

THE CHRONICLE

Aston Abbotts Parish Magazine - February 2012



Editorial

Deidre White has kindly agreed to run this year's Village Fete, to be held on 28th July. Deidre is having a first planning meeting at her home on 28th February at 8pm - please go along to express your interest and ideas for the event (see page 5).

I read in the Parish Council Minutes that it is all go for our village celebration of the Queen's Jubilee. Details will be published in next month's Chronicle.

At the end of January, walking across the fields near Norduck, I saw what has become a rare sight, namely a flock of lapwing. They used to be a common sight but farming methods have reduced the feeding and breeding grounds these birds rely on. In a field shelter I have installed an owl box that I hope will be attractive to Little Owls.

They are seemingly not uncommon in these parts but I've yet to see one myself. I'm keeping a weather eye on the barn owl box that proved successful late last year. Hopefully another brood will be reared this year. I'll keep you posted.

The frontispiece is a photo I took of snowdrops on my lawn. I noticed that crocus are already making an appearance. Winter so far hasn't really happened but the weatherman is indicating that February will be cold and frosty.

At the end of March there will be a Litter Blitz when hopefully a large number of you will be on hand to help clear the verges of all the litter that accumulates by magic. Please put 31st March 10am Church Room into your diaries - it's immediately after my birthday; so hopefully I will get even more cards than usual.

I'm hoping to get one Valentine's card - hope you get one too.

John



IN THIS ISSUE

- VILLAGE FETE MEETING
- WHAT'S on in FEBRUARY
- COUNTRYSIDE MATTERS
- ALLOTMENT DIARY
- COMMUNITY NEWS

THE CHRONICLE
Issue 318
February 2012

Contacts

Editorial /General

John Hardcastle
Marloes
Lines Hill
01296 688070
editor@aachronicle.co.uk

Distribution

Andy Bystra
31 The Green
01296 681690
oldariel@tesco.net

Advertising

Phil Corrigan
5 Nash's Farm
01296 688191
corrigan@aol.com

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 24th February

Please pass items to the
Editor 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 Doctors'
Surgeries and to Wing Police
House.

Alison's Gossip Column

BIRTHDAYS

February

| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Charlie Copping | 2 nd |
| Pablo Gutierrez | 7 th |
| Vikka Drysdale | 7 th |
| Andy Garton | 9 th |
| Christopher Ellis | 9 th |
| Jack Copping | 10 th |
| Richard Clarke | 13 th |
| Paul Hewitt | 14 th |
| Dana King | 14 th |
| Irene Lowden | 18 th |
| Trevor Hall | 18 th |
| Frank McManus | 21 st |
| Fred Poulter | 21 st |
| Sally Dutton | 22 nd |
| Simon Gresswell | 24 th |
| Linda Wheaton | 25 th |
| Alan Jones | 25 th |
| Nikita Dowdell | 25 th |

THE FRIENDS OF WHITCHURCH SURGERY AGM

will be held on Saturday, 18th February 2012 at 10 am

in the Whitchurch Surgery

Coffee and Biscuits will be served
Items bought during the year will be on show

Snowdrop Weekend

February is Snowdrop month at Waterperry Gardens. There are more than 30 different snowdrop varieties carpeting the old orchard and riverside walk and free guided tours at 11am, 12.30pm and 2.30pm each day of our special Snowdrop Weekends. (Garden entrance fee applies)

Open each day from 10am to 5pm. Garden entrance fee applies. Adults £6.30. Children aged 16 and under free. Group booking rate £4.85. Waterperry Gardens, Waterperry, Near Wheatley, Oxfordshire Oxfordshire OX33 1JZ

Saturday 18 Feb 2012 and Sunday 19

Feb 2012 Website:

www.waterperrygardens.co.uk

We would like to congratulate all those involved in organising the New Year's Ball. They deserve a huge pat on the back; and thanks for their hard work in putting on such an enjoyable and well run event.

Sally and Richard Clarke

We wish Peter Shorrock a swift return to good health, and his allotment, after his hip replacement surgery later this month.

Get Well to Rena Colman who has been in Wycombe hospital after a fall. Welcome Home.

For those of you with internet phones and ipads, I'm told AVDC has an app re refuse collections which is very handy.

BEETLE DRIVE

An evening of 'retro fun' for all the family in the Church Room.

Friday March 9th

Starting at 7.00 pm.

Tickets are £7.00 each

or £20.00 for a family of

two adults and two children.

Entrance includes a hot Sausage

& Mash Supper. Bring along your own

favourite 'tipple'.

Tickets from April Curnow tel. 681459

All proceeds to go to much needed Church funds

Good Samaritans Bingo

Next BINGO

at Aston Abbots Village Hall – 7.30pm start

In aid of

**Florence
Nightingale Hospice**

**Thursday,
9th February 2012**

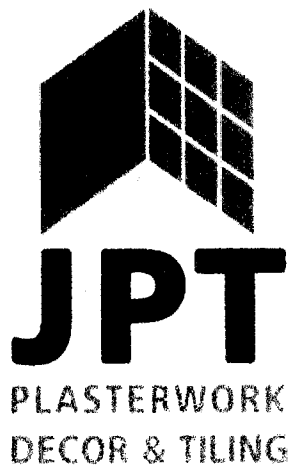
Refreshments

SNOWBALL

RAFFLE

*First timers and all ages
made very welcome*

For more information contact Pam ☎ 681626 or Sheila ☎ 681649



Jason Tomlinson
6 Leaders Close
Wingrave
Bucks HP22 4QJ
01296 681353
07842 108593

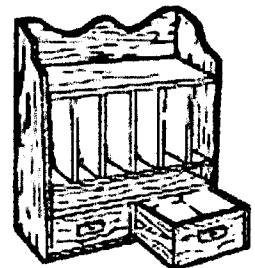
www.jptplasterwork.co.uk

- ✓ Qualified Plasterer
- ✓ Skimming
- ✓ Dry Lining
- ✓ Patch Repairs
- ✓ Painting & Decorating
- ✓ Tiling – Walls and Floors
- ✓ Project Management
- ✓ House Renovation
- ✓ All materials supplied
- ✓ Extensive network of skilled tradesmar
- ✓ Free Estimates



The Stables

*Beautiful Pine & Oak Handcrafted
Bespoke Furniture*



Made From 100% Reclaimed Timber

*Living Dining Bedroom Kitchens
From Doors to Floor Boards*

*The Barns, Wingrave Road, Aston
Abbotts, Bucks,
HP22 4LU*



*Tel Tim : 01296 688 867
Mob: 0774 0705211*



VIC SCOTT'S DIARY

February 1947

Birds: Very large flocks of fieldfares and redwings during long spell of severe weather. Continuous severe frost and snow made food for most birds very hard to find. Several dead Mistle-thrushes found, also Robin, Song-thrushes and Starlings.

Points worth special notice:

Hungry rook, very tame, only a couple of yards from house door. Moorhens driven from ponds by frost to find food in hedgerows at considerable distance from water. Little – owl in garden in daylight.

An unusual sight during the very cold weather was six species of one family of birds all feeding together in quite an 'ordinary sized' holly tree (feeding on berries). They were:- Mistle-thrush (4) Song-thrush (3) Blackbird (2) Fieldfare (about a dozen) Redwing (2) and Robin (1).
No wild flowers in bloom during the month, development retarded by severe weather.

Aston Abbotts Fete 2012

will be held on

Saturday 28 July

I am co-ordinating this year's fete and will need lots of help to make it a success. So, if you are new to the village and want to get involved, please come to the first fete meeting. If you are not new to the village and want to get involved, please come to the meeting. If you always get involved, please come to the meeting!

Tuesday 28 Feb at 8.00

At 14 Bricstock
Aston Abbotts

If you are unable to attend but are willing to help in any way, before, during or after the day, even if you can only spare an hour, please get in touch.
Many Thanks – looking forward to seeing you all!

Deirdre Whyte

Tel 681685

07980 067967

deirdreawhyte@hotmail.co.uk

Add me on Facebook for more details of the fete

Aston Flooring

ARE YOUR FLOOR COVERINGS LOOKING OLD AND TIRED?

Then revitalise your home with a new floor!

All makes of flooring supplied and fitted to the highest of standards

Have you thought of a wood laminate or maybe an Amtico/Karndean design floor?

All types of cushion vinyl and hard flooring

FREE ESTIMATES

For a quality finish ring ~

Lol Hinds 01296 688479

07767 786671 (mobile)



RJ O'CONNELL

**BRICKWORK & GENERAL BUILDING
FOR ALL YOUR BUILDING NEEDS**

**EXTENSIONS, PROPERTY MAINTENANCE,
DRIVES, PATIO'S AND ROOF REPAIRS**

**ALSO PROFESSIONAL DECORATING
SERVICE**

**CALL ROB
MOBILE - 07855 236 726**

Aston Abbotts Parish Council

Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday 18th January 2012

Present: - Cllrs. P Shorrock (Chair), C Higgs, Mrs K Curry, B Carvey, Mrs J Hardcastle, R Clarke, J Perkins and P Bruton (Clerk). County Councillor N Glover, District Councillor P Cooper and six members of the public were in attendance.

Correspondence to note – The Clerk updated the meeting on correspondence received and the following matters were discussed.

Bierton and Broughton had issued details of the results of their response to the recent AVDC Forward Plans consultation and a copy of the report could be viewed at www.biertonvillage.org.uk

A rural services survey had been received from Community Impact Bucks and it was AGREED that the Clerk would respond on behalf of the Parish.

County Councillor N Glover gave a summary of her report for the month and the following points were noted:- The work on the edging out of the pathways and various kerbstones had been assigned to the BCC Community Gang although their scheduled work was often disrupted by emergency pothole repairs.

The County was continuing to oppose the HS2 rail link and were currently considering the best course of action.

Webcasting is now available by logging on to www.bucksec.gov.uk/public-i-tv/core/portal/home.

Updated news and information on the Olympics and Queen's Jubilee are available along with an events calendar at www.bucksec.gov.uk/bcc/london2012/london2012.page.

District Councillor P Cooper advised the meeting of an initiative being promoted by Community Impact Bucks. for coordinated heating oil supplies that can help to reduce the cost by people coming together to form a group with orders being channelled through one individual, details were available from the Parish Clerk and had been published in last month's Chronicle.

The New Home bonus scheme that was being introduced following the Localism Bill introduced by Central government was discussed and it was noted that this year's money had already been allocated by AVDC.

There had been some concerns expressed by Councils at the way this was being handled by AVDC and a consultation would take place shortly to decide how it will work and what will influence the distribution of the money up to 2014, after that it was not clear and further details were required from Central Government.

It was noted that the £2.4m received this year had mainly been allocated to fund the upgrade to waste services to include a relocation of the base to a new depot.

The application for a new Wind Farm at Stewkley had been received with the sites at Wing – Cublington and Ford looking increasingly likely that applications would be received in the near future. AVDC were still looking to introduce a Policy to cover such applications and had started the process with the results expected within the next 3 to 5 months.

Village Plan – Cllr Perkins reported that the Action Plan required for the completion of the plan had been finalised as a result of the recent village consultation. A meeting would be arranged with Sarah Allwood and the VP committee to finalise the document and make arrangements for publication.

Litter Blitz – The litter blitz was scheduled for 31st March 2012.

Meetings with event organisers – It was noted that a form of letter to issue to event organisers had been agreed. As a result, as and when Council were approached for use of their facilities the appropriate form would be issued.

Queen's Jubilee – The details of the proposed village celebrations were distributed to Council along with the results of a door to door consultation. The detailed proposals were discussed and given the level of support from residents indicated by the results of the survey it was RESOLVED to allocate a maximum of £900 towards the cost of the events. The Clerk would confirm whether our insurance cover was able to cover the event.

Hedgerow Maintenance – There was concern that the hedgerows in the village were not being maintained by owners and were a health and safety risk to walkers and in particular road users. Cllr Clarke expressed concern over the action being taken in respect of the overgrown hedge by the Royal Oak, however it was noted that this matter had been an on-going concern for some time and other Councillors felt the current state of the hedgerow in question posed an accident risk on an already hazardous bend. The Clerk would write to the owners requesting they take the appropriate steps to rectify the situation, with the exception of the Royal Oak as this is being handled by BCC direct.

LAF Meetings – Cllr Curry advised that we had received a note to advise the Local Area Forum organisers were planning to refresh the priorities discussed at these meetings. As a result we were being asked to prioritise the 15 items identified in relation to our village. It was AGREED that Cllr Curry would circulate the document to Councillors for their views and then prepare a best fit response.

Street Name Plates – The Clerk noted the name plates that required attention and would notify the relevant department at BCC.

continued on page 9

WINGRAVE GARAGE

Terry Bracey-Wright & Michael Mitchell
Telephone 01296-681543

Your local **MOT** centre

By appointment 9.00am to 5.30 pm Monday to Friday
Free retests

Servicing and Repairs

Petrol and Diesel Sales

Bottled Gas stockist

****** Free Courtesy Car ******

We are happy to give you an estimate even for the smallest job! Most credit cards taken

LAWN MOWERS **GARDEN MACHINERY - QUADS**

SERVICE - SALES - REPAIRS
USED MACHINES AVAILABLE



COUNTAX

HONDA

ALFA

DAVID BROWN

POLARIS

RGC ENGINEERS, MURSLEY

Tel: (01296) 720066 or (01296) 681007

LOCAL COLLECTION & DELIVERY SERVICE AVAILABLE

VISA

ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

VISA

Street Light Maintenance – It was RESOLVED to accept the proposed annual maintenance contract.

Vale of Aylesbury Plan – It was AGREED that the Clerk would respond to the consultation in respect of the Vale of Aylesbury Plan by referring to the conclusions of the recent Neighbourhood plan exercise.

Planning application - 11/02823/APP (77 The Green, Mr A S Rashid)

First floor side extension and conversion, alterations and extension to existing outbuilding to form annexe.

The above application was discussed and it was noted this was an additional application to recent application no 11/02060/APP. After consideration it was RESOLVED to oppose the application. The property was in the conservation area and the size of the proposed alterations were out of character with the surrounding properties as well as having an impact on the neighbouring properties. The Clerk would refer to the Inspectorate's report on previous applications and also request that in the event the application is successful a condition is applied restricting future development.

Old School, Cublington Road – The Clerk reported he had received a response from AVDC advising that an officer from planning had visited the site and confirmed that the materials being used are considered to be acceptable and so the case will be closed accordingly.

Norduck Farm – Passing bay – The Clerk reported he had received a letter from AVDC attaching minor amended plans that addressed the concerns raised regarding the siting of the passing bay and that they were now satisfied the bay is in the right location and of sufficient width and it is intended that the application proceeds to determination

Recreation Ground Safety Check: Cllr Clarke delivered the monthly safety check report and there was nothing significant to highlight. He was addressing the concern over the condition of the pole on the multiplay equipment. The Shed doors appear to have been broken a Cllr Shorrocks would investigate.

Annual Safety Check report review– Cllr Clarke reported he was still following up on a few questions he had from the report and would report more fully at the next meeting on any actions that were required.

Picnic Benches – Cllr Clarke reported that we now had no benches as one was obsolete and the other damaged beyond repair. It was RESOLVED to give Cllr Clarke authority to purchase replacement benches of suitable standard.

Precept and Parish reserves – The recent precept discussions had focused Councillors attention on the needs and future requirements of residents. As a result it was felt that Council should look at any ideas for improving the facilities in the village environment. Examples were discussed and it was AGREED we should ask residents for their ideas for additional facilities that they believe would enhance the village. Councillors would talk to residents and we should also review the Village plan for previously identified actions. The Clerk to include an item under the heading Parish Spending review on next month's agenda.

It was confirmed that the next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 22nd February 2012 at 7:30pm in the Church Room.

ASTON ABBOTTS AND CUBLINGTON LADIES CLUB

The Ladies Club met in the Church Room on Thursday 19th January and were delighted to welcome several new members. Our speaker, Neil Rees, was well known to us as he has spoken at the Club a couple of times before. His talk was entitled "King Zog of Albania". Having never heard of King Zog I was somewhat intrigued and admit that I felt it didn't sound very exciting. However it was absolutely marvelous. Neil is a great speaker and makes his talks very interesting and funny. He held our attention fully for an hour.

Ahmet Zogu was a business man who decided he would like to be a politician when the first elections were held in Albania in 1921 and after only a year he was made Prime Minister. In 1925 Albania was declared a Republic and Ahmet Zogu was made President and only three years later Parliament decided Albania needed a King and Ahmet Zogu was chosen on 1st September 1928. As Neil commented "what a CV"! He was the only Muslim European King and decided he would be known as King Zog. We heard how the family travelled all around Europe to find somewhere safe during the war and there were many interesting anecdotes but one of the most fascinating things was to hear that King Zog's wife, Geraldine, who was Hungarian is a relative of our Princess Michael of Kent whom Neil had met and chatted with about the Royal family of Albania. When King Zog died his son acceded the throne and Neil recently interviewed him and became great friends with his son, King Zog's grandson.

This only a snippet of the talk but it does just give you a flavour of the afternoon that we had with Neil.

The next meeting is on Thursday 16th February and we are having a talk by a Mouth and Foot Artist. Do come along and join us.

April Curnow

Valentine's Day Chocolate Decorating at The Roald Dahl Museum For 4+ years: join Kate, head chef at Cafe Twit to decorate your own crodscollaping chocolate bar for that special person. Workshops at 11.30am and 2.30pm. £5 per participant in addition to Museum entry. 81-83 High Street, Great Missenden Buckinghamshire HP16 0AL
Tuesday 14 Feb 2012 Website: www.roadldahlmuseum.org

“We are delighted to
welcome you to 4beauty”

We aim to provide you with the ultimate in quality beauty treatments and procedures for both men and women. Whilst enjoying the relaxing calm of the spa inspired environment it will lead you to the optimum experience of complete well being, release from the rigors of everyday life and total self indulgence



A wide range of treatments using quality products for men and women are offered at 4beauty, these treatments include:

- Decleor & Guinot Facials
- Decleor Body Treatments
- Creative Spa Manicures
- Creative Spa Pedicures
- Bio Sculpture Natural Gel Nail Enhancements for Fingers & Toes.
- St Tropez Tanning
- PhD Waxing
- Brazilian Waxing
- Eyelash Extensions
- Thai Massage
- Indian Head
- Wedding Packages
- Mothers To Be Packages
- Special Occasion Makeup using Virgin Vie Cosmetics

We also provide
Specialist Clinics:

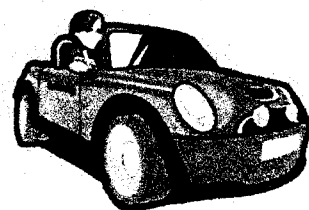
- Botox
- Non-Surgical Facial Fillers
- Semi Permanent Makeup

Opening Times:

| | |
|-----------|------------------|
| Monday | 11:00am - 5:00pm |
| Tuesday | 9:00am - 8:00pm |
| Wednesday | 9:00am - 6:00pm |
| Thursday | 9:00am - 8:00pm |
| Friday | 9:00am - 6:00pm |
| Saturday | 9:00am - 6:00pm |
| Sunday | CLOSED |

4beauty

4beauty Ltd, 56 High Street,
Whitchurch, Buckinghamshire,
HP22 4JS
T. 01296 640644
www.4-beauty.com



Village Orchard

There was an excellent turn out for the meeting in the Church Room on 10th January; 50+ villagers came along to listen to Peter explain where we are at and to express their views on future plans for the Village Orchard.

Approximately 85 trees have been planted. The Village Orchard bank account currently holds £548.53 - this money will be used to replenish trees that fail to progress and will fund the ongoing management of the orchard. There are around 57 spaces left with the possibility of establishing two further rows if demand exceeds the current plan.

Peter explained that it is not the intention to fill the orchard in one or two seasons but to allow trees to be planted over the years to come.

The assembly expressed their thanks to Peter for all his hard work with generous applause. Peter had earlier thanked Maggie Smith for the donation of a shed. He thanked Les Smith for a hard days work. He thanked John and Pam Dixon who have been indefatigable in their help and advice. He also thanked Alex for the long hours she has devoted to preparing all the paperwork, ordering and collating. He thanked Gordon for his care and attention in organising the 'record book' that is hoped will be kept in the Church.

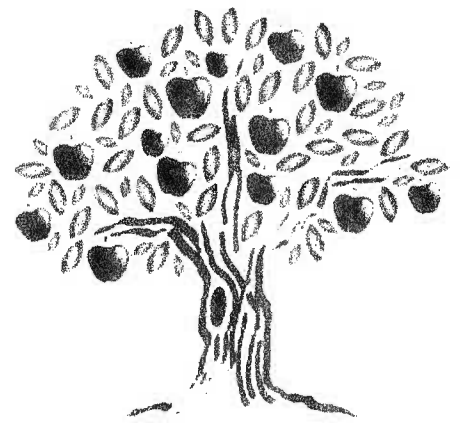
Wendy Bentley has kindly agreed to co-ordinate the village events that will be planned for the orchard in the future - these may centre around blossom and harvest time etc.

There were many points of detail discussed. It was agreed that we limit any mention of the orchard in the press or the internet. It may be possible to arrange villagers' access to our Aston Abbots website so that villagers can view the orchard records.

It was suggested that it would be useful to have a water main installed. After discussion it was agreed that this was not really necessary as once the trees were established then no further watering would be required and the cost of the main would be a burden on the future expense of running the orchard. It was explained that no pruning of trees would be carried out unless it was necessary to remove diseased timbers. Christine Scott explained that Vic never pruned trees as a general rule.

As regards the current maintenance of the orchard Peter indicated that he was happy to be responsible for mowing and general care. An area will be trialled to judge whether it is practical to establish wild flowers. Any seats or benches installed in the orchard will need to be placed so as not to interfere with the mowing regime.

Any requests for further planting will now be dealt with at the end of this year and will be notified in the Chronicle at the appropriate time.



Peter Knight 681478 John Hardcastle 688070 Gordon Smith gordon.smith53@btinternet.com

At the latest meeting, Peter Knight said that the management plan for our orchard is basically one of minimal intervention. There are other possible strategies. Here is a description taken from a short story written by Chekhov ('The Black Monk', 1896) of what can be done given enough will power, and serf power. The first part describes an ornamental orchard, the second a commercial orchard. We are thinking of starting a rota for those wishing to tend fires all night to protect our trees against frost. *Gordon Smith*

'There was no end to the whimsy, refined disfigurement, and mockery of nature to be found here! There were espaliered fruit trees, such as a pear tree in the form of a pyramidal poplar, there were spherical oaks and lime trees, an apple tree shaped like an umbrella, as well as trees in the form of arches, monograms, candelabra, and even a plum tree shaped into the number 1862, which was the year Pesotsky took up horticulture. Then there were beautiful slim saplings with trunks as strong and as straight as palm trees, and it was only when you examined them closely that you could see they were actually gooseberries or blackcurrants. But the most cheerful aspect of the garden was the constant activity. From early morning until dusk there were people with wheelbarrows, hoes, and watering cans bustling about like ants around the trees and bushes, and in the paths and flower beds ...'

'At supper all they could talk about was the morning frost, and it was decided that Tanya would stay up; at one o'clock she would go into the garden to check that everything was all right, and Yegor Semyonich would get up at three or even earlier. Kovrin sat with Tanya all evening and then set off with her after midnight into the garden. It was cold. In the main orchard, the commercial orchard as it was called, which brought in several thousands a year in pure profit, a thick, black acrid smoke had spread out along the ground and enveloped the trees, thus saving all those thousands from the frost. ... Kovrin and Tanya walked along the rows, where there were bonfires of manure, straw and bits of rubbish smouldering, and occasionally they met gardeners wandering about in the smoke like shadows. Only the cherry trees, plum trees, and a few sorts of apple tree were in blossom, but the whole orchard was drowning in smoke ...'



Electrical Contractors Ltd



Replacement of old fuse boxes
Additional sockets and lights
Outdoor supplies to sheds, garages,
ponds etc
Replacement of faulty fittings
Storage heater replacement
Electrical wiring faults
Landlords' electrical inspections

Free estimates

Part P approved electrician



Contact **Dean**
01296 - 712776
07794 - 510980
dean4832@aol.com



Chesham Preparatory School

Independent education for boys and girls aged 3 to 13



Tel 01494 782619 | www.cheshamprep.co.uk
Email registrar@cheshamprep.co.uk

Two Dells Lane, Chesham, Buckinghamshire HP5 3QF

D.M.L. GARDEN SERVICES

TEL : 01296 641578

MOB: 07766 478267

FOR A CHEERFUL RELIABLE SERVICE
GRASS CUTTING - HEDGE CUTTING
ROTOVATING - STRIMMING
TREE WORK - GUTTER CLEANING

ASTON ABBOTTS BOOK CLUB

We met at the end of January to discuss Sally Clarke's choice 'A Tale of Two Cities' by Charles Dickens. Almost without exception we discovered that none of us had ever read Dickens before - and again without exception we found the book to be most enjoyable once you had got over the style of wordy prose. There are wonderful descriptions of people, places and events. The final quarter of the book was read at a gallop and finishes with the quote we all know 'It is a far, far better thing I do, than I have ever done; it is a far, far better rest that I go to than I have ever known.'

Many said they would read another book by Dickens. As you will be aware there are many programmes, plays and films on at the moment celebrating Dickens's life.

February's book, chosen by Carolyn Guse, is 'The Gingerbread Woman' by Jennifer Johnston. Meet at her house on 21st February 8pm.

John Hardcastle

WINGRAVE SCHOOL

The Spring term started with a number of exciting activities: dragon hunting, mystery packages and Castles Day. It is lovely to walk around the school and see all the children so engrossed in their work.

For the rest of this academic year the school is taking part in a Community Writing Project, along with other schools and organisations in the local area. Special Places is the title of the project and all members of the community are invited to explore their local community and write about places which are special to them. The project was launched on the 12th January by local author, Claire Steele. As a school we plan to hold writing workshops and there will also be Saturday morning 'writing walks' (details to follow). The project aims to develop writing and strengthen local community links. Every writer who wants to be published can be published online and a final selection will be published in a book at the end of the project. If any body would like to become involved please contact me either by phone 01296 681436 or email head@wingrave.bucks.sch.uk.

Look out for more information about the project at school or on the schools website
<http://www.wingrave.bucks.sch.uk/>

COLIN'S QUIZ & SUPPER

Another opportunity to enjoy an entertaining 'team quiz' evening
in the Church Room on

Friday 20th April

Commencing at 7.00 pm.

Tickets at only £5.00 include
a delicious cheese platter by April.

Bring along your own favourite 'tipple'
and you can be assured of a highly entertaining evening.
Tickets at £5.00 each are available from Colin Higgs 681343

All proceeds to go to much needed Church funds

Steaming Open Day

A full size steam train will offer unlimited rides, Rides on the miniature railway at small extra charge. The Centre's large collection and museums will be opening for viewing. Gift Shop and Refreshments. For Further Information see www.bucksrailcentre.org Under 5's Go Free

10:30am to 4:30pm (last Admission 3:30 pm) Adult £10.00 Senior £9.00 Child £7.00 Family £27.00

Buckinghamshire Railway Centre, Quainton Road Station, Quainton, near Aylesbury Buckinghamshire HP22 4BY

Wednesday 15 Feb 2012 Website: www.bucksrailcentre.org

You deserve the best

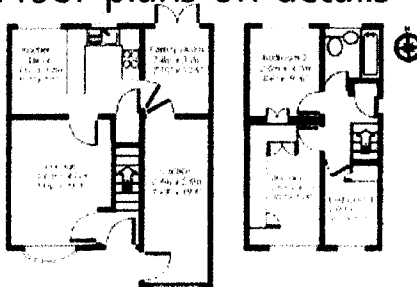
Internet, e-mail and text messaging

360° visual tours

Realistic valuations

If you are thinking of moving in the near future or in the next couple of months then you really need to talk to us first. Without obligation we will be pleased to offer you both professional and realistic advice about your proposed property move. We will be able to demonstrate to you quickly why you should use our services, as we believe that you really 'Do Deserve The Best'.

Floor plans on details



dedicated, professional sales & marketing team

Full colour details

Our customers are everything to us and we will make sure that we deliver to you the care and attention that you need to make sure your property move is as trouble free as is possible. Our high profile presence and carefully targeted marketing strategies mean that your property receives the maximum exposure that it deserves. We will be working hard to make sure that your property is viewed in the right place, at the right time and to the right people.

Backed by years of experience, the Hartwell

Mortgages arranged

Partnership ethos reflects the traditional values of integrity, attentiveness and commitment, which are supported by the latest technology, which combine to ensure an unbeatable personal service.

At Hartwell Partnership we never forget that our success is driven by delivering client satisfaction and maintaining a reputation for excellence in the locality as a professional residential estate agent.

Sales

conveyancing arranged

letting agents

Town, village & country homes

www.hartwellpartnership.co.uk

Hartwell

Hartwell Partnership,
4 Aylesbury Road,
Wing, Bucks
HP20 0PB

01296 688889

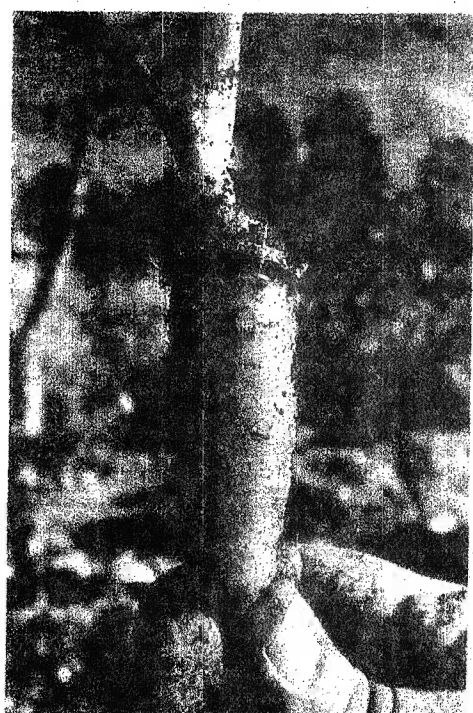
Also at
Hartwell Partnership,
3 Buckingham Street,
Aylesbury, Bucks
HP20 1JD

01296 338888

Oh Hell! Is it that time already? The e-mail from the editor: "... the deadline for the February Chronicle is next Friday"! What to write about? Activity on the allotments has been almost non-existent. I've picked some leeks, the last of the red cabbages and some Brussels sprouts. (The cabbages and the individual sprouts were generally very small this year. I wonder why? My incompetence as a gardener, or the effect of the strange weather we had in 2011? Must talk to fellow allotmenters, to see how they fared). Oh, yes, and I cut down the canes of my autumn raspberries - (curiously one does not do the same to summer raspberries. Don't know why) - and then had a bonfire of these together with the remains of the sweet-corn stems, and some woody debris which I carted to the allotment from my own garden, to help the bonfire to go.

I visited Peter Knight a few days ago to find out from him what was the source of a plethora of roots that were criss-crossing the land covered by my fruit cage at home, and what to do about an escaped garden plant which was growing like a weed there. He managed to depress me on both counts. The roots were from an adjacent greengage tree, and there is nothing I can do about them unless I cut the tree down. The weed-like plant is a trefoil, which scatters lots of tiny seeds from each little yellow flower (of which there are hundreds), and the only way one can get rid of them is to keep weed-killing the plant in the spring or summer with a spray of Round-up or something similar - which is pretty difficult without also killing all the strawberries among which it is growing! Temporarily moving the strawberries out, and covering the land with black polythene as I had done, has probably been totally ineffective.

Like all of us, I had heard of the Bermuda Triangle, but until a week or so ago, I'd never heard of the "Pink Triangle". This is not, as you may have supposed, an area of the world where people of a particular sexual preference congregate, but the area around Wakefield, Leeds and Bradford - and is so called because of the forced rhubarb crop that is grown there. For some reason lost in the mists of time it is here that specialist rhubarb growers started growing forced rhubarb, grown in dark sheds to produce stems of a delicate pink colour, which are much sweeter than normal rhubarb. It apparently enjoys special protected status from the European Commission, putting it on a par with champagne and Parma ham.



One-carrot wedding ring found 16 years on

A woman pulled up a carrot in her garden and found her lost wedding ring wedged around it.

Lena Pahlsson had misplaced the ring 16 years previously. A search of her home failed to locate it.

But while tending her garden, Mrs Pahlsson pulled up a carrot and noticed something.

She was amazed to find it was "wearing" the white gold, diamond-encrusted ring. She thinks that a pet sheep may have swallowed it while feeding off kitchen scraps, depositing it in compost at her home in Mora, Sweden.

She and her husband Ola, left, are just happy to have it back.

"We're keeping it in a safe place," she told a local newspaper.



This rhubarb was in such demand before the war that a special "pink express" train was run nightly from Wakefield to London during the season to deliver the crop. It has not yet regained this exalted status, but is now enjoying renewed popularity among top chefs.

Rhubarb originates from Siberia, and its roots need sharp frosts for healthy growth. To produce forced rhubarb, the plants need to be grown outdoors for over 2 years - preferably with cold frosty winters - before they are transferred to sheds lit only by candlelight, which forces the rhubarb to grow. It then grows so fast that it can sometimes make a popping sound as the stalks burst forth from their buds. The 2010-2011 winter was very good for the crop: last winter has been a disaster. However, enough forced rhubarb has been reserved for the annual rhubarb festival which is held in Wakefield at the end of February.

I am also attaching another news item which caught my eye, from the Times at the beginning of the month. I am not sure whether the moral is not to keep pet sheep; or that gardening sometimes produces unexpected benefits!

Finally, a thought for the month: the gardener Bob Flowerdew was once asked when was the best time to take cuttings. His answer cannot be improved upon: the best time to take cuttings, he said, is when no-one is looking!

Peter Shorrock

Painting & Decorating

*Brighten up your Home with a Professional Decorating Service
Clean & Tidy Workmanship Guaranteed*

- **Interior & Exterior**
- **Wallpaper Hanging, including feature walls**
- **Painting \ Staining**
- **Plaster coving & cornices**
- **Wall tiling**
- **Skirting's, Architraves Door hanging ect.**
- **Insurance Work Undertaken**
- **Competitive Pricing**



To Discuss Your Idea's & Arrange a Free Quote:

Call Adrian Bystra

Tel: 01296 688429 - Mobile: 07986 597013

www.ambdecorate.com
e-mail: info@ambdecorate.com

Est: 1987

Benham & Williams

Accountants and Business Advisors

Offering a friendly, independent and professional service for all your business, accountancy and taxation matters.

- ⇒ Preparation of accounts for businesses of all sizes
- ⇒ Tax Returns for individuals, businesses and Companies
- ⇒ Business start-ups
- ⇒ Payroll bureau
- ⇒ Book keeping and VAT Returns

For a no obligation initial meeting to discuss your requirements contact Paul Benham on 01296 678581

**Midshires House, Midshires Business Park,
Smeaton Close, Aylesbury, HP19 8HL**

• Accountancy • Business start-up • Business consultancy • Company secretarial •
• Personal taxation • Estate planning • Business taxation •



FULLY LICENSED PRIVATE HIRE OPERATOR

BUTLERS

AT YOUR SERVICE



We specialise in airport and long distance work:-

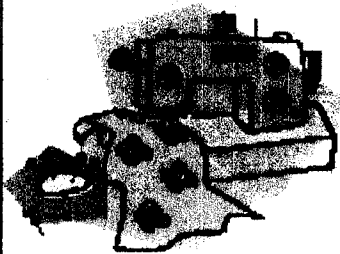
- ★ **Fixed prices - what we quote is what you pay**
- ★ **No additional charge for weekends, bank holidays unsocial hours**
- ★ **Absolutely no hidden charge**
- ★ **Modern air conditioned cars**

**FOR A BOOKING OR A QUOTE
Please Ring Colin on:-**

**01296 583577
07802 746711**

**E-mail: colin.butler@taxidriver.co.uk
www.butlers-private-hire-cars-aylesbury.com**

53 Ramworth Way, Aylesbury, Bucks HP21 7EY



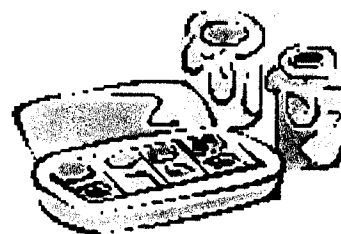
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Are you out there the Artisans of Aston Abbotts. We need your ideas and enthusiasm. Are you hiding you light under a bushel. Do you have hidden talents? Are you the next Kath Kidston? Then come along and join us in our twice monthly get together in the Church Room and share in the fun and laughter.



Whether you love to knit, sew, crochet, make lace, paint or enjoy quilting or any other hobby please come along and share your skills with us and we will share ours with you.

We do know that Stoke Mandeville Hospitals Baby Unit needs tiny baby hats, we need some bunting for our jubilee celebrations, some charities need warm covers made from knitted squares. If you would like to have a go at any of those it would be great but if you have any projects of your own we would love you to come along and show us what you enjoy doing.



We will meet at 2pm in the Church Room on
TUESDAY 14th FEBRUARY and on TUESDAY 28th FEBRUARY.

MAKE THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE ONE STITCH AT A TIME

Working together to reach your goals



Buckinghamshire Children
and Young People's Trust

Groovy Grandparents
23rd January, 6th & 20th
February
1-2.30pm

Wing Children's Centre
Overstone School
Wing
LU7 0NY

Are you are a Grandparent
looking after your Grandchild?

Come along to our monthly Grandparent session; spend quality time with your Grandchild, while playing and learning together. Meet other Grandparents with in the area and learn about your rights.

If you would like to attend but have no form of transport please call, this may be provided for you!
For more information contact:

Tasha on 079 83046478

Wing
Children's Centre

Believe in
children

Barnardo's
London, East and South East

In 2012 anyone can become a Sporting Hero.

Bucks resident, and our greatest Olympian, Sir Steve Redgrave, is urging anyone 16 or over to become a Sport Maker and help make sport happen where they live, work or study. **Your first step is to register for one of the free Sport Maker events being held at fantastic sporting venues around the county.** The first event is on 12 March (6.30pm to 9.30pm) at Stoke Mandeville Stadium, the national centre for disability sport and the birthplace of the Paralympics. At this inspirational event you'll meet sports champions, get free Adidas kit, a one day pass to Harpers (which includes the gym, group training, swimming & tennis) and the chance to win London 2012 prizes including a month's free membership to Harpers. For more details call Stephen Green on 01296 585626 or log onto www.sportmakers.co.uk



Buckland Landscapes

Nursery Tree sales Planting Moving Landscape supplies

Rooted in more than 20 years of landscape design, construction and maintenance experience, Buckland Landscapes Ltd can bring creativity and expertise as well as long term maintenance solutions to your landscapes.

In addition, we have our own 50 acre open grown tree nursery based in Bushmead Road, Cublington, Nr Aylesbury.

Our website is comprehensive and very user friendly. Please take a look to see the full range of services we are able to offer.

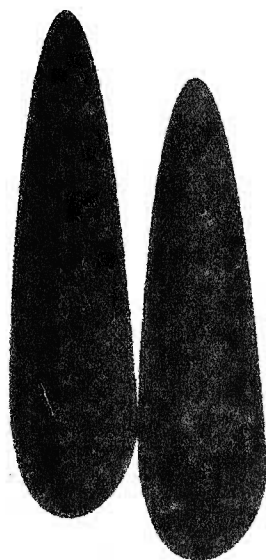
Whether you require garden design, hard or soft landscaping, or garden maintenance, please do not hesitate to contact our office to arrange a consultation on: 01296 680350 or email: info@buckland-landscapes.co.uk.

01296 680350

info@buckland-landscapes.co.uk

www.buckland-landscapes.co.uk

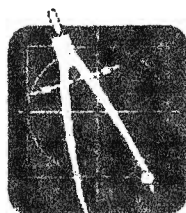
Home Farm, 61 The Green, Aston Abbotts, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP22 4LY



David Rowe Dip Surv MCIOB

Tel : 01296 682529 Mob : 07867 977 575

D design



ARCHITECTURAL & TECHNICAL DESIGN SERVICES

- HOUSE EXTENSIONS
- LOFT CONVERSIONS
- PLANNING AND BUILDING REGULATIONS
- NEW BUILD DEVELOPMENT

FROM SCHEME DESIGN TO COMPLETION
NO OBLIGATION FIRST CONSULTATION



D.M.L. GARDEN SERVICES

Tel: 01296 641578
Mob: 07766 478267



For A Cheerful, Reliable Service

Grass Cutting Hedge Cutting Rotovating
Strimming Tree Work Gutter Cleaning
Waste Licence Holder
01296 641578
07766 478267

TE 0330903

find us at: www.localbusinessdirectory.co.uk

Aston Abbotts Website - further updates

www.aston-abbotts.co.uk

This is a website for the village and I want it to be useful to villagers as well as to people looking up Aston Abbotts on the internet. If there is something you would like to see on the site then please email me - you will find contact details on the site. I would also be interested in adding more photo galleries, so if you have taken some interesting pictures of Aston Abbotts or village events please get in touch. I would also like to add any pictures of Aston Abbotts in the past and I'd be grateful if I could borrow any for scanning - they will be returned unharmed and very promptly. Thank you.

Phil Spooner

You can now view some early pictures of Aston Abbotts on the website (contributed by Peter Kent). The picture below - taken around 1915 - shows a visiting mission. The picture is taken with the photographer's back to the Bull and Butcher and the chapel, on land which is now used for a line of bungalows. The man in the cap is Joseph Ernest Stranks, who was the village shopkeeper at the time. There is a link to them on the menu in the Gallery section and also at the bottom of the first page.

If you have any photos of an earlier Aston Abbotts then please let Phil include them on the web site.



In a Vets waiting room:
"Be back in 5 minutes. Sit! Stay!"

At an Optometrist's Office:
"If you don't see what you're looking for, you've come to the right place."



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**



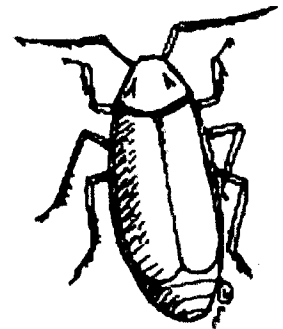
**PIGEON NETTING AND POINTING
PROTECTION. MESS REMOVAL AND
DISPOSAL IN ACCORDANCE WITH
DEFRA AND EA. CERTIFICATES OF
DISPOSAL SUPPLIED.**



**RATS/MICE ALL TRAPPED AND
DISPOSED OF IN ACCORDANCE
WITH DEFRA AND EA.**



**WOODWORM, COCKROACHES,
INSECTS, FLIES, SQUIRRELS.**



**TEL: 01296 424284 M: 07950 379250
E: JIM@MTSFC.CO.UK**

The Oldest DJ In The World by James Perkins

It is quite incredible when you take stock of what happened last year and continues to happen year in and year out in this village. From Astonbury, the Book club, 630, Gnomes, Cold Comfort BBQ, Harvest supper, Summer Ball etc. You really only have to look at the fullness of everyone's (Well maybe not everyone's) green recycling bins to see how well people enjoyed these events through the year! So before I start another ramble just let me say thank you again to everyone for making them happen and for making it another vintage social year in Aston Abbots.

So onto the final event of the year, the one off Aston Abbots New Years Eve Party. The idea for this event, as I imagine happens across the world, happened over a paella and a lot of sangria. The combination of fine food and Spanish alcoholic fruit juice got us talking about how New Years had always felt like too much effort and why not hold a party in the village. So the date was set (we didn't have much choice about that).

Then followed a lot of planning; a crack team of organisers was pulled together headed up by the Swan (John Whyte) nicknamed this because of his calm exterior whilst paddling like mad underneath ably assisted by Shovel Shy McManus (Frank McManus) a keen individual who loves nothing more than to up a marquee in the freezing cold.

We got the details together and quite quickly it came to December and the build. One of the things I have come to understand when helping to organise an event is that the event will always happen. Whatever (whatever for you younger readers) happens it can always be sorted with the help you have in the village and this event was no different. At one point we had people scouring Buckinghamshire for lamb shank serving dishes but we got them and the night could begin.

The marquee looked amazing and in particular the table decorations, which must have cost a fortune, they really helped to add a bit of glamour to the affair (cough). However what was more astounding was our entertainment for the night called the "Old Rockers Disco" having booked them off the internet we hadn't quite understood how old the old rockers might be but to give him his due the dance floor was busy throughout the night (serious face). All in all a fabulous evening was had by all and we even managed to raise some more money for the Church room!

We arrived the next morning to clear up the marquee and thanks must go to all that mucked in especially those who had the role of getting the Church Room crockery all washed up. So that was it the one off Aston Abbots New Year Eve Party but really was it a one off.....who knows you never can tell with this village!

Thanks must go to --

The Swan

Shovel Shy

Dave "is that a 3amp?" Lewis

Kevin "Norway spruce anyone?" Copping

Bob "why don't you just...." Chapman

Bridget "Bang on it" Brandon

Dierdra "John you can stick that" Whyte

James "Let's just open one can" Clough

Bob "P60" Prouting

Lol "Is this a shag pile?" Hinds

And everyone else you helped make another night in Aston Abbots fantastic!

WINGRAVE POST OFFICE AND STORES

21 Winslow Road, Wingrave

tel: SHOP 681696 POST OFFICE 682964

fresh food available to order:

Fruit and Vegetables - order by Wednesday, collect on Friday/Saturday

Bread baked fresh daily - Large White Split Tin, Small White Farmhouse, Large and Small Wholemeal, French Sticks and Baguettes

Pastries on Saturday and Sunday - Croissants, Pain au Chocolat. Pain au Raisin

PLACE YOUR ORDERS NOW!

BABY and TODDLER GROUP

I'm considering setting up a baby and toddler group in the village hall. I've spoken to Tracey Hinds and available afternoons are Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday. I would be available to look after the group from 2.30pm until 4.30pm or 5pm. I'd like to get an idea of how many people would be interested in attending and which afternoon suits people. I'd like to know if people would be willing to donate some toys to start us off and if they would be willing to pay a small fee to cover tea, biscuits, possibly snacks for the tots and hall hire charge. If anyone is interested in attending please get in touch with me on this email address - aja.clarke.23@gmail.com.

Aja Clarke



Lazy Dog Holiday Cottages

Tregerrick - sleeps 4 - a 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom contemporary character cottage in the heart of Padstow, North Cornwall. Gas central heating and all mod cons inc dishwasher, washer/dryer, leather sofas, flat screen TV/DVD etc. Within walking distance of Rick Stein's restaurants.

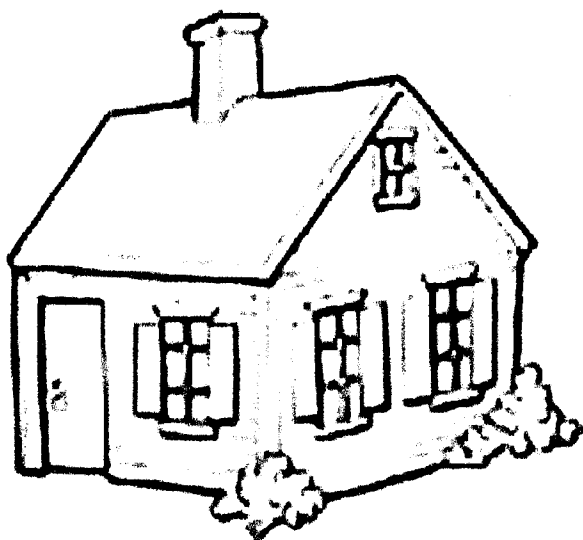
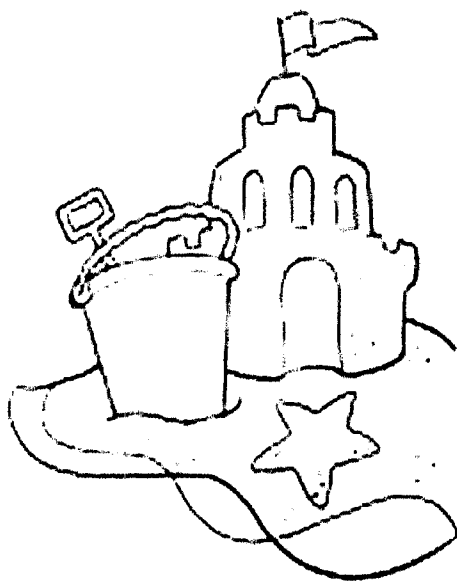
Annet - sleeps 4 - a 2 bedroom spacious character cottage with large garden, large living room, separate dining room, ideal for families with children, 3 miles from Padstow. Gas central heating & all mod cons inc dishwasher, washing machine, TV/DVD etc.

See our website for photographs and full details - www.lazy-dog.biz

Both cottages available for holiday let all year round

Dogs welcome by arrangement

Call Andy & Sally on 0775 272 6229
Or email us at sallyturnham@hotmail.com
www.lazy-dog.biz



ROOMS to RENT

In Aylesbury - Quality, clean, spacious furnished rooms in clean & tidy shared houses. Fully equipped houses with all mod cons - gas central heating, washer/dryer, microwave, bathrooms with shower, etc. Single rooms from £80 and doubles from £95 (inclusive of bills)
Call Sally on 0775 272 6229

HARVEYS

42 High Street South
Stewkley, Beds, LU7 0HR,
01525 240252

CAFE
&
DELI

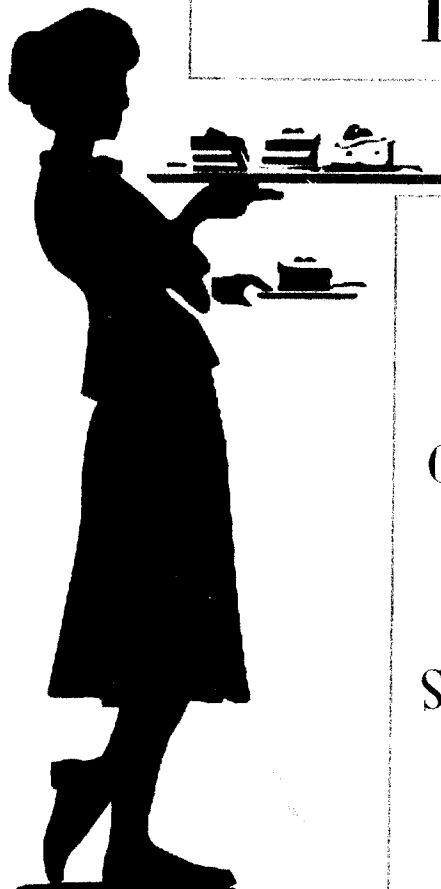
LICENSED CAFE

Specialising in a wide range of
homemade food. Serving
breakfast, lunch and afternoon
teas.

DELICATESSEN

A large range of home cooked
ready meals both fresh and frozen
always available. Also wine, beers,
pickles, chutneys, jams and general
groceries.

Buffet and Dinner Party menus



TRADING HOURS

Café: Tuesday to Friday

8.30am – 5.00pm

Saturday 8.30am –

3.00pm

Shop: Tuesday to Friday

8.30am–6.30pm

Saturday 8.30am –

4.00pm

We have created a kitchen garden so we can use freshly picked vegetables and herbs for are
soups and salads.



Fine Jewellery

and everything you expect from
a typical County Jewellers.

Jewellery repairs of every sort, help with insurance claims,
supplying missing stones, sizing rings and so on.

Re-designing and remaking out-dated pieces or damaged pi

Watch servicing, batteries & straps, clock overhauls, silver repairs
and re-plating. Engraving by hand or by machine on most metals.

Goldsmiths House

10-14 Cambridge Street AYLESBURY

HP20 1RS 01296-482963

www.hesterclarke.co.uk

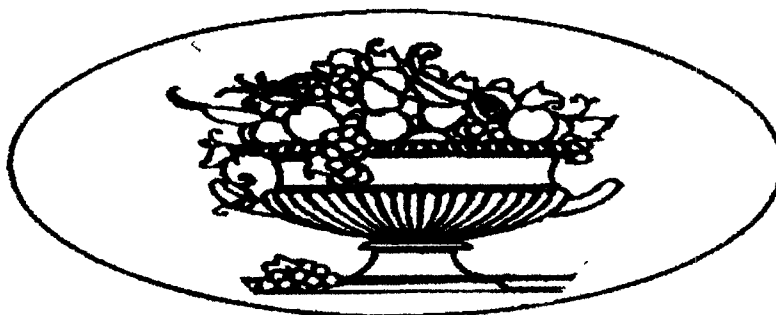
Hester • Clarke

County Jewellers

CLOSED THURSDAYS



LOUISE DAVIS CATERING



**QUALITY HOME COOKED FOOD
FOR ALL OCCASIONS**

TEL: 641 179

Get The Whole Job Done

No more juggling workmen...
I can do the lot (and juggle too!)

Kitchens, Bathrooms, Floors,
Doors, Shelves, Tiling, Fitted
wardrobes, Plumbing,
Maintenance, Small Building Work.

Anything considered.
Just ask for a free estimate call

Chris Dowell
(01525) 270701

Please note Chris Dowell's new number 01525 270830

Blooming Marvelous Plants

Winslow

Beautiful plants for discerning gardeners
Wide range of unusual & well known plants.
Seeds, bulbs, compost, pots, friendly advice.

Open Weds to Sat 9-5, Sunday 10-4,
March to end Sept. Winter by apptmt.

300m outside Winslow, on the road
towards Aylesbury.

Call Alexia on 07963 747305
www.bmplants.co.uk

DO YOU VISIT FRANCE OR SPAIN?

WOULD YOU LIKE TO IMPROVE
YOUR LANGUAGE SKILLS?

French or Spanish
lessons

Customised Classes available
at a venue of your choice

Phone (01525) 221413



ITG Motor Engineers **Aston Abbotts**

For all servicing, repairs
(and the odd sales) of
cars, vans & motorcycles.

All MOT work undertaken
(I can also take your vehicle for an MOT too)

**Free collection &
delivery**

within 10 miles of Aston Abbotts
I'm friendly, reliable & conscientious
and
have 30 years experience in the trade
and

I don't charge extortionate rates.

Please give me a try,
call Richard Upton, on
0776 966 8672

**A traditional law firm with
modern values**



**Superior service and excellent legal support
Aylesbury's premier law firm, providing services in:**

- Business Services
- Commercial
- Property
- Employment
- Private Client
- Family
- Notarial Services
- Personal Injury

For a free, no obligation discussion and quote, or for all legal queries:
Please call us on 01296 318500 or e-mail us at law@ParrottandCoalesLLP.co.uk

Parrott & Coales LLP Solicitors
14 Bourbon Street Aylesbury, HP20 2RS

Tel: 01296 318500
www.ParrottandCoalesLLP.co.uk



CHURCH ROOM

Bookings

£6 per hour for residents
(plus metered electricity)

£20 per hour for non residents
(plus metered electricity - a returnable
deposit of £50 at the time of booking is
required)

Please note that an additional hour over and
above the period of the event must be booked
to cover setting up and clearing away.

Weddings and Christenings -
a fixed charge of £50.

Please contact Tracy Hinds on
if you wish to book
688479

LOST RAILWAYS in BUCKS

by Colin Higgs

Aylesbury - Marston Gate Cheddington
Aylesbury - Quainton Calvert Brackley
Buckingham - Verney Junction Winslow
Bletchley
Buckingham - Westbury Brackley
Brill - Wotton Underwood Westcot Quainton
Princes Risborough - Bledlow Watlington
Princes Risborough - Towersey Thame Oxford
Princes Risborough - Ilmer Brill Bicester
Wendover - Halton Camp
Bletchley - Winslow The Claydons Bicester
Oxford



YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

Peter Shorrock (Chairman)
Oak Farm House - 681260

Paul Bruton (Parish Clerk)
51 The Green - 682322

Colin Higgs (Vice Chairman)
6 Wingrave Road - 681343

Richard Clarke
Maplewood, The Green - 681007

Judy Hardcastle
Marloes, Lines Hill - 688070

Kate Curry
2 Norduck Cottages, Moat Lane - 681137

James Perkins (co-opted) - 07882 980415

Bob Carvey
12 The Green - 681053

District Councillor
Peter Cooper
Brewhouse Lane, Rowsham - 681250

County Councillor
Netta Glover - 688357

Parochial Church Council

Rev. Philip Derbyshire 01525 240287
Caroline Abel Smith 681001 - Churchwarden
April Carnow 681459 - Churchwarden
Colin Higgs 681343 - Deputy Churchwarden
Shirley Ford 681865
Andy Bystra 681690
Ann Goodman 681763
Anita Parker 681325
Gordon Kemp 681763
Caroline Lane 681373 - Secretary
David Gray 07935414495 - Treasurer

100 Club Winners for January

Mr P Shorrock
Mrs E Allen



WELCOME TO ESPANOL VILLA

A TOP QUALITY PRIVATELY OWNED
HOUSE AVAILABLE FOR HOLIDAY RENTAL
IN THE BEAUTIFUL COSTA CALIDA
REGION OF MURCIA, SOUTH-EASTERN
SPAIN

320 days of sunshine per year

The property "Cornamusa" is a modern fully furnished 3 bedroom house just 50m from the sandy beaches of Los Alcazeres.

The Costa Calida (warm coast) nestles in the South eastern corner of Spain - the 'real Spain'. It's an area of long sandy beaches (the one at Alcazeres is over 5km), promenades and traditional towns and villages popular with the Spanish and the British.

The coast here is dotted with national parks, nature reserves and there's heaps of shopping, culture, golf courses, sports, and spas

The Cornamusa beach house sleeps up to 7, air conditioning, luxury furnishings, fully fitted kitchen, balcony on main bedroom. Everything you need for a fantastic holiday. It's just a 10 minute transfer. Direct low cost flights from Luton Airport to Murcia San Javier with Ryan Air.

Prices range from £260 - £350 per week



for more information visit our website
at espanolvilla.com

01296 670388 Andi or Becky Swain





Wingrave Pre-School offers sessional care for 2-5 year olds.

Children's learning is promoted in a friendly and fun atmosphere.

New Premises:

Wingrave Pre-School, Twelve Leys, Wingrave, HP22 4QG

Contact: Kelly Targell – Pre-school Leader 01296 682217

Or

Sandy Roost – Chair 07932 121317

Session times:

Morning sessions: daily, 9am - noon

Afternoon sessions: Tuesday and

Wednesday, noon - 3pm, or 1pm - 3pm

Lunch club: daily, noon - 1pm

Government-funded voucher scheme for 3-4 year olds

Qualified staff – key worker appointed to each child.



Flowers for all Occasions

I am an experienced city and guild trained florist and can make and deliver professionally designed bouquets, arrangements, table decorations or funeral flowers

Prices range from £5 for a child's gift posy, table decoration from £10, hand tied bouquets from £20 and funeral flowers from £30.

I am based in Aston Abbotts and will deliver your chosen design, free of charge, to any address within a 5 mile radius of the village. I can also deliver outside this area for a reasonable charge.

Please telephone Jayne for further details or email to receive a selection of sample photographs.

Telephone 01296 681066
07952 255639

E-mail jaking1@hotmail.co.uk

Your local butcher for all your farm fresh needs:



- ✓ Poultry
- ✓ Home Cooked Hams
- ✓ Sausages
- ✓ Pies
- ✓ Preserves
- ✓ Fruit & Veg
- ✓ Home Produced Beef and Lamb

Order now from the family butcher. Established since 1914

PARROTT BROS

Butchers and Farmers, Beechmoor Farm, Cublington Road, Whitchurch, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP22 4LG Tel: 01296 641207

Trendz



Unisex Hair and Beauty Salon

Appointments On 01296 681 282 or 0776 665 6411

Now offering Beauty Treatments at our

HAIR STYLING and COLOUR

**CUT & FINISH, WET CUT,
BLOW DRY, BASIC HAIR UP,
SHAMPOO & SET.**

**FULL AND HALF HEAD COLOUR
CAP HI LITES, FULL HEAD TINT,
RE-GROWTH TINT,
FULL and HALF HEAD HI LITES,**

HAIR EXTENSIONS

BEAUTY TREATMENTS

**VERTICAL SUNBED
COUTURE SPRAY TAN**

MAKE-UP

MASSAGE

ACRYLIC NAIL ENHANCEMENTS

WAXING

FACIALS

EYEBROW AND EYELASH

MANICURES AND PEDICURES

BRIDAL SERVICES

**HAIR and MAKE-UP
INCLUDING TRIAL BEFORE AND ON
WEDDING**

**MANOR FARM COURTYARD
ROWSHAM
AYLESBURY HP22 4QP**



Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Tuesday 24 April 2012,
7.45pm and 8pm, Church Room

Anyone living in the parish is very welcome to come along to the annual meeting of St James's Church. There are two separate meetings to the evening: Firstly:-

- the 'annual vestry meeting' to elect two churchwardens (currently April Curnow and Caroline Abel Smith);
- the annual parochial church council meeting

The second meeting will follow immediately at around 8pm and covers:

- Changes in the church electoral roll (which is being revised in March). If you are a regular churchgoer aged 16 or over and not on the roll, this is the time to have your name added
- Annual report on parochial church council activities and the parish generally
- Financial statement for 2011
- Report on fabric of the church buildings
- Report on the Deanery Synod
- Election of six parochial representatives to the PCC
- Other matters of parochial or general church interest

Notices of both meetings will be posted in April at the church; information about the electoral roll will be posted in March.

Community News

Cheaper Heating Oil, you may have seen on BBC's local news that the Oxfordshire scheme is being rolled out in other counties. As reported in Community News last month this facility is available now to heating oil users in Aston Abbots. This scheme is available to individuals, commercial users (that's farms, schools, businesses) and groups of individuals, all are eligible to join the scheme. In January 2012, Community Impact Bucks launched the community bulk buying scheme for the whole of Buckinghamshire (so tell your friends). See the AA website or call 0845 3890389 for more information.

New Homes Bonus Scheme, although not directly affecting AA at this time some of you who see more widely what is going on in Buckinghamshire may have picked up an interesting article from the Aylesbury Vale Association of Local Councils (AVALC) and in the Bucks Herald (24 Jan) about AVDC's "highjacking", as it is referred to, of moneys under this scheme. There is an AVDC response to this on the AA website for those interested in the subject.

Luton Airport are proposing to apply to increase the number of passengers per annum from 10.5 million to 18 million, this will inevitably lead to more "stacking" and flights in general passing over.

Health and Well Being, Buckinghamshire residents will soon be asked for their thoughts on plans to improve their health and well-being. In January the newly formed Shadow Health & Wellbeing Board (SHWB) will put their strategy out for public consultation. It will set out some key areas for action and a vision for Bucks over the next 3-5 years. It will become the key document spanning health, public health and social care on which future services will be based. The new system will bring together the clinical expertise and local knowledge and understanding of the needs of patients and the public to help inform the plans for meeting local needs.

The Board will be looking for the views of Buckinghamshire residents and stakeholder groups, including those involved in housing and education, as these can be major factors in improving the health and well-being of individuals.

The consultation will start towards the end of January and continue to the end of March. It will be available online through the Council's website www.buckscc.go.uk. or by email to betterhealthcareinbucks@buckinghamshire.nhs.uk.

- **The Buckinghamshire Rural Affairs Group (BRAG)** has launched a Rural Issues Paper as the first stage in preparing a new Rural Strategy for Buckinghamshire.

- **Buckinghamshire Community Funding Fair- 16th February**

- **Make a difference in your community- A series of 4 workshops in February**

Links to all the above and many more initiatives for Buckinghamshire can be found on the AA Website

All the above links are also on the Aston Abbots website.

Bob Carvey

February at the Unicorn

As we leave those January blues behind, The Unicorn staff are here to welcome you throughout the warm delights of our February events calendar. Dust off those cold January cobwebs and come and join us!

Throughout February we will be showing the 6 nations rugby matches and if rugby's not your thing then come sit back and relax by the fire with a glass of wine or coffee!

Love at first bite! Spoil your other half this Valentine's day by visiting The Unicorn and feasting on the special menu that will tortoise the taste buds!

What's coming in February

Saturday 4th - Rugby 6 Nations

France v Italy 2.30pm, England v Scotland 5pm.

Sunday 5th - Rugby 6 Nations

Ireland v Wales 3pm.

6th - Monday night quiz - 8pm

Friday 10th Live Music

Leslie and the Speakers - 8.30pm.

Saturday 11th - Rugby 6 Nations

Italy v England 4pm, France v Ireland 8pm.

Sunday 12th - Rugby 6 Nations

Wales v Scotland 3pm.

13th - Monday night quiz - 8pm.

Tuesday 14th - Valentines Day.

20th - Monday night quiz - 8pm.

Tuesday 21st - Pancake Day.

Friday 24th - Dinner and Jazz

with George and Linda - 8pm.

Saturday 25th - Rugby 6 Nations

Ireland v Italy 1.30pm, England v Wales 4pm.

Sunday 26th - Rugby 6 Nations

Scotland v France 3pm.

27th - Monday night quiz - 8pm.

Wednesday 29th -

Leap Year Cocktail Party - 8pm.



Award winning pub & restaurant!

PLUS enjoy these Unicorn Regulars:

Shop now open for milk, butter and other essentials. Pre-orders required for freshly prepared produce.

Coffee & Homemade cake

Every morning from 10.30am

Monday Night is Quiz night

The Unicorn Quiz 8pm - 10pm
Why not bring a team?

Saturday Breakfasts -

Start the weekend with the newspapers and a Full English served 9am - 11am

Sundays

Best of British Roasts
12pm - 3pm Booking strongly advised

Bar Snacks

available throughout the day!

Hold your business meetings

In our Club Room

FREE WIFI Internet access!

Ask for details

01296 681261

Booking always advisable!

The Unicorn, High Street
Cuslington, Bucks, LU7 0LQ
Please see web site for full details

Follow us on Facebook

www.theunicornpub.co.uk

St James Church

| | | | |
|---------------|---------|----------------|------------------------|
| 5th February | 10am | Holy Communion | Rev. Luke Lee |
| 12th February | 10am | Holy Communion | Rev. Philip Derbyshire |
| 19th February | 6pm | Evensong | Rev. Philip Derbyshire |
| 26th February | 10.15am | Holy Communion | Rev. Roger Hale |

CHURCH DUTIES

| | <i>Cleaners</i> | <i>Flowers</i> |
|---------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 5th Feb | Colin Caroline L | donated |
| 12th | Ann Gordon | donated |
| 19th | Shirley Andrew | Colin |
| 28th | Anita April | no flowers in Lent |

Shrove Tuesday, also known as Pancake Day in Britain, is the day before Ash Wednesday and the start of Lent - 'Shrove' stems from old English word 'shrive', meaning 'confess all sins'. It is called Pancake Day because it is the day traditionally for eating pancakes as pancake recipes were a way to use up any stocks of milk, butter and eggs which were forbidden during the abstinence of Lent.

Making pancakes is quick and easy, make sure you make plenty, they are always very popular.

The end of 2011/beginning of 2012 was a novel experience for Joy and I – the first time either of us had spent time in the ringing chamber of a Church bell tower: it was great, truly magical. Seeing in the new year by candle light, with mince pies, mulled wine and the majestic power of the bells!

Bunt Scott, the Tower Captain at Stewkley, had graciously invited us a few days earlier to their 'traditional' celebration. I was brought up in a Naval town (Chatham, Kent) and we greeted the new year with ships' sirens, naval guns and a few fireworks, and it was all big and spectacular. This year's celebration was smaller in comparison, but absolutely appropriate for rural Buckinghamshire.

Celebrations are really important and key to many events in our lives – a life well-lived, good exam results, marking a new relationship or a new life, and they are key also in our faith. Soon, we will be approaching Ash Wednesday (22nd February) and Lent, leading to Good Friday and Easter; the other major Christian festival alongside Christmas, but fundamentally more important in the story of God's dealings with our deeply-flawed humanity. If we ever needed proof of that last statement, we don't need to know the Bible or be a theologian, just read the daily papers and watch the TV news. What a sorry bunch we can be! But at the same time, isn't it great to meet people who really light up the World with their kindness and positive attitude, and we've met many individuals like that since moving to this area - Aston Abbots, Cublington, Soulbury and Stewkley – Thank You!

Best wishes

Revd. Philip Derbyshire

Ash Wednesday is the day after Shrove Tuesday, which often features various carnival or Mardi Gras celebrations in many countries. Ash Wednesday has some variations across cultures. For example, some children in Iceland go from door to door and sing songs for treats on the day. Traditionally, they would try to attach small bags of ashes or stones to the back of people's clothing. Many people in countries where Ash Wednesday is a holiday may spend the day at home with family and friends or catch up on sleep. Some people attend Ash Wednesday church services. Many Christians believe that Ash Wednesday is a day of penitence or repentance for one's past wrongdoings. Ash Wednesday church services usually include priests marking individuals with previously blessed ashes on their forehead in form of the cross. The concept of Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent, is observed on a Monday in countries such as Cyprus and Greece. This is because many eastern churches do not generally observe Ash Wednesday but they observe Ash Monday (also known as Clean Monday or Green Monday) in its place. Many people observe a fast that includes avoiding meat, eggs, dairy products and animal or vegetable oils.

The Aston Abbotts Telephone List

| | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| 100 Club | Colin Higgs | 681343 |
| 630 Club | Andy Bystra | 681690 |
| AVDC | Switchboard | 585858 |
| Baby & Toddlers Group | Kim Gayler | 681123 |
| Bingo | Pam Dixon | 681626 |
| | Sheila Humphreys | 681649 |
| Book Club | John Hardcastle | 688070 |
| 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 | Gordon Kemp | 681763 |
| Church Room Hire | Tracy Hinds | 688479 |
| 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 Coordinator | 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 Shorrocks | 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 | Rev Philip Derbyshire | 01525 240287 |
| Refuse Collection | Enquiries | 585510 |
| Royal British Legion | Alan Jones | 682366 |
| Royal Oak | Teri & Gary Mould | 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 |

please advise of any errors or omissions

Police Community Support Officers (PCSO) from the Wing neighbourhood team stopped a male on Wednesday evening (11 Jan) who they suspected of being involved in the theft of a tractor.

At around 8:10pm a witness reported seeing a tractor in suspicious circumstances on the Weedon to Aston Abbotts road. Local PCSO's conducted an area search for the vehicle and located it on the Aston Abbotts Road at around 8:50pm, where a male was attempting to load it onto a lorry.

The male was then arrested by a Roads Policing Officer and he has been released on bail whilst CID conduct further enquiries.

DC James Horseman from Aylesbury local CID would like to hear from anyone that might have witnessed anything in relation to this theft. If you have any information please contact DC Horseman via the 24 hour Police Enquiry Centre on 101.

The Chronicle

Advertising rates per annum

| | | |
|--------------|---------|------|
| FULL PAGE | Back | £100 |
| | Inside | £ 80 |
| HALF PAGE | Inside | £ 40 |
| | Inside | £ 25 |
| QUARTER PAGE | Full | £ 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

corriganpc@aol.com

YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM Wing North



**Inspector
Emma Garside**



**Sergeant Paul
Cladingboel**



**PC Frank
Callaghan**



**PCSO Paula
Boston**



**PCSO Tina
Hobson**

What's On In February

| | | |
|-----------------|---|---|
| Thursday 2nd | Coffee Shop 10-12noon Whist Drive 7.30pm | Church Room Church Room |
| Sunday 5th | Rambling Club 2pm meet W.Turville Church | |
| Thursday 9th | Coffee Shop 10-12noon Bingo 7.30pm | Church Room Church Room |
| Tuesday 14th | St Valentines Day Mobile Library 10.30am | The Green |
| Thursday 16th | Coffee Shop 10-12noon Ladies Club 2.15pm Whist Drive 7.30pm | Church Room Church Room Church Room |
| Sunday 19th | Evensong 6pm | St James Church |
| Wednesday 22nd | Ash Wednesday Parish Council 7.30pm | Church Room |
| Sunday 26th | Village Footpath Walk 2pm | The Green |
| Tuesday 28th | Mobile Library 10.30am | The Green |
| Thurs 1st March | Coffee Shop 10-12noon Whist Drive 7.30pm | Church Room Church Room |

Address

Please note that all submissions for the Chronicle should be sent to

John Hardcastle
Marloes, Lines Hill
01296 688070

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

Half Term Fun - FREE EVENT

Enjoy some monkey business this half term with a high ropes course and spider mountain. There will also be face painting, a ball pond and bouncy dome. All activities are free and run from 11am until 3pm (weather permitting).
Kingsbury, Aylesbury Buckinghamshire
Thursday 16 Feb 2012

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.

MOBILE LIBRARY

NEEDS YOU!!!!

'USE IT' don't 'LOOSE IT'

WANTED

Does anyone have fireguard they no longer require that I could borrow or buy!
Please contact: Jo on 682366

FIONA HARRISON

"A Voice in a Million"



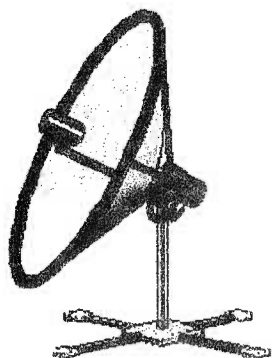
We held a cracking concert by Fiona Harrison in the Church in November. She certainly does have a great voice, and gave a polished and engaging cabaret-style

performance of many classic songs from the 1940s to the 1960s. My personal favourites included some Andrews sisters numbers (for which Fiona had pre-recorded her two 'sisters'), 'Joseph! Joseph! [won't you name the day]', a medley of songs from South Pacific, and best of all, 'There ain't nobody here but us chickens'. During the interval the audience enjoyed the refreshments while Fiona did a quick change out of her Forces uniform and into her glamorous vintage frock for the second half. Thanks to all those who came; we made £130 for Church funds.

I'm sure everyone there will be pleased to hear that Fiona is to sing at our Jubilee celebrations - and for those of you who missed her show in November, it's a treat to look forward to! Check out her website: www.fionaharrison.biz
Caroline Lane

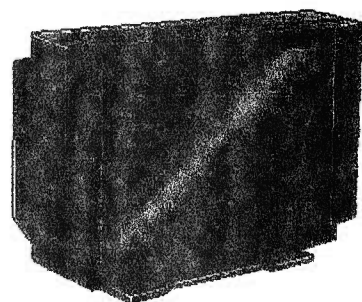
FLACKWELL ELECTRONICS

OF CHURCH FARM, ASTON ABBOTTS



- PLASMA
- LCD
- DVD
- HDTV

+ REPAIRS +
NEW AND
USED SALES



01296 682126

Dave Lewis 'Near The End'

We are very sad to report that Dave Lewis became seriously ill during January. According to a Friday Night spokesman he was at one time 'near to the end'. Although Dave is now recovering after a courageous fight back to health we feel that as a mark of respect we should suspend our normal mickey-taking back page activities. Instead, we reproduce below an internet information leaflet giving public health advice in case one of your loved ones should be struck down in such a terrible way.

MAN FLU—The Facts

1. Man Flu is more painful than childbirth. This is an irrefutable scientific fact*.

(*Based on a survey of over 100,000 men.)

2. Man Flu is not 'just a cold'. It is a condition so severe that the germs from a single Man Flu sneeze could wipe out entire tribes of people living in the rainforest. And probably loads of monkeys too.

3. Women do not contract Man Flu. At worst they suffer from what is medically recognised as a 'Mild Girly Sniffle' which, if a man caught, he would still be able to run, throw a ball, tear the phone book in half and compete in all other kinds of manly activities.

4. Men do not 'moan' when they have Man Flu. They emit involuntary groans of agony that are entirely in proportion to the unbearable pain they are in.

5. Full recovery from Man Flu will take place much quicker if their simple requests for care, sympathy and regular cups of tea are met. Is that really so much to ask? Florence Nightingale would have done it!

6. More men die each year from MFN (Man Flu Neglect) than

lots and lots of other things. (Like rabbit attacks or choking on toast).

7. Men suffering from Man Flu want nothing more than to get out of bed and come to work but they are too selfless to risk spreading this awful condition amongst their friends and colleagues. In this sense, they are the greatest heroes this country has ever known.

8. It is an established fact that the best Man Flu nurses are named Terry, Tracey, or Doris.

9. Man Flu germs are more powerful than He-Man, The Thundercats and The A-Team combined. They are too strong for weak, nasty tasting 'lady medicines' like Lemsip, so don't bother trying to force them on a victim of Man Flu.

10. While it may seem like a Man Flu sufferer is just lying around watching 'Thunderbirds' it is a commonly recognised medical fact that the exact pitch and frequency of Lady Penelope's voice has remarkable soothing powers.

Every minute in this country one man is struck down by Man Flu. Women, all we ask is that each of you offers them a cup of tea, some kind words and your undivided attention and care. Then maybe, just maybe, we'll beat this monstrous disease together.

FLACKWELL ELECTRONICS — PURVEYORS OF PLASMA SCREENS TO THE GENTRY