

The Chronicle

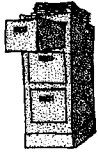
Aston Abbotts Parish Magazine

Issue No. 166 January 1998

1998



1997



*Editorial-----Sunday 4th
January 1998.*

Well! Here we are; 1998 already and not a millennium plan in sight! Still, never mind, 1997 wasn't a bad year for the village.

The early part of the year saw our new neighbours move into the Nash's Farm development ; and friendlier people you couldn't wish to meet. January was 'cheered up' with the Great Horwood Silver band giving a concert in the church and of course the 'Late, Late Christmas Show'. March saw St. Patrick's Day celebrated at the 'Bull' raising a substantial sum for Macmillan nurses in the process. Trevor Howard gave a concert in April, as usual the ever popular Village garden open day was held in June as was The Chronicle disco. A highly successful Fete in July and the Harvest Festival auction in Sept. In October we enjoyed a wonderful slide show and quiz by Vic & Christine Scott and this was followed by a better than ever Fireworks display in Nov. organised by Lol. Finally in Dec. the young folk organised the Blue Peter sale, raising much needed money to help other children with cystic fibrosis. There was of course also the 'Bull Monty' disco and 'entertainment' followed by several 'New Year parties to round off the year. These are just a few of the entertainment high lights which took place in the village during 1997 and it shouldn't be forgotten that throughout the year various walks, bingo and whist drives etc. have been organised to good effect.

Any village which has a core of people willing to organise so many diverse activities must be in reasonably good heart and thanks to the continuing support of all of them as well as those who will hopefully join their ranks this year, I am certain 1998 will be just as good.

For some reason there seems to have been more than usual 'drinks mornings' and parties to go to this year. At many of these the topic of Christmas cards arose with the almost universal point being made that we seem to be gripped by some kind of madness in that we all send cards to friends and neighbours in the village whereas perhaps all that is needed is to wish them a happy Christmas when we see them. I must say this approach makes a lot of sense to me. OK! So I'm likely to be nominated 'Scrooge' of the year but it strikes me as much friendlier to wish someone a merry Christmas face to face than send a mass produced card with a fairly standard inscription. Does anyone out there have strong views on this topic. If so let me know and I will publish them if 'printable'.



Andy Bystra

Do you like to Sing??

There is a growing interest to form a village choir with the aim of meeting regularly to sing a wide range of songs; from barber-shop to blues, secular and non secular, songs from the shows, popular songs to suit all tastes. Male and female, young and old tenor, base, soprano, are all welcome.

The main objective will be to have fun, arrange social events and endeavour to put together a short concert for this year's village fete. The emphasis will be on having fun and some tuition is available.

If you would like to know more contact
Jack Rennie on 681664

*Printed at Waddesdon School and distributed free of charge to all households in Aston Abbotts
Please note that copy date for the February. issue will be
Fri. the 23rd of January 1998 All items for publication will need to reach me
(Andy Bystra. 31 The Green, (Tel 681 690 or 688 125) by this date please.*

PAGE 1.

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RITA'S PEOPLE PAGE



Very many happy returns to all of you having birthdays during December, especially;-

- Andi Swain 5th Jan.
- Irene King Rennie 8th
- Jane Plested 7th Jan
- Sarah Plested 7th Jan
- James Clarke 10th
- Tony Hinds 13th
- Ben Price 13th
- Zoe Judd 25th
- Clifford Price 28th
- David Lewis 28th
- Richard Plested 29th

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION 1997 POPPY APPEAL

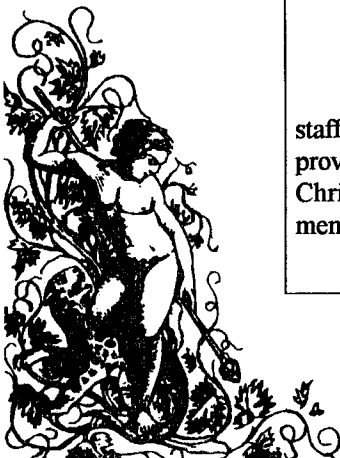
Thank you very much everyone who supported our local collections. The total collected from Aston Abbots (including the Coffee Morning and the Poppy Bingo) was £485.75. This was added to our Wingrave and District collections to total a marvelous £1567,58.

This, our highest total yet, will go to help continue the welfare and benevolent work of the Royal British Legion.

John Dixon
(Chairman Wingrave and

THANKS

Many thanks to all the staff at the Bull & butcher who provided a very pleasant Christmas dinner for the members of the 630 club..



MANY HAPPY RETURNS!!!

'Jonathan Seagull' would like to say thank you to the kind person who returned him home for Christmas!!

Stella Howel



All's WELL AGAIN!!

It's nice to see Sally Clarke back home after an operation on her hand (There is apparently no truth in the rumour that the initial problem was caused by Richard frequently 'twisting her arm' for permission to go out for a drink!!)

We are all pleased to see that Bob Higgs managed to get into hospital (and more importantly back again) in time for Christmas and that his operation was successful.

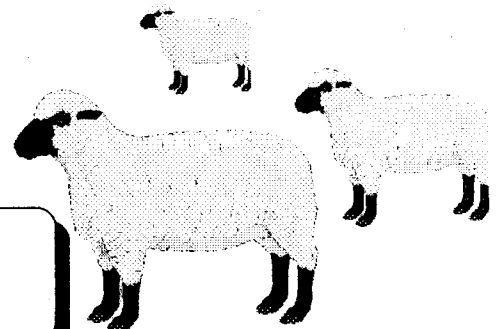
THANK YOU

Aston Abbots Parish Council, on behalf of the village, would like to thank Peter Knight for the generosity and hard work he has displayed by maintaining the grass on the village green for the peppercorn sum of 1 old penny per year.

Parish Council

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LADIES CLUB NOTES FOR JANUARY

A Club meeting has been arranged to be held in

The Church room

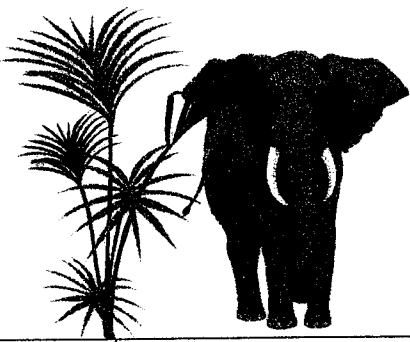
on the
22nd of January

commencing at
2.45 pm.

The speaker will be
Mrs Phyllis Vernon

and she will be giving an illustrated talk entitled

"Burma Revisited"



AROMATHERAPY and MASSAGE THERAPY

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ASTON ABBOTTS.

For further information / Brochure call us on

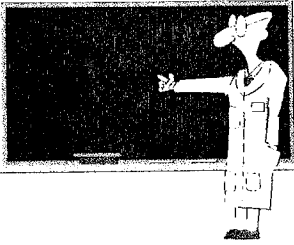
AYLESBURY



681218

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CVILL



SCHOOL BITS & PIECES

WINGRAVE SCHOOL NEWS

First School Production

Once again the parents were entertained with a delightful Christmas production "Frostbite, the Dragon who stole Christmas". Class 3 children took the leading roles and were well supported by class 2 as singers and snowfairies and Class 1 who took the parts of reindeer and elves.

Middle School Concert

Between the singing of traditional carols there were contributions from the children and members of staff. Poems were performed and musical instruments were played, showing a range of talents in the middle school. It was a very enjoyable evening for the parents.

End of Term

For both the teaching and non teaching staff at the school it has been a busy and not an easy term. With the death of Laurence and Charlotte the staff had both to cope with their own emotions and help the children understand the situation. The OFSTED inspection meant that the first week of December was rather more stressful than usual! The inspectors have thanked the school for the very warm welcome that they received. Their report will be published in January.

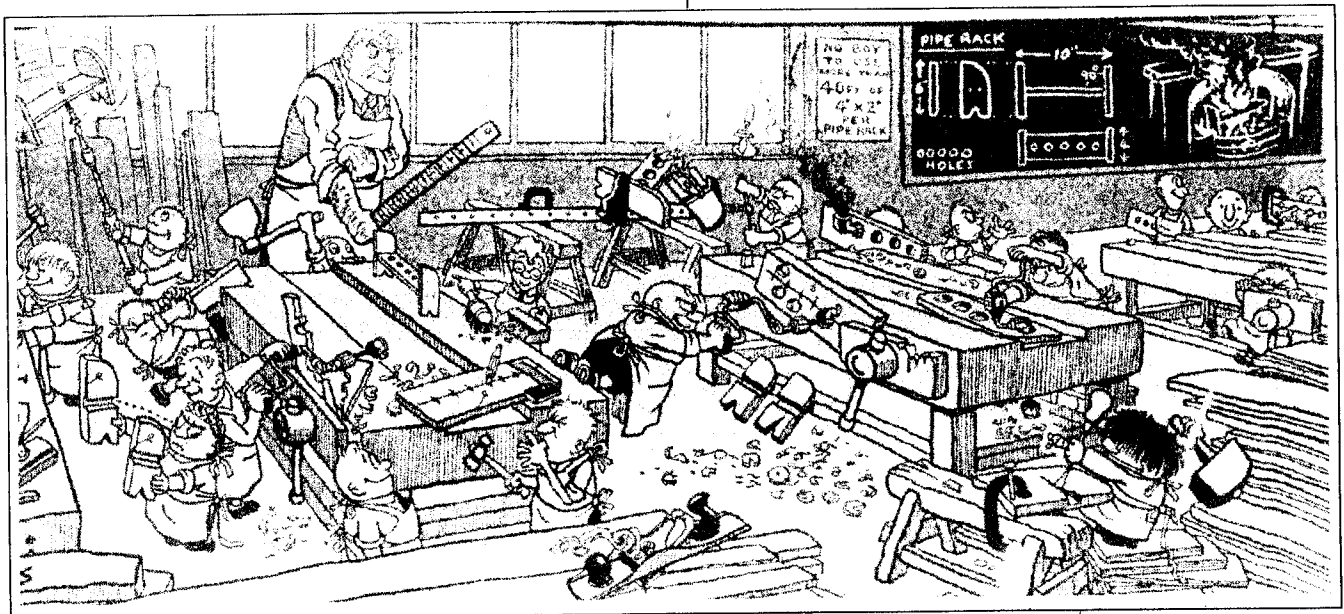
**WADESODON CHURCH OF ENGLAND
SCHOOL**
School Lane, Waddesdon, Aylesbury HP18
OLQ
Telephone 01296 651382



WHAT NEXT????
The Waddesdon Sixth Form offers a wide range of 'A' Levels and advanced GNVQ's. Please contact the school for further information.

**BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL CONTINUING
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"I reckon that all the millions that kind Mr Blair is spending on education makes these pipe racks come out as pretty dear Christmas presents!!"



TONY'S SPORTS COLUMN

Many thanks to all who took part and sponsored the Bull & Butcher teams in the Rotary Club darts marathon held at Stoke Mandeville. I have now recieved all the sponsorship money which amounted to £350.00

Tony



THE 'BULL MONTY'

Well! what seemed to start out as a bit of a 'leg-pull' ended up as a rather successful night which made some £400.00; split between 'The Chronicle' and 'The village Fund'. It started at the end of October at one of our 630 Club meetings shortly after Sharon and Tony and I (Nobby) had seen 'The Full Monty'. At the pub after the film, Sharon had suggested Tony and I could do as well as the lads in the film. This was mentioned at the following 630 meeting where it prompted considerable banter and discussion as to how it would be organised and who else in the village might be persuaded to 'volunteer' to take part. The whole thing was treated as a bit of a joke at the time.

At our next 630 'get-together', we learned there was definitely not going to be a village Christmas show, something which many of us in the village has come to regard as the start of the Christmas season. Apparently the cast had been ordered to take a sabbatical and I have to say that having been involved subsequently in the staging our 'Bull Monty' and the associated rehearsals, I can fully appreciate the effort required and why they

needed the 'rest'. Anyway, the topic of the 'Monty' was again raised and seemed at that stage (no pun intended) to get an impetus of it's own, particularly when a further one or two 'brave souls' said they would also volunteer to join us and take part on stage. The die was finally cast when it was pointed out by one member that if we were to 'pull it off' there was not only potential to raise money for the village but that if it was staged on the Saturday just after Christmas it would provide a little 'light entertainment' at about the time that the 'post Christmas blues' begin to set in.

It was decided that seven would be needed for the dance routine and after a little persuasion six were on the list. Mc, Barry, John, Nigel, Pat. and Tony. The seventh was enlisted by rather more devious means late one Friday night in the 'Bull'. Tony and I, spotting that Dave Lewis 'was in a fairly happy mood', pointed out to him the advantages of appearing in such a 'prestigious' show. Of course this was done in front of 'reputable witnesses' and so, in the cold light of day, when he was told he had accepted a key role, he didn't refuse, believing he had 'volunteered' the night before (he was told the truth a few hours after the show had ended, any sooner and we wouldn't have seen him for dust!).

By the beginning of December we were firmly committed to putting on the show. Andy put advertisements in The Chronicle and The 'Bull' and this meant there would be no backing out. It was thought that ticket sales would have to be strictly limited to seventy since taking into account area needed for the disco and 'stage' it would not be safe go above this number. Lol. agreed to provide the music for the show numbers and an associated disco, Dave Lewis offered to set up the lighting which was borrowed with a set of curtains from the 'Christmas Show' store. Very much at the last minute, Sean Arman was asked to make a stage to ensure everyone would have a good view.

I don't think any of us were quite prepared for the response we were to get when the tickets went on sale about mid Dec.. Within three days of being issued, virtually all were sold or spoken for. Since this was clearly to be a once and for all show, it was very tempting to simply ask Andy to print more, particularly as we were all under pressure from family and friends to 'just find us another two or four'. Anyway, we stuck to our guns and on the night were pleased that we had.

Rehearsals in 'The Bull's' back room started out as sheer hard work, particularly for June, who, since she has had some training as a dancer, had offered to act as our choreographer. There were at times 'muttering's' from some of the lads that perhaps she had also been trained as a Marine Corps drill sergeant, but starting as she did with seven fellows who had little idea of rhythm, co-ordination or which even was their left or right, she needed to take a tough line. Thank heavens she did because in the space of the five or six rehearsals we managed to fit in, she was able to train us to perform the two dance routines necessary to a standard which was reasonably acceptable. Despite the hard work involved, all the rehearsals were good humoured and tremendous fun. However, as the lads skills progressed; so perversely, confidence seemed to diminish. Pre-show nerves were beginning to be felt by all.

The specially made trousers by Rachel Watts arrival, just before the day of the show of. These were truly a feat of 'engineering' since she had to design them to stay on during two fairly rigorous dance routines yet be capable of being released quickly at the crucial moment. The arrival of 'Police hats', dress shirts, bow ties, leather boot and jackets and other 'paraphernalia' boosted spirits to the point where there was (thank goodness) an identifiable optimism in the air; even to the point where the dress rehearsal some three hours before the show went exceptionally well.

On the morning of the show Sean built a very neat and strong stage, curtains were put up, lighting and strobe wired in and the all important disco set up. We were ready to roll!

The start of the evening seemed slow with few arriving much before 9.00. It had been decided to put on the 'Monty' cabaret at 10.00 but where was everyone? At least 'the lads' had all showed up and were in the front bar 'absorbing' as much 'Dutch courage' as they could; one or two were beginning to look decidedly morose! Would they still be on their feet at 10.00? Tension continued to build but by 9.30 everything had changed. The back bar quickly filled to what seemed full capacity and I estimated there must have been two women to every man. If I thought it was getting noisy, I hadn't taken into account what was about to happen. At 9.15 we crossed the stage to go into the improvised changing room. Of course we were spotted and pandemonium broke out with cheers, mock screams and shouts of 'encouragement'. These didn't die down until the show ended some 30 minutes latter.

As compare, Andy was having considerable difficulty making himself heard, even with a microphone. However, everyone was very good humoured and were soon under control. However, when we came out for the first routine we were met with a crescendo of sound. Luckily we had not over done the Dutch courage and June's rigorous training routine must have paid off because we all remembered our steps etc. Of course, the first routine was just 'the appetiser' and didn't the audience know it! The brief interval while glasses were re-charged was extremely noisy and when we came back on stage for our final number the audience almost literally brought 'the roof down'. Of course this encouraged the very best performance, culminating with strobe lighting and final blackout; as Kenny Everett would have said " All done in the best possible taste"! Dozens of people have remarked that this was one of the best 'fun evenings' ever held in the village but I doubt it will ever be repeated.

Thanks again to all the good sports who made this such a great night, Andy for managing the whole thing and production of tickets etc. And finally, our heart felt commiseration's to all those who were unable to get a ticket.

Nobby Wilkinson.

THE CHRONICLE

Advertising rates for 1996
All rates quoted are per annum

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|--------------|--------|-----|
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| HALF PAGE | Back | £33 |
| | Inside | £16 |
| QUARTER PAGE | Back | £16 |
| | Inside | £9 |
| EIGHTH PAGE | Back | £9 |
| | Inside | £7 |
| OTHER ADS | Inside | £7 |

Please send copy and cheque
(made payable to "The Chronicle")

to;- John Whyte, 14 Brickstock,
Aston Abbotts,
Aylesbury, Bucks.
Tel 01296 681685

HELP LINE

(Driving you to the doctor, picking up
prescriptions and so on)

ROY MALIN

3 Ross Road 681358

JOHN WHYTE

14 Brickstock, 681685

GEORGE FOX

1 Church Row, 682024

TONY HINDS

6 The Green, 681454

If you would like to join
the help line
tel. Andy Bystra on 681690

YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

TOM MANNING (Chairman)
682115

SHONA MACGREGOR (Parish Clerk)
3 Nash's Farm 682381

GWEN KEMPSTER

53 The Green, 681310

MARGARET KENT

6 The Green, 681454

LINDA SUTTON

Sadlers Farm, 681413

JOHN SANSOME

Longmore Farm, 681010

District Councillor

BRYAN ROUND

11 Nup End, Wingrave, 681621

County Councillor

BRENDA JENNINGS

2 Cotes Way, Wing 681065

LOCAL RECYCLING COLLECTION POINTS AVAILABLE AT THE MACINTYRE HOME WINGRAVE & THE BULL & BUTCHER ASTON ABBOTTS.

GLASS Please separate green, brown and clear
glass

CANS All types of cans including steel and
aluminium food and drink cans
(Please crush cans if possible)

PAPER All newspaper and magazine wastes
(No large amounts of cardboard please)

THE MACINTYRE CENTRE can also take
textiles (All old clothes, rags, blankets etc) and is
open 8.30am to 6.30pm MONDAY to
SATURDAY

A TEDDY FOR CHRISTMAS!



Just before Christmas, Rita and I went 'over to' Suffolk to stay with my sister (Titch) and her husband (Stan) for a few days and spend an evening at that wonderful Christmas show they put on at Thurston. During the weekend, 'Titch' let slip that she was knitting teddies for disadvantaged children. Of course, I thought this very funny and 'took the micky' out of her un-mercifully; particularly since her first efforts looked more like voodoo dolls.. She took all this in good part and with a stoicism borne of many years having me as a brother. However, when I had run out of steam, she produced a newsletter produced by the co-ordinating charity 'Teddies for Tragedies'. I have to say, that on reading it, I rather quickly regretted pulling her leg since it was clear that the distribution of these simple toys brings such immense pleasure to children living in circumstances we in the UK simply do not appreciate; or worse still do not want to dwell on for too long because it makes us feel 'uncomfortable'. It seemed appropriate somehow at this time of year to reproduce a few extracts from their newsletter since they paint vivid pictures of the conditions in which many people find themselves through no fault of their own, the work being done by volunteers and the impact these simple gifts have. It seems particularly poignant at this time of year; particularly when I look at all the many presents under our Christmas tree waiting to be opened by our family.

Ed.

MALI "The Teddy Bears arrived in Bamako, Mali, at the end of October ('96) at last! !! Some were given to the sick children at 'Hospital Gabriel Tourc', some were given to the 'Service Des Indigents Refuge' for down and outs, one each to the children at orphanage 'Benice-so'. They were very pleased and loved the Teddies." Cecile sent us some lovely photos of children with their Teddies

ESTONIA "2 years ago we took Teddies to a camp in Estonia, a teacher there said, how wonderful it would be to have Teddies for her class. This year we were invited by her to give a talk in their school, and took 24 teddies to give to her class. We also gave Teddies to 3 children living with their mother in one room flat, 10ft by 12ft. The only space to play in was on the one bed. There are many people left behind like this by the modernisation which is slowly taking place in Estonia." Brian J. took 200 Teddies.

MALAWI 65 wheelchairs reached Malawi safely in a crate packed round with Teddies and medical goods earlier this year " Amlc said "It was very moving to open up the crate and see the things packed so carefully 3 months before still safely in

several out-stations. the paediatricians at the main Hospital especially love the Teddies for their young patients. Sometimes when a Teddy is handed out it is carefully inspected and respectfully handed back. When the children understand that they are allowed to keep it, they are amazed and so thrilled to have something of their own. They spend hours taking the Teddies in and out of their bags. Books are no good as most of them cannot read. In January many of the children in hospital have 1 or 2 broken legs strung up in the air to mend - they have fallen out of the mango trees climbing up to reach the ripe fruit!"

ISRAEL Recently we received a special request from a maternity hospital in Israel, 100 Teddies had been taken to Nancy. In her letter and thanks she told us "The poorer mothers come down from the hillsides to have their babies here, we welcome on average 50 babies per month. We like to give each mother a present of toiletries and an instant photo of their baby - probably the only photo they will ever have of them. Would it be possible for Teddies for Tragedies to provide a Teddy for each baby - on an on going basis?" Yes - we have Teddies available, and the first 100 Teddies will be on their way with a church group visiting the Holy Land in September, but we shall need to find someone to take 100 for November/December's supply and January/Eebmar ?

CHILDREN All over Britain there are wonderful knitters and Teddies are pouring in to all our branches. We need the help of all who read this newsletter - knitters, distributors, interested people, to think of their friends -missionaries, teachers, doctors, nurses working overseas to whom it would be a joy to receive a sack of Teddies as a gift. Teddies for Tragedies is not a registered charity, it does not collect funds, and has no set lines of distribution as some of the big charities have We aim to help those who may be outside the big charities reach, so we need to hear who and where are these individuals, or who and where are the smaller groups supplying aid, who would like to add a sack of Teddies to their loads of medical supplies, food, clothes etc. All of our branch organisers would welcome this information.

LATVIA Today I had a phone call asking for 100 Teddies for a young missionary to take out to Latvia for a children's hospital orphanage, and street children for whom he has set up a club. Yes I had a ready packed sack of 100 and would bring them over later that day. However, an hour later the door bell rang, there stood a man clasping 118 Teddies collected by his mother, who at the age of 80 had died last week. It had been her ambition to collect 1000 Teddies from her church, here were her last collection thus achieving her ambition! I was able to say to him that we could complete the cycle from Knitter to distributor this very afternoon by packing up and taking 100 of her Teddies to start their journey to children in Latvia.

Extracts from the June 97 'Teddies for Tragedies' newsletter.

(For further info;- Mrs Pauline West 01483 504536)

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c: teddy - 2

(Skilled Friendly Service)

S.M. ARMAN.



BUILDING & LANDSCAPING

*** PATHS & DRIVEWAYS**

*** TURFING & PLANTING**

*** EXTENSIONS**

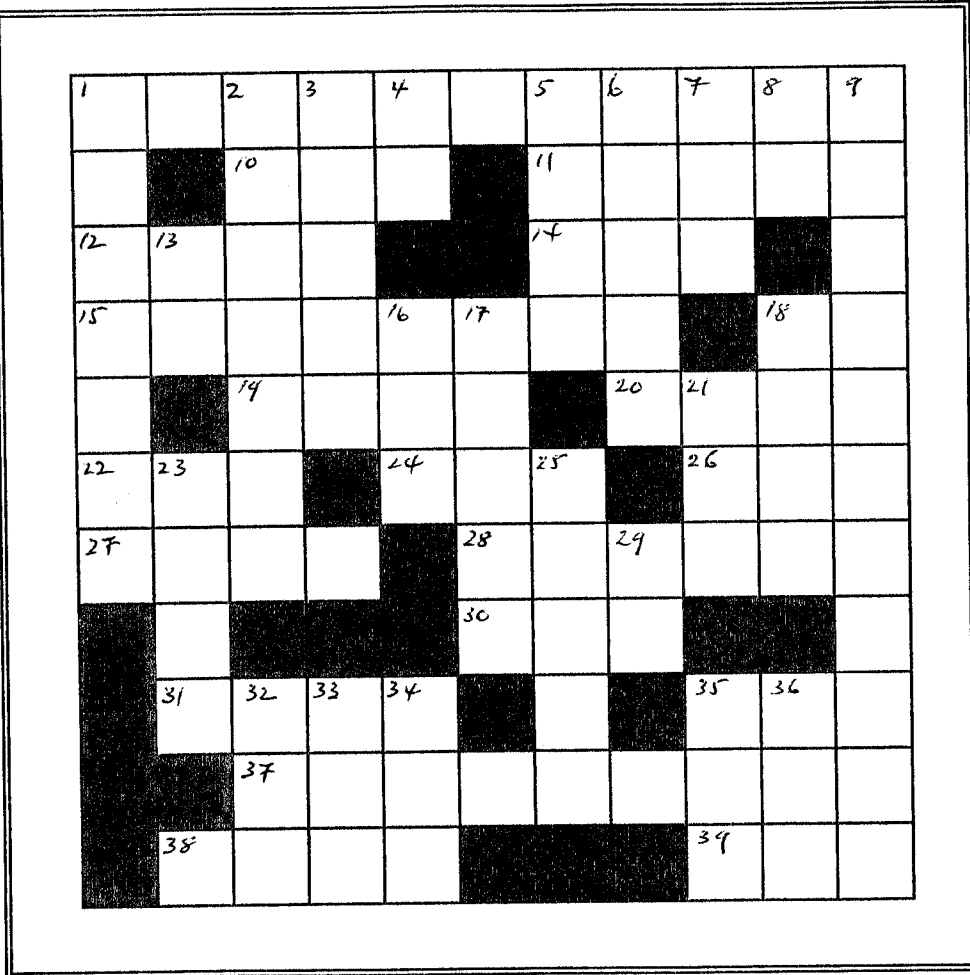
*** REFURBISHMENT'S**

*To discuss your requirements
and supply FREE
no obligation quotation
please telephone:*



Tel;- 0374 831122





ACROSS

- 1. Local Village (4&7)
- 10. Material containing minerals (3)
- 11. Town in USA (5)
- 12. A short letter (4)
- 14. A sheep (3)
- 15. Making adverse judgements; very seriously ill (8)
- 18. Myself (2)
- 19. Used in rowing (4)
- 20. A metal (4)
- 22. Boy's name (3)
- 24. A long time (3)
- 26. To stray; do wrong (3)
- 27. Body part (4)
- 28. Greek God (6)
- 30. Gender (3)
- 31. Cuts wood (4)
- 35. Knock, tap (3)
- 37. Zoo(9)
- 38. A gas(4)
- 39. Spoil (3)

DOWN

- 1 English town (7)
- 2.Ideas (7)
- 3 Garbo (5)
- 4. Not you (2)
- 5 List of names & duties (4)
- 6 Odour (5)
- 7 Label (3)
- 8 Exclamation (2)
- 9 One who mentions famous people, (boaster) (1 1)
- 13 Either (2)
- 16. Irish Republican Army (3)
- 17 Used to control riots (2&3)
- 18. Clay (4)
- 21 Fish (3)
- 23 Very long periods (4)
- 25 Duelling swords (5)
- 29 Bovine animal (2)
- 31 Fear, wonder (3)
- 33. Which person? (3)
- 34. Crime, offence (3)
- 35 Sheep (3)
- 36. Girl's name (3)

**RECREATION GROUND
IMPROVEMENT**

Would all those interested in improving facilities at the 'Rec.' please come to a

MEETING

being held in the Church Room

commencing 8.00pm on

Wednesday the 14th of January



Will those interested please contact Tom Manning

Tel:- 682115

Please let him know if you can't come but still want to help

.Answers to December puzzle:

Across

1 Spring 6 Fever 11 Ores 12 1d. 14 Site. 15 History 17 Sack. 18 On the level. 20 Mr. 21 Den. 22 On. 23 Emu. 25 Cold. 27 Isis 29 Jewel. 30 Brie 32 Toe. 33 Interior 35 Oar. 36 Ankles. 40 Tram. 42 Ensa. 44 Klansman.

Down

1 Soho 2 Princes. 3 Rest. 4 Isthmus. 5 Girl. 7 Essence. 8 Vial. 9 Etc. 10 Rekindle. 13 Dyed. 16 oer. 19 VE. 22 oleo 24 Mistral. 26 Owt. 27 Idiot. 28 Briars. 29. Jerk 30 BR. 31 Ion. 34 Nark. 37 I.en. 38 En. 39 SSI. 41 Ma. 13 At.

Cword

The

BEST OF BRITISH



Season

at
Leighton Buzzard Theatre

The Full Monty (15)

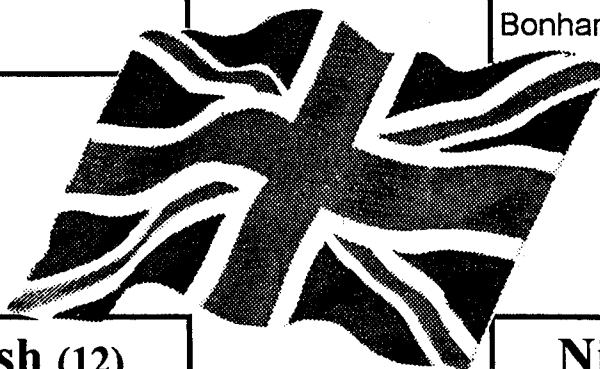
**Monday 12th &
Tuesday 13th January, 8pm**

Begin the Best of British Season by stripping back to the bare essentials with this fabulous feel-good comedy about redundant steel workers who dare to go bare!

Keep The Aspidistra Flying (12)

Wednesday 21st January, 8pm

No, not a film about pot plants, but a fresh and funny adaptation of George Orwell's semi-autobiographical novel set in 1930's London. Stars Helena Bonham Carter & Richard E. Grant.



Shooting Fish (12)

Friday 30th January, 8pm

Two over-qualified and under-employed 90's scammers are chasing their childhood dream of a million pounds and a mansion! Kate Beckinsale stars in this fast-paced, high energy romantic comedy.

Nil By Mouth (18)

Saturday 31st January, 8pm

Set in South London, this film takes a tough and uncompromising look at British working class. Written and directed by Gary Oldman, it features outstanding performances from Kathy Burke and Ray Winstone.



24hr Booking Line 01525 378310
Leighton Buzzard Theatre
Lake Street



WHAT'S ON IN DECEMBER

Thurs. 1st. Whist drive Church Room 7.30 pm.

Tues. 6th Floral class (Mrs Townsend) Church Room 7.00pm

Wed. 7th Parish Council Meeting
Church Room 7.30 pm.

Sun. 11th. Village footpath walk, meet The green 2.00 pm

Tues. 13th Mobile library calling at The Green, Wingrave Rd.,
and Oxley's Farm during the morning.

Leighton/Lindslade Transport Meeting (Bus & train
queries to Colin)

Items for Road Safety Meeting (on 10th Feb. 98) to be
in by this date.

Wed. 14th Recreation Ground Improvement meeting Church
Room 8.00pm

Thurs. 15th. Whist drive Church Room 7.30 pm.

Sat. 17th. Rambling Club New Year party (Link House, Great
Brickhill)

Sat. 18th. Rambling Club Members meet Lomondr Lindslade
2.00 pm

Thurs. 22nd. Bingo (In aid of Whitby lifeboat).
Church Room 7.30 pm.

Sun. 25th Concert by Lindslade Singers
St James Church. 6.00 pm. tickets £2.00 from PCC members.

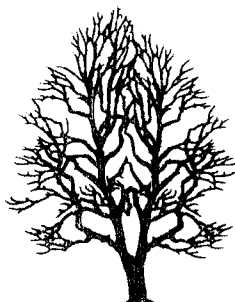
Tues. 27th Mobile library calling at The Green, Wingrave Rd.,
and Oxley's Farm during the morning.

Thurs. 29th. Whist drive. Church Room 7.30 pm.

BUS SERVICE

Surveys on the usage of individual routes will be
carried out this month.

If you want a **BUS SERVICE USE IT!!!**



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Cvill



THE POPPY APPEAL 1997



The Collections in Aston Abbots amounted
to £485.75. The area total was £1567.58
Many thanks to those who gave and to those who collected.

A. Rawlings Poppy Appeal organiser.

Mobile Library Dates for 1998

JAN. 13th. 27th.

JUL. 14th. 28th

FEB. 10th. 24th

AUG. 11th. 25th.

MAR. 10th. 24th.

SEPT. 8th. 22nd.

APRIL 7th. 21st.

OCT. 6th. 20th.

MAY. 5th. 19th.

NOV. 3rd. 17th.

JUNE. 2nd 16th. 30th.

DEC. 1st. 15th. 29th.

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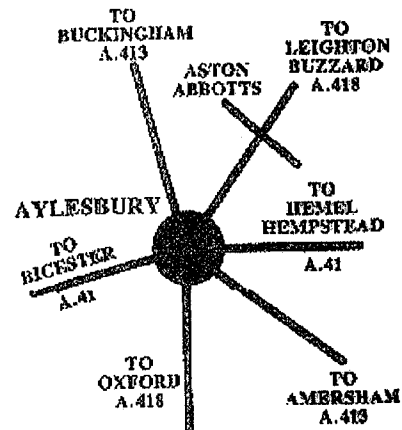
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Do you have?

New ideas for articles
Opinions about the village
Anecdotes or village history
Birthdays or messages for the peoples page
Ideas or suggestion about the village and events
If so please become a contributor and help fill this page



CHURCH SERVICES

ASTON ABBOTTS

| | | |
|---------------|-------|------------------|
| 4th. Jan. 98 | 11.15 | Morning Service |
| 11th. Jan. 98 | 11.15 | Parish Communion |
| 18th. Jan. 98 | 11.15 | Parish Communion |
| 25th. Jan. 98 | 11.15 | Parish Communion |
| 1st. Feb. 98 | 11.15 | Morning Service |

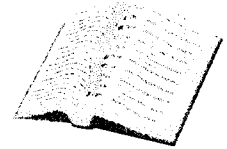
CUBLINGTON

| | | |
|---------------|-------|------------------|
| 4th. Jan. 98 | 10.00 | Christingle |
| | 18.00 | Evensong |
| 11th. Jan. 98 | 08.45 | Parish Communion |
| 18th. Jan. 98 | 08.45 | Parish Communion |
| 25th. Jan. 98 | 08.45 | Parish Communion |
| 1st. Feb. 98 | 10.00 | Family Service |

WINGRAVE

| | | |
|---------------|-------|------------------|
| 4th. Jan. 98 | 10.00 | Parish Communion |
| 11th. Jan. 98 | 10.00 | Parish Communion |
| 18th. Jan. 98 | 08.00 | Holy Communion |
| | 10.00 | Family Service |
| 25th. Jan. 98 | 10.00 | Parish Communion |
| 1st. Feb. 98 | 10.00 | Parish Communion |

SUNDAY READINGS



| | |
|--|------------|
| 4th. Jan. 98 | Epiphany |
| Ephesians 3, 1-12; Matthew 2, 1-12 | |
| 11th. Jan. 98 | Epiphany 1 |
| Acts 8, 14-17; Luke 3, 15-17, 21-22 | |
| <i>(Bridget Davis and Caroline Lane)</i> | |
| 18th. Jan. 98 | Epiphany 2 |
| 1 Corinthians 12, 1-11; John 2, 1-11 | |
| <i>(Anita Parker and Norah Hartnett)</i> | |
| 25th. Jan. 98 | St. Paul |
| Acts 9, 1-11; Matthew 19, 27-30 | |
| <i>(Ann Goodman and Gordon Kemp)</i> | |
| 1st. Feb. 98 | Candlemas |
| Hebrews 2, 14-18; Luke 2, 22-40 | |
| <i>(Shirley Ford and Gillian Wyer)</i> | |

FROM THE REGISTER

Funerals

- 26th. Nov. 97 Frank Higgs at Amersham
 28th. Nov. 97 Myra Sandle at Wingrave

Alpha
Alpha

Alpha
Alpha

What is the point of life?
 What happens when we die?
 What relevance does Jesus have for our lives today?
 How do we deal with guilt?
 If you would like to explore any of these questions then
 Alpha is for you

WHAT IS ALPHA?

Alpha is for:-
 Anyone interested in finding out more about the Christian faith. People of all ages are welcome.
 Learning and laughter. It is possible to learn about the Christian faith and have fun at the same time.
 People meeting together. A chance to get to know each other and to make new friends.
 Helping one another. The small groups give you a chance to discuss issues raised during the talks.
 Ask anything. With Alpha no question is regarded as too simple or too hostile.

RECTOR'S REPORT DECEMBER 1997

WHO IS ALPHA FOR?

- Alpha is for everyone! It particularly caters for:
- * people interested in investigating Christianity
 - * Newcomers to the Church
 - * New Christians
 - * Couples preparing for marriage
 - * Those wanting to brush up on the basics.

WHAT HAPPENS AT ALPHA?

There is a series of talks looking at such topics as

- * Who is Jesus?
- * Why did He die?
- * Why and how should I read the Bible?
- * Why and how do I pray
- * What about the Holy Spirit?
- * How does God guide us?
- * How can I overcome evil?
- * Why and how should I tell others?
- * Does God heal today?
- * What about the Church?

After each talk there is time in smaller groups for everyone to discuss any issues or questions they have, giving them the opportunity to get to know each other and learn together.

WHAT WILL IT COST?

There is no charge for the Alpha course. However, the evensing will begin with a meal - voluntary contributions towards the cost of this will be appreciated.

WHEN AND WHERE?

The Alpha course meets every week usually on a Wednesday evening. It will run from 21 January to 1 April and will be at The Old Stables, Cublington. Friday evening 27 February - Sunday morning 1 March will be a special Alpha weekend.

More details from Rev. Bob Willmott - 01296-681623

ST JAMES' CHURCH, ASTON ABBOTTS

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

| | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| Rev, R Willmott | Tel; 681623 |
| Shirley Ford | " 681865 |
| Christine Fox | " 682024 |
| Michael Hasler | " 681877 |
| Hilary Hasler | " " |
| Ann Godman | " 681763 |
| Gordon Kemp | " " " |

I've had my 1998 diary for nearly three months now, but I have to confess that I am still using the "forward planning" section of the 1997 diary.

I hope that, by the time this is published, you will have had a very happy Christmas and will be looking forward to the New Year with all that it has in store for us. By then the 1997 diary will have been consigned to history and the pages of 1998 will be starting to fill (and I shall have been forced to decipher some of the cryptic entries from one diary to the next).

Perhaps it is some subconscious fear of the future that makes me reluctant to start filling my new diary before 1st January, or maybe I want to go on enjoying 1997 for as long as possible.

Christmas is sometimes the time when we play silly games, like trying to work out what kind of a personality we have. I went on a course recently where we had to answer eighty questions which would supposedly tell us whether we were activists, pragmatists, theorists or reflectors. I don't know that it told me much that I didn't already know, and after two days of the course, I was even more entrenched in my position! The inference seemed to be that somehow we should change, but if we all changed into what people wanted us to be, we should no longer be our true selves.

In reality I think the object of the exercise was to remind us that we can become so determined not to change that we become blind to the possibility of change. Moving forward into a New Year brings with it an inevitable set of changes and none of us knows what 1998 has in store for us. We may need to make dramatic changes to our lives or we may not. It may be a long, hard winter or it may be relatively mild. There will almost certainly be some unforgettable moments that will make 1998 stand out from any other year in our lives and, without doubt, there will be the tedious times when day follows day and we long for something exciting to happen - or at least something different.

Church life can seem boring, but we worship a God of surprises. I hope you will discover some of those surprises in 1998 and that they won't be too much of a shock!

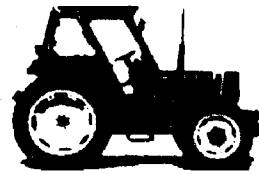
Best wishes,

Bob Willmott

Church flowers for December.

W/E

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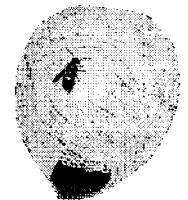


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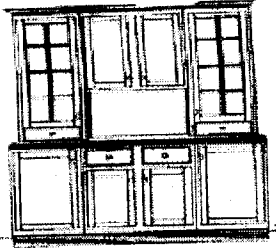
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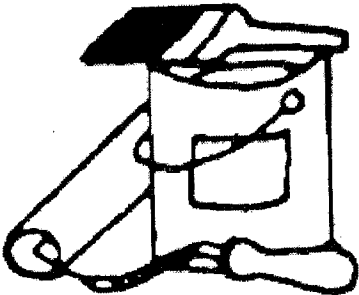
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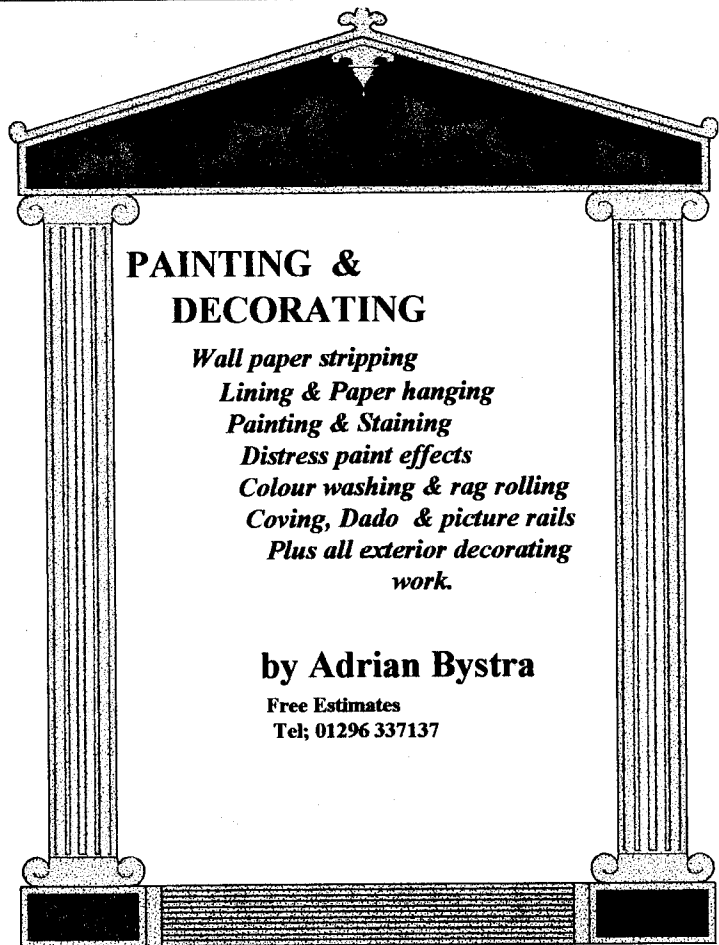
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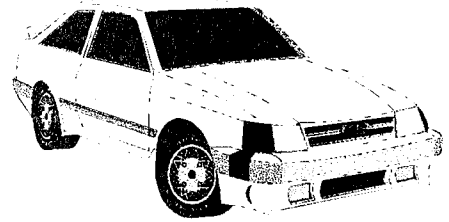
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