THE GHRONIGBE

ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH MAGAZINE ~ Issue 243 ~ March 2005



CHICKEN FARM MEETING-REPORT INSIDE

Editorial

The Chicken Farm

"If you live in the country, you must expect country smells". "It's agricultural land and a chicken farm is a proper agricultural use for it". "It's a farm". "It brings employment to the agricultural economy". Those were some of the comments made to The Chronicle about the proposed organic chicken farm at Norduck.

However, that's not the whole story. Most people's idea of an organic chicken farm is a few wooden houses the size of a garden shed with several dozen happy birds scratching around in the dirt outside. What is proposed for Norduck has been described as "an egg production unit". It will house 18,000 birds in three enormous buildings – the longest being over 270 feet (84 metres) long. As one villager said to me, "when it gets to that size it is not agricultural, it's an industrial development".

Concerns over traffic, the landscape, the footpaths, the bridleways, the environment, and the potential smell brought a huge attendance at a meeting in the Church Room to discuss the proposal. We have a meeting report on page 7.

Unfortunately, a quirk of timing meant that the planning application was too late for inclusion in last month's Chronicle, and by the time you read this the date for objections will have passed. If you are unaware of exactly what is proposed you might like to read the application online at the AVDC website, directions are given in our meeting report. Make no mistake; this is a major development in the village.

February's Crossword - An Apology

h dear! The Chronicle hadn't been out for more than a day when my phone rung and an irate reader demanded to know where the rest of the crossword clues were. I understand the frustration, as Mrs Ed was also unhappy that she had completed three quarters of the puzzle to find out that many clues were missing. "John's left some clues out!" she said, and proceeded to complain to Judy, John's wife, at Gnomes.

Unfortunately Mrs Ed's complaint was misdirected, as John didn't leave any clues out. They were all there when he sent the crossword to me, but when I copied it to the Chronicle's Microsoft Publisher document the line spacing increased and some clues "fell off the bottom of the page". I didn't notice what had happened, and that was that!

So, my apologies to John Hardcastle for ruining his hard work—and my apologies to our readers. I think John thought that nobody did his crossword, as he had no feedback since he took over from the late Don Bellingham a few months ago. I knew different, as in over four years of editing The Chronicle I have learnt that normally you only get feedback if you get it wrong! At least now he realises that quite a lot of people do the crossword and that his efforts are much appreciated.

The missing clues are on page 9 for those who are still frustrated. Not Geoff Curnow of course, who managed to complete it by working out what the missing words could be!

Phil

In This Issue

In your March Chronicle ~

- The Chicken Farm
- Czech Celebratory Weekend
- Around Aylesbury Quiz
- Liz Barlow's Day Job
- Hazardous Materials Data Sheet
- Your Crossword (with clues)

and much, much more.....

THE CHRONIGLE

Issue 243 March 2005

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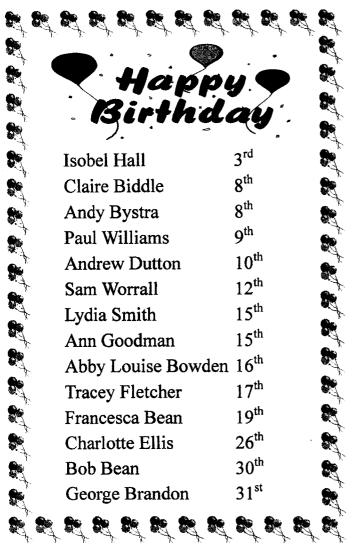
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Friday 18th March 2005

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

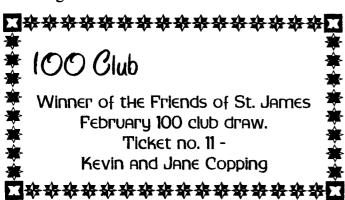
Printed at Waddesdon School and distributed free of charge to all Households in Aston Abbotts, our local Doctor's Surgeries and to Wing Police House.

Alison's Gossip Column



Who do you know in this village who would spend £100 on a cut & blow dry? {No, it's not me!} Automatically you'd expect this person to be female - but you'd be wrong. So maybe it's a young man with luxuriant flowing locks - Wrong again. It's a man past 50, who on a stop over in Hong Kong recently, couldn't resist the temptation to spend this vast sum of money being pampered by 2 young nubiles and a young man!

Have you guessed yet? B.B. are the initials and it's not Bridget Bardot.



We were very sad to hear of the death of **Ruth Bellingham** so soon after her husband Don's passing. Please see page zzz

Once again, we would like to thank all those villagers who wrote and sent cards of sympathy, following the death of Ruth Bellingham. They were very much appreciated.

~ Barbara, David, Louis, and Bonita

We were sorry to hear that our 'Maestro' **Neil Chesher** was 'laid low' for almost a week.

However, It's nice to see him well enough to be able to enjoy his 'medicine' in the pub once more!

..........

A very warm welcome to **Tony, Dawn and Amy James** who have moved into Chapman's
Lea. We hope you enjoy living here in Aston
Abbotts and we look forward to meeting you.

Have you tried Tesco's Finest Coffee Ice-Cream yet? On a small survey at Gnomes it was decided it's excellent.

On the grapevine we hear The Five Elms at Weedon has new managers and is back up to scratch.

We are sorry to hear that **Andy Stefanczyk** has bee unwell recently and we send our very best

Best wishes to **Derek and Enid Ludlam** who will be moving to their new apartment in Madeira.

Our best wishes for a speedy recovery to **Kim Picking** who is currently in Stoke Mandeville for surgery.

On Valentines Day a small group of Gnomes took themselves off to the cinema to see the latest Richard Gere film. At the end of the film there was breathless silence as Richard Gere slowly appeared in his tux clutching a single red rose... and one danish-pastry-loving gnome was heard to exclaim to the whole cinema "Corrr!! Who wouldn't fancy THAT!"

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In The Village

Pancake day

ell! It must have seemed a good idea at the time but poor attendance on the day was a pretty good indication that the timing was far from ideal. Those who did 'make it' were rewarded with truly delicious, freshly cooked pancakes and a welcome mid morning cup of coffee. All for just a £1.

As a social interlude, it was great but as a money raiser it was poor. In point of fact, 7 people attended. Surprisingly, £30.00 was raised but this was largely due to those who set it up and cooked, buying as many pancakes as those who attended.

Perhaps, as suggested by Vanessa, next years should be held between 3.00 and 5.00pm so that mums and youngsters can enjoy pancakes and a drink after school.

Thanks go to April & Geoff Curnow, Shirley Colin & Mary for all their efforts.



Ruth Bellingham

illagers were sad to hear of the death of Ruth Bellingham so quickly after her husband Donald. Ruth was a member of the Thursday afternoon Ladies Club and hosted their annual garden party at Longmoor Farm and then at Marloes where they retired.

She leaves three daughters and grandchildren. Deepest sympathies are offered to them at this time. Ruth's funeral was held at St James' Church on Tuesday February 22nd.

~ Colin Higgs

Slide Show and Quiz Night

Once again Vic and Christine Scott put on a truly interesting presentation; this time about flora, fauna and some of the more spectacular topography of Turkey. The modest entrance fee included a bread and cheese supper which most of those attending complemented by bringing along their own wine. However, the consumption of such 'fortified' waters proved in most cases to be a huge mistake since supper was followed by the most devilishly difficult quiz. Vic. though, is not a vindictive man, and made sure most teams taking part received a prize. All in all this was a wonderfully entertaining evening which as custom demands ended in time to allow those who must, to go down to the pub!

Despite scant and slightly misleading information in last months 'Whats on' column, 32 attended raising the very creditable sum of £133.00. Our thanks go to Colin, Shirley, Vic. and Christine for a great evening (and to April for swelling the numbers by twisting all those Gnomes arms!)

Target Stamps Are Hot Stuff

As a result of collecting LBO Target Stamps, two new convector heaters have been purchased for St James' Church, and an electric kettle and a new fanheater for the Church Room. Thanks are expressed to everyone who saves them - and please continue to do so.

~ Colin Higgs

Mothering Sunday

There is to be a special Mothering Sunday Service at 10 am in St James Church, Aston Abbotts on Sunday 6th March. Posies of flowers will presented to all of the ladies.

Everybody is welcome. Please do come along.





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The Aston Abbotts Chicken Farm Proposal

Over 50 people crammed into the Church room on Monday 21st February to hear more about the proposal for building an organic egg production unit at Norduck Farm. Many were villagers, and there were also a few representatives of the equestrian and rambling communities present.

Dickie Dicken chaired the meeting. He started by stating that at a previous Parish Council meeting Mr Buttery representing the planning applicants had given the good news - now he was going to give the bad.

Dickie asked us to think of the impact on the village, its landscape, and the rights of way. The area around Norduck has been designated an area of attractive landscape by Aylesbury Vale District Council. The planned chicken farm will comprise three chicken houses. One of these will be 84 metres by 10 metres (that is 270 feet by 32 feet), and the other two buildings would be 42 metres by 20 metres. All will be 5.4 metres tall. The development will straddle the footpath and bridleway.

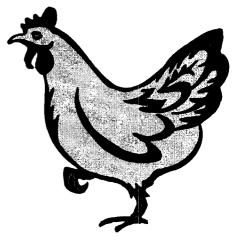
Apparently Mr Buttery had told the Parish Council that there would be no noise and no smell. Dickie pointed out that the proposed 18,000 birds could consume at least two to three tons of food each week, and that this would not all come out as eggs - some of it would be manure. At the Parish Council THE STENCH meeting Mr Buttery had stated that it would be taken away to Oxfordshire. However, now it is suggested that it will be spread on the land at Norduck. Experience by other villages where this has happened has been at that they can be at times an awful smell. This is particularly likely to happen at Aston Abbotts, where the prevailing westerly wind will blow any smell right across the village. Dickie said "the stench can be awful".

However, putting the smell aside, Dickie suggested that perhaps the most immediate impact would be upon the appearance of the village. The proposed three sheds straddle the footpaths and bridleways. Riders, ramblers, and dog walkers use these regularly. Apparently the paths and bridleways are to be fenced off, but the applicants have already expressed concern about keeping dogs away from their chickens.

The three large sheds will be visible from a long way off, especially as their location is at one of the highest points

around. The sheds are expected to have walls and doors of grey steel colour and roofs of juniper Green sheeting. The applicants have stated that they will do extensive landscaping with the planting of trees and hedges. However, Dickie pointed out that these could take up to 15 years to grow.

Part of the proposal is to build a mobile home, as EU regulations demand that on a chicken farm of this size there must be a worker present 24 hours a day. Apparently this is because a number of things can cause chickens to panic, at which point they all run into one corner of the shed and smother themselves. Things that can cause chickens to panic include strangers, dogs, low-flying



aircraft or helicopters, hot air balloons, and horses. All things, as Dickie pointed out, that we have here in Aston Abbotts.

Many questions were put forward from the floor. It was clear that quite a lot of people at the meeting feared that the mobile

home would become a permanent home and lead to further development. Others were concerned about the potential smell and its effect on the environment and on people's health. Some told stories of chicken farms which they have known and where there have been strong ammonia-like smells when the manure has been spread on the surrounding land.

CAN BE AWFUL After the questions had been put and answered as best as possible Dickie appealed to anybody who might be unhappy about the plan to write to Aylesbury Vale District Council planning officer before the deadline of the 2nd March. There are a number of grounds for objection, including visual impact, loss of amenity, nuisance, etc. Apparently there have been two applications in other local villages turned down, although only after they have gone to appeal. Dickie warned that it could get expensive, if the mood of the village was to fight the application.

> Although the deadline will unfortunately have passed by the time you read this the plans will still be visible on the Aylesbury Vale website. Goto

www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/ourenvironment/

Click on "planning applications" at the top of the page, continue to follow the links for "online search for planning applications" until you reach the search form. There enter application number "05/00258/APP". Click on the page button to the right and this will lead you to a list of documents which you can study at your leisure.

Although the deadline for objections has passed by now, if you are against this proposal you can (and should) make your feelings known. Our Parish Council has resolved to oppose this application because of its negative effect upon the village environment and its landscape. It is likely that representations will be made to the planning authorities, so please telephone a Parish Council member or our District Councillor Peter Cooper and make your feelings known. Their phone numbers are on page 30.

~ Phil Spooner



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Peter Knight's Countryside Diary

15th February

This month I am a little short of wildlife incidents to write about. I've seen nothing unusual with birdlife, and animal activity seems to have quietened down. Two large water deer that have lived in the corner of one field for two months seem to have moved on and, of course, the frantic activity of mating foxes has come to an end. No doubt I will soon be aware of the foxes, as we have started lambing.

Everything I see now does look extremely well. This is due to the mild winter, the continual supply of fresh grass, and regular earthworm activity - i.e. plenty of food.

Our sheep are in superb condition. The lorry man who helped us put the main flock into the building for lambing said the ewes looked full of lambs. We hope not too full. Sheep will have one, two or three lambs - very rarely four. We would always prefer two, not three. After all a sheep only has two teats. Good ewes can easily rear three lambs, but the average ewe will struggle and one lamb of the three will gradually fall behind the other two and need taking away and either fostering on another sheep or artificially rearing at home. Rearing at home is a true labour of love! The cost of milk powder and concentrate feed mean that it costs as much to rear a lamb as that lamb is worth once reared - and all the time-consuming work has to be done for nothing. Most years Alex rears 20 or 30 lambs and what a tie they are, but it just has to be done.

The sheep are put in a building for lambing. Not to protect them from the weather, but so they are easily at hand if they need help lambing and so that we can keep a close eye on the lambs for the first three days of their lives - a crucial period. Once we are sure all is well we turn them back out into the fields where they prefer to be. Also we lose none at birth from foxes in the shed, while lambing outside we know this happens.

I'm always surprised at how few people are interested in the lambing shed. For several years we lambed at Nash's Farm right in the village. Despite making it known that anyone could come round and see the lambs hardly anyone ever called in. Except Margaret Kent, of course, who couldn't keep away and was always the most reliable help anyone could wish for - a natural stockwoman with an inherent understanding of sheep.

Ring 681478 if you want to see the sheep and lambs at close quarters.

To me the sure sign of spring is not lambs, but roadside grass. If, when driving along a country road the grass on the verge looks bright green then it's growing and spring is round the corner. Soon the hedges will show green, Smith's blackthorn on Lines Hill will

the whole miracle starts again.



One thing that has been extra special this year has been the winter Box - Box bushes that flower in February. We have two or three small ones at home, but there are some big ones at the Abbey. The scent has been truly wonderful this year. Now, it being that the scent is produced to attract pollinating insects, what insects are around in February to pollinate winter box? Pollinated it surely is for it produces berries with seeds in the autumn

Anyway any plant/bush that can fill a garden with captivating scent in January/February has to be rather special and worth growing.

Those Missing February Crossword Clues

- 38 That is (1,1)
 39 Start (2)
 40 Our clocks are based on this (1,1,1)
 41 Poles apart (1,1)
 42 Rested against (6)
 45 The inner busks of corn (4)
 - The inner husks of corn (4)
 We could all do with one of these (7,5)
- 30 Beers (4)
- 32 Indefinite article before a vowel sound (2)
- 33 Alongside (2) 36 Young man (3)
- 36 Young man (3) 39 Snakes and ladd
- Snakes and ladders is one of these (4)
 Blood and guts (4)
- 43 Finish (3)
- 45 Train Company (1,1)
- 46 Breakdown Service (1,1)

Missing January Answers

Down

Peter Knight

41 Onto

43 Ask 44 ITA

Diagonal

1 & 29 Aston

Abbotts



47



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CHILLI EATING

in Cornwall!

Some strange things go on in Cornwall in the middle of winter – and we were there at the Chilli Eating Competition at the Ring o' Bells in St Issey!! It was a hot night (no doubt followed by a pretty heated morning for the contestants!)



They had to bite and chew some of the hottest chillies known to man! From the small but extremely dangerous bird's eye chillies, to the absolutely lethal scotch bonnets, all that washed down with a shot of home-made chilli vodka – Chef Pete's personal creation!!

The crowd was huge and the laughter loud at some of the strange faces being pulled! In the end it was a close competition between Dave Chick and Alan MacDonald the local photographer (who took these photos incidentally!)

Dave gave it his best (even going so far as removing the seeds from the chillies – that's cheating!), but he couldn't beat the canny Scotsman who was the ultimate winner!

The locals here are obviously game for a laugh, which is fine with us. We raised a lot of money with the Christmas raffle which goes towards maintaining the village playground maintenance fund. The regular live music spot is going down well too and who knows, maybe one day, there'll be a St. Isseybury...

Don't forget, the pub is on the main road between Padstow and Wadebridge. It's a seventeenth century country pub with a lively community atmosphere to it (much like our own in Aston Abbotts!), and a busy 50 seat restaurant serving up delicious home-cooked food, including fresh fish specials created by our chef Peter Quentin Francis. We have a roaring log fire and cosy leather sofas to relax in.

We also have four B&B rooms in the pub, three doubles and a twin, all ensuite. So, for a weekend getaway or longer if you prefer to have someone do all the cooking for you, why not spend some leisure time with us in Cornwall. There are regular flights from Stansted to Newquay and we can collect you from the airport, if you require.



Bed & breakfast at the pub is £30 per person per night.

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Czech Celebratory Weekend — April 30th-May 1st

As most people in the village will know, this village has an important connection with the Czech & Slovak Republics and the Second World War, in that during the war years, the man who had been president of Czechoslovakia immediately before the war (and who became its first president after the war), Eduard Benes, lived in The Abbey, while he and his government were in exile from the invading Nazis.

This year the 60th Anniversary of VE Day (Victory in Europe Day) will occur, and it is intended to hold a celebratory weekend in Aston Abbotts to mark the occasion, and our connection with Czechoslovakian history. It is hoped that a number of Czech veterans will come to the village for the occasion, including not only those who are still living in Britain, but also a number from the Czech & Slovak Republics.

How extensive the celebrations will be will depend on how big a grant we can get. The application for a grant has been sent off, and we hope to know the result of our application before the end of March. However, the committee trying to organise the weekend thought it would be a good idea to give you advance notice of what we are trying to do, in the hope that as many of you as possible of you will try to be in the village that weekend in order to attend the functions arranged; and - we hope - be prepared to lend a hand organising things.

The weekend in question is the one immediately before the May Day bank holiday; namely Saturday, 30th April & Sunday, 1st May.

Some of the things planned do not depend on our getting a grant; and will include Czech films at the Church Room, talks on the wartime history of the Czechs in this country, exhibitions of photos, postcards, stamps, letters and other memorabilia, a talk about the assassination in 1943 of the Nazi puppet ruler of Czechoslovakia, Reinhard Heydrich, which was ordered by President Benes while he was in Aston Abbotts; the formal planting of a lime tree on the village green to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of VE Day, and the planting of a symbolic rose in the churchyard which is being sent to us by the villagers of Lidice (the Czech village where. as a reprisal for the assassination of Heydrich, all the male inhabitants over 16 where massacred); and a football match between a team from the village and a joint team raised by the Czech & Slovak Embassies. It is expected that the Czech & Slovak Ambassadors will be attending events at the weekend, and an invitation has gone out to various local VIP's. A memorial service will also be held at St. James' Church.

If we can get a grant, then the events will become more exciting: we intend to hold a dinner-dance in a marquee on the Recreation Ground, with a band playing wartime music; during one of the afternoons we will have two Czech & Slovak groups singing and performing traditional dances; plus a local group of morris dancers; and possibly some maypole dancers; we hope to have a display of veteran cars and other vehicles, and are trying to arrange for a world war 2 re-enactor group to take part, to give an idea of what it was like in England during the war. We are also seeing if we can get the WW2 aircraft display team to fly past (a Spitfire, a Hurricane and a Lancaster

Many of you will know that Aston Abbotts Alpaca breeder Liz Barlow has a day job. For years she has convinced us that she is a high-flying businesswoman. Now, thanks to Andi Swain –THE TRUTH IS OUT! bomber). It is hoped that Neil Chesher will be able to arrange a village concert as well in honour of the weekend, to be held in the marquee.

The Czech Embassy are trying to get permission to bring over the Czech Military Folklore Band, and we have high hopes of them getting us some Czech beer which we can drink at the dinner-dance and at the formal lunch we hope to hold to welcome our visitors.

I hope that this has whetted your appetite, and hope to have more news for you – and possibly of preliminary timetable of events – next month.

~ Peter Shorrock - Aston Abbotts Czech Connection

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There are 36 place names from around Aylesbury to be found in the grid, and 33 are listed below.

When you've crossed them from the grid, can you find 3 more from the letters left?

NASH **ASHENDON** ASKETT **NORTH MARSTON ASTON ABBOTTS** OAKLEY **AYLESBURY OVING** PENN **BIERTON BLOUNT** PITCHCOTT **BRILL PUTTENHAM CRESLOW** QUAINTON **ROWSHAM** HALTON HULCOTT STONE **ILMER** THAME **LEDBURN** THE LEE LINSLADE WADDESDON LONG CRENDON WEEDON LOWERWINCHENDON WHITCHURCH **WINGRAVE** MEADLE **MENTMORE**

TRY THIS QUIZ

Created by Brian Denison

(a 'resident's relative reader!!')

Answers on page 22

ASTON ABBOTTS FETE SATURDAY 23RD JULY 2005 FETE MEETING

WEDNESDAY 16TH MARCH - 8.00 PM - CHURCH ROOM

It is once again time to start organising this year's village fete.

The village fete raises funds for various village interests and getting involved in the running of the fete is a good way of becoming involved in the village. We are, as always, very reliant on all of the usual volunteers, but ANY NEW VOLUNTEERS WOULD BE MADE EXTREMELY WELCOME!! YOUR VILLAGE FETE NEEDS YOU!!

If you are able to help in any way, either on the day of the fete or with the organisation, please either come along to the meeting on 16th March, or phone me on 682204.

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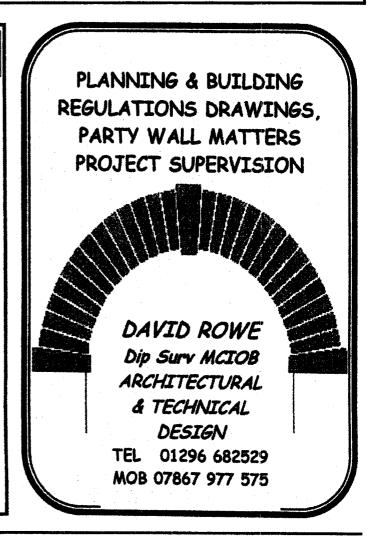


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Czechs at Wingrave

As part of my research into the history of the Czechs in Bucks I went to meet Mike (Miroslav) Smutny, son of the Czechoslovak "Chancellor" Jaromir Smutny, who had lived at the Old Manor House in Wingrave. His father Jaromir Smutny worked for President Benes who lived at Aston Abbotts. Mike went to Wingrave Village School, and then he was transferred and he was one of only 3 boys in the Prebendal Girl's School, Aylesbury and then he moved to Aylesbury Grammar School. He said he was the only Czech child at Wingrave.

Mike Smutny (pictured on the right) told me that if I could get a tour of the house at Wingrave he could tell me what the rooms were used for from his memory. I contacted the MacIntyre Centre and they were happy to do this so long as it was during half-term, so we went around on Tuesday 15th Feb. This was very interesting and Mike remembered where his parents stayed and he found his bedroom and his father's office. We drew a plan of the house and labelled each room as they were used by the Czechs.

Downstairs was a small sitting room, a large sitting room, a library, a billiards room, a dining room and the kitchen. Upstairs was just accommodation rooms and his father's small office. Mike said the men would sit in the large sitting room in the evenings after they got back from the government offices in London and

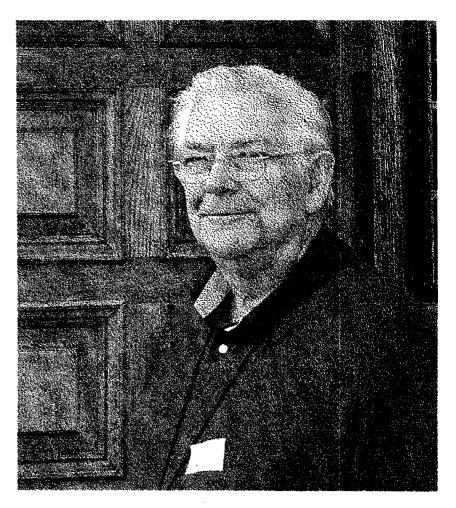
smoke. Czech politicians would also stay at Wingrave sometimes if they came to visit President Benes at Aston Abbotts. He said that President Benes rarely came to Wingrave and people either met him in London or went to see him at Aston Abbotts instead.

He said that the building was called the "budovy kancelar presidenta republiky" in Czech. They translated "kancelar" as "Chancellery" which was misleading. He said that his father Jaromir Smutny was called "the Chancellor", but he said that the European use of the word Chancellor is more like an Official, whereas in English we use Chancellor as a short form of "Chancellor of the Exchequer". The Chancellery offices were in 8 Grosvenor Place, London which consisted of the close assistants of President Benes, and Wingrave was their building for accommodation but not for working in - although Mike's father had an office in Wingrave because he carried on working in the evenings.

Mike said that they had two black Austin cars which were kept in the stables. They only used the entrance opposite the Rose and Crown pub which is now blocked up. They never used the back entrance which we know. The men in the house drove to London most days to go to the government-in-exile offices at Grosvenor Place and other places. At weekends, and sometimes on Mondays, they were in informal meetings with President Benes at Aston Abbotts.

Mike remembers going to Aston Abbotts for different events with his parents, and he is one of the small boys in the photograph watching a performance done by the Czech guards at Aston Abbotts.

~ Neil Rees



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Aston Abbotts Parish Council

Unofficial minutes from the meeting held on 23rd February 2005

Present: Cllrs. C. Higgs (Chair), M.Kent, R. Clarke, D.Dicken, J.Farrands and Mrs. K. Curry. Eleven members of the public attended. Apologies were received from T. Manning and P. Shorrock. Minutes of the last meeting were read and signed.

Matters Arising From The Minutes Not On The Agenda

The Clerk said that it has now been established that the damage to kerbstones on The Green is being caused by the refuse collectors. This has now been reported to both AVDC and the Highways department at BCC.

Clerk's Report

Ownership of the first piece of land given by Banner Homes when they developed Nash's Farm has now been transferred to AVDC.

The Clerk asked whether the Parish Council wished to take part in the Best Kept Village Competition this year.

The date of the next meeting has changed. It is now Wednesday 30th March, not 6th April as previously advertised.

County Council, District Council And Police Matters

No one was present from any of the above organisations. (District Cllr Peter Cooper attended later and joined the discussion about the planning application at Norduck Farm)

Quality Status

It was decided not to discuss this item.

Web Site

The Clerk was asked to investigate this matter further, and it was agreed in principle it would be a good idea to have a web site.

Twinning

Discuss whether the Parish Council would like to pursue the idea of the village twinning with a village in The Czech Republic. This item was postponed to the next meeting.

Planning

- 05/00283/APP Land adj. The Barns, Longmoor Farm, Cublington Road. Single storey detached building for office, study and store. Resolved to make no comment on this application.
- 05/00258/APP Norduck Farm, Moat Lane. Erection of three buildings for egg production and temporary siting of mobile home. Resolved to oppose this application on the grounds that it will have an adverse impact on the landscape of an AAL, will interfere with the footpath / bridleway network, the extra traffic generated will cause many problems and there would be a generally adverse impact on the local environment.

Highways

Resolved to proceed with having the diseased tree on The Green felled. It was not decided what to replace it with - this will be discussed again at the next meeting.

Recreation Ground

Safety check - children's play area - up to date.

Resolved to renew subscription to Aylesbury Vale Sports Council.

Changes to the usual format of Annual Playground Inspections were discussed.

Report from Recreation Ground Committee. There will be a meeting on Thursday 24th February, to which the children who live in the village have been invited, for them to look at the designs of play equipment on offer and choose which they prefer. Costings can then be organised and grants / loans applied for. Meanwhile some fundraising will need to take place in the village.

Date Of Next Meeting

To confirm that the next Meeting of Aston Abbotts Parish Council will be on Wednesday 30th March at 8 pm in the Church Room.

Everyone Is Welcome To Come Along

~ Kate Curry, Parish Clerk

The Aston Abbotts & Cublington Ladies Club

Feb 3rd

Our Chairman opened today's meeting at which 20 members were present. After the minutes had been read and signed, we discussed forthcoming events including the spring lunch on March 3rd, a coffee morning on May 19th at a member's house and our summer outing to Woburn Park.

Mr Hugh Grainger was today's speaker and he gave a humorous talk about coincidences. He was thanked by Margaret Hinds.

The raffle prize was won by Etherlie Gutheridge and tea hostesses were Kim White and June Brine.

17th Feb.

20 members were present at today's meeting in the Church Room. The Chairman welcomed members and spoke at length about one of our longest serving members Ruth Bellingham, who had regrettably died since our last meeting. Our summer outing to Woburn Park on July 7th was discussed and it agreed that we would travel by member's cars. We will meet at an agreed time to go round the house and this will be followed by lunch.

Final plans for the spring lunch on March 3rd were made.

Our Speaker today was Miss Joyce Whipps from Wingrave; someone we have enjoyed in the past. She gave us a very funny talk about numbers, from birth to old age, finishing by giving each member a 'goody bag'. She was thanked by Doreen Powis.

The raffle prize was won by Doreen Liddell and tea hostesses were Ivy Brandon and Sheila Read.

~ Shirley Ford.

[&]quot;If toast always lands butter-side down, and cats always land on their feet, what happens if you strap toast on the back of a cat and drop it?" ~ Steven Wright



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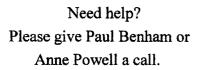


(Evenings)



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Ciergy Comment

It is strange the way things turn themselves around. As I was writing last month's piece, our thoughts were on the devastating Tsunami in the Indian Ocean, and what we could do to help those whose lives had been shattered by it.

Now, a month on, our thoughts are on the crest of another wave as we applaud the record-breaking efforts of Ellen McArthur sailing single-handed round the world.

Two differing thoughts and emotions – but both associated with water.

There is a thought related to water that occurs to me every Spring as we pass through the season of Lent. That thought is the contrast between the serene and calm duck sitting on the water and the vigorous paddling that is taking place out of sight beneath the surface. I long for that tranquillity, but instead I find myself having to paddle even more furiously and disturbing more mud on the bottom of the pond.

It is not easy to maintain a sense of calmness and tranquillity, for our lives are full of hustle and bustle — and those pressures frequently seem to be increasing rather than diminishing.

It has been suggested that Lent gives us an opportunity to stand aside from some of that pressure and re-evaluate our lives. Taking the opportunity to look at our lives from a different

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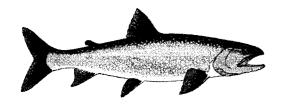
perspective in order that we may become more rounded and balanced. Going back to the water theme, we realise that we cannot live without it, yet water has the potential to destroy us. Maybe another way of thinking about Lent is to think of it in much the same way that a pressure cooker has an opportunity to let off the excess steam. Lent provides us with a safety valve in our very pressurised lives.

But standing aside and considering ourselves is something that we cannot do easily. Maybe we might get on better if we were to think in terms of standing alongside others. For it can often be helpful if we allow others to share our vision. They can be helpful in throwing us a life-line when we are drowning. They can help us by pouring cold water on some of our more stupid ideas. They can re-invigorate us by preventing us from drying out. They can be useful in helping us to find a new sense of discipline in our lives – a discipline that will ease some of the pressures – a discipline that will make us aware of the things to which we have allowed ourselves to become addicted. That kind of help can be most useful in transforming our thinking from being overwhelmed by the disasters of life to putting ourselves back on the top of the wave.

The record-breaking, non-stop circum-navigation of the world gives us an example of what can be achieved with dedication and self-discipline. We may not aspire to such spectacular things – but maybe a bit of self-discipline would not hurt any of us.

~ Bob Willmott





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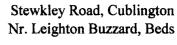
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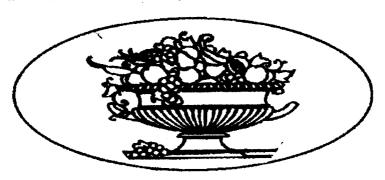
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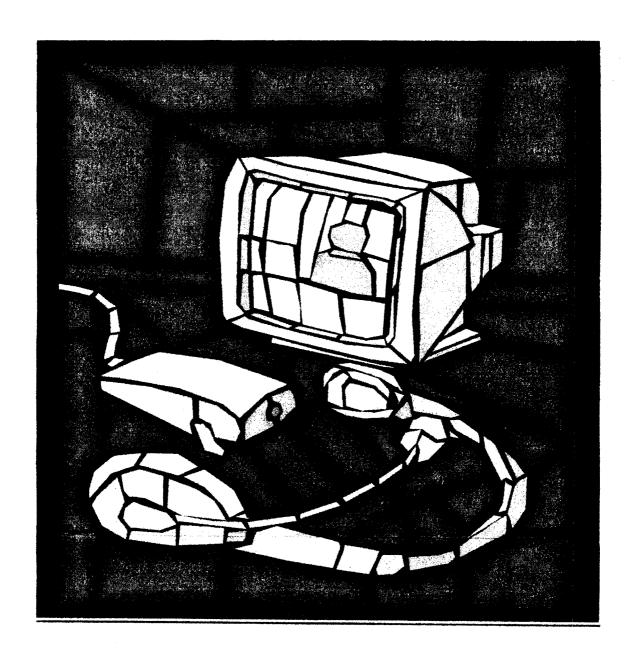
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District Councillor

PETER COOPER

Brewhouse Lane, Rowsham ~ 681250

County Councillor

BRENDA JENNINGS

25, The Green, Soulbury ~ 01525 270610

Margaret Kent is Street Light Officer, so people should let

CHURCH ROOM BOOKINGS

Please contact Colin Higgs on 681343 if you wish to book the Church Room

Rates are as follows:

For Villagers:

£5 per hour (plus metered

electricity) and £50 Booking

Deposit (Returnable)

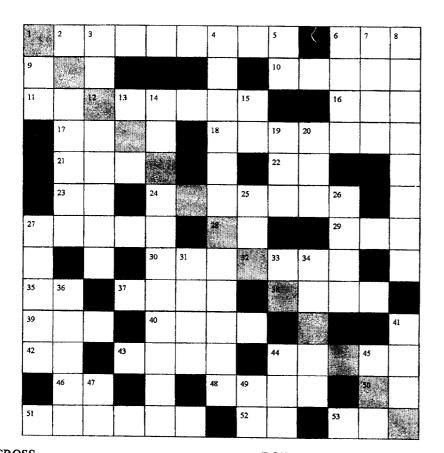
For Non-Villagers: £10 per hour (plus electricity)

and £50 Booking Deposit

(Returnable)

The Chronicle Crossword

March 2005



February Solutions

Across 1 Technicolour 7 Ah 8 MO 10 Eggplants 15 Koi 16 Essay 17 Gyr 19 Lodge 21 Nye 22 Motion 25 Risky 27 Hat 29 Pa 31 C&A 33 Beta 34 Olive 35 Only 37 On 38 IE 39 Go 40 GMT 41 NS 42 Leaned 45 Bran 47 Weekend Break

Down 1 Talking Point 2 Eh 3 Hog 4 Imps 5 Cols 6 Opt 9 Chieftan Tank 10 Eiger 11 Germs 12 AA 13 Nylon 14 Sad 20 On 23 OK 24 Tycoon 26 Involve 27 He 28 Atom 30 Ales 32 An 33 By 36 Lad 39 Game 40 Gore 43 End 45 BR 46 AA

Diagonal 1,18,44 The Royal Oak

ACROSS

- He didn't pass by on the other side (9) 6 Political party across the border (1,1,1)
- 9 Might arrive then (1,1,1)
- 10 Fish eating member of weasel family (5)
- 11 Most beautiful palace (3,5)
- 16 Before (3)
- 17 Joseph's was many coloured (4)
- 18 Adds (7)
- 21 Maul anagram (4)
- 22 Before noon (1,1)
- Principle route north and south (1,1) 23
- Killed his father and married his mother (7) 24
- 27 Reverses (5)
- 28 Likewise (2)
- 29 Soaking (3)
- 30 Small flute (7)
- 35 Small operation (2)
- 37 Scare away fowls (4)
- 38 Springs eternal (4)
- 39 Number of green bottles (3)
- 40 Volcano (4)
- 42 Saint - abbrev. (2)
- 43 Scottish river bank (4)
- White heron (5) 44
- 46 Phil Spooner is a small one of these (2)
- 48 Band worn over the shoulder (4)
- Measure of capacity (1,1) 50
- 51 Tree limb (6)
- 52 Record (1,1)
- Serious offence (1,1,1) 53

DOWN

7

- DIAGONAL 1,12,32 God's House (2,5,6)
- Badger's burrow (3)
- 2 Driest desert in the world (7)
- 3 Enamelled earthenware (8)
- 4 Add jam and cream, lovely! (3,3,6)
- 5 Refuse (2)
- Small automatic gun (4) 6
 - Derogatory term for computer buff (4)
- 8 Gives gifts (8)
- Half of Kenyan terrorist group (3) 13
- 14 Describes quality of place of great feeling (11) 15
 - Record but bigger than 52 across (1,1)
- 19 Soft food for infants (3)
- Australian flightless bird (3) 20
- 25 They run the biggest sporting event every 4 years (1,1,1)
- 26 Exchange (4)
- These were made for walking (5) 27
- 31 Smallest letter in the Greek alphabet (4)
- 33 Exclamation! (2)
- 34 Irish lake (5)
- To dwindle away to nothing (5) 36
- 41 Engrave metal with acid (4)
- 44
- Used by telepathic person (1,1,1) 45 Initials of cricket's governing body (1,1,1)
- 47 American lawyer (1,1)
- 49 This hospital deals with casualties (1&1)

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St James Church

Church Services

	Wing	Wingrave	Aston Abbotts	Cublington
6 th Mar Mothering Sunday	08.00 Communion (by Extension) 10.00 Family Communion	10.00 Service at Methodist Church	10.00 Parish Communion	10.00 Family Service (Lay)
13 th Lent 5	10.00 Parish Communion 18.0 Evensong	8.0 Communion 10.00 People's Praise (Lay) (with Methodists)	10.00 Parish Communion	8.45 Parish Communion
20th Palm Sunday	08.00 Communion 10.00 People's Praise (Lay)	10.00 Palm Procession We	CT	
24 th	19.30 Communion	20.00 Communion		
25 th Good Friday	14.0 Devotional Service	18.00 WCT Service at Methodist Church		
27th Easter Day	10.00 Parish Communion	10.00 Parish Communion	18.00 Evensong	8.45 Parish Communion
3 rd Apr Easter 2 Sunday	08.00 Communion (by Extension) 10.00 Parish Communion	10.00 Parish Communion	10.00 Parish Communion	10.00 Family Service (Lay)

Sunday Readings

6 th Mar	Mothering	Colossians 3.12-17; John 19.25-27
13 th	Lent 5	Romans 8.6-11; John 11.1-45
20 th	Palm	Philippians 2.5-11; Matthew 21.1-11
27 th	Easter	Colossians 3.1-4; Matthew 28.1-10
3 rd Apr	Easter 2	1 Peter 1.3-9; John 20.19-31

From The Registers

Funerals

Laudia	
10 Jan	Shirley Newell at Amersham
17 Jan	Jacqueline Skeet at Amersham
17 Jan	Don Bellingham at Aston Abbotts & Amersham
20 Jan	Olive Jauncey at Amersham
4 Feb	Eileen Dempster at Amersham



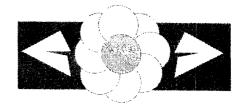
Church Sidesmen

6 th	Mr. G. Kemp
13 th	Mr. A. Ford.
20 th	Mrs. S. Ford
27 th	Church wardens

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

Church Flowers

5/6 th	No flowers in Lent
12/13 th	» » » » »
19/20 th	27 27 27 27
26/27 th	Easter Rota.



The Aston Abbotts Telephone List

	100 Club	Colin Higgs	681343	NHS Direct	24hr Medical Advice	Line 0845 46 47		
	630 Club	Andy Bystra	681690	Parish Clerk	Kate Curry	681137		
	AVDC	Switchboard	585858	Parish Council Leader	Colin Higgs	681343		
		Doris Scutchings	681243	Police	Emergencies	999		
	Bingo	•	3730 or 423445	Police	Non-emergency	0845 8 505 505		
ĺ	Busses	Claire Gresswell	682949	Police	Aylesbury	396000		
	Chronicle Advertising		681690	Police	Wing Police Office	396163		
	Chronicle Distribution	Andy Bystra	681544	Railways	Chiltern	0870 516 5165		
	Chronicle Editorial	Phil Spooner		•		681343		
١	Church Mowing Rota	Gordon Kemp	681763	Rambler's Club	Colin Higgs			
l	Church Room Redevelo	pment Tom Manning	07812 525703	Rector	Reverend Bob Willn			
l	Church Room Hire	Colin Higgs	681343	Refuse Collection	Enquiries	585510		
	Citizens Advice	Aylesbury	0870 126 4056	Roads & Transport	Colin Higgs	681343		
۱	Coach Trips	Colin Higgs	681343	Royal Oak	Teri & Gary Moult	681262		
l	Council	Aylesbury Vale Distric	t 585858	RSPCA	General Enquiries	08705 555 999		
l	Council	Bucks County Council	395000	Scouts	Julia Ellis	681118		
ļ	County Councillor	Brenda Jennings	01525 270610	Shop (Osborn's)	Bernard Osborn	681233		
-	District Councillor	Peter Cooper	681250	Toddlers Group	Claire Greswell	682949		
	Fete Coordinator	Jackie Farrands	681182	Whist	Doris Scutchings	681243		
	Floral Class	Colin Higgs	681343	Wingrave Preschool	Claire Upton	681700		
	Hospital	Stoke Mandeville	315000	Wingrave Post Office	(PO only)	681011		
	Ladies Club	Shirley Ford	681865	Wingrave School	Office	681436		
	LBO Reports	Colin Higgs	681343	Wingrave Stores	Shop	681696		
	Milkman	Ron Miller Dairies	482838	@11-4				
	Mobile Library	Buckingham Library	01280 813229	Tlease let us know of any errors or omissio				

Mobile Library

Buckingham Library 01280 813229

Aston Abbotts & Cublington Ladies Club Programme for 2004/2005	
October 21 st	Curtains and Cushions - Clare Shorrock
November 4 th	Annual General Meeting
November 18 th	Waddesdon Manor - Talk by Mr Keating
December 2 nd	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 Atkins
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 31st	Snapshots of Italy - Peter Fellows
April 14 th	Talk by St John's Ambulance
April 28 th	Crossroads, Caring for Carers - Talk by Claire Dalton
May 12 th	Musical Afternoon - Lindsay Stafford- Smith
May 26 th	Sight Savers - Talk
June 9 th	Vale Speakers Club - Talk by Penny Dabten
June 23 rd	Competition Afternoon
July 7 th	Summer Outing
July 21st	Garden Party

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Evening appointments available

What's On In March

Thursday 3rd Whist Drive Church room 7.30 pm

Sunday 6th Mothering Sunday. There will be a service with posies at St. James

Church 10 am.

Tuesday 8th Aylesbury Vale transport meeting. County Hall at 7.30 pm. (bus

and train queries to Colin)

Thursday 10th Bingo. Church Room 7.30 pm

Wednesday 16th Fete Meeting to discuss this year's Aston Abbotts Fete. If you

would like to help please come along. Church Room. 8 pm.

Thursday 17th Whist Drive. Church Room 7.30 pm

Friday 18th NOTE—CHRONICLE DEADLINE—early because of Easter

Sunday 20th Village footpath walk. The Green 2 pm

Thursday 24th Normal refuse collection this week

Friday 25th Good Friday (hot cross buns)

Saturday 20th British Summer time begins, clocks go on one hour.

Sunday 27th Easter day Communion and Evensong. St. James church 6 pm

also Rambling club members meet at Mursley.

Monday 28th Easter Monday Bank Holiday

Wednesday 30th Parish Council Meeting in the Church Room at 8 pm

Thursday 31st Whist Drive. Church Room 7.30 pm

Friday 1st April Refuse Collection (not Thursday)

Wed 5th April Annual church council meeting Church Room 8 pm

Chronicle Deadlines

April issueFriday 18th MarchDistribution starts Friday 25thMay IssueFriday 22nd AprilDistribution starts Friday 29th

June Issue Friday May 27th Distribution starts Friday June 3rd

NB-These are subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control

Book These Dates

Friday 29th April – Monday 2nd May. Czech VE Day Celebration weekend

Saturday/Sunday 23rd/34th July. Festival and fete weekend

NOTICES

There have been several complaints about dog fouling on public footpaths (i.e. The Grove,

Chapmans Lea, Recreation ground). It is an offence with a penalty to allow your dog to foul public paths.

A villager telephoned The Chronicle to complain that someone has been emptying their car ash tray on to the ground in the parking area around Bricstoc. Please take your rubbish home.

WE URGENTLY NEED MORE WHIST PLAYERS, IF YOU ARE INTERESTED CONTACT COLIN OR DORIS

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

Classified

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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 or 07903 083085.

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

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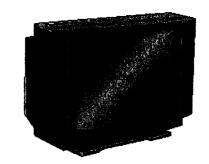
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