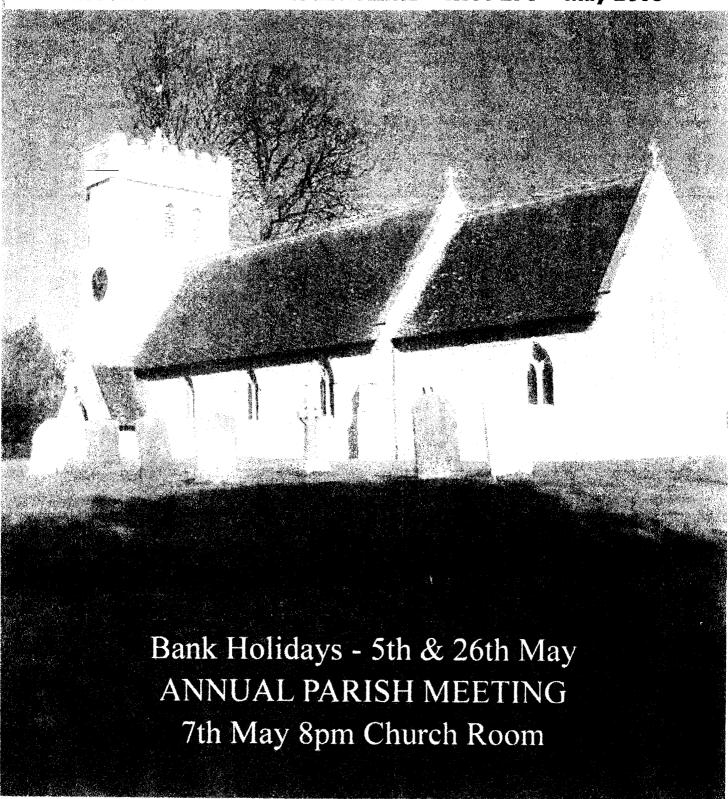


ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH MAGAZINE ~ Issue 278 ~ May 2008



Email: editor@aachronicle.co.uk

Editorial

Our daughter Sally is getting married on Saturday 31st May 2.30pm at St James Church. Rev Derek Witchell is conducting the wedding.

Jeff and Mandy Bannister have kindly offered to transport Sally and I to the church on one of their horse and traps. Here's hoping the weather is kind.

Many thanks to those stalwarts who helped with the Litter Blitz on Saturday 12th April. There was an impressive pile of orange sacks piled up outside the Church Room waiting for collection. It never ceases to amaze at the rubbish passing motorists manage to throw out of their vehicles.

The Chronicle has a policy of only publishing articles and letters when the author and address is known; as do most publications. At the author's request the article/letter might be published with 'name and address supplied'. An anonymous letter was posted to me recently but, as the author correctly concluded, 'I don't expect this letter to get into the Chronicle ...'.

Saw my first swallow on 15th April - its not been a particularly good Spring. The following day, when my new greenhouse finally took shape, there was a dramatic hailstorm. For a brief time it looked as though the snow had returned. The greenhouse is glazed with safety glass - good job, as the hailstones caused a thunderous noise on the greenhouse roof. That evening there was an impressive double rainbow - tried to capture it on camera but without much success.

On page 13 you'll read an email recently received from Adam Fuller. If you go to the link he mentions you can see the photos his father took in the 70's illustrating the number of elms that were lost to Dutch Elm disease. Adam can be contacted on yamahaxs650@gmail.com

Congratulations to Tara Eastmead who successfully completed the Marathon. Tara has told me how much she valued the support she received from people in Aston Abbotts. You can read all about her run on pages 29 & 31.

Montandente

la This Issue

- Allotment Diary
- Crossword
- What's on in May
- Countryside Matters

If you have a photo of our village you'd like to submit for the front cover then please let the Ed have a copy.

Contrasty photos are best - our printing facilities are limited.

THE GHRONIGLE

Issue 278 May 2008

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~0~

A note to all would be advertisers - More than 202 households receive The Chronicle 11 times a year and with rates from just £25 per annum (far cheaper than some local Parish magazines)...

... Can you afford not to be in?

Copy date for the next issue is:

Friday 23rd May 2008

Please pass items to John Hardcastle at Marloes on Lines Hill 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.

Alisõn's Gossip Column



T)

It's come to our notice that cars are being vandalised again in Aston Abbotts. If this has happened to you, it's always a good idea to inform the police because they can change the routes of the patrol cars.

	0		P	P	

Mav

Congratulations to Vicky and Will at Rose Cottage on the birth of their daughter, Alice on April 18th.

\boldsymbol{y}	IV Mea y	
	Mervyn King	2 nd May
	Charlie Bystra	3 rd
	Harry Bystra	9 th
	Hannah Brandon	12 th
	Jeff Banister	17 th
	Callum Hilton	21 st
	Tom Manning	22^{nd}
W	Benjamin King	22^{nd}
	Milani Drysdale	$23^{\rm rd}$
	Neil Chesher	26 th
	0000	00

The first baby alpaca of the season was also born on the 18th, Isadora. Congratulations also to Jeff and Mandy Bannister on the birth of their first lamb 'Blossom' (the new black sheep of the family)

A number of ladies have entered the Playtex Moonwalk on May 17th. This is a 26 mile walk through central London at night to raise money for breast cancer. They would love your support.

Hannah and Karen Brandon can be contacted via the website, www.bmycharity.com/teambrandon
Francesca Osborn is on 01296 681233

Sue Bale 01296 681280 Alison Lewis 01296 682004

REFUSE COLLECTION Thursday 8th & 29th will be Fridays 9th and 30th due to the Bank Holidays

Don't forget to tell us about your birthdays, anniversaries, etc, so that we can send you a greeting in the Gossip Column

A BIT OF VILLAGE LIFE EXCITEMENT - On hearing a lot of mooing nearby this morning (22 April), it was noticed that the cows from the field beyond the Rec. had escaped into the recreation ground. It was feared that the cows may get out on to the road and cause chaos, or even an accident, so Rod and Liz Rothero rushed round to the Rec. and managed to herd the cows back to their field. The farmer was contacted and came very quickly. Well done Rod and Liz - cow herders now as well!!

The monthly Aston Abbotts Good Samaritans Bingo evening is a small fundraising village activity. It takes

place on a Thursday evening and any profit, which is not used to maintain the bingo sessions, is saved up and donated periodically to worthy causes.

Monday 5th May (Bank Holiday)

Table Top Sale on the Green (if wet in Church

Room)

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53 The Green Aston Abbots

Aston Abbotts Parish Council - Wednesday 9th April 2008

Present: - Cllrs. C Higgs, R Clarke, D Dicken, J Hardcastle, P Shorrock, A Stefancyzk, and P Bruton (Clerk).

There were no members of the public in attendance. Apologies had been received from K Curry

A summary of expenditure on items for the Church rooms was distributed. Included was an industrial dishwasher and concern was expressed over the electricity supply, in particular whether an upgrade was required. It was AGREED that we would obtain the specification and quote for electricity supply upgrade if required. It was also AGREED that the Clerk should obtain confirmation that this type of expenditure was within the terms of the Section 106 agreement and that our insurance would cover the items.

It was reported that we had received a letter from the Church Trustees and a meeting had been arranged to discuss the potential of a lease on the Church rooms.

The Planning Committee notified the Council of the following decisions that had been made at the Sub Committee meeting on the 2nd April 2008:

08/00606/APP and 08/00607/ALB (Church Farm House, Church Row)

Conversion of existing dwelling to form two dwellings, new vehicular access and three off road parking vehicle spaces.

RESOLVED to oppose this application on the grounds of insufficient space in the current plans for three off road vehicles. Reduction in available car parking for neighbouring properties, increase in traffic problems and further loss of green space in the village and conservation area by creation of the off road parking facility.

The proposed Agenda for the Annual Parish meeting was discussed and it was AGREED to amend the proposed date of the meeting to Wednesday 7th May.

It was AGREED not to enter the Best Kept Village Competition.

We had been asked whether the Council would provide a grant towards the purchase of a new mower for the Church as we had provided similar grants previously. It was AGREED to raise as an item for distribution of Fete monies at the forthcoming Annual Parish meeting.

The dates for the Village Bulk refuse collection were advised and the notice would be placed on the Parish Council Notice Board.

The proposed changes to the Airspace for Terminal Control North were discussed and the Clerk advised leaflets were available as well as a CD rom, should anyone wish to review in more detail.

Maps were distributed showing the proposed housing and outline transport plans for Aylesbury and discussion followed on the various initiatives taking place including the development of an Industrial Park in Aston Clinton. The letter to SEERA sent by Bierton Parish Council was discussed in particular whether Council should support the need for a link from Bierton to the A41. It was felt that this move would potentially adversely affect Aston Abbotts as vehicle traffic may increase as people go through the village as a short cut to the A418 from Weedon and on to Bierton. As a result no action will be taken.

Monies from the Transportation Revenue Budget had been allocated to a team responsible for remedial works on the highways. It was AGREED that C Higgs would manage the matter on behalf of Council and the relevant paperwork was passed over.

The Clerk advised the meeting that he had reported the drainage problems experienced since the Hunters Way development to AVDC planning, our letter had been acknowledged and we were awaiting a detailed response. There was concern expressed about the state of the verge and damage to the road and it was AGREED the matter would be reported to Highways on call.

Continued on Page 7

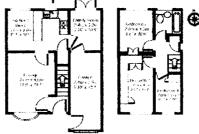
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Continuation of Parish Council Minutes

Councillor Peter Cooper sent his apologies for his absence and the Clerk advised he had requested the meeting was updated on the following matters.

A418 Improvements – Funding for minor improvements to the A418 had been included in the budget for 2008/09. There would be no impact on Aston Abbotts. Rowsham and Bierton would benefit as the plans included speed restrictions and road crossings for these villages.

The application to SEERA for the next round of funding for the A418 was completed and expected to be issued at the end of May 08 with a decision in December 08.

R Clarke reported that the clearance of the land acquired had been completed and it was AGREED to sign off the Grant monitoring form.

The work on the aerial runway was due to commence on the 7th April, however this had not transpired and R Clarke would contact GB Sports.

It was confirmed that the next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 14th May at 20.00 in the Church Room

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2008

THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE ON WEDNESDAY 7TH MAY AT 8PM IN THE CHURCH ROOM

AGENDA

- 1. Apologies
- 2. To approve minutes of meeting held on 18th April 2007
- 3. Matters arising
- 4. County Council, District Council and Police reports
- 5. Annual report from the Parish Council Chairman
- 6. Village Activities

6.30 Club, Gnomes, Ladies Club, PCC, Church

- 7. Children's Play Area and Recreation Ground
- 8. Church Room
- 9. The Chronicle
- 10. Fete 2007
- 11. Fete 2008
- 12. A.O.B.



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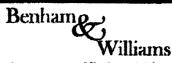
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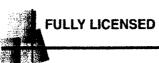
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RECCE ON THE REC

Have you been to the Rec lately? If you do venture there, I think you will be pleasantly surprised. The children's play equipment, recently replaced, looks inviting and is being well used by our local children. The bonfire area (which can sometimes look unsightly) has been cleared to allow new grass to grow for the summer months. The view from the bench on the far side of the field is as stunning as ever.

But the most dramatic change is on the left hand side of the field, beyond the Aerial Runway. The unsightly mass of bushes, nettles, undergrowth and old barbed wire fencing has been cleared, the trees thinned and pruned, and the whole area has been newly seeded with grass. The overall effect is to open up a new view, as stunning as the one in the other direction, and it makes the Rec look much larger than before.

The reason this work has been able to be carried out is entirely due to the hard work of the Parish Council. The 'new' strip of land was given to AVDC when Nash's Farm was developed. All these years later, and after much

badgering from the Parish Council, AVDC finally agreed that the village should have ownership of the land. District Council wheels grind slowly, and it has taken around six years to actually complete the legal process. Once the Parish Council was finally in possession of the Deeds and the land had been registered with the Land Registry, quotes were sought to carry out the work necessary to integrate the new land with the rest of the Rec.

So next time you venture out for a walk, do take the time to visit this part of the village, admire the 'new' view and use the new land now available for you to roam in as you please.



Mentmore Arts Festival is inviting local Artists to exhibit their work in St Mary's Church, Village Hall and on The Green. <u>Calling all artists</u>

Mentmore is to hold its first Arts Festival in St Mary's Church, the Village Hall and on The Green in aid of Mentmore Church Restoration Fund and local Charities — and we're asking local artists to hire exhibition space to exhibit their work. Artists work will be exhibited in the Church and Village Hall and stall space will be available on The Village Green for the sale of paintings, prints, photographs, sculpture, glass, pottery, local books and postcards. All exhibits in the Church and Village Hall will be available to buy. There will also be a raffle, a children's art competition, and a local artefacts charity stall. Plus teas will be served in the Mentmore Village Hall garden. For a booking form or further information please contact:

Caroline Gates on 01525 660268 or Sue Scott on 01525 372757

ASTON ABBOTTS & CUBLINGTON LADIES CLUB

2008

May 8th G Gamriel - Lights Camera Action

May 22nd Coffee morning by kind permission of Audrey Stephenson

June 5th Mr Rye - Building a winning garden BBC Gardener of the year winner 2002

June 19th Competition afternoon

June 3rd Outing
June 17th Garden party

The Aston Abbotts and Cublington Ladies Club meets twice a month in the Church Room, Aston Abbotts. All ladies from Aston Abbotts and Cublington are very welcome. Please contact Shirley Ford



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Quite a memorable Anniversary! - by Tony Hinds

We decided to go away for our wedding anniversary -2 nights in a hotel in Newbridge by the River Thames. Sunday morning after a good breakfast we decided to walk the 3 and a half miles to Bablockhythe along the Thames Path.

Halfway to our destination we saw a footbridge over the Thames to a small hamlet called Appleton about 1 and a half miles.

We decided we would do that on the way back. Reaching Bablockhythe we went in the pub – The Ferryman Inn.

After a couple of drinks the locals were very friendly and chatty. When we said what we intended to do the landlady told us Appleton was just across the river from there and the ferryman was in the pub and said he was willing to take us across on his boat. I got on first at the front of the boat. I turned to help Margaret on only to see her disappear into the river up to her chin standing on the river bed.

We hauled her out much to my relief as the river was flowing quite fast.

She was laughing and insisting she could walk back the 3 and half miles. I said 'Don't be silly woman, you'll die of hypothermia, we'll get a taxi'.

But the ferryman kindly insisted he'd take us back to our hotel as he said no taxi driver would let Margaret in his cab in that state.

Back at our hotel after a hot shower and complete change of clothes, she insisted on going for another walk, which we did, along a quiet country lane nowhere near water as Margaret seems mesmerised by water, as if she has to cross a narrow stream or even a muddy puddle in she goes!!!!

I turned out to be quite a memorable anniversary but for a fleeting moment I thought it might be our last.

Article from James Henderson

Disaster, after nearly three years my Black Rock hens have completely packed up laying. They are all in fantastic condition after the winter months. Lovely red combs and completely feathered up but alas no eggs. I am afraid they will have to go. I am replacing them with 60 Point of Lay Sussex Cross at about 18 weeks old. I hope they get on with the rest of the flock after their initial "pecking order" encounters. I am encouraged that all commercial sites get rid of their birds after one laying season i.e. one year; at least these had a good run. Watch this thrilling space.

At the time of this article pig farmers are facing a struggle to survive, caused by large increases in the cost of feed, which has risen from £130 to £225/ton in the last 12 months. The outcome is catastrophic. UK pig farmers are slaughtering 7000 breeding sows a week which is twice the normal amount because they cannot afford to feed them. The housewife really has to get behind the pig producers and buy British pork, ham and bacon. Don't just accept the first packet you pick up in the supermarket, make sure it is British and not Dutch or European. If in doubt ask. European pig products are sometimes cheaper but pig farms in Britain are amongst the highest welfare standards in the world and our sausages and bacon butties taste better!!

As reported in this column last year, grain prices are rising rapidly and as I suggested this is partially due to the demands for bio fuels. So we are facing a stark choice, we cannot produce renewable energy and at the same time meet the enormous demand for food. According to experts by 2030 the world population will have increased to such an extent that a 50% increase in food production shall be necessary. A further chilling fact is that as from today world wheat stocks are down to only 10 weeks, their lowest level for 50 years.

In my working life I have bought about eight Land Rovers and still drive one today. I see that the Indians have now bought the Land Rover, B.A.A. is owned by the Spanish, (which incidentally includes Terminal 5) and Chiltern Railways has been acquired by a German Rail operator. Is nothing sacred?

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Dear editor

Here is a link to some photos my father took of the view from Lines Hill in summer 1975:

http://www.flickr.com/photos/afuller18/sets/72157604692048307/detail/

The reason he did this was to show the landscape with elm trees which by then were under threat from Dutch Elm disease. I thought you might find them of interest. Please feel free to use any of them if you wish

I am Adam Fuller and I lived with my Mum and Dad, Brian and Vera, at a house on Lines Hill near the gate. It was called



"Gatesgarth" when we lived there. Mum died last year but Dad is alive and well age 91 and living in Haddenham.

I attended the village school from 1965 to 1971 and have many happy memories of growing up in Aston before leaving for the great metropolis of Haddenham in 1978.

I well remember the village shop run by Bernard Osborn, in the 1960s his parents Horace and Edie regularly worked in the shop. We had an account at the shop and I remember buying sweets sometimes and asking for them "on the book". Edie would carefully note that I had placed the order so I could refund my mum out of my pocket money! Bernard delivered groceries once a week but I remember more than once when he was on holiday his father Horace, by then quite elderly, would get the old shop bike out and make sure the orders got through!

There was an informal agreement with Major Morton the main landowner, that us kids could roam at will anywhere on the estate as long as we kept out of mischief which we did, mostly. We loved playing in and around the old Prisoner of War camp buildings near Norduck Farm. I remember being really jealous when one of us found an old sign saying "Eintritt Verboten" on the back of one of the doors! The Fox Covert was another favourite place, parts of it completely impenetrable thickets perfect for small boys to make dens in.

I am still in touch with Michael Lightfoot, now living in Cublington so I am in the area now and again. Best wishes.

Adam Fuller.

Photo above shows Norduck Drive

SOME USEFUL INFORMATION

If you yelled for 8 years, 7 months and 6 days you would have produced enough sound energy to heat one cup of coffee.

(Hardly seems worth it.)

If you farted consistently for 6 years and 9 months, enough gas is produced to create the energy of an atomic bomb.

(Now that's more like it!)

The flea can jump 350 times its body length. It's like a human jumping the length of a football field. (our entry for Olympics?)

Butterflies taste with their feet.

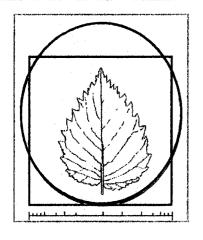
(Something I always wanted to know.)

The strongest muscle in the body is the tongue.

(Hmmm...)

An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain

(I know some people like that.)



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ALLOTMENT DIARY

In many ways this is the very best time of the year for an allotment gardener. You will have dug your patch, so that at the moment the allotment is looking absolutely impeccable - beautiful, straight, serried rows of newly turned earth, with not a weed to be seen! Meanwhile in your greenhouse you will have started planting some seeds so that they can get going in the warmth provided, before they are transplanted outside. This never fails to amaze me. It is like a conjuring trick: you fill some shallow trays with compost, sprinkle some seeds (which are frequently no bigger than coarse grains of sand) on this, water occasionally: and then magically a few days later the first green leaves - the cotyledons break the surface, and, in some cases - such as cucumber - they grow so rapidly you can almost see them growing.

Everything is perfect. Of course, it won't last. Within days the first weeds will start appearing – and growing even better than your seeds! And when you plant the seeds outside, they will be at the mercy of the elements, the birds, the insects and grubs – quite apart from the risk of your failing to water or weed them!

The other thing that is shortly going to spoil my present feeling of contentment is that I am going to have to work out where to plant the coming year's crop. In theory this should be easy: as most of my readers will know, you need to rotate your crops so that you do not grow the same type of crop on the same patch of land two years running — and indeed ideally you should have a minimum of a 3 year rotation (and if you're a perfectionist, a 4 year rotation). There are many good reasons why one should do this:-

- Moving crops around helps stop the build-up of pests and diseases in the soil, by breaking the life cycle of these, since most attack a particular type of vegetable rather than others e.g. club-root which affects brassicas
- Plants need nutrients in different amounts, and switching crops round means that all the nutrients in the soil are used

- Some plants, such as potatoes, have dense foliage, which keeps weeds down for future years
- Legumes (peas & beans) convert nitrogen in the air into nitrates in the soil, which enrich the soil for other vegetables, especially members of the brassica family (cabbages, etc.)
- Alternating between deep and shallow rooted crops helps improve soil structure

However, the problem is that I grow more of some sorts of vegetable than others, so that I cannot simply divide my allotment into exact areas of one third, and keep moving round from one to the other. Consequently, I find myself always having to compromise, and juggle about with where each crop is to go. The two things I do do, however, are (1) never to plant the same crop in the same area for two successive years, and (2) to try to make sure that a period of two years elapses before potatoes are planted in the same area. (They apparently suffer more than other vegetables if they are planted in the same place too quickly).

Another complicating factor is that some plants do not belong to the plant group you might expect. Turnips and swedes, for example, are not members of the root crops like carrots and parsnips, but are members of the brassica family like cabbages, and need to be rotated accordingly. Again, tomatoes are a member of the same family as potatoes. I always start off with a plan of where I am going to plant each crop, and then find I have not kept to it, because I have bought more of a particular vegetable than I had expected, and have spread out into an area earmarked for something else; so that I have to look at the previous year's allotment map to work out what I can do.

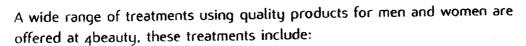
Nevertheless, this is easy stuff compared with what is in store from May onwards, when I begin my annual battle against the weeds that believe my allotment is the ideal place for them to grow!

Peter



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Sunday CLOSED



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"What is happening about the Church Room"??

Well, I'm pleased to report that due to continued pressure from Peter Shorrock and help from Derek Witchell, the Church solicitors have finally responded about the lease.....and its good news! We are getting there. We are OK with all the comments and conditions so far and so we now move to the next stage.

We are negotiating an initial 35 year lease with a view extending it to 99 years and we are hoping that this will all happen in the next few months. This will enable us to do some immediate works (after consultation with the village) and apply for a grant which would enable us to do more major works.

The Church solicitors will now commission a survey to agree any works that need to be done for us to obtain the lease and the Church will ask consent from the Charity Commissioners to grant the lease, in the form of a document called an 'Albemarle scheme'.

In the meantime, I am happy to report that it's likely that the money given to the village by the Bull and Butcher developers is going to be spent on equipment for the Kitchen (including a dishwasher that will be available for immediate use) when the hall is refurbished.

We are keen to find anyone in the village (or nearby) that has building, architecture or surveying (quantity and chartered) experience, as we might need help in negotiating the works required for us to take over the lease and of course, to assist in planning for the refurbishment. For this reason I am pleased to report that John Hardcastle has joined the committee.

The committee also consists of Dickie Dicken (new chair), Liz Hall (Secretary), Nigel Palmer (Treasurer), Peter Shorrock, Caroline Lane and Liz Barlow.

If you have any questions or would like to help with the refurbishment as a fundraiser, committee member, adviser or helper, do get in touch with one of us.

Liz Barlow 682605 liz@livanti-alpacas.com

There are two Bingo sessions in May.

The next Good Samaritan's Bingo is on Thursday, 1st May,

so there's a decent gap
for folks to get their Bingo 'dabbers' refilled
before the Saturday Legion event.
The Royal British Legion are doing a fund raiser
towards the end of the month.
24th May 7.30pm Church Room

ASTON ABBOTTS FETE SATURDAY 26TH JULY 2008

We now have a programme more or less organised for the fete this year and with a little help from a lot of people on the day it cannot fail to be a big success. The timing is likely to be as follows:-

1.30pm - Barbecue and Pimms available

2.00pm - Fete Opening

- Great Horwood Band

2.30pm - Teas available

- Colonel Custard until 3.15pm

2.40pm - Aldbury Morris Men

3.10pm - Great Horwood Band

3.45pm - Aldbury Morris Men

Whilst all the above is going on we have plenty of fun organised for parents and children alike.

Marshall Rose Roundabouts & Swingboats

A Traction Engine & Vintage Tractors

A Fire Engine

Tombola

Coconut Shy

Skittles

Whack the Rat

A Horse Racing Game

Face Painting

There will be stalls selling a variety of items; bric-a-brac, gifts, toys, cakes and preserves, books, plants, ice creams, soft drinks and many other things.

We also plan to have a "Dress as a character in a book" Fancy Dress Competition for the children where prizes will be given.

We have one or two more fun things organised for the children and need a few people to man them on the day. Many people have already volunteered to help, for which a huge thank you, but we do need to get together to discuss final arrangements. To this end there will be a meeting on Monday 23rd June at 7.30pm in the Church Room. Please put a note on your calendar. There will be a reminder in the May and June Chronicles.

April Curnow

1

VILLAGE FETE 2008

The time has come, I heard it said To organise the fete This rhyme is here to let you know Just how we chose the date St. James' day is July 25th So this restricts our choices. The nearest Saturday's 26th So let us raise our voices And tell everyone we know Just how much fun there will be If they come along to our village fete And they'll even get some tea. For the children there's lots to enjoy With Colonel Custard and Fancy Dress And many other things to make the day We hope a real success. The band will play some merry tunes And the Morris Men will dance The stalls will be full of lovely things And the tombola will give you a chance To win some prizes, some big, some small But at the end of the day it won't matter at all As long as we've had fine weather and fun It will all have been worth it to be out in the sun For the village fete is the place to be

On Saturday 26th July Whoopee!



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All ages welcome

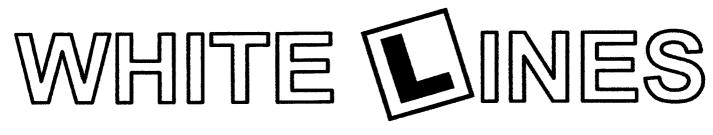
In aid of Branch Funds

Astonbury Website A new Astonbury website has been launched. On the site you will find information about the artists, the team, and what happens on the big day. You can also check for the latest news of Astonbury 2008 and find out even more information on the Frequently Asked Questions page. Please take a look at:

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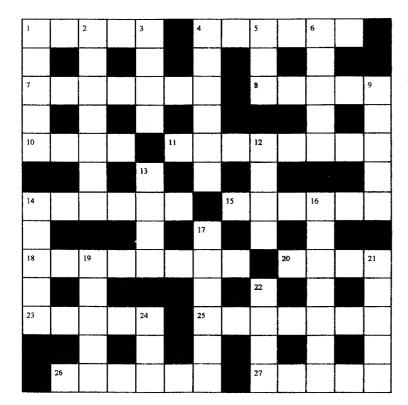






The Chronicle Crossword

MAY 2008



ACROSS

1 Cover 4 Walker 7 Dorking8 Datum 10 Ruin11 Keyboard 14 Petrel15 Awaits 18 Computer20 Knob 23 Aston 25 Abbotts26 Joined 27 Ended

DOWN

1 Cider 2 Verdict 3 Rein 4 Wagner 5 Lid 6 Extra 9 Midas 12 Bowl 13 Menu 14 Pucka 16 Ignited 17 Regard 19 Metro 21 Based 22 Oboe 24 Non

ACROSS

1	Not a	many	(5)
---	-------	------	-----

⁴ Result (6)

- 11 In progress (8)
- 14 Italian city (6)
- 15 Invade in numbers (6)
- 18 Soothing cream (8)
- 20 Not new (4)
- 23 Land measurement (5)
- 25 African wild cat (7)
- 26 Young cow (6)
- 27 Very poor (5)

DOWN

- 1 Turn towards (5)
- 2 Builder say (7)
- 3 Loud party (4)
- 4 Type of sunblind (6)
- 5 Health resort (3)
- 6 Part of your arm (5)
- 9 Country of the Pyramids (5)
- 12 Volcano in Sicily (4)
- 13 Illegal plan to make money (4)
- 14 Large violin (5)
- 16 Trap (7)
- 17 Fisherman (6)
- 19 Works in hospitals (5)
- 21 Dishonest (5)
- 22 Sprinkle with seed (4)

Compiled by Rod Rothero

⁷ Used by travellers (7)

⁸ Leisurely walk (5)

¹⁰ Rounded roof (4)

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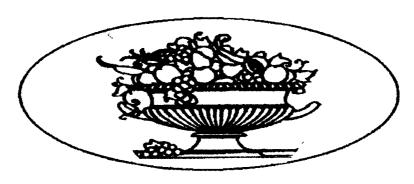
SUNDAY 18TH MAY 2008 CHILTERN HILLS VINTAGE VEHICLE RALLY

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Contact: The Chiltern Hills Rally, 137 Bedgrove, Aylesbury, Bucks HP21 7TR Tel. No. 01296 330901 Email: penderjune@aol.com

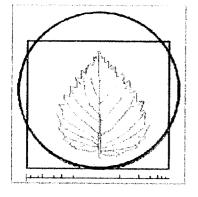
May 2008

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THE CHURCH IS OPEN every Wednesday

morning at 9am for anyone who wishes to reflect, meditate or pray for a few minutes or longer.

It is anticipated that the Church will be open for around half an hour or so and people may come and go as they wish. Usually Shirley Ford will be present to start with a religious reading or a prayer. Please come along. All are welcome.

100 CLUB

Renewal of membership is now due
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and hand it with £15 to Colin Higgs

NAME

ADDRESS

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For Villagers:

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I want to say a heart felt thanks for all the support I received for running the London Marathon. (This is a picture of me after the race kissing my medal & savouring a glass of champagne that's never tasted so good!)

I was extremely touched by people's kind words and generous sponsorship and am over the moon to have raised £3,615 for Beating Bowel Cancer. Thank you SO much.

I can honestly say that 13th April was one of the best days of my life. If you have never been involved with a London Marathon – whether as a supporter or runner – I would strongly urge you to as it is such an enjoyable & exhilarating day (unless you're running when at points it's quite the opposite!) when thousands of people come together across London creating the most amazing, vibrant, alive atmosphere heaving with good spirit which cannot be portrayed on pen & paper or TV footage.

I write this a week after the event, with a smile on my face, still on a high & buzzing from the fantastic experience — I will treasure the wonderful assortment of memories from the day forever.



For the first half I was flying....contrasting to the lonely country roads and laborious treadmill I'd been training on, I was suddenly running through one big giant, colourful party, hearing all different types of live music from jazz to reggae, big band to gospel. Through the rich and poor suburbs of London, the crowd support was vast, a bursting wall of encouraging noise, strangers calling my name (printed on my t-shirt) and beautiful, smiling fresh faced kids from all different ethnic backgrounds high fiving and calling for me. Despite the rain & hail, the phenomenal crowd support did not falter, it remained solid all the way through, I wanted to hug them all to thank them (but it would take too long!)

The air was thick with emotion and passion, the atmosphere overwhelming and I went on a rollercoaster of emotions.....at times I just could not wipe the smile off my face, soaking up the good will and encouragement generously being showered on us runners. Other times I wanted to burst out crying, seeing so many people running in memory of loved ones (a young father who had lost his baby daughter was heart wrenching), a blind man - his journey in the dark, people with disabilities or missing limbs.. it was moving beyond words. I thought of my amazing Dad and my brave and wonderful Mum and all the support & sponsorship I received from friends, family, colleagues, people I didn't even know. It was all very humbling.

Mile 13 was special to me, firstly this is the point where you pass the elite runners and to see their energy and strength was incredible and an inspiration to carry on running (also slightly disturbing knowing they're sprinting towards the finish & you're only half way there...ugh!)

But more importantly, this is where my close family & friends would be positioned. Having them there is so significant, something to run for – just the chance to get a glimpse of my gorgeous nephews faces gave me great force and kept me pounding away, I was so excited to see them. I worried I would not spot them through the thousands of different people (how would I?) and when I was nearing mile 14 my heart dropped - i thought I'd missed them, I wanted to cry. But suddenly I heard a cheer with a different type of emotion buried within it, a familiar and strong sound of encouragement – it was them.....what a moment, a short one but priceless! That boosted me on tremendously so I was buzzing along for the next few miles.

At mile 20 I was starting to get really tired, however as I had been up to 22 miles in my training, it wasn't unfamiliar territory, plus the fact I was looping back round so was looking forward to seeing my family & friends again at mile 22. Again, I thought I'd missed them (they had moved slightly from their original spot) and seeing them the second time round was just as, if not more, special and uplifting. I needed them then.

Shortly after this a fellow runner called my name, I looked up and recognised her as a girl I used to work with, to bump into her out of 35,000 runners was a surreal moment, we greeted each other as if out shopping, doing something quite normal, and then promptly went back into our own running journeys. I didn't run a year ago and remember always looking up to and admiring this girl as she was known as a strong and fast runner...here I was at mile 23 running alongside her, how good did that feel.

Continued on page 31





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Mile 24 was when it really started to get tough, I was exhausted and although I had already squeezed 4 carb gels down my throat, my energy levels were sapped, some people were stopping and walking around me (excruciatingly tempting to join them), I wanted to give words of encouragement to them and shout 'keep going' but it came out as a mere whisper.. not much use to anyone I'm afraid!

Then came what they call 'The Runners Grave'. This is where you run through an underpass, a long dark tunnel, there are no crowds of supporters, the cheering suddenly drops to a silence apart from sounds of tired feet on the sticky pavement and wheezing & moaning. Several people who's muscles were seizing up were stopping and a young guy had collapsed, his white skin & blue lips glowing in the dark – it really scared me. This was hard and punishing, physically and mentally. I was urging myself on, wanting to see the light at the end of the tunnel!!

The last 2 miles were torturously gruelling and I was feeling slightly disorientated. My thighs were cramping up and it felt like someone was squeezing them so hard, holding my legs down and dragging me backwards. I was questioning if I could manage another 10 steps running, let alone 2 miles – it felt like I had a mighty long way to go....(another moment of wanting to cry!). My willpower was seriously tested here, but I had come this far, in both my training and the race I was determined to keep going...I wasn't stopping for nothing.

The rest is all a bit of a haze, I was in my own world just deeply focused on getting one foot in front of the other and knowing my personal journey was coming to an end. Here the crowd support became increasingly intense, I remember a lady looking me in the eye, I'd never seen her before in my life but she was passionately shouting my name, really rooting for me – she was genuinely willing me on. I was touched - this really lifted me, people can be truly wonderful.

The 800m.. 400m.. 200m countdown were the longest moments in my life, it felt like time had slowed down, that everything was running in slow motion. I embraced this as much as possible as knew it was a significant moment in my life. I experienced such a strange mix of emotions when I turned the corner to see the finish line.

After a while of staggering around afterwards in such a daze, it started to dawn on me that I DID IT, I ran ALL the way, with no stops (3 hours, 59 minutes and 53 seconds to be precise!). What an amazing, indescribable feeling of elation - so pure and exhilarating. I had always thought I would really cry at the finish but instead I was overcome with a feeling of contentment and liberation. A real sense of a physical and mental accomplishment.

I ran the London marathon along with the naked man, Elvis, a rhino & the guy who bounced a basket ball all the way round! I ran past the Maasai Warriors who came all the way from their remote village in Africa – running in shoes made of old tyres, with Buster – the 101 year old man, a banana (!) and 34,999 other runners from all walks of life all with different reasons for being there. Later I discovered I crossed the finish line exactly 9 seconds after Ronan Keating....I wish I'd have known I was that close behind him, it would've given me great reason to run a bit faster & get a glimpse of his legs!

If you've ever run a race, you'll know that the finishing straight is a fantastic feeling – well for me, the 26.2 (don't forget the .2, it's important trust me!) of the London Marathon felt like one big finishing straight.

My goal was to complete the marathon in under 4 hours and whilst I am pleased to say I achieved this (just!), I realised at the start of the race that it wasn't about what time I could achieve (I decided not to look at my pace band and I didn't once) but more the experience and what I was running it for....

- In memory of my amazing Dad. To raise money and awareness for Beating Bowel Cancer and to achieve something I wasn't sure I could.
- In memory of Christine. For the others I know of who died of or recovered from bowel cancer.
- Because of those special people I know who inspired me you know who you are. Thank you.
- On one day, to experience an immense sense of good will and spirit, bravery and raw emotion, an overwhelming sense of togetherness and profound human nature.

To know him was to love him.

Bowel Cancer will affect 1 in 18 of us during our lifetime, and claims 50 lives every day in the UK. Yet, if diagnosed and treated in time, it is completely curable. For more info go to www.beatingbowelcancer.org

Tara Eastmead

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20th - 27th October 2006

20th December 2006 – 5th January 2007

 5^{th} April 2007 – 30^{th} June 2007

16th September – 28th October 2007

For more information or to book call Andi or Becky Swain on 01296 670388 or visit our web site at www.espanolvilla.com

View from the vicarage.....

misunderstandings -

You say: Vicar, your piece last month made it sound as though they're an ungodly lot at the Cottesloe – The Vicar says: I'm sorry, it's not what I meant! They teach me more about God than I teach them!

You say: I don't think I'm a bad person - God says: I love you to bits (John 3:16)

You say: I don't want to go to 'hell' (whatever that might turn out to be) – God says: I don't want you to either, but neither will I force you to be with me in 'heaven'.

You say: It's impossible – God says: All things are possible (Luke 18:27)

You say: I'm too tired – God says: I will give you rest (Matthew 11:28-30

You say: I can't forgive - God says: I FORGIVE YOU (1 John 1:9; Romans 8:1)

You say: I can't manage -- God says: I will supply your needs (Philippians 4:19)

You say: I'm always worried – God says: Cast all your cares on me (1 Peter 5:7)

You say: I'm not clever enough – God says: I give you wisdom (1 Corinthians:30)

You say: I feel all alone – I will never leave you or forsake you (Hebrews 13:5)

You say: It's not worth it – God says: It will be worth it (Romans 8:28)

You says: I can't go on – God says: Hang on to me, I'll carry you (2 Corinthians 12:9)

shalom

Derek

with grateful thanks to those who took the time to contact me about issues last month's view from the vicarage raised

The Minister's Teeth

The minister just had all of his remaining teeth pulled and new dentures were being made.

The first Sunday, he only preached 10 minutes. The second Sunday, he preached only 20 minutes.

But, on the third Sunday, he preached 1 hour 25 minutes.

When asked about this by some of the congregation, he responded this way: 'The first Sunday, my gums were so sore it hurt to talk. The second Sunday, my new dentures were hurting me a lot. The third Sunday, I accidentally grabbed my wife's dentures...'

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SERVICES FOR MAY 2008

SUNDAY 4TH	Aston Abbotts	10.00	Morning Prayer	CS
	Cublington		At Aston Abbotts	
Sunday 11TH Pentecost	Aston Abbotts	10.00	Holy Communion	RH
<u>angga angga</u> r anggar digit di dididida di didikat nga sida sa 1986 (di 1986 (di 1986) 19	Cublington	9.15	Holy Communion	РВ
Sunday 18TH <i>Trinity</i>	Aston Abbotts	6pm	Holy Communion	DW
	Cublington	9.15	Holy Communion	RH
SUNDAY 25TH	Aston Abbotts	6pm	Evensong	CS
	Cublington	9.15	Family Service	

Revd Michelle Morton is still signed off sick at present and all enquiries for the time being should be directed to Revd Derek Witchell, 01296 682320 witchell@psaco nnect.net



St James Church

3rd Phil Spooner

10th Adam/Peter Shorrock

17th Caroline L/Tara

24th Tom Carliss

31st Will Adenay/Marcus Hall

(Wedding 2.30pm)

Colin Higgs

Colin Higgs

TBA

TBA

Wedding



If you are unable to match the rota please change with a colleague

SIDESMAN		CLEANERS	READERS	
3/4	Andrew Ford	Colin/Caroline L	Shirley/Anita	
10/11	April Curnow	April/Anita	Caroline A/S / April	
17/18	Andy Bystra	Vacant?	Caroline L/Andy	
24/25	Andrew Ford	Shirley/Andrew	TBA	
31/1	Colin Higgs	Colin/Caroline L	April/Jan	



Pest Control

By the BEE's Knees at MSC Ltd

Environment Agency Certificate Number TWE/673982 Member of British Institutes of Cleaning Science BiCS



Wasps £35.00 Inclusive Guaranteed, No Hidden Charges



Pigeon netting and pointing protection. Mess removal and disposal in accordance with DEFRA and EA. Certificates of disposal supplied.



Rats/mice all trapped and disposed of in accordance with DEFRA and EA.



Woodworm, Cockroaches, Insects, Flies, Squirrels.

T: 01296 424284 M: 07950 379250 E: jím@mtsfc.co.uk

The Aston Abbotts Telephone List

100 Club	Colin Higgs	681343	Milkman	Ron Miller Dairies	482838
630 Club	Andy Bystra	681690	Mobile Library	Buckingham Library	01280 813229
AVDC	Switchboard	585858	NHS Direct	24hr Medical Advice Line	e 0845 46 47
Baby & Toddlers Group	Kim Gayler	681123	Parish Clerk	Paul Bruton	682322
Bus Enquiries	TraveLine	0870 608 2608	Parish Council Leader	Peter Shorrock	681260
Buses	L&S	415468	Police	Emergencies	999 or 112
Chronicle Advertising	Phil Corrigan	688191	Police	Non-emergency	0845 850 5505
Chronicle Distribution	Andy Bystra	681690	Police	Wing Police Station	396163/4
Chronicle Editorial	John Hardcastle	688070	Railways	Chiltern Railways	0870 516 5165
Church Mowing Rota	Geoff Curnow	681459	Rambler's Club	Colin Higgs	681343
Church Room Hire	Colin Higgs	681343	Rector	Reverend Derek Witchel	I 682320
Citizens Advice	Aylesbury	0870 126 4056	Refuse Collection	Enquiries	585510
Council	Aylesbury Vale Distric	t 585858	Roads & Transport	Colin Higgs	681343
Council	Bucks County Council	395000	Royal Oak	Teri & Gary Moult	681 2 62
County Councillor	Quinton Ings-Chambe	r 688431	RSPCA	General Enquiries	08705 555 999
Dial-A-Ride		330088	Scouts	Julia Ellis	681118
District Councillor	Peter Cooper	681250	Whist	Colin Higgs	681343
Doctor (emergency out o	of hours)	331511	Wingrave Preschool	Paul Weston	681127
Fete Coordinator	April Curnow	681459	Wingrave Post Office	(PO only)	682964
G.N.O.M.E.S.	Carol Spooner	681544	Wingrave Post Office	(Stores)	681696
Hospital	Stoke Mandeville	315000	Wingrave School	Office	681436
Ladies Club	Shirley Ford	681865	Please let us know of any errors or omissions		amissians
Member of Parliament	John Bercow MP	714240			viiuoowiio

LIFE IN THE 1500'S

The next time you are washing your hands and complain because the water temperature isn't just how you like it, think about how things used to be. Here are some facts about the 1500s:

Most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May, and still smelled pretty good by June. However, they were starting to smell, so brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odour. Hence the custom today of carrying a bouquet when getting married.

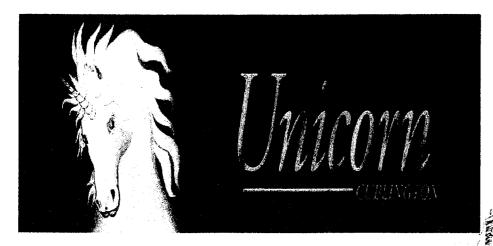
Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, then all the other sons and men, then the women and finally the children. Last of all the babies. By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it. Hence the saying, Don't throw the baby out with the bath water..

Houses had thatched roofs - thick straw-piled high, with no wood underneath. It was the only place for animals to get warm, so all the cats and other small animals (mice, bugs) lived in the roof When it rained it became slippery and sometimes the animals would slip and fall off the roof. Hence the saying . It's raining cats and dogs.

There was nothing to stop things from falling into the house. This posed a real problem in the bedroom where bugs and other droppings could mess up your nice clean bed. Hence, a bed with big posts and a sheet hung over the top afforded some protection. That's how canopy beds came into existence.

The floor was dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt. Hence the saying, Dirt poor. The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery in the winter when wet, so they spread thresh (straw) on floor to help keep their footing. As the winter wore on, they added more thresh until, when you opened the door, it would all start slipping outside. A piece of wood was placed in the entranceway. Hence the saying a thresh hold.

(I could go on - but I won't Ed)



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We hate to disappoint villagers and as we are getting busier, we encourage you to book your table in advance.

Don't forget to ask about joining our loyalty scheme...



TO RESERVE YOUR TABLE PLEASE CALL US ON 01296 681261

What's On In May

	AARIMI 3				
Thursday 1st		Good Samaritan's Bingo 7.30pm	Church Room		
	Sunday 4th	Rambling Club Annual Spider Walk	12.30 Cublington		
	Monday 5th Bank Holiday	Table Top Sale 12.30pm	The Green		
	Wednesday 7th	Prayers 9am	St James Church		
		Annual Parish Meeting 8pm	Church Room		
	Thursday 8th	Coffee Shop 10-12 noon	Church Room		
		Ladies Club 2.15pm	Church Room		
		Whist Drive 7.30pm	Church Room		
	Sunday 11th	Village Footpath Walk 2pm	The Green		
	Wednesday 14th	Prayers 9am	St James Church		
		Swearing in of Church Wardens 7pm	1 St Mary's Ayls.		
		Annual Parish Council Meeting 8pm	Church Room		
	Thursday 15th	Coffee/Shop 10-12noon	Church Room		
	Wednesday 21st	Prayers 9am	St James Church		
	Thursday 22nd	Coffee Shop 10-12noon	Church Room		
		Ladies Club 2.15pm	Church Room		
		Whist Drive 7.30pm	Church Room		
	Saturday 24th	British Legion Bingo 7.30pm	Church Room		
	Sunday 25h	Evensong 6pm	St James Church		
	Monday 26th	Bank Holiday			
	Wednesday 28th	Prayers 9am	St James Church		
	Thursday 29th	Coffee Shop 10-12noon	Church Room		
	Saturday 31st	Wedding 2.30pm	St James Church		
	Sunday 1st June	Rambling Club 2pm V	Vendover Car Park		

Ladies Club 2.15pm

Address

Please note that all submissions for the Chronicle should be sent to John Hardcastle, Marloes, Lines Hill, Aston Abbotts, Bucks. HP22 4NG

Email submissions to:

editor@aachronicle.co.uk

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

Classified

CLASSIFIED ADS ARE FREE in The Chronicle. Phone us on 01296 688191 or email editor@aachronicle.co.uk



Meets every Saturday in The Royal Oak at 6.30pm.

Church Room

New members very welcome.

Contact Andy Bystra if you need an introduction.

Two fish swim into a concrete wall. The one turns to the other and says, 'Dam!'

630 Club

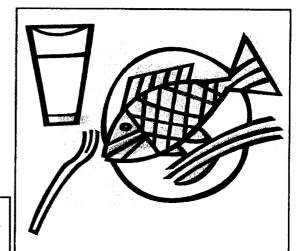
1 paper shredder new £15

2 boys/gents bike little used £50

3 single pine bed (mattress if required) £60

details call 01296 680474

Did you hear about the Buddhist who refused Novocaine during a root canal? His goal: transcend dental medication.



FISH & CHIP VAN
Every Wednesday
on The Green
Approx 9pm

FLACKWELL ELECTRON

OF CHURCH FARM, ASTON ABBOTTS

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TV-DVD-PLASMA-LCD-HDTV SALES AND SERVICING

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DLP Principles Adopted in SA

Many months ago we revealed how the DLP (Dave Lewis Party) was planning for government by revolutionising the way we deal with criminals in our society, putting emphasis on the rights of the victim and protection of the public. The back page article provoked a huge swell of support amongst Chronicle readers.

Now we are pleased to report that Dave's founding political principles are being adopted as government policy in South Africa. The clipping from the Daily Telegraph of the 10th April reproduced on the right shows just how widely Dave's ideas have spread.

Baggage Chaos at Church Farm Helipad

Aston Abbotts flying boss Dave Lewis ended up with egg on his face last week as chaos descended at the Church Farm Helipad. Following his installation of a new windsock earlier in the month Dave was forced to admit that there had been baggage handling problems with the first flight this year.

"Although we have spent months in preparation and rehearsals for this day, it appears that we may have lost the bag," admits Dave.

Dave was careful to make sure that the buck did not stop with him. "It's the fault of my staff," he said, adding, "I blame that bag." Mrs Lewis was not available for comment.



Kill the criminals, minister tells police

By Sebastien Berger

SOUTH Africa's deputy security minister has told police how to tackle rampant crime in their cities: "Kill the bastards", and do not worry about regulations.

"You must kill the bastards if they threaten you or the community," Susan Shabangu told a police forum in Pretoria. "I want to assure the police station commissioners and policemen and women that they have permission to kill these criminals.

You must not worry about the regulations. That is my responsibility. Your responsi-bility is to serve and protect,"

she added.
"I won't tolerate any pathetic excuses for you not being able to deal with crime. You have been given guns, now use them. I want no warning shots. You have one shot and it must be a kill shot.

South Africa has one of the highest crime rates in the world, with more than 19,000 people murdered last year more than 50 a day. Thabo Mbeki's ANC govern-

ment has long been accused of failing to tackle crime, but

Jacob Zuma, the party's populist new leader, has called it a "national emergency".

Many South Africans welcomed Miss Shabangu's comments. "Hooray... finally," wrote one website contributor.
"Hopefully it will make those bastards think twice.

The opposition Democratic Alliance called for the deputy minister to be sacked.

Flackwell Electronics—Please buy yer tellies from Dave