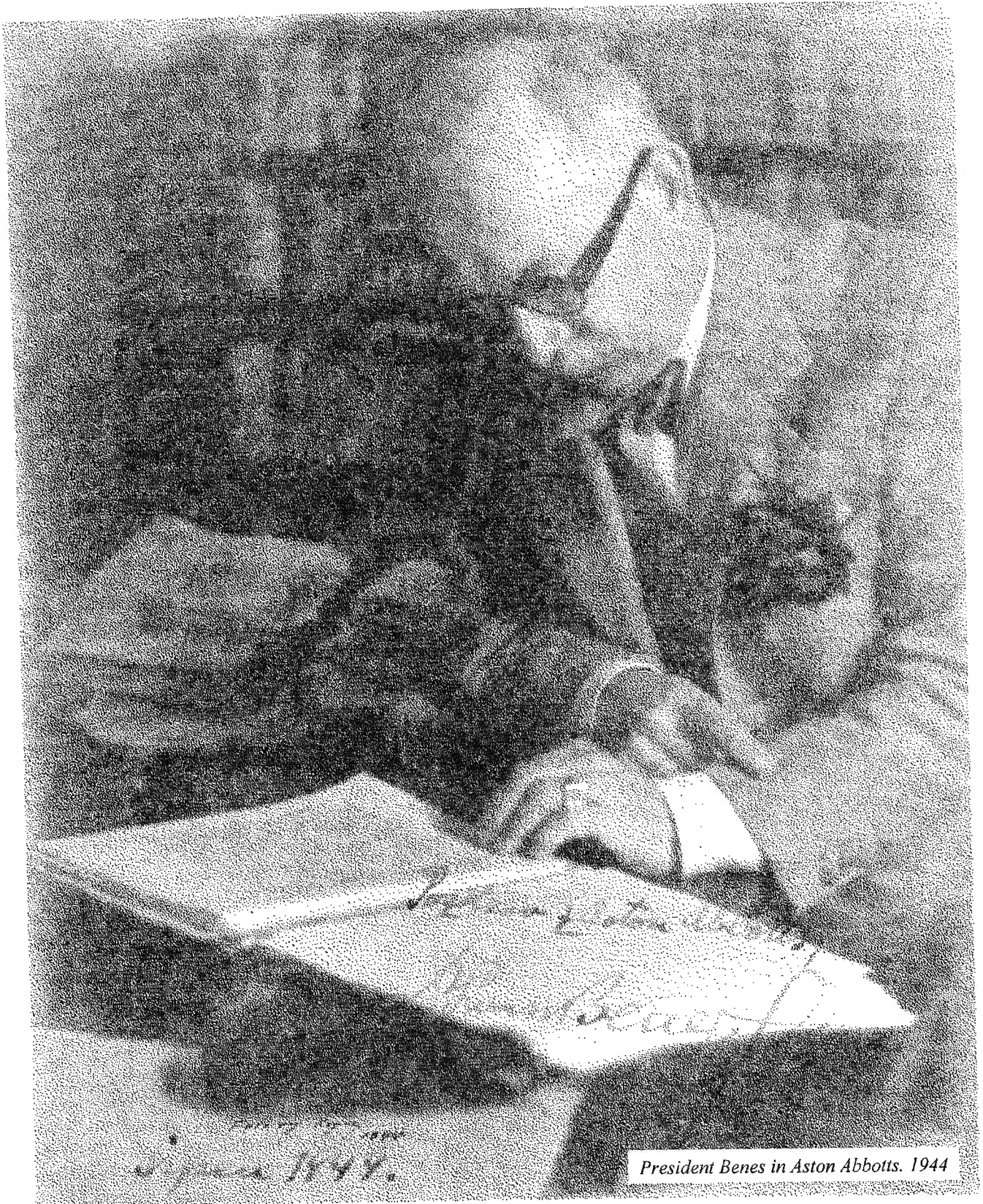


# THE CHRONICLE

ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH MAGAZINE ~ Issue 245 ~ May 2005



President Benes in Aston Abbots. 1944



# Editorial

## Czech Connection

It's on! It's off! It's on again!

I feel very sorry for the team who have striven so hard to put on a Czech VE Day Memorial Celebration of which we can all be proud.

As you will probably have read elsewhere, uncertainty with the funding and problems with the availability of the Czech military band and Czech dance teams have now caused the event to be split. The memorial celebrations, exhibitions, talks, walks and film shows will take place this May Bank Holiday weekend and we are reproducing the itinerary in this issue (see page 33). The other events, the wartime dinner and dance, the Czech dancing groups and (hopefully) the Czech military band will be held on the weekend of the Aston Abbotts fete.

I hope that the confusion has not put people off and I hope that many of you will be able to take the opportunity of attending one or more of the weekend's activities. I am indebted to Peter Shorrock for providing excellent articles on the Aston Abbotts Czech connection, President Benes, and the assassination of Heydrich. You will find them on pages 17, 19 and 21.

My congratulations to the Aston Abbotts Czech Connection team for triumphing in their Herculean struggle to stage the event. I hope you all enjoy it.

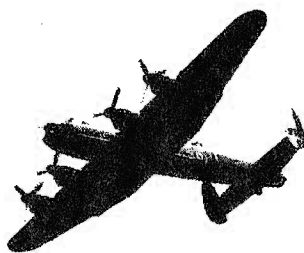
## Annual Parish Meeting

This year's Annual Parish Meeting voted to continue contributing a portion of the fete proceeds to The Chronicle at the same level as last year. This funding is a substantial contribution to our printing costs and, along with our advertising revenue looked after so ably by Claire Gresswell, is the financial bedrock of our magazine. So my grateful thanks to the Parish Meeting for their support.

*Phil*

## RAF LANCASTER FLYPAST

As part of the Czech celebrations the only remaining flying WW2 RAF Lancaster Bomber is scheduled to fly past Aston Abbotts at approximately 4 pm on Sunday May 1st



*In This Issue*

*In your May Chronicle ~*

- VE Day Celebrations
- Eduard Benes
- Lidice and the Assassination of Heydrich
- Bernard's Shop Closes
- NoChickens, NorDucks
- Fete 2005

*and much, much more.....*

**THE CHRONICLE**  
**Issue 245**  
**May 2005**

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~o~

A note to all would be advertisers -

More than 202 households receive The Chronicle 11 times a year and with rates from just £10 per annum (far cheaper than some local Parish magazines)...

...Can you afford not to be in?

~o~

Copy date for the next issue is:

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May 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

Ridings Cottage  
Cublington

**Happy Birthday**

Mervyn King	2 <sup>nd</sup> May
Charlie Bystra	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Harry Bystra	9 <sup>th</sup>
Hannah Brandon	12 <sup>th</sup>
Jeff Banister	17 <sup>th</sup>
Callum Hilton	21 <sup>st</sup>
Tom Manning	22 <sup>nd</sup>
Benjamin King	22 <sup>nd</sup>
Milani Drysdale	23 <sup>rd</sup>
Neil Chesher	26 <sup>th</sup>

## Did you send us your birthday

**dates in the past year?** Unfortunately, due to finger trouble on the part of the *Keeper Of The Birthdays Database*, our entire list of birthdays from which we publish the list above each month has been lost. I have recovered much of the information from old issues of the Chronicle, but recently included birthdays may be missing. So if you recently sent us your birthdays, or if you wish us to include your birthday, please send them to the editor - contact details on page 2.

\*\*\*  
**100 Club**  
 Winner of the 100 Club draw ticket,  
 no. 69, Mr. V Scott  
 \*\*\*

**Depression is merely anger without enthusiasm**

Warm and sincere thanks for making April 2nd a so memorable event. Special thank you to Caroline Lane and April Curnow for the undercover exercise; Cards, gifts and the astonishing garden tokens.

I plan two garden loungers, so Valerie and I can watch the garden return to its natural state

Loving thanks,  
Bernard

\*\*\*\*\*

Get Well to **Doris Scutchings** who is still recovering in Stoke Mandeville Hospital. Also to **Brigitte Gutierrez & Bob Prowling** who both popped in for a short time.

\*\*\*\*\*

Congratulations to daughter **Kirsty** who completed the London Marathon in spite of ignoring all my training instructions!

\*\*\*\*\*

The first baby Alpaca of the year has been born, in a snow storm? And needed a little padded jacket for a couple of days!

\*\*\*\*\*

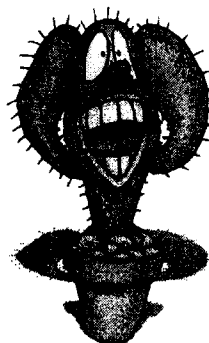
Congratulations to **Kim Moul** at The Royal Oak, who has just passed her driving test.



\*\*\*\*\*

**Piers and Julia Parker** now have another baby, **Sonny**, a brother for Lili, Born April 3rd. Our congratulations to them and to Anita—grandmother again!

\*\*\*\*\*



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FETE!!!"**



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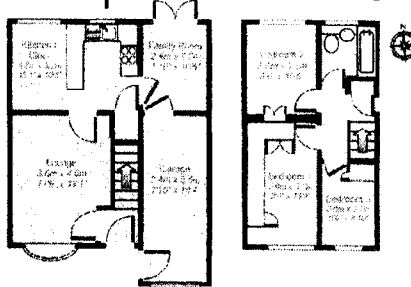
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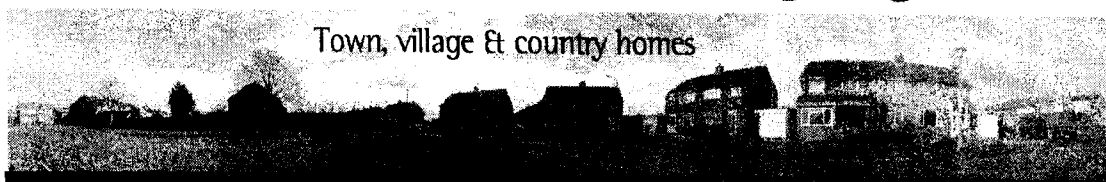
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# In The Village

## NoChickens, NorDucks

The proposal to create an egg production unit at Norduck rumbles on. The Planning Proposal included many conflicts, omissions and inconsistencies and before the Parish Council could form a considered view a number of points needed to be clarified, and they asked the applicant to attempt to resolve these. A consolidated list of questions was submitted to Aylesbury Vale Planners in early March, but as yet the applicant has still not replied.

In the mean time, a group of interested residents has formed an association and employed a planning consultant to advise and guide them through the planning process. Clearly this has a price, and the association members have contributed a significant amount of money to a fighting fund; at the present time this covers the short-term fees of consultants and other advisors.

The timing for a decision to be made on the proposal by Aylesbury Vale planners is likely to be sometime in June.

If you have any points that you wish to raise, please feel free to contact me on phone: 682892

or e-mail: amanda.dewhirst@btinternet.com

~ Dickie Dicken

## VOLUNTEERS

## WANTED

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## St Lawrence Church Fete

### Winslow

### Saturday 21st May

**Starts at 12.30 with a Barbecue in  
Vicarage Gardens off Vicarage Road,  
Followed by the Fete at St Lawrence  
Church off Market Square**

## Fete 2005

This year's Aston Abbots fete will be a little bit different and maybe a little bit special, promises fete organiser Poonam Gupta.

New attractions, including a children's show, a dog show and a display of tractors through the ages, join all of your usual favourites, like the bric-a-brac, the Tombola, gifts, plants, books, groceries, cakes and many others.

Hot food and Pimms will be served from 1:00 pm and it is hoped that many people will come and enjoy lunch at the fete. Of course, both the Great Horwood Silver Band and the Morris dancers will be there.

Other attractions will include face-painting for the children, a jewellery stall selling affordable bead jewellery, and teas in the Church room with cakes and cream teas available. Exhausted parents might like to leave their children (not Toddlers) at Colonel Custards Magic Show, where they will be magically entertained for 45 minutes giving their parents a little time to explore the fete on their own.

### Fete timetable:

- 1.00 pm** Hot food and Pimms served  
Dog show
- 2.00 pm** Fete opened by Mrs Olley of the Abbey  
Stalls open for business  
Great Horwood Silver Band
- 2.30 pm** Morris dancers  
Teas and cakes will be served in the Church Room
- 3.00 pm** Colonel Custard's Magic Show - one performance only

You can help make the fete a success simply by collecting certain items, which will be collected in the week prior to the fete. Please put aside bric-a-brac (sorry, no electrical items please), books, items that can be sold as gifts, bottles for the Tombola, toys for the children's store (nearly-new or new please) and groceries (no expired items please). Home-baked cakes can be taken to the cake stall on the day of the fete and Clare Shorrock asks that you please, please save and pot up your spare seedlings and cuttings, and deliver them to her at Oak Farm House in the week prior to the fete (or bring them to the stall on the day).

Poonam has also asked for more volunteers to help on the day of the fete. If more people would be prepared to help man a stall for 30 minutes to an hour then it would give the main stall holders the chance of a break and the opportunity to have a look around the fete themselves. So, if you could please help in any way please contact Poonam on 682204 or come along to the next fete meeting on May 9th (please phone Poonam for details of location and time). It sounds like this year's fete is shaping up to be a really special event and your help, either through donations, help on the day, or just coming and spending money, will make it a great success.

~ Phil Spooner



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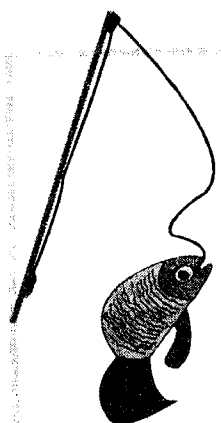
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## London Marathon 2005

With only a few hours to go before the start of the 2005 London Marathon, Kirsty informed me that the soles of her very expensive trainers had started to detach



from the uppers, a very rushed application of Araldite Rapid was required to remedy the situation.

The following morning saw an early start for those running who had to be at the starting line by 9.30 hrs. All the roads were closed so they had to make their way by the underground. Alison and I parked at Euston station and journeyed to Rotherhithe to catch our first view of Kirsty who was at this point making good time. Considering that the only training she had applied was to Weedon and back she was doing well. We next travelled via the tube to Westminster to catch her only a mile or so before the finish. We waited some while before she appeared, and she was still looking strong.

Kirsty finished at position 32,956 with a time of 6 hours & 24 seconds.

However her position as a female was 9303

But even more impressive in her age group she finished 47<sup>th</sup>.

Watch out Paula Radcliffe!

Well done Kirsty who raised more than £200 for Children with Leukaemia.

*A very proud Dad ~ Dave Lewis.*



## Rotary Club Fundraising Walk

The Rotary Clubs of Aylesbury are organising a charity walk on Sunday 3rd July 2005.

This is an opportunity for people to raise money *for their own* favourite charity at virtually no cost at all. For several years the Rotary Clubs of Aylesbury have organised our annual Charity Walk and this year we aim to make it bigger and better than ever. It is our centenary year, so we want to make a special effort and ensure that it is the most successful yet.

There will be three routes, the longest being 10 miles, a shorter one of 4 miles and a 2-3 mile walk suitable for wheelchairs and pushchairs. All the routes will be clearly signposted and marshalled by Rotary Club members.

This year the walk will start in the pretty village of Oving, just 4 miles north of Aylesbury. The route will pass through some of the loveliest countryside in the county, starting from the Oving village recreation ground where there will be plenty of free car parking, refreshments, toilets, a bouncy castle and more.

Please see page 39 for more information.

*~ Stuart Nicholls*

## The Aston Abbotts & Cublington Ladies Club

### 14th April

19 members were present at today's meeting held in the Church Room. The Chairman, Joan Alexander welcomed members and our Speaker for today. The minutes were read and signed. There were no matters arising.

Our Speaker was Mrs Sarah Wright and she gave us a very informative talk about the history and continuing work of St Johns Ambulance Service.

Tea today were hostesses were Shirley Ford and Doreen Liddell and the raffle prize was won by Daphne Rogers

*~ Shirley Ford.*

**If everything seems to be going well, you have obviously overlooked something.**



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## Bernard Osborn's Shop Closes

A group of villagers gathered outside Bernard's on the morning of April 2nd, the last day of trading for Osborn's shop after more than seven decades of serving Aston Abbotts. At about five past nine, with no sign of Bernard, a few began to wonder—had we got the day wrong, had the shop already closed?

Then Bernard finally arrived, seemingly surprised to see the waiting people. Caroline Lane presented him with a card and a gift of garden vouchers as a thank you from the village and everybody wished him well for his retirement. Unfortunately Bernard's wife Valerie had not come with him, so Caroline also presented him with a bunch of flowers, to take back to her at their home in Cublington.

A photographer from the Leighton Buzzard Observer then took a group photograph, with Bernard standing in the shop doorway alongside neighbour Sharon Wilkinson. (This appeared in the following week's LBO.)

Pictures taken, Bernard opened the shop for one last time. Most people present took the opportunity of making a final purchase. Then, later on in the morning, the doors were finally closed and Aston Abbotts no longer had a shop.

Bernard had worked in the shop since, as a boy, he had helped his father during the war. Last month we reported how Bernard's father had started the shop in the Old Forge before moving it to the end of The Old Cottage in the 1930s. In its heyday the shop carried a wide variety of fresh produce as well as groceries, but the gradual erosion of business caused by changing lifestyles and the move towards supermarket shopping had forced Bernard to drop most of the fresh goods. However, for many years Bernard kept the shop open and provided a personal service to the residents of Aston Abbotts, particularly the elderly. So, on behalf of all of his customers we would like to say a big 'Thank You' and we wish Bernard and Valerie the very best for the future.

~ Phil Spooner





# 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.

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*Above: Bernard Osborn serves Doris Scutchings and Colin Higgs—some of his last customers—a short while before his shop closed its doors for good.*

*Below: Villagers gather to say Thank You and Farewell*





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## Peter Knight's Countryside Diary

7th April

Despite my protestations here we are with a little blackthorn winter again. Plunging temperatures with hail and snow showers just in time to catch the plum blossom and the emerging seedling potatoes in the vegetable garden. A nasty spell of weather now doesn't do the sheep much good either, it can bring on Hypomagnesia, obviously shortened to Hypomag, in the past sometimes called Hereford disease.

The problem is that grass can grow very quickly over a couple of days. As you can all see from your lawns, one inch a day is possible. In these conditions the grass cannot take up enough magnesium from the soil to provide this essential element to the stock eating the grass. Sheep and cows need a very small amount of magnesium every day and, if they are working hard providing lots of milk for their growing lambs, they may be suddenly short of magnesium. Add to this situation the stress of a cold wet night or cold north wind and, hey presto, the sheep falls over dead. Of course, it's always one of the best yielding cows or a ewe with two thumping good lambs that die from Hypomag.

We, of course, take all the precautions we can and high magnesium minerals are always on offer, but there is little more disheartening than finding a dead sheep with two good lambs motherless in the morning.

Having tempted fate let's move on!

Did the council used a more virulent form of salt on the roads this winter? It has certainly killed the grass in patches on the green and along the road verge. I can't remember it happening in previous years.

The weather must have suited violets this last year. They seem to have come up and flowered in loads of unusual places. Years ago I knew of only one clump of white violets and they were

by their gate into Westcraft, the field opposite the Abbey. This year there are some good clumps flowering on the green and loads in our garden.

Once again I am slightly bemused by the RSPB. I read that it's good news that wood pigeons have increased dramatically in gardens, but it's bad news that starlings and house sparrows are declining in numbers.

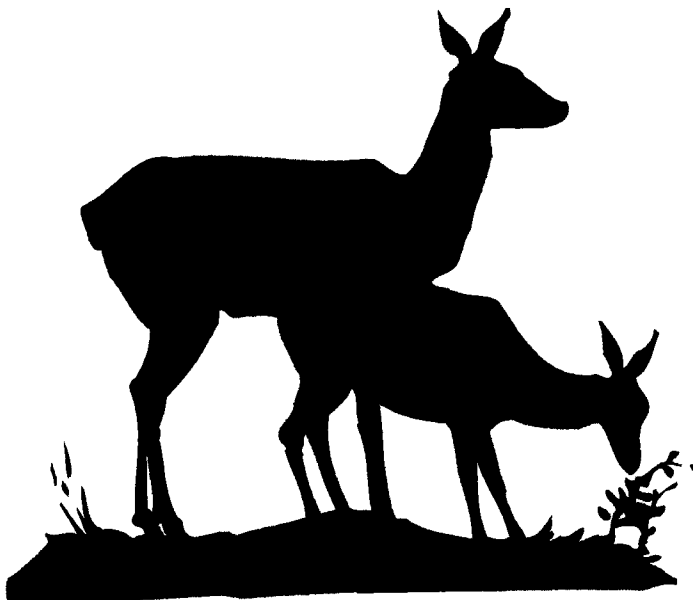
It seems to me that there are still plenty of starlings and sparrows about. Could there not have been too many a few years ago? There were certainly too many roosting in Leicester Square and Aston Abbots Cover (the round wood) in the early 1970s.

As for wood pigeons - what's good about having half-tame pests eating your emerging peas and brassicas in the garden, nearly as bad as having a rabbit living in your cabbage patch.

I suspect the deer have young now, their behaviour has certainly changed. During the winter I could be within 50 yards of water deer and they would take no notice of me or the Land Rover. Yesterday I was looking at three through binoculars at least a quarter of a mile away. They lifted their heads, stared back, and then disappeared back into the spinney. At the same time a red kite ventured over, but was so vigorously mobbed by rooks that he thought it easier to hunt somewhere else.

There is always something of interest in the countryside.

This week I caught a glimpse of one of the most pleasing spring sights that is increasingly rare. A lovely field of good grass with a herd of fine-looking Friesian cows grazing. They looked beautiful, just beautiful.



*Peter Knight*



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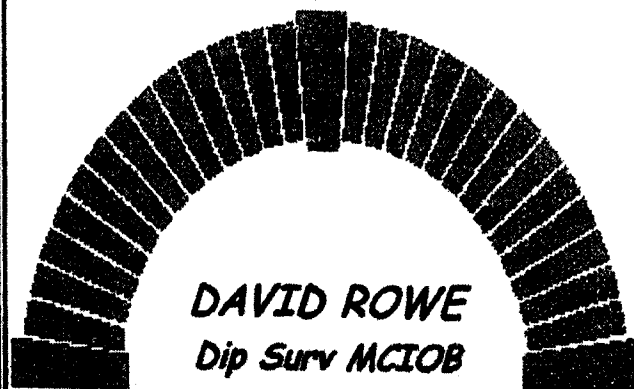
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## Who Is It?



Do you recognise this long-standing Aston Abbotts resident? Do you know who this is? This photograph was taken not so long ago, when the person in the picture was about 15 years old. You will find the answer on page 37..

So, have you got any photographs of long-standing Aston Abbotts residents, pictured in their youth? I have a picture of John Whyte which he is going to pay me not to publish, but what have you got? It's just a bit of fun - if you've got such a picture which we can publish I'll be very pleased to hear from

Two Englishmen walking through the woods with a large Salmon under each arm when they met two Irishmen, Michael and Donal.

"Hey there's some wonderful salmon, where did you get them?"

"Don't tell anyone," replied the Englishmen, "but we poached them out of the river."

"How did you do that?" asked Donal

"Well, Fred here dangles over the bridge, I hang on to his legs and when the salmon leap out of the water on their way upstream, he just catches them."

"We'll try that Michael me boy." says Donal

They get to the bridge and Donal hangs Michael over the edge of the bridge by his legs, after about twenty minutes Michael screams...

"Quick pull me up, pull me up!"

"Have you got a salmon?" asks Donal,

"No," replies Michael "but there's a train coming."

Immediately follows maypole dancing



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## Czech VE Day Celebrations

**W**hy should we in Aston Abbots be interested in Czechoslovakia (or the Czech & Slovak Republics), and why should we be interested in celebrating the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day? The short answer is, as I am sure most of you will know, that former President Benes of Czechoslovakia lived in The Abbey during the War. After the War was over Czechoslovakia was freed from the Nazi yoke, and became an independent country again, with Benes as its first post-war president. Important as VE Day is to us, one can see that it is of even more significance to Czechs & Slovaks.

If you want to know more about Eduard Benes please read the article which follows on page 19, which gives a brief resumé of his life.

And why should we be planting a lime tree on the Green, and rose bushes in the Churchyard? The answer to the first question is that in the Czech & Slovak Republics, lime trees (rather than any other species of tree) are commonly planted to commemorate important events. In 1943 President Benes planted a lime tree in the grounds of The Abbey to commemorate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the formation of the independent state of Czechoslovakia, and it seemed appropriate to plant a tree for this anniversary as well, especially as by the time the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary arrives, there will be few people still alive who fought in the Second World War to celebrate it.

The reason why we are planting rose bushes is that the rose is a symbol of the village of Lidice, and we are being given some roses by the residents of Lidice specially. If the name "Lidice" means as little to you as it did to me before I started doing this research, I strongly recommend that you read the article which follows on Lidice and the assassination of Reinhard Heydrich. When you have read this I am sure that you will agree it is an honour to have some roses from Lidice to plant.

~ Peter Shorrock

## A World for The Old

**O**n driving into our lane from the main A418 our young Grandson spotted a placard for "The World Of Old" and innocently asked if that was why Grandma and Grandpa came to live in Aston Abbots?

The sad part is that he is too young to have meant it as a joke!

No Danish pastries for young Ned that day.

~ April and Geoff Curnow

## Litterblitz

**A**ston Abbots Parish Council organised a village litter blitz last month. It started from the Church Room and covered Lines Hill/Moat Lane, Cublington Road, Wingrave Road and the area around The Green. By far the worst area was Cublington Road with Cllrs Peter Shorrock and Tom Manning filling five sacks.

Among the items picked up were car parts, catalogues and a sun bed! Thanks to all who helped clear up the litter which is mainly caused by passing traffic.

~ Colin Higgs

## Speed Limit Reviews

**P**arish Councillors Dickie Dickens and Colin Higgs both attended a Bucks County Council area 12 speed limit review meeting held at Winslow last month.

Information was presented by Tony Walton and Pat Francis.

A working group consisting of county and district councillors and Thames Valley Police will review speed limits and signs in the area covering Bierton, Rowsham, Wingrave, Aston Abbots, Cublington and Wing. They will study visibility, junctions, traffic flows and vulnerable road users such as pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders and then consult the parish councils about any suggested changes to speed limits.

~ Colin Higgs

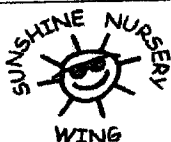
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(\*)Anything up to 4 sessions per week is paid for by Bucks County Council - the nursery is eligible to apply for funding for children aged 3 upwards (subject to availability). More information is available.

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## Eduard Benes

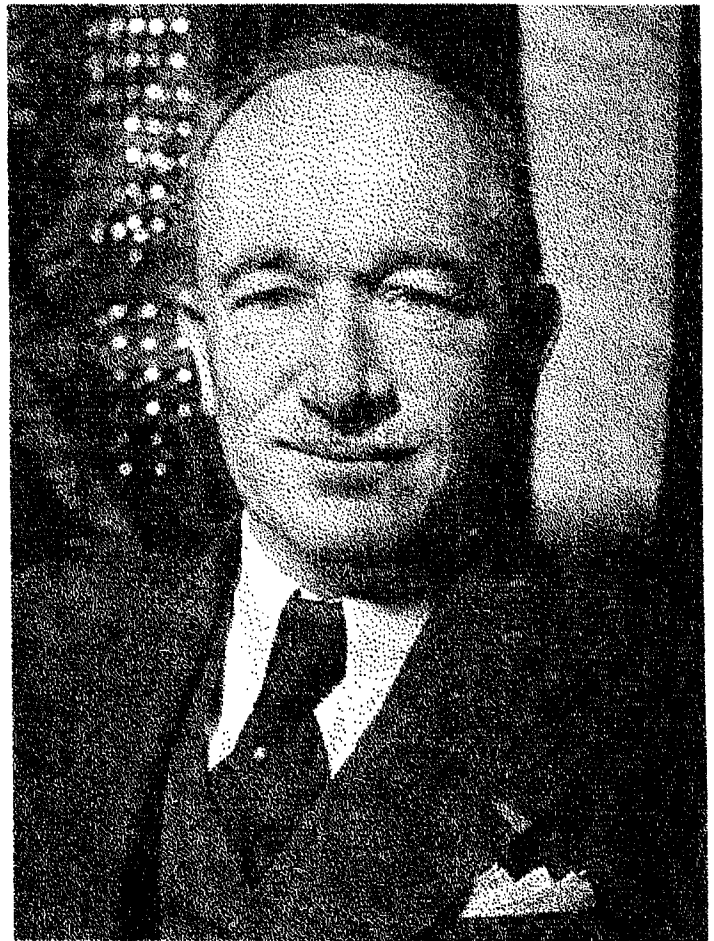
Born to a peasant background in Bohemia in 1884, Eduard Benes achieved a high standard of education, ultimately obtaining Doctorates in Sociology and Law. He was an early agitator for Czech independence from the Austro-Hungarian Empire. While at University in Prague in 1904, one of his tutors was Tomas Masaryk, who wanted independence not only for Czechs, but also Slovaks, and he persuaded Benes that a union of the two peoples was the best way of obtaining this. Thereafter Benes worked closely with Masaryk, and when ultimately an independent Czech-Slovak state was established in 1918, with Masaryk as its leader, Benes became Foreign Minister. He served in that capacity until 1935, when he succeeded Masaryk as President.

In 1938, Benes resigned over what he regarded as Chamberlain's betrayal of Czechoslovakia through his signing the Munich Agreement with Hitler, and later that year he left Czechoslovakia to go into exile together with his wife & bodyguard and other members of his government. Despite his anger at what Chamberlain had done, he chose to come to live in England, probably because other members of his government were already here, including Jan Masaryk (son of Tomas), who was here as Czechoslovakian Ambassador

Initially President & Mrs. Benes stayed in Putney, but with the commencement of the Blitz, they were persuaded to move out of London – which proved a wise decision, since their house in Putney was bombed a few days after they left it! For the rest of the War they lived in The Abbey at Aston Abbots, together with their staff including a cook, maid, butler and chauffeur, and his Alsatian dog, Toga. Two of his nieces also came to live in the house. Because of the risk of the Germans sending paratroops to try to kill him, he needed to have a bodyguard, and a detachment of Czechoslovak soldiers were housed in purpose-built Nissen huts in the grounds. (Two of these huts still survive behind Jeff & Mandy Bannister's home).

In 1941 a provisional Czechoslovak government-in-exile was set up in London, with Benes as its leader. Some other members of the former Czechoslovak government and Dr. Benes's secretary were housed in at Wingrave Manor in the neighbouring village of Wingrave, including Jan Masaryk, who became foreign minister. The Czechoslovak Military Intelligence were housed in Addington House, in a village some 15 miles away from Aston Abbots, under its boss, Col. Frantisek Moravec. The houses in Aston Abbots & Wingrave were leased to the Czechoslovak government, while that in Addington was requisitioned by the British Secret Intelligence Service. Although the government in exile was based in London, because of the close proximity of Aston Abbots, Wingrave & Addington, meetings frequently took place at The Abbey as well, and representatives of the British government sometimes came out to Aston Abbots – and the Prime Minister, Winston Churchill sometimes came over from Chequers.

Benes is usually regarded as one for Europe's greatest statesmen of the inter-war period, and it is a mark of Benes's importance that he was on Hitler's "Black List" – a list of persons he intended to kill if he got the chance. Had Hitler ever succeeded in invading Britain successfully, Benes's days would have been numbered. For the same reason, the location of his home was kept secret – to guard against the risk of the Nazis trying to kill him through bombing or using paratroops.



*Eduard Benes*

Over the five years they were based in Aston Abbots, President & Mrs. Benes got to know the local inhabitants, and their time in the village is recalled with affection. There are still local residents who remember them; including Bernard Osborn, who used to deliver their mail (and who was introduced by them to real coffee), and Victor Scott, who often used to meet them on walks, and got to know them quite well – and who was entertained to dinner by President & Mrs. Benes when he visited Czechoslovakia after the War.

As is well known, while he was in Aston Abbots, as a mark of his feelings for the village, President Benes gave the school at Aston Abbots a globe, which, following the closure of the school, is now at the Aylesbury Museum; and he presented a bus shelter jointly to the villages of Aston Abbots & Wingrave, which still stands at the cross-roads.

At the end of the war, President Benes was re-instated as president of Czechoslovakia, in October 1945, and re-elected the following year. Unhappily he had to withstand pressure from the Czechoslovak communists and from Russia, and after what was in effect a Communist coup in June 1948 he resigned, to die a few months later.

He and Tomas Masaryk are commonly regarded as the two most important figures in the independence of Czechoslovakia, and the termination of Austro-Hungarian domination of the Czech & Slovak peoples; and Aston Abbots has a special place in Czech & Slovak history for this reason.

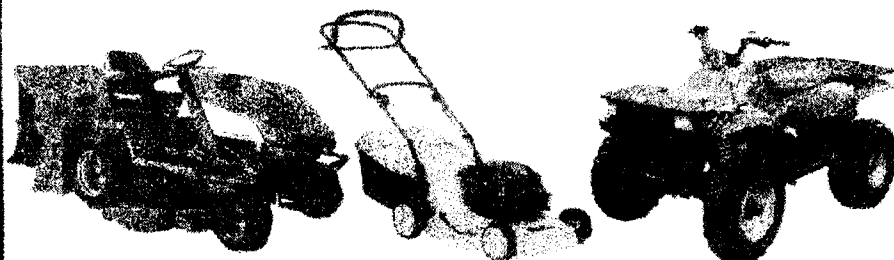
*~Peter Shorrock*



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## Lidice & The Assassination Of Reinhard Heydrich

Before the War, Reinhard Heydrich was a member of the SS, and ultimately became chief of the Security Police for the whole of Germany, and then the head of the "Reichssicherheitshauptamt" – the combined Secret Security Police & Department of Security. He played a large part in the planning & realisation of the "Final Solution" – the extermination of all Jewish people living in Germany & Nazi occupied countries. He personally ordered the "concentration" of Polish Jews in ghettos, and the mass deportation of Jews from Germany, Austria & Poland to concentration camps.

In 1941 Hitler became dissatisfied with the "Protector of Czechoslovakia" whom he had appointed, following the Nazi invasion of that country, and replaced him with Heydrich, whom he knew would follow Hitler's extremist policies with vigour. Ironically, Heydrich arrived in Czechoslovakia on 28<sup>th</sup> September, which for Czechoslovaks is Wenceslas Day – the day of their patron saint.

Heydrich immediately started a policy of terror – for example having 142 Czechs executed without trial, and 584 sent to concentration camps, on the first day of his appointment. He was soon to have the nickname "the Butcher of Prague". Benes and the Czechoslovak government in exile decided to do something about him. Various reasons are given for this: firstly, Benes wanted the world and his countrymen to know that Czechoslovakia was not completely cowed by the Nazi war machine; secondly, Benes and his government were embarrassed by the fact that Czechoslovakian factories were producing armaments for the Nazis; and, finally, two of the first executions were of generals who were friends of Benes and the members of the government in exile in Britain.

They therefore arranged to train Czechoslovakian agents who had escaped to Britain to assassinate Heydrich. In his house at Aston Abbots, Dr. Benes met the men, a Czech & a Slovak, who were finally chosen to be parachuted into occupied Czechoslovakia, and wished them luck, in what he and they knew was likely to be a mission from which they would not return. The two men were parachuted into Czechoslovakia on 28<sup>th</sup> December 1941, and after linking up with a resistance group and being joined by a third agent, they lay low in the country until May 1942, when orders were sent out from England to carry out the assassination. On 27<sup>th</sup> May the attempt to kill Heydrich was made. It was bungled, partly because of a gun jamming, but Heydrich was wounded by a grenade.

Although the wounds appeared superficial, he died of blood poisoning on 3<sup>rd</sup> June.

The Nazis were outraged by the death, and did everything they could to find the culprits. Vast numbers of Czechs were interrogated, tortured and killed. It was quickly realised that the attack on Heydrich had been carried out by agents parachuted into the country, but the Germans guessed, correctly, that the killers must have had local help.

Fate then played a hand: a letter was intercepted which had been written to a girl in the small village of Lidice, near Prague. It was believed, wrongly, that it had been written to her by one of the killers, especially as it mentioned the son of one of the families in the village who was believed (this time correctly) to have fled Czechoslovakia in 1939, and joined the Free Czechoslovak Forces in the UK. As a result it was concluded by the Nazis that some of the inhabitants of Lidice were implicated in the assassination.

Accordingly, on the day of Heydrich's funeral, Hitler gave specific orders that all the men in that village over the age of 16 were to be killed; all the women and children were to be sent to concentration camps, and the commune was to be totally destroyed. These orders were swiftly carried out. 173 men from the village were rounded up and shot on 10<sup>th</sup> June 1942. Gradually the other men in the village were found and killed as well – including 26 men on 26<sup>th</sup> June 1942, by which time the Nazis knew from a Czech informer that Lidice had nothing to do with the assassination. Many of the women and children died or disappeared in the concentration camps, including 81 children who are known to have been murdered at Chelmno concentration camp. Only 143 out of 243 women from Lidice survived the war; and only 16 out of 143 children were traced and repatriated to Czechoslovakia after the war.

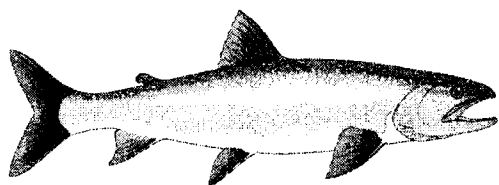
The houses, church & other buildings in the village (and its cemetery) were then systematically destroyed by explosives, bulldozers and fire, and when all the rubble had been bulldozed into the ground, the Nazis set to work altering the landscape by removing all traces of the old roads, diverting the stream that had run through the village, building new roads and creating fields for sheep to graze on – so that no trace of the village remained. To compound the evil they were perpetrating, they recorded much of what they were doing on cine-film.

*(Continued on page 23)*



*The village of Lidice pictured before the Nazis destroyed it in revenge for Heydrich's assassination*





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(Continued from page 21)

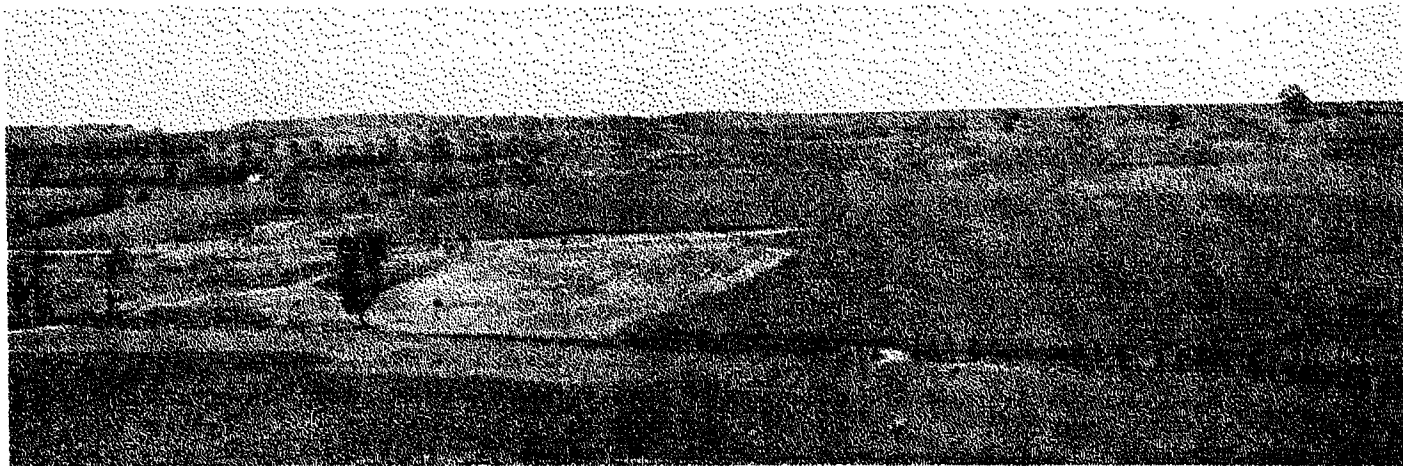
The hiding place of the parachutists was eventually found by the Nazis, following a tip-off by an informer, and they were cornered in a cellar. Having fought the surrounding Gestapo troops as long as they could, each then committed suicide with his last bullet.

The atrocity at Lidice and the barbarous and cold-blooded way in which the reprisals were carried out did much to crystallise world opinion against the Nazis; and because after the Lidice reprisals the members of the Czech "government" in Czechoslovakia had to co-operate with the Nazis or risk death themselves, it caused them to be regarded as puppets and collaborators. This increased the standing of Benes and his government in exile. As a consequence Benes became regarded by the world as the true leader of the Czech people, and it helped him to get back into power after the war. It also changed international views about the ethnic constitution of Czechoslovakia after the War. A part of pre-war Czechoslovakia was the area known as Sudetenland, which

was home to a mixture of Czechs, Slovaks and Germans. It became apparent that after what they had suffered at the hands of Nazi Germany, there was no way that the Czechs and Slovaks could live peacefully with the Germans in Sudetenland, and as a result, post-war Czechoslovakia was able to expel Sudeten Germans from Sudetenland.

After the War a new village was built adjoining the site of the old village of Lidice, and ultimately a splendid and moving memorial statue was erected to the Lidice children who died. A park called "The Friendship & Peace Park" was created between the new village and the site of the old one, and roses were sent from all over the world to be planted in this park: originally as a symbol of new life to show for the "Lidice Shall Live" movement, to symbolise the re-emergence of something beautiful from the destruction that had happened. Thus the rose came to be the symbol of the new Lidice. It is from here that the roses to be planted in St. James' churchyard will come.

~ Peter Shorrocks



*The village of Lidice pictured after the Nazis destroyed it in revenge for Heydrich's assassination*

## April 30th Saturday Morning Tour.

There are history/heritage walks around Aston Abbots on Saturday 30th April in the afternoon. I have decided to do a walking tour of Wingrave and Addington villages on Saturday morning.

Those that want can have lunch in the Royal Oak, and then I hand over to Colin Higgs and Victor Scott for the Aston Abbots walk and the exhibition.

The plan is to meet on Wingrave Green (between the Church and the Rose & Crown) on Saturday morning at 10 a.m. (1) Wingrave village tour: the Vaclav Havel bench, the Church, walk around the grounds of the Old Manor House (where President Benes's advisers and secretaries lived) (2) the bus shelter on the Wingrave Crossroads (given to Aston Abbots and Wingrave by President Benes) (3) Addington village tour: Addington House (home of the Czechoslovak Military Intelligence), the Church Addington is about 10 miles from Aston Abbots (4) back to Aston Abbots optional lunch in the Royal Oak. I have already booked for 12-ish people at 1 pm-ish. Teri says that I can ring up and book more (up to 30 max) if necessary. (5) afternoon: hand over to Colin and Victor for the Aston Abbots village tour.

If you want to come along contact Neil home tel: 01494 776457 work tel: 01494 793921 e-mail: [neilrees@studge.freemove.co.uk](mailto:neilrees@studge.freemove.co.uk) or turn up on Wingrave Green at 10 a.m.

~ Neil Rees

## Czech Book

Neil Rees is preparing a book called "Czechs and Chequers - How a Buckinghamshire village became the exile capital of Czechoslovakia". It is a 64 page picture book based upon about archive photographs from Prague and pictures and items borrowed from people in Bucks telling the story of Aston Abbots and the Czechoslovaks in Buckinghamshire. Information come from conversations with local people and Czechoslovak war veterans are used in the captions to tell the story. It relates how President Benes of Czechoslovakia came to Buckinghamshire and worked with Czechoslovak officials at Wingrave and Addington, and British officials at Woburn, and Churchill at Chequers. There are also many pictures and information about the Czechoslovak guards at Aston Abbots. This book is currently being finalised. If you are interested in a copy or if you have any items or information to include please contact Neil Rees 1 Eskdale Avenue, Chesham, Bucks HP5 3AX

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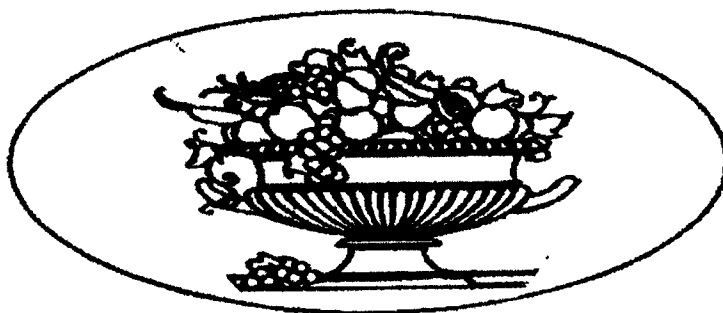
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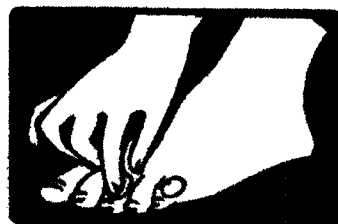


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# Minutes Of The Aston Abbotts Annual Parish Meeting 2005

The annual Parish Meeting was held on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April in the Church Room at 8 pm.

## Present

Colin Higgs (Chairman of the Parish Council), Kate Curry (Clerk to the Annual Parish Meeting), Peter Cooper (District Councillor), P.C. Mick Buckle (Police) and 22 parishioners.

## Minute 1

Apologies - none

## Minute 2

Minutes of previous meeting were approved by the Meeting as a true record, and signed by the Chairman.

## Minute 3

Matters arising - none.

## Minute 4 Police.

P.C. Buckle told the meeting that the crime and vandalism issues in Wingrave are being tackled successfully, and links with the community as a whole are being strengthened. He gave the new phone number for contacting the police in non-emergency situations (08458 505505), and answered questions from the floor. The Chairman thanked him for attending the meeting.

## Minute 5 County Council and District Council

No one was present from the County Council.

District Councillor Peter Cooper talked to the meeting about the following issues:

- He reminded everyone that the forthcoming election is not only a national one, but also to elect a new County Council. He urged parishioners to use their vote.
- Planning - members of the District Council have been campaigning to improve the effectiveness of enforcement action taken when developers do not stick to the plans.
- The Licensing procedure has changed: anyone wishing to apply for a license to sell alcohol should now approach the District Council.
- Council Tax - there is to be an increase of 9.2% in the District Council's element of the Council Tax. This has led to the Council being capped by the Government.
- Growth Agenda - the target is still to build 59,000 new houses in Aylesbury Vale. The District Council plans to introduce new businesses to the Vale before new residential areas are built.
- Transfer of Council Houses - Aylesbury Vale currently has to pay the Government ten million pounds per year towards the upkeep of Council Houses. One option for avoiding this payment is to set up a 'housing association', which would enable the District Council to keep this money. Council house tenants are to be consulted, and asked what they would prefer to happen.

Cllr. Cooper then answered questions from the floor, after which the Chairman thanked him for attending the meeting.

## Minute 6 Recreation Ground

Jackie Farrands reported that progress towards obtaining the new playground equipment has been good. A loan and grant are being sought to finance the project, though some fund

raising will also need to take place. A meeting has been held, at which children who live in the village were able to express their preferences. Various people offered to undertake fundraising events over the year.

## Minute 7 Church Room

Peter Shorrock told the meeting that the plan to completely refurbish the Church Room was finally abandoned. The committee is now seeking to ensure the Church Room complies with legislation regarding access for the disabled. Plans have been drawn up, but are still under discussion.

## Minute 8 The New Village Centre

Neil Chesher said a public meeting which took place in January had been successful, establishing that there is indeed a 'village will' to undertake the project. Little progress has been made since then, and it is intended to restart in May.

## Minute 9 The Chronicle

Phil Spooner thanked members of the public who regularly contribute good articles to the Chronicle, thus making it such a successful magazine. It is currently financially secure, with money coming from advertising, the Fete and the Parish Council. He thanked those who help with delivery / distribution every month.

## Minute 10 Fete 2004

Dickie Dicken reported that the Fete made a profit of about £2500 last year.

## Minute 11 Fete 2005

- After some discussion, it was agreed to distribute the proceeds as follows:
  - a) Church 40%
  - b) Church Room 10%
  - c) Chronicle 15%
  - d) Recreation Ground 35%

## Minute 12 A.O.B.

- Speeding in the village - a suggestion was made that a 'road narrows' traffic-calming device be placed by the shop.
- The poor state of the kerbstones on The Green was commented on.
- A comment was made about the untidy cemetery. Apparently the area referred to is actually a conservation area.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

*My thanks to Kate Curry our Parish Clerk for these minutes ~ Ed*

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be without sponges?**

**Eagles may soar, but weasels do  
not get sucked into jet engines.**



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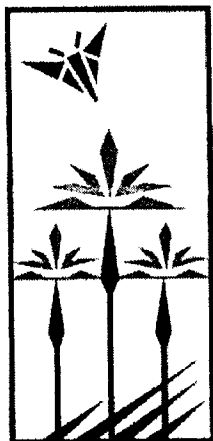
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# Aston Abbotts Parish Council

Unofficial minutes from the meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2005

## Present

Cllrs. C. Higgs (Chair), M.Kent, R. Clarke, D. Dicken, J. Farrands, T. Manning, P. Shorrock and Mrs. K. Curry.  
Minutes of the last meeting were read and signed.

## Matters Arising From The Minutes Not On The Agenda

A letter has been received from AVDC's Waste Manager to say he believes the refuse teams are not responsible for the damage caused to The Green.

## Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported that Wingrave PC has agreed to donate £50 towards restoring the bus shelter at Wingrave Crossroads. Quotations for the work are being sought, and the Council agreed to delegate Cllrs Higgs, Kent and Shorrock to approve the work up to a limit of £150.

## County Council, District Council And Police Matters

No one was present from any of the above organisations.

## Church Room Improvements

Peter Shorrock told the meeting that the Committee, having now abandoned the idea of taking on the lease of the Church Room, is hoping to provide a new toilet and ramp for the disabled. Quotations are currently being sought for the work.

The railings outside the Church Room desperately need painting. An article will be placed in The Chronicle asking for volunteers to tackle this task.

## Web Site

It was agreed that it would be a good idea to have a Parish Council website. Cllr. Shorrock will try to find someone to set one up.

## Twinning

There are two villages in the Czech Republic who may be interested in twinning with Aston Abbotts. Interest was expressed in this proposal, and it was agreed to ask someone from Wingrave (who have a twinning association) to talk at the APM.

## Planning

05/00523/ATC Land at The Green, Aston Abbotts. Fell one horse chestnut. Resolved to support this application as the tree is diseased and becoming unsafe.

05/00552/APP 33, The Green, Aston Abbotts. Single storey rear infill / extension. Resolved to make no objection to this application.

05/00476/APP 3, Ross Road, Aston Abbotts. Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of a replacement. Resolved to make no objection to this application.

## Highways

Discuss what to replace the condemned tree on the Green with - it was agreed that an English Lime Tree would be used.

## Recreation Ground

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

The Recreation Ground Committee is currently obtaining

quotes for playground equipment, following the meeting at which the children were encouraged to express their preferences.

To discuss whether to apply to AVDC to transfer the land they now own on the Recreation Ground to the Parish Council - agreed to write an initial letter to AVDC.

## Loan Application

Resolved to approve the application for a loan of £10,000 over a period of five years, for the purpose of partially funding the purchase of new playground equipment for the Recreation Ground.

## Date Of Next Meetings

To confirm that the Annual Parish Meeting will be on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2005 at 8pm in the Church Room.

To confirm that the Annual Meeting of Aston Abbotts Parish Council will be on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2005 at 8pm in the Church Room.

EVERYBODY IS WELCOME TO COME ALONG

~ Kate Curry, Parish Clerk



## Get out your gardening gloves and make a difference in your community!

Calling all green-fingered friends! We need volunteers in your area to help take care of older people's gardens.

Gardening can be a major concern for older and disabled people who may have difficulty keeping things looking tidy. Your involvement in this initiative could really help someone stay independent.

If you enjoy being outside, meeting new people and can spare some time once a week or a fortnight, please get in touch!!! N.

You don't need to be an expert, you just need enthusiasm!

Any expenses you incur while helping out with the Gardening Project (including travel) will be covered by Vale Volunteers. You will also be covered under our insurance policy.

If you feel you could help out in any way, please ring 01296 337456. Alternatively, you can write to Vale Volunteers, Rycote Place, 30-38 Cambridge Street, Aylesbury, HP20 1RS, or e-mail:

[gardening@valevolunteers.org.uk](mailto:gardening@valevolunteers.org.uk)



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## Clergy Comment

What a lot of things there are that could form the basis of this month's letter!

There are things like the General Election – about which it is probably wisest for me to stay tight-lipped.

Then there is the recent marriage of Prince Charles and Camilla Parker-Bowles – a topic that may have significant constitutional implications – leading perhaps to thoughts that the hereditary Monarchy in this country should be replaced by a Republic. If the General Election is dangerous ground, then this is even thinner ice on which to dare to walk!

Various issues have been flown as flags in preparation for that General Election – often with the rider that “the Church of England has had nothing to say on the subject”.

I wonder whether that is a very fair comment – for very often the Church has said that there are two sides to each argument. In many cases both sides are equally valid, and the decisions that are arrived at need to be dependent on the individual circumstances. There are no simple right and wrong answers!

But this does not mean that we have to start addressing each problem “from first principles”. For there is a basis from which we can apply our understanding of what life is all about and where we are going. There is a moral framework – even though there are those who are constantly wanting to tinker with it, or to change it so that it no longer challenges their latest fancy – “wrong” isn't “wrong” any more.

The late Pope was a man of great principle. There were times when one felt that he was out of touch with the world in which

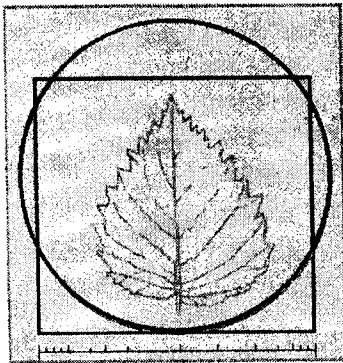
the rest of us lived. Yet he stuck doggedly to what he was convinced was right – and even in death he has preached the Gospel of God's love and compassion in a very eloquent way. One must hope that his successor, whilst bringing new light and personality to the position, will be of similar courage and devotion.

Curiously, when you reflect on these events, there is a very strong common element linking them together. They are about the society in which we want to live and the people we want to influence that world. So it is right for us to have views, and at appropriate times to share those views with others. We may find that, whilst there are ideas that we share, there are also times when we do not entirely see eye to eye with everyone else.

Yet we cannot live in a moral vacuum. The Good News of Jesus Christ, who died on the Cross, who rose from the dead, who is part of the one true God, helps me to have a firm basis on which to build my life – and my prayer is that you may also find this a sound and solid basis for the world in which you live.

*~ Bob Willmott*

**I used to have an open mind, but  
my brains kept falling out.**



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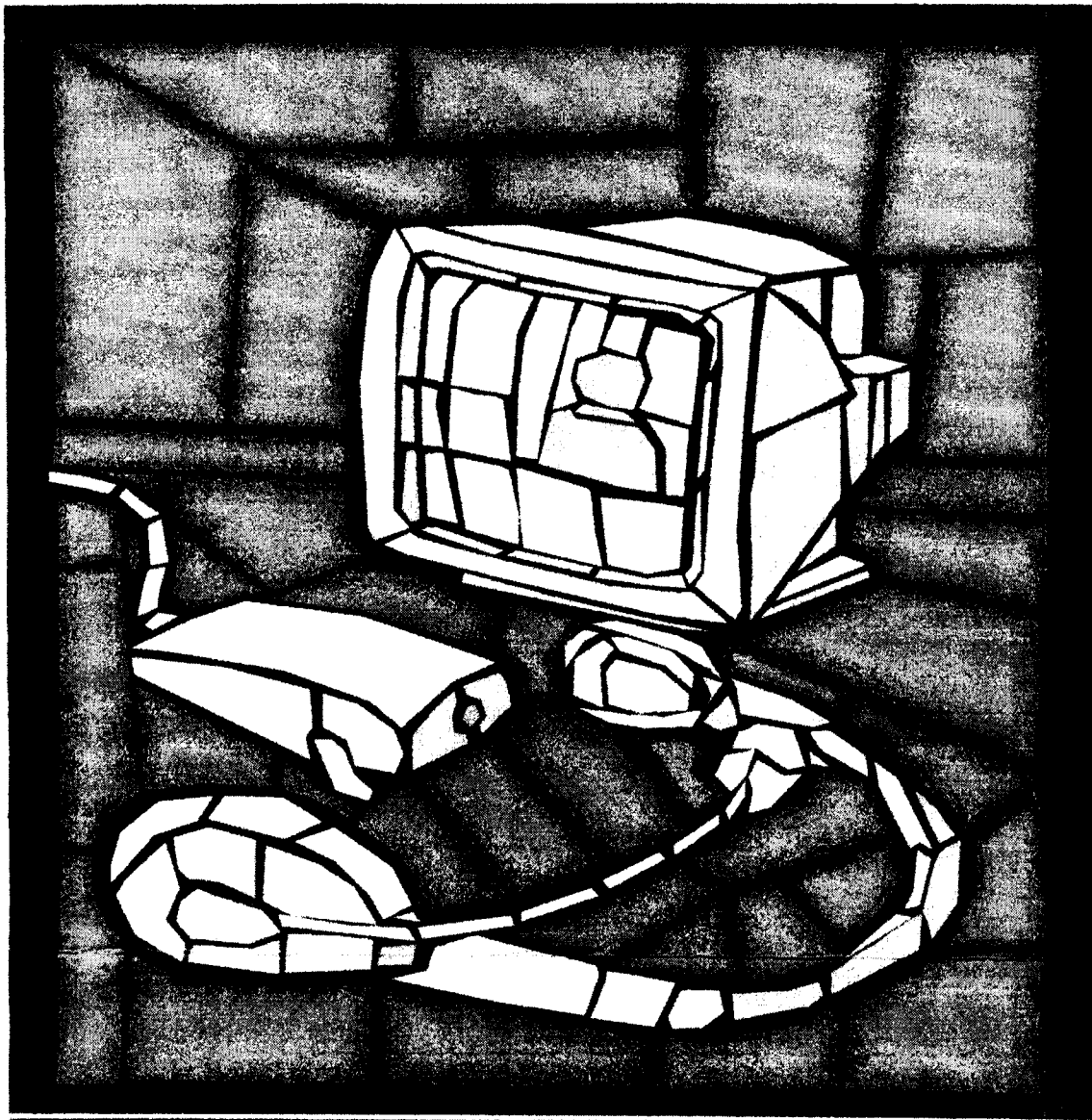
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# 60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF VE DAY CELEBRATORY WEEKEND

You've all had the flyers telling you what's happening during the coming long weekend, starting on the evening of Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> April, and the Czech Connection Committee hope that as many of you as possible will attend some of the events planned.

If you are interested to know why we are organising this weekend, please read the two articles in this edition of The Chronicle on President Benes and Lidice

Briefly the events are:-

## *Friday Evening*

7.30 Talk on "Czechs in Bucks", & Film Show at the Church Room

## *Saturday*

In the morning: by arrangement with Neil Rees, a tour of places in the area of particular significance to Czechs & Slovaks (switched from the Monday) See page 23 for more details.

2.00-4.00 Exhibition at Church Room

2.00 Walking tours around village

4.00 Illustrated talk in the Church Room on the Heydrich Assassination

## *Sunday*

9.45 Parade on the Green

10.00 Memorial Service attended by the Czech Ambassador & Lord Lieutenant of Bucks.

11.00-5.00 Display/exhibition in Church Room

11.15 Planting of roses from Lidice in the churchyard

11.30 Planting of lime tree on The Green

4.00 Illustrated Talk on the Free Czechoslovak Forces in the UK during WW2 & after D-Day

2.00 Football match at Wingrave Sports Ground: Aston Abbots v. Czech & Slovak Embassies

4.00 (approx.) Fly-past by WW2 Lancaster bomber

5.30 Illustrated talk in the Church Room on the Free Czechoslovak Forces in the UK during WW2 & after D Day

7.30 Film Show at the Church Room

## *Monday*

We regret there are now no events on this day, since Neil Rees will be travelling to Prague then, and will be unable to lead the tours he was hoping to do on this Monday.

*If you see or meet strangers in the village over the Anniversary Weekend, they will probably be Czechs & Slovaks who have come here especially for the weekend - some from Europe and as far away as Canada. Please make them feel welcome.*



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## A Grave Matter

Have you thought what epitaph you would like of your gravestone? Here is a collection of epitaphs from tombstones in the US and England.

*On the grave of Ezekial Aikle in East Dalhousie Cemetery, Nova Scotia:*

Here lies  
Ezekial Aikle  
Age 102  
The Good  
Die Young.

*In a London, England cemetery:*

Ann Mann  
Here lies Ann Mann,  
Who lived an old maid  
But died an old Mann.  
Dec. 8, 1767

*In a Ribbesford, England, cemetery:*

Anna Wallace  
The children of Israel wanted bread  
And the Lord sent them manna,  
Old clerk Wallace wanted a wife,  
And the Devil sent him Anna.

*Playing with names in a Ruidoso, New Mexico, cemetery:*

Here lies  
Johnny Yeast  
Pardon me  
For not rising.

*Memory of an accident in a Uniontown, Pennsylvania cemetery:*

Here lies the body  
of Jonathan Blake  
Stepped on the gas  
Instead of the brake.

*In a Silver City, Nevada, cemetery:*

Here lays Butch,  
We planted him raw.  
He was quick on the trigger,  
But slow on the draw.

*A widow wrote this epitaph in a Vermont cemetery:*

Sacred to the memory of  
my husband John Barnes  
who died January 3, 1803  
His comely young widow, aged 23, has  
many qualifications of a good wife, and  
yearns to be comforted.

*A lawyer's epitaph in England:*

Sir John Strange  
Here lies an honest lawyer,  
And that is Strange.

*Someone determined to be anonymous in Stowe, Vermont:*

I was somebody.  
Who, is no business  
Of yours.

*Lester Moore was a Wells, Fargo Co. station agent for Naco, Arizona in the cowboy days of the 1880's. He's buried in the Boot Hill Cemetery in Tombstone, Arizona:*

Here lies Lester Moore  
Four slugs from a .44  
No Les No More.

*In a Georgia cemetery:*

"I told you I was sick!"

*John Penny's epitaph in the Wimborne, England, cemetery:*

Reader if cash thou art  
In want of any  
Dig 4 feet deep  
And thou wilt find a Penny.

*On Margaret Daniels' grave at Hollywood Cemetery Richmond, Virginia:*

She always said her feet were killing her  
but nobody believed her.

*In a cemetery in Hartscombe, England:*

On the 22nd of June  
- Jonathan Fiddle -  
Went out of tune.

*Anna Hopewell's grave in Enosburg Falls, Vermont has an epitaph that sounds like something from a Three Stooges movie:*

Here lies the body of our Anna  
Done to death by a banana  
It wasn't the fruit that laid her low  
But the skin of the thing that made her go.

*More fun with names with Owen Moore in Battersea, London, England:*

Gone away  
Owin' more  
Than he could pay.

*Someone in Winslow, Maine didn't like Mr. Wood:*

In Memory of Beza Wood  
Departed this life  
Nov. 2, 1837  
Aged 45 yrs.  
Here lies one Wood  
Enclosed in wood  
One Wood  
Within another.  
The outer wood  
Is very good:  
We cannot praise  
The other.

*On a grave from the 1880's in Nantucket, Massachusetts:*

Under the sod and under the trees  
Lies the body of Jonathan Pease.  
He is not here, there's only the pod:  
Pease shelled out and went to God.

(Continued on page 37)





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(Continued from page 35)

*The grave of Ellen Shannon in Girard, Pennsylvania is almost a consumer tip:*

Who was fatally burned  
March 21, 1870  
by the explosion of a lamp  
filled with "R.E. Danforth's  
Non-Explosive Burning Fluid"

*Oops! Harry Edsel Smith of Albany, New York:*

Born 1903--Died 1942  
Looked up the elevator shaft to see if  
the car was on the way down. It was.

*In a Thurmont, Maryland, cemetery:*

Here lies an Atheist  
All dressed up  
And no place to go.

**Plan to be spontaneous tomorrow**

**Who Is It? ... from page 15**

It is of course Margaret Hinds (Margaret Kent)

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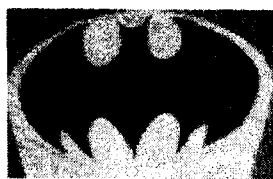
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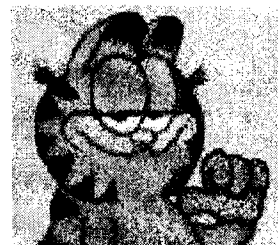
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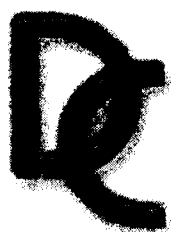
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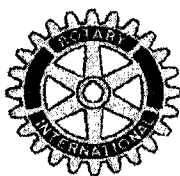
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**COLIN HIGGS (Chairman)**

6 Wingrave Road ~ 681343

**KATE CURRY (Parish Clerk)**

2 Norduck Cottages, Moat Lane ~ 681137

**MARGARET KENT**

6 The Green ~ 681454

**RICHARD CLARKE**

Maplewood, The Green ~ 681286

**JACKIE FARRANDS**

1 Norduck Cottages ~ 681182

**PETER SHORROCK**

Oak Farm House ~ 681260

**DICKIE DICKEN**

Norduck House ~ 688577

**TOM MANNING**

The Bungalow, West Park Farm, Wing,  
Beds, LU70PG

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:

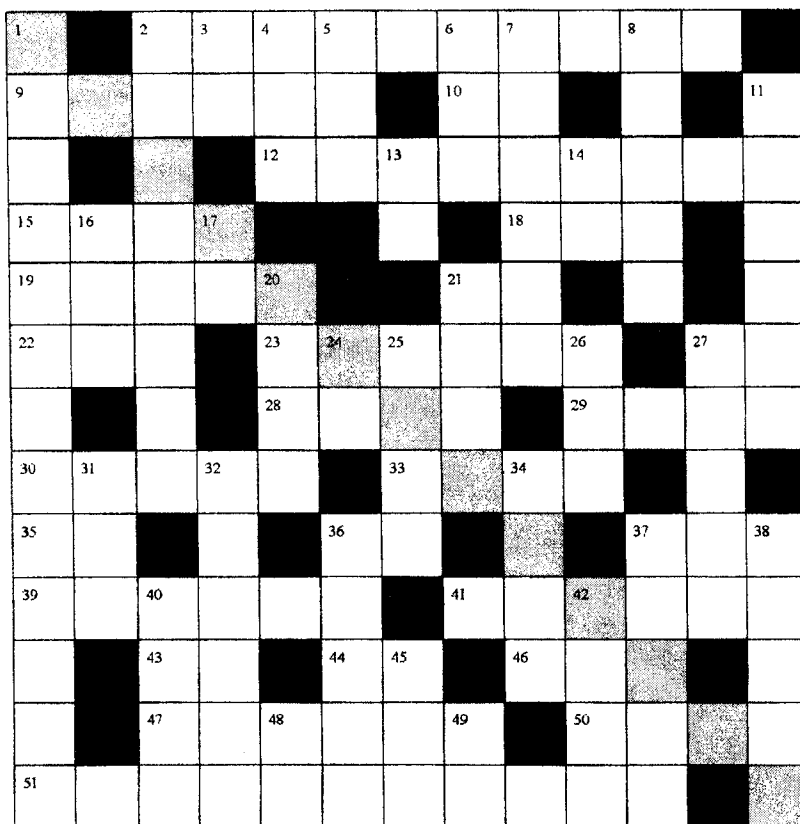
**For Villagers:** £5 per hour (plus metered electricity) and £50 Booking Deposit (Returnable)

**For Non-Villagers:** £10 per hour (plus electricity) and £50 Booking Deposit (Returnable)



# The Chronicle Crossword

May 2005



April Solutions

**ACROSS** 1 Abated 6 We 8 Pa  
10 Spear 12 Bragger 16 Ape 17 Ya  
18 Errant 20 Part 22 Finders 23 Sr  
24 Sea 26 ie 28 Arrows 31 Log  
32 Stern 33 Kipling 36 Ed 37 Noon  
38 Ashes 41 Ginger 44 Antics  
46 L&G 47 LA 48 Molt 51 Him  
52 Forget-me-nots 57 TT 58 Yoyo  
59 Tote  
**DOWN** 1 Apparatus 2 Bear 3 AA  
4 Try 5 Db 6 Ward 7 Egret 8 Pension  
9 Art 10 Saps 13 Renewing 14 Gar  
18 Afar 21 Tsar 25 Ernest 27 Egg  
29 OK 30 Spoil 31 Ling 35 Long  
38 Aim 39 Halo 40 Entry 42 Elite  
43 Rams 45 Icky 49 Oft 50 AM  
51 Hot 53 Go 54 To 55 ET 56 No

**DIAGONAL** 1,17,42

Saturday evening boys (3,6,4)

## ACROSS

- 2 Grave markers (10)
- 9 Jewelled head bands (6)
- 10 Before noon (1,1)
- 12 Extremely risky (9)
- 15 Give out (4)
- 18 Once round the track (3)
- 19 Thorn - anagram (5)
- 21 Compass points (1,1)
- 22 Indian island (3)
- 23 1974 (6)
- 27 Male she (2)
- 28 Chocolate bar (4)
- 29 First man (4)
- 30 Walker (5)
- 33 Piece of news in a newspaper (4)
- 35 Political and economic club (1,1)
- 36 Telecommunication Company (1,1)
- 37 Highest point (3)
- 39 Plants' honey (6)
- 41 Kick of a gun (6)
- 43 Either 3 (2)
- 44 First part of the Bible abbr. (1,1)
- 46 Pealike Indian pulse (3)
- 47 Mobile computer (3,3)
- 50 Sullen (4)
- 51 Don't throw stones in them (11)

## DOWN

- 1 Making even stronger (13)
- 2 Where to hope for a lift in a cab (4,4)
- 3 Either 43 (2)
- 4 Like a hatter (3)
- 5 Motorcycle (1,1,1)
- 6 A tie-on label (3)
- 7 You have to break eggs to make this (6)
- 8 Run away with your lover (5)
- 11 High respect (6)
- 13 Negative response (2)
- 14 Gunners initials (1,1)
- 16 Cow noise (3)
- 17 Isle of Man race (1,1)
- 20 To listen to (4)
- 21 Found in cartridges (4)
- 24 That is (1,1)
- 25 Small rock particles (4)
- 26 Sweet-potato (3)
- 27 Chinese city (5)
- 31 Frozen water (3)
- 32 Cricket runs not scored by batsmen (6)
- 34 Stared intently (4)
- 36 Many cooks spoil this (5)
- 37 Road charges (5)
- 38 Ensure vertical (5)
- 40 Fizzy soft drink (4)
- 42 Secure enclosure (4)
- 45 How many cooks? - see 36down (3)
- 48 Afterthought (1,1)
- 49 Chemical symbol for Plutonium (1,1)

Compiled by John Hardcastle



## **Meadow Flowers**

*by Sally Roff*

*for*

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LYME REGIS, DORSET  
for weekends or weekly lets all year round.  
Sleeps 4-5. Close to town and beaches,  
beautiful views overlooking  
Lyme Bay and Golden Cap.**

**Ring Helen and Simon Dowling for further details**

**01525 383315**



# St James Church

## Church Services

	WING	WINGRAVE	ASTON ABBOTTS	CUBLINGTON
<b>1<sup>st</sup> May</b> <i>Easter 6</i>	08.00 Communion (by extension) 10.00 Parish Communion	10.00 Parish Communion	10.00 Morning Service	10.00 Family Service (Lay)
<b>8<sup>th</sup></b> <i>Easter 7</i>	10.00 Family Communion 18.00 Evensong	8.00 Communion 10.00 People's Praise	10.00 Parish Communion	8.45 Parish Communion
<b>15<sup>th</sup></b> <i>Pentecost</i>	8.00 Communion 10.00 People's Praise (Lay)	10.00 Parish Communion	10.00 Parish Communion	10.00 Family Communion
<b>22<sup>nd</sup></b> <i>Trinity</i>	10.00 Parish Communion	10.00 <i>Methodist</i> <i>Service</i>	18.00 Evensong (Lay)	8.45 Parish Communion
<b>29<sup>th</sup></b> <i>Trinity 1</i> (4 Parish)	10.00 Parish Communion			
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Jun</b> <i>Trinity 2</i>	08.00 Communion (by extension) 10.00 Parish Communion	10.0 Parish Communion	at Wingrave 10.0	10.00 Family Service (Lay)

## Sunday Readings

<b>1<sup>st</sup> May</b>	<i>Easter 6</i>	1 Peter 3.12-22; John 14.15-21
<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Easter 7</i>	1 Peter 4.12-14, 5.6-11; John 17.1-11
<b>15<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Pentecost</i>	1 Corinthians 12.3-13; John 20.19-23
<b>22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<i>Trinity2</i>	Corinthians 13.11-13; Matthew 28.16-20
<b>29<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Trinity 1</i>	Romans 1.16-17, 3.22-28; Matthew 7.21-29
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Jun</b>	<i>Trinity 2</i>	Romans 4.13-25; Matthew 9.9-13, 18-26

## From The Registers

### Holy Baptism

**27<sup>th</sup> March** Kai Taylor at Wingrave

### Funerals

**21<sup>st</sup> March** Joan Marks at Milton Keynes  
**31<sup>st</sup> March** Millicent Tearle at Wing & Milton Keynes  
**7<sup>th</sup> April** Margaret Griffin at Wingrave  
**14<sup>th</sup> April** Renelde Fowler at Wing & Milton Keynes  
**15<sup>th</sup> April** Pat Gilbert at Wingrave & Milton Keynes

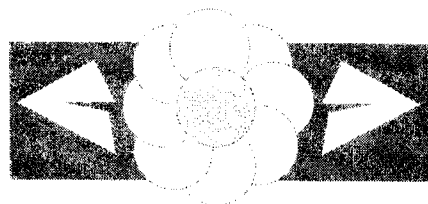
## Church Sidesmen

<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	-
<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>	Mr. G. Kemp
<b>15<sup>th</sup></b>	Mrs. S. Ford
<b>22<sup>nd</sup></b>	Mr. A. Ford (Evensong)
<b>29<sup>th</sup></b>	Church Wardens

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

## Church Flowers

<b>30<sup>th</sup>/1<sup>st</sup></b>	Czech flower display
<b>7/8<sup>th</sup></b>	Mrs Abel Smith
<b>14/15<sup>th</sup></b>	Mrs S. Ford
<b>21/22<sup>nd</sup></b>	Mr C Higgs
<b>28/29<sup>th</sup></b>	Donated.





## 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
Bingo	Doris Scutchings	681243	Police	Emergencies	999
Busses	Arriva	468730 or 423445	Police	Non-emergency	0845 8 505 505
Chronicle Advertising	Claire Gresswell	682949	Police	Aylesbury	396000
Chronicle Distribution	Andy Bystra	681690	Police	Wing Police Office	396163
Chronicle Editorial	Phil Spooner	681544	Railways	Chiltern	0870 516 5165
Church Mowing Rota	Gordon Kemp	681763	Rambler's Club	Colin Higgs	681343
Church Room Redevelopment	Tom Manning	07812 525703	Rector	Reverend Bob Willmott	681623
Church Room Hire	Colin Higgs	681343	Refuse Collection	Enquiries	585510
Citizens Advice	Aylesbury	0870 126 4056	Roads & Transport	Colin Higgs	681343
Coach Trips	Colin Higgs	681343	Royal Oak	Teri & Gary Moul	681262
Council	Aylesbury Vale District	585858	RSPCA	General Enquiries	08705 555 999
Council	Bucks County Council	395000	Scouts	Julia Ellis	681118
County Councillor	Brenda Jennings	01525 270610	Toddlers Group	Claire Gresswell	682949
District Councillor	Peter Cooper	681250	Whist	Doris Scutchings	681243
Fete Coordinator	Poonam Gupta	682204	Wingrave Preschool	Claire Upton	681700
Floral Class	Colin Higgs	681343	Wingrave Post Office	(PO only)	681011
G.N.O.M.E.S.	Carol Spooner	681544	Wingrave School	Office	681436
Hospital	Stoke Mandeville	315000	Wingrave Stores	Shop	681696
Ladies Club	Shirley Ford	681865			
LBO Reports	Colin Higgs	681343			
Milkman	Ron Miller Dairies	482838			
Mobile Library	Buckingham Library	01280 813229			

*Please let us know of any errors or omissions*

### Aston Abbotts & Cublington Ladies Club

#### Programme for 2004/2005

October 7 <sup>th</sup>	Toybox Childrens Charity - Sarah George
October 21 <sup>st</sup>	Curtains and Cushions - Clare Shorrock
November 4 <sup>th</sup>	Annual General Meeting
November 18 <sup>th</sup>	Waddesdon Manor - Talk by Mr Keating
December 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Christmas Floral Decorations - Mrs Pat Trunkfield
December 16 <sup>th</sup>	2005 Carol Service - Aston Abbotts
January 6 <sup>th</sup>	Entertain ourselves afternoon
January 20 <sup>th</sup>	Slides - Pamela Wright
February 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Slides - Spring Flowers of the Swiss Alps - G Atkins
February 17 <sup>th</sup>	Talk by Joyce Whipps
March 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Spring Lunch
March 17 <sup>th</sup>	R.S.P.C.A. - Talk by Richard Musgrave
March 31 <sup>st</sup>	Snapshots of Italy - Peter Fellows
April 14 <sup>th</sup>	Talk by St John's Ambulance
April 28 <sup>th</sup>	Crossroads, Caring for Carers - Talk by Claire Dalton
May 12 <sup>th</sup>	Musical Afternoon - Lindsay Stafford-Smith
May 26 <sup>th</sup>	Sight Savers - Talk
June 9 <sup>th</sup>	Vale Speakers Club - Talk by Penny Dabten
June 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Competition Afternoon
July 7 <sup>th</sup>	Summer Outing
July 21 <sup>st</sup>	Garden Party

For more information about these events, or to find out about the Ladies Club, please contact Shirley Ford on 681865. NEW MEMBERS AND GUESTS WELCOME

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# What's On In May

## Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April and Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May

Aston Abbots VE Day Celebrations and Memorial Commemorations. For a timetable of events please see page ZZZ

- Sunday 1<sup>st</sup>** Czech Memorial Service. St James. 10 am  
*also* WW2 RAF Lancaster flypast at 4 pm approximately
- Monday 2<sup>nd</sup>** Ascot Gardens (Wing) open
- Thursday 5<sup>th</sup>** General Elections Church Room. 7.30 am until 9.30 pm
- Friday 6<sup>th</sup>** Refuse collection - NOT Thursday
- Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>** Rambling club members meet at Three Locks 2 pm
- Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup>** Annual Parish Council Meeting Church Room 8 pm
- Thursday 12<sup>th</sup>** Whist Drive. Church Room. 7.30 pm
- Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>** Bingo. Church Room. 7.30 pm
- Thursday 26<sup>th</sup>** Whist Drive. Church Room. 7.30 pm
- Sunday 29<sup>th</sup>** Rambling Club members meet at Blue Lagoon Milton Keynes. 2 pm  
*also* The Lee (Great. Missenden) Gardens open  
*also* Evensong. St. James. 6 pm.
- Monday 30<sup>th</sup>** Spring Bank Holiday  
East Claydon Gardens open
- Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June** Refuse collection - NOT Thursday

## Book These Dates

**Saturday, Sunday, Monday.  
29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup> May.**

St. James Flower festival. Teas  
Sat. and Sun. 2.30- 4.30 pm.  
Ploughman's lunch Monday  
12.30 – 2.30

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup>/Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> June**  
Open Gardens/Flower Festival St.  
James Church, teas.

**Saturday/Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup>/34<sup>th</sup> July.**  
Festival and fete weekend

## Places To Visit Over The Holidays

Quanton Railway centre

Tring Museum

London museums, River trips,  
Open top bus tours, shopping,  
Woburn Park

**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*

## Chronicle Deadlines

- June Issue** Friday May 27<sup>th</sup> Distribution starts Friday June 3<sup>rd</sup>
- July/August** Friday June 24<sup>th</sup> Distribution starts Friday July 1<sup>st</sup>
- Sept Issue** Friday August 26<sup>th</sup> Distribution starts early September
- NB—These are subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control*

## Classified

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

### INSTRUMENTAL TEACHING NOW AVAILABLE FOR DRUMS AND CELLO

I have recently opened up a teaching space in central Aylesbury and am eager to find new pupils of all abilities. I aim to provide inspirational instruction of an excellent standard. Interested? Call Anthony on 01296 681152 or 07932 496164

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

**CLASSIFIED ADS ARE FREE** in The Chronicle. Phone us on 01296 681544 or email [editor@aaachronicle.co.uk](mailto:editor@aaachronicle.co.uk)

## Travel News

Get a £7.00 Explorer for up to 2 adults and 2 children (£3.50 OAP).

Use 65 bus to Aylesbury, then Oxford for shopping, museums, river trips. Watford for shopping, Tring for museum, High Wycombe, for chair museum, caves, shopping.

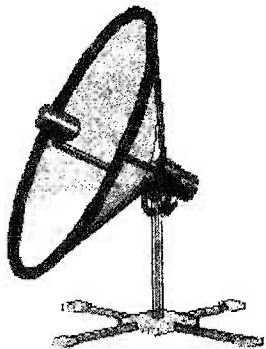
Leighton Buzzard for narrow gauge railway, canal trips, walks, shopping. Milton Keynes for cinemas, roller skating, lakeside walks shopping (Bletchley Park).

Or by train to London for art galleries, museums, shopping, zoo, open bus tours, river trips.

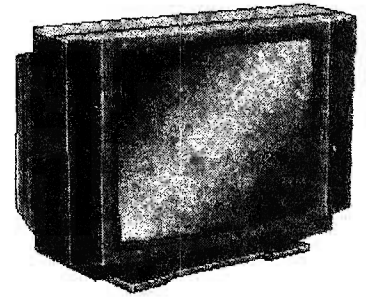


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Please note: Prints are extra - proof of driving license required. Non-optional points scheme applies. Personal collection option (additional costs apply). Many, many successful pictures taken.

Let David know if you wish him to take on a particular pose inside the car - the standard option is him peering through the windscreen wearing a startled expression and with his mouth starting to form the letter "F...".