT WITH SOME (DAY) TIME TO SPARE

In the local villages there must be many adults who could spare an hour or two each week and would enjoy assisting us in one of a variety of ways.

Listening to Pupils Read

Already a number of adults visit the school each week and listen to an individual pupil read. This is extremely useful because it helps the pupils build up their confidence. Please contact Mrs. J. Saunt if you are interested.

Assisting in the Library

We are in the process of re-litig the Library and your help could be valuable in two ways.

- (a) If you are prepared to work with pupils you could become a Library Assistant helping pupils to find the books they need and returning books to the shelves. This time could be spent either during lesson time when pupils would be visiting the Library to pursue individual research or at lunch time when pupils will be selecting books for their private reading.
- (b) For those who wish to help but do not wish to be involved with pupils there is a lot of clerical work connected with preparing the new books for the shelves and chasing overdue books.

A member of the School Library Service is willing to train any voluntters so that they feel confident in the work they are doing.

Please contact Miss J. Sawford if you would like to help us.

GIVING TALKS, RECEIVING VISITS OR TAKING PUPILS ON WORK EXPERIENCE

Many adults have experiences that are well worth sharing with our pupils and, therefore, broadening their education. This could be in the world of work, local Government or any other area in which young people need further information.

Please contact Mr. K. Farrow if you or your firm or organisation can help our pupils widen their experience.

These are a few of the ways in which local adults could assist the young people of Wing School. The more contact the pupils have with members of the local community the better will be their understanding of needs of people other than themselves. I am hoping that contact of this kind will enable our pupils to become useful members of society.

Any help that you can give will be most welcome. The staff mentioned can be contacted on Wing 264. I hope that we will be hearing from you soon.

Best wishes to all of you for 1985.

IVAN ANDREW
Headmaster

"THE SHERIFF OF WING CITY"

Wing County Secondary School has built a reputation over the past few years for very high standards in its musicals. Past productions have taken their audiences to Dickensian Yorkshire, Miami, Transylvania and Outer Space.

This year, the audience will be transported to the Wild West for an entertaining musical entitled "The Sheriff of Wing City". As usual, the huge cast will be trying to break new ground in surprises, singing and dancing.

Previous surprises for audiences have included roller-skating dancers, stakes-through-the-heart and rockets, but this year a real, live horse will be on stage to provide, perhaps, a few unforeseen surprises! (Rose growers - take note!) Whether the horse can dance, sing, or even act remains to be seen, but it is understood that the human cast will try its collective best to upstage the equine thespian - (Does EQUITY know about this?)

All in all, it should be an experience not to miss. Tickets for the production, which will be performed on the evenings of Thursday, Friday and Saturday the 7th., 8th., and 9th. of February, are available from the School - telephone Wing 264. Tickets are priced at £1.50 for adults and £1.00 for children and senior citizens - the price includes food!

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

7.30p.m. Church Room

FRIDAY MARCH 8th.

QUIZ

Thank you very much for all the complimentary comments about the new quiz page. The winners and answers to the December and January competitions appear below, but first to this month's quiz presented by Colin Higgs - to whom many thanks.

DO YOU KNOW YOUR BUCKS ?

All the questions are taken from articles in Bucks Life magazine - no prizes - answers next month.

1. What does FOTVOA stand for ?
2. What is the special building material used in the Haddenham/Dinton area?
3. Where can you see a Medieval dovecote ?
4. Who lives at Claydon House ?
5. Which village has a well with a seat ?
6. When did Wnedover Mill cease to work ?
7. Who was the famous artist who lived at Whitchurch ?
8. Where did the Brill Tram run from ?
9. What industry once thrived at Long Crendon ?
10. Who was Sir James Clark Ross ?
11. Who were the two M.P.'s who handed in the resolution against the Roskill Commission ?
12. What happened in Aston Abbotts on Saturday 17th. March 1972 ?
13. Who was the Chairman of WARA ?
14. Name the former County town of Bucks.
15. Which town is known for its chairmaking industry ?
16. Rearranged this will give a neighbouring village, which ? GNTOBNILUC
17. Where is "Paupers"?
18. Who now owns Mentmore Towers ?
19. Which Bucks town is noted for hymns ?
20. What are Prestwood Blacks ?

DECEMBER QUIZ

Several entries and many original attempts that were often better than the actual answer - 200 = p for pg in m. became 'partners for Peruvian Geese in March' which must be better than 'pounds for passing go in Monopoly'.

Only one fully correct entry so the £5 prize goes to NICOLA SIMS. Answers:

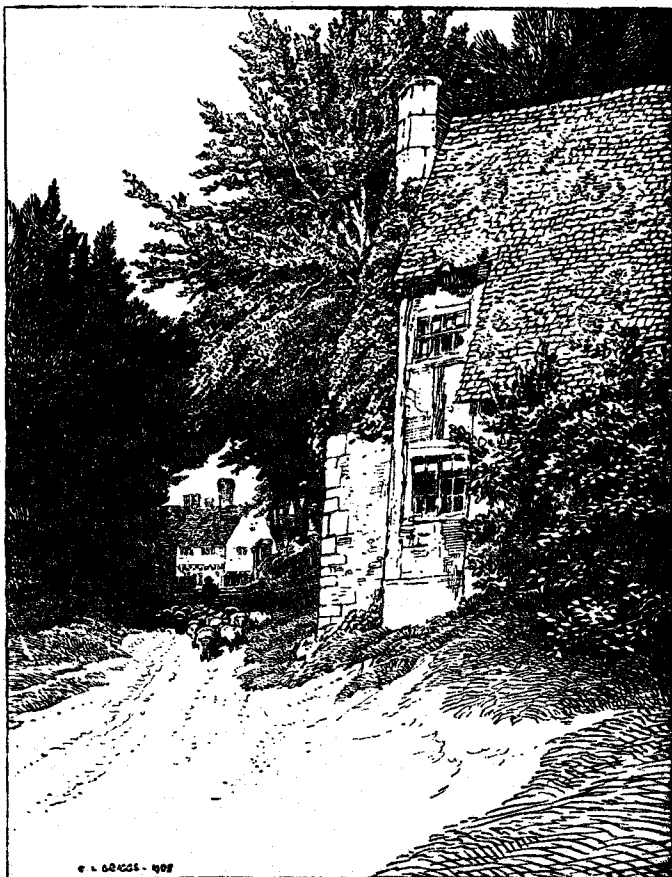
- | | |
|---|--|
| (a) 4 = Seasons of the Year. | (m) 10 = Men went to Mow. |
| (b) 7 = Wonders of the World. | (n) 3 = Blind Mice. |
| (c) 1001 = Arabian Nights. | (o) 4 = Quarters in a Circle. |
| (d) 54 = Cards in the Pack (with the Jokers) | (p) 24 = Hours in a Day. |
| (e) 12 = Signs of the Zodiac. | (q) 1 = Wheel on a Unicycle. |
| (f) 9 = Planets in the Solar System. | (r) 22 = Yards in the Length of a Cricket Pitch. |
| (g) 88 = Piano Keys. | (s) 57 = Heinz Varieties. |
| (h) 13 = Stripes on the American Flag. | (t) 11 = Players on a Football Pitch. |
| (i) 18 = Holes on a Golf Course. | (u) 1000 = Words that a Picture is Worth. |
| (j) 32 = Degrees Fahrenheit at which Water Freezes. | (v) 29 = Days in February in a Leap Year. |
| (k) 90 = Degrees in a Right Angle. | (w) 64 = Squares on a Chessboard. |
| (l) 200 = Pounds for passing go in Monopoly. | (x) 40 = Days and Nights of the Great Flood. |

JANUARY QUIZ

Winning entry from the Brandon family - we are still trying to decide what the mystery prize should be! Answers:

1. Andrew Ford. 2. Peter Arnold. 3. A Turkish wasp. 4. Chris Brandon.
5. Because they are made up of eggs and butter which were not needed when the

Spartan days of Lent began. 6. Olney. 7. The Royal Oak. 8. Council for Small Industry in Rural Areas. 9. Bewick's Swan 'Florin' -one of three basic patterns on a Swans face. 10. Peter Dines. 11. Colin Higgs. 12. Wrestlers who lodged at The Bull & Butcher. 13. Lawrence 'Banker' Hinds. 14. Fr. John Heffer. 15. The Bricstock bungalows. 16. Nikolaus Pevsner. 17. Because the school is to become a restaurant. 18. Harry Brandon. 19. Des Miff. 20. Brian Lawton and Terry Doel. 21. Hedgerley. 22. The Cublington Crier and the Wingrave Communique. 23. George Walden. 24. Sir James Clark Ross. 25. Frank Higgs.



The Old Vicarage, Princes Risborough.

Portraits of Buckinghamshire

No.2 The Old Vicarage, Princes
Risborough.

Most of the sketches in this series will be those made by Frederick Griggs during 1907 - 8 and published as part of Clement Shorter's "Highways and Byways in Buckinghamshire", first published by Macmillan & Co. in 1910.

ASTON ABBOTTS CHURCH ROOM

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MAXIMUM 60 PEOPLE.

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ASTON ABBOTTS 243.

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£1.50 per hour + metered electricity
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January 1985

A MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR

Tel. A.A.623

Speed! Speed! Speed! One of the marks of western society.

Faster! Faster! Faster! Speed that causes so many accidents, not only on our roads but with other forms of transport - even in the home.

Everything must be done so much more quickly. Adverts. scream at us to buy mechanical products in order to save time. Save time for what? Mmm... could be just to find time to do something else a bit quicker, faster.

"COME APART AND REST AWHILE" (Mark 6,v.31)

But, is there time for that? Could be a waste of time with so many things to be done, so much life to be lived. There must be time, we know, to sleep - even for the small screen or a book - yet, no time just to stand still, sit still, or kneel still for a few minutes and just...

"BE AWARE"

So the pace of life gets faster. And I'm not so foolish to believe that we can stop it. Aircraft will fly with greater speeds. The unwise government expenditure (your hard-earned taxes, and mine) on Concorde is nothing to be compared with what will be done in the future. The crass stupidity of British Rail's lust to 'break the sound barrier' with what? ...a tilting train...whatever next. Is it unkind to observe that rather a lot of trains seemed to have been tilting in 1984? Not unkind to mention it, only unkind on the passengers and staff who have suffered from the "tilting".

"STAND STILL AND SEE..." (Exodus 14,v.13)

There's no time to "see" much as vehicles increase velocity to the speed of light. How crazy some of us are - drivers, I mean. The road from Wingrave to Cublington becomes more like 'Silverstone' everyday.

Of course I'm exaggerating, but it is surprising to find "continental drivers" on the Royal Oak bend in Aston Abbotts. Hair-raising to miss by inches drivers "shooting" the Cublington crossroads, where, obviously Give Way signs have variable meanings for different (or, is it indifferent) drivers.

And what about Wingrave to Leighton Buzzard, via Ledburn? To be passed at high speeds, often on bends, by drivers who I sometimes recognise as they flash past, is a real experience. Especially if I catch up with them later grinding their teeth (they must be) trying to get into the town. Leighton Buzzard, one of the few towns in this world which has a ring-road running through its middle.

"BE STILL AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD" (Psalm 46,v.10)

So, it's not just the fact of speed. It is being able to live in a high velocity world, yet at a pace which God wants. The interior life that is essential for all of us. I must find time to pause...Make time... I can 'make' it for everything I really want to do.

Physical and mental health - soul's health - demands breathing space. Each day, I must make time to "COME APART" and "REST AWHILE" and just "BE AWARE" and "BE STILL" and "KNOW" that "GOD IS" and "STAND STILL" otherwise I will never really SEE anything that matters.

You ignore the essence of this message at your peril in 1985 if you are hoping to experience 1986 on this earth.

Yours sincerely

FR. JOHN HEFFER

FROM THE REGISTERSHOLY BAPTISM

At the Family Service on 2nd December in
Cublington Parish Church:

James Andrew, son of Roy and Sylvia FERGUSON

CONFIRMATION

Confirmed at Linslade, November 28th:-

George Kennedy and Toby Lewis of Wingrave

Terry Gray and Catherine Royle of Cublington

FUNERALS

29th November	James Nicholas ZELENT	(Cublington)
6th December	Dorothy CLEAVER	(Aston Abbots)
19th December	Kenneth ROBERTS	(Wingrave)
20th December	Mona Joyce BROWN	(Cublington)
24th December	Herbert GILL	(Wingrave)

We send our love and prayers to all who mourn, and ask God to grant peace to the departed and an increase of faith to us who are alive.

ETHIOPIAN APPEAL As a result of our harvest celebrations in the three parishes we have sent £328 to Christian Aid. Cublington £78; Aston Abbots £50; Wingrave £200. Details of individual parish giving to good causes are listed in individual parish magazines.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS We understand that the presence of parishioners in good numbers at the MacIntyre Service in Wingrave Parish Church, 21st November was much appreciated. Scenes of the "Nativity" at Wingrave and the Carol Service at Cublington produced toys and parcels for MacIntyre as well. The Church of England Children's Society received £105 from the "Christingle" collection and some £70 from Cublington Carol Service.

SUNDAY LESSONS (ASB)

27th January	Epiphany 3(473)	1 John 1(1-7)	John 2(1-11)
3rd February	3rd before Lent(486)	1 Cor.4(8-13)	Matthew 5(1-12)
10th February	2nd before Lent(491)	James 5(13-16a)	Mark 2 (1-12)
17th February	Next before Lent(495)	Hosea 14(1-7)	Mark 2 (13-17)
24th February	Lent 1	(503) Hebrews 2(14-18)	Matthew 4(1-11)

FAMILY SERVICES

Sunday, 3rd February Cublington 10 a.m.)
Aston Abbots 11.15 a.m.) The Rector

ECUMENICAL EVENING SERVICE at Cublington Parish Church on Sunday, 24th February at 6 o'clock. Preacher: The Rector.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETINGS These begin with the election of Churchwardens and conclude with a short meeting of the new P.C.C.

Cublington, 10th February at 3 p.m.

Aston Abbots, 18th February at 7.30 p.m.

Wingrave, 19th February at 7.30 p.m.

ASH WEDNESDAY is 20TH FEBRUARY Easter is quite early this year so we need to think about Lent in good time. Our Ash Wednesday Eucharist will be held in Wingrave Parish Church with the Imposition of Ashes, as is our custom.

DEANERY LENT SERVICES As in previous years, our Mursley Deanery has arranged a weekly Service in Lent. This will be on a TUESDAY, taking once again the attractive evening Service of Compline with a Meditation Address. This will be given (not by one of the clergy of the Deanery but) by speakers chosen by the incumbents of the parish where each Service is held. So please mark your diary - 26th February at S.Giles, Cheddington at 8 o'clock. Then, 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th March at different venues.

NOTE Some of the information on this sheet each month is well in advance, simply because the three parish magazines have slightly different deadlines. Apologies to Aston Abbots Chronicle readers, however, for the lateness of this sheet, for your editor reminds us of the champion jockey - he's always 'in front'!

THE CHURCHES IN WINGRAVE WITH ROWSHAM, ASTON ABBOTTS AND CUBLINGTON

February 1985

A MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR

Tel. A.A.623

One of the most important moral issues of our day is concerned with what we have come to know as Surrogate Motherhood.

The remarks of a 'comedian' who suggested that our Lord was born as a result of such action can only be justified by his own stupidity: not to speak of irreverence.

The Christian states irrevocably that to use another human being for selfish purposes is wrong. There is no place in our understanding of the kingdom of God for 'Rent-a-womb'.

I am somewhat amused - saddened would be better - by the pro-abortion lobby who must now find themselves in a tricky position. Particularly those who argue that every woman has a right to do what she likes with her body: has the moral right to choose abortion in all circumstances. For they must now be supportive of any potential 'mother' who wishes to loan her womb, whether just to help others or where there is a pecuniary interest.

Let us be quite clear about the moral principle here. Surrogate Motherhood can only be the result of a technical adultery. So, under no circumstances can this be the way for childless couples. Their dilemma can be cruel, and there is little doubt that limitless abortion has now added to their pain.

How ghastly it is for would be parents to hear of, and, sometimes, to know at first hand of the careless 'disposal' of children in the womb. And, in passing, it ought to be said how unfeeling today's Adoption Societies can be in their vetting procedures, particularly when the preferences of the panel seem to be uppermost rather than the future needs of the child to be adopted.

In all our thinking we must, I believe, take a firm stand on the sanctity of human life. We shall not go far wrong if we do. As parents, or prospective parents, the rights of the child have priority. He/she has no protection from the vicissitudes and vagaries of those who have conceived him/her. Such protection can only be given by the truly Christian family where the importance of life and death are understood; where principles cannot be traded either for money or for any other reason.

Because our society is gradually wearing away the Christian ethic the divorce rate increases, family life disintegrates before our eyes. Those who suffer most are the CHILDREN.

Human life is sacred. Since 'God breathed into man the breath of life and he became a living soul', all human life is sacred. Yet, only can this be fully understood and accepted if the Source of all life is kept at the centre of our thinking.

It is essential for the laws of our land to ban individuals or agencies from making money in the exploitation and the trading of children's lives through the use of Surrogate Mothers. For, when all is said and done, the only principles which can guide us are those which are in keeping with the Spirit of our Lord Jesus Christ.

No matter what the laws are, under-cover action will continue as long as HE is ignored.

Yours sincerely,

FR. JOHN HEFFER

LOOKING AHEAD: SERVICES AND EVENTS

THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETINGS are planned as follows:

CUBLINGTON	Sunday, 10th February at 3 o'clock
ASTON ABBOTTS	Monday, 18th February at 7.30 p.m.
WINGRAVE	Sunday, 3rd March at 3 o'clock

These meetings begin with the election of Churchwardens, a review of the previous year with the audited accounts, other elections and a look to the future in which all of us have a say. This is followed by a short meeting of the new P.C.C., to elect Officers and to deal with any urgent business. All those who members of the Church of England and on the Electoral Roll have a voice in these meetings and should attend if at all possible.

1985 LENT PROGRAMME

ASH WEDNESDAY (20th February) which marks the beginning of Lent. 8.00 p.m. Service for the United Benefice will be held in Wingrave Parish Church this year. It includes the ancient custom of the Imposition of Ashes (hence the name of the day - a sign of penitence), Holy Communion with Hymns and a Meditation introducing the Lent programme (see below).

DEANERY LENT The now popular Deanery Lent Services continue this year on TUESDAY evenings at 8 o'clock. The subject of the addresses given by different speakers each week will follow the themes of the A.S.B. under the general heading of "The King and the Kingdom". Cheddington Parish Church, 26th February; Mursley, 5th March; Newton Longville, 12th March; Stewkley, 19th March; Grt. Brickhill, 26th March.

THURSDAY MORNINGS IN LENT A thirty minute Service in Wingrave Parish Church including the 'Stations of the Cross', a simple Meditation, concluding with intercessions for special needs. This course will begin on Thursday, 28th February and will continue through to Maundy Thursday, 4th April. EVERY THURSDAY AT 11.00 A.M.

U.S.P.G. LENT BOXES will be available in all three churches. Please take one and use. We know where the money goes - for the worthy cause of the Muheza Hospital in the Province of Tanzania.

ECUMENICAL EVENING SERVICE An opportunity for all Christians of whatever denomination to meet together for worship in Cublington Parish Church, Sunday 24th February at 6.00 p.m.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER on Friday, 1st March. Details of the Local Services will be publicised elsewhere.

SUNDAY LESSONS (ASB)

3rd March	2nd in Lent (508)	Genesis 6(11-22)	Luke 19(41-48)
10th March	3rd in Lent (513)	Genesis 22(1-13)	Luke 9(18-27)
17th March	4th in Lent (518)	Exodus 34(29-35)	Luke 9(28-36)
24th March	5th in Lent (522)	Exodus 6(2-13)	John 12(20-32)

Note These lessons are usually a month ahead, so keep the sheet handy as they can be useful as part of our preparation for Holy Communion.

FAMILY SERVICES The next of these will not take place on 3rd March but on MOTHERING SUNDAY, 17TH MARCH
Cublington Parish Church, 10 a.m.
Aston Parish Church at 11.15 a.m.

O-FIVES for children up to the age of five years with their mothers who meet on Thursday afternoons (normally 2nd and fourth in the month) at 2.15 p.m. in Wingrave Parish Church.

HOLY BAPTISM Aston Abbots' Family Service: 27th January -
HAYLEY ANNE WILKINSON, daughter of Raymond and Sharon.

CHURCH NEWS

The Christmas services were splendid with the Church most beautifully decorated. At the Carol Service a large congregation listened to the readings proclaiming the Birth of Christ, enjoyed the familiar and much loved carols and afterwards the tea and mincepies and a 'bit of a blether' as the Scots would say. The Christmas Day service saw no fewer than ninety nine in the congregation for a family service followed by Holy Communion. Chocolate from the Christmas tree was given to the children present; altogether it was a most uplifting occasion. The Family Service does attract an increasing and



ST. JAMES THE GREAT, ASTON ABBOTTS, BUCKS.

varied congregation and this month (January) we have had two such services. The first on January 6th. and the second on January 27th. so that Sharon and Ray's daughter could be baptised into the family of the Church, with our families present.

The February Family Service will be on the 17th. - contrary to what the Rector says in his notes!

The P.C.C. has wondered if we should have two such services each month but we do not wish to overdo it! Your views and better still your attendance would be most welcome.

The Vestry meeting is on Monday the 18th. of February at 7.30 p.m. at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Scutchings, where we will elect the officers for the coming year. It would be good to see new faces.

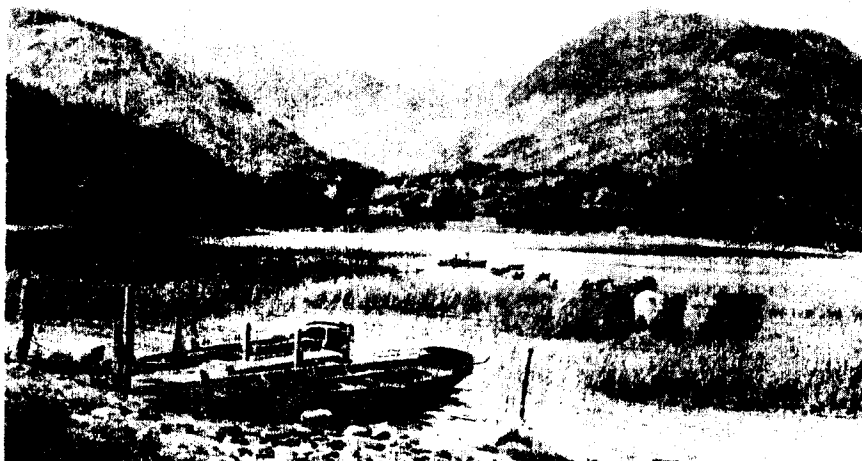
Several people have said how nice it was to hear the Church clock chiming the hours and quarters again. However, like most of us, the cold weather put it out. We intend to try again around Easter time.

SERVICES

February 3rd.	: 11.15 a.m. Holy Communion	<u>Sidesan</u> Mr. G. Ford
	Readings: 1st. Corinthians 4(8-13) Matthew 5(1-12).	
February 10th.	: 11.15 a.m. Holy Communion	Mr. C. Higgs
	Readings: James 5(13-16a) Mark 2(1-12)	
February 17th.	: 11.15 a.m. FAMILY SERVICE with Holy Communion.	Mr. C. Spike
	Readings: Hosea 14(1-7) Mark 2 (13-17)	
February 24th.	: 11.15 a.m. Holy Communion	Mr. J. Ford
	Readings: Hebrews 2(14-18) Matthew 4(1-11)	



Peter Arnold



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