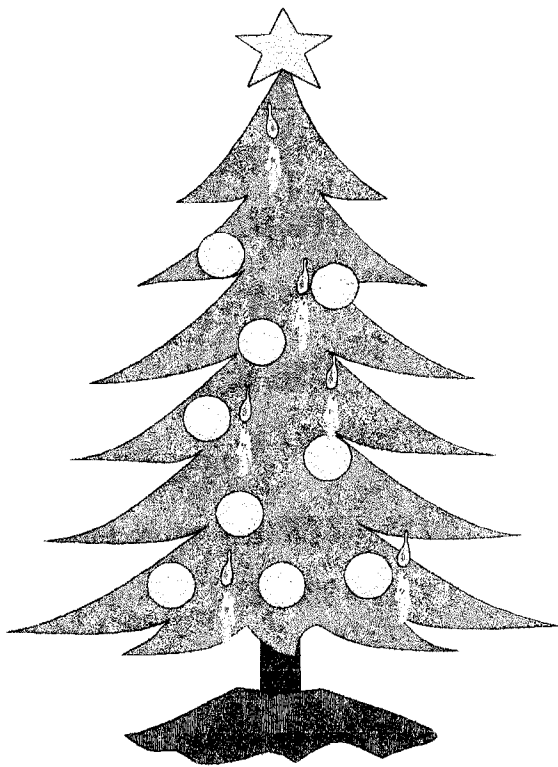


# THE CHRONICLE

ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH MAGAZINE

ISSUE 185 - CHRISTMAS 1999

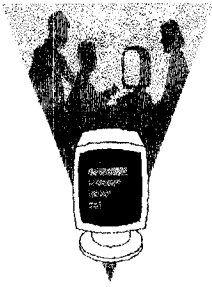
## last of the millennium



(as if you needed reminding...)

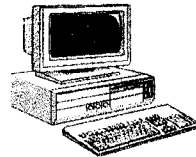
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**INSIDE - Y2K FATIGUE**

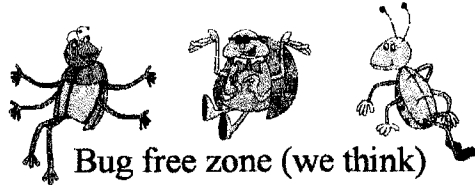


# Editorial

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 1999



astonmag@aol.com



Bug free zone (we think)

So the time for waiting is drawing to a close.

The day (or more appropriately night) approaches when we will finally find out if planes will fall from the sky; if the Stock Market will collapse; if computers all over the world will down disk drives and crash for a final time; if money will become no more than worthless paper; if transport systems will grind to a halt leading to mass shortages of everything from cocoa pops to French Golden Delicious (not all bad news then!). Or if nothing will happen at all.

Welcome to Y2K day.

Guess where my money's going. The lack of "imminent-machine-malfunction" hype so close to D Day leads me to suspect that most, if not quite all, will be all right on the night. Quite surprising really, especially after a whole cottage industry has been built up in the IT sector over the past decade to deal with the supposed Y2K bug. Perhaps the recent cold snap finally put paid to the little beggar. Or maybe it perished in a hale of Agro-pesticides? Is it that the Y2Kers did their job well. "Whatever", as they say in America.

And what of the great get away? Of the desire to spend this most momentous of occasions in some far flung corner of the World with a bunch of drunk strangers, where the sun *still* rises in the East and where in all probability the local government shifted the international date line in order to claim first past the post into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Anyway, we *all* know Spock and Kirk got there first.

What happened to the hordes of punters prepared to splash out twenty grand and a sizeable chunk of their pension fund on five days in Beru, Vaitupu, Tuvalu, or PublicLoo? Twenty grand to stay in the local mayor's dog kennel, all in the name of seeing 'it' first. Twenty grand on drinking too much and missing midnight because you've passed out on the beach. Doubtless, some will.

Excuse me for being just a little cynical, but you can't help noticing the morass of "last minute getaway" offers in the Travel Agents' windows. You can get a month of 5 star luxury in Grand Nonsense or on Necktie Island for ten quid and a Twix wrapper.

I'm looking forward to greeting the new Millennium here in the village amongst friends. And I *am* expecting a huge headache on Millennium Day but that will be due to excess 'Champers' at the Millennium Party.

See you all next ~~year~~ ~~century~~ ~~millennium~~ month (and let's hope I'm right about the bug!).

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

*Andi Swain*

## IN THIS FESTIVE 'FINAL ISSUE OF THE MILLENNIUM' OF THE CHRONICLE

- American Adventure part 2
- Shining Example
- Go on Lightening, shift yer bloomin'.....
- Costa del Aston Abbots - as safe as houses
- CHRONICLE caption competition result
- The Rector writes
- Future services at The Church
- Jottings from the Chalk Face
- Millennium Party
- Crossword
- Latest from AA Parish Council
- What's on in the village this month
- All of our regular sections and more !

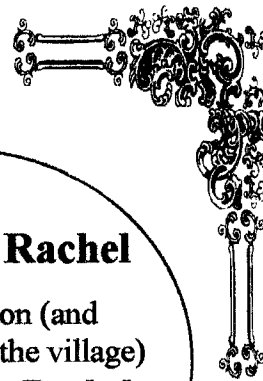
### PRODUCTION TEAM CONTACTS

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A note to all would be advertisers - more than 196 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 the first issue of the New Millennium is Monday 27<sup>th</sup> December - please pass items to Andi Swain at 2 Nash's Farm or to a member of the Production Team as early as possible . The January 2000 issue will be available around the 8<sup>th</sup> January, BUGS permitting! Printed at Waddesdon School and distributed free of charge to all Households in Aston Abbots.

# RITA'S PEOPLE PAGE



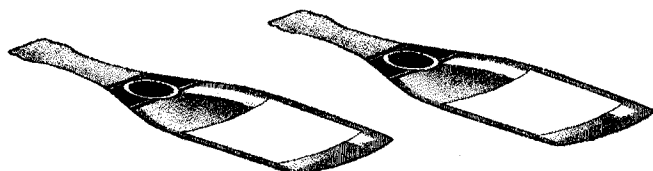
Aston Abbotts wishes a **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to everybody celebrating in **December**, especially

## Happy 18th Rachel

Hannah Brandon (and everybody else in the village) would like to wish **Rachel Sutton** a very happy **18th** birthday on the 11th of December!

We would all like to wish Mrs Marie Chandler a speedy recovery - she is in hospital at present.

Ivan Greenaway	2nd	Claire Barnett	18th
Phil Spooner	2nd	Derek Ludlam	19th
Becky Lord	11th	Michael Ellis	19th
Alison Hewitt	11th	Robert Smith	20th
Rachel Sutton	11th	Andrew Lovell	25th
Rosie Manning	12th	Nicholas Osborn	25th
Stella Howell	14th	Val Smith	25th
Jack Turner	15th		



**A HAPPY FINAL CHRISTMAS OF THE MILLENNIUM TO EVERYBODY IN ASTON ABBOTTS FROM US ALL AT THE CHRONICLE**



## ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

A very successful Bingo session was held in The Church Room in aid of the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal, raising £191. Also the Saturday morning raffle and Bring & Buy sale raised a further £118. A good effort all round!

## Extremely 'Gate-ful'

A **CHRONICLE** reader from Bricstock has written to thank the kind gentleman who mended the gate in the Recreation Ground. Although not a village resident, he noticed the damage whilst walking his daughter's dog and kindly came back with the necessary tools to do the work. **Indeed, thanks from us all!**

See "What's On" for full details of **Christmas REFUSE AND RECYCLING COLLECTIONS**

A big welcome to the village to Jeff and Mandy Banister who have moved into 2 Abbey Cottages!

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

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	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

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**TONY HINDS**  
6 The Green - tel. 681454

If you would like to join the Help Line  
please call Andy Bystra on 681690

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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

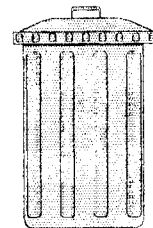
**JOHN SANSOME**  
Longmore Farm 681010

District Councillor  
**PETER COOPER**  
Brewhouse Lane, Rowsham 681250

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)

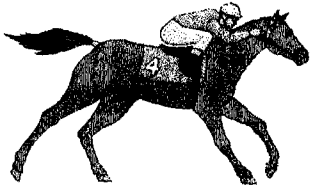
**The Macintyre Centre** can also take textiles  
(clothes, rags, blankets, sheets etc)  
Open 8.30am - 6.30pm Monday to Saturday

# IN THE VILLAGE 1.

## A NIGHT AT THE RACES

Originally, the Race Night was devised to raise money to fund a 'Millennium' party for the older folk in the village. Unfortunately, there was virtually no response to the several articles in **THE CHRONICLE**, seeking to find out who would be interested in coming along to such a party. By the time we got to this stage, arrangements made by Jackie Coates were well in hand so the decision was made to go ahead anyway. Thank heavens we did, because it turned out to be a very entertaining and thoroughly enjoyable evening.

The size of the Church Room limited the number of tickets available to 56 but all were sold well before the night. Cine film for each race was selected at random and presented by 'Events Unlimited' and it was clear from the first race that every one there fully intended to enjoy themselves.



Horses running in all but the last race had been bought and named by individuals in the audience before the night and it has to be said that many of the names were 'racy' in their own right! Ray and Jackie Coates acted as bookmakers and were kept very busy between races. Betting was fast and furious and as the evening wore on so excitement and the size of bets grew.

At the end of the fourth race it was time to lubricate throats parched from cheering on our own horses and during this break, a welcome fish and chips supper from the Ocean Wave Fish Bar was served. With all but the last few races run, Andi Swain and Andy Stefanczyk acted as auctioneers for all eight nags due to run in the last. Groups on individual tables pooled their finances resulting in a lot of good humoured competition for each horse; most raised about £30.00 each. Prize money of half the total takings from the auction was at stake but winning table have asked me not to publish their names for fear of receiving begging letters!

After all expenses were paid, it was confirmed that the evening had raised £369.30. Very many thanks go to Ray and Jackie Coates who took on the organisation of this event. There is considerable enthusiasm for a similar event to be organised later in 2000 and I for one will make sure I don't miss out on tickets.



## Aston Abbotts' countryside - as safe as houses ?

You could be forgiven for thinking that it's "all quiet on the Western Front" (and the Eastern, Southern, and Northern ones for that matter) when it comes to new housing in and around Aston Abbotts.

After all, Burston Ridge Farm and the Fox Covert, currently in Wingrave with Rowsham parish, will almost certainly become part of Aston Abbotts when the Aylesbury Vale Parish Review is concluded next year. This will extend the Parish's southern and south eastern boundaries along the A418, giving AAPC jurisdiction and, you would hope, control over any further development there.

And only last month our Parish Council reported that the Aylesbury Vale Development Plan would 'severely restrict any planned development in the village'. The plan also aims to outlaw building on green-field sites. So all being well, we could expect to see little or no increase in housing in Aston Abbotts. Great news.

### SERPLAN strikes

Think again. Just when sense seemed to be prevailing, enter SERPLAN.

SERPLAN, or the South East Regional Planning body, to give its full title, is made up of members of local councils from throughout the South East. Following a Public Enquiry, they announced that more than 860,000 extra homes would be needed in the South East between 1991 and 2016.



England's green and pleasant land

Incredibly, the inspectors who carried out the enquiry say it should be even more than that - over 1 million! They believe the equivalent of 4,600 new homes a year should be built in Bucks between 1996 and 2016 - 44,000 more than even SERPLAN's estimates. To put this in context, the Aylesbury Vale Development Plan proposes a further 8,800 homes in the Vale by 2011.

### Surely we're safe?

OK, but those 44,000 houses will be spread throughout Buckinghamshire,

won't they? Er, probably not. It is likely that underdeveloped areas of the county with good travel connections will bear the brunt of the new building - step forward Aylesbury Vale.

Towns within the Vale - especially Aylesbury, Winslow, Buckingham and Haddenham - would be developed still further (campaigners for the re-instatement of the railway line between Winslow and Aylesbury take note). There is even talk of a new town or village being built.

That other fine local example of a new town - Milton Keynes - would not welcome more housing and would be unable to cope with the proposed numbers in any case. So where does that leave to build?

### Costa del Aston Abbotts?

Could we *really* see extensive new housing in the countryside around Aston Abbotts? Will the local landscape begin to resemble London's Docklands or a 1970's Spanish Costa - all cranes and building sites?

Speaking to the Bucks Herald, County Council Environmental Services Director Chris Williams had these sobering words to say - "It's as bad as it seems. It means concreting over most of Bucks". Just imagine!

And Aylesbury MP David Lidington commented "it will lead to the destruction of the countryside. It's outrageous".

### Object, object, object!

Our local councillor Peter Cooper gave details of SERPLAN's dastardly intentions at last month's AAPC meeting. And although any building would be at least 5 years away, the advice is object now to safeguard the future of the village.

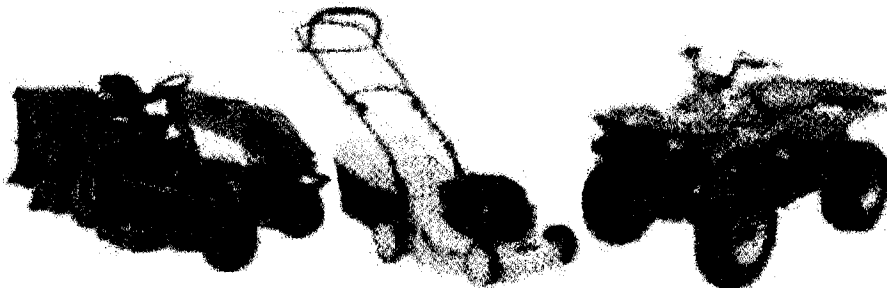
A Public Enquiry is due to begin on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2000 into the Vale's Development Plan and although it may be too late to contribute, we should watch it's progress very closely.

You can let your thoughts be known, however, by writing to AAPC, Peter Cooper, David Lidington, or the Secretary of State. **THE CHRONICLE** would also like to hear from you and will be happy to pass your letter on. Ed.

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# IN THE VILLAGE 2.

## MILLENNIUM MATTERS THE MILLENNIUM PARTY

We are pleased to report that all arrangements for the party to welcome the New Millennium are well in hand.

- All monies bar one are now in.
- Contract for the Band signed and deposit paid.
- Food and drink all ordered - deserts will now be purchased rather than made by villagers.

**VOLUNTEERS** will be needed to help set-up the party and to move/store Peter and Claire's furniture On 31/12/99 from 11.00am onwards and on 1/1/2000.

Further details and tickets will be sent to all party goers shortly.

The next meeting is on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 8.00pm at Ray & Jackie Coates' House (next door to The Bull)

## TONY'S VILLAGE SPORTS COLUMN



Actually (and sadly) it's Tony's **LAST** sports column. Two events took place in October - the annual Round Table Charity Darts Marathon and the Bull & Butcher pool team trophy presentation night.

In the Charity Darts, one team represented The Bull & Butcher, consisting of Pat, Frank, Adrian and myself. We did very well and scored nearly 20,000 points in the hour, raising £279 for the Cancer and Chemotherapy Unit at SMH in the process. Thank you to everyone who sponsored us.

The pool presentation evening was an enjoyable one. After the trophies were presented, mostly to Dean, we had a darts and pool pairs knockout competition with the four teams drawn out of a hat. Each pair played everybody else at Pool and Darts, four games of each per team. After the competition, Tony and Dean won all of their pool games and 2 of their darts games - Andi and Mark won all of their darts games and 2 of their pool games - A DRAW!

This meant a play off to find the winners and a coin was tossed to decide whether darts or pool would be played in the decider. The coin landed in favour of darts, to Andi & Mark's advantage, and they duly won the game (lucky!!).

Thanks to all the pool players for supporting me over the years as The Bull & Butcher has no league pool team this year - I have decided to retire, and it is difficult to get a team together.

**TONY**

Thanks to Tony from the whole pool team for his brilliant captaincy over the past 20 years.

## ASTON ABBOTTS MILLENNIUM CELEBRATIONS

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> December 1999 - Entry by Ticket Only

8:15pm	Champagne Reception & Welcome
8:30 - 9:30	Live Music and Dancing
9:00	Dinner Commences
9:30 - 10:30	Disco and Dancing
10:30 - 11:30	Live Music and Dancing
11:00	Dinner Finishes
11:30 - 11:45	Cabaret by a Local "Mega Star"
11:45 - 12:15	Disco and Dancing
11:50 - 12:10	Champagne Toast for the New Millennium
12:15 - 01:15	Live Music and Dancing
01:15 - 02:15	Disco and Dancing
02:15	Close

## MILLENNIUM NIGHT BABY SITTER

Available for one night only on the Eve of the New Millennium 31/12/99

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**From a roving reporter: Cinders in From the Cold**  
Cinders, Neil Chesher's black cat that's been living wild since June, is now back in a cosy home just before winter sets in. Caroline (9) and Isabel (6) who live at 20 The Green are rehabilitating Cinders after their mother managed to catch her. Cinders has survived her ordeal well and, apart from being underweight, is remarkably healthy.

Neil has kindly let Caroline and Isabel adopt Cinders. They are both delighted. Recently, Bruno, one of their two white cats, tragically died. "We were going to start looking around the rescue centres to find a another cat and we really wanted to get a black cat" Caroline told **THE CHRONICLE**.

Isabel added "We only hope that she'll settle in and she and Lucy (our other white cat) will be friends."

So if any of you are wondering what's happened to Cinders, the Hall family are keeping her indoors for a few weeks to make sure she doesn't get an urge to go back to the wild - enticed of course by plenty of food and TLC.

Meanwhile, a slightly overweight ginger cat has been spotted on a motorbike trying to jump the fence of 3, Nash's Farm and make its escape. Ed.



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**Ha, Ha, Jim Lad ! Where's those pieces of 8, then?**



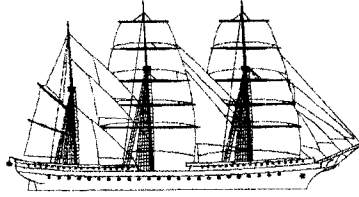
Helen and Simon Dowling, formerly of 5 The Green, would like to wish everyone in Aston Abbotts a Happy Christmas. And thanks to the village representatives, above, who attended our July Housewarming Party in Linslade. Particularly one who, at least, made some effort at fancy dress.



# IN THE VILLAGE 3.

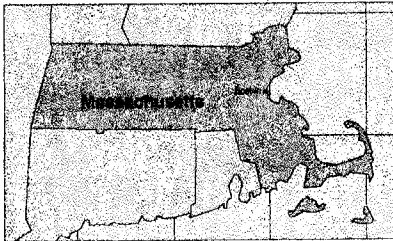
## AUTUMN IN AMERICA 2 by Shirley Ford

After our short stay in Boston, we started our journey at 8.00am to arrive at Salem, Massachusetts at 9.15. We were booked into Salem's Visitor Centre to see a 30 minute film covering Salem's history from before the pilgrims arrived to the present time. There is a connection between Salem and Aston Abbots since in the year 1634 a John Putman, who was a farmer at Burston and also a church Warden here, emigrated with his family to start a new life. The film showed us about the rise and fall of it's fishing industry, then it's success in merchant business, selling goods all around the world. At the end of the last century and well into this, they had huge spinning mills which provided major employment. When you hear the word Salem, people think of the witchcraft trials which took place over a period of 20 years; a very short span of time in Salem's history.



After an all too short visit, we were driven through some of the most beautiful scenery and houses. These houses, although somewhat similar in design were built to differing specifications to suit both the very rich and those in the lower income bracket.

We had a photo stop at a seaside place called Gloucester Bay. The sun was sparkling on the very blue Atlantic Ocean and we looked at a



statue of a sailor at the helm of a ship which had been erected in remembrance of all those who had died at sea in the past three centuries. We then drove into a very old world village called Rockport for lunch and shopping. We rejoined the

coach at 2.00pm and our driver Jay gave us a lovely coastal drive. Massachusetts is a really beautiful state, particularly in the autumn when the colours of the leaves on the trees are truly amazing.

We drove through Kennebunk Park where we saw George and Barbara Bush's summer home which is built on a peninsular. It was then onto Portland where we were scheduled to stay for the night. That evening 40 of the group went out for a meal at a local restaurant; great food, great company and lots of laughs.

Shirley Ford



Food

### Aston Abbots Entertainments Guide



We recently visited The Old Moat House in Broughton Crossing, the former Prince of Wales. The pub has been totally refurbished and offers a variety of English and Mediterranean dishes. The portions are plentiful and the food good (watch out for the garlic in the frites) and well priced. There is a good selection of beer (ah, le Stella Artois...) and wine but the atmosphere is slightly lacking at present, probably because the pub has only just re-opened. Worth a visit one evening.

Becky Lord.

## RECREATION GROUND COMMITTEE

If you or your children use the Rec. at all then you should be aware of the existence of this group. It is really a subcommittee of the Parish Council but also includes other residents of the parish who have an interest in the running of the Rec. Issues currently being discussed include the possible instalment of a basketball net for which a substantial grant is on offer. However, basketball would not be possible without some form of hard surface, which will

certainly prove to be a very expensive item!

There is a fund, held by the Parish Council, consisting of money raised in the past specifically for such projects - the trouble is, there never seems to be quite enough.....

If you would like to air your views about any issues concerning the Rec.



or can offer help in any way, please come to the next meeting, to be held in the Church Room on Wednesday 19th January 2000. We would especially welcome parents of children who live in the village - what would THEY like to see done?

For more information contact: John Sansome on 681010 or Ivan Greenaway on 682605

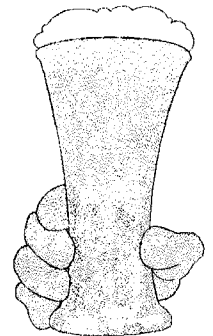
## THE GREAT ALPACA COMPETITION

Judging for the competition proved to be a difficult job with so many good (and a few not so good) entries! In a strange twist, point scoring was very close and the result ended in a bit of a draw - As promised, a beer to each of the winners! Ed.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Equal

Ivan Greenaway  
Caroline Lane  
Chris Bee  
Simon Swain  
Ray & Jackie Coates  
Clare Shorrock

2<sup>nd</sup> (and last)  
The Editor



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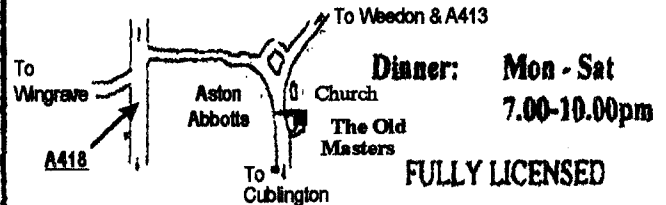


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# LAST 'WHAT'S ON' OF THE MILLENNIUM - DECEMBER 1999

<b>Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup></b> 7.30pm	Whist Drive in The Church Room
<b>Saturday 4<sup>th</sup></b> 8.35am	Christmas shopping trip to Derby - see opposite for details
<b>Sunday 5<sup>th</sup></b> 12.30pm	Rambling Club members Sunday Lunch at The Boot, Soulbury
<b>Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup></b> 7.30pm	Mobile Library The Green / Wingrave Rd / Oxley Farm Aylesbury Vale Transport Meeting, Civic Centre (Bus and Train queries to Colin)
<b>Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup></b> 8.00pm	Parish Council Meeting, Church Room
<b>Thursday 9<sup>th</sup></b> 7.30pm	Bingo in The Church Room
<b>Thursday 16<sup>th</sup></b> 7.30pm	Whist Drive in The Church Room
<b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup></b> 3.00pm	Carol Service, St James Church
<b>Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup></b>	Mobile Library The Green / Wingrave Rd / Oxley Farm
<b>Saturday 25<sup>th</sup></b> 10.00am	Christmas Day - Parish Communion at St James Church
<b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup></b> 2.00pm	Boxing Day - Rambling Club members meet Cublington Cross Roads
<b>Monday 27<sup>th</sup></b> 2.00pm	Village Footpath walk, The Green
<b>Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> Jan</b> 12 noon	Millennium Service, St James Church
<b>Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> Jan</b> 7.30pm	Bingo in The Church Room in aid of the Lifeboat Fund
<b>There is No Floral Class in December</b>	

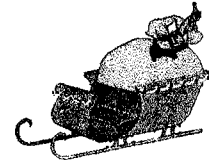
**IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO BOOK!**

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December**

Xmas Shopping Trip to Derby  
Cost £ 8.50

Departs Bull & Butcher 8.35am

Book with Colin - 681343



## BUS NEWS

Kingsbury Square has now re-opened as a bus stop for our village services. A new bus stop outside Sainsbury's is in use for the Aston Abbots / Weedon service on the inward journey.

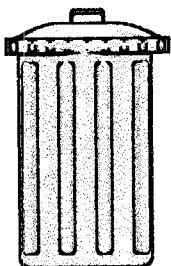
**What's On will be back in 2000  
(looks strange, doesn't it?? Ed.)**

### CHURCH FLOWERS FOR DECEMBER

W/E 18/19} Everyone for Carol &  
W/E 25/26} Christmas Services  
W/E 31/1 Jan Mr C Higgs

### CHURCH FLOWERS FOR DECEMBER

W/E 18/19} Everyone for Carol & W/E 31/1 Jan Mr C Higgs  
W/E 25/26} Christmas Services



## REFUSE AND RECYCLING COLLECTIONS OVER CHRISTMAS

### COLLECTION DATES

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> - Friday 24<sup>th</sup> December  
Monday 27<sup>th</sup> - Friday 31<sup>st</sup> December  
Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> - Friday 7<sup>th</sup> January

**Good news, Guys - Rabans Lane Household waste site is open every day except Bank Holidays!**

### REFUSE

As usual  
**NO COLLECTION**  
1 day later than usual  
(plus Saturday 8<sup>th</sup>)

### RECYCLING

As usual  
**NO COLLECTION\***  
1 day later than usual  
(plus Saturday 8<sup>th</sup>)  
\*Those due 27<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> December will be made on 10<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> January

**Kate Curry has an Emergency Supply of bin bags for Christmas - call at 2 Norduck Cottages / 681137**

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HOLIDAYS NEXT YEAR?**

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beautiful views overlooking  
Lyme Bay and Golden Cap.**

**Ring Helen and Simon Dowling for further details**

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# IN THE VILLAGE 4.

## LOST RAIL JOURNEYS OF BUCKS

*An article by THE CHRONICLE'S historical writer, Colin Higgs*

Once upon a time Buckinghamshire had a very large network of railways but sadly due to escalating road construction and haulage, and increased car usage the majority of branch lines came to an abrupt end in the 1960's under the Beeching Axe.



**Wotton Tramway station in 1926**

But imagine the lovely journeys that were once made across the lovely Bucks countryside, on some of the most scenic branch lines with their enchanting surroundings and country stations. Winding through lush green fields, rolling hills, and the tranquillity of a close-knit community. Here are some of the old routes:

- Aylesbury - Quanton Granborough Rd - Winslow - Verney Junction - Padbury - Buckingham - Brackley (via the 225,000 cubic yard Chetwode Cutting) To Westbury Halt
- Aylesbury - Marston Gate - Mentmore Crossing - To Cheddington
- Princes Risborough - Imer Halt - Dorton Halt - Brill / Ludgershall - Blackthorn - Launton - Bicester - To Banbury
- Princes Risborough - Bledlow - Wainhill - Chinnor - Kingston Blount - Aston Rowant - Lewknor - To Watlington
- Princes Risborough - Bledlow - Towersey - Thame - To Oxford
- Aylesbury - South Aylesbury Halt - Little Kimble - Monks Risborough / Whiteleaf - To Princes Risborough



**Wood Siding on the Brill Branch line - Part of London Underground!**

- Brill Woodsiding - Wotton Westcott - To Quanton (Built by the Duke of Buckingham)



**“Steamed up” at Brill Station**

There is now pressure to re-open the Aylesbury - Quanton - Winslow - Bletchley line and to extend the current Princes Risborough - Chinnor section back to Watlington for use by commuters to ease heavy traffic fears on the M40. Alas, it won't be the same familiar steam trains but a modern diesel, but at least some if not all of our little branch lines will have a new lease of life.

**Colin**

### Great Western and Great Central Joint Ry.

**On Monday, April 1st, 1929,  
A NEW HALT  
will be opened at  
**ILMER****

stands between  
**PRINCES RISBOROUGH and HADDENHAM**

The unadvertised Trains and Rail Motor Cars will call at the times shown:-

WEEK DAYS			
6.16 a.m.	Marylebone (7.12 a.m. Princes Risborough) to Wotton	At	7.37 a.m.
7.50 a.m.	Princes Risborough to Banbury	At	7.55 a.m.
9.45 a.m.	High Wycombe (10.5 a.m. Princes Risborough) to Banbury	At	10.10 a.m.
2.38 p.m.	Princes Risborough to Banbury	At	3.3 p.m.
4.45 p.m.	Princes Risborough to Bicester	At	4.12 p.m.
6.15 a.m.	Wotton to Marylebone	At	6.26 a.m.
A 7.55 a.m.	Banbury to Princes Risborough	At	8.53 a.m.
10.13 a.m.	Banbury to Princes Risborough	At	11.46 a.m.
1.55 p.m.	Banbury to Princes Risborough	At	3.3 p.m.
C 4.20 p.m.	Banbury to Princes Risborough	At	5.40 p.m.

SUNDAYS			
8.35 a.m.	Marylebone (10.2 a.m. Princes Risborough) to Calvert	At	10.7 a.m.
8.27 a.m.	Calvert to Marylebone	At	8.49 a.m.

A—Will leave Wotton at 6.11 and Haddenham at 6.24 a.m.  
B—Will leave Brill and Ludgershall at 8.34 and Haddenham at 8.48 a.m.  
C—Calls at Imer at 5.41 p.m. during period of daylight only.  
D—Will leave Calvert at 8.19, Wotton 8.33 and Haddenham at 8.44 a.m.  
E—Rail Motor Car, one class only.

The Third Class Single Fares from the new Halt will be as under:-

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Abendon Street	1	4	Brill and Ludgershall	1	4
Calvert	2	6	Calvert	1	4
London Park Platform	3	1	Haddenham	1	4
Leicester	3	10	King's Sutton	1	4
Leicester	3	10	Princes Risborough	1	4
Leicester	3	10	Wotton	1	4

Unadvertised 1000 lb. Channel and Goods Trains will not be listed here.

**A Handbill announcing the inauguration of Imer Halt**

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electricity for Parish  
residents

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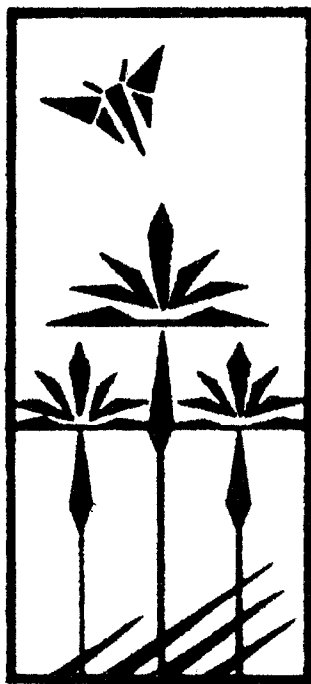
As a Lamaur and Kerastase  
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PARIS

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# Country



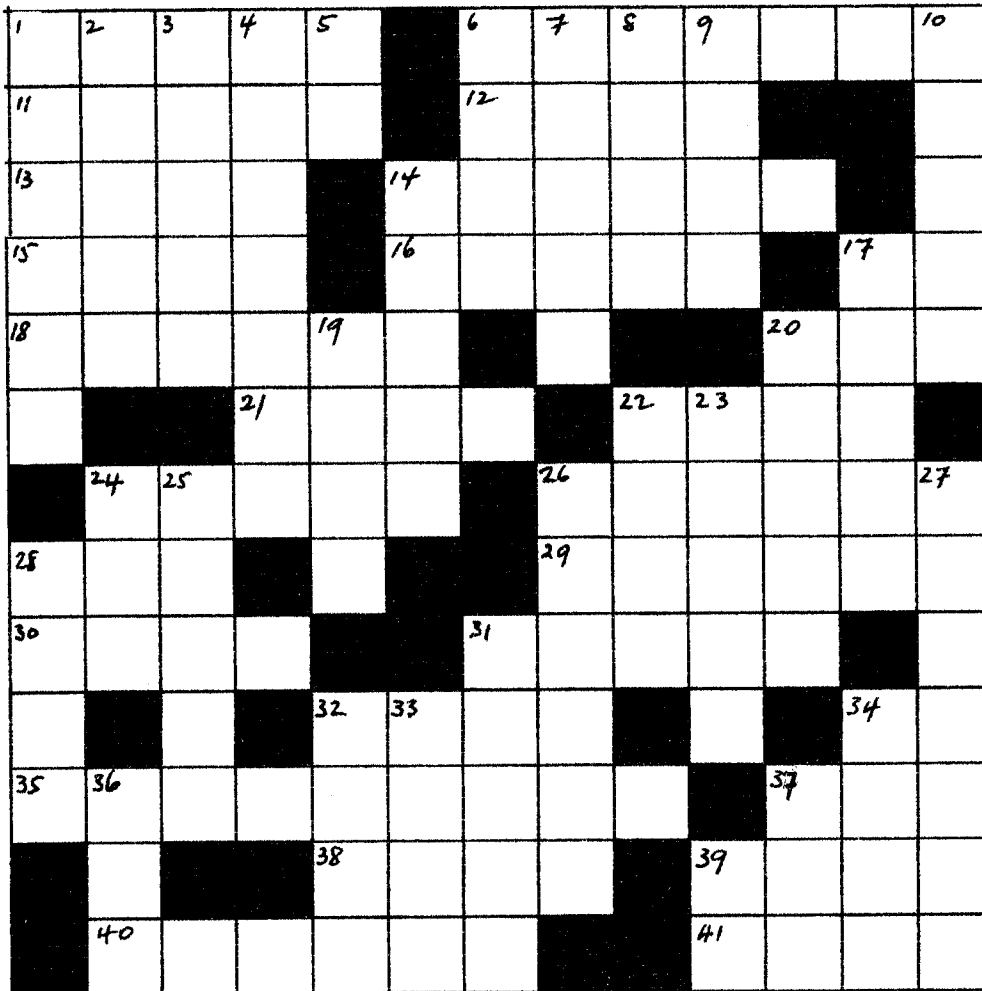
# Style

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Chronicle advertising - call Ivan Greenaway  
on 01296 682605 - 1 Nash's Farm

# THE CHRONICLE CROSSWORD

## DECEMBER



### ANSWERS - NOVEMBER

- ACROSS:** 1 Pits. 6 Seance  
 10 Elephant. 12 Oak. 13 Clay.  
 14 Nook. 16 Ire. 18 Drams.  
 20 Lusts. 23 Erie. 24 in. 25  
 ESP. 27 Dan. 29 Adam. 31 As.  
 33 Teems. 36 Rene. 37 Tube.  
 38 Get. 39 RD. 40 Son. 41  
 More. 42 Flowing. 44 Sir.  
 45 Liven. 46 Led. 48 Co.  
 49 Energise. 50 Thai. 51 Were.  
 52 ATS
- DOWN:** 1 Peculiar.  
 2 Ill. 3 Teams. 4 Spy  
 5 Can. 6 Stored. 7 Noise.  
 8 Car. 9 Eked. 11 Node.  
 15 Karate. 17 Ass. 19 Mine.  
 21 Underline. 22 Teme.  
 26. Paton. 28 America. 30  
 Andover. 32 Sung. 34 Egos.  
 35 Steroid. 40 Sing. 42 Flew  
 43 Were. 46 Lea. 47 DTS.

### ACROSS

1. Joyful (5)
6. Road marker (4&3)
11. Additional or extra (5)
12. Musical instrument (4)
13. At that time (4)
14. Clothier (6)
15. Warmth (4)
16. Frequently (5)
17. Printer's measure (2)
18. Substitute (6)
20. Insect (3)
21. Stated falsely (4)
22. Born in Scotland (4)
24. SCORES (anag 5)

26. Stocked (6)
28. Rotten (3)
29. Middle (6)
30. Peak (4)
31. Pacific Islands (5)
32. Dash, flair (4)
34. Shows position (2)
35. Insect (6&3)
37. Used over snow (3)
38. Girl's name, informal (4)
39. Part of leg (4)
40. MY ROME (anag 6)
41. Northern River (4)

### DOWN

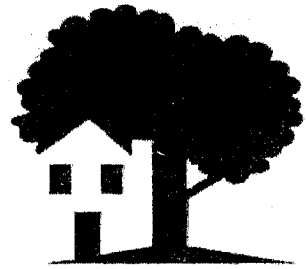
1. Relative (6)

2. THREE (anag 5)
3. Birds, flightless (5)
4. Radio ----- (7)
5. Short year (2)
6. Basket, for minerals. Used in mines (4)
7. Lessen (5)
- 8 Drink to excess (4)
9. Observed (4)
10. A happening (5)
14. Naps (5)
17. To come in (5)
19. Bound (4)
- 20 Artery (5)
22. Army weapon (4)

23. A dance (5)
24. Tap (3)
25. Hall for concerts (5)
26. Tea cakes (6)
27. TEN DINE (anag 7)
28. Hurtful remark (4)
31. Type of cat (5)
32. MOLE (anag 4)
33. ---- Jet (4)
34. Related (4)
36. German town (3)
37. Timid (3)
39. Short street (2)

---

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# IN THE VILLAGE 5.

## ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH COUNCIL

UNOFFICIAL NOTES FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
ON WEDNESDAY 27<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 1999

### MATTERS ARISING

- Church Room extension - modified plans have been sent for approval.
- Banner Homes has confirmed they will be moving the fence behind the Nash's Farm development.

### COUNTY COUNCIL AND DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS

- Cllr. Cooper reported on the latest SERPLAN discussions, indicating a large increase in housing development in the SE in 5 years time. We should object to the plans now to safeguard the village for the future.

### PLANNING

A/9912044/APP Haybarn Business Park, Cublington Rd, Aston Abbots.  
Insertion of two windows in unit 1. **APPROVED**

A/9911973/APP Littleheath House, Longmoor Farm, Aston Abbots.  
Works to oak tree. **REFUSED**

A/9911893/APP Littleheath House, Longmoor Farm,  
Insertion of front door. **APPROVED**

A/9911875/APP 1, Nash's Farm, Aston Abbots.  
Erection of trellis. **REFUSED**

A/9911682/APP 2, Norduck Cottages, Moat Lane, Aston Abbots.  
Change of use of agricultural land. **REFUSED**

A/9912217/APP 2, Norduck Cottages, Moat Lane.  
Change of use of agricultural land. (Re-application).

The P.C. had no comment to make on this application.

### HIGHWAYS

- A418 - correspondence from Wingrave and Wing PCs was read out. It was agreed that the new painted white hatching is having a good effect.
- Removal of Trig point from Lines Hill - resolved to try and discover

what has happened to this local landmark.

- Speeding in Moat Lane - cars still speed dangerously along this road. Resolved to leave the matter until the promised 'horse' warning signs and SLOW road markings are in place.

### FIREWORKS

- Resolved to give a donation of £150 towards the cost of the village firework evening.

### OTHER MATTERS

- Yew trees - AVDC did not offer us any yew trees for the millennium, but we have accepted an offer of 300 native bulbs.
- Foot way lighting in Bricstock - discussion took place about covering up the light. Resolved to have the light repaired and the time switch set.
- Car transporters - these have been speeding dangerously through the village and along the lanes. Resolved to write to the owner of the property they are delivering to, requesting more considerate driving.
- The culvert opposite Vicarage Farm needs repair.
- Removal of Hedge in Cublington Road - this consisted mostly of dead elms and brambles. The fence is to be re-instated and the ditch cleared out.

### DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December 1999

Everyone is welcome to come along.

## 1<sup>ST</sup> WINGRAVE SCOUT GROUP

Beavers have just enjoyed themselves at the annual District Beavers Party which is held each year at Cheddington Village Hall. This year approximately 150 boys and 12 girls gathered from colonies including Aston Clinton, Wendover and Halton as well as Wingrave, and were entertained by Applejack the clown.

At our regular Monday meetings we are now busy getting ready for Christmas making cards and decorations.

If you would like more information about the Beavers, please contact Sue Ascott (681878) or Jan Antiesowicz (681430).

Cubs have spent much of November on crafts, which we hope to sell at the Christmas Bazaar. The boys have enjoyed a wide variety of different crafts, many of them new to the Cubs. On 6<sup>th</sup> November the older Cubs had the chance to visit the BBC Experience in London. This was very interesting and they had the opportunity to take part in a Radio play, and lots of hands-on activities too.

Scouts 'Escape and Evasion' at the end of October was great fun. Teams of Scouts (with a leader) had to try to get to Cheddington H.Q. without being caught by Bucks Search and Rescue teams. They were rewarded with hot soup and an overnight stay at Cheddington. They have also taken part in a canoeing evening at Tring swimming pool which introduced newer our Scouts to the activity and allowed older boys to improve their

## **SCOUTS' CHRISTMAS BAZAAR**

AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, WINGRAVE  
SATURDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 1.00PM - 4.00PM

**TO RAISE FUNDS TOWARDS THE  
NEW SCOUT HQ.**

**YOUR SUPPORT WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE.**

skills. Much of the next meetings will be taken up in preparing for the Christmas Bazaar - our biggest annual fund raiser. **We hope for lots of support as we desperately need a new H.Q.**

### **Remembrance Day**

Wingrave Scout Group has done little of late to honour our War victims and heroes, however this year we joined the Church service and parade and laid a wreath at the Memorial. It was good to see so many boys there.

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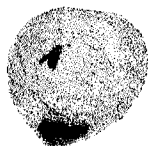
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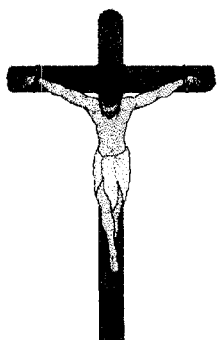
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## RECTOR'S REPORT - DECEMBER 1999

### LAST OF THE MILLENNIUM



With the turn of the year, decade, century, and millennium approaching rapidly, it is tempting to try and write a "school report" – to try to put the past into perspective (could have done better), and stress the importance of the future (must try harder next year)!

It is inevitable that we shall be looking back over the events of our life – which will be less than the last century. It is probably important that we look at the history of the society into which we were born, if only to make sense of what has taken place and how we have come to this present moment.

It is also inevitable that we shall try to look into the future, which is the place where our hopes and dreams, our fears and nightmares, are likely to be fulfilled.

In reality, I suspect that the only thing that we shall really notice that is different to next year is that the date will begin with 2 instead of 1, and that it will contain a string of 0s. That may tempt us to conclude that there is nothing much about which we should be concerned.

I should like to suggest that there is an important change that I would welcome. The closing years of the Twentieth Century have been dominated by the culture of ME.

The most significant things in people's thoughts are what I want, what I do, how I feel, what I think, and so on, ad infinitum. We have become obsessed with ourselves. We end up as self-centred, self-important and self-opinionated. This surely cannot be a good thing. In our ME-first society, anything that has do with other people and their needs gets pushed to the periphery of our lives.

To be first away from the traffic lights may seem important. Or stepping off the kerb to allow a mother with a pram to pass. In our thrusting ambition to get there first, and to prove that "I am best", it is easy to lose sight of the value to society of courtesy, politeness and manners.

Who we are, what we are and how we act are not things that only have relevance for ourselves. Our whole lives are lived in relationship with other people. We can only function in society because that environment is there. Creation and its source is not unimportant – We are here because God made us – we are here because God loves us – we are here because God continues to allow us to be here.

If we can always think of others, and enjoy ourselves at the same time, then that would really be fantastic. If we can only manage it some of the time that will be better than nothing.

BOB WILLMOTT

### LADIES CLUB NOTES

Our AGM on the 4th November was well attended. There was only one change of office - Jean Sansome stood down as Vice Chairman and was replaced by Margaret Kent.

Our meeting on November 18th included a most interesting talk by Mr G. Atkins MBE, on "Pitstone Fen", with special reference to orchids and how they are cultivating them there.

On December the 2nd our speaker will be Mrs. S Ford who's subject is 'A Visit to America'. There will also be a Christmas 'bring and buy'.

On the 16th of December, a Carol Service, commencing 2.45, is to be held in Cublington Church and this will be followed by tea in Cublington. Our next meeting will be on 13<sup>th</sup> January.

### IONA SERVICE OF WORSHIP

Someone had worked hard to prepare the church for the Iona service held on the 18th November. Lighted candles had been placed in every nook and cranny and the altar dominated by a huge Celtic cross. Few electric lights were on contributing to the creation of a very pleasing and appropriate atmosphere.

Bob Willmott explained that the Iona Community was founded in 1938. It has always sought to bridge the gap between the 'Middle-class' Church and the 'Working-class' Community - to break down the barriers between the message of Christ and the life of the world.

The rebuilt medieval Iona Abbey stands as a sign to remind us that "Jesus was not crucified on an altar between two candles, but on a rubbish dump between two thieves". The message of Iona is that, for Christians, there is no separation between work and worship, between prayer and politics, between the spiritual and material.

Members of the Iona Community are committed to the stewardship of time, talents and money. All these things are parts of God's Creation, they belong to Him, and must be used in a responsible manner. They remind us that we are accountable to God and are not sufficient unto ourselves.

The Community works extensively with young people. Much of this takes place on the Ross of Mull. The Community has its administrative centre in Govan, Glasgow, an area which is readily associated with poverty, unemployment and social deprivation.

The service in Aston Abbots involved several members of the congregation and was quite simple. The only two hymns were accompanied on the flute and were very similar to folk songs. The entire service was at the same time pragmatic and moving and made an interesting change to the to the normal Sunday service.



### BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION

The results of the competition, held back in the summer, saw Aston Abbots come runner-up in the Gurney Cup. We can take pride in the fact that we were rated "very good" in both sections of judging. The Chairman of the judges reported that this year competition was stronger than ever.

A couple of areas seem to have let us down (something to bear in mind for next year) - litter in the bus shelter, "excessive fly posting", and old grass cuttings on the rec! A copy of then certificate is on page 20 of **THE CHRONICLE**

Andy and Helen Welcome You to

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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)

<u>Nov/April</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>Week commencing</u> <u>1st July-26th August</u>	<u>Sept</u>	<u>Oct</u>
£150	£280	£330	£ 520	£330	£200

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LIZ BARLOW  
01296 682605

PHONE  
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FOR FURTHER DETAILS CONTACT JOHN & PENNY HAYES  
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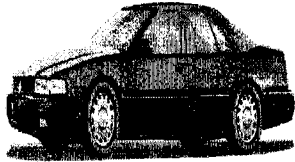
*As Runners Up in the Gurney Cup*

*Organised by the Buckinghamshire Association of Local Councils  
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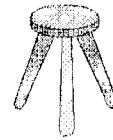
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# ST. JAMES CHURCH, ASTON ABBOTTS

## CHURCH SERVICES

5 <sup>th</sup> Dec.	10.00	Cublington	Family Service Communion
	10.00	Wingrave	Parish Communion
	11.15	Aston Abbots	Morning Service
8 <sup>th</sup> Dec. Wednesday	10.00	Aston Abbots	Franciscan Service
12 <sup>th</sup> Dec.	08.45	Cublington	Parish Communion
	10.00	Wingrave	Parish Communion
	11.15	Aston Abbots	Parish Communion
	18.00	Wingrave	Christingle
15 <sup>th</sup> Dec. Wednesday	10.00	Rowsham	Franciscan Service
19 <sup>th</sup> Dec.	08.45	Cublington	Parish Communion
	10.00	Wingrave	Parish Communion
	15.00	Aston Abbots	Three Parish Carols & Readings
22 <sup>nd</sup> Dec. Wednesday	10.00	Wingrave	Franciscan Service
24 <sup>th</sup> Dec.	18.00	Wingrave	Blessing the Crib
	23.00	Wingrave	Midnight Eucharist
25 <sup>th</sup> Dec.	08.45	Cublington	Christmas Communion
	10.00	Aston Abbots	Christmas Family Service and Communion
	10.00	Wingrave	Churches Together Christmas Service
26 <sup>th</sup> Dec.	10.00	Wingrave	Three Parish Communion
31 <sup>st</sup> Dec.	18.00	Wingrave	Churches Together Millennium Eve Service
1 <sup>st</sup> January	11.00	Cublington	Millennium Service
	12.00	Aston Abbots	Millennium Service
	12.00	Wingrave	Millennium Service
2 <sup>nd</sup> January	10.00	Cublington	Three Parish Family Communion
9 <sup>th</sup> January	08.45	Cublington	Parish Communion
	10.00	Wingrave	Parish Communion
	11.15	Aston Abbots	Parish Communion

## ST JAMES CHURCH

### ASTON ABBOTTS

### PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

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

## SUNDAY READINGS

### 5<sup>th</sup> December Advent 2

2 Peter 3.8 -15 & Mark 1.1 - 8

### 12<sup>th</sup> December Advent 3

1 Thess 5.16 - 24 &

John 1.6 - 8, 19 - 28

### 19<sup>th</sup> December Advent 4

Romans 16.25 - 27 & Luke 1.26 - 38

### 25<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Day

Hebrews 1.1 - 4 & John 1.1 - 14

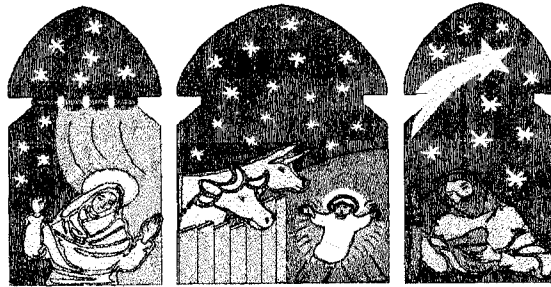
Hebrews 1.1 - 4                      John 1.1 - 14

### 26<sup>th</sup> December Christmas 1

Galatians 4.4 - 7 & Luke 2.15 - 21

### 2<sup>nd</sup> January Christmas 2

Ephesians 1.3 - 14 & John 1.10 - 18



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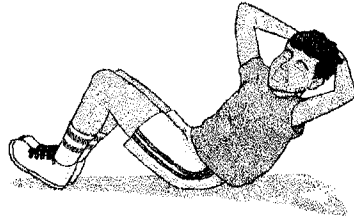
# IN THE VILLAGE6.

## JOTTINGS FROM THE CHALK FACE

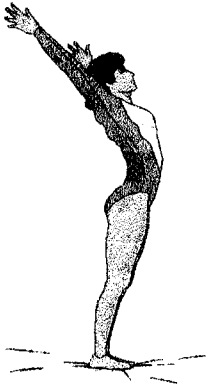
About one in five young children are too fat, a recent survey reveals. An increased emphasis on the three R's and a diminishing amount of time spent on physical education when they start school is not going to help. Here are some more facts for you.

One in three Primary Schools, including Wingrave have cut the amount of time they devote to sport. In some primary schools, children receive as little as 12 hours of physical education in a year; putting it another way about 20 minutes of planned physical activity in a week. Half of the schools in a recent survey had cut physical education lessons by 30 minutes a week and a fifth had reduced them by an hour. All this, I might add was before the introduction of the Numeracy hour at the start of the Autumn term 1999. The situation will get worse rather than better.

There is a lot of evidence to show that children who exercise regularly also do best in the classroom, so how has this been allowed to happen? The answer is plain to see. The Literacy Hour and the Numeracy Hour now take up most of each morning with slots for assembly, register taking, break and just talking to children slotted into the gaps.



That leaves the afternoons, five two-hour slots at Wingrave School for example. In to that 10 hours have to be fitted all the other subjects of the National Curriculum; science, history, geography, design and technology, information technology, art, music and PE. Religious Education is also required and most people would agree that a foreign language, health education and environmental education deserve a mention. Not a lot of time to do justice to them all I think you will agree. Something has to go.



Schools are under tremendous pressure to raise standards and it is standards in English and Mathematics that are given most prominence.

Mr Blunkett suspended the National Curriculum for P.E. last year to allow teachers to slim down lessons to create more time for literacy and numeracy hours. A slimming down of curriculum time spent on P.E. has unfortunately had the opposite effect on some of the children that we teach.

## BAIRD McCLELLAN

Baird is Head Teacher at Wingrave School.

## The Churchyard Grass Cutters

Well! The 'last cut' of the churchyard grass took place in mid October and in spite of the subsequent mild weather it rather looks as though it was the last cut of the millennium. Any way, be that as it may, very many thanks to all the 'lads' on the grass mowing rota (and of course the ladies who supported them with coffee and encouragement) for keeping the grass around the church looking so neat.



**Ta, Mowers!**

Several of you have expressed views on how this weekly task might be made easier and it is hoped that a meeting will be arranged in the not too distant future to exchange ideas.



If you would like to "do your bit" for the village by volunteering to cut the grass at St.James, contact Andy Bystra on 681690 before the Spring!

## Shining Example

A reader has written to **THE CHRONICLE** about the new light in Bricstock (see 'Unofficial notes from the Parish Council meeting') .....

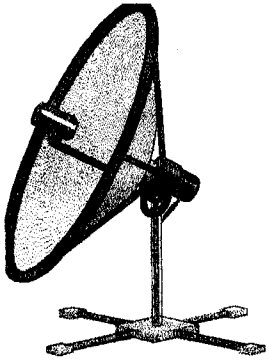
"Would the person who complained about the light in Bricstock being covered like to have it moved outside their home? They would then know how it feels to try sleeping with a searchlight coming through their bedroom and front door windows.

Trying to survive on 4 hours sleep a night, if the light goes at all, is no joke. After all, we were not Consulted before the light was installed right outside our home. Thank you."

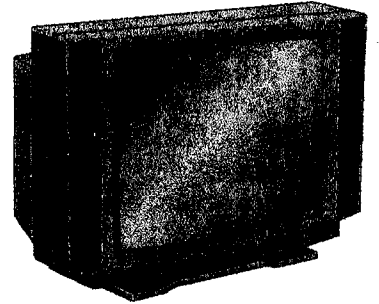
No doubt this topic will again be raised at the next Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December. Ed.

# FLACKWELL ELECTRONICS

OF CHURCH FARM, ASTON ABBOTTS

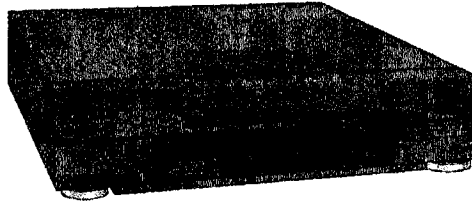


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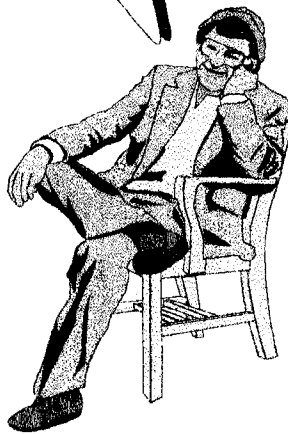


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ON 01296 682126

Dave is in his bottom  
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Keep going, Ginge, I'll  
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