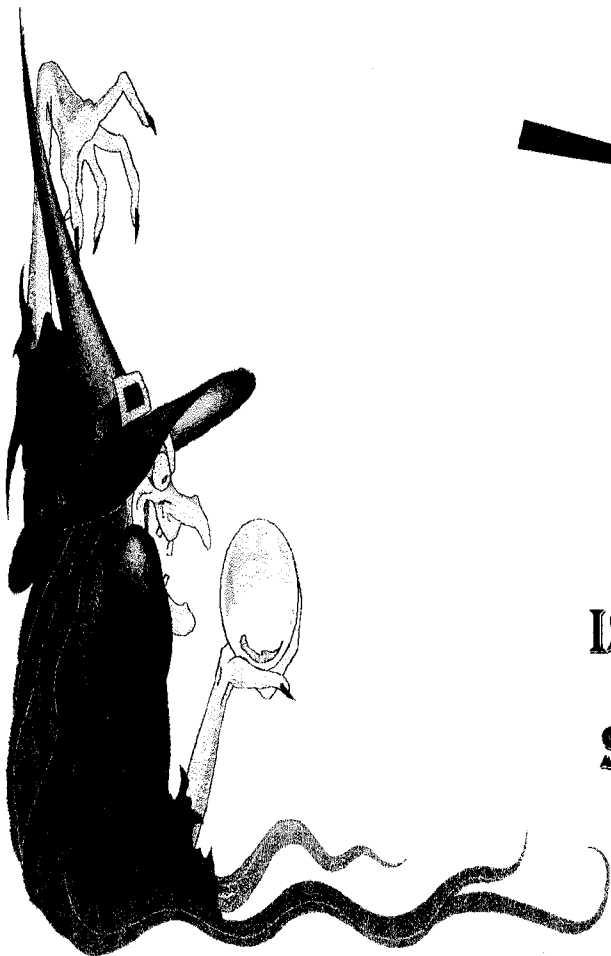
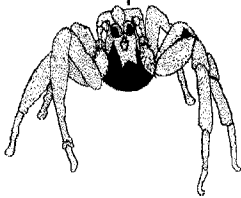


THE CHRONICLE

ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH MAGAZINE



ISSUE 172 - OCTOBER 1998

SCARY HALLOWEEN ISSUE



Editorial -

Friday 25th September 1998:

Firstly, apologies for the slightly late arrival of last month's **CHRONICLE** due to a printing delay caused by the start of the new school term. All being well, you should be reading this issue as the first days of October dawn.

With the Bucks show over, the Village Gardens opened and closed again, and the weather better than July, Autumn

must have arrived! But don't despair - even though the annual round of Bar-b-Q's, picnics, sunbathing (and grass cutting) is drawing to a close, an entertainment guide beginning in this month's **CHRONICLE** might give you some ideas on where to spend those long Winter evenings.

Looking further ahead to August of *next* year there will be an extremely rare occurrence in Cornwall (Tony beats Margaret at Bowls??). According to the Astronomy Research Council, there will be a **Total Eclipse of The Sun** over Cornwall at 11.10BST on Wednesday 11th August, with the northern limit of the eclipse south of Camelford to the Devon border, and the southern limit south of the Isles of Scilly through the Channel Islands - the south Cornish coast will probably be the best place to see this rare event.

Looking even further to the future, this issue contains some

thoughts on The Aston Abbots *Millennium experience*, though I've not seen any plans for a "Village Dome"! Any ideas you have would be welcomed by the Parish Council.

Well, enough of my deliberations - enjoy **THE CHRONICLE**.

Andi Swain, Editor



Little Angels or
Little Devils !?!

**Look out - it's Halloween !!
Make sure you're ready
with Tricks and Treats !**

Saturday October 31st is Halloween - the night when ghosts and ghouls, wizards and witches, roam the streets of Aston Abbots in search of *Treats* - and they will have plenty of tricks ready in case they are disappointed!!

• The celebration of Halloween dates back to 5th century BC Celtic Ireland when Summer officially ended on October 31st.

The holiday was called Samhain (Sow-en), the Celtic New Year.

• Allegedly the disembodied spirits of all those who died in the previous year would come in search of a body to possess for the following year! The living would dress in ghoulish costumes and parade around the village to frighten off the spirits.

• *Trick or treating* is believed to date from a 9th century European custom called "souling". On All Souls Day beggars would go from door to door asking for soul cakes, made from square pieces of bread with currants; the more pieces of cake given, the more prayers the beggar would say on behalf of the dead relatives of the donor.

• The term *Halloween* has its origins in the Catholic Church, deriving from a contracted corruption of All Hallows Eve, meaning the evening before All Hallows or All Saints Day which is a day in honour of the saints.

• If you want to know more about today's Halloween customs simply answer your front door on the night of October 31st!!!!

IN THIS HALLOWEEN ISSUE OF THE CHRONICLE

- In the Village - more local matters
- Remember, Remember the 5th of November - **IMPORTANT** bonfire night details
- Something for the Millennium ? Liz Barlow offers some ideas
- Something for the weekend ? **THE CHRONICLE'S** new guide
- Croquet crisis investigated by our undercover reporter, Church Spier
- Brookside in Aston Abbots? Read Court Social Correspondent
- Planning updates
- All of our regular sections and loads more !

So, Kids (and adults) have an enjoyable evening *trick or treating* and carry on a tradition that is two thousand five hundred years old! Drinking mulled wine in the Bull & Butcher and/or Royal Oak may be an acceptable alternative for adults.

It all sounds a bit gruesome to me (except for the wine). Ed.

PRODUCTION TEAM CONTACTS

Editorial / General Andi Swain 2 Nash's Farm - 01296 682651
Distribution Andy Bystra 31 The Green - 01296 681690
Advertising Ivan Greenaway 1 Nash's Farm - 01296 682605

GREAT OPPORTUNITY - URGENTLY NEEDED PARISH CLERK FOR ASTON ABBOTTS

An unexpected vacancy has arisen for a new Parish Clerk - some minor administrative work involved - a prestigious, interesting role of great direct benefit to the Village. Interested? Call Tom Manning on 682115

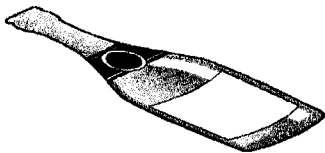
Copy date for November issue is Tuesday 20th October. Please pass items to Andi Swain at 2 Nash's Farm or to a member of the Production Team. Printed at Waddesdon School and distributed free of charge to all Households in Aston Abbots.

RITA'S PEOPLE PAGE



Aston Abbotts wishes a **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to everybody celebrating in **October**, especially

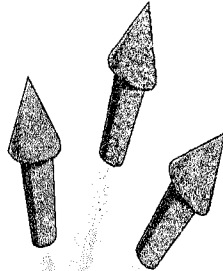
- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| George "Freddie" Lowden | 1st |
| Denise Robinson | 2nd |
| Juliette Gutierrez | 3rd |
| Stuart Biddle | 5th |
| Devon King (1st birthday!) | 8th |
| Edward Picking | 11th |
| Juan Gutierrez | 14th |
| Christine Scott | 24th |
| Rita Robinson | 26th |
| Hayley Wilkinson | 31st |



OUR THANKS TO FRANK & LOUISE for stepping in to host this year's Village firework party at The Bull & Butcher. As reported in last month's **CHRONICLE**, a problem with the insurance policy means that vehicles can't enter the Rec at present.



**IMPORTANT NEWS
VILLAGE BONFIRE
NIGHT DISPLAY**



This year the Aston Abbotts Bonfire Night firework display and bonfire will be held at The Bull & Butcher Pub (in the rear paddock).

**Date : Thursday November 5th
Time: 7.00pm (fire lit at 6.30pm)**

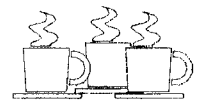
Entry is free but please bring along a large firework to help the display go with a bang!

Lol Hinds has again kindly agreed to act as the "Fire Master". If you can't get to a shop to buy a firework for this display, pass your donation to Lol **BEFORE** October the 19th and he will purchase one for you.

Important - firewood etc.. can be placed on the fire in the paddock from 25th October to 5th November only.



Hot food: Soup / Jacket Spuds / sausages etc.. will be available from the B & B on bonfire night
Also on offer are Hot & Cold drinks, sandwiches, and the usual menu !



What a beautiful display

Well done Doris and Jack Turner for once again producing such a wonderful display of hanging baskets and flowers to decorate your bungalow. They are admired and enjoyed by Villagers and 'passers by' alike.



Let RITA know about your news, birthdays, or forthcoming event...phone Rita on 681690

BABYSITTING

Hayley and Sarah - Reliable Babysitters
Please phone Hayley on 688597
or Sarah on 681740

THE CHRONICLE

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All rates quoted are per annum

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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

**Ivan Greenaway, 1 Nash's Farm,
Aston Abbotts, Aylesbury
Tel 01296 682605**

HELP LINE...HELP LINE

Driving you to the Doctor, picking up
prescriptions and so on.....



JOHN WHYTE
14 Briestock - tel. 681685

GEORGE FOX
1 Church Row - tel. 682024

TONY HINDS
6 The Green - tel. 681454

If you would like to join the Help Line
please call 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

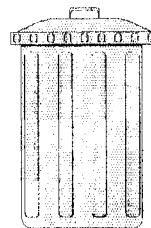
JOHN SANSOME
Longmore Farm 681010

District Councillor
BRYAN ROUND
11 Nup End, Wingrave 681621

County Councillor
BRENDA JENNINGS
2 Cotes Way, Wing 681065

LOCAL RECYCLING

Collection points are available at
The Bull & Butcher, Aston Abbotts
and **The Macintyre Home, Wingrave**



GLASS - Please sort into green, brown, and clear glass

CANS - All types accepted including aluminium and steel
food and drink cans (please crush cans)

PAPER - All Newspaper, magazine, and junk mail
(no cardboard or yellow pages)

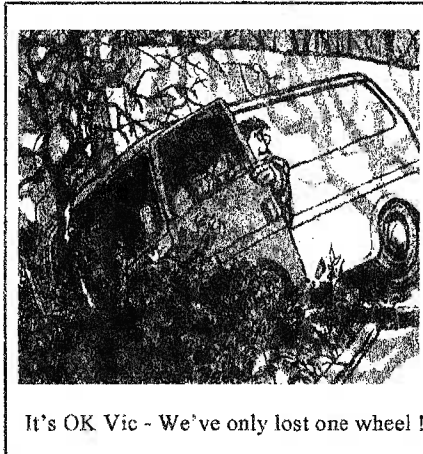
The Macintyre Centre can also take textiles
(clothes, rags, blankets, sheets etc)
Open 8.30am - 6.30pm Monday to Saturday

IN THE VILLAGE 1.

GOING FOR A SONG

I dare say DLT (Dave Lewis Travisty) knows who wrote "Three Wheels On my Wagon" and can even tell you which year it was written. However, two village 'lads' actually performed it. No! I don't mean the song; they actually found themselves motoring along with a wheel missing.

Dean Wiggett, as part of his business development plan decided it was time to invest in a larger van. The perfect vehicle, a diesel Transit van came up for sale. It was duly inspected, given a test drive and after much haggling, serious money changed hands. All was well and said vehicle was pressed into service for it's first major outing. Vic and Dean were bowling along on their way to the job, enjoying the morning and listening to the contented throb of 'Henry's (Ford that is)



It's OK Vic - We've only lost one wheel !

finest diesel.

Suddenly, loud and expensive mechanical noises were heard emanating from underneath and amid a shower of sparks which made the fireworks at a Mentmore concert look insignificant, one

of the front wheels overtook them and bounced off into the distance. Needless to say, progress ceased and they rapidly ground to that ignominious halt which is inevitable under such circumstances. Thanks to Dean's skill at the wheel however, no injuries were incurred. A kindly lady who lived nearby allowed them to phone the AA and the van taken off for repair on the back of an even bigger one. Hurrah! for 'the fifth emergency service'. Once the fugitive wheel was hunted down it was found that damage to the van was limited to the brake drum and lost wheel nuts and therefore the Transit should be back in service shortly. Well anyway; after Dean has given it a pretty good check over to see if all the other nuts are tight.

Andy Bystra

BOGUS CALLERS - IF IN DOUBT, KEEP THEM OUT!

A message from Thames Valley Police: It is important to take precautions when people call at your home - most are probably genuine but some could be confidence tricksters, thieves or burglars. Why would burglars bother breaking in if they can just knock and be invited into your home! Crooks come in many disguises so be on your guard whether the caller is a man, woman or even a child. Genuine callers will not usually just turn up at your door but will make an appointment first and carry identification with them.

Bogus callers may claim to be from authorities such as the council, gas board, or water board or workmen saying they need to enter your property to check something or make urgent repairs when really all they want to do is steal from your house.

Another trick that commen use is to claim they are antique dealers and persuade you to sell something for far less than it is worth!

The best advice is never let a stranger into your property for any reason. If they are genuine, they will give you their name, phone number and address so that you can check they are genuine in your telephone directory and arrange an appointment. The same applies with companies like the gas board or council - if genuine, they will have official identification. Some public utilities operate a password system for extra security - contact your local office for more information.

If you fit a door chain to your front door you are in control of the situation and only need let people in if you want to. Make sure that your back door is locked as the person may wish to distract you while another enters through the back door to steal your belongings. If you are still not happy about a caller's intentions, phone the Police and tell them what has happened. Try to note down as much detail about the person as possible including details of any vehicle they may be driving.

For further advice please contact Aylesbury Police Crime Reduction Department on 01296 396078.

Ryder - Cheshire Volunteers

Is your **Summer holiday a distant memory?** Got **time to spare** in the Autumn? Can you spare one to two hours a week or fortnight? Volunteers are urgently needed to assist Physically disabled adults access **Leisure Activities and Hobbies**.

- Clarinet (Aylesbury Lady with visual impairment)
- Sketching/painting (Aylesbury Gent /mobility problems)
- Photography (Aylesbury Lady needing advice only)
- Birdwatching (Ambient Wendover Gentleman)
- Fishing (Young Man needs help carrying equipment)
- Crafts (Young Aylesbury Lady)

A few hours of your time can make a **huge difference** to someone with mobility problems. You don't need to be an expert - enthusiasm and resourcefulness are much more important! If you would like to help, are unsure, or would like further information, then

Contact Christine Hodgetts on 01296 714407

RGCC

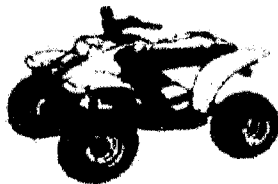


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IN THE VILLAGE 2.

CRIME REPORT

Apart from the half acre of cannabis growing outside the village (just checking to see if PC Griggs reads **THE CHRONICLE**) there have been two significant incidents this month (Sept.).

The first involved a Range Rover (presumably stolen) which was driven into the fence at the end of The Royal Oak's garden where it was subsequently completely burned out. I just hope it wasn't someone's pride and joy.

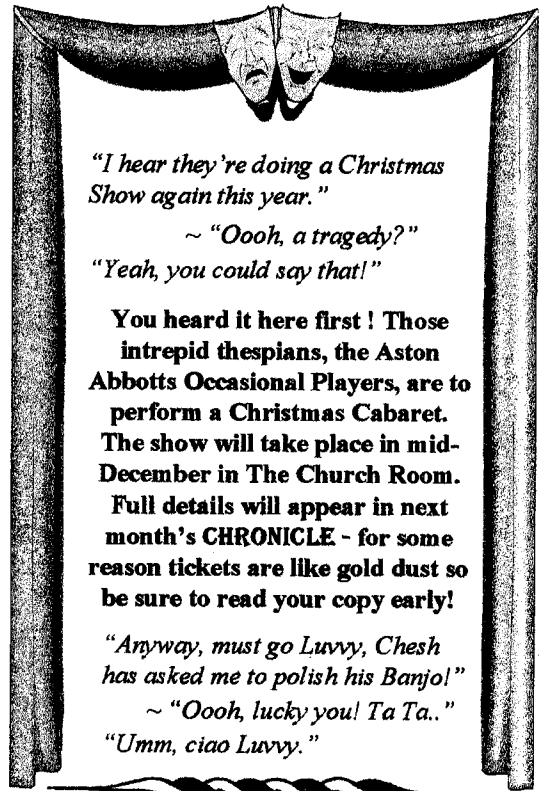
The second occurred when Terry and Gary spotted a man attempting to break into a car in their car park late one night. He was chased off and was seen to run towards the Green where he apparently hid behind a hedge at the beginning of Ross Road. Of course the police were called and when they

made an appearance, he tried to walk nonchalantly back towards The Oak.

Frank at The Bull had by this time been alerted and tried to engage him in conversation until the police returned. However, his suspicions aroused, (unsurprisingly since Frank never talks to anyone unless he is about to take their money!) the would be thief took off across the fields. A police helicopter was called up but our resident 'Kiwis', never ones to miss a challenge, searched a field or two before finding him 'laying low' and promptly handed him over to the police.

Although we are fortunate to live in a quiet little village in which generally there is minimal crime, these incidents serve yet again to demonstrate only too well the need to remain vigilant and to ensure all your property is secure (see page 4).

By **CHRONICLE** Crime Reporter -
Andy Bystra



HARVEST FESTIVAL

AUCTION NEWS

This year, the ever popular Harvest Festival Auction will be held at **The Bull & Butcher** on **Sun. 11th October at 6.45pm**. It's always a 'fun event' with lots of bargains on offer. All proceeds go to the Church and the Macmillan Nurses so please give us your fullest support by coming along and/or donating vegetables, fruits, preserves, flowers of raffle prizes. If you can't bring along items you wish to donate on the night, Andy Bystra will be pleased to collect. Tel **681690**

CROQUET ON THE REC

By our Undercover Reporter

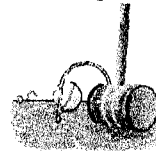


The
Church
Spier

Recently spotted - early one morning, men with Hammers on the Recreation Ground. What were they up to? Red balls, blue balls, big balls, little balls - why so many and what do you do with them?

Apparently you bash them with a hammer and push them around some metal hoops. At one point someone nearly made a mistake and put a ball through one of the hoops. Luckily, to great cheers from the other players, it missed.

I stood there for 10 minutes or so watching the goings on. I think I got the rules but they did seem to keep changing. But who was it? Will they own up? Are they looking



A pointless
ball bashing
exercise?

for volunteers to start a Village team? **Confessions to the Editor in Plain Brown envelopes.** Sponsors should also make themselves known. **REPORT ENDS.**

"Whoever you are, I'll bet you didn't expect The Church Spier. But then, NOBODY EVER EXPECTS The Church Spier."

You have been warned. Ed.

STOP PRESS: At 7.30pm on Friday 27th November in The Church Room there will be a slide show and quiz hosted by Vic & Christine Scott. Full details in next month's CHRONICLE.



THE ASTON ABBOTTS & CUBLINGTON LADIES CLUB

begin their new season on the 22nd October with a talk on the history of Aston Abbotts, St. James Church, and medieval history of Aylesbury. The programme for the new season includes diverse topics such as lace making, parchment craft, A Farmer's Year, history of dolls, and slide shows of hidden Bucks, and of scenes and wildlife in Yorkshire and Norfolk.

Social events will include a Carol Service and a spring lunch, a summer outing and tea in a summer garden. The club meets fortnightly on **Thursday** afternoons from 2.45 to 3.45 in The Church Room. New members are always very welcome - just come along with a member or on your own.



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01296 681520

WHAT'S ON IN OCTOBER

- Thursday 1st** Bingo in The Church Room
7.30pm
- Saturday 3rd** Coach outing to Southend Lights
12.50pm Depart Bull & Butcher 12.50 cost £9.50
Book with Colin - 681343
- Tuesday 6th** Leighton Linslade Transport meeting
(Bus - Train queries to Colin)
Mobile Library at The Green / Wingrave Rd.
- Thursday 8th** Whist Drive in The Church Room
7.30pm
- Sunday 11th** Harvest Festival
11.15am St James' Church - Harvest Festival service
6.45pm Auction in The Bull & Butcher (see page 6)
- Tuesday 13th** Floral Class in The Church Room
7.30pm
- Thursday 15th** Bingo in The Church Room
7.30pm
- Sunday 18th** Rambling Club Members meet at Old Wolverton
2.00pm
- Tuesday 20th** Mobile Library at The Green / Wingrave Rd.
- Thursday 22nd** Whist drive at The Church Room
7.30pm
- Sunday 25th** **BRITISH SUMMERTIME ENDS**
2.00am Clocks GO BACK one hour
2.00pm Village footpath walk - meet on The Green
- Tuesday 27th** Ramblers AGM & social evening in The Church Room
7.30pm
- Thursday 29th** Bingo in The Church Room
7.30pm
- Saturday 31st** Poppy Bingo in The Church Room (organised by the Royal British Legion for Poppy funds)
7.30pm

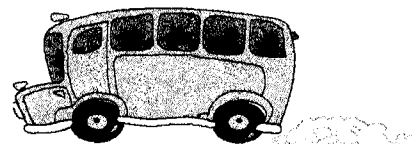
*"Oh I do like to be beside the seaside,
oh I do like to be beside the sea....."*



It's not too late to book for the trip to see the Southend Lights on Saturday 3rd October - call Colin on 681343.



BOOK THIS DATE



**Saturday 5th
December**

**XMAS
SHOPPER to
Swindon. Coach
Departs 8.20am.**

**Phone Colin on
681343 for details**



There is a spare Allotment Plot. If you are interested in taking it call Colin on 681343 (Rent £ 4.50 per year)



**VILLAGE GARDENS
BRING IN THE CASH**
As a result of the Open Village Gardens Sunday afternoon and the exhibition in the Church, £270 was

raised towards Church Funds. Grateful thanks to all of those who kindly opened their gardens, lent items for the exhibition, or supported the event. Colin.

(See next month's **CHRONICLE** for a full report. Ed.)

VILLAGE SKIP

A reminder that a skip for Villagers' use will be left at The Bull & Butcher from 16th to 19th November

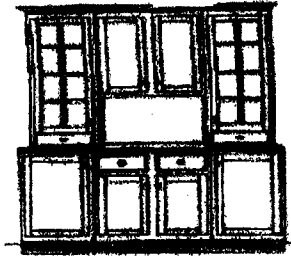
THE WINGRAVE & DISTRICT ROYAL BRITISH LEGION will be holding two events for Poppy Funds. **On October 31st** at 7.30pm there will be a "Poppy Bingo" session in the Aston Abbotts Church Hall. And on **Saturday 7th November** there will be a Bring and Buy Sale and Coffee Morning from 10.00am to 12 noon, again in The Church Room. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

CHURCH FLOWERS FOR OCTOBER

Weekend 3 rd /4 th	Mrs Weir
Weekend 10 th /11 th	HARVEST
Weekend 17 th /18 th	Mrs Parker
Weekend 24 th /25 th	Mrs Doggett
Weekend 31 st /1 st	Donated



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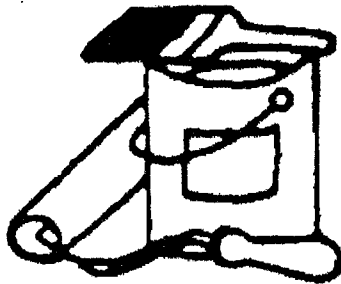
FULLY LICENSED

Lunch; Tues - Sat. 2.00 - 2.00pm

Dinner:- Mon. - Sat. 7.00 - 10.00pm

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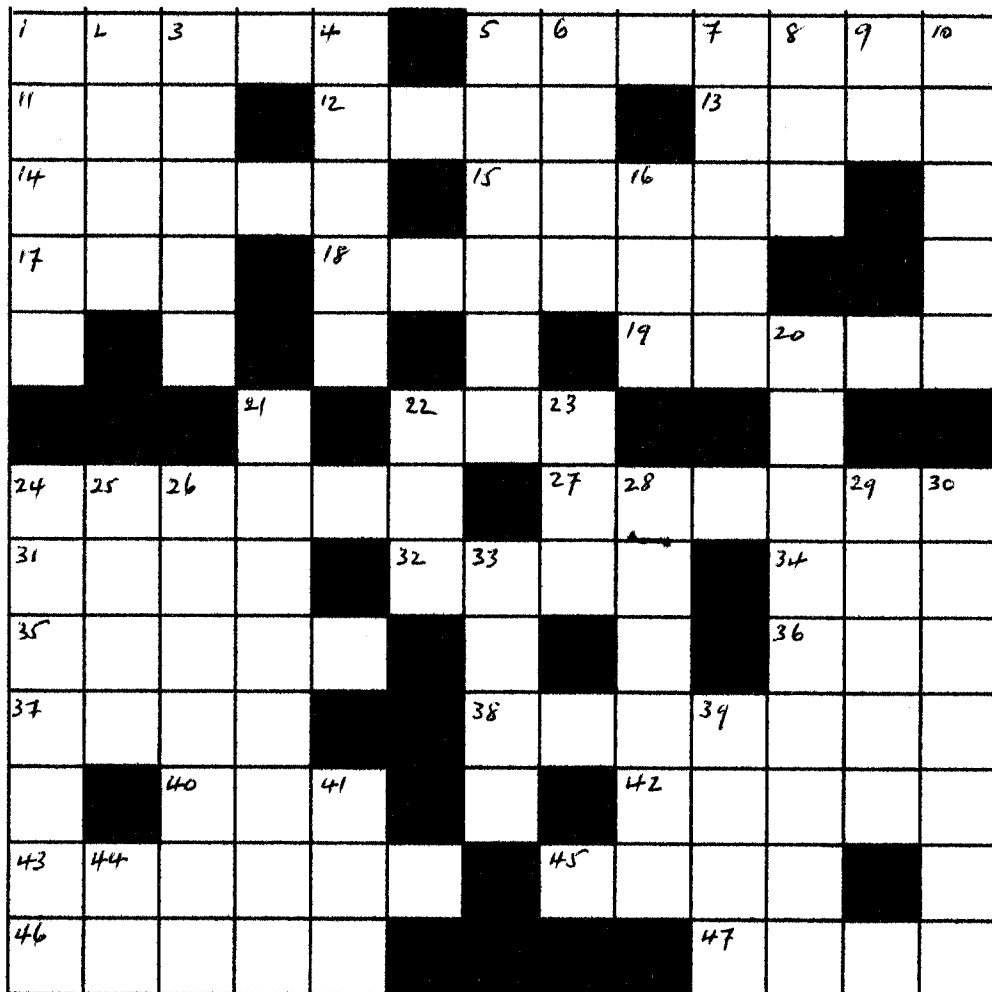
Does your car need attention?



For full service or repairs;
Ring Barry on 681 335

THE CHRONICLE BUMPER CROSSWORD - SET BY DON BELLINGHAM

OCTOBER



ACROSS

1. A red liquid (5)
5. A relation (7)
11. A melody (3)
12. An island (4)
13. Girl's name (4)
14. A trail (5)
15. Loose fibre (5)
17. Headgear (3)
18. A dish (6)
19. Overfed (5)
22. Animal (3)
24. Girl's name (6)
27. Parentless child (6)
31. E.g. robin (4)
32. Constructed (4)
34. Definite article (3)
35. Group of eight (5)
36. Same as 17 acr. (3)
37. ERIN (anag 4)
38. Edible plant (7)
40. Pig pen (3)
42. Mediterranean island
43. High regard (6)
45. Micro organism (4)
46. Actions (5)
47. LONE (anag 4)

DOWN

- | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. To swim (5) | 9. Alien (phone home) (2) | 25. Rodents (4) |
| 2. Italian currency (4) | 10. Grades (5) | 26. Professional singer (7) |
| 3. To speak (5) | 16. Barrel (3) | 28. To restart (6) |
| 4. Ditches (5) | 20. Denotes the eye (9) | 29. A male deer (1&4) |
| 5. Very drunk (6) | 21. INTENDED (anag 8) | 30. A team game (7) |
| 6. Back (4) | 22. A weir (3) | 33. A chocolate (4) |
| 7. More genuine (5) | 23. An image, idol (3) | 39. A farm shed (4) |
| 8. Objective of he (3) | 24. Ended project early (7) | 41. Aye (3) |
| | | 44. Compass point (2) |

Answers to Sept: ACROSS - 1 Back Street. 8 Elder. 10 Socked. 13 Road. 14 Hake. 15 Iris. 16 or. 17 Tart. 19 Bun

21 Sear. 24 Exert 25 Taken. 26 Gnu. 27 Oral. 28 Slag. 30 NE. 31 Game. 33 Edit. 34 Therm. DOWN 1 Bishopstone

2 Cock. 3 See. 4 Tidier. 5 RD. 6 Eerie. 7 Eros. 9 Adventure. 11 Oar. 12 Kestrel. 18 Tell. 19 Beggar. 20 Um.

22 Eared. 23 Aka. 28 Set. 29 Age. 32 MM.

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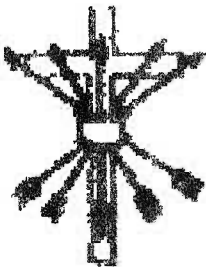
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(1 Nash's Farm)

IN THE VILLAGE 3.

630 CLUB (NAUTICAL SECTION) CANAL TRIP

On Saturday, the 15th August 1998, 34 intrepid souls of the 630 Club and guests set sail on a wonderful Summer's evening from Pitstone Wharf for a 3½ hour canal cruise. Our vessel for this trip was the widest narrow boat on the canals of England designed by Mr Saunders, who in fact is the proprietor of Grebe Canal Cruises, our host and Captain for the trip.

Dinner was served immediately we cast off and may be it was prophetic that we picked the Feast of Assumption for the evening of our trip. The food was magnificent and the staff superb hosts. The craft boasted a well stocked bar and indeed we had requests for real ale to be part of the agenda. There was concern by Mr Saunders that, given the modest numbers aboard and that half were ladies, there may be beer left over. He need not have worried as before the cruise turned around to head home, 1 hour and 40 minutes after starting, the barrel was empty and well before the

craft docked there was very little stock remaining; such was the trade at the bar, as opposed to just one member of staff for most trips at one stage there were three people serving to ensure no-one had to wait!

As dusk fell on the Grand Union Canal and we passed other moored craft settling for the evening with their various barbecues and social gatherings, the atmosphere was truly tranquil and whilst I have often walked the canal banks, the perspective from the canal itself and the unfolding countryside was a lesson on just how fortunate we are to live where we do.

We arrived back at Pitstone Wharf at 10.30pm and after much bribery and persuasion, mainly bribery, convinced Peter, our Driver, he could get us back to the Bull & Butcher for 10 minutes to eleven just to enjoy that last pint before the pub closed.

Special thanks to Bob Bean for his organisational talents and our



630 club members enjoy a pleasant night out on the canal!

thanks that his submarining skills were not required, but mostly to all who supported another successful 630 Club adventure.

THE CHRONICLE Naval Correspondent.

For more entertainment ideas see **THE CHRONICLE'S** guide on page 16. Ed.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

NASH'S FARM

As reported in last month's **CHRONICLE** the Parish Council sent a letter objecting to the proposals for Nash's Farm. Subsequently, Banner Homes have amended their plans, reducing the size of two of the houses and lowering the height of the garage block. AVDC has now granted the application subject to legal formalities, so we can expect to see that famous flag pole raised again in the near future!

BURSTON RIDGE FARM

An application has been submitted for outline planning permission for a detached house at Burston Ridge Farm, to replace the existing mobile home. The Parish Council has sent comments and queries to AVDC Planning Department.

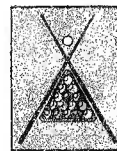
ASTON ABBOTTS CHURCH ROOM

Local discussions are continuing with the Parish Council and other relevant people. There has been good feedback to the plans published in last month's **CHRONICLE** - if you would like to comment please contact a member of the Parish Council.

TONY'S VILLAGE SPORTS COLUMN



The Bull & Butcher Open Pool competition has finally come to an end with Dean Wiggett, the pre-tournament favourite, battling through to win.



Congratulations Dean!

He had to struggle through all of his matches, taken down to the Black in every round including the final. He eventually beat Chris

Ashley in a final which went to the *last ball of the last frame* of five. Alan Kempster beat Jack Rennie in the play off for third place.

On the darts front, I have had a good response to the sponsored Charity Darts Marathon to be held on October 12th at Aylesbury FC. Our players currently include

John Whyte
Andi Swain
Lol Hinds
Alan Kempster
Jack Rennie
Frank McManus
Pat Donovan
Tony Hinds



Each player has a sponsorship form - any sponsors would be very welcome.

Tony Hinds

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PAGE 13 THE CHRONICLE

MILLENNIUM MILLENNIUM MILLENNIUM

31ST DECEMBER 1999

WHAT WILL YOU BE DOING??????

YES, ITS A LONG WAY OFF!

YES, SOMEONE WILL PROBABLY HAVE A PARTY!

BUT DO YOU WANT TO LEAVE THE NIGHT OF THE BIGGEST CELEBRATIONS THAT MOST OF US WILL EVER SEE, TO CHANCE?

Many hotels, flights, and cruises are already "sold out" and some of us thought that it would be nice to spend this special night with friends in the village (plus selected relatives and friends from outside the village of course). We would like to organise a "classy, dressed up do" consisting of the following:

- **Marquee** to seat 120, with heating, lighting, flooring etc.
- A good **live band/group** and some recorded music
- **Fireworks** for midnight
- **Red & white wine, champagne, bitter and lager**
- **Food** provided by those attending (just a small contribution from everyone would feed us all)

Now the difficult part.....the cost. We are still in the process of getting quotes, but at present marquee people seem to want **TRIPLE** the price for 31/12/99. Good Bands / Groups also command a premium; after all, would you want to work?

At present the cost would be approx. £65 per person - yes, it is a lot, and if we have sufficient interest, we'll ring round for more quotes and try to reduce the price. However, it is only £5 per month if we start payments in November.

Interested? Then PLEASE Contact:

Liz Barlow - 682605
1, Nash's Farm

Jacky Coates - 681459
Leafy Oaks, 87, The Green

Francesca Bean - 681233
The Old Cottage

or fill in the coupon below, and hand or send it to one of us

DO IT NOW - IF WE DON'T GET ENOUGH RESPONSE, IT WON'T HAPPEN

✂-----✂
Name.....**Phone No**.....
Address.....

How many People would like to attend

How many are interested, but not at this price (The maximum we'd pay is £ _____ each)

This is simply to gauge interest - you'll get more details before making a final commitment

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THE CHRONICLE ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE



Welcome to another new section in your **CHRONICLE** - your very own entertainment guide. Unlike many similar guides in "*The Press*" there will be no advertisements, sponsored items, or undeserved plugs - just write ups, articles, and comments from Aston Abbots Villagers who have visited, eaten at, watched, listened to, or experienced the subject of the piece!

This guide will be of interest to ALL villagers - young and old, boy and girl, man and woman, cat and dog, er...livestock (that's enough interested parties. Ed.) Quite simply, if you

have visited somewhere outside of the Village and feel others might also like to go (or perhaps that they should avoid it like the plague!!) then jot a line or two

down for publication in **THE CHRONICLE** (nothing libellous please!!). For example, you might like to write about -

- ◆ A nice Pub
- ◆ A restaurant
- ◆ A film or cinema
- ◆ A stately home
- ◆ A holiday location
- ◆ A play or concert
- ◆ A pretty walk or site
- ◆ A day out for kids
- ◆ Interesting building
- ◆ Anything at all !

But remember, be honest! Please try to include as much information as possible whilst keeping your item relatively short. Some examples of things to mention:-
Location / directions : **Approximate price per person** : **Length of show** :
Age range (for children) : **Entry costs** : **Contact telephone number / name** :



And if you have eaten out, please award the *Restaurant or Pub* an **ABBOTT rating** - *Liz Barlow* from Nash's Farm explains - "To give a good idea write about (1) the prettiness or interest of the location or building (2) the general atmosphere and ambience (3) the type and quality of food and finally (4) the price. The 'Abbott' rating of 1 (low) to 5 (high) uses those four categories to assess value for money - excellent food at a very good price in a 'greasy spoon' might achieve a higher rating than good but expensive food in an exclusive restaurant."

For this first guide **THE CHRONICLE** team has put pen to paper for the good food reports but already other articles are rolling in (see below) - the comments are always those of the contributor.

WHY NOT WRITE A FEW LINES FOR NEXT MONTH'S GUIDE? Pass your thoughts to Liz or any other member of the Editorial team .



Food

172.1. The Globe, Leighton Buzzard by Liz Barlow

Location: Lovely setting on the Canal, summer evenings especially; off A4146 approx. 2 miles north of Leighton Buzzard (signposted on road).

Atmosphere: Large restaurant area; most tables are away from the bar area. The extensive menu is written on blackboards which are brought to your table. Good, casual atmosphere.

Food: Very good menu with lots of different choices. Tasty . (English /continental)

Price: Slightly more than most "pub" food.

3 courses approx. £20 each + drinks.

Visited 3/9/98 - it's advisable to make a booking in advance 01525 373338.

ABBOTT RATING



Food

172.2. Annie Bailey's, Cuddington by Andy Bystra

Location: By the church in Cuddington, originally known as The Red Lion.

Atmosphere: Owned and run by David and Heather (used to have The Bottle & Glass at Gibraltar) who always ensure a

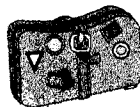
warm welcome. There is a very pleasant ambience. It is called Annie Bailey's because Heather noticed from the deeds that the first licensee back in the 19th century was a lady called Annie Bailey.

Food: The menu is varied and always includes unusual and interesting dishes. The preparation and presentation is very good. (English /continental)

Price: It's not cheap - about £65.00 for two including a bottle of mid priced wine.

Visited: Various - it has long been a favourite restaurant of ours and is well patronised by others from Aston Abbots.

ABBOTT RATING



Travel

172.3. Port Isaac, Cornwall by Paul & Ellie Williams

For anyone planning a visit to North Cornwall, we highly recommend Bed & Breakfast at **Valencia House** (telephone 01208 880 677). It is a charming house in the pretty fishing village of Port Isaac.

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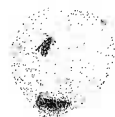
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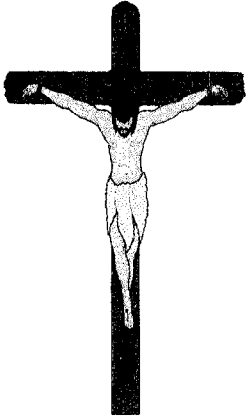
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RECTOR'S REPORT - OCTOBER 1998

On the face of it, to have something other than sugared almonds as "favours" at our daughter's wedding seemed to be a reasonable idea. Such "favours" are, so far as I am aware, a fairly recent innovation and I cannot, for the life of me, think of the logic that justifies them.

However, it was not to be sugared almonds, it was to be "good luck" plants instead. I do not know where the original was, but from it came the seeds and very soon there were five or six pots full of seedlings growing quite vigorously. The task that I was given was to put up an appropriate number into individual pots about a month before the Big Day. This was to ensure that

by then they should have grown to a reasonable size.

If you are familiar with Walt Disney's treatment of The Sorcerer's Apprentice in Fantasia, you may know a little about how I feel. The more pots I filled, the more there seemed to be. I could have sworn that they were gaining on me!

So far we have 160 individual plants. When the weather turned chilly, I decided that the time had come to bring them indoors. I did have a slight accident and dropped a tray of ten, but they didn't seem to come to any harm. So they are now distributed around the house, and I do not think that I shall bother to put up the other three and a half pots of seedlings - nor the bowl of seeds that have not yet been started. You can hardly move for "good luck" plants.

On reflection I can see the advantage of sugared

almonds. They are very much easier to handle and transport. They will fit fairly easily into the average handbag or pocket, whilst the little plants need to be handled with far greater care. Because they are harder to transport, I have this nasty little feeling at the back of my mind, when it comes to clear up after the wedding reception, we shall find that we still have quite considerable numbers of the "favours" left.

So, if anyone offers you a small "good luck" plant in the next month, you won't have too much difficulty in working out where it came from - but then, you will probably not be offered any sugared almonds!

Bob Willmott

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	681877
Ann Goodman	681763
Gordon Kemp	681763

CHURCH SERVICES

4.10.98	18.00	Wingrave	Three Parish Communion
11.10.98	08.45	Cublington	Parish Communion
	10.00	Wingrave	Parish Communion
	11.15	Aston Abbots	Harvest Festival
18.10.98	18.45	Bull & Butcher	Harvest Auction
	08.45	Cublington	Parish Communion
	10.00	Wingrave	Parish Communion
25.10.98	11.15	Aston Abbots	Parish Communion
	08.45	Cublington	Parish Communion
	10.00	Wingrave	Parish Communion
1.11.98	11.15	Aston Abbots	Parish Communion
	10.00	Wingrave	Parish Communion
	10.00	Cublington	Family Service
	11.15	Aston Abbots	Parish Communion

FROM THE REGISTERS

Holy Baptism

30.8.98 George Parker at Wingrave

Funeral

2.9.98 Frederick (Dickie) Neave at Aston Abbots

SUNDAY READINGS

4.10.98	Trinity 17	2 Tim 1, 1-14	Luke 17, 5-10
11.10.98	Trinity 17	2 Tim 2, 8-15	Luke 17, 11-19
18.10.98	St.Luke	2 Tim 4, 5-17	Luke 10, 1-9
25.10.98	Last Trinity	2 Tim 4, 4-8, 16-18	Luke 18, 9-14
1.11.98	All Saints	Eph.1, 11-end	Luke 6, 20-31

FINAL CHURCH MOWING ROTA - 1998

10.10.98	Michael Hasler	24.10.98	Gordon Kemp
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TWO HOLIDAY COTTAGES FOR RENT

SOUTHERN DORDOGNE - FRANCE



The cottages are part of a 150 year old converted barn in an acre of orchard. Both contain original features such as hand made floor tiles and beams while also offering modern facilities. Each has two spacious bedrooms, bathroom, fully fitted living room /kitchen and sleep up to 6 comfortably.

Both cottages have a private garden with patio furniture, barbecue and full use of the 35ft swimming pool. Badminton, table tennis and boules are available.

The cottages are in the southern Dordogne, near the mediaeval town of Eymet, 12 miles from the historic city of Bergerac and just over an hour from Bordeaux.

The surrounding area contains a wealth of interest including vineyards (and tasting!), chateaux and facilities for all sports amid a countryside that contains both dramatic and gentle scenery.

Weekly rental charges (note these are per cottage not per person)

Week commencing
Nov/April May June 5th July /28th August Sept Oct

£150 £280 £330 £480 £330 £200

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LIZ BARLOW
01296 682605

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LIZ BARLOW
01296 682605

FOR FURTHER DETAILS CONTACT JOHN & PENNY HAYES
Tel. No. 0033 553242930 E-mail address leverger@easynet.fr

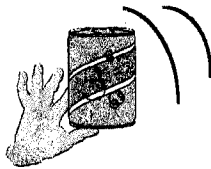
IN THE VILLAGE 4.

BROOKSIDE BARBECUE EXTRAVAGANZA

Living in the "Time Capsule", otherwise known as Astons Abbots, social occasions and special events tend to be re-occurring on an annual basis with the rounds of parties throughout the calendar year being traditionally observed. So it was with considerable interest that the Brookside 630 Club Members invited their fellow club members to a Barbecue Bash and Games on the 30th August.

With 3 barbecues going full bore, somewhat intriguingly staffed by the men rather than the women, copious quantities of food were soon available and in the ensuing games certain people excelled themselves.

Herr Wilkinson beat all comers



Mr Whyte's new game.

at Le Boule, and Paul and Ellie beat everybody in the tennis competition. John Whyte added a new and interesting dimension to the games - Toss the empty beer can (well, it would be in his case wouldn't it?). Fortunately he is not very good at this new game and most escaped with minor bumps, scratches and bruises (ahem....).

As a thoughtful gesture our hosts had arranged wheelbarrows as a form of taxi service for those who required "a lift" home. Having witnessed Dave Lewis's attempts at pulling (sic.) one of these vehicles most people employed common sense and either walked or crawled home.

In all a super day and may thanks to the Brookside, definitely the invitation to have for next year!

Signed: **THE CHRONICLE**

Court Social Correspondent.

In case you're confused, "Brookside" is the affectionate nickname given to Nash's Farm by 630 club members. Ed.

VILLAGE SHOPS AND SAINSBURY'S - WHAT'S THE DEAL?

In a move that took agencies working with village shops by surprise, Sainsbury's and Virsa announced a pilot scheme allowing village shops to stock JS own brand goods. Initial conflicting reports led to confusion over precisely what deal is being offered to shop keepers. Buckinghamshire Community Action is still trying to clarify details. BCA is part of the south east regional network of agencies, including village shop keepers, which has expressed concern about both

the proposal and also the lack of consultation.

The scheme is aimed at communities of between 500 and 1000. In Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes this means roughly 11 shops can participate. While this scheme could benefit a few shops, if it is seen as a cure all by the powers that be, we could see some of those hard fought for benefits, such as Mandatory Rate Relief and Village Shop Grants, undermined in the future.

In Focus on 01296 421036 would like to hear your views.



"Here comes that Ivy Brandon again, expecting to buy Sainsbury's Tinned Salmon."

Wingrave Singers looking to swell their numbers

The Wingrave Singers are actively seeking new recruits of all voices to join them for what is likely to be an exciting period in their history. The choir's repertoire is broad, covering both religious and secular pieces from a wide range of musical styles. In their most recent concert, the programme ranged from 1st Century music by Palestrina to an arrangement of the Teddy Bear's Picnic. The choir was formed in 1977 and first performed at a Silver Jubilee concert in the parish church.

In their twenty-year history, they have performed at concerts in the village and the surrounding area. In addition, they also visit Cathedrals all over the country, and sing the weekend services whilst the regular choir takes a holiday.

The Cathedral weekends offer a unique opportunity to sing in some of England's finest buildings. In the coming year, under their director Kelvin Turner, they have been invited to sing at Christchurch Priory in Dorset, Chester and Worcester Cathedrals, and have weekends arranged into the next millennium, with a likely trip to Prague in May 2000.

Rehearsals, which take place on Friday evenings in Wingrave, are always hard work but fun, and the atmosphere is both friendly and welcoming to new members and visitors. The choir is very sociable, as rehearsal is normally followed with a trip to the pub, and there are frequently after-concert parties.

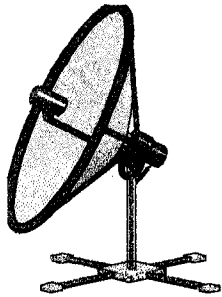
The choir now actively seeks new recruits of all voices with good sight and reading skills to join them. They are also currently looking for a proficient organist to act as accompanist at rehearsals, for which modest expenses can be paid.

If you would like further information about the Wingrave Singers, please call:

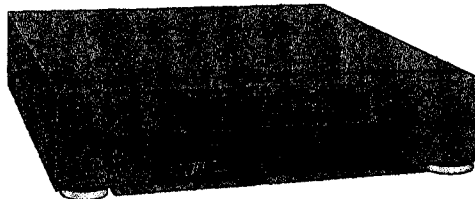
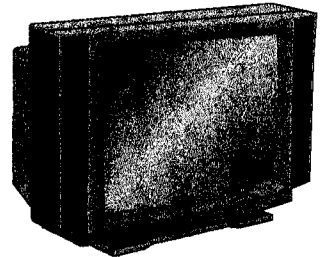
Brenda Horne 01296 681814
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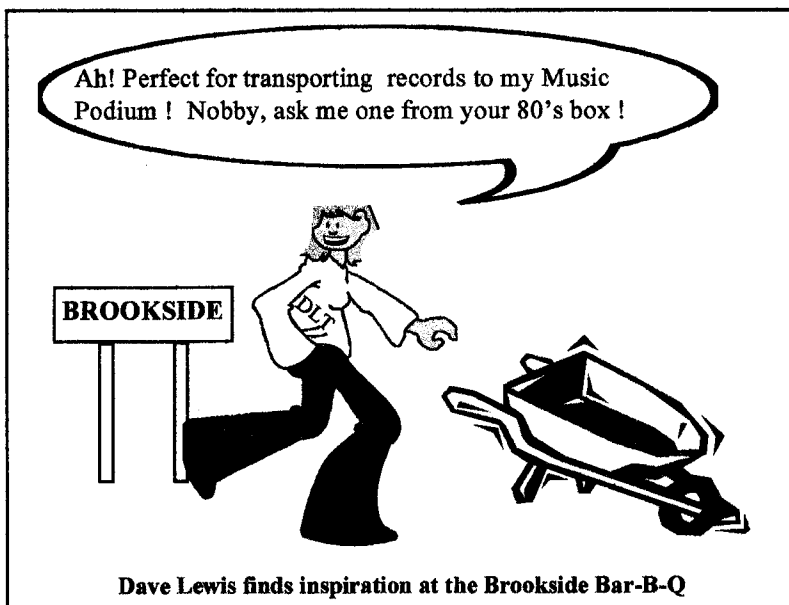
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