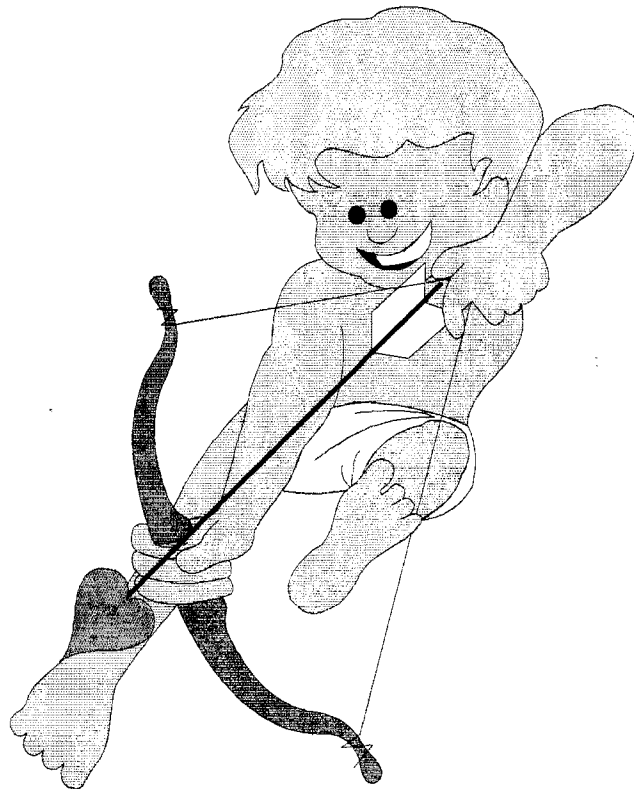


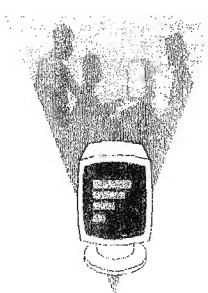
THE CHRONICLE

ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH MAGAZINE



ISSUE 176 - FEBRUARY 1999

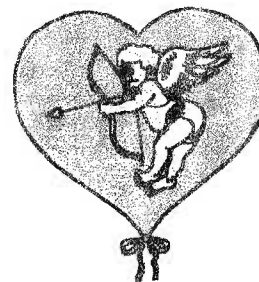
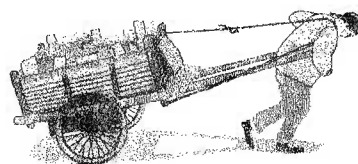
ST. VALENTINE'S ISSUE



Editorial -

Friday 29th January 1999

What? *even more* Valentine's cards for the Editor?



Lots to talk about this month! First of all, a "plug" for our local eateries, and a reminder if you needed it, that Valentine's Day (the 14th!) falls on a Sunday this year. I expect that The Bull & Butcher, The Old Masters, and The Royal Oak will each be celebrating the event - check each establishment for details!

According to my research there are at least two individuals purporting to be the original St. Valentine; the first was a Priest of Rome, imprisoned for helping persecuted Christians, who was clubbed to death around 270 AD. The other was a Bishop of Terni martyred a few years later! I can't quite see the connection to today's paraphernalia of hearts, flowers, and romance.....

But wait! The ancient custom of choosing a Valentine has somewhat less gruesome origins but nevertheless allegedly dates back to Roman times, to the celebration of the mating of birds! And Cupid was also the Roman God of love. That's more like it! So with Valentine's day taken care of, let's concentrate on Influence.

INFLUENCE

A strange topic, you might think, but there are a number of choices facing the Village (and Villagers) over the coming months, many of which are covered in this issue of **THE CHRONICLE**. These "choices" may not seem that important but they allow each of us to have our say on what is happening and help *influence* the decision making process.

For example, the Parish Council meeting reported on the current situation with Wing Bridge and the increase in traffic in our Village, and on suggestions for a "grit bin" on The Green. **Your** support and ideas can influence the outcome!

Then there are the proposed improvements to The Church Room, first reported in **THE CHRONICLE** 12 months ago. This issue includes a progress update from Tom Manning and introduces some fresh ideas - again, you can influence the final decision.

Whether attending a Parish Council meeting, joining one of the Village committees (Church Room, Recreation Ground etc.), or taking part in Village events, you can influence what goes on!

Finally, whilst on the subject of Village events, the dates for

the Aston Abbots festival have been announced (see What's On) and there is also a brief summary of the latest Millennium Party developments.

So to keep up to date with all the local issues, make sure you read **THE CHRONICLE** - you can even influence what we publish by submitting your own articles, stories, and anecdotes!

Andi Swain

STOP PRESS: "Influence" the new Millennium - ideas are needed for events to be held in the marquee - read the Millennium Party update. **Ed.**

AND IN THIS VALENTINE'S ISSUE OF THE CHRONICLE

- In the Village - lots of local matters
- Church Room Update
- Beer for threepence a gallon!??
- Burns night report - influence of a different kind!
- Bumper **CHRONICLE GUIDE** - check your Abbots
- The mystery of the globe - solved?
- Crossword Competition
- What's on in the village this month
- Millennium Party Update
- More correspondence from America
- All of our regular sections and more !

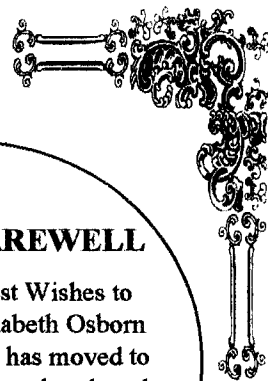
PRODUCTION TEAM CONTACTS

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

A note to all would be advertisers - more than 150 households receive **THE CHRONICLE** 11 times a year and with rates from just £7 per annum (far cheaper than some local Parish magazines!)
can you afford not to be in?

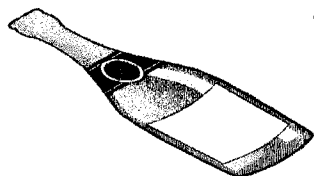
Copy date for March issue is February 22nd - please pass items to Andi Swain at 2 Nash's Farm or to a member of the Production Team. Printed at Waddesdon School and distributed free of charge to all Households in Aston Abbots.

RITA'S PEOPLE PAGE



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

Michael Coleman	4th	Dana King	14th
Ivy Brandon	5th	Roxanne White	16th
Pablo Gutierrez	7th	Irene Lowden	18th
Vikka Drysdale	7th	Frank McManus *	21st*
Andy Garton	9th	Sally Dutton	22nd
Barry White	9th	Tracey Lovell	23rd
Haidee Mogford	13th	Linda Wheaton	25th
Richard Clark	13th	Daniel White	25th
Paul Hewitt	14th	Anita Parker	28th



*** Hoorah, free beer all night!**

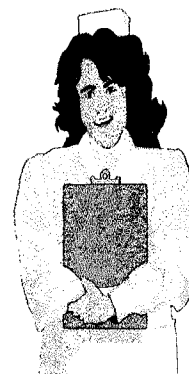


FAREWELL

Best Wishes to Elizabeth Osborn who has moved to Stokenchurch and we all hope that she will be very happy in her new home.

GET WELL SOON

to Carl Thompson of Nash's Farm who is recovering from a car accident. We all hope you're back on your feet soon and look forward to seeing you down The Bull for a medicinal Lagavulin! Ed.



MILLENNIUM PARTY - BRIEF UPDATE

Very many thanks to all of you who responded so well to the Millennium Party and thank you for your deposits. We are pleased to announce that ALL 120 tickets are now sold. In due course I will be sending acknowledgements of your having paid the deposit and at the same time I will confirm the final cost and let you know when the remainder is due to be paid.

Commiserations to those of you who might have wanted tickets but haven't yet booked. Although no further places are available at this time, cancellations may occur so please let me know if you would like to come along.

Andy Bystra, Treasurer (Tel 681690)



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

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TONY HINDS
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682115

KATE CURRY (Parish Clerk)
2 Norduck Cottages, Moat Lane 681137

GWEN KEMPSTER
53 The Green 681310

MARGARET KENT
6 The Green 681454

LINDA SUTTON
Sadlers Farm 681413

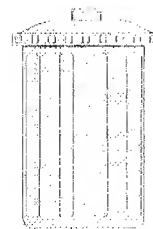
JOHN SANSOME
Longmore Farm 681010

District Councillor
BRYAN ROUND
11 Nup End, Wingrave 681621

County Councillor
BRENDA JENNINGS
2 Cotes Way, Wing 681065

LOCAL RECYCLING

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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.

IT'S A SMALL WORLD??

In December's issue I referred to the rather nice globe which had been presented to Aston Abbotts school by the then President of Czechoslovakia Mr. Benes during the war, and the fact that it is now in the possession of the County Museum, Aylesbury. Colin Higgs has kindly given me further information concerning the circumstances of its removal from Aston Abbotts

The globe was presented to the village school in appreciation of the efforts of the villagers in assisting the exiled Czechoslovakian Government during the war. The late Mrs. Brock and Miss Childerly (who were then teachers) received the globe on behalf of the school where it was regularly used until 1975. At this time the education authority decided the school was to be closed.

Miss Whipps (the Head at this time) then had the task of returning all the school's paraphernalia back to the Education Department. However, since the globe had not been issued by them, she felt it should remain in the village. Acting on her own initiative she passed it to Colin Higgs since the Higgs family

were then, as now, well known and respected in the village. There was also a link with the school in that Mrs. Higgs (Colin's Mum) was at that time cook.

The globe is quite large and so it was decided it would be impractical for it to be kept in the Higgs house for safe keeping. In any event, it had been given



to the village and should be displayed somewhere more public. Mr. Higgs (Colin's Dad) was Church Warden and so he asked the then Vicar, Rev. Mead, if it could be displayed in the Church. He agreed and it was placed in the tower on the floor known as 'the ringing chamber'.

There it rested for several years. Without warning however, it suddenly went missing. Enquiries were made and

it was discovered that an enthusiastic Church Warden had 'donated' it to the County Museum in Aylesbury. Following publication of 'CZECH MATE!' in the December issue, Colin has made enquiries to Miss Whipps and the County Museum in an attempt to find the precise terms of it being transferred to the museum. So far, he has established that the museum is prepared to 'loan it back to us!' but the terms under which it was passed to them have not been identified.

There is a growing feeling that whilst the most secure place for this valuable globe to be kept and displayed is the museum, the question of ownership and therefore the terms of its being transferred to Aylesbury needs to be resolved.

A copy of this and the previous article will be passed to the museum in the hope that their records will be able to shed some light on the matter.

In the mean time, if anyone out there has any views or information concerning this piece of village history, please contact The Chronicle.



Ryder-Cheshire Volunteers

Reg Charity No 285746

The Ryder-Cheshire Volunteers Leisure Activities Project, links physically disabled people living in your community with a volunteer to share a Hobby or Leisure activity. We offer Training, Support and Travelling Expenses. Assistance is urgently required with the following voluntary opportunities in Aylesbury.

Lady would like to attend pottery lessons at Queens Park Centre on Wed or Thurs, this activity is free to the volunteer.

Young gentleman desperate to continue fishing, but needs help to carry tackle.

Gentleman 'Can't Cook' but keen to learn simple dishes.

Lady enjoys board games, but needs a partner.

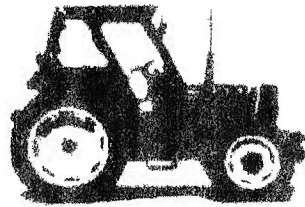
Young Lady would like to attend monthly Pub Lunch but hasn't the confidence to attend by herself.

A few hours of your time Could make a huge difference to someone who has a mobility problem.

If you would like to help but unsure about what's involved?
Then please contact

Christine Hodgetts 01296-714407

RGC

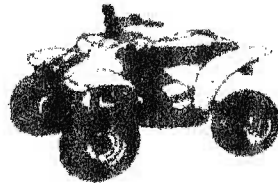


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IN THE VILLAGE 2.

WE'RE IN THE FINAL!

TONY'S VILLAGE SPORTS COLUMN



Firstly, to the league - The Bull & Butcher pool team has played three games this month.

In the first game we beat The

White Hart, Quanton 5 - 3 after being 2 - 0 down. Then we won 5 - 3 against The Swan at Westcott even though six regular players were unable to play! Many thanks to Hester, Darrell, Tetly and Matt for stepping in to the breach to help out.

Unfortunately we then lost 5 - 3 to The Swan & Castle A team after being 3 - 1 up.

But the best result of all was in the semi-final of the team cup where we came up against local rivals The Five Elms, Weedon. The game was played at a

neutral venue.

Andi, myself, Rob and Mark all played some great pool but also rode our luck a little before each of us won to take an unassailable 4-0 lead and win the match. After playing out the remaining games in a mood of celebration we finished 5 - 2 winners.

Well done to the team, let's hope we can go on to win the cup on March 17th against The Swan & Castle B Team.

TONY

GRIT BIN ON THE GREEN

It Has Been Proposed That A Grit Bin Be Placed On The Green.

If You Are Opposed To This Happening Or Would Like To Make Suggestions Regarding The Positioning Of The Grit Bin

Please Contact Kate Curry, Parish Clerk, On 681137.

THE THINGS (AMERICAN) KIDS SAY..

When asked *What do most people do on a date?*

"Dates are for having fun, and people should use them to get to know each other. Even boys have something to say if you listen long enough" - Lynette, aged 8

"On the first date they just tell each other lies, and that usually gets them interested enough to go for a second date" - Martin, age 10

How to make a marriage work

"Tell your wife she looks pretty even if she looks like a truck" - Ricky, age 7

ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH COUNCIL

Latest news from the Parish Council Meeting held on January 13th 1999 :-

- **WING BRIDGE**

It seems as though the weight restriction will become permanent in March as no funds are available to repair the bridge. This means that we must continue to suffer heavy lorries being diverted through the village. The possibility of forming a joint protest group with other affected Parish Councils is being investigated.

- **ROAD SURFACING**

This has now been completed with some of the worst potholes being repaired.

- **PARISH PRECEPT**

The Parish Council resolved to raise the Parish Precept in line with the current rate of inflation.

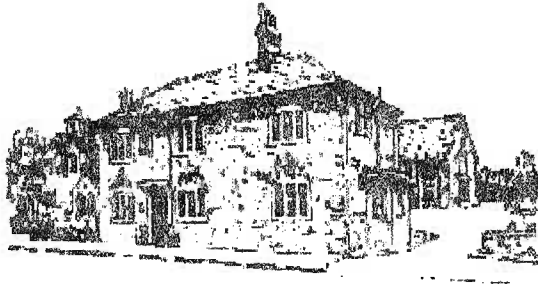
- **A418**

Following more accidents on the A418 between Wingrave Crossroads and Wing, a letter has been sent to B.C.C. requesting the painting of white lines along the edge of the road.

- **GRIT BIN**

A grit bin may be ordered for The Green. Residents are to be consulted regarding positioning.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held in The Church Room on the 24th February 1999 at 8pm. Everybody is welcome to come along.



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WHAT'S ON IN FEBRUARY 99

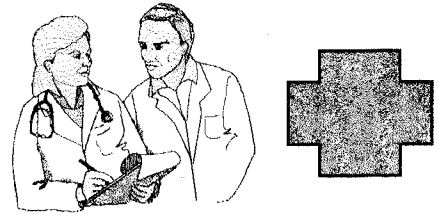
Tuesday 2nd 7.30pm	Mobile Library The Green / Wingrave Rd / Oxley Farm Floral Class in The Church Room
Tuesday 9th	Road Safety meeting at County Hall
Thursday 11th 7.30pm	Whist Drive in the Church Room
Sunday 14th 2.00pm	Village Footpath Walk at The Green
Tuesday 16th	Mobile Library The Green / Wingrave Rd / Oxley Farm
Thursday 18th 7.30pm	Bingo in the Church Room
Sunday 21st 2.00pm	Rambling Club members meet Adlbury (Pond)
Tuesday 23rd 7.30pm	Rambling Club AGM in The Church Room
Wednesday 24th 7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting in The Church Room
Thursday 25th 7.30pm	Whist Drive in The Church Room
Friday 26th 7.30pm	Quiz Evening in The Church Room in aid of Church funds
Saturday 27th 2.00pm - 4.00pm	Jumble Sale (Floral Club) in the Church Room

1999 ASTON ABBOTTS FESTIVAL

**MAKE A NOTE OF THIS
DATE IN YOUR DIARY**

The 1999 festival will take place over
the weekend of 24th / 25th July

OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE NEW WHITCHURCH SURGERY



There will be a Public viewing on Saturday February 13th from 2.00pm to 3.30pm with a raffle and refreshments followed by the AGM of The Friends of Whitchurch Surgery to which all members are cordially invited.

CHURCH FLOWERS FOR FEBRUARY

W/E 6/7	Mr Belgrove	W/E 20/21	No flowers -
W/E 13/14	Donated	W/E 27/28	Lent

SIDESMEN FOR FEBRUARY

7 th	Mr J Hartnett	21 st	Mr Kemp
14 th	Mr M Hasler	28 th	Mr C Higgs

THE CHRONICLE WORD SEARCH.....

First of all, apologies from the Editor - there is insufficient space in this month's issue for the ever popular word search (are you sure about the "popular" bit? Ed.). I'm sure there will be space again next month!!!

In the meantime, here are the answers to last month's questions:

The listed word not contained in the grid was **CUBLINGTON**

The village named in the grid but not listed was **STEWKLEY**

Ed.

POLITE NOTICE.....

When using The Church Room please park in single file and not on the grass.

Some residents have been concerned about inconsiderate parking of late.

Thank you.

M a G i S e o
* * *

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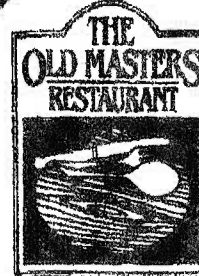
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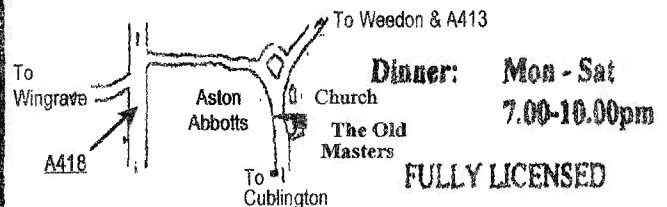
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for further information.

Tel: 01525 221413



THE CHRONICLE CROSSWORD

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47												

Answers to January - Across
 1&50 Waddesdon Manor. 8 Dam. 10 Err. 11 Raided. 13 Names. 15 Organs. 16 Close. 17 His. 18 Hind. 19 Settle. 22 Eat. 24 TA. 25 Noondaysun. 30 E.g. 31 Dip. 32 Vies. 33 Eggs. 35 Olefin. 37 Was. 38 Ross. 39 Dost. 42 Case. 43 Sap. 44 Hay. 46 Cats. 47 Rate. 48 End. 49 Deed.
 Down: 1 Winchendon. 2 Demon. 3 Dresden. 4 Erse. 5 Drone. 6 Oar. 7 Night. 8 Dense. 9 Ads. 12 Dail. 14 Ali. 19 Stains. 20 Toss. 21 Rags. 23 Advise. 24 Tegs. 26 Oil. 27 Operate. 28 Ye. 29 News. 34 Gather. 36 Fosse. 39 Data. 40 Open. 41 Syd. 42 Cad. 43 Sam 45 An.

ACROSS

- 1. Bucks town (9)
- 8. White vestment (3)
- 10. Bury (5)
- 11. A newt (3)
- 12. Dying coal in fire (5)
- 13. Airlike substance (3)
- 15. Before (of time) archaic (3)
- 16. Came in (7)
- 19. Strong rush or increase (5)
- 20. Hold ups (6)
- 21. A letter (alphabet) (5)
- 23. To hurry, compete (4)
- 24. Feels unwell (4)
- 26. Amends (5)

- 27. Manuscript (abb. 2)
- 28. Part of body (3)
- 30. Native N. European
- 32. Preposition (2)
- 34. Thin, weakly (5)
- 35. Dolly is one (5)
- 38. Territorial decoration
- 39. TRADE (anag. 5)
- 41. Small insect, feeds on plant sap (5)
- 43. Consumed (3)
- 44. Timber (4)
- 46. A number (3)
- 47. A sea (13)

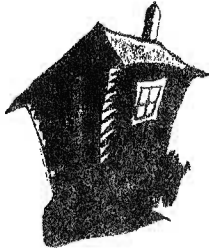
DOWN

- 1. A Bucks town (8)

- 2. A party supporter (7)
- 3. To invigorate (8)
- 4. Thoroughfare (6)
- 5. Verb (2)
- 6. to press, impel (4)
- 7. Before today (9)
- 8. CAT RATTED (anag. 9)
- 9. Small nails (5)
- 14. Also (3)
- 17. Girl's name (5)
- 18. Organs; Cat's - - - -on road
- 22. To heal (4)
- 25. To set apart (7)
- 26. A current (4)
- 29. WADE (anag 4)
- 31. To blush (6)

- 33. Paid attention to; wrote down (5)
- 35. To swat; crush into (4)
- 36. Compass point (2)
- 37. Above (2)
- 38. Girl's name (4)
- 40. A high bare hill (3)
- 41. Another girl's name (3)
- 42. A garden tool (3)
- 44. Us (2)
- 45. Otherwise (2)

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**THINKING ABOUT
HOLIDAYS NEXT YEAR?**

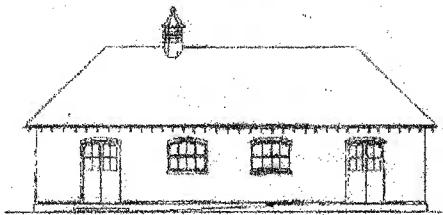
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01296 688808**

IN THE VILLAGE 3.

ASTON ABBOTTS' VILLAGE HALL / CHURCH ROOM UPDATE ON PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

The project to improve The Church Room slowly moves on. The Parish Council has instructed solicitors to liaise with Mrs Murray at The Vicarage to transfer part of her land to the Parish for the proposed hall extension. This



is to be followed by an application for planning permission by the Parish Council for the intended development, subject to the agreement of The Church which owns the land.

We are advised that the Parish Council will be able to lease the building from The Church which means the project will be eligible for National Lottery and other funding. If planning permission is granted a system can be set in motion, with quite a few people already having put their name forward for the hall committee.

At the last Parish Council meeting Councillor Bryan Round suggested that an advisor from AVDC Planning Department should review the project before we spend money on the

application. He could advise if the scheme was viable and recommend changes. This was accepted as a sound idea and Councillor Round will start negotiations. I will report on future developments when we have had a meeting with the Planning Advisor.

It would appear that some Villagers feel that a new hall should be constructed on land at the Recreation Ground, which is a possibility. Both projects require thorough investigation into their possible success before we can really formulate a plan of action.

If you would like to view copies of the proposed development contact Tom Manning on 682115 or see the September issue of **THE CHRONICLE**.

Tom Manning

Burn's Night at The 'Bull'

Off and on throughout 1997 there was much talk amongst members of arranging a 630 Club Burns Night. However, other events took priority and it wasn't until early January this year that plans started to firm up.

On Saturday the 23rd of

January all was ready and we settled down for a pleasant evening. Of course, the first hour was set aside for the now customary conviviality of the '630' gathering but sharp at 7.30 members ladies and guests started to arrive.

An 'aperitif' or two and all were seated for the presentation of The Haggis to the diners by the President for the evening, Bob Bean. A few words of welcome from him and Jack Rennie delivered the full address to The Haggis.

It has to be said that this was very impressive since he had memorised the entire piece and delivered it with a fervour that can only be achieved by a 'full blooded' Scot. His 'attack' on The Haggis with improvised claymore was thorough enough to ensure it was completely dead before being served.

In fact, so fearsome was his enactment of this great 'piece of Burns'



he scared most of the ladies so much that they drank their whisky instead of saving it to pour over The Haggis as tradition requires. Most had haggis as a starter although soup was available for those who were bold enough to admit within earshot of Jack that they had distinct 'Sassenach' tendencies.

A lovely roast beef course followed and for those who could still manage it, there was trifle and/or cheese and biscuits to end up with.

Somewhere between these courses, John Whyte read two of Burns' poems entitled 'A red red rose' and 'To a kiss'. Despite an early attempt at some light hearted barracking by a few, all 29 present listened attentively and showed their appreciation for John's sensitive reading of these two lovely pieces of prose.

All in all the evening was a great

success and our thanks go to Frank and his staff for hosting this event and looking after us throughout. In particular, the members would like to thank Louise McManus and Louise Bystra who worked so hard to prepare the excellent meal which was enjoyed by all.



THE CHRONICLE HELPFUL TIP FOR THE MONTH.....

If at first you don't succeed - For Heaven's sake don't take up sky diving!

And Some More Things (American) Kids Say

About the proper age to get married at -

"No age is good to get married. You got to be a fool to get married" - Freddie age 6

What do you think your mum and dad have in common?

"Both don't want any more kids" - Lori, 8

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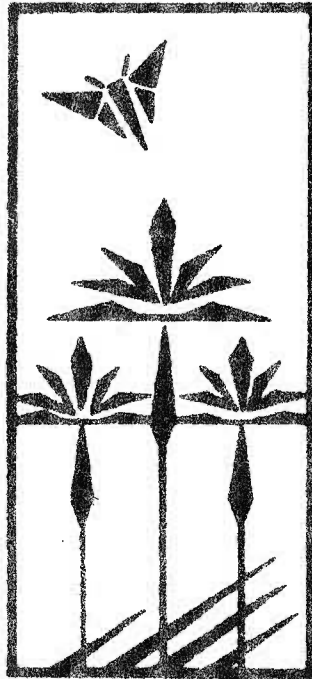
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IN THE VILLAGE 4.

A MESSAGE FROM THAMES VALLEY POLICE

GARAGE SECURITY

Following the Christmas period we have noticed an increase in garage break-ins. Thieves are keen to get their hands on your Christmas bicycles, power tools etc. Have you considered the security of your garage? Here are a few tips:

- Use good quality locks to secure gates, doors and windows. Check all door and window frames are in good condition free from splits, rot and warp.
- Garage doors of the 'up and over' type can be secured by putting padlocks through the inside runners or by fitting padlocks with a hasp and staple on either side of the door.
- Double wooden garage doors are often fitted with a rim latch. This should be supplemented with a mortise deadlock if the door is suitable and the door which closes first should be fitted with strong bolts top and bottom.
- Bicycles, power tools, garden equipment etc. can be marked with an ultra violet pen or engraved with your postcode making them identifiable. These kits are inexpensive and can be purchased from stationers and DIY stores. Marker pens are also available from Aylesbury Police Station.
- A ground anchor can be fitted to the garage floor in order to shackle high value items such as bicycles, motorbikes, lawn mowers etc.
- A low-cost single standing, battery operated alarm can be fitted using a contact on the door, these are available from most DIY stores.
- Lighting is always a good deterrent.
- If your house has an integral garage, thieves, having gained entrance to the garage are then out of sight and have plenty of time to get into the house. Ensure the integral door is locked at all times and fitted with good quality locks.

The best form of crime prevention is to ensure garages are kept locked at all times and for you and your neighbours to be vigilant.

If you require any further information please contact

**The Crime Reduction
Department**

on 01296 396078.



A LETTER FROM AMERICA

More intriguing thoughts from our Californian correspondent, Natalie Kato :

Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson went on a camping trip. After a good meal and a bottle of wine they lay down for the night, and went to sleep. Some hours later, Holmes awoke and nudged his faithful friend. "Watson, look up at the sky and tell me what you see." Watson replied, "I see millions and millions of stars." "What does that tell you?"



Watson pondered for a minute. "Astronomically, it tells me that there are millions of galaxies and potentially billions of planets. Astrologically, I observe that Saturn is in Leo. Horologically, I deduce that the time is approximately a quarter past three. Theologically, I can see that God is all powerful and that we are small and insignificant. Meteorologically, I suspect that we will have a beautiful day tomorrow. What does it tell you?"

Holmes was silent for a minute, then spoke. "Watson, you idiot. Some git has stolen our tent."

Natalie....

THE THINGS (AMERICAN) KIDS SAY...

We asked *How can a stranger tell if two people are married?*

"You might have to guess based on whether they seem to be yelling at the same kids" answered Derrick, aged 8.

"Married people usually look happy to talk to other people" answered 6 year old Eddie.

We asked *When is it OK to kiss someone?*

"When they're rich!" answered Pam, aged 7.

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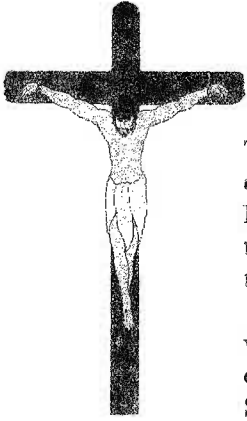
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RECTOR'S REPORT - FEBRUARY 1999

There must have been some mistake, but the envelope was very clearly addressed to the Rector of Cublington... and it was delivered to the address written on the envelope. So I knew that it must be for me.

I opened the envelope and found that it was a letter that included an invitation to a 2 day conference to be held in October.

So far, so good - except that I am not over-keen on going to conferences - especially when they are called Forums. However, as I read on,

I noticed a sentence which read :- "Only those who lead churches with a regular congregation of at least 400 people are being invited".

Cublington - I thought - regular congregation 400 - No! I don't somehow think so! After all, the entire population of Cublington is hardly 400 and it is a push to get a hundred people in the church for special occasions, let alone 400 on a regular basis!

But it made me think about the "Issues faced in Leadership" - which seemed to be the main focus of the "largely un-agendered" Forum. I know that we have to use inclusive language these days, but I was stumped here.

Having spent most of my ministry in the Villages of rural

Bucks, I know that the issues involved in dealing with large numbers are different from the issues that I have to face. Several years ago there was a saying that a small church is not a failed big-church. A church with a large congregation usually has individuals or groups who do many of the jobs that need doing. The leadership in a large church is much more of a managerial function - organising those who do the jobs, rather than having to actually do them.

Many years ago, before I came to Bucks, I spent a time taking services in a Church building that would comfortably seat over 1,000. It had a regular congregation of about 25, and was waiting for its new Vicar to arrive. There had been several who had not stayed very long. They had either left because they had become exhausted by the struggle to keep the building standing - or through mental illness.

There are advantages from having a church building of more manageable size even though we don't often fill all the seats. They do at least feel as though there are a reasonable number of people there - even though the congregation is counted in tens rather than hundreds. And, if they wish, everyone can have the chance to have their say!

Bob Willmott

DON'T LOSE YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE!



Please check your name is correctly included on the draft copy of the Register of Electors 1999/2000 now on display in all libraries, post offices, and Council Offices throughout Aylesbury Vale District.

Anyone resident in the district on 10th October and 18 years or over by 15th February, 2000, a British citizen, other Commonwealth citizen or citizen of the Irish Republic should be registered. Citizens of other European Union States may also register to vote at Local Government and European Parliamentary elections.

Requests to be included or an objection to the inclusion of a name should be made to the Electoral Registration Office at Bearbrook House, Oxford Road, Aylesbury HP19 3RJ call our helpline 01296 585051 or 01296 585050, Minicom Line 01296 585055.

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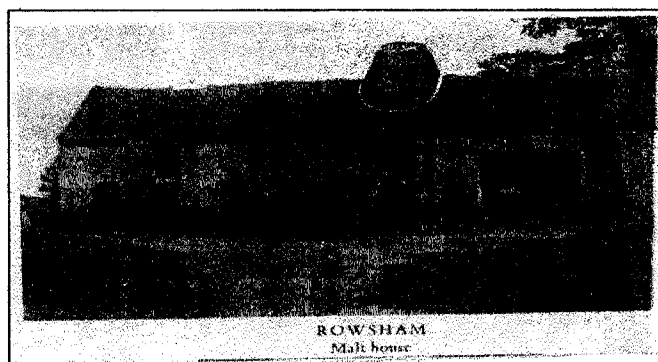
Colin Higgs has contributed this latest article in our occasional historical series about the village and county...

OLD BUCKS' BREWERIES

In the last half of Queen Victoria's reign and the first half of the present century most small towns had their own brewery, and before that many good Inns brewed their own ale. Good fresh table beer was 3d (threepence) a gallon and good ale 10d.

In 1850 Alfred Barton of The George Inn, Winslow, was a Master Brewer and dealer in hops, as was George Webb of Buckingham. William Hipwell of The Bull Hotel, Olney, brewed choice "Olney Ale".

From these origins grew local breweries such as C K Thomas of Castle Street, Aylesbury, Walton Street Brewery, and John Dell Bourbon Street (Called Waterhouse Street). Thos. Parson ran the Red Lion Brewery at Princes Risborough in the 1880s / 90s until it was acquired by the Aylesbury Brewery Co.



At Ivinghoe in the 1880s there was Roberts & Wilson's Brewery whose trade mark was a horseshoe. It was acquired by Benskins in 1927 and The Brewery House is now used as a Youth Hostel.

Rowsham had a brewery owned by Lucas & Lovett - Mr Joseph Lucas, a brewer and grazier, built a handsome residence. Mr Thomas Gurney was the last to brew at Rowsham where operations ceased in 1939; part of the premises is now a private house. Rowsham Ale was 2d a pint and was called "Rowsham Sandy Nan".

COLIN HIGGS

Thank you, Colin, for another wonderful historical insight. Historical and / or general interest articles are always welcomed at THE CHRONICLE office. Ed.

MILLENNIUM MATTERS

THE MILLENNIUM PARTY

A summary of the meeting held 26/1/99 at The Bull & Butcher:

- All tickets have been sold - a reserve list has been started
- 109 adults, 6 teenagers, and 5 children have booked their places - all except 7 have paid their deposit
- Johns Whyte and Brancker are continuing their pursuit of a band - fees are likely to be up to 4 times the usual amount
- The marquee and accessories are booked and the deposit paid
- Lol will be doing the disco - Dave L and John W helping
- Andy B has listed the drink requirement - total cost probably £1250 - 1350!
- Champagne will be bought soon to beat likely price rises
- Catering arrangements are in hand - Francesca could prepare hot dishes - puddings could be made in the village
- Once the band and other costs are known, Andy B can issue final ticket prices - it is anticipated that the next instalment will be requested at the beginning of March.
- Tables and chairs are ordered - cutlery / glass ordering is in hand - a decision on decorations and fireworks was deferred
- Insurance, general security, etc. were discussed - party funds would cover premiums and any excess
- It was decided that there was no need to provide a crèche

FULL MINUTES OF THE MEETING ARE AVAILABLE FROM IVAN GREENAWAY, ANDY BYSTRA, OR PETER SHORROCK

IVAN WILL BE GLAD TO HEAR FROM ANY VOLUNTEERS TO HELP WITH THE PARTY

SUGGESTIONS HAVE BEEN MADE FOR ADDITIONAL USES FOR THE MARQUEE - MORE ARE NEEDED!

- An afternoon tea party for older villagers, perhaps with a pianist and dancing
- A fund-raising Race Night is also planned with a Fish & Chip supper with proceeds paying for the tea party

MILLENNIUM PARTY - TIMETABLE?

- Andy B proposed a programme for the evening to ensure the party doesn't "drift" - perhaps a champagne reception on arrival to break the ice, a "chairperson" or host for the evening, and so on. Andy / Ivan / Peter will discuss.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE BULL & BUTCHER AT 8.00PM ON TUESDAY 23RD FEBRUARY

For details call Ivan Greenaway, Andy Bystra, Peter Shorrocks.

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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					
<u>Nov/April</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>5th July</u>	<u>/28th August</u>	<u>Sept</u>	<u>Oct</u>
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WINGRAVE SCOUTS

BEAVERS

The Beavers are going to spend the next half term thinking about Caring for Birds in Winter. We will be covering a whole range of activities including making bird feeders, a sponsored bird watch, a quiz and competitions within the lodges to make pictures and collages of birds. We have been fortunate to receive some information packs from the RSPB to help us, but would appreciate any other materials or ideas.

Two of our Beavers are working towards their Challenge Badges before they move on to join the Cubs and they are organising a toy swap within the group. At the moment we have a very active group of 22 Beavers, but we are keen to welcome new members throughout 1999. For more information please contact John Bower 68163 Jan Antsiewicz 681430 or Sue Ascott 681878.

CUBS

As this year starts we welcome 4 Beavers into the Cub pack. In their first evening at Cubs they gave a mini-presentation on the history of Scouting, as part of their membership award. They did a wonderful job - Well done!

We have been working on the country code and finishing the safety badges from previous weeks. Highlight of the month was the visit to Aylesbury Police Station, organised

by P.C. Buckle to follow up the visit he made to the Cubs at the Scout-hut, where he awarded prizes to the winners of the road safety poster competition, **Matthew Newman and Ben King**. We too are thinking of the birds and will be making our own bird feeders.

SCOUTS

Welcome back Rupert! Chile proved to be a wonderful experience and all the Scouts had a great time. We hope to hear more about it when Rupert's feet come back down to earth again.

This term brings the launch of the Outdoor Activity Award 99. Scouts need to complete 12 nights away, with 24 Outdoor activities, within the next year. We begin with a wide game at Tring Woods. Also planned are night hikes and swimming sessions.

January also brought the District Scout Quiz. It is important for our boys to attend District events as they are a part of Award work. The Patrol leaders are running a meeting for the Cub Pack, also a part of their award work.

A Plea from Sheena - Rachel moves away at the end of January and I need help with the Scouts - even if only occasionally, any help would be appreciated. (Aylesbury 422449).

Julia Ellis



Aylesbury Development Education Centre

Elmhurst County Middle School, Dunham Lane, Aylesbury, Bucks HP20 2DS. Tel: (01296) 395185

LANDMINES AWARENESS WEEK

Monday 1st March - Sunday 7th March

Monday 1st March is a historic day, when the Ottawa Treaty banning anti-personnel landmines comes into force.

Monday March 1st - Church Bells to Ring around the World



The UK Working Group on Landmines is appealing to all churches and bell-ringers to commemorate this day with either a peal or a quarter-peal. They are asking for two sorts of ringing. The first to be celebratory, marking the historic achievement of a total ban on an entire class of weapons; the second to be rung half-muffled, reflecting on the victims and survivors of mine accidents, and the on-going horror that landmines exact upon innocent lives.

Some people have begun to think that the problem of landmines is over, but anti-personnel mines still kill and maim innocent people every hour of every day. As well as a seemingly never-ending line of amputees, each with their own tragic story, landmines are an on-going developmental disaster. They deprive people in the poorest countries of the land they need to survive. The terror and danger of unexploded landmines is as real as it has ever been. The issue of landmines cannot be seen to be over until the casualty rate has been brought to zero and land safely restored to the people who depend on it.

Please play a part in this initiative if you possibly can - by raising awareness locally or by joining in the bell-ringing.

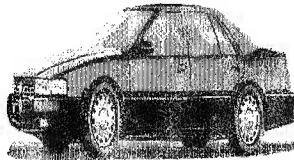
For further information, speakers and educational resources contact:
Aylesbury Development Education Centre, 01296 395185 or
David Hillman of the UK Working Group on Landmines.
Tel: 0171 281 6073; Fax: 0171 281 8005; e-mail: UKWGLM@msn.com

The UK Working Group on Landmines is the UK arm of the International Campaign to ban Landmines which was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in December 1997.

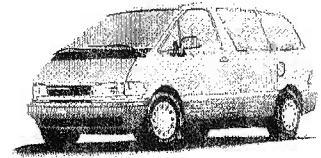
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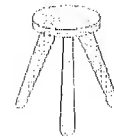
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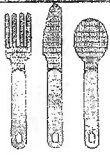
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THE CHRONICLE ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE



176.2 The Prince Of India Upper High Street, Thame by Nigel Palmer

Food

ABBOTT
RATING



Location: Fancy an Indian? Akesh fully booked due to recommendations by the New York widowers? Rajiv says why not hot foot it down to The Prince Of India in the picturesque market town of Thame (There are sister restaurants in Wendover and Princes Risborough).

Atmosphere: The decor is typically Indian. We had a table next to the tropical fish tank and discovered that one of our party even knew the names of the fish in it!

Food: The menu was, as always, extensive and so we opted for a three course set meal. The main course comprised seven chicken, lamb, and prawn curries and seven tasty vegetable side dishes and all the trimmings. (Phew! Ed.) I particularly enjoyed the chicken in a bright red coconut sauce and the King Prawns. The wine buffs in our party discovered that Indian Claret is very palatable (Yes, it really does exist!)

Price: Definitely inexpensive - our bill came to just £162 for a party of seven (under £20 per head) including wine, beers, G & Ts and coffee.



176.3 The Bridgwater Arms Little Gaddesden, Herts by Liz & Ivan

Food

ABBOTT
RATING



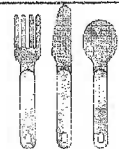
Location: Near Ashridge Park on the left hand side of the road from Pingshall to Little Gaddesden.

Atmosphere: A comfortable relaxing public house with two open fires. There's a large bar with 'comfy chairs' and two separate dining rooms. Nice garden in the summer.

Food: Menus are written on blackboards. There are diverse choices from venison pate to smoked salmon and prawns for starters. Main courses include the traditional meat dishes, give the knuckle of lamb a try, it's very good. There is always a fish, pasta and pie of the day dish. Various traditional beers are available from the bar and there is a good wine list.

Price: Dinner - Reasonable for the quality, around £12 to £15 per head for an excellent two course meal. Lunch includes pies, salads and baguettes at more modest prices.

Visited: Thursday 14/1/99. Advisable to book on (01442) 842408 especially for Friday and Saturday. Car parking is on the opposite side of the road.



176.1 The Red Lion, Studham by Jackie & Ray, Andy & Rita

Food

ABBOTT
RATING



Location: Leighton Buzzard bypass, right at Billington Road roundabout heading towards Edlesborough & Dagnell. Left at Crossroads Garage towards Studham.

Atmosphere: Studham is an attractive village and the Red Lion is set back off the road overlooking the green and village hall, with views over the surrounding countryside. The bar was quite large and the

staff extremely welcoming. There were table and chairs in the bar area to cater for snacks, but there was also a separate dining room. Candles adorned the tables and a very nice touch was dark blue linen napkins (not the normal standard pub white tissue type!!)

Food: An extremely interesting menu all of which was mouth watering and it has to be said we were spoilt for choice. The sauces which accompanied the various dishes were excellent. The menu was on a blackboard, however, there will be individual menus for each table, but as the proprietors have only just taken over management, they are in the process of getting to grips with this and the menu will be more extensive. For those hardened drinkers in Aston Abbots, there was a selection of five real ales.

Price: Extremely good value around £16.00 per head for 3 courses, the existing wine list was good, but is in the process of being updated - the Chilean fruity dry wine was excellent value at £7.50 per bottle.

Visited: 16-01-99 Telephone number 01582 872530 seating for about 36, ample car parking. There is also a beer garden. Definitely worth another visit when the menu and wine lists have been extended.

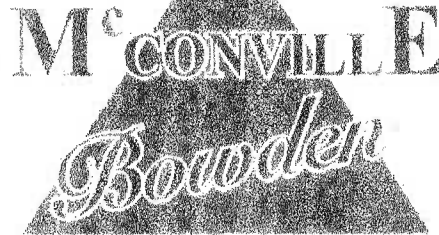
STOP PRESSThe Red Hot Chili Bar & Grill

Location: On the shores of Lake Tahoe, close to the border between California and Nevada, approximately 0.5 miles from the slopes at Heavenly.

Atmosphere / food / price etc. Who cares, we were in California so nothing else mattered much!

UPDATE - Annie Bailey's, Cuddington

Visited 18/1/99. The restaurant was reviewed by Andy Bystra in the October Chronicle. I can confirm that the Abbott rating of 4 is well deserved and look forward to returning soon - Nigel.



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	10.00	Cublington	Family Service
	11.15	Aston Abbots	Morning Service
10th Feb Wednesday	10.00	Aston Abbots	Franciscan Service
14th Feb	08.45	Cublington	Parish Communion
	10.00	Wingrave	Parish Communion
	11.15	Aston Abbots	Parish Communion
17th Feb Wednesday	20.00	Wingrave	Ash Wednesday Service
21st Feb	08.00	Wingrave	Prayer Book Communion
	08.45	Cublington	Parish Communion
	10.00	Wingrave	Family Service
	11.15	Aston Abbots	Parish Communion
24th Feb Wednesday	10.00	Wingrave	Franciscan Service
28th Feb	08.45	Cublington	Parish Communion
	10.00	Wingrave	Parish Communion
	11.15	Aston Abbots	Parish Communion
3rd March Wednesday	10.00	Wingrave	Franciscan Service
7th March	08.45	Cublington	Parish Communion
	10.00	Wingrave	Parish Communion
	11.15	Aston Abbots	Morning Service

FROM THE REGISTERS

Funerals

29.12.98	Criyl White at Wingrave URC
7.01.99	Sydney Holt at Amersham

SUNDAY READINGS

7 th Feb	2 before lent (G)	Rom 8. 18 - 25	Matt 6. 25 - 34
14 th Feb	1 before lent (G)	2 Pet 1. 16 - 21	Matt 17. 1 - 9
21 st Feb	Lent 1 (V)	Rom 5. 12 - 19	Matt 4. 1 - 11
28 th Feb	Lent2 (V)	Rom 4. 1 - 5, 13 - 17	John 3. 1 - 17
7 th March	Lent 3 (V)	Rom 5. 1 - 11	John 4. 5 - 42

ST JAMES CHURCH, ASTON ABBOTTS PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

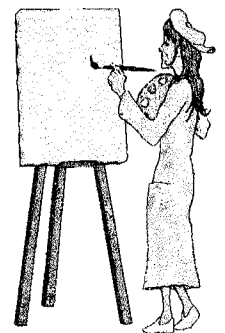
Reverend R Willmott	Telephone 681623
Shirley Ford	Telephone 681865
Christine Fox	Telephone 682024
Michael Hasler	Telephone 681877
Hilary Hasler	Telephone 681877
Ann Goodman	Telephone 681763
Gordon Kemp	Telephone 681763



CALLING LOCAL ARTISTS

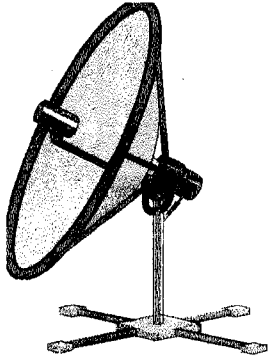
Whitchurch Surgery would be delighted to hear from any local artists willing to lend their pictures for display in the surgery.

Please contact Whitchurch Surgery direct if you can help.

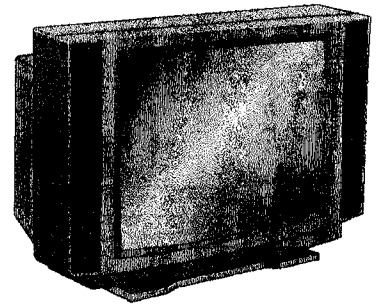


FLACKWELL ELECTRONICS

OF CHURCH FARM, ASTON ABBOTTS

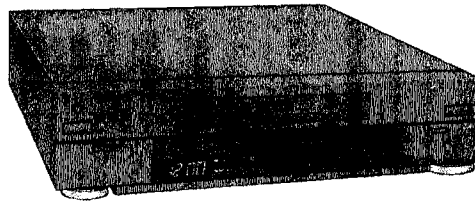


**T.V. VIDEO AND
SATELLITE
SERVICING AND
GENERAL REPAIR**



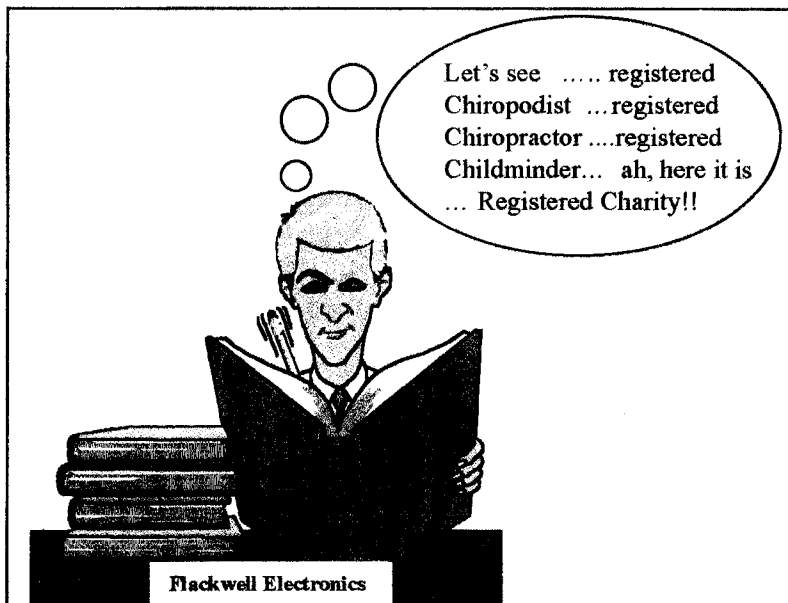
**RENTALS, NEW
AND USED SALES**

**MOST MAKES
REPAIRED
THE SAME
DAY**



**NO CALL OUT
FEE WITHIN
ASTON
ABBOTTS**

**PHONE DAVE LEWIS
ON 01296 682126**



**FRIENDLY
SERVICE**



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