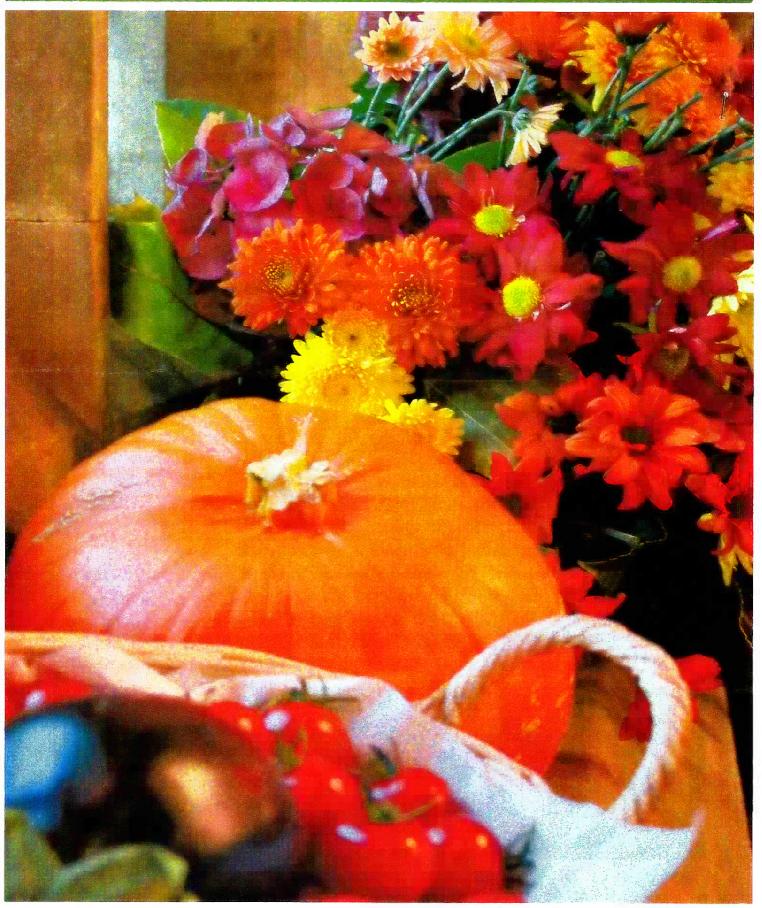
The Chronicle

ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH MAGAZINE Issue 294 - November 2009



Email: editor@aachronicle.co.uk

Editorial

The Harvest Supper was a great success. I gather the Village Hall could have been filled many times over such was the demand for tickets. You can read a full account on page 5. My thanks to the volunteers who again produced some lovely food from such a small kitchen - the new plate warmer was put to good use. Judy and I had only just returned from a few days holiday touring the Inner Hebrides. For the first few days the weather was horrid and we nearly got marooned on the island of Gigha. The wind was so strong that there were fears the ferry wouldn't be able to run - but then the weather turned and we had a mini Indian summer. It is a lovely part of the world, the scenery is just stunning - much better than many of foreign parts we all holiday in.

Bob Bean hosted his Lodge's Ladies Night, held at Pendley Manor on 17th October. A double decker bus took a large contingent from the village. It's size meant that it had to take a circuitous route as it could not negotiate the canal bridges en route. The evening raised a considerable amount of money for charitable causes notably Cancer Research and the Help for Heroes Fund.

The Chronicle Crossword may have found two knights in shining armour who are willing to keep the tradition alive. If you would like to contribute an occasional crossword, or a one off, then I'm sure the 'knights' would welcome your assistance. More information, hopefully, in the next Chronicle.

Judy and I are anticipating the arrival very shortly of our second grandchild. We will be rushing up the M6 to visit our eldest son Chris and his wife who live in Cheshire. Christmas is not far away now - the size of the gathering at our house is increasing every year. I'm looking forward to it.

John

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- COUNTRYSIDE MATTERS
- RECIPE GIRLS
- ALLOTMENT DIARY

THE CHRONICLE

Issue 294 November 2009

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A note to all would be advertisers— More than 205 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 **Friday 27th November**

Please pass items to John Hardcastle 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

BIRTHDAYS

November

Eleanor Farrands	4 th
Thomas Farrands	4 th
John Brancker	7^{th}
Caroline Hall	7^{th}
Bridget Brandon	8 th
Amy James	9 th
Ray Wilkinson	10^{th}
Percy Humphries	19 th
John Whyte	23 rd
Olivia Gresswell	23 rd

HARVEST FESTIVAL

The good news is that we raised a staggering amount of money. £923.05 to be precise!!!!! So thank you everyone for your wonderful support. *April Curnow*See also page 5.

Lol Hinds has advised the Parish Clerk that he and his team were standing down from doing the fireworks in the village. The Parish Council feel it is too short notice to advertise for another team of volunteers and to obtain the relevant health & safety conditions etc. so there will be no fireworks display this year.

This months front cover shot is one of the beautiful window arrangements at the Church this Harvest Festival. Janice Issitt simply had to have it in colour as the natural colours are so vibrant and will sponsor this herself. If you would like to see the Chronicle continue to have colour covers then please let Janice know, it costs £11. Janice is happy to work with you on ideas for the photo. The December cover will be sponsored by Shirley Ford, so many thanks to Shirley for that.

3

Congratulations to Shivum Gupta who is in the cast of "Oliver" at Drury Lane from 31/10/09 for 6 months.

Congratulations also to Juan and Brigitte who have become proud grandparents. Gabriel Jasper Lucien was born 22nd September in Plymouth to Pablo and Becca.

Bron Hughes from Wingrave lost a folding chair emblazoned with a Dragon, at Astonbury. If anyone picked it up by mistake could you contact Bron on 681684. She can swop it with a plain one.

Harvest Festival Supper was a huge success. Thank you to everyone involved but especially to Francesca who cooked a beautiful beef stew for 62 people. Amazing.

Unfortunately, Lady Jean Galsworthy recently died on 15th October at SMH after a fall at home. She had gone downhill recently, her asthma had worsened and every move was a struggle. The cremation was held at Amersham on 29th October. (see also page 15)

A Big Thank You to Bob and Francesca Bean for organising the recent Ladies Night at Pendley Manor that so many of us went to. It was splendid.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY ST JAMES CHURCH 8th November 10.45am

YOU'VE PROBABLY HEARD OF THE CALENDAR GIRLS - well the Chronicle is going one better!

Hope you were able to try out Sally Clarke's Italian chicken.

11 lovely ladies have volunteered to suggest a recipe of the month. This month it's Carol Spooner's turn. The following month's are by Alison Lewis, Brigitte Gutierrez, Francesca Bean, Judy Hardcastle, April Curnow, Jackie Farrands, Anita Parker & Margaret Hinds. see next page overleaf for Carol's November Recipe.

ASTON ABBOTTS KITCHEN featuring the Recipe Girls

CAROL SPOONER'S PRAWNS WITH TOMATO AND FETA

(speedy low fat Greek supper)

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3 TBSP. OLIVE OIL

2 FINELY CHOPPED ONIONS

600g CHOPPED TOMATOES IN RICH TOMATO SAUCE

350g LARGE PEELED RAW PRAWNS, DEFROSTED IF FROZEN 100g FETA

3 TBSP PARSLEY

RICE OR PASTA TO SERVE

HEAT THE OIL IN FRYING PAN AND FRY ONIONS GENTLY FOR ABOUT 7 MINUTES.

ADD TOMATOES AND SUGAR AND SIMMER FOR ABOUT 5 MINUTES.
THROW IN THE PRAWNS AND COOK GENTLY FOR ABOUT 5
MINUTES UNTIL PIPING HOT

SPOON OVER RICE OR PASTA AND CRUMBLE OVER THE FETA AND CHOPPED PARSLEY

(186 KCALS PER SERVING/LOW FAT)



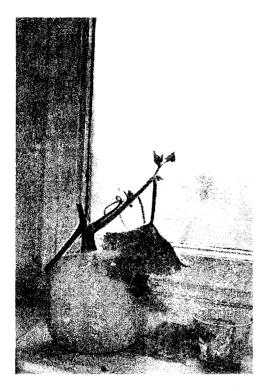
REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 8th November

ST JAMES CHURCH - ASTON ABBOTTS

You may recall that in last year's November Chronicle Simon Guy contributed an article recalling the people who's names are recorded on the village war memorial. Simon will be delivering the address at the service this year. He will be explaining some of the pertinent stories with an update on his research.

This year he has travelled to Northern Italy and visited the graves of the 2 soldiers who died in 1918 towards the end of the war. He has also further information regarding Alfred Castle; he was the one person he wasn't 100% sure about. Well, now he has more information and the story still goes on as he may be one of the recently discovered soldiers at Fromelles mentioned in a news item very recently.

It would be great if we could get as good a turn out for the Remembrance Service as we did last year. Ed



You probably have seen the notices at the side of the road in Wing, "Crime Operation in Progress" and wondered quite what it means. Perhaps it is a notice that has been erected by some malcontent to advertise that he/she is about to commit an anti social act. It might be that the police have purchased too many signs and they have to use them somewhere, so why not at Wing. Perhaps they are meant to scare off the criminals while the police post at Wing is unmanned. Or is it that a major police investigation is in train somewhere, if so, where are the men in blue?

Harvest Festival Sunday 12th October

The church looked beautifully decked with flowers and fruit for the harvest festival service. The service was really well attended; what a difference it makes to a service when the church is full.

The service over and the lucky people who had been quick off the mark to book their tickets were able to attend the harvest festival supper in the Church Room.

It was apparent on arrival that a lot of time and effort had been put into the preparation of the evening. The tables were all laid up and the window sills were laden with fruit, vegetables, jams and chutneys ready for the auction.

We were treated to a superb boeuf bourguignon or vegetable lasagne followed by fruit crumbles and tarts all prepared by various volunteers from the village.

Then came the long anticipated auction with much cajoling, fun and laughter ---- the auction raised an amazing amount of money, some of which goes towards helping the older members of the village. Ray Wilkinson was at his auctioneering best – the slightest movement was translated into a bid.

Thank you to April, Rita, Francesca, all the other volunteers and all who made donations of goodies for an evening of good food and entertainment which in all raised a magnificent £923.05.

Well done everyone. Judy Hardcastle

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53 The Green Aston Abbots

Music in Quiet Places

Seeing the reports in the Chronicle about the fete and Astonbury has reminded me that I had quite forgotten to write about an event which took place back in June, one sunny summer's evening, at our Church, St James the Great.

Music in Quiet Places began at 6.30pm with a guided village walk, led by Colin Higgs and attended by an amazingly large number of visitors. Drinks were then served in the Church before the concert (they were intended to be for the interval, but knowing the folk of Aston Abbotts, the party started early!). How lovely it was to see the Church filled with smiling people, relaxing with a glass of wine and listening to good music played by professional musicians. Robert Secret and his fellow musicians gave a memorable and enjoyable concert.

As well as being a pleasant evening out, the event raised a total of £188, which was donated to Church funds. AVDC Leisure Services generously donated 20% of the ticket sales, paid for all the publicity and employed the musicians. Thanks must go to April, Rita and Andy for managing to sell so much wine and make such a healthy profit, and of course thanks to Colin for so ably leading the village tour.

Kate Curry

from Dickie Dicken

You may be interested to learn that AVDC's Chief Planning Officer recorded his notes made at a meeting of the Local Area Liaison Group – yet another organisation in our already complicated planning bureaucracy – that gives an insight into how the views of Parish Councils and that of Village Plans fit into the overall scheme of things. The relevant extract from his notes are as follows.

"Some of you have raised concerns about the Parish voice being ignored by the District, or finding your resident's views "trumped" by the government dictats on housing delivery. We do not ignore local views, but this does not mean we can always make decisions in line with them, especially where proposals accord with Government guidance, the requirements of the South East Plan, and accord with what is emerging through the Core Strategy. Similarly Parish Plans, however laudable, cannot themselves "trump" these statutory planning documents or be a blocker to development "

Although this is nothing new, it does tend to reinforce the opinion that the views of the rural community count for very little in our democracy

Www.myspace.com/astonabbotts

If you haven't done so already please check out the Aston Abbotts myspace page. Janice Issit has now started to add the Recipes of the month, look for these under: view my blog

There are also plenty of photos of the village and its events.

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CANNON BALLS!!! DID YOU KNOW THIS?

It was necessary to keep a good supply of cannon balls near the cannon on old war ships. But how to prevent them from rolling about the deck was the problem. The storage method devised was to stack them as a square based pyramid, with one ball on top, resting on four, resting on nine, which rested on sixteen.

Thus, a supply of 30 cannon balls could be stacked in a small area right next to the cannon. There was only one problem — how to prevent the bottom layer from sliding/rolling from under the others.

The solution was a metal plate with 16 round indentations, called, for reasons unknown, a Monkey. But if this plate were made of iron, the iron balls would quickly rust to it. The solution to the rusting problem was to make them of brass - hence, Brass Monkeys,

Few landlubbers realize that brass contracts much more and much faster than iron when chilled.

Consequently, when the temperature dropped too far, the brass indentations would shrink so much that the iron cannon balls would come right off the monkey.

Thus, it was quite literally, cold enough to freeze the balls off a brass monkey. And all this time, folks thought that was just a vulgar expression?



RITA"S 75th

I would like to say a big thank you to Vanessa and Tracy for organising 'Gnomes night' at Vanessa's home as an extra birthday treat for me. In true 'gnomes' tradition the glasses were kept topped up with various alcoholic liquids!!

April made a delicious cake but apologised because it wasn't big enough for all the candles!! - I'll get you for that April!!

The cards I received were numerous and varied; I enjoyed them all so thanks to everyone.

A family gathering of 25 was arranged by Andy and my three daughters at the Carriage House restaurant, Claydon House on Sat. 24th Oct. The meal was excellent and the service attentive and we would certainly go there again for a special occasion.

So!! I had quite an extended birthday, made all the more enjoyable by my family and friends.

An eagle was sitting on a tree resting, doing nothing.

A small rabbit saw the eagle and asked him, 'Can I also sit like you and do nothing?'
The eagle answered: 'Sure, why not.'
So, the rabbit sat on the ground below the eagle and rested. All of a sudden, a fox appeared, jumped on the rabbit and ate it.

Moral of the story: To be sitting and doing nothing, you must be sitting very, very high up.

You deserve the best

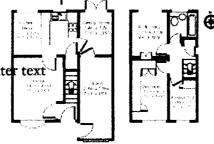
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In Flanders Fields

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

John McCrae (1872 - 1918



REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

Members of
Wingrave & District Branch
of The Royal British Legion
will this year be attending
the Remembrance Day
Service held on
Sunday, 8th
November
at
Aston Abbotts
Church.

Commencing at the Memorial, at 10.45am followed by a service in St James' Church, Aston Abbotts.

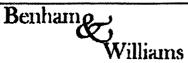
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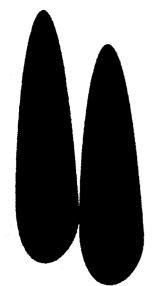
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Aston Abbotts

11

Lady Jean Galsworthy

"A service was held at the Hampden Chapel of the Chilterns Crematorium in Amersham to celebrate the life of Lady Jean Galsworthy who died on 16th October. A group of us attended taking along a floral tribute from Jean's coffee morning friends.

There were readings and tributes from members of Jean's family and we heard about her incredibly varied and exciting life. Being a young woman who loved horses and travel, her career working for the Foreign Office gave her a chance to enjoy both passions. She had played polo in most of the countries that her job had taken her to.

She became a PA to the British Ambassador in Ireland, Sir Arthur Galsworthy, in the 1970's who asked Jean to marry him on his retirement. They spent 10 very happy years together before Sir Arthur died suddenly of a heart attack. Since that time Jean had found it very difficult to settle anywhere and had moved several times making friends along the way whom she had always kept in touch with. Jean and her faithful dog, Thomas, were a familiar sight in the village and I am sure they will be missed." *April Curnow*

Countryside Matters

Our Cocker pups are now five weeks old, six males and one bitch, five black and two brown. "Ellie", the mother, has done them proud, they look like little Tonka Dump Trucks, and all weigh 1.8kg which is nearly 2 bags of sugar in old terms. She has eaten for England, as well as having the 'best' Costco stewing steak for breakfast, 18% protein fish for dinner, back to steak for supper and 2 or 3 of our free range eggs scrambled before she goes to bed, not forgetting full cream milk and the glucose supplement. It is hard to believe she was the fussiest eater a few weeks ago.

It is great to play with the pups on the lawn but always wary of the now seven resident Red Kites in the area. I was always led to believe that these wonderful birds only took carrion, but due to their relaxed attitude to humans, the odd free range guinea pig is disappearing in Aylesbury!

The farming press are reporting that it has been another good year for the equipment criminals, not content with stealing diesel (red and white), Land Rovers, strimmers, chainsaws and mowers; they have now turned their attention to tractors and quad bikes. There were 184 tractors and 223 quad bikes stolen last year, apparently, according to the authorities, a total of £36 million in 2008.

It is a very high reward low risk option, theft of plant and equipment is easier than smuggling drugs. With the increase in CCTV in the towns, the rural communities are now faced with garden sheds being broken into and their tools and mowers stolen. It appears that farmers are faced with the same problem, but on a much larger scale!

Lastly I see Monday 12th October is the auction date set for the sale of land on the Winslow Road. Let's hope that the eleven 0.4 acre plots, along the side of the road down to the bus shelter, are not bought by people who are going to live illegally without planning permission and disrupt the peace and quiet of the centuries old village; we've seen this happen elsewhere.

James Henderson

From Netta Glover to Parish Clerk I spoke to Jim Cannell [AVDC planning] about the sale of plots of land in Wingrave. He tells me that it is probably just a scam which works on people who hope to make a quick profit. I know that the locals are worried about traveller sites setting up but Jim does not think that is the case here. There is a similar scam operating in North Marston where suckers are being told that outline planning permission has been acquired to build 84 houses at Elmers Meadow. They have had their fortunes read by Jim. It is still advisable for people to keep their eyes open and report any activity on the site.

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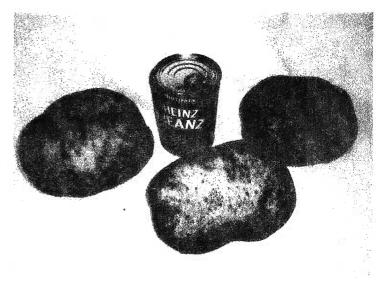
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ALLOTMENT DIARY

You may remember my mentioning in the last diary the enormous potatoes that I had grown this year, of a variety called Cara. When I wrote that article I had dug up all the crop, apart from one plant, where the leaves had not yet turned yellow and started to die off when I was digging up the other plants. I dug up the potatoes from this final plant when I got back from France at the beginning of October, and found the produce of it exceeded anything I had seen before. Apart from a few small potatoes, there were three enormous tubers, weighing respectively 2lb 5oz, 2lb



3oz and 11b 12oz! I am attaching a photo of these massive spuds, next to a standard tin of baked beans for scale.

I can claim absolutely no credit for the size of these potatoes: all I did was put the seed potatoes in the ground in the spring. I had dug some manure into the ground before planting, but otherwise I did nothing: I did not even water them. The Americans have a saying that "sh*t happens", and I guess the opposite is also true, that sometimes you just get lucky.

My only failure this year (for the second year running) was my sweetcorn, which failed to ripen properly. However, another success was my pumpkin plant; I finally got 20 ripened pumpkins from the one plant. And I am happy to say that my brassicas seem to have thrived beneath their net, and although some butterflies got through, the number was clearly very much less that would have been the case had they not been netted, and I was able to pick off most of the caterpillars.

The French are not, generally speaking regarded as keen gardeners, but I have to say that when they do allotments, they make a good job of it. If any of you take the ferry to Calais, and drive round the ring road which leads south towards the Cité d'Europe and Boulogne, you will see on the eastern side of it the most superb allotments I have ever seen. Each plot seems to have its own large shed, with a tiled roof, and many of the plots are surrounded by neatly clipped hedges. The French word for an allotment is a "jardin d'ouvrier", or worker's garden, but these are more jardins de gentilhommes!

One of the first things that happened to me when I first took my allotment, was the Simon came over to me, when I was digging a trench for potatoes, and introduced me to a tool that he used, which was very similar to a bulb planter, which extracted a plug of earth from the soil, in which one could drop ones seed potato into the hole thus made. I quickly appreciated the merit of not digging a deep trench, and was very happy to borrow his planter that year; and ever since I have used a similar tool when planting potatoes. However, I am sorry to say that I have now heard from him that he and Mike have been experimenting on their allotment, and this year planted alternate rows of potatoes; one row using his planting tool, and the other having dug an old-fashioned trench. They have discovered that in every case the potatoes planted in a trench gave a better yield than those which were planted using the planter. While, as mentioned above, my potatoes seem to have done pretty well without being planted in a trench, I shall clearly have to try this out for myself next year. Maybe I will get up to a 3lb potato?

Finally, a quote from a book of "Gardening Wisdom" that I recently acquired, which is from a book by an author, poet and botanist called Geoffery Grigson:

"Nature is the gardener's opponent. The gardener who pretends he is in love with her, has to destroy her climaxes of vegetation, and make . . . an alliance with her, which she will be the first to break without warning, in the most treasonable way she can. She sneaks in; she inserts her weeds, her couch grass, her plantain, her greenfly and her slugs behind his back. The bitch." Peter Shorrock

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Fridays—Commencing 16th October
Licensed cafe will be offering an Evening menu including children's selection
until 7.30pm

Mondays—Commencing 16th November Cafe 8.30am—2.30pm Shop 8.30am—3.00pm

LADIES CLUB

1st Oct

13 menbers and one guest met in the church room and after the minutes were read and signed our speakers were introduced. They were John and Jo Brewster who proceeded to give us an interesting talk about holidays they had enjoyed in Canada. They recounted many tales about trips which involved traveling from Nova Scotia to Vancouver by train, car and bus. Throughout, their talk was illustrated with slides showing many of the points of interest they had come across as well as the grandeur of the country they had passed through. They were thanked by Shirley Ford. Tea hostesses were Jane Brine and Kim White and the raffle winner was Victor Scott.

15th Nov.

14 members and 5 guests attended today's meeting. Following the usual business matters our Chairman introduced the Speaker for today, Mr. Rodney Corner the County Coroner. He spoke at some length about the history of the Coroners Service, from it's beginning in the 14th century to the present day. He was a very interesting speaker and was thanked on behalf of all present by April Curnow.

Tea hostesses were Joan Alexander and Mary Morris and the raffle winner was Diane Smart.

Shirley Ford

'Shoe Boxes'

(Romanian Children Christmas Appeal)

A huge thank you to those who so generously filled 33 shoe boxes with useful items and treats for Romanian families and their children this year.

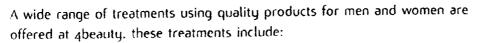
By the time you read this, your gifts will be on well on their way to them and should, hopefully, be delivered in time for Christmas. I know these gifts will be gratefully received by needy families and we can only imagine the smiles on their faces.

Many thanks Shirley Ford.



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Good Samaritans Bingo at Aston Abbotts Village Hall - 7.30pm start

Thursday, 19 November

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ASTON ABBOTTS BOOK CLUB

At our meeting on 21st October we discussed Jo Perkin's selection 'The Scent of Dried Roses' by Tim Lott. The book dealt with depression and suicide and was a difficult book to love. However the book is full of memories for anyone born in the 1950's - there are many references to the clothes, food and behaviour of the 50's, 60's and 70's that we could remember with affection.

The next book to read, chosen by Brigitte Gutierrez, is 'The Return' by Victoria Hislop. Meet at Sally Clarke's house 8pm 18th November. (The book for December, chosen by Sally Palmer, is 'A Prisoner of Birth' by Jeffrey Archer. Meet at Sally's house 9th December. Ed

> If you would like to join in the discussion/fun then please let me know. You will be very welcome.

> > There's room for a few more men Ed



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SHOOTING IN ASTON ABBOTTS

In mid October, around the 'Longmoor' area of the village, a black family cat 'Lennie' was shot in the shoulder by a .22 gun. This is particularly disturbing since recovery of the bullet shows the weapon used was not an airgun. The evidence is now with the police who no doubt will be endeavouring to trace the culprit. It is likely the cat was shot deliberately; an act which has resulted in the amputation of one of 'Lennie's front leg at the shoulder, considerable distress of the family members and costly vets bills.

Aston Abbotts & Cubblington Ladies Club

These ladies

arrange for speakers to give talks at most of their fortnightly held meetings. They cover a very wide range of topics as can be seen from the list I've published below.

The invitation is not restricted to just ladies!!

So!! - If you feel you might be interested in any of these, why not 'get out of the house for a while and come along and enjoy a n interesting and convivial hour or so.

A small charge of £2.00 is made to help with the cost of speakers but this includes tea/coffee and biscuits.

PROGRAMME FOR 2009

Nov. 12th Vic. Scott 'The Golden road to Samarkand'

Nov. 26th Lindsey Stafford Smith 'A musical afternoon'

Dec. 10th Carol Service - Cubblington'.

PROGRAMME FOR EARLY 2010

Jan. 7th John & Juliet "Riyadh 1407"

Jan. 21st Peter Wenham "Handling history"

Feb. 4th Jill Carey "Island Odyssey"

Feb. 18th Dr. Tony Maisey "Spare Parts"

A very elderly gentleman, (mid nineties) very well dressed, hair well groomed, great looking suit, flower in his lapel smelling slightly of a good after shave, presenting a well looked-after image, walks into an upscale cocktail lounge. Seated at the bar is an elderly looking lady, in her mideighties.

The gentleman walks over, sits alongside of her, orders a drink, takes a sip, turns to her and says, "So tell me, do I come here often?"



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Dear Villagers

News from Wingrave CE Combined School

We are now at the end of a busy and happy half term for the school. One of the many things that makes Wingrave School such a special place is our Church school status. We have very close links with our local church. Every week our vicar Derek leads an assembly making Christian worship lively and accessible to all our pupils of whatever faith. Earlier this month the school held its annual Harvest Festival at the local church and Siv Tunnicliffe visits classes regularly to enrich and extend our RE lessons.

Our recent Ofsted report judged the school to be Good in the area of Personal Well-being. The report noted that "pupils get on well together, behave well and enjoy school. They are well cared for in this happy community and those who need extra help are well supported".

This Summer we also achieved our best KS2 results in a number of years with 95% of children achieving Level 4 or above in Maths and English and 100% in Science. In addition the numbers of children achieving the higher level 5 in all three subjects was significantly higher than the average in Bucks Schools. One visiting County Adviser described our results as "stunning".

I would like to encourage any parents with primary school aged children in our catchment villages to consider sending their children to Wingrave. We are a small caring church school with big ambitions and a strong focus on high standards.

We are holding an Open Afternoon on Wednesday 11th November starting at 1.30pm. Everyone is welcome to visit and will be warmly welcomed. Please come along and look at what we have to offer.

Five of our Year 6 pupils were recently invited by John Bercow MP to Portculis House to a reception to celebrate the Schools for Africa 2009 initiative. Here is what the children thought of their trip to London:

We met at 9.30am on Monday at Leighton Buzzard railway station, travelled by train to Euston, then took the very bumpy, hot and noisy tube to Embankment. When we were walking across London we saw a lot of people doing lots of different things, such as a metal man. If you put some money in his pot he would give you a cuddle with his long metal arms. Finally we arrived at Portculis House and we were all arnazed. The security was tight as policemen were carrying pistols; one guy was holding a sub machine gun. We had to wear special name tags and felt like VIPs.

We sat down in a big room with loads of other schools. There were lots of MPs and special people sitting at a table smiling. They all had a turn to speak. The first to speak was the RT Hon Douglas Alexander who talked about the Schools for Africa campaign. I asked him a question "If you are going to have schools in Africa, will you have to educate the people to be teachers?" (Josie)

Next John Bercow spoke and he mentioned our school in his speech. We were all given a Red Cup to show how little an African child has to eat. One cupful, funded by the World Food Programme, is all they have to last them a day. During the school holidays, many children have nothing to eat!

By Lucy Bunce, William Comish, Josie Featonby-Roberts, Eddy Garton and Emily Roxbee Cox (Year 6)

Patricia Gurton Headteacher

CHRISTMAS PRIZE BINGO WEDNESDAY 18TH NOVEMBER Wingrave School Hall

7.00 for 7.30pm

50p Entrance Includes cup of tea/coffee & mince pie Great fun for all ages In aid of children's Christmas parties

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Buckinghamshire Railway Centre news and events update

The Centre hosted its annual Grand Steam Rally and Vintage Vehicle Rally on the 26th and 27th November. As usual the event drew huge crowds of enthusiasts and families alike. The vehicles on display included Traction Engines, Fire Engines, Vintage Vehicles, Classic Cars, Bikes & Commercials, Tractors and Stationary Engines. There was a fairground and miniature railway to keep the youngsters happy with trade and craft stands for the adults. The weekend went off with a real bang although not literally!

Check out the listings below for up and coming events or click on the web site to access regularly updated information. We're looking forward to seeing you here at the Bucks Rail Centre this summer where one visit is never enough!

Forthcoming Events

Santa's Magical Adventures 2009 - 29th November 5th/6th/12th/13th/19th/ 20th December

The fun starts the moment you arrive! You will be shown to your reserved seats on the steam train where you will be joined by Santa himself. One of Santa's pixie helpers will pull your gifts from the huge toy sack and the magic begins! Your Magical Adventure includes soft drinks and biscuits for children, seasonal refreshments for adults, 25-minute live magic show and miniature railway

Please note that on 5th/6th/12th/13th December the train will be pulled Thomas himself!
Thomas and friends will be celebrating along with Santa and his helpers on these very special festive days.
Tickets for Santa are on sale now.

For further information visit our Website www.bucksrailcentre.org For more information about "Thomas" visit www.thomasandfriends.com

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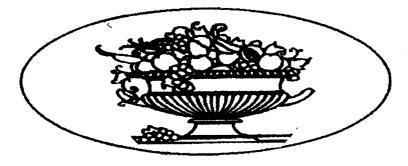
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Aston Abbotts Parish Council Parish Meeting

Wednesday 28th October 2009

Present: -

Cllrs. C Higgs, D Dicken, Mrs J Hardcastle, P Shorrock, R Clarke and P Bruton (Clerk). County Councillor Ms N Glover and District Councillor P Cooper were in attendance.

Apologies were received from Councillor Mrs K Curry

Councillor Clarke reported he had chased up the contractor regarding the pruning of the tree opposite the Bull & Butcher development and requested the work be carried out as soon as possible.

The clerk handed over documents to Councillor Hardcastle for passing to Councillor Curry in respect of the note regarding Music in Quiet Places application procedure.

The application form for next year's delegated budget scheme had been received and in order to apply for the next phase of the footpath an application would need to be completed. The documents were handed to Councillor Hardcastle for review and the Clerk would assist with completion as necessary.

The Clerk distributed the draft figures for next year's Precept and requested Councillors review in readiness to vote at next month's meeting on the Budget for 2010-2011.

Streetlights at Wingrave Crossroads - The Clerk reported to the meeting that as a result of the representations made by ourselves and Wingrave Parish Council a compromise solution to the community safety issues raised was being implemented. At a meeting with representatives of Transport for Bucks, an outline plan had been agreed whereby 2 streetlights on either side if the highway located near the bus stops would be adapted to accommodate pedestrian lighting. We could review the impact of this solution over the next 3 months. It was felt this would not invalidate the existing trial and if this proved successful and the highway lights were removed, adequate pedestrian lighting around the bus stops would be provided. We were awaiting a written proposal from County Council and this would indicate whether there was any cost to the Parish. We had requested that the works be carried out as soon as possible and if not within the next 2 to 3 weeks the existing lighting be switched on until the proposed works were carried out.

County & District matters - County Councillor Glover gave an overview of items that she felt were of interest to Parishioners, this included:

In an initiative to help now that the nights were drawing in BCC were providing free timer switches and these were available in Hale Leys and other locations.

BCC were also providing free workshops in Aylesbury that covered an introduction to basic car maintenance in preparation for the winter months. It was over a period of 2 hours and you had to book a time slot. District Councillor Cooper advised that the annual Budget process was under way and the financial position of the Council was improving and it was expected to balance the budget by the 2010 - 2011 period. He indicated that the likely increase next year was 4%.

District Councillor Cooper also advised that a strip of land running along the A418 from Wingrave had been sold in 11 plots. At this stage it was not known who had purchased the plots, however as the area was in the Green belt and outside any of the Local plan development areas we should report any breaches of planning or changes to the appearance to AVDC – Philip Dales (Enforcement officer) – 01296 585623.

Village Plan - Clir Dicken reported some progress, various elements of the outstanding work had been delegated to individuals and once this work had been completed, estimated mid – December, we should be in a position to progress to the recommendations.

Fireworks Night – It was noted that the volunteers who had organised the firework night in previous years were no longer able to assist and as a result there would not be a village firework display. There was a display at Wingrave where the funds raised went to the local school and Council would recommend this to residents.

Footpath to Wingrave Crossroads – The Clerk reported that following the recent LAF meeting funding for the first phase of the footpath to the Crossroads had been agreed. Confirmation had been received from the Area Coordinator, Jackie Louch, and her assistance in obtaining the funding was appreciated by all. JL had forwarded a risk assessment of the stretch of road carried out by BCC and this should accompany our application for the next phase.

Planning - The Clerk updated the meeting on the results of recent planning applications. 09/01868/ATC - 2 Church Row - Crown reduce two Holly trees by 40%.

RESOLVED to have no objections to the application

Recreation Ground - The monthly inspections had been carried out and there was nothing to report. Councillor Clarke reported that he and Councillor Curry had reviewed the annual inspection report. There was no action that required immediate attention and he would keep a watching brief on the items of potential risk raised.

Councillor Clarke handed over the quotations received in respect of the proposed works. Given the sum of money involved it was agreed that a site meeting was required to ensure the scope of works was necessary. A suitable date and time to be agreed by Councillors.

It was confirmed that the next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 2nd December 2009 at 20.00 in the Church Rooms.

It was also noted to change the date of the January meeting to Wednesday 20th January 2010.

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A note from our Interim Priest-in-charge: The Rev.Ian Ogilvie..

Your editor has asked me to pen a few lines about myself as the Bishop of Buckingham has asked me to become Interim priest-in-charge of Aston Abbots, Cublington, Soulbury and Stewkley during the sickness absence of the Rev. Michelle Morton,

I am retired but will be working the equivalent of two days a week, including Sunday services in all the parishes. Clearly that is not very much, but I hope it may be better than nothing, and I look forward to getting to know some of you in the coming months.

As to myself, most of my career has been in education and charity fundraising for two national charities. Since I retired I have been Acting Rector of the Aylesbury Team Ministry and have just finished as Acting Rector of Princes Risborough. My wife, Jenny, and I live in Marsworth and have two grown up children, both of whom have now fled the nest!

Should you need my services please feel free to get in touch by phone on 01296 661479. I will be glad to help in anyway I can.

Yours Sincerely,

lan Ogilvie.

Keep the burglars away: A dark home between 4.00 pm and 9.00 pm tells burglars you are not at home. Free timer light switches will handed out at bus and railway stations over the next couple of weeks. You can also get them in the community safety shop in Hale Leys at any time. *Netta Glover*

Schools: Parents are being urged to give their views in a review of school admissions, to close at the end of this month. They can email their views to the Buckinghamshire County Council-led review at schoolplacereview@buckscc.gov.uk An independent reviewer will carry out the work.

Congratulation on getting the street lights back on! Netta Glover

'OVER OUR DEAD BODIES' - extract from Bucks Herald 28th October 2009

Stewkley man and former journalist John Flewin has produced a DVD telling the story of a campaign 40 years ago to save the village from annihilation. The DVD is called Over Our Dead Bodies taking its title from slogans that appeared on huge placards all over the area. It features the work of three local amateur filmmakers, backed by material from the BBC and other sources.

Mr Flavin said 'The airport campaign was, perhaps, the most momentous happening in the history of our local villages. The story demanded national newspaper headlines day after day and watching the DVD you can see why. It is quite remarkable, and gratifying, that so much film has survived from that time.'

The film depicts a battle fought by a community of people whose whole livelihood and way of life was threatened - people who previously had never been involved in any kind of public protest.

The DVD is now on sale, priced £12, and can be obtained from Harvey's in High Street South, Stewkley.

Editor's note: 'Aston Abbotts 1000-2000 A Village Story' recalled the words that appear in the Minutes of a Special Aston Abbotts Parish meeting that took place on 12th March 1969. They were spoken by Captain DJ Bellingham to an audience of 90 villagers in the village school. 'It would mean complete devastation and the end of life as we know it.... it is our good agricultural land that is at stake, and once it is covered with concrete it is lost for ever'.





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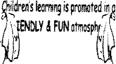
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Paul Weston - Committee Chairman 01295 681127



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10th & 24th November

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County Councillor

Netta Glover - 688357

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(Ian Olgivie 01296 661479)

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Colin Higgs 681343 - Churchwarden Gordon Kemp 681763

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20th - 27th October 2006

20th December 2006 – 5th January 2007

5th April 2007 - 30th June 2007

 16^{th} September – 28^{th} October 2007

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Christmas menus now available.

Grand opening of new restaurant and kitchen - Watch the website for a special night in November!!

Please note that to enable building work to be successfully completed on time, food will not be available on Tuesdays during October and November 2009.

Thank you for your patience.

Events for November

Wed/Thu 4/5th

Special French Cuisine

Wed/Thu 11/12th

Steak Nights

Wed/Thu 18/19th

Special Italian Cuisine

Fri 27th

Live Jazz

Christmas at The Unicorn

Our Christmas menu is available for lunch and dinner from Tuesday 1st December until Thursday 24th December for pre-ordered bookings only (download booking form from website). The Unicorn can accommodate parties of 2 to 60 in our new restaurant area. The Unicorn Club Room is available for private dining for an additional 20 people

THE FRENCH ARE BACK!

Following their hugely popular visit in January 2009, Eric and his team are returning on 8th-11th January.

Book early to avoid disappointment!

Unicorn Regulars:

Friday morning coffee and cakes

- home made cakes, coffee and chat from 10.30am

Every Monday evening we hold the now famous and extremely popular Unicorn Quiz. Starts at 8pm — why not bring a team?

Bar Billiards always available

The Unicorn, High Street, Cublington, Bucks, LU7 0LQ

Please see web site for full details www.theunicornpub.co.uk





If you plan to eat at
The Unicorn we suggest
booking in advance.
Please contact Sharon
or Tim on 01296 681261

Aylesburg Vale Pub of the Year 2009!

St James Church

Times are as follows:-

Ist Sunday of month Evensong 6pm 2nd & 4th Sundays Holy Communion 10am 3rd Sunday Said Communion 8am

5th Sunday Benefice AA/Cub./Soul./Stew. in rotation

The Church is OPEN every Thursday morning at 9.30 am 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 prayer.

Please come along.

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Aston	A	DO		•

1/11	6pm	Evensong	Rev. Ian Olgivie
8/11	10.45	Remembrance Sei	vice with Cublington
15/11	10am	Holy Communion	•
22/11	10am	Holy Communion	
29/11	10am	BENEFICE SERVIO	E Holy Communion at Cublington

Cublington

1/11	9am	Holy Communion	Rev. Ian Olgivie
8/11	10.45	Remembrance Servi	ce at Aston Abbotts
15/11	9am	Holy Communion	Rev. Ian Olgivie
22/11	9am	Holy Communion	Rev. Ian Olgivie
29/11	10am	BENEFICE SERVICE	Holy Communion at Cublington

Family Service

Soulbury

1/11

4/ 44	X T. O O	running Scrance	A G L Delly
8/11	11am	Remembrance Service	Rev. Peter Lymbery
15/11	11.30	Holy Communion	Rev. Ian Olgivie
22/11	11.30	Holy Communion	Rev. Peter Lymbery & A Berry

	SIDESPERSON	CLEANERS	READERS	FLOWERS
1st	Andrew	Anita/April	Peter Knight	Ann Dicken
			Kate Curry	
8th	British Legion	Ann/Gordon	Denis Knight	British Legion
			Shirley Ford	
15th	Gordon	Shirley/Andrew	Caroline Lane	Jan Johnson
			Caroline A/S	
22nd	Caroline L	Colin/Caroline L	Gordon/Ann	
29th	at Cublington		Mowing h	as finished until Spring

A & I Rarry

Trendz Unisex hair salon Call for appointment on 01296 681282 Or 07766656411

Price list

Styling

Cut & finish....£20.00
Wet Cut....£15.00
Blow dry (short hair)....£10.00
Blow dry (long hair)....£14.00
Basic hair up.....£20.00
Shampoo, set & put up....£30.00

Shampoo & set....£15.00

Mens

Cut & finish.....£14.00
Wet cut.....£20.00
Cap hi lites....£15.00

Colour

Full head tint....£31.00
Regrowth tint....£27.50
Full head hi lites...£40.00
Half head hi lites...£27.50

Hair extensions

European human hair
Half head from.....£190.00
Full head from....£290.00
Above prices include one colour for a second colour extra....£50.00
Re-fix.....£30.00
Removal of hair extensions...£40.00

Manicures and pedicures

File 4 paint...£8.50
Full manicure....£20.00
Pedicure....£25.00

Bridal services

Bridal hair£90.00
Bridal make up....£60.00
Including trial before and on wedding

Call for a free consultation

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The Aston Abbotts Telephone List

		
100 Club	Colin Higgs	681343
630 Club	Andy Bystra	681690
AVDC	Switchboard	585858
Baby& Toddlers Group	Kim Gayler	681123
Bus Enquiries	Travel line	0870 6082608
Buses	L&S	415468
Chronicle Advertising	Phil Corrigan	688191
Chronicle Distribution	Andy Bystra	681690
Chronicle Editorial	John Hardcastle	688070
Church Mowing Rota	Geoff Curnow	681459
Church Room Hire	Colin Higgs	681343
Citizens Advice	Aylesbury	0870 1264056
Bucks County Council	Switchboard	395000
County Councillor	Netta Glover	688357
Dial-A-Ride	* .	330088
District Councillor	Peter Cooper	681250
Doctor	(emergency out of hours)	331511
Fete Coordinators	Tracey Hinds	TBA
1	Vanessa Worrall	TBA
G.N.O.M.E.S.	Carol Spooner	681544
Hospital	Stoke Mandeville	315000
Ladies Club	Shirley Ford	681865
Member of Parliament	John Bercow MP	714240
Milkman	Ron Miller Dairies	482838
Mobile Library	Buckingham	01280 813229
NHS Direct	24 hr Advice Line	0845 4647
Parish Clerk	Paul Bruton	682322
Parish Council Leader	Peter Shorrock	681260
Police	Emergencies	999 or 112
Police	Non-Emergency	0845 8505505
Police	Wing Police Station	396163/4
Railways	Chiltern Railways	0870 5165165
Ramblers Club	Colin Higgs	681343
Rector	Revd Michelle Morton	01525 240287
Refuse Collection	Enquiries	585510
Royal Oak	Teri & Gary Moult	681262
RSPCA	Enquiries	08705 555999
Scouts	Nikki Reeve	681372
Whist	Colin Higgs	681343
Wingrave Pre School	Paul Weston	681127
Wingrave Post Office	PO Only	682964
Wingrave Post Office	Stores	681696
Wingrave School	Office	681436
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please advise of any errors or omissions

ART IN CHEDDINGTON: TOWN FARM OPEN STUDIO

Exhibition of high quality, handcrafted gifts, Christmas decorations and cards.

Eight artists showing paintings, prints, sculpture, woodcarving, textiles and jewellery.

See townfarmopenstudio.blogspot.com

Friday 27 - Sunday 29 November, 10am - 5pm

6 Town Farm, Off High Street, Cheddington, LU7 0TT PLEASE PARK ON HIGH STREET – NOT IN TOWN FARM!

Free entry and refreshments. Donations in aid of lain Rennie Hospice at Home.

The Chronicle

Advertising rates per annum

FULL PAGE	Back Inside	£100 £ 80
HALF PAGE	Inside	£ 40
QUARTER PAGE	Inside	£ 25
ONE OFFS	Fuli	£ 20
	Half	£ 15
	Quarter	£ 10

Seasonal and short term ads are also accepted at these rates

Send copy and cheque payable to 'The Chronicle' to

Phil Corrigan

5, Nash's Farm, Aston Abbotts, Bucks 01296 688191 corriganpe@aol.com

LOCAL WALKS IN ASTON ABBOTTS

There are miles of field paths in the Parish

If you are interested to learn about where some of them are

Join in the next walk Sunday 8th

meet on the Green 2pm



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

What's On In November

Sunday 1st	Ramblers meet Lomond Drive Linslade 2pm		
•	Evensong	St James Church 6pm	
Monday 2nd	PCC meeting	Church Room 7.30pm	
Thursday 5th	Coffee Shop	Church Room 10-12noon	
•	Whist Drive	Church Room 2.30pm	
Saturday 7th	British Legion		
:	Coffee Morning	Church Room 10-12noon	
Sunday 8th	Remembrance Service	St James Church10.45am	
•	Village Footpath Walk	The Green 2pm	
Wednesday 7th	Aylesbury Vale Transpor	t Meeting County Hall	
•	Bus/Train queries to Col	in Higgs	
Tuesday 10th	Mobile Library	The Green 10.50am	
Thursday 12th	Coffee Shop	Church Room 10-12noon	
-	Ladies Club	Church Room 2.15pm	
Saturday 14th	Race Night	Church Room 7.30pm	
Sunday 15th	Holy Communion	St James Church 10am	
Thursday 19th	Coffee Shop	Church Room 10-12noon	
•	Bingo	Church Room 7.30pm	
Sunday 22nd	Holy Communion	St James Church 10am	
Tuesday 24th	Mobile Library	The Green 10.50am	
Thursday 26th	Coffee Shop	Church Room 10-12noon	
	Ladies Club	Church Room 2.15pm	

The temporary Canalside Car Park in Aylesbury closed for good on Monday 5 October in preparation for the development of an attractive new public space in front of the Waterside Theatre in Exchange Street. However, the Canalside Rear car park will not be affected and other alternative car parks are available throughout the town centre, including Exchange Street, Hampden House and Walton Street

Bedgrove Craft & Gift Fair

Quality Craft & Gift Fair with a variety of original, handmade and unusual gifts. Stalls include jewellery, toys, handbags, cards and gift wrap, beauty and cosmetics, books, cakes and much much more. Doors are open 1pm - 4pm Free Entry In aid of Children's Hospice UK

Sunday 15th November from 1-4pm

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church Hall, Camborne Avenue, Bedgrove, Aylesbury Buckinghamshire HP21 7UE

FOR SALE

Almost new Ladies Bike - Raleigh Vixen- 12 gears-Metallic Purple £50.00 Call Diana on 01296 682316 or 07900 535834

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

630 Club - meets every Saturday in the Royal Oak at 6.30 pm. New members very welcome. Contact Andy Bystra if you need an introduction.

GNOMES (Girls
Night Out Men
Excluded Sorry)
meet, usually in the
Royal Oak, every
Tuesday 8 pm onwards
- all Ladies very
welcome - GNOMES
specialises in
intelligent
conversation over a
glass of something.

FISH & CHIP VAN every Wednesday on The Green 9pm approx

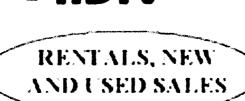
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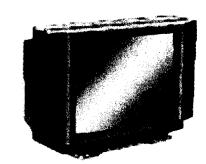
FLACKWELL ELECTRONICS

OF CHURCH FARM, ASTON ABBOTTS



- PLASMA
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- DVD
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LEWISAIR

Following their acquisition of a new fleet of aircraft (or one ninth of an aircraft, at least) LEWISAIR is pleased to announce a new charter service from somewhere near High Wycombe to anywhere you want to go.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES WITH LEWISAIR

LEWISAIR has vacancies for three Flight Attendants

LEWISAIR is an Equal Opportunities employer and this job is available to all regardless of sex, age, size, or religion. However, please note that it is a requirement of the job that you should wear our standard LEVASAIR Flight Attendant's uniform of four inch stiletto heels, black tights, red spandex parits, and a leather basque that is inevitably one size too small.

Please apply in writing, enclosing four photographs and a ten minute video (preferably taken in a beach location), to Mr O Lewis Managing Director, LEWISAIR



FLACKWELL ELECTRONICS — PURVEYORS OF PLASMA SCREENS TO THE GENTRY