THE GHRONIGLE

ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH MAGAZINE ~ Issue 239 ~ November 2004



EMAIL: EDITOR@AACHRONCLE.CO.UK

Editorial

Don's Crossword

am sad to announce that Dom Bellingham has decided to retire as the Chronicle's crossword contributor.

Don's crossword has been a regular feature of the Chronicle for many years, certainly as long as I can remember. From the comments that have been made to me in the past I know that many people will greatly miss it. The inclusion of local elements was an attraction for many, and the occasional juxtaposition or omission of clues just added to the fun.

I would like to extend our grateful thanks to Don for his immense contribution to this little parish magazine. He has certainly earned his "retirement" and we wish him well for the future.

Of course, Don's retirement leaves a void. Should anybody like to contribute a monthly crossword or a monthly puzzle, I would be very pleased to hear from you. Contact details are on the right hand side of this page.

Websites

A couple of years ago I launched two websites for Aston Abbotts - www.aston-abbotts.co.uk and www.aachronicle.co.uk. Recently a number of people have mentioned their disappointment that the sites have not been kept up to date

I created the sites at a time when I was working from home and it was relatively easy to find the odd few moments to update them. Nowadays, due to a change in work circumstances, I spend much more time working, including a couple of frustrating unproductive hours each day sitting in the car. This change has caused me to reprioritise my time and, with The Chronicle taking priority, I'm afraid that the websites have rather fallen by the wayside.

However, I do not plan to let them go entirely and I will be making every effort to update them by the end of this year. In the meantime, my apologies to those people who have been disappointed.

Public meeting

wext month a public meeting will be held in Aston Abbotts to consider holding a significant exhibition or celebration to mark the 60th anniversary of VE day. Aston Abbotts has a particular connection with the former Czechoslovakia, so much so that the Czech ambassador visited the village privately during October. You can find more background information, news of the ambassador's visit, and details of the public meeting on pages 9 and 17.

This could be an exciting event for the village and I hope to see many of you at the meeting on December 8th.

NB. Next Issue early deadline: Friday 19th Nov

Phil



In your November Chronicle ~

- Wingrave Road Closure
- Aston Abbotts VE Day Celebrations
- Church Room Update
- Friends Of St James Market Stall
- Countryside Diary
- Your Letters

and much, much more.....

THE GHRONIGLE Issue 239 November 2004

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~ ~~

A note to all would be advertisers -

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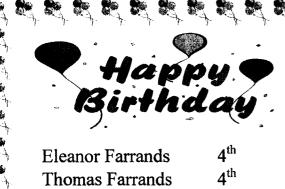
Copy date for the next issue is:

Friday 19th November 2004

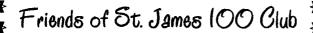
Please pass items to Phil Spooner at The Birches in Wingrave Road or to a member of the Production Team as early as possible.

Printed at Waddesdon School and distributed free of charge to all Households in Aston Abbotts, our local Doctor's Surgeries and to Wing Police House.

Alison's Gossip Column



Eleanor Farrands	4 th
Thomas Farrands	4 th
Bridget Brandon	8^{th}
John Brancker	7^{th}
Caroline Hall	7^{th}
Anna Mogford	8 th
Ray Wilkinson	10^{th}
Percy Humphries	19 th
Rod Rothero	21 st
John Whyte	$23^{\rm rd}$
Olivia Gresswell	$23^{\rm rd}$



□*************

October winner -Ticket no. 4—Mr. J. Bannister

Congratulations to **Sally and Richard Clarke** on their new arrival—**Tilly**. (Tilly is an Australian Terrier, for those of you who were wondering...)



Kidney Appeal

Many thanks for the Kidney Research Fund contributions. A total of £26.00 was raised which I am sure will be much appreciated by the charity.

~ Rita

We were sorry to hear that former Astonian Jackie Coutes has been in hospital with a broken ankle. We send our best wishes for a very speedy

++++++++++++

Gnome Secrets

It was revealed at one of our usual Tuesday night gatherings that one of our members, who is on a strict diet and who shall (at least for the present) remain nameless, was secretly observed in a restaurant tucking into an unhealthy looking and very sticky Danish pastry!!

Will this 'Mrs Gnome' own up?

We are all waiting to see whether a guilty conscience will bring forth a confession!

~ Anon



SOME



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In The Village

Wingrave Road Closure

ingrave Road will be closed from 8th to 12 November to enable resurfacing and drainage work to be carried out. However, school buses will be escorted through.

The part of the road affected will be from the speed limit signs on the Wingrave Road entrance to the village up to the Royal Oak public house. This will effectively block access to the village from the Wingrave crossroads. The alternative route into the village from Wingrave crossroads suggested by Buckinghamshire County Council suggested is to take the A418 to the Aylesbury ring road, join the ring road, turn up the A413 towards Buckingham and then head into the village through Weedon and up Lines Hill. A detour of around six miles!

~ Phil Spooner

Notice

In behalf of the members of the Parochial Church Council may we say thank you to the feet of the Council and t may we say thank you to the friends of St James who have held several fund raising events over the year, which has enabled the new clock motor to be fitted and the electrical work to be carried out.

Also a big thank you to all the mowing lads who have done a splendid job and earned a lot of praise from lots of people on how neat and tidy the churchyard is kept. Thank you all.

Quiz Evening Raises £140

ver £140 was raised for St James Church at Collins quiz evening on 22nd October. Seven teams competed, answering questions on a variety of topics which included people, what is, Buckinghamshire, pubs, sweets, and general knowledge.

First prize was taken by the oddments team, which included the Reverend Bob Wilmot and Caroline Lane.

Cheese and wine was served at the interval and the highly successful evening was enjoyed by one and all.

Minor Vandalism

here has been a minor spate of vandalism around Bricstoc and the entrance to the Recreation ground recently, with hubcaps and air filler caps being stolen from some cars.

One resident of that area has asked me to request that consideration be shown when people from other parts of the village park there, as it is sometimes difficult for the residents to find spaces.

It has also been suggested to me that the reason the Recreation ground gate is coming away from its hinges is probably due to youngsters pushing it open with their bikes.

~ Phil Spooner

Skateboard Graffiti

hear that last month's articles about the graffiti on the skateboard ramp has resulted in one very public-spirited resident coming forward to admit that their offspring was involved. I understand that the resident concerned has offered to assist with the clean-up. I'm sure we would all like to extend our thanks to that person ~ Phil Spooner

Throwbacks

20 lans are well under way for this years Aston Abbotts Show, titled "Throwbacks".

In recent years the show has been replaced by a musical cabaret, but this year the plan is to have a more wide-ranging

Musical director Neil Chesher and comedy director John Whyte have assured me that the title is not intended to be any reflection upon the audience or the artistes.

The show will be on December 11th, in the Church Room.

~ Phil Spooner

Friends of St. James

Last year we made over £300 towards the unkeep of St James Church by running a stall at Aylesbury market, thanks to the generosity of people donating items for sale. On November 13th this yearwe will be doing it again!

Please Please Please YOU Can Help!

Please give us donations of the following items, which we can sell to raise funds for St James ~

- + Cakes
- ↓ Jams
- Pickles
- → Gifts
- → Toys
- + Handmade items
- + LPs
- + Cassettes.

... or any other saleable items of that type.

If you can give us any of these we would be most grateful. Please deliver any items you have to Clare Shorrock, Oak Farm House, Wingrave Road. Telephone 681260.

Thank You!

Do come and see us at Aylkesbury Market on November 13th between 9 and 4 pm



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Letters To The Editor

Much as I have enjoyed composing the Chronicle crossword each month, I have decided it is time for me to retire. Perhaps there is someone else who would enjoy the challenge as much as I have and be willing to take over.

In the meantime, I should like to thank everyone for filling in the squares and, I hope, scratching their brains as much as I've scratched mine.

~ Don Bellingham

Please see the editorial Comment on page 2. Here are the answers to last months Crossword. ~ Ed

October solution

Across: 1 Railway 6 Break 10 Na 11 Settee 12 Verse 14 Alec 15 Eyot 16 Pleads 18 Real 19 As 20 Donkey 22 Rad 25 Dam 27 Good 29 Adage 31 Lone 33 Ted 35 Eg 36 Bar 37 Lager 39 Fat 40 Grazed 41 An 42 Art 43 Yea 44 Yours 45 Ripen

Down: 1 Rivers 2 Inroad 3 Last longer 4 As 5 Yell 6 BT 7 Reader 8 Eels 9 Kicks 13 Eye 17 Ely 19 Adage 21 Knot 23 Ada 24 Isobar 26 Megan 28 Delays 30 Died 32 Natty 34 Daze 38 Gear 39 Far 40 Gnu 41 Ape

Dear villagers,

As senior member of the Humphreys family, and a recent landlord of the Bull and Butcher I wish on my family's behalf to thank all of the villagers of Aston Abbotts for having my family's name printed on the new road sign, which the family feel is a great honour. So thanks again in appreciation

F. Humphreys

6 Wingrave Road Aston Abbotts

Dear Phil,

In reply to Lyn's letter in the October Chronicle, I would point out for almost 100 years or so St James Church has held a fete on the nearest weekend to the 25th July to celebrate St James day and raise money for the upkeep of the Church, a valuable amenity to the village for all occasions and open to all who care to attend.

In recent years, however, it was decided to share the proceeds among other village organisations - i e the Church Room, Toddlers Club, Recreation ground [and, of course, the Chronicle - Ed], but the larger proportion to the Church, as it is after all St James festival.

However there is nothing to stop anyone holding a fund raiser for whichever project (new village hall, play area equipment, etc), but the Church still has to be kept up - and also the Church room as it is the only available venue for village functions.

The parish council are hoping to obtain grants towards new play area equipment, and progress seems to be going ahead towards working for a new village hall, so things are moving.

The Church Council holds several fund raising events, again open to all to join in, the more the merrier. That in turn would perhaps mean not so much fete money going to the Church. We shall see.

Colin Higgs

"I finally quit smoking by using the patch. I put six of them over my mouth" ~ Wendy Liebman

New Rules For Fireworks

rirework season is upon us and this year could be significantly quieter than last due to new laws.

In recent years, there has been a big increase in the use of fireworks. They are now used at every possible event and bonfire night can last three or four weeks. With celebrations such as Diwali, Chinese New Year, New Years Eve, weddings and birthdays, fireworks are becoming a very regular occurrence. More menacingly fireworks have been used in the street and public places late at night to cause deliberate damage and nuisance.

The new laws are aimed at reducing firework use to an acceptable level without completely banning them. Trading Standards and Thames Valley Police will be responsible for enforcing the law.

The police will deal with antisocial behaviour including:

- Possession of fireworks in a public place by under 18 year olds
- Possession of professional display fireworks unless employed in the firework profession.
- Letting off fireworks between 11 pm and lam except on Chinese New Year, Diwali and Bonfire Night, when the curfew starts at 12 midnight and New Years Eve when the curfew starts at lam.

Trading Standards will deal with:

- Those selling fireworks to under 18 year olds
- The sale of especially noisy fireworks

Existing rules over the sale of fireworks, which can only be sold from registered premises, will remain as will the ban on letting them off in the street.

From next January shops will only be able to sell fireworks all year round if they have a licence from the Council, which could cost up to f500. This licence will not be required if the sales period is restricted to three days before Chinese New Year and Diwali, six days before New Year's Eve and three and a half weeks before Bonfire Night.

WANT TO KNOW MORE? For more information call Trading Standards on 01296 383212 or visit www.buckscc.gov.uk/trading standards

Thanks...

...to all those who foolishly answered their doors to us in September and were stung for sponsorship for the bike ride for the Historic Churches Trust this year. We had a good ride around Wingrave, Linslade, Leighton, Old Linslade, Soulbury, Drayton Parslow, Stewkley, Dunton (a bit out of the way but we'd heard someone had been baking - we were not disappointed, and the church with its box pews and gallery is really special), Cublington, and... Aston Abbotts. We raised about £50, if I remember rightly, half of which goes to the general Trust and half to St James's here. Thank you.

~ Caroline Lane & Daniel Smith

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ANNET

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Aston Abbotts Czechoslovak V.E. Day Weekend May 2005

Aston Abbotts:

The exile capital of Czechoslovakia!

May 2005 marks the 60th anniversary of the end of the Second World War in Europe. For Aston Abbotts there are special reasons to celebrate this anniversary, because during the war Aston Abbotts was the wartime home of President Benes (pronounced "Benesh") of Czechoslovakia and a platoon of the Czechoslovak Army.

Czech Ambassador in Aston Abbotts

On Monday 11th October the Czech Ambassador, Stefan Fule, his wife, his Defence Attache and his chauffeur came to Aston Abbotts for a private history tour of the village starting at the bus shelter. They met Colin Higgs, who remembers the Czechoslovak soldiers and Victor Scott, who was a friend of President Benes. They saw the Nissen huts where the Czechoslovak soldiers lived, before going to the Royal Oak for large English dinners!

Czechoslovakia today

Today's Czech Republic was the ancient Kingdom of Bohemia giving us "bohemian lifestyle" and the "Bohemian Rhapsody". Today the Czech and Slovak Republic are known for au pairs, tennis players like Martina Navratilova and Skoda cars. Beer drinkers will know the names Pilsener Urquell, Budweiser Budvar and Staropramen. The Czech language has given English the words "robot" and "Semtex". There are cheap flights from Luton and Stansted to Prague, one of the most beautiful cities in the world, making it a popular city break destination. In recent years the Czech Republic and Slovakia have joined NATO and the European Union. But 60 years ago things were not so happy.

Czechs in Exile

Prime Minister Chamberlain talked of Czechoslovakia as "a far-away country" and its "people of whom we know nothing!" During appeasement he allowed Hitler to invade the Sudetenland of Czechoslovakia by the Munich Agreement. Later Hitler took the rest of the country under the pretence of the "protectorate" of Bohemia and Moravia, sending about 20,000 Czechoslovak refugees, soldiers, pilots and political leaders into exile to Britain. And it was to Aston Abbotts that the President of Czechoslovakia came to live, making Aston Abbotts the exile "Prague" - being the wartime capital of Czechoslovakia from 1940 until 1945.

Czech soldiers and pilots

Czechoslovaks made a major contribution to the British war effort. Czechoslovak pilots had their own squadrons in the RAF and were some of the best pilots. The "ace of aces" of the Battle of Britain was a Czech, Sgt Josef František. The Czechoslovak Army was organised into units based at Leamington Spa and they were involved in the invasion of Europe in 1945. A platoon of the Czechoslovak Army was based along the Norduck Drive in Aston Abbotts where two Nissen huts survive. During the war many pilots and soldiers married English women and there were 600 British war brides in Prague in 1945.

Secret Activites at Aston Abbotts

President Benes used "The Abbey" as a base for many important meetings. General Sikorski, the exiled Polish leader and Winston Churchill were amongst the distinguished visitors

that came to Aston Abbotts. Many of the meetings were top secret, such as the plan to assassinate Reinhard Heydrich, the German governor of Bohemia and Moravia, known as the "Butcher of Prague" because of his brutality. President Benes along with the Special Operations Executive based at Woburn planned a top secret operation where two assassins from Leamington Spa where parachuted into Czechoslovakia. They successfully assassinated Heydrich but in the resulting German reprisals the Czech village of Lidice was destroyed and almost all its occupants murdered. Lidice became synonymous with Nazi brutality and a British movement called "Lidice Shall Live" raised money which rebuilt the village after the war and planted many rose bushes as a symbol of peace.

60th Anniversary of V.E. Day 2005

The Ambassador was very interested in the connections between Aston Abbotts and Czechoslovakia, and the importance of Aston Abbotts in modern Czech history. The Ambassador has offered to help if the village want to organise a Czechoslovak Weekend in Aston Abbotts to mark the 60th anniversary of V.E. Day next May 2005. If an event is organised the Ambassador has made many generous offers including the offer to supply Czech beer, offering competition prizes, inviting war veterans to a memorial service, help with twinning with a Czech village, getting some roses from Lidice and trying to organise a state visit by the Czech President.

Czechoslovak Weekend May 2005

The first weekend in May 2005 starting Saturday 30th April and then Sunday 1st May and May Day Monday 2nd May is the ideal time for a Czechoslovak Weekend. Actual VE Day is 8th May but the bank holiday falls the week before, (unless the government change it). There are already plans for a history exhibition about the Czechoslovaks in Aston Abbotts, and there is great interest amongst the Czechoslovak community. There is also the possibility of getting Czechoslovak folk groups, wartime re-enactment societies, a Battle of Britain flypast and a parade of Czechoslovak war veterans.

Meeting in the Church Rooms

If you are interested in plans for a VE Day celebration weekend with a Czechoslovak flavour, please come along to an open village meeting. If you want to help, want to join in, want to know more or share your own ideas etc Colin Higgs is organising an open village meeting at the Church Rooms in Aston Abbotts on Wednesday 8th December to discuss it. We will invite representatives from the Czech and Slovak Embassies in London.

~ Neil Rees

Aston Abbotts VE Day Celebration

OPEN MEETING

December 8th
Church Room
See page 17 for more details



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Countryside Diary

10th October

"Seasons of mists and mellow fruitfulness"

y goodness me it's certainly a fruitful year, ranging from the figs in the Abbey gardens to the wild fruits in the hedgerow. A real abundance, even the yew trees seem loaded with berries.

One stretch of lawn is quite covered with beech mast. Why are beech nuts called mast? And another so littered with chestnuts that the mower has a real problem.

If I were to suggest something that may have not fruited quite so well, it's perhaps the oaks. Curious things, acorns. Horses, sheep, and pigs all love to eat them, but too many can kill a sheep. The squirrels are having a fine time burying conkers and acorns by the score.

Curious that although hawthorn leaves vary slightly from bush to bush, the fruit all looks identical. All sloes seemed identical. but crab apples vary so much that everyone is different from its neighbour; the spectrum ranges from russet to green to red with size and shape varying two. Now, although every wild rose is also different from its fellows all the rosehips appear identical.

Some insects seem to be thriving. I have seen more hornets this year than in the rest of my life. In fact I was surprised by the size of some that I saw - each one carrying a serious weapon.

White fly amaze me - I don't remember the brassica crops of my childhood being smothered in white fly, but this year the "flying dandruff" is rampant.

However there are no Daddy Long Legs. Now usually in September the permanent pasture fields give birth to countless swarms of Daddy Long Legs and I always thought that the swallows fattened up on them before leaving. Well this year I've hardly seen one of those insects - even rarer than the



Time was when the telephone wires by Nash's Farm were the collecting

point for scores of swallows. We used to enjoy their company and then someone would say "the swallows have gone - winter waiting round the corner".

As yet I haven't seen so many deer as last year. Although there was a young Chinese water deer virtually in the village last week.

Autumn is the second busy time in

the sheep Calendar. The selling of lambs and breeding sheep, and a sorting of the flock to see what should be kept for breeding and what is sadly too old and ought to go. The rams are put into the ewes and, hopefully, the whole cycle starts again.

Autumn is nowadays also the seed time with most of the arable land being sown to winter wheat and rape - a lot less winter barley been planted these days as the price is so poor. After all barley is primarily animal feed and if government policy has decimated the livestock industry then what is there to eat the barley crop? But that's politics!

One major disappointment to Alex and I this year: we expected a bumper crop of mushrooms. A dry summer, the ground warm and then good rains in August, the perfect recipe. We looked forward to bucketfuls but in fact we had very few. I think the ground is seriously dry two foot down. It amazes me that we can't graze New Field as there is no water in the ponds - in October!!!

Pete Knight One nice thing about egotists: They don't talk about other

What's another word for thesaurus?

Is Marx's tomb a communist plot?

If swimming is so good for your figure, how do you explain whales?

I planted some bird seed. A bird came up. Now I don't know what to feed it.

I had amnesia once - or twice.

What is a "free" gift? Aren't all gifts free?

I went to San Francisco. I found someone's heart. Now what? Experience is the thing you have left when everything else is gone.

What if there were no hypothetical questions?

They told me I was gullible ... and I believed them.

My weight is perfect for my height -- which varies.

I used to be indecisive. Now I'm not sure.

The cost of living hasn't affected its popularity.

Is there another word for synonym?

The speed of time is one-second per second.

Is it possible to be totally partial?

Is it my imagination, or do buffalo wings taste like chicken?

All I ask is a chance to prove that money can't make me happy.

Teach a child to be polite and courteous in the home and, when he grows up, he'll never be able to merge his car onto a motorway.

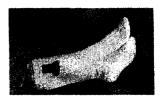
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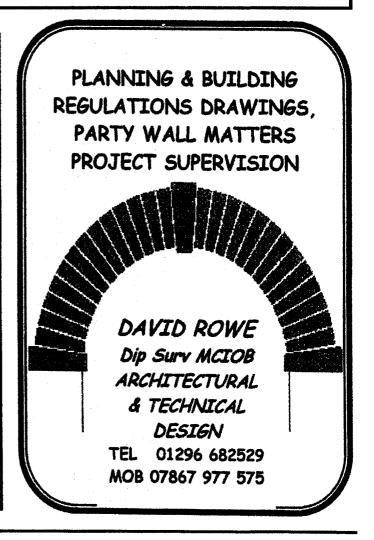


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YOU KNOW YOU Need T.O.O.***



What's Happening With The Church Room??

any of you will recall that there has been a group in the village trying to obtain a lease on the Church Room, so that it could be extended and refurbished. This has been going on since 1999 and has been fraught with legal problems. In the meantime the move to build a new Village Centre has emerged so we thought that it was time to up date the village on where we are.

The aim of most people in the village is to have somewhere that can be used for events and functions; we all want the same thing. Although this group started off with the plan to improve the Church Room, it was because it seemed the only possible option at the time. We certainly don't want the village to be divided into Church Room or Village Centre factions.

In view of the fact that the new Village Centre may become a reality, it seems a waste to consider extending the Church Room, until we know the future of the Village Centre. However, we still need somewhere for the village to meet in the meantime.

Therefore, we, the Church Room restoration group, propose to liaise with the existing Church Room Trustees (Colin Higgs, Shirley Ford & Bob Willmott) in order to ensure that the Church Room stays open and is SAFE, HYGENIC & LEGAL.

The plan is to spend the minimum possible to ensure a useable facility for the next few years. Once the future of the Village Centre is known, then we can re-assess the situation. In the

meantime, the planning permission is about to lapse so we will renew this to leave our options open.

Due to the plans for refurbishment, very little work has been done on the Church Room in recent years and the only funds for maintenance are from the lettings revenue. The money allocated from the Fete proceeds for the Church, is for Church costs only and doesn't include the Church Room, which is completely separate.

We may need to use some of the funds that we originally raised for the restoration/extension, to bring the Church Room to a safe, hygienic and legal condition and we'd like to hear YOUR views as to whether you are comfortable with this approach. If the new Village Centre goes ahead, it could be several years until it is useable, and so we think it is ESSENTIAL to keep the Church Room open.

Please contact us and let us know what you think.

E mail: Liz Barlow - liz@livanti.com

Phone: Liz Hall on 682078

Write or Visit: Peter/Clare Shorrock, Oak Farm House By 20th November please, so that we can report the response in the next edition of the Chronicle

~ Liz Hall

A couple drove down a country road for several miles, not saying a word. An earlier discussion had led to an argument and neither of them wanted to concede their position. As they passed a barnyard of mules, goats, and pigs, the husband asked sarcastically, "Relatives of yours?" "Yep," the wife replied, "in-laws."

"I used to be scared of dogs. Then I realized that dogs are just as scared of me as I am of them; they just show it differently. They show it by barking and snapping at me, and I show it by soiling myself." - Dakota Shepard

The Aston Abbotts & Cublington Ladies Club

7th Oct. 2004

18 members were present at today's meeting in The Church room. The chairman. Joan Alexader welcomed members. The minutes were read and signed. Mrs Alexander then introduced our speaker for the afternoon, Mrs Sara George from Cubblington who works for the children's charity Toy Box in Guatemala.

She was thanked by April Curnow. Today's tea hostesses were Robin Anson Owen and Joan Alexader. Raffle winner was Ivy Brandon.

STOP PRESS!!!!!

BEAT THE WINTER BLUES!

Jet off to the Mar Menor on the Costa Calida in Murcia, South East Spain - rated the best micro climate in Europe (WHO) with an average 320 days sun per year!

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Contact Andi and Becky Swain on 641848 for more info

21" Oct. 2004

The Ladies Club met today in The Church room where 16 members were present. The chairman welcomed members, the minutes were read and signed. After a short business meeting, the chairman introduced Mrs Clare Shorrock, our speaker today. She had come to give us a talk and demonstration on how to make curtains and cushions. She gave us many good tips and lots of examples.

She was thanked by Shirley Ford. Tea was served by Joan Alexander and Mary Morris Our raffle winner Robin Anson Owen.

~ Shirley Ford

Deductive Reasoning

A man said to his wife one day, "I don't know how you can be so stupid and so beautiful all at the same time." The wife responded, "Allow me to explain. God made me beautiful so you would be attracted to me; God made me stupid so I would be attracted to you!"

The Carpenter's Arms

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Bar Staff Required **2**01525 240272

PAVAN Goes For Another Delay

PAVAN (Protect Aylesbury Vale Against Noise) has asked Luton Airport to extend the deadline to the consultation process for Option 3a, the proposed new flightpath over Aylesbury Vale. The grounds for the delay is the late circulation of additional information to consultees and the lack of remaining time available to analyse this information and prepare a considered response.

PAVAN has asked Vale Parish Councils to write a similar letter as there is strength in numbers.

The deadline is currently set for November 8th 2004, having been extended from 27th September following a previous successful application, and PAVAN hopes that a date in December can be agreed.

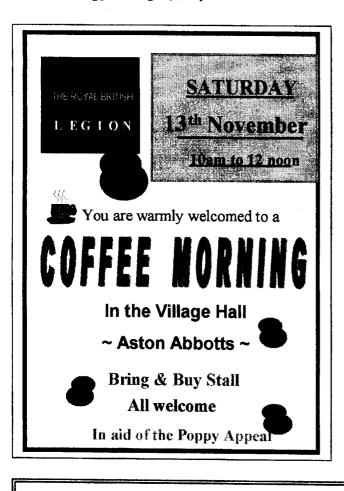
For more information, please visit _www.pavan.org.uk_ (http://www.pavan.org.uk) , email _rachel@pavan.org.uk_ (mailto:rachel@pavan.org.uk) , or phone 01525 240950

Mathematical Puzzle

My thanks to both Margaret Hinds and Dickie Dicken, both of whom sent in this little puzzle. ~ Ed

- 1. Pick the number of times each week that you go out for a drink. (the number should be between 0 and 10 NB. The maximum limit of ten means that 630 Club members are allowed to lie about this)
- 2. Multiply this number by two,
- 3. Add 5
- 4. Multiply the result by 50
- 5. If you have already had your birthday this year, then add 1754 to the result. If not add 1753
- 6. Subtract the year that you were born (4 digits)

You should now have a 3 digit number. The first digit is the original number you entered, the next two numbers are your age!





REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

Members of the Wingrave & District Branch of The Royal British Legion will this year be attending the Remembrance Day Service at The Parish Church, Long Marston.

on Sunday, 14th November

Commencing at 10.45am at the Memorial.

followed by a service in The Parish Church, Long Marston.

'We will remember them'





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PUBLIC MEETING

To discuss proposals for

Aston Abbotts Czechoslovak V.E. Day Weekend–May 2005

If you are interested in plans for a VE Day celebration weekend with a Czechoslovak flavour, please come along to this open village meeting. If you want to help, want to join in, want to know more, or want to share your own ideas, then this is your opportunity to do so. The open village meeting will be in

The Church Room, Aston Abbotts Wednesday 8th December.

Representatives from the Czech and Slovak Embassies will be invited.

EVERYBODY IS WELCOME

Some People Are Just SO Dumb!

WILL THE REAL DUMMY PLEASE STAND UP? AT&T fired President John Walter after nine months, saying he lacked intellectual leadership. He received a \$26 million severance package. Perhaps it's not Walter who's lacking intelligence.

WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM OUR FRIENDS: Police in Oakland, California spent two hours attempting to subdue a gunman who had barricaded himself inside his home. After firing 10 tear gas canisters, officers discovered that the man was standing beside them in the police line, shouting, "Please come out and give yourself up."

WHAT WAS PLAN B??? An Illinois man, pretending to have a gun, kidnapped a motorist and forced him to drive to two different automated teller machines, wherein the kidnapper proceeded to withdraw money from his own bank accounts.

THE GETAWAY! A man walked into a Topeka, Kansas Kwik-Stop, and asked for all the money in the cash drawer. Apparently, the take was too small, so he tied up the store clerk and worked the counter himself for three hours until police showed up and grabbed him.

DID I SAY THAT??? Police in Los Angeles had good luck with a robbery suspect who just couldn't control himself during a lineup. When detectives asked each man in the Lineup to repeat the words, "Give me all your money or I'll shoot, the man shouted,

"That's not what I said!"

ARE WE COMMUNICATING?? A man spoke frantically into the phone, "My wife is pregnant and her contractions are only two minutes apart! "" Is this her first child? "the doctor asked. "No!" the man shouted, "This is her husband!"

NOT THE SHARPEST TOOL IN THE SHED!! In Modesto, California, Steven Richard King was arrested for trying to hold up a Bank of America branch without a weapon. King used a thumb and a finger to simulate a gun, but unfortunately, he failed to keep his hand in his pocket. Hellllllooooooo!

AND THE GRAND FINALE Last summer, down on Lake Isabella, located in the high desert, an hour East of Bakersfield, Cal. some folks, new to boating, were having a problem. No matter how hard they tried, they couldn't get their brand new 22-foot cruiser going. It was very sluggish in almost every manoeuvre, no matter how much power was applied. After about an hour of trying to make it go, they putted to a nearby marina, thinking someone there could tell them what was wrong. A thorough topside check revealed everything in perfect working condition. The engine ran fine, the outdrive went up and down, the prop was the correct size and pitch. So, one of the marina guys jumped in the water to check underneath, he came up choking on water, he was laughing so hard. Under the boat, still strapped securely in place, was the trailer!



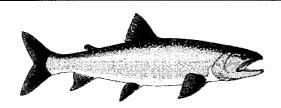
Wingrave Netball Club

7-9 year olds, 9-10 am every Saturday during term time at WINGRAVE SCHOOL. (£1 per session)

10-13 year olds, 9-10 am every Saturday during term time at WINGRAVE NEWPARK. Contact Sandy (coach) if interested on 688952

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The Good Deed

A man is in bed with his wife when there is a rat-a-tat-tat on the door. He rolls over and looks at his clock, and it's half past three in the morning. "I'm not getting out of bed at this time," he thinks, and rolls over. Then, a louder knock follows.

"Aren't you going to answer that?" says his wife.

So, he drags himself out of bed and goes downstairs. He opens the door and there is a man standing at the door. It doesn't take the homeowner long to realize the man is drunk.

"Hi there," slurs the stranger. "Can you give me a push?"

"No, get lost! It's half past three! I was in bed!" screams the man as he slams the door.

He goes back up to bed and tells his wife what happened. She remarks, "Honey, that wasn't very nice of you. Remember that night we broke down in the pouring rain on the way to pick the kids up from the baby sitter and you had to knock on that man's house to get us started again? What would have happened if he'd told us to get lost?"

"But the guy was drunk," says the husband.

"It doesn't matter," explains the wife. "He needs our help and it

would be nice to help him."

So, the husband gets out of bed again, gets dressed, and goes downstairs. He opens the door but he can't see the stranger anywhere in the dark, so he shouts, "Hey, do you still want a push?"

He hears a voice cry out, "Yes, please."

Where are you?" shouts the homeowner.

The stranger calls back, "I'm over here, on your swing."

A distraught dog owner called his vet pleading for an immediate appointment. He explained that his dog had a large growth or swelling near the corner of its mouth. The vet told him to bring the animal right over.

When the man came in, the vet examined the dog as the man stood by, anxiously waiting. At last the vet turned to him and asked, "Do you have any children?"

"Oh, good grief, is it contagious?" the man gasped.

"No," the doctor answered. "It's bubble gum."

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Saturday 6th November 2004

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Bonfire 6.30pm

Fireworks 7.00pm

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Clergy Comment

They say that what goes round, comes round.

We are going through another spell of being told that the Church cannot afford to run its affairs as it has in the past.

One solution (but one we've already tried) is to try to generate more money to keep the existing Church set-up going. This is hard work and is ultimately doomed to fail because all it does is to change our focus away from the Good News of God.

Yes, those were the days when each village had its own clergyman!

But we frequently forget that in many villages, the "Parson" was the second or third son of the Squire, and was effectively one of the "estate" workers. He (and in those days it was "he") was housed and given a small income in return for keeping the Church going. If there was no family member who could be

Letter To The Rector

[A question in Colin's recent quiz about Gray's Elegy In A Country Churchyard reminded Caroline Lane of this skit. My thanks to her for sending it in. ~ Ed]

Dear Rector,

The Scribbling Gentleman has been here again. He keeps wandering around the churchyard muttering to himself and talking gibberish and writing in a notebook. Yesterday I found him staring at a grave and saying, "Each in his narrow cell for ever laid, the rude forefathers of the hamlet sleep." I told him there was no need to call my father rude or anyone else's for that matter. He peered at me in a strange fashion and then asked, "Are you some mute inglorious Milton? Or perhaps some village Hampden that with dauntless breast the petty tyrant of the field withstood?" I told him to keep a civil tongue in his head. It is well-known that Half-Witted Jack is the village Hampden. I am a married man myself.

Later he quarrelled with John Molesworthy, who had just been ploughing fifteen-acre. "Ah, my good fellow," he said, "I perceive the lowing herd is winding slowly over the lea."

"Indeed they are, your reverence," said John, "and that is because you have left the bloody gate open. I shall have to go and fetch 'em back and stop 'em winding."

"Then," said the Scribbling Gentleman, "you will doubtless homeward plod your weary way."

"No, I shall not," replied John. "I shall run to Widow Johnson's so as to have half an hour with her before her lodger comes home."

I also fear the Scribbling Gentleman may be unduly attracted towards the fair sex. He keeps muttering about "storied urn and animated bust".

In the end I could tolerate his behaviour no longer. I pointed to him the way out of the churchyard. "There is your path home, sir," I told him. He replied, "The paths of glory lead but to the grave." "No, sir," I said, "the graves are the other way." He merely laughed at me and went off.

I wish your reverence would return and deal with him.

Your obedient servant

Amos Jacob, verger

From Don't Swing from the Balcony, Romeo by Michael Green, 1983, acquired at Aston Abbotts fete, 2004

cajoled into becoming incumbent, then someone was brought in from outside. But they would be expected to contribute to the local economy – perhaps by subsistence farming.

What seems to be happening today is that we are having to relearn the lessons of former times. But we do have the benefit of hindsight – and subsistence farming is probably not an option.

By definition, Church buildings are places where people meet together to worship God. What we need to rediscover is how that can best be achieved when there are not enough "paid" clergy to conduct the services. That is relatively simple – use "unpaid" clergy and worship leaders.

Those who are "unpaid" are restricted by the amount of time they can give (after all they will need to spend a significant part of their time earning a living). The more people who can be involved overall, the less time each person will need to give individually. The problem comes in terms of the supervision and accountability. There will need to be a large element of trust, that those who are involved in leading worship will not be spreading heresy. My own feeling is that we should be far more trusting with groups of Christians. For the group itself should be capable of keeping itself "on track".

So I have no fears about the Church in the future as it relies less and less on full-time paid clergy, and becomes much more a meeting place for Christians to join together in the worship of Almighty God.

~ Bob Willmot

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St James Church

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	Wingrave	10.00	Parish Communion
	Wing	10.00	Parish Communion
	Cublington	10.00	Family Service
	Aston Abbotts	10.00	Parish Communion
14 th	Wingrave	08.00	Holy Communion
	Cublington	08.45	Parish Communion
	Wing	10.00	Holy Communion
	Wingrave	10.45	Remembrance & People's Praise
	Aston Abbotts	10.00	Parish Communion
	Wing	18.00	Evensong
21 st	Wing	08.00	Holy Communion
	Wing	10.00	People's Praise
	Wingrave	10.00	Parish Communion
	Cublington	10.00	Family Communion
	Aston Abbotts	10.00	Family Communion
28 th	Cublington	08.45	Parish Communion
	Wing	10.00	Parish Communion
	Wingrave	10.00	Parish Communion
	Wingrave	18.00	Advent Carols
	Aston Abbotts	18.00	Evensong
5 th Dec	Wing	08.00	Holy Communion (extension)
	Wingrave	10.00	Parish Communion
	Wing	10.00	Parish Communion
	Cublington	10.00	Family Service
	Aston Abbotts	10.00	Parish Communion

A Prayer Session takes place at 08.00 in Wingrave Church each Monday morning, whilst a Service of Holy Communion takes place at 09.30 at Wing each Thursday morning.

Church Flowers

6 th /7 th	Miss. A. Goodman
13/14 th	British Legion
20/21 st	Donated

Then no flowers in Advent.

Sunday Readings

7th Nov	3 before Advent	2 Thess. 2.1-5,13-17; Luke 20.27-38
14 th	2 before Advent	2 Thess 3.6-13; Luke 21.5-19
21 st	Christ the King	Colossians 1.11-20; Luke 23.33-43
28 th	Advent	Romans 13.11-14; Matthew 24.36-44
5 th Dec	Advent 2	Romans 15.4-13; Matthew 3.1-12

From The Registers

Baptism

4th Sept George Elliott at Wingrave
4th Sept Annie Copping at Aston Abbotts

Marriage

16th Oct Howard Gregory & Sarah Ellis at Wingrave

Funeral

15th Sep Dolly Higgs at Cublington
27th Sep Grace King at Wingrave & Crownhill

Church Sidesmen

7 th	Mr. G. Kemp
14 th	Mrs. S. Ford
21 st	Mr. C. Higgs
28 th	Mr. A. Ford
5 th Dec.	Mrs.S. Ford

If you are unable to do sidesman duty on your allocated date please advise next on the list.



ST JAMES CHURCH ASTON ABBOTTS

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Rev Bob Willmott	681623
Gordon Kemp	681763
Shirley Ford	681865
Ann Goodman	681763
Andrew Ford	681865
Colin Higgs	681343

The Aston Abbotts Telephone List

100 Club	Colin Higgs	681343			482838
630 Club	Andy Bystra	681690	Mobile Library	Buckingham Library	01280 813229
Astonbury	Peter Shorrock	681260	NHS Direct	24hr Medical Advice	Line 0845 46 47
AVDC	Switchboard	585858	Parish Clerk	Kate Curry	681137
Bingo	Doris Scutchings	681243	Parish Council Leader	Colin Higgs	681343
Busses	Arriva 468	730 or 423445	Police	Emergencies	999
Chronicle Advertisir	ng Claire Gresswell	682949	Police	Non-emergency	0845 8 505 505
Chronicle Distribution	•	681690	Police	Aylesbury	396000
Chronicle Editorial	Phil Spooner	681544	Police	Wing Police Office	396163
Church Mowing Rot	ta Gordon Kemp	681763	Railways	Chiltern	0870 516 5165
		07812 525703	Rambler's Club	Colin Higgs	681343
Church Room Hire	Doris Scutchings	681243	Rector	Reverend Bob Willm	nott 681623
Citizens Advice	Aylesbury	0870 126 4056	Refuse Collection	Enquiries	585510
Coach Trips	Colin Higgs	681343	Roads & Transport	Colin Higgs	681343
Council	Aylesbury Vale District	t 585858	Royal Oak	Teri & Gary Moult	681262
Council	Bucks County Council	395000	RSPCA	General Enquiries	08705 555 999
County Councillor	Brenda Jennings	01525 270610	Scouts	Julia Ellis	681118
District Councillor	Peter Cooper	681250	Shop (Osborn's)	Bernard Osborn	681233
Fete Coordinator	Jackie Farrands	681182	Toddlers Group	Claire Greswell	682949
Floral Class	Colin Higgs	681343	Wingrave Preschool	Claire Upton	681700
Friends of St Jame	s Clare Shorrock	681260	Wingrave Post Office	(PO only)	681011
Hospital	Stoke Mandeville	315000	Wingrave School	Office	681346
Ladies Club	Shirley Ford	681865	Wingrave Stores	Shop	681696
LBO Reports	Colin Higgs	681343	04 4 4		
Milkman	Ron Miller Dairies		Tlease let us ki	row of any errors	or omissions

Aston Abbotts & Cublington Ladies Club

Aston Ab	botts & Cublington Ladies Club
	Programme for 2004/2005
October 7 th October 21 st November 4 th	Programme for 2004/2005 Toybox Childrens Charity - Sarah George Curtains and Cushions - Clare Shorrock Annual General Meeting Waddesdon Manor - Talk by Mr Keating Christmas Floral Decorations - Mrs Pat Trunkfield 2005 Carol Service - Aston Abbotts Entertain ourselves afternoon Slides - Pamela Wright Slides - Spring Flowers of the Swiss Alps - G Atkins Talk by Joyce Whipps Spring Lunch R.S.P.C.A Talk by Richard Musgrave Snapshots of Italy - Peter Fellows Talk by St John's Ambulance Crossroads, Caring for Carers - Talk by
November 18 th December 2 nd	Waddesdon Manor - Talk by Mr Keating Christmas Floral Decorations - Mrs Pat Trunkfield
December 16 th	2005 Carol Service - Aston Abbotts
January 6 th	Entertain ourselves afternoon
January 20 th	Slides - Pamela Wright
February 3 rd	Slides - Spring Flowers of the Swiss Alps - G
February 17 th	Talk by Joyce Whipps
March 3 rd	Spring Lunch
March 17 th	R.S.P.C.A Talk by Richard Musgrave
March 31 st	Snapshots of Italy - Peter Fellows
April 14 th	Talk by St John's Ambulance
April 28 th	Olates Dallass
May 12 th	Musical Afternoon - Lindsay Stafford- Smith Sight Savers - Talk Vale Speakers Club - Talk by Penny Dabten Competition Afternoon Summer Outing Garden Party on about these events, or to find out about the :Ladies Club, ever Ford on 681865. NEW MEMBERS AND GUESTS WELCOME
May 26 th	Sight Savers - Talk
June 9 th	Vale Speakers Club - Talk by Penny Dabten
June 23rd	Competition Afternoon
July 7 th	Summer Outing
July 21st	Garden Party

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What's On In November

Tuesday 2nd Mobile Library The Green, 11.35 – 11.55 am

Aston Abbotts Fireworks, Recreation Ground. 6.30 pm. Hotdogs, Friday 5th

soup, jacket potatoes on sale in aid of St James. Price of admission

is one large firework.

Saturday 6th Church Yard sweep up 10.30 am

Monday 8th Wingrave Road CLOSED for up to 5 days—see page 5

The Refuse Freighter was due to be at The Green between 12 and also

15.30, but at the time of going to press it is not confirmed that this

is still happening

Tuesday 9th Aylesbury Vale transport meeting, County Hall, 7.30 pm.

(Bus/Train queries to Colin please)

Thursday 11th Whist Drive. Church Room. 7.30 pm

Saturday 13th Friends of St. James Aylesbury market stall, 9-4 pm.

Sunday 14th Remembrance Day service. St. James Church 10 am

Mobile library The Green. 11.35-11.55 am Tuesday 16th

Floral class. Church Room. 7 pm also

Saturday 20th British Legion Bingo. Church Room 7 pm

Rambling Club members meet at Caldecote Lake Sunday 21st

Milton Keynes 2 pm

Tuesday 23rd Aylesbury Farmers Market

Thursday 25th Whist Drive. Church Room 7.30 pm

Sunday 28th Village footpath walk Meet at The Green 2 pm

Tuesday 30th Mobile library. The Green, 11.35 11.55 am.

Wed 1st Dec Parish Council Meeting. Church Room. 8 pm

Sat 4th Dec Christmas shopping trip to Northampton, (book with Colin).

Departs Bull and Butcher 9.30

Wed 8th Dec Open Meeting in the Church room to discuss options for Aston

Abbotts VE Day celebrations

Book these Dates

Saturday 4th December Christmas shopping trip to Northampton, (book with Colin ~681343)

Thank you to all our advertisers for your patience regarding the new invoicing process and, of course, for your continued support of the Chronicle.

Please don't forget to tell us of any events that you would like included in the What's On list



Classified

IRONING - Never enough time? Do you hate it? I can help! Phone Denise on 077 9939 4752

CLEANING JOB SOUGHT in Aston Abbotts. Good references. Reliable. Please phone Mary on 681356.

Do you need a **BABYSITTER**? I am experienced in looking after children of all ages and am willing to offer my services. Contact Nikki on 01296 681413

Sarah Smith is available for **BABYSITTING**. Phone 01296 681373

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MOBILE LIBRARY

Please note that the new schedule means that the van now stops only at The Green at 11.35 am.

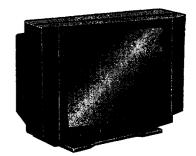
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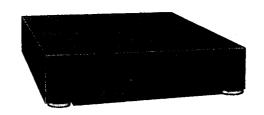


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