

# THE CHRONICLE

ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH MAGAZINE

ISSUE 182 - SEPTEMBER 1999

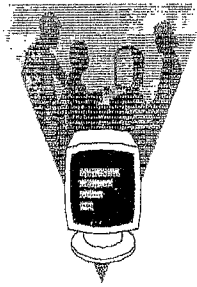


photo: Bucks Herald

## READ ALL ABOUT IT!

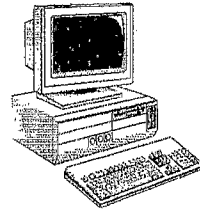
**THE CHRONICLE**  
online  
e mail us at  
[astonmag@aol.com](mailto:astonmag@aol.com)

John Brancker greets the  
crowds at the Aston Abbots  
fete - read all about it inside



## Editorial -

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> August 1999



astonmag@aol.com

It seems so long ago now, but Saturday July 24<sup>th</sup> saw the annual village fete held on The Green and around The Grove.

Yet again the weather was kind to us with temperatures soaring into the mid-80's and unbroken sunshine throughout the whole day. The day was a complete success with seemingly record crowds and we raised over £2,100 for village causes - not bad for such a small village!

I would like to say a big thank you to everybody who helped and contributed to the day - **THE CHRONICLE** is one of the beneficiaries and the funds help to ensure its continued free publication .

Many of you will have noticed me (and three other red faced gentlemen) selling our exclusive range of burgers and hot dogs at the fete. Trade was somewhat slower than last year, almost certainly due to the hot weather and not the quality of the fayre on offer, but we still sold everything including some rather dodgy tasting Veggie burgers. I must apologise to Becky and her sister Emma who bought the very first Fete Burgers - due to the inexperience of my junior chefs, Ray C and Paul, they were given veggie burgers! Thanks, girls, for having the good grace not to complain!

In other developments this year, The Full Monty burger proved incredibly successful even without bacon; and Andy's "name your own burger" sales push became something of a competition, with a gentleman from Wing finally being judged the winner with his burger named Brian. I'm sure we will all be back next year.

The fete is a fine example of villagers coming together to help out others whilst having a good time, and is the result of a lot of good organisation and hard work. David and Barbara have organised the day to great effect for a number of years but it's now time for someone else to take the helm, so please read their message on Page 14 and seriously consider if you might be the one!

This summer has proved a good one for local removals companies with a lot of new villagers arriving around The Green and in Nash's Farm - it's good to see you all. For all of you reading **THE CHRONICLE** for the first time, we publish 11 times a year and deliver

**Our Web site will be ready after the Summer**

to 178 houses in the village free of charge. We always welcome contributions from people in the village, either one-off articles or as regular columnists - please give me a call on 682651 or pop round to 2 Nash's Farm if you would like to write or help in other ways (we are currently looking for a new distributor to deliver to houses on The Green!).

Finally, please note that the copy date for next month's issue is September 18<sup>th</sup>, somewhat earlier than usual.

Anyway, enough of my ranting - enjoy **THE CHRONICLE!**

*Andi Swain*

### IN THIS BUMPER ISSUE OF THE CHRONICLE

- Fete reports and accounts
- Speeding Cars
- Childhood memories
- The Village Raffle
- Aston Abbots Race Night
- Millennium Party update
- Future Village events
- A A H
- Walking wounded
- Aston Abbots Parish Council
- Crossword
- What's on in the village this month
- All of our regular sections and more !

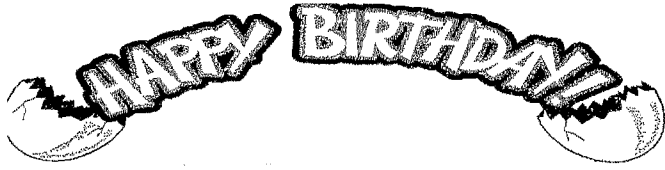
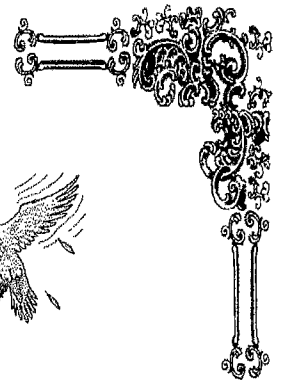
#### PRODUCTION TEAM CONTACTS

e-mail: astonmag@aol.com  
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 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 178 households receive **THE CHRONICLE** 11  
 times a year and with rates from just £10 per annum (far  
 cheaper than some local Parish magazines)  
**can you afford not to be in?**

Copy date for October issue is September 18<sup>th</sup> - 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.

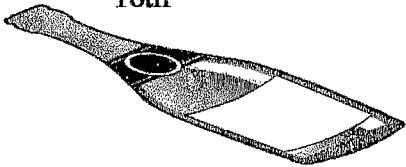
# RITA'S PEOPLE PAGE



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



Minnie Doggett	3rd	Louise Palmer	20th
Piers Parker	4th	Jane Ellis	20th
Christopher Fox	6th	Halisi Drysdale	22nd
Fiona Whyte	6th	Anna Picking	24th
Sara Smith	8th	Alex Dutton	25th
William Evans	8th	Liz Hall	25th
Alf Parker	9th	Lyn Manning	26th
Claire Cresswell	14th	Adrian Dixon	30th
Sally Palmer	18th		



## CONGRATULATIONS!

Our congratulations go to Ellie and Paul Williams of Nash's Farm, on the birth of their baby girl, Zoe Gabrielle. Zoe arrived bright and early on the morning of August 19th and has been exercising her lungs ever since!

It's **HELLO AND WELCOME** to lots of people who have moved into the village over the summer -

Mike and Carol at 15 The Green

Chris and Val at 17 The Green

Simon, Claire and Olivia at 19 The Green

Michael, Jane, Charlotte and Christopher at 1a Bricstock

Michael and Maraed at Nash's Farm

We look forward to getting to know you all and to seeing you at our various village functions.

We are sorry to report the deaths of:-

**Mr John Chandler** who had lived in the village for some years. He was, until fairly recently, to be seen walking round the village and was always pleased to stop and have a chat. Our sincere sympathy is sent to his relatives and especially to his wife Marie.

**Mrs Beryl Manning** who used to live at West Park Farm died on 7th August. Mrs Manning enjoyed all village activities in which she was involved, either here or in Cublington where she eventually made her home. Mrs Manning's funeral took place on Tuesday 17th August. Our sympathy is extended to her many family and friends.

**BACK TO SCHOOL** - Good luck to all those who are starting school for the first time as well as all of you going on to Senior School or University.



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

## BABYSITTING

Hayley and Sarah - Reliable Babysitters

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or Sarah on 681740

## THE CHRONICLE

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FULL PAGE	Back	£ 70
	Inside	£ 40
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	Inside	£ 25
QUARTER PAGE	Back	£ 25
	Inside	£ 15
EIGHTH PAGE	Back	£ 15
	Inside	£ 10
Front page 1/8 <sup>th</sup> size per month		£ 5
OTHER SIZES	Inside	£ 10

Seasonal, short term, or one-off ads are also accepted at these rates

Send copy and cheque payable to  
The Chronicle to

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

## HELP LINE...HELP LINE

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



JOHN WHYTE  
14 Bricstock - 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

**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

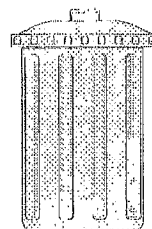
**JOHN SANSOME**  
Longmore Farm 681010

District Councillor  
**BRYAN ROUND**  
11 Nup End, Wingrave 681621

County Councillor  
**BRENDA JENNINGS**  
2 Cotes Way, Wing 681065

## LOCAL RECYCLING

Collection points are available at  
The Bull & Butcher, Aston Abbots  
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.

## ASTON ABBOTTS GOES FETE CRAZY!

Many **CHRONICLE** readers came along to the fete this year and hopefully enjoyed the **CHRONICLE** display by the bar-b-q stand. To remind you of what a great day it was we have a number of articles in this month's magazine, including this one from the Bucks Herald:

### Glorious sunshine brings out crowds at fete

**THERE** was no shortage of demand for ice cream at Aston Abbots village fete on Saturday, though the persuasive sales pitch of the burger sellers did a good job in competition.

The fete centred on the village green which gave it a warm and accessible atmosphere with visitors strolling round in the brilliant sunshine.

And the boisterous cries of the barbecue chefs, including the editor of the village magazine, **The Chronicle**, who were frying under the sun, added to the lively atmosphere.

Stalls selling ornaments, plants and books drew huge crowds while traditional side

shows like the skittles and coconut shys added colour without being tacky.

In a field behind the green there was a children's play area with a stall from the village playgroup and swings and toy train rides.

The event is held every year and is obviously a good omen weather-wise as they have sold out of ice cream now for two years running.

All proceeds go towards village organisations like the church and toddlers group. Fete committee member Jackie Farrands told the **Herald**: "We raised more than £2,100, which we are very pleased with - it's only a small village of about 300 people."

## IT'S WAR ON SPEEDING CARS IN BUCKS....

Many of you will be familiar with the ongoing battle to limit speeding in local villages and on the notorious A418.

Following yet another fatal accident on the A418, the Aston Abbots Parish Council is going to confront the problem and is making its views known to local MPs and the Highways Department.

To read the PCC's views and find out how you can make your voice heard on this critical issue turn to page 10 of **THE CHRONICLE**.

Of course, we can all do our bit by observing speed limits (and remember the limits are the *maximum* allowed) and by being extra vigilant when driving through the villages.

### TWO NEW SPEED CARS ARE BECOMING A FAMILIAR SIGHT ON THE ROADS IN BUCKS.

The cars, provided by Bucks County Council and operated by Thames Valley Police are a continuation and extension of the successful partnership between the two authorities.

They are used solely for speed

enforcement purposes throughout the County and are equipped with the latest speed enforcement technology including mobile speed cameras.

The Speed Cars enable the Police to plan and undertake their speed enforcement activities much more effectively as they can rely on a vehicle always being available. Early indications are that the Speed Cars are raising the profile of the County Council working with TVP to reduce speed and road casualties.

If you know of a location which may benefit from a visit by one of these cars, please contact

Ian Duncan on 01296 382478 or

Sgt. Ken Antell on 01908 686309.



FETE FUN: Above, villagers enjoy the brilliant sunshine sitting in their deckchairs.

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

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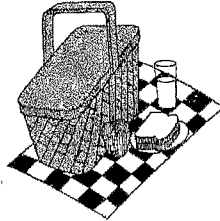
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# IN THE VILLAGE 2.

## CHILDHOOD MEMORIES .....

The beginning of July was a special birthday for me and the day turned out to be really special. I was told not to plan anything for that afternoon so I had a few friends round for morning coffee including my sister who is over from New Zealand. Tony, Frances and I set off at about 1.15pm to pick Diane up at Wing - she came out laden with picnic hampers and we set off.

By this time and direction of route, I had guessed we were off to the village of Harlestone about 5 miles north of Northampton, where Frances and I spent the early years of our life during the war on our bachelor great Uncle's and two maiden great Aunts' farm.



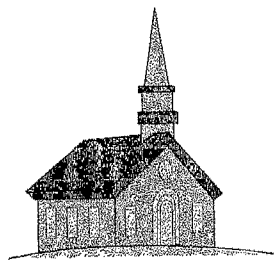
Harlestone is quite a unique village in that it is in two separate parts, Upper and Lower Harlestone with one road connecting the two on the outskirts and a narrow asphalt path across ¾ mile of park land in the middle. Harlestone was on the Spencer Estate, as were all the surrounding villages.

Upper Harlestone still has a tiny shop/Post Office as part of a house, a dovecote and laundry, and used to have a butcher's shop whilst at the other end there is the Church, Village School (still open) and there used to be a bakery and forge. We parked near the Post Office and walked across the fields which our Uncle used to farm and is now a golf course.

The Sweet Chestnut trees are still there where we used to throw sticks up to dislodge the chestnuts; the lake at one side, about ½ mile long, where we used to skate nearly every winter with its seven arch bridge at one end. We used to walk this path to the school and back for dinner, then back again - it is about ¾ of a mile each way.

We found a shady spot under a tree - it was a gloriously hot sunny day and we unpacked the picnic. Diane had supplied a superb birthday lunch of smoked salmon, prawns and every delicacy you could think of, all laid out on a nice cloth.

We ate our fill, packed up and went in to the Church yard to see some of the family graves, then down a lane past the rectory where the village fete



used to be held and on to the school. We went in to the playground - what used to seem a steep slope that made an icy slide now seems fairly flat (perhaps they've levelled it). We met a lady who we remembered as children and who remembered us, just back from an outing - she is 100 years old. I think she must be the only remaining tenant.

We wandered back over the fields, had a welcome ice cream from the shop, and down another lane to look at Church Farm which was our home. All the houses are built of the local

sandstone - that was the same but everything else had altered; the cow sheds where I first learnt to milk a cow, the granary where we played hide and seek, everything has gone, all turned into flats and houses. The farm track down the field to the house is now a sweeping gravel drive. The stone walls are still there along which we always walked instead of along the road. Frances and I can still name a lot of Uncle's fields - Foothill, Lumleys, Spellbrook.

I have been back a few times over the years but this was only the second time Frances had visited since she left this country over forty years ago, so it was a lovely idea of Diane's and the best birthday present she could have given me. Thank you to Diane, and to Tony for taking us and putting up with all our childhood reminiscences.

*Margaret Kent*

*Thank you, Margaret, for a wonderful insight into your formative years - if any other villagers would like to share their memories with **THE CHRONICLE**, drop me a line at 2 Nash's Farm. Ed.*

## Cut Flowers



Spray Chrysanthemums  
at Page - Oxleys Farm  
Tel 681209

## ASTON ABBOTTS & CUBLINGTON LADIES CLUB

The club met at Marlowes for the end of season party and a "Bring & Buy".

We are sad to hear that Renee Webster is in hospital and send her our best wishes.

Our next meeting, to start the new season, is at 2.45pm on Thursday, October 7<sup>th</sup> in The Church Room. We have a guest speaker and the subject is "The Patchwork of My Life". We shall be serving tea afterwards.

Anyone thinking of joining is very welcome to come along - we meet every other Thursday and have speakers on varied subjects throughout the season.

**RACE NIGHT  
REMINDER**

**Saturday 30 OCTOBER 1999  
at The Church Room,  
Aston Abbotts  
07:30-11:30**

**Price includes Fish and Chip Supper  
(Please bring your own drinks and glasses)  
Tickets are £7.50 each**

**There are 7 races with eight horses in each - you can buy a horse  
for £2 and earn £10 if it wins**

**Please complete the form below**

**I/We would like to buy ..... tickets at £7.50 each  
I/We would like to buy ..... horses at £2.00 each  
The name(s) chosen for my/our horse(s) is/are:**

.....  
.....

**I/We enclose cheque made payable to AA2000 or  
cash for the total amount due £.....**

**Name..... Telephone No.....  
Address.....**

**Please return this form to:  
Jackie or Ray Coates, 87 The Green, Aston Abbotts  
Telephone: 01296 681459**

**RACE NIGHT  
REMINDER**

**Saturday 30 OCTOBER 1999  
at The Church Room,  
Aston Abbotts  
07:30-11:30**

**LOCAL BUSINESSES**

**You can advertise in the official race programme  
Half page will cost only £10  
Please complete details below**

**Name:.....**

**Address:.....**

.....

**Telephone No:.....**

**and return to:  
Ray or Jackie Coates,  
87 The Green, Aston Abbotts  
Telephone: 01296 681459**

**Together with cheque and advertising details**

**ALL PROFITS GO TO THE VILLAGE FUND**

**ASTON ABBOTTS RACE NIGHT**



# IN THE VILLAGE 3.

## THE GREAT FETE

It's quite amazing how quickly the first fete meeting comes around each year. The one saving grace however is that the entire process is so well refined (particularly with Barbara and David chairing the meetings) that it is more a case of the experienced 'committee' checking who is going to do what rather than any major organisational effort.

Almost certainly the apparent ease with which the fete comes together is due to the fact that most activities are undertaken by the same people each year and they just get on with sorting out their own particular stall or game etc. This isn't to say there isn't room for anyone new becoming involved and certainly in recent times many successes have been due to fresh ideas introduced by people new to the village.

With the bric-a-brac etc. collected and sorted, the 'big day' dawned hot and sunny from the start. By 10.00am when people started to set up stalls on The Green and in The Grove there was considerable optimism that this would prove to be a bumper fete. It was nice to see that there was no shortage of volunteers, particularly the youngsters who enjoyed (nearly as much as Don) riding in his truck to fetch and carry the bulkier bits and pieces.

During just a few hours stalls & games were set up, the barbecue lit & tested, fridge filled with ice cream, visiting showmen & rides shown where they needed to be, sandwiches made by the hundreds and water boiled for tea, bunting put up and The Church decorated. It was impressive to see The Green transformed in such a short time.

Just about 'dead on' 2.00 Mr. McClellan (headmaster of Wingrave school) opened the fete and the fun began. For those enjoying themselves, all too soon it was all over. However those who had been involved setting it all up and running stalls and games etc. it was no doubt nice to stop and have a rest from all that heat. With many hands helping it didn't take too long to clear away and head home to relax.

At the end of the day, all that effort was about making money for our various village activities. By any measure the resulting

amount made was good and details of receipts, expenditure and distribution are published below:

## ACCOUNTS OF THE ASTON ABBOTTS 1999 VILLAGE FETE

RECEIPTS	EXPENSES		
Draw ticket sales	£1175.90	Band	£ 105.00
Teas	£ 189.17	Morris Men	£ 60.00
Tombola	£ 114.60	Draw tickets and licence	£ 117.14
Cakes etc.	£ 111.35	Draw prizes	£ 189.98
Barbecue	£ 100.89	Bunting	£ 31.98
Garden	£ 162.17	Rare Breeds	£ 30.00
Groceries	£ 53.10	Advertising	£ 38.79
Bric-a-brac	£ 200.00	Barrel Organs	£ 40.00
Ice cream	£ 90.08	<b>Total costs</b>	<b>£612. 89</b>
Gifts	£ 77.20		
Books	£ 102.80		
Children's Tombola & toys	£ 128.80		
Coconut shy	£ 87.00		
Skittles	£ 59.95		
Pony rides	£ 22.50		
Donations	£ 41.40		
Church collecting box	£ 35.00		
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>£2751, 91</b>	<b>Net Proceeds</b>	<b><u>£2,139.</u></b>



### DISTRIBUTION OF THE PROCEEDS

ST JAMES' CHURCH	32.5%	£ 695.18
CHURCH ROOM	25%	£ 534.76
RECREATION GROUND	25%	£ 534.76
CHRONICLE	10%	£ 213.90
ASTON ABBOTTS		
HISTORY GROUP	5%	£ 106.95
TODDLERS' GROUP	2.5%	£ 53.47

I am sure that all those who enjoyed the fun and who's organisations have benefited from the money made would like to thank those who helped or contributed to the fete. Of course a very big thank you to Barbara Bellingham and David DeSilva who took on the co-ordination of the arrangements and David Watts for looking after the finances. Having now taken on the overall organisation of the fete for the past three years, Barbara and David have made it known that they will be unable to have the same depth of involvement next year. If anyone would like to take on the overall co-ordination of the fete next year please have a chat with Barbara or David.

### Thanks to John Ream

**THE CHRONICLE** team would like to record a very big thank you to John Ream who has recently left the village to be near his family. He, along with our other distributors have regularly posted **THE CHRONICLE** through doors each month and in fact John has been delivering it almost since it was first published. A copy of this months **CHRONICLE** will be sent to John to let him know that we wish him well and hope he is settling into his new home.

### Help, Please!!!

Of course, John's leaving has left a gap in our distribution service so if there is anyone out there who would like to be part of **THE CHRONICLE** team and be prepared to spend about half an hour each month (well, eleven times a year) delivering **THE CHRONICLE** around The Green please contact Andy Bystra on 681690 or 688125 or Andi Swain on 682651



# M a G i S e o

for

## Kitchens & Interiors

Showroom

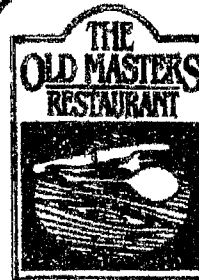
54 Western Road  
Tring

Kitchens & Bedrooms

Offices & Studies

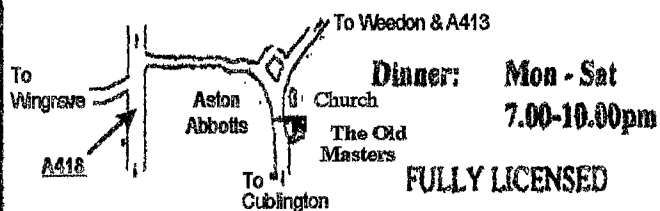
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Please phone Malcolm Burrell

for further information.

Tel: 01525 221413



# IN THE VILLAGE 4.

## SAFETY ON THE A418

### FROM WINGRAVE CROSSROADS TO THE NEW ROUNDBOUT AT WING

At the recent Parish Council meeting the latest fatal accident on the A418 was discussed. This tragedy brings the total number of fatalities on this dangerous stretch of road to ten in the past three years.

During this time **NO** action has been taken by the responsible authorities to improve the driving conditions or safety on this part of the A418, a situation the Parish Council now finds intolerable. We cannot afford to wait for money to become available for a by-pass - action needs to be taken **NOW** to improve matters.

The Parish Council will be writing to the Highways Authority again and putting pressure on our County Councillor and MP. The more fuss we can make the sooner action will be taken to improve the situation.

If you would like to join the campaign to make the A418 safer, please write to the County Council to express your concerns. Although the letter should be in your own words, some of the key points to make are -

- Introduction of a new speed limit on the whole stretch of the A418 between Wingrave cross-roads and Wing, backed up by effective police enforcement.
- Siting of a speed camera somewhere along the road (perhaps move the camera currently in the 30mph limit in Wing).
- Painting of double white lines all the way from Wingrave cross-roads to Wing to impose a new 'no overtaking' law.
- Routine gritting of the A418 during icy or frosty weather.

Please send copies of your letter to :

Brenda Jennings  
County Councillor  
2 Cotes Way  
Wing  
Bucks

John Bercow  
34 Buckingham Road  
Winslow  
Bucks  
MK18 3DY

John Prescott MP  
House of Commons  
Westminster  
London  
SW1A 0AA

Kate Curry  
Parish Clerk  
2 Norduck Cottages  
Aston Abbotts  
HP22 4NF

Mr S C Essam  
Senior Area Traffic Management Technician  
Bucks County Council - Environmental Services  
County Hall  
Aylesbury  
HP20 1UY

## THE 1999 VILLAGE RAFFLE

I would like to say thank you to all of those people who helped to make this years raffle an even bigger success than last year. This year ticket sales reached a record £1175.90 up £241.75 on last year. We did of course raise the ticket price this year and, as expected, sold and folded fewer tickets.

Having taken into account this years additional expenditure on prizes, our net profits were also a record.

May I offer my very special thanks to:

- All those people who, by donating prizes, increased our profit margin
- Those of you who were persuaded to distribute tickets and collect monies in the village
- Every household for selling or buying tickets and
- Andi Swain for personally selling tickets to the value of £62.50.

This year, most of the major prizes were won by local people. The winners (apart from the village itself!) were :

- |                               |                                 |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| • 1st £200                    | Jean Bellingham.                |
| • 2nd Portable Colour TV      | Julia Ellis of Wing             |
| • 3rd Meal at the Old Masters | Mr & Mrs Orchard of Weedon.     |
| • 4th Waitrose Food Hamper    | Colin Ring of Mortgage Express. |

and lots of other people who won one of the many other prizes.

Once again, thanks you all for your tremendous support.

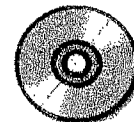
IVAN.

## THE ROYAL AIR FORCE HALTON BAND

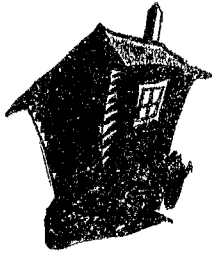
The RAF Halton Band comprises active duty military musicians as well as separated and retired military musicians. Irene King-Rennie performed as a United States Navy musician from 1981 - 1989 and is now featured as the Principal Flutist and Piccoloist of the ensemble.

The band has produced a CD of their music, sales of which help to fund their regular travel and annual tours. The band played in the West Country this August and will play in Salzburg, Austria during the summer of 2000.

Contact Irene King-Rennie on 01296 682963 if you would like to purchase the RAF Halton Band's CD, price just £5.



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**01525 383315**

# WHAT'S ON IN SEPTEMBER 1999

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup>** Aylesbury Vale Transport Meeting - Bus & Train queries to Colin

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup>** Whist Drive in The Church Room  
7.30pm

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup>** Coach Trip to Norwich - book with Colin on 681343  
8.45am Departs 8.45am from The Bull & Butcher

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup>** Mobile Library The Green / Wingrave Rd / Oxley Farm

**Wed'sday 15<sup>th</sup>** Parish Council meeting at The Church Room  
8.00pm


**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup>** Whist Drive in The Church Room  
7.30pm

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>** Rambling Club members meet at Stoke Hammond  
2.00pm

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup>** Whist Drive in The Church Room  
7.30pm

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup>** Mobile Library The Green / Wingrave Rd / Oxley Farm  
7.00pm Floral Class in The Church Room

**Advance Notice** Bingo recommences on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> October



**MILTON KEYNES THEATRE**

**OPENS OCTOBER 12TH**

Come individually or as a group. Your local Publicity Assistant can send you a programme, help arrange tours round the theatre and offer workshops for young people.

If you are thinking of booking for a group of 10 or more, you can get first night tickets for most shows for only £10 for the best seats in the house!

For further information or help please contact Leslie Geddes on 01296 72060.

## CHURCH FLOWERS FOR SEPTEMBER

W/E 4/5	Mrs Doggett	W/E 25/26	Donated
W/E 11/12	Mr I Belgrove	W/E 2/3 Oct.	Mr C Higgs
W/E 18/19	Mrs Hartnett		

## SIDESMEN FOR SEPTEMBER

5 <sup>th</sup>	Mr A Ford	26 <sup>th</sup>	Mr C Higgs
12 <sup>th</sup>	Mr J Hartnett	3 <sup>rd</sup> Oct.	Mr J Hartnett
19 <sup>th</sup>	Mr G Kemp		

## RYDER-CHESHIRE VOLUNTEERS

The Ryder-Cheshire Volunteers Leisure Activities Project links physically disabled members with a volunteer to share a hobby or leisure activity. We currently need volunteers for the following:

- Mature Lady would like to share **Craft Projects** and some **Cooking**
- Gentleman (mid 30's) would like to go **Fishing**
- Lady would love to share her interest in **Gardening**

You don't need to be an expert - enthusiasm, commitment and resourcefulness are much more important. We only ask you to spare 1-2 hours a week or fortnight.

There is no personal care involved and we pay travelling expenses.

**If you are interested or would like more information, please call Christine Hodgetts on 01296 714407**

## FOR SALE..... FOR SALE

One glass Shower Screen, Condition as New!  
Price negotiable.  
Contact Irene or Jack on 682963

## ASTON ABBOTTS RACE NIGHT

Don't miss out on The Aston Abbotts Race Night on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> October in The Church Room from 7.30pm. Tickets include a Fish and Chip supper as well as all the racing entertainment and are priced at just £7.50 each.

Call Jackie Coates on 681459 for more details

## ATTENTION ALL MUMS

Aston Abbotts **MOTHERS AND TODDLERS** Group meets every Thursday in The Church Room from 10am to 12 noon. Entry is 50p for babies and £1 for Toddlers.

Contact Sondra Dickason on 01296 682249

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Chronicle advertising - call Ivan Greenaway

on 01296 682605 - 1 Nash's Farm

# IN THE VILLAGE 5.

## Is anybody out there?

This year's fete was a great success, thanks to the good weather, the good turn-out and the efforts of everybody involved. Once again, thanks to everyone for making it a success.

This is, or was, our last year as fete organisers. After three years, it's time for a change. So, the big question is, is there anyone out there who'd like to take over? [One at a time, *please...*]

It's challenging, but a lot less daunting than you may think. Besides, the event can always benefit from new blood, new enthusiasm and fresh ideas. You would not be on your own. There already exists a fete committee and willing helpers. It just needs someone to organise. Someone to make the phone calls and bring it all together. You may feel you don't know anyone. It doesn't matter, you'll get to know them.

The main attractions need to be booked early {Autumn/Winter}. So it does need someone willing to commit themselves now.

We have a file of names, addresses, everything you'll need to know. It's yours if you're up for it. So, *is* there anybody out there...

Barbara Bellingham & David DeSilva - 681689

*Call Barbara or David, or THE CHRONICLE (on 682651) if you would like to take up the challenge. Ed.*

## ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH COUNCIL

### UNOFFICIAL NOTES FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 28TH JULY 1999

#### • County Council and District Council matters

County Councillor Brenda Jennings has not yet reported back on the meeting she said she would have with the Highways Dept. regarding the poor state of the roads around the village.

#### • Planning Matters

A/9910990/APP 2, Nash's Farm, Aston Abbots.  
Agricultural Building APPROVAL

A/9911544/APP 1, Norduck Cott's, Moat Lane, Aston Abbots.  
Conservatory After due consideration the Parish Council had no comments to make on this application.

#### • Highways

A418 - the most recent fatal accident on the road between Wingrave cross-roads and Wing has brought the total deaths during the past 3 years to ten. Resolved to write to the Highways Authority, Local MP(John Bercow) and Transport Minister requesting immediate action to improve safety on this section of road. Measures asked for will include:-

#### ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH COUNCIL continued

a) Double white lining to form a 'no overtaking' zone on the whole stretch b) New speed limit of 50mph, enforced by police patrols c) Siting of a new speed camera.

Urban grass cutting - a map has been issued by BCC showing the areas of the village contained in their grass cutting contract. It will be checked for accuracy.

#### • Basketball

English Basketball Association Outdoor Initiative. The Parish Council considers the offers put forward by this Association are worth looking at. It will be discussed more fully at the next Recreation Ground Committee meeting.

#### • Church Room extension

Boundary line - the Council has been requested by Mrs. Murray to fence the new boundary between the Church Room and the Old Vicarage. Resolved to have this job done.

Bats in roof - the possibility of any bats roosting in the roof being disturbed by future building works seems remote - however, it will be investigated.

#### • Correspondence

Village skip service - recent abuse of the Village Skip service by people dumping trade waste means that the service may be discontinued by AVDC.

Best Kept Village competition - unfortunately Aston Abbots was unsuccessful in the competition this year.

#### • Reports

Flags outside new houses at Nash's Farm - resolved to write to Banner Homes asking for these to be removed.

Dustbin bags - it was noted that households without wheelie bins are not being supplied with black bin-liners.

Trees - concern was expressed that the tree behind the garages on The Green had been felled. The Clerk assured members of the Council that the tree was small enough to have been felled without needing planning permission.

Burglar Alarms - Police telephone numbers. A house alarm went off recently in the middle of the night. The police telephone number (01296 396000) will be published in **THE CHRONICLE**.

It was reported that the verge masters in Moat Lane are damaged - this will be followed up.

#### DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday September 15th 1999, at 8pm in the Church Room - everyone is welcome to come along.

---

# S.M. ARMAN.



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# IN THE VILLAGE 6.

## AAH - ASTON ABBOTTS HISTORY

Thank you to all those who showed an interest in our stall at the fete. We hope that a similar level of interest will be shown in our Exhibition about Aston Abbots in January.

The agricultural implement quiz proved a tough challenge for most but the winner was Mr Dickins from Hardwick with 16 out of 20. For those who puzzled over the strange items on display they were:

1. A turfing spade
2. A hand dibber for planting potatoes etc
3. A Garden cultivator
4. A muck rack
5. A tool for laying clay pipes (Vic Scott reckoned this was about 100 years old)
6. A bridle rack
7. A thistle spudder for digging up deep rooted weeds
8. A seed broadcaster
9. A tail docker (for lambs tails)
10. The bottle with a marble in the top was for ginger beer etc.
11. A clockwork spit
12. Mole trap
13. Bale hook
14. Ink bottle
15. Blue bottle for poison
16. Cow chain
17. Saw setter
18. A phleam for blood letting
19. A small horse collar
20. The oldest bottle was the unnumbered one with a pointed end.

I still have greetings cards depicting Andy Bystra's drawing of the Bull & Butcher corner of the village. These are of high quality and blank, so they can be used for many different occasions. Why not send unusual Xmas cards to friends and relatives outside the village? At £2.50 for 5 they are much cheaper than the equivalent size and quality in High Street shops. Profits will go towards the cost of putting on the Millennium Exhibition and publishing our book. I will deliver your order so please call me on 681152.

Sally Palmer

## MILLENNIUM MATTERS

As reported last month, all tickets for the Millennium Party have now been sold.

Please make sure that you pay the second and final instalment, due on September 1<sup>st</sup>, as soon as possible to allow the committee to make the remaining purchases and so on.

If you have any queries please call Andy Bystra on 681690 or 688125.

## FUTURE EVENTS IN THE VILLAGE

Here are some brief details of future events to look out for in the village. Where possible dates and so on will be published in **THE CHRONICLE** but listen out in the village as well!

- **CHRONICLE** Cabaret - Autumn
- Village Race Night - October 30<sup>th</sup>
- Promises Auction - December
- Millennium Party - December 31<sup>st</sup>

## VALE VOLUNTEERS

Are you retired, between jobs or a full-time homemaker? Do you have a little time to spare? If you can answer 'yes' to these questions then you are the sort of person Vale Volunteers would love to hear from!

Vale Volunteers is the volunteer agency for this area. It exists to assist local charities and not-for-profit organisations to find helpers. At present the need is very great - 230 groups in Aylesbury Vale are currently looking for additional unpaid help. What they seek covers a very wide range indeed, from people able to pop in to see a house bound neighbour for Age Concern, to those with specialised skills such as computing, complementary therapies or accounting. There is no upper age limit, everyone who is willing and able to give time will be seriously considered.

One of the obstacles to volunteering for people living in a rural location may be inadequate transport facilities, but there are a number of opportunities in all but the smallest places. Help is needed by many village schools with the Government's literacy initiative: giving about an hour once a week to listen to young readers. Schools are often also keen to find Governors and Parent/Teacher Association helpers. In addition, Rainbows and Brownies, Beavers and Cubs, youth clubs and sports clubs all welcome (and need) help.

For those who can travel, it's good to know that the vast majority of groups looking for volunteers will pay a mileage rate, or reimburse bus fares. There are so many volunteer opportunities in Aylesbury and Buckingham that it is impossible to list more than a representative few. Work with babies, children, animals, office work, shop work, driving, advice giving, environmental activities; the list goes on and on. There are opportunities in the day time, during the evening and at weekends, and whatever you choose you will have the satisfaction of knowing that giving your time is making a real difference in the community.

Volunteering is not just a one way process. Obviously the organisation which is being helped gains your time, skills and enthusiasm, but as a volunteer you can also find your life enriched by new friendships and interests, and what you learn may also help you to find paid employment if that is a longer term objective.

Please contact Vale Volunteers at Chiltern House, Oxford Road, Aylesbury HP19 3EQ, e-mail [valevols@bucksnet.co.uk](mailto:valevols@bucksnet.co.uk), or phone or fax on 01296 337456 for further details. The office is usually open weekdays from 9 am until 4 PM, or leave an answer phone message outside these hours. Even if you aren't sure whether or not volunteering will be right for you, get in touch and we'll send you some more details!

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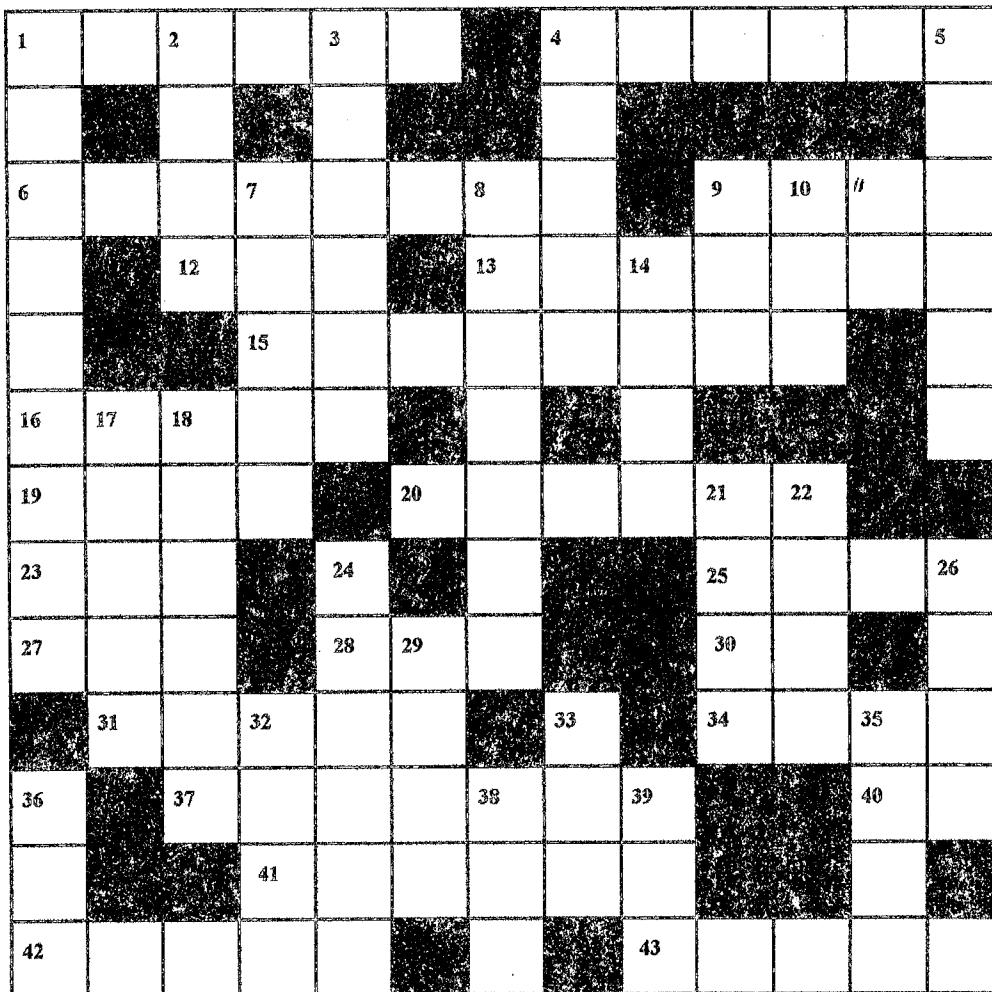
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# THE CHRONICLE CROSSWORD

**SEPTEMBER**



*Answers to July-August*

- 1&6 Aston Clinton, 12 Stare. 13 Lid. 14. Ape 15 Tangerine. 17 Pea. 18 Or. 19 Adipose. 21 RR  
 22 Op. 23 Stab. 26 Duty  
 28 A pity. 29 Aphid. 31 Abide.. 32 Breed. 34 Heed  
 35 Bun. 36 Shod. 39 Occur.  
 41 Tar. 42 Do. 43 Teen. 44 Arms. 45 Mad. 46 Tuna. 48 Rita. 49 Scoop. 50 Lateral  
**DOWN 1&29 Aston Abbotts**  
 2 Star.. 3 Tan. 4 Organdie  
 5 Need. 6 Clippy. 7 Lino. 9 Tap. 10 Operated 11 Nearby  
 16 Riot. 20 Espied. 24 Tide.  
 25 Spruce. 27 Udder. 28 Abhors. 30 Hence. 33 Astral  
 37 Ham. 38 Nodal. 40 Unto  
 42 Data. 44 An. 45 Mir.  
 47 Up. 48 Re

**ACROSS** 1. Extremely (6)

4. A people (6)  
 6. Hedgesparrows (8)  
 9. Italian town (4)  
 12. Dine (3)  
 13. Profits (7)  
 15. A fuel (8)  
 16. At no time (5)  
 19. To take notice of (4)  
 20. Local village (5)  
 23. Of the verb to be (3)  
 25. Midday (4)  
 27. Space station (3)  
 28. Post script (3)  
 30. Creditor (abbr 2)  
 31. Weird (5)  
 34. To merit (4)

37. GRANDEE (anag 7)

40. Chem symbol for Helium (2)  
 41. TIE HER (anag 6)  
 42. A pair of these and you walk tall (5)

43. Impressive display (5)

**DOWN**

1. Bucks Village (9)  
 2. Departed (4)  
 3. One who pillages (6)  
 4. Facial features (5)  
 5. Sounds (6)  
 7. Undressed (5)  
 8. Coins (Foreign currency 7)  
 9. Prohibit (3)  
 10. ERA (anag 3)  
 11. Bad news on a cheque (2)

14. Plant (4)

17. Same as 31 acr. (5)  
 18. Swerved (6)  
 21. Not twice (4)  
 22. Girl's name (4)  
 24. Alcohol (6)  
 26. Number (4)  
 29. Used by gardeners (4)  
 32. A bobbin (4)  
 33. Epoch (3)  
 35. Flightless bird (4)  
 36. Animal (3)  
 38. Health service (abbr. 3)  
 39. An age (3)

- 1 L 14 U  
 2 E 15 I  
 3 A 16 T  
 4 R 17 V  
 5 N 18 H  
 6 S 19 F  
 7 Y 20 G  
 8 M 21 W  
 9 K 22 X  
 10. O 23 Q  
 11 P  
 12 B 13 D

Answers to Clueless

Xword July/August

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Tel. No. 0033 553242930      E-mail address leverger@easynet.fr

# IN THE VILLAGE 7.

## THIS MONTH'S WALKING WOUNDED

Bad luck for Ray Wilkinson who received a 'poke in the eye' from a stick whilst bending down to do some gardening. We all hope the future hospital treatment finally sorts it out Ray and you will soon be able to see well enough to find your wallet and buy some of your friends a pint!

A big 'tish tish' to Rita (of People Page fame) who fell over breaking a bone in her hand whilst dashing to The Ship in Aylesbury for a drink. She only managed a few glasses of orange juice in the pub but got well and truly plastered in Stoke Manville that evening!

Not so funny for Dean Wiggett who managed to slice into his arm with a petrol hedge cutter. However he ended up 'in stitches' and is now making a recovery. Hope it heals in time for the next round of pool matches Dean.



## TONY'S VILLAGE SPORTS COLUMN



### GIRL POWER!

Girl Power came to the Aston Abbotts Open Pool Competition in August when Becky Lord narrowly failed to beat long time favourite Dean Wiggett in the final of the competition.

On the way to the final Becky beat some of the village team's best players including partner and CHRONICLE editor Andi Swain (yes, yes, I know - Ed). She had not lost a single frame going into the final.

Dean had had an equally tough tournament culminating in a

hard fought semi-final against Mark.

In the final itself, Becky took the first frame before Dean won the next three to clinch the competition again! Well done to both players and to all of the others who took part in this annual tournament.

Following a successful 1998 / 1999 pool season, work and family commitments mean that we are unable to field a regular 10 players for the new season and are therefore pulling out of the league.

Instead, we will be holding informal pool and darts evenings at The Bull & Butcher on a regular basis throughout the winter - watch for more details in THE CHRONICLE.

TONY (Well, Ed. Actually).

## A Grandmother

(Dedicated to the many 'Grams' in the village)

This small pale woman, a mother grown old,  
By her hair and her wrinkles her age can be told,  
Her past is a dream, an impossible hope,  
For her children are married now and able to cope.  
Her role as a mother has vanished and gone,  
As the moon loses its role when up come the sun.

But the birth of a Grandchild means new life has begun.  
The birth of a Grandmother, Parents and son  
Now there is a role, a part to be played  
For this small pale woman, a grandmother is made.  
New qualities of joy have begun to show  
Is this the same woman whom I used to know?

She now is a grandmother, a person who shares  
A person who loves and a person who cares,  
Her face has an expression of understanding and love,  
Of normal standards she towers above.  
Her time to all is so generously given,  
A person who I'm sure is destined for heaven.

Thanks to Sally Lloyd Jones Age 14 and Shirley Ford

Look out for National Grandparents' Day in September. Ed.

## GUIDANCE ON GUNS

A member of the public reported to the Parish Council that they had witnessed someone walking in the village with a gun. Although the type of gun was not identified, I was asked to make clear the rules and laws that apply to shotguns.

- o It is illegal to possess a shotgun without a valid shotgun certificate
- o It is illegal to have a loaded shotgun in a public place
- o Provided a shotgun certificate is held, there is no restriction on possession between the ages of 15 and 17, but a shotgun may not be bought or hired
- o Although there is no lower age limit for granting of a certificate, a child under 15 can only possess a shotgun if under the supervision of a person aged 21 or over, or if the gun is covered with a securely fastened gun cover to prevent firing
- o It is an offence for a person under 15 to have with them an assembled shotgun other than in the above circumstances. It is also an offence to make a gift of a shotgun to a person under the age of 15
- o Always transport a shotgun in its case or in a protective gun cover. It is not acceptable practice to carry an uncovered gun in a public place

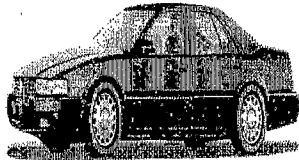
Further information about shotguns and the law is available from BASC (British Association for shooting and conservation), Marford Hill, Rossett, Wrexham, LL12 DH6.

TOM MANNING

NO JOB TOO SMALL

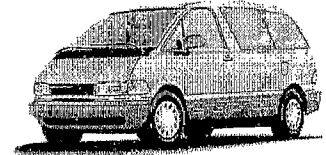
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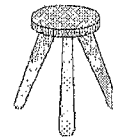
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# ST. JAMES CHURCH, ASTON ABBOTTS

## CHURCH SERVICES

<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sept.</b>	10.00	Cublington	Family Service
	10.00	Wingrave	Parish Communion
	11.15	Aston Abbots	Morning Service
<b>12<sup>th</sup> Sept</b>	08.45	Cublington	Parish Communion
	10.00	Wingrave	Parish Communion
	11.15	Aston Abbots	Parish Communion
<b>15<sup>th</sup> Sept</b> Wednesday	10.00	Rowsham	Franciscan Service
<b>19<sup>th</sup> Sept</b>	08.00	Wingrave	Prayer Book Communion
	08.45	Cublington	Parish Communion
	10.00	Wingrave	Family Service
	11.15	Aston Abbots	Parish Communion
<b>22<sup>nd</sup> Sept</b> Wednesday	10.00	Wingrave	Franciscan Service
<b>26<sup>th</sup> Sept</b>	08.45	Cublington	Parish Communion
	10.00	Wingrave	Harvest Festival Communion
	11.15	Aston Abbots	Parish Communion
<b>29<sup>th</sup> Sept</b> Wednesday	10.00	Wingrave	Franciscan Service
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Oct</b>	10.00	Cublington	Harvest Family Service
	10.00	Wingrave	Parish Communion
	11.15	Aston Abbots	Morning Service
	18.00	Cublington	Evensong

## ST JAMES CHURCH, ASTON ABBOTTS

### PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Rev Willmott 681623	Gordon Kemp 681763
Shirley Ford 681865	Ann Goodman 681763
Christine Fox 682024	Andrew Ford 681865

## FROM THE REGISTERS

### Baptisms

11 <sup>th</sup> July	Matthew Ellis at Cublington
18 <sup>th</sup> July	Tar-Lee Hollett at Wingrave
25 <sup>th</sup> July	Luke Taylor at Wingrave
1 <sup>st</sup> August	William Tillet at Wingrave
15 <sup>th</sup> August	Callum Bailey at Wingrave
22 <sup>nd</sup> August	Samantha Sheldon at Aston Abbots

### Marriage

7 <sup>th</sup> August	Paul Perkins & Terri-Anne Stuart at Wingrave
------------------------	--

### Funerals

8 <sup>th</sup> July	Ronald Cook at Wingrave and Amersham
13 <sup>th</sup> July	Jack Middleweek at Crownhill
4 <sup>th</sup> August	Susan Adams at Wingrave
5 <sup>th</sup> August	David Close at Crownhill
10 <sup>th</sup> August	John Chandler at Amersham
13 <sup>th</sup> August	Horace Bignell at Wingrave Methodist Church and Amersham
17 <sup>th</sup> August	Beryl Manning at Cublington and Amersham

## SUNDAY READINGS

5 <sup>th</sup> September	Trinity 14	Romans 13.8 - 14 Matthew 18.15 - 20
12 <sup>th</sup> September	Trinity 15	Romans 14.1 - 12 Matthew 18.21 - 35
19 <sup>th</sup> September	Trinity 16	Phillipians 1.21 - 30 Matthew 20.1 - 16
26 <sup>th</sup> September	Trinity 17	Phillipians 2.1 - 13 Matthew 21.23 - 32
3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Trinity 18	Phillipians 3.4 - 14 Matthew 21.33 - 46

## EXPLORING CHRISTIANITY ... WITH A VIEW?

The Bishop of Buckingham is coming to Wingrave Parish Church on November 7<sup>th</sup> to take a Confirmation Service. During September / October there will be discussion / learning / finding out evenings for adults who may like to be confirmed or simply to explore the Christian faith.

**Interested ? See Siv Tunnicliffe or phone 681374.**

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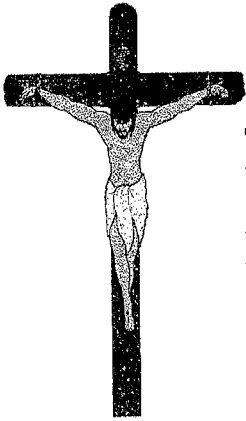
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## RECTOR'S REPORT - SEPTEMBER 1999

There is an old saying that, "if you don't like the heat, get out of the kitchen".

We have certainly enjoyed some heat this summer. We have had some days of wall to wall sunshine – although a couple of cloudy and wet days soon makes us forget them. By nature I am not a great lover of hot, sunny weather.

The brochures produced many years ago by the Railway for "Holidays in England"

used to often describe the weather as "mild, equable, and bracing". This was probably a polite way of saying that it could probably be rather chilly, with some rain and a fair degree of wind.

But I think that the saying about heat referred more to the pressure than the temperature. When the weather is warm we like to take things at a slower pace. Yet, this summer the pace of life for me doesn't seem to have eased off – indeed it has been rather hectic. Some of this has been a problem of time-management. Appointments have left several spare odd half hours, and tasks that needed an hour to an hour-and-a-half have been difficult to slot in.

During July and August there will have been some seven Baptisms, and I shall have been involved in at least eight Funerals and a Wedding. There have been two concerts in Wingrave – one of

which overflowed into our Patronal Festival Service. Aston Abbots has also had its Fete and Patronal Festival, and there has also been the Wingrave Churches Together Barbecue and various other events as well as the normal jobs that need doing (like hospital visiting, service preparation, writing sermons and parish administration).

Of course, there is a danger that, in writing down this list I shall make it look as though I have been working my socks off. Without the help of many other people I should certainly have felt the pressure. But, I am sure that I am not the only one for whom this summer has been particularly busy.

We all have the desire to take life at a more leisurely pace. There are times when we wish we had more time and less pressure, but, when those times come, we frequently wish we had something to do. We are never satisfied. It is probably something to do with finding the balance between having enough jobs that use all our energy, and enough energy to complete all our jobs. Let me end with that fine prayer of General Lord Astley before the Battle of Edgehill in 1642:-

O Lord, Thou knowest how busy we must be this day; if we forget Thee, do not Thou forget us; for Christ's sake. Amen.

**Bob Willmott**

## OLD WATER PUMPS

*an article by Colin Higgs, CHRONICLE History writer*

As water pumps were in common use in backyards of houses and placed at convenient points in the squares or greens of towns and villages, grave risks to health from pollution were common.

A survey in 1849 reported that water drawn from a well behind an Aylesbury inn was at times very foul and unfit to drink, but that on the other hand the pump that had been put in at Kingsbury in 1838 served very good water.

Water pumps were made of Elm, which stood immersion in water for long periods; wooden pumps also had an advantage over iron pumps as they rarely froze in winter.

In 1849 the local board of

health erected six pumps in Aylesbury at Whitehall Street, Oxford Road, Back Buckingham Street, Upper Hundreds, Walton Street and Castle Street. A good specimen of an old pump can be seen to this day in Pebble Lane, Aylesbury and has a plaque explaining its origin.

Another very old pump (1785) can be found in Old Amersham against the wall of the ancient Town Hall. Some pumps even had ornamental shelters such as the one at Mentmore.

Many hand worked pumps are still used today and many have been removed from backyards leaving a legacy of old wells.

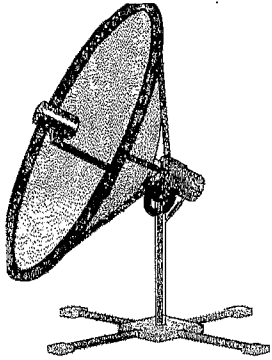
Our local village pumps in Church Row, Wingrave Road and New Zealand Cottages still exist to this day.



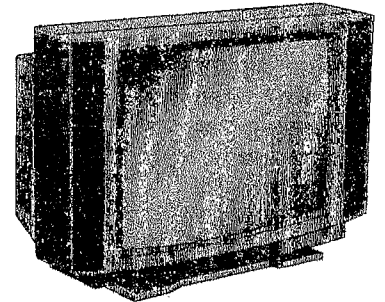
NORTH MARSTON  
The village pump

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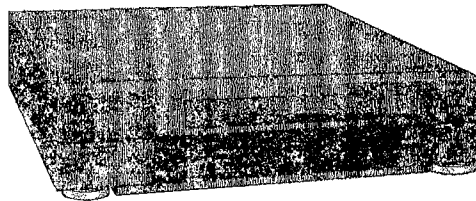


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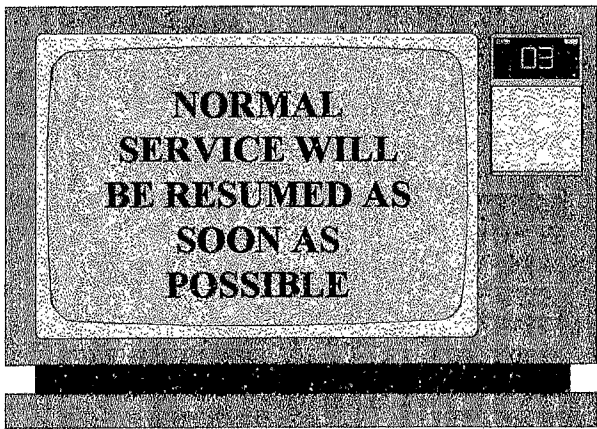
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The Aston Abbotts  
Music Maestro

Does anybody have any good Dave Lewis stories from the holidays? I will pay generously for all good contributions, especially if they are untrue!

Ed.

BACK PAGE THE CHRONICLE